

2009 VMI Football Media Guide



QUICK FACTS

Name of School	Virginia Military Institute (VMI)
City/Zip	Lexington, Va. 24450
Founded	1839
Enrollment	1,400
Nickname	Keydets
Mascot	Moe (Kangaroo)
School Colors	Red, Yellow & White
Stadium	Alumni Memorial Field at Foster Stadium
Conference	Big South Conference
Superintendent	General J.H. Binford Peay III '62
Athletic Director	Donny White '65
Athletic Department Phone	540-464-7251
Ticket Office Phone	540-464-7266

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach	Sparky Woods (Carson-Newman '76)
Record at VMI	4-7/Second Season
Overall Record	67-53-5/12th Season
To Reach Coach	Contact SID
Offensive Coordinator (QB)	Brent Davis
Defensive Coordinator	A.J. Christoff
Chief of Staff (DL)	Don Woods
Assistant Coach (SB)	Greg Shockley
Assistant Coach (OL)	Bob Bodine
Assistant Coach (WR)	Winston October
Assistant Coach (ILB)	Paul Soltis
Assistant Coach (OLB)	Greg Harris
Assistant Coach (DB)	Danny Verpaele
Strength & Conditioning Coach	Phil Sabatini
Athletic Trainer (Football)	John Hoffman

TEAM INFORMATION

2008 Overall Record	4-7
Big South Record/Finish	1-4/T-5th
Starters Returning/Lost	18/5 (Off.-9/1; Def.-9/2; Spec.-0/2)
Letterwinners Returning/Lost	41/13 (Off.-19/5; Def.-22/6; Spec.-0/2)

ATHLETIC MEDIA RELATIONS

Associate A.D./Athletic Communications (FB Contact)	Wade Branner
SID Office Phone	540-464-7253
Home Phone	540-463-5033
Email	brannerwh@vmi.edu
Assistant A.D./Media Relations (Secondary FB Contact)	Christian Hoffman
Assistant Athletic Media Relations Director	Brad Salois
Press Box Phone	540-464-7834
Sports Information Fax	540-464-7583
Mailing Address	116 Smith Hall; Lexington, Va. 24450
Website	www.VMIKeydets.com
Twitter	www.Twitter.com/VMISID

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For additional information, the media may contact the Athletic Media Relations Office, 116 Smith Hall, Lexington, VA 24450. The office may also be reached by telephone at (540) 464-7253, or via fax at (540) 464-7583.

