

1980

Old Dominion University: A Half Century of Service

John R. Sweeney
Old Dominion University

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Old Dominion University: A Half Century of Service

By Dr. James R. Sweeney

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Dr. James R. Sweeney

Archivist/Associate Professor of History
Old Dominion University

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Introduction

One of the values of history is the insight it provides into achievements to be gained in the future. We are proud of the history of Old Dominion University's first 50 years, and can see great promise in its future.

Dr. James R. Sweeney has written an informative account of the university's first half-century. It is a history of growth from a small two-year branch of the College of William and Mary to a state-supported university that has gained its own national reputation.

Old Dominion was founded during the early days of the Depression when Norfolk was the largest metropolitan area in the world without an institution of higher education. In those early years the school provided an education for students from southeastern Virginia who could not afford to go away to college. During the war years, it modified its programs to meet new demands, and by the end of the war it was providing the most comprehensive war-related training program of any school on the East Coast. The young school expanded its campus with war surplus barracks and other buildings after World War II to meet the needs of returning veterans. In the 1950s, bachelor's degree programs were first offered and technical training programs were added because they were not otherwise available to area students. In the 1960s, when the war babies came of age, new programs and buildings were added and the institution accelerated its development as a university. In the 1970s, the university mission was outlined and defined, and dramatic progress was made toward developing an urban, regional university of national significance.

Character and service are consistent themes woven throughout Dr. Sweeney's history of Old Dominion University's first 50 years. He has captured that spirit that has nurtured our evolution toward major university status.

Alfred B. Rollins Jr.
Aug. 14, 1980

An aerial photograph showing a multi-lane highway interchange in the 1930s. The highway curves through a landscape with scattered buildings and open fields. The text "1930s Humble Beginnings" is overlaid on the right side of the image.

**1930s
Humble
Beginnings**



During the '20s the city of Norfolk had the dubious distinction of being the largest city in the English-speaking world without an institution of higher learning. In 1919 the College of William and Mary had begun to offer extension courses in Norfolk, primarily for teachers. Courses were taught

by instructors who commuted from the Williamsburg campus. Fifty-four students enrolled during the first year of the program. By 1929-30, 356 students were enrolled in William and Mary courses offered in Norfolk.

Several leading citizens of Norfolk were active throughout the '20s in efforts to develop a local college. In 1922 an attempt was made to persuade the Board of Trustees of Randolph-Macon College to relocate that institution in Norfolk or Portsmouth. William Holmes Davis, a successful Norfolk businessman, was tireless in trying to found a college in Norfolk. He compiled statistics and wrote letters to the editors of local newspapers trying to convince Norfolks of the need for a college. Many citizens, however, may have agreed with an editorial in the *Ledger-Dispatch* in 1924 that remarked, "the time for such a movement is not yet ripe."

Along with Davis, the most active citizens in the cause of higher education in the mid-'20s included Robert Morton Hughes, a prominent admiralty lawyer, and A.H. Foreman, a Norfolk lawyer and educator.

Hughes, who had served from 1893 to 1917 on the Board of Visitors of the College of William and Mary, believed that a two-year

branch of the Williamsburg college should be established in Norfolk. He raised the issue with William and Mary's president, J.A.C. Chandler, as early as 1925. Chandler was receptive to the idea and Hughes became instrumental in the creation of the College Committee of the Norfolk-Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce in 1926. Headed by Dr. Charles R. Grandy, chairman of the Norfolk School Board, the committee studied the need for higher education in Norfolk and reported that a college, especially a junior college, was both needed and feasible. Unfortunately, the report was not followed by action—but Hughes persisted. By 1930 other developments, particularly the establishment of a university in Virginia Beach, caused William and Mary to act.

Atlantic University opened its doors in September 1930. Contemporaries recall that William Holmes Davis was most responsible locally for the creation of the university. Hughes saw the Virginia Beach institution, which received financial support from the Blumenthal brothers, bankers and brokers of New York City, as a threat to the interests of William and Mary in lower Tidewater. In a letter to Chandler in the spring of 1930 he wrote, "It seems to me that you should act promptly on your junior college plan if you intend to act at all."

Hughes and Joseph E. Healy had studied a proposed site on Boush Street in downtown Norfolk as a possible location for a junior college: Hughes recommended against it. Meanwhile Healy, principal of Blair Junior High School and director of William and Mary's extension program in Norfolk, had also looked into using the old Larchmont School for college classes. In a letter to Hughes dated Feb. 27, 1930, Healy described the building itself as suitable, the parking space as "abundant," and the transportation as "excellent." He noted that the Hampton Boulevard location was thought by some to be "too far removed from the center of things," but that he did not share that opinion.

Hughes was very receptive to Healy's suggestion. He wrote to Chandler, recommending that the college president come to Norfolk to inspect the site. A.H. Foreman, chairman of the Norfolk School Board and a member of William and Mary's Board of Visitors, and Norfolk Mayor S. Heth Tyler shared the other two men's enthusiasm. They promptly persuaded the City Council that the old school building should be turned over to the college.



*William and Mary President
J.A.C. Chandler*

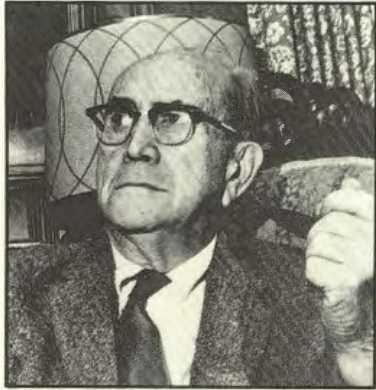


Albert H. Foreman

Chandler came to Norfolk and joined Hughes, Healy, and Foreman in a personal inspection of the Larchmont site. Chandler agreed that the school could be used, and accepted the city's generous offer to donate the building, on one condition. Keeping in mind future expansion, Chandler turned to Foreman and said, "Get an option on that field. We shall need that, too." He was pointing to a corn field on the south side of Bolling Avenue across from the old Larchmont School. The college later purchased the 12 acres of unimproved land. The cost of renovating the Larchmont School building and acquiring the land was \$51,415.

The Board of Visitors of William and Mary convened in a special meeting on March 13, 1930. They accepted the old Larchmont School building from the city of Norfolk, and plans to begin the Norfolk branch went forward immediately.

In June, Chandler paid a dramatic visit to Norfolk. From Foreman's office he telephoned Healy at Blair Junior High School and asked him to come downtown immediately. When Healy arrived in Foreman's office, Chandler issued marching orders: "Healy, employ a secretary, install a telephone, and prepare a catalog for me



Joseph E. Healy



Robert M. Hughes

to be on my desk next Saturday." On June 13 Chandler announced to the press that the College of William and Mary would open a Norfolk Division in the old Larchmont School building.

Healy followed Chandler's instructions to the letter, modeling the first catalog of the Norfolk Division of the College of William and Mary on the one issued by the parent institution. Dated June 1930, the catalog was approved by Chandler and quickly went to the printer. It contained general information about the new college, courses of instruction, and the names of the college administrators. Healy was listed as acting director. Because of Chandler's desire to see the catalog in print, it was not possible to include any information about the faculty. Chandler told the press that 25 or 30 "university-trained professors" would be employed and the faculty would be "of the same type, experience and training as the instructors in the college at Williamsburg, and the groups will be interchangeable."

Healy enrolled the Division's first students on the Monday following Chandler's visit. Albert E. Wilson and his cousin Ruth Wilson were waiting for Healy when he arrived at his new office that day. Ruth had been delayed because she went first to Healy's office

at Blair Junior High School, and hence the distinction of being the first student at the new college belongs to Albert E. Wilson. Eventually 125 men and 81 women registered for classes in September.

As a branch of the well-known and highly respected William and Mary, the new college had a significant advantage in attracting faculty. Also, 1930 was a year of economic decline—jobs in the academic world were hard to find. Dr. Perry Y. Jackson became one of the original young faculty members. Jackson had been teaching at a small college in Missouri, but most of his ties were in the East. During the summer of 1930 one of his graduate professors at the University of Chicago told him of an opening at William and Mary. A classmate of Jackson's at Chicago, William Guy, had been teaching at William and Mary for two years and seemed pleased with his employment there. Jackson inquired and Chandler invited him to Williamsburg. When he arrived, the William and Mary president told him of his plan for the campus in Norfolk. Jackson recalls that Chandler's "enthusiasm was contagious and when he offered me an appointment as professor at the new campus I was pleased to accept." Chandler summoned him to Norfolk immediately.



The former Larchmont School, built in 1912.

The old Larchmont School required extensive renovations to make it suitable for college classes, and Jackson was needed to check out the new chemistry laboratory and equipment. He found that the equipment was "of excellent quality but it had been constructed in the State Prison and installation was proceeding under the supervision of uniformed guards with shotguns."

Chandler wanted about half the instruction in Norfolk to be conducted by faculty from the Williamsburg campus, who would commute to Norfolk three days a week. Dr. A. Rufus Tonelson, a member of the first class of the Norfolk Division, recalls that the professors who came down from Williamsburg presented their courses in the same way they did at William and Mary. Tonelson particularly remembers Dr. Charles F. Marsh in economics, Dr. Daniel J. Blocker in sociology, and Dr. Kathleen Bruce in history.

The policy of bringing faculty from Williamsburg gradually changed, however, because travel was expensive. Also, commuting professors tended to miss faculty meetings and do little more than teach classes. Indeed, relations between the Norfolk Division and its parent institution became rather formal as the commuting faculty played only a minor role in the life of the college and the Norfolk community. Eventually, a faculty entirely resident in the Norfolk area was hired.

The quality of the faculty assembled during the early years was remarkable. In particular, 1931 was a banner year for attracting bright young faculty members who would make long-lasting contributions to the college. Dr. W. Gerald Akers, who had earned a doctorate at the University of Heidelberg, was hired to teach German and Spanish. In an unusual turnabout, Akers was also asked to commute to Williamsburg to teach Spanish at the parent college. He remained on the faculty until his retirement in 1972. Dr. Ernest Gray, who had been an instructor in English at Brown University, joined the staff and remained at the college until 1947. Dr. David S. Prosser, a certified public accountant, came from the College of the City of Detroit to teach courses in business and economics, and remained until 1944. Biology professor Dr. E. Ruffin Jones spent 15 years at the Norfolk Division. Alice Burke, who taught courses in government, left the faculty in 1941. Robert C. McClelland taught ancient languages until his death in 1962. He also served as director of the evening college and was a prolific author.

The Great Depression was a major factor in the Norfolk Division's early success in attracting students. Rufus Tonelson recalls that "the majority of students that did enroll . . . did so because financially it was within the reach of their parents." Tuition and fees in 1930 were \$50 per semester (payable in advance). Laboratory fees were \$7.50 per semester. In accordance with the terms of the original agreement between the College of William and Mary and the city of Norfolk

transferring title to the old Larchmont School, the college agreed to award full tuition scholarships each year to 10 Norfolk students chosen by the city school board.

Dr. Frederick B. Hill, formerly of Portsmouth, recalls his feelings when he entered the college on Sept. 12, 1930. The Depression had diminished his chance to go away to college as he had planned. The Norfolk Division offered educational salvation. He was happy that there would be a chance for a college education, but there was also some doubt "whether a new local college could provide a meaningful educational experience."

A library was hastily improvised in Room 18 of the former Larchmont School. There was no study hall or cafeteria—students ate at the new Larchmont School across Hampton Boulevard. As Hill puts it, "This was probably the only time in educational history when a school cafeteria served both grade school children and college students." Tonelson recalls that because of the poor library facilities, the professors would, at the beginning of the semester, bring 25 or 30 books with them to be placed in the classroom. Physical education classes often consisted of running along Bolling Avenue down to the waterfront and back.

In the late summer of 1930 President Chandler appointed a full-time director for the Norfolk Division, Mr. H. Edgar Timmerman. Timmerman, a young man of 29, was a doctoral candidate at Columbia University and an instructor in history at New York University. Dr. W. Gerald Akers remembers him as "a blustery, get-it-done sort of fellow. He seemed to be well-liked by the students . . . and we [the faculty] thought of him as a reasonably efficient director." Timmerman resigned in 1932 after completing his second year as director. His successor was Dr. Edward M. Gwathmey, a professor of English at William and Mary. Gwathmey's tenure was to be brief. He came to Norfolk in September and resigned on Dec. 31 to become president of Converse College in Spartanburg, S.C. Chandler then called upon Dr. William T. Hodges, William and Mary's extension director and dean of men, to assume control of the Norfolk Division.

By the time Dean Hodges came to Norfolk, the threat posed by Atlantic University had passed. Tuition and other expenses at the Norfolk Division were much lower and the Virginia Beach institution began to lose students. The Depression had also had an unfavorable impact on Atlantic University's financial backers, and it ceased

operations in December 1931. Many of the institution's students transferred to the Norfolk Division, which purchased Atlantic University's laboratory equipment and supplies, and a portion of the library. Dr. Jackson recalls that when he and others went to Virginia Beach to pick up the equipment, they saw "white smoke pouring from a large ceramic jar—an open jar containing great sticks of yellow phosphorus." The water had evaporated from the phosphorus, which was ready at any moment to burst into flame. Since the chemicals were stored in a rented hotel constructed almost entirely of wood, Jackson concludes, "That day we saved Virginia Beach from a possible holocaust."



Dr. Perry Y. Jackson



H. Edgar Timmerman

An important development in the early history of the Norfolk Division was the establishment of a cooperative arrangement with Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Chandler asked VPI President Julian A. Burruss to work with him in bringing higher education to Norfolk. Burruss agreed to VPI's offering the first two years of its standard engineering program at the Norfolk Division beginning in September 1931. A member of the VPI faculty, W. Forrest Harrington, was assigned to supervise and direct the program. VPI Dean of Engineering E.B. Norris said that the program would enable the school to bring its facilities in technical education "directly to the

people in this area who are unable to go away for a four-year college training." The Ledger-Dispatch rejoiced over the cooperative effort, calling it "a remarkable development in the field of advanced education."

During the first year of the cooperative program, Harrington was joined by A. Lee Smith, a faculty member of the Norfolk Division. In the second year (1932-33), additional engineering specialties were offered and two new instructors, Lewis W. Webb Jr. and Edward White, were hired. The latter appointments were two of the most important in the history of the institution.

Webb and White had each received a Master of Science from VPI in 1932, but had no immediate prospects for employment. Dean Norris invited them to teach in the program at the Norfolk Division, and they accepted without hesitation. Teaching in Norfolk meant a return home for both men. Indeed, Lewis Webb had attended elementary school in the old Larchmont School. White and Webb remained at the college until both retired in the early '70s. White taught engineering courses for 42 years and served as the associate dean of the School of Engineering. Lewis Webb served as the college's chief executive officer from 1946 to 1969.

Dean Hodges (who had succeeded Gwathmey as director of the Norfolk Division in 1933) became one of Norfolk's most popular educators. He graduated from William and Mary in 1902, and received a doctorate from Harvard in 1925. He had been state supervisor of rural education and superintendent of schools in Arlington County before returning to his alma mater as a professor of education in 1920. He served in several administrative posts at William and Mary and displayed a sincere interest in the Norfolk Division even before his appointment as director.

Hodges made other lasting contributions to Norfolk and the young college. He was a close friend of horticulturist Fred Heutte, superintendent of parks and forestry in Norfolk. Heutte worked closely with Hodges to improve and beautify the campus. In 1937, Hodges took Heutte to visit the Azalea Gardens in Charleston, S.C., a visit that ultimately resulted in Heutte's design and development of Norfolk's famed Azalea Gardens.

Hodges is best remembered for his love for the students, whom he often remembered by name long after they had left school. He was the personification of the traditional college dean, devoted above all to his students.

*Lewis W. Webb Jr. and comedian Eddie Cantor at
a campus convocation held in April 1950.*





Dedication of Foreman Field, Oct. 3, 1936. President John Stewart Bryan of William and Mary (applauding at left) and A.H. Foreman (standing at right).

Enrollment at the Norfolk Division increased to 455 in 1931-32 and to 480 the following year, and additional facilities became essential. Chandler's first proposal was modest. He asked for and received the approval of the Board of Visitors to seek \$50,000 from the federal government. A.H. Foreman was thinking in larger terms. Foreman recommended that William and Mary seek funds for the construction of a lecture and gymnasium building and a stadium. The money was to come from the Public Works Administration (PWA), one of the new federal agencies created under President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Thirty percent of the funds would be a grant and the remainder a loan. At a meeting on Jan. 16, 1934, the William and Mary Board of Visitors authorized Chandler to apply to the PWA for \$240,000 to build the two structures. The board pledged that students would be charged an additional fee of \$40 per year and that this fee and admission charges collected at the stadium would be segregated into a fund for repayment of the loan.

No one questioned the need for the classroom/gymnasium building; however, the construction of a major stadium for the little

Norfolk Division seemed unusual. The reason lay in the close relationship between the college and the city of Norfolk. The city did not have a suitable stadium, and was not eligible for a federal grant/loan. The college was eligible and therefore made the application.

The PWA approved the application for a loan and grant of \$100,000 for the new building, but refused funds for the stadium. Ground was broken for the new building on May 31, 1935. An additional loan of \$20,000 was approved for a swimming pool to complement the new gymnasium. The building, to be called the Administration Building, was ready for occupancy in September 1936. It contained a library, administrative offices, six new classrooms, two gymnasiums, and the swimming pool. Although a group of students petitioned that the building be named Hodges Hall in honor of the dean, the name "Administration Building" remained the common designation of the multipurpose facility.

Another federally assisted project enhanced the appearance of the small campus. A landscaping and beautification program was launched with a direct grant of \$38,000 from the Works Progress Administration (WPA). Included in this project was the construction of a serpentine brick wall between the new building and Hampton Boulevard. Money for constructing new walks and planting additional trees, shrubs, and flowers was also allocated. With the assistance of the city and the rare talent of Heutte, Hodges's vision made the Norfolk Division a pleasant place in which to teach and study. Hodges said the beautification project "will not only enlarge, beautify and enclose, but 'unify' all of our property into a real and true campus."

Although the initial effort to obtain funds for a stadium had failed, Foreman persisted. An agreement was negotiated between the college and the city for the construction of a facility seating approximately 5,500 spectators. The city acquired five acres of land, deeded it to the college, and then applied to the Virginia Emergency Relief Administration for funding. The project was approved on June 18, 1935. Additional funding was obtained through the WPA, making it possible to expand the seating capacity to 17,500. Foreman played a key role in obtaining these funds.

Colgate W. Darden Jr. represented Norfolk in Congress at that time. He recalls that Foreman contacted his friend, Adm. Cary

Grayson, who had been President Woodrow Wilson's personal physician. Grayson was living in retirement in Washington, and was a friend of President Roosevelt and others in the White House. "More than anybody else," according to Darden, "Cary Grayson was the man that got the WPA money . . . for William and Mary here in Norfolk." The student newspaper, *The High Hat*, reported in November 1935 that the college presented Foreman with a resolution of thanks for his efforts in bringing it into existence and for his continuing involvement with the institution. Appropriately, the stadium bears the name "Foreman Field."

The new stadium was dedicated amid much pageantry on Oct. 3, 1936. Fifteen thousand spectators gathered for a football game between the University of Virginia and William and Mary. Dean Hodges admonished the students in his *High Hat* column: "It is highly important for the Norfolk Division to both look its best and do its best tomorrow." Gov. George C. Peery, President John Stewart Bryan (who succeeded Chandler in 1934), and Mayor W.R.L. Taylor of Norfolk were among the guests at the game. The editor of *The High Hat* hailed the event as the beginning of a new era for the college. UVA's Cavaliers triumphed (7-0) in what a student writer described as "a rather dull game," but nevertheless, the crowd enjoyed the festivities and bright sunshine of a Saturday afternoon in early fall. That evening a football dance sponsored by the Norfolk Chamber of Commerce was held at the 12th Street Armory.

Athletics played a major role at the Norfolk Division in the '30s. In July 1930, President Chandler appointed Thomas L. Scott athletic director and football coach at the Norfolk Division. "Tommy" Scott had been a three-sport star at Maury High School, and was one of the all-time athletic greats at Virginia Military Institute. He earned honorable mention on the 1930 Associated Press All-America football team. Scott coached four sports at the Division—basketball, baseball, track, and football—until his resignation in 1940.

Scott became a legendary figure. A coach who stressed integrity and manliness, he was genuinely interested in each of his players. They in turn felt warm affection for Scott, and many continue to remember him with fondness and respect. Rufus Tonelson recalls, "He was just like a father to me." In spring 1980 Scott was posthumously inducted as a charter member of the Old Dominion University Sports Hall of Fame.



Thomas L. Scott

During the '30s the Norfolk Division played mainly high-school, service and freshman teams. Football in particular received a great deal of attention during the college's first decade. The Division's first football game was played on Sept. 26, 1930, against Suffolk High School. Both teams wilted in the Indian-summer heat, and Suffolk High won, 7-0. However, Coach Scott declared himself pleased with the Braves' performance. The team was better prepared for its second game when they overwhelmed Oceana High School 47-0, and the "Scottmen" derived much satisfaction from a 13-6 victory over the William and Mary freshmen on Oct. 15. Home games were played at Bain Field, on East 20th Street near Church Street. By the fall of 1931 a practice field had been cleared on the property south of Bolling Avenue.

Perhaps the most famous occurrence in the 11-year history of football at the Norfolk Division was a game that was not supposed to take place. In 1932 a letter from the University of Miami (Florida) arrived at the Norfolk Division, proposing a game with William and Mary. A blank contract was enclosed. What an opportunity! The Norfolk Division, a two-year school, could travel south to play the Miami Hurricanes varsity team. Miami, of course, really wanted to play the William and Mary Indians, but the contract was signed and mailed back before someone noticed that it had been misaddressed. Faculty sponsors came forward to assist the team financially, and the Braves were sent south in a Pullman car for the game. Coach Scott's men fought hard, but lost 6-2. Tradition has it that that game was the forerunner of the first Orange Bowl game played the next year. Actually, it was a regular season game, but it gave those involved memories to last a lifetime.



Football action at Bain Field. The Norfolk Division Braves overwhelmed Gallaudet

Football continued as an intercollegiate sport at the Division until 1941. On Nov. 22, 1940, Tommy Scott submitted his resignation. A schedule was prepared for the 1941 season, a new coach hired, and the team went through spring practice. Several factors that would doom football at the Division were at work, however. The Division in the '30s was a commuter school where students came to the campus mainly for classes, and sports did not generate much enthusiasm. Attendance at athletic events in the late '30s was sparse. Dr. Akers recalls a game at Foreman Field where the total attendance was "about 20, including 14 students." The faculty and students believed it was wrong to devote such a large part of the school's budget to athletics, Akers recalls. Indeed, football was costing the school money. The final blow was a Southern Conference ruling that, as a branch of William and Mary, the Division could not use freshmen. Obviously, sophomores alone could not constitute a representative team. That ruling, and a \$10,000 football debt, ended football at the Division. In the previous 10 years, Scott's football teams had won 62 games, lost 19, and tied four.

Several other varsity sports had their beginnings at the Division in the 1930s. Tryouts for the men's basketball team took place in the fall of 1930. Once Scott formed the team, Blair Junior High School's gymnasium served as the home court. In their first game the Division



College 31-0 on Oct. 26, 1935.

squad defeated South Norfolk High School, 22-11. Most of the early opponents were high schools, but by the 1936-37 season all opponents were freshman and junior-college teams. When the gymnasium in the new Administration building was completed, games were played there. In 1940, Scott stepped down, having coached basketball at the Division for 10 years with a record of 97 wins and 84 losses. Seven of the 10 years had been winning seasons. A solid foundation for men's basketball at the Norfolk Division had been established.

The first decade also witnessed the beginnings of a baseball program, sometimes in the face of adversity. During the first year, there was no field nearby and practice was held across town at Lafayette Park. Games were played there or at Bain Field, also a good distance from campus. In baseball, as in other team sports, the Division's early opponents were mainly high school teams. Rufus Tonelson, who won 15 games at the Division, pitched an 8-3 victory over Deep Creek High School in the first game. In 1931-32 a new baseball diamond was laid out on the future site of the stadium. The players themselves did most of the work. After Foreman Field was completed, another diamond was built, this time behind the new Larchmont Elementary School. By 1936 Scott's teams had won 54 games, lost 66, and tied two. But the baseball program at the Division

was in serious trouble. On Feb. 16, 1940, *The High Hat* reported that the sport had been dropped because of the expense, lack of suitable opponents, and lack of facilities. Sports columnist Henry Howell decried this action, saying the college seemed to be "slipping where it should be climbing."

Track and swimming also made their appearance at the Division in the '30s, along with a program of athletics for women. Tommy Scott's widow recalls her husband's deep commitment to women's athletics. He laid the foundations of a program that ultimately led to national basketball championships for the Lady Monarchs in 1979 and 1980. In 1930, women's physical education instructor Mary D. Parker organized a women's basketball team, which played its first



Women's basketball, 1935-1936. The Squaws, coached by Catherine Cubberly, won six games, lost six, and tied one.

game against the William and Mary freshmen in March 1931. In 1936 Scott hired Margaret Holman to direct a diversified program of women's athletics, including badminton, fencing, basketball, swimming, ping-pong, field hockey, archery, and tennis.

A review of athletics in the first decade of the Norfolk Division reveals Tommy Scott's dominant role. Scott's influence extended beyond the college and into the community. Under his direction in the late '30s, Foreman Field and the swimming pool became a temporary summer camp for approximately 125 city boys and girls.

Although the Norfolk Division was a commuter school, there were sponsored social activities from the very beginning. The social clubs—Imps, Tri-K's, Alphas, Tigas, and Cotillions—primarily sponsored dances. When the first academic year concluded in June 1931, the Tigas held a dance at the Norfolk Country Club, and the Imps sponsored a dinner.

The college snack bar, known in the '40s and '50s as "Bud's Emporium," was begun during the 1930-31 academic year with J.W. (Gibby) Gibson as manager. Originally located in the basement corridor of the Larchmont School and later in Room 1, the snack bar was a favorite hangout for students. In 1934, Audrey T. "Bud" Paul, who had come to the college as a student in 1933, became manager of the establishment that soon would bear his name. A popular figure on campus, Bud was the Division's only resident, occupying a small room in the Administration Building after it opened in 1936. He died in 1948 and a memorial scholarship was established in his honor. In the early years, students purchased their textbooks at Shafer's bookstore on South Granby Street, but later the college sold textbooks at "Bud's Emporium." After Bud's death in 1948, Bessie Charity, who had joined the support staff in 1933, became manager of the snack bar.

Clubs related to students' interests appeared quickly. In a newspaper article of Jan. 1, 1931, Mr. H. Edgar Timmerman wrote that a dramatic society and an orchestra had been organized. Under Editor in Chief Wilson D. Chandler, *The High Hat* began publication on Nov. 14, 1930. It remained the student newspaper until 1961. Students planned a yearbook as early as 1933, and in 1936 members of Sigma Epsilon Pi, the chemistry honors fraternity, published *The Cauldron*, the Division's first college annual. Dr. Jackson recalls that *The Cauldron* received its name because the students "had poured everything into it." Thirteen other student organizations, with faculty and administration cooperation, assisted in publishing the annual.

A Student Government Association was established soon after the college opened in 1930. Officers of the Men's Student Body and the Women's Government Council were elected. But in the fall of 1932, the hazing of freshmen brought trouble to student government leaders. They had permitted the staining of freshmen boys' foreheads with silver nitrate, and the chemical left black smudges that lasted approximately a month. Outraged, President Chandler



Dr. William T. Hodges

abolished the student government after an address to the student body. The student government was re-established in March 1933.

The Dramatic Club, the (William) Byrd Literary Society, a VPI Glee Club, the Jones Biology Club, and several political clubs were also active in the '30s. The Science Exhibit of 1938 was visited by hundreds of people from the community, many of whom were amazed that such sophisticated work was going on at "Larchmont Tech." Nearly 200 students participated in the Greek festivals in 1938 and 1939, which included dances and theatrical performances and attracted approximately 2,000 spectators to Foreman Field.

The Norfolk Division had good reason to be proud of its dedicated faculty. Classes met six days a week. In the beginning, professors taught as many as 21 credit hours per semester. A public lecture series was initiated by the faculty in 1935 and several professors also participated in a series of radio lectures. The small faculty was extremely close-knit, meeting socially every week. Dean Hodges, however, feared that the Norfolk Division was in danger of losing its faculty by the late '30s. The professors were hired for "pitifully low salaries" when economic conditions were at their worst. Conditions had improved and prices had risen, but the salaries had remained very low. During 1937-38, Dr. Akers received only \$2,500, Tommy Scott \$1,800, and mathematics instructor A. Lee Smith \$1,500.



Dr. W. Gerald Akers

Faculty members supplemented their income by teaching at night and during the summer. Salaries improved, but meanwhile such outstanding figures as Smith, Dr. Perry Y. Jackson, Dr. Ernest Gray, Dr. E. Ruffin Jones, and Dr. David Prosser left the Norfolk campus.

Dean Hodges and friends of the Norfolk Division were distressed by the lack of financial support from the College of William and Mary. The parent college's initial outlays had been generous. On the other hand, Hodges had been told from the beginning that the Division would have to pay its own way. The Division, in short, was built on the familiar Virginia pay-as-you-go plan that often meant doing without needed items. Hodges discovered that despite "heroic efforts" it was not possible to finance both the building costs and the operating expenses of the Division on a pay-as-you-go basis.

An administrative decision by William and Mary made the Division's fiscal plight even more serious. From the beginning, it had been possible for some students to earn three years' credit at the Division. Up to 1937, 47 percent of the former Division students who graduated in Williamsburg had completed three years of work in Norfolk. In September 1937, William and Mary President John Stewart Bryan decreed that transferring Norfolk Division students must spend at least two years of study in Williamsburg. The new policy deprived the Division of approximately 50 students and their fees in September 1938.

As the '30s came to an end, the Norfolk Division of the College of William and Mary-VPI was meeting a genuine need in the community. In 1939-40 a faculty of 24 taught a student body that had grown to 522. About 15 percent of the day students who enrolled during the first eight years continued their studies in Williamsburg. An equal number went on to VPI. By 1938, 225 students from the Norfolk Division had gone on to William and Mary, 132 had graduated, and 11 had received Phi Beta Kappa honors. The students who received the greatest benefits from the Norfolk Division were those who, for financial reasons, were unable to continue their education beyond the Norfolk institution.

The Norfolk Division of the College of William and Mary-VPI made remarkable strides during its first decade. The Norfolk area was much richer for having the college. But the relationship with the parent college in Williamsburg had not been completely harmonious. Though Dean Hodges did not know it in 1939, troubled times for him and the Norfolk Division lay in the not-too-distant future.

1940s Defense, War, and Veterans





The 1940s were years of struggle for the Norfolk Division. It survived World War II, an academic scandal, inadequate funding, and an influx of returning veterans in 1946. By 1949 the college was more secure than a decade earlier, and was about to apply for formal accreditation as a junior college in 1950.

As World War II approached, several faculty members departed for military service. In October 1940, W. Forrest Harrington, coordinator of the VPI program in Tidewater, entered the Navy as a cryptographer. A. Lee Smith, who succeeded Harrington as head of the Civilian Pilot Training Program, joined the Navy early in April 1943. Perry Y. Jackson left temporarily in 1939 to teach at the Naval Academy, but the war intervened and he did not return to Norfolk. C.S. Sherwood, who replaced Jackson, also went to teach at Annapolis in 1942. He stayed there until 1946, when he returned to the college, remaining until his retirement in 1977.

In the spring of 1941 the Norfolk Division experienced the gravest crisis of its young life. On March 29, students, faculty, and the Norfolk community were stunned when *The Ledger-Dispatch* announced that William and Mary President John Stewart Bryan had asked for the resignation of Dean Hodges. Hodges was accused of altering grades on student transcripts being sent to other institutions. He resigned on April 30, 1941, but the institution was almost torn apart by the revelations and their aftermath. To understand the situation, some background must be provided.

Discontent with Hodges' administration had been growing for some time. The faculty complained that he disregarded its advice; there was dissatisfaction with the evening program; charges were made of misapplication of funds; and many believed that promotions and salary increases were granted capriciously. A committee representing the campus chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) traveled to Williamsburg early in February 1941 to make a formal presentation of their grievances to President Bryan and James W. Miller, dean of the faculty.

A few days later a more serious matter was raised. Alice R. Burke, registrar and assistant to Hodges, disclosed that Hodges had falsified grades and altered transcripts. When she refused to certify the altered documents, Hodges sent them out over his own signature.

President Bryan "was astounded and greatly disturbed" by the gravity of the allegation against Hodges. At a meeting with Bryan on March 21, Hodges admitted that he had tampered with the transcripts. Bryan said later that Hodges' acts could not be tolerated without seriously damaging the academic reputation of William and Mary. On March 25, after examining evidence that more than 35 transcripts had been altered, Bryan asked Hodges to resign. The dean agreed, but changed his mind the next day and asked for a hearing before the Board of Visitors. The hearing was scheduled for April 12.

The dean's pending dismissal precipitated one of the greatest furors in the history of Norfolk. His personality and his genuine love for his students had endeared Hodges to the Norfolk community. On March 30, The Virginian-Pilot commented editorially that the matter was a very serious one and should be studied carefully. Alumni chapters of the Norfolk Division in Williamsburg and Norfolk pledged their support to the dean. Many leading citizens of Norfolk came to his defense. The "Letters to the Editor" column of The Virginian-Pilot was filled with letters supporting the beleaguered dean. Business, civic, and fraternal organizations passed resolutions that praised him and asked that he be allowed to remain at his post. Attorney Robert M. Hughes Jr., a friend of Hodges, visited Bryan and requested a less serious discipline. On April 4, Hodges' supporters held an indignation meeting in the City Council chamber. The chamber was filled to standing-room capacity and many people stood in an adjoining hall. An organization was formed to let the

Board of Visitors know how strongly Norfolk wanted Hodges to remain at his post. "Whatever . . . the outcome of the effort to oust him," The Virginian-Pilot commented, "Friday's demonstration records the judgment of this community that the charges against Hodges that have so far been made public do not justify the kind of action against him that is being attempted." The newspaper concluded that the evidence simply did not warrant Hodges' dismissal. The students at the Norfolk Division also pledged their support in a meeting on April 8.

The hearing before the William and Mary Board of Visitors never took place. At the April 12 meeting Hodges was asked by the board to withdraw his request for a hearing and a compromise was offered. Hodges would remain in office for 30 days but be stripped of most authority. Meanwhile a special committee would study the question of William and Mary's ties to the Norfolk Division. Hodges agreed, and the compromise was framed as a board resolution with the provision that, whatever the outcome, the work of the Norfolk Division would continue. The resolution was adopted by the board and a three-man committee consisting of Judge Oscar L. Shewmake, chairman; A.H. Foreman; and Channing W. Hall was established to undertake the study that could lead to the severance of William and Mary's connection with the Norfolk Division. The Norfolk Division had reached a turning point in its history.

The crisis came to an end on April 30 when Hodges submitted his resignation as director. He stayed on briefly as coordinator of training in the national defense effort, but left in September to head the Hampton Roads Regional Defense Council. He retired in 1942 and died in Wytheville, Va., in 1947. The Virginian-Pilot summed up his contribution as follows: "Under his leadership the Division sank deep roots into Norfolk's soil, attracted the community's interest, loyalty and affection, and entered upon a major role in Norfolk's educational and cultural life."

In retrospect it is difficult to see how President Bryan could have chosen any other course of action. He had received letters from educators in every section of the country pointing out that, if Dean Hodges were retained as director, there would be serious doubts about the integrity and standards of the College of William and Mary. Bryan was committed to upholding the honor of the college. Although Dean Hodges was much loved in the Norfolk area, his actions in altering students' transcripts without consulting either the



Visitors Day, May 5, 1943. Front row (left to right): Lewis Webb, Dr. E. Ruffin Jones, Charles Duke, Dr. John Pomfret (president of William and Mary), and Dr. Ernest Gray.

faculty or his administrative superiors were indefensible. As a professor who taught at the Division in 1941 summed it up many years later, Dean Hodges was "kindhearted to a fault." The fault proved a most serious one.

The three-man committee headed by Shewmake was required to report in 30 days. It held seven formal meetings including one with a special committee of the Norfolk City Council created to protect the city's interest in the Division. While the Shewmake Committee was meeting, Lewis W. Webb, acting head of the VPI Division in Norfolk, talked with his superiors in Blacksburg and was told that VPI was very interested in taking over the Norfolk Division if William and Mary decided to sever its ties. VPI President Julian A. Burruss and deans John Williams and E.B. Norris had attended the April 12 meeting of the Board of Visitors and exhibited considerable enthusiasm for assuming control of the Norfolk Division. The prospect of having a vigorous branch of VPI in Norfolk must have

given the William and Mary administration pause. There was already speculation in the press about the possibility of a four-year degree program in the new VPI Division, which would pose a far more serious threat than Atlantic University had represented.

The Shewmake Committee reported to a special meeting of the board on May 10. It concluded that the William and Mary-Norfolk connection should not be dissolved. It found some problems with the “costly venture” in Norfolk, which at times “competed, rather than cooperated, with the parent institution.” But in the committee’s opinion, though the establishment of the Norfolk Division might have been a mistake for the college, severing the relationship was neither practical nor advisable.



Arbor Day, 1942. Thomas Seward (second from right) plants a tree.

The report noted that William and Mary was a state agency and that Norfolk and its environs had the second greatest population density in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Division was the only state-supported institution of higher learning in the area. For almost 200 years Norfolk had been regarded, and had regarded itself, as a “William and Mary town.” The good will of the area was important to

the college and would be lost if relations were severed. The Shewmake Committee concluded that not only should the Norfolk Division remain part of William and Mary, but that its funding should be increased and that vocational courses should be added to the curriculum.

The expected administrative reorganization at the Norfolk Division was announced by President Bryan on May 16. Accompanied by Dean of the Faculty James W. Miller and Charles J. Duke, bursar of the College of William and Mary, Bryan addressed the faculty of the Norfolk Division. He announced that Duke would succeed Hodges as director, and that Miller would act as liaison officer between the Norfolk Division and the parent college. He had chosen Duke because of his background, his knowledge of Norfolk, his interest in William and Mary, and his "unusual ability as an administrator." Duke's father had been treasurer of Norfolk County for many years, and a member of the Board of Visitors of William and Mary. The younger Duke, a native of Norfolk County, graduated from the college in 1923, and in 1927 replaced his father on the board. He became bursar in 1934, remaining in that position while he directed the Norfolk Division. Duke proved a competent administrator with the qualities needed for his new position.

During Charles Duke's tenure as director, the Norfolk Division received its first appropriation from the general fund of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The budget for the biennium beginning July 1, 1942, contained an annual appropriation of approximately \$19,000. The Division's curriculum was expanded in accordance with the recommendations of the Shewmake Committee, and faculty salaries were increased. A capital expenditure of \$12,500 made it possible to double the capacity of the library. In 1944, the College of William and Mary requested an appropriation for a new academic building at Norfolk. The state Legislature appropriated \$160,000 for this purpose, but construction had to be deferred because of wartime conditions.

Through its defense and war-training classes, the Norfolk Division of William and Mary-VPI made an invaluable contribution to the war effort. The program made it possible for the school to remain open during a period when most young men were serving their country. War-training classes were conducted by VPI; through federal funds the classes were tuition-free. The seeds of this program were sown

when the Aircraft Instruments Institute was established in 1938. Instructors from the Naval Air Station trained students to operate, overhaul and repair aircraft instruments. As the war approached, the U.S. Office of Education set up the Engineering Defense Training Program. The Norfolk Division qualified for this program because it was part of VPI. Courses included aircraft mechanics, aircraft welding, topographic mapping, and electroplating. The name of the program was changed to Engineering Science Management Defense Training (ESMDT), and management-related courses in such subjects as accounting were introduced. After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the program's name changed again when the word "defense" was dropped and "war" was substituted. By March 1941 more than 600 students were enrolled in defense courses, not including those in flying and aviation instrument repair classes.

Civil aeronautics and flight training were introduced in October 1939, again using instructors from the Naval Air Station. The first students completed the course in May 1940 and became full-fledged pilots. Professor A. Lee Smith, as adviser to the Division's Aeronautics Club, instructed students in navigation and meteorology. In January 1941 the civilian flying program was made an elective. By December it was announced that nine graduates of the program had joined the U.S. Army Air Corps, nine had signed up with the U.S. Navy, and one was a member of the Royal Air Force.

When the students returned to campus in September 1939, war had broken out in Europe. The editor of *The High Hat*, in a philosophical mood, mused, "There is something strange and unreal in the knowledge that war can intrude itself into the cloistered life of the campus, that it can beckon boys out of classrooms and into the trenches." His grim conclusion was, "With war, or at the very least, economic repercussions of it imminent, the outlook is darker for today's collegian than it has been since his father faced the same situation twenty years ago." As war raged in Europe in 1940, students debated conscription, aid to England, and related issues. On Dec. 7, 1941, however, the debate ended. The next day students gathered around the radio in Bud's to hear their president ask Congress for a declaration of war against the Empire of Japan.

During the war the Norfolk Division did more than its share. The college was divided into three units: the day college, offering the first two years of regular college work; the night college, providing the same courses for working students; and the war-training and



A poster on a Norfolk streetcar advertises war training classes for women.

vocational courses. Enrollment in the day college declined to fewer than 300, but the evening college had more students than ever before. High school teachers were being trained in physics, mathematics, and aeronautics instruction. Army and Navy enlisted men enrolled in night courses that would help them qualify for a commission.

The war-training and vocational education courses were under the general supervision of Lewis W. Webb Jr., assistant director of the college. Edward White directed the war-training courses and Lee Klinefelter, who later became director of the Technical Institute, was in charge of the vocational program. The war-training courses were grouped in four areas: aircraft aeronautics, general engineering science and management, civil engineering, and drafting or graphics. Training women to do work traditionally performed by men was a primary objective of these courses. Photographs of women learning aircraft repair, drafting, and other war-related subjects often appeared in the newspapers.

The explosion of programs at the Division placed a severe strain on its limited physical facilities. In February 1941, the social hall in the old Larchmont school (renamed the Science Building by that time) became an airplane instrument repair shop. Classrooms were in use from 8:30 a.m. to as late as 11:30 p.m. Classes for women in aircraft construction were held in a converted laundry building more than 12 blocks from campus. Four laboratories were constructed beneath



Women in an aircraft repair class.

the west stands of the stadium. By the end of the war, Webb later recalled, "we had instructed 5,000, the largest such enrollment on the East Coast."

Organized in 1945 with the support of the Virginia State Board of Education, the Technical Institute was an outgrowth of the war-training program. Webb and Klinefelter told the faculty in May 1945 that all classes in the Vocational Education Program had to close by June 1, because the war in Europe had ended. Plans for a state-sponsored program to begin in the fall of 1945 were announced. Donald M. Parkes was chosen as its head. He was succeeded in 1948 by Lee Klinefelter, who directed the Technical Institute until his retirement in 1959. Classes were conducted in the damp, dark shops under Foreman Field. In late 1947, the Federal Works Agency donated a building that had been used as a dispensary at the St. Helena naval facility in the Berkley section of Norfolk, to house the Technical Institute. The "new" Technical Institute building, with six shops, six classrooms, and offices for faculty and administration, was erected in 1948. An identical structure was acquired shortly thereafter and built, parallel to the first, on land south of the stadium along Hampton Boulevard. It was named the Social Studies Building.

Although both buildings were supposed to be temporary, budgetary constraints extended their life. The Technical Institute was not demolished until 1961, and the Social Studies building was finally torn down 10 years later.

The "chief aim" of the Technical Institute was to provide Tidewater's industries with trained technicians. Any person more than 16 years of age could enroll. Most programs required two years of study for the award of a diploma. Instruction by a highly capable faculty was available in drafting, photography, welding, refrigeration and airconditioning, auto mechanics, radio and electronics, and several other specialties. Edgar Kovner, a specialist in refrigeration, became director in 1959, when the "T.I." moved into a new building designed specifically for its needs. B.C. Dickerson's electronics students launched the first campus radio station (WMTI) in 1955. The Technical Institute was an excellent example of the service provided by the Division to the Tidewater area.

In 1946 a major administrative change occurred at the Norfolk Division. Lewis Webb, assistant director since 1944, was named director. Charles Duke had continued as bursar of the College of William and Mary after becoming director of the Norfolk branch in 1941. In the beginning he was responsible for the major effort in technical education and the reorganization of the Evening College as a separate unit. But the strain of commuting to Norfolk began to tell on Duke, and his visits after the first year averaged about one per week. In 1946 he suggested to President John E. Pomfret, who had succeeded John Stewart Bryan in 1942, that Webb be appointed director. When Duke died in 1953, The Virginian-Pilot commented that he had performed "important tasks which met pressing and difficult needs," at the Norfolk Division and "he deserved the city's gratitude."

Lewis Webb was enthusiastic about his appointment as director. The only condition that he placed on his acceptance was that he be allowed to form an advisory committee among local citizens. "They couldn't see any harm in that and gave me the green light. But it was the Norfolk Division's first major step toward independence from William and Mary," Webb later recalled. He assembled an impressive group of Norfolk's leading citizens. Webb reasoned that the Board of Visitors would listen to them when they might not listen to him. The first Advisory Board was a microcosm of Norfolk's

business, professional, banking, and civic leadership. Its members were John S. Alfrend, E.S. Brinkley, Thomas F. Carroll, Forrest F. Cathey, E.T. Gresham, C.A. Harrell, Lawrence W. l'Anson, Charles L. Kaufman, Henry S. Lewis, Lewis D. Mendoza, Abner S. Pope, Crawford S. Rogers, John Twohy II, J. Hoge Tyler III, and Nicholas Wright. Norfolk attorney Charles L. Kaufman, a member of the Advisory Board for the 15 years of its existence, recalled in 1975 that the board's interest was "to help the Norfolk Division and particularly to broaden and improve its service to the local community." One of the ways the board could do this was by encouraging the public to assist the school financially. The Norfolk Division of the College of William and Mary Foundation was created. The foundation used the funds it received to supplement the salaries of professors and to assist in development of the library. The foundation was the predecessor of today's ODU Educational Foundation. As Kaufman stated: "The Advisory Board was helpful to the Norfolk Division itself and from the standpoint of the community it was designed to serve. It was extremely desirable to have a close relationship between the Division and the Norfolk community." The Advisory Board provided "the liaison that was necessary between the Norfolk Division and the community at large."

After the war the Norfolk Division experienced a significant increase in day enrollment as the veterans returned. The first influx arrived in January 1946. "We were simply swamped," Professor Robert Stern recalled later. His sociology class of eight students in the first semester had 64 students enrolled in January. In September 1946 the student body numbered 830. Because of space limitations and inadequate preparations, approximately 400 students were turned away. To accommodate the overflow, William and Mary established a temporary branch at the former naval installation at St. Helena in Berkley. The branch was terminated in June 1948. Lewis Webb resorted to desperate measures to provide the necessary physical facilities for the expanded student body. He decided to bid on eight tar paper barracks (each 20 feet by 100 feet) being sold at the Naval Operating Base. His bid of \$100 per hut was the highest, and the college became the owner of the "shacks." Each had its own potbellied stove, which had to be tended by faculty members during class hours. The buildings furnished space for six classrooms, office space, and facilities for vocational education. Webb later obtained

the two "H"-shaped buildings from the federal government to be used by the Technical Institute and the social studies faculty.

The veterans of World War II, a dedicated group who created a mature environment, are remembered with affection by the faculty members who taught them. Professor Stern recalled that the faculty believed no other group of students surpassed the veterans for superior attitude and incisive questions. "It was," in Stern's words, "the Golden Age of teaching." The booths at Bud's were crowded with *men* for a change and classes were at capacity as former officers and former privates sought the benefits of higher education.

Many student activities were developed in the '40s. Bud's remained the most popular student gathering place. Moved to the Administration Building in 1945, it was equipped with new booths and counters—and a juke-box. Bud continued to dispense Cokes, sandwiches, supplies, and, as the sign said, "Free During Exams—Ink Blotters, Asperins and Sympathy," until his death in 1948. In 1946 the first yearbook in 10 years appeared. The *Voyager* was an attractive publication put together by an imaginative staff headed by Editor in Chief Regina O'Brien. The *High Hat* continued to publish throughout the war period. In 1946 the Honor Council began operating under a new constitution. Student government consisted of a 10-member Student Senate. Student organizations of the period were the *Beaux Arts Club*, *Chemistry Club*, *Foreign (International) Relations Club*, *Forensic Council*, *Glee Club*, *Greek Club*, *Intercollegiate Zionist Federation*, *Jones Biology Club*, *Monogram Club*, *Phalanx Club*, *Phi Sigma*, *Sigma Epsilon Pi*, *Spanish Club*, *Swing Band*, and *World Federalists*. The *Masquers* staged their first theatrical production, "Where Ignorance Is Bliss," in October 1947. The social clubs—*Alpha*, *Cotillion*, *Delta Omega Phi*, *Di Gamma*, *Imps*, and *Tri-Kappa*—were revived after the war and sponsored dances, parties, and other activities.

In the fall of 1948 a Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) unit was organized at the Norfolk Division. Col. Giles R. Carpenter was in command of the unit, which was administered as part of the ROTC program at the College of William and Mary. The Norfolk unit was discontinued in the fall of 1950 when the number of young men enrolled at the college declined after the outbreak of the Korean War. ROTC did not reappear on the Norfolk campus until 1969.

Major developments in athletics in the '40s included the



Arthur B. "Bud" Metheny

appointments of Joseph C. "Scrap" Chandler and Arthur B. "Bud" Metheny. Chandler, who had served on the faculty at Williamsburg since 1924, became athletic director at the Division in 1942. Initially he coached basketball and baseball and taught physical education. After the war, his favorite sports—swimming and track—were resumed at the Division.

It proved difficult to schedule games during wartime. Gasoline rationing made travel a problem. Most of the Division's opponents were military teams that easily defeated the Braves. Fortunately, Chandler knew the officer in charge of athletics at the naval base, Lt. Cmdr. Jack Curtis. Scrap informed his one-time classmate of the predicament in scheduling, and as a result, Curtis would arrange a game whenever a ship came in. The basketball program survived the war and Chandler appointed former Norfolk Division player Julius Rubin coach in 1946. Rubin was succeeded by teammate Jack Callahan in 1947. Led by Ted Bacalis, the 1946-47 team won the Tidewater Invitational Tournament. In 1947-48 Callahan's team compiled a 21-8 record, which earned the players an invitation to the Eastern Regional Tournament of the National Small College Athletic Association. The baseball team played abbreviated schedules in 1943 and 1944, and the program was suspended in 1945. In 1946 and 1947, however, it was revived under Everett Tolson and Jack Callahan.

Scrap Chandler concentrated on coaching track and swimming. In 1949, John Curfman, Bill Suter, Lester Brock, and Kick Parker led the track team to a 6-1 season. Swimming was resumed as an intercollegiate sport in 1945. The 1947-48 team, the best of the decade, was beaten only once. Tennis, golf, fencing, and lacrosse were other men's sports at the Division in the 1940s.

In 1949 Scrap Chandler hired Bud Metheny to coach baseball and basketball. Metheny had been a student of Chandler's at William and



"Avid Archers" of 1943. Left to right: Jane Atkinson, Elinor McClellan, and Joy Bryan.

Mary. After compiling an extraordinary record at Williamsburg, he pursued a career in professional baseball. From 1943 to 1946, Bud had played the outfield for the New York Yankees. In the spring of 1948 he was playing for Birmingham of the Southern Association when Chandler called him. Realizing that he was near the end of his playing career, Metheny accepted Chandler's offer.

Metheny upgraded the basketball schedule and the team

remained competitive. The baseball program also improved markedly under his direction, with some help from such stars as Joe Agee, a starter in both basketball and baseball during the first two years of the Metheny era.

Women's athletics at the Division developed slowly in the 1940s. Field hockey and basketball teams continued under coaches Margaret Holman, Ida Long Rodgers, Jean Outland, Nancy Fisher, Louise Johnson, and Jane Gresham. Occasional victories over archrival William and Mary were the highlights of the teams' decade.

There were times during the 1940s when many doubted whether the Norfolk Division would survive. But it did far more than survive. The Division emerged from the '40s with a day-student enrollment of 832, plus 194 students in the Technical Institute. It had a superb faculty with a deserved reputation for excellence in teaching. The quality of instruction was enhanced by such newcomers as social scientist Robert Stern, historian Dr. Stanley Pliska, and author William Seward. The college had to make do with chronically inadequate physical facilities. The General Assembly's appropriation of \$160,000 for a new building proved inadequate as prices rose after the war. The William and Mary administration naively anticipated that building costs would go down and construction was deferred again. The college's principal theme continued to be service to the community. In his report to the president for 1942, Charles Duke wrote that the defense courses had "increased the Division's opportunity for service. And, service is, of course, our real objective." Duke's statement could be applied to the whole college and extended to the entire decade. The idea of making the Division a four-year college had already occurred to many Norfolkiens, including Lewis Webb. They believed that the college was capable of providing a complete undergraduate education for the young people of Tidewater, and that only in this way could it provide the educational services Tidewater needed.

1950s Crusade for a Four-Year College





The Norfolk Division of William and Mary-VPI emerged in the 1950s as the answer to Tidewater's need for a four-year college. At the beginning of the decade Norfolk retained the dubious distinction of being the largest city in the English-speaking world without a four-year college. Securing

four-year status for the Division became a civic crusade. The William and Mary administration approved several four-year programs that were instituted in 1954, and the first four-year graduates received their bachelor's degrees two years later. By 1959 the College of William and Mary in Norfolk was offering a dozen baccalaureate programs, had a full-time day enrollment of 2,136 students, and was ready to apply for accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools as a four-year degree-granting institution.

The question of accreditation was being considered seriously by the Norfolk Division as early as 1950. The Southern Association had ruled that the branches of an institution had to obtain separate accreditation from that of the parent. The visit of an accreditation team would be an opportunity for the Norfolk Division to gain a measure of independent identity, and its report would point up the areas where the Division needed strengthened support from the William and Mary administration.

The Southern Association approved the Norfolk Division's application for accreditation as a junior college in December 1951. The accrediting team was especially impressed by the quality of

instruction, describing the faculty as "highly professional in every respect" and commending the college for its "splendid" guidance program. The Norfolk Division was no longer required to operate on a self-supporting basis. The accreditation report noted that state appropriations had risen from \$48,300 in 1948 to \$100,000 in 1951. The committee concluded that the rising appropriations indicated "increasing interest on the part of the State to assume greater financial obligations."

The library, however, was the subject of serious criticism. The committee called for a larger appropriation for the purchase of new books and improvement of the lighting facilities. After reviewing plans for a new library the visitors urged "that these plans soon become a reality." The desperate need for a new science building was also obvious to the committee after a visit to the laboratories in the old Larchmont School.

In sum, the Southern Association accrediting team found the character and integrity of the work at the junior college to be "of the highest order." The general atmosphere and spirit of administration of the college as well as its code of ethics were described as "exceptional." Faculty and student morale was high, but the physical facilities were inadequate, especially in view of anticipated growth. The committee left the college with "deep appreciation for its high standards and effective work."

The question of the Norfolk Division's future relationship with the College of William and Mary became a major issue again in 1951. President Pomfret had not demonstrated a keen interest in the Norfolk branch during the nine years of his presidency. At a board meeting on March 10, 1951, he raised the question of separating the Norfolk Division and the Richmond Professional Institute from the parent college. He cited a 1947 consultant's report on higher education in the Commonwealth prepared for the Commission on Reorganization of the State Government by Griffenhagen and Associates. The consultants had concluded that because the work at William and Mary and its division was so different there was "no good reason, other than proximity" why the tie should remain. Pomfret had asked Dean Hibbs of RPI and Lewis Webb to put in writing their thoughts on separation. Both men recommended that the divisions be placed under the control of the State Board of Education, believing that their institutions would receive larger appropriations if

they were independent of William and Mary. Pomfret noted that William and Mary alumni expressed indifference and even hostility to the divisions. William and Mary received only about 50 to 75 transfers per year from the Norfolk Division and none from RPI. Pomfret asked the Board of Visitors to explore the initial steps leading to separation. A committee was set up to study the questions involved in the separation of the divisions. It met only once, during which a vigorous discussion of RPI's future prompted the committee to recommend that steps be taken immediately to separate the institute from William and Mary. Although Lewis Webb was present at the meeting, no action was recommended for the Norfolk Division. Had President Pomfret remained at the helm in Williamsburg, it is quite possible that the Norfolk Division would have gained at least quasi-independent status in the early 1950s. A change of administration at Williamsburg, however, resulted in a completely new viewpoint on the relationship of the parent college to the divisions.

In September 1951, Adm. Alvin Duke Chandler, USN (Ret.), succeeded Dr. Pomfret. Chandler said in 1955 that his first concern when he assumed his new responsibilities was "about the overall William and Mary situation and its responsibilities to the state of Virginia." Chandler became convinced that the higher education needs of the people of eastern Virginia were not being served, and his goal was to expand the role of William and Mary to fulfill that purpose. Under this plan the college in Williamsburg would serve as the capstone of the system, and the satellite campuses would offer a broad range of programs in their communities. Chandler did not reach his conclusion immediately however, having, as he put it, "an open mind with no strings attached." After he had surveyed the educational scene in eastern Virginia, Chandler informed the board in February 1952 that "we will have to do more for the divisions," and in May the board rescinded the authority it had given to "take steps" to separate Richmond Professional Institute from William and Mary. The board, following Chandler's lead, reaffirmed the college's commitment to the divisions and stated that "William and Mary must continue to grow with the State or provide a proportionately diminishing service as the State develops in size and services required."

Chandler's appointment as president coincided with a growing conviction among Norfolkkians that the Tidewater area needed a



Alvin Duke Chandler, president of William and Mary, 1951-1960.

four-year college. In a speech before the Civitan Club in 1950, Norfolk City Manager Charles A. Harrell advocated establishment of a new institution subsidized by the city of Norfolk. William Holmes Davis, who had conducted a lonely campaign over many years for higher education in Norfolk, agreed with Harrell that William and Mary would not approve vertical expansion of the Norfolk Division curriculum and therefore favored city action first, with subsequent state and federal aid.

Chandler, however, was not satisfied that the Norfolk Division had been developed to its fullest capacity. It was known that he had not been in favor of the Division's expansion into a four-year college, but at his inauguration in 1953 he seemed to be changing his mind when he declared that the divisions at Norfolk and Richmond would be developed in keeping with the needs of their regions. At the January 1953 meeting of the Board of Visitors, Chandler heard Lewis Webb state that the city of Norfolk had expressed its need for a four-year college. Webb favored gradual expansion over a five-year period of programs in such areas as accounting, music and nursing. In July 1953 the Four-Year College Committee of the Norfolk Chamber of Commerce, headed by S.C. Lampert, former chairman of the Norfolk School Board, stated that Tidewater's need for a four-year college was obvious. The committee recommended the enlargement and development of the Norfolk Division rather than the establishment of a new state-supported, four-year college in Norfolk. Chandler reacted positively, saying that the recommendations "accord with my views as to the eventual development of four-year programs leading to degrees" at the Norfolk Division.

The Four-Year College Committee met with the William and Mary Board of Visitors on Aug. 29, 1953. It was a productive meeting. The board approved four-year programs in nursing, teacher education, and business administration. The board also acknowledged that additional financial support, library facilities, and instructional personnel would be necessary if the programs were to meet the



Oyster Bowl Parade Float, 1953. Picture damaged by the fire that destroyed the yearbook staff's shack in the spring of 1955.

accreditation standards of the Southern Association. John S. Alfriend, a prominent banker and president of the Norfolk Chamber of Commerce, spoke for the chamber committee when he told the board, "This is further along than we had hoped for. We are going home gratified and happy, and I don't think you will be disappointed at the support you will receive." Civic support for a four-year college was substantial. The Tidewater delegation to the General Assembly, parent-teacher and professional organizations, and local governing boards endorsed expansion of the Division into a degree-conferring institution.

An adequate library was the main barrier to the Norfolk Division's meeting the standards of the Southern Association. The library had been a problem since the beginning of the Norfolk Division in 1930. In an editorial titled "Is It a Library?" a student journalist wrote in *The High Hat* on March 20, 1931, "Recently we heard the facetious remark that nobody can find anything wrong with our library because there is nothing in there to be wrong." The library's holdings at that date consisted of 200 books. In May 1938, Dean Hodges reported to President Bryan that for the first time the Norfolk Division had a full-time librarian, Dorothy E. Pierce, a graduate of the College of William and Mary. The total number of books by May 1938 was 2,687, still "woefully inadequate," Hodges admitted. By 1954 the Legislature had appropriated funds for the construction of a new library, but had not appropriated any money for the purchase of books. The library collection was then only 25,000 volumes. A group of faculty members approached John Alfriend of the Advisory Board and asked him to help raise funds locally to purchase books so that the library could meet accreditation standards. Alfriend directed a campaign to improve the library's holdings by raising \$100,000 in cash contributions. Books on an approved list would also be accepted. The book drive resulted in contributions of more than \$80,000 in cash and nearly 20,000 volumes in donations.

Four-year programs at the Division multiplied during the 1950s. Following nursing, elementary education and business administration, which were approved in 1953, secondary education received the Board of Visitors' sanction in 1955. By the end of the decade concentrations were offered in English, history, industrial arts education, mathematics, music, sociology, physical education, biology, chemistry, physics and premedical sciences. The groundwork was well laid for the college's application in 1960 for separate accreditation as a four-year college.

The relationship between the college and the city of Norfolk became especially close during the 1950s. Mayor Fred Duckworth emphasized that the college was a great asset to the city. A strong mayor, Duckworth could usually obtain what he wanted from City Council. He believed that the city should not appropriate funds for support of the college since it was a state agency; however, the city could assist the college through acquisition of land for future expansion. Mayor Duckworth made a promise to Director Webb:

“Lewis, the city will buy the land, and you don’t have to worry. . . . Let us get the land, you get the buildings.” The city purchased the land on which Hughes Library, the Fine Arts Building and Chandler Hall were erected. The Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority was responsible for clearing additional areas of substandard housing to provide for the needs of the expanding campus.

The cordial relationship of the college and the city eased the way for the building of Hughes Library. Duckworth suggested the 48th Street site for the library, but Webb said that location was impractical because pilings would have to be driven to support the building and no money had been appropriated for that purpose. Duckworth, making an exception to his rule that the city should not provide funds to state institutions, persuaded the City Council to appropriate \$100,000 for the pilings. As a result, the college was able to build the new library at a location more accessible to students and faculty. In Lewis Webb’s words, “Fred Duckworth was a real friend of this institution.” It is appropriate that ODU’s engineering laboratory is housed in a building bearing the name of William Frederick Duckworth.

One of Lewis Webb’s highest priorities was to foster a close relationship between the college and the communities of Tidewater. He spoke before countless civic and professional groups, stressing that William and Mary was Tidewater’s college and that its mission was to serve the area’s needs in higher education. The college sought to cooperate with those who could benefit from its services. Facilities were provided for training real estate and insurance agents, traffic managers, engineers, employees of public utilities, and small-business men. The Bureau of Business and Statistical Research compiled statistical data, conducted consumer and industrial surveys, and furnished advice to management. The bureau also served as a laboratory for business administration students, enabling them to apply their academic training to practical situations. Webb told the Board of Visitors in 1956 that the idea being conveyed to Tidewater’s citizens was that the Division was “their community college” and that the people were responding by thinking of the college as their own.

The faculty continued to be one of the college’s strongest resources. In 1950 G. William Whitehurst, a native of Norfolk, applied for a position as a history teacher. This marked the beginning



Prof. William W. Seward and his friend Ernest Hemingway in a New York-to-Miami pullman car.

of an 18-year association. Whitehurst enlivened his classes with anecdotes and analyses of contemporary affairs. As one student of the mid-'50s recalled, "he never gave a boring lecture."

The achievements of other faculty reflected well upon the college. William Seward of the English department was elected president of the Poetry Society of Virginia, and Frank MacDonald was chosen to head the Virginia Philosophical Association. Dr. Charles Vogan of the music department was named dean of the Norfolk chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Dr. Harold Hawn, who joined the music department in 1953, became director of the highly successful Opera Workshop. Reuben Cooper, an instructor in the English department and a speech therapist, founded the Speech Center (later the Speech and Hearing Center) in 1955. The pilot program, which he began in two rooms of the old Larchmont School building, was open to all regardless of ability to pay. Cooper's efforts led to the establishment of the Child Study Center, built with generous help from the Kiwanis and Lions clubs. Dr. Everett M. Hong assumed direction of the four-year program in business administration. Dr. T. Ross Fink came to the Norfolk Division from George Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville. He was appointed head of the new education department in 1955 and subsequently became the first dean of the Darden School of Education.

Louise Bethea resigned in June 1954 as college librarian and was succeeded by William Carter Pollard, who was responsible for planning the new library and preparing it for accreditation. Pollard successfully sought to raise the professional level of the library staff. Elizabeth Degree, who later married Dr. Ralph de Bedts of the history department, joined the staff in 1959 and soon became head of circulation. Louise Bethea returned to the library in 1958 and served 10 years as chief cataloger. In 1960 Benjamin Clymer became head of reference. Staff morale improved because Pollard communicated an enthusiasm for the library's development. As one of his colleagues reminisced many years later, "Mr. Pollard was the right man for a library in its growing stages."

The faculty was quite active in the young medium of television. In May 1952 a series of weekly television shows titled "Science is Simple" was presented by the Technical Institute, the biology department, and other science departments. Professor Robert Stern conceived the idea of a weekly televised discussion of a major trouble spot in world affairs. History professors Stanley Pliska, G. William Whitehurst and Adm. Harold J. Wright joined Stern for the successful series of broadcasts, "Global Trouble Spots." Working without a script, they would prepare a simple outline for the broadcast and then engage in fast-paced repartee. "It was more fun than almost anything I ever did as a faculty member," Stern has recalled. Another educational broadcast over station WTAR was called "Sign Posts," a series of panel discussions involving a variety of faculty members. In February 1958 the college and WVEC-TV pioneered in bringing college courses into the living rooms of Tidewater. The station gave a half hour of air time daily from 6 to 6:30 p.m. for courses in world geography and music appreciation. Dr. Pliska and Robert F. Young, assistant professor of music, taught the TV classes, which could be taken for credit.

During the 1950s, the music department contributed immeasurably to the cultural enrichment of Tidewater. Music had been taught at the Norfolk Division since 1931. A two-year music curriculum including classes in music history and theory was introduced by Bristow Hardin in 1945. John Paul joined the department in 1947, became its first full-time faculty member in 1948, and served two years as head of the department. He directed the presentation by the college chorus of two popular Gilbert and Sullivan operettas,



Two Gilbert and Sullivan operettas presented at the Center Theater. "The Mikado" (left) staged in May 1950, and "The Pirates of Penzance" (below) presented in May 1951.



"H.M.S. Pinafore" in 1949 and "The Mikado" in 1950. Under the leadership of Dr. Charles Vogan, who came to the Division in 1950, the music department developed many new programs. Vacating one of the tar paper shacks, the department moved to new quarters in the old Larchmont School building in 1951. The chorus had established itself and gained favorable notice through its Gilbert and Sullivan productions. Under Vogan it presented its first concert, highlighted by the Bach cantata, "Christ Lay in Death's Bonds." The chorus also presented another popular Gilbert and Sullivan operetta, "The Pirates of Penzance."



Eugene Paxhia (seated on stool) directs a 1958 band rehearsal for the annual spring concert.

Vogan founded the Opera Workshop in the fall of 1951 to provide training and experience in opera before students went on stage with their productions. The community responded enthusiastically to the workshop because many people wanted the chance to sing opera. The workshop operated more as a community organization than as a student organization. Notable early productions were Pergolesi's "La Serva Padrona" and "The Telephone" by Menotti.

In 1951 Eliot Breneiser joined the department. Faculty and student recitals began that year, and the Madrigal Singers made their initial appearance in 1952. During that year's Christmas season, Norfolk audiences were delighted by the joint workshop and chorus production of "Ahmal and the Night Visitors," the first such presentation in the South. Because of increased administrative responsibilities in a rapidly growing department, Vogan gave up direction of the Opera Workshop in 1953. Dr. Harold Hawn became the new workshop director and expanded the number of performances. The workshop became a family project, with Hawn not only directing the productions, but also painting scenery while his wife designed and sewed costumes and sang in several productions. In the spring of 1954 the workshop presented Mozart's "Marriage of Figaro" and in 1955 Mozart's "Cosi fan tutte."

There were other significant developments for the department in the 1950s. In 1954 the college assumed responsibility for the William and Mary Concert Series. During that Christmas season it presented the original Dublin version of Handel's "Messiah." The department's first four-year program, a Bachelor of Arts in music, was added to the curriculum in 1957. The first American Music Festival was held in 1959. Composers from across the state presented their works and the local chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota, the music honor society, offered an American music seminar and concert. The Opera Workshop performed an American opera, Mary Caldwell's "Pepito's Golden Flower," which was especially appealing to children. The 1950s had been a decade of exceptional progress for the music department. The enthusiasm and dedication of faculty, students and the community overcame the handicaps posed by inadequate facilities and instruments, and as the decade ended, the department prepared to move into the new Fine Arts Building.

Courses in art were suspended in the early 1950s. In the fall of 1955 Charles K. Sibley joined the faculty and established the art department. Classes met in a room that had served as the cafeteria and subsequently as a physics laboratory in the old Larchmont School. The equipment Sibley inherited consisted of a mere 12 easels. At first Sibley taught all classes: painting, drawing, design, art history and art education. In 1959 Parker Lesley, whom Sibley has described as an eminent scholar, joined the department to teach art history. For the first 10 years Sibley served as department chairman and as co-chairman for another five years. He saw the department's role as preparing teachers of art and introducing the undergraduate student to the world of art. The art department became firmly established at the college despite inadequate funding and facilities. This achievement was attributable to the hard work and dedication of Charles K. Sibley.

The physical expansion of the campus was one of the most significant development of the 1950s. The long-delayed Science Building was completed in 1954. The two-story Georgian structure filled the space between the Administration Building and the old Larchmont School at Bolling Avenue and Hampton Boulevard. At the dedication ceremonies in April 1955, Lewis Webb announced that construction would begin almost immediately on a \$125,000 wing at the rear of the new building to house a snack bar, bookshop and cafeteria. In early 1959 the Technical Institute moved from its

temporary wooden structure to a spacious new Technology Building on Hampton Boulevard between 46th and 47th streets.

Despite pressing need, construction of a new library required the legislative skills of Norfolk's General Assembly delegation and the foresight of Lewis Webb. In 1953 the college asked for \$750,000 to build a new library, but Gov. John Battle did not include the funds in his budget proposal. During a marathon final session, the 1954 Legislature rebelled against the rigid fiscal orthodoxy of the Byrd Organization. The Byrd automatic income tax credit law required the state to refund to the taxpayers the surplus remaining at the end of each biennium. In the 1954 session, however, a group of young legislators insisted that improvement of state services should take precedence over refunding the surplus to the taxpayers. To resolve the deadlock a compromise was reached that appropriated \$2.1 million for state services and returned the rest of the \$7 million to the taxpayers. The Norfolk Division's share of the \$2.1 million was \$375,000 for a new library. Webb realized that \$375,000 would not be adequate for a structure that would serve the needs of a four-year college. Since money had also been appropriated for a classroom building, he persuaded the state to combine the appropriations (approximately \$1 million) and build one building, the first floor to



The Robert Morton Hughes Library.

house the library, with classrooms on the second floor. There would be no permanent partitions on the second floor, providing for easy future expansion of the library collection.

A unique feature of the new building was a solar screen designed by the renowned architect Edward Stone. The building was designed to hold 150,000 volumes, space that was expected to be adequate for

*"Bud's" in the 1950s, located
in the Administration
Building.*



25 years. The dynamic growth of the college, however, made the building inadequate in less than 15 years. The William and Mary Board of Visitors named the new library for Robert Morton Hughes, an admiralty lawyer, author, and former member of the board. In light of Hughes' role in the establishment of a William and Mary branch in Norfolk, the decision was fitting.

As in the 1930s, students still chose to attend the Norfolk Division for financial reasons. Albert B. Gornto, a member of the first four-year graduating class in 1956, recalls an incident illustrating this fact. One morning John Alfriend picked up a student on Hampton Boulevard and gave him a ride to school. Alfriend asked the young man why he was attending the Norfolk Division. The student replied without hesitation, "If it wasn't for the Norfolk Division, I wouldn't get a college education." Alfriend was reassured that his efforts on behalf of the Norfolk Division had been worthwhile.

The 1950s witnessed a significant expansion of student activities. It was the era of bobby sox and saddle shoes, of crew cuts and long skirts. The seemingly uncomplicated decade has been the subject of much nostalgic recollection during the 1970s. Students at the Norfolk Division mirrored their contemporaries on campuses across the country in their interests and diversions, although part-time employment also played a significant part in the life of most Norfolk Division students.

Sadie Hawkins Day. Pat Twiford takes aim at Carter Luck while Eric Smith watches. The Imps sponsored the Sadie Hawkins Day dance on Oct. 30, 1956.



Social life at the Division revolved around the sororities and fraternities. Many of these had been in existence since the 1930s, but several new ones appeared during the 1950s. Some annual social events sponsored by the fraternities and sororities were Alpha Omega Phi's Black and White Ball, Kappa Kappa Kappa's Sweetheart Ball, and each fall's Sadie Hawkins Day Dance co-sponsored by Gamma Gamma and the Imps.

Several national honor societies established chapters at the Division during the 1950s. Phi Theta Kappa, the national junior college scholastic honor society, established its Eta Pi chapter in 1949. The professional music sorority Sigma Alpha Iota organized a chapter in October 1956. Alpha Kappa, the business fraternity, had as its goal the improvement of relations between the business department and local business interests in the Norfolk area. The secondhand bookstore was Alpha Kappa's best-known project on campus.

Interest clubs continued to play a major role in the college experience of many students. The History Club, whose first faculty adviser was Dr. Whitehurst, began in 1956. Robert Stern's Political Club was host to such speakers as Mayor Fred Duckworth and state Sen. William Spong of Portsmouth during the 1957-1958 academic year. Other organizations enriching student life at the Division were the Business and Economics Club and the Philosophy Club. A

campus ministry was firmly established at the college during the 1950s. By the end of the decade the Baptist Student Union, the Canterbury Association (Episcopal), the Newman Club (Catholic), and the Wesley Foundation (Methodist) were responding to students' spiritual needs.

The Division offered other activities in which students could demonstrate their talents. The College Band, the Chorus, the Concert Choir, the Madrigal Singers, and the Opera Workshop were outlets for the musically inclined. Pete Decker's Imps Quartet played at many functions on and off campus. In addition, Decker directed the musical variety show "Campus Capers" in the spring of 1955 and 1956. The 1950s were banner years for student publications. The High Hat was an attractive and informative student newspaper. Yearbooks were published under the names Echolalia (1950), Pow-Wow (1952-1953), and The Chieftain, which first appeared in 1954. A new literary magazine, Opus I, was edited by Roland Nicholson and published by the English Club in the spring of 1958. The college radio station WMTI-FM was broadcasting from 5 to 9 p.m. in 1959. Under manager Dick Gaya, the station presented a variety of musical and educational programs. Spanish instruction was offered to more than 5,000 children in the Tidewater area over WMTI.



Reading The High Hat at the Delta Omega Phi fraternity house.

Several events of the 1950s deserve special mention. In 1955, the college celebrated its silver anniversary. H. Edgar Timmerman, a successful lawyer who had served as the Division's first director, returned to the campus from upstate New York to speak at the commencement. The silver anniversary ball, presided over by Queen Betty Starr Cootes, was a social high point of the year. Speakers at notable convocations during the '50s included Judge Harold R. Medina of New York, historian Will Durant, and former first lady Eleanor Roosevelt.



Celebrating the Norfolk Division's silver anniversary in 1955. Left to right: A. Lee Smith, Mrs. Mary Parker Old, H. Edgar Timmerman, and Tommy Scott.

The athletic program at the Norfolk Division made substantial progress during the 1950s. In 1959 the college was accepted as an associate member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, meaning that it was thereafter eligible for participation in NCAA-sponsored post-season events. Scrap Chandler described the new membership as "one of the finest things that has happened to us." Bud Metheny's constant goal was to improve the level of competition in basketball and baseball. Basketball games were played in the school's 500-seat gymnasium until Jan. 4, 1960, when the Braves played Hampden-Sydney College at the much larger Norfolk Arena.



Leo Anthony

In early 1955 the college applied for admission to the Mason-Dixon Conference, but was rejected. The school had to be content with “membership” in the Little Eight, a mythical conference of eight small Virginia colleges created by a Richmond sportswriter. Athletic scholarships were not offered in the 1950s. The athletes, usually residents of Tidewater, were attracted by the low cost of a quality education at the Norfolk Division.

The exceptional play of Leo Anthony highlighted men’s basketball in the late ’50s. In his four years (1957-61) Anthony set several long-standing records. His 2,181 points scored in four seasons stood for nearly 20 years until broken in the 1979-80 season by Ronnie Valentine. His four-year average of 26.6 points per game has never been surpassed. He was honored as a third-team All-American in 1958-59, and averaged 31 points per game in his senior year. Coach Metheny has described Leo Anthony as “the type boy who was always in the right place at the right time.” As a baseball player, Anthony joined with second baseman Kirkie Harrison in 1959 to set a double-play record that still stands.

During the ’50s, the men’s basketball program became firmly established. Seven varsity opponents were scheduled in 1955 and the last junior college was dropped from the schedule in 1956. The



A pep rally and bonfire held during homecoming weekend, December 1959, after the Hot Dog Trot.



Donna Doyle

Braves were a competitive opponent for the four-year schools almost from the beginning. The 1958-1959 team, led by Anthony, Don Ellis, Holt Butt and Bobby Hoffman, compiled a 15-8 record, the best of the Metheny era to that time.

Baseball made the most substantial progress of Division sports teams during the '50s. Since many northern teams wanted to come South during the spring, it was easy to improve the quality of the baseball schedule. The Division's first contest with a major college came in early spring 1953, when the Dartmouth College team, coached by Bud Metheny's friend, Tony Lupien, came south in search of sunshine. The Braves, with Jack Smart on the mound, triumphed 7-3. In the 1954 season the Braves trounced William and Mary's varsity team 13-7, a most gratifying victory. The best team of the 1950s was the 1959 squad, which, with a 17-5 season, won a second straight championship in the mythical Little Eight. Don Palumbo, Matt Marshall, Jerry Draper and Bert Harrell led the hitters while pitchers Willis Bell and Bob Stanley each won four games.

Other men's sports at the college in the '50s were swimming, wrestling, track, cross country, tennis and golf. Scrap Chandler's swimming team won Little Eight championships in 1956 and 1957. Wrestling began as an intercollegiate sport in 1957 under Coach Thomas "Pete" Robinson. Between 1957 and 1960 the Braves wrestling team won 17 meets, lost two, and tied one. In 1956 Scrap Chandler chose Louis G. Plummer to be co-coach of outdoor track and cross country and head coach of indoor track. In 1959 one of Plummer's runners, Steele McGonegal, won the Little Eight Cross Country Individual Championship. Tennis teams coached by Professor Reuben Cooper competed early in the decade, but 1950 was the last year for Professor Kovner's lacrosse squad. A new sport at the college, golf, appeared in 1959, coached by Professor A.V. Dow of the philosophy department.

Women's athletics at the Division in the 1950s were primarily at the intramural level. Only field hockey and basketball, coached by Emily Pittman, were played in intercollegiate competition. Led by Donna Doyle, the 1956 women's basketball team, the Bravettes, were undefeated in five games.

The intramural program at the Division was successful in both women's and men's athletics. According to Coach Metheny, the sororities and fraternities were the backbone of the program.

Women's sports were basketball, volleyball, pingpong, swimming, archery, tennis, track and softball. Male students participated in football, basketball, wrestling, volleyball and pingpong. The level of participation in Division athletics was high in the late 1950s, and, in Coach Metheny's words, "the cohesiveness on our campus was tremendous."

By the fall of 1959 the Norfolk Division of William and Mary-VPI was a functioning four-year college with three graduating classes to its credit. One hundred fifty-six bachelor's degrees were awarded in June 1959, compared to 15 in the first class in 1956, 63 in 1957, and 104 in 1958. Final figures for the fall 1959 semester revealed that 2,136 students were enrolled in the day college and 1,723 in the evening. The Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools required that a college that had graduated three classes apply for accreditation as a four-year school. The Norfolk Division's new accreditation would be a major step toward independence. The Ledger-Dispatch stated editorially on June 25, 1959, that the expansion and improvement of the Norfolk Division would be a high priority under normal circumstances, but "an element of real urgency has arrived with the prospect of an inundation of students" born during World War II and the postwar years.



Freshmen bow to seniors.



The first four-year graduating class, 1956.

A survey of higher education, prepared by the U.S. Office of Education in December 1959, discussed the future of the Norfolk college. The study, done at the request of the State Council of Higher Education and the Norfolk Chamber of Commerce, concluded that the existing administrative structure of higher education in Tidewater was too complicated, and that it was wasteful and might impede progress. It recommended creation of a Tidewater College System that would be administered by a single board of visitors. The new board would be the old William and Mary board under a new name, but the report recommended that the administrative office of the new board not be located on the campus of any one of the constituent colleges. Each institution in the system—the Norfolk divisions of William and Mary and Virginia State College, the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, and a proposed two-year day college on the lower Peninsula—would be separate and have its own

executive officer and staff responsible to the Board of Visitors of the Tidewater College System.

The Norfolk Division of William and Mary, according to the survey team, had benefited from its association with the parent college during its infancy, but it was now mature enough to be on its own. The study recommended severance of the tie between the Norfolk college and its parent in Williamsburg. Separation was on the minds of many at the college and in the community. At a board meeting in October 1959, Professor W. Gerald Akers suggested that the name of the school be changed to give the college "a more definite identity with the area." As a new year and a new decade began on Jan. 1, 1960, an observer of higher education in Virginia could anticipate major changes for the Norfolk Division of William and Mary-VPI.

1960s

Independence and University Status





The 1960s brought numerous changes for the old Norfolk Division of William and Mary. Most important was the severance of ties with the College of William and Mary. In 1962 the Norfolk Division became Old Dominion College, a separate institution with its own Board of Visitors. New build-

ings appeared on the expanding campus to meet the needs of a steadily increasing enrollment, and graduate education began in September 1964 with the offering of master's degrees in English, history, elementary education, and business administration. By the end of the decade, enrollment had surpassed 10,000, and the college had attained university status. Lewis Webb's retirement in 1969 marked the end of an important era in the institution's growth.

The break with William and Mary took two years to accomplish. In early January 1960, the State Council of Higher Education recommended a major change in the administrative structure of the College of William and Mary. According to the proposal, the position of chancellor would be established to oversee the general administration of the parent college at Williamsburg and the divisions in Richmond and Norfolk. The chief administrators of the divisions would hold the title of "president" or "provost" and be responsible for their respective units in the system. They would report to the chancellor and, through him, to the Board of Visitors.

The council also proposed that the system be named "The Colleges of William and Mary in Virginia" and that the Board of Visitors be enlarged from 11 members to 15. Another proposal

involved the establishment of two-year community colleges in the Hampton-Newport News and Petersburg-Hopewell areas. These would also be part of the William and Mary system. Dr. William H. McFarlane, council director, saw two advantages in the new arrangement: It would improve the systematic development of higher education in Tidewater, and the College of William and Mary at Williamsburg would be free to develop as a strong liberal arts college. The State Council proposal was similar to the recommendations made by the U.S. Office of Education in December 1959, but there was one principal difference. Under the council's plan, the Norfolk Division's relationship with the parent college would remain close and binding.

Legislation creating the Colleges of William and Mary system was signed by Gov. J. Lindsay Almond Jr. in March 1960. President Chandler, of the college in Williamsburg, was appointed chancellor. The State Council had suggested that the divisions bear "distinctive and appropriate" names, so the Board of Visitors, after considerable agonizing, gave the Norfolk Division a descriptive but cumbersome title: "The Norfolk College of William and Mary of the Colleges of William and Mary." In common usage the name was shortened to "The Norfolk College of William and Mary" or simply "Norfolk William and Mary." The new system, awkward names and all, pleased Chandler. Since his early days as president of the parent college, he had envisioned the Williamsburg institution as the center of higher education in eastern Virginia, and he had been the chief advocate of the new system before the State Council made its proposal.

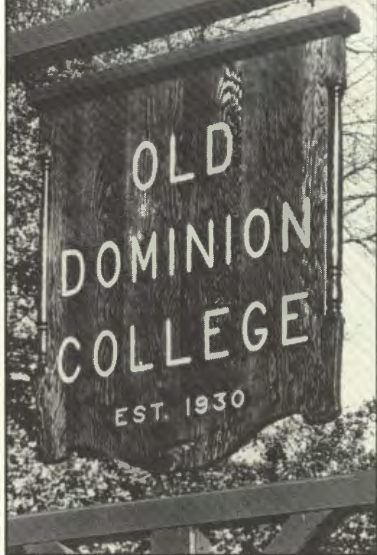
Lewis Webb did not like the new system. One of his major concerns in early 1960 was the separate accreditation of the Norfolk college. At its December 1959 meeting, the Board of Visitors had authorized Chandler to apply to the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools for accreditation of the Norfolk college. A three-person accrediting team visited the campus in April 1961, and Webb discussed the college's application before a special commission of the Southern Association in the fall of that year. While attending a Southern Association meeting in Miami Beach in early December, Webb learned that the college's application had been successful.

Dean of Instruction E. Vernon Peele probably spoke for many in the college community when he learned of the Southern Associa-

tion's action. "We satisfied a rather exacting examination," he declared. "To us it simply means we've made it." The *Virginian-Pilot* commented editorially that accreditation was not surprising, but it was "a welcome development that opens a new era in the college's life." The timing of the accreditation was "opportune," according to the editorial, because of a recommendation made by the State Council of Higher Education in its biennial report (November 1961) that the Norfolk College of William and Mary become an independent institution. In fact, the council proposed the dissolution of the Colleges of William and Mary system, which had been created only 20 months earlier.

The report pointed out that the system had the largest total enrollment of any college system under a single governing board in Virginia, and that the Board of Visitors faced a "monumental task" in administering institutions that had dissimilar missions and served areas with diverse needs. The report proposed that the college in Williamsburg be re-established "on an independent basis with a governing board of its own." The report also noted that the "prodigious growth" of the Norfolk College of William and Mary entitled it to "special attention," and that the future development of the Hampton Roads area made it imperative that a separate board be established for the Norfolk college. Under the council's new plan, Richmond Professional Institute would also be separated from William and Mary, while the two-year community colleges in Newport News (Christopher Newport) and Petersburg (Richard Bland) would continue to be administered by the William and Mary board in Williamsburg.

Lewis Webb was heartened by the State Council's change of plan. He had opposed the Colleges of William and Mary system from its inception, and had been instrumental in persuading the council that separation from William and Mary would better serve the needs of the Norfolk college and the Norfolk community. As Webb saw it, the "Colleges" system put all decision-making power in Williamsburg. And the problem with that, Webb remarked years later, was that "we'd (the Norfolk college) be given enough to keep down the local hue and cry, but we certainly wouldn't be able to expand in the direction I felt we needed to go." Webb believed that the Norfolk college had a mission fundamentally different from that of the parent institution (the Norfolk college was expected to provide services to surrounding urban communities; the Williamsburg college was not),



A new name, a new era. September 1962.

and that this difference in goals and responsibilities necessitated the establishment of a separate board for the Norfolk college. Webb convinced Dabney S. Lancaster, chairman of the State Council of Higher Education, that the Norfolk branch of William and Mary needed to be independent, and Lancaster convinced other members of the council. It was the group's next biennial report that contained the recommendation that the Norfolk College of William and Mary be granted its independence.

The Board of Visitors of the Colleges of William and Mary opposed the State Council proposal. Advance word of the council recommendations reached the William and Mary administration in late October, and the Board of Visitors met in executive session on Oct. 29. No minutes of that meeting were recorded, but the outcome was that the Board voted 7-5 against any change in the structure of the existing system.

In December, however, the Board appointed a special committee to study the State Council's recommendations. The committee met four times before reporting to the Board of Visitors, on Jan. 6, 1962, that the reasons cited for the dissolution of the Colleges of William and Mary system presented "a strange and complete contrast to the reasons presented by the same authority for the creation of the system only two years ago." Declaring that "the demand for separation of the Norfolk College is largely local in nature," the committee reasoned that because the college's student body was drawn from a fairly broad geographical area, and because the college was a state institution, it should not have localized direction and control. In addition, the committee said, the Colleges of William and

Mary system had been in existence only 18 months and had not had "adequate opportunity to achieve its full potentialities." The Board of Visitors voted 9-5 to adopt the report of the Special Committee on the Organization of the College, though as the vote indicated, roughly a third of the Board agreed with the State Council that major changes in the Colleges of William and Mary system should take place.



Gov. Albertis S. Harrison of Virginia (1962-1966).

The decisive influence in bringing about the dissolution of the "Colleges" system was Gov. Albertis S. Harrison Jr., a Southside Virginia lawyer who had served a term as attorney general of Virginia before his election to the governorship in 1961. A member in good standing of the dominant faction in the state's Democratic party, Harrison enjoyed cordial relations with the Legislature.

Realizing Harrison's political power, several prominent Norfolkians, including John Alfriend and Charles Kaufman, convinced the governor that education in Norfolk would be enhanced by the separation of the Norfolk college from William and Mary. Gaining Harrison's support was crucial, according to Lewis Webb, because legislators from other sections of the state had little interest in the organization of higher education in eastern Virginia, and translated their indifference into a reluctance to disturb the status quo.

On Monday, Jan. 15, 1962, Harrison delivered his first address to the General Assembly. In the section devoted to higher education,

he described the recent recommendations of the State Council of Higher Education as “basically sound,” and observed that continuation of the Colleges of William and Mary system would place “an excessive burden” on the system’s Board of Visitors. Citing what he saw as compelling reasons for granting Norfolk William and Mary its independence, Harrison reminded the General Assembly of the college’s recent, separate accreditation, and pointed out that enrollment at the college had increased in the past 10 years by 225 percent. In forthright, declarative statements, the governor left no doubt how he felt about the Norfolk College of William and Mary:

It harbors the seed of a desperately needed urban educational facility in the great metropolitan area which it serves. It is destined to become a large and significant center of learning. To nourish and guide such a development on a sound basis, educationally and economically, will require a board of its own—dedicated constantly to its colossal mission.

Early in its 1962 session, the General Assembly approved legislation to dissolve the Colleges of William and Mary system. The House of Delegates, by a vote of 86-2, and the Senate, by a 33-3 margin, concurred in the governor’s recommendation. Harrison signed the legislation on Feb. 16—it was to become effective on July 1. The college community in Norfolk began anticipating that summer would mark the beginning of a new era for higher education in Tidewater.

The reaction in Williamsburg was by no means uniformly negative. The William and Mary administration, of course, was not pleased with the breakup of the short-lived “Colleges” system, but many of the school’s faculty members believed that abolishing the satellite system would ensure William and Mary’s distinctive excellence as a liberal arts college. So there were mixed feelings in Williamsburg on May 19 when, “acceding to the action of the General Assembly,” the parent institution’s Board of Visitors bade “Godspeed” to the Norfolk College of William and Mary and the Richmond Professional Institute and wished their new Boards of Visitors “continued success in their direction of these William and Mary children.”

Gov. Harrison chose 13 representatives of Tidewater’s business and professional community to serve on the Norfolk college’s first Board of Visitors. Members appointed to four-year terms were

Frank Batten, publisher of *The Virginian-Pilot* and *The Ledger-Star*; Roy R. Charles, a Norfolk businessman; James A. Howard, a Norfolk attorney; Mrs. Harvey L. Lindsay, legislative chairman of the Garden Club of Virginia; W. Peyton May, an investment consultant; A.K. Scribner, president of Virginia Chemical and Smelting Co.; and Reid M. Spencer, a Norfolk attorney. Those appointed to two-year terms were Joseph E. Baker, a Norfolk attorney; Charles B. Cross, clerk of the Circuit Court of Norfolk County; Rep. Thomas N. Downing of Virginia's First District; Dr. Darden W. Jones, mayor of Franklin; Mrs. John F. Rixey of Norfolk; and John W. Wood, a retired Virginia Beach businessman. Harrison also chose Dr. Woodrow W. Wilkerson, superintendent of public instruction, to be an ex-officio member of the board. The selections made certain that each community served by the Norfolk college would be represented on the new Board of Visitors. The board held an unofficial organizational meeting on May 27 and chose Frank Batten to serve as the first rector. "They [the board] are going to set the pattern," former Gov. Colgate W. Darden Jr. declared. "They're going to create a new school. They'll be more important to the school's future than an ordinary board."

The Board of Visitors had to make two important decisions in its initial meetings. The first of these—naming a president for the college—proved simple. At its first official meeting on July 2, 1962, the board appointed Lewis Webb to head the newly independent institution. But choosing a name for the college turned into a difficult task. It was not until the meeting of Aug. 2 that the board chose the name "Old Dominion College" over such possibilities as "College of the Atlantic," "Thomas Jefferson College," and "College of Hampton Roads."

The 1960s brought a major expansion of the curriculum at the college, as well as changes in its academic organization. In January 1961 more than 1,100 students were enrolled in the Division of Business Administration. Chancellor Chandler recommended to the Board of Visitors that the division be converted into a School of Business Administration. The conversion was made, and John Tabb, who had joined the college faculty in 1955, was appointed dean of the new school. A committee set up by the William and Mary Board of Visitors made recommendations for planning and organizing the school. Stressing the importance of a close working relationship between the school and the Tidewater business



Frank Batten, first rector of the Board of Visitors (1962-1970).

community, the committee suggested that a graduate program in business be initiated at the Norfolk campus, and declared that a strong Institute of Management and an active Bureau of Business Research were essential to the fulfillment of the new school's mission.

The college easily established its School of Business Administration, but encountered resistance to its second expansion attempt. The college administration was aware of a significant demand in Tidewater for an engineering degree program. Engineering societies in the Hampton Roads area appealed to Lewis Webb to seek state approval for such a program. An engineer by training, Webb was receptive to the idea, and in 1961 told members of the Norfolk Chamber of Commerce that an engineering school in Norfolk was "not a question of need, but a question of funds." It was also partly a question of support. Webb encountered serious opposition from the University of Virginia and Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Both institutions had engineering programs of their own and did not want to share limited state funding with yet another program.

Lewis Webb discussed the matter with William H. McFarlane, director of the State Council of Higher Education, who appointed a committee to determine whether the Norfolk area needed a four-year engineering program. The committee members were Webb;

James Bailey, assistant director of the State Council; Dean John W. Whittemore of VPI; Dean Lawrence Quarles of the University of Virginia; and, as consultants, Dean J. Harold Lampe of North Carolina State College and Dean John Ryder of Michigan State University.

Webb arranged for a U.S. Navy helicopter to fly the committee members over the entire Hampton Roads area to show them the region's industrial sites and give them an impression of the area's size and complexity. The committee held four meetings before delivering its recommendations to the State Council. Webb recalls that the representatives of the University of Virginia and VPI continued their opposition, but after lengthy discussion Dean Lampe declared: "Look, why don't we quit fooling with this thing and go ahead and admit that there's need for an engineering school here. It's quite obvious." Although his viewpoint was hotly disputed, Lampe's conclusion prevailed. The committee voted in favor of recommending the establishment of an engineering program at the Norfolk College of William and Mary, and in 1962 the Virginia General Assembly authorized the college to offer the Bachelor of Science in engineering. This development foreshadowed the end of the college's formal relationship with Virginia Polytechnic Institute, which occurred in September 1963.

Lewis Webb realized that the choice of a dean for the new School of Engineering would be crucial to the success of the program. He also knew that J. Harold Lampe was scheduled to retire on June 30, 1962, after 17 years as dean of engineering at North Carolina State College. He regarded Lampe as "a very dynamic leader" with up-to-date ideas concerning the type of program best suited to the needs of the Tidewater area. The question was whether Lampe would forego his retirement and accept the challenge of developing the new engineering program at Old Dominion College. Webb used all his powers of persuasion to convince Lampe and his wife to come to Norfolk, and finally Lampe accepted. The challenge appealed to him.

The Tidewater community was pleased with Lampe's decision. The *Virginian-Pilot* noted that Lampe had also founded the engineering school at the University of Connecticut. That experience and his work at North Carolina State College would be "especially valuable" to him in his new undertaking, the newspaper observed. Lampe set to work immediately in his new post at Old



ODC oceanographer Dr. Jacques Zaneveld (left) with students in Antarctica, 1964-1965.

Dominion College, expanding the faculty of the School of Engineering by bringing in what he called “a mixture of good people from a variety of backgrounds.” He worked closely with the engineering professional societies and the leaders of industry in Tidewater. He also developed a graduate program leading to the Master of Engineering. Lampe established a standard of excellence in the School of Engineering that has continued under his successors, Dr. Ralph Rotty (1966-72), Dr. Donald Ousterhout (1972-74), and Dr. John Weese (1974-).

Another important curricular development at Old Dominion College was the beginning of research and education in oceanography. In 1959 Dr. Jacques Zaneveld joined the faculty of the Department of Biology. A native of the Netherlands, Zaneveld was formerly director of the Caribbean Marine Biological Institute at Curacao, The Netherlands West Indies. In 1960 he set up an oceanography field laboratory at Willoughby Spit in a two-story gray frame building that had served as the waiting room and ticket office for the Old Point Ferry from Norfolk to Hampton. Later, the college acquired a 45-foot surplus Liberty launch from the Navy and converted it into a research vessel. Zaneveld intended to make Old Dominion College a center for algae research in the United States, and received several grants for such research, including grants to do

research in Antarctica. In 1965 the ever-expanding Oceanography Laboratory became the Institute of Oceanography, and Zaneveld was appointed its first director. Focusing on graduate studies, the Institute was authorized in 1968 by the State Council of Higher Education to offer a Master of Science with a concentration in oceanography.

The offering of graduate education turned out to be one of the major developments of the 1960s at Old Dominion College. As early as Oct. 26, 1960, Lewis Webb told a Federal Career Day luncheon at the Norfolk Naval Supply Center that graduate courses in education and business administration would begin at the college within two years. This prediction proved incorrect, but only by two years.

The college administration conducted a survey to determine Tidewater's needs for graduate instruction. The survey found that the greatest need was for improving the qualifications of area teachers. Giving consideration to the results of the survey and the strengths of the college's library and academic departments, Webb felt justified in asking the State Council of Higher Education to authorize the college to offer master's degrees in elementary education, English, history, and business administration. The Board of Visitors forwarded the application for the four graduate programs to the State Council in April 1963. The council, recognizing the vital role Old Dominion College was playing in Tidewater, approved the application at its August meeting. In the fall of 1964, after the General Assembly had appropriated sufficient funds, the college offered its first graduate programs. The first master's degrees were awarded on June 5, 1966. Old Dominion College had reached another milestone in its history.

Changes in administrative organization were necessitated by the college's dynamic growth in the 1960s. In addition to the schools of Business Administration, Education, and Engineering, a School of Arts and Sciences, which included most of the college's academic departments, was established in 1964. E. Vernon Peele, who had come to the Norfolk Division in 1948 as a professor of English and assistant director, became dean of the School of Arts and Sciences. It was soon evident, however, that the school's rapid growth and the disparate interests of the arts and sciences made necessary a further division. So in 1966 the school was separated into the School of Arts and Letters and the School of Sciences. Peele became the first dean

of arts and letters, a post he held until his retirement in 1975, and Dr. Melvin A. Pittman, who had been chairman of William and Mary's Physics Department for 12 years, became dean of the new School of Sciences.

Lewis Webb had a long-range plan in mind as the new schools were being organized. As he explained in an interview years later, "We were organizing for the university [status], and each school, naturally, would have a leader, an educational leader such as a dean." Webb believed that the deans should report to a central academic figure in the administration, so in 1964 he chose Dr. John B. Johnson Jr. to become provost, or chief academic dean, of the college. Johnson was given the responsibility of coordinating the college's academic schools, evening college, and summer sessions, as well as of supervising its new graduate programs. Johnson had been president of Milwaukee-Downer College in Milwaukee, Wisc., since 1951, and Webb believed that the experience had given him "a total overview" of issues related to a growing college. He said Johnson was made provost because "I felt that he could work with the deans a great deal better than one chosen from a particular field." Johnson proved worthy of such faith. The position of provost required "leadership and a great deal of tact and diplomacy and a great deal of patience, too," Webb said, adding that "John Johnson had all of these."

Another administrative innovation at Old Dominion College during the 1960s was the Community College Division begun in 1965. The rationale for establishing the division was that, organizationally, it made sense to bring together into one administrative unit all programs leading to certificates and associate degrees. The new division was given administrative responsibility for the college's Technical Institute, its two-year terminal programs in business, and its two-year programs in general education, law enforcement, and dental hygiene. The dean of the new division was Edgar A. Kovner, who had been director of the Technical Institute since 1959. Once again the college was responding to the community's need for academic instruction and technical training, but the Community College Division became a short-lived experiment. The beginning of a statewide community college system under Gov. Mills E. Godwin Jr., and the establishment of a vocational-technical center by the city of Norfolk led to the phasing out of the Community College Division



Edgar A. Kouner

at ODC. Some of the division's programs, such as dental hygiene, were elevated to four-year status; the engineering technology curriculum was eventually incorporated into the School of Engineering.

As the faculty of Old Dominion College increased in number during the 1960s, the question of faculty governance had to be addressed. The campus chapter of the American Association of University Professors first discussed the question of a faculty senate in 1962. After making a study of faculty senates at other colleges and universities, a special committee of the ODC chapter of the AAUP recommended the establishment of a faculty senate on the Norfolk campus. The proposed senate's function would be to serve as a policy-recommending and advisory body to the college administration. Webb welcomed the creation of a faculty senate, describing it as "a good thing" that "brings the faculty more into the educational policy-making of the college." He was firm, however, in his conviction that the senate must remain an advisory body, declaring that the faculty's duties were "to teach and to research and not to administer."

During the 1960s the ODC campus expanded to meet the needs of a growing student body. There always seemed to be construction going on somewhere on campus. The center of campus life moved away from the administration building as new academic buildings and a student center were constructed south of 49th Street. To create a campus mall in that area, the city of Norfolk closed Bluestone Avenue between 46th and 49th streets and closed 47th and 48th streets between Elkhorn Avenue and Hampton Boulevard.

The first building to be opened on the mall site was the Fine Arts Building, located next to the Hughes Library between 48th and 49th streets. The building housed the college's music, art, and foreign languages departments.

In September 1960 the college received authorization to construct two new buildings, one for business administration and the other for physics. Economic considerations, however, made it more practical to construct one large building for the business administration, mathematics, and physics departments. The new structure, opened in February 1963, was named J.A.C. Chandler Memorial Hall after the William and Mary president who had established the Norfolk division of that college. A few weeks after the May dedication of Chandler Hall, construction began on a building for the School of Engineering. The two-story, air-conditioned structure was designed by Norfolk architectural firm Williams and Tazewell in consultation with Dean Lampe. The building was named Kaufman Hall after Norfolk attorney Charles L. Kaufman, who served the college as chairman of Lewis Webb's Advisory Board and as president of the Educational Foundation.



ODC and its surroundings in the mid-1960s.

By the early 1960s approximately 300 students from outside Tidewater were attending Old Dominion College and, because of a lack of on-campus housing, living in private homes. Eager to solve the housing problem, President Webb announced in January 1964 that the O'Meara-Chandler Corporation of Houston would finance, build, rent, and operate—near the campus—a dormitory for 304 students. Construction began in the spring, and the first students moved into the dorm the following September. The building was named Rogers Hall after Crawford S. Rogers, a former president of the Norfolk Shipbuilding and Drydock Corporation and a member of Lewis Webb's Advisory Board. The success of Rogers Hall persuaded the O'Meara-Chandler Corporation to build a second dormitory across from Rogers Hall. It was named Gresham Hall in honor of Norfolk contractor E.T. Gresham, another member of the Advisory Board.

Plans for a campus mall were announced in the fall of 1965. A new student center, which would replace "Bud's," was already under construction on land west of Chandler and Kaufman. Landscape architect Peter G. Rolland wanted to transform the sizeable area in front of the student center into what a *Virginian-Pilot* reporter poetically described as "a green island of landscaped beauty." Years of delay caused by insufficient funds and contractors' failures, however, prevented the mall from resembling Rolland's sketches until the late 1970s. During the intervening years, the "mall" was better termed a "swamp" much of the time.

The years 1965-70 brought major physical additions to the college. In early December 1965, Webb announced that plans for "a complete physical education unit" had been sent to the governor's office. The plans were approved, and the new building, which included an Olympic-sized swimming pool and a main gym capable of seating 5,200 for basketball games, opened in the fall of 1970. Elsewhere on campus, the student center began operations in May 1966. The Board of Visitors named the building the Lewis Webb College Center in recognition of the president's many years of service to the college. In dedicatory remarks Sargent Shriver, director of the federal Office of Economic Opportunity, said it was appropriate to name the building after Webb because he was "the one man who has . . . contributed his life to the development of the college."



President Lewis W. Webb Jr. (left) and former Gov. Colgate W. Darden Jr. at the 1969 commencement.

ODC's expansion was not solely the result of government funding. The Child Study Center, completed in early 1967, was built with money donated by area Kiwanis and Lions Clubs. The building was designed to contain a speech and hearing clinic as well as an instructional center for training teachers of the visually handicapped.

Also in the college's plans for development was the construction of a major addition to the Technical Institute. The addition contained a 402-seat theater, drafting and design labs, and classrooms. The Darden School of Education, originally located in a small cinder-block building on 49th Street, moved into new quarters on the mall in 1969. Another new building, the John S. Alfriend Chemistry Laboratories (named after the Norfolk banker and ODC benefactor), opened in 1967. Other products of the building boom of the '60s were an annex to the Administration Building and a planetarium adjacent to the Alfriend Chemistry Laboratories.

Despite the extensive construction of the 1960s, at the end of the decade many departments at ODC were still inhabiting what one faculty member described in a news story as "ridiculous quarters." Classes in history, political science, geography and philosophy were still being taught in a two-story frame building erected in 1948. Built as a temporary structure, it was considered a serious fire hazard. The industrial arts department was conducting classes at 49th Street and Hampton Boulevard in what was formerly a commercial laundry. And the music department was staging rehearsals in a stable erected

in 1915. Most departments in such “ridiculous quarters” moved in the early 1970s, but there is one notable exception. In 1980 the music department’s band, ensembles, and chorus were still practicing in the stable.

The 1960s produced radical changes in the lifestyle of many American college students. The decade had begun in a spirit of idealism personified by the country’s youthful new president, John F. Kennedy. But the Vietnam War, the draft, riots in urban ghettos, and the failure of government social programs disillusioned many students. As the Vietnam War escalated during the middle and late ’60s, demonstrations, both violent and non-violent, disrupted the academic life of many colleges. Students on some campuses occupied buildings and destroyed property. Old Dominion College was spared such violence and disorder, but the events of the world outside Norfolk did not pass unnoticed.

There were many forums on campus for discussion of the Vietnam War. In October 1965 William J. Schellings, an ODC history professor, spoke to the History Club on the parallels between events in Southeast Asia in the 1960s and in Europe during the 1930s. The Norfolk Junior Chamber of Commerce sponsored a “reverse teach-in” in November 1965 to present “the facts in favor of U.S. involvement in Vietnam.” The opposing view was presented by Professor Ralph de Bedts of the history department in an appearance jointly sponsored by the History Club and the Emerson Forum.

The pros and cons of America’s deepening involvement in southeast Asia were discussed and debated many times at Old Dominion before the 1973 peace treaty that ended American combat in Vietnam. On Oct. 15, 1969, as part of the national Vietnam Moratorium observance, students and faculty joined in a mass rally advocating an end to the war. Then in May 1970 the deaths of four Kent State students killed during a protest-related confrontation with members of the Ohio National Guard triggered a nationwide outpouring of antiwar sentiment. In Norfolk, the mall of what was by then Old Dominion University was the site of a 24-hour peace vigil staged by students and faculty. A memorial service and a series of open discussions of war-related issues were manifestations of heightened political concern at the college. Dr. James L. Bugg Jr., who succeeded Lewis Webb as president in 1969, remarked that throughout the emotional period after the Kent State tragedy, “the

students [at Old Dominion] were acting together as a community in this matter." He added that he was impressed by their responsible behavior.

Freedom of expression, a major issue on many campuses during the 1960s, became a subject of debate at Old Dominion College too. The Emerson Forum, a campus organization noted for sponsoring debates and lectures on controversial topics, wanted to invite American Nazi Party leader George Lincoln Rockwell to speak at ODC in the fall of 1965. President Webb strongly discouraged the Emerson Forum from inviting Rockwell, and the group eventually acceded to Webb's wishes. The incident led, however, to a campuswide debate on what the college's speakers policy should be. In April 1966 the Board of Visitors settled the matter by adopting a liberal speakers policy stating that "any officially recognized student organization is privileged to invite any speaker it desires."

Another controversy over freedom of expression occurred during the spring of 1969. An article in the fall 1968 issue of the student literary magazine, *The Gadfly*, was offensive to many in the community, including two ministers who called their disapproval to the attention of Gov. Mills E. Godwin Jr. The article, by David L. Russell, was titled "The Imaculate [sic] Deception." A satire on the Immaculate Conception doctrine held by many Christians, the article seemed irreverent to some readers, but shocking to others. Dr. Leland Peterson of the English department said he believed that his role as faculty adviser to *The Gadfly* was to give advice only when the student staff sought it. He did not feel he bore any responsibility for monitoring the publication. When faculty contracts were issued for the 1969-70 academic year, Peterson's was delayed two weeks. When it arrived, it denied him the raise in salary his dean and department chairman had recommended. The Peterson case led to a major discussion of academic freedom on campus and to a reformulation of college press policy.

Fraternities and sororities at the college experienced "a social revolution" during the 1960s. After the college became independent of William and Mary in 1962, the administration asked the Board of Visitors to permit the establishment of national fraternities at ODC to improve fraternity and sorority life. The Board consented, and immediately the "Greeks" began to work toward national affiliation. On Feb. 28, 1964, the student newspaper reported that Alpha Omega Phi had become the Delta Mu chapter of Alpha Xi Delta, and



Kevin Kent is "hanged" to advertise Tiga fraternity's annual dance, the Bar-T-Roundup, in April 1961.

Gamma Gamma had reorganized as the Norfolk chapter of the Chi Omega women's fraternity. In April, Pi Phi Sigma fraternity announced affiliation with Tau Kappa Epsilon, and Kappa Kappa Kappa's application to become a chapter of Pi Beta Phi was approved by that sorority's Grand Council. Eventually all Old Dominion College fraternities and sororities affiliated with national Greek organizations.

In the 1965-66 academic year, 650 of ODC's more than 2,000 male day students were either active members or pledges of fraternities. Approximately 150 of the more than 1,000 female day students belonged to sororities. In 1969 the number of fraternities had increased to nine and the number of sororities to seven. Greeks played a leading role in campus activities. They were active in student government, and fraternity social events were said to constitute 80 to 90 percent of ODC's social activities. In addition, the Greeks were active in community service, working for various fund drives and the Red Cross Bloodmobile, assisting at the Norfolk Boys

Club, providing free tutoring, and giving parties for underprivileged children. ODC's fraternities and sororities had the enthusiastic support of the college administration. Dean of Student Affairs G. William Whitehurst once remarked that "fraternities and sororities are the basis of all intramurals and they spearhead the social life." He added that "in a community college where a minority live on campus, there is a need for closer identification of college and student. Greek life provides this."

Students at Old Dominion College participated in an ever-increasing number of interest clubs and activities during the 1960s. Two noteworthy political organizations of the decade were the campus chapters of the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) and the Campus Americans for Democratic Action (CADA). These groups played a prominent role in the continuing campus debate on the merits of American policy in Vietnam. To further the cause of interracial understanding, the campus chapter of the Virginia College Council on Human Relations sponsored lectures, films, and community activities aimed at drawing together black and white students. Dr. Norman H. Pollock of the history department was instrumental in the council's founding. Several students organized the Students for the Development of Black Culture in the spring of 1969 to promote a deeper understanding of black history and culture.

Among the new campus clubs with an academic orientation, the German Forum, the Russian Club, and the ODC chapter of the history honors society, Phi Alpha Theta, were particularly active.



*Greek Week chariot races,
May 1965.*



The ODC Sailing Club

The Rev. Bill Martin (right) with a student at Canterbury House.

The Debate Team, sponsored by the speech department, engaged in intercollegiate competition and conducted workshops for high school debaters. The student dramatic society, The Masquers, displayed renewed vitality under the tutelage of Dr. Charles Burgess of the English department.

In sports, the Sailing Club, organized in 1963, took advantage of ODC's location to engage in intercollegiate racing as well as in pleasure sailing. And in campus ministry, the Westminster Fellowship (Presbyterian) and the Hillel Club (Jewish) were founded, as well as an organization for students of the Christian Science faith. During Religious Emphasis Week, initiated in 1965 by the Inter-religious Council, ODC's campus ministries sponsored activities designed to heighten campus awareness of the spiritual dimension of life.

During the 1960s, ODC students were active in numerous musical organizations. John Davye, who joined the faculty in 1966, became director of both the College Chorus and the Concert Choir. The Concert Band and the ODC Community Symphony, directed by Allan Owen and John MacCormack respectively, gave many hours of pleasure to area music lovers, as did S. Eliot Breneiser's Madrigal Singers. The Opera Workshop continued to offer productions of consistently high quality under the direction of Dr. Harold Hawn. Notable productions of the 1960s included "Madame Butterfly" (1963), "My Fair Lady" (1968), and "The Music Man" (1969).

The 1960s saw extraordinary progress for student publications at Old Dominion College. In February 1960 The High Hat adopted a news magazine format. As the college moved toward separation from William and Mary in 1961, Norfolk students believed that their publication should have a more distinctive name. "High Hat" was a variation of "Flat Hat," the name of the William and Mary student newspaper. In 1961 Professor John Foster West, faculty adviser for student publications at ODC, was appointed chairman of a committee that selected the names the Mace and Crown and The Troubadour for the student news magazine and yearbook. At his own expense, West hired a commercial artist to design a logo for the news magazine, using a mace to represent the city of Norfolk, and a crown to denote Old Dominion College's past relationship with William and Mary. The Mace and Crown continued as a monthly news magazine until the end of the 1963 spring semester, but when it resumed publication that October it was a weekly newspaper and has remained so ever since.

The yearbooks of the 1960s constitute a capsule history of the decade. In 1968 and 1969 The Troubadour staff abandoned the traditional format and organized the volume according to the seasons of the year. A new student literary magazine, The Gadfly, appeared in 1962. The quarterly continued for 10 years and was a valuable outlet for student literary efforts.

Two new ideas introduced during the 1968-69 academic year deserve mention. Both innovations were short-lived, but they reveal much about the spirit of the time. First was the establishment of a "Free University." The brainchild of two students, Gene Woolard and Charles Spruill, the Free University offered non-credit, tuition-free courses in which no tests or grades were given. Designed for "the students who wished to learn in a relaxed and casual

atmosphere," the Free University also reflected a campuswide interest in subjects not included in traditional college curricula. Administered solely by students, the program officially began in the fall of 1968 with an offering of four courses. Classes closed out during the first 15 minutes of registration. The Free University continued until 1973, drawing its instructors from community professionals, campus ministers, and faculty members of ODC and Norfolk State College. Noteworthy course offerings included "Afro-American History and Culture," taught by three Norfolk State College professors, and "The Estranged God," offered by Rev. Kieran Fergus, O.P.

A second innovation introduced to the college during the 1968-69 academic year resulted from the administration's positive response to a request by the Campus Americans for Democratic Action and the Student Government Association to suspend classes for one day to allow students "time-out" for talking with faculty and administrators. The object of the "time-out" was to give students the opportunity to air grievances, suggest improvements in campus life, and join in workshops and private discussions with administrators and faculty. The day chosen for "Time-Out" was March 5, 1969, and the Mace and Crown reported that "a surprisingly large number of students turned up to complain or comment on the administration." President Webb said he believed that "Time-Out" was "an attempt to bring the administration closer to the student body and let them know that it wasn't just a boogiemanager sitting somewhere with no access to the students." In subsequent years, state legislators and members of the Board of Visitors joined in "Time-Out." As the mood of insistent questioning so characteristic of the late 1960s waned, however, student interest in "Time-Out" decreased. The last session was held in April 1971.

Student government was well-organized during the 1960s, but voter turnout in elections for student offices was low. The Student Government Association consisted of executive, legislative, and judicial councils. Each class elected officers as well. In the spring of 1968, ODC's rising senior class elected Ron Horne class president. He was the college's first black class officer.

Student life at ODU in the 1960s was not all serious political discussion and protest. In the early '60s, student organizations sponsored concerts by such performers as Peter, Paul and Mary;

Pete Seeger; Al Hirt; and the Chad Mitchell Trio. The Folk Music Club, organized in January 1964, held on-campus hootenannies. The International Relations Club made arrangements for students to travel abroad during the summer, and affiliation with national fraternities and sororities brought a new dimension to Greek life on campus. Student life at the college became richer and more diverse during the 1960s, and by the latter years of the decade a conspicuous informality both in dress and lifestyle was evident among many students.



Peter, Paul and Mary in a concert sponsored by the freshman class at the City Arena on April 28, 1963.

The 1960s were successful years for ODC athletics. By the end of the decade, there were already growing expectations that the men's basketball program would achieve major-college status. During the summer of 1961, a special faculty committee chaired by Professor John Foster West chose "Monarchs" as the new name for the college's athletic teams. Dr. Warren F. Spencer, a member of the committee, wrote that the name would "link the traditions of the past to the realities of the present," adding that "just as King William and Queen Mary laid the foundations for the political evolution of democratic England, so the Norfolk College of William and Mary is laying the foundations for an elevated and enlightened populace of Tidewater."

That was grand talk to associate with the naming of a college's sports teams, but grand things were in store for those teams. In 1962,

the Norfolk College of William and Mary became the 16th member of the Mason-Dixon Conference. According to Coach Arthur B. "Bud" Metheny, the significance of conference membership was that in every sport "we had an annual goal to shoot for—the conference championship." In addition, outstanding teams could compete in National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) regional playoffs. Sports columnist Charles Baldwin of the *Mace and Crown* wrote that joining the conference was "the biggest step forward insofar as sports are concerned at Norfolk William and Mary."

To improve the quality of the college's athletic program, scholarship aid was indispensable. Realizing this, two organizations provided such aid to ODC during the 1960s, giving the college a chance to produce sports teams of major-college caliber.

The first of these organizations was the Old Dominion College Intercollegiate Foundation, organized in the fall of 1963 to finance an expansion of the college's athletic program. The college had been unable to offer athletic scholarships while still a branch of William and Mary. The foundation's primary function was to raise money for scholarships and grants-in-aid to be awarded to student athletes who demonstrated both athletic prowess and financial need. The college, through its scholarship and athletic committees, administered the funds, most of which went initially to men's basketball. Four full scholarships per year were set aside for men's basketball in the belief that it was the sport in which ODC could most quickly earn national recognition. Recalling the Intercollegiate Foundation's early days, Coach Metheny named Norfolk attorney James A. Howard and Norfolk automobile dealer Jack Wilkins as prime movers behind the organization.

The second major benefactor of ODC's athletic program was the Norfolk Sports Club. In the late 1950s, the club began offering four scholarships annually to student athletes from Norfolk. Scholarship recipients were not restricted in their choice of schools, however. In the spring of 1964 the club changed its scholarship policy, stipulating that all future aid would be awarded to Old Dominion College and that all recipients would come from a Norfolk high school. The club also announced that it would contribute \$5,000 in cash and \$10,000 in scholarships to the ODC athletic program during the next five years. The Monarchs were on their way.

During the 1960s, the highly successful ODC baseball team received national recognition. From 1963 to 1965 the team won 66

games, lost 14, and compiled a .300 batting average. Noted for their long winning streaks, the Monarchs once claimed 26 consecutive victories, prompting Coach Metheny to remark, "These kids have forgotten how to lose. They think they can't be beat."

In 1963 and 1964 the Monarchs won the NCAA College Division Atlantic Coast Regional Championships. They placed second in



Bud Metheny's Monarchs of 1964 posing in front of the monuments in center field at Yankee Stadium.

1965. The 1964 and 1965 championships were played in New York's Yankee Stadium. Metheny received the College Baseball Coach of the Year award for his 1964 team, which won 22 of 25 games.

Several of Metheny's baseball players earned individual honors during the '60s. Centerfielder Fred Kovner, son of Professor Edgar Kovner, was named to the first-team College Division All-America team in 1964 and 1965. Pitcher Bobby Walton, who won 25 games and lost seven in four years on the mound, earned first-team All-America recognition in 1963 and second-team honors in 1964. Outfielder Jim Zadell, who batted a robust .423, also earned a second-team All-America designation in 1963.

The years 1963-65 were the golden age in the baseball coaching career of Bud Metheny. Home games were played at Larchmont Field before crowds whose size was limited only by the inadequate facilities. The players displayed a sense of pride in themselves and in

their school. Joining Kovner, Walton, and Jim Zadell were first baseman Fred Balmer, shortstop Lee McDaniel, catcher Jimmy Walker, third baseman Wayne Parks, outfielders Frank Zadell and Tommy Harrell, and pitchers Dennis Riddleberger (who ultimately pitched in the major leagues) and Fred Edmonds.

In 1963 Metheny succeeded "Scrap" Chandler as ODC's athletic director, and two years later turned over his basketball coaching duties to William R. "Sonny" Allen. Metheny also resigned as ODC's baseball coach after the 1969 season, but resumed the post in 1971. Playing such schools as Virginia Tech, the University of Virginia, and William and Mary, Monarch baseball teams found victories more scarce in the late 1960s. But Metheny had achieved his goal of steadily upgrading the level of competition in ODC's athletic programs.

After 31 years of coaching, Bud Metheny announced that he would retire in the spring of 1980. Metheny's contribution to the college went far beyond the winning tradition he established in baseball and basketball. In the words of Athletic Director Dr. James Jarrett, Metheny's greatest contribution was "the tremendous job he has done in building character in both his players and his students."

The future of men's basketball at ODC was the subject of several discussions between Metheny and President Webb. Both men agreed that after the establishment of the Intercollegiate Foundation, the college needed a coach who would devote all his time to basketball. In early March 1965, Metheny announced the hiring of just such a man. Sonny Allen, freshman coach and varsity assistant at Marshall University, was appointed ODC's head coach.

Allen told the press that "We West Virginians like to run and shoot and that's the kind of basketball we'll play at Old Dominion." Allen lived up to his word. During his 10 years in Norfolk, he made the fast break the hallmark of Monarch teams. He also made a major change in recruitment policy. Allen declared that he would bring in negro players. Although several blacks were attending ODC in 1965, there had been no black athletes on Monarch teams. Allen changed that in June 1965 when he announced that Arthur "Buttons" Speakes, who had starred in four sports at Huntington (W.Va.) High School, had been awarded an Intercollegiate Foundation scholarship. Speakes was the first black athlete recruited by a predominantly white college in Virginia.

Bud Metheny had compiled a creditable record in his 17 years as ODC's head basketball coach. His teams had won 198 games and lost 166. Consistently lacking in height, Metheny's teams emphasized accurate outside shooting and a tight man-to-man defense. By 1965 the ODC basketball program had reached a plateau, and Sonny Allen was assigned the mission of leading the Monarchs into the "big time" of college basketball.

After two years of building a team, Allen's efforts began to bear fruit in the 1967-68 season. Forward Bob Pritchett led the team with a scoring average of 25.3 points per game. He scored 47 points against Hampden-Sydney and set a school record with 67 points against Richmond Professional Institute. Other standouts on the team were forward Harry Lozon and guards Charles (Dick) St. Clair and Buttons Speakes. The Monarchs' season record was 19-7, with a scoring average of 98.1 points per game. The fast break had indeed come to Old Dominion.

The Monarchs' 1968-69 schedule included several university-division opponents, but the team responded with a 21-10 record. The Monarchs won their first Mason-Dixon Conference championship and an invitation to the NCAA South Atlantic (College Division) Regional postseason tournament. Only once would the Monarchs fail to be chosen for this tournament during the rest of Sonny Allen's tenure.

At the conclusion of the 1968-69 season, the ODC basketball team left the Mason-Dixon Conference and became independent. Athletic Director Metheny and his coaching staff believed that the basketball program had outgrown the conference and that more flexibility in scheduling would be possible as an independent. Allen and the Intercollegiate Foundation were also making plans for a Christmas tournament that would attract university-division teams from across the country. The Monarchs played their home games in the Norfolk Arena, awaiting the day they could return to the campus to perform in the modern field house under construction as the 1960s came to a close.

In wrestling, Pete Robinson's teams compiled outstanding records throughout the decade. In the 1962-63 season, the Monarch matmen compiled a 5-0 record in regular season Mason-Dixon Conference competition and dominated the conference championships held in Westminster, Md. Led by Tom McMillan, Paul Cote, and Carl

Ragland, the Monarchs dominated the Mason-Dixon Conference throughout the decade, winning the conference championship every year except in 1967. Cote won four consecutive conference titles and suffered his only defeat in 1966 at the NCAA College Division national wrestling tournament at Mankato State College in Minnesota. Ragland was named outstanding wrestler in the 1968 and 1969 conference tournaments, and became the college's first national champion in any sport when he won the NCAA College Division 152-pound wrestling title at San Luis Obispo, Calif., in March 1969. Coach Robinson had strengthened the wrestling schedule by 1969 to include such opponents as Ohio State and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

ODC athletes also excelled in sports other than baseball, basketball and wrestling. From 1962 to 1966, Lou Plummer's track teams won 29 consecutive dual meets. Lou Capi (hurdles) and Terry Wright (high jump) were standouts in intercollegiate competition, and Plummer's cross country team won the 1963 Mason-Dixon conference championship.

"Scrap" Chandler and Charlie Jackson coached the ODC men's swimming team to many victories, including first-place showings in the 1963 and 1965 Virginia Little Eight meets. Al Tatem helped put ODC tennis in the headlines, coaching the team that in 1965 lost the Mason-Dixon Conference Southern Division title by one game. Four years later, led by captain Jim Rosemergy, Tatem's men not only won the Southern Division title but also defeated Loyola of Baltimore for the conference championship.

Pete Robinson became coach of the Monarch golfers in 1965, leading them to Mason-Dixon Conference championships in 1966 and 1969. (The Monarchs won four conference championships in the 1968-69 academic year, beating out all competition in basketball, golf, tennis and wrestling.) Soccer at ODC began in 1968 when a group of students organized a team and played eight games against area opponents. In 1969, under Coach Dave Bicanic, soccer became a varsity sport. A Rugby Club and a men's gymnastics team were organized at the college in the late 1960s. Coached by Tinker Trimble, the 1968-69 gymnastics team went undefeated in five matches against university-division opponents. Sailing began as a club sport at ODC in 1964, but in 1968 a college sailing team began competition in the Southern Association Intercollegiate Sailing Association.



The 1969-70 Princesses (coached by Mary Jackson, back row, far right) won 16 games and lost 2, winning the state tournament.

Women's sports did not enjoy a high priority in ODC's overall athletics program during the 1960s. In fact, for most of the decade, field hockey was the only sport played on an intercollegiate basis. A women's swimming team was organized in the winter of 1965 by Beverly Burton, but swimming classes and the meets and practices of the men's team took priority in the allotment of pool time. Despite this obstacle, the ODC women won five of six meets and finished third in the state meet in 1967. Women's basketball, which had such a promising beginning in the 1930s, was suspended as an intercollegiate sport in the 1950s. The sport was resumed during the 1967-68 academic year, and the team, called the Princesses, was coached by Mary Jackson. During the 1968-69 season, the Princesses posted a 10-1 record that included victories over William and Mary and Virginia Commonwealth University.

Inadequately funded as a branch of William and Mary, ODC continued to fare poorly in appropriations after it attained its independence. The college usually ranked in or near last place among the state's four-year colleges and universities in per-student appropriations. The school suffered from four disadvantages in seeking improved funding. First, as a new institution ODC did not have a corps of highly placed, influential alumni. Second, the college was known as a commuter school, and some legislators believed that residential institutions required a higher level of funding. Third, ODC's urban location did not aid its cause with a legislature that had a distinctly rural orientation. And finally, the college had started from a low base in funding, meaning that a percentage increase was much

less meaningful to ODC than to a well-established university. Each time a governor presented a biennial budget to the State Legislature, Lewis Webb would mobilize public opinion to seek the restoration of funds deleted from ODC's budget request.

In September 1967, Lewis Webb announced his intention of retiring from the presidency of Old Dominion College. Continuing in the post while the Board of Visitors sought a successor, he formally left the presidential office in the summer of 1969, having served as the college's chief administrative officer for 23 years. His dedication to the school during that time was reminiscent of the tireless efforts of many 19th-century college presidents who held their institutions together through years of poverty and war. As *The Virginian-Pilot* observed in an editorial saluting Webb, he was "an educator, fundraiser, politician, administrator, builder and missionary." In addition, Webb was an enthusiastic advocate of the college, whether he was addressing the General Assembly in Richmond or a civic club in Tidewater. In recognition of his ability to "sell" the college to the community, the Norfolk-Portsmouth Sales Executive Club voted Webb the club's Sales Executive of the Year in 1956.

Lewis Webb had been a very accessible president, and was always available when needed. Living close to the campus, he had often



The first home of the School of Education.

received calls at home from overwrought maintenance men wanting to know what to do about a broken boiler or some other emergency. His familiarity with the plans of each campus building and his training in engineering served him well on such occasions. Asked after his

retirement what the greatest satisfaction of his career had been, Webb replied: "To be with something while it was changing from a one-room schoolhouse to an institution serving 10,000 students. In the beginning it could have been killed any time and almost was on several occasions. But when I gave up the job, I knew nobody was going to kill it from that point on."

President Webb's "last big battle" was to see Old Dominion College granted university status. As early as 1965, a legislative study commission on higher education in Virginia recommended that the college be designated a university. Two years later the State Council of Higher Education published "The Virginia Plan for Higher Education," a master plan for higher education in the Commonwealth. For the first time, the state attempted to define the institution's mission. According to the "Virginia Plan," Old Dominion College was "rapidly acquiring the characteristics of an urban university," which was the role envisioned for the school by the State Council. The Council recommended that the Board of Visitors designate Old Dominion a university as soon as "appropriate library, research and other resources" were developed. The college would continue to serve commuting students primarily, but its curriculum would include broad baccalaureate and master's degree programs and a limited number of doctoral programs "in special areas related to the unique location of the institution and special needs" of the metropolitan Tidewater community.

Webb agreed with the Council's recommendation, but knew there was reluctance on the part of the Board of Visitors to take such a step. Certain facts, however, weighed strongly in favor of the college's becoming a university. First, the college already had a basic organizational feature of university structure—the division of instruction into four separate schools. Second, there were tangible benefits accorded universities. There was the possibility of obtaining more grant funding, and, as Webb noted, "the word 'university' carries weight in getting appropriations from the General Assembly and in recruiting faculty and students." Provost Johnson also pointed out that the attainment of university status would be "a great boost for faculty morale" and would give the Board of Visitors greater leverage in securing a highly qualified new president. Finally, Frank Batten, rector of the Board of Visitors, announced in December 1966 that "We believe there is a critical need for an institution of university status in this urban region." After studying

the matter carefully, the Board of Visitors met on June 13, 1968, and voted to change the name of the college to Old Dominion University on Sept. 1, 1969.

Dr. James L. Bugg Jr. succeeded Webb as president of the college during the summer of 1969. A native of Farmville, Va., Bugg came to Old Dominion University from the University of Missouri at St. Louis, where he served as chancellor. A historian by training, he intended to make Old Dominion a university in fact as well as in name. In his speech at the general faculty meeting on Sept. 3, 1969, Bugg charted several new directions for the institution. Focusing on the university's governance structure, he recommended the creation of a universitywide senate in which the faculty, the student body, and the administration would all be represented. This body would recommend to the president policies for the development and governance of the institution.

Bugg also announced that the university would soon be planning doctoral programs in engineering and oceanography. Observing that the State Council had designated Old Dominion an urban university, he said he believed that the metropolitan area should serve as "a laboratory for our students," and that the highest priority should be given to "the development of strong programs in the urban area." He added that a program in urban affairs would make it possible for the university "to make an increasingly meaningful contribution to the metropolitan area and to the state."

The university's urban mission received primary emphasis during the presidencies of Dr. Bugg and his successor, Dr. Alfred B. Rollins Jr., but the idea was by no means a new one. Indeed, service to the community had characterized the college since its founding in 1930.

1970s The Urban University





The 1970s were years of dynamic growth and at times nervous uncertainty for Old Dominion University. Although the State Council of Higher Education had broadly defined the institution's mission in 1967, it was still necessary to clarify the university's goals and to convince the governor

and the State Legislature of the validity of those goals. Enrollment at the institution had grown from 9,471 in the 1970-71 academic year to 14,645 in the fall of 1979. Despite inadequate funding, the university's curriculum had grown too, offering 42 graduate programs (36 master's, six doctoral) by the end of the decade. University-sponsored cultural events, seminars, institutes, workshops and town meetings enriched the lives of Tidewater citizens and further strengthened the symbiotic relationship that had developed between the university and the community. As ODU neared its golden anniversary in 1980, it had gained a sense of direction and made progress toward becoming the "urban university" described in the institution's mission statement.

The 1970s began at ODU in an atmosphere of crisis precipitated by a serious reduction in the university's budget request. For the 1970-72 biennium, Gov. Mills E. Godwin Jr. recommended to the State Legislature that the university be granted an appropriation of \$11.2 million for operating expenses and \$4.1 million for capital outlay. The university had requested \$15.8 million for operating expenses and \$8.1 million for capital outlay. The governor's recommendation meant that the university with the fourth largest

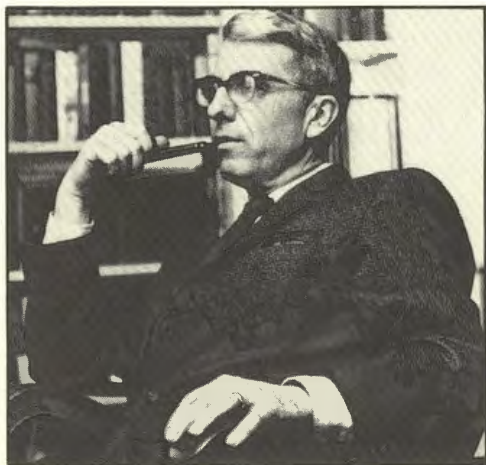
enrollment in the state would have one of the lowest per-student appropriations of Virginia's 30 state-supported institutions of higher learning. Frank Batten, rector of the Board of Visitors, described the budget cut as "a true and serious crisis for ODU," adding "this institution cannot function as a university at the proposed level of funding."

As warnings of program eliminations and staff reductions appeared in the press, ODU sought to restore \$3.8 million of the \$8.4 million cut from its budget request. President Bugg worked closely with the area legislative delegation to persuade the General Assembly to restore funds to the university's budget. The Faculty Senate formed the Committee to Save the University and solicited contributions from the faculty to finance a campaign to gain public support. The Faculty Senate action marked the beginning of the "Save ODU" campaign of 1970, which was supported by university administrators, faculty and students, as well as by community leaders eager to advocate the university's cause to the State Legislature.

The Student Government Association, under President John Sasser, organized a massive publicity effort. The organization distributed posters, brochures, and 5,000 bumper stickers bearing the message "Save ODU... Write Now!" The SGA also displayed the "Save ODU" message on 28 billboards between Norfolk and Richmond and sold 500 T-shirts bearing a large footprint over the letters "ODU." Robert Stern, a professor of political science, led a delegation of 30 students to the State Capitol to lobby for increased funding for ODU. Perhaps inspired by the students' enthusiasm, the Norfolk Chamber of Commerce and Norfolk City Council voiced strong support for the university's position.

The "Save ODU" campaign undoubtedly attracted the attention of the legislators. But university administrators' private conferences with the governor and legislative leaders, as well as President Bugg's persuasive testimony before the House Appropriations Committee, were probably more effective in increasing the university's appropriation. In the final budget, according to Budget Bureau figures, the university received \$1.6 million more than Gov. Godwin's recommendation. This was still \$2.2 million short of what President Bugg said was absolutely necessary, and only half of the \$1.6 million would come from the state's general fund. Old Dominion University remained an institution with serious funding problems.

*Dr. James L. Bugg Jr.,
Old Dominion's second
president, 1969-1976.*



One of Dr. Bugg's principal concerns was the reaccreditation study by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. Preparations for the study began in 1968 and culminated in the spring of 1971 with the release of a detailed, two-volume "Self-Study Report." A 17-member visiting committee spent four days on the ODU campus during May 1971, and reached some sobering conclusions. Though reaffirming the university's accreditation, the committee recommended a revision of the institution's mission statement to clarify its role as an urban university. The committee also pointed out the need for "an adequate set of institutional goals and objectives against which specific programs could be measured." Many of the university's problems were traced to its rapid growth. The committee realized that ODU was an institution in transition, but noted that "While Old Dominion has many of the qualities of a university, it is doubtful that faculty, facilities or library justify the name." The "greatest problem" facing the university, according to the SACSS accreditation committee, was "the fact that it is struggling to become the urban university called for by the Council of Higher Education at a time when the General Assembly is funding it as a junior college." Additional financial support was described as "imperative."

The visiting committee also recommended that an effort be made to admit high school graduates whose test scores and class rank fell below the norm, but who possessed leadership ability or

special talents. In the fall of 1974 the university instituted the Academic Opportunity Program to permit students who did not meet the university's standard admissions requirements to attend selected classes and receive special counseling aimed at enabling them to become matriculated students. The experimental program proved successful, and demonstrated yet another way in which the university could fulfill its urban mission.

The visiting committee expressed concern in its 1971 report about the ODU curriculum and its relevance to the university's "unique time-place" situation. Questions of curriculum development necessitated a renewed effort to define more precisely the university's mission, so before the SACSS accreditation team visited the campus, the Long Range Planning Committee of the University Senate engaged in intensive discussions of the university's purpose, and drafted a statement titled "The Mission of the University." This statement would serve as a charter for the future development of the university.

The mission statement was adopted by the Board of Visitors at its June 1971 meeting. It defined ODU as "an urban university with the primary mission of meeting the educational and professional needs of its students and the region through excellence in teaching, scholarly research, and leadership in community service." At the undergraduate level the university would emphasize a comprehensive program in the liberal arts and sciences and a selective program in professional programs. Graduate programs would be designed to serve the region's needs for "advanced professional education" and degree programs "for which the institution is prepared through unusual strength of faculty or special geographic advantages." The mission statement also committed the university to extending its services throughout southeastern Virginia, to offering graduate and undergraduate instruction at off-campus sites, to providing consulting services and institutes, and to presenting seminars for mid-career professionals. Throughout the 1970s, ODU developed in accordance with its mission statement.

The process of refining the university's mission continued during the early and mid-1970s. In his address to the faculty on Sept. 15, 1972, President Bugg discussed five programmatic themes he believed were "particularly relevant to our mission as an urban, regional university serving the needs of eastern Virginia." The

themes were: urban-related administration and technology; health-related studies; urban education; marine and atmospheric studies; and urban arts. He appointed an Academic Planning Committee consisting of eight faculty members, six administrators, and two students to study the themes and obtain reactions from faculty, students, alumni, administrators, and the community. The committee, which issued its report in February 1974, reaffirmed the programmatic themes with only a slight modification in wording. The report stressed the importance of interdisciplinary work in the implementation of the themes.

The next step in the planning process was the development of the Profile of the University's Future. This long-range planning document had its beginning at a conference attended by a group of board members, students, faculty, administrators and an alumnus on Oct. 16-17, 1975, in Virginia Beach. Dr. Harold Eickhoff, executive assistant to President Bugg, directed the deliberations and solicited reactions from the university community to the draft statement that emerged from the conference.

The report of the Virginia Beach conference and the university mission statement constituted the basis for "A Statement of General Objectives" adopted by the Board of Visitors in June 1977. The statement stressed the university's commitment to "a comprehensive program of liberal arts and sciences and professional programs" at the undergraduate level. Graduate programs were to be based on society's needs for continuing professional and cultural education. In six select areas of graduate and undergraduate specialization related to the university's mission and geographical location, however, the goal was a position of "national leadership." The areas of proposed excellence that echoed the programmatic themes stated by President Bugg in 1972 were administration and urban technology, urban education, the fine and performing arts, health-related studies, international studies, and marine and environmental studies. Another significant objective was the university's commitment to excellence in teaching. The statement of objectives made it clear that the essential qualification for academic tenure would be that the faculty member be an effective teacher.

Curricular developments in the 1970s were strongly guided by the mission statement. The Division of General Studies was established in 1970 under Dean Stanley R. Pliska. The principal

purpose of the new division (later elevated to a school) was to provide academic advising, administer tests, and give limited vocational counseling to all entering freshmen and other underclassmen who had not yet chosen a major. Dr. Pliska, who had served as dean of the Evening College since 1962, was assisted by four academic advisers. Walter Earl and Helen I. Stair provided the professional expertise of trained counselors, while recent ODU graduates Shelton Baise and Kathy Hanlon were able to view students' academic problems from the perspective of their own recent classroom experience.

The School of Arts and Letters inaugurated several new graduate programs. The Institute of Urban Studies and Public Administration, created in 1974, symbolized the university's commitment to public service in urban affairs. Directed by Dr. Leonard Ruchelman, the institute offered two graduate degrees: a Master of Urban Studies and a Master of Public Administration. The institute also participated with the Darden School of Education and the School of Business Administration in offering a multidisciplinary doctoral program in urban services. That program, which included concentrations in urban education and urban management, was designed to develop professionals who would stimulate change in urban education institutions and government. The Institute of Humanities was established in the fall of 1975; the following year Dr. W. Francis Ryan became its director. The program permitted students of the humanities to design and pursue individualized courses of study within a multidisciplinary framework leading to a Master of Arts degree. The program was especially successful in attracting mid-career professionals back to the campus for intellectual enrichment. Finally, a program leading to a Master of Arts in international studies was established to develop the capacity of students to deal with complex international issues on an interdisciplinary basis. The program began in the fall of 1978 under the direction of Dr. Peter A. Poole, a leading scholar in the field of international relations.

The School of Sciences and Health Professions developed many new programs to meet the educational and professional needs of the region. In conjunction with the Eastern Virginia Medical School, an interdisciplinary doctoral program in biomedical sciences began in the fall of 1979. The objectives of the program were to give



Gov. A. Linwood Holton (1970-1974) inspects the Institute of Oceanography's research vessel named in his honor, Oct. 12, 1971.

researchers a broad base of knowledge in the biomedical sciences and to prepare them for the administration and management of biomedical sciences research programs. Graduate programs in the departments of Community Health Professions and Dental Hygiene were established to produce health-care professionals whose expertise is always in demand. Bachelor's programs in environmental health and physical therapy were also developed in response to regional needs.

Environmental concerns in the 1970s produced many new career opportunities in the analysis and management of contemporary problems of the physical environment. ODU's Department of Geophysical Sciences responded to this expansion by offering a program leading to a Master of Science with a concentration in atmospheric and earth sciences. The university's Institute of Oceanography developed two graduate degree programs, one leading to a Master of Science, the other to a Doctor of Philosophy. Although emphasizing basic research, the institute's programs often applied the results of such research to the solution of regional problems related to marine areas or the coastal zone. The institute continued to use its 65-foot research vessel, the R/V Linwood Holton, for cruises by research groups in the Chesapeake Bay and

the inner Continental Shelf. By 1979, ODU's Institute of Oceanography ranked among the 10 largest of approximately 50 oceanography programs in the nation. In August 1979 the university announced that it would open a Marine Studies Center in 1980 to coordinate research into marine environmental issues and to provide expertise for such projects as expanding the port of Hampton Roads or researching beach erosion.

In the Department of Psychology, the 1970s brought extraordinary growth and the initiation of several new programs. Doctoral-level programs in industrial/organizational psychology and clinical psychology were established during the latter years of the decade. The department also pursued an extensive research program in applied psychology in its Performance Assessment Laboratory, and provided valuable services in maintaining a substance abuse center and a mental health clinic for ODU students.

As the university approached its 50th anniversary in 1980, those who guided its destiny could be proud of a rich and varied curriculum with many nontraditional emphases. The schools of Business Administration, Education, and Engineering were also exploring new areas in their respective fields. Closely affiliated with the graduate programs in the School of Business Administration were the Center for Economic Education, the Bureau of Business and Economic Research, and the Institute of Management. These agencies provided opportunities for faculty and graduate students to interact with business, industry and government in eastern Virginia. The Darden School of Education offered six baccalaureate programs, master's programs with nine distinct concentrations, and the Certificate of Advanced Study in guidance and counseling and in educational administration. The School of Engineering, ODU's first school to offer a doctoral program, continued to offer undergraduate and graduate programs of distinction while working closely with the professional engineering community in Tidewater. In 1979, plans were announced for developing an evening program in engineering to serve the needs of local industry and working students.

The School of Continuing Studies, created in 1974, offered a vast array of programs and activities in adult education. Tracing its roots to the evening and extension classes offered by the Norfolk Division, the School of Continuing Studies administered all off-campus credit courses and developed such nontraditional learning programs as educational travel and courses by media. In addition, all

non-credit activities sponsored by the university were administered through Continuing Studies public service programs. In 1971 the Bounty-Rainbow Program of non-credit courses was first offered under the direction of Betsey Creekmore, formerly an English instructor at ODU. The program was the brainchild of William F. Whitbeck, dean of the Office of Continuing Education, and President Bugg. By the end of the 1970s the program had been renamed the Personal Enrichment Program, but it continued to serve diverse educational needs by offering courses in everything from automotive repair to Suzuki violin. The Bureau of Conferences and Institutes planned and conducted conferences and seminars for a variety of interest groups. In addition to all its other functions, the School of Continuing Studies also administered the university's on-campus evening and summer programs. Located in Crittenton Hall (the former home of Florence Crittenton Services of Norfolk), the School of Continuing Studies, under the leadership of its dean, Dr. John J. DeRolf, fulfilled an essential part of the university's mission during the 1970s.

One of the most exciting developments at ODU during the 1970s was a renaissance of the arts. In 1975 Dr. Heinz K. Meier became dean of the School of Arts and Letters, and the following year Dr. Alfred B. Rollins Jr. became the university's third president. They agreed that one of their highest priorities would be proper recognition of the various artists on campus and encouragement of their interaction with the community. During the years 1976-79, the arts program known as "Interplay" emphasized this interaction as well as the interrelationship between the various disciplines of art, dance, drama, literature and music. Yearly Interplay themes included "Focus on the Arts" (1976-77), "The Year of the Visiting Artist" (1977-78), and "Expansion of the Arts" (1978-79). During this period the university enjoyed rapid growth in the quality and quantity of its activities in the arts. In 1979 the Community Arts Program transferred from Continuing Studies to the School of Arts and Letters. The director of the program was Dr. Glenn Ray, who had served as director of The Living Arts Program in Dayton, Ohio. The function of the Community Arts Program was to serve as a center for planning, coordinating and managing the university's various arts programs. Another responsibility of the program, according to Ray, was to maintain and promote the belief that "the arts are essential to human existence."



Fouad Mohit performing mime to advertise the "Year of the Visiting Artist" (1977-78).



Sculptor Victor Pickett and students.

The Community Arts Program administered such programs as the ODU Ballet and Community Ballet Program, the Riverview Playhouse, major exhibitions at the University Gallery, and the visiting artists program. Ballet classes at Old Dominion began in 1967 in the building on 47th Street known as the "barn." In 1971 Richard Munro and Cristina Stirling Munro became artists-in-residence at ODU, and the guiding force behind the university's ballet program. During the 1972 Christmas season, the Munros directed a production of Tchaikovsky's classic "The Nutcracker," thereby creating a Christmas tradition in Tidewater. The Munros were succeeded by Istvan Ament and his wife, Ana, in 1973. Educated and trained in Rumania, the Aments had danced with the Timosoara State Opera and Ballet Company before coming to the United States in 1970. Under their direction the Old Dominion University Ballet continued to stage "The Nutcracker" each December, and in the spring of 1978 and 1979 presented a command performance for the Azalea Queen as part of Norfolk's International Azalea Festival.

Theater at ODU flourished during the '70s under director Paul Dicklin. In 1978 Dicklin and the ODU Players moved from the Technology Theater on campus to a refurbished movie theater (the Riverview) on Granby Street. The Riverview Playhouse opened in April 1978 with the ODU Players' production of "Cabaret." Art fared well at ODU during the '70s too. An ODU art gallery became a reality



The University Gallery

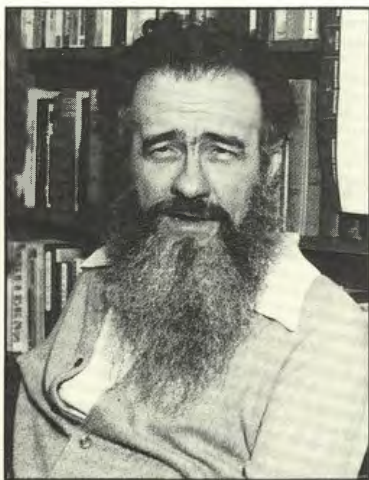
in 1974 with the opening of the University Gallery in an old two-story building at 765 Granby St. in downtown Norfolk. The gallery continues to serve as a showcase for the drawings, prints, paintings, photographs, crafts and sculpture of ODU students and faculty, as well as other artists.

The Associated Writing Programs, an organization whose purpose was to assist creative writing programs and the work of American poets and writers of fiction, selected ODU as the site for its national headquarters in 1978. Among the many benefits of having the AWP on campus was a literary festival in the fall of 1979 that brought to the university such literary figures as Pulitzer Prize-winning poet W.D. Snodgrass; National Book Award winners Mary Lee Settle and Katherine Paterson; and editor Ted Solotaroff. The university's Activities Programming Board (APB) contributed to the festival by sponsoring an appearance by popular novelist George Plimpton.

In music, the fall of 1979 marked the revival of the Opera Workshop at ODU. Janis-Rozena Peri, a noted soprano of the Manhattan School in New York City, joined the ODU music department in 1979 and breathed new life into the art form that had brought distinction to the college in an earlier time.

Any consideration of the arts at Old Dominion University in the 1970s would be incomplete without mentioning the role of ODU President Alfred B. Rollins Jr. and his wife, Faith. Early in his

presidency Rollins challenged the School of Arts and Letters “to reach out even more effectively to the community and to make Old Dominion University a major force for the arts in Tidewater.” After interviewing Rollins in the spring of 1977, the art editor of *The Virginian-Pilot* wrote with obvious pleasure that Rollins was “the latest community leader to underscore the vital need for the life-enhancing virtues of the arts and to commit himself to that cause



Poet W.D. Snodgrass

Ballet

in a vigorous and public fashion. Rollins was indeed “vigorous and public” in his support of the arts, using the walls of his office to display original paintings, prints and fabric designs by leading Virginia artists. And Faith Rollins shared this enthusiasm, serving as honorary chairman of the board of the Community Ballet Program and as a member of the board of the Virginia Opera Association. The president and his wife were particularly proud when the university (especially the Institute of Scottish Studies) successfully collaborated with the Virginia Opera Association “to exploit the educational

aspects of the 'Mary Queen of Scots' opera premiere" in the spring of 1978.

The changing role of women in American society was one of the major sociological trends of the 1970s, and several developments at ODU demonstrated the impact of this movement. During the spring semester of 1972 a course called "Women's Studies" was offered as part of the Free University curriculum. The course was established by Dr. Jean Friedman of the ODU history department; Nan Fry, a popular lecturer to local women's groups; and Women's Liberation of ODU, a student group. The course took an interdisciplinary approach, presenting sociological, psychological, historical and literary perspectives on the changing roles of women. It was the first time a women's studies course had been offered in Tidewater. In the same year, Dr. Dorothy Johnson of the history department offered the first credit course taught at ODU from a feminist viewpoint, "Women in American History." The success of these courses aroused faculty interest in the possibility of establishing a women's studies program at ODU. Discussion led to action, in the form of a Women's Studies Proposal Development Group chaired by Dr. Carolyn H. Rhodes of the English department. During the summer of 1976 Rhodes wrote a proposal for a pilot grant for such a program from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The NEH awarded the university \$42,836 to fund an experimental women's studies program during the 1977-78 academic year. The university contributed an additional \$12,822. Dr. Rhodes acted as coordinator of the interdisciplinary undergraduate program during its pilot year.

The pilot program of women's studies was so successful that a permanent program was established in 1978. Dr. Nancy Topping Bazin, formerly coordinator of the Women's Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh, was appointed director of the new program. She stated that the main goals of women's studies courses were "to understand the roles, achievements and experiences of women by exploring sex-biased ideas and practices in society, and to develop feminist awareness." Dr. Bazin also secured the approval of a 15-hour certificate program in women's studies, constituting an interdisciplinary minor. ODU was the first university in the state to offer a credit curriculum in women's studies.

The Women's Center in the School of Continuing Studies was established in 1976 to serve the needs of university and community women. The center's services include personal, vocational and

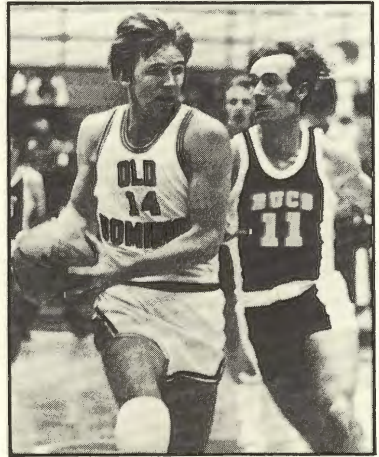


The Lady Monarchs, 1979.

educational counseling; non-credit courses; referrals; a lending library; and discussion groups. Carole Stoltz, an experienced counselor, was the first director of the center. She was succeeded in 1977 by Julie White. The programs and services provided by the Women's Center were designed especially for women entering the job market, returning to school, or experiencing a transition in their lives.

In women's athletics Old Dominion University gained a position of national prominence in the 1970s. In the summer of 1974 the Board of Visitors adopted a comprehensive athletic program developed by Athletic Director Dr. James Jarrett in consultation with the coaching staff. A major objective of the program was attainment of Division I status in the National Collegiate Athletic Association. This goal was reached in 1976 when ODU made its carefully planned move into Division I, the "big time" of collegiate athletics. Another goal of the athletic plan was the upgrading of women's athletics. For the first time ODU women athletes would receive scholarships. Women's basketball was designated a "high priority" sport that would receive full support.

This commitment produced immediate results in the women's basketball program. Under coach Pam Parsons the Lady Monarchs enjoyed winning seasons from 1974 to 1977. During the 1976-1977 campaign the team won 23 of 32 games, won the state championship, and made its first appearance in the National Women's Invitational Tournament.



Dave Twardzik

Wilson Washington

The Lady Monarchs became the foremost team in women's intercollegiate basketball in the late 1970s. In 1978 Marianne Stanley, a former All-American at Immaculata College, succeeded Pam Parsons as coach of the team. She led the Lady Monarchs to a National Women's Invitational Tournament title in 1978 and to the AIAW (Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women) championship in 1979 and 1980. She was named coach of the year in women's basketball for 1978-79. The national championship team for that season won 26 consecutive games before suffering its only defeat, compiling a season record of 35 victories and one defeat. The Lady Monarchs included two All-American performers in their ranks: Nancy Lieberman, a member of the 1976 U.S. Olympic team, and Inge Nissen, a native of Denmark. The public response to the Lady Monarchs' success was most gratifying. During the 1979 season, Lady Monarch games often filled the ODU field house to its 5,200 capacity. More than 10,000 spectators attended an exhibition game against the Russian National Team at Scope in December 1979. It was the largest crowd ever to attend a women's basketball game in the nation. Tidewater Virginia had succumbed to what The Virginian-Pilot called "Lady Monarch mania."

Old Dominion also received national recognition during the 1970s in men's basketball. Sonny Allen's fast-breaking Monarchs captured the imagination of Tidewater in the spring of 1970 when they unexpectedly reached the finals of the NCAA College Division basketball tournament at Evansville, Ind. In the championship game they lost a hard-fought contest to the University of Evansville, 97-82. The year 1970 was also notable because for the first time Monarch games were played in the gymnasium of the new Health and Physical Education Building and broadcast over radio station WTAR-AM. The Kiwanis Christmas Tournament, played at Norfolk's new municipal coliseum, Scope, also began in 1970.

Dave Twardzik, who graduated from ODU in 1972, was the premier player of the Sonny Allen era. An exciting player with seemingly unlimited desire and courage, Twardzik, the play-making guard, was the key to the Monarchs' offense. After graduation he became the first former Monarch to achieve star status in the National Basketball Association, leading the Portland Trailblazers to a championship in 1977.

In 1974-75 the Monarchs achieved their highest ambition in the NCAA's Division II—a national championship. Led by center Wilson Washington, the team won 25 games and lost six, defeating the University of New Orleans 76-74 in the championship game. Three months later, however, Sonny Allen announced that he would resign from ODU to accept the head coaching position at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. Fortunately for the Monarchs, Paul Webb was named Allen's successor. Head coach for 19 years at Randolph-Macon College (where his team had won 314 games and lost 158), Webb was an effective teacher and an inspiring leader who would guide the Monarchs through their transition into Division I status.

The Monarchs' debut in Division I was extraordinarily successful. In the spring of 1976 ODU was admitted to the Southern Division of the Eastern College Athletic Conference, a move that enhanced the likelihood of Monarch participation in a postseason tournament. During the 1976-77 season, the Monarchs established a new state record for consecutive victories—22—and defeated Georgetown 80-58 in the ECAC playoffs before bowing to Syracuse University 67-64 in a vigorously contested game played in Norfolk. The Monarchs capped off their first season with the ECAC by playing against Villanova in a first-round National Invitation

Tournament game at Scope. ODU lost the game in a 71-68 overtime thriller, but left no doubt that the Monarchs were ready for Division I action.

The 1976-77 season was the last for Wilson Washington, who continued his career in the professional ranks, and the first for Ronnie Valentine, a talented forward from Norfolk Catholic High School. Because of the surge of community interest in the team, the university decided to make Scope, an arena seating 10,258 for basketball, the Monarchs' permanent home court for the 1977-78 season. A few games were also played at the Hampton Coliseum. After a sub-par season in 1977-78, the Monarchs regained their championship form in 1978-79. Despite an injury to Valentine, the Monarchs won 23 of 30 games, again earning a berth in the National Invitation Tournament. There they won two games, including a 61-59 double-overtime victory over Clemson University, before losing 67-59 to powerful Purdue of the Big 10. The 1979-80 team, led by Valentine and Ronnie McAdoo, won 25 of 30 games and the ECAC's Southern Division tournament championship. For the first time the Monarchs were selected to play in the NCAA's Division I tournament, where they lost 87-74 to perennial power UCLA. By the end of the decade, men's and women's basketball at ODU had attained a national reputation for excellence.

The Old Dominion University athletic program made dramatic progress during the 1970s. The enthusiastic support of Presidents Bugg and Rollins and the Board of Visitors enabled the university to devote the resources necessary to building an outstanding Division I program. The student body's support for this program was evident not only by the filled student section at the basketball games, but also by the large numbers of students who participated in intercollegiate and intramural competition.

Fall sports at ODU were soccer and cross country for men, and field hockey and cross country for women. Playing its home games in Foreman Field, the soccer team began its 11th intercollegiate season in 1979-80 as one of the most powerful squads in the East. Declining student interest and inadequate facilities caused track and cross country to disappear as intercollegiate sports in the early 1970s, though both sports were resumed in 1979 under the direction of coach Ken Gibson. During the winter at ODU, basketball had to share the limelight with wrestling. Entering his 22nd season in 1979-80, Pete Robinson had coached 14 All-Americans at Old Dominion.

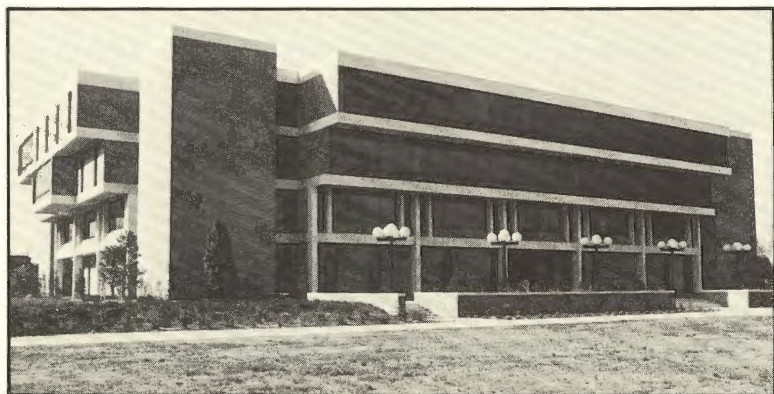
Men's and women's swimming teams also performed during the winter. In spring, ODU offered eight sports: baseball for men; lacrosse for women; and golf, tennis, and track and field for men and women. In addition, six club sports—sailing, rugby, karate, water polo, orienteering and gymnastics—further enriched the athletic program.

In October 1979 the State Council of Higher Education approved an expenditure of funds for the expansion of ODU's athletic facilities. Plans called for Foreman Field to be renovated and for artificial turf to be installed for the university's soccer, field hockey and track programs. In addition, a new sports complex, to be constructed south of the Health and Physical Education Building, would include basketball courts; hockey, soccer, and baseball fields; and indoor and outdoor tennis and handball courts. After 50 years the baseball team would have a field of its own. The new baseball facilities would, appropriately, be called the Bud Metheny Baseball Complex. ODU's rapidly expanding athletic program paralleled the academic program in its commitment to quality.

The physical expansion of the campus continued during the 1970s as the university sought to fulfill its mission of providing excellence in teaching, research and community service. The William Frederick Duckworth Memorial Hall (1971) completed the buildings along the mall. It provided research and laboratory facilities for the School of Engineering and housed the university's Computer Center. The nine-story Arts and Letters Building, on Hampton Boulevard between 44th and 45th streets, was completed in 1972. In 1976 it was renamed the Batten Arts and Letters Building in honor of Frank Batten, who had served as the first rector of the Board of Visitors from 1962 to 1970. The classroom/office facility housed the administrative offices of the School of Arts and Letters, the offices of the various departments and institutes within the school, and the Department of Mathematical and Computing Sciences. The building also provided instructional facilities for some departments that had been housed in a variety of temporary structures. The New Administration Building, constructed on the site of the old Social Studies Building, also opened in 1972.

A master plan for the physical expansion of Old Dominion University was approved by the Board of Visitors in February 1973. Prepared by the Norfolk architectural and planning firm Williams and Tazewell, in consultation with a Massachusetts firm, the master

plan outlined campus growth through the end of 1980. The plan's highest priority was construction of a new library at a central campus location. The new library opened on May 17, 1976, west of the Batten Arts and Letters Building. With a capacity of 610,000 volumes, the four-story building provided the first on-campus library facility capable of serving the needs of the university community.



The University Library

Remarking that "A library is not a building, but the services it can provide," Dr. Cynthia B. Duncan, who became director of the library in January 1977, stated that improving library services to the community was her chief aim. Her introduction of computer-age technology into library administration gave the Old Dominion University Library the reputation of being a pacesetter in the field.

The second capital-outlay priority of the architects' master plan was the construction of a Life Sciences Building. The project was delayed several years because construction funds were unavailable, but in November 1977, Virginia voters approved a referendum for a bond issue to finance capital-outlay projects at state universities throughout the Commonwealth. The Life Sciences Building at ODU was included in the proposal. Ground-breaking ceremonies took place in June 1978 at a site just west of the new library; the building was scheduled for completion in the fall of 1980. A third recommendation in the master plan—construction of a new Fine Arts Building near the Batten Arts and Letters Building—remained an unrealized dream as the university entered its golden anniversary year.



An interior view of the Powhatan Apartments.

There were several other noteworthy additions to ODU's physical plant during the 1970s. The 1973 master plan for campus expansion indicated a need for more student housing. Striving for flexibility, the plan recommended that the university build apartments containing kitchen facilities, bedrooms, living-dining rooms, and bathrooms. These units could be occupied either by single students or by married students and their families. The housing shortage became so serious during the mid-1970s that the university was compelled to house students in Norfolk motels and in apartments at the Virginia Beach oceanfront. To alleviate the shortage, the university began construction of the first phase of a \$2.5 million apartment complex designed to house 384 students in 96 units. Called Powhatan Apartments, the complex opened in March 1978. Construction of a second phase equalling the first in capacity began during the summer of 1979, but its completion is not expected to end ODU's housing shortage. At the close of the decade, plans were on the drawing board for a six-story mid-rise dormitory.

There were three other noteworthy changes in ODU's physical plant during the 1970s. A major addition to Webb Center enabled the university to expand its student services. Completed in 1979, the addition houses a spacious new bookstore, a gift shop, a bank, and a rathskellar. A donation of property made possible another significant step in ODU's growth. In 1977 the board of Florence Crittenton Services donated the Florence Crittenton Home on 52nd Street to the university. Renamed Crittenton Hall, the building was renovated to serve as the new home for the School of Continuing Studies. A new warehouse/maintenance building located on Powhatan Avenue



President and Mrs. Bugg receive students at their home.

was completed in the spring of 1980.

A discussion of the university's physical plant must also include mention of the contribution of the Department of Buildings and Grounds headed by J. Keitt Pegues, a retired naval engineering commander. Pegues and the men and women serving under him made an essential contribution to the well-being of the university community.

Dr. James L. Bugg's tenure as president of Old Dominion University was a period of consolidation. When he replaced Lewis Webb in 1969, the institution had only recently been raised to university status. During the seven years of Bugg's presidency, university enrollment increased from approximately 9,000 to 12,000; the operating budget nearly doubled; the physical plant expanded; and faculty salaries increased. The quality of the faculty also improved as the university sought persons who could contribute to the fulfillment of the university's mission. As Bugg expressed it in a candid interview published in 1972, he believed that the Board of Visitors had given him three jobs to do: "to change this place from a college to a university, to upgrade the faculty, and to find a way to integrate the university more into the metropolitan community." He certainly accomplished the first two of these objectives, and made significant progress toward attaining the third.

President Bugg introduced major changes in many vital areas of the university. Because of inadequate funding, the college had been

forced to devote approximately 80 percent of its appropriation to the academic program. Bugg found an administration "that was almost a skeleton" when he arrived. He sought to improve the university's image in the state and with the General Assembly by upgrading the university's public relations office. David T. Shufflebarger, a former journalist, was appointed director of university relations in 1970. He supervised the offices of Alumni Relations, Printing and Publications, Information Services, and Development. The Office of Information Services, the key public relations effort, began publication of a newspaper for faculty and staff in 1971. University News (later renamed UNews) became a valuable and authoritative source of information about the larger, more complex institution ODU was becoming. Responding to a need President Bugg identified soon after he arrived on campus, the Office of Development began a systematic effort to raise funds from alumni and other sources to supplement state funds.

In the academic area, President Bugg worked closely with the provost and University Senate in developing new programs and revising curriculum requirements. In 1972 Dr. Charles Burgess, formerly dean of the graduate school, was named academic vice president and provost. A creative administrator as well as a major figure in the community's cultural and intellectual life, Burgess offered wise counsel as academic policies changed and university procedures and structures were re-evaluated. In September 1979 Burgess announced that he would resign his position as provost to return to the classroom as a professor of English in 1980.

Bugg resigned the presidency of Old Dominion University in 1975, but continued in office until June 30, 1976, and remained on the faculty as an eminent professor of history. His job had been a difficult one, and not all his actions had been popular. Some members of the Board of Visitors believed that they were not sufficiently consulted on major policy matters. There was also discontent among the faculty and some resentment at Bugg's rather formal style of administration. One of the major problems was communication, which Bugg acknowledged in a 1972 interview to be "one of the real failures on my part." In addition, the board was looking for a new style of leadership in the presidential office to improve the university's relationship with the Tidewater community. A dedicated scholar and gifted teacher, Bugg was perceived by the public as a distant figure. Ironically, those who knew him well found him warm, generous and considerate.



The Rollins family and President emeritus Lewis W. Webb Jr. (far left).

During the fall of 1975, the Board of Visitors organized a Presidential Search Committee to make recommendations concerning the choice of Bugg's successor. The eight-member committee, chaired by Rector Francis Crenshaw, was composed of four board members, two faculty members, one administrator, and one student. The committee reviewed more than 200 applications before recommending Dr. Alfred B. Rollins Jr., then vice president for academic affairs at the University of Vermont. Rollins was a historian whose special interest was President Franklin D. Roosevelt. His nine years of administrative experience at Vermont gave him a rich background for his new responsibilities as the third president of Old Dominion University.

An uncompromising commitment to quality was the hallmark of Rollins' presidency. He stressed planning, efficiency and accountability as means to that end. In an early address to the faculty he described his job as "partly management . . . [and] also that of a salesman." As Lewis Webb had done 25 years earlier, Rollins met a demanding schedule of appearances before civic, professional and fraternal groups. His purpose was to inform the citizens of Tidewater about the university's mission. His goal was that ODU would become "the central institution of higher education for the people of the whole Tidewater region." Rollins insisted that the university respond to the unique educational needs of Tidewater. "We must not be a second-rate anything," he declared many times, "but we may be cherished if we are a first-rate something."

Reception held in Webb Center after the inauguration of President Alfred B. Rollins Jr., February 1977.



Prudent management of limited resources was another familiar theme in Rollins' speeches. As inflation eroded educational budgets in the late 1970s, the university faced hard choices about which new programs to begin and which old programs to phase out. "We must not try to do everything," Rollins warned. In the future, "new programs must be fired up from the ashes of old."

Improving services to students was one of Rollins' highest priorities, as evidenced by his reorganization of the office of the dean of student affairs. A director of campus activities was made responsible for expanding extracurricular activities; a director of residence life worked with residence advisers and counselors to improve services for resident students; academic advising for freshmen and sophomores was improved; and a student Counseling Center was established under Dr. James A. Calliote. In addition, the Office of Career Planning and Placement was upgraded and made an independent office under student affairs. Other improvements in student services included the planning and staffing of a Student Health Center during the 1977-78 academic year, and the establishment in 1977 of a Cooperative Education Program. Co-op education allows students to work off-campus in employment directly related to their studies while earning academic credit and a salary.

Rollins was also deeply committed to the improvement of undergraduate instruction at the university. In his address to the faculty at the beginning of the 1977 academic year, he spoke of "the truly pressing challenge. . . to define a reasonable level of literacy for the bachelor's degree." He stated that literacy must be a requirement for a degree from Old Dominion University. A Task Force on Writing was appointed during the fall of 1977 to make recommendations on how the university might improve students' writing skills. The recommendations of the task force led to the formulation of a comprehensive writing skills program initiated in the fall of 1978. Under the program, students whose basic writing skills were deficient were referred to the university Writing Center for an intensive review of the elements of good writing. The program also required all students to pass a writing proficiency test before their graduation.

When Rollins came to ODU, he remarked that he and his wife were "a team." As Faith Rollins herself stated in an interview, "This

university hired two administrators and two academicians who are both willing to bring their combined experience to bear on the job." Across their 150-year-old "partners desk," President and Mrs. Rollins often discussed the "hopeful and exciting" university they had chosen to join in 1976. Mrs. Rollins had much to offer, and became a deeply involved member of the university and the community. Her sensitivity to beauty produced a special concern for the arts. Her advocacy of consumer interests inspired her insistence



President and Mrs. Rollins at their "partners desk."

upon a quality program of student services. She was also an enthusiastic fan of the Lady Monarchs and other ODU sports teams. Editor, counselor, and friendly critic, Faith Rollins was a perfect partner for President Rollins. Her death in the spring of 1979 was a great loss to the university community, though as Dr. Dana Burnett, dean of student affairs, put it, "her courage and vigor inspired all of us."

An account of Old Dominion University's first 50 years must consider the school's relationship with Norfolk's other state-supported institution of higher learning. For many years Norfolk State College and Old Dominion had little contact. When President Bugg joined the university in 1969, however, this sense of isolation began to change. An Inter-Institutional Relations Committee consisting of administrators, faculty, and students from both schools was established to build bridges between the predominantly black and predominantly white institutions. In 1970 the respective Boards of Visitors approved an Inter-Institutional Cooperative Agreement on student and faculty exchange. In subsequent years joint programs were initiated and specialized facilities shared. The social work sequence at ODU was phased out and an agreement reached whereby ODU students interested in social work would take all professional courses and practicums at Norfolk State. In 1976 the U.S. Office of Education awarded a grant to support a joint master's degree program in urban studies. A dual degree program in physics and engineering was inaugurated in the fall of 1978.

In an effort to eliminate duplicate programs, the two institutions agreed in 1979 to offer programs in health education and in education of the mentally retarded as cooperative ventures in which students would attend classes at both schools to complete their degrees. In addition, certain education and business programs were to be phased out at each institution. By the end of the decade the two schools had identical academic calendars, a shuttle-bus service had been inaugurated, and cross-registration agreements had been negotiated. Old Dominion University and Norfolk State University (the change in status became effective July 1, 1979) had established an educational partnership that enhanced the quality of both institutions.

As Old Dominion University entered its golden anniversary year of 1980, it served the educational needs of a diverse population of students. In addition to the more than 14,000 students on campus, the university counted more than 28,000 enrollments in summer, off-campus, and non-credit programs. Extension courses were offered on the Eastern Shore and the Peninsula; in Suffolk, Virginia Beach, Portsmouth and Chesapeake; on ships at sea; and as far away as Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The median age for an ODU student was 26. The university was attempting to meet the needs of a growing number of older and part-time students and mid-career professionals



Students

seeking to update their skills or broaden their intellectual horizons. The State Council of Higher Education had authorized implementation of 11 new degree programs through 1982, including three more doctoral programs. ODU had defined its mission during the 1970s; however, it was still necessary to explain and defend to state officials the university's status as a regional and doctoral degree-granting institution. In October 1979 the State Council of Higher Education recommended an increase of 34.5 per cent in funding for Old Dominion in the 1980-82 biennium. University officials hoped that this action indicated a recognition by the state of the funding ODU needed to fulfill its mission.

The history of the first 50 years of Old Dominion University is the story of the transformation of a small, two-year extension of the College of William and Mary into a major urban and regional

university. The desire of Robert Hughes, A.H. Foreman, and President Julian Chandler of William and Mary to bring higher education to the Norfolk area had been realized. Those who had played a part in building the university could be proud of the result of their efforts. The students of each decade seemed to have distinct characteristics. The 1970s had seen a return to more traditional student interests after the tumultuous years of the late '60s. Yet students at the college throughout its five decades had a common bond—they wanted a good education. The future of Old Dominion University would depend most heavily on the quality of its service to students. As President Rollins stated the matter in his first address to the faculty, "We have already a good and strong tradition. We shall build on this past, but we shall not be bound by it. For there is much to be done. There is a constantly changing community to be served."

Sources and Acknowledgements

In 1974 President James L. Bugg Jr. established the University Archives at Old Dominion University. The Archives would be the repository of the university's most important records as well as collections of publications, photographs, and other items associated with the history of the university. President Bugg also suggested that oral history interviews be conducted with emeritus faculty and administrators. The timely creation of the University Archives made this volume possible.

The principal sources I used in the preparation of this history were university publications, official records, and the oral history interview transcripts. The student newspapers *The High Hat* and the *Mace and Crown* were valuable for their portrayal of student life. *UNews* is the newspaper of record for university-related events, people and policies of the 1970s. The files of presidents Lewis W. Webb Jr. and James L. Bugg Jr. were the most important university records. The records of the Board of Visitors are indispensable for statements of official policy. The speeches of President Alfred B. Rollins Jr. contain an articulate statement of his vision of the university and its future. The oral history interviews were a rich source of reminiscences and insights. I wish to thank all who participated in those interviews. I am especially indebted to President Lewis W. Webb Jr., Dr. W. Gerald Akers, Dr. Perry Y. Jackson, and Dr. Frederic B. Hill Jr. for their generous cooperation. The Norfolk newspapers, *The Virginian-Pilot* and *The Ledger-Star* (formerly *The Ledger-Dispatch*), were essential sources for research on the history of Old Dominion University.

For the period 1930-1962, the most informative source of information on the relationship of the Norfolk Division to the parent college was the minutes of the Board of Visitors of the College of William and Mary. I wish to express my appreciation to Dr. Thomas A. Graves Jr., president of the College of William and Mary, for permitting me to read those minutes. Also valuable for the period 1930-1960 is the three-volume "Annals of the College of William and Mary in Norfolk" by Dr. Robert C. McClelland. "The Life of Dr. Julian Alvin Carroll Chandler and His Influence on Education in Virginia," by Solomon R. Butler and Charles D. Walters, is a useful sketch of the William and Mary president who founded the Norfolk Division. The papers of Robert M. Hughes in the Archives of Old

Dominion University contain revealing correspondence about the founding of the Norfolk Division.

Photographs in this volume are from the University Photographic Collection in the ODU Archives.

Additional Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Kay Domine, college archivist of the College of William and Mary, and Margaret Cook, manuscripts curator at the Swem Library of the College of William and Mary, for their assistance. Benjamin F. Clymer of the reference department of the Old Dominion University Library collected university publications and other materials in an unofficial archives in Hughes Library during the years before the establishment of the University Archives. Without Clymer's dedicated efforts much of the university's heritage would have been lost. Dr. Cynthia B. Duncan, dean of library services, gave her full support to the completion of this project. I also wish to thank Cindy Amorese, publications editor in the Office of Printing and Publications, Jack Battenfield, assistant to the president for public relations, and Robert Bell, executive assistant to President Rollins, for their editorial assistance.

Finally, my wife Jane was a source of constant encouragement and support.

James R. Sweeney
August 1980

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