Dear DSU alumni and friends,

It’s a good thing that we are currently developing a new Facilities Master Plan for the DSU campus.

The number of students who desire to enroll at DSU is once again on the rise, and the University is going to have to determine the infrastructure improvements that will be needed to accommodate the future increase.

The conditions for such growth are ever present. Earlier this summer, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education reaffirmed the University’s accreditation for another 10 years (story, Page 13). The quality of DSU’s student services is at an all-time high, and student life in recent years has been significantly enhanced by the addition of the Wellness & Recreation Center and the Martin Luther King Jr. Student Center.

Academically, there are ample opportunities for students to engage themselves in research, study abroad possibilities, and many ways to develop leadership and professional skills. In May and June, 16 students traveled to China to participate in scientific investigations, such as our Optics Program’s involvement with the Green Ambassadors. What’s more, the University received a national award this summer for its marketing and recruiting excellence. We are a national model (story, Page 12).

During the Pride Tour in the spring, I shared information about the above accomplishments and many others that are proof positive that your alma mater is moving in the right direction. It is my hope that you will take pride in this direction and do your part to support your alma mater.

Sincerely,

Dr. Harry L. Williams
President

DSU is poised for growth, moving in the right direction

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On campus, a plant science jewel

Delaware State University’s Claude E. Phillips Herbarium is a sterling example of a small idea taking on a much larger life of its own. Like the growth of saplings into a forest, the Herbarium was born as a small collection of plant specimens and has developed to become an internationally recognized facility that maintains 145,000 plant varieties.

The Herbarium at DSU is the only such facility on the Delmarva Peninsula and is the largest one found among Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Its specimens date as far back as 1700 and represent flowering plants, gymnosperms, ferns, mosses, algae, lichens and fungi from all over the world.

Out of 525 herbaria in the United States, DSU’s Herbarium ranks 81th. Not bad for a facility that got its start as two cabinets of specimens in the Baker Building, 35 years ago. “We thought we were just starting a collection for the department,” said Dr. Arthur O. Tucker, Herbarium director and professor emeritus of the College of Agriculture and Related Sciences.

The first Herbarium was established in 1977 in the Agriculture Department’s Baker Building by Tucker and Dr. Norman H. Dill, who doubled as a biology and agriculture professor. Shortly afterward through funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Dill and Tucker co-authored the first-ever reports on rare, threatened and endangered plant species in Delaware and Maryland.

So as a result of interest in the flora of the Delmarva Peninsula and the expertise of Dill and Tucker, the University of Delaware — which had been maintaining the herbarium of the Society of Natural History of Delaware — transferred that collection of 50,000 specimens to Delaware State College in 1980. This was followed by the acquisition of other valuable specimen collections.

The increasing size of the DSC collection led the College to make use of a first floor space that had formerly been a part of the original William C. Josen Library (now the Thomason Building). That area was re-deeded in 1980 as the Claude E. Phillips Herbarium, named after a prolific field botanist who served as a professor and chair of the University of Delaware’s Department of Agronomy and also was a great supporter of DSC’s fledging herbarium endeavors.

As the only public Herbarium on the Delmarva Peninsula, the facility continued to attract more collections. By 1980, its collection had grown to 106,000 specimens. A few years later, Dill was diagnosed with a brain tumor, causing his death in 1994. That left Tucker to take over as director of the Herbarium.

“Dr. Dill was inspirational to a lot of students and Delawareans,” Dr. Tucker recalled. “He was way ahead of his time in the green movement. He also came up with some creative courses, such as the edible plant course, at the end of which students had to cook a meal of edible plants for their final exam.”

By the 1990s, the 90-year-old Thomason Building was becoming inadequate in terms of space and leaking problems. The limited accessibility also discouraged the public from using the facility.

Through the efforts of Dr. Kenneth Bell, then-dean of the College of Agriculture and Related Sciences, and then-DSU President William B. DeLauder, funding was obtained from the USDA 1890 Facilities Program and the Longwood Foundation to go toward the construction of a new Claude E. Phillips Herbarium, which was dedicated in 2000.

Today’s Herbarium

Tucker ensured that the design of the Herbarium would be more conducive for encouraging the public to visit the facility. “Most herbaria in the country have an ambience of a federal penitentiary,” he said. “So many herbaria have closed because they weren’t responsive to the public.” Tucker added that he was greatly influenced by the inviting design of the Botanical Research Institute of Texas and ensured that some similar elements were incorporated into the DSU Herbarium.

Dr. Susan E. Yost has worked as an educator at the Herbarium since 2001 and has helped to connect the public with the work of the Herbarium through her guided campus nature and tree walks. She and Tucker are assisted at the Herbarium by a group of volunteers and student workers who have helped in the curating work of the extensive collection.

DSU’s Herbarium has truly become a public facility. Over the last three years, it has averaged more than 680 visitors a year, which does not include the average of 78 researchers a year who utilize the facility.

A number of DSU plant science classes utilize the Herbarium, such as the undergraduate Plant Taxonomy and the graduate studies Evolution of Vascular Plants course, just to name a few.

Throughout the DSU Herbarium’s 35-year history, Tucker has been a constant.

Claude E. Phillips Herbarium director Dr. Arthur O. Tucker worked to ensure that the design of the Herbarium’s current facility would be inviting to the public. Over the last three years, it has averaged more than 680 visitors a year, as well as an average of 78 researchers a year.

Bead collection among Herbarium’s holdings

Claude E. Phillips Herbarium director Dr. Arthur O. Tucker was instrumental in the acquisition of an extensive bead collection that is housed in the Herbarium. This collection was recently recognized by the Kew Royal Botanic Gardens of England, and Kew is now linked to the Herbarium website.
When Dr. Arthur Tucker was brought to Delaware State University in 1976, it was to temporarily replace Dr. Norman H. Dill, a professor of biology and agriculture who had gone on a sabatical. And then he became a keeper. Fast-forward 37 years later: As a result of his research accomplishments, his leadership in developing DSU’s Claude E. Phillips Herbarium into an internationally recognized plant science facility and his niche as much sought-after plant identifier, Tucker now can add another title to his name — professor emeritus.

In June, the DSU Board of Trustees voted unanimously to elevate Tucker to that honored status in recognition of his leadership in research and teaching, as well as his instrumental involvement in the growth of the Herbarium. The honor came on the heels of his retirement from full-time teaching June 30.

It was during his first year at DSU that Dr. Odylses S. Washington, chair of the Agricultural department at the time, decided Tucker was the type of researcher the department needed and obtained grant money to fund his salary as an assistant professor of research. From that point on, a niche began developing for Tucker.

“If I had gone to another university, I could have been channeled into lima bean research,” Tucker said. “Here at DSU, I could develop programs.” He added that a big reason he stayed were the people at DSU.

“There has been a mutual respect, in which they respect them for who they are and what they do, and they respect my work,” Tucker said. “I really enjoyed my years working with Dr. Washington, who has been like a father to me, and Ken Bell (former dean of the College of Agriculture and Related Sciences).”

Tucker and Dill’s establishment of a DSU Herbarium collection in 1977 quickly began to take on a life of its own, as many valuable plant species began gravitating to DSU.

While DSU’s growing Herbarium collections prompted the institution to move it from the Baker Building to the Thomasson Building and then to finally construct a brand new facility within the U.S. Washington Cooperative Extension Building, the influx and maintenance of plant collections provided Tucker with more and more opportunities to put his plant science research expertise to use beyond the classroom.

Very early in his DSU tenure, through a grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Tucker collaborated with Dill in developing the first-ever reports on rare and endangered plant species in Delaware and Maryland.

Tucker’s expertise was enlisted in a federal investigation in which a dietary supplement provider blamed its product’s metabolic steroid content on a geranium plant ingredient. Unfortunately for the dietary supplement provider, Tucker was able prove its claim to be false.

The development and success of the Herbarium has been a major passion for Tucker throughout his tenure. “I have put so much of my life into this place,” Tucker said. “It is so much a part of me.”

Now retired, Tucker has not faded off into the sunset. He continues to put in time at the Herbarium and is assisting the college in seeking a new director to replace him. He also still makes himself available to teach.