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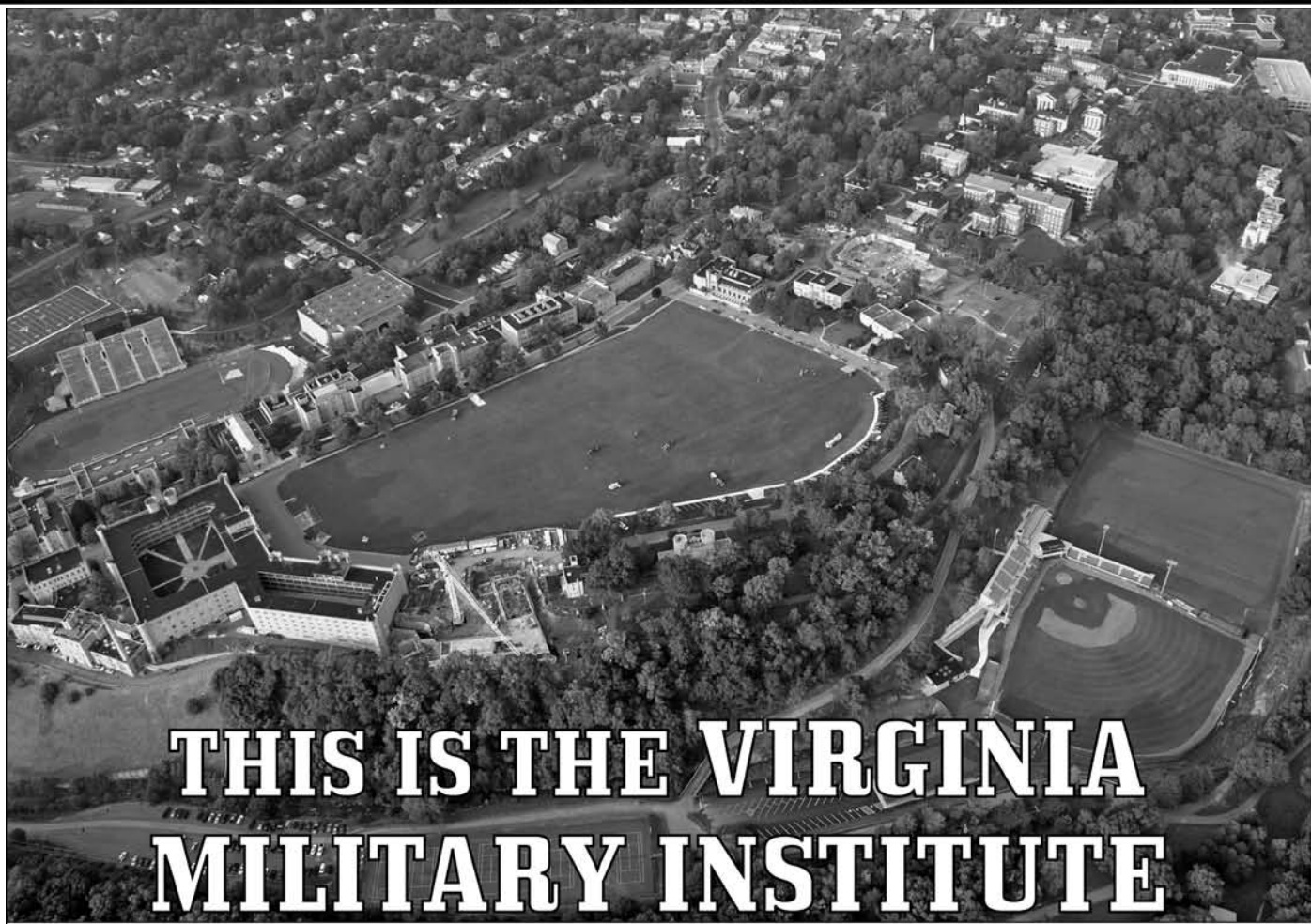
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THIS IS THE VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE



For eight consecutive years, U.S. News & World Report's "America's Best Colleges," has named VMI as among the top three public-supported liberal arts college in the nation and ranked its engineering program in the top one-third of "Best Undergraduate" accredited programs at schools offering only bachelors and masters degrees. In addition, Forbes magazine ranked VMI among its list of "America's Best Public Colleges."



THE INSTITUTE:

The Virginia Military Institute is the nation's oldest state-supported military college, founded in 1839 in Lexington, Va., located at the southern end of the Shenandoah Valley. VMI offers qualified young men and women a demanding combination of academic study and rigorous military training that exists nowhere else, and grants B.A. and B.S. degrees in 14 disciplines within the general fields of engineering, science, and liberal arts. The Institute's emphasis on qualities of honor, integrity, and responsibility contributes to its unique educational philosophy. Professional leadership training is provided to all cadets through the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) programs, maintained at VMI by the Department of Defense. Cadets are encouraged to pursue commissions in the U.S. Army, Air Force, Navy, or Marine Corps.

In every field of endeavor, whether it's leadership in business, industry, public service, education, the professions, or careers in the military, success comes early to a high number of VMI graduates. In an independent survey of college graduates seeking employment, armed forces commission, or admission to graduate or professional school following graduation, more than 95 percent of VMI graduates met their goal by the following October.

VMI's academic breadth is diverse. The curriculum for the selected major begins the first year. About 40 percent of cadets major in civil, electrical, or mechanical engineering, about half the Corps majors in liberal arts fields, and the two most popular majors are economics/business and history.

