What is this Man’s Playbook for Success?

Jim Ashton Parleys the Discipline of Athletics into a Big League Career
A Letter from the Executive Director

Homecoming 2006

You matured and grew at Fairmont State. Fairmont State shaped the person you are today. You made friends who became as close as family while you studied here. You created a new identity and a home away from home.

Much like your parents and grandparents who missed you while you were away, Fairmont State wants to know where you are and what you are doing today. We miss you.

Homecoming 2006, October 9-14, is your opportunity to reunite with your Fairmont State family. Join old friends and make new ones. Visit your old Fairmont haunts, like Yann’s, The College Lunch and Country Club Bakery, and stock up on pepperoni rolls.

If you haven’t been here in years, you are in for a treat. The campus has grown by leaps and bounds. Come see the new Falcon Center, residence halls and many facility upgrades and improvements. If you have college-age children, bring them along for a taste of what Fairmont State has to offer. We have events and activities for the whole family.

For those of you unable to join us this October, consider making a visit at another time more convenient to you and your family. Fairmont State is always open to you, and there are a variety of exciting activities happening all year round. Call Crystal Stevens at (304) 367-4375, or toll free at (866) 372-ALUM (2586) to arrange a special tour of the campus.

As always, we encourage you to keep in touch by contributing personal updates and sharing your special life events such as graduations, promotions, career changes, moves, marriages and births with our editorial staff.

For more Homecoming information, event listings, room reservations or special alumni chapter events in your area, go to www.fairmontstate.edu and choose the Alumni link.

Yours on the homefront,

K. Jean Ahwesh
Executive Director, Fairmont State Foundation, Inc.

P.S. Tell us what you think of maroon&white. Send comments or personal stories to us by completing the enclosed business reply envelope or contacting our editorial staff at maroonandwhite@fairmontstate.edu.

Leave Your Legacy...

Please contact Kim Riggi, Director of Major Gifts, at (304) 367-4014, toll free at (866) 372-ALUM or via e-mail at kriggi@fairmontstate.edu for information on becoming a member of The Column Society, or to make a planned or estate gift and join the 1865 Heritage Society (see page 7).

... at Fairmont State.
On July 1, 2006, Fairmont State Community & Technical College officially became a Division of Fairmont State University and was renamed Pierpont Community & Technical College.

Fairmont State University and Fairmont State Community & Technical College, now Pierpont Community & Technical College, have always worked closely together to provide superior service and education to individuals and businesses in our region and beyond. This was true before a legislative mandate for the community college to become a separate, independently accredited institution. It has remained true.

The West Virginia Legislature approved a bill during the 2006 Regular Session to allow this close collaboration to continue more efficiently. Senate Bill 792 allowed FSU and the community college to once again share one accreditation. This merger means that more financial resources can be focused on service to students, instead of duplication of administrative overhead.

The name “Pierpont” is historically and symbolically significant. Francis H. Pierpont, a Fairmont native, served as Governor of the Restored State of Virginia during the Civil War and played a key role in the birth of West Virginia. He also serves as an example of a successful “non-traditional” student, working his way through school as a tanner and brick layer. Interestingly, he also served on the board of the institution that would one day become Fairmont State University. His wife, Julia August Robertson Pierpont, is credited with being an originator of this nation’s Decoration Day, which was renamed Memorial Day in 1882.

Our history shows that we work hard to make individuals, businesses, communities and our region successful. FSU and Pierpont C&TC continue to work closely together to provide superior service and education to individuals and businesses in our region and beyond.

Where in the world is maroon&white?

We want to see the unusual places you take maroon&white. Send us a photo of yourself, a friend or family member holding a copy of maroon&white. Tell us where you are, including the location, date and names of who is in the picture with you. Get married, scuba dive or take a roller coaster ride with maroon&white; the possibilities are endless. Please send your digital photos electronically to: maroonandwhite@fairmontstate.edu

Lake Tahoe, California
Heavenly Ski Area

Sam Pellerite ’74 and Janet (Nagy) Pellerite ’75

It may not be “Almost Heaven,” but it is heavenly. Sam and Janet show their Falcon pride on March 7, 2006, at Heavenly Ski Area, Lake Tahoe, California, holding proudly their copy of maroon&white.