Meanwhile, the professor emeritus and his wife, who is also retiring from her biology faculty position at the University of Delaware later this year, are looking to “reinvent themselves.”

“I am going to pursue concrete sculpturing through which I am going to make an earth oven, while my wife (Dr. Sharon Tucker) is going to take up loom weaving,” Tucker said.

He also plans to put in a lot of morning hours maintaining his impressive cottage garden — which has been featured in Southern Living magazine — at the couple’s Camden, Del., home.

Professor emeritus Dr. Arthur Tucker found his niche at DSU

As its director, he has spearheaded partnerships with a number of institutions of higher education, state agencies and plant and horticulture organizations, all of which benefit from the facility.

“Dr. Arthur Tucker has brought both national and international attention to the University in general, and to the College of Agriculture and Related Sciences and the plant science program in particular,” said Dr. Dyremple Marsh, dean of the College of Agriculture and Related Sciences. “Dr. Tucker’s work in helping to establish, and then co-direct, the Claude E. Phillips Herbarium on campus has created a niche for DSU in the state.”

Tucker’s official retirement notwithstanding, Marsh said the professor emeritus will continue to remain involved in assisting in the continued sustenance and growth of the Herbarium, as well as other tasks related to the growth of the plant science program in the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

“As such, the future of the Herbarium is bright, as it will serve an integral purpose in educating both students and the greater Delaware community,” Marsh said.
President Williams takes good news on the road

In April and May, more than 300 members of the Delaware State University community of alumni, parents and friends joined President Harry L. Williams for his inaugural Pride Tours: Bringing DSU to you.

Held in Kent, New Castle and Sussex counties in Delaware; the Philadelphia/South New Jersey region and the metro Washington, D.C., area, the Pride Tours brought the University close to participants’ homes, offering a chance to experience the enormous progress being made at DSU.

Members of the DSU Alumni Association, the Athletic Boosters, parents and prospective students were present to interact with Williams, members of his administration and staff.

Williams said the Pride Tours were a success and that the University is already getting requests to expand it to other locations.

“We have some exciting developments going on at DSU that have the institution on a solid course to new levels of excellence,” he said. “Going on the road to share this ongoing great story of Delaware State University is just another way to share the many reasons that students, parents, alumni as well as other supporters and friends should have immense pride in what’s going on at DSU and the direction in which it is headed.”

A post-Pride Tours survey indicated that 75 percent of the respondents felt they came away from their session with a better understanding of the University’s offerings and DSU’s impact upon the global community. The overarching goal of the Pride Tours is also to impart information that will enable better communications with constituents and result in the reinvigoration of school pride.

Among the topics the president highlighted:

- Adoption of a new Mission Statement
- Record number — 656 — of Spring 2012 graduates
- Record enrollment and record new freshman retention rates
- 2011-12 priority areas: STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), retention, health and graduation
- The Inspire Scholarship and Inspired Day of Service, featuring the community service of its scholars
- Opportunities for annual giving
- News highlights, including the arrival of public radio station WDDE 91.1 FM to campus, reaccreditation by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE), optics program successes, a planned Early College High School, DSU’s Top 15 U.S. News & World Report 2012 HBCU ranking and international partnerships.

MORE PRIDE TOUR EVENTS ARE BEING PLANNED FOR SPRING 2013! VISIT WWW.DESU.EDU FOR UPDATES.

Photo courtesy of Bernard Carr
“I am a proud alum and employee of DSU! It feels great to be afforded the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills that I learned from some of the greatest professors and instructors in the world. I feel prepared and extremely confident in my ability to be an effective kindergarten teacher — and more recently, English instructor — on our campus due largely to the direction I received from DSU!”

Doreen Scott-Baker ’88 and ’99
Bachelor of Science, Early Childhood/Exceptional Education; Master of Education
DSU Early Childhood Laboratory School instructor

“Delaware State College gave me the start I needed when I returned home from Vietnam. Thank you Dr. Miller for stopping me in front of your registration desk and asking me “What do really want to accomplish in your life?” Psychology Department was the answer!”

Kevin JP O’Reilly ’73
Bachelor of Science, Psychology

What makes you proud of DSU?

Members of the campus community share their thoughts with The Echo

“My very first impression of DSU when I came on campus as a temporary hire with Human Resources was the friendliness of the students. No matter where, when or under what circumstances I met students, every man or woman — regardless of age — was pleasant and respectful. I have since become a permanent staff member, and that impression holds as true today as it did 2 1/2 years ago.”

Diane M. Weller
Senior secretary to the chair Education Department

“Making a difference in the lives of student-athletes, while watching them grow and mature as young people. Additionally, helping them realize their dreams of participating in Division I athletics and earning a college degree makes me proud to be a part of the DSU Hornet Nation!”

Eric D. Hart
Associate athletics director for Academic Services

“What makes me proud is that I’m a part of HBCU history being a graduate of DSU. The school’s position in the lore of historical black colleges is earned and noteworthy. I’m very proud of where it is now in terms of progress and innovation. It’s arguably the most competitive and affordable HBCU in America, and I’m certainly proud of that.”

Marc Stevens ’92
Bachelor of Science, Marketing

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Associate athletics director for Academic Services

“What makes me proud of DSU is the diversity that makes the heritage of the University consecrated. The work ethic that created unity, integrity, trust and love was molded in the halls and pathways of Delaware State University. Our University provided a pathway to a better life for African-Americans and non-minorities who took advantage of attending this excellent public institution in hopes of receiving a stellar education.”

Candy Young ’09
Master of Science, Sport Administration
Newly named athletics director

“I am a proud alum and employee of DSU! It feels great to be afforded the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills that I learned from some of the greatest professors and instructors in the world. I feel prepared and extremely confident in my ability to be an effective kindergarten teacher — and more recently, English instructor — on our campus due largely to the direction I received from DSU!”

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Marc Stevens ’92
Bachelor of Science, Marketing

“I take so much pride in being a Hornet! I have seen my University grow dramatically since enrolling in 2009. I am a very family-oriented person, and Delaware State excites that family vibe. Delaware State University has taught me so much and definitely has rooted a very positive seed in my life. I could not be proud of myself without being proud of the University that has equipped me to be the man I am today, and I will continue this journey to one day make my alma mater proud of me.”

Joshua D. Watkins
Class of 2013, Broadcast Journalism major

“I am proud of DSU for making education available to students who might otherwise have no access to college.”

Dr. Eric Frankl
Adjunct professor, Department of Mathematical Sciences
The Buzz


U.S. energy secretary visits, commends DSU

U.S. Secretary of Energy Steven Chu paid a visit to Delaware State University to highlight its initiatives to make campus buildings more energy efficient. During his visit, University officials shared DSU’s current initiative to reduce energy consumption on campus by 25 percent by the year 2013 as part of its role as an institutional participant in President Barack Obama’s Better Buildings Challenge.

To achieve the reductions, DSU has entered into a guaranteed energy performance contract with Johnson Controls, the company hired for the work, which will ensure that the upgrades will result in the reduction goal. The improvements are projected to save the University a net $5.3 million in energy costs over the next 20 years. Chu commended DSU’s environmental leadership and noted that its initiative would serve as a model for other universities and colleges.

“Making our public buildings and schools more energy efficient is one of the easiest ways for universities and local communities to save money,” Chu said. “As part of the Better Buildings Challenge at DSU after serving since the way to long-term benefits for the school and the state. These efforts will reduce energy costs, support jobs and help build an American economy that lasts.”

DSU aims to reduce energy consumption by 25 percent by 2013

At a press briefing, Dr. Noureddine Melikechi ready to analyze data from Mars

After a 367 million-mile and 368-night flight from Earth, NASA’s Curiosity Rover touched down on Mars. Now, DSU’s Dr. Noureddine Melikechi will contribute his optics expertise in assisting the space agency in analyzing data that comes back from the Red Planet through the rover.

Melikechi, also dean of the College of Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Technology and vice president of research, showed his excitement during a press briefing hours after the rover touched Mars’ surface at 1:32 a.m. Aug. 6.

