



VIRGINIA TECH

CLASS OF 2008



RING COLLECTION



CLASS OF 2008 RING COMMITTEE | *FRONT ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT:* MICHAEL DUNLEAVY, PRESIDENT; BRADEN FIELD, MALE MEMBER-AT-LARGE; HEATHER DeMAY, RING DANCE CHAIR; JENNIFER HOLLoman, RING COMMITTEE MEMBER; KATHERINE COLLEGE, FEMALE MEMBER-AT-LARGE; JOHN MCBRIEN, RING DESIGN CHAIR; JONATHAN EDGE, RING COMMITTEE MEMBER. *BACK ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT:* JEN MacDONALD, ADVISOR; NATHAN KANE, CADET MEMBER-AT-LARGE.

PRIDE FOREVER, TRADITION ALWAYS

AS MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2008, WE ARE REACHING A MILESTONE IN OUR COLLEGE EXPERIENCE. I HOPE YOU ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT TWO YEARS WITH AS MUCH EXCITEMENT AND OPTIMISM AS I AM. WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEAVE OUR MARK IN THE CHAPTERS OF VIRGINIA TECH HISTORY THROUGH THE TIME HONORED TRADITIONS THAT ARE CARRIED OUT BY THE CLASS OF 2008.

THE CLASS RING TRADITION IS ONE OF GREAT PRESTIGE AND HAS FOSTERED ONE OF THE NATION'S TOP RING COLLECTIONS. VIRGINIA TECH IS ONE OF ONLY A FEW UNIVERSITIES THAT REDESIGNS A CLASS RING COLLECTION ANNUALLY THROUGH THE DIRECTION OF A STUDENT COMMITTEE. IT HAS BEEN THE CLASS OF 2008 RING COMMITTEE'S PRIVILEGE TO CREATE A COLLECTION OF RINGS THAT REPRESENTS OUR CLASS'S TIME AT VIRGINIA TECH. IT HAS BEEN OUR AIM TO CREATE A COLLECTION THAT FOLLOWS IN THE LONG LINE OF TRADITION MARKED WITH EXCELLENCE, PRESTIGE, AND TRADITION.

I INVITE YOU TO CELEBRATE THESE TRADITIONS, AS A CLASS, BEGINNING THIS FALL. WE WILL START THE YEAR OFF WITH TWO AMAZING EVENTS. THE CLASS OF 2008 KICKOFF CONCERT AUGUST 31ST AND RING PREMIERE OCTOBER 3RD. CONCLUDING OUR JUNIOR YEAR WILL BE THE RING DANCE ON THE WEEKEND OF MARCH 23-24, 2007. THESE EVENTS MARK PROMINENT HIGHLIGHTS OF A YEAR THAT WILL BE VERY SPECIAL TO OUR CLASS AND I ENCOURAGE YOU TO PARTAKE IN THE RING TRADITION AS WE MOVE FORWARD THROUGH OUR TIME HERE AT VIRGINIA TECH. BE PROUD OF YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2008. YOU HAVE A LOT TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN THE YEARS TO COME.

SINCERELY,

JOHN MCBRIEN
RING DESIGN CHAIR
CLASS OF 2008



GENE A. JAMES '53
CLASS OF 2008
RING COLLECTION NAMESAKE

GENE A. JAMES, OF RICHMOND, VA., HAS ACHIEVED REMARKABLE PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS AND HAS PLAYED A PROMINENT ROLE IN VIRGINIA AGRICULTURE. AFTER GRADUATING FROM VIRGINIA TECH IN 1953, HE EMBARKED ON A 43-YEAR CAREER WITH SOUTHERN STATES COOPERATIVE, THE LAST 17 OF WHICH HE SERVED AS PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER. NEVER FORGETTING HIS TIES TO HIS ALMA MATER, JAMES HAS TIRELESSLY SERVED THE UNIVERSITY IN NUMEROUS CAPACITIES OVER THE YEARS. "MR. JAMES EMBODIES THE MOTTO OF OUR UNIVERSITY: UT PROSIM, "THAT I MAY SERVE;" SAID FORMER PRESIDENT PAUL E. TORGERSEN. IN 1997, JAMES AND HIS WIFE, INA MAE, GENEROUSLY ESTABLISHED THE GENE A. AND INA MAE JAMES GRADUATE FUND SCHOLARSHIP TO BENEFIT AGRICULTURE STUDENTS AT VIRGINIA TECH. JAMES AND HIS WIFE HAVE FOUR CHILDREN AND FOUR GRANDCHILDREN.

GENE A. JAMES



CLASS OF 2008



OLD DOMINION



PIEDMONT



CHESAPEAKE



APPALACHIAN



BLUE RIDGE



SHENANDOAH



CARDINAL



TIDEWATER



HOMESTEAD



ALLEGHANY



ELIZABETH



OLD GLORY



CASCADE



DOGWOOD



COMMONWEALTH



VIRGINIA



WILLIAMSBURG



OLD DOMINION



COLONIAL

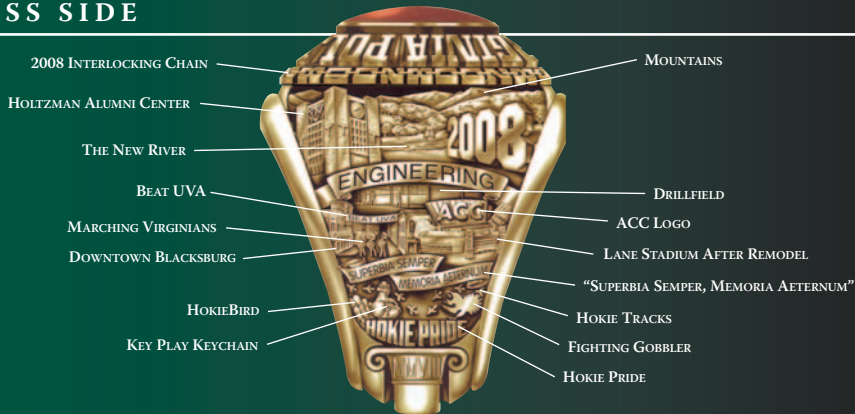


LIBERTY



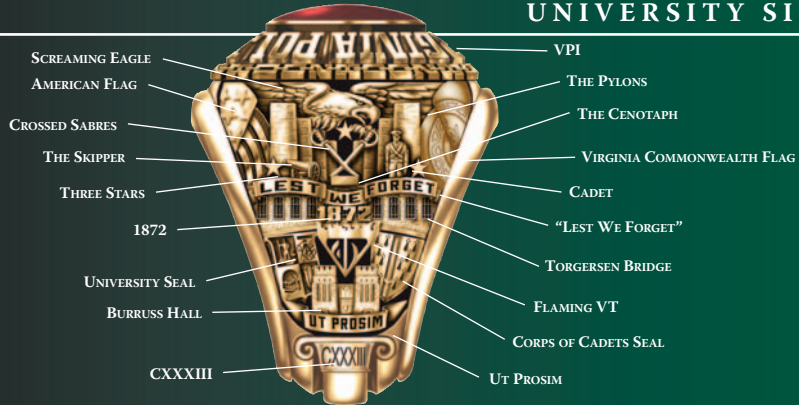
PRIDE FOREVER, TRADITION ALWAYS

CLASS SIDE



- 2008 INTERLOCKING CHAIN** – A TRADITION ON VIRGINIA TECH RINGS SINCE 1940, THE INTERLOCKING CHAIN REPRESENTS CLASS PRIDE AND UNITY.
- HOLTZMAN ALUMNI CENTER** – OPENED AND DEDICATED IN FALL 2005, THE HOLTZMAN ALUMNI CENTER IS THE NEW HOME TO THE VIRGINIA TECH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION. THIS IS THE FIRST APPEARANCE OF THE HOLTZMAN ALUMNI CENTER ON A VIRGINIA TECH CLASS RING.
- THE NEW RIVER** – DESPITE ITS NAME, THE RIVER IS CONSIDERED BY GEOLOGISTS TO BE ONE OF THE OLDEST RIVERS IN THE WORLD, SECOND IN AGE TO THE NILE RIVER AND THUS THE OLDEST IN NORTH AMERICA. LIKE THE NILE, THE NEW RIVER FLOWS IN A GENERALLY NORTHERN COURSE.
- BEAT UVA** – “BEAT UVA” IS A TRADITIONAL SLOGAN THAT HAS BEEN INCLUDED ON VIRGINIA TECH RINGS FOR MANY YEARS.
- MARCHING VIRGINIANS** – FOR 32 YEARS THE MARCHING VIRGINIANS HAVE BEEN KEEPING THE SPIRIT OF TECH ALIVE AT ALL HOME FOOTBALL GAMES AND LEADING EVERYONE IN THE HOKIE POKIE.
- DOWNTOWN BLACKSBURG** – FOUNDED IN 1798 ON A THIRTY-EIGHT ACRE TRACT LAID OUT AND DEEDED BY WILLIAM BLACK, FOR WHOM THE TOWN WAS NAMED. DOWNTOWN BLACKSBURG SERVES AS A PLACE FOR THE VIRGINIA TECH COMMUNITY TO ENJOY LOCAL FAVORITE FOODS AND SHOPPING AS WELL AS A NIGHT-LIFE.
- HOKIEBIRD** – THE OFFICIAL MASCOT OF VIRGINIA TECH. THE HOKIEBIRD MADE ITS FIRST APPEARANCE IN 1987
- KEY PLAY KEYCHAIN** – THE KEYS HOKIEBIRD HOLDS ARE A NECESSITY FOR HOKIE FOOTBALL FANS ON EVERY 3RD DOWN OF DEFENSE SIGNIFYING A KEY PLAY.
- MOUNTAINS** – THE BACKDROP OF VIRGINIA TECH SCENERY IS ALWAYS THE MOUNTAINS, SITUATED ON A HIGH PLATEAU IN SOUTHWESTERN VIRGINIA BETWEEN THE BLUE RIDGE AND ALLEGHANY MOUNTAIN RANGES.
- DRILLFIELD** – ONE OF VIRGINIA TECH’S MOST MEMORABLE LANDMARKS ALSO CONSIDERED THE CENTER OF CAMPUS, THE DRILLFIELD HAS SERVED AS THE PATHWAY TO CLASS, SOLID GROUND FOR THE CORPS PASS AND REVIEWS, AS WELL AS THE FIELD FOR MANY STUDENTS’ PLAY OR STUDY.
- ACC Logo** – A CENTURY LONG RIVALRY FILLED WITH INTENSITY, SPIRIT, AND EMOTION, THE HOO’S AND THE HOKIES FIRST FACED OFF IN AN 1895 FOOTBALL GAME IN CHARLOTTESVILLE, BUT THEY KICKED OFF FAR MORE THAN A FOOTBALL GAME THAT YEAR. THE TWO TEAMS FROM TWO DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS LAUNCHED A GREAT TRADITION OF COMPETITIVE PLAY THAT HAS LED TO THEIR BEING IN THE FOREFRONT OF AMERICAN COLLEGIATE ATHLETICS.
- LANE STADIUM AFTER REMODEL** – NOW ENTERING ITS 41ST SEASON AS AN ARENA OF COLLEGIATE FOOTBALL COMPETITION, LANE STADIUM/WORSHAM FIELD HAS GONE THROUGH NUMEROUS CHANGES, RENOVATIONS AND ADDITIONS. BUT THROUGH IT ALL, IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN REGARDED AS ONE OF THE FINEST PLACES TO WATCH - AND TOUGHEST PLACES FOR OPPONENTS TO PLAY - A COLLEGE FOOTBALL GAME.
- “SUPERBIA SEMPER, MEMORIA AETERNUM”** – THE LATIN VERSION OF THE CLASS OF 2008 MOTTO: “PRIDE ALWAYS, TRADITION FOREVER”.
- HOKIE TRACKS** – THE EIGHT TRACKS REPRESENTING THE EIGHT MEMBERS ON THE RING DESIGN COMMITTEE AND THE PATHWAY PAVED FROM PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE VIRGINIA TECH STUDENTS.
- FIGHTING GOBBLER** – AROUND 1908, TECH STUDENTS BEGAN REFERRING TO STUDENT ATHLETES AS “GOBBLERS” BECAUSE OF THE WAY THEY “GOBBLED” THEIR FOOD. THOUGH THE TERM HOKIES WAS WIDELY USED, THE OFFICIAL DESIGNATION WAS ONLY CHANGED IN THE MID-1980S. A COSTUMED GOBBLER MASCOT (NOW THE HOKIEBIRD) WAS INTRODUCED DURING GAMES IN THE 1930S, AND HAS BEEN A SYMBOL OF SCHOOL SPIRIT EVER SINCE.
- HOKIE PRIDE** – THE POWERFUL IDENTITY AND COLLECTIVE FORCE THAT IS SHARED AND CELEBRATED BY THE HOKIE NATION.

UNIVERSITY SIDE



- **SCREAMING EAGLE** – THE SCREAMING EAGLE EVOLVED FROM A PAIR OF TWIN EAGLES USED ON THE FIRST VIRGINIA TECH RING, SYMBOLIZING THE TWIN VIRTUES OF STRENGTH AND FREEDOM.
- **AMERICAN FLAG** – THE NATIONAL SYMBOL OF PATRIOTISM AND IDENTITY, “OLD GLORY” WAVES PROUDLY ON THE VIRGINIA TECH CAMPUS.
- **CROSSED SABRES** – AN HONORED CORPS SYMBOL AND RING TRADITION.
- **THE SKIPPER** – THE SKIPPER WAS THE DREAM OF 3 CADETS REALIZED IN 1964. THE SKIPPER CANNON WAS NAMED IN HONOR OF OUR FALLEN PRESIDENT, JOHN F. KENNEDY.
- **THREE STARS** – THESE STARS HONOR THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE SERVICE OF TECH MEN AND WOMEN WHO DEFEND OUR COUNTRY’S FREEDOM.
- **1872** – THE YEAR THE VIRGINIA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE WAS ESTABLISHED, LATER TO BECOME VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY.
- **UNIVERSITY SEAL** – CREATED IN 1896, THE SEAL HAS, FOR MORE THAN TEN DECADES, REFLECTED THE AGRICULTURAL/MECHANICAL EMPHASIS IN THE VIRGINIA TECH CURRICULUM DURING ITS FIRST CENTURY.
- **BURRUSS HALL** – THE CORNERSTONE FOR VIRGINIA TECH’S MAIN ADMINISTRATION BUILDING WAS LAID AT THE 1935 COMMENCEMENT. THE BUILDING WAS NAMED FOR THE UNIVERSITY’S EIGHTH PRESIDENT, JULIAN ASHBY BURRUSS, CLASS OF 1898.
- **CXXXIII** – THE CLASS OF 2008 IS THE 133RD CLASS TO GRADUATE FROM VIRGINIA TECH.
- **VPI** – IN 1896, THE NAME OF VIRGINIA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE WAS CHANGED TO VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE OR VIRGINIA TECH.
- **THE PYLONS** – EIGHT PYLONS OF THE WAR MEMORIAL REPRESENT THE FOUNDING VALUES OF VIRGINIA TECH: BROTHERHOOD, HONOR, LEADERSHIP SACRIFICE, SERVICE, LOYALTY, DUTY AND UT PROSIM.
- **THE CENOTAPH** – A TRIBUTE TO THE SEVEN ALUMNI WHO WERE AWARDED THE COUNTRY’S HIGHEST AWARD, THE MEDAL OF HONOR, FOR HEROIC IN COMBAT. VPI IS SECOND ONLY TO WEST POINT AND THE NAVAL ACADEMY IN ITS NUMBER OF MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS.
- **VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH FLAG** – BECAUSE VIRGINIA WAS THE FIRST PART OF THE COUNTRY TO BE SETTLED BY ENGLISH COLONISTS, THE STATE FLAG PROUDLY REPRESENTS VIRGINIA’S LOVE OF FREEDOM. VIRGINIA TECH STANDS AS THE COMMONWEALTH’S LAND GRANT UNIVERSITY.
- **CADET** – VIRGINIA TECH IS ONE OF THREE MAJOR CIVILIAN PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES IN THE COUNTRY THAT HAS AN ESTABLISHED MILITARY CADET CORPS.
- **“LEST WE FORGET”** – THIS SIMPLE STONE MONUMENT HONORS THE MEMORY OF THE VPI ALUMNI WHO DIED IN WORLD WAR I. IT IS CUSTOMARY FOR EVERY CADET, WHENEVER THEY PASS “THE ROCK” TO SALUTE IT AS A MARK OF RESPECT.
- **TORGENSEN BRIDGE** – COMPLETED IN 2000, TORGENSEN BRIDGE, NAMED AFTER DR. PAUL TORGENSEN, VIRGINIA TECH’S 14TH PRESIDENT, CREATES A GATEWAY AT THE CAMPUS’S ENTRY FROM MAIN STREET IN BLACKSBURG.
- **FLAMING VT** – FOR 40 YEARS, THE HOTEL COMPANY OF THE VT CORPS OF CADETS HAVE IGNITED THE FLAMES OF TRADITION AT THE HOMECOMING PEP RALLY.
- **CORPS OF CADETS SEAL** – A GREAT SOURCE OF PRIDE TO THE VIRGINIA TECH CORPS OF CADETS, THE SEAL WAS DESIGNED BY COLONEL HARRY D. TEMPLE ’34.
- **“UT PROSIM”** – THE VIRGINIA TECH MOTTO “THAT I MAY SERVE,” ADOPTED IN 1896.

RING PRICING

MEN'S STYLES	10K	14K	18K	CELESTRIUM
OLD DOMINION 40 DWT	\$655	\$858	\$1174	\$139
OLD DOMINION 34 DWT	\$575	\$762	\$1011	\$139
OLD DOMINION 28 DWT	\$536	\$667	\$859	\$139
OLD DOMINION 22 DWT	\$471	\$570	\$714	\$139
CHESAPEAKE	\$347	\$437	\$507	\$139
SHENANDOAH	\$304	\$393	\$462	\$139
BLUE RIDGE	\$304	\$393	\$462	\$139
APPALACHIAN	\$322	\$420	\$501	\$139
PIEDMONT	\$322	\$420	\$501	\$139
WOMEN'S STYLES	10K	14K	18K	CELESTRIUM
OLD DOMINION 12 DWT	\$356	\$449	\$564	\$139
OLD DOMINION 5 DWT	\$290	\$332	\$403	\$139
LIBERTY	\$289	\$332	\$395	\$139
DOGWOOD	\$289	\$332	\$395	–
WILLIAMSBURG	\$281	\$305	\$381	\$139
ALLEGHANY (CZs)	\$305	\$328	\$401	\$175
ALLEGHANY (DIAMONDS)	\$409	\$432	\$505	\$279
TIDEWATER (CZs)	\$364	\$383	\$454	–
TIDEWATER (DIAMONDS)	\$590	\$610	\$680	–
COMMONWEALTH	\$274	\$286	\$354	–
OLD GLORY RING (CZs)	\$341	\$364	\$437	–
OLD GLORY (DIAMONDS)	\$549	\$572	\$645	–
CASCADE (CZs)	\$292	\$312	\$379	–
CASCADE (DIAMONDS)	\$349	\$368	\$436	–
CARDINAL (CZs)	\$323	\$346	\$419	–
CARDINAL (DIAMONDS)	\$479	\$502	\$575	–
CARDINAL (DIAMOND/SIMULATED STONES)	\$339	\$362	\$435	–
COLONIAL	\$281	\$305	\$381	\$139
VIRGINIA	\$281	\$305	\$381	\$139
ELIZABETH	\$290	\$327	\$410	\$139
HOMESTEAD (CZs)	\$305	\$328	\$401	\$175
HOMESTEAD (DIAMONDS)	\$409	\$432	\$505	\$279

PAYMENT OPTIONS

PAY IN FULL: Receive a \$10 discount when you pay in full at time of order.

TIME PAYMENT: Your balance will be divided into 2, 4, or 6 equal payments on your MasterCard, Visa, Discover, or American Express and charged at 30-day intervals until the balance is paid in full.

C.O.D: Leave a \$75 deposit when you place your order and pay the balance due when the ring arrives.