For eight consecutive years, U.S. News & World Report's "America's Best Colleges," has named VMI as among the top three public-supported liberal arts college in the nation and ranked its engineering program in the top one-third of "Best Undergraduate" accredited programs at schools offering only bachelors and masters degrees. In addition, Forbes magazine ranked VMI among its list of "America's Best Public Colleges."

ALUMNI:

VMI's alumni support is unparalleled in many ways, especially in terms of financial support. The financial contributions of VMI alumni have traditionally been higher than at other colleges, and alumni remain engaged in the Institute in many ways.

VMI alumni include Nobel Prize winner George C. Marshall; 11 Rhodes Scholars; and 40 college presidents. VMI alumni have distinguished themselves in every American conflict since the Mexican War, among them seven Medal of Honor recipients, and 265 general and flag officers. More than 1,300 VMI graduates are now or have been deployed in support of combat operations in Afghanistan and Iraq.

THE VMI CORPS OF CADETS:

Today more than 1,400 young men and women in the VMI Corps of Cadets represent 45 states and 11 foreign countries. More than 100 cadets study abroad each year, one-third complete in intercollegiate athletics, and all have significant leadership opportunities.



All cadets reside in "Barracks," the centerpiece of the VMI "Post." The original structure was built in 1850 and is a National Historic Landmark. An additional wing was added in 1949, and a third section was dedicated in 2008. This new section incorporates the "Keydet Kanteen," the visitors' center, and the bookstore, as well as cadet rooms.

VMI cadets uphold an honor system as old as the Institute. An oath of honor is taken by each cadet to "not lie, cheat, or steal, nor tolerate those who do," and the oath is practiced in daily life. Because it is basic to cadet life, honor is ingrained, and builds strong character. Honor is the cornerstone of every cadet's lifelong commitment to integrity, duty, self-discipline, and self-reliance.

One of the oldest VMI traditions is the orientation and instruction provided to new cadets by old cadets. Regardless of background or prior training, every cadet in his or her first year at VMI is a "Rat," and each is a "Brother Rat" to the other. They live under the "Rat System" until "Break Out," and their bonds formed by this experience are lifelong.

FACULTY:
All VMI faculty members teach in the classroom, and 95 percent hold doctoral or terminal degrees in their disciplines. The cadet-to-faculty ratio is approximately 11:1, permitting a close "mentor" relationship between a cadet and instructor, and faculty research is frequently conducted in partnership with cadets. ROTC instructors are experienced military officers, and make an outstanding contribution to cadet leadership training.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM:
VMI's demanding academic program reflects established needs and emerging trends of an ever-changing global society. A robust undergraduate research initiative extends through summer, affording cadets and faculty financial incentives and continuous support for a wide range of investigative projects. The Institute's international programs include faculty and student exchanges with more than a dozen international academics and universities, foreign internships, and numerous study-abroad programs each semester and during the summer.

The Institute Honors Program offers highly motivated and high-achieving cadets the opportunity to enrich

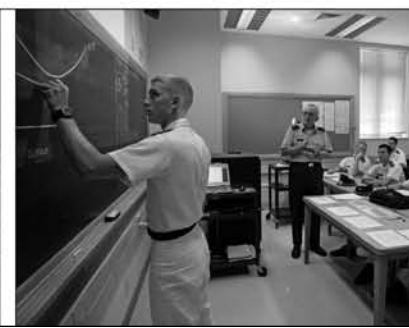
their academic experience, including through competition for prestigious external scholarships. The Institute Writing Program seeks to equip cadets for both academic success and participation in the full range of rhetorical occasions they will encounter in their lives as citizens and professionals.

VMI is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, is a member of American Council on Education, the Association of American Colleges, the College Entrance Examination Board, and the Association of Virginia Colleges. VMI's engineering programs and the computer science program are accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology; and the chemistry program is accredited by the American Chemical Society.

