

RANDOLPH-MACON Today

THE MAGAZINE ■ SPRING 2022

50 YEARS
1971-2021
OF COEDUCATION

INSIDE

CLASS OF 2025 AT A GLANCE

CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

RACIAL EQUITY & OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION



Dear R-MC Community,

As this issue highlights, Randolph-Macon celebrates an important milestone this academic year: 50 years of coeducation.

The decision to admit women into the College (detailed starting on page 10) was an important change—one born out of a belief that a coeducational experience would benefit women and men and reflect the changes in society. Notably, our nation is celebrating this year the silver anniversary of Title IX as well—and the tremendous opportunities it has afforded women nationwide. The change was fundamental to our special college, and to the women we have welcomed through the decades.

While R-MC had always embraced a small number of local women and daughters of faculty and staff as students, formalizing this comprehensive change in 1971 brought about a meaningful increase in the overall number of students on campus. This change also laid the foundation for greater financial stability.

The successful implementation of coeducation certainly has provided significant opportunities to women who attended R-MC—on campus and after graduation. These graduates now include renowned judges, innovative scientists and engineers, caring doctors, passionate educators, top industry leaders, and effective

at R-MC when he became the first Black student to enroll. HAP has brought such distinction to the College through his consequential career with Chevron and his significant service on the Randolph-Macon Board of Trustees. We are so very proud that our newest building on campus, housing our new Nursing program, bears his name.

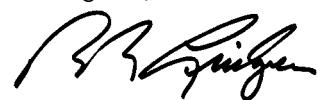
Our path to creating an even more inclusive campus environment became significantly more informed last fall when the Racial Equity and Opportunity Commission (REOC), formed in October 2020, completed its work. The REOC's work (described on page 4) was a critical undertaking, and its 31 important and strategic recommendations provide us with a path to move forward.

It is clear that Commission members thought very purposefully about what we can do as a community to continue making R-MC a better place for all—one with even greater opportunities for our students. I join Commission members in seeking to foster a campus environment where every student, faculty, and staff member has a greater sense of belonging and the opportunity to better maximize their potential.

Looking back 50 years, it is abundantly clear that the transition to coeducation was the right decision for the College and those who have attended R-MC. Over that time, Randolph-Macon has experienced continuous change, often a reflection of the ongoing change in society. Through it all we have always emerged a stronger, thriving institution, even better equipped for the next challenge and its resulting opportunity.

I hope you will join me in saluting the R-MC women who broke barriers in 1971-1972—those trailblazers who quite simply helped create a better, more meaningful Randolph-Macon experience. These distinctive Yellow Jackets from the early 1970s have also taught us that we can function as one R-MC no matter who we are, what we look like, or what background we come from—and we continue to model their success as we work to make today's R-MC a more welcoming place for all students, faculty, and staff.

Best regards,



Bob Lindgren

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"Today, the belief that a more inclusive learning environment is better for all students underpins our work moving forward..."

public servants. They are difference-making individuals, producing consequential contributions to our society.

Today, the belief that a more inclusive learning environment is better for all students underpins our work moving forward, as we are challenged again to look at who we are and think about who we want to be. More than 55% of the College's students and 57% of our full-time faculty are women. Twenty-four percent of today's R-MC student population is made up of historically underrepresented students of color.

Five years before women became admitted students at Randolph-Macon, Haywood A. "HAP" Payne ended 136 years of segregation

RANDOLPH-MACON Today

THE MISSION OF THE R-MC MAGAZINE IS TO ENGAGE AND CONNECT alumni, parents, and friends to Randolph-Macon College by sharing information about the college and alumni activities and providing opportunities for involvement and support.

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R-MC editor reserves the right to edit content.

6 Center for the Performing Arts

An inside look at R-MC's new Center for the Performing Arts.

10 50 Years of Coeducation

A retrospective on coeducation at Randolph-Macon College, with a special focus on the decisions behind its introduction in 1971.



Professor Emerita Betty Jean "B.J." Seymour joined the College in 1971 as the first full-time female faculty member, then a visiting instructor of religious studies. She was also the first woman to attain tenure, chair a department, and be granted the rank of full professor. In 1971, she was appointed Assistant Dean of Students.



16 A Game Plan for Success

Biology whiz and football star Jace DePriest '22 talks about how financial aid impacts his big wins in the classroom and on the field.

20 Alumnae Today

We celebrate some of the Yellow Jacket women who've influenced their fields in the decades since coeducation.

2 What's New at R-MC

A new sculpture on campus, stats on R-MC's freshman class, an update from the Racial Equity and Opportunity Commission, and more.

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Two recent alumni return to R-MC in full-time research positions thanks to funding from the National Science Foundation.

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What's New @ R-MC



INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP *in bloom*

Cherry blossom season usually lasts just one month. Thanks to the Embassy of Japan's generosity, Randolph-Macon can enjoy an especially artful one year-round.

Campus visitors aren't likely to miss the eye-catching cherry blossom sculpture installed outside the McGraw-Page library. The sculpture, titled "Full Circle Blossom," was designed by Washington D.C. based artist Alex Goastier as part of the National Cherry Blossom Festival's "Art in Bloom" exhibition. Randolph-Macon unveiled the sculpture on September 29 in partnership with the Embassy of Japan, who gifted the sculpture to the College as a symbol of the enduring friendship between R-MC and Japan that has continued to grow since the Great East Japan Earthquake.

Randolph-Macon alumna Taylor Anderson '08 was teaching English in the seaside town of Ishinomaki in the Miyagi province of Japan when the catastrophic earthquake struck, and was the first American victim identified in the wake of the 2011 disaster. Tomita Koji, Ambassador of Japan to the United States, said that the Japanese government hopes the sculpture "will inspire both current and future students to build international ties in their own lives."

Artist Alex Goastier's design was influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic and represents a physical representation of restoration, new beginnings, and the cyclical nature of the human experience. "I hope 'Full Circle Blossom' provides my audience with a feeling that, very simply, everything comes full circle; things return to the more positive place from which they began," the artist wrote. ☺

Get to Know R-MC's Class of 2025

SEE WHAT THE BUZZ IS ABOUT WITH
OUR NEWEST CROP OF YELLOW JACKETS!

353 TOTAL FRESHMAN

TOP INTENDED MAJORS (excludes undecided majors)

- BUSINESS
- NURSING
- PRE-MED
- BIOLOGY
- ENGINEERING
- PSYCHOLOGY



FROM MELBOURNE,
AUSTRALIA

FARTHEST
DISTANCE TRAVELED
TO ATTEND R-MC

10,133 miles

MOST-
REPRESENTED
BY STATE

4%
PENNSYLVANIA

9%
MARYLAND

77%
VIRGINIA

20%

FIRST-GENERATION
COLLEGE STUDENTS

defined as when neither parent has attended a post-secondary institution



37%

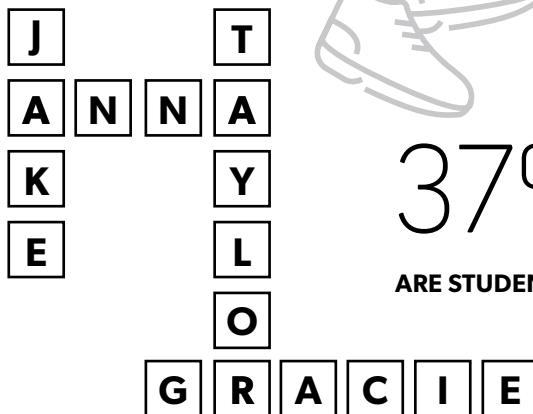
ARE STUDENT-ATHLETES

14%

SPEAK TWO OR
MORE LANGUAGES



MOST
POPULAR
NAME IS A
4-WAY TIE



76%

TOOK AT LEAST ONE HONORS
COURSE IN HIGH SCHOOL

54%

TOOK FIVE
OR MORE

57%

SERVED IN A FORMAL
LEADERSHIP ROLE IN AN
ORGANIZATION OR SCHOOL
ACTIVITY IN HIGH SCHOOL



Recommendations Submitted for Racial Equity and Opportunity

In October 2020, President Lindgren appointed the Racial Equity and Opportunity Commission, a 26-member group of Randolph-Macon students, faculty, staff, and alumni who accepted the President's important and timely charge—to reflect on the College's history and identify ways that Randolph-Macon can be a more welcoming place that provides greater opportunities to historically underrepresented students.

THE 31 RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED COVER THE FULL SPECTRUM OF THE COLLEGE'S ACTIVITIES.

This November, the co-chairs delivered the Commission's final recommendations to President Lindgren and the administration. The 31 recommendations submitted cover the full spectrum of the College's activities, from recruiting students to developing communications and events to engage the community on the topic of diversity, equity, and inclusion. The recommendations and report can be read at rmc.edu/racial-equity-and-opportunity.

"We are pleased to formally submit to you the Commission's final work, our recommendations to make Randolph-Macon a more accessible, welcoming place for all students, employees, and visitors and a place with greater opportunities for historically underrepresented students," co-chairs Dr. Yvonne Brandon '76, EDGE Career Center Executive Director Dontrese Brown, and Professor LaToria Tookes wrote in a transmittal letter that serves as an executive summary of the

The recommendations and report can be read at rmc.edu/racial-equity-and-opportunity.

Commission's work. "We do so on behalf of the full Commission and with appreciation for the opportunity to be a part of this critical discussion and the even more important work that lies ahead."

The co-chairs particularly highlighted the joint recommendation that the College hire a Chief Diversity Officer as a key feature of the report, noting that this individual will bring additional expertise to help inform

the College's next steps. President Lindgren echoed this recommendation in his statement in receipt of the report and is moving forward this winter with plans for a nationwide search for a cabinet-level role.

The co-chairs and President Lindgren both also highlighted the comprehensive work of the history subcommittee, which included an 85-page report of its own detailing the intersections of slavery and racism in the history of Randolph-Macon, dating back to its antebellum days in Boydton, Virginia. The subcommittee noted the importance of "recognizing, articulating, recording, and making publicly known the College's history" as a part of the broader work. Shortly after the recommendations were shared, the

College joined Universities Studying Slavery, a consortium of colleges and universities sharing best practices as they acknowledge historical connections to the institution of slavery.

In this academic year, several efforts aligned with key recommendations continue in earnest. The Office of Admissions has aligned staffing resources to enhance both recruiting and engaging prospective students from underrepresented communities through community-based organizations and on-campus ambassadors. The College has also aligned resources to cover more financial need for historically underrepresented students for the upcoming academic year. Faculty searches are also in focus, with new best practices for inclusive and equitable searches piloted in 2020-2021 and adopted for 2021-2022 and beyond. In conjunction with that work, Randolph-Macon has received a \$100,000 grant from the Jessie Ball duPont Fund to support this effort.

With the recommendations submitted, President Lindgren commended the Commission leadership and members: "I join them ... in seeking to foster a campus environment where every student, faculty member, and staff member has a greater sense of belonging and can better maximize their potential." ☺



Dr. Yvonne Brandon '76



Dontrese Brown



Dr. LaToria Tookes



Taylor Ailtmar '21 studies in Italy



Alumni Endowed Fund Supports International Study

Nearly 1,000 Yellow Jackets have studied abroad in the past decade.

Each one took the opportunity to enrich their undergraduate experience by immersing themselves in a new culture, forming lasting connections with a close-knit group of fellow travelers, and putting their classroom studies to the test in stimulating environments. A fund established in 2018 by an alumna from the Class of 1993 aids access to international courses for students who might not be able to afford the extra costs. A similar fund to assist student travel was established this past December by Dr. Tom '75 and Susan '76 Hubbard, with a preference given to students who have a job on or off campus while studying at Randolph-Macon.

Both of the funds help students with financial limitations take part in the life-changing opportunity to expand their worldview and apply classroom concepts to real-world experiences. The Jessie Ball duPont Fund partnered with Randolph-Macon College during the November-December campaign period to match gifts dollar-for-dollar up to \$500 per transaction and \$25,000 total in support of the fund. Thanks to the generosity of the College's donors, R-MC was able to raise \$25,606 from 72 individual donors to qualify for the full match from the Jessie Ball duPont Fund.

This is the second year in a row the Jessie Ball duPont Fund has offered a matching gift opportunity to R-MC. Last year, donors gave more than \$50,000 to create and endow the Multicultural Alumni Association Scholarship, a scholarship to support a student who has demonstrated leadership qualities, a passion for community engagement, and is a member of a marginalized community.

During fundraising, the College connected with former and current students to share their study abroad stories and highlight the incredible impact international courses can have on a student's time at Randolph-Macon and beyond.

"I think every single person should study abroad at some point in their life," said Emma Jones '23 about her transformative international study experience in Scotland in fall 2021. "I would never have the confidence and independence that I do now without it. This experience pushed me to travel to a country I had never been in and where I knew absolutely no one. Now, at the end of my journey here, I am leaving with lifelong friends and so many stories I can share."

Financial assistance from the Fund for International Study Abroad will be distributed to recipients with a demonstrated need participating in a short-term or semester-long travel course during the 2022-2023 academic year. 