“Imagine, you build something that you can’t test, send it 570 million kilometers, and it works for the first time,” said Melikechi, referring to the complex landing technique in which the rover was gently lowered by ropes from a rocket backpack into Mars’ Gale Crater. “I am so proud to be a part of this mission, which includes about 300 scientists — of which I am one — and thousands of engineers.

He and two DSU graduate assistants, Alixa Mezzacappa and Angela Lundberg, are part of the mission’s ChemCam Team. The ChemCam (Chemistry and Camera suite), one of 10 instruments on the Curiosity, will be used to study the soil and rocks at each place Curiosity stops.

The ChemCam will shoot an infrared laser — more than a million watts of power — at rock surfaces on the planet. The resulting light will be read by the unit’s spectrometer, which is expected to provide new information concerning the rock composition of the planet.

At a press briefing, Dr. Noureddine Melikechi discusses the Curiosity Rover’s landing on Mars and his work on the NASA mission that will follow.

The Curiosity mission’s primary goal is to study whether the Gale Crater area of Mars has evidence of past or present habitable environments. Melikechi will travel to NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California to receive the first data from the ChemCam unit.

The Curiosity mission’s primary goal is to study whether the Gale Crater area of Mars has evidence of past or present habitable environments.

Melikechi said the mission will look for the past or present existence of liquid water, the chemical elements required to sustain life, and a source of energy, all necessary elements for habitability.

“It is my hope that we will see something that no one expects,” he said.

This just in ... CANDY E. YOUNG NAMED NEW HORNET ATHLETICS DIRECTOR

Candy E. Young was recently appointed as DSU’s new athletics director. Young moves into the post after serving the last seven months as interim senior associate athletics director. She has also been the senior women’s administrator for athletics since September 2010. Young first came to DSU in 2006 as the head women’s track and cross country coach, a job she held until 2010. She was acting athletics director from March to May 2009.

President Harry L. Williams said Young’s leadership ability has been well-demonstrated at DSU and that she will bring stability to the Athletics Program. “She is committed to staying here, to building the DSU Athletics Program, and to establishing new levels of excellence,” he said.

Young said she is excited about being named the first female AD in the institution’s history: “Our future plans are to revitalize the department with energetic sports programming,” she said. “The core values of this institution will be the foundation for transforming the athletic department.”

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, HEALTH AND PUBLIC POLICY WELCOMES NEW DEAN

Dr. Frederick K. Asinor has been appointed dean of the College of Education, Health and Public Policy. Asinor arrives at DSU in November 2011 as a part-time executive director of the Osar Melamona Foundation in Washington, D.C. He and another executive vice president of the One World Foundation in Burlington, Md., president and chief academic officer of MASA Healthcare in Owings Mills, Md., manager of Continuing Education Programs for the American Public Health Association; and president and CEO of Patient Satisfaction Associates Inc. He has held teaching positions at institutions including the Maryland Institute of Art, the Center for Allied Health Education at Southeastern University in Washington, D.C., University of Ghana Medical School, and the Johns Hopkins University.

Dr. Asinor has a diploma of journalism from the School of Journalism, Flintridge Institute, hermengrad, England; a Bachelor of Arts from Monmouth College, a Matter of Science from the Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.; and a Doctor of Education from the University of Alabama.

Asinor had worked as a director of communications at the Johns Hopkins University. He has been a co-founder of the John Hope Franklin Center for Public Policy, a reporter for the TV station WTTG, and a reporter for the Washington Post. He has also worked as a producer for the PBS in Washington, D.C., a reporter and producer for the ABC in Chicago, and a producer for CNN in Atlanta, Ga.

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**Record number of graduates receive degrees at Commencement 2012**

- **656** record number of diplomas awarded
- **496** number of bachelor’s degrees
- **136** number of honors students
- **145** number of master’s degrees
- **15** number of doctoral degrees

President Harry L. Williams traveled to Washington, D.C. in June to be among 70 presidents and chancellors from public colleges and universities across the country to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Morrill Act. The commemoration took place during the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities Council of Presidents’ Summer Meeting and featured an observance program in front of the Lincoln Memorial.

Abraham Lincoln signed the Morrill Act of 1862 that allowed for the creation of land-grant colleges and universities across the country. The observance also celebrated the Morrill Act of 1890, which provided land-grant funding for the establishment of black colleges in the country.

The observance for Colored Students — in 1891.

Spring 2012 graduates participated in an outdoor Commencement ceremony at Alumni Stadium.

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**PRESIDENT WILLIAMS ATTENDS MORRILL ACT COMMEMORATION**

President Harry L. Williams attended the 150th anniversary of the Morrill Act in Washington, D.C., with a wreath laid in commemoration of the Morrill Act.

The second Morrill Act gave birth to Delaware State University — then called the State College for Colored Students — in 1891. President Harry L. Williams stands on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., with a wreath laid in commemoration of the Morrill Act.

The Delaware State Board of Education has approved Delaware State University’s application to establish an Early College high school on campus. The planned charter high school will be designed specifically to serve first generation college-bound students. The Early College High School is a nationally recognized school design brought to Delaware through a partnership between Innovative Schools, a Delaware-based nonprofit public school support organization, and EdWorks.

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**ON-CAMPUS EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL RECEIVES GO-AHEAD**

The charter school’s location will be determined by a new Facilities Master Plan, which is expected to be finalized by fall 2012. Dr. Alton Thompson, DSU provost and vice president of Academic Affairs, said the University hopes to enroll students in the school by the 2013-2014 school year.

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**SEVERAL REASONS TO CELEBRATE THE HORNETS’ SUCCESS**

Senior quarterback Nick Elko is fourth on the Hornets’ all-time list for pass completions (496) and sixth in passing yards (2,930). Team selection, senior wide receiver/kick returner Travis Tarpley set a DSU record with 66 receptions in 2011. A 2012 preseason All-MEAC First Team selection, senior wide receiver/kick returner Travis Tarpley set a DSU record with 66 receptions in 2011.

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**5 things for 1Hornet Nation to enjoy this football season**

1. **SEE YOU AT ALUMNI STADIUM (FIVE HOME GAMES)**
   - **SEPT. 1:** Kick off the 2012 season with a salute to America’s Armed Forces and area youth at 2 p.m. Virginia Military Institute will provide the opening-day opposition for the Hornets.
   - **SEPT. 22:** The Lone Star game of the season will be filled with music, fellowship and fun. DSU will entertain MEAC rival Florida A&M for a Faith/Community/Band Day contest at 6 p.m.
   - **SEPT. 8:** Join fellow alumni and friends in the Fan Tent from 1-5 p.m. in the UD tailgate area before DSU takes on the University of Delaware in Newark. First State bragging rights will be on the line when the Hornets try to topple the Blue Hens at Tuffy Raymond Field.
   - **SEPT. 15:** Enjoy a riverboat cruise, try some world famous chili or take in a show in Cincinnati, Ohio. The Hornets will make their first visit to the Queen City to take on the Bearcats at 7 p.m. at Nippert Stadium.
   - **SEPT. 29:** Celebrate DSU during Homecoming 2012 vs. Hampton University’s Hughes Stadium in Baltimore, Md., for a special ESPNU Thursday night contest (7:30 p.m.) between the Hornets and Bears. Dress in DSU colors and smile for the cameras so the nationwide television audience can get a good look at 1Hornet Nation.

2. **INVADE NEWARK, DELAWARE**
   - **OCT. 6:** When the Hornets visit defending MEAC champ Norfolk State, DSU fans can get an up-close look at the city that will host the MEAC Basketball Tournament for the next few years. Game time is 4 p.m.

3. **“QUEEN CITY” HERE WE COME**
   - **SEPT. 10:** Play in the rain at the 2012 home schedule concludes with a Greek/Faculty/Staff Appreciation Day contest at 1 p.m.

4. **GET FAMILIAR WITH NORFOLK**
   - **OCT. 26:** After visiting the Inner Harbor or the “Blacks in Wax” Museum during the day, head to Morgan State University’s Hughes Stadium in Baltimore, Md., for a special ESPNU Thursday night contest (7:30 p.m.) between the Hornets and Bears. Dress in DSU colors and smile for the cameras so the nationwide television audience can get a good look at 1Hornet Nation.