A New Name, the Same Commitment
Jim Ashton
Parleys the Discipline of Athletics into a Big League Career

The same qualities that made Jim Ashton shine during his time at Fairmont State continue to allow him to excel today. As a former football and baseball standout, Jim has translated his Fairmont State experiences into a new form of commitment, playing for a different type of team.

Jim is the Group Chief Executive Officer for SunGard, a global leader in software and processing solutions for financial services, higher education and the public sector. Jim has executive management responsibility for SunGard’s trading, treasury, energy and risk software and service business. As Group CEO, Jim focuses on business strategy, leadership and operational excellence to optimize client satisfaction, which in turn accelerates growth and profitability.

He has held senior management positions within SunGard and at Premier Solutions, Inc., a global technology company that was acquired by SunGard in 1997. Under his leadership, Premier’s client base grew to include some of the world’s most prestigious banks and financial institutions.

During his first job out of college, Jim held various technical, sales and managerial positions over a span of 10 years at EDS in Dallas, Texas. Since EDS
was very interested in hiring former student-athletes
at the time, Jim is quick to give credit to his 1978-
79 football coach, Dave Ritchie, and Investments
Professor Mark Friend for the impact they made on
his life and career. Coach Ritchie strived to teach his
players the value of working together as a team and
instilled in them the importance of confidence.

For Jim, attending college was a time to experi-
ence all of the great things that Fairmont State and
West Virginia had to offer. While meeting his wife,
Debbie Turney Ashton, also a Fairmont State gradu-
ate of the class of ’80, was the “absolute highlight”
of his collegiate experience, making lifelong friends
and having the opportunity to play both football and
baseball were also very rewarding.

“I miss eating Yann Dogs almost every day,” said
Jim. “I still make that my first stop when I am back in
the area.”

In addition, Jim claims that he did not need to
join a fraternity, simply because the football team
acted like one. “We had over 100 guys from many
different states on the team, and we were all very
close,” Jim said. “There was nothing like winning a
game and celebrating with all of them afterwards.
The Pizza Pub and Mr. G’s used to be our hangouts.”

While reminiscing, Jim recalled the year of
1979. “Not only did we finish with a record of 9-1-1,
which is still the best winning percentage in the last
35 years, but we also won the ‘Coal Bowl.’ I remem-
ber we were down 13-0 at halftime and came back
to win the game to clinch the conference champion-
ship. It was great!”

Today, Jim takes great pride in being an alum-

“...it is valuable to combine
the experiences of business
leaders and educators for the
betterment of the institution.”

— Jim Ashton

Jim played both football and
baseball while at Fairmont
State.

nus. Excitement over the direction that Fairmont
State President Daniel Bradley and his team are tak-
ing the institution motivated Jim to join the Presi-
dents’ Leadership Council (see page 6) and make a
$20,000 contribution to support the Athletic Depart-
ment. He looks forward to returning to campus as a
leader.

“I wanted to do my part in recognition of the
positive impact they are making and give a little back
to the school that was so good to me,” Jim said.

“In addition, I believe that it is valuable to com-
bine the experiences of business leaders and educa-
tors for the betterment of the institution, and the
Leadership Council makes that possible.”

With oversight responsibility of a $750 million
global segment and 2,500 employees operating in
over 50 countries, Jim Ashton continues to represent
Fairmont State wherever he goes.

Jim enjoys spending time with his wife and their
two children, son Connor, 10, and daughter Hannah, 8.
Presidents’ Leadership Council

The Presidents’ Leadership Council is a group of dedicated volunteers who draw on their experience and education to give of their time, treasures and talents for the benefit of the Fairmont State community. The group is comprised of leaders in industry, finance and education.

The main purpose of the Presidents’ Leadership Council is to provide guidance in support of the Presidents’ vision for the future of Fairmont State. Members also are dedicated to increasing the endowment base of Fairmont State University and Pierpont Community & Technical College, a Division of FSU.

The group held their inaugural meeting on May 12, 2006.