MAJORS and DEGREES:
VMI offers the baccalaureate degree in 14 majors. The B.S. is awarded in applied mathematics, chemistry, civil engineering, computer science, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, and physics. The B.A. is conferred in economics and business, English, history, international studies, modern languages, and psychology. The B.S. or B.A. can be earned in biology. A course of study leading to the B.S. or B.A. is chosen upon entering VMI, but transfer from one major field of study to another is permitted.

FACILITIES:
The VMI Post is 134 acres. Twelve acres are designated a National Historic District. VMI's academic facilities, Superintendent's quarters, library, alumni hall, and other administrative buildings, along with Barracks, encircle a 12-acre parade ground used for marching drills, weekly parades, training exercises, and social gatherings. The George C. Marshall Research Museum and the VMI Museum are located on Post. Athletic grounds and facilities are within easy access to the Post.

VISION 2039:
From the perspective of VMI's long history, the 200th anniversary of its founding is just around the corner. Superintendent Gen. J.H. Binford Peay III '62 has set in motion Vision 2039, a program emphasizing excellence in such areas as the Institute's physical and cultural environment; academics; athletics; and military component. The strategic direction offered by Vision 2039 is designed to ensure VMI will be vibrant and relevant when the Institute's 200th anniversary arrives in 2039.



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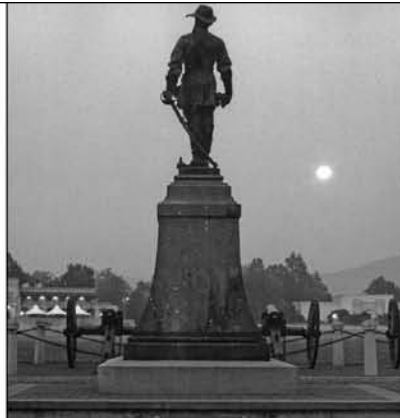
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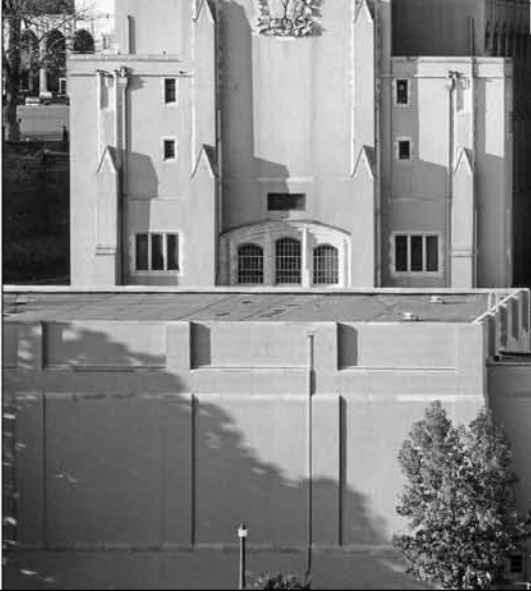


THE HEALTHFUL AND PLEASANT ABODE OF A CROWD OF HONORABLE YOUTHS PRESSING UP THE HILL OF SCIENCE; WITH NOBLE EMULATION A GRATIFYING SPECTACLE AN HONOR TO OVR COVNTRY AND OVR STATE OBJECTS OF HONEST PRIDE TO THEIR INSTRUCTORS AND FAIR SPECIMENS OF CITIZEN SOLDIERS ATTACHED TO THEIR NATIVE STATE PROVD OF HER FAME AND READY IN EVERY TIME OF DEEPEST PERIL TO VINDICATE HER HONOR OR DEFEND HER RIGHTS