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**JOIN THE DELEAURED DAZZLERS & THE BOOM BOMBER**

- **SEPT. 1:** Kick off the 2012 season with a salute to America’s Armed Forces and area youth at 2 p.m. Virginia Military Institute will provide the opening-day opposition for the Hornets.
- **SEPT. 22:** The Lone Star game of the season will be filled with music, fellowship and fun. DSU will entertain MEAC rival Florida A&M for a Faith/Community/Band Day contest at 6 p.m.
- **SEPT. 8:** Join fellow alumni and friends in the Fan Tent from 1-5 p.m. in the UD tailgate area before DSU takes on the University of Delaware in Newark. First State bragging rights will be on the line when the Hornets try to topple the Blue Hens at Tuffy Raymond Field.
- **SEPT. 15:** Enjoy a riverboat cruise, try some world famous chili or take in a show in Cincinnati, Ohio. The Hornets will make their first visit to the Queen City to take on the Bearcats at 7 p.m. at Nippert Stadium.
- **SEPT. 29:** Celebrate DSU during Homecoming 2012 vs. Hampton University’s Hughes Stadium in Baltimore, Md., for a special ESPNU Thursday night contest (7:30 p.m.) between the Hornets and Bears. Dress in DSU colors and smile for the cameras so the nationwide television audience can get a good look at 1Hornet Nation.

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**UGLY DUCKLING DOLLAR**

- **Nov. 2:** Join fellow alumni and friends in the Fan Tent from 1-5 p.m. in the UD tailgate area before DSU takes on the University of Delaware in Newark. First State bragging rights will be on the line when the Hornets try to topple the Blue Hens at Tuffy Raymond Field.
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**COME TO THE COPPERMAN ALUMNI GYMNASIUM**

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**TEAM INFO:**

- Visit dsuhornets.com
Campus News Makers

Dr. Mable Morrison's 50 years of service celebrated

Dr. Mable Morrison talks with one of her former students, alumnae Charles R. Thompson '73, during a reception hosted in her honor by President Harry L. Williams and his wife, Dr. Robin Williams, at the President's Residence. The event celebrated Morrison's 50 years as a DSU music faculty member as well as the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters she received during the spring Commencement ceremony.

The Echo    Summer 2012    www.desu.edu

DSU shines at Small Business Administration Awards Gala

Two Delaware State University faculty members and a dean were honored by the Delaware District of the Small Business Administration during its 2012 Small Business Week Awards Gala.

Dr. Charles D. Fletcher, adjunct professor of management, has published an updated version of his financial history book Commercial Banking in the United States by Blacks — A Historical and Occupational Appraisal 1700-2010.

Ralph F. Robinson, director of the University's Counseling Services, has published Back in the Day, Volume 1 (A Twelve-Year Memoir 1963-1975), which tells the true-life story of his early adolescence years up to age 21.

www.desu.edu
Barclays Bank Mentor Program offers students internship experience

Barclays has launched a new annual internship program with the Delaware State University College of Business in which six students will work at Barclaycard US in its Credit Risk Organization for a two-month assignment.

Amer Sajed, Barclaycard US chief executive officer, and DSU President Harry L. Williams unveiled the new Barclays Bank Mentor Program during a media event at the Barclaycard site in Wilmington, Del., where U.S. Sen. Thomas R. Carper and U.S. Sen. Chris Coons also spoke in support of the event.

“This program underscores the commitment of Barclays to citizenship, community and the future of Delaware — its young people,” Sajed said. “We’re focused on ensuring that our energy, ideas, expertise and passion are leveraged to help the different causes we support. This program illustrates this approach in action because our colleagues will leverage their mentoring skills and share their knowledge to help young people.”

Williams said the program is part of a series of new initiatives undertaken by the Office of Development to make DSU stronger and enhance its national reputation.

“We are very proud that a major company agreed to provide our students with this type of support,” he said. “Initiatives like the Barclays Bank Mentor Program help DSU to achieve the vision by providing an opportunity for our students to build upon their academic training in the skills necessary to become the first choice of employers in this industry.”

Each student has a Barclaycard business mentor and receives important, marketable experience through internships in gathering data, conducting analysis, leveraging computer programs such as Excel and SAS, working on teams, implementing programs and presenting to corporate audiences. Student Carmen Mihalek spoke on behalf of the other interns. “In the business world, this program is great for networking and will boost our resumes — an advantage after graduation when we go into the work force,” she said.

From left are U.S. Sen. Thomas R. Carper, President Harry L. Williams, U.S. Sen. Chris Coons and Barclaycard US Chief Executive Officer Amer Sajed at the unveiling of the Barclays Bank Mentor Program with DSU’s College of Business.
Class of 1949 alumna’s bequest creates $25,000 scholarship endowment

A new $25,000 scholarship endowment has been established by the late Aleatha H. Short, Class of 1949, who included her alma mater in her will.

Mrs. Short, who passed away Aug. 25, 2009, stipulated that the money go into an endowed fund called the Harrison and Aleatha Short Scholarship and that $500 annually be awarded to an Indian River School District student.

Mr. and Mrs. Short were residents of Millsboro, Del., and were longtime members of the Sussex County Chapter of the DSU Alumni Association. Their ice cream shop, the Chat and Chew, was a popular spot for people to visit and members of the Sussex County Chapter of the DSU Alumni Association. Their financial need, exemplary character and the submission of two reference letters. The committee will recommend the student, with the selection to be based on academic achievement, athletics, a college, faculty development, etc.

What is the alumni participation rate, and why is it important?

Alumni giving participation rates are served as a key measure by which corporations and foundations rate alumni involvement. This is an important consideration for these decision-makers when awarding major gifts to colleges and universities. In addition, college guidebooks such as U.S. News & World Report use alumni giving rates when determining institutional quality ratings. As DSU’s ranking increases, so does the value of a DSU degree. The DSU alumni participation rate has hovered at 5 percent for several years now, among the lowest of HBCUs. This year, make a commitment to be counted and give through the official means. Plus, we like to be sure you get credit for your donation and ensure it is awarded for what you designated. The only way that can be officially done is through the Foundation.

How do I choose from the various requests to contribute to DSU?

There are many ways to be counted as an annual supporter. Be sure you are contributing to the DSU Foundation. Those requests you receive represent different options you have to contribute each year. From your Alumni Phonathon call, to appeals for the DSU Annual Fund, to requests to support the Champion Fund for Athletics and other programs, you may give back to the areas you care about most at DSU. It’s your choice. Be counted today by giving to the DSU Foundation in the area of your choice.

I want to support my alma matter by helping to raise needed funds. How can I obtain approval?

DSU appreciates the willingness of alumni to support the University and wants to work together with individuals and groups who would like to assist in raising funds through the DSU Foundation. To provide guidance, these efforts must be approved in advance by the Office of Development to ensure the University’s solicitation and fundraising guidelines are followed. Plus, the unit offers valuable assistance in helping you to sow your efforts are successful. In addition to its responsibility for raising funds for DSU, the Office of Development serves as the official liaison between DSU and private individuals, corporations and charitable foundations that are potential sources of funding.

Learn more: For more information, please visit www.desu.edu/alum give-count-guidelines or call 302.857.6050.
For some families, DSU is a legacy

Hortense Priest ’57 followed her aunts’ lead, then “recruited” her daughter and nieces to Del State

L
ike an aunt and a great aunt before her, Hortense Priest graduated from Delaware State College, completing a 1957 bachelor’s degree in Business Education. And she has done her best to ensure that her family legacy of Del State graduates has continued, even up to the present day. In total, five family members have earned degrees from the institution, while two are currently attending.

Priest dates her family’s enrollment back to the 1930s, when her great aunt, the late Margaret Boardley Egerson, and aunt, the late Mary Christian Floyd, earned a degree from the institution, while two are currently attending.

Priest followed her aunts’ lead, attending DSU during which time she also earned a degree in Dietetics. Hortense Priest graduated from the University of Michigan. She retired from her grade level.

