

**INSPIRED,
YET NOT
BOUND BY
TRADITION**



9 VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE and STATE UNIVERSITY OFFICIAL RING

The class officers and Ring Committee of the Class of 1979 present the official ring of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University with introduction, history of the ring and its meaning at Virginia Tech, pictures of the people involved, illustrations and explanations of rings available, sundry accessory jewelry, and things you should know about gold, stones, etc., including warranty and service.



INTRODUCTION

by Murray Davenport

The Ring Committee is proud to present to the Class of 1979 a unique chapter to one of Virginia Tech's most beloved traditions, the 1979 Class Ring. The 1979 Class Ring was inspired by the long tradition of the VPI ring, which is symbolically portrayed through a bold modernistic design. This distinctive design uniquely sets the 1979 Class Ring above all to others as a Virginia Tech ring. By creatively expanding the traditional horizons, the 1979 Ring Committee has created a dynamic contemporary design which is and always will be unique to the Class of 1979.

The 1979 Class Ring is not only highly symbolic of Virginia Tech, the Class of 1979, and the individual, but it is a piece of fine jewelry. It creatively depicts the traditional pride in a ring of superb quality which is aesthetically beautiful and comfortable to wear. Each ring will be quality assured and backed by Josten's Inc., one of the world's most reputable manufacturers of fine jewelry since 1897.

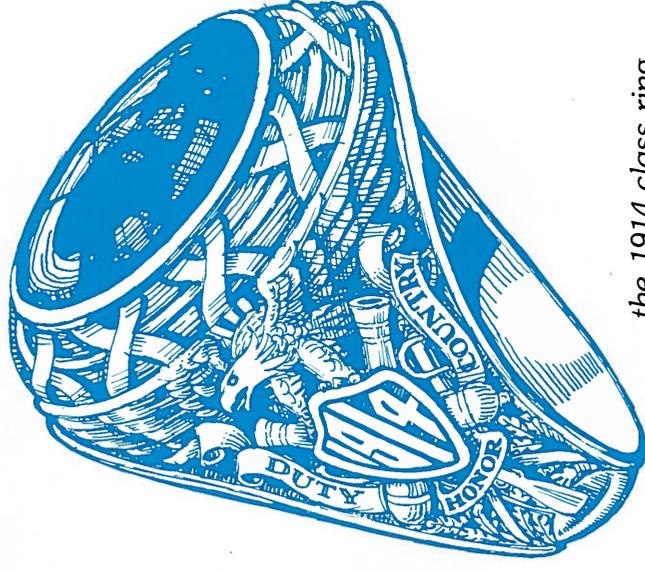
The 1979 Class Ring was "inspired yet not bound by tradition," and—in keeping with the class—will set new standards for tradition to follow.



HISTORY and TRADITION OF THE RING*

by Kathy Queen and Billie Shelton

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University had a very modest beginning in 1872 as the Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College. The first class consisted of 43 men, all of whom were required to take classes in military training. The College remained the same basically until 1891 when John M. McBryde was elected President of the College. He instituted a great number of changes in the academic life of the school, increasing the enrollment to a peak of 728 in 1904-05. However, during that year a junior had been expelled for gross insubordination and had rallied his classmates to stage a walk-out. The entire junior class, with the exception of 12, left the College. The students all applied for readmission, which was granted after they had expressed "regret for their hasty action and their intention of giving due recognition to the paramount authority of the governing body." Incidents such as this, although seemingly insignificant to the general history of VPI&SU were probably the things which induced fellowship among students and inspired a feeling of unity within themselves. It was also during the McBryde years that the University adopted some of its most famous traditions. The name was changed to Virginia Polytechnic Institute, the military grey and black were dropped for the more inspiring colors (Chicago Maroon and Burnt Orange) that the University still uses. The motto "Ut Prosim" was adopted (translated to mean "That I may Serve") and a new University Seal was created. McBryde was given the first title of "President Emeritus" and was often called the "Father of the Modern VPI." After he resigned (due to poor health), Paul Barringer became President. He was not a popular president with the students or faculty, thus uniting the two with a common bond. It was at this time, 1911, that the students began to feel a need to identify themselves with the University. They created an embodiment of the school to act as a symbol of the unity between students, faculty and University. This was the first Virginia Tech class ring to be produced. It displayed a pair of eagles, thus making the eagle a traditional part of every class ring. Since that time, Tech has expanded to include non-military men and women of all races. Each year the Ring Committee that represents each class strives to create a ring that exemplifies the beauty of the University, the meaning it holds for them and the uniqueness of their class and its relationship to the University. Thus, the VPI&SU class ring has become a tradition strongly embodied in the University, and a tradition that is looked upon with great pride by each class member.



