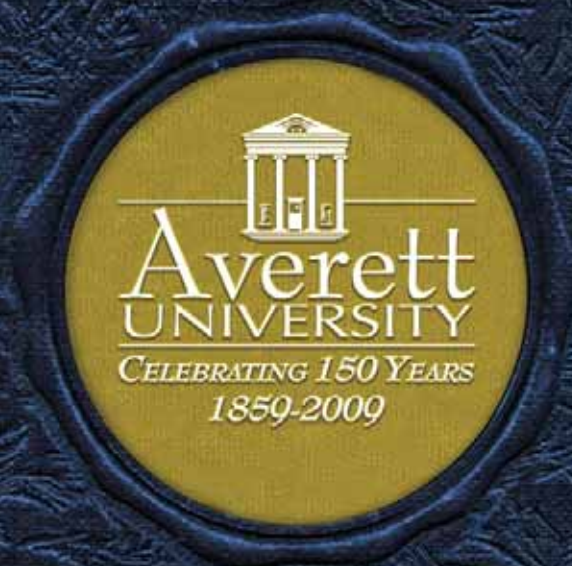


Averett *today*

A magazine for alumni, parents and friends of Averett University

Summer 2009



A Look Back at 150 Years of History

Celebrating in Grand Style

Tributes to Norma Roady and Mary Jo Davis

Special Commemorative Issue

President's Message

Dear Alumni and Friends,

This year marks the 150th anniversary of Averett's founding, and we are celebrating this milestone in two ways—by honoring yesterday and by building tomorrow.

Averett has been and always will be a place where people come first, so it is only appropriate that we honor yesterday by bringing together people who care about Averett. Many of you have joined us for the alumni and student celebrations we've held across the Commonwealth. Others have joined us for a full slate of Main Campus events that included a concert, a worship service, a lecture series and a grand party. If you haven't had the opportunity to celebrate with us, we have more events planned for the fall—including Homecoming, September 25-27.

We are also honoring yesterday by celebrating the legacy of someone who is synonymous with Averett—Mary Jo Davis. Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Dugan Maddux, the spouse of the immediate past chair of our Board of Trustees, we have created an oral history project: "Yesterdays With Mary Jo Davis." You can find it online: www.averett.edu/AU150. We hope you will enjoy it.

But the best way to honor our past and those who have gone before us, is to proudly and boldly build our tomorrow. I have spent time this first year listening to many of your aspirations and hopes for Averett. Since January, we've collected more than 4,000 comments and suggestions, and we are not through yet. I look forward to spending more time in the upcoming academic year meeting alumni and hearing your vision for your alma mater.

What is happening on campus is exciting. We are improving our buildings, grounds and technology. We are refurbishing residence halls and classrooms. We've added new signage and will take steps toward centralizing student service functions. By summer's end our entire campus will be wireless.

Averett is also embracing its role as a force for regional transformation. We are making Averett's brand of quality education more accessible by expanding our reach with new programs in South Boston and Rocky Mount. We will ensure a competitive advantage through the creation of new academic programs. Averett has a long history of being market-smart—of building bold and innovative programs on a solid foundation in the liberal arts. We continue that tradition as we research new programs in healthcare, teacher education, expanded graduate programs, music and communication studies.

In my discussions with alumni, the most frequently mentioned attribute of Averett is "a care and concern for students." Now more than ever the world needs schools like Averett. You don't have to look far to be reminded of the great need that exists in our society for people to care for one another. We must and we will, continue the care and dedication that has epitomized Averett for 150 years.

But I pledge to you that we will not grow old and inflexible. Now is the time to ignore the "why we cannot" and embrace the "let's do it." We have the opportunity. We have the determination and drive. I hope you will join with us and be a part of this great and wonderful adventure.

Thank you for your continued support of Averett. I look forward to seeing you soon.



President Franks addresses the crowd during Averett's April 17 grand birthday celebration. See pages 28-32 for more event photos.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tiffany Franks".

Tiffany Franks
President

Averett^{today}

2009 Commemorative Issue

This special issue commemorates Averett's 150th birthday. While it would be impossible to represent all of the important events and milestones from Averett's history, we have selected information and photographs that we hope will provide smiles, fond memories, and introduce you to Averett stories that, perhaps, you've never heard before. We hope you enjoy the journey.

Inside Special Commemorative Issue

Student Life and Traditions

Whether you participated in the Daisy Chain, went sledding down the hill on a "borrowed" cafeteria tray or danced at the Spring Formal, you'll enjoy this trip down memory lane.

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Learning

Ahead of its time, strong liberal arts foundation, progressive programs for working adults—all describe the history of Averett's strong and innovative academic programming.

18

The Arts

Times sure have changed, but the Averett community still celebrates with art, music, theatre and more.

22

Athletics

Did you know that even in the 1880s Averett students were participating in calisthenics? Today, Averett has a long and proud history of success and sportsmanship on the field of play.

25

Happy Birthday to Us

Enjoy moments from Averett's spring 150th Celebration events. If you missed out, don't worry. There's more to come in the fall!

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Cover: In keeping with our historical theme, the cover of this issue is modeled after the cover design of the 1938 issue of The Pendulum, Averett's former yearbook.



CAMPUS LIGHTS



Averett *today*

A magazine for alumni, parents and friends of Averett University

Summer 2009

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Welcome to Averett *today*

Pablo Picasso once said, *"It takes a long time to grow young."* This year Averett turns a youthful 150 years old. Far from stodgy, far from resting on our laurels, a long way from closing our eyes in sleep—Averett is alive, vital and adventurous. We celebrate our past, not out of a longing for those "good old days," but to honor the foundation on which we build our future. We are ready to go. This special issue of *Averett today* is dedicated to our 150th anniversary. I hope you enjoy it, and I hope you make plans to come celebrate with us this fall.

Susan L. Huckstep, '89

Where's the Crook ?

Find the "Crook" Hidden in This Issue

The "hiding of the crook" was an Averett tradition that lasted more than 40 years. The president of Averett's senior class, holding the five-foot tall shepherd's staff above her head, would parade into a chapel service giving juniors what was supposed to be their only glimpse of the crook. Within 24 hours the seniors would hide the crook from the juniors, and the hunt would begin. (Read more about the tradition on pages 9 and 15).

A replica of the crook is hidden in this issue. It could be anywhere. But following the golden rules of crook-hunting, at least two inches are visible. The first five readers to e-mail news@averett.edu with the correct location of the crook win two commemorative glasses.

(NOTE: The crook on pages 2, 9, 15 and 28 do not count. Sorry. We couldn't make it that easy!)

A Note of Thanks

Special thanks to Dr. Jack I. "Jay" Hayes, '87, W.C. (Dan) Daniel professor of history and political science, whose book *A History of Averett College* proved invaluable in preparing material for this issue. Thanks also to faculty emerita Clara Fountain, '62, former humanities librarian and Averett archivist, for her work to preserve Averett's history.

Class of 1959 Alumnae Inducted into Order of the Daisy

It was a weekend filled with fond memories, time honored traditions and lots of laughter. Twenty-two alumnae came together May 1-2 for Spring Reunion 2009.

Highlights of the weekend included a reception and dinner at the Comfort Inn and Suites, a campus tour, a reception in the home of President Franks and the Class of 1959 reunion dinner at Danville's historic Lawson-Overbey Inn.

In honor of their 50th reunion, members of the Class of 1959 were honored during Averett's Commencement exercise and were inducted into the Order of the Daisy.

Members of the Class of 1959 who were inducted into the Order of the Daisy include:

Jane Dayhuff Collins
Paula Schlichting Cox
Mary Lou Atkins Davis
Doris Dovel Duncan
Nancy Reed Hudgins
Bobbe Gray Hogan Jebson
Patricia Bush Kauffman
Mary Gardner Owens
Sarah Lynch Wilson



Class of 1959 Order of the Daisy Members with President Tiffany Franks



Averett Expands the Reach of Educational Programs

Earning a degree from Averett is now more convenient for South Boston and Franklin County area residents. The University is now offering degree programs at South Boston's Southern Virginia Higher Education Center and The Franklin Center for Advanced Learning and Enterprise in Rocky Mount.

"Averett is pleased to partner with the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center and The Franklin Center," said Dr. Steve Ausband, Averett's vice president for academic affairs. "We have a long history of designing academic programs that fit the needs of working adults and others who are limited in their ability to travel to our Danville Campus. We hope area residents who have always wanted to complete a degree will now have access to the courses they need."

For more information about these degree offerings, contact Susan Rowland, director of Averett's IDEAL Program, 1-800-AVERETT, ext. 15831.



1858

Nathan Penick (left) moves to Danville from Halifax County and opens the Baptist Female Seminary, using William Berryman's home for classes. Penick is married to Jane Averett who teaches music, French and English. She is the first member of the Averett family to be affiliated with the school.

Men's Basketball Team Captures Third Consecutive Conference Title

The men's basketball team had an outstanding season capturing both the USA South Conference regular season and tournament titles and advancing to the second round of the NCAA Division III Tournament. This was Averett's third consecutive trip to the big dance and its first, first-round win in nearly 20 years.

Two players who contributed so much to the team achieved personal milestones by scoring more than 1,000 points. On Saturday, Jan. 24 May graduate Damien Brown scored his 1,000th point during a game at Christopher Newport University. On Saturday, Feb. 7, during a game against Greensboro College, May graduate Jonathan Rumley became the second men's basketball player to reach 1,000 career points this year. Brown and Rumley are the seventh and eighth players to reach this milestone in Averett history.

Marcus Tucker, who finished his playing career in 2001, was the last Cougar to go over 1,000 points. He finished with 1,053. Demarcus Morrison is Averett's all-time leading scorer with 1,937 career points.

Along with the team and individual accomplishments, Head Coach Jimmy Allen was recognized by the USA South Conference for the third time by being named Coach of the Year.



Hear from the team's seniors and follow their success by viewing an online, mini-documentary at www.averettcougars.com.

1859

The school's name is changed to Union Female College, derived from the three local Baptist associations that backed it financially. The school is incorporated by Virginia's General Assembly, and the first charter is written. John Taylor Averett joins the college's first Board of Trustees.



1860

A new brick building housing Union Female College is built atop "Baptist Hill" at Ridge and Patton streets in Danville, next door to Berryman's home (Cost: \$25,000).

Trip to the Holy Land Gives Students New Perspective



Dr. William Trimyer (left) led students on a trip to Israel for 10 days. Trimyer is pictured here (from left to right) with Allison Simmons, Jessica Stokes, Kristen Koger, Russell Deaton and Meredith Schwane at Masada, Israel.



(From left to right) Students Jessica Stokes, Russell Deaton, Meredith Schwane and Kristen Koger stand in front of a sphinx and pyramids in Giza, Egypt.

Averett students spent 10 days learning about and exploring the Holy Land. The students visited Galilee, Nazareth, the ruins of Jericho, Bethlehem, Jerusalem and other historic sites.

"Trips like this expose students to a different culture and way of life they would not have the opportunity to experience otherwise," said Dr. Bill Trimyer, associate professor of religion at Averett. Trimyer led the trip. "They have the opportunity to see places they have only been able to read about in a textbook. On this journey the students also gained a different perspective on the conflict between the Palestinians and the Jews. They saw a wall that is a symbol of the conflict and a wedge in the struggle for peace."

Students who went on the trip included Allison Simmons, master of education student; Meredith Schwane, '09; Russell Deaton, '10; Jessica Stokes, '10 and Kristin Koger, '09.

A "Letters of Paul Cruise" is tentatively planned for 2010. Destinations for this study abroad trip will include Athens, Corinth, Istanbul, Ephesus and the island of Patmos.

Alumna Leaves Legacy of Generosity, Estate Gift Funds Scholarship

The generosity of the late Mary Lewis Bayes Weddle, '34, will soon benefit the next generation of Averett students. Weddle donated more than half a million dollars through her estate to establish The Warren and Mary Lewis Weddle Scholarship. The endowed scholarship, which is renewable for up to four years, will be awarded to an Averett student who remains in good academic and social standing.

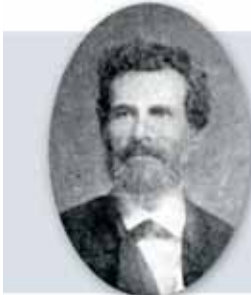
"There are few greater legacies to leave one's alma mater than the endowment of a student scholarship," said Page Stooks, vice president of institutional advancement. "We are touched by Mrs. Weddle's generosity. Her love of Averett will live on in the lives of our students."

A native of Bedford, Weddle was known for her love of animals and for her skills in gardening, cooking and playing bridge. While a student at Averett, she was a member of the Mnemosynean Literary Society, the *Pendulum* yearbook staff and the Cotillion Club. She died in 2006 in Virginia Beach having been preceded in death by her husband Charles Warren Weddle.

To learn how you can help the next generation of Averett students by endowing a scholarship, please contact Page Stooks, 1-800-AVERETT, ext. 15654, pstooks@averett.edu.



Mary Lewis Weddle, pictured here with her husband Warren, donated more than half a million dollars to fund a student scholarship.



1861

Nathan Penick's brother-in-law, William Allen Tyree (left), replaces Penick and serves as principal until 1863.

1864

Having the word "union" in the college name during the war years proves an embarrassment. The college's name is changed to Roanoke Female College (or, R.F.C.) after the largest of the three Baptist associations.



1867

Thomas Hume, Jr., joins R.F.C. as co-principal from 1867 to 1872. The school enrolls 91 students.

Family Ties



This Danville family believes in the power of an Averett education. Amber Ingram Denny's, '71, (3rd from left) daughters Renee Denny Veasey, '99, (2nd from left) and DeAnne Denny Liberty, '95, (4th from left) are Averett graduates as is son-in-law Dan Veasey, '97.

If multiple members of your family attended or currently attend Averett, please send us a photo for publication as our next Family Ties feature.

E-mail (photos shot at high-resolution please): news@averett.edu

Or mail:
Averett University
Office of Public Relations
420 West Main St.
Danville, VA 24541

Giving Back: MBA Class Research Project Benefits Nonprofit

When Assistant Professor Dr. Alice Obenchain-Leeson learned of the research effort available to her business research methods class she replaced a major team assignment with a data analysis project for the nonprofit organization Food for Thought (FFT). FFT works to reduce hunger and academic risk for significantly disadvantaged children in five Dare County, N.C., elementary schools.

"This was a huge project, had real world consequences and our students were involved," Obenchain-Lesson said. "It was wonderful that this opportunity came along, and that an assignment could be built around it. Students had the chance to apply what they learned to a real world, high stakes issue, plus Food for Thought got some of the answers they needed."

During the project, the MBA students determined if those students participating in FFT perform as well or better than students not participating in the program based on a variety of variables including EOG test scores, anxiety level, school participation and absenteeism.

"Fortunately in my current position I get the opportunity to use things that I learned in class almost immediately," said Robert Taylor, CEO at Gamewood, Inc. in Danville. "Recently I was approached by a local advertising company about using them as a means to gain more name recognition in Danville and the surrounding market. They came armed with marketing surveys and demographic information of their audience. Having completed approximately 75 percent of the class at the time I was able to ask questions that required them to get me some additional information. I was then able to make a better informed decision on how to spend the company advertising budget."

James "JJ" Vogltanz was thankful for the opportunity to participate in a "real life" research project.

"It is a very unique and special opportunity for this MBA cluster to take part in a 'real life research project,'" Vogltanz said. "Understanding the importance of collecting the right data, analyzing and measuring it correctly, how that in turn informs decision making, and how to statistically approach business problems — these are all things I take away from the project and the class as a whole." Vogltanz is an assistant vice president in the collection department and serves as a commercial collection manager at CIT Group, Inc.

At the conclusion of their research, the class had several recommendations for the organization including, suggestions on the food that appeared to be most liked, how to improve their questions on the parent and school administration surveys and better ways to transport (reusable cloth bags with handles) and/or distribute the food.



1870

R.F.C. hires a third co-principal, Arnaud Eduard Preot.



1872

John Taylor Averett (left) becomes principal of Danville's first public school system. Hume resigns and John Lipscomb Johnson and Samuel Wootton Averett join the faculty as co-principals with Arnaud Preot.



Alumnus Reminds Graduates to Stick Their Necks Out and Move Forward

More than 300 students received diplomas during Averett's Spring Commencement held May 2 at the Grant Center. Alumnus and CEO John Vigouroux, '82, delivered the Commencement address.

Vigouroux, who serves as CEO of Marshal8e6, a global provider of Secure Web Gateway and e-mail security products to more than 20,000 businesses worldwide, reminded graduates of the importance of taking risks. He suggested that like a turtle you have to stick your neck out to move forward.

"There will be times when you want to retreat into your shell. Resist that temptation," encouraged Vigouroux. "Take a risk, and stick your neck out. There will be challenges, so go out and meet them."

Vigouroux recounted his move to France as a nine-year-old boy. Isolated by the language barrier and his own shyness, Vigouroux described finally getting up enough courage to walk out on the dirt lot and play soccer with the local children. By the time he left France he was one of the better soccer players in town and spoke fluent French without a hint of an American accent.

"I was probably the only guy on the planet named 'John' who couldn't speak English—hence my nickname, 'Frenchy.' I stuck my neck out and even though that fateful walk to the dirt lot was one of the scariest moments of my life, it is what got me here to Averett. Four of the best years of my life were spent at Averett."

While at Averett, Vigouroux was a member of what was arguably one of the best soccer teams in Averett's history. The 1980 team went 19-2-1—winning the state championship before eventually losing in the second round of the NCAA tournament. Today, he is a well-respected business leader, a father of twin daughters and a member of Averett's Board of Trustees.



"There will be times when you want to retreat into your shell. Resist that temptation."

1873

R.F.C. co-principal Preot is killed prior to commencement when a keg of beer explodes in his face. After Preot's death, John Averett and his younger brother, Samuel, become co-principals. Three areas of study are offered: preparatory, collegiate and ornamental.



1884

John Averett requires school uniforms to avoid rivalry in dress.



1885

Frederick Delius serves on the music faculty from 1885-1886. Delius returns to England to become one of that nation's foremost composers.

Sandstead Brings “Art Attack” to the Classroom

This fall, Averett students will have the opportunity to study with art historian and television personality Lee Sandstead. Sandstead is the host of the popular Travel Channel show “Art Attack with Lee Sandstead.” He will teach art history and computer art on the Danville campus.

“This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to study with one of the most exciting figures in the art world,” said Dr. Steve Ausband, Averett vice president for academic affairs. “As Lee shares his knowledge of art, his passion for the subject is contagious. He is a great addition to our already strong art department.”

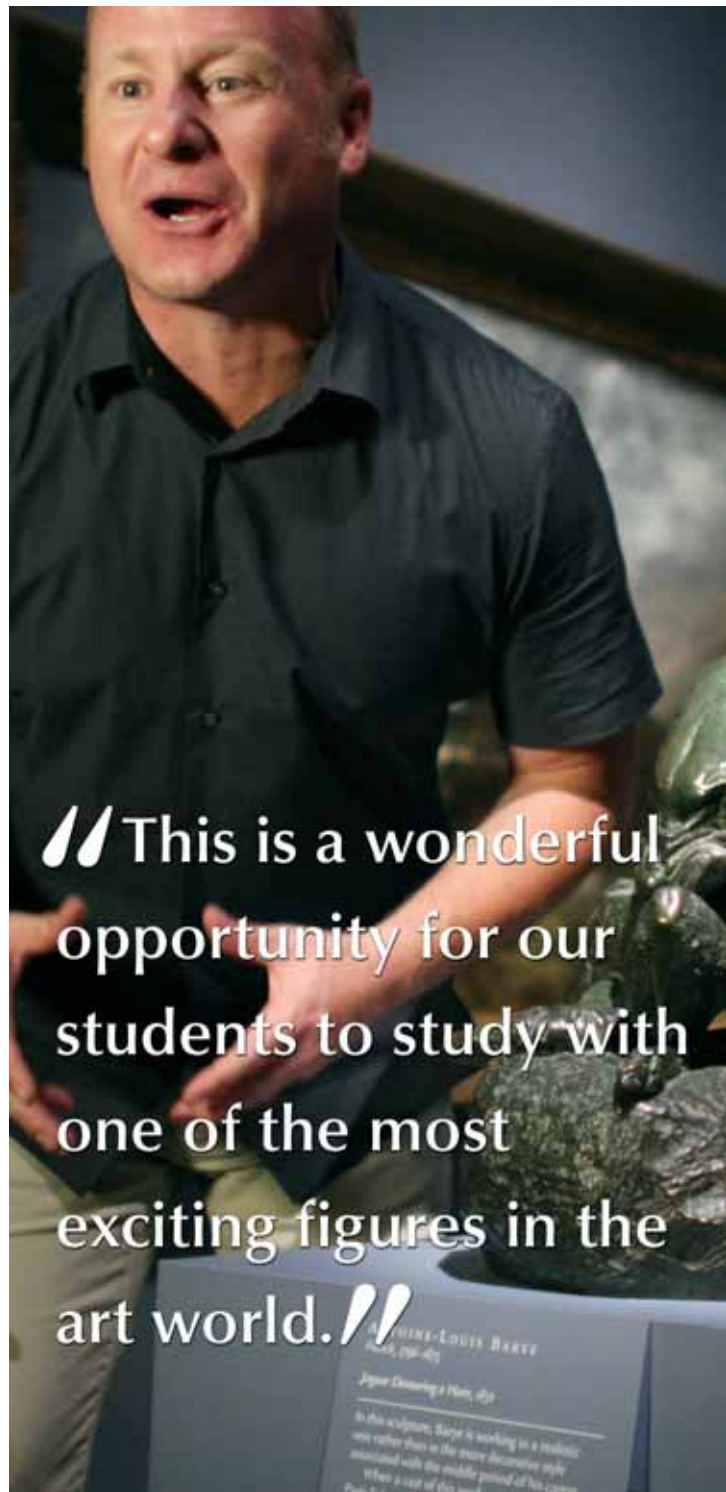
Sandstead has been described as the world’s most fired-up art historian. Since 2007, he has traveled to the nation’s museums introducing must-see artwork to Travel Channel viewers. His “Art Attack” show recently garnered an Emmy nomination for technical editing.

Sandstead enjoys sharing his knowledge and love of art with others and has been a featured speaker at more than 50 institutions including Harvard, Yale and The Metropolitan Museum of Art.

“This is a great opportunity,” said Sandstead. “I wasn’t raised with art and didn’t discover it until my early ‘20s. Now, it is one of the greatest joys of my life to introduce students to art.”

Sandstead is also one of America’s most-celebrated photographers of art. His photography has been published in countless books and publications, including: *The New York Times*, *Fortune* and *Preservation Magazine*. His collection of photography of more than 1,300 American mausoleums is being donated to Columbia University’s architecture library. As this collection illustrates, he has literally traveled where no other art historian has traveled before.

Sandstead received his B.A. in philosophy and B.S. in mass communication from Middle Tennessee State. He has studied art history at the University of Memphis and most recently, in the art-history program at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. Sandstead taught art history at Montclair State University from 2001 to 2007.



1887

Samuel Wootton Averett (left) leaves to become president of Judson College in Alabama. John Taylor Averett is the first person to be named president of the college.



1892

The Lyrian Literary Society begins the school's first library collection. John Taylor Averett retires. Charles Fenton James becomes president.

Book of Gratitude Honors Averett's Supporters

In honor of its 150th birthday the University created a Book of Gratitude as a way to say "thank you" to individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to Averett.

The book is on display in the President's Office and is used during special occasions. Members of the spring 2009 graduating class touched the book after being awarded their diplomas—a symbolic gesture of thanks for the support they have received.

"The Book of Gratitude stands as a reminder that we do not pass through this life alone and serves as a symbol to future generations reminding them of the importance of giving back," said Dr. Tiffany Franks, Averett president. "As this 150th celebration illustrates, we all stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us."



May 2009 graduates placed their hand on the Book of Gratitude—a symbolic gesture of appreciation to those who have supported Averett.



Sophie Seal Evans' 1952 flight was featured in Danville's local paper.



Sophie visited Averett last fall and enjoyed taking a seat in a Piper Cub similar to the one from her original flight. She also had the opportunity to visit with members of our student flight team.

Aeronautics: Sophie's Choice to Fly

In 1952 Sophie Seal Evans, '52, became the first Averett student to earn her pilot's license as part of her college curriculum. Sophie so hated gym class that she talked a reluctant president, Dr. Curtis Bishop, into letting her earn the one required physical education credit by taking flying lessons. Sophie walked from campus to the Danville Hotel to catch a ride to the airport. She trained in a Piper Cub and flew, with no radio, from Danville to Salisbury, N.C., and back. They had to put a 50 lb. sandbag in the back seat to balance the airplane.

Averett salutes alumna Sophie Seal Evans for her pioneering spirit and for having the best excuse for getting out of gym class that we've ever heard.

1893

Students establish the Philomathean Literary Society. Its members are known as Philos.



1898

Charles Fenton James adds a wing to the Patton Street building that includes the school's first indoor plumbing.

1900

A tradition of "Hiding the Crook" begins around 1900. The practice was abandoned in the early 1940s.

HOMECOMING @averett university Sept. 25-27, 2009



1903

Robert Edwin Hatton assumes the presidency after the death of Charles Fenton James on December 3, 1902. James is so loved by students that a marble plaque is commissioned in his honor. Today it can be seen in the lobby in Main Hall.

Hatton adds teacher training, economics and business to the curriculum and increases the library's holdings to 2,500 volumes. He also adds a tennis court, a basketball court, baseball grounds, and forms the first glee club.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

11 am - 1 pm – Alumni Career Expo and Workshops
Student Center Multipurpose Room

If I'd only known then, what I know now! Pass along your hard-learned words of wisdom to current Averett students.

1 - 2 pm – Lunch and Learn

Student Center Dining Hall

Enjoy lunch and hear presentations from your fellow alumni on what has "made the difference." It's a great networking opportunity.

2 pm – Volleyball

North Campus

Averett vs. Christopher Newport University

2 - 4 pm – Aviation Reception

Airport Flight Center

Come and gather with other aviation alumni.

4 pm – Women's Soccer

North Campus

Averett vs. North Carolina Wesleyan College

NEW EVENT FOR 2009

6:30 pm – Averett's Hometown Homecoming Party
sponsored by the Averett Alumni Association

Danville Community Market

We May Be 150, but We're Not Too Old to Party!

Join us at the Danville Community Market for an evening of fun. The evening features music by Backstreet with food provided by Texas Steakhouse. Bring the kids, and they will enjoy their own "Night at the Museum" party at the nearby Danville Science Center.

8 pm – Volleyball

North Campus

Averett vs. North Carolina Wesleyan College

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

9:30 am – Equestrian Trail Ride

Equestrian Center (experienced riders only please)

NEW EVENT FOR 2009

11 am - 1 pm – Tailgate Alley

North Campus

Club receptions and tailgate parties

This will be the place to be!

Register for a free tailgate space - they will be reserved first come, first served.

12 pm – Visit with the Faculty

Under the Big Tent Before the Big Game

North Campus

1 pm – Football

North Campus

Averett vs. Washington and Lee University

4 pm – Tours of Campus

Alumni Hall

What's changed? What's stayed the same? Meet at Alumni Hall for a tour, and see what Averett is like today.

5 pm – Alumni Reception

Alumni Hall

Join Averett President Dr. Tiffany Franks for a reception at Alumni Hall. It's a great time to pull out the yearbooks and reminisce with classmates.

8 pm – 90s Reunion (Class of 1999 10th Reunion)

Ham's Restaurant

2373 Riverside Dr.

Appetizers provided, cash bar. Enjoy this opportunity to get together with your classmates!

10 am – Chapel Service

Blount Chapel

A special service to honor members of the Averett community who have passed away in the last year.

NEW EVENT FOR 2009

11 am - 1 pm – Sunday Brunch

Student Center Dining Hall

Made-to-order omelets and more—Averett's Sunday brunch is the talk of the town.

2 pm – Women's Soccer

North Campus

Averett vs. North Carolina Wesleyan College

For a complete listing of all Homecoming week activities:

<http://alumni.averett.edu/homecoming09>

MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATIONS TODAY!

A list of hotels is available on our Homecoming Web site (be sure to tell them you're visiting for Averett's Homecoming)

<http://alumni.averett.edu/homecoming09>

or call for assistance: 1-800-AVERETT, ext. 15676

1904

The College's first yearbook, *Echoes of R.F.C.*, is published.



1907

Robert Edwin Hatton resigns; John Bruce Brewer succeeds him as president.

Students establish the Mnemosynean Literary Society, whose members are known as the Nemos.

A fifteen-acre tract on West Main Street is purchased from the Mountain View Land Company for \$5,500 for the purpose of moving the campus away from the crowded downtown business area.