K. Jean Ahwesh  Executive Director  Fairmont State Foundation, Inc.  Fairmont, WV

Jim Ashton ’80  Group Chief Executive Officer  SunGard  Wayne, PA

Daniel J. Bradley  President  Fairmont State University  Fairmont, WV

Leyna Gabriele ’44  Noted Opera Soprano and Co-Founder, Masterworks Laboratory Theatre, Inc.  Professor Emeritus, SUNY Purchase, NY  New York, NY

Aaron Hawkins ’71  Senior Vice President and Trust Officer  WesBanco Bank  Fairmont, WV

Thomas F. Hoffman  Vice President, External Affairs  Consol Energy, Inc.  Pittsburgh, PA

James Kettering Jr.  Retired  Edward Jones Investments  Fairmont, WV

Gary LeDonne ’84  National Director of State & Local Tax Services  Ernst and Young  New York, NY

Gayle C. Manchin  First Lady  State of West Virginia  Charleston, WV

Blair Montgomery  President  Pierpont Community & Technical College  Fairmont, WV

Kevin Niewoehner  President  OpusTek International Corporation  Fairmont, WV

Deborah S. Phelps ’73  Principal  Windsor Mill Middle School  Baltimore, MD

Haddon Joseph Rhodes  Retired, Managing Director  Interstate Commerce Commission  Slanesville, WV

Charles E. Roberts ’78  Senior Vice President and General Manager  Dominion Resources Services, Inc.  Richmond, VA

Anthony Sansalone  Attorney at Law  Cincinnati, OH

E. Robert Smith  Retired, President  JS Machine, Inc.  Fairmont, WV

Ralph W. Stewart ’64  Senior Vice President  Fellowship of Christian Athletes  Kansas City, MO

Student Calling Campaign Breaks Record

“Alumni are a direct link between student ambition and student success. Your gifts provide students like me the resources we need to be successful. I am forever grateful for your confidence and support. Thank you!”

— Betty Sutphin, American Sign Language major

Help us break the calling record again. Our Fall 2006 Student Phon-a-thon will begin in September. Please take a few minutes to speak with a student, update your information and make a gift that will make a difference in the lives of students.

Fairmont State Student Calling Campaign Fast Facts

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Make Money by Giving It Away

“Philanthropy has both tangible and intangible rewards.... We hope that when making estate plans, you remember Fairmont State.”
— K. Jean Ahwesh, Executive Director

Is it possible to make money by giving it away? It’s not only possible, but probable that you will increase your personal income and decrease your tax burden if you plan your financial future carefully. This was the message at Fairmont State Foundation, Inc.’s first-ever financial planning seminar on April 25, 2006.

Jim Connell, FAHP, CSA, founder of James E. Connell and Associates (charitable estate and gift planning specialists), was the featured speaker of the April seminar. Connell has three decades of experience in charitable estate planning and currently assists charities throughout the United States and Canada with growing their endowment funds, while helping donors increase their income and decrease their taxes.

The seminar presentations, titled Practical Estate Planning: Tips Everyone Should Know for Peace of Mind and Financial Security and Wealth Enhancement & Portfolio Diversification, were free and open to the public—including trolley tours of the Fairmont State campus. Both presentations were jointly sponsored by the Fairmont State Foundation, Inc., and WesBanco Trust and Investment Services.

“These seminars, along with the introduction of our 1865 Heritage Society this year, signify Fairmont State’s commitment to ensuring a strong foundation for the future of our institution, while also providing a much-needed educational service that will greatly benefit our friends, alumni and people of this community,” said Jean Ahwesh, Executive Director, Fairmont State Foundation, Inc.

“We hope that when making estate plans, you remember Fairmont State.”

For more information on future planned giving seminars, giving options, becoming a member of the 1865 Heritage Society or endowing a scholarship at Fairmont State, please contact Kim Riggi, Director of Major Gifts, at (304) 367-4014, or toll free at (866) 372-2586.

Join the 1865 Heritage Society...

The 1865 Heritage Society, Fairmont State’s planned giving society, provides a strong foundation upon which Fairmont State may continue to advance its time-honored tradition of providing the best quality education through individual planned gifts. The goal of the society is to acknowledge individuals for their vision and to provide a lasting tribute in their honor. Heritage Society recognition is a lifelong legacy for donors and their families.

Legacy gifts from 1865 Heritage Society members through their wills, trusts or other estate gifts ensure the continued vitality and development of Fairmont State from one generation to the next. Becoming a member of the 1865 Heritage Society is quite simple. You have already qualified for membership if you have named Fairmont State in your will or trust, or have otherwise included us in your estate plans.