*the 1914 class ring—
a tradition begun*

*Historical Data Book,
produced by VPI
and used as reference



Kathy Queen



Claren Scott



Karin Dirst

AN EXPLANATION OF THE CREATIVE PROCESS AND RING COMMITTEE SELECTION

by Lou Haley

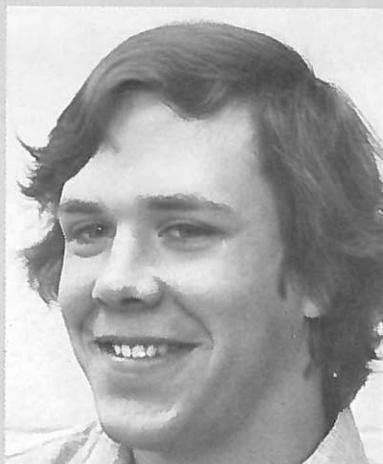
What goes into making your 1979 Class Ring a ring you can be proud of? To begin with, a committee was selected to work with a ring company. The committee selection took 2½ weeks of interviewing. There were 150 applicants for only 10 seats. After many hours of debate the 10 were chosen. The 10 that were selected joined 4 class officers and began a two week orientation process to get ready for the ring companies presentations. Each presentation consisted of a design period, quality presentation, and facts about service, price and warranty. Each presentation lasted twelve



Jane Cady



Carolyn Jean Jewell



Louis Haley, President



Joe Gambill



Mary Ellen Schaaf



Billie Shelton



Littleton Dudley



Murray Davenport,
Chairman



Mary Beth Hess



Derk Dodson

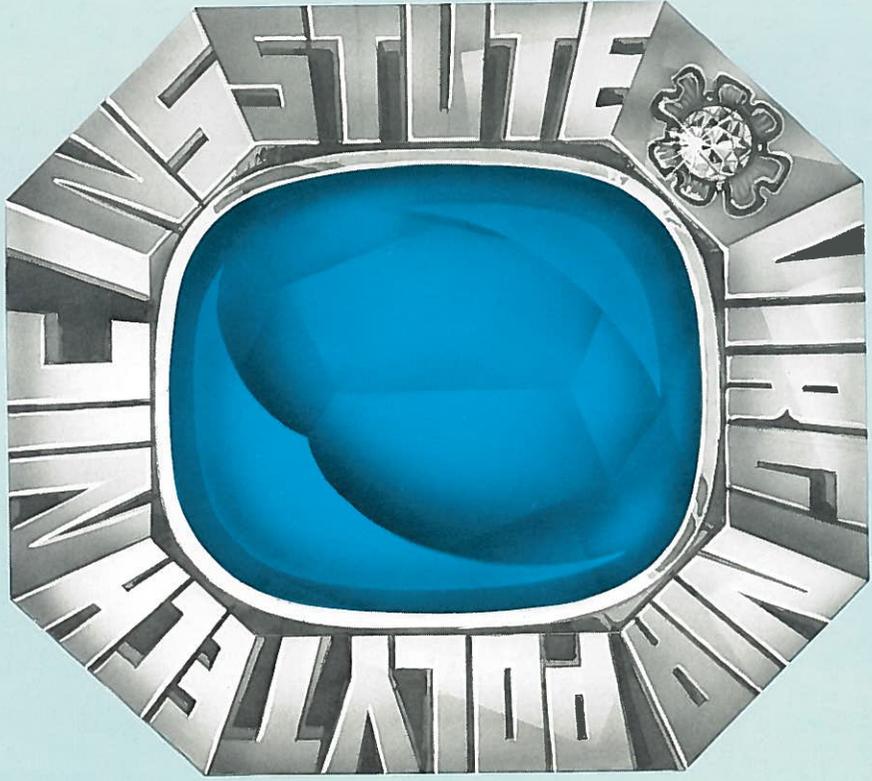


Linda Owens
Office of Student Affairs



Frank Chaney

hours. After presentations by two fine companies, the ring committee weighed each facet of the presentations and selected a company. After the decision was made, the ring chairman notified the companies by phone and then later by letter to answer the questions of the companies about the presentations. After the selection, the committee again met with the company in late spring to finalize the design and other aspects of the ring program. Following the Spring Meeting, Josten's proceeded to create the ring for a presentation to the committee in mid-August to assure approval of the ring program, and to plan the Ring Premiere for the Class of 1979. Our mid-August meeting lasted two days with the committee hardly able to wait until tonight when six months of hard work comes to you for final judgement.



THE BEZEL

by Carolyn Jean Jewell and Littleton Dudley

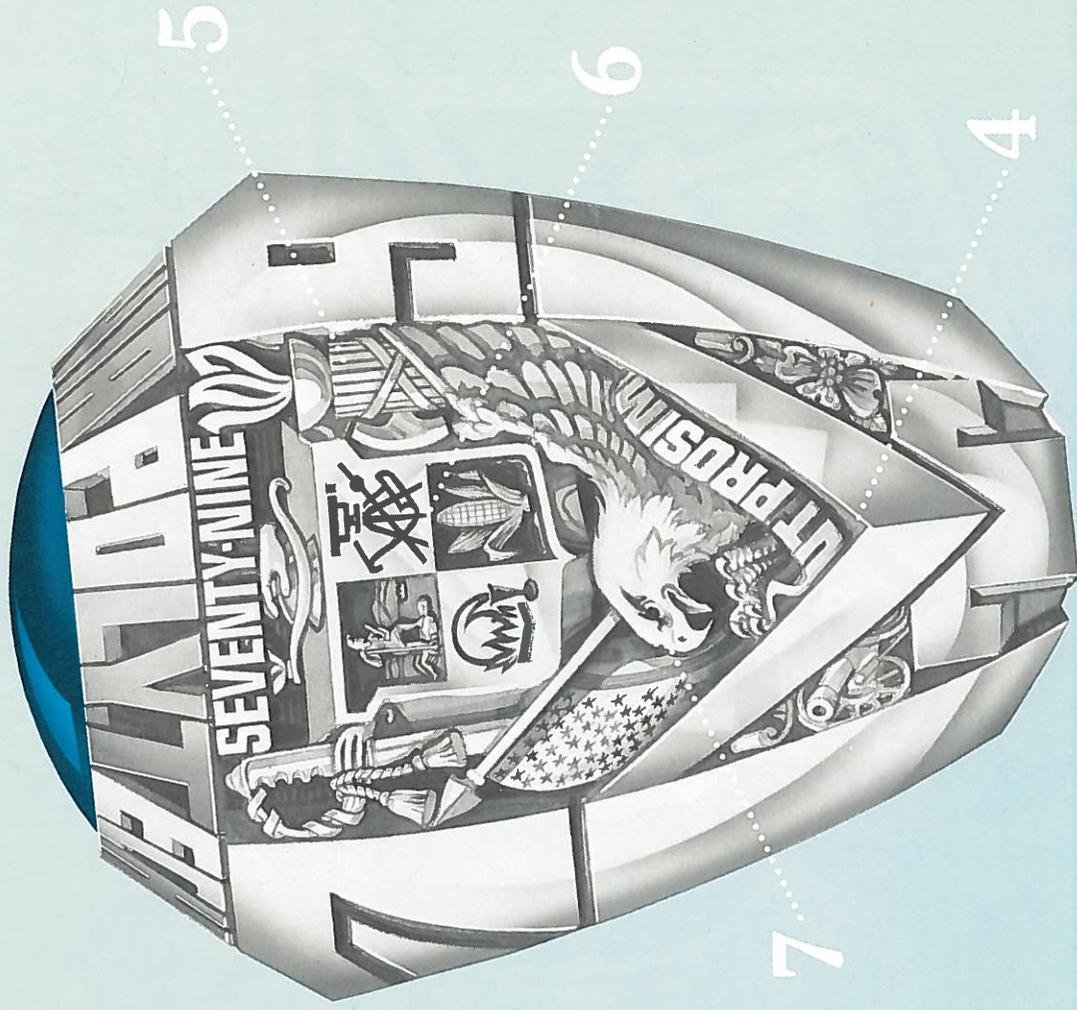
The shape of the bezel clearly illustrates the theme for the class of 1979's rings: "inspired yet not bound by tradition." The modern octagonal style is dynamic in its initiation of a complete and flowing design between the various ring elements. "Virginia Polytechnic Institute" appears in bold gothic lettering. This lettering highlights the rim of the bezel and gracefully enhances a cushion antique stone. Any stone choice is stylishly offset by a dogwood motif which can easily accept a diamond.



THE SHIELD

by Derk Dodson

“Inspired yet not bound by tradition” is the futuristic theme of the 1979 Class Shield. Everything about this shield is a symbol of the future. The rising sun reflects our optimistic hope for a bright future. The sun is rising on a new decade and a new life that begins after each class member graduates. The left triad with a woman planting Mountain Laurel symbolizes man planning for the future. The triad to the right or the curriculum triad is the college goal of each individual. The upper triad of clasped hands within the sun, reminds us that to fulfill our goals we need unity and brotherhood. The 1979 Class Shield portrays the plan, the goal, and the means to achieve the future. The 1979 Ring Committee presents the shield of the future for the class of the future.



THE OFFICIAL RING

by *Phil Barrager, Josten's Inc.*

There has never been another ring like this. It has features so different that it was necessary to manufacture a test ring to determine their feasibility before presenting the design to the Ring Committee. The committee had the courage to accept them.

The bezel features dynamic asymmetry with diamond-set dogwood on a faceted corner. Never before has an octagonal shape been used, but the stone is traditional—a cushion antique. Allowing the letters of the inscription to form their own edge gives bold simplicity yet is unusually readable.

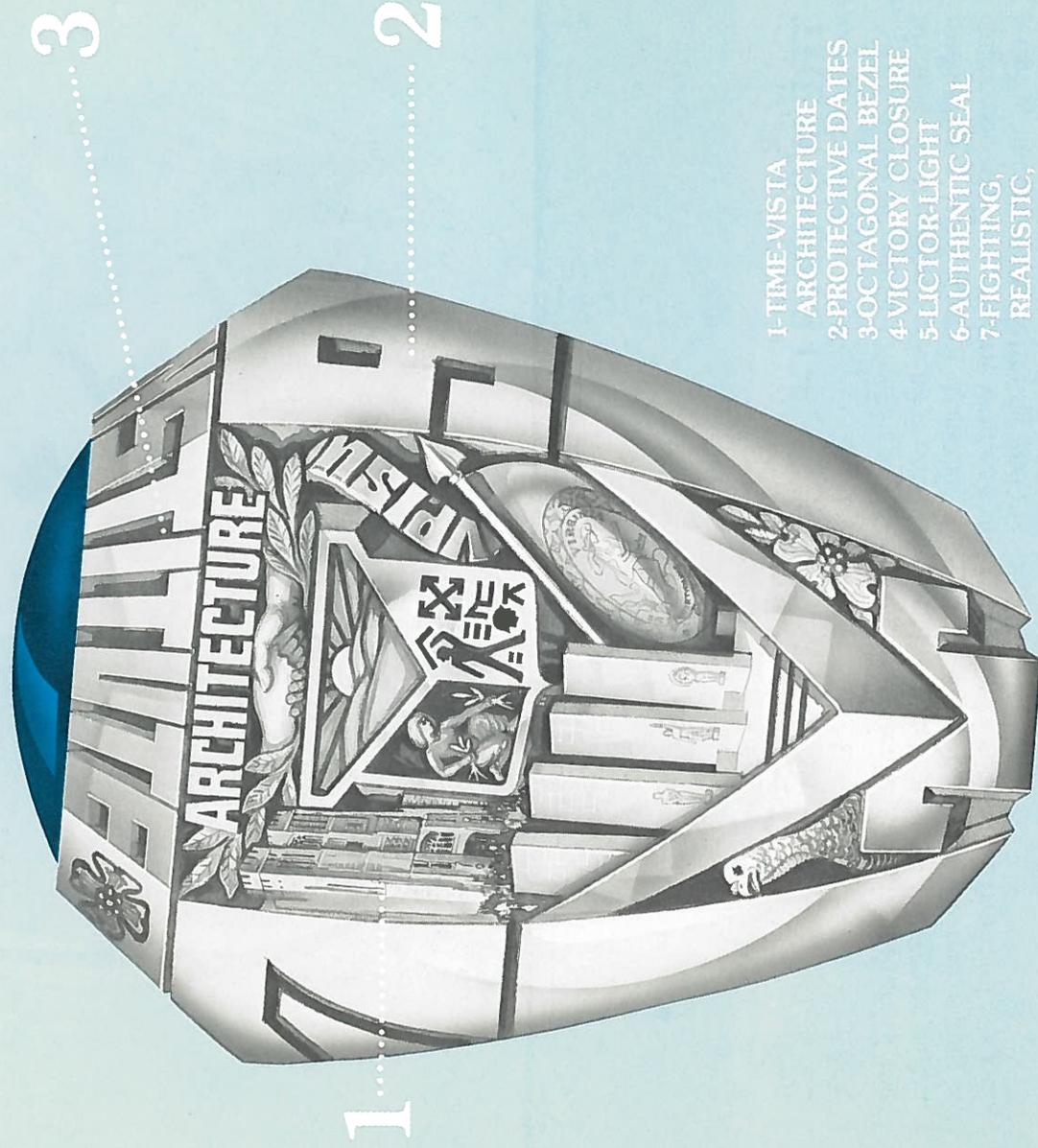
On the sides a dramatic innovation! Bold dates—continuous with the octagonal corners—lead the eye down to the traditional Tech symbols. The clean, bold lines

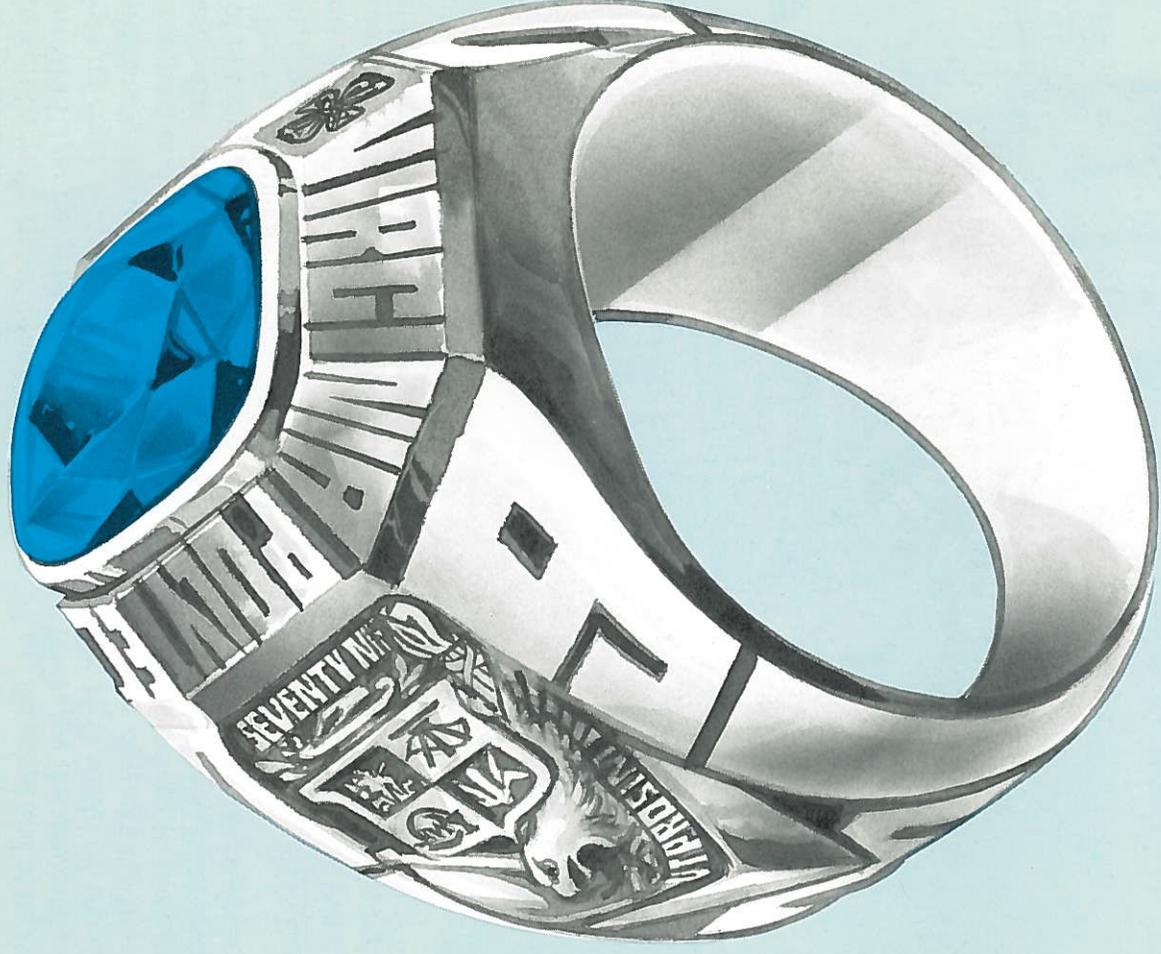
contrast and frame intricate detail. Leading to the palm side a strong “V” points to a “T” which completes and unifies the sides.

Details include the gobbler, Skipper, dogwood blooms, National and state flags, Ut Prosim, VPISU, and a cadet sword. Dominating symbols are the university seal with a fighting eagle on the school side, and the Class of 1979 shield on the class side. Symbolizing the passage of years is the time-vista use of buildings-Burruss Hall for the past and the war memorial as transitional architecture to the future.

An imaginative touch on the school side is the combining of a fascis lictor-ancient symbol of authority-with a lamp of learning. The flame spells “107” anniversary of Virginia Tech’s founding.

The 1979 Ring is a product of many hours of intensive evaluation, study and group interaction. Inspiration is not always present in group cooperation. We think it made an appearance this year. To be different and also beautiful is indeed remarkable. We think it has happened with the 1979 Ring.





THE WOMEN'S OFFICIAL RING

by Mary Ellen Schaaf

The 1979 Women's Official Ring displays an unparalleled combination of the boldness of the men's official traditional ring, and a delicateness and grace which makes for a truly elegant women's ring. While every detail of the men's ring is duplicated in miniature, the women's official remains a subtle and beautiful piece of jewelry, uncommonly flattering and uniquely '79.

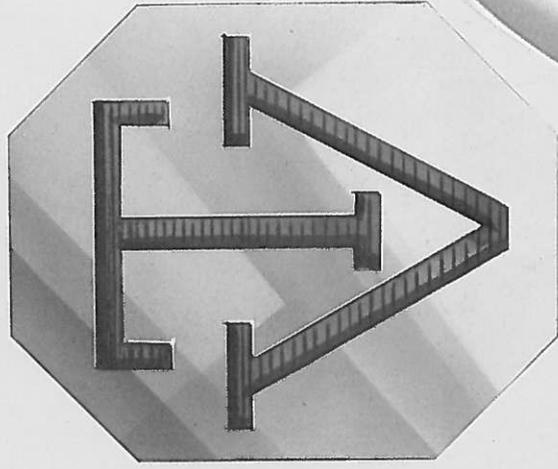
THE LADIES DINNER RING

by Claren Scott and Karin Dirst

The 1979 Ladies Dinner Ring is a sparkling new addition to a tradition begun in the 60's. Design reflects the contemporary yet classic thinking of the Tech woman. Both sides display a flowing filigree-like pattern of dogwood blossoms, symbolic of Virginia. Two blossoms on each side are mountings for diamonds which flank polished golden panels with "VPISU" on one side and "1979" on the other in graceful script engraving. The oval stone is contained by a classic scrolled border which complements the detail on the sides.

The Class of 1979 Ladies Dinner Ring is uniquely different yet in the pattern of tasteful rings of the Tech tradition. You will wear it with pleasure and pride for years to come.





THE MEN'S COMPANION RING

by Frank Chaney

Above is a picture of The Men's Companion Ring. The Men's Companion Ring, as was the women's, was originally made for Tech students to give to their companion. However, in the past few years, the ring has become so popular, people buy them for themselves. This year's companion ring for men should again increase its appeal—the reasons being its distinctive octagonal shape and the choice of three styles. The styles include: (1) an all gold ring with an engraved "VT", (2) an all gold ring with an engraved school seal, (3) a ring with a very distinguished black onyx stone encrusted with a "VT". Other features include: the choice of 10 or 14 karat plumb gold, the choice of white or yellow gold and the choice of block, script or facsimile engraving. All of these features joined with the very elegant shape and size of the ring make this year's companion ring for men the perfect ring for a proud Virginia Tech student to wear.

THE LADIES COMPANION RING

by Jane Cady

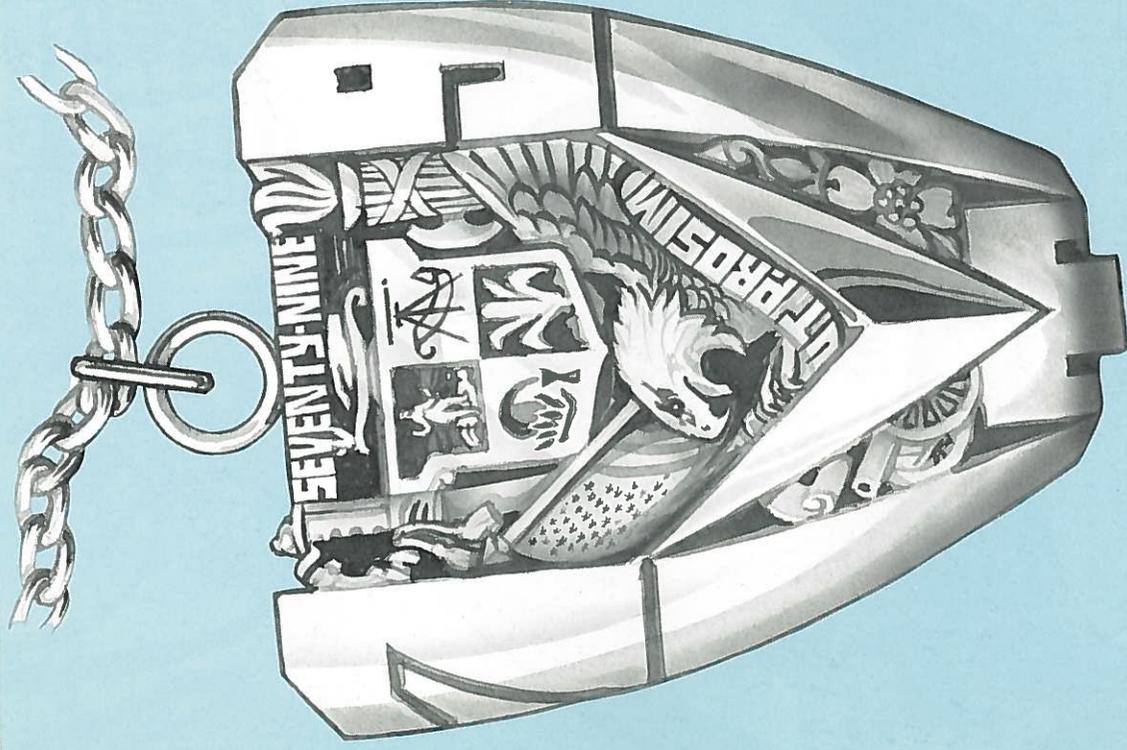
Simple. Delicate. Elegant. The perfect description for the 1979 Ladies Companion Ring. Available in both yellow gold and white gold, this signet style ring features a beautifully polished band tapering to a finely textured, satin finished, oval surface for engraving. The 1979 ring committee completes the design by offering two options to be incised in the ring's surface: the traditional VPISU monogram and, for the first time, the official VPISU crest. Both the monogram and the crest beautifully compliment the overall design of the 1979 Ladies Companion Ring. The choice is yours : either way, it's a classic.



THE CHARM

by Mary Beth Hess

The Charm replicates the class side of the 1979 official ring. The official charm carries with it all the tradition and symbolism the official ring offers. Its sculptured dome surface and brilliant antique finish immediately identifies it as a fine piece of jewelry. The Charm is offered in two sizes and in either yellow gold or Argentus. Purchased by itself or with a chain, the official charm serves as the perfect memento of the VPI and SU class of 1979.



JOSTEN'S LIFETIME WARRANTY CLASS OF 1979—VPISU

- 1) All Virginia Tech 1979 Class Rings are unconditionally guaranteed against defects in materials and workmanship for the LIFETIME of the Purchaser.
- 2) All stones, both Synthetic and Genuine, are fully guaranteed and will be replaced at any time free of charge. Also, there will be no charge for an exchange of a stone (within the same price category) if a student is not totally satisfied with his or her original purchase.
- 3) Josten's agrees to make a new ring free-of-charge should a finger size adjustment be required.
- 4) Should a student change his major course of study while at Virginia Tech, a new ring with proper curriculum shield will be exchanged at no charge.
- 5) If a student is not totally satisfied with his or her original choice of finish, Josten's will refinish the ring at no charge. Finishes are guaranteed for a LIFETIME; and this option may be exercised anytime.
- 6) Should a student not graduate with his or her class, a new ring with the proper graduation year will be exchanged at no charge.
- 7) While a student is at VPISU, any ring accidentally damaged or destroyed will be replaced at no charge. Following graduation and for the owner's lifetime, any ring damaged or destroyed, will be replaced at a flat rate of \$15.00 plus stone and the damaged ring.
- 8) Josten's agrees to replace a lost 1979 VPISU Class Ring at \$15.00 plus current cost of gold and stone at the time of loss provided a written affidavit is filed with local authorities at time of loss.
- 9) If a student fails to graduate or for personal reasons wishes to return his or her VPISU ring, a full refund will be made.
- 10) Any college or high school ring will be credited at current gold salvage value towards the purchase of a Class of 1979 VPISU Ring. Current trade-in value will be available at all order-taking sessions.
- 11) Josten's Inc. will post a \$200,000.00 Bond guaranteeing a faithful performance under the terms of the Agreement. The Bond shall remain in effect until graduation of the Class of 1979. Continuance of performance thereafter will be guaranteed by the possibility of disqualification by the Office of The Vice President for Student Affairs from future ring competitions at VPISU.
- 12) It is agreed that the 1979 Ring Committee will be the sole and final arbitrator in all matters pertaining to Quality and Service. Upon graduation, this authority will rest with the Office of The Vice President of Student Affairs.

OUR GOAL IS YOUR GOAL: LIFETIME SATISFACTION FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE CLASS OF 1979...

SERVICE AND MIKE PRICE

Josten's and the Ring Committee is pleased to present Mike Price to the Class of 1979. Mike is a 1967 graduate of Virginia Tech, and has 8 years experience with Josten's in the class ring business.

Mike Price realizes that excellent service is an essential element in achieving the ultimate goal of complete satisfaction for Every member of the VPISU Class of 1979. Josten's and its people, for the factors noted below, are capable of providing the finest Service available in our industry. . . . Mike Price and Josten's Pledge this Service to you:

- 1) All Ring ordering and service dates for the entire 1977-78 school year will be established prior to the beginning of the school year so that all class members are fully informed:
 - All dates will be published in the Ring Booklet.
- 2) Mike Price, your local Service Representative, is ultimately responsible for faithful execution of this Service Pledge, although on all ordering or service dates, he will be assisted by at least one fully qualified Josten Representative. In order to give VPISU the Service it requires, Mike's ONLY university service commitment for the 1977-78 school year will be VPISU. He is Dedicated to YOU.
- 3) The Central Office for VPISU Information and Service is in Tidewater and, in addition to regular daily office hours, collect calls will be accepted six evenings a week as a special accommodation for VPISU Student Service. The evenings are:
 - MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 7:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.
 - SUNDAY EVENINGS 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

In addition to Mike Price's personal office, there are six Josten's Sales Offices located throughout Virginia (see Map), each one very familiar with the importance of immediate response to the VPISU Class of 1979.

- 5) To facilitate Service, all students picking up their rings will be supplied with an individual SERVICE PAK which will include the following:

- Plasticized Miniature of the Josten Lifetime Warranty.
- Immediate Service Direct Call Information-Local/Factory Addresses...
- Ring Repair Envelope.
- Adjustments Service Schedule
- Factory-addressed Ring Mailing Package.
- Ring Ordering Information

6) Josten's will provide specially designed order forms and ordering/adjustment posters which will display the 1979 Ring Design. In Addition: A Special Class of 1979 Ring Information Poster showing the Ring Design and including the Ordering and Servicing Information will be placed next to the Ring Display Center in Squire's Hall to further inform your classmates.

- 7) Facsimile Ring Sizers. . . . To assure best possible ring fit and to greatly minimize the necessity of sizing adjustments upon delivery, Josten's will use actual facsimile ring samples to take individual orders for all Official Rings.

8) Josten's will be present to provide on-campus Services to other campus branches of VPISU upon direction of the Ring Committee and the Office of The Vice President For Student Affairs.

9) JOSTEN'S VPISU GOLDEN WARRANTY AND REGISTRATION CARD . . . A Permanent Document which will be given to each purchaser as a lifetime reminder of Josten's Warranty.

10) TIME PAYMENT PLAN . . . After the initial ordering dates and deposits have been made, Josten's and Mike Price will make available a program for weekly or monthly payments should a student so desire. In the case of a financially burdened student, other arrangements can be worked out with the help and supervision of Josten's and the Ring Committee.

11) Gary Knoepke is our Internal Customer Service Manager and will be personally responsible for seeing that every Class of 1979 Ring is delivered exactly as desired. . . . Jan Jones is your Class of 1979 Factory Customer Service Contact. . . . They are both experienced, dedicated people who are committed to your total Satisfaction.

12) With Josten's Regionalized Sales and Service Concept (24 plants and 400 Sales Offices Nationwide) LIFETIME SERVICE is readily available. . . .

LOCALLY — ACROSS THE STATE — ACROSS THE COUNTRY. . .

...to all members, VPISU Class of 1979

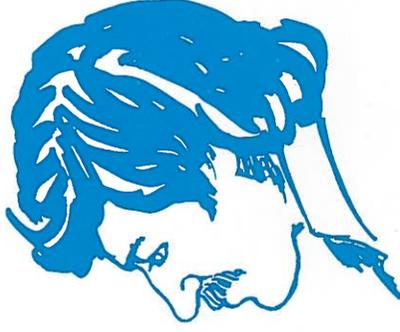
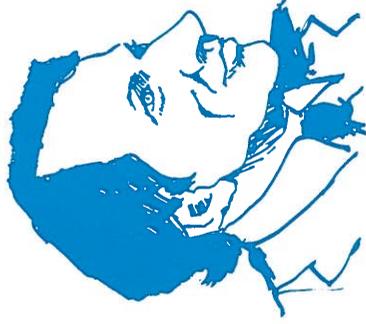
We at Josten's feel deeply honored to be selected to share in your 1979 Class Ring Program. The class ring tradition at Virginia Tech is the strongest in America and to be an intimate part of that tradition is an enriching challenge...to your Committee and to the Josten company... The challenge to create a ring design and a ring program for the Class of 1979 that is inspired by tradition yet represents a new exciting spirit.

It was a pleasure to assist your Ring Committee in their dedication to serve you. They diligently strove to incorporate into the

1979 ring design symbolism representing every area of your respective campus lives.

All of us at Josten's, therefore, serve as instruments of your ideas, your inspirations, transforming them into lustrous three-dimensional gold.

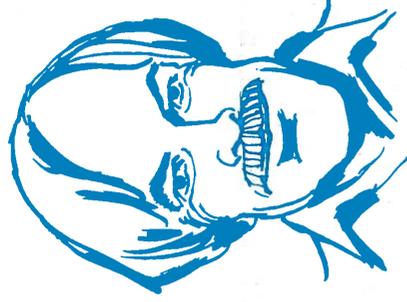
Realizing the ideals and memories which your 1979 class ring will invoke, Josten's proudly joins your Ring Committee in presenting to you the 1979 Ring Program.



Josten's

Represented by:

Mike Price
Phil Barrager
Bill Harris
Tom White



Class Ring Information Dates Class of 1979

	Date	Place	Time	Event
Tues.	October 25	Large Ballroom Squires Student Center	7:30-9:30 p.m.	1979 Ring Premiere
Mon.	November 2	Large Ballroom, Squires	9:00-7:00	Ring Order Session
Tues.	November 3	Large Ballroom, Squires	9:00-7:00	Ring Order Session
Wed.	November 4	Large Ballroom, Squires	9:00-7:00	Ring Order Session
Mon.	November 14	Room 219, Squires	9:00-7:00	Ring Order Session
Tues.	November 15	Room 219, Squires	9:00-5:00	Ring Order Session
Mon.	January 16	Large Ballroom, Squires	9:00-7:00	Ring Order Session
Tues.	January 17	Large Ballroom, Squires	9:00-7:00	Ring Order Session
Mon.	February 13	Room 219, Squires	11:00-5:00	Ring Order Session
Tues.	February 14	Room 219, Squires	11:00-5:00	Ring Order Session

Last Day To Order Rings To Receive In Time For Ring Day

Wed.	May 3	Small Ballroom, Squires	11:00-5:00	Ring Delivery
Thurs.	May 4	Small Ballroom, Squires	11:00-5:00	Ring Delivery Ring Order Session
Fri.	May 5	Large Ballroom, Squires		1979 Ring Dance
Sat.	May 6	Large Ballroom, Squires		1979 Ring Dance
Mon.	May 15	Room 217, Squires	9:00-5:00	Ring Adjustments
Mon.	May 15	Room 219, Squires	9:00-5:00	Final Ring Orders Session 77-78 School Year

* Ring Orders and deliveries after May 15 can be handled by mail.

** A \$20 deposit is required to place a ring order.

Final payment is required on all rings at time of delivery.

Class dues, which are \$18 may be paid at the time rings are ordered in Squires Student Center.

Your Josten's Representative: Mike Price

Box 2082

Virginia Beach, VA 23452

804-340-7336

Class of 1979 President: Lou Haley

Class of 1979 Treasurer: George Opacic

Class of 1979 Ring Committee Chairman: Murray Davenport