The late Margaret Boardley Egerson, known to Priest as her “Aunt Butchee,” was editor of The Hornet student newspaper and worked as a student secretary for an English professor. During her time on campus, Priest played on the women’s basketball team, was an editor of The Hornet student newspaper and worked as a student secretary for an English professor. After her graduation, she would work as a student secretary for an English professor.

The family’s ties are now continuing into the next generation. Janea Priest’s daughter, Sabrina, became the driving force behind getting her own daughter, Janea Priest, enrolled at DSU. Ignoring her daughter’s desire to go to school out of state, Sabrina — like her mother before her — filled out an application for Janea, who is now in her sophomore year as a middle-level education major. She carries the banner for the Approaching Storm Marching Band and volunteers as a children’s mentor.

“IT’S nice for some students to get away from their home state, but you get the same thing at DSU that you get anywhere else,” Priest said. “Through it all, we were a legacy of our families, and that was what we did at DSU. We are a family style in the dining hall (students provided dishes of food items on the table from which they served themselves, unlike the current day buffet line).”

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“It’s nice for some students to get away from their home state, but you get the same thing at DSU that you get anywhere else,” Priest said. “Through it all, we were successful after graduating from Del State.”
YOU COULD BE FEATURED NEXT

Do you have an interesting career, endeavor or undertaking? Share your story with us at alumni@desu.edu to be considered for a future Q&A profile.

In July, Bishop Reginald T. Jackson ’76 became a newly elected bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, the largest predominantly black denomination in the world. Jackson is the 132nd elected bishop in the church’s history.

Educational background:
I earned a Bachelor of Arts in History at Delaware State College in 1976 and a Master of Divinity from the Interdenominational Theological Center of Atlanta in 1979.

First assignment as bishop:
To serve as the presiding bishop of the 20th Episcopal District (comprised of six AME districts in the African countries of Malawi and Zimbabwe). I will also serve the AME church in the area of Urban and Ecumenical Affairs.

What has been the path of a career in ministry?
I was ordained while I was still going to school at Delaware State College.

I first served as a pastor at Graham AME Church in Greenwood, Del., from 1975-76, which was also my senior year at DSC. After completing seminary school in 1979 at the Interdenominational Theological Center, I then served as pastor of St. John AME Church in Jersey City, N.J., from 1979 to 1981. I was then reassigned to St. Matthew AME Church in Orange, N.J., where I served as pastor for 31 years until this year as bishop.

Highlight of my ministerial career:
While being elected bishop is a great accomplishment, the greatest highlight of my ministry has been my time as pastor of St. Matthews AME Church in Orange. When I began it had about 100 members with only 10 young people, and now it has more 3,000 members and several hundreds of young people. When I became pastor, the church budget was $50,000 a year; now it is $2 million a year. I am pleased with what we have been able to do at St. Matthews, because I have always felt that the church has to be relevant. St. Matthews has more than 30 ministries that minister to the spiritual, emotional, educational, physical and financial need of the church and community.

Activities outside of my home ministry:
I have served as the executive director of the Black Ministers Council (BMC) of New Jersey, which represents more than 600 African-American churches in the state. During my BMC tenure, we have been involved in moving the state to enact legislation to make racial profiling illegal, prohibit predator lending, create a needle exchange program and become the first state to repeal the death penalty.

I also serve as chairman of the Board of Trustees for Essex County College. I have been a 20-year member of the Orange Township Board of Education and a member of the Board of Trustees for the St. Barnabas Healthcare System (the largest in the state). I have been involved with Excellent Education for Everyone and the New Jersey Citizen Action. I am also a lifetime member of the NAACP.

Most influential scripture in my ministerial effort:
Matthews 6:10 — “Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on Earth as it is in heaven.” It is an often overlooked scripture.

Recollection of my years at Delaware State College:
Delaware State College has been a major influence on my life. When I was there, Dr. Luna Mithoe was president, and I got to know him well because we went to the same church (Mount Zion AME Church of Dover). The professors took great interest in their students. I especially recall Dr. William Flyhart and Dr. Jean Ramsey as professors who impacted me. DSC was a community that shaped our character as well as intellectually. I am proud to be a Hornet.

How long will you serve as bishop?
The retirement age is 75 in the AME Church, so I will serve until the year 2028.

M any of you have probably participated in a high school or college reunion. I admit I am not a big fan of such gatherings. At my 25th high school class reunion, many of those who came were not the people I remembered. Unfortunately, life had not been kind to some of them.

This spring, however, I found myself at a reunion that in spite of my feelings, I just had to attend — the 120th Commencement ceremony of Delaware State University, where my class came together to observe our 50th year since graduating. What fun we all had recalling our college experiences.

For anyone out of college for 50 years, just setting foot on the campus is truly outstanding; it is a walking campus, with modern brick buildings everywhere. The landscape looks as if it is maintained by people who cut the grass with scissors and pull weeds by hand. There were flower beds and shrubbery everywhere; the cornfields disappeared long ago.

Over past decades, I have been on a number of college campuses. What I saw during Commencement weekend represented one of the most appealing campuses I have seen.

The Delaware State University campus is truly outstanding; it is a walking campus, with modern brick buildings everywhere. The landscape looks as if it is maintained by people who cut the grass with scissors and pull weeds by hand. There were flower beds and shrubbery everywhere; the cornfields disappeared long ago.

In this impressive environment, 15 members of my class donned robes and lined up on the athletics field to participate in the University’s 120th Commencement ceremony.

A track star from our class asked if I had noticed what was under our feet. We referred to the all-weather track and the artificial turf playing field. We agreed that they were a far cry from the cinder track and the patchy grass field on which athletes participated.
during our college years. Observations regarding the campus and life there were much further and made us all feel very proud in light of where we had been as freshmen and are today as senior citizens.

Some members of the class commented on the cafeteria, where students can select from a wide variety of foods. In addition, they have access to Dover Downs with its restaurants, as well as numerous restaurants near the campus. Students today are not limited, as we were, to buying food from the bus station in Dover when our cafeteria was closed.

The Commencement ceremony booklet provided clear evidence of how the University had grown in terms of students, academics and research programs. The 2012 graduating class was larger than the total enrollment when we were students. The disciplines in which degrees were conferred, including doctoral degrees, reflected the growth in academic programs. While our sports teams produced several professional athletes, the thought of an equestrian team, which exists at the school today, was not in our wildest dreams.

The sign on one building said “Campus Police Department.” In our day, we had one older man, dressed in a Boy Scout-type uniform, whom we called “Will Shoot.” He was our only security on campus. A few evenings before the Commencement ceremony, several of us gathered at the home of a classmate who lives in the Dover area. Some of us had not seen one another for years. As each person entered the kitchen where most of us had met, candles in their memory and shared personal memories of them.

Attending a Class of 1962 reception were, seated from left, Patricia Snead Minor, Joyce King, Delores Walker Blakesey, Delema Burris-Carter, Phyllis Hayes-Dixon, Janice Knight Boettger, Hortense Swiggett Macon and Juanita Coverdale Williams. Standing, from left, are Adeline Hill Reed, Peggy Hunter Swiggett, Barbara Willis, Patricia Dorman Randall, the Rev. Dr. William Granville Jr., Alonzo Kittrells, Geo Pearson, Alexander T. Norwood, Philip G. Sadler Jr., Hewitt Joyner and J. Frank Marshall.

In our class were guys with names such as: “Sweat Lou,” as he was super cool; “Old Folks,” because he looked old enough to be in school under the G.I. Bill... and “The Captivator,” who thought all the young ladies on campus were interested in him.

CLASS OF 1962 MEMBERS WHO TOOK PART IN THE REUNION WEEKEND

During our college years, we were all in agreement that some marriages were the result of walks with girlfriends after Commencement ceremonies. Sixteen of our class members had passed away, so the class made a sizeable donation for scholarships. We talked privately about some fun things concerning those that were not present.

In my class were guys with names such as: “Sweet Lou,” as he was super cool; “Old Folks,” because he looked old enough to be in school under the G.I. Bill; “Junkie,” who had the characteristics of someone using illegal substances, “Block,” because he had a big head, “Long John,” as he was very tall, “Philly Joe” because he was constantly using pencils to portray a drummer, bringing to mind the orientation. The sign on one building said “Campus Police Department.” In our day, we had one older man, dressed in a Boy Scout-type uniform, whom we called “Will Shoot.” He was our only security on campus.

An interesting story centered on my Class of 1962. I suspect that some marriages were the result of walks with girlfriends after Commencement ceremonies. Sixteen of our class members had passed away, so the class made a sizeable donation for scholarships. We talked privately about some fun things concerning those that were not present. As indicated earlier, 13 members of my class marched in the spring Commencement ceremony. Seventeen of our class members had passed, after enjoying our food, we got to know one another all over again. We shared some of our favorite stories of campus life. These discussions continued during our luncheon reception the following day. Many of our memorable experiences were associated with dormitory life. We talked about things that occurred in our dorms that would appear to be possible only in a television sitcom.

We recalled our “housemother,” who visited our rooms on a regular basis to make certain they were clean and neat. Housemothers often had a reputation for giving some students a difficult time. We talked about a classmate who planned well in advance to come out of the shower and stand in the middle of the room without even a towel around him, at the very moment the housemother entered the room. This was his way of trying to dissuade her from inspecting his room in the future. As events are rated, this one will be at the top of my list of memorable dormitory events of the Class of 1962.

Like most college campuses, ours had its “roller,” the person who made fun or “cracked” on others. While he did not attend our reunion, he may have received more individual attention than any other classmate. We missed him, as he always displayed a keen recollection of funny events from back in the day. He was also the person who gave most students nicknames during freshman orientation.

In my class were guys with names such as: “Sweat Lou,” as he was super cool; “Old Folks,” because he looked old enough to be in school under the G.I. Bill; “Junkie,” who had the characteristics of someone using illegal substances, “Block,” because he had a big head, “Long John,” as he was very tall, “Philly Joe” because he was constantly using pencils to portray a drummer, bringing to mind the jazz musician Philly Joe Jones; and “The Captivator,” who thought all the young ladies on campus were interested in him. While the nicknames have remained with us over the years, in many cases we had great difficulty recalling the person’s real name.

Memories of schoolwork and campus life did not go unnoticed during this gathering. Whatever happened to those who were very smart was a big question. Those who struggled to complete college had gone on to become medical doctors, college professors and company presidents probably generated the most discussions.

We resurrected stories about the difficulty we had in obtaining our diplomas. This experience centered on my Class of 1962. I suspect that those of you who participated in your 50th college graduation ceremony had much the same experience.

To those who have yet to reach your 50th Commencement ceremony, I encourage you to make every effort to participate in it. Believe me, it will inspire you and cause you to be more thankful, appreciative and full of pride because of the four years you spent on your university campus.

Your 50th Commencement ceremony will have significant meaning because of your classroom and campus life, back in the day...
Alumni highlights

DSUAA elects 2012-2014 officers

The Delaware State University Alumni Association announced newly elected and re-elected officers for 2012-2014 during Alumni Weekend in May. From left are Joy Hopkins-Keita, assistant treasurer; J. Cagney France, treasurer; Dr. K. Bernard Chase, president; Sheila M. Davis, vice president; Theodora Morris, recording secretary; Janet Cugen-Williams, assistant secretary; and Albert S. Weal Jr., far right, Nominating Committee chair. Also pictured is Lolia Thomas, second from right.

In memoriam

We sorrowfully acknowledge the deaths of the following alumni and staff, and we offer our heartfelt condolences to their families and friends:

Alumni
Florence Johnson Foddrell ’37 Dec. 6, 2011
Crystal Sullivan January 26
Orlando Baines ’85 February 16
Francis T. O’Connor Jr. ’90 March 2
Ethel M. Bow ’68 March 3
Mary V. Morgan ’44 April 17
Frank D. Brumbaugh ’78 April 18
Phyllis Webb ’86 April 21
Erinice Floyd May 31
James C. Bordley Jr. ’53 June 6
Frances Christine Harris June 20
Victoria Z. Peters-Johnson ’73 June 21
Rev. John C. Justice ’73 June 22
Yolanda Rizer ’95 June 23
Ada Gallbreath ’50 July 1
Jessie L. Anderson ’53 July 11
Margaret Combs Merchant ’92 July 23
Robin Lee Saxton ’84 July 27
Mary Elizabeth Richardson ’39 August 1
Carrie Purnell Russell ’49 August 3
Valeria E. Wallace ’92 August 3

Staff
Benjamin S. Blacknall April 25
Former athletics director

Note: Death notices sent to the Alumni Office must be accompanied by a credible piece of documentation such as a news clipping, death certificate or funeral program. Notices received without back-up documentation will not be made public; nor unconfirmed, word-of-mouth notices be entered into record.

Gospel Choir alumni reunite and perform

The DSU Gospel Choir’s 2012 Spring Concert featured not only the current group, but more than 100 choir alumni who came back to celebrate and perform. The alumni represented each decade since the Gospel Choir was formed in 1970. In addition, the choir honored advisors who have served over the years.

CLASS OF 1967: DON’T MISS YOUR REUNION!

The Class of 1967 is planning its 45th anniversary reunion, to take place during Homecoming.

• Class members are invited to participate in a post-game gathering Saturday, October 20. Details were provided in a mailing to all class members in July.

• For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 302.857.6050.

‘We should all be ambassadors for DSU’

John Ridgeway ’75, a manager with Toyota Financial Services, is a champion of mentorship and giving back to his alma mater.

John Ridgeway ’75, executive corporate manager of the Customer Service Center East for Toyota Financial Services in Owings Mills, Md., oversees 400 associates, who in turn are connected to 1,100 dealers on the East Coast.

Ridgeway oversaw 400 associates, who in turn are connected to 1,100 dealers on the East Coast, providing financial services to their customers.

Yet for all of his management responsibilities, Ridgeway still places a priority on not only staying connected with his alma mater, but by giving back in a myriad of ways.

“We should all be ambassadors for DSU,” said Ridgeway, a native of Wilmington, Del., who earned a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration.

In addition to being a financial contributor to the institution, Ridgeway takes time to give students the benefit of his career experience. He is a frequent participant in the DSU College of Business’ annual Black Executive Exchange Program (BEEP), where he shares with students many of the corporate and life lessons he has learned over several decades.

“We have to be the new role models and mentors,” Ridgeway said. “If we don’t, the...
I tell DSU students that they should take full advantage of the resources that are available at DSU. I encourage them to pay attention and to stay grounded in the fundamentals.

John Ridgeway ’75 on sharing his experiences with College of Business students

Don’t forget to make your contribution to the anniversary classes gift drive!

desu.edu/class-reunion-gifts
What about the position at Delaware A member of the Hornet Nation Family. “I expect that she will bring a high-level energy and excitement to our Lady Hornets’ basketball program,” he said.

In introducing Tamika L. Louis as the new women’s head basketball coach, President Harry L. Williams said he is “very happy” that Louis decided to become a head coach at DSU with kids, and I thought this was right up my alley. And I said, ‘wow, I want this.’ I want to be at a level with kids that you cannot be afraid to be great. I’m really making me feel like I’m a part of the basketball family here.

What was your first month at DSU like? The first 30 days were a whirlwind — you know, sometimes you don’t know if you’re coming or going because you’re doing the jobs of five people (Louis’ assistants were not in place until mid-July). The good thing is that I’ve done all of this before. I’ve always kind of been the coach on the staff to do everything, all the behind the scenes work, so this is an easy transition for me.

How do you go about selling Delaware State to a recruit as a new head coach? I think the biggest thing is opportunity. I tell kids that you cannot be afraid to be great. I’m coming in brand new — you can’t be afraid to come in here and take a chance. I’m going to put the ball in your hands and say ‘go be great.’ It’s nothing like my first year and us doing it together. Don’t be afraid to take a chance on me, because I’m not afraid to take a chance on you.

What do you hope to accomplish in this first season? I expect to do a lot in a little amount of time. I’m trying to lay down a foundation. The little stuff matters. It’s going to be a totally different environment. Some will be on board, and some will not. I would say establishing a culture around here and establishing the want to win and play to win, not just to exist, not just take up space. (I’ll be about) not just winning on the court, but also in the classroom. My expectations are that the culture will change around here and the way we do things on and off the court.