Let us know your plans for leaving your legacy at Fairmont State. We would like to say thank you to you now and express to you the importance of your gift to the future of Fairmont State. To inform the Fairmont State Foundation, Inc., of your gift and receive recognition, please contact Kim Riggi, Director of Major Gifts, at (304) 367-4014, or toll free at (866) 372-2586 to request your 1865 Heritage Society membership form.

...and Leave Your Legacy at Fairmont State

1865 Heritage Society Lifetime Benefits

When you become a member of the 1865 Heritage Society, you join us in making the resources of Fairmont State available for future generations.

To thank members, we extend lifetime benefits including, but not limited to:

• Legacy listing in the Fairmont State Foundation Annual Report.

• Legacy listing in the annual Presidents’ Report.

• Fairmont State Foundation bi-annual donor publication, maroon&white.

• Invitations to special campus events and tours.
October 9-13

Alumni Registration
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Erickson Alumni Center

Stop by the Alumni Center, located at 1300 Locust Avenue, to pick up your advance purchase event passes. Alumni staff will answer questions you may have about events and programs. Coffee and pastries provided by the Fairmont State Alumni Association, Inc.

Thursday, October 12

Golf Outing
Fairmont Field Club
1709 Country Club Road
11:30 a.m. Lunch
1 p.m. Tee-Off
Advance: $20 Golf and Lunch,
$10 Lunch Only
Day of event: $25 Golf and Lunch, $12 Lunch Only

Join friends for lunch at the historic Fairmont Field Club. If golf is your game, stay for a 9-hole round immediately following lunch.

Homecoming Parade
Downtown Fairmont
6 p.m.

Pep Rally
Duvall-Rosier Field
Fairmont State University
7 p.m.

Friday, October 13

Emeritus Luncheon
Falcon Center, 3rd Floor,
Conference Rooms
12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Advance: $10       Door: $15

Honor the golden anniversary of our 1956 graduates with their induction into the Emeritus Club.

Dining Hall Plaque
Re-dedication Ceremonies
honoring Frank Pulice, Jr.
Falcon Center, 3rd Floor
2 p.m.
FREE

Nickel Plaque Re-dedication
Ceremonies honoring Archie Cain and Don Nichols
Falcon Center, 2nd Floor, Main Street
2:30 p.m.
FREE

Alumni Reunion and Hall of Fame Social
Falcon Center, 3rd Floor,
Conference Rooms
5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
FREE

Hall of Fame Banquet
Falcon Center, Gym 1
6 p.m.
Cost: $25

For Hall of Fame Banquet tickets and information, contact the Fairmont State Athletic Department at (304) 367-4220.

Decades Dance
Turley Center Ballroom
7 p.m.
Advance Ticket: $5       Door: $8

Live music of the 60s, 70s and 80s, dancing and cash bar
Saturday, October 14

Alumni Awards Luncheon
Falcon Center, 3rd Floor, Conference Rooms
11:30 a.m.
Advance: $10
Door: $15

Join us for our annual, signature event honoring the six alumni award winners of 2006. See page 10 for complete award winner profiles.

Pre-Game Tailgate
Alumni Tent (located behind the scoreboard)
Duvall-Rosier Field
4 p.m.
$5 (Covers pre and post-game festivities)

Join us for a BBQ, music, beer, wine, beverages and activities for the kids.

1962 Class Reunion
Comfort Inn and Suites
1185 Airport Road
Fairmont, WV 26554
Telephone: (304) 367-1370

Contact Betty Cousins Silver or Rose Angela Moran Lubert for more information and a complete schedule of activities.

Betty Cousins Silver
Telephone: (206) 364-4505
Bsilver40@hotmail.com
Rose Angela Moran Lubert
Telephone: (330) 372-1021

Hotel Accommodations

Please reserve your rooms early as space is limited. The North-Central West Virginia area is heavily booked during October. Don’t forget to request the Fairmont State rate.

Holiday Inn
930 East Grafton Road
Fairmont, WV 26554
Reservations: (304) 366-5500
$89 per night
Reserve by September 21, 2006, to receive Fairmont State preferred rate.