R-MC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Randolph-Macon College President Robert Lindgren and Board of Trustees Chair Sue Schick '84 are pleased to announce the appointment of four distinguished alumni to the College's Board of Trustees.



Richard Hamrick '78



Mark Hale '92

Robyn Diehl
McDougle '98

Matthew Pulisic, Jr. '87

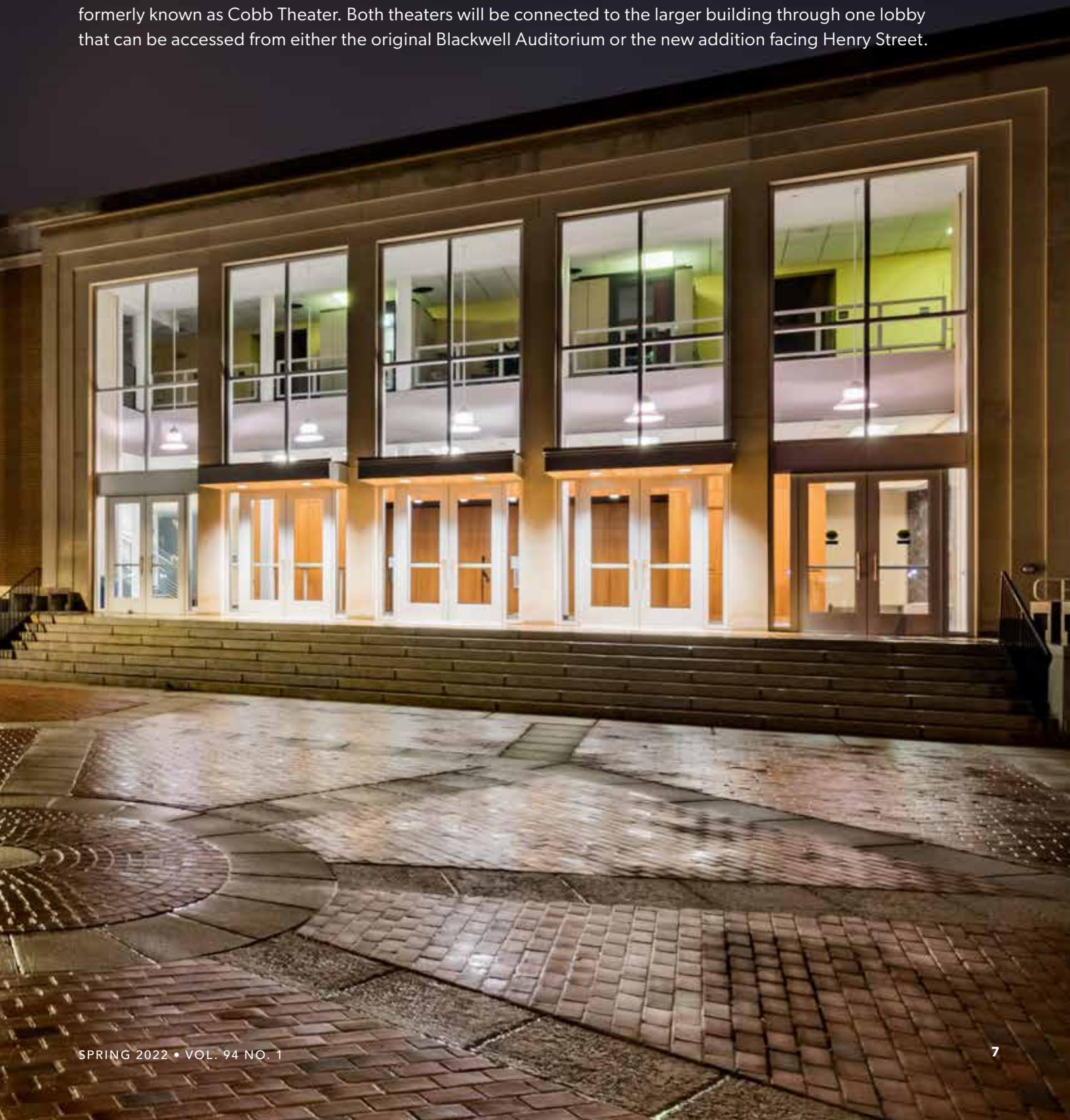
■ SPRING OPENING SLATED FOR

Center for the Performing Arts



A vision that began in conversations with architects in December 2017 has finally come to fruition in R-MC's Center for the Performing Arts, a new 19,200-square-foot building that serves as a hub for R-MC's theatre, choir, orchestra, and show choir programs. The building's official opening will be celebrated during a special event on April 29, 2022.

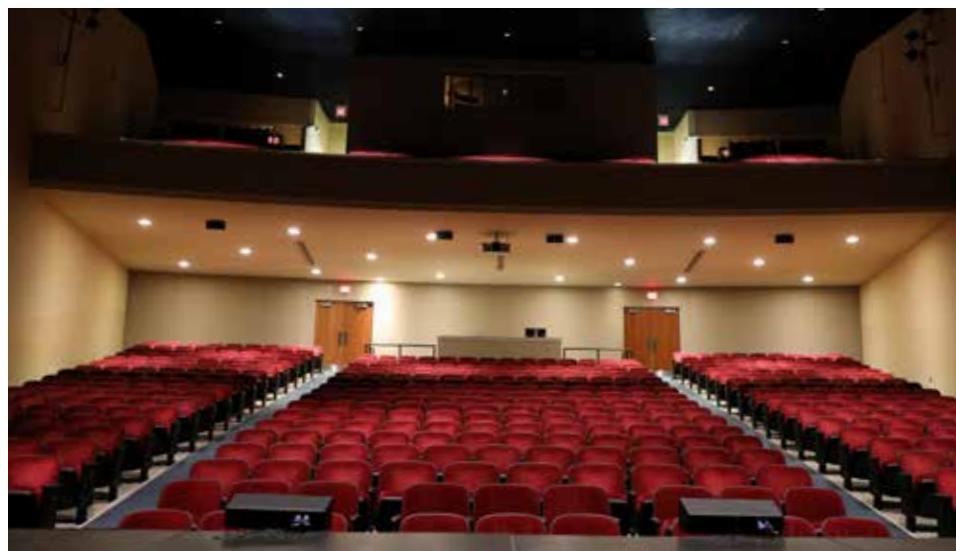
The building's three levels are home to a variety of performance spaces both new and improved. The Center for the Performing Arts encompasses the original Blackwell Theater, built in 1952, as well as what was formerly known as Cobb Theater. Both theaters will be connected to the larger building through one lobby that can be accessed from either the original Blackwell Auditorium or the new addition facing Henry Street.





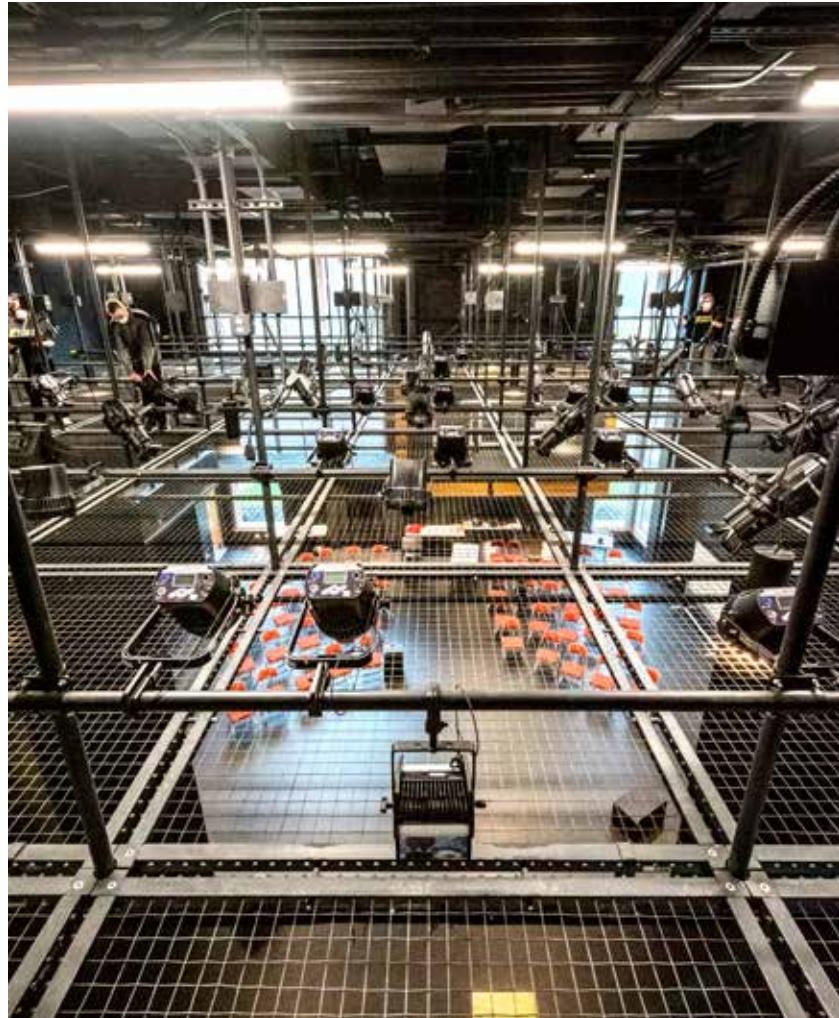
BLACKWELL AUDITORIUM

The stage in Blackwell Auditorium has been restored to its full size, allowing for larger and grander performances. The space will be home to the LUXE Show Choir and will continue to be used by the community for performances by the Richmond Symphony and the Ashland Variety Show, among others. Renovations in Blackwell include an enlarged lobby, sound and light lock entrances to separate the lobby from the performance space, ADA-compliant platform seating, a revamped sound system, and a projector screen that will drop down from the ceiling. The College also used the opportunity to improve balcony sightlines and add several rows of seating.



COBB-KESLER THEATER

The studio theater—once located at the back of the original Blackwell—has moved to the front of the Center of the Performing Arts closest to Henry Street. Completely redone, the Cobb-Kesler Theater includes a state-of-the-art control booth, a tension grid, and opportunities for seating up to 145 seats. With acoustic draperies and black-painted floors, this production space can accommodate complete darkness for performances. Accompanying the theater are faculty offices, a drama classroom, green room, costume shop, dye room, laundry facility, and scene shop.



HAUN REHEARSAL ROOM

The Haun Rehearsal Room provides a dedicated practice space for R-MC's orchestra and choir programs, giving students and faculty more room for recital space. This room and others in the Center for the Performing Arts were specially designed by an acoustician. Its sound properties are enhanced by details like angled walls, felt walls, acoustic drapery, room-darkening blinds, and noiseless ductwork to produce the highest quality sound experience. The building's box-in-box construction insulates unwanted noise and vibrations, allowing students and faculty to practice and teach in a sound-proof environment.

COLLEGE FOR THE INDIVIDUAL MAN and Woman

RANDOLPH-MACON COLLEGE,
PREVIOUSLY A COLLEGE FOR
MEN, ENROLLED ITS FIRST
COED CLASS 50 YEARS AGO
THIS YEAR. THE COLLEGE
MARKS THIS HISTORIC
OCCASION BY LOOKING
BACK ON WHAT PRECIPITATED
THE SHIFT AND THE EARLY
DAYS OF COEDUCATION.

By Laurie Preston

Associate Professor & Head
of Reference at McGraw-Page Library



This photo was taken in February 1971 during an event in which prospective female students were invited to campus.

In the fall of 1971,

the arrival of 54 female students on the Randolph-Macon campus would forever transform the College from a male school to a coeducational institution. While a small number of women had been educated at R-MC as early as the late 1800s, these 44 freshmen and 10 transfers were the College's first female residential students.

A pattern of declining enrollment in the late 1960s along with financial pressures led to a need to expand



FORMER DEAN OF STUDENTS IRA ANDREWS '59 (LEFT) AND THEN-SOPHOMORE BILL MASON '73 (RIGHT) CRAFTED A WARM GREETING FOR PEGGY WATTS GUP '75, THE FIRST FEMALE STUDENT TO SUBMIT A DEPOSIT FOR THE UPCOMING COED SEMESTER IN FALL 1971.

Trustees Meet To Discuss Future Plans of Coeducation

By Bicky Young
Yellow Jacket News Editor

Three committees of the board of trustees met here Friday to investigate various aspects of the college's future. Of primary interest was the meeting of the last committee on enrollment headed by Dr. H. B. Pannill, Professor of Philosophy.

The committee, formed last spring to investigate the entire enrollment situation, discussed the various reasons for and against coeducation. Pannill explained that the important reasons were: a majority of the male students across the country prefer a school that is educational; and secondly, the academic and social environment

would be improved by having both sexes on campus. It was pointed out that Randolph - Macon is presently co-ed, but housing and other factors restrict large numbers of women from being enrolled. One of the committee members warned against thinking coeducation was an easy solution to a difficult and complex problem.

