Mongol Derby

Alumnus takes on the world’s longest horse race.
LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

From my first introduction to Hampden-Sydney College, I have been impressed by the distinctiveness of its identity, mission, and legacy. Rather than change any of these central and enduring elements, I have, from my first days as president, advocated that we double-down on the College’s mission “to form good men and good citizens.” Now, after ten months as your College president and many meetings with our Trustees, alumni, faculty, staff, parents, and students, I am even more committed to seeing Hampden-Sydney offer the finest college experience a young man can have. This vision is achievable—in fact, it is what many, if not most, of our students already experience. It is a vision so noble and so worthy that we should all be inspired to work toward achieving it.

Hampden-Sydney has never faced a more competitive environment, so we cannot be complacent. While we are blessed to have a mission that is not only distinctive but also as compelling and relevant as at any time in the College’s history, we must be able to demonstrate to prospective students and their families that we do a better job of forming good men and good citizens than other colleges and universities do. Our espoused ideals must become the lived experience of every student. All of our young men, then, should be engaged in activities that they find meaningful, that draw out and develop their talents, that help them discern their calling, that move them toward maturity.

When I arrived last July, an academic planning process was already underway. We have since begun a student life planning process that seeks to find synergies between our students’ in-class and out-of-class experiences. Both of these planning processes should conclude by the end of the semester. The outcome will not change Hampden-Sydney’s distinctive mission “to form good men and good citizens”—indeed, the academic planning process took its inspiration from the College’s mission. Rather, these plans will suggest ways we can and should live more boldly into our mission.

In the months ahead, you will see the faculty adopt many new curricular and programmatic elements. We are strengthening pathways to vocation. We are energizing our Entrepreneurship and Wilson Centers so that many more students benefit from their important programs. We will strengthen all aspects of our Tiger Athletics program, providing more support for our coaches, getting more of our students to support our teams, and encouraging even more participation in our intramurals and fitness programs. After decades of talking, we will finally launch an outdoor education program. And we will offer more ways for our young men to deepen their faith and spirituality.

We are also tackling tough, longstanding challenges that we must acknowledge if we are to fulfill our mission. Alcohol and prescription drug abuse, narcotics use, vandalism, and the like are challenges faced by colleges around the country, challenges that are inconsistent with, and get in the way of, forming good men and good citizens. Traditions are essential to the life of a small college like Hampden-Sydney. In a recent conversation about changes on campus, however, a student made what I thought was a very insightful observation: “There should be nothing sacred about a tradition that can be made better.”

Not by resting on our legacy or tradition alone, but through innovation, creativity, hard work, grace, and your support, our great College will be doing the same important work of forming “good men and good citizens” for another 240 years.

Dr. Larry Stimpert
President, Hampden-Sydney College
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ON THE COVER:
Pierce Buckingham ’06 competes in a 1,000 kilometer trek across the Mongolian Steppe. Photo by Richard Dunwoody
JOHN CURRENCE ’87

RESTAURANTS: City Grocery and five other restaurants in Oxford, MS; Big Bad Breakfast in Birmingham, AL

SIGNATURE DISH: Too many to count, but his recipe for “Coca Cola Brined Fried Chicken” has been featured in both Esquire and the New York Times.

SIGNATURE STYLE: He was doing “farm to table” before farm to table was even a thing. “I despise the fact that it even has a name. This isn’t a movement for us—it’s what we’ve been doing our whole lives.”

RAVE REVIEWS: The James Beard Award winner for Best Chef in the South (the culinary world’s equivalent to an Academy Award), Currence is “a gutsy cook in the vanguard of new Southern cuisine” according to the New York Times. It’s not just his cooking that attracts attention; his two books have made “best of” lists in the Washington Post and L.A. Times, and he is a contributing editor at Garden & Gun.

STARTED HIS CAREER: As the cook on a tugboat in the Gulf of Mexico

PASSIONATE ABOUT: Philanthropy. “My foundation, Move On Up Mississippi, funds educational initiatives for youth in the areas of health, well-being, nutrition, and physical activity.”

“Show up early and be prepared to stay late. There’s always something new to learn.”

HAMPDEN-SYDNEY MEMORIES: “My parents frequently drove up to campus from New Orleans with coolers full of food. They’d boil crawfish, cook étouffée, make jambalaya and gumbo and red beans and rice. All of my friends would descend on my house for the weekend, and I saw that their response to my parents and this food was absolute delight and joy.”

MAJOR: Political Science. “I chose to study what I enjoyed—political science, philosophy, Latin—and it taught me to ask questions and think critically. I would not be the person and businessman I am today without H-SC.”

WHY H-SC? “I wanted to play football with Coach Stokeley Fulton. I figured football would supply a little bit of discipline and fun, and if I was stuck in the woods with a bunch of guys, I’d have nothing to do but study. Turns out I couldn’t have been more wrong!”
WALTER BUNDY ‘90
RESTAURANT: Shagbark in Richmond

FOOD INSPIRATION: Hunting, fishing, gardening. “My love of the outdoors inspires me to take God’s gift and treat it with respect.”

RAVE REVIEWS: In 2016, USA Today called Shagbark “one of the top 20 restaurants to try this fall.” In 2017, only two Richmond restaurants earned a coveted 4 diamond rating from Triple A—Shagbark and The Jefferson Hotel’s Lemaire, where Bundy was executive chef for almost 15 years before striking out on his own.

BIG BREAK: Bundy spent a month peeling potatoes for free at The French Laundry in Napa Valley. Eventually he landed a paid position and worked two years in Chef Thomas Keller’s esteemed kitchen. “The pressure was so intense that every day was like climbing Mt. Everest. But I didn’t quit, and the pressure only made me stronger.”

PASSIONATE ABOUT: Virginia. “From the reclaimed barn beams, to the hand-blown glass light fixtures, to the shagbark hickory tables hewn on my in-laws’ farm, to the local ingredients on the menu, the entire restaurant is about Virginia—Virginia products and Virginia artisans. ‘Virginia’ is my mission statement in one word.”

“Care about what you’re doing. Give it one hundred and ten percent, then give it another 50.”

HAMPDEN-SYDNEY MEMORIES:
“H-SC was a good place for me to grow up a bit, explore my interests, and learn to be myself. Dr. Donald Ortner always told me, ‘Bundy, you’re going to be an executive one day,’ and I thought, ‘An executive what?’ Turns out he was right, because I became an executive chef.”

MAJOR: Psychology. “The liberal arts exposed me to so many new ideas and made me a better, more well-rounded person. And the writing and public speaking skills that I honed at H-SC really helped me when it was time to open my own restaurant.”

WHY H-SC? “I was looking for small class sizes and interaction with my professors instead of feeling like a number at a larger school. I wanted to have to go to class in the morning because the professor would notice if I wasn’t there.”
ALEX HARRELL ’97

RESTAURANT: Angeline in the French Quarter, New Orleans

SIGNATURE STYLE: Fresh, refined Southern cuisine

FOOD INSPIRATION: “I’m inspired by my familial connections with food and the cuisine I grew up with in Southwestern Alabama.” At Angeline, Harrell combines the South’s cultural heritage with seasonal, locally-sourced foods and a Mediterranean style of preparation.

RAVE REVIEWS: Recommended by the likes of Food & Wine magazine and the Food Network, Harrell’s cooking has attracted national attention. According to Southern Living, Angeline is “like the Meryl Streep of neighborhood restaurants: timeless, yet modern and impossibly good in its role.” And the food is so good that “Chef Alex Harrell might be a wizard or conjuring bayou magic.”

STARTED HIS CAREER: Frying seafood at a summer job in Florida

PASSIONATE ABOUT: Hospitality. “At the end of the day, my job as a chef and a restaurant owner is to make a connection with every single guest. I learned that sense of hospitality from my mother and my grandmother, and it was re-enforced at Hampden-Sydney.”

HAMPDEN-SYDNEY MEMORIES: “General Sam Wilson played a huge role in my college experience because he was so accessible to students. He conducted himself as a true gentleman, commanding our respect and treating us with respect, too. And the guys I met my freshman year in third passage of Cushing are still my friends more than twenty years later.”

MAJOR: Biology. “I use my degree every single day, because science is one of the things that connects me so strongly to food and to cooking. My Hampden-Sydney education had so much depth—it gave me confidence, and it’s part of who I am today.”

WHY H-SC? “I wanted a small college where I could really be a part of something, where I would have plenty of opportunities to get involved and have personalized, one-on-one experiences with my professors. When I visited Hampden-Sydney, I was sold. I loved the history, the tradition, the beauty of the campus, and the sense of community. Coupled with its academic reputation, H-SC was the total package.”
ANDREW KOCHAN ’10

RESTAURANT: co-owner of Philadelphia’s Marigold Kitchen; his second restaurant, TALK, will open in July

SIGNATURE STYLE: Modernist Cuisine

DREAM DISH: Kochan created a “caviar” dish for the restaurant’s tasting menu: individual agar spheres made of red wine, black pepper, and fruit puree were held together with glucose syrup to form individual “raspberries.” The process proved too labor intensive, though, taking three chefs five hours each to prepare enough for an average night.

RAVE REVIEWS: Philadelphia magazine calls Marigold Kitchen “one of the most modern and daring kitchens in the region,” and Mainline Today says Kochan’s “flawless, almost scientific techniques are executed with the utmost grace and elegance.”

PASSIONATE ABOUT: Learning. “I’m a total book nerd. I’m intrigued by how much I don’t know.”

MAJOR: Economics. Working a cubicle job at an investment firm convinced Kochan to change careers; then, just a few years out of culinary school, he and a fellow chef had the opportunity to purchase Marigold Kitchen. “Owning the restaurant and making it profitable has really matched my economics and culinary degrees.”

HAMPDEN-SYDNEY MEMORIES: “Dr. Kenneth Townsend is a walking, talking Google. I remember testing him with random questions: he would close his eyes, tilt his head back for about four seconds, then come up with the answer.” Ever the businessman, Kochan started his first enterprise at H-SC. “I was known for taking the best notes, so I made and sold study guides for all of my econ classes.”

WHY H-SC? “In high school, Chris McMeekin ’09 and I went to a huge college fair. I got so bored because it was the same thing at every table: the top three majors, the girl-guy ratio. We stopped at the Hampden-Sydney table and asked Kerr Ramsay ’03, ‘What are you selling?’ He said, ‘Not a thing.’ We immediately sat down and asked a million questions. He was so upfront and honest—we were sold.”

“It isn’t just about the food items—it’s about presenting them in a way that people don’t expect.”
MASTERS OF THE CRAFT

KAREN E. HUGGARD
Photos courtesy of Blue Mountain and Starr Hill
The world’s oldest and most popular fermented beverage is also America’s drink of choice. The earliest colonists brought a taste for ale with them from England and Holland, making beer the most popular libation in colonial times, while heavy waves of Irish and German immigration in the 19th Century further ingrained the beverage in American culture. The popularity of today’s microbreweries and brewpubs continues this American tradition, and two Hampden-Sydney men are at the forefront of the movement. They’ve both won national and international accolades and, between the two of them, brew 15 percent of Virginia’s craft beer. The Record caught up with Taylor Smack ’97 at Blue Mountain Brewery and Robbie O’Cain ’07 at Starr Hill Brewery to learn the secrets of their success.

Although separated by a decade, the men’s stories share similarities. Both Smack and O’Cain began as homebrewers, a passion that eventually led each one to study at the Siebel Institute in Chicago, the nation’s oldest brewing academy. Both men returned to Virginia and quickly rose to the top of the state’s craft brew scene. And both feel fortunate to work in a field that they love.

For English major Smack, a job as a copy editor right out of H-SC quickly taught him that “cubicle work” wasn’t for him. He started to work for free at South Street Brewery in Charlottesville and within three months decided to take brewing seriously with a move to Chicago. There he found his calling and says, “I feel like I haven’t worked a day in my life since.”

Smack was in the industry for seven years—first as head pub brewer at Chicago’s Goose Island Beer Company, then as head brewer at South Street Brewery—before he launched Nelson County’s first brewery with his wife, Mandi Smack, and business partner, Matt Nucci.

Critics told them that a brewpub wouldn’t survive in the rural locale, but with its stunning views and close proximity to the Appalachian Trail, Blue Ridge Parkway, Shenandoah National Park, and Wintergreen Ski Resort, Smack saw potential. “Although some people laughed at the idea, it didn’t seem like a risk to me. I knew where craft beer was going in America, and I knew that this hay field in the middle of a rural county was actually the center of a lot of different veins of activity.”

What grew out of that venture is Blue Mountain Brewery in Afton, a 10,000-square-foot facility featuring a full-service restaurant, tasting room, and hops yard in the shadows of the Blue Ridge Mountains. With indoor and outdoor seating for 650, the farm brewery has become a destination for beer enthusiasts and foodies alike. At any given time on an average Saturday, some 1,000 people will be visiting Blue Mountain, for a total of a quarter million patrons each year.

According to Smack, “Our idea was to create a beautiful atmosphere, get people out of the city, and re-associate beer as an agricultural product—replicating what the wineries did for wine. Beer has become so industrialized and urbanized, but it’s just malted barley, hops, and yeast, which all come from farms. So, we grow our own hops to give people the touch and feel of the product.” The first of its kind in Virginia, Blue Mountain Brewery has become a model for the state’s growing number of rural breweries.
Smack opened a second facility in 2012; the Blue Mountain Barrel House in Arrington brews and packages beer destined for distribution and features a barrel room where ale is aged for an average of three months. An alternating cycle of warm and cool temperatures mimics the natural seasons and draws the bourbon and char flavors out of oak barrels that Smack purchases directly from craft distilleries. The new facility packages 15 types of beer; together, the brewery’s two locations produce some 40 styles of brew each year.

Things came full circle in 2014, when Smack purchased South Street Brewery to save it from closing 15 years after he first volunteered there. Although the demands of running three small businesses with 150-plus employees keep him fully occupied, Smack still spends one day a week brewing beer at the Afton location. “It helps me keep it real,” he jokes. “I didn’t become a brewer to answer email full-time.”

Smack says that “craft beer is a meeting of art and science, and we make room for a lot of creativity.” While Smack is clearly passionate about the art of beer, master brewer Robbie O’Cain is equally passionate about the science of it. “Brewing is engineering, it’s thermodynamics, it’s biology, it’s chemistry,” he says. “It’s basically the entire science department all rolled into one.”

The chemistry major’s first exposure to brewing came in his sophomore year at Hampden-Sydney when he brewed mead in Dr. Kevin Dunn’s chemistry class. Returning to his native Asheville, North Carolina, after graduation, he found a lively craft beer scene and became a devoted home brewer. Although he took a job with Wachovia Bank, by 2011 he decided to pursue a career in brewing, and he needed to educate himself in order to do so. His degree at the Siebel Institute included 11 weeks of study in Germany, fostering his meticulous focus on quality and efficiency. O’Cain’s first job in the industry was cleaning tanks and moving hoses at Virginia’s largest independent craft brewery. But “cleaning is chemistry,” according to O’Cain, so he tackled the work with a determined attitude and the scientific approach that he learned at H-SC. For example, he studied the sanitation processes of the pharmaceutical industry, adopting practices that he admits are “overkill,” because “overkill is what you want when it comes to sanitation.”

He moved up quickly at Starr Hill Brewery in Crozet, becoming the quality assurance manager within a year and the manager of brewing operations just two years later. In those roles, O’Cain introduced scientific advancements like a devoted lab with a UV spectrometer to ensure quality control and improved product, and a centrifuge to clarify the beer without the use of non-renewable resources. He also developed new recipes and refined existing ones, winning prestigious awards at the World Beer Cup and the Virginia Beer Cup.
A tour of the brewery with O’Cain is a science lesson that moves quickly from the metabolism of yeast and its effect on the aroma of hops to the acceleration of oxidation caused by diatomaceous earth. But it’s not just his scientific knowledge that led Starr Hill to name him their Brewmaster in 2015. On the business side, his attention to detail and analysis of data led to significant improvements in efficiency and cost-effectiveness. On the management side, his team mentality and interest in his employees’ personal wellbeing helped maintain a positive work environment. And, of course, O’Cain’s work ethic and willingness to take initiative set him apart; he says, “At the end of the day, it’s not just the hours you work. It’s your attitude while working, it’s how much you accomplish, and it’s how dedicated you are.”

Just like Smack, O’Cain doesn’t consider his hours at the brewery as work, per se. “I get to do what I love every day, so much so that I sometimes forget that many people don’t love their jobs. I’m extraordinarily lucky to have found both enjoyment and meaning in my work.”

With their breweries only ten miles apart from each other on the Brew Ridge Trail of Albemarle and Nelson Counties, the two Hampden-Sydney men see each other quite frequently. And although they are competitors of sorts, O’Cain calls it “a healthy competition.” Starr Hill’s focus on distribution and Blue Mountain’s focus on the brewery experience means they’re both attracting new consumers to the craft beer market. And with both brewers winning medals at the most recent Great American Beer Festival—the nation’s most prestigious beer competition, where 7,227 beers from 1,752 breweries competed for 280 medals—they’re attracting serious attention to the region’s growing craft beer industry.

Long before the first shipment of European beer arrived in the New World in 1607, Native American tribes fermented corn to produce a beer-like brew. And although apocryphal stories about the founding fathers and beer abound—including a recently debunked myth about James Madison proposing a national brewery—historical documents confirm that George Washington and Thomas Jefferson used homebrew to supply their households’ needs. Washington’s handwritten recipe for porter was found in his personal notebook, and the father of our nation proposed the first “buy American” policy in a 1789 letter: “I use no porter or cheese in my family, but such as is made in America.” As for Jefferson, his earliest plans for Monticello included a brew house, and in 1794 he planted his first hops in the plantation’s famed gardens.

In 1810, America was home to 140 commercial breweries, a number that grew to 4,141 by 1873. But the landscape changed drastically over the next century, seeing almost 4,000 breweries close. Prohibition stalled the industry, of course, yet in 1935 almost 800 breweries remained. Technological advances in production and shipping led national brands to supplant local breweries, however, while the rise of home refrigeration increased the demand for packaged beer, causing a massive decline in brewpub sales. And industry consolidation meant that by 1980, a mere five corporations produced more than 75 percent of American beer.

The emergence of the modern craft beer industry can be traced to an act of Congress in the late 1970’s, when only 89 breweries remained in America. President Carter’s signature on H.R. 1337 legalized home production of beer for personal consumption and opened the door for an army of home-brew hobbyists, a handful of whom entered the industry with brewpubs and microbreweries. By 1986, the U.S. was home to six microbreweries; within a decade, that number rose to 365 and surpassed 500 in 2009.

Over the past five years, craft beer has abandoned its steady rise and exploded as the fastest growing segment of the 252.6 billion-dollar beer industry. Fueled by the rise of brewpubs, in 2015 the United States reached the highest number of breweries in its history—4,269—passing the benchmark set in 1873. Thankfully for enthusiasts nationwide, the availability and innovation of craft beer continues to grow, with another 1,800 craft breweries in the works for 2017, according to the Brewer’s Association.
On the windswept plains of the Mongolian Steppe last August, a group of extreme adventurers recreated the famed postal relay routes of Genghis Khan. Dubbed the world’s longest horse race, the Mongol Derby pits riders against each other in an endurance race across the rugged territory of northern Mongolia. Although more than 40 riders attempted the 1008-kilometer course with its varied terrain of flat grasslands, steep hills and valleys, river crossings, and rocky passes, only 27 finished—among them Pierce Buckingham ’06.

NO HORSEING AROUND
Over the course of ten days, Buckingham and his competitors had access to 1500 semi-wild Mongolian horses spread out among the course’s 28 checkpoints. All of the horses had been ridden before by local herdsmen, but most had not been ridden consistently or even recently. With their saddles, backpacks, and helmets, the derby riders “looked a lot different, smelled a lot different, and acted a lot different” than the local herdsmen, according to Buckingham. As a result, many of the ponies spooked easily and proved difficult to mount and control.

At six-foot-three-inches tall, Buckingham was at a further disadvantage on the small-framed ponies; in choosing a new horse at each checkpoint, he recalls, “I had to play charades with the herdsmen to pick out a horse strong enough to carry me.” He didn’t rely on charades alone, but also used his ten years of experience as a racehorse trainer to his advantage. “I’d look at the horses’ gums for scars. When horses really take off, riders pull on the bit so hard that it cuts their gums. So I’d choose a horse with cuts or scars, because I knew it would be fast.”

Choosing that type of horse had its disadvantages, though. “You had to know where you were going before you got on, because once you were on, it would take off like a shot. You wouldn’t be able to stop for a few kilometers, and you didn’t want to be headed in the wrong direction.” Using GPS, Buckingham clocked a top speed of 28 kilometers per hour at full gallop—about 17 miles per hour—a pace some ponies would maintain for a full ten kilometers before calming down.

NOTHING TYPICAL ABOUT IT
For nine days straight, Buckingham averaged a grueling 70 miles per day. Starting at 7 a.m. and riding till 8:30 p.m., he took advantage of every minute that the course was open. Water, a snack or a meal, and a fresh pony were provided at checkpoints spaced approximately 40 kilometers apart. Meals were simple, typically consisting of mutton stew, goat or yak milk, and stale bread. Mongolian families along the way came cheered the riders on, often
offering them local delicacies like Aarull, dried milk curds, or Airag, fermented horse milk.

Some checkpoints provided tents for sleeping, but racers could also ride further and camp under the stars or stay with a herdsman and his family. A booklet with translations of phrases like “I’ve lost my horse,” “Where’s the next town?” and “Can I stay here tonight?”—coupled with more charades—helped Buckingham find shelter on the nights he chose to sleep on the Steppe. Each time, he found the Mongolian people warm and hospitable, willing to share what little they had with a stranger. After staying with one family who had no water or food to spare, he was careful to stop at tents with a large number of livestock and a solar panel—signs of prosperity that meant his stay wouldn’t be an imposition. Although the language barrier was difficult, Buckingham says, “Smiling and looking appreciative is a universal language.”

“Smiling and looking appreciative is a universal language.”

The Mongol Derby is ultimately about adventure and danger, though—not tourism or cultural exchange. The warning at the bottom of the official website says it all: “You cannot overestimate the risks involved in taking part in these adventures. Your chances of being seriously injured or dying as a result of taking part are high. Individuals who have taken part in the past have been permanently disfigured, seriously disabled, or lost their life. These are not holidays. These are adventures and so by their very nature extremely risky. You really are putting both your health and life at risk. That’s the whole point.”

THE LOST DAYS
Although derby participants typically travel in small groups, for two days and nights Buckingham rode the windswept plains of the Mongolian Steppe alone—isolating days that blurred into each other. Severely dehydrated on the third day because of a broken water filter, Buckingham encouraged his group to continue on while he remained at a checkpoint to rehydrate. It took
him two days to catch up.

“One was in even more of a race mode those days, pressing the horses to see what they could do. I didn’t have time to worry about what would happen if I fell off and couldn’t send an emergency signal, or if I got thrown and injured my spine, or if I got dragged by my horse. I had to be in the moment, thinking of how I would get from point A to point B.” He could have sacrificed time and waited for a group that was a day behind him, but his competitive edge wouldn’t allow it. “The entire time,” he says, “I had no other thought but to catch up.”

He did have some company on his solo ride: “Herders who saw me riding came over on their horses to gallop with me for a while. Even the little kids would come out on their horses and ride with me. Then they’d pull off, and I’d push on.”

Making those days even more challenging was his malfunctioning GPS, which lost the race route and showed only the checkpoints instead. “The only information I had was an ‘as the crow flies’ line, so I had to think a little bit more. I figured the race coordinators had done it to everyone—taken away the race line to make it even more of an adventure.” But when Buckingham casually mentioned it to someone at a checkpoint, he learned he was the only one who had lacked the information for two days. Although he had to swim across a few rivers, he says, “I made it, and it was fun.”

**THE KEY TO SUCCESS**

As a thoroughbred-horse trainer, Buckingham is used to 12-to-16-hour work days in the South Carolina heat, sometimes going several months without a day off. No amount of physical labor, however, can approximate the physical demands of the Derby, which Buckingham found more taxing than he ever imaged. There is no way to
truly prepare for the event, he claims; only through sheer willpower can riders endure the pain. “You have to get over the fact that your body hates you, your brain hates you, and the horse doesn’t really want you on its back,” he says. “At that point, it’s more mental than physical.” He also notes, “In the Derby and in life, it’s easier to do things you didn’t think were possible when you surround yourself with like-minded people.”

The Derby came at a time of transition for Buckingham; after ten years of six-day work weeks training horses for owners the likes of the ruler of Dubai, he was getting restless. “My wife and I were looking for a change and needed a little adventure in our lives to spunk things up. Reading an online article in December of 2015, I saw a suggested article from Outside magazine about a guy who had completed the derby a year prior. I read the article, looked on the Mongol Derby website, talked to my wife about it, and knew I wanted to do it. We decided if I was still as excited about it in the morning, I would submit my application.”

Seven short months after he first learned of the Derby, he was waiting in the Moscow airport for his final connection to Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. “The timing was right,” Buckingham recalls. “I thought, I’m in shape, I have the time to do it, I’ve been working my tail off for ten years, and it is time to do something for myself. I needed an adventure.”

There is no doubt that Pierce Buckingham has chosen a life outside the norm. His philosophy? “Test yourself and your limits. Live life with a purpose.”
On a cold January morning in Richmond, a young Hampden-Sydney alumnus and a Randolph-Macon basketball legend meet with a former Hampden-Sydney College Trustee—not to talk college rivalry, but to talk community service.

They gather at Liberation Veterans Services, a transitional housing facility that is part of a national effort to eradicate homelessness among America’s military veterans. High rates of traumatic brain injury and PTSD—direct consequences of their military service—put veterans at a higher risk of homelessness than the general population. In fact, a 2014 study by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs found that approximately 50,000 veterans sleep on the streets of America on any given night.

These three men are committed to changing that statistic, one veteran at a time.

THE HAMPDEN-SYDNEY MAN

For ten years, alumnus Alexander Jermaine “Jay” Patrick ’03 put his Hampden-Sydney economics and management degree to good work in the retail banking industry, rising through the ranks at Bank of America and Wachovia to the position of vice president. Although Patrick found his career fulfilling, he sensed a call to make more of an impact in the community.

A conversation between Wachovia’s regional president and the CEO of a Richmond non-profit inspired Patrick to create his first non-profit pilot program. The financial literacy program that he built from the ground up demonstrated such immediate success that Bank of America awarded it a $250,000 expansion grant after its first fiscal year. “It was a beautiful experience that resonated with my Hampden-Sydney foundation of being a good man and a good citizen,” says Patrick. “It connected all of the dots: my experience in business, my desire to impact the community, and my belief in being a good citizen. In that moment, I realized this was the kind of work I wanted to do.”

He eventually left the banking world for full-time non-profit work, first with the Salvation Army, then at a homeless shelter on Richmond’s Hull Street. Shortly after Patrick’s move to Freedom House, however, the shelter was dealt a devastating blow when its board of directors voted to dissolve the organization in the face of increasing debt.

But Patrick identified an opportunity that no one else saw: leveraging his knowledge of community banking, he devised a plan to renegotiate the property debt, refine the vision, and save the center. The Freedom House board of directors endorsed his plan, but declined to take on the work themselves. Instead, Patrick found a new umbrella organization and resolved to save the crucial community shelter.

KAREN E. HUGGARD
Photos by Courtney Vogel
The Randolph-Macon Man

In order to make it work, Patrick knew he needed one particular man on board with him. Patrick calls him the X factor, the best case manager he’s ever seen, and the missing link that tied the plan together: Fletcher N. Johnson, Jr., R-MC class of 1975.

Randolph-Macon basketball’s all-time leading scorer with 2,212 career points, Johnson led the Yellow-Jackets to an 86-24 record during his four seasons. But it’s not his athletic pedigree that impresses Patrick.

“It takes a special skill set to help an individual in crisis—a unique balance of street smarts, book smarts, integrity, camaraderie, and trust,” says Patrick. “And Fletcher Johnson is one of the few people I’ve seen who has everything it takes to help individuals whom everyone else has given up on.” Patrick knew he could have a good program without Johnson, but not a great one, and “we needed to be great if we were going to emerge from the ashes.”

Patrick and Johnson had a fateful conversation in a McDonald’s parking lot to decide the shelter’s future. “I told Fletcher, ‘There’s one thing you need to know before you commit. I really need you, but I don’t know how I’ll pay you.’” It is a testament to both men’s character that they chose to go without pay several times that first year rather than close the homeless shelter.

The Mission

The result of Patrick’s vision is Liberation Veteran Services, a 38-bed residential facility serving homeless male veterans in the city of Richmond. The center’s goal, according to Patrick, is to restore dignity to homeless veterans by helping them achieve stability, secure employment, learn financial literacy, and find permanent housing. Clients stay at LVS an average of six months, and 86 percent are still clean, sober, employed, and in stable housing a year after they leave the center.

With only three full-time and six part-time staff members, LVS utilizes community partnerships and frugality to extend its reach to as many veterans as
possible. For example, over 60 area churches volunteer seven days a week to provide dinner for the clients, a significant source of budget relief. Clients also live communally; with no paid cleaning or cooking crew, they earn a sense of pride in place of a handout. Residents’ chores include cleaning the center, washing their own clothes, and preparing breakfast and lunch—responibilities that restore individual dignity and make the center feel like a home.

Donations from individuals, churches, and businesses have also helped LVS slowly renovate the aging building. In 2016, a volunteer crew organized by an 84-year-old member of Sandston Presbyterian Church helped Patrick convert a basement that hadn’t been used in 35 years, creating space for another 30-plus beds. Used office equipment from Capital One outfitted a computer lab where residents learn computer skills and financial literacy. And the non-smoking facility offers a “store” of professional clothes and household items—all donated to help clients transition to permanent work and housing.

Patrick’s success in saving and turning around the homeless shelter has garnered attention from another Hampden-Sydney alumnus. Chosen as an emerging non-profit leader by The Community Foundation, Patrick happened to mention in a strategic planning session that he played basketball at H-SC; within a few days, the mentor connected Patrick with fellow basketball Tiger and former College Trustee David G. Wilson, Jr. ’63.

According to Wilson, “It was divine intervention: through The Community Foundation, Jay met my dear friend and former business colleague, Wally Stettinius, who solicited my help with the organization. As I learned more about LVS, including the effectiveness and efficiency of its exceptional program and success rate placing veterans in permanent housing, I made a personal commitment to help Jay and his team.” Wilson calls Patrick “a true servant leader and visionary, who personifies the mission of Hampden-Sydney College to be a good man and a good citizen.”

Both Wilson and Stettinius volunteer at the center at least once a week as strategic advisors, bringing with them a wealth of business experience and acumen. “We think with them, dream with them, vision with them,” says Wilson. “We’re helping Liberation Veteran Services reach financial stability and raise forward funding, so they can fulfill their crucial mission to give deserving veterans the help they need.”

The collaboration with Wilson is exactly what Patrick and Johnson had been hoping for. “All along, I chose to focus on successful outcomes rather than fundraising, because I knew there’d be a day when I’d meet a Dave Wilson who could help me raise the money necessary to serve even more veterans,” says Patrick.

**RIVALS NO MORE**

The three former collegiate basketball players credit their alma maters with shaping them into the men they are today. Patrick recalls that “everything at Hampden-Sydney, from the curriculum to the culture, centered on leadership. Public speaking, critical thinking, problem solving, and volunteering at H-SC prepared me to lead this cause. Leaders like Coach Tony Shaver and General Sam Wilson taught me to plant my feet and stand on a firm moral foundation.” For his part, Johnson credits R-MC Coach Paul Webb with “teaching me everything I know about being a man.”

And although the Hampden-Sydney men like to give Johnson a hard time about Randolph-Macon, they all agree that the rivalry takes second place to the mission. Thinking back on his basketball years, Patrick says, “I can testify that when we played Macon, it brought out the best in me and the best in our team. The same is true here: Fletcher has brought out the best in me, and I think I’ve brought out the best in him. Even after graduation, Hampden-Sydney and Randolph-Macon push us to be our best selves.”

Although we might fight on the hardwood and on the field, these Hampden-Sydney and Randolph-Macon men are coming together when it matters most: to make sure the words “homeless” and “veteran” are never used in the same sentence again.

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*Jay Patrick ’03 and Dave Wilson ’63*
Men’s Chorus Performs at Carnegie Hall

When the Hampden-Sydney College Men’s Chorus was invited to audition for a Carnegie Hall performance of composer Randall Thompson’s work Testament of Freedom, director Dr. Helena von Rueden knew it was an opportunity they had to pursue.

According to von Rueden, Thompson’s work is steeped in American history, just like Hampden-Sydney College: “The lyrics were based on the prose of Thomas Jefferson, written not too far from here. The score was composed at the University of Virginia, not too far from here. And it was written for all-male ensemble, which we have right here.” The twenty-minute choral piece was commissioned by the University of Virginia in 1943 to mark the bicentennial of Jefferson’s birth; Thompson used Jefferson’s own words as the lyrics.

Last spring, the Men’s Chorus submitted audition tapes and were accepted into the ensemble, setting into motion a February 2017 trip to New York City. Over the course of five days, the group visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the 9/11 Memorial, and the top of Rockefeller Plaza. They also took in an off-Broadway play and joined the H-SC Club of New York City for an evening reception at the Pier A Harbor House, where they watched the sun set behind the Statue of Liberty.

Von Reuden collaborated with Charles Potts ’88 to organize the event, which brought current H-SC students together with alumni and friends of the College.

The main focus of the trip was their performance on Carnegie Hall’s famed Perelman Stage. After several days of intense rehearsals, 16 Hampden-Sydney students joined other choirs and individual performers from across the globe to present The Glory of Freedom: A Concert to Honor Our Veterans. Closing out the concert with their rendition of Testament of Freedom, the 270-man chorus received a standing ovation from the sold-out audience of 2,800.

It was the second time that the Hampden-Sydney students had performed the demanding choral piece, with its powerful refrain: “The God who gave us life gave us liberty at the same time; the hand of force may destroy but cannot disjoin them.”
The departments of fine arts and history collaborated on a February 9 concert at Crawley Forum featuring Thompson’s Testament of Freedom and Aaron Copland’s Lincoln Portrait, with thought-provoking introductions by history professor Dr. John Coombs and professor emeritus Dr. Ronald Heinemann. The event included a powerful slideshow of Civil War-era photos curated by H-SC students and narrated by Provost Dennis Stevens, as well as musical accompaniment by professor emeritus Dr. James Kidd on piano and visiting professor Dr. Vincent Rone on organ.

After the concert, von Rueden remarked, “I’m so proud of the work we accomplished in this performance, bringing together the intellectual and creative gifts of so many in our community, across disciplines, celebrating the power of music to tell our history in impactful ways.” ☀️
SOUTHSIDE STUDENTS CELEBRATE READING AT H-SC’S

Dr. Seuss Birthday Bash

Building on a tradition established almost twenty years ago by Dr. and Mrs. Walter Bortz, President Larry Stimpert and his wife Lesley hosted more than one thousand local children at Kirk Athletic Center for Hampden-Sydney’s first Dr. Seuss Birthday Bash. Second grade students from six area counties enjoyed games, treats, and a book giveaway at the February event, which celebrated the famed author’s fanciful approach to literacy and learning.

Hampden-Sydney’s Literacy Program began in 2000 with the Bortzes’ desire to “demonstrate in a small way our commitment to reading as well as tighten the bond between the College and the local community.” To that end, the College has presented a children’s dictionary to each Prince Edward County second grader for the past 16 years. Traditionally, the College president and his family have visited the elementary school to present the dictionaries. This year, the Stimperts expanded the Literacy Program well beyond Prince Edward County, inviting second graders from every surrounding county to come to a fun-filled event on campus.

Inspired by Lesley Stimpert’s career as a children’s librarian, the Birthday Bash was designed to spread the love of reading and get children excited about literacy. “With the dictionaries, the Bortzes and the Howards gave the children a resource,” said Mrs. Stimpert. “I wanted to continue their work promoting literacy while bringing in some of my own experience as a librarian.”

This prompted a change from the dictionaries to classic Dr. Seuss books that children can read and re-read. Also important to Mrs. Stimpert was allowing the children to choose their own books. “As librarians, we use a lot of incentives to get kids reading, and choice is an important element in that.”

This year, each child could choose from seven Dr. Seuss titles ranging from...
View the record online at record.hsc.edu

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entry-level readers to heftier picture books. And making it a classic birthday party, complete with cupcakes and bounce houses, guaranteed a fun time for the seven- and eight-year-old children.

Having the second graders come to campus also added a new aspect to the Literacy Program. For many of the children, the field trip was their first exposure to a college campus. Mrs. Stimpert enjoyed seeing the children expand their experience: “They were able to associate the College with an actual place, and they had fun while doing so.” In addition, the Stimperts included H-SC students in the process; wearing their team jerseys, members of several athletic teams helped the children pick out individual books. “It was important for me that the children saw young men who are interested in literacy,” said Mrs. Stimpert. “Having our Hampden-Sydney students hand out the books really got the kids excited.”

Freshman basketball player Chase Johnson ’20 said he “loved every minute of interacting with the kids. Getting to see the smiles on their faces when they picked out their books was such a good feeling.” Football captain Daniel Fogelberg ’17 added, “It’s so valuable for H-SC students to connect with local kids and give back to the community. I loved seeing their faces light up when they saw how much can be done with reading, and I really hope it sparks their interest in books.”

The students weren’t the only members of the College community to join the Stimperts at the event. From Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Heinemann manning a Jurassic-themed bounce house to Director of Admissions Jason “Ferg” Ferguson ’96 leading games of LORAX (a modification of the basketball game HORSE), over 50 faculty and staff members volunteered at the Birthday Bash. Farmville area sponsors also joined forces, with Walmart, McDonald’s, and Magic Special Events donating juice boxes, apple slices, and bounce houses, respectively.

“With 1,035 children in attendance, we could not have made the day the success it was without our volunteers and our sponsors,” said director of college events Cameron Cary. She noted that feedback from the children, their teachers, and College volunteers was overwhelmingly positive. “It did my heart good when an H-SC student said this was one of the best things he’s done during his four years here.”
Ethics: Theory Meets Practice at H-SC

The College’s efforts to “form good men and good citizens in an atmosphere of sound learning” encourages Hampden-Sydney students to think deeply about the dilemmas facing American society today, efforts which have proven successful with H-SC’s champion ethics team and business ethics program.

Putting students’ ethical thinking to the test is the annual Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges Ethics Bowl, which Hampden-Sydney won for the second year in a row on February 13. Focusing on the timely issue of ethics and U.S. presidential politics, this year’s competition presented case studies regarding privacy, immigration, and national security.

Coached by philosophy professor Dr. Patrick Wilson, the team met for weekly practices beginning in September. According to Wilson, “What distinguished our team was that, instead of focusing on policy or fact-finding, we really focused on the ethics, which is what I think won the round for us.” Wilson also noted that Hampden-Sydney’s campus culture puts our students at an advantage in the competition. “We have a culture that believes in living honorable, ethical lives,” Wilson said. “Our students appear like gentlemen because they are gentlemen.”

H-SC defeated the University of Richmond in this year’s final round, and beat Washington and Lee for the 2016 title. In addition to the team’s two-year winning streak, they have won four of the past six ethics bowls and competed in the finals six of the past eight years. The ethics team will defend the Batten Trophy at home next February, when Hampden-Sydney will host 14 other colleges at the 19th annual statewide bowl.

Also challenging students to think ethically is the Warren W. Hobbie Program in Business Ethics, coordinated by

Members of the Hobbie Ethics Program gather with guest speaker Andrew Sinclair ’03 (far right) for dinner at Charley’s Waterfront Cafe.

religion professor Dr. Jeffrey Vogel, economics professor Dr. Saranna Thornton, and history professor Dr. Kenneth Lehman. Hobbie Scholars—chosen for their academic promise, demonstrated leadership, and interest in the interplay of business and ethics—complete an independent study in business ethics as well as advanced coursework in philosophy, religion, and economics.

A long-standing Hobbie tradition outside the classroom is the monthly dinner at Charley’s Waterfront Café, where Hobbie Scholars, H-SC professors, and guest speakers tackle real-world ethical issues over a shared meal. Most recently, the group discussed ethical scenarios that guest speaker Andrew Sinclair ’03 has faced as director of federal government affairs at the Port of Virginia. Sinclair noted that his Hampden-Sydney experience prepared him “to think through problems in real time and figure out the best course of action. Having the Honor Code be such a fundamental part of my entire college experience really provided an ethical foundation going forward.”

Religion major Ashby Neterer ’17 feels that the Hobbie Program epitomizes the value of a liberal arts education: “I love that people come from different majors across the Hampden-Sydney curriculum to share their perspectives on practical, real-world situations.” Fellow Hobbie Scholar Dallas Negaard ’18, a government major, enjoys the merging of theory and practice. “Sometimes we discuss problems that are purely theoretical, but at other meetings our guest speakers bring actual situations that they have encountered in their professions,” he says. “It’s interesting to see how the theoretical and practical overlap.”
Office of Career Development Connects H-SC Students and Alumni

Hampden-Sydney’s Office of Career Education hosted multiple events this semester to prepare students for the competitive job market they will enter shortly; many of those efforts were made possible by the direct involvement of Hampden-Sydney graduates.

In January, almost 20 alumni and parent volunteers representing a dozen industries returned to the Hill to offer their guidance and expertise at the 5th annual Professional Development Institute. Approximately 50 H-SC students chose to cut short their winter break and attend the conference, held two days before the spring semester began. In addition to formal activities like industry roundtables and a keynote address, participants had ample opportunity to network at receptions and a formal dinner.

At the “You’re Hired” session, a panel of six professionals who routinely interview and hire new employees offered real-world advice on the interview process, from the importance of punctuality to the pitfalls of social media. Students also learned what to do—and what not to do—in their first days on a new job. A breakout session for seniors addressed “Dealing with the Pressure to Get a Job NOW,” while underclassmen heard from alumni on “Prepared and Poised: Lessons of a Liberal Arts Education.”

Presenter Brian Horner ’03 noted how well-prepared Hampden-Sydney students are to enter the work force. “The rhetoric program here is unlike anything I’ve ever seen. It provides students with the ability to think deeply, solve problems, and communicate those answers effectively. Technology has changed the way this generation reads and writes into short bursts of texts and posts, which sacrifices depth of thought and depth of creativity. But not Hampden-Sydney graduates.” Dave Riddick ’77 was also impressed by how well the student attendees communicated. “They ask outstanding questions and they’re all engaged, even when a session goes long,” he said, even noting, “I’ve seen almost no students with their phones out.”

In February, the inaugural Hire a Tiger career fair brought 40 employer and graduate school representatives to campus, almost 15 of whom were alumni. Approximately 150 students attended the fair, which showcased diverse career opportunities from financial planning to the FBI. Young alumni Josh Doggett ’15 and Zach Lapiniski ’13 returned to the Hill to represent NVR/Ryan Homes at the career fair. Doggett called it "a huge success all around," noting, "I was amazed at the number of companies, across multiple industries, that came to recruit."
“I just live life to the fullest, going one hundred miles an hour like I always have. I’m still Sam Murphy, still myself.”
Anyone who has visited Hampden-Sydney in recent years has likely seen incoming Student Body President Sam Murphy ’18 ride past on his skateboard. The Virginia Beach native flies through life as fast as he skates down the hilly campus paths, full of energy and enthusiasm. It’s hard to imagine that just three years ago Sam lay in a hospital bed in Germany making the decision to have his left hand amputated after seven unsuccessful surgeries.

Sam’s affinity for foreign languages emerged in middle school, when a German family moved into his neighborhood. By tenth grade he was fluent, and by eleventh grade he was ready to spend the summer in Germany translating for a mission organization. Invited to return as the group’s youth director, he made the decision to postpone his freshman year at Hampden-Sydney. “I was blessed to have the opportunity to go to Germany and really find myself at a young age,” says Sam. He spent his “gap year” on a subsistence farm in former East Germany, renovating the facility, working as a farm hand, and leading week-long field trips for school and church groups.

Just three weeks before his scheduled flight home, Sam was picking cherries on a foggy day near a Soviet-era electric transformer. The supposedly disconnected amplifier sent a 20,000-volt arc through the moisture in the air, which entered Sam’s body though his left hand and grounded him to the unit. “480 volts can kill you if you touch it,” says Sam. “Imagine 20,000 volts of electricity—enough to power the entire Hampden-Sydney campus—coursing through your body. It went up my arm and exploded out of my shoulder. I’m missing everything but the bones back there, and I have a hole in my side.” He remembers the experience vividly, including the hour it took for the paramedics to arrive. “I was prepared to die. I thought, Well, God, I’m ready if this is my time.”

Thankfully it wasn’t his time, and Sam entered Hampden-Sydney a semester later than expected after three months in a German hospital and another three months recovering at home. Letters and packages kept him positive, including a care package from H-SC. “They sent me a Hampden-Sydney hat that I wore every day in rehab,” he recalls.

Although losing his hand means Sam can no longer play guitar, he returned to his previously active life as soon as possible—surfing, skateboarding, snowboarding, kayaking, and playing piano are just a few of his passions. He also relishes the challenge of activities, like basketball, that he wasn’t good at before the accident. “I just do it. It’s worth the try to see what I can accomplish with one hand.” How he has time for any hobbies with his heavy academic schedule and extracurricular commitments is a mystery. The economics major is a Wilson Center fellow, member of Garnet and Gray, resident advisor, Wellness Center peer counselor, as well as the vice-president of Baptist Collegiate Ministries.

And those are just his Hampden-Sydney activities. For three years, he has also served on the board of directors of Character.org. The national non-profit promotes the teaching of ethical values in schools, a topic Sam is passionate about: “Aristotle said that educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all, and I think that’s completely true.” His time on the board has given him experience fundraising, budgeting, and strategic planning—skills he will put to good use as the College’s student body president.

One might be tempted to understand Sam’s exuberance for life as a response to his near-death experience, but he claims, “I’m not sure I’ve changed much since the accident. I just live life to the fullest, going one hundred miles an hour like I always have. I’m still Sam Murphy, still myself.” Perhaps the fact that he was electrocuted and it didn’t change him—such resilience in the face of adversity—is what sets this Hampden-Sydney man apart.

For a video on Sam, visit vimeo.com/132964723.
Hampden-Sydney Tennis was picked fourth in the ODAC Preseason Poll, a vast improvement over the past two seasons.

"We have a much better dynamic this year," said Coach Robert Bareford. "The team works hard every day and are friends off the courts. We have four freshmen in our top six, but captains Trent Singleton ’17 and Andrew Loving ’17, along with sophomore Harrison Stone ’19, bolster the roster."

The Tigers are already showing the massive signs of improvement the league coaches predicted. Three games into the season, H-SC is 3-0 with two wins coming against ODAC foes Lynchburg College and Shenandoah University. The Tigers received little resistance, sweeping Shenandoah 9-0 and defeating Lynchburg 8-0.

Leading the team are freshmen Matthew ’20 and Michael Moody ’20, who compose H-SC’s top doubles team. Matthew also plays at the #1 singles flight and Michael the #2. The twins rank in the top eight ODAC players, according to Universal Tennis Rating. Singleton and Levy Young ’20 make up the #2 doubles team and the #3 and #4 singles players, respectively. They have won both their singles and doubles matches with ease.

Stone and Grayson Burns ’20 team up at #3 doubles and fill in the #5 and #6 singles spots. Both players have dominated their competition in doubles and posted decisive wins in singles.

The Tigers are playing shorthanded with top freshman Clark Cummings ’20 recovering from a knee injury. He will slide into the lineup at #3 singles and #2 doubles.

"If we stay healthy and hungry, we will be an ODAC title contender over the next four years," stated Coach Bareford.
Hampden-Sydney Swimming took second place at the ODAC Championship, the Tigers’ highest finish ever. In the process, H-SC avenged an earlier loss to Randolph-Macon.

Head Coach Betsy Leonard was named the ODAC Coach of the Year, becoming only the second woman to be named ODAC Coach of the Year in a men’s sport.

"We had a hard-working group of 19 swimmers who devoted a lot of time and energy to achieve some huge success," said Coach Leonard. "Standout swims came from our captains, Ryan Mitchell ’17 and Conor O’Heir ’17, and fellow senior Stewart Lawrence ’17. They have waited four years to beat Randolph-Macon. Those four years of hard work could not have ended any better—the second-place finish at the ODAC Championship was the perfect exclamation mark."

Hudson Elmore ’19 become the first Tiger to be named First-Team All-ODAC; he was joined on the All-ODAC team by


Elmore’s name is all over the Tiger record book as he ranks in the top 10 of an individual or relay race 64 times, including the school record in 11 events. He posted a ODAC top-10 time in the 50-yard backstroke, the 100-yard backstroke, the 200-yard butterfly, and the 100-yard IM.

Brown, Mercer, O’Heir, and Updike have been tremendous assets to the swimming program throughout their careers and have been improving year after year.

Tragically, the swim team and the College lost a brother when Carter Cole passed away in March. "When Carter swam," said Coach Leonard, "it looked effortless. He was so talented, but so humble. One season with Carter will never be enough. Our team is keeping Carter’s parents and brother in our thoughts and prayers."
Hampden-Sydney College interim athletic director Davis Yake ’08 announced the hiring of Tommy DiNuzzo as the College’s new head soccer coach.

DiNuzzo comes to the College after spending the last four seasons as the head coach at the University of Maine at Farmington. Prior to his time at Maine Farmington, DiNuzzo was an assistant coach at ODAC-rival Lynchburg College (2011-13) and the University of Mary Washington (2009-11).

“We could not be more excited about coach Dinuzzo’s arrival as the tenth head soccer coach at Hampden-Sydney,” Yake commented. “Coach brings a wealth of experience with him, including great knowledge of the region, conference, and institution. His enthusiasm for this program is contagious, and we feel the future is bright with Coach Dinuzzo.”

“I would like to thank Mr. Yake and the entire search committee for giving me the opportunity to come to such a well-respected institution,” said DiNuzzo. “Hampden-Sydney College is a place I have been familiar with since I was a player, and I look forward to helping the program reach its potential and be a strong contender in the ODAC.”

DiNuzzo took over a Maine Farmington team that won just two games, and he was able to triple that win total in his third year while also reaching the conference semifinals for the first time since 2011. Additionally, he had the most all-conference honorees since 2011.

A 2009 graduate of Mary Washington University, DiNuzzo was a four-year starter and two-year captain for the Eagles.
HOOPS
Highlights: Tigers Reach Quarterfinals of ODAC Tournament

BY SCOTT HARRIS, ASSISTANT SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR

Hampden-Sydney Basketball posted several impressive performances in the 2016-2017 season, starting with an exhibition at neighboring Division I Longwood University, where the Tigers narrowly lost in overtime 93-85.

The Tigers won the Luck Stone Holiday Tournament, defeating Messiah 75-73 on December 19, then defeating Mount Saint Vincent 91-85 the following day to take the title. Logan Samuels ’18 was named tournament MVP behind two 20-plus point performances, while Guilherme Guimaraes ’18 and Jake Duncan ’17 were honored on the All-Tournament Team.

H-SC won at eventual ODAC Champion Guilford College on January 21, the Tigers’ first win at Guilford since the 2005-06 season. Hampden-Sydney started off February winning three straight games, including a 63-56 defeat of Randolph-Macon and a 76-69 victory over Virginia Wesleyan.

The Tigers closed out the season with the ODAC Tournament, hosting Shenandoah University in the first round, where they took out the Hornets 75-64 on Feb. 20. They squared off against top-seeded Guilford in the quarterfinals three days later. While the Tigers led by six at halftime and battled to the end, Guilford ultimately prevailed 63-53.

Duncan was named Third-Team All-ODAC as he led the team in scoring with 12.2 points. He also scored his 1,000th career point this season, finishing his career with 1,019 points.

Senior JaVonte Reddick ’17 closed out his career on a high note. Averaging nine points a game and scoring numerous clutch baskets throughout the season, he was also the Tigers’ top defensive player, helping force the ODAC’s leading scorer into a 6-for-19 shooting performance.

Helping bolster the team after the first semester was midyear transfer Malik Crute ’21. The combo guard debuted on December 20 with an impressive 15-point, four-rebound, four-steal performance and scored 18 points to go with eight rebounds and five assists at Guilford.
A DAY IN THE LIFE
AARON KURZ ’18
For most Hampden-Sydney students, baseball season represents a semester’s worth of opportunities to enjoy spring weather with friends—a perfect break from studying. For an athlete, the season represents an entirely different beast.

Meet Dustin Wiles ’17.

A senior outfielder, Dustin is entering his fourth and final season, this time as a captain—just as his brother Spencer Wiles ’15 was before him. His leadership qualities aren’t reserved for the baseball field, though. His considerable success as a biology major indicates that success on the Hill is earned, and Dustin leads by example in the academic arena.

So, what exactly do the demands of a student-athlete look like day-to-day? Take Tuesday, for instance:

7:15 AM Wake up, shower, get dressed.

7:55 AM Dustin arrives at Pannill Commons with enough time to eat breakfast before his first class.

8:30 AM Gilmer Hall beckons, and it’s off to Developmental Biology.

9:50 AM After biology ends, Dustin heads across campus to Kirk Athletic Center for his Visual Arts class. He claims, “I basically sprint, but I’m usually three minutes late.” (While leadership applies both on and off the field, it seems that his speed may not.)

11:20 AM Dustin is walking back to the dining hall for lunch. “I don’t really drink soda or eat fried food,” he says. “Plus, I usually eat quickly so I have some time to work on the Journal of the Sciences.” The first moments of the afternoon, then, Dustin spends back in the science department, editing the student-produced publication of summer research.

12:30 PM Dustin sits in his final class of the day, a religious survey. When class ends at 1:50, a quick stop at the post office to check his mailbox is all that stands between Dustin and baseball practice.

2:15 to 6 PM The first “break” from schoolwork is spent on the baseball field, in the batting cages, and on the track. In the almost four-hour practice Dustin will run outfield drills, take batting practice, and play in an intrasquad scrimmage. The season is long, and success requires proper conditioning.

6:05 PM Dustin is in the weight room for the rest of the hour. Seven pm marks the end of his day as an athlete, but it also means that the dining hall will close in thirty minutes and there is still studying to take care of.

7:15 PM Arriving at the Commons, Dustin has time for a quick dinner before heading to the library. Surely, a cup of coffee is in order at this point, but “I’m not really a coffee drinker,” says Dustin. “I do fill up my water bottle, though.”

7:45 to 11:15 PM Dustin sits in the basement of Bortz Library doing schoolwork. This particular evening, it’s a drawing of the Wilson Center for his Visual Arts class.

11:20 PM to 12:15 AM Dustin is back home, his first opportunity for free time today. The day has been long, though, and Wednesdays are just as demanding. So, after a shower and a snack of Greek yogurt and fruit, Dustin retires at 11:50. He’s reading Tim Tebow’s Shaken on this Tuesday night, and the pages keep turning until the lights go out.

Those familiar with Hampden-Sydney understand the plight of the hardworking student: Morton becomes a second home, Gilmer a monument of scientific discovery. Dustin understands his role here a bit differently: “There’s a lot to get done in a day, but I think that’s why H-SC has prepared me so well for what’s next.”

Graduate school is certainly a long-term plan for Dustin. But for now, so is an ODAC championship, as well as another semester of straight A’s. How, exactly, does Dustin plan on taking care of these responsibilities? “One day at a time.” 📚
Senior Campaign: Young Alumni Honor H-SC’s Finest

A switchboard operator, the Dean of Admissions, a coach, a public safety officer, Tiger Football’s number one fan: although their roles at the College differ greatly from one another, all have been recognized for their contributions to student life at Hampden-Sydney.

Since 2003, the Senior Gift Campaign has honored H-SC community members and created scholarships for deserving students, all while involving the College’s newest alumni. Each graduating class chooses a member of the College community who has significantly influenced their H-SC experience. By raising scholarship funds in his or her honor, the class helps extend the honoree’s impact to incoming students.

This year’s senior class chose to honor Wilson Center director Lt. Col. Rucker Snead ’81. “I’m humbled to be selected as the honoree,” said Snead. “For over 240 years, Hampden-Sydney has educated young men as they become ‘good men and good citizens,’ an effort funded in large part by gifts from others. The Senior Campaign is an important way to help teach our men about philanthropy and giving back to our alma mater.” Almost 80 men joined Snead and the Senior Gift Committee at a kick-off event at the Fishin’ Pig, and, as in years past, sales of a t-shirt inspired by the honoree (featuring the graphic on the right) will support fundraising efforts.

The Senior Gift Campaign is far more than a fundraising effort—it seeks to engage graduating seniors with the College in their new role as alumni. To that end, the Senior Gift Committee joins forces with the Alumni Association for a variety of activities in the days leading up to Commencement. This year’s plans include an outdoor dinner and concert the night after final exams, a golf tournament with local alumni, and an Alumni Association picnic on the lawn of Hampden-House—the graduates’ new “home” on campus.

However, the campaign doesn’t end at graduation; each class continues its efforts annually to raise critical current-use scholarship funds, making a Hampden-Sydney education accessible to future generations of Hampden-Sydney men. One hundred percent of the funds raised go directly to scholarships for young men of outstanding character, academic achievement, and demonstrated financial need.

The Senior Gift Campaign is a coordinated effort between student leaders and Jenna Carr, H-SC’s new Assistant Director of the Annual Fund. A graduate of Lynchburg College, Carr comes to Hampden-Sydney from Randolph College, where she was a program coordinator in the Center for Student Research. She was active with fundraising for her alma mater during her student days and served on her own class gift committee.

In her role at H-SC, Carr works directly with young alumni and current students, helping new graduates transition between student and alumnus and encouraging them to stay involved once their time on the Hill has ended.
Senior Campaign Honorees:

Class of 2017 Scholarship
In honor of Lt. Col. Rucker Snead ’81

Class of 2016 Scholarship
In honor of Ray Rostan

Class of 2015 Scholarship
In Honor of Jeffrey S. Gee

Class of 2014 Scholarship
In Honor of Walter Simms

Class of 2013 Scholarship
In Honor of Thomas H. Shomo ’69

Class of 2012 Scholarship
In Honor of Jason Ferguson ’96

Class of 2011 Scholarship
In Honor of Miss Anita H. Garland

Class of 2010 Scholarship
In Honor of Mrs. Dottie Fahrner

Class of 2009 Scholarship
In Memory of Allen G. West ’09

Class of 2008 Scholarship
In Honor of Ms. Gerry Pettus

Class of 2007 Scholarship
In Honor of Lt. Gen. Sam Wilson

Class of 2006 Scholarship
In Memory of Peter C. Bance, Jr. ’06

Class of 2005 Scholarship
In Memory of Professor Lee Cohen

Class of 2004 Scholarship
In Memory of Conrad Frazier ’04
& In Honor of Walter Simms

Class of 2003 Scholarship
In Honor of Ralph A. Crawley

H-SC Announces Target Cities Initiative

The Alumni Association and Admissions Office will lead the way on a new Target Cities Initiative, launching this year. The program will build on the strengths of a previous Target Cities program initiated during General Sam Wilson’s tenure as president, but will be updated to reflect the College’s current strategic priorities. Leadership teams comprised of alumni, parents, and friends of the College will be formed in each city to maximize the College’s impact in communities where H-SC hopes to increase student enrollment, alumni engagement, and overall exposure. Initial Target Cities include Atlanta, Baltimore, Birmingham, Charlotte, and Raleigh-Durham. More cities will be included as the program grows in the coming year.

Things You Can Do to Help H-SC

1. Add your degree from Hampden-Sydney College to your online work bio.
2. Bring a prospective student to visit campus or show him hsc.edu/admissions to set up a tour.
3. Contact Ellen Masters (emasters@hsc.edu) in the H-SC Career Education Office about internship or job opportunities at your company.
4. Buy an item from the Hampden-Sydney Campus Store, online at hsccampusstore.com or in person next time you’re on the Hill.
5. Cheer on the Tigers at a live sporting event or visit urls.hsc.edu/webcast to watch one online.
6. Attend an alumni event. Check out alumnicalendar.hsc.edu to find an upcoming event in your area.
7. Does your graduation year end in two or seven? Attend Reunion Weekend, June 2-4, 2017.
8. List yourself as a Hampden-Sydney graduate on LinkedIn and follow H-SC on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.
9. Come back to class and learn about “Pivotal Leadership Through History” at Alumni Summer College, June 2-4, 2017.
1960s

Patrick Henry Society & Class of ’67
Reunion Weekend: June 2–4, 2017

GORDON D. SCHRECK ’65 has been named in Who’s Who Legal: Transport 2017 as one of the world’s leading shipping attorneys. He was one of only 80 U.S. attorneys named by the London-based publication, which bases its annual selections on peer reviews and the opinions of law firm clients and transport experts from around the globe. A senior partner at Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice LLP in Charleston, South Carolina, Gordon has 45 years of experience representing shipping industry clients and their marine insurers.

Dr. C. BRUCE ALEXANDER ’67 has been honored with a named lecture series at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine, where he is a professor of pathology. The inaugural lecture was held on January 18, 2017. Bruce is the past president of the American Society of Clinical Pathologists as well as the Academy of Clinical Laboratory Physicians and Scientists.

STEPHEN HAWLEY MARTIN ’67 and his latest novel, Death in Advertising, were featured in the February 17, 2017, edition of Richmond Biz Sense. After three decades in the advertising industry, Steve divides his time between his publishing company, The Oaklea Press, and his advertising firm, Hawley Martin. He has authored or ghostwritten 17 books, ranging from business guides to self-help books. Death in Advertising is his fourth novel, a whodunit inspired by his years as an adman.

PAUL S. TRIBLE, JR. ’68 was honored at a December 10, 2016, gala for his service as president of Christopher Newport University. The “20-40-70” gala celebrated Paul’s 20 years as university president, 40 years of public service, and 70th birthday on December 29, 2016. Proceeds from the event, which drew almost 1,000 attendees, benefited student scholarships.

1970s

Classes of ’72 and ’77
Reunion Weekend: June 2–4, 2017

The Honorable JAMES J. ROWE ’72 has returned to West Virginia’s 11th Judicial Circuit. After 19 years on the bench, he retired to senior status in 2016; however, in February 2017 the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals appointed him to replace a suspended judge.

JAMES J. ROWE ’72

VIRGINIA BAR ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

DAVID S. MERCER ’70 was installed as the 129th president of the Virginia Bar Association on January 21, 2017. He was sworn in by his daughter-in-law, Secretary of the Commonwealth Kelly Thomasson Mercer. David is a principal of MercerTrigiani, an Alexandria-based law firm specializing in common-interest ownership community associations. He is a past chair of the Virginia Bar’s Substance Abuse Committee and a past president of Lawyers Helping Lawyers.

Paul S. Trible, Jr. ’68

Save the Date — June 2–4

REUNION 2017


40 THE RECORD of HAMPSDEN-SYDNEY COLLEGE SPRING 2017
CHARLES R. “CHARLIE” HENDERSON ’74

STEPHEN E. BARIL ’77 will manage the day-to-day operations of KVCF Solutions, LLC, a new subsidiary of the law firm Kaplan, Voelker, Cunningham, & Frank. The full service government relations practice offers state lobbying, local government affairs, and economic development consulting. James T. Hoffman ’09 joins Steve at KVCF Solutions as a government relations consultant focusing on Virginia’s General Assembly and new business development.

1980s
Classes of ’82 and ’87
Reunion Weekend: June 2–4, 2017

The Rev. Dr. JAMES Seldon “SEL” Harris, Jr. ’80 and his wife Liz recently traveled to Cuba with Covenant Presbyterian Church of Austin, Texas—a church that Sel formerly served. In 1997, Sel and Liz took the first group from Covenant to Havana. At that time, Sel and the Rev. Charles Ham of the Luyano Presbyterian Church in Havana started a partnership between the two churches that remains strong. Pictured with Sel is Georgina, a 91-year-old member of the Cuban church whose late husband was the personal secretary of Che Guevara.

CHRIS LONG ’80 has been named senior vice president of fixed income sales at HJ Sims, a privately held investment bank and broker-dealer. Chris has 28 years of experience in middle market sales at Lehman Brothers, Morgan Stanley, and Oppenheimer.

Clifford G. Ferrara ’79 has been named executive vice president of sales and revenue generation at Chesapeake Hospitality, a leading third-party hotel management company. He has been with the company for 17 years.

Pete Moore ’77 hosted several members of the H-SC Class of 1977 at his daughter’s wedding on December 10, 2016, in Arlington. Pictured from left to right are Phil Spratley ’77, Ed Tiernan ’77, Dave Hudgins ’77, Kirby Wood ’77, Marty Mcnerney ’77, and Pete Moore ’77.

1980s
1980s
Classes of ’82 and ’87
Reunion Weekend: June 2–4, 2017

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PETE MOORE ’77

PETE MOORE ’77 hosted several members of the H-SC Class of 1977 at his daughter’s wedding on December 10, 2016, in Arlington. Pictured from left to right are Phil Spratley ’77, Ed Tiernan ’77, Dave Hudgins ’77, Kirby Wood ’77, Marty Mcnerney ’77, and Pete Moore ’77.

PETE MOORE ’77

CHRIS LONG ’80 has been named senior vice president of fixed income sales at HJ Sims, a privately held investment bank and broker-dealer. Chris has 28 years of experience in middle market sales at Lehman Brothers, Morgan Stanley, and Oppenheimer.

ED MCMULLEN ’86 has garnered significant media attention for his involvement with President Donald Trump’s election. Ed served as chairman of Trump’s South Carolina primary operation, helping the candidate secure a 10-point victory in the crucial first-in-the-south primary. He then became the South Carolina state director for the Trump campaign and helped plan the Republican National Convention. Ed watched the returns with the Trump team on election night, telling The State newspaper, “At 6 in the morning, we went to bed, and at 8 o’clock, we were back in [Trump] Tower, planning the transition.” After spending time in D.C. as a member of the transition team and as a vice-chair of the inaugural committee, Ed returned to Columbia, South Carolina, where he is president and founder of McMullen Public Affairs.

Warren M. Thompson ’81 has been named to the Virginia Business list of “Most Influential Virginians.” The magazine’s March 2017 edition notes that Warren leads one of the largest African-American-owned businesses in the nation, Thompson Hospitality, and cites recent growth in its new restaurant division, Pheasnt Food Group.

Samuel “Barron” Segar III ’84 has been appointed Chief Development Officer and Executive Vice President at the U.S. Fund for UNICEF (USF) in New York City. Barron has worked at USF for over 16 years, most recently as the organization’s Senior Vice President after relocating to New York from Atlanta in 2013. As part of his professional responsibilities with USF, Barron is a member of UNICEF’s fundraising think tank in Geneva. He also serves as secretary and is a founding member of the Board of Directors for the Elton John AIDS Foundation (EJAF).

Christopher B. Brown ’86 has been named chief sales officer for LIXIL Americas, the business unit under which the American Standard, DXV, and GROHE bath and kitchen brands operate. He will manage the North American sales leadership team, overseeing all retail, trade and e-commerce activities.

Clifford G. Ferrara ’79 has been named executive vice president of sales and revenue generation at Chesapeake Hospitality, a leading third-party hotel management company. He has been with the company for 17 years.
1990s
Classes of ’92 and ’97
Reunion Weekend: June 2–4, 2017

FRANK ROGERS JONES III ’90 took a position as the agency managing director with Lee, Nolan and Koroghlian, LLC (MassMutual Financial Group) in Saddle Brook, New Jersey, in November 2016.

ROBERT HURT ’91, the former U.S. congressman for Virginia’s 5th District, has been tapped to lead the new Center for Law and Government at Liberty University. After three terms as a member of Congress, Rep. Hurt did not seek re-election in 2016.

CARL MICA ’93 has been named the state director for U.S. Senator Ted Cruz of Texas. He will be based in the senator’s Austin office. Prior to joining Cruz’s staff, Carl was the director of business relations for the University of Texas system.

ALAN PATTERSON ’93 and fellow Lambda Chi Alpha brother David Rader ’82 spent time clearing storm debris from David’s property on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, after Hurricane Matthew in October 2016. Although the old pine in the photo survived the storm, many other trees of the same size did not.

CHARLES HURT III ’95 has been named the next opinion editor of the Washington Times, a role he assumed in March. Most recently, he was a Washington Times columnist and Fox News contributor.

TROY WESTON “WEST” PULLIAM ’95 has joined the Centra Medical Group in Burkeville as a board certified physician’s assistant. After earning his chemistry degree from H-SC, he went on to earn a second bachelor’s at Jefferson College of Health Sciences and a master’s at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Most recently, he worked in the emergency department at the VCU Community Memorial Hospital in South Hill.

JAMIE BLACKBURN ’96 has been promoted to executive vice president and chief operating officer of Arborguard Tree Specialists, a 35-year-old tree care company based in Atlanta with offices in Augusta, Georgia, and Charlotte, North Carolina. He oversees all aspects of sales, operations, and administration for the the Georgia divisions. Jamie lives in Decatur, Georgia, with his wife and two sons.

BARTOW MORGAN, JR. ’94 has been elected secretary/treasurer of Atlanta’s Buckhead Coalition, an influential nonprofit civic association whose by-invitation membership is limited to 100 CEOs of major area firms. Bartow, a Hampden-Sydney College trustee, is chairman and CEO of BrandBank.

ROBERT HURT ’91

THOMAS J. ROBINSON ’91 has been teaching IB chemistry at the International School of Kenya in Nairobi for almost four years. He writes, “Kenya is a very dynamic country. Despite the challenges of living far from America, the opportunity to teach at a strong International Baccalaureate school is great. I encourage other alumni to consider teaching internationally!”


JOHN ZELL ’92 was recognized for 20 years of service with the Community Foundation for Northeast Florida, where he is the vice president for development.

JOHN FAULKNER WARE III ’91

HOMECOMING 2017
OCTOBER 14

SAVE THE DATE
2000s
Classes of ’02 and ’07
Reunion Weekend: June 2–4, 2017

GIBSON LUCK ’00 has joined Dominion Construction Partners as the managing director, overseeing the company’s finances, business development, and daily operations. He also serves on the board of directors for the Virginia Wildlife Foundation.

RYAN PEMBERTON ’00 received his doctorate in higher education administration from George Washington University, where his research focused on the presidential transition process at private, selective liberal arts colleges. Ryan and his wife, Helen, live in Jackson, Mississippi, where he works for Millsaps College.

THOMAS WINSTON ’00 has joined Union Bank and Trust as a senior vice president and commercial lender at the Three James Center office in Richmond.

To JAMES ’01 and BETTY COSTELLO, a son, Noah Brian Costello, on December 14, 2016.

NICHOLAS T. PIRAINO ’01 was recently promoted to market director and regional sales manager for Wells Fargo Bank in their middle market banking group for the state of Maryland. Nick recently celebrated his 4th year of service at Wells Fargo.

N. GARRISON “GARY” ELDER ’02 has established his own law firm, Elder & Watkins, P.C., with offices in both Farmville and Charlotte Court House. The move was featured in the Farmville Herald on December 22, 2016.

DAN M. HARTZOG ’02 has been named to the 2017 North Carolina Super Lawyers list. Selection for Super Lawyers includes a multi-phased rating process of independent research, peer nominations, and peer evaluations. The list recognizes no more than five percent of attorneys in each state. Dan is a civil litigation and defense attorney with Cranfill, Sumner, & Hartzog, LLP.

KASEY D. SUTTON ’02 has joined the Atlantic Bay Mortgage Group in Richmond as a mortgage banker. He was previously with PrimeLending. His move was featured in the December 6, 2016, edition of Richmond BizSense.

JOHNATHAN MICHAEL TORRES ’02 recently received the Department of Homeland Security’s Meritorious Service Silver Medal Award for his team’s implementation of the first Major Disaster Declaration granted directly to a Tribal Nation. His role included developing the strategy, policy, and program guidance to provide over 300 manufactured housing units to the Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota, in the face of harsh winter weather. It involved the first use of Permanent Housing Construction authority under the Stafford Act in the continental U.S.

ROB LUTHER ’03 recently accepted an invitation to serve as Associate Counsel to President Donald Trump. Rob previously served as counsel to Senator Jeff Sessions on the Senate Judiciary Committee, where he advised the senator on judicial nominees and constitutional law.

BILL MEIERLING ’04 has been named chief operating officer of the American Legislative Exchange Council, the nation’s largest member association of free-market-focused legislators. In his leadership role, Bill counsels more than one-quarter of America’s state legislators and members of Congress. Previously, Bill served four years as the Council’s vice president of public affairs.

To TRAVIS ’05 and LAUREN IRVIN, a daughter, Margaret “Maisie” Underwood Irvin, on September 21, 2016. She joins big brother Shep.

To JAMES OLIVER “JAY” ’06 and ABIGAIL BECKNER, a son, James Oliver Beckner, Jr., on October 22, 2016.

Send items for Class Notes to classnotes@hsed.edu
AARON LEWEK ’06 and JESSICA NELSON were married on July 2, 2016, in Asheville, North Carolina. In attendance were Matt Guill ’06, Drew Prehmus ’08, Robert Hillmann ’05, Mike Edwards ’07, Troy Kaase ’08, and Cale Phillips ’09.

LEWEK-NELSON WEDDING

THOMAS DOHENY ’07 has been named director of media relations at CSRA Inc., a cyber security company based in Falls Church. Prior to joining CSRA, he spent six years on Capitol Hill, most recently as communication director for Senator Deb Fischer of Nebraska.

The Rev. SCOTT LARSON-MCGUIRE ’07 became a board certified behavior analyst in December 2016 and was promoted to director of training and staff development at Behavior Basics, LLC in Alexandria.

Dr. MICHAEL JAMES RUTKOWSKI ’07 recently moved to Sweden, started a new position at Stockholm University, got engaged to Ms. Gina Moorhead, and rang in the New Year in Longyearbyen, Svalbard, the northernmost town in the world (78 degrees N., about 800 miles from the North Pole). He is pictured on the Lars Glacier and writes, “I was going to leave in the morning, but sunrise won’t come until mid February.”

JAY RAWLES ’08 will complete his residency training in general surgery in June 2017 at New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington, North Carolina. With his wife, Kelsey, and dogs Buster and Cricket, he will move to Salt Lake City to complete a two-year fellowship in vascular surgery at the University of Utah.

JAY RAWLES ’08

JAMES T. HOFFMAN ’09 has been hired as a government relations consultant by the newly formed KVCF Solutions, a subsidiary of the law firm Kaplan, Voelker, Cunningham, & Frank. He works closely with Steve Baril ’77, who oversees daily operations at the government relations practice.

JAMES T. HOFFMAN ’09

SAMUEL ROSTEN ’09 and CARISSA FILIP were married on July 24, 2016, at the Mission Inn in Riverside, California. In attendance were Matt Davis ’09 and J.C. Miller ’09.

NEAL-HARRIS WEDDING

GORDON WALLER NEAL ’09 and KATHERINE ELISABETH HARRIS were married on October 1, 2016, at Snowden House in Fredericksburg. The bride is a fundraising consultant in Richmond, and the groom is Hampden-Sydney’s director of communications and marketing. The groom’s brother, Taylor Neal ’08, served as best man; groomsmen included Clay McCoy ’08, Brad Cook ’09, Will Hollerith ’09, Newman Ainsley ’10, Dylan Colligan ’10, and Willis Davis ’10. Also in attendance were Jeppy Moss ’73, Josh Parsley ’07, Brendan Hanley ’09, Teddy Schwab ’09, Tucker Knott ’09, Winston Graves ’10, Thomas Hovis ’10, Craig Philip ’11, Reilly Loflin ’12, Robb Moss ’12, and J.B. Mitchell ’12.
DARDEN BARRETT ’11 and AMANDA HOPKINS were married on June 4, 2016, at St. John’s Episcopal Church in Hampton with a reception at the groom’s parents’ house. The bride is a 2011 graduate of Longwood University. In attendance were (from left to right): Nathan Cohee ’12, Jordan Marshall ’11, Trace Hall ’11, Colin Lawson ’11, Scott Ouzts ’11, Goodman Duke ’11, Ryan Davis ’12, Grey Ligon ’05, Conor Sanders ’11, Will Massey ’12, Sam Wallace ’11, Eric Rutherford ’11, Billy Hendricks ’11, Clay Draughon ’12, and Matt Shankle ’11.

To RYAN ’11 and EMILY LUCY, a daughter, Grace Marshall Lucy, on December 23, 2016. Emily is a Longwood University class of 2013 alumna.

CHASON TRAHAN ’11 joined Carroll Financial Associates in Charlotte, North Carolina, as a financial advisor in January. He holds both his CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER (CFP®) and Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU®) designations.

NAY MIN OO ’12 has been chosen as a DeBoer Fellow in Myanmar. The DeBoer Fellowship is a one-year program designed to help promising Myanmar citizen leaders reach their potential and better serve their organizations, communities, and country. The Fellowship was created by Jack DeBoer, founder of Residence Inn.

DREW WHITT ’12 and his father BOB WHITT ’78 spent time fishing at Masonboro Island near Wrightsville Beach this past summer.

WESLEY A. MORCK ’13 and CLAIR WILKERSON were married on June 18, 2016, at The Trivium in Forest. In attendance were Brinson C. White ’13, General Jenkins ’12, Clay Carimi ’13, Henry Walton ’13, Nathan Marshall ’13, Braxton Elliott ’13, Forrest Allen ’13, Lawson Olson ’15, Frasher Bolton ’12, Connor Winstead ’12, Tyler Wolfe ’14, Ben Gillis ’15, Alex Lemieux ’12, Connor Rund ’13, and Brinson White ’77. The couple resides in Bedford.

AARON SCOTT VAN ALLEN ’13 began teaching as an adjunct professor at Liberty University. For the Liberty University Online Academy, Aaron teaches academic and career success, educating middle and high school students in organizational skills, reading and writing, resume structure, and time management. He will also teach B.A. courses for Liberty University’s Helms School of Government.

PAUL BOYDOH ’14 and TIFFANY-SAUNDERS were married May 21, 2016, at West Manor Estate in Forest. In attendance were David Klein ’78, Kevin Hubbard ’82, Aaron Van Allen ’13, Leif Aagaard ’13, Richard Pantele ’13, Ray Jackson ’13, Sean Clark ’13, Ryan Carter ’13, Ryan Raybuck ’14, Zachary Morgan ’14, Bo Burns ’14, Holton Walker ’15, Aaron Gilani ’15, Shaq Thomas ’15, Zach Attkisson ’15, Daniel Parkinson ’16, and Marcus Williams ’17.

TRAVIS GOODLOE ’16 received a scholarship from the national Omicron Delta Kappa Foundation to support his medical school studies at the University of South Alabama in Mobile. Travis was recognized for his leadership as editor of the Hampden-Sydney Journal of Sciences, his service on the Student Court, and his efforts to raise money for children in need.
Twenty-Six H-SC alumni were among Virginia’s Legal Elite, published in December 2016 by Virginia Business. In cooperation with the Virginia Bar Association, the Legal Elite recognizes lawyers selected by their peers as outstanding attorneys. Of the nearly 3,800 attorneys nominated, about a quarter made the final list.

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Firm</th>
<th>Practice Areas</th>
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<tr>
<td>John T. Tompkins III ’62</td>
<td>Jones, Blechman, Woltz &amp; Kelly PC</td>
<td>Taxes/Estates/Trusts/Elder Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>John P. Grove III ’67</td>
<td>Woods Rogers PLC</td>
<td>Family/Domestic Relations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles L. Williams ’67</td>
<td>Gentry Locke</td>
<td>Environmental Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>David S. Mercer ’70</td>
<td>MercerTrigiani</td>
<td>Legal Services/Pro Bono</td>
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<td>Herbert V. Kelly, Jr. ’73</td>
<td>Jones, Blechman, Woltz &amp; Kelly PC</td>
<td>Civil Litigation</td>
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<tr>
<td>David R. Clarke ’74</td>
<td>Blankingship &amp; Keith PC</td>
<td>Family/Domestic Relations</td>
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<td>C. Thomas Ebel ’76</td>
<td>Sands Anderson PC</td>
<td>Business Law</td>
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<td>W. David Paxton ’76</td>
<td>Gentry Locke</td>
<td>Labor/Employment</td>
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<td>Robert Lee Samuel, Jr. ’76</td>
<td>Pender &amp; Coward</td>
<td>Legislative/Regulatory/Administrative</td>
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<td>Patrick C. Devine, Jr. ’78</td>
<td>Williams Mullen</td>
<td>Health Law</td>
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<td>David P. Corrigan ’79</td>
<td>Harman, Claytor, Corrigan &amp; Wellman PC</td>
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<td>William Norman Watkins ’79</td>
<td>Sands Anderson PC</td>
<td>Construction</td>
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<td>Lawrence Hunter Woodward, Jr. ’79</td>
<td>Shuttleworth, Ruloff, Swain, Haddad &amp; Morecock PC</td>
<td>Criminal Law</td>
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<td>Charles V. McPhillips ’82</td>
<td>Kaufman &amp; Canoles PC</td>
<td>Real Estate/Land Use</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeffrey M. Stedfast ’83</td>
<td>Kaufman &amp; Canoles PC</td>
<td>Real Estate/Land Use</td>
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<td>Thomas J. Dillon III ’87</td>
<td>Hirschler Fleischer</td>
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<td>Kevin E. Martingayle ’88</td>
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<td>Charles W. Payne Jr. ’88</td>
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<td>Henry R. Pollard V ’88</td>
<td>Williams Mullen</td>
<td>Environmental Law</td>
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<td>J. Fielding Douthat, Jr. ’91</td>
<td>LeClairRyan</td>
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<td>David F. Bernhardt ’92</td>
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<td>McAlister C. Marshall II ’92</td>
<td>The Brinks Co.</td>
<td>Business Law</td>
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<td>Christopher W. Stevens ’92</td>
<td>Woods Rogers PLC</td>
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<td>Kemper Consulting, Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andrew Philip Sherrod ’96</td>
<td>Hirschler Fleischer</td>
<td>Labor/Employment</td>
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CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The Brown Student Center

Learn more about the new student center and watch the progress on our live webcams:

www.hsc.edu/Strategic-Plan/Student-Center-Project.html
OBITUARIES

1930s

Dr. RANDOLPH S. “RANDY” GARDNER ‘35 died on February 7, 2017. After graduating with honors from Hampden-Sydney, he taught math at the American School in Tokyo, then spent five years as a U.S. Navy pilot during WWII in both the Atlantic and Pacific theaters. He remained in the Navy Reserve for 25 years, retiring as a Commander. After receiving both a master’s and a doctorate at Columbia University, he became a professor of mathematics education in the State University of New York system. Dr. Gardner retired as Dean of the School of Education at SUNY Albany in 1973. He was the winner of two Fulbright grants, and his academic career took him around the globe to Pakistan, Uganda, Mexico, and South Vietnam. He was an avid golfer, beginning as a caddy at the age of ten. He continued to golf until the age of 100, shooting eight holes-in-one and winning several championships at Albany Country Club.

Dr. WILLIAM BRAGG “BILLY” RUSSELL ‘41 died on September 15, 2016. A member of Pi Kappa Alpha at Hampden-Sydney, Billy enlisted in the U.S. Marines during WWII, participating in the invasion of Iwo Jima and receiving the Bronze Star for heroic actions. He graduated from Medical College of Virginia School of Dentistry in 1951 and practiced dentistry in Petersburg for 49 years. Billy enjoyed golfing, hunting, and fishing, in addition to leading both a square-dance band and a bluegrass band. He was an elder, Sunday school teacher, and choir member at Tabb Street Presbyterian Church in Petersburg.

Dr. W. GRAHAM STEPHENS ‘49 died on February 19, 2017. He graduated magna cum laude from Hampden-Sydney, attended the University of Tennessee School of Medicine, then completed his internship at the Medical College of Virginia and his surgical residency in Knoxville. After two years in the U.S. Air Force, he joined a family practice in Troutville for ten years. In 1968 Dr. Stephens founded the emergency room group at Roanoke Memorial Hospital, where he remained for over 35 years. He was the first doctor in southwest Virginia to be board certified in emergency medicine, a certification he held until 2011. Throughout his life he was active with the Boy Scouts, serving as scout master and committee chair for 25 years, holding various regional board positions, and earning numerous Scouting accolades. He was an active member the Troutville Church of the Brethren and the International Medical Assistance Corporation.

1940s

Dr. ROBERT PALMER TRICE ’40 died on October 1, 2016, at the age of 99. As a student at Hampden-Sydney, he was president of Kappa Sigma, the Interfraternity Council, and the Flying Club, as well as secretary of the Monogram Club and co-captain of the track team. He was the first student to have an airplane on campus. A graduate of the Medical College of Virginia, Dr. Trice served in the U.S. Navy during WWII and the Korean War, maintaining a solo general practice in medicine for 43 years, and examined recruits for the armed forces in his retirement. He was an avid tennis player, world traveler, and horseman.

Dr. SUMPTER TURNER PRIDDY, JR. ‘46 died on January 12, 2017. Sumpter’s success in the retail industry led to a 31-year tenure as CEO of the Virginia Retail Merchants Association. During that time, he “ranked among the most effective lobbyists at the state Capitol,” according to the Richmond Times-Dispatch. His many professional awards include Executive of the Year by the Virginia Society of Association Executives, the Silver Plaque by the National Retail Federation, and the Unsung Virginian Award by the state’s electric cooperatives. As president of the Virginia Jaycees and vice president of the national Jaycees, he was inducted into the U.S. Jaycees Hall of Leadership. He was a member of the Montpelier Ruritan Club, the Ashland Rescue Squad, and King’s Chapel Presbyterian Church, where he was an elder.

Dr. PHINEAS MUNSELL “RANDY” RANDALL IV ‘50 died on November 25, 2016. Randy was a veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps and retired from a career with DuPont and the Chemtron Corporation. His many interests included big band music, furniture restoration, woodturning, computer programming, and model building. He also enjoyed ice skating, roller skating, and rollerblading into his 80s. A devoted father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, Randy was active with the Boy Scouts of America, youth soccer, local museums, and Spring Hills Baptist Church.

CORRECTION: The Record apologizes for errors in the obituaries of Dr. Robert Palmer Trice ’40 and Dr. William Bragg Russell ’41 published in the Winter 2017 Record. The corrected obituaries appear above.
EDWIN POWELL NEVIN '51 died on January 24, 2017. Valedictorian of his class at the Miller School, Powell enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in Japan on the heels of WWII. After his military service, he graduated from Hampden-Sydney and moved to Arizona. His career as an educator spanned almost 40 years and included service as president of the Teachers Association. Powell was an accomplished pianist who also enjoyed photography and traveling the world.

CHARLES EDWARD “ED” RICHARDSON III '51 died on December 28, 2016. A Theta Chi at Hampden-Sydney, he went on to a career at Lawyers Title in Richmond and an active membership in the Rotary Club.

Dr. LLOYD TAYLOE GRIFFITH '52 died on December 18, 2016. A native of the Northern Neck of Virginia, he graduated from Hampden-Sydney and the University of Virginia Medical School before serving in the U.S. Navy as a flight surgeon. He returned to the Northern Neck to practice family medicine with his father at Griffith Clinic in Mount Holly. He also served as an assistant medical examiner for the Commonwealth for 19 years. When Lloyd retired from family practice after 52 years, the clinic, which had served the Northern Neck for 82 years, closed. He was a charter fellow of the American Academy of Family Practice and an active member of Cople Episcopal Parish, serving as a trustee and vestry member for many years.

DOUGLAS S. DIVERS, JR. ’53 died on January 15, 2017. A member of the track and field team during his time at Hampden-Sydney, Doug went on to earn a Master of Education from Virginia Tech, where he also served as head coach of the track team. He concluded his career in the insurance industry as the owner of Diver’s & Associates in Richmond. He was a faithful supporter of the College.

RICHARD DOUGLASS LUNSFORD ’58 died on February 5, 2017. Benny was a chemist in the rubber industry for 45 years. The highlight of his career was the patent he received in 2001 for a process he developed to improve the vulcanization of fabric for seat belts, airbags, and similar applications.

The Rev. THOMAS T. BIGGS ’57 died on February 15, 2017. He received his Master of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary and his Master of Christian Education from the Presbyterian School of Christian Education; in 1961 he was ordained a minister by the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. Tom served pastorates in South Carolina, Wisconsin, and throughout Virginia, as well as the Villa International Atlanta, an ecumenical community for international doctors and researchers working on public health issues at the Centers for Disease Control. Tom was committed to service and social justice, ensuring that all are treated with fairness and dignity. He was an avid reader who loved politics, history, music, and his family and friends.

WILLIAM M. “BILL” ALPHIN ’53 died on February 1, 2017. He served in the U.S. Army before settling on Rillhurst Farms in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. In addition to his work on the family farm, Bill served on the Virginia Farm Bureau Board, running the Farm Bureau office in Culpeper for 20 years. The first president of the Rappahannock Electric Cooperative, he served 40 years on its board of directors; he also served on the Culpeper County School Board and the Culpeper Hospital board. Bill was a member of the Ruritans, a deacon at his church, and a devoted family man.

JOHN HARDING OWEN ’53 died on December 20, 2016. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Hampden-Sydney, then earned his Master of Science from Florida State University. He worked as a chemist for DuPont at the Savannah River Plant in South Carolina. John was a member of St. Thaddeus Episcopal Church.

Dr. BURNESS F. ANSELL, JR. ’54 died on January 27, 2017. Dr. Ansell began his medical career in 1967 at the McGuire Clinic in Richmond; he then practiced hematology and oncology for over 40 years. He also served in the U.S. Navy Reserve, rising to the rank of Captain. A lifelong member of the Boy Scouts of America, he earned numerous adult recognitions, including the God and Service Award and the Silver Beaver Award.

The Rev. THOMAS T. BIGGS ’57 died on February 15, 2017. He received his Master of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary and his Master of Christian Education from the Presbyterian School of Christian Education; in 1961 he was ordained a minister by the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. Tom served pastorates in South Carolina, Wisconsin, and throughout Virginia, as well as the Villa International Atlanta, an ecumenical community for international doctors and researchers working on public health issues at the Centers for Disease Control. Tom was committed to service and social justice, ensuring that all are treated with fairness and dignity. He was an avid reader who loved politics, history, music, and his family and friends.

John was a member of St. Thaddeus Episcopal Church.

FRANCIS REGIS ETZ ’55 died on January 8, 2017. A football player at Hampden-Sydney, he joined the U.S. Army and served in the 796th Military Police Battalion in Vienna, Austria. He then worked for the Virginia Department of Health and coached football at St. Christopher’s in Richmond. He was a member of St. Mary’s Church, the Knights of Columbus, and the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

Lt. Col. MICHAEL GRIER O’NEILL ’58 died on December 4, 2016. A Chi Phi at Hampden-Sydney, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps after graduation and served two tours in Vietnam; he was awarded numerous medals, including the Bronze Star for valor. He attended the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, and ended his military career as the commanding officer of the Weapons Battalion in Paris Island, South Carolina. After retiring from the Marines, he served as the Beaufort County administrator and the town manager of Hilton Head Island.

BENNY BENNETT SMITH ’57 died on February 5, 2017. Benny was a chemist in the rubber industry for 45 years. The highlight of his career was the patent he received in 2001 for a process he developed to improve the vulcanization of fabric for seat belts, airbags, and similar applications.

RICHARD DOUGLASS LUNSFORD ’58 died on February 13, 2017. While working for West Virginia Pulp and Paper, he discovered an affinity for stone and masonry work, becoming a master of the trade in the Northern Virginia and Washington, DC areas. Passionate about studying history and the arts, he also loved riding his Triumph motorcycle and hiking the Appalachian Trail.
VENABLE LANE STERN JR. ’58 died on December 4, 2016. A proud member of Kappa Sigma at Hampden-Sydney, after graduation he served two years in the U.S. Marine Corps, then began a career as an auditor in the insurance industry. He was a fan of Redskins football and bluegrass music, but most of all he loved spending time with family and friends. His grandson, Hunter Merritt ’19, has followed Venable’s footsteps to H-SC.

1960s

CHARLES F. “CHARLIE” WILKINS II ’62 died on November 30, 2016. After graduating from Hampden-Sydney, Charlie joined the U.S. Air Force and served in Texas and Alaska. He went on to a career in insurance, working for Royal Globe Insurance and Utica National Insurance. A history buff, he also enjoyed golfing, reading, and traveling the country with his wife. His son, Charles F. Wilkins III ’86, also attended H-SC.

WILEY ROWLAND McKELLAR III ’64 died on January 9, 2017. A career journalist, he was an opinion writer for 29 years at the Patriot-News in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. His weekly “Cheers & Jeers” column took a humorous but pithy look at local events and newsmakers. He was also a voracious reader and a vinyl record collector.

Dr. ROBERT HATHeway WELCH ’64 died on November 28, 2016. After earning his degree at Hampden-Sydney, Rob received his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. He taught French for 30 years at the College of William and Mary and directed the college’s summer and junior-year abroad programs in Montpellier, France. After his retirement, he created the Friends of William Byrd Park in Richmond.

JAMES M. “JIM” SCONYERS ’65 died on December 12, 2016. Jim worked as a public school teacher for many years in both Maryland and West Virginia, earning advanced degrees from the University of Virginia and West Virginia University. His dedication to protecting the environment and lands of West Virginia as a long-time chapter president of the West Virginia Sierra Club was recognized with a lifetime service award from the national Sierra Club in 2013. He was an avid hiker, kayaker, birdwatcher, and naturalist.

1970s

ELVIN A. “BUZZY” WRIGHT ’71 died on December 28, 2016, his late father’s birthday. Elvin loved fishing and spending time at the beach.

Dr. WILLIAM WILSON SAMUEL “SAM” BUTLER IV ’76 died on December 10, 2016. At Hampden-Sydney he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and graduated magna cum laude. After medical school at the University of Virginia, he completed a general surgery residency at North Carolina Baptist Hospital, then a urology residency at UVA’s Medical Center. He returned to his native Roanoke to practice surgery with his father and brother at Jefferson Surgical Clinic. He also served as an associate professor in UVA’s urology department and was named “Professor of the Year” by the urology residents at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Salem. In 1990, Sam was diagnosed with Parkinson’s Disease, so in 1993 he decided to leave clinical practice. He then rose to leadership positions in managed care organizations, ultimately serving as chief operations officer of Carilion Heath Plans and associate medical director at Virginia Premier Health Plans, a position he held until his health declined in 2013. For over 26 years, Sam persevered in the face of a debilitating disease, volunteering at free clinics, taking flying lessons, water and snow skiing, running, sailing, and cycling.

1980s

Dr. DANIEL B. SCHEIN ’81 died on November 20, 2016. He attended Hampden-Sydney as an Allen Scholar and cross-country runner, then earned a Ph.D. at the University of Hawaii in inorganic chemistry. Dan chose a career in law, completing a four-year business and law degree at American University’s Washington College of Law. In 2003, he formed his own firm focused on intellectual property law, particularly patent and trademark protection, licensing, and litigation. He enjoyed golfing and fishing with his son, and nightly Jeopardy contests and debates with his daughter.

JAMES ALFRED LEE CONDREY ’82 died on January 7, 2017. He was a southern gentleman, a master gardener, and a master chef who will be sorely missed by his family, friends, and neighbors.

MATTHEW THOMPSON DILL ’83 died on January 9, 2017. He was a basketball player at Hampden-Sydney, then earned a J.D. from the Campbell University School of Law and an LL.M. from the University of Miami School of Law. A board certified specialist in estate planning and probate law, Matthew practiced law in those areas for almost 30 years, most of them in Wilmington, North Carolina. He was a devoted father, husband, and friend, known for his sense of humor, integrity, and kindness.

2010s

CHRISTOPHER CLINTON FOX ’10 died on February 22, 2017. A biology major at Hampden-Sydney, he studied abroad in Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands while earning his Bachelor of Science. He returned to his native Texas after graduation, working at the upscale men’s clothing shop Sid Mashburn in Houston. Christopher was passionate about music and art; his hobbies included sailing and basketball. He is remembered by his family and friends for his compassion, empathy, and ability to connect with others.
When Dr. William Porterfield began his long career as a professor of chemistry at Hampden-Sydney College in 1964, he joined faculty members whose time at the College spanned nearly five decades, like philosophy professor Maurice Allen, class of 1916, and physics professor Tom Gilmer, class of 1923. Porterfield not only listened to their advice, he listened to their stories. Upon his retirement in 2012, he recorded for posterity many of the most entertaining ones, sound bites of our past that span much of the twentieth century. The result, Things That Might Have Happened at Hampden-Sydney, is a wonderful collection of tales that will leave those familiar with H-SC’s colorful past both informed and in stitches.

One of the better chuckle-inducing yarns is spun in the chapter “Electrical Technology and Baseball.” Here, Porterfield entertains us with an antic on the diamond perpetrated by one Edward “Easy Ed” Crawford. Seems that before his esteemed career as a biology professor at H-SC, Crawford had a brief career as a professional baseball player on a Class D team in South Carolina. Perturbed by the cheating of an opposing player, who was well known for his signature move of literally holding a baserunner from advancing until he had to let go, Easy Ed hatched a scheme to ensure that the charlatan would be discovered by the umpire with evidence of his deceitful act right in his own hands. In this particular case Crawford’s plan worked like a charm, right up to the point when the bad guy gets caught. What happens next shall not be divulged here, thus saving you, the reader, from spilling your drink on this copy of the Record. Let’s just say the opposing player wasn’t the only one exposed.

Porterfield also recounts to great effect the founding of Hampden-Sydney’s Alpha Chi Sigma chapter, whose very first fundraiser was foiled by the (in)famous Dean of Students Lewis H. Drew ’60. In 1970, the fledgling group needed money and saw opportunity in the approaching Randolph-Macon game. Bored with the standard “Beat Macon” buttons, which were as popular then as they are now, the AXE students crafted something a bit more edgy, the “Screw Macon” button that you see here. The problem: Dean Drew wasn’t one to allow something so crass to be proffered on campus. The solution: 300 buttons, sold secretly at The Game for an instant fundraising success. Ah, but the best laid plans. In the days leading up to The Game, word spread quickly—too quickly—and Dean Drew picked up on it. His confiscation of 250 buttons made the remaining 50 something of a collector’s item, so rare and popular that years later he referred to the confiscated buttons as his retirement fund. Thankfully Porterfield purchased one before they became contraband, thus preserving an important piece of H-SC lore.

Occasionally, Porterfield grabs our attention with an intriguing chapter title. A few examples include “The Infirmary and the Butcher,” “What is the Opposite of Feng Shui?” “The Devil in the Dorm,” “Miss Bessie’s Funeral Day,” and “Francis, the Axeman.” (By the way, there is a portrait of Francis in Bortz Library that any of the librarians would be more than happy to show you, if you stop for a visit.) One notable example of Porterfield’s exaggeration is a chapter dear to this writer’s heart titled “Book Burning at Hampden-Sydney,” a condensed history of libraries at Hampden-Sydney College. Porterfield traces our collections from the two literary societies, to Winston Hall, then on to Eggleston Library, the first library building the college built. But of course, the chapter isn’t about a purposeful or protest-related burning of books—reprehensible portions of human history—rather, it is about a building and the books it housed. The Winston fire that cost the College a portion of its library collection is an important part of our past, and Porterfield’s account lets alumni and friends of the College know what actually happened.

Porterfield’s book could hardly be described as a tome. It is, however, an enjoyable read that this reader had a difficult time putting down. The sections are short and entertaining and as each one is completed, there is a hint of feeling like a child at bedtime, begging for just one more story.

Things That Might Have Happened is available through the Hampden-Sydney Campus Store online or by stopping in on your next visit to the Hill. You won’t be disappointed. You’ll be entertained!
H-SC’s IMPACT Scholarships help make a Hampden-Sydney education affordable for young men who want to learn and grow on the Hill.

Donors may name their scholarship for a person who made a significant impact on their own life, or they may designate a criterion for recipients, such as the student’s home region, academic interest, or extracurricular activity.

For more information on how you can make an IMPACT, contact Paul Brammer ’11, director of the Hampden-Sydney Fund, at pbrammer@hsc.edu or (434) 223-6146.
Register at alumni.hsc.edu/Reunions