How do you view your nonconference schedule and how will it help you once you get into MEAC play? I think we have a very competitive nonconference schedule. It’s a good mix of different types of teams. So we’ll see teams that run and press like a lot of MEAC teams. We also have some games where they bog down and play more of a system. The conference schedule is so competitive, so we’ll take some losses, but they’re losses that we need for the MEAC schedule. I didn’t put the schedule together, but I thank the previous staff for giving us a well-rounded schedule.

Who has been the biggest influence on you so far at DSU? First and foremost, it’s Miss (Jane) Hicks basketball administrative assistant. Without her, I’d be drowning. She’s been through everything and helping me with everything since I have no coaching staff yet. And it’s not just her work through being my administrative assistant, but being a confidant, and I can ask her how to do things. She’s had some good words of advice. Also, (Interim Athletic Director) Eric Hart, who’s been phenomenal. I gave him a huge amount of credit for just bringing me here and the work he’s done as an Interim AD, the integrity and doing things above and beyond the call of duty, I really appreciate.

Finally, (men’s basketball head coach) Coach (Greg) Jackson has been awesome, taking me to lunch a few times and laying things out for me. He’s really making me feel like I’m a part of the basketball family here.

What kind of impact do you hope to make off-court? My hope is to make an impact on anybody that I meet. You have to live a purpose-filled life, and you have to stay true to who you are with a sense of integrity and character and pride. I’m not perfect and I make mistakes, don’t get me wrong, but trying to do things the right way is what I’m going to teach my kids. You have to understand that you’re part of something bigger than yourself. We’ll spend a lot of time together as a team and in the community. We’ll do a lot of community service. I don’t want the focus to be on these kids all the time. If they can adopt that view off the court, then on the court it’s like they’re not playing basketball because it’s not about you, it’s about what you can do to help the team.

What is your coaching style? I think my coaching style is interchangeable. Everyone wants to play a certain way, and it takes the right type of kid to play that way, but I’m very, very adaptable. You’re coaching kids and you’re coaching against opponents. I coach a game to win. So from a style standpoint, I understand that defense can win championships and that offense wins a game and sells tickets. But I understand the importance of both, and I understand the importance of the players. I’m a player coach, not necessarily a guard coach or a post coach, but a player coach. I’ve been like that for years, so you’ll see things change and you’ll see things change from year to year. I may love a certain type of offensive, but if the kids can’t run that, we won’t use it and we’ll adapt to a different style.

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* Compiled by Maggie Hayon

A new era has begun for the Delaware State University women’s basketball team as President Harry L. Williams introduced Tamika L. Louis as its new head coach. Louis arrives at DSU with 14 years of coaching and recruiting experience at the NCAA Division I, junior college and high school levels. Most recently, she served as an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator at George Washington University, St. John’s University and the University of Illinois.

New Hornets women’s basketball head coach aims to make an impact on and off the court.
Teams achieve MEAC North conference titles

**BASEBALL**

- Though Delaware State’s hard-charging bid for the team’s first Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference baseball title in 23 years came to a halt in the league championship game against Bethune-Cookman, the loss followed a spring 2012 season in which records were tied and broken. The Hornets finished the season with a 40-17-1 overall record, matching the team’s high for wins in a season first set by the 2002 Hornets (40-19) and carrying a school-record 17-game win streak into the final contest of the regular season. DSU claimed the MEAC North championship with a 22-2 record in division play.

- Junior first baseman/pitcher Ryan Haas was selected as the 2012 MEAC Player of the Year, while Hornet head coach J.P. Blandin earned the league’s Coach of the Year in voting by conference head coaches and sports information representatives. Haas was tops in the MEAC with a .360 average (73-for-203) this past season, and he also led the league and was tied for 19th among all NCAA Division I players in doubles (0.40 per-game; 22 total). Also in 2012, Haas was tied for second in the MEAC in hits (73), third in on-base percentage (.460) and fifth in slugging percentage (.483). Joining Haas on the All-MEAC First Team were fellow Hornets junior shortstop Elliott, pitcher; sophomore Eddie Sorono, catcher; and sophomore Cameron Cecil, third baseman. Sophomore Matt McClain, pitcher; junior J.P. Frey, second baseman; and sophomore Aaron Hordtne, outfielder, were named to the All-MEAC Second Team, giving the Hornets a league-best seven All-conference selections.

**SOFTBALL**

- Delaware State clinched the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference North title for the second consecutive season, finishing the season with a 25-18-1 overall record. The 18 overall losses were the finest since 1994, when the Hornets were 16-10.

- Senior outfielder Jordan Reid was named the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Player of the Year for the third consecutive season. Sophomore Stephanie Sarris and freshman Bri Green were named to the All-MEAC Second Team. During the 2012 season, Reid led the MEAC and was 24th nationally with a .420 batting average. She ranked in the top 25 in the NCAA in runs per game (1; 186) and was second in the MEAC in runs scored (41). Additionally, Reid had two home runs, four triples, six doubles, 16 stolen bases and 15 RBI. The decorated softball player was also named the DSU Female Student Athlete of the Year for the second straight year at the annual DSU Athletics Awards.

**TENNIS**

- A historic season for Delaware State’s women’s tennis team ended with a loss to Howard in a Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference tournament semifinal contest, snapping a school-record 16-match win streak. With a 16-3 overall record, the Hornets captured their first MEAC North title this season.

- Freshman Vanja Andonova was selected as the 2012 MEAC Women’s Tennis Rookie of the Year, the first DSU women’s tennis player to earn the award. She was also named to the 2012 All-MEAC Second Team. After dropping her first singles match of the season, Andonova won her last 15 contests to finish the regular season with a 15-1 overall record. In addition, she was victorious in 13 straight doubles matches to post a 13-1 record during the regular year.

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visitors the truth about conditions at the school. John W. Brown, a junior student and veteran, later testified that the purpose of those pamphlets was not to disrupt the school or to cause a strike. "We were just bringing to light the fact that the evidence was right there . . . that was the main point and to get an investigation of these conditions around the school," Brown said during a state hearing. "We knew that the legislature was coming down for an investigation, and we wanted the students to bring to light all these conditions that existed around the campus." Hollingsworth said the protest activities were conducted by the males. "Nobody ever asked the girls on campus about their opinion; that is just the way it was around here."

The most controversial of the charges were never proven against the DSC president. Following the conclusion of the hearings, the six-member DSC Board of Trustees voted not to fire Gregg. A dispute over that decision emerged between Gov. Carvel and Elwood Nelson, the board chairman, prompting his resignation from the board. Two other board members — Caleb Wright and Clarence Poll — resigned soon thereafter, and another board member, Earle D. Willey, was not reappointed upon the expiration of his term.

In an era when the governor made all of the decisions, the board's actions were not as significant as one might assume. The Board of Trustees was more of a ceremonial body, and the decisions made by the Board were not binding on the Governor. However, the Board did have some influence on the selection of the DSC president. The Governor appointed the Board members, and the Board had the power to recommend a candidate for appointment to the governor.

The testimony from the hearing revealed a dysfunctional relationship between Gregg, the College's business manager and Board of Trustees, resulting in inefficient accounting practices. Students also testified concerning the strike and the refusal of Gregg to allow the formation of a veterans' organization and a democratically elected student government association.

The most controversial of the charges against Gregg involved a poultry enterprise, in which his son Howard Gregg Jr. was a partner. The enterprise sold chickens to DSC, and there were conflicts of interest. Suspicions that Dr. Gregg was profiting from the arrangement. The suspicions notwithstanding, those allegations were never proven against the DSC president.