SIMULATED BIRTHSTONES



GENUINE STONES	13x11	12x10	8x6
PALMEIRA CITRINE TOPAZ	\$150	\$110	\$30
MEDIUM AQUAMARINE	\$460	\$380	\$80
SWISS BLUE TOPAZ	\$200	\$155	\$40
LONDON BLUE TOPAZ	\$200	\$155	\$40
LAPIS LAZULI	\$55	\$55	\$40
RHODOLITE GARNET	\$495	\$325	\$130
MOZAMBIQUE GARNET	\$195	\$155	\$90
MEDIUM AMETHYST	\$230	\$170	\$70
CARNELIAN	\$30	\$30	\$20
HEMATITE	\$35	\$30	\$25
BLOOD STONE	\$35	\$25	\$20
AVENTURINE QUARTZ	\$25	\$25	\$15
GREEN AGATE	\$20	\$20	\$15
HOPE BLUE STAR SAPPHIRE	\$100	\$90	\$50
HONEY TIGER EYE	\$40	\$40	\$30
BROWN TIGER EYE	\$40	\$40	\$30
WYOMING JADE	\$40	\$30	\$30

STONE SIZE	DIAMONDS	CUBIC ZIRCONIA
1 Pt.	\$35	\$10
2 Pts.	\$45	\$15
3 Pts.	\$70	\$18
5 Pts.	\$100	\$25
10 Pts.	\$110	\$25
20 Pts.	\$175	\$28
25 Pts.	\$375	\$50

WARRANTY INFORMATION

LENGTHS AND CONDITIONS OF GUARANTEE REGARDING DEFECTS IN MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP:

The rings are warranted to be free of defect in workmanship and materials.

LENGTH AND SCOPE OF GUARANTEE REGARDING STONES AND STONE DECORATION: Any damaged simulated stone will be replaced at no charge regardless of the cause of damage.

CONDITIONS AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES FOR RING RESIZING AND RING ADJUSTMENTS: The ring will be resized at any time at no charge.

CONDITIONS AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES FOR REPLACEMENT OF DAMAGED RINGS: Any damaged encrusted stone will be replaced at no charge regardless of cause of damage.

CONDITIONS AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES FOR ORDERING ADDITIONAL RINGS: Additional rings may be ordered at any time. After December 31, 2008, the rings may be ordered at the prevailing price at time of order. Prevailing price will be determined according to cost of gold and stones at the time of ordering.



CONDITIONS AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES FOR CHANGES IN ACADEMIC COLLEGE DESTINATION:

A classmate who changes colleges at Virginia Tech after a ring is purchased may return the ring to be remade with proper designation at no charge.

REFUND POLICY FOR RINGS RETURNED FOR STUDENTS WHO FAIL TO GRADUATE WITH THE

CLASS DESIGNATED ON THE RING: A classmate who fails to graduate with their Class may return the ring for a full refund less Class dues.

RESPONSIBILITY AND PROCEDURES FOR RESOLVING DISPUTES REGARDING THE VALIDITY

OF WARRANTY CLAUSES: Disputes as to the validity of the warranty clauses will be resolved by the Ring Design Committee. With Balfour's philosophy that the customer is always right, such arbitration by the Committee should never be necessary.

CONDITIONS AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES FOR RESTORING RING FINISH: Should a

classmate not be totally satisfied with his or her original choice of finish, refinishing would be completed at no charge.

CONDITIONS ON HOW REPAIRS ARE MADE, WHOM TO CONTACT, AND HOW SHIPPING

RATES ARE HANDLED: Prior to graduation, service dates will be established to handle any adjustments. All shipping, handling and insurance costs will be the responsibility of Balfour during these sessions.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

www.classof2008.alumni.vt.edu

www.alumni.vt.edu/classrings

Class of 2008 Ring Collection DVD

1. Class of 2008 Photo Montage
2. Hokie Bird “Hi!”
3. “My Class Ring...” Spoken from a Hokie’s Heart
4. The Class of 2007 Ring Dance
5. Gene A. James, Class of 2008 Ring Collection Namesake
6. The 2008 Ring Collection Revealed
7. Bonus Video – The Ring Dance at Virginia Tech – *A Ribbon Through Time*
8. Bonus Material & Class of 2008 Screensaver

Produced by Mike Gallagher



WWW.CLASSOF2008.ALUMNI.VT.EDU



CLASS MOTTO | PRIDE FOREVER, TRADITION ALWAYS

CLASS COLORS | GREEN & SILVER

CLASS SPONSOR | KURT KRAUSE '80

Balfour[®]