Fairfield Inn & Suites
27 Southland Drive
Fairmont, WV 26554
Reservations: (800) 228-9290 and give the operator code: FSH
$65 - $85 Thursday
$139 Friday and Saturday
$179 Suites

Comfort Inn & Suites
1185 Airport Road
Fairmont, WV 26554
Reservations: (304) 367-1370
$59 per night
Reserve by September 27, 2006, to receive the Fairmont State preferred rate.

1962 Class Reunion
Comfort Inn and Suites
1185 Airport Road
Fairmont, WV 26554
Telephone: (304) 367-1370

Fairmont State Falcons vs. West Liberty
Homecoming Coronation at Halftime
Duvall-Rosier Field
6 p.m.
Adults: $6
Students and Children: $2
Children under 7 attend free

Post-Game Reception
Alumni Tent (located behind the scoreboard)
Duvall-Rosier Field
Immediately following game

Take advantage of advance registration discounts. Don’t forget to book your room early!
Download an advance registration form online at www.fairmontstate.edu by choosing the Alumni link.
Eileen DeBellis Akers
Carrying on in the footsteps of her mother, who attended Fairmont State, Eileen DeBellis Akers graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education. She received her Master of Education in Elementary Education and Administrative Endorsement from the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, and began her career in 1963, teaching first grade for Culpeper County Schools. She has taught first and second grade in Charlottesville, Virginia, since 1979.

Eileen is actively involved in several organizations and serves on the Board of Examiners for NCATE (National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education). She received the Distinguished Teacher Award, Elementary Division, Charlottesville City Schools.

Delbert L. Phillips
Delbert “Butch” Phillips graduated from Fairmont State in 1965 with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and was a member of the Theta Xi Fraternity. He served in the United States Army from 1966 to 1969 as 1st Lieutenant Transportation Corps. He began his career in the financial services industry in 1969 as an employee of the First Federal Savings and Loan Association in Fairmont, where he served as Senior Lending Officer until 1990.

In 1990, he became Vice President and Senior Commercial Lender for Community Bank & Trust, which was acquired by Huntington National Bank. In 1999, he joined Monongahela Valley Bank, now MVB. He serves as Senior Vice President of Lending, where he is responsible for managing the entire lending and lending support staff of MVB.

Phillips is active with the Marion County Community. He is a past president of the Fairmont State Foundation, Inc., and currently serves as Secretary and a member of the Executive Committee. He was chosen “Rotarian of the Year” by the South Fairmont Rotary Club, where he is a past president. He is a member of Diamond Temple, Elks Lodge #294, Experimental Aircraft Association and the Associated Businesses of East Fairmont. He chairs the Special Gifts Foundation for East Fairmont High School and is past president of the Fairmont State Alumni Association and Fairmont Jaycees. He is also a past member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, City of Pleasant Valley, and Fairmont Community Development Partnership’s Loan Committee.

Bobbi Bane Mohrman
Bobbi Bane Mohrman graduated from Fairmont State in 1966 with a Bachelor of Arts in Health, Physical Education and Social Studies. She began her teaching career in Marion, Ohio, at Marion Harding High School, and has taught at Fairview High School, East Fairmont High School, Barrackville High School and North Marion High School. She retired after 30 years as an educator, in 2000.

Coaching the West Virginia University cheerleaders for 16 years, she serves as the WVU Spirit Program Coordinator, and oversees two cheerleading teams, dance team and the Mountaineer mascot. She has judged national and state cheerleading competitions, including the United States Cheer Regional Championships and All American Cheer and Dance Pro Bowls in Honolulu, Hawaii, and the Universal Cheerleading Association Cheerleading Championship in Orlando, Florida.

She has been a member of the West Virginia Secondary Schools Activities Commission State Cheerleading Committee for 20 years. She is a member of Gamma Chi Chi, Alpha Delta Kappa and Mountain Honorary at West Virginia University and has worked with the North Central WV Coalition to Prevent Child Abuse.

Oce Smith
Oce Smith graduated from Fairmont State in 1959 with an AB in education. He earned a Master of Arts in Political Science from WVU.

Oce is the longest serving legislative officer in the history of the state of West Virginia. He was first elected House Sergeant of Arms in 1967 and continues to serve in that capacity today. He is the only living charter member of the national Legislative Services and Security Association still in office.