Join us this fall for our Arts@Averett Series

(All events are scheduled for the Danville campus)

**Jazz,
Fables,
Books,
Broadway
Hits
and more!**

www.averett.edu/arts
1-800-AVERETT ext. 15681



Sept. 17-19

"Jack and the Beanstalk"

Sept. 20

Market Street Brass Quintet

Sept. 22

An Evening of Classical and Jazz Music
Featuring Dr. Gail Allen and Janet Phillips

Sept. 29

Martin Clark, Author

Oct. 13

The Chamber Orchestra Kremlin
Danville Concert Association

Oct. 21

Alan Cheuse, Author

Oct. 29

The Baltimore Consort

Nov. 5-7

"The Comedy of Errors"

Nov. 19-22

"Mini Salute to Broadway"

Donation Funds More than One Million Dollars in Campus Upgrades



A new roof for Fugate Hall, new electrical systems in Main, new pedestrian walkways for Danville Hall—thanks to a donation from the E. Stuart James Grant Charitable Trust, the Danville campus is undergoing a million dollars in upgrades and repairs.

The E. Stuart James Grant Charitable Trust, administered by American National Bank and Trust Company, has generously provided \$1 million funding for campus improvements. Approximately 30 improvement projects are underway or are scheduled for completion by fall. The projects focus on improving the quality of the residential experience and strengthening the infrastructure.

Some of the campus improvements currently underway include renovation work and furniture upgrades in the residence halls, completion of the campus wireless loop, improvements in landscaping and lighting and various other painting and repair projects.

1908

The Averett College Alumnae Association is founded.

1910

The College name is changed to Roanoke Institute (R.I.) when President Brewer manages to gain funding from the Baptist General Association of Virginia.



Main Hall (on West Main Street) is constructed at a cost of \$40,670.

1911

At Easter, the student body of R.I. moves from Patton Street into their new quarters on West Main.

Meet Your Averett Friends Online: Our Network of Online Communities Continues to Grow

facebook

Facebook: 398 members and counting on our Facebook Fan page. Join specialty groups: Athletics, Averett in the 90's and Averett Alumni.

LinkedIn

LinkedIn: 88 alumni have already joined our Alumni Association page. It's a great place to network. Also, look for the Averett GPS program page.

twitter

Twitter: Yes, we're there. Sign up to follow the AverettCougars.

New and Improved Averett Online!!!

This summer we will launch our new Averett Online Community. It has a more photos, more news, more events. It is the best way to find your classmates online and to keep up with the latest Averett news.

<http://alumni.averett.edu>

First time visitors can use their verifying ID
(Listed above their name on the mailing label of this magazine).

If you need assistance, call (800) AVERETT, ext. 15676, (434) 791-5676 or e-mail alumni@averett.edu



1914

The college is reorganized and all degrees above associate level are dropped. President John Bruce Brewer retires and is succeeded by William Walter Rivers (left).



1917

College alumnae petition the Trustees to rename the college for members of the Averett family. In June 1917, the name Averett College is officially adopted.

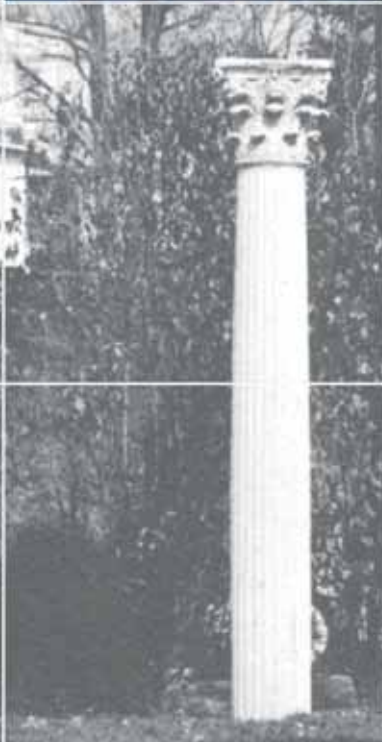
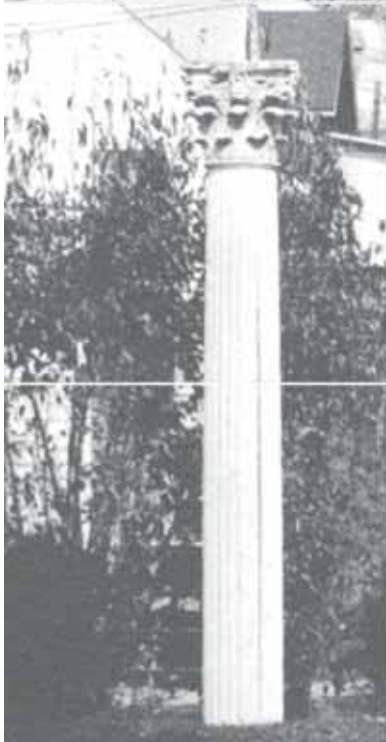
President Rivers resigns. He gives the college a bust of Minerva to hang in the auditorium. Clayton Edward Crosland (left) replaces Rivers as president.

1920

Student Government Association organized.



Student Life & Traditions



Traditions

The Crook

The hiding and finding of the crook was an Averett student tradition that lasted more than 40 years — ending in the early 1940s. The story goes that the president of the senior class, holding the crook above her head, would parade unannounced into a chapel service giving juniors what was supposed to be their only glimpse of the five-foot tall shepherd's staff. During the next 24 hours, the senior class hid the crook somewhere on campus. After another 24 hours, the juniors began to hunt for the prized object. The process went back and forth until the end of the academic year when the class who possessed the crook displayed it at Commencement.



May Day and May Day Queen

In 1926, Averett held its first May Day Festival. Students voted on a queen to preside over the day. The tradition continued until 1969.

Rat Week/Rat Night

Juniors were initiated during "Rat Week," which later became "Rat Night." They had to do everything a senior asked them to do — wash floors, windows, dishes and clothes, empty trash cans, sing songs and make beds. The tradition ended in 1986.

Daisy Chain

One of the more popular traditions at Averett when it was a women's college was the Daisy Chain. The girls covered 300 feet of rope with daisies which they picked early in the morning. The chain was given by the juniors to the seniors on graduation day. Once the chain had been passed, it was laid on the ground to form the letters A and C.



1921

President Crosland is forced to resign after allowing young women to dance with one another during their afternoon recreation period. He is replaced by James Pressley Craft. President Craft (left), thinking he hears prowlers in the college's kitchen, fires his pistol into the dark room only to find students raiding the icebox.

1922

Averett discontinues its primary school.

The first issue of *The Chanticleer*, Averett's student newspaper, is published. The newspaper is named after the rooster Chauntecleer in Chaucer's "Nun's Priest Tale." Chanter, in French, means "to sing" and cler means "clear."

Student Life

Get Your Groove On

Campus dances provided students the opportunity to strut their stuff on the dance floor. Some of the dances held throughout the year were a Welcome Dance, a Freshmen Mixer, a Homecoming Dance, Spring Formal and a Halloween Dance.

Homecoming

Averett's first Homecoming was held in 1978 thanks to the efforts of SGA Vice President Rossie Alston, '79. The Homecoming "game" was men's soccer until the football program was added in 2000. Past Homecoming festivities have included a dance, parade, carnival and the naming of a Homecoming Queen and Princess.



1923

The yearbook's name is changed to *The Pendulum*, for the grandfather clock in the lobby. *The Pendulum* suspends publication in 1990.

The Annex, behind Main Hall, is built at a cost of \$60,000 and includes 24 residence hall rooms, a swimming pool and a gymnasium.

The honor system is implemented.



Places to Gather

One of Averett's earliest gathering places was called The Spot—located in the space now occupied by the student bookstore. In 1953, thanks to a gift from the senior class, Averett's first TV, a 21-inch RCA Victor was placed in The Spot where students watched "I Love Lucy" and "Dragnet."

In 1971, Averett converted the old library in the basement of Bishop into the B.I. (Bottom Inn). Students crowded into the B.I. to munch hamburgers grilled in the snack bar, to pick up letters from home and to test their skill at billiards, ping-pong and other games of skill.

As Averett grew, the B.I. was converted to classrooms, and students were encouraged to meet their friends in The Cougar's Den — a house adjacent to Fugate Hall. This remained a student gathering place until 2006 when Averett opened its current 35,000-square-foot Student Center. As they have through the years, residence hall rooms and lounges also remain popular gathering spots.



Top Ten Places We Loved to Hang Out

(Based on an informal Facebook Survey)

10. Ground Round
9. Hardees
8. Cantina
7. Bottom Inn
6. Ham's
5. Steak King Lounge
4. Tobacco Exchange
3. Sir Richards
2. Busy Bee (Mildred & George!)
1. Wurst Place

(Other mentions include: Spanky's, Los Tres, The Family Restaurant, The Pizza Grinder)

Top Ten Things We Did

(even if some of them were against the rules!)

(Based on an informal Facebook Survey)

10. Hanging from the pipes
9. Pets in our rooms
8. Road trips
7. "Ghost hunting" in the dorms
6. Midnight runs to Hardees/grocery runs
5. Hanging out in the Bottom Inn
4. Water balloon fights
3. Parties and sleepovers (enough said)
2. Sunbathing on fire escapes and rooftops
1. Stealing cafeteria trays and sledding down Bishop Hill



Dining at Averett

Meals were once formal, sit-down occasions that were served "family style" often with faculty members serving as table hosts. Today, students enjoy a range of options from pasta, to salad, to specialty dishes and to the always popular cereal.



1924

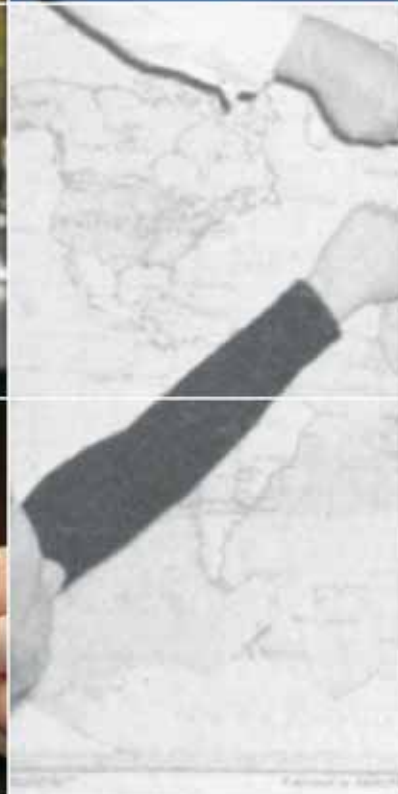
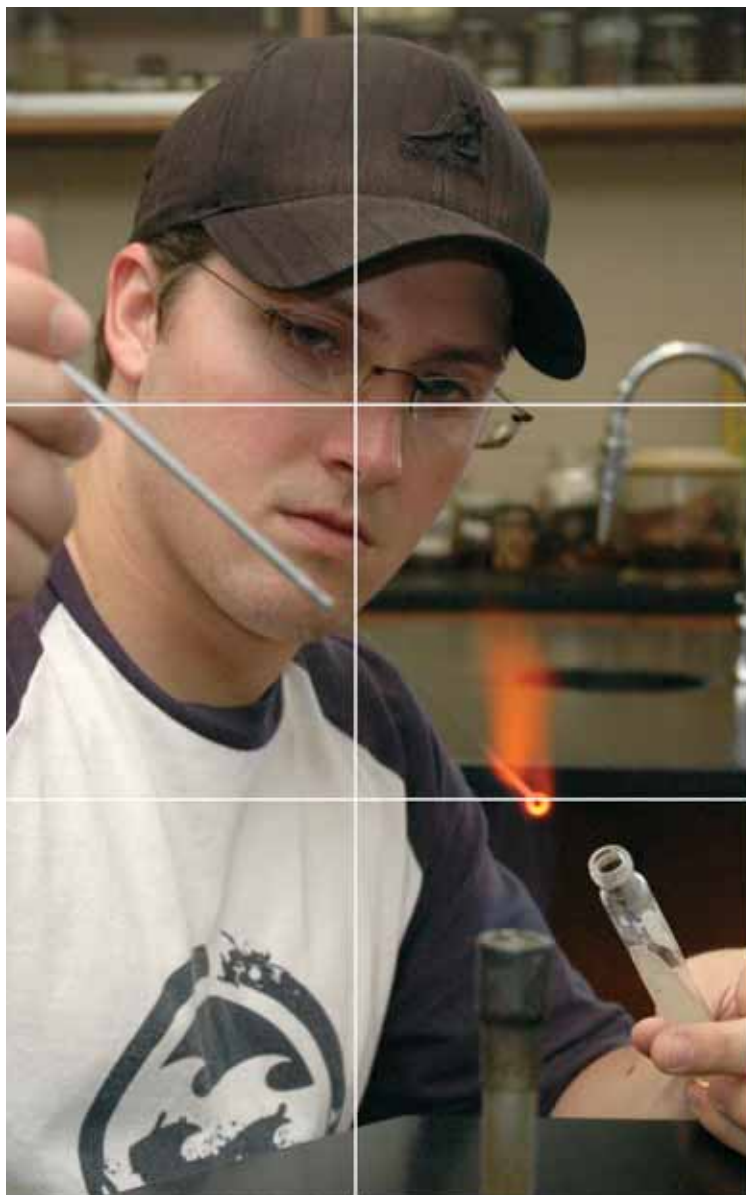
A young history teacher named Mary Catharine Fugate (left) joins the faculty.

An Averett student defines an oyster as "a fish built like a nut." Concerned with students' lack of scientific knowledge, President Craft adds a separate science department and hires a full-time librarian.



1926

The annual May Day Festival begins — a tradition that continues until 1969.



Academics



Academic Programs

Early advertisements for Averett's predecessor schools offered students curriculum choices that included English, philosophy, chemistry, Latin, French and piano. The school boasted that it provided globes, maps and all conveniences necessary to help students progress in their studies. Throughout its history, Averett's curriculum has changed and adapted to the demands of the times while remaining true to its liberal arts foundation. Averett was first accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in 1971 and, that same year, conferred its first bachelor's degrees. Students didn't have to wait long before the addition of a graduate-level curriculum. Averett awarded its first master's degrees in education in 1980 and its first MBA degrees in 1986. Today, in addition to the strength of its core majors, Averett offers popular programs such as athletic training, equestrian studies and aeronautics.

Faculty/Staff Dedication

Together, our faculty and staff have over 1,200 years' experience at Averett and have positively influenced the lives of more than 30,000 students. Faculty and Staff with More than 20 Years of Service to Averett:

Rebecca Clark (1989)
Mike Hammonds (1989)
Kendall Carter, '86, '97 (1988)
Anne Lewis (1988)
Barbara Kushubar, '75 (1987)
Janet Roberson, '92, '99 (1987)
Bill Trimyer (1987)
Steve Wray (1987)
Peggy Wright, '85 (1987)
Jane Faulkner (1986)
Rose Holley (1986)
Larry Wilburn, '03 (1986)
Tim Montgomery (1984)
Elizabeth Richardson, '87 (1984)
Chin-Chyuan Tai (1982)
Jean Hatten (1981)
Betty Heard (1981)
Vince Kania (1981)
Steve Lemery (1981)
Bill Trakas (1980)
Nancy Harriett (1979)
John Laughlin (1979)
Kathie Tune, '79 (1979)
Ann Garbett (1978)
David Hoffman (1978)
Susan Newcomb, '78 (1978)
Ruth Haffner (1977)
Anna Hatten (1977)
Laura Meder (1977)
Gail Allen (1976)
Diane Kendrick (1975)
Sue Rogers (1975)
Jay Hayes (1974)
Don Ethington (1973)
Steve Ausband (1970)
Robert Marsh (1969)



1927

President Craft leaves Averett to assume the presidency of Hardin College in Missouri. John Walter Cammack (left) succeeds him.



1928

Danville Hall is constructed and named in honor of the city whose citizens gave more than \$440,000 for its construction. The four-story building houses the departments of chemistry, biology, business, home economics and music.



1930

A home for the president was built at 174 Mt. View Avenue. Today, the house is known as "Alumni Hall."

Places to Learn



Library

President Craft hired Averett's first full-time librarian in 1924 to staff the school's library, located in Main Hall. The library was eventually moved to a single room in Danville Hall. In 1966, President Conwell Anderson hired Juanita Grant as librarian, charging her with the task of growing the library to meet the college's expanding curriculum. In the fall of 1967, students and faculty moved the library to Bottom Bishop.

As Averett began the transformation towards becoming a four-year college, a new library was necessary for accreditation. Mary B. Blount Library was constructed, and in 1971 students and faculty moved 34,000 books into the new facility — celebrating afterwards with a picnic and softball game. Today, the library's collection includes more than 150,000 book and media titles, 26,000 electronic and print journals and 100 research databases.



Classrooms

Prior to the construction of Ada Nunn Frith Hall in 1984, classrooms and faculty offices were housed in the main complex of buildings. Averett's academic

facilities expanded again in 1990 when ground was broken on the Emily Swain Grousbeck Music Center. Additions to the Main Campus academic facilities continued with the 1993 addition of the Equestrian Center and the 1998 completion of the E. Stuart James Grant Convocation and Athletic Center. Averett classrooms can now be found throughout the state with regional campus centers in Richmond and Tidewater. No matter the classroom location, small classes and personal attention remain the hallmarks of an Averett education. Averett's average class size is 13 students.

1936

Curtis Vance Bishop becomes the ninth president of Averett College.

1937

Averett discontinues its secondary school.



1943

Averett students sell \$15,000 in war bonds to purchase parachutes for the war effort.

Students of the 1940's hum the popular songs of the era, "I'll Be Seeing You," "Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree," and dressed in their best attire for the Wednesday evening candlelight dinners.



A Look Back

1988: Program founded as Averett Adult Curriculum for Excellence (AACE). Classes begin in Danville and Vienna.

1991: Averett opens campus in Richmond

1996: Classes begin in Tidewater

1997: An associate degree in business is added to the adult-learning curriculum

1998: Name changes to Graduate and Professional Studies (GPS)

2001: Program offerings expand to include a bachelor of business administration with an emphasis in e-Commerce

2003: Averett opens GPS campus in Lynchburg

2005: Master of education degree added to GPS curriculum offerings

2006: Averett becomes first school to begin offering classes at Martinsville's New College Institute

2007: Online concentration in human resource management (HRM) added to the graduate level business curriculum

2009: Averett forms Sigma Delta Beta Chapter—an international honor society for business and management students at the undergraduate and graduate levels

Adult Education: Working Professionals

AACE/Graduate and Professional Studies

Since its inception in 1988, 8,452 students have graduated from Averett's Graduate and Professional Studies Program (GPS). The program was founded by former Averett President Dr. Frank Campbell, making Averett one of the first in the state to offer convenient, accelerated academic programs for working adults.

The program was originally known as the Averett Adult Curriculum for Excellence Program (AACE). The name and acronym GPS were adopted in 1998. Today, more than 1,600 students study business and education in the program's 12 campus locations.



1946

Twenty-five veterans enroll as day students under the G.I. Bill of Rights. By 1947, 40 men are enrolled.

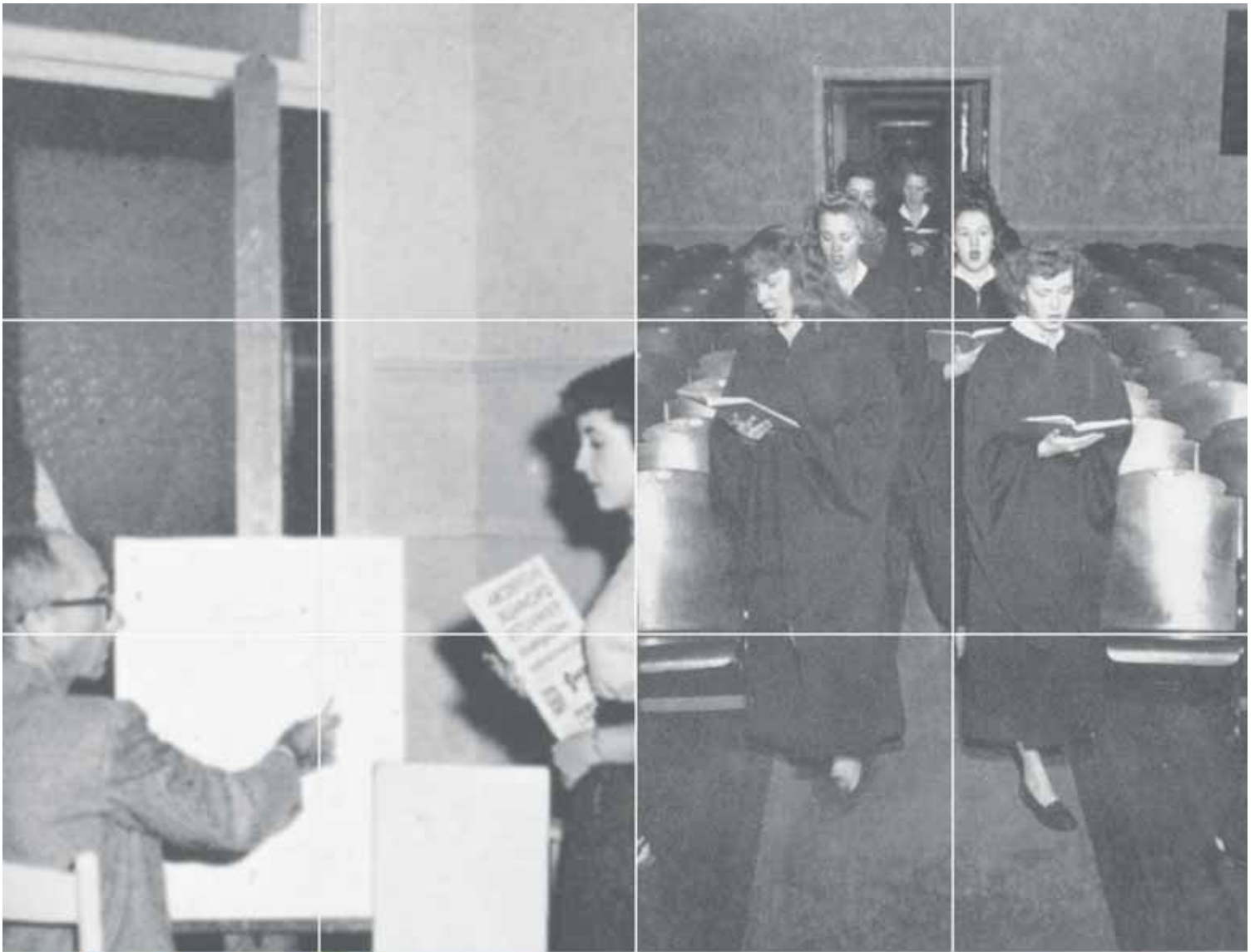
1952

Five Averett students remove bones and a skull from a grave. They carry the bones to the Averett day students' room to hold a séance. After complaints from fellow students, the perpetrators burn the bones in the college furnace. President Bishop suspends one of the students and expels the other four. The incident garners national media attention.



1953

The senior class presents the college with its first television set. The RCA Victor set is placed in "The Spot," Averett's student lounge. Popular television shows are "I Love Lucy," "Father Knows Best" and "Dragnet."



The Arts



Performance & Art



Hitting the Right Note

The Averett College Choir has always been an important part of college life. Now called the Averett Singers, the group performs at University functions like opening convocation and offers concerts each year. In April 2007, the Singers performed at Carnegie Hall in New York City as part of the Vivaldi Choral Festival, they were one of six choirs and ensembles invited to perform Vivaldi's "Gloria."

Concerts, Lectures and More

Along with providing its students with academic programming, Averett also provides its students and the surrounding community, with cultural enrichment. Over the years, the University has hosted events such as the Preservation Jazz Band, Faulkner One Man Show, Jane Franklin Dance and "Taming of the Shrew" presented by Shenandoah Shakespeare. More recently, the University has hosted the Richmond Ballet, visits by noted author Sharyn McCrumb and Coach Herman Boone who was portrayed in the movie "Remember the Titans."



1956

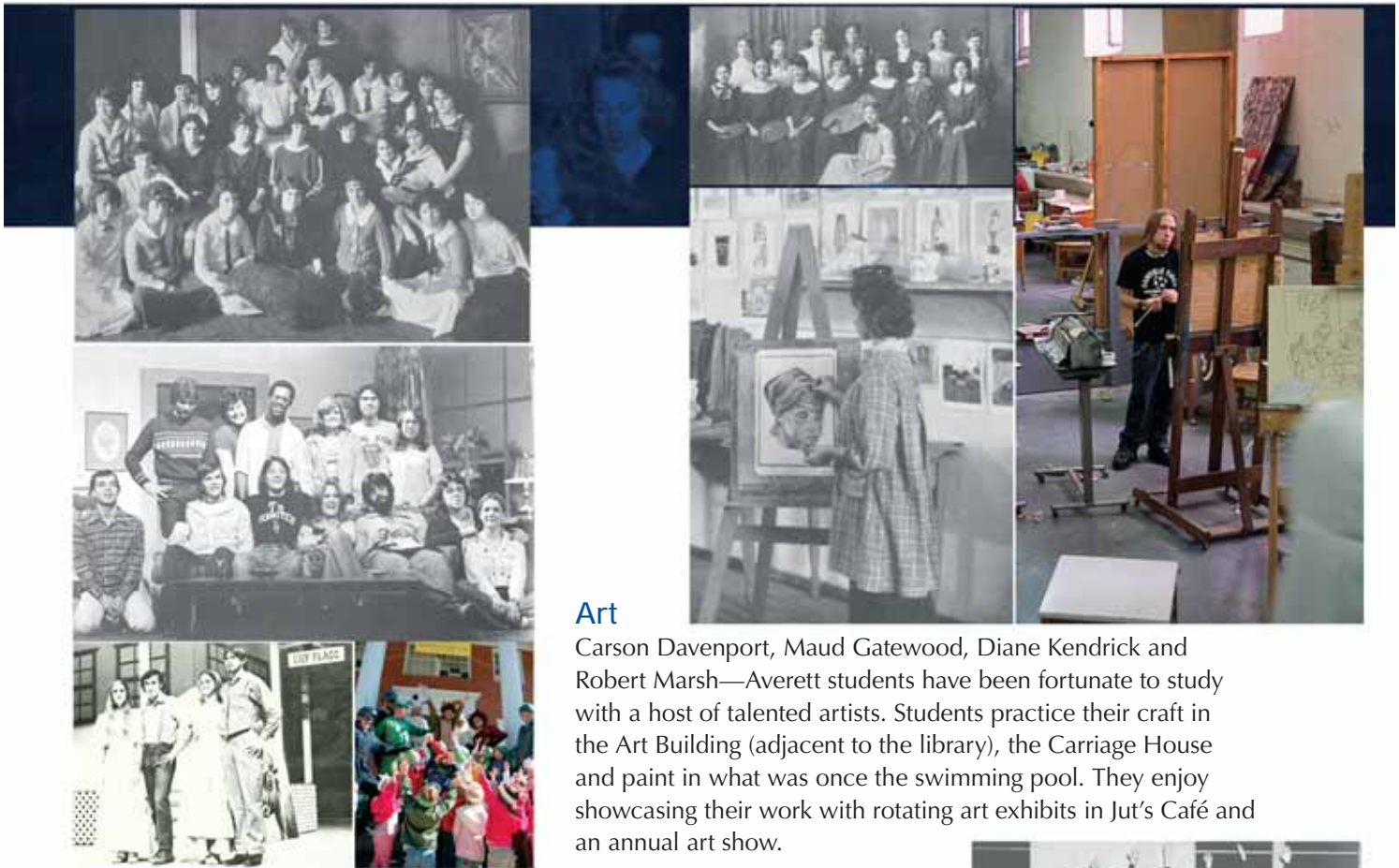
A new Gymnasium is built on Mt. View Avenue. Davenport Hall extension II is completed.



1959

Averett celebrates its 100th birthday.

Pritchett Auditorium is named for a local doctor, Dr. C. W. Pritchett. Built on the top of the new gymnasium, it is dedicated during the college's weeklong Centennial Celebration.



Art

Carson Davenport, Maud Gatewood, Diane Kendrick and Robert Marsh—Averett students have been fortunate to study with a host of talented artists. Students practice their craft in the Art Building (adjacent to the library), the Carriage House and paint in what was once the swimming pool. They enjoy showcasing their work with rotating art exhibits in Jut's Café and an annual art show.

Theatre

Since its inception, members of the Averett Players have participated in all aspects of theatre from set design with T's Termites (the stage crew gave themselves the nickname in honor of former Theatre Professor James Thomas Wilson) to directing and of course, acting. Elizabeth R. Smith, another former theatre professor, regularly wrote original plays for the department to perform including "Lily Flagg" and "Second Best Bed." Over the years the department has continued their standard of performing top-notch shows, including a show for local school children, which is part of the University's Theatre for Young People Series.

Dance

For a number of years Averett had a modern dance club that performed on Parent's Day, May Day and at other college events.



Handbells

The Averett Ringers have long delighted audiences with their skill and originality. They often perform in concert with the Averett Singers.



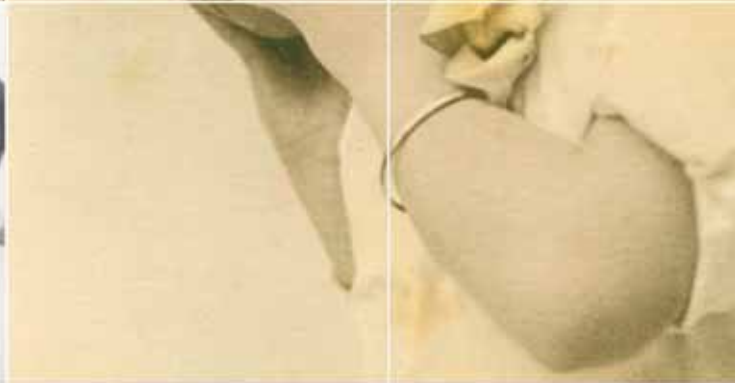
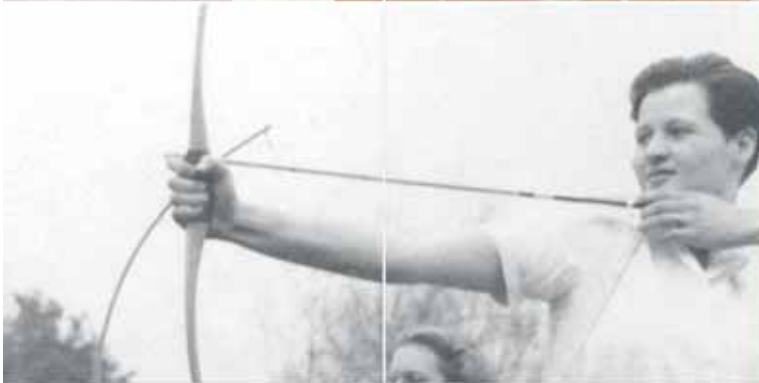
1964

Bishop Hall, which connected Danville Hall, Davenport Hall and the gymnasium/auditorium complex, is completed. President Curtis Vance Bishop assures parents that their daughters will not be exposed to either elements or urban turmoil from September when they entered Averett to May when they left.



1965

A three-story administrative wing and a two-story dormitory wing are added to Main Hall.



Athletics

Cougar Athletics: A Proud History of Success

The development of a student's mind, body and spirit has always been an important emphasis at Averett. As early as the 1880s, Averett students were participating in calisthenics and in 1883 Averett added the "Physical Department." Later, students would compete in basketball, swimming, field hockey and other sports suitable for a women's college.



During the women's college years, Averett often competed against teams from much larger schools such as Duke and the University of North Carolina, compiling some impressive victories. Unfortunately, many of the individual achievement records from that era have been lost, but the legacy of those years lives on in today's programs.

On March 1, 1976, Averett joined the NCAA Division III Dixie Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (now the USA South Conference) with teams in men's golf, men's soccer, women's field hockey, coeducational horseback riding, men's and women's basketball and men's and women's tennis. For men's basketball, success in the conference came early. The team finished second in 1978. Men's soccer dominated in the early 1980s, winning both the conference and the state championship in 1979 and 1980 under Coach Vesa Hiltunen.



1966

Curtis Vance Bishop dies in 1966. President Bishop leaves a college over two-and-one-half times larger in square footage than the college he inherited. At Bishop's death, Dean Mary Catharine Fugate is named acting president.

In September, Conwell Axel Anderson (left) assumes the presidency.



The Ember, Averett's student literary magazine, begins publication.



The 1990s was the decade of Averett dominance on the volleyball and tennis courts. Led by Coach Barbara Kushubar, '75, and later by Coach Danny Miller, '91, '95, the volleyball team captured 10 consecutive regular season championships (1991-2000). Since 1991, the team has won 10 conference tournament titles with the most recent title coming in 2006—a year in which the Cougars also captured the regular season crown. Averett has the highest winning percentage in volleyball among all active conference teams. A multiple coach-of-the-year winner, Miller holds a record of 361-171.

Women's tennis dominated the conference, winning the conference title each year from 1994-1997 and also picking up championships in 1999 and 2000. Men's tennis has captured nine conference titles since 1987 including the 2007 USA South Conference Championship which they won with Coach Bobby Shields, '83, at the helm.

Other sports hoisting trophies include: softball (2004), football (2006), baseball (2003), and women's cross country (1997). The men's golf team made history in 2003 by capturing the NCAA National Championship. The men's basketball team recorded a conference championship and reached the NCAA tournament in 1990. The basketball team is currently on a four-year championship run (2006-2009).

Averett's NCAA All-Americans

Baseball

Jason Dooley (2000)
Eddie Guessford (2003)

Men's Basketball

Demarcus Morrison (1998)
Damien Brown (Preseason, 2007)
Jonathan Rumley (2009)

Men's Golf

Janne Mommo (2000, 2001, 2003)
Toni Karjalainen (2001, 2002, 2003)
Craig Hosie (2004)

Football

Kyle Wilson (2005)

Men's Soccer

Pekka Kaartinen (1980, 1981)

Men's Tennis

Tapio Martti (1985, 1986, 1987)
Hannu Ylinenpaa (1989)
Harry Lahtela (1993)
Toni Huhtamaki (1994, 1995)
Petteri Lehtinen (1998, 1999)
Vellu Antila (1999, 2001, 2002, 2003)
Tuomas Waheeb (2000, 2001)
Tarmo Laaksonen (2000)
Pekka Mikkonen (2001)

Volleyball

Brenda LaFlamme (1997)
Samantha Kirby (2007)

1967

The Board of Trustees decides Averett will transition from a junior college to a 4-year program. They reinstate baccalaureate degrees and coeducation.



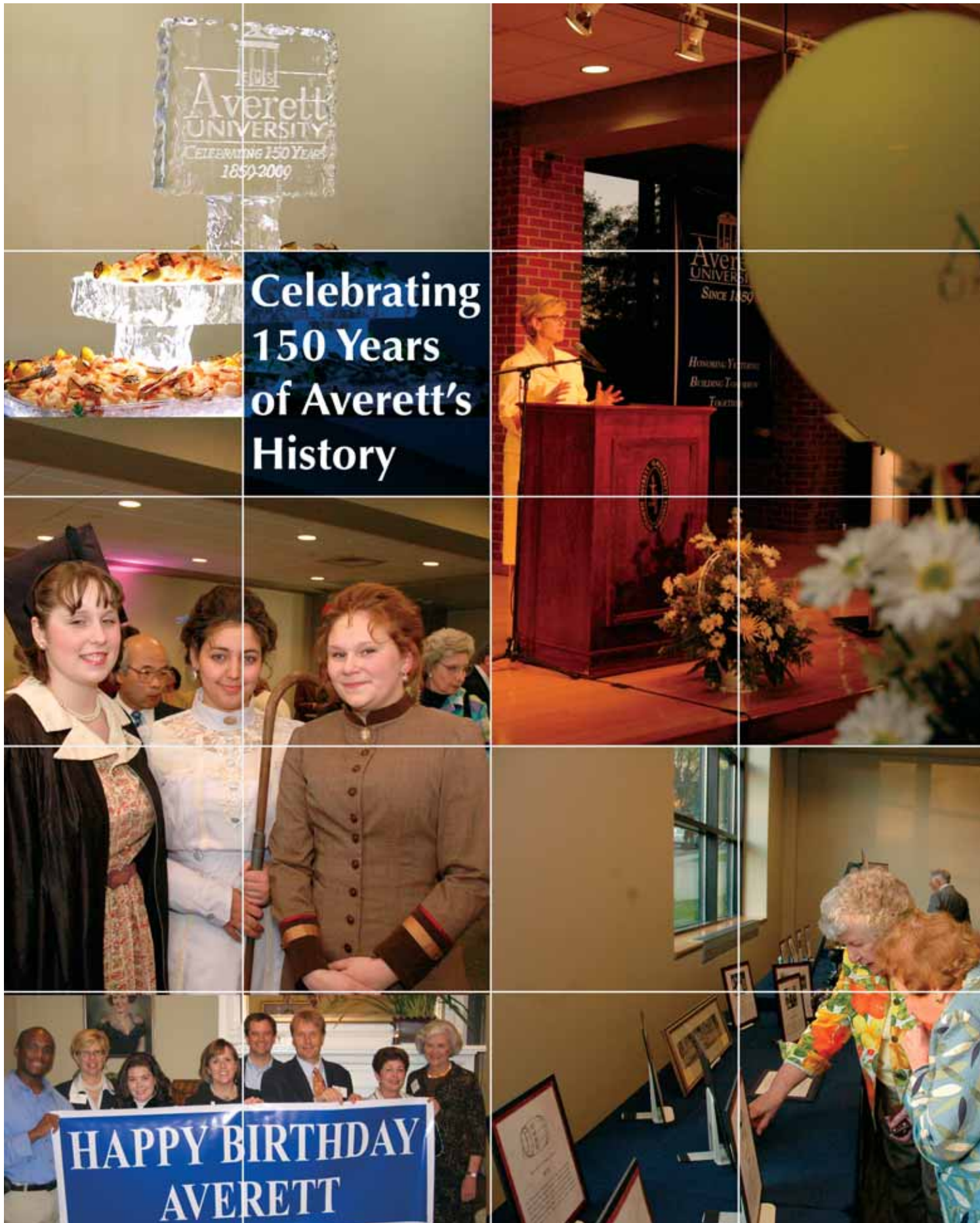
1968

Under President Anderson students are allowed to keep cars on campus. A 200-car parking lot is constructed.



1969

Averett's first African-American students enroll as day students.



Celebrate



Spring Celebrations

Reaching 150 years is a special milestone for Averett University so we are taking time in 2009 to

celebrate who we are as a University—where we have been and where we are going. In recognition of our strong academic heritage and the diversity of our educational offerings, we kicked off the celebration with a lecture series. Alumnus Ernest B. “Pat” Furgurson, ‘50, delivered the keynote address “War, Peace and Leadership.” Furgurson is a historian, author and former Baltimore Sun columnist. Other spring events included a worship service with the Averett Singers, regional receptions, a presentation on Baptist History and a grand community celebration on April 17.



Alumnus Pat Furgurson (left), ‘50, kicked off the celebration with a keynote address. He was greeted by friends at a reception held in the home of Dr. Franks (right).

HOMEcoming @averett university Sept. 25-27, 2009

Coming This Fall

The festivities will continue this fall with Homecoming Sept. 25-27. In honor of our 150th birthday, this year’s Homecoming will feature a Friday night community-wide party with a special “Night at the Museum” for children. Visit <http://alumni.averett.edu/homecoming09> to register and for details.



Class of 1925 member Mildred Womble (seated) visits with Alumni Director Dan Hayes, ‘92, and shows off her Averett t-shirt.

Celebrating With Our Oldest Alumna

Mildred Womble, believed to be Averett’s oldest living alumna, joined the festivities in Richmond and even celebrated with her new Averett shirt. Womble is 104 years old and a member of the Class of 1925. She was one of more than 150 alumni and current students to attend birthday receptions held at our regional campus locations.

1970

In honor of the former dean, Mary C. Fugate Hall is constructed, offering residence to 150 students in fifteen air-conditioned suites.

The Board of Trustees vote to make dormitory space available for male students. Wholly unprepared for the arrival of men in Averett residence halls, the college houses the first male resident students in Hotel Danville where they picked up all sorts of “bad habits.”



Gamblers

Poem composed in honor of Averett's 150th Birthday

by Dr. Ann Garbett
Averett University Professor of English

This is for the gamblers,
the dice rollers,
the odds players.

This is for the risk takers
like my parents
who looked at the Depression
around them in 1932
and got married anyway,

like all those who ignore
the sad sour history of the world
to start babies or poems,
to build houses,
or move far away for a new job,

like the long ago men who saw war
coming to Virginia
and decided not to gather arms
but started a school instead.

This is for all of them,
their faith and bravery,
their foolishness and wisdom.

Like the wrens that yearly nest in my garage,
counting on me to leave the window open.

The way teenagers mime nonchalance
at the swimming pool,
stroll off the end of the diving board
like stepping off a curb,
betting that the water will bear them up,
even if it stings.

The way three of us traveled to Iceland as strangers,
figured the odds if we didn't get on,
and found instead we'd planted a friendship.

Like my student, the first from her family,
who gambled that the mystery language
of hours, credits, syllabi
would translate her into something
she'd never known she could be.

This is for all those who ignore
the whirring dental drill of doubt
and the slime of the great gray slug of fear,
and the blank pages of the book of common sense.

This is for the way the wren fledglings hop
to the window sill each May
and flutter out into the dangerous
green shine of spring.

For them.



History

Averett's April 17 grand birthday celebration event included history displays, students dressed in period costume and acting as historical interpreters, a look back at Averett's history with former President Dr. Frank Campbell and the debut of Averett's oral history project featuring stories of Mary Jo Davis, '55. Visit Averett's oral history project: Yesterdays With Mary Jo Davis www.averett.edu/AU150.



1971

SACS accredits Averett as a senior college. The first bachelor's degrees are conferred since 1914. For the first time in college history, men are awarded bachelor degrees.

People

More than 400 friends, alumni, faculty, staff and students attended Averett's grand celebration event. It was a great time to catch up with friends and to enjoy an evening of food and music.



1971

Mary B. Blount Library is constructed. On Sept. 14, 1971, students and faculty move 34,000 books from the library in the basement of Bishop Hall to the new library.

The first issue of the alumni magazine, *Potpourri*, is published.



1972

The first Averett College men's basketball team, coached by Gary Bannister, plays a full schedule of games.

The Virginia Beta Chapter of Alpha Chi National Honor Society is chartered at Averett.

Presents

What's a birthday without presents? Representatives of Averett's various constituent groups presented the University with symbolic birthday gifts during the April 17 celebration. Board of Trustees representative Ebb Williams presented a commemorative compass signifying the Board's commitment to providing leadership and direction; students Kristen Koger, John Parkin, Ryan Frazier and Michael Duncan presented a dogwood tree symbolizing students' commitment to growth; representing the faculty and staff, Dr. Gary Tucker, '85, and Karen Nelson presented a clock recognizing the faculty and staff's dedication of time and energy; and alumna Jo Greenberg, '50, gave President Franks a scrapbook of photos commemorating her first year as Averett's president with the wish that, like Averett alumni, she too will make a lifetime of great Averett memories. Averett was also honored by government at the local, state and national levels. Danville and Pittsylvania County declared April 17 Averett Day. The Commonwealth of Virginia passed a resolution thanking the University for its years of service, and on May 18 the United States House of Delegates unanimously passed a resolution commending Averett for 150 years of leadership in education.



A Look Ahead: The evening concluded with an affirmation of the leadership of Dr. Tiffany Franks, who recently completed her first year as Averett's president. Franks pledged her continued commitment to Averett and outlined some of the University's new strategic priorities. Listen to the affirmation service and hear Dr. Franks' speech online: www.youtube.com/theaverettchannel. The celebration ended with a toast led by Trustee Dr. Calvin Snowden, '94, and the cutting of the daisy-adorned birthday cake.

1973

Averett adds a bachelor's degree program in equestrian studies.



1974

Averett students, determined to make their college the first in Virginia to field streakers, don black capes and streak through the campus. The next evening the Danville police are called to direct traffic as Danvillians turned out by the thousands for an anticipated repeat performance.



Class Notes

'30s

Frances Stanley Attkisson, '35, of Rockville, retired from the Hanover School System 31 years ago and enjoys spending time with her family.

Frances Stiff Appel, '38, of Richmond, lost her husband in 2002 after 61 years of marriage. She enjoys spending time with her daughter, three grandsons and their wives, and ten great-grandchildren. She lives in a retirement community of 1,000 people.

Frances Dixon Leete, '38, of Charlotte, N.C., was married 64 years to her beloved husband, who died in 2005. She was a teacher for 35 years. She has a wonderful extended family of 22 members. She is 89 years old, enjoying fairly good health, and is still active at home and at church.

Ruby Adams Scruggs, '38, of Richmond and husband, William, were married 65 years. He passed away December 27, 2007.

'40s

Marian Flanary Luttrell, '42, of Cedar Bluff, and husband, Jess, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary last year. They have seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Their children, Kathy, John and Mark all have had successful careers.

Jimmy Powell, '43, of Blanch, N.C., retired from Schewels Furniture after 64 years of service, 41 as a full-time

assistant manager and manager and supervisor of 13 stores. He is now a part-time consultant. He and his wife celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary Sept. 2, 2008. They are proud to say the fourth generation has started with their great-grandchild, Grace Catherine Jennings.

Margaret A. Tilson, '43, of Rochester, N.H., broke her hip a year ago and then had to have her left knee replaced. Margaret and her miniature poodle, MacKenzie, are enjoying life surrounded by friends. Margaret lost her brother last October, but has two nieces who she enjoys visiting.

Alice Dodson Eastwood, '46, of Keeling, celebrated her 81st birthday and her husband, Delly, has celebrated his 85th. They are blessed to still have each other and their family of three children, four grandchildren and two beautiful great-granddaughters. They grow their own vegetables to eat and give to friends. They attend Mt. Tabor Baptist Church regularly and teach Sunday School classes. Many members of Alice's family attended Averett including her mother before the school was even named "Averett."

Anne Purcell Morris, '46, of Virginia Beach, retired in 1992 as a teacher in the Virginia Beach School Systems after teaching for 41 years. Her family is blessed with two daughters and two sons-in-law, three granddaughters and two grandsons and four great-

grandchildren. There's a birthday to celebrate almost every month, sometimes two! Many activities have been curtailed due to health restrictions, but God has truly blessed them.

Anita Dolfinger Holleran, '47, of Floral Park, N.Y., and her husband are doing well. They have 16 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren who keep them quite busy.

Barbara Britt Bundy, '48, of Nashville, Tenn., has ten grandchildren. The oldest grandchild is a jewelry designer and lives in New York City with her husband who is a performer. Barbara also has one great-grandchild (1½ years old) living in Savannah, Ga. Barbara's husband of 55 years, Bob, passed away in October 2007.

Jane Beale Jones, '48, of Ahoskie, N.C., and her husband, John, retired and their travels now mainly consist of visiting their son and family in Northern Virginia.

Charles Spurgeon Taylor, '48, of Saint Simons Island, Ga., celebrated his 86th birthday. He and his wife, Carolyn, moved to St. Simons Island from Atlanta in 2004 where he worked for 40 years as a reporter, re-write man and editor for United Press International. While living in Atlanta, Carolyn worked for the Georgia Conservancy.

1976

Averett joins NCAA Division III Dixie Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (now the USA South Conference) with teams in: men's golf, men's soccer, women's field hockey, coeducational riding, men's and women's basketball, and men's and women's tennis. The nickname Cougars is adopted.



1978

Averett holds its first Homecoming.



Marilyn Gallo Schutt, '49, of Niantic, Conn., continues to enjoy retirement and doing volunteer work. Marilyn is a member of a large mixed chorus that entertains in nursing homes, adult homes, churches and sometimes at malls. She enjoys tap dancing, swimming and cross country skiing. She always has fond memories of Averett.

'50s

Carolyn H. Moseley, '50, of Brodnax, continued her piano studies after she received her diploma from Averett. She received her degree in piano and organ from Richmond Professional Institute (now VCU). She taught piano for many years and took additional studies in organ at Longwood University. She fondly remembers her instructor Carimae Hedgepath.

Lelia Anne Barrett Chamlee, '55, of Milledgeville, Ga., is STILL WORKING! She continues to enjoy contact with classmates from 1955 and 1954. Her daughter is an artist living in New Orleans, and her son is a Boeing C-17 specialist and lives in Macon, Ga. She has one granddaughter, Meghan, (10).

Shirley Van Dine Rohe, '55, of Foster City, Calif., is retired from Beaute Prestige International and has been enjoying classes in Tai-Chi, Qi Gong, painting, drawing and French.

Louise Hall McDowell, '57, of Richmond, has a new granddaughter. She was born October 29th, giving their family a total of three grandchildren.

Nancy Lee Baker Clark, '58, of Newport News, says, "We just breezed through our 50th anniversary of graduation from the still-wonderful Averett College

(now University). We took time off from volunteering at The Mariners' Museum in Newport News, where we managed the construction of a full-scale replica of the USS Monitor (damn Yankees!) to attend the 50th reunion at Averett. Nothing would keep us away from celebrating that event!"

Mary Lou Atkins Davis, '59, of Charlotte, N.C., had a great 2007. Their first grandchild (Paul Howard Gale V) was born July 11, 2007, to daughter, Emily. In November, Mary Lou retired from First Baptist Church in Charlotte after 10 years of service.

Josephine "Cookie" Gianforte Stone, '59, of Reisterstown, Md., and her husband, Dave, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in June of 2009. They have three married children and six grandchildren. Their oldest grandson graduated from University of Richmond in 2008 and lives and works in Richmond. His brother is a freshman at Nichols College in Dudley, Mass. Their oldest granddaughter is a freshman at Virginia Tech. Her sister is a junior in high school, and the youngest are 4 and 8 years old.

'60s

Carol Ann Andrews Andresen, '60, of San Mateo, Calif., is happily retired and enjoys traveling, reading and getting together with friends. Carol is looking forward to her 50th Averett reunion next year and joining the Order of the Daisy.

Marion Leckert Burton, '65, of Fairfax, celebrated her 40th anniversary with husband Charles. They have two married children, Julie and Scott. Marion has worked for the Republican Women's

Federal Forum for over 20 years, the last 15 as executive director.

Meriel BV Burgess-Wright, '61, of Norfolk, traveled through Danville last summer with her husband and made an impromptu visit to Averett. She led him through "Baby Dav," and the memories just flooded back. Meriel likes the new buildings and hopes the Class of '61 will make plans to come back for the 50th Reunion.

Marie Motley Bushley, '65, of Chatham, retired from teaching eight years ago. Since retiring, she has been working with the local Humane Society. She plays with the cats, runs a salad bar for the birds and bunnies, and serves as unofficial groomer for the dog-of-the-week that appears on the local TV station. She retired from teaching and always said that when she was done working with the two-legged, she would start helping the four-legged.

Fay Hoskins Satterfield, '66, of South Boston, retired as an elementary school counselor from the Halifax County School System.

Lynne Hamling Adkins, '67, of Brick, N.J., is a mammographer for Red Bank Radiology. Her daughter, Kristin, graduated with a degree in education from Georgian Court University, and her son, Matthew, married in June.

Sara Kinneman Berchock, '67, of Dauphin, Penn., retired after 38 years in educational administration and teaching. She enjoys playing golf, reading and spending time at her condo in Ocean City, Md.

1979

President Anderson retires. William Howard Lee (right) is named president.

Averett fields its first women's fast pitch softball team.



1980

The first Master of Education degrees are conferred.

The men's soccer team captures the conference championship and the Virginia State Championship.



Lynn Thompson Broadway, '68, of Charlotte, N.C., has been married to Ken Broadway since August 23, 1969. They have two sons (34 and 31) and four grandchildren.

Linda Wilkinson Stallings, '68, of Earleton, Fla., retired from the College of Public Health & Health Professors at the University of Florida in 2008 after more than 35 years. Linda began her career there as secretary to the first dean and retired as the chief financial officer.

'70s

Linda Hawks Walker, '72, of Victoria, has a new grandson, Bryce, (May 14, 2008) and a new granddaughter, Molly, (July 5, 2008). Linda conducts two Bible studies each week. She enjoys gardening, riding her bicycle, golfing, volunteering at the hospital, and is a member of the Social Services Board in Lunenburg. She also enjoys creating murals for family, the library, churches and a medical center.

Phebe DeBoe Roberson, '72, of Raleigh, N.C., spent her 60th birthday in Egypt. The tour included a week-long cruise on the Nile, exploring tombs in the Valley of the Kings, and riding a camel around the Great Pyramids on the Giza Plateau. Phebe would love to hear from her classmates!

Phillipa Campfield Shoffner, '73, of Macon, Ga., celebrated the marriage of her youngest daughter, Emily Kathleen, on Oct. 4, 2008.

Geraldine Allen Boone, '75, of Virginia Beach, is retired from the Virginia Beach School System as a teacher's assistant for special needs children. She has two sons, Christopher (27) and Jeffrey (24). Jeffrey graduated with honors in 2008 from VCU.

Debby Moyer Harrison, '75, of Hampton, teaches first grade in Newport News City Public Schools. Husband,

Wayne Harrison, '76, is the pastoral director of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Adult Day Care and a counselor for Family Redirections.



Mildred Rigney Johnson, '75, of Blacksburg, has been appointed director of undergraduate admissions at Virginia Tech. Mildred also was elected to the College Board's Board of Trustees.

Jim Smith, '76, of Berlin, Germany, currently serves as the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's associate coordinator for missions teams. He has recently been named CBF's director of field team ministries for global missions and will be based out of the CBF Resource Center in Atlanta, Ga.

'80s

Elizabeth Haynes Coffey, '80, of Fairfax, and her husband, Jim, have been married since 1983. Their oldest son, David, graduated May 2008 from James Madison University with a degree in media arts & design. Daughter, Kathy, is a sophomore at JMU majoring in graphic arts. John is 16 and a sophomore in high school, and Anna started first grade last September.

Mike Wagoner, '82, of Loogootee, Ind., is the varsity boy's basketball coach at Loogootee High School. Mike previously served as the head baseball coach compiling a 289-247 record — the most wins by an Loogootee baseball coach. He has helped coach basketball since 1984 with a record of 280-132.

Shahid Butt, '83, of Kansas City, Mo., is looking to reconnect with friends and classmates through the Averett online community. Check it out at www.averett.edu, and click on the Alumni category to get connected today with your old chums. After graduating from Averett, Shahid went to graduate school at Wake Forest and has worked in New York, North Carolina and Missouri.

Joel Butts, '83, of Nashville, Tenn., is manager of technical communications for the Lighting & Integrated Systems Controls business at Schneider Electric in LaVergne, Tenn. He has been working for Schneider Electric since 1998. He lives in Nashville with his wife Linda (married since 1991) and their two children Emily and Ethan.

Susan L. Huckstep, '89, of Danville, Averett's director of public relations, successfully defended her dissertation: "The Media's Framing of Poverty Following Hurricane Katrina." She holds a Ph.D. in communication studies from Regent University.

1981

Aviation is offered as a minor.



1983

Tennis courts are built across the street from the parking lot on Surry Lane. A new President's home at 500 Hawthorne Drive is acquired from the estate of Mrs. A. B. Carrington, Jr.



1984

Averett enrolls its first MBA students.

Ada Nunn Frith Hall is constructed to house classrooms, laboratories and faculty offices.

'90s

Rebecca Anderson Powell, '91, of Heidelberg, Germany, graduated Summer 2008 with a Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Bristol, England. Her dissertation was "A Friend Who Teaches Me: Understanding Adult-Adolescent Relationships through Practical Theology and a Qualitative Analysis of TCKs in an International Congregation." Becky is director of religious education for the U.S. Army Chaplains.

Anthony "Tony" Baiardo, '92, of Raleigh, N.C., works for US Air. His wife, **Melanie Thibodeaux Baiardo, '95**, is a medical coder and biller with Physician Billing Solutions.

Dan Hayes, '92, of Danville, is the director of alumni relations for Averett University. He looks forward to helping alumni reconnect with Averett and with each other.

Gloria Niblett, '94, of Martinsville, has been named interim executive director of the Virginia Museum of Natural History. She serves as director of administration and services and has been employed at the museum for 20 years.

Orren S. Adams, '95, of Saint Louis, Mo., recently made shareholder with the Corporate/M&A group of Polsinelli Welte Flanigan Suelthaus PC, a law firm in St. Louis with 300 attorneys. He and his wife Lisa are proud parents to Abigail (6), and son, Samuel (3). "I would love to see any of you if you are out this way. Bring your golf clubs."

Melanie Thibodeaux Baiardo, '95, of Raleigh, N.C., is a medical coder and

biller for Physician Billing Solutions in Raleigh. Her husband, **Tony Baiardo, '92**, is with US Air.

Mohan Narasimhan, '95, of Cambridge, Mass., has visited San Francisco, Calif. several times this year, enjoying the company of friends and relatives. Mohan is also an avid tennis fan and enjoys following the sport on television.

Kathleen Smith, '95, of Norfolk is working at Perry Library — Old Dominion University as a cataloging and metadata assistant and assists in the archives. In her spare time, Kathleen enjoys making silver jewelry.

Wendy Scott Beane, '96, '01, of Boston, Mass., received her Ph.D. in developmental biology from Duke University in May 2007. Wendy is now doing postdoctoral work at Tufts University.

Jennifer Ayers Jones, '96, '98, of Jacksonville, N.C., and her husband, **Randy Jones '97**, have two children, Hannah (8) and Graham (5). Randy was recently promoted to the rank of major in the Marine Corps.

Maureen Bristow Medlin, '96, of West Point, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of Riverside Walter Reed Hospital.

Ben Gregory, '97, of Denver, Col., works with the Colorado Conservation Voters. CCV works to get pro-conservation candidates elected to state level office.

Michael Harbour, '97, of Round Hill, has been named director of accounting with Catch the Wind Ltd. developer and

manufacturer of the Vindicator® laser wind sensor. Michael is responsible for day-to-day accounting and external corporate reporting activities.

Randy Jones, '97, of Jacksonville, N.C., was promoted to the rank of major in the Marine Corps. He and his wife **Jennifer, '96, '98**, live in Jacksonville, with their two children Hannah (8) and Graham (5).

Terri Nolen, '98, of Rocky Mount, teaches health and physical education at Woodrow Wilson Middle School in Roanoke. She is also the coach of the girls' softball, volleyball, basketball and track teams.

'00s

Elizabeth Eades Creasy, '00, '06, of Hurt, has been named Teacher of the Year at John L. Hurt, Jr. Elementary School. She is currently teaching pre-kindergarten, but has also taught at the first grade and kindergarten levels during her nine-year tenure. She is a member of the Virginia High/Scope Task Force Committee and a member of the Virginia Preschool Initiative Planning Team.

Deborah Aikens Myers, '00, of Chesapeake, is executive vice president for CRT/tanaka, an award-winning public relations and marketing firm. She also serves on the agency's board of managers and is general manager of its Norfolk office.

Steve Sears, '00, of Chesterfield, has been promoted to vice president of sales and marketing at Massey Energy Company. He has also been named president of Massey Coal Sales Company, Inc.

1985

President William Howard Lee retires. Frank Ross Campbell (right) is inaugurated as the new president.



1986

The Jordan Common is built and named in memory of Trustee Robert S. Jordan. The first MBA degrees are conferred.



1987

The first Founders' Day celebration is held on March 17. Provost Dr. Malcom Huckabee is the speaker.

'01s

John Beane, '01, of Boston, Mass., is working at MIT in the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Lab (CSAIL) as a system administrator. His wife **Wendy Scott Beane, '96, '01**, is doing postdoctoral work at Tufts University.

Cynthia Renee Wyatt-Chapline, '01, of Disputante, is the executive director for Virginia's Gateway Region, a regional economic development organization which serves the cities of Colonial Heights, Hopewell and Petersburg, and the counties of Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Prince George, Surry and Sussex. Renee has more than ten years experience in business development, marketing and public relations.

'02s

Ebony Lynch, '02, of Cardinal, graduated from Longwood University in 2004 with her M.S. in community & college counseling. She is pursuing her Ph.D. in educational psychology. Ebony currently works as the child treatment specialist at the Center for Sexual Assault Survivors in Newport News and with the youth ministry for Agape Vision Baptist Church.

Stephanie Phillips, '02, of Rock Hill, S.C., is a group assistant in the CSS Platforms Group at Microsoft in Charlotte. Stephanie hopes to be a Microsoft FTE very soon!

John "Jay" Pyron, '02, is the first softball coach at Murray State University. He previously coached for Campbell University and North Carolina State University.

'03s

Audrey Mallicott Clark, '03, of Newport News, has been modeling through Wright Model and Talent.

'05s

Christine Babin Holloway, '05, of Cypress, Texas, is a licensed Realtor with RE/MAX N.W. Territories and loves every minute of her new career. The skills she acquired at Averett are what have helped her to become so successful in leading a team of realtors, teaching clients, and managing her time. She and husband, David, have two children, Dylan and Colby.

M. David Jones, '05, of Richmond, is minister for music arts at Mount Vernon Baptist Church.

Crystal D. Stokes, '05, of Alexandria, works at the Shakespeare Theatre Company/Harman Center for The Arts in Washington, D.C., as the associate director of theatre services.

Elizabeth "Beth" Stollings Anderson, '05, of Virginia Beach, is a youth minister at King's Grant Baptist Church. Her husband, Ryan, works for Nationwide Insurance.

'06s



Michelle Duffer, '06, of South Boston, was promoted to senior associate with Goodman & Company. Michelle interned with Goodman & Company in 2006 and then worked for a national bank before joining Goodman & Company fulltime as an associate in 2007.

David Addison Hammack, '06, of Chatham, has graduated from Hollins University with a master of arts degree in liberal studies with a concentration in political science. Hammack maintained a 3.81 GPA in graduate school and wrote a 55 page master's thesis on the breaking of ties between the Virginia Baptists and Averett University.

'07s

Gretchen Weil Fisher, '07, of Fayetteville, N.C., is pursuing a master's degree in biology at FSU.

John Fisher, '07, of Fayetteville, N.C., is a history teacher and football coach at Gray's Creek High School.



1991
The Emily Swain Grousbeck Music Center is constructed. A bachelor's degree in airway science is added.



1990
The North Campus and the Equestrian Center properties are acquired.

The first graduates of the AACE program (now GPS) receive degrees.

1988
Averett Adult Curriculum for Excellence (AACE) program (now GPS) begins offering classes in Danville and Vienna.

Weddings

Jessica Rakes, '99,
and Jeremy Middleswarth,
September 1, 2007

Andrea L. Boles, '01,
and Michael W. Mayberry,
April 19, 2008

Justin D. Emmert, '02,
and Helen E. Norman,
October 25, 2008

Daniel Carroll, '03,
and Noelle Selb,
December 20, 2008

Robert F. "Bobby" Dalton, '03,
and Jacqueline M. Greene,
September 20, 2008

Virginia "Ginny" Jones, '03,
and Christopher Rawls,
June 2007

Brandon C. Reynolds, '04,
and Emily B. Stowe,
June 21, 2008

Kaylin E. Braham, '05, '07,
and **Nicholas C. Sturdiven, '07,**
October 25, 2008

Laura C. Manning, '05,
and **Eric R. Walker, '05,**
June 28, 2008

Elizabeth "Beth" Stollings, '05,
and Ryan Anderson,
August 16, 2008

Heather M. Stowe, '05,
and **David E. Martin, '98,**
April 19, 2008

Sara B. Tucker, '05,
and **Michael L. Stites, '06,**
May 24, 2008

Kristen M. Dodds, '06,
and Travis C. Williams,
November 8, 2008

Laura E. Herring, '07,
and Jerry L. Trammell,
June 14, 2008

Jessica L. Searce, '07,
and Harry W. Oakes, III,
June 14, 2008

Amy D. Taylor, '07,
and Jason B. Sheetz,
December 13, 2008

Gretchen Weil, '07,
and **John R. Fisher, '07,**
June 14, 2008



Arian McFaddin, Abigail Hager, **Lisa DeMaria '07, Gretchen Fisher '07, John Fisher '07, Wilson Fisher, Shan Fairbanks '08** - in red in the second row), Mark Fisher, **Jeffery Betancourt '08** and **John Shifflett '07.**

Births

Jim Washington, '91,
twin sons, Joseph and Jesse,
July 16, 2008

Adam W. Cope, '94,
a son, Jackson,
October 8, 2008



Kelly Toombs Creed, '97,
and **Brian Creed, '97**
a son, Jonathan Lee,
October 23, 2008

Robyn Marshall Miller, '97,
a son, William Dylan,
November 12, 2007



Laura Daniel Cross, '99,
a daughter, Madalyn Leigh,
July 3, 2007

Amy Cross, '00,
a daughter, Amelia J. Cross,
June 24, 2006
a son, Logan T. Cross,
July 21, 2008

1992

The first Honors Convocation is held to recognize students' academic achievements.



1993

The new Equestrian Center is built on 100 acres in Providence, N.C.

The women's soccer team competes for the first time in the Dixie Conference.

The Averett Honors Program begins.

1995

Averett receives the largest gift in its history, a \$2.84 million dollar bequest from the estate of former Trustee Mary B. Blount of Roanoke.

Amy Matthews Silvey, '00,
and **James Silvey, '03,**
a daughter, Ally Savannah,
November 1, 2008

Lori Huffman Austin, '01,
and **Mark W. Austin, '00,**
a daughter, Madison Grace,
June 9, 2007



Adrian Turner Nester, '01, '03,
and **Joel P. Nester, '00,**
a son, Patrick Daniel,
August 5, 2008



Kelli Helms Mayhorn, '01,
a daughter, Emma Elizabeth,
April 29, 2008

Kimberley Ellis Allen, '02,
and **James "J.R." Allen, '02,**
a son, Parker Reid,
October 22, 2008



Amanda Woodward Barber, '03,
and **Travis N. Barber, '03,**
a son, Keegan,
May 25, 2008

LaShandra Farmer Edmonds, '03,
and **Daniel "D.J." Edmonds, '01,**
a son, Dedrick,
April 2, 2008

Virginia "Ginny" Rawls, '03,
a daughter, Abigail Grace,
February 19, 2008

Christine Babin Holloway, '05,
a son, Colby,
March 6, 2006

Deaths

Julia Wyatt Smith, alumna,
of Rockville, Md.,
June 8, 2008

Annie Kathryn Midkiff, alumna,
of Keeling,
October 22, 2008

Ruth Walton English, '32,
of Greensboro, N.C.,
March 11, 2009

Ruth Ledbetter Brown, '33,
of Easton, Penn.

Virginia Hudge Widgen, '34,
of Nassawadox,
February 22, 2009

Margaret H. Ashworth, '35,
of Brosville,
November 21, 2008

Elizabeth M. Davis, '35,
of Danville,
November 13, 2008

Mildred Fulton Owen, '36,
of Danville,
August 13, 2008

Charlotte Meadows Law Troutman, '37,
of Chatham,
April 5, 2008

Marjorie Smith Garrett, '38,
of Danville,
September 5, 2008

Fern I. Bryant, '39,
of Kingsport, Tenn.,
December 4, 2008

Nancy Gardener Aaron, '42,
of Christiansburg,
May 7, 2009

Rowena Shaw Carter, '42,
of Danville,
May 6, 2009

Mary Garrett Glidewell, '42,
of Danville,
February 3, 2009

Marie Harper Laramore, '42,
of Danville,
November 24, 2008

Elizabeth Motley Noonkester, '42,
of Danville,
May 8, 2009

1996

The David S. Blount
Chapel in Frith Hall
is dedicated.

Bishop Hall's Conference
Center is created.

1997

North Campus
baseball,
softball and
soccer fields are
completed.



1998

The E. Stuart James Grant
Convocation and Athletic Center is
completed on property
across the Dan River, at the newly
acquired North Campus. AACE
changes its name to Graduate and
Professional Studies (GPS).

Geneva Bradley Newman, '42,
of Danville,
November 22, 2008

Garland Murray Wyatt, '42,
former Trustee,
of Danville,
October 2, 2008

Jane Searce Hines, '44,
of Cascade,
June 23, 2008

Betty Smith Cox, '45,
of Richmond,
August 28, 2008

Naomi Eutelia Ferguson, '45,
April 27, 2009

Norma Fane Lineback Hill, '46,
of Ashville, N.C.,
March 27, 2008

Wilma Klose Leightle, '46,
of Morris Plains, N.J.,
February 25, 2009

Lois Mae Barker, '47,
of Richmond,
December 7, 2008

Maynard L. Inman, '47,
of Roanoke,
September 20, 2008

William "Bill" Orlando Gravely, '48,
of Martinsville,
June 9, 2008

Marianna Rounds Holloway, '48,
of Salisbury, Md.,
May 11, 2007

Priscilla L. Kilgour Pancoast, '48,
of Berryville,
August 9, 2008

**Mary Susan "Susie" Upchurch Keller
Harrison, '49,**
of Jacksonville, Fla.,
May 6, 2008

Ida Ginwright Lewis, '50,
of Danville,
November 25, 2008

Nancy Randel Kohlenberger, '51,
of Scotch Plains, N.J.,
September 26, 2008

Margaret Banks Broughal, '52,
of New York, N.Y.,
September 2006

Theresa Anne Love Thomas, '53,
of Tarboro, N.C.,
June 12, 2008

Virginia H. Pels Brown, '54,
of Coventry, Conn.,
July 28, 2008

Mary Jo Davis, '55, former staff,
of Danville,
August 29, 2008

Charlotte McGhee Bard, '56,
of Midlothian,
February 12, 2009

Jeanne S. Hicks Burton, '56,
of Danville,
November 11, 2008

Hugh "Pat" Hughes, '56,
of Wilksboro, N.C.,
February 3, 2009

Carolyn Mary Lou Hart Tingler, '56,
of Vinton,
October 2, 2008

Martha Schaub Bowles, '61,
of Naples, Fla.,
September 16, 2007

Helen Wright Cumbo, '61,
of Danville,
October 23, 2008

Ann M. Dix, '61,
of Crofton, Md.,
February 5, 2009

Linda Rilla Widener Kinney, '66,
of Winston-Salem, N.C.,
November 23, 2008

Virginia Lee Johnson Kain Lambert, '66,
of Rockville,
August 25, 2007

Margaret Camille Bailey Donaldson, '68,
of Virginia Beach,
September 13, 2008

Margaret Dukes Cooper, '74,
of Chatham,
June 29, 2008

Ronald S. Dillard, '74,
of Danville,
June 24, 2008

Cynthia Tenhoeve Gabler, '75,
of Stuart's Draft,
June 27, 2007

Charles Hodges, AS, '75; BS, '78,
of Pensacola, Fla.,
August 21, 2008

Helen Mattox Talbott, '75,
of Danville,
June 27, 2008

2000

The Averett Commons apartments open, built on the former Kleinoder soccer field. Averett fields its first football team. Averett partners with Virginia Tech and DCC on Aug. 31 to establish a new learning center in the area (The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research).



2001

The College name is changed to Averett University on July 1. The first Averett University diplomas are awarded on Dec. 3.



Bruce L. Hairston, '76,
of Danville,
March 4, 2009

William "Bill" T. Hathaway, '76,
of Danville,
March 4, 2009

Cathy Mason Edwards, '77,
of Dry Fork,
December 23, 2008

Samuel Lee Massie, '77,
of Danville,
July 29, 2008

Kevin L. Oliver, '78,
of Danville,
March 12, 2009

Elizabeth Willis Allen, '79,
of Danville,
July 25, 2008

Frances Fox Kepchar, '79,
of Danville,
October 22, 2008

Steven Evans Smith, '81,
of Ruther Glen,
November 2, 2008

Mildred New Hathaway, '86,
of Richmond,
January 23, 2009

Landi Elliott Bradner, '88,
of Blanch, N.C.,
November 4, 2008

Carl E. Nuckols, '90,
of Durham, N.C.,
May 9, 2009

Michael W. Walthall, Jr., '92,
of South Boston,
October 5, 2008

Joseph P. Hylan, '94,
of Dumfries,
October 26, 2008

Judith Mahone Hurley, '95,
of Mechanicsville,
December 31, 2008

Tracy Haymore Owens, '98,
of Danville,
June 25, 2008

Geoffrey Charles Torrance, '98,
of North Potomac, Md.,
October 28, 2008

Michelle Huckabee Howard, '99,
of Danville,
May 17, 2008

Dorothea E. Holland, M.Ed., '03,
of Danville,
April 26, 2008

Samuel P. Wray, '07,
of Portsmouth,
January 18, 2009

Tonya Adkins Hyler, '09,
of Danville,
March 19, 2009

Samuel Beckerman, former faculty,
of Cape Coral, Fla.,
August 3, 2007

G. Rodney Beals, former administration,
of Greensboro, N.C.,
October 14, 2008

B. Carrington Bidgood, former Trustee,
of Danville,
January 3, 2009

Kenneth R. Brinkley, former staff,
of Dry Fork,
October 8, 2008

William S. Leach, former Trustee,
of Middleburg,
December 5, 2008

William G. Longest Jr., former Trustee,
of Richmond,
February 19, 2009

Norma L. Roady, faculty emeritus,
of Newport News,
March 1, 2009

Gerald D. Stocks, former faculty,
of Fredericksburg,
November 7, 2008



2002

Richard Anthony Pfau begins his term as the new president on July 1.



2004

A groundbreaking ceremony is held for a new student center, Oct. 14, to be located at the corner of Woodland Drive and Townes Street.



2005

Averett's GPS Program adds an M.Ed. program in the Lynchburg area. The Baptist General Association of Virginia cuts their ties with Averett on April 6. NASA selects Averett as the general manager of the SATS Lab project. The test flight of NASA's Small Aircraft Transportation System (SATS) takes place at the Danville Regional Airport.

In Memory of Miss Norma Roady

Miss Norma Roady who taught physical education and health at Averett for 30 years passed away March 1, 2009, at her home in Newport News.

Miss Roady is remembered as someone who was always kind and available to lend a listening ear to students and colleagues. She had a gentle demeanor and always had a funny story or two to share. Whether she had known you for 30 years or for just a short time, Miss Roady took a personal interest in you and offered heartfelt words of encouragement. Miss Roady gave her best to her students and, in turn, demanded that they give their best. An Averett graduate recalled that students always wanted to work hard for Miss Roady because of the mutual respect that existed between her and her students.

Miss Roady coached field hockey and basketball. Her players remember that no matter how competitive things were on the field of play, Miss Roady reminded them that they were always ladies representing Averett. After a particularly hard-fought field hockey match against Chatham Hall, the Averett team—hot and tired—was led into a Chatham Hall meeting room for refreshments. To their amusement they found their hosts had prepared hot tea and crumpets—served on a table draped with a white tablecloth, set next to a blazing fire. Sensing the muted laughter, Miss Roady quickly informed her team that they were not only going to drink the tea and eat the



crumpets, they would do so with their pinkies raised.

As a teacher, her passion had a way of impacting her students personally and professionally. An alumna recalled how Miss Roady's enthusiasm, vigor and care gave her the incentive to work with younger children. Another graduate described how as she taught and coached, she became more like her mentor, Miss Roady. A colleague, new to Averett, recalled how Miss Roady was always available to help with questions or problems and how she had a special ability to find humor in difficult situations.

All of her Averett students and friends have great Miss Roady stories to share, but the details of Miss Roady's life before Averett are less well-known. She was a graduate of Longwood University and spent 12 years teaching in the Danville Public School System. Before attending Longwood, Miss Roady served her country as a driver for the Army Transportation Corp. in Newport News. In 1943, fresh out of high school and with no money to attend college, Miss Roady

spent 30 months transporting soldiers in ambulances, staff cars and jeeps. At the age of 17, she was the youngest driver on staff. She had clearance to enter security areas and, even years later, was still guarded about sharing the stories of her adventures. She even had the chance to meet and talk with comedian Red Skelton but wasn't allowed to tell any of her friends. Miss Roady recalled, "That knocked out of my head the idea of running back in the lounge and yelling 'guess who I just met?'"

Although she was never one to seek honor, Miss Roady was touched by her 2000 induction into the Cougar Club Hall of Fame and the institution of the Norma L. Roady Senior Academic Excellence Award—given to the outstanding Averett senior majoring in physical education. But more important to Miss Roady than any of these honors, were her friendships with former students and colleagues. Her own words, describing her time at Averett, summed it up best: "I loved it—well most of it. My life has been a very happy one."

Godspeed Miss Roady. If they serve tea and crumpets in heaven, we know you're having a good laugh.

2006

The Graduate and Professional Studies Program announces the expansion of its accelerated Master of Education degree program to Chesapeake, Martinsville, and Richmond. Averett's new Student Center opens its doors.



2008

Dr. Tiffany McKillip Franks is named the 24th President of Averett University.

A Tribute to Mary Jo Davis, '55

Mary Jo Davis, '55, Averett's beloved former dean, passed away Aug. 29, 2008. Mary Jo joined Averett as director of alumni relations and admissions counselor in 1965, beginning a career with Averett that would span four decades. She proved herself an exemplary leader, and when Averett began the transformation from a two-year women's college to a four-year, coeducational institution, Mary Jo was called upon to assume the pivotal role of dean of students. In the 1980s, she returned to the development office to lead Averett's alumni program and fundraising efforts before retiring in 1999. She served Averett for 34 years touching the lives of countless students and alumni.

It was impossible to be around Mary Jo for very long without sharing a laugh. Not only was she Averett's best source for institutional memory, she was Averett's best storyteller. Some favorite Mary Jo stories include her falling out of an ambulance and nearly out of her dress during her first day as dean, figuring out that guys were sneaking into the girls' dorm via an old trap door and entering her office one day to find a live duck wearing a bib that read "MJD The Duck."

"I'm a great believer in laughter," Davis once said. "I think you can find a little something funny in almost everything that happens. I'm very fortunate that humor has saved me on more than one day. It certainly did as dean of students."

No matter the titles Mary Jo assumed she was always both a teacher and a learner. She held degrees from Averett, Longwood College and earned a master of education degree from The College of William and Mary. At her retirement, she explained that the lessons she learned from students were much more fun and sometimes more useful than her formal training.

"I have to say that no matter what I have taught—I have learned four times more. It's incredible what I've learned from students. (When you work) with young people you have to stay on your toes. You can't let your mindset get old. You must learn a lot."

It is impossible to capture in words what Mary Jo Davis meant to Averett. Her contributions to this University are evident at every turn of the campus. Her legacy is etched in the lives of Averett alumni.

Even in her retirement and even in the final stages of her battle with cancer, Davis loved to hear about Averett and, in particular, to hear news from former students. She listened with a nod and a smile to plans for our 150th anniversary celebration. She warmly welcomed the arrival of President Tiffany Franks. She expressed her belief in Averett and her confidence in our future. It was her optimism, her generosity of spirit, her refusal to get stuck in sadness that provided a great example and final lesson for us all.

"I'm always pretty sure that everything is going to be the biggest and the best and just wonderful," Davis once said. "I think it's so much better to be optimistic and very positive. Every day isn't going to be 'okay,' but that's part of it. You're going to have a lot of trials and tribulations, but you cannot dwell on that. You just have to pick up and move on."

Averett is not the same without Mary Jo Davis, but we move forward with the optimism, courage and irrepressible enthusiasm that was so characteristic of her personality. That is, after all, what she would have wanted. That is a legacy worth holding onto.

For more Mary Jo stories, told in the words of her friends, visit Averett's oral history project: Yesterdays With Mary Jo Davis www.averett.edu/AU150.



Prillaman-Davis Endowed Scholarship

Prior to her death, Mary Jo established the Prillaman-Davis Endowed Scholarship in memory of her parents. This fund was important to Mary Jo, and she provided for it in her estate. Many alumni and friends have added their donations as a way to honor Mary Jo's memory. Today, \$106,365 has been donated to the scholarship. The goal is to reach the \$500,000 funding level—a level that would fund a full-tuition scholarship for one student each year.

If you would like to honor Mary Jo's memory with a donation to this scholarship, you may use the envelope included in this magazine.

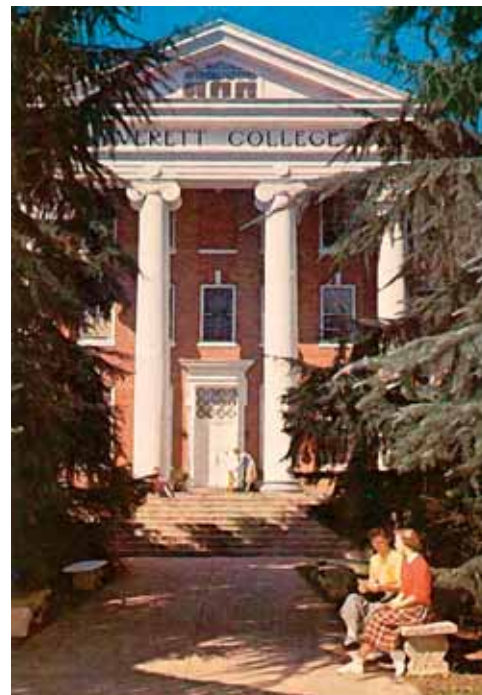
(NOTE: If you would like your contribution to be added to the Prillaman-Davis Scholarship, please indicate that on your check or include written instructions with your gift.)

Class of 1959 Pledges Support for Beloved Main Hall

The Class of 1959 is celebrating its 50th class reunion year with a pledge of support for Main Hall restoration. Their gifts are being combined with those previously contributed.

Averett is renewing its emphasis on Main Hall with a vision for returning the building to its historic role as a center of campus activity. The building currently houses residence halls, as well as faculty and administrative offices. Plans call for a multi-phased restoration that will move many of Averett's key student services functions into Main. Restorations already underway include updates to student living areas.

To join the Class of 1959, and add your support to the restoration of Averett's signature building, please use the envelope enclosed in this magazine. Be sure to indicate that your gift is for Main Hall restorations.



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*Discounts and credits are available where state laws and regulations allow, and may vary by state. To the extent permitted by law, applicants are individually underwritten; not all applicants may qualify.

**Figure based on a February 2008 sample of auto policyholder savings when comparing their former premium with those of Liberty Mutual's group auto and home program. Individual premiums and savings will vary. Coverage provided and underwritten by Liberty Mutual Insurance Company and its affiliates, 175 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA. A consumer report from a consumer reporting agency and/or a motor vehicle report, on all drivers listed on your policy, may be obtained where state laws and regulations allow.

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Did you graduate in the 1950s?

We've lost touch with some of your classmates. If you know their whereabouts, help us reconnect. Contact the alumni office: 1-800-AVERETT, ext. 15676 or e-mail alumni@averett.edu.

Mary A. Boland, '50
Jane Leffler Brady, '50
Sarah Hines Hubbard, '50
Edythe Strealer Post, '50
Verna Chase Resetar, '50
Etta M. Schumann-Parker, '50
June T. Soyars, '50
Carol Devos Wreszin, '50
Alice E. Adams, '51
Sara Parker Ahlgren, '51
Dorothy Hawkins Alexander, '51
Margie Pace Amos, '51
Joan R. Boyd, '51
Ann M. Brown, '51
Marjorie Brown Bullock, '51
Evelyn McLaughlin Dysart, '51
Margaret Wilber Garber, '51
Fay Kinnamon Grant, '51
Marilyn R. Heckel, '51
Avery V. Huff, '51
Patricia Carpenter Martin, '51
Ann Green Paisley, '51
Veda Solary Panger, '51
Marjorie Martin Pierce, '51
Alma Green Robertson, '51
Katie P. Shaffer, '51
Audrey Hamilton Strong, '51
Mary Adams Turlington, '51
Betty Wood Wells, '51
Lorraine Smith Wilson, '51
Barbara Torrence Kent, '52
Frances Barber Marshall, '52
Mary F. Martin, '52
Mary Bohr Pennington, '52
Douglas A. Smith, '52
Dorothy Farr Ahrend, '53
Mary Lambert Fisher, '53
William E. Puryear, '53
Patricia Aldrich Schackman, '53
Ineze Eckberg Seastedt, '53
Elsie Grinstead Adams, '54
Dorothy A. Bailey, '54
Carolyn Harville Deloatche, '54
Dorothy Brown Ellis, '54

Mary Wilson Hailey, '54
Richard R. Moore, '54
Evelyn Blake Nelson, '54
Janie Handy Pauley, '54
Agnes E. Powell, '54
Nancy Wilson Baker, '55
Janet Long Daniel, '55
Mary Irwin Frey, '55
Kathleen J. Gentry, '55
Jeraldean Hancock Harrell, '55
Sara E. Irving, '55
Nancy Adcock Levrett, '55
Cora A. Manning, '55
Patricia A. Midtskang, '55
Lois Martin Roberts, '55
Martha Reed Snead, '55
Nancy Stover Washabaugh, '55
John H. Zechman, '55
Arian Albert, '56
Toby King Babelay, '56
Sara Shoemaker Barker, '56
Kenneth A. Collins, '56
Ruth Peck Duval, '56
Harriette Moseley Fogarty, '56
Janice Hunt Guiliana, '56
Mary Hite Keeten, '56
Elizabeth Griffin Noakes, '56
Alice Niedzinski Snow, '56
Emilie Lambert St. Clair, '56
Grace Hensley Taylor, '56
Jane Tice Touchet, '56
Beth A. Allison, '57
Barbara Haley Birchall, '57
Mary F. Clift, '57
Ruthann Zayak Cunningham, '57
Marta Negrin de Peri, '57
Cora Branch Disharoon, '57
Peggy Phillips Gravely, '57
Letty Reynolds Hurd, '57
Anne Lemons, '57
Nancy Miller Smith, '57
Gladys Orengo Von Rauchhaupt, '57
Joyce Freitag Weigand, '57
Dorothy Goodwyn Yates, '57

Barbara Braumann Alberr, '58
Shirley Lundeen Ballew, '58
Nancy Decker Bradley, '58
Susanne Clements Canoutas, '58
Camilla Harnsberger Chamberlain, '58
Jacqueline A. Crane, '58
Elizabeth Lynn Dalton, '58
Linda Hubbard Grogan, '58
Phyllis Houck, '58
Ruth Ink, '58
Olga Cabrera Kind, '58
Adriana Herrera Lay, '58
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Virginia Holmes Miraglia, '58
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Ruth Middleswarth Pikop, '58
Patricia C. Rooney, '58
Reva J. Scott, '58
Carolyn Baucom Shirley, '58
Mary Davis Smith, '58
Jean Ellis Tooke, '58
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Maria Lluís Chavez, '59
Virginia Patterson Cole, '59
Eleanor J. Cuddeback, '59
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Stephanie Drosdick Hawley, '59
Ruby Balderson Jewell, '59
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Anne Cummings Morgan, '59
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Ana B. Sanchez, '59
Mary Shumate Sheppard, '59
Jeanne Mahar Waterman, '59
Gail Moore Whitaker, '59



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