Chapter notes

Greater Hampton Roads Alumni Chapter

HIGHLIGHTS

South Atlantic Regional Alumni Retreat

The Greater Hampton Roads Chapter hosted the second annual South Atlantic Regional Alumni Retreat on July 14 in Virginia Beach, Va. Among the attendees were DSU President Dr. Harry L. Williams and First Lady Dr. Robin Williams; Lorene Robinson, director of Alumni Relations; Dr. K. Bernard Chase, president of the DSU Alumni Association, and his wife, alums; Audrey S. Chase; Sheila M. Davis, vice president of the DSUAA; Theodora Morris, DSUAA recording secretary; J. Caygene France, DSUAA treasurer; and Bernard Carr, DSUAA alumni representative. Chapter President Albert S. Wisi Jr. welcomed alumni to the event, stating that it will continue to be offered annually as a means to connect with alumni in the Greater Hampton Roads/Tidewater area. The purpose of the retreat was to plan events for 2012-13, increase DSU presence in the area and to dialogue about alumni involvement with the University and Alumni Association. President Williams gave an update on the university’s progress in various areas of growth and development. Chase promoted the importance of alumni involvement, and Robinson outlined the University’s solicitation guidelines. Additional chapter members present who helped plan the event were: Jayne Alexander, Armetta Howard, Franki Manley, David Redden and Albert S. Wisi II.

CHAPTER MEETINGS

The Greater Hampton Roads Chapter meetings are every other second Saturday at 1 p.m. at Dudley’s Driving Center, 2845 N. Armistead Ave. In Hampton, VA. Conference call meetings are every other second Tuesday at 8 p.m. (Free call-in number: 559.546.1000. Participant access code: 251316#). Questions? Contact Chapter President At W. Jr. at masterbook350@cs.com.

Kent County Alumni Chapter

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

• Post-game mixer after the last home football game Nov. 10 vs. Hampton
• Thanksgiving basket donation to Delaware Hospice

CHAPTER MEETINGS

The Kent County Chapter meets the fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m. on the DSU campus in Room 104 in the Agriculture Annex Building. No meeting will be held in August. Questions? Contact Chapter President Philip Sadler at philsadler@comcast.net.

The Kent County Chapter in 2012 has a financial membership of 71 members. It is constantly encouraging membership and has a current goal of 150 members.

All regular meetings of DSUAA chapters are subject to change. Please contact the chapter president or the Office of Alumni Relations before attending a meeting for the first time.

SAVE THE DATE

DSU Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner

Thursday, October 12 at 7 p.m.

DSU Athletic Hall of Fame

Scholarship Dinner in Dover

RSVP to 302.857.6030 or visit dsuhornets.com

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Keep in touch

Do you have something exciting to report to your fellow alumni? Have you changed careers, been promoted, retired or expanded your family?

Let your classmates and friends know in The Echo. Email your news (up to 100 words) for Class Notes, along with your high-resolution photo (300 dpi or more) to alumni@desu.edu. You can also share your news online at www.desu.edu/echo-form.

1980

Former Delaware State basketball player Charles Shealey, a member of the school’s Hall of Fame, was recently named the head girls’ basketball coach at Chantilly (Va.) High School.

1990

Kenneth Parker was recently named the American Diabetes Association National Capital Area’s 2012 Father of the Year by the National Father’s Day Council. In addition to highlighting the recipient’s important family role as a mentor, guardian, leader, supporter and caregiver, the award also recognizes other accomplishments in life and in the community. Parker is vice president of Public Policy at Pepco Holdings Inc. in Washington, D.C.

1992

James A.J. Revels, a partner in Cohn Cooperman in Philadelphia, was recently tapped by Children’s Surgical Associates Ltd. in Philadelphia to present a two-part financial wellness “lunch and learn” series to the practice’s physicians and staff members. Revels, a certified financial accountant, presented the financial health series at The Children’s Hospital of Pennsylvania as part of the CSA Wellness Program, a comprehensive program for CSA physicians and employees geared toward providing resources for maintaining a healthy lifestyle. With more than 18 years of experience in taxation and financial planning, Revels provides comprehensive, customized and innovative planning, administration and income tax services for a wide range of clients. Revels holds a Master of Science in Taxation from Villanova University and a Bachelor of Science in Accounting, Business and Marketing from DSU.

1994

Actx Ann D. Spears recently shot the pilot for the first BET Hourlong original drama series, “Being Mary Jane,” co-starring Gabrielle Union and Richard Roundtree. He continues to portray Justin Barber on the award-winning daytime soap opera “The Bold and the Beautiful” and was a 2011 and 2012 NAACP Image-Award nominee for Outstanding Actor in a Daytime Drama.

1995

Melissa Murray Barbosa married Pedro Barbosa in June 2004. They have a 2-year-old daughter, Michele Alessandra, and live in Miami, Fla., where Barbosa is a physician. She is currently training in the family medicine/neuro/musculoskeletal medicine residency program and will pursue fellowship training in addiction medicine.

2000

Pierre A. Anderson was recently promoted to vice president of Information Technologies at Artesian Resources in Newark, Del., a provider of waste, wastewater and engineering services on the Delmarva Peninsula. In his new position, Anderson is responsible for all informational technology functions, including technology procurement, software development, systems and database administration, telecommunications and infrastructure. Anderson joined the company in 2006, previously serving as director of Information Technologies. Anderson received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from DSU.

2001

John Sell, an English teacher in the Sussex Technical School District, was recently named its Teacher of the Year for his leadership in the English Department. Sell received a master’s degree from DSU.

2003

Jenelle L. Cross was named Teacher of the Year at Paul Laurence Dunbar Elementary School in Laurel, Del. Cross, has been a kindergarten teacher for nine years at Laurel and has a classroom of 26 with 16 ES students. Cross received her bachelor’s degree in Early Childhood Education from DSU and has since become certified to teach through sixth grade. She also specializes in bilingual education and teaches Spanish 911 at the Delaware State Fire Department. She cross volunteers as an emergency medical technician with the Delmar Fire Department and works part time as an EMT in the Bridgeville Fire Department.

2004

Quincly Lucas, founder and president of Witney’s Lights, was inducted into the Federal Women’s Council Hall of Fame, honoring women who have contributed to the advancement of women through their community and public service. Lucas was one of eight trailblazers and advocates honored at the event hosted by the Baltimore Federal Executive Board. In addition, she also served as keynote speaker for the FBI Women’s Training and Awards Program, where the theme was: Women’s Education, Women’s Empowerment. The tragic 2003 domestic violence death of her sister, Witney, propelled Lucas into advocacy for domestic violence awareness and prevention and resulted in her establishment of the nonprofit organization Witney’s Lights. Lucas is a two-time graduate of DSU with a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education and a Master of Arts degree in Curriculum and Instruction. She is currently pursuing a doctorate degree in Organizational Leadership at Wilmington University.

2007

The Rev. John G. Moore Sr. was recently selected as the 2012 Delaware State Education Association’s Human and Civil Rights Award recipient for his life work in advancing the cause of human and civil rights in Delaware and beyond. Past winners include the Honorable Herman Holloway Sr., Penrose Hollins, Louis L. Redding, the Rev. Dr. Maurice Moyer, Littleton Mitchell and Reuben Calliers.

2007/2010

Amystique Y. Harris Church was recently selected to give a presentation on the topic “Finding the Picasso: Testing as a Work of Art (Advancing, Retention and Testing)” at the National College Testing Association Conference in Minneapolis. Church is the associate director of operations, Office of Testing, and an adjunct instructor at Delaware State University. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations and Mass Communications, Master of Arts in Adult Education and Literacy and is currently working on her Ed.D at Wilmington University in Higher Education Leadership. During the conference, Church was also the recipient of a 2012 NCTA Service Recognition Award for her achievements in the profession.

2008

Brandon Badley is a behavior analyst with the Division of Developmental Disability Services, where he develops behavior support plans, monitors psychotropic medications and trains staff at state-providers agencies. Badley was also published with Applied Behavior Analysis International for undergraduate internship studies on functional analysis. He earned a bachelor’s degree in Psychology (magna cum laude) from DSU and has more than five years of experience in the field of special education.

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38 The Echo www.desu.edu Summer 2012

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Homecoming 2012
Hornet Pride

Weeklong schedule of events October 14-21

- PARADE: Saturday, October 20, at 10 a.m.
- FOOTBALL: Saturday, October 20, at 1:30 p.m. vs. North Carolina A&T

Watch for full schedule updates online

desu.edu/homecoming