COL J T L PRESTON



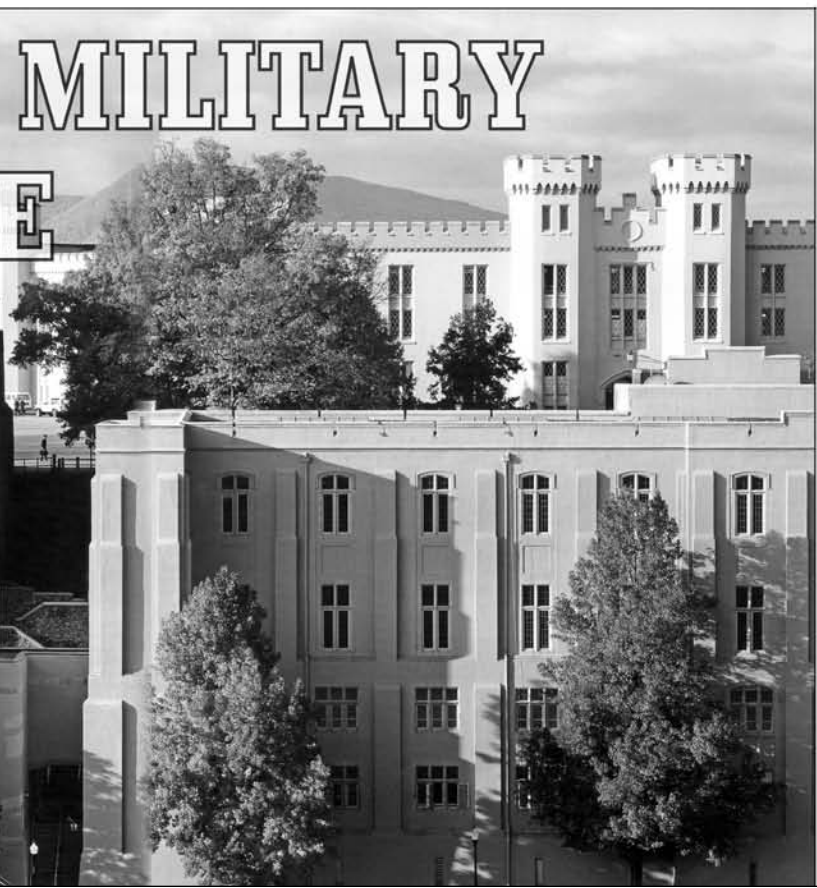
VIRGINIA INSTITUTE





Interesting Facts About VMI:

- Founded in 1839 as the first state military college.
- VMI fields 17 men's and women's sports in five Division I conferences.
- More than half of our graduates accept commissions in the military services. Within five months of graduation, more than 95 percent of graduates, including those in the military, have full-time employment or are in graduate school.
- 95% of full-time faculty members hold the Ph. D. or terminal degree.
- Faculty-to-student ratio of approximately 11:1.
- B.A. or B.S. degrees are offered in 14 disciplines in the fields of engineering, science, and liberal arts.
- For seven consecutive years, U.S. News & World Report's "America's Best Colleges," has named VMI as among the top three public-supported liberal arts college in the nation.



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VISION 2039 IN MOTION

“Vision 2039 is a series of efforts and initiatives to move VMI to the future...it builds upon the wonderful traditions and fundamentals that VMI is known for.”

- VMI Superintendent General J.H. Binford Peay III



▲ GRAY-MINOR STADIUM
CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP & ETHICS ▼



CROZET HALL ▲
ALUMNI MEMORIAL FIELD AT FOSTER STADIUM ▼

VISION 2039 OVERVIEW:

The focus of *Vision 2039* is the cadet. Each of its initiatives is targeted squarely at *crafting a four-year journey* that produces young men and women of *character* to *lead and serve our nation* in times of peace and peril.





About VISION 2039:

Vision 2039 is not a construction plan; it is a leadership plan that seeks to improve all aspects of the VMI experience: academic, military, physical/cultural, and athletic. However, construction of new facilities and the renovations of older buildings on Post have been essential components of Vision 2039 all the same. They provide the foundation for excellent programs. They encourage pride and set standards that impact the thinking and attitudes of cadets.

Just as the proud traditions and history of VMI influence the culture of the Corps of Cadets, so too do the physical facilities in which the Corps lives, learns, trains, and competes. Indeed, the unique architectural flavor of the VMI Post helps set the tone for all that happens on it and communicates the extraordinary expectations that the Commonwealth of Virginia and the nation have for cadets and for the Institute itself.

The facilities necessary to provide an education that thoroughly prepares cadets to meet the challenges of the 21st century are far more complex than they were in 1839. Vision 2039 aims to maintain the historic atmosphere of the Post as it develops the modern, technologically advanced facilities that VMI needs to prepare cadets for lives of success, service, and leadership.



▲ PROPOSED FIELD HOUSE & AQUATIC CENTER

NEW FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD ▼



Vision 2039 is not a construction plan; it is a leadership plan that seeks to improve all aspects of the VMI experience: Academic, Military, Physical/Cultural, and Athletic.



▲ BUILDINGS & GROUNDS FACILITY

▼ WELCOME PLAZA AT FOSTER STADIUM



SPRINTURF FIELD ▼



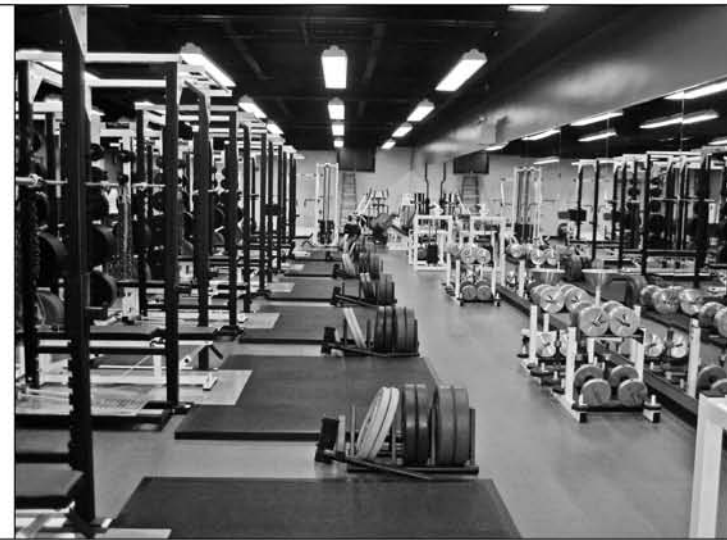
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ALUMNI MEMORIAL FIELD AT FOSTER STADIUM





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Alumni Memorial Field at Foster Stadium

Improvements to the football stadium were a major focus in the "Vision 2039" initiative launched by VMI Superintendent General J.H. Binford Peay III. In an effort to continually upgrade the Institute's athletic facilities, Alumni Memorial Field received a major facelift over the summer of 2006 thanks to the generous contributions of P. Wesley Foster, Jr. '56.

Those renovations changed the entire feel of VMI's football home, which was formally dedicated on September 29, 2006. The stadium features an entrance plaza at the Cameron Hall corner complete with permanent ticket booths, restrooms, concessions, and donor recognition wall. Pillars representing the familiar VMI architecture are spanned by wrought iron gates upon which the VMI logo is displayed. A concourse under the home stands was created, and features several fan-friendly amenities including new concession stands and new restrooms.

Improvements to Clarkson-McKenna Hall, which houses VMI football operations, included an expanded locker room, the Luck Weight Room, and a Sprinturf practice field.

At Clarkson-McKenna, the locker room and training facilities were expanded and a 3,400 square foot weight room added. Perhaps the most significant improvement is the state-of-the-art all weather practice field, with synthetic turf, enhancing VMI's practice capabilities.

The \$15 million facelift to the facility included new entranceways, new concourses and restrooms, upgraded seating and a new scoreboard. New game-day locker rooms were also created under the existing stands.

"Mr. Foster's out-front leadership truly jump-started our Vision 2039 initiatives. His commitment ... was hugely important to the early advancement of Vision 2039 objectives," --VMI Superintendent Gen. J.H. Binford Peay III '63

"MY EXPERIENCE AT VMI HAS BEEN THE BACKBONE OF MY SUCCESS IN BUSINESS AND MY SUCCESS IN LIFE."
P. WESLEY FOSTER, JR.
CLASS OF 1956

Entering VMI from Georgia, Foster earned a BA degree in English. He played football, served on the Honor Court and was president of the Officers of the Guard Association. After graduation, Lieutenant Foster served for two years in the US Army. As a business leader, he developed Long & Foster Real Estate, Inc. into the largest privately-owned real estate brokerage firm in the nation.

Foster served on the Board of Governors of the Keydet Club and the VMI Foundation Board of Trustees. In 2005 he received the Foundation's Distinguished Service Award. He has created several scholarships as his alma mater so provide grants-in-aid assistance to "walk on" members of the football team, as well as support for the Department of English and Fine Arts.

Through the generosity of Wes and Betty Foster, the VMI football stadium underwent a major renovation and enhancement. One of the favorite spots off the field, the stadium was named in his honor in 2006.



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Strength and conditioning is a key component to the success of the football program, and VMI prides itself on providing the cadet-athlete with the tools to improve oneself physically.





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Luck Weight Room

In Fall 2006, a brand-new 3,400 square-foot facility opened on the ground floor of the newly expanded Clarkson-McKenna Hall, which houses all VMI football operations. The facility features the latest in strength and conditioning equipment and provides Keydet football players a state-of-the-art facility conveniently located near the locker room and practice fields.

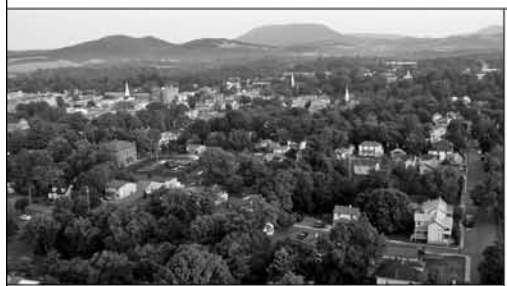
Strength and conditioning is a key component to the success of the football program, and VMI prides itself on providing the cadet-athlete with the tools to improve oneself physically.

The Luck Weight Room was made possible through the generous support of Mr. Charles Luck, III '55 and Charles Luck, IV '83, continuing the Luck Family legacy of providing VMI cadet-athletes with the best in strength and conditioning equipment.

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LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA



Rockbridge County and Lexington are located in the Shenandoah Valley in west central Virginia, approximately 45 miles north of Roanoke, 140 miles west of Richmond, and 190 miles southwest of Washington D.C. and is home to many state and national historic landmarks and today serves as the retail, service, governmental, and educational center for the area. It has served as home to the renowned military strategists Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson and Robert E. Lee, along with inventor Cyrus McCormick and pioneer Sam Houston.

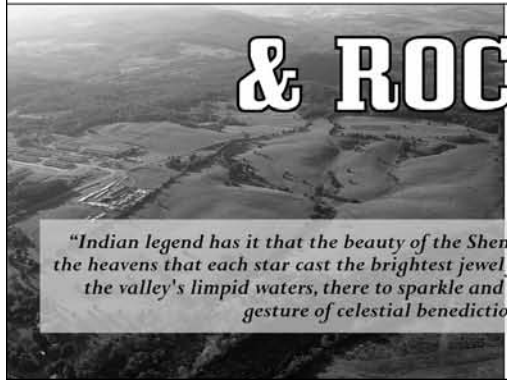


Rockbridge County is the home of Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, Natural Bridge, the Virginia Horse Center, Washington & Lee University, VMI and many more scenic, historic sites. The area offers many cultural, historical, recreational and shopping experiences for the most discriminating visitor, and the vibrant downtown area beckons you to visit our unique shops, galleries and restaurants.

There is an abundance of cultural and recreational opportunities available in Lexington including the Lee Chapel, Stonewall Jackson's home and the George C. Marshall Research Foundation. Lexington is also increasingly becoming known as a desirable retirement location, both for its historical significance, natural beauty, and exceptional quality of life.



& ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY



"Indian legend has it that the beauty of the Shenandoah Valley so awed the heavens that each star cast the brightest jewel from its own crown into the valley's limpid waters, there to sparkle and shine ever after in a gesture of celestial benediction."