The work of the enrollment committee involves several reports. The student body will be polled under the direction of student government as to its opinions on coeducation. Dean Davis will investigate the academic necessities of

coeducation, and Mr. Reid, the treasurer, will present the financial situation. The committee is expected to report to the full board at the board Spring meeting.

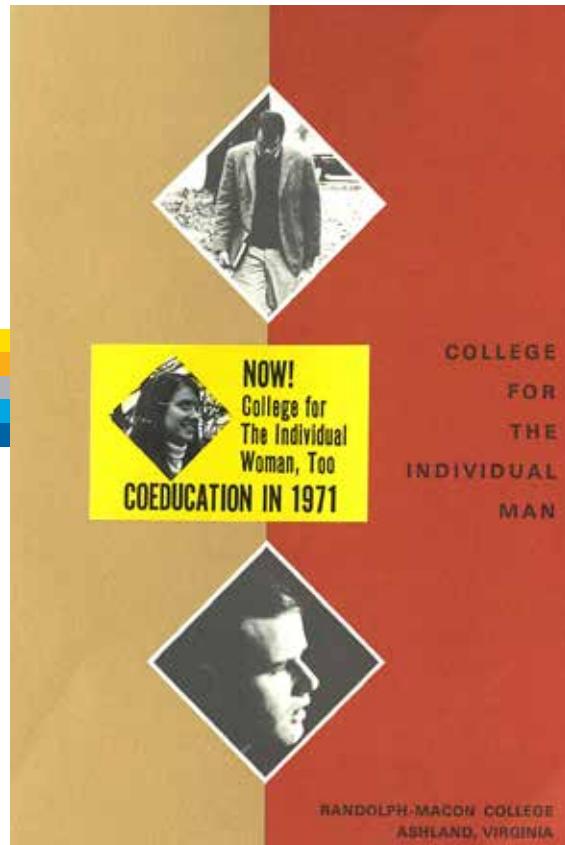
Other areas were investigated by the board of trustees executive committee. Construction was the theme of the meeting as the committee heard reports on the progress of the \$650,000 new dorm, and the slow pace of the science building, now three months behind schedule. The executive committee also heard a report on the enrollment picture in terms of money lost due to many students not returning.

September 1970

the pool of potential students. Combined with a changing social environment that made single-sex education less appealing to many, one solution to declining enrollments was to recruit female students. Coeducation was widely discussed on campus throughout the late 1960s, and in March 1970, the College formed a Commission on Enrollment that was tasked, in part, with exploring coeducation at R-MC. The Commission surveyed faculty and staff in the fall of 1970. The results of their research showed that both

faculty and students strongly supported admitting female residential students.

Though the majority were in favor, there were vocal opponents of the move. President Luther White went on the record in the Yellow Jacket Weekly in October 1970 as not supporting the move to coeducation, though he later changed his position. While many alumni were supportive of coeducation, others were vociferous in their disapproval; a small number even called for the closing the College rather than allowing female students.



ADMISSIONS MATERIALS WERE REVISED IN LATE 1970 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE COLLEGE'S DECISION TO BECOME COED FOR THE UPCOMING SCHOOL YEAR. THE RECRUITMENT BROCHURE PICTURED HERE, HASTILY AMENDED WITH A YELLOW STICKER, WAS GIVEN TO R-MC'S SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES TEAM BY ONE OF THE COLLEGE'S EARLY FEMALE STUDENTS.

Most objectors eventually changed their opinion, such as Tom Bass '54, who said, "With the change to coeducation I was vehemently opposed to it. I've been happy to eat my words. It's been the salvation of this college ... What the women who have gone through this institution have done for this institution after they have left—a lot of it puts those of us who are men to shame." Another alumnus, Dick Forrester '57, said, "I was most upset in the early '70s when women were admitted. I think a lot of us were, because we're real

BEFORE THEIR TIME

Female "day students" attended R-MC long before the College went coed

Prior to residential coeducation, the College had for many years enrolled a small number of female non-residential "day students"—young women from the local community who were often daughters of faculty and administrators. Over 100 female students have been identified as having attended R-MC prior to the fall of 1971.

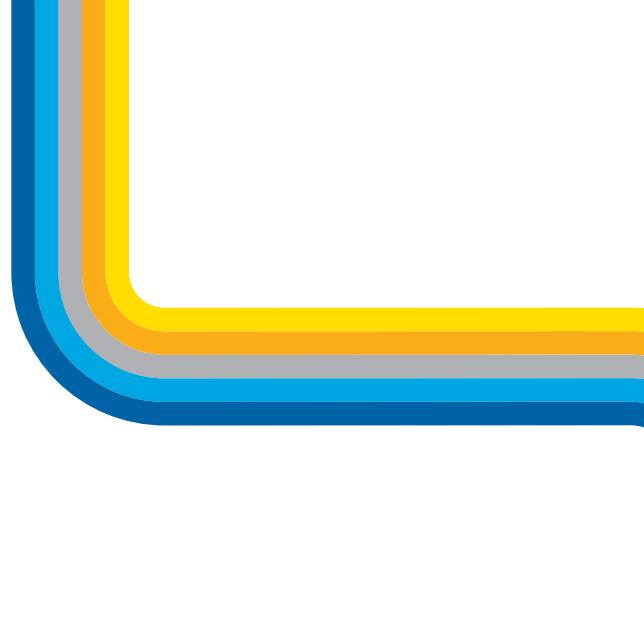
The earliest woman to complete coursework at R-MC was Nellie Bennett, daughter of President William Wallace Bennett, during her father's tenure from 1877-1886. Nellie never matriculated, and it is unknown if she attended classes with the men or studied independently. The first women known to have taken classes alongside men were Ashland sisters Annie and Virginia Cox, daughters

of prominent Ashland merchant D.B. Cox, in 1893. Later that year, the faculty recommended to the Board of Trustees to allow local women to attend classes; the board chose not to act on that recommendation.

The first known diploma awarded to a female student went to Estelle Smithey, daughter of Professor Royall Bascom Smithey, who completed her degree in Mathematics, French, and German in 1915, although Epie Duncan Blackwell, daughter of then-Professor and later President Robert Emory Blackwell, was the first documented graduate with a degree in Latin in June 1897.

The number of female students was always small prior to coeducation, but there was noticeable growth in the 1930s and 1940s when world events negatively impacted male enrollment. In fact, at one time in the 1930s female enrollment was high enough to support a small women's basketball team that competed against local high school teams. On remembering that era of coeducation, one male student recalled that the main difference of having women in the classroom was that the professor "didn't cuss."





TWO MONTHS INTO THE FIRST SEMESTER OF COED LEARNING, STUDENT WRITERS DELIBERATED OVER HOW THE COLLEGE PLANNED TO ACCOMMODATE THE CHANGES ON CAMPUS, INCLUDING THE PROSPECT OF HIRING ADDITIONAL FACULTY MEMBERS AND THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL HOUSING FOR WOMEN.

good at looking backwards and didn't like it one bit. Then I fast-forward to that scene, that same person is that happy dad who told his daughter, 'You're going to be a Yellow Jacket.'

In the end, the change moved quickly. The Commission on Enrollment submitted a report to the Board of Trustees in late 1970 that included the recommendation that the College go coeducational for the 1971-1972 school year: "Randolph-Macon should go co-ed, and do so immediately." This report was written by the College's administration rather than the Commission members, and the Trustees held a special meeting in January 1971 to approve the move to admit residential women. College recruitment materials that called R-MC "The College for the individual man" were quickly revised to include women and sent out the day after the Board of Trustees' meeting. A day later, the first female applicant appeared in the Admissions office.

Many of the first women to enroll were from families with a connection to the College—daughters, sisters, and granddaughters of alumni. Others were attracted by the male-female ratio or the opportunity to be a ground-breaker. Cheryl Woolfolk Kfuri '76 was one of the latter:



"I thought it was interesting to be a pioneer, to be one of few, if you will. That made me feel that the women that were accepted were more carefully selected," she said.

Mary Branch Residence Hall was designated the women's dormitory and quickly renovated. Conrad Residence Hall, new at the time, became the second female dorm when Mary Branch reached capacity. Betty Jean "B.J." Seymour, a visiting instructor of religious studies and one of the few female faculty members, was appointed Assistant Dean of Students in 1971. "House mother" staff was hired to oversee the dormitories, where residential women were required to follow rules that were different from the male students, including a curfew not required of the men. Some students remember these as being repressive; others indicated many people just ignored them with few consequences. Several of these policies were quickly revised as a result of student protests in the first year.

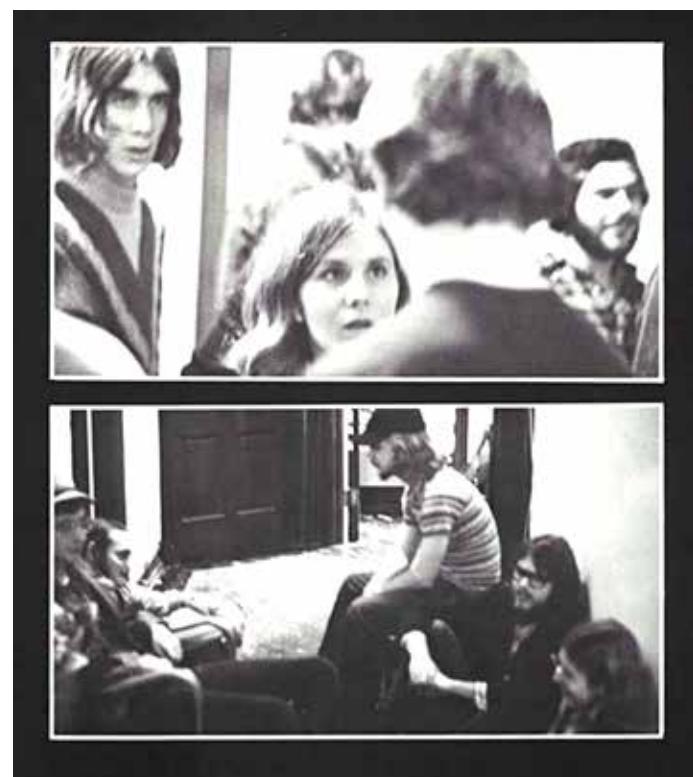
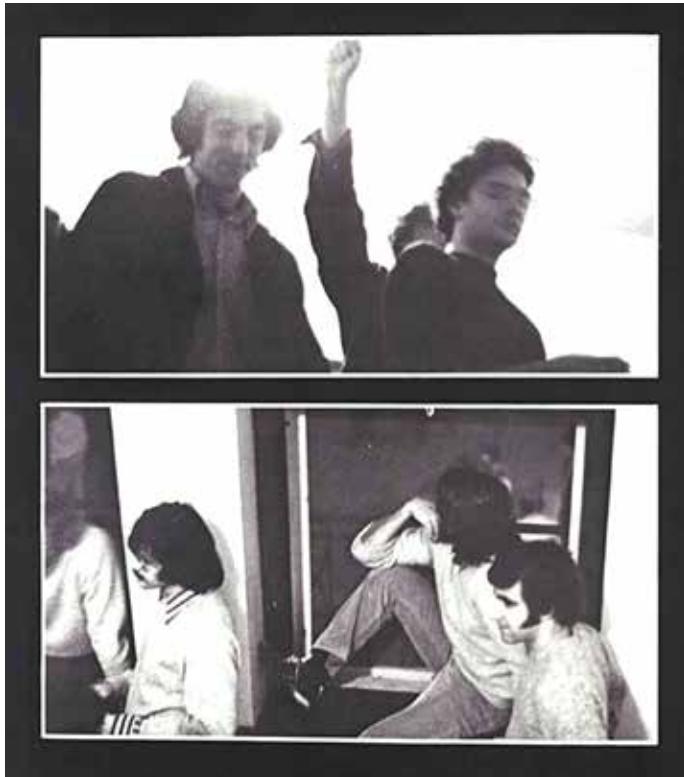
While the academic atmosphere was generally positive, some of the early female students recollected an environment that challenged their full acceptance into the community. Noanie Busch Sullivan '76 recalled an interaction with a professor: "I said, 'Dr. so-and-so, are you going to teach me how to think?' And he says, 'Why yes, Miss

Busch, I think the housewife today needs to know how to think' ... The presumption was that I was only there to find a husband and get married. That was probably the first time it hit me in the face that this is an all-male [institution] that economically needed to accept women."

Pat Gradwohl Hanback '75 also experienced challenges but noted an overall inclusive atmosphere. "You were surrounded by a bunch of men, but they made you feel like you were part of the group. It was across the board—the administration, the faculty, the students," she said. "There's no question some alumni were upset over the fact that they had let females in,

and it was no longer an all-male college, but you didn't get that feeling when you were on campus. You felt like you were cherished and loved and you were part of the family from day one."

The new coeds enthusiastically immersed themselves into campus life as evidenced in the Yellow Jacket Weekly and the Yellow Jacket Annual. They joined in extracurricular activities, student governance, and athletics. Several women's sports teams were organized, although parity with men's sports was slow in coming until Title IX, a situation common to most educational institutions. Female students and coaches recalled



Randolph-Macon Students Protest Coed's Suspension

THE STUDENT WAS SUSPENDED, AFTER WHICH ROUGHLY 350 R-MC STUDENTS CONGREGATED AT THE FOUNTAIN AT 12:15 A.M. IN A PEACEFUL PROTEST OF THE SUSPENSION. MALE STUDENTS BEGAN ENTERING THE WOMEN'S DORMITORY AS THE NIGHT WORE ON. "SHOUTS FROM COEDS IN WINDOWS URGED THEM ON, AND A CARNIVAL ATMOSPHERE PREVAILED," REPORTED THE RICHMOND-TIMES DISPATCH. AT 3 A.M., MALE STUDENTS WERE STILL INSIDE THE WOMEN'S DORMITORY, IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE CURFEW, PLAYING CARDS, READING, AND LISTENING TO RECORDS.

IN DECEMBER 1971, A FEMALE STUDENT VIOLATED A VISITATION CURFEW THAT PROHIBITED MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITE SEX VISITING EACH OTHER AFTER 2 A.M. THE CURFEW, HOWEVER, ONLY APPLIED TO THE WOMEN'S DORMS.



having to carpool to competitions for several years, often funding their own travel, while male teams were provided support by the College. The school did provide locker rooms, which many other schools did not; several women recalled having to change into their sports gear in their cars during away matches.

The move to coeducation in 1971 profoundly altered the Randolph-Macon student experience. The contrast between the 1971 Yellow Jacket yearbook, in which only a handful of images included women, and the 1972 yearbook, in which a significant number of women are depicted not just in the class photos but also in the casual photos of campus life, is startling. The Class of 1971 was the last male-only residential class; only 16 years later the Class of 1987 was majority female. Most will agree that the women of Randolph-Macon have done us proud. As that happy father of a female Yellow Jacket, Dick Forrester '57, so eloquently stated: "The girls, the women, of Randolph-Macon are much smarter than the boys of Hampden-Sydney any day!"

To read more about coeducation at Randolph-Macon College, see James Scanlon's second history of the College, *Randolph-Macon College: Traditions and New Directions, 1967-2005*, available in McGraw-Page Library or for purchase in the Campus Store. The history of women at Randolph-Macon College is preserved in the College Archives, part of the Flavia Reed Owen Special Collections and Archives in the McGraw-Page Library. ⚜

The quotes in this piece were recorded as part of the Macon Memories Oral History Project, available by scanning the QR code here.



"STUDENTS AND FACULTY MEMBERS WHO ARE VESTIGES OF THE ALL-MALE DAYS ALL ATTEST TO A MARKED CHANGE IN CAMPUS LIFE SINCE THE ADVENT OF COEDUCATION ... CONGREGATIONS AROUND THE FOUNTAIN PLAZA OCCUR MORE OFTEN AND ARE MUCH MORE LIVELY AND SPONTANEOUS. STUDENTS LINGER OVER THE MEALS THEY USED TO WOLF DOWN, AND PROFESSORS HAVE NOTED A MARKED INCREASE IN CLASS ATTENDANCE AMONG MEN STUDENTS. PERVADING ALL THESE SEEMING TRIVIA IS AN INEFFABLE LIFE AND SPIRIT WHICH THE COEDS HAVE BROUGHT TO THE CAMPUS. NO ONE CAN QUITE DESCRIBE IT, YET EVERYONE TAKES NOTE. PERHAPS IT'S THE NATURAL CHARM OF THE WOMEN; MORE CLOSELY PERHAPS IT'S THE FRESHNESS OF CHANGE."

- AN EXCERPT FROM A 1973 STUDENT BULLETIN ARTICLE WRITTEN BY DAVE FUDALA '73

Students



A Game Plan for Success

Senior football standout credits financial aid for wins on the field and in the classroom

Jace DePriest '22 (Biology major) broke his leg during his sophomore year at Varina High School. The injury turned out to be only a blip in the football career of the defensive tackle, who this year was named the Lou Wacker Defensive Player of the Year as well as the ODAC/Virginia Farm Bureau Insurance Scholar-Athlete. It did, however, leave a lasting impact on his plans for the future.

"The physical therapist who helped me rehab my leg was so helpful leading me through what I needed to do to heal. After that experience, I wanted to help other people recover from their injuries and resume their daily activities," DePriest said.

DePriest is laying the groundwork for a career in physical therapy in R-MC's Biology program, where he has made a name for himself. He is the 2021-2022 recipient of the Stephen Watts Scholarship for Biology, an annual award recognizing a student or students who have distinguished themselves through personal achievement and who show great promise for future endeavors in the field of biology. DePriest said he was unaware of the scholarship until he received it, after which he immediately called his mother to celebrate.

"I can't express how blessed I am to receive this award," DePriest said of the Watts Scholarship, established in 1953 through the estate of Dr. Stephen H. Watts, Class of 1896 and professor of surgery at the University of Virginia Medical School from 1907 to 1928.

DePriest originally applied to Randolph-Macon because of the College's strong focus on academics and alumni involvement. The prospect of playing football under head coach Pedro Arruza sealed the deal. He says he's made "too many great memories to count" as a member of the football team, especially battling through the first pandemic season to win the ODAC title.

"I'll never forget the commitment it took for our team to overcome the adverse circumstances of the pandemic and win the championship," DePriest said.

The four-time ODAC All-Academic Team honoree was named Academic All-District this year by the College Sports Information Directors of America, and is now eligible for Academic All-America consideration. He has earned Dean's List every semester at R-MC in addition to winning the C. Lydon Harrell Freshman Award, the Douglas W. Foard Phi Beta Kappa Sophomore Award, the R-MC Chinese Language Award, and the T. McNider Simpson Scholarship. DePriest also co-chairs R-MC's Student Athlete Advisory Committee's community service initiative and is the treasurer of For Women, a student organization dedicated to creating a safe space for all genders on campus.

"I'd like to thank everyone who plays a part in making these scholarships available to students like me," DePriest said. "Without them, I don't know if I would be here today."

New Grant Supports Recent Grads in Pandemic-Delayed Research



Elise Knobloch '21



(l. to r.) Research Associate Takesha Foster and Nana Dadzie '21

WHEN BIOLOGY MAJORS ELISE KNOBLOCH '21 AND NANA DADZIE '21 GRADUATED FROM R-MC, BOTH INTENDED TO PURSUE CAREERS IN SCIENCE,

even though the pandemic meant neither had seen the inside of a lab for more than a year. A new grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) gives them a chance to make up for lost time on familiar turf.

Knobloch and Dadzie have joined the College staff as full-time research technicians in R-MC's Biology Department this year thanks to the Research Experience for Post-Baccalaureate Students (REPS) awards. These supplemental funds are awarded to active NSF grantees and support the research training of post-baccalaureate students. Each graduate works under the mentorship of a Biology professor—Dadzie with Dr. Melanie Gubbels Bupp and Knobloch with Dr. Ray Schmidt—to learn the ins and outs of

professional lab work while contributing to active research projects.

"The REPS funds are designed to make up for the fact that students who graduated from college during the pandemic likely missed out on much of the same hands-on research that graduates in previous years received," Schmidt said.

Knobloch, who has always been fascinated by genetics, spends her days in Randolph-Macon's Biology lab developing protocols for extracting DNA from insects in a way that prevents the specimen's destruction. Dadzie isolates and characterizes immune cells from mice to determine how malnutrition and food shortages impact the immune system's response to infection. Though

their research topics don't share a lot in common, both agree the opportunity has given them the chance to practice professional lab work without the additional pressures of choosing a specialty.

That's not to say these alumni don't have an idea about what the future holds. Knobloch has her sights set on a career in genetic counseling, while Dadzie is open to continuing to work as a researcher in other laboratories, which he sees as "something I could see myself doing for a very long time."

"It's a lot to do this type of work," Gubbels Bupp said. "They take it in stride and run with it to the point that it's a highlight of my own job to work alongside them."

"I get so excited seeing this research come to life," Knobloch said. "It's my first big-girl job, and I absolutely love it." 

Faculty

Q&A

New book explores early voting in U.S. elections



DR. ELLIOTT FULLMER, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, ANSWERS QUESTIONS ABOUT THE RESEARCH BEHIND HIS MOST RECENT BOOK, *TUESDAY'S GONE: AMERICA'S EARLY VOTING REVOLUTION*.

Q: Your research on the subject of early voting—and the trend toward early voting—actually began many years ago. Tell us more.

The first early voting laws emerged in the late 1970s and 1980s, though they did not immediately attract many citizens. After the 1992 elections, we started to see gradual increases; by 2004, about 20% of the country's voters were casting ballots before Election Day. Much of this happened with little fanfare, as early voting received little national attention until the 2008 election, when Barack Obama's presidential campaign so effectively used it to mobilize supporters.

Due to its growing importance, I became interested in early voting in 2009, and it became my dissertation topic at Georgetown University. I am glad it did, as it has only become more of a factor in U.S. elections since.

Q: What is the goal of early voting?

Most early voting laws were adopted with bipartisan state legislative majorities, and the reasons were typically twofold. Reformers hoped that early voting could improve turnout. Secondly, there was pressure on states to ease the election administration process for county officials who oversee elections. By spreading out voters over a longer period of time, administrators are better able to control lines and reduce wait times. In addition, administrators can identify potential problems during the early voting period before a flood of voters arrives on Election Day.

Q: Has it worked?

Yes, but it's complicated! Much of the initial literature on early voting suggested that it was actually having little effect on turnout. One



Spotlight

Assistant Professor Stephanie Coster (Biology) and **Associate Professor Nick Ruppel** (Biology), in collaboration with **Assistant Professor Robin Given** (Computer Science), were awarded a \$100,000 Jeffress Trust Grant for an interdisciplinary project in which the trio will inventory pollinators at private and public native plant gardens. The work uses "eDNA," a process akin to ecological forensics, with a goal of discovering patterns that could help combat declines in the number of global pollinators.

Adjunct Professor Arthur Evans (Biology) has published *Beetles of Western North America*, a follow-up to *Beetles of Eastern North America* (both of Princeton University Press). This catalog of 1,428 species features more than 1,500 color

of the principal findings of my research is that early voting does increase voter participation when counties offer a sufficient number of locations. It turns out that even within states that offer early voting, offerings at the county-level can vary quite a bit. Controlling for a number of other known turnout predictors, I consistently find that an additional early voting site per 1,000 voting-age residents increases county turnout by at least 2-3 percentage points. These findings are consistent across the 2012, 2014, 2016, and 2018 U.S. elections. The size of the effect is not earth-shattering, but it is important to note that 3 percentage points equates to over 4 million additional voters in a presidential election.

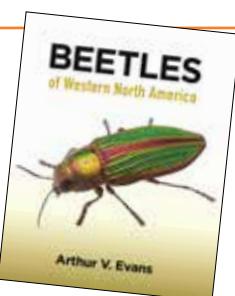
Q: *But you write that there are unintended consequences. What are they?*

Anytime you change an election law, there is the potential for unintended consequences. The most notable such consequence that I find is that early voting sites are inequitably distributed across the U.S. on the basis of race. Simply put, counties with larger Black populations have fewer sites per capita. This is concerning for two reasons. First, it means that early voting is widening disparities in voting access between racial groups. Second, it suggests that early voting is not yet reaching its true potential. Given that we know early voting sites bring higher turnout, more sites in heavily Black counties (where too few currently exist) should bring additional increases in participation.

Another unintended consequence that I examine involves down-ballot roll-off, which occurs when voters cast a vote for high-profile offices (e.g. president or governor), but leave lesser known offices (e.g. county commissioner) blank. I find that early voters are a bit more likely to engage in roll-off, likely because they are casting ballots before down-ballot candidates (in many cases) even begin campaigning. The effect is much greater in non-partisan elections where there is no party cue to guide uncertain voters.

Q: *In your opinion, could broader early voting be good for democracy? How would it need to be implemented, or what would need to change to make it so?*

Absolutely. Early voting has already increased turnout and made voting easier for millions of regular voters. It has also meaningfully improved election administration across the U.S. Although there are unintended consequences, I believe they can be addressed. For example, the federal government can and should take a proactive role to ensure that early voting sites are equitably distributed across the country. Debates between candidates should probably begin earlier (for general elections) to accommodate the fact that more citizens are casting early ballots. I acknowledge early voting's unintended consequences not because I believe they suggest that programs are futile. Rather, I do so in order to identify issues that demand attention to ensure that early voting can achieve its true potential. ☺



images, of which nearly half were taken by the author.

Professor Ted Scheckels

(Communication Studies) has published *Speechwriting: A Rhetorical Guide* with former student **Caroline Kouneski '19**.

The book provides practical advice and instruction to prepare and deliver well-constructed speeches for a variety of contexts.



Assistant Professor Nthemba Mutua-Mambo (Communication Studies) is the recipient of the outstanding article award by the International & Intercultural Communication Division (IICD) for her article "Living in a Liminal space: Feminist and LGBT Alliances in Kenya," published in the *Women's Studies in Communication* journal.



Assistant Professor Seth Clabough's '98 (English) short story "The Cabin," published in the new issue of *West Trade Review*, has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize.

From the President of the Society of
Alumni, **Robyn Diehl McDougle '98**



ALUMNI Today

To update your information, visit www.rmc.edu/alumni-news-resources.

Dear Fellow Alumni,

As a woman of R-MC myself, it feels fitting that I am writing you today in this edition of our magazine. I think of the female professors who mentored me, my friends from my years at R-MC, and the incredible alumnae I've had a chance to meet in my involvement with the College. That tapestry of strong, smart, and engaged women is a critical part of my R-MC experience. I can hardly imagine life without them!

In the pages that follow, we're proud to introduce you to some of my fellow alumnae—women who have made waves in the world in the decades since 1971. Their stories bind the past to the present ... and, now, to the future as well!

I'm proud to serve as your Society of Alumni president this year. I hope it will be filled with opportunities to gather on campus and off! I'm particularly looking forward to celebrating reunions with so many classes at Homecoming next fall.

Stay up to date with what's coming up on rmc.edu and through our social media channels. We have pages on Facebook and Instagram that are specifically updated for alumni. And look out for newsletters and other emails in your inbox, too.

— Robyn Diehl McDougle '98



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- ONLINE: www.rmc.edu/givenow
- VENMO: [@JacketsGiveBack](#) (include your name, class year, and designation)
OR
- Contact **Rick Golembeski '96**, Executive Director of Annual Giving, at **804-752-3288** or at rickgolembeski@rmc.edu



ACHIEVE MORE FIRSTS



Funes and classmates on a travel course in Turkey

J

azmine Battle Funes '15 set her sights on her future success when she was just 16 years old, working a high school job at the local Chick-fil-A.

She had accepted the position thinking only of the present and the challenges in her life. She wanted to contribute to the family's finances and help her mother, who was working 70 hours a week to support Funes and her sister. While on the job, Funes admired and learned from the store's owner, who told her why he loved running the business and encouraged her during a difficult time in her life.

That sense of caring and the community mission of the company appealed to young Funes, and she decided then that she wanted to be an owner/operator of a Chick-fil-A someday. She kept that singular focus, even as she attended college, nurtured other passions, and traveled the world. When Chick-fil-A opened in Ashland, Funes was a student at Randolph-Macon, and was an enthusiastic part of the crew that opened the popular location.

Her certainty about her path was so strong that she was freed to pursue her passions while a student at Randolph-Macon. Her mentor at her job advised that her future company was more interested in a well-rounded and complete education than any specific major, and told her to go for something that she loved.

"I was like, 'Okay, when am I going to have the opportunity to study music?'" she recalls. And so she did, studying theory and stretching herself as a vocalist with a major in Music while minoring in Communication Studies.

Funes recalls that the size and location of the College made it a perfect fit. At R-MC, like at Chick-fil-A, she felt cared for. "It was a very intimate place," she said. Favorite memories include a travel course to Greece and Turkey and her summer job working in the Campus Store.

"[Campus Store Manager Barclay DuPriest] represented the College so well. She loved and cared for everyone she came into contact with, including me!" she said.

In 2017, Funes entered Chick-fil-A's Leadership Development Program as a Grand Opening Supervisor. During that time, she traveled the U.S. for two-and-a-half years with her husband and beagle in tow. In 2018, she officially began the rigorous process to become an owner/operator. Awarding her more than a coveted franchisee position, Chick-fil-A gave her a history-making opportunity: Funes was selected to open just the fourth international location as part of the company's global expansion. The role makes her the first African-American woman to own such a restaurant internationally.

"When I got the call from Chick-fil-A, I remember feeling like I'm so blessed and honored that I'm able to be a part of history," Funes said. "I can tell younger girls, if you put in the hard work and dedication, you can accomplish your dreams." ◆



Anyone Can Neuroscience

**"OUR COMMON
THREAD IS THAT
WE'RE CURIOUS
ABOUT THE
WORLD AROUND
US."**

Unlike many of her classmates in the University of Chicago's Ph.D. program in Neurobiology, Dr. Catherine Lowry Franssen '99 didn't major in neuroscience in college. Instead, the Psychology and Elementary Education double-major collaborated with her mentor, former R-MC Psychology professor Dr. Kelly Lambert, to fashion a neuroscience curriculum through elective courses that aligned with her career goals.

"I'm really happy I chose the route I did," Franssen said. "My liberal arts background gave me a broader training that allowed me to explore the questions I was interested in, which kept me invested in the work I was doing."

Franssen paused from teaching psychology at Longwood University last year to become the Science Museum of Virginia's first scientist in residence. That made her the first neuroscientist on staff at the organization, as well as the museum's

first full-time female scientist. She decided this past fall to stay on full time as the Science Museum's life scientist, a position that allows her to "cultivate curiosity" through web content, innovative exhibit design, and educational programming.

"We were thrilled to have someone on staff with Catherine's experience in the classroom," Jennifer Guild, the Science Museum's Manager of Communications and Curiosity, said. "The fact that she's so broadly trained, so curious about the world, and so interesting to talk to makes her the perfect person to speak about the interconnectedness of life science and our everyday lives."

Over the years Franssen has given numerous TV and radio interviews and written for a wide range of national publications, including Scientific American, CNN, Salon, and The Huffington Post. Her interests range from the

psychology of superstition to Netflix addiction to why humans are hardwired to love pumpkin spice. No matter the topic, Franssen is well-regarded for making the underlying scientific concepts approachable, infusing her teachings with humor and pop culture references without skimping on research. That talent squares perfectly with her credo that “anyone can neuroscience” (a cheeky reference to Disney/Pixar’s *Ratatouille*, which asserts that “anyone can cook”).

“During my teaching career, I had students from all different backgrounds, many of whom were first-generation students or didn’t have specialized training in the sciences,” Franssen said. “Those experiences helped me think about how to hook people through their innate interest in the nature of our lives, to make stronger connections between the classroom and the real world.”

Franssen said she owes much of her teaching style to her father, Emeritus Professor of Business Dr. George Lowry, with whom she co-taught an interdisciplinary neuroeconomics course at R-MC in 2011 and at whose office computer she remembers pulling all-nighters as a Yellow Jacket.

“It’s a rare opportunity to teach alongside a parent,” Franssen said. “But it’s just as rare to shadow an experienced professor managing the classroom, promoting student-led discussion, and facilitating inquisitiveness.”

At R-MC, Franssen flourished in the close-knit, cross-discipline learning environment unique to a liberal arts college. She became a research assistant in Lambert’s lab and landed a Schapiro Undergraduate Research Fellowship, resulting in her co-authoring an article in *Nature* magazine, the world’s leading multidisciplinary science journal. She was also an active participant in the College’s theatre and radio programs, which she credits for strengthening her presentation skills, and had taken enough classes to nearly minor in three different subjects. Today, she’s surrounded by colleagues from different backgrounds in the sciences, arts, marketing, and fundraising, and every day she’s encouraged to follow her interests wherever they lead her.



“Our common thread is that we’re curious about the world around us,” she said.

Franssen’s latest project involves spearheading the Science Museum’s first paid internship program. She’s also pitching in with the development of the Northern Virginia Science Center, a Science Museum satellite location situated in the Dulles Technology Corridor. One of the planned galleries is dedicated to the human experience and will feature never-before-seen exhibits to be prototyped at the Science Museum’s Richmond headquarters. When she’s searching for inspiration, she simply takes a stroll around the office building.

It’s really important for me to walk around the museum every day and see people interact with the exhibits,” Franssen said. “These people are choosing to spend their leisure time in an educational environment playing with science. As a scientist and educator, that feels so right to me.”



Sky's the Limit

EARLY DECEMBER IN KIRUNA, SWEDEN IS NOT THE TIME OR PLACE TO CATCH A TAN. THE AVERAGE TEMPERATURE THIS TIME OF YEAR IS MINUS-11 DEGREES CELSIUS, AND LOCALS EXPERIENCE JUST OVER AN HOUR OF SUNLIGHT EACH DAY IF THEY'RE LUCKY. AT ANY RATE, WINTER IN THE COUNTRY'S NORTHERNMOST TOWN OFFERS UNPARALLELED VIEWS OF THE NORTHERN LIGHTS, SOMETHING HAYLEY WILLIAMSON '13 HAS PAUSED TO APPRECIATE EVERY CHANCE SHE GETS SINCE ARRIVING IN KIRUNA MORE THAN TWO YEARS AGO.

In fact, Williamson—a researcher at the Swedish Institute of Space Physics (IRF)—has a history of braving the cold in pursuit of the stars.

"I remember it getting quite cold at night in Keeble Observatory in January," she said, reflecting on her semester spent working in the observatory alongside her advisor, Dr. George Spagna, Associate Professor Emeritus of Physics and Director Emeritus of the Keeble Observatory.

As an undergraduate, Williamson completed two summer internships at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, MD, during which she had the opportunity to crunch numbers from a spacecraft that orbited Venus.

"Those internships were my first exposure to planetary science that was different from astronomy," Williamson said. "Spacecraft data, not telescope data. In situ measurements rather than remote observations. I was hooked."

Following Spagna's guidance, Williamson went on to earn a Ph.D. in engineering physics from the University of Virginia, where she received a coveted Jefferson Fellowship, the university's premier graduate fellowship.

Today, Williamson's current interests involve studying how different atmospheres are affected by solar winds. At IRF she spends her days combing through data collected from Rosetta, the first spacecraft to follow a comet's orbit around the Sun on a mission that lasted more than 12 years.

"Comets are really interesting to look at to see how the interaction of atmospheres and the Sun changes with the size of the atmosphere," Williamson explained. "A comet's atmosphere actually gets bigger the closer it gets to the Sun, and Rosetta offered a chance to see that happen in real time."

Although she specializes in a field that most sci-fi fans would drool over,

Williamson says the research process itself is just as rousing. Data analysis can be a time-consuming process involving "a lot of time spent staring at lines on a screen," but therein lies the fun.

"It's more interesting to work on research that can be frustrating," she said. "For the data analysis that we do, it's the same type of thrill you get when you start a good puzzle. You approach the data set with a question and then set out to understand all the ways those questions might be answered."

Just because the data she works with is pulled from the recesses of space doesn't mean her head is in the clouds. Williamson noted that solar storms play an unseen but active role in life on Earth. The charged particles emitted during solar storms have struck Earth's atmosphere before to devastating effect: disabling satellites, affecting power grids, and knocking out GPS capabilities, among them. The



more researchers like her understand how solar winds interact with Earth's atmosphere, the better able we can predict disruptions like the one that occurred in 1989, during which large swaths of North America were blacked out for nine hours. While all that sounds dire, Williamson says there's one side effect of solar winds that everyone below can appreciate.

"They make for some beautiful auroras," she said.

When she's not poring over a draft of her next scholarly paper—she's already published nine papers in her short career—Williamson is usually working out new ways to present her findings to others. In normal times, that means traveling to conferences to learn about other scientists' research. "I'm looking forward to the day when the social aspect of research life will be more common," she said. Public speaking is a challenge with which

Williamson feels quite comfortable, given her four-year tenure on the Franklin Debating Society.

"I was one of the few science majors on the team, and that experience served me well. Turns out scientists need to be comfortable with public speaking and interacting with the public, too."

Williamson recently won a two-year research grant from the Swedish National Space Agency to continue her comet research. She's also keeping an eye on an upcoming launch that plans to visit Jupiter's icy moons. While she'll have to wait until the 2030s for the spacecraft to reach its destination, that's the type of professional hazard she's willing to endure.

"We all get excited about new missions," she said. "Those are opportunities to be one of the people who decides what kind of science we want to do when the mission gets there." ☺



Having a Ball

Though she didn't join organized sports until she was eight years old, Megan Silva Schultz '06 dazzled as a basketball standout at Hermitage High School, earning district player of the year and all-state honors. What she went on to accomplish at Randolph-Macon is nothing short of legendary.

Schultz's 2,371 points, 700 assists, and 446 steals top the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) all-time lists—for women's and men's basketball both. The Yellow Jackets won 99 games during Schultz's tenure, and the two-time captain helped them reach the national championship in 2005 and the elite 8 the following year. Following her senior season she was named Honda's DIII National Athlete of the Year. A decade later, she became the first NCAA DIII athlete to be inducted into the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame.



"I love all the lessons you learn from playing sports," Schultz said. "Patience, teamwork, the ability to fall and get back up again. So many characteristics that I strive for every day I learned best on the court."



The accolades speak for themselves. Schultz, though, will be the last person to tell you about them. "My passion is for the game itself," she said. "Outcomes are one thing, but the process is what I enjoy most."

Attention to process is where Schultz shines in her role as chief operating officer of Sports Backers. The local nonprofit, whose goal is to "transform greater Richmond into the most physically active community in the nation," produces some of the region's biggest events, including the Ukrop's Monument Avenue 10k, the Richmond Marathon, and Dominion Energy Riverrock.

"It's the only 'real' job I've had," Schultz joked, referring to the five different roles she's held in her nearly 15-year career at

pitches in wherever and whenever help is needed. At Sports Backers, it goes with the territory.

"No matter your position, we're an all-hands-on-deck team during event setup," Schultz said. "We work with thousands of volunteers, our own staff, and event committees to bring events to life. There are tons of moving parts. It's so rewarding to see all the work you've done as a team come together in a desired end, and there's no better place to watch it happen than on the front lines."

Schultz believes working at Sports Backers means you have to live and breathe the organization's commitment to a team-oriented, active lifestyle. Employees routinely show up to work in workout clothes or go for runs together during lunch. She brings that same commitment back home to her family, where it's important for her three young children to see her "practice what you preach."

"I love all the lessons you learn from playing sports," Schultz said. "Patience, teamwork, the ability to fall and get back up again. So many characteristics that I strive for every day I learned best on the court."

Sports Backers. She cut her chops as an intern "helping out however I was needed" at smaller SportsBackers events. Soon she was managing those same events—first the smaller ones, then larger ones like the Richmond Marathon. One opportunity led to the next until she found herself coordinating Sports Backers events and programs in a public-facing role.

"My initial desire was to grow as an individual within the organization. But as I was growing, so was the organization and its needs. We grew together."

Schultz described her day-to-day as "connecting people and organizations with the tasks needed to make sure events run smoothly." While that involves "a lot of schedule-management meetings," she still



After setting numerous conference records in women's basketball, Schultz eventually became the most decorated student-athlete in R-MC's history.



Like their mother was at their age, Schultz's children haven't expressed much interest in sports—not yet at least. She chooses to keep the whole family engaged by providing a variety of options to stay active like playing outside, walking to the school bus, or going on bike rides. The latter proved to be one of the pandemic's silver linings. One of Schultz's favorite memories from the last year was leading her family on a series of bike rides through Randolph-Macon's campus when there weren't any games scheduled.

"It's important that we remain connected to the College as a family, and I'm proud to be able to pass that along to our kids through something as simple as a bike ride," she said. 

Athletics

POSTSEASON HIGHLIGHTS



FOOTBALL

Coming off an ODAC-championship season, the Yellow Jackets finished the fall season 9-1 overall, the top record for any collegiate team in Virginia. They capped the season with a 37-14 home win over Hampden-Sydney, marking the eighth-straight victory over the Tigers.

One of eight teams in Division III with nine wins each of the past three full seasons	5-1 ODAC mark , tied for top spot in conference standings		
#20 in final AFCA Coaches' Poll	#23 in D3football.com Top 25	23-3 (88%) record over past three seasons	32-6 (84%) over past four seasons

"I THINK THAT PART OF THE REASON WE WIN HERE IS BECAUSE THE FOCUS ISN'T ENTIRELY ON WINNING. THESE GUYS, THEY UNDERSTAND, NUMBER ONE THEY ARE HERE TO GET AN EDUCATION, THEY'RE HERE TO GROW AS MEN."

- Head coach Pedro Arruza

POSTSEASON AWARDS



Pedro Arruza: Willard Bailey Coach of the Year award winner by Touchdown Club of Richmond for Division II/III/NAIA in state of Virginia

Will Jackson: All-Region Second Team, State Small College Offensive Lineman of the Year by the Touchdown Club of Richmond, All-ODAC First Team

Chris Vidal: All-Region First Team, State Small College Specialist of the Year by the Touchdown Club of Richmond, All-ODAC First Team as a kicker, All-ODAC Second Team as a punter

Justin DeLeon: senior running back, All-Region Second Team, State Small College Offensive Back of the Year by the Touchdown Club of Richmond, J. Stokeley Fulton Offensive Player of the Year in the ODAC, All-ODAC First Team

Jace DePriest: senior defensive lineman, All-Region Second Team, Academic All-District, State Small College Defensive Lineman of the Year by the Touchdown Club of Richmond, Lou Wacker Defensive Player of the Year in the ODAC, ODAC/Virginia Farm Bureau Insurance Scholar-Athlete for football, All-ODAC First Team

Tyler DeBerry: senior defensive end, All-Region Second Team, All-ODAC First Team

Connor Denning: offensive lineman, All-Region Third Team, All-ODAC First Team

Tim Hanratty: senior tight end, All-Region Third Team, All-ODAC First Team

Stephen Richardson: senior cornerback, All-Region Third Team, All-ODAC First Team

Matt Hale: junior center, All-ODAC Second Team

Nehemiah Nixon: junior offensive lineman, All-ODAC Second Team

Jacob Hutchinson: senior defensive lineman, All-ODAC Second Team

Matt Vergara: senior linebacker, All-ODAC Second Team

David Wallis: junior wide receiver, All-ODAC Third Team

Ricky Mayfield: senior tight end, All-ODAC Third Team

Erik Harris: senior linebacker, All-ODAC Third Team

Sam Dantzler: senior defensive back, Academic All-District

Andrew Ihle: senior tight end/holder, Academic All-District

ALL-AMERICA

Will Jackson, senior offensive lineman

Chris Vidal, senior kicker

ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA

Andrew Ihle, senior tight end/holder



MEN'S SOCCER

Seventh-year head coach Josh Laux '02 guided the Yellow Jackets to an overall record of 10-4-3 and a 5-1-3 ODAC record. The defense was especially strong as R-MC recorded nine shutouts, the top mark in the ODAC and one of the highest totals in the nation. R-MC had its fewest league losses since going 7-1-1 in 1999 and spent most of the season ranked in the NCAA South Regional poll. Over the past three seasons, the Yellow Jackets have registered a league mark of 15-6-3, a winning percentage of 70%.

POSTSEASON AWARDS

Elijah Lloyd: junior defender, All-Region Third Team, All-ODAC Second Team

Colton Howell: senior midfielder, All-ODAC Second Team

Penny Senior: senior forward, All-ODAC Second Team

Bogue Cummings: junior midfielder, All-ODAC Third Team

Adam Braithwaite: freshman goalkeeper, All-ODAC Third Team



"I'M PROUD OF THE WAY OUR TEAM PLAYED THIS YEAR. THIS WAS THE MOST CONSISTENT TEAM I HAVE EVER COACHED. THE GUYS WERE FOCUSED EACH AND EVERY DAY. IT WAS JUST A GREAT GROUP WITH WHICH TO WORK."

- Head coach Josh Laux '02



WOMEN'S SOCCER

In their first full season on the upgraded Nunnally Field, the Yellow Jackets posted an 8-10 season record, finishing an even 5-5 in the ODAC. The women's soccer team was seeded #5 headed into the ODAC Tournament, falling to #2 Bridgewater College in the quarterfinals to complete a season highlighted by strong defense; the Yellow Jackets recorded six shutouts and allowed one goal or less in 11 of their 18 matches.

FIELD HOCKEY

Field hockey posted an even 9-9 record on the season and a 4-4 finish in the ODAC. For the fifth consecutive year, R-MC faced off against Roanoke College in the ODAC playoffs. Though Roanoke edged out a 1-0 win in the quarterfinals, the season was marked by aggressive play and solid defense. Senior goalkeeper Gatlin Snyder '22 racked up four shutouts and led the conference with a .847 save percentage, good for third in the nation.



POSTSEASON AWARDS

Maddie Bauman: senior midfielder, All-ODAC Second Team

Gracie Tritt: junior defender, All-ODAC Third Team

Olivia Owens: sophomore forward, All-ODAC Third Team

POSTSEASON AWARDS

Maria-Teresa Ambrogi-Torres: senior forward, NFHCA Senior Team, All-ODAC Second Team

Gatlin Snyder: senior goalkeeper, NFHCA Senior Team, All-ODAC Second Team

Sydney Duimstra: senior defender, All-ODAC Second Team

Catherine Magill: junior midfielder, All-ODAC Third Team

Alaina McCoy: freshman midfielder, All-ODAC Third Team

Anna Stribling: sophomore midfielder, All-ODAC Third Team

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

The second-seeded women's volleyball team fell to #3 Virginia Wesleyan in the ODAC semifinals, but that didn't stop the women from finishing with an outstanding 11-1 conference record and an 18-10 record overall. Senior Danielle LaRosa '22 finished the season with 111 total blocks, leading the ODAC and ranking 12th in the nation.



ALL-AMERICA HONORABLE MENTION

Sydney Koch, senior
middle blocker

Grace Parker, junior
outside hitter

POSTSEASON AWARDS

Sydney Koch: All-Region First Team, All-ODAC First Team

Grace Parker: All-Region First Team, All-ODAC First Team

Danielle LaRosa: senior middle blocker, All-Region Honorable Mention, All-ODAC Second Team

Leslie Currie: sophomore defensive specialist, All-ODAC Third Team

Macguire Gubba: senior setter, All-ODAC Third Team

Celebrating R-MC's Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2021

RANDOLPH-MACON'S NEWEST CLASS OF ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES WAS CELEBRATED ON FEBRUARY 18

Carroll LaHaye

Over the course of her 38 seasons as R-MC's women's basketball head coach, LaHaye posted a record of 647-376 with fourteen 20-win seasons. At the time of her retirement, she topped the ODAC win list, was sixth on the active NCAA Division III wins list, 14th on the all-time NCAA Division III wins list, and 27th on the wins list for all divisions. During her tenure she coached the Yellow Jackets to 12 NCAA Tournament bids (Sweet 16 four times, Elite 8 twice, national runner-up in 2005), 10 ODAC Tournament championships, and eight ODAC regular season titles. LaHaye was inducted into the Mid-Coast Hall of Fame in 2010 and the University of Maine-Machias Hall of Fame in 2012.



Greg Meleski '09

A four-year starter for the R-MC baseball team, Meleski was ODAC Rookie of the Year in 2006 and was voted All-ODAC First Team at third base in 2007 and at second base in 2008. At the time of his graduation, Meleski topped the R-MC career lists with 195 hits, 556 at bats, 51



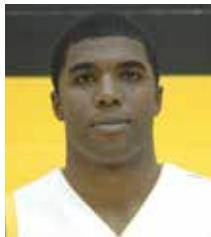
2004-05 Women's Basketball Team

Head Coach:
Carroll LaHaye

Assistant Coaches: Ana Litton,
Jay Starke, Allison Beightol
McGuire '99

Players: Jennie Carter '05,
Nicole Childress Ball '05,
Emily Crider Burner '05, Sarah
Crider Benanzi '05, Maggie
Harman Simmons '08, Marta
Merkel Caito '08, Kristen
Morgan Klauder '07, Jannesa
Morusma '08, Michelle Orton
Nester '06, Megan Senske
Capito '06, Salem Shaffer '07,
Megan Silva Schultz '06

doubles, 115 RBI, 127 runs, 63 extra base hits, and 273 total bases. In the four years prior to Meleski's arrival, the Yellow Jackets were 42-88 overall and 16-54 in ODAC play. During his four-year career, R-MC went 84-65 overall and 43-29 in conference contests. During his junior season, the Yellow Jackets won their first ODAC championship since 1987 and earned their first NCAA Tournament berth since 1977.



Justin Wansley '06

Wansley, a four-year letter-winner for the Yellow Jacket men's basketball team, is sixth on R-MC's career scoring list with 1,566 points and fifth with 809 career rebounds. In his career Wansley was

named the 2003 ODAC Freshman of the Year, the 2005 ODAC Player of the Year, NABC South Region Player of the Year, and VaSID State Player of the Year, in addition to being named All-ODAC First Team three times, NABC All-America First Team, and VaSID All-State First Team. The Yellow Jackets were ODAC regular season champs in 2003, 2004, and 2005 and captured the ODAC Tournament title in 2003. R-MC went to the NCAA Tournament three times during Wansley's career and reached the Sweet 16 in 2003.

2004-05 Women's Basketball Team

With LaHaye at the helm, the 2004-05 R-MC women's basketball team set an ODAC and program record with 30 wins and went a perfect 20-0 in ODAC contests, also a conference record. The Yellow Jackets defeated Washington and Lee in the quarterfinals of the ODAC Tournament in Salem, pulled out a 68-64 victory over Emory & Henry in the semifinals, and posted a 72-55 win over Bridgewater in the title game. After a bye round and successive wins over Mary Washington, Trinity, and George Fox, Randolph-Macon advanced to the Final Four for the first time in program history. The Yellow Jackets defeated Scranton 70-65 in the National Semifinals before falling to Millikin in the National Championship contest. ◆



Class Notes

'59

James L. White recently relocated to Manakin Sabot, VA to be closer to his children and grandchildren after residing for 52 years in Manassas, VA. He is excited to have a grandson attending R-MC in 2021.



Harleman

'61

Wayne Jackson was inducted into the Virginia Golf Hall of Fame's Class of 2020.

'71

Thomas "Tom" G. Harleman and his wife, Jeanie, became proud great-grandparents with the birth of Emery Sage Russell, born July 26, 2021 to granddaughter Chloe Harleman Russell and husband PO2 Jaron Paul Russell, USN, USS Truxtun (DDG-103).



Webb

'76

Doug Webb is the senior director of development for athletics at Randolph-Macon College.

'77

Dr. Nina Beaman was promoted to chief nurse administrator of the School of Nursing and Health Sciences at Aspen University. She has worked for Aspen University since 2011.

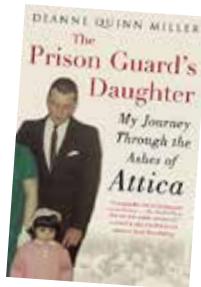


Dr. Nina Beaman '77

Stephanie Feazel Killian retired on June 1, 2021 after working for 36 years with Montgomery County, MD. She was the chief of the Division of Housing in the Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs, and managed Montgomery County's affordable housing programs.

'81

Gary Craig co-authored the memoir *The Prison Guard's Daughter: My Journey Through the Ashes of Attica* with Deanne Quinn Miller, the subject of the memoir. Miller's father



was a corrections officer killed in the 1971 Attica uprising. The book was published by Diversion Books and released in September for the 50th anniversary of the riot. An audiobook also was released by Tantor Media.

'83

Robert "Rob" L. Brown II

authored the book *Truest Fan*, which weaves together his love of God, family, and Cleveland Indians baseball. *Truest Fan* is a story about turning the simple lessons we learn from baseball and loving God and others into a way of living each day. In his book, Rob shares the seven most important lessons of "truest fan" wisdom that, when applied, will lead to personal and professional transformation. This book was published by Encore Partners LLC.

'85

Thomas "Tom" M. Shaw retired in November 2019 after a distinguished 34-year career working as a senior program manager and financial crimes investigator. He lives today in the Short Pump area of Richmond, VA with his wife of 32 years, Melissa.

'86

Charles "Chaz" D. Robertson has worked 35 years as a program manager at CACI International, Inc. in Dahlgren, VA.

'90

Jay "TJ" Harmon married Louisa A. Taylor Harmon in 2020. The couple resides in Greensboro, NC with their 17-year-old son, Julian.



Harmon '90

'91

Eileen Martin Graessle graduated in the summer of 2021 with a master's degree in biodiversity, wildlife, and ecosystem health from the University of Edinburgh. The decision

followed a life enjoying the beauty and benefits of a healthy earth and a love of living creatures. She completed internships with the Missouri Botanical Garden at the Shaw Nature Reserve and EarthWays Center, focusing on sustainability and environmental education in nature. She also completed research on protecting pollinator habitats using power line corridors.

'94 **Mark Stroh** assumed the office of U.S. Consul General at the U.S. Consulate General in Karachi, Pakistan on August 21, 2021. A career member of the Senior Foreign Service in the U.S. Department of State, his previous overseas posts have included Kuwait, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Brazil, and Syria.



Barbra Tauriello-Murdocca is the chief operating officer at Landmark Commercial Realty, a commercial brokerage firm in Harrisburg, PA.

'97 **Dr. Jeremy Sauer** is the medical director for Randolph-Macon's new Physician Assistant program.



Browell

'95 **Barbra Tauriello-Murdocca** is the chief operating officer at Landmark Commercial Realty, a commercial brokerage firm in Harrisburg, PA.

'98 **Dean Browell** and his wife, Caroline, welcomed their son, Everett Graham Browell, on September 17, 2021.



'02 The families of **Shalen Bradford Coleman** and **Liz Rinehardt Williams** enjoyed an R-MC basketball game in February 2022.

'05 **Wendy Emerick Rauhut** and her husband, Anthony, welcomed a daughter, Nora Evelyn Rauhut, on May 16, 2021. Nora joins big brother Aaron and big sister Sophie.



Rauhut

'07 **Dr. Darby Fleming Hawley** is an associate professor of psychology with an emphasis in behavioral neuroscience at Houston Baptist University (HBU) in Houston, TX. She is currently the program coordinator for HBU's Master of Arts in Psychology program. In 2021, she was voted Piper Professor of the Year.



Hawley

'09 **Molly Hyer** and her husband, Tim Bergeron, welcomed their daughter, Rebecca Denise Bergeron, on September 30, 2021.

Kellyn Fleming Moody and her husband, Ben, announced the birth of their daughter, Ruby Margaret "Ruby Mae" Moody, on June 16, 2021.



Moody

'10 **Logan Taylor Augustine** and her husband, Rob, welcomed Anne Brawner Ashton Augustine on May 5, 2021.



'11 **Dr. Brittany Jones Lopes** graduated in May 2021 from Virginia Tech with a doctoral degree in educational leadership and policy studies. She currently works for Chesterfield County Public Schools as the associate principal at Salem Church Middle School.



Dr. Brittany Jones Lopes '11

Emily Chilton Souder and her husband, Brad, welcomed Richard Charles "Charlie" Souder on May 5, 2020.



Souder

Robert C. Thomas was recently promoted to manager at Arc Aspicio, where he leads their Strategy Innovation Lab and helps resolve critical strategy and human capital challenges for clients. In 2021, he also joined the Randolph-Macon College faculty as an adjunct instructor for the Department of Philosophy.



Earle

'12 Caroline Zeminian Ara is currently living in Sao Paulo, Brazil. In 2017 she received a business degree and is working in the financial market industry at BlackRock, where she presents Brazilian investors with international opportunities.

Devon Maust Earle and her husband, Robert, welcomed their first child, Frederick "Fritz" Robert Maust Earle, on September 11, 2021. They are grateful for so many in the Randolph-Macon community who have shown him love and support as they welcomed him into the world.

Matt Nowlin is the acquisitions associate for McGraw-Page Library at Randolph-Macon College.

'13 Casey Barber received her Ph.D. in biochemistry on November 19, 2021 from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in the Department of Biological Chemistry. On January 3, she began her career as a research scientist at Vita Therapeutics in Baltimore, MD.

Cara DeCesare Gouro and Joel Gouro were married on September 5, 2020. Fellow Yellow Jacket alumna **Elizabeth Luminoso '13** served as maid of honor. After anxiously changing wedding plans twice due to the pandemic, the intimate celebration turned out to be more perfect than Cara and Joel could have imagined.

Erin Hauser Sheridan and her husband, R-MC's head men's lacrosse coach **J.B. Sheridan**, welcomed their daughter, Anderson "Andi" Quinn Sheridan, on November 1, 2021. They are so excited to add another Yellow Jacket to the family.



Sheridan

'14 Joelle Gross

Caldwell and her husband, Bo, welcomed a baby boy, Jackie Marvin Caldwell IV, on June 22, 2021.



Caldwell

Marli Dabareiner Grady was selected to the STANDOUT Charlotte Class of 2021 and recognized at a celebration on November 11, 2021. STANDOUT recognizes the city's most active and engaged young professionals and philanthropists while supporting the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's work to support those with cystic fibrosis (CF) and ultimately find a cure. As an

honoree, she will participate in opportunities to network with fellow class members, learn more about CF, help spread awareness about the disease, and raise critical funds for research, drug development, and CF care and support programs.

Olivia Bessellieu Patterson is the program administrative coordinator for Randolph-Macon College's new Physician Assistant program.

Lindsey Sharman married Lindsay Pritchard on November 27, 2021 in Lexington, VA at the Seclusion. Numerous R-MC alumni were in attendance. They currently reside in Lynchburg, VA.



Adam Stein and **Brittany McThenia Stein '15** celebrated their first wedding anniversary in August 2021 with a reception including many R-MC alumni in attendance.



Utz

Lauren Seal Utz and her husband, Adam, welcomed twin boys, Layton and Alexander, on May 6, 2021.

'15 Bennie

Ashton is a graduate fellow at the University of Oklahoma and is on track to receive his Ph.D. in political science in the summer of 2022. He is pictured here with his father, **Ben Ashton '78**, in



front of the Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center.

Kyran Belfield is an 8th grade physical science teacher at Rappahannock High School in Warsaw, VA.

Taylor Edwards Bender and her husband, **Eric Bender** '13, welcomed twins in May 2021.



Bender



Mock

Sara Miller Mock and her husband, **Phillip Mock** '16, welcomed Pryor James Mock on June 6, 2020. Pryor will become a big brother in March 2022.



Stein

Brittany McThenia Stein and **Adam Stein** '14 welcomed their baby boy, Noah, to the world on June 9, 2021.



Cozens

'16 Margaret Skinner Cozens married Paul Cozens, an Emory and Henry alumnus, on May 15, 2021.

Jessica Carole Rawls was cast in a Virginia Repertory Theatre National tour after graduation. She now lives in Los Angeles, CA and is pursuing her love of acting.



Kayla Smith '16

Kayla Smith is now the development coordinator for CARITAS.

Sarena Tien became a Ph.D. candidate at Cornell University in September 2021.



Brandon Delphi '17

'17

Brandon Delphi received his white coat during the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine White Coat Ceremony on September 18, 2021.

Margaret Dodson is the field operations supervisor with Feed More of Richmond.

Sydney Hinkle is assistant coach of the Franklin Debating Society at Randolph-Macon College.

Jordan Liesfeld Plummer and her husband, Dustin, welcomed Easton Cole Plummer on April 12, 2021.



Plummer

'18

Lauren Keiser worked on Glenn Youngkin's 2021 Virginia gubernatorial campaign.

Sheridan Skurupey McDonald and **Sean McDonald** '19 were married on September 7, 2020 (later than scheduled, due to COVID) at the Hanover Arts and Activity Center in Ashland, VA. They were able to take photos on campus where they met in 2015 and are grateful to the College for bringing them together!



McDonald

'19

Tre Frederick is an assistant football coach for Randolph-Macon College.

Hannah Mercer returned to Richmond, VA to accept an appointment to serve as the special assistant to the Secretary of Labor in Governor Ralph Northam's administration. Hannah has spent the past two years in Northern Virginia working as an economic analyst for the federal government.

'20

Katelyn Jordan, since graduating from R-MC, has worked for three state legislators, and in January 2022 she became the Director of Scheduling to the Lieutenant Governor of Virginia, Winsome Earle-Sears.



Link

Krysta Armentrout Link and **Mark Link** were married on October 9, 2021.

Kacey C. Pool is currently pursuing a master's degree in publishing media at Oxford Brookes University, Headington Campus, UK. She credits English Professor Robert Volpicelli for "lighting her fire" on this adventure.

Katie Wax was selected for the United Methodist First Career Seminary Award at Emory University's Candler School of Theology.

'21 Taylor Ailtmar is an admissions counselor for Randolph-Macon College.

Nana Dadzie is a research assistant for Randolph-Macon College's Biology Department.

Walt Elmore is an assistant football coach for Randolph-Macon College.

Elise C. Knobloch is a research assistant for Randolph-Macon College's Biology Department.

Lexie Murray is a digital marketing intern at Randolph-Macon College.

Bella Samper is the annual giving and athletic fundraising intern at Randolph-Macon College.

Elizabeth Simmons is the acting coordinator of student life at Randolph-Macon College.



Elizabeth Simmons '21

CORRECTIONS

2020-2021 Annual Report,
Honor Roll of Donors:

President's Society

**Mr. and Mrs. William N.
Wood Jr.**

Class of 1970

John P. Kirwan, Jr. 51

Retirees

D. Craig Anderson

Endowed Scholarships

**The Class of 1968
Scholarship**

CLASS NOTES SUBMISSION

Share news so your classmates learn about what has been going on in your life since you left R-MC. Do you have a new job, new professional success, or new degree? Have you married, had children, grandchildren? Have you retired? Have you recently reconnected with alumni friends? Do you have an interesting hobby or volunteer role in your community? Submit photos of life events, encounters with classmates, or anything that is noteworthy. We would love to hear from you! Submit your information to: www.rmc.edu/classnotes, email alumni@rmc.edu or call 866-694-4574.

GET CONNECTED

Your participation and opinions help the College create programs and sponsor events that are fun, interesting, and educational. We are excited to hear from you and hope you will take advantage of the easy ways we have to keep the connection!

VISIT OUR WEB SITE

www.rmc.edu

SEND E-MAIL

alumnioffice@rmc.edu

CALL US

(804) 752-7218; toll free **(866) 694-4574;**
fax (804) 752-4700

WRITE

**Alumni Office, Randolph-Macon College,
P.O. Box 5005, Ashland, VA 23005-5505**

FOR MORE WAYS TO CONNECT

visit <http://www.rmc.edu/eventrsvp>



PASSAGES

The Alumni Office is available to assist if you are looking for additional information about any of our alumni and friends listed below. **Notice of passages received between March 2021 and January 2022 are included in the spring 2022 alumni magazine.**

Eloise Goddin Piccolo '45, Ashland, VA, August 11, 2021

Robert "Bob" Ruden '46, Jamestown, VA, December 31, 2021

Melvin "Mel" Eugene Fuller '47, Salem, VA, November 7, 2021

Dr. Forrest "Pat" Pierce Clay, Jr. '48, Dinwiddie County, VA, April 15, 2021

George H. Hedgepeth '48, Franklin, VA, July 1, 2021

Walter Cary Palmer III '48, Newport News, VA, December 14, 2021

Thomas "Tom" H. Birdsong '49, Irvington, VA, August 20, 2021

Hunter Wood Beadles, Jr. '50, Henrico, VA, May 8, 2021

Edward R. Jones '50, McLean, VA, October 25, 2018

James "Jim" Augustine Motley '50, Ringgold, VA, December 19, 2021

Dr. John "Jack" B. Burch '52, Littleton, CO, June 3, 2021

Barron Chauncey Clark '52, Cumming, GA, July 21, 2021

Lewis Holmes Davis, Sr. '52, Courtland, VA, June 11, 2020

Dr. Robert "Bob" V. Diggs '52, Newport News, VA, August 22, 2021

Richard "Dick" W. Hudgins '52, Newport News, VA, July 7, 2021

William "PK" Henry Perrin '52, Ashland, VA, June 7, 2021

John Lucas Tuttle '52, Midlothian, VA, December 25, 2021

Thomas "Tom" R. Litterer '55, Alpharetta, GA, August 21, 2021

Leonard "Lanny" A. Ross, Jr. '55, Richmond, VA, October 27, 2021

John Shepard Parker '56, Ocean Pines, MD, August 20, 2021

Allen "Mike" Eugene Callis '57, Gloucester Point, VA, May 27, 2021

Richard "Dick" D. Faix '57, Fork Union, VA, October 16, 2021

Rev. Thomas "Tom" Earl Jennings '57, Locust Grove, VA, May 17, 2021

Kenneth A. Seals '57, Lynchburg, VA, June 21, 2021

Charles C. Shank '57, McLean, VA, May 25, 2021

Roger D. "Don" Young '57, Charlottesville, VA, November 5, 2021

Frank S. Robertson '58, Smithfield, VA, March 22, 2021

Terrance "Terry" Smith '58, Newport, DE, December 29, 2016

Charles "Chuck" E. Willis III '58, Chester, VA, June 12, 2021

Merrill H. Barton, Jr. '59, Ashland, VA, November 10, 2021

Emmett Smith "Smitty" Grogan '59, Reidsville, NC, December 7, 2021

John "Jack" C. Harry III '59, Suffolk, VA, November 24, 2021. John was the Father of **Virginia Harry Basnett '95**, brother of **The Hon. G. Blair Harry '65***, brother of **C. Thomas "Tom" Harry '73**, nephew of **William Thomas Harry, Jr. ***, and grandson of **Rev. William Thomas Harry 1841***.

Dr. M. Tom Inge '59, former professor, Ashland, VA, May 17, 2021

Dr. Robert "Bob" H. Lynde '59, Jacksonville, FL, August 17, 2021

Reed Stone Moore '59, Martinsville, VA, October 19, 2021

Robert "Bob" Griffith Turner, Jr. '59, Blacksburg, VA, June 29, 2021

Jefferson "Jeff" E. Howie III '60, Norfolk, VA, November 28, 2021

Jack W. Lester, Jr. '60, College Station, TX, June 26, 2021

Michael "Mike" Campbell Woods '60, Ashland, VA, January 12, 2022

Lt. Col. John "Jack" Westfall Morrison Jr. '61, Elizabethtown, KY, August 20, 2021

Phillip "Phil" R. Jones '62, Rome, GA, December 10, 2021

Gerald "Jerry" Wayne Kozak '62, Melissa, TX, October 2, 2021

Emily Troxell Pepper '62, Ashland, VA, November 19, 2021

Andrew "Andy" N. Shankland, Jr. '62, Newport News, VA, May 12, 2021

Clifford "Cliff" Warren Burdette '63, Hollywood, MD, April 27, 2021

Bruce John Campbell '63, Fredericksburg, VA, December 13, 2021

Gerald W. Kozak '63, Plano, TX, October 2, 2021

Morton "Mort" W. Belcher '64, Alexandria, VA, June 16, 2021

Henry Hinton Harrison, III '64, Prince George, VA, October 14, 2021

Daniel "Dan" A. Hillsman, Jr. '64, Richmond, VA, May 14, 2021

Ervin W. Houston '64, Cincinnati, OH, August 17, 2021

Peter C. Hamner '68, Madison Heights, VA, December 9, 2021

B. Roberts "Rob" Howarth '67, Plano, TX, February 21, 2021

Rev. Tracy H. Wilder III '67, Watkins Glen, NY, January 6, 2022

John Wilson Davis, Jr. '69, Richmond, VA, October 27, 2021

Alfred "Al" W. Meletti '69, Westfield, IN, March 7, 2021

James "Jim" F. Shumway, Sr. '69, North Haven, CT, July 11, 2021

Douglass "Doug" Bagwell Smith '69, Sandy Hook, VA, October 8, 2021

Thomas Lee Brown '71, Richmond, VA, December 4, 2021

Thomas "Tom" Clay Dandridge '72, Manakin-Sabot, VA, November 28, 2021

Harry H. Herndon, III '71, Poway, CA, March 30, 2021

Alvin R. Gritz '72, Ashland, VA, March 26, 2021

Kevin Joseph Ruane '72, Silver Spring, MD, August 12, 2019

Steven "Steve" P. Dawson '75, Hendersonville, TN, August 20, 2021, husband of **Sandy Petty Dawson '77**

Walter Franklin Green IV '75, Rockingham, VA, January 24, 2022

Dr. Andrew Lewis Rogers '75, Brevard, NC, January 7, 2022

Douglas "Doug" W. Dancer '76, Chicago, IL, May 1, 2021

Dennis J. Hoover '76, Sykesville, MD, October 22, 2021

Laura A. Trimble '77, Richmond, VA, July 24, 2021

Joseph "Joe" Paul Ahearn '80, McLean, VA, January 30, 2021

Michael "Mike" Kevin Klapp '81, Johns Island, SC, October 1, 2021

Martha Cornell Skurla '82, Potomac, MD, April 15, 2021

Thomas "Tom" Henry Birdsong III '49, Trustee Emeritus of R-MC, died August 2021 at the age of 94. He graduated from Randolph-Macon in 1949 with a B.A. in History. After serving two years in the United States Navy, he began a 72-year career with Birdsong Peanuts and Birdsong Corporation, ultimately serving as its Chairman of the Board. In 2000, he was inducted into the Peanut Hall of Fame by the American Peanut Council for his "Outstanding Contributions" to the peanut industry.

Birdsong served two terms on the R-MC Board of Trustees and also served as president of the Boydton Society and as a member of the Board of Directors of the Society of Alumni. Tom Birdsong, the Birdsong Family, and the Birdsong Corporation were integral to Randolph-Macon's success and improvements to campus through their stalwart generosity.

In recognition of his tireless service to the College, R-MC presented Birdsong with an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree in 2003 and The Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award in 2009. ♦



Darryl Wayne Clarke '83, Powhatan, VA, December 11, 2021

Ralph Louis "Abe" Lincoln, III '83, Richmond, VA, November 12, 2021

William D. Toler '83, Statesville, NC, March 7, 2021

Edward "Ed" S. Victor '85, Bend, OR, September 14, 2021

Joseph Bradford "Brad" Hucks '86, Port Charlotte, FL, May 24, 2021

Daniel "Danny" R. Farver '87, Westminster, MD, June 21, 2021

William A. "Kirk" Kirkland, III '91, Raleigh, NC, November 12, 2021

David D. Sewak '91, Cascade, MT, March 17, 2021

Brian Chambers '92, Deland, FL, March 3, 2021

Jason L. Coats '98, Glen Allen, VA, April 17, 2021

Carla Owen Darby '03, Mechanicsville, VA, April 16, 2021

Austin T. Romine '20, Edmond, OK, March 19, 2021

Joseph "Luke" L. Messick '21, Hampton, VA, May 17, 2021

FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Trixie Acey, friend of the College, Lexington, VA, passed April 10, 2020

Robert Bachelor, husband of **Westy Matthews Bachelor '75**, passed November 2, 2021

Rose Berler, mother of **Anne Berler '79**, passed May 19, 2021

Harold Clinton "Clint" Glasco, former R-MC Campus Safety Officer, Ashland, VA, passed November 4, 2021

Floyd D. Gottwald, Jr., friend of the College, Richmond, VA, January 27, 2022

Melvin Roy Hall, Jr. received an honorary doctorate in education from Randolph-Macon College in 1992. Ashland, VA, passed November 16, 2021

Dr. Andrea "Andi" Hamos, former associate dean of the College, Washington, DC, January 21, 2022

Donald "Don" E. Hanky, friend of the College, Ashland, VA, passed March 8, 2021

The Hon. Frank D. Hargrove, Sr., friend of the College, Beaverdam, VA, passed October 16, 2021

Julianne Kennett Heggy, wife of Alf Heggy* '59, Flat Rock, NC, August 26, 2019

Rev. L. Douglas Hill, friend of the College, Richmond, VA, passed September 26, 2021

Suzanne Derieux Huff, friend of the College, Mechanicsville, VA, January 10, 2022

Jim Hughes, husband of former professor, Carol Hughes, passed September 12, 2021

Nellie Elizabeth Kidd Hynst, wife of **Jerry Hynst '51**, Chester, VA, September 5, 2021

Joyce Latney, former R-MC library assistant, Ashland, VA, passed August 4, 2021

Ted Denney Lowder, husband of Diane Lowder, Hopewell, VA, passed June 18, 2021

Mary Russell Mason, mother of **John MacClellan "Mac" Mason '66**, passed November 26, 2021

Marilyn Joan Mattys, former R-MC professor and wife of Dr. Joe Mattys, passed April 12, 2021

Linda Brightwell Miles, wife of **Riley Stephen "Steve" Miles, Jr. '63**, Saint Cloud, FL, April 7, 2021

David Roger "Doc" Munsick, former R-MC professor, passed September 22, 2021

Shay Nuckles, wife of **Craig Nuckles '75**, passed March 19, 2021

Lee McGrath Phipps, mother of **John Parr McGrath* '79** and **Margaret McGrath Crossen '80**, and mother-in-law to **Dr. D. Keith Crossen '76**, passed June 27, 2021

J. Malcolm "Mac" Pace, Jr., former assistant coach to the men's basketball team and R-MC Athletics Hall of Fame inductee, brother to Bill Pace* '50, father to **Jay Pace* '67**, and grandfather to **Allison Pace '16**, passed September 16, 2021

Aaron Ragland, father of **Ian Ragland '17**, passed August 29, 2021

Roberta Lynn McKinney Roman, former professor at Randolph-Macon College, Phoenix, AZ, passed November 27, 2021

Landon "Lan" Moffett Spilman, former Board of Trustees member and president of the Parent's Advisory Council, father of **John Spilman '88**, passed June 8, 2021

Madeline W. Tankard, wife of **George E. Tankard, Jr.* '40**, passed May 11, 2021

Thomas A. Varner, friend of the College and husband to Lin Varner, passed August 12, 2021

Charlotte Webb, wife of Paul E. Webb, Jr., mother of **Eddie Webb '75** and **Doug Webb '76**, passed December 8, 2021

Sydney Fanshaw Weis, wife of **Richard Ernest Weis* '66** and mother of **Richard Randolph Weis '88**, passed October 15, 2020

Eileen N. Wilkins, wife of **Harold Wilkins* '44**, passed June 18, 2021

Jean K. Williams, wife of **Rev. Glenn William* '49**, passed April 3, 2021

Paul H. Yackey, a former employee, Naples, FL, passed June 7, 2021 ♦

* indicates deceased

Mark Your Calendar



MACON CONNECTIONS

MARCH
25



BOYDTON REUNION
& COMMENCEMENT

MAY
20
WEEKEND



OCTOBER
14
WEEKEND

HOMECOMING & REUNIONS.



NOVEMBER
10

MACON DAY



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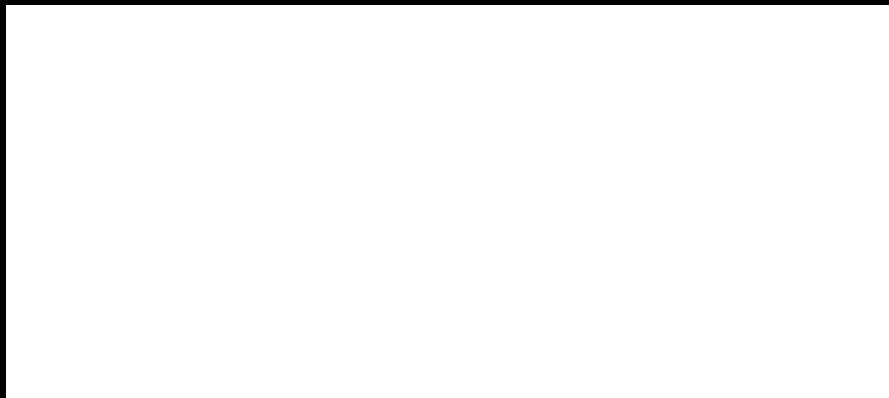


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New Date: Homecoming Weekend!

REUNION WEEKEND



OCTOBER 14–15, 2022

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rmc.edu/reunions