He has spoken to gubernatorial and legislative groups on behalf of West Virginia in 45 states. He also writes “Just Observin’,” a weekly feature and editorial column in the Times West Virginian. He is a political analyst for local television stations, public speaker and lecturer.

Oce is the senior member of the Board of Directors of the Benedum Airport Authority and member of the West Virginia Sportswriters Association, as well as the Marion County and West Virginia Historical Society and Fairmont State University and West Virginia University Alumni and Letterman’s Associations. He was a recipient of the West Virginia Wildlife League Certificate of Wildlife Conservation, as well as One of West Virginia’s 55 Greatest Assets, as reported by The State Journal. A bridge in Barrackville is named in his honor.
Brian L. Tristani
Brian Tristani came to Fairmont State on a full basketball scholarship and graduated in 1989 with a Bachelor of Science in Electronics Engineering. He earned a Master of Science in Industrial and Labor Relations from West Virginia University in 1992, and in 1999, he joined Remedy Corporation (currently BMC Software) in Chicago, Illinois, as Senior Manager, CRM Business Unit. His current responsibilities include managing the design, development and deployment of global professional services methodologies, readiness programs for new product introductions and consulting solution packages related to business service management and BMC’s product suite. He is also the Founder and CEO of a software startup, Medical Republic, Inc., headquartered in Chicago with regional operations in San Jose, CA, and Fairmont.

Chanda Ranjit Yonzon
Chanda Ranjit Yonzon graduated from Fairmont State in 2001 with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. She received her Doctorate in Chemistry from Northwestern University in 2006. During her time at Fairmont State, Yonzon was named the outstanding freshman in chemistry, the outstanding junior in chemistry and received the William C. Ruoff Award for the outstanding senior in chemistry. In 2005, she was named the Materials Research Society Graduate Student Gold Award winner and earned the Outstanding Research Award at Northwestern University. She has given several presentations and is active in a variety of organizations, including the Graduate Chemistry Honor Society, Phi Lambda Upsilon.

2006 Athletic Association Hall of Fame Inductees

Lisa Bailey...
In her senior season, while a member of Fairmont State’s Swim Team, Lisa qualified for the NAIA National Championships and enjoyed a breakout performance. She finished the meet as the 1987 National Champion in the 50 freestyle, 100 backstroke and 200 backstroke, setting national records in the backstroke events. She was also a member of the national championship 200 freestyle and 400 individual medley relays, and she shared that year’s Outstanding Swimmer of the Meet honors. Lisa still holds school records in the 50 freestyle, 100 and 200 backstroke, 400 individual medley relay and 400 and 800 freestyle relays.

Rodney Baird...
Rodney wrestled his way to three WVIAC titles en route to three NAIA National Tournaments in 1975-77. The Charleroi, Pennsylvania, native finished fourth at the tournament in his junior season, earning All-American honors. At the 1977 tournament, he finished as runner-up in his weight class and earned his second All-American distinction. He was also a two-time team captain. Tragically in 1992, Rodney was killed in a mining accident. Honoring his memory, teammates and fellow Fairmont State athletic supporters created an athletic scholarship in his honor. The Rodney Baird Memorial Scholarship is coordinated and awarded each year by teammate Mike Kirby. To make a gift by phone to the memorial fund, call (304) 367-4009 or (866) 372-2586.

Teddy Darcus...
Teddy, a three-sport letterman for the Falcons, is best known for his basketball prowess. The Barrackville, West Virginia, nativelettered in Falcon Basketball from 1962-65. He was named to the All-WVIAC First-Team in 1965 as his team won the WVIAC Tournament. Teddy stands 22nd in school history with 1,587 career points and fifth in school history in career free throws made. In 2001, Teddy was awarded the Fairmont State Letterman of Distinction Award. During his Falcon career, Teddy also lettered in football and baseball.

John Jamerson...
John was a basketball star for the Falcons in the late 1960s. While helping to lead Fairmont State to WVIAC Championships in 1968 and 1969, he was named an All-Tournament selection both years. In 1968, John earned the NAIA Tournament MVP Award and was also named to the All-WVIAC First-Team and the NAIA All-American Second-Team. After finishing an outstