



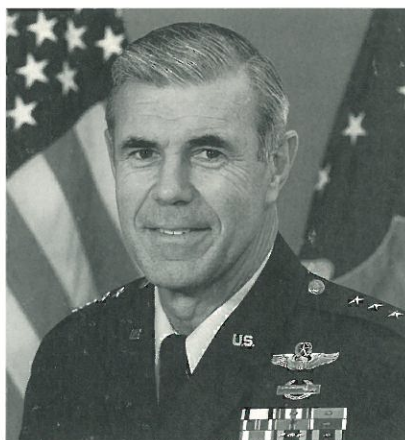
VPISU
CLASS OF 1992

THOMAS C. RICHARDS
Collection



CLASS OF 1992 LOGO

The motto for the Class of 1992 is "carpe diem," a Latin phrase meaning "seize the day." Surrounded by four Virginia Tech VTs is a rising sun, symbolic of the new "day" dawning for the Class of 1992. This sun appears on the horizon of a series of "92s" forming the waves of the seas to the opportunities that lie ahead. The "117" in the "VT" signifies that the Class of 1992 is the 117th graduating class of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. The picture is a homonym of the class motto calling the Class of 1992 to use each day and its opportunities to the fullest.



GENERAL THOMAS C. RICHARDS

This year's ring collection is proudly named after Thomas C. Richards, General United States Air Force retired. General Richards' career began in the Army Infantry in 1948. He has recently retired after 41 years of service as a four star general, becoming the first Virginia Tech graduate to be promoted to the rank of general.

General Richards is a 1956 graduate who earned his bachelor's degree in business administration. As well as being an active member of the Corps of Cadets, General Richards was involved in many clubs, served as a Class Officer, ran on the track team and was a member of the undefeated 1954 football team. He went on to complete his master's degree in communications from Shippensburg State College in 1973.

After earning his wings in 1957 at Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas, General Richards became a B-47 pilot until 1964. He was assigned to B-52 combat crew training at Castle AFB, California, from May to August 1964. During his next assignment, General Richards became the aircraft commander on the first B-52 combat mission over Vietnam.

In January 1969, he returned from overseas to become the executive officer at the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado. There he demonstrated his brilliant talent in training and motivating future officers. General Richards became Wing Deputy Commander and later Commander of Basic Military Training School at Lackland AFB, Texas in 1973. He continued working in the area of leadership and motivation until 1977 when he became Vice-Commandant of Cadets, USAF Academy, Colorado, and later Commandant of Cadets.

His last duty assignment was as Deputy Commander-in-Chief, U.S. European Command where he was responsible for all American forces in Europe, reporting to the commander of all NATO Forces. He oversaw an eight billion dollar program and was responsible for the security of 55 countries.

General Richards has a distinguished career being awarded the Purple Heart and Distinguished Service Medal, just two medals below the Medal of Honor. For single acts of heroism and bravery in action, he was awarded the Silver Star and the Distinguished Flying Cross as well as many others. General Richards has been cited as a true model of efficiency, compassion and bravery.

Although retired, General Richards is still active, serving on a presidential commission. He is one of this country's finest and an exceptional role model for the Class of 1992.

BALFOUR COMPANY HISTORY

Lloyd G. Balfour recognized a need in 1913 to provide high quality fraternity and sorority jewelry to a market that had been receiving inconsistent quality and delivery by small, local manufacturers. From that modest beginning, the Balfour Company has become one of the largest providers of emblematic jewelry in the world. Yet through 70 years of business, expansion of product lines, and the training and development of three generations of skilled craftsmen, we have maintained that standard of high quality first set by Mr. Balfour in 1913. The ability to maintain a standard of high quality is aided by Balfour's unique standing as a privately-owned, international company. Due to our singular situation, we can dedicate our exceptional design

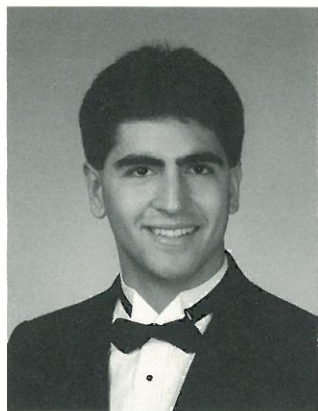
capabilities and craftsmanship to the production of the finest quality class rings available and not to the production of dividends for stockholders. Also as our financial strength increased over the years, a substantial portion of our profits has been returned to the company in the form of technological improvements, such as our state-of-the-art CAD/CAM equipment and our refinery.

Your class ring will be crafted at our main facility in Attleboro, Massachusetts, site of our corporate headquarters.

We can assure you that Balfour will take as much pride in the making of your class ring as you will in wearing it.

This is our commitment to you.

RING DESIGN CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



Ever since the first class ring was designed for the Class of 1914, Virginia Tech's rings have become the most renowned and prestigious class rings in the world. Our enduring tradition of fine class rings, completely redesigned each year, has created this sparkling reputation for one of Virginia Tech's richest traditions.

The 1992 Ring Design Committee has worked diligently since October, 1989 to ensure that our ring collection is the finest ever seen at Virginia Tech, and that it will remain unsurpassed in future years to come. I am very pleased to say that the Thomas C. Richards Collection for the Class of 1992 will enhance and flourish Virginia Tech's proud heritage and illustrious reputation.

As Ring Design Chairman, I am very proud to present the Class of 1992 with such a fine collection of class rings. The beauty and symbolism of these rings make them truly remarkable. Whatever your preference may be, I am sure you will find a ring to accommodate your taste.

Years after graduation, your class ring will fill you with delightful and fond memories of your years at Virginia Tech. Remember to always wear your ring with pride, for our class rings symbolize Virginia Tech's rich heritage and the Class of 1992's everlasting commitment to excellence.

Ertan R. Esmer
Ertan R. Esmer

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It is Virginia Tech's tradition that the class rings graphically represent the University, the college of study, and the major events that have and will affect the Class of 1992. Most of all, the rings must capture the pride we all have in Virginia Tech.

With this in mind, a chairman, six members, and four class officers were selected to design the 1992 rings. After an extensive bidding and proposal process, we chose the company that offered the best design capabilities, Balfour. The committee then set out to create a collection of rings that would illustrate all those facets that make the Class of 1992 unique.

Tradition is an integral part of the everyday events on campus. It would not be a Virginia Tech ring without the bald eagle and the University motto "Ut Prosim". These are only two of the many traditional symbols depicted on the ring. Thereby, the committee made sure all the old standards were met and ensured a continuity with the classes preceding us.

While realizing our responsibility in upholding a traditional look, we were also aware that the rings had to reflect the everchanging personality of the Class of 1992. The element of change seemed to come to the forefront of the items we had to consider. The world has seen tremendous global change and we, as students at Virginia Tech, have felt the impact. From the Berlin Wall to our new "Hokie" bird, our rings attempt to reflect the wide range of change.

Even though there are many styles to select from, all of the rings capture a lasting spirit of pride in a place we have all grown to love. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge all the members of the committee that worked so diligently to help create this exciting collection of rings. I would also like to thank the Balfour Company for capturing our thoughts and making them into reality.

Melissa Byrne
Melissa Byrne

CLASS OF 1992 RING COMMITTEE

Diane
McDermott

Jennifer
Haugh

Melissa
Byrne

Kelly
Martin

Mandy
Copley

Roger
Chase

Ertan
Esmer

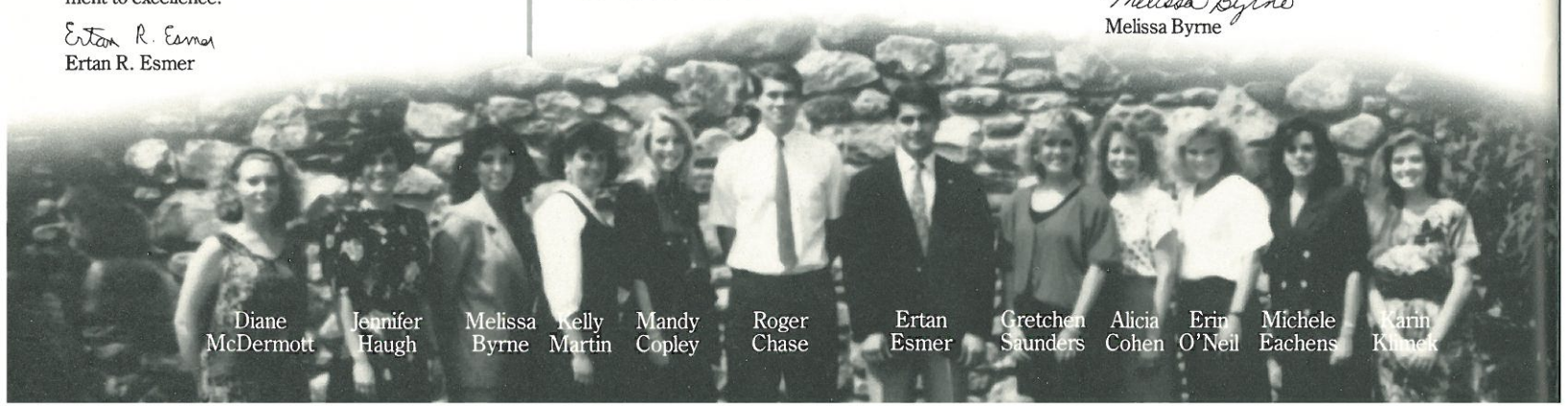
Gretchen
Saunders

Alicia
Cohen

Erin
O'Neil

Michele
Eachens

Karin
Klueck





CLASS OF 1992 CLASS OFFICERS

President: **Melissa Byrne**
Vice President: **Mary Cachens**
Secretary: **Tracy Stoll**
Treasurer: **David Zier**
Female Member at Large: **Michelle Cachens**
Male Member at Large: **Roger Chase**
Cadet Member at Large: **Kelly Martin**
Historian: **Crystal McAnelly**

At the heart of VPI&SU is the tradition of Ring Design and Ring Dance. Virginia Tech is one of only a handful of schools in the nation to redesign its class ring every year, leading them all by redesigning an entire collection. Referred to as the "Olympics of Rings," the account pulls in the largest annual ring order in the country and attracts the leading ring manufacturers.

The tradition of Ring Design originated from Tech's military heritage, beginning with the Class of 1914. Each year the sophomore class officers pick a small committee to design and market a collection of rings combining the spirit and ideals of the class with the tradition and pride of the University.

Certain symbols have been incorporated into the ring since the first ring design, such as the majestic eagle, and a combination of the American flag or Confederate flag with the Virginia State flag. Symbols representing Virginia Tech's military beginnings have consistently been in every design. These include sabres, rifles, spears, lieutenant's stripes, and this year the Crest of the Corps of Cadets. Campus life has been embodied in lamp posts, Hokie stone, campus buildings, pylons, books, the Olympic torch, the ionic column, and the beautiful landscapes surrounding VPI&SU. Current events occurring while a class has attended Tech have been depicted as the UN flag, Halley's Comet, the torch of the Statue of Liberty, the perishing of the spaceship Challenger, and the Peach Bowl.

The bezel itself has its own personality. A rope design surrounded the bezel until it was changed to an interlocking chain, sometimes in the form of the class year, in 1940. All but three classes, this year makes four, have used the chain to represent the bonds of class unity. The Class of '87 was the first to spell Virginia Tech on the bezel, and the Class of '91 was the first to spell out the entire name of the University, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, utilizing a stadium bezel.

Still, with all the subtle changes, the Virginia Tech class ring is very distinctive.

The end of the junior year is an important time in the college career of a Virginia Tech student. Not only does one receive a small piece of Tech tradition to wear forever, but the unveiling occurs during another tradition—Ring Dance. The Virginia Tech Ring Dance has grown in the past fifty-seven years into the largest

THE HISTORY OF RING DESIGN AND RING DANCE

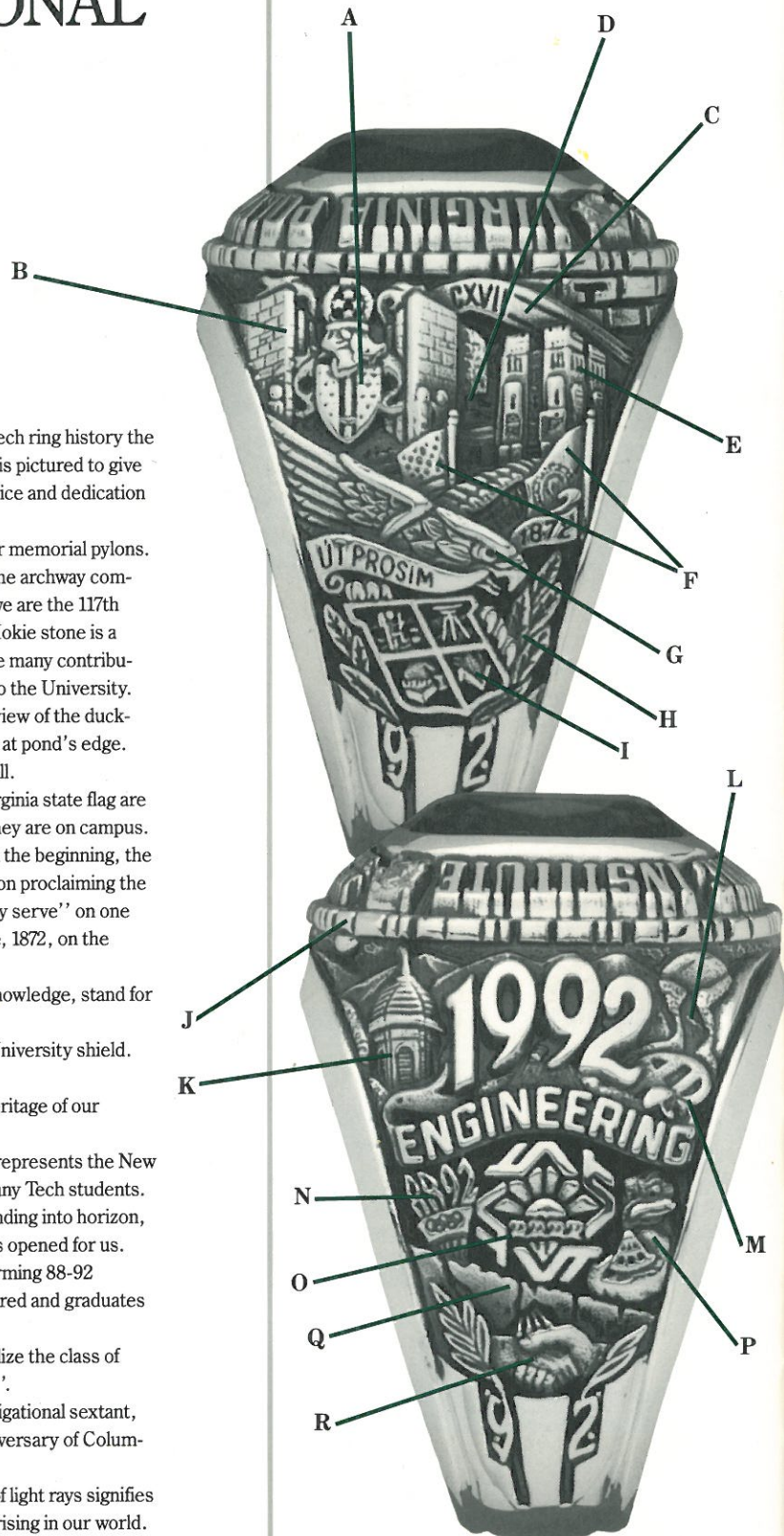


college dance on the East Coast. The first dance in 1934 opened with the Cadet Figure-and still does. When the junior cadets form the number 92 and draw sabres to form an arch, cadet dykes will escort their dates to them so they may receive their rings. Tradition dictates civilian students exchange rings during a rendition of "moonlight and VPI," composed by world-renowned Fred Waring and lyricist Charles Gaynor for the Class of 1943.

Proudly wear your class ring, and cherish the memories of your college days.

TRADITIONAL RING

- A. For the first time in Virginia Tech ring history the entire Corps of Cadets shield is pictured to give honor to the corps for its service and dedication to the University.
- B. Framing the shield are the war memorial pylons.
- C. 117 in Roman numerals is on the archway common to our campus because we are the 117th graduating class. Within the Hokie stone is a "Greek Key" symbolizing the many contributions of Greek organizations to the University.
- D. Underneath the archway is a view of the duckpond. A familiar willow tree is at pond's edge.
- E. An angled view of Burruss Hall.
- F. The American flag and the Virginia state flag are furled in front of Burruss as they are on campus.
- G. Present on the Tech ring from the beginning, the fierce eagle is clutching a ribbon proclaiming the University motto: "That I may serve" on one side, and Tech's founding date, 1872, on the other.
- H. Eight laurels, the symbol of knowledge, stand for the eight colleges.
- I. Resting on the laurels is the University shield.
- J. Bezel with rope of 92's.
- K. Alumni Hall represents the heritage of our university.
- L. Mountains with flowing river represents the New River, a popular retreat for many Tech students.
- M. The drillfield with path descending into horizon, illustrating the future Tech has opened for us.
- N. Olympic Torch with flames forming 88-92 represents that our class entered and graduates on Olympic years.
- O. Class logo designed to symbolize the class of 1992's motto, "Seize the day".
- P. New Hokie bird cradling a navigational sextant, symbolizing the 500 year anniversary of Columbus' landing.
- Q. Berlin Wall broken by a delta of light rays signifies all the new changes that are arising in our world.
- R. Two hands clasped in friendship symbolize peace and unity between the East and West.





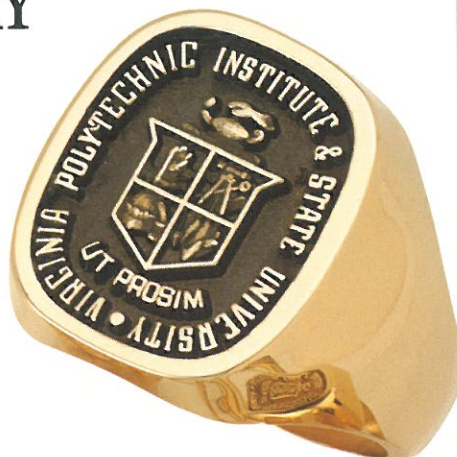
WOMEN'S MINIATURE



CONTEMPORARY SIGNETS

BALTIC

- Men Only
- BS/BA w/92 or Plain Shank



CASPIAN

- Raised Detail (Seal)
- Men's & Ladies'
- BS/BA w/92 or Plain Sides

ADRIATIC

- Plain Sides Only
- Available w/Honor Point (Diamond or Cubic Zirconia)



AEGEAN

- Engraved Black Onyx Center Stone
- Men's & Ladies'
- BS/BS w/92 or Plain Sides



KARA

- Engraved Black Onyx Stone
- Plain Side or BS/BA w/92

FASHION RINGS

TASMAN

- Black Onyx w/10K Gold Crest Mounting



FLORES

- Incised with VPI&SU or Greek Letters
- 10K Gold VPI&SU Crest
- Available with 2 Side stones (Diamond & Cubic Zirconia)



VICTORIA

- Pierced VPI&SU w/Year Date
- Oval or Navette center stone
- Available without Side Stones or with 2pt Side Stones (Diamond & Cubic Zirconia)



LIGURIAN

- Pierced Filigree Sides w/VPI&SU-92
- 10K Gold Crest Mounting



CORAL

- Incised w/VPI&SU & 92
- With 2pt Side Stones (Diamond & Cubic Zirconia)
- Available with Black Onyx or Garnet



IONIAN

- Incised VPI&SU-92

STONE VARIATIONS



Star Cut



Fireburst



India Cut



Starflame

SIMULATED BIRTHSTONES



January
Garnet



February
Amethyst



March
Aquamarine



April
White Spinel



May
Emerald Spinel



June
Alexandrite



July
Ruby



August
Peridot



September
Fire Blue Spinel



October
Rose Sapphire



November
Gold Sapphire



December
Blue Zircon



Star Sapphire



Simulated Gemstones



Tourmaline



Orange Sapphire

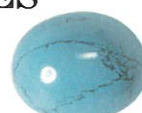
ENCRUSTINGS



GENUINE GEMSTONES



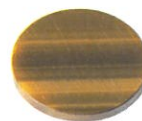
Wyoming Jade



Turquoise



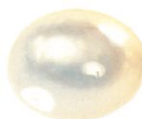
Opal



Honey Tiger Eye



Black Onyx



Mother of Pearl



Jade



Sardonyx



Lapis Lazuli

OPTIONS

Traditional	10K	14K	18K	GTC	Cele.
Jumbo	\$455.05	\$587.06	\$719.07	\$154.00	\$124.00
Extra Large	\$395.92	\$508.29	\$620.66	\$154.00	\$124.00
Large	\$346.79	\$449.51	\$552.23	\$154.00	\$124.00
Medium	\$311.52	\$400.53	\$489.54	\$154.00	\$124.00
Men's Small	\$283.48	\$369.14	\$447.33	\$154.00	\$124.00
Ladies'	\$208.98	\$272.57	\$336.16	\$144.00	\$114.00
Miniature	\$179.56	\$213.39	\$247.22	\$144.00	\$114.00

1. Stone Variations\$12.00

Star Cut-Fireburst-India Cut-Starflame

2. Encrusting Gold Inlay\$12.00

VT Monogram	Personal Initial
VPI&SU Monogram	(Block, Old English,
Greek Letters	Linear, or Roman)
German Club	Fighting Gobbler
Forestry Club	Highly-Tighty
Skipper Cannon	Co-op Symbol

3. Special Stone Set Honor Points

1 pt. Diamond Divider \$50	1 pt. CZ Divider \$10
3 pt. Diamond Divider \$60	3 pt. CZ Divider \$13
5 pt. Diamond Divider \$80	5 pt. CZ Divider \$15

4. Special All Metal Panels

1 pt. Diamond \$64	1 pt. CZ \$24
3 pt. Diamond \$74	3 pt. CZ \$27
5 pt. Diamond \$94	5 pt. CZ \$29
10 pt. Diamond \$124	10 pt. CZ \$32
20 pt. Diamond \$235	20 pt. CZ \$38
25 pt. Diamond \$355	25 pt. CZ \$45

5. Choice of Crest\$20.00

VT Monogram	Old English Letter
University Seal	Personal Initials

6. Engraved Stone\$22.00

7. Choice of Protected Emblem\$16.00

Corps Shield	Fighting Gobbler
Forestry Club Emblem	German Club Emblem
Highly-Tighty	University Seal
Skipper Cannon	VPI&SU Monogram
VT Monogram	

8. Sculptured Palmside\$15.00

9. Stadium Base\$20.00

PRICING

CASPIAN	10K	14K	18K
Men's	\$212.84	\$282.37	\$351.90
Women's	\$183.42	\$213.18	\$242.94

AEGEAN	10K	14K	18K
Men's	\$234.84	\$304.37	373.90
Ladies'	\$205.42	\$235.18	\$264.96

ADRIATIC	10K	14K	18K
w/o Honor Point	\$183.42	\$213.18	\$242.94
w/CZ Honor Point	\$195.42	\$225.18	\$254.94
w/Dia Honor Point	\$235.42	\$265.18	\$294.94

BALTIC	10K	14K	18K
All Metal	\$230.18	\$305.28	\$380.38

KARA	10K	14K	18K
w/Engraved Stone	\$205.42	\$235.18	\$264.94

TASMAN	10K	14K	18K
w/Crest Mounting	\$183.56	\$233.39	\$283.22

FLORES	10K	14K	18K
w/2 CZ Honor Points & Crest	\$227.42	\$257.18	\$286.94
w/2 Dia Honor Points & Crest	\$313.42	\$343.18	\$372.94

CORAL	10K	14K	18K
w/CZ Side Stones	\$176.56	\$226.39	\$276.22
w/Dia Side Stones	\$223.56	\$273.39	\$323.22

VICTORIA	10K	14K	18K
w/o Side Stones	\$163.56	\$213.39	\$253.22
w/2 CZ Side Stones	\$189.56	\$239.39	\$279.22
w/2 Dia Side Stones	\$283.56	\$333.39	\$373.22

IONIAN	10K	14K	18K
VPISU Band	\$151.30	\$196.21	\$241.11

LIGURIAN	10K	14K	18K
Pierced	\$183.42	\$213.18	\$242.94

PAYMENT PLAN

Balfour offers numerous payment options to insure that all students are able to afford the ring of their choice:

1. All VPI&SU students who prepay the full amount of their ring at the initial ordertaking will receive a \$20.00 discount. Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express cards may be used for the total purchase price of the ring and will qualify for the \$20.00 discount.
2. A \$50.00 deposit is required on all orders with the balance to be paid at the final delivery. Deposits can be made in cash, check or money order. Checks and money orders should be made payable to the Balfour Company.
3. **Balfour's Interest Free Installment Plan:** Student places a \$50.00 deposit at time of order-taking and will pay four equal installments on the balance. **No interest will be charged on the balance due.** Payment requests will be sent to the purchaser in advance of the payment due date.
4. **Balfour's "Pay As You Wear" Plan:** With an imprint from a major credit card, Balfour will allow VPI&SU students to take possession of their ring at final delivery, while continuing their installment payment program.
5. Balfour will accept trade-in's of karat gold quality jewelry, based on pennyweight and gold value, and students will receive credit towards the purchase price of their ring.

LIFETIME WARRANTY VPI&SU CLASS OF 1992

1. All VPI&SU 1992 class rings are guaranteed against defects in materials and workmanship for life.
2. All stones included in the base price and all stone decorations are fully guaranteed and will be replaced without charge at any time. Diamonds greater in size than 10 points and genuine stones not included in the base price are excluded from the free replacement clause.
3. All VPI&SU 1992 rings may be resized without charge for as long as the ring exists. If a student desires to have a new ring made for resizes greater than one and a half size, the charge, after graduation only, will be \$30 remake charge plus the return of the original ring.
4. Rings which are accidentally damaged will be replaced prior to a student's graduation for a charge of \$30 plus return of the damaged ring. Genuine stones and diamonds will be replaced at the cost which is current at the time of repair.
5. If a student is not totally satisfied with his or her original choice of finish, Balfour will refinish the ring at no charge. Finishes are guaranteed for life and this option may be exercised at any time.
6. Additional rings may be ordered at any time. After May 1992 graduation, the cost of rings will be determined by the cost of gold and stones at the time of ordering, plus the manufacturing costs.
7. A student who changes colleges at VPI&SU after a ring is ordered, may return a ring to receive a ring with the proper designation at no additional cost.
8. A student who fails to graduate with the class designated on the ring may return that ring to receive a full refund, prior to graduation 1992.
9. Several ring adjustment times will be scheduled with company representatives present on campus. After a student's graduation the cost of shipping, insurance, and handling will be the responsibility of the ring owner.
10. Any college, junior college, or high school gold ring will be credited at current gold salvage value towards the purchase of the Class of 1992 VPI&SU ring. Current trade-in value will be available at all ordertaking sessions.
11. Disputes about the validity of warranty claims will be resolved by the Ring Committee until the time of a student's graduation. Thereafter, VPI&SU will designate a staff member with responsibility to work with the ring company. The company agrees to abide by the decision of the Ring Committee or the VPI&SU staff representative.

For additional information, please contact:

Tom Scarry
Balfour Fairfax
Dominion Bank Building
10855 Lee Highway
Suite 310
Fairfax, VA 22030
(703) 691-8587

Blacksburg Office
105 Wilson Ave.
Blacksburg, VA 24060
(703) 951-2672

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A Town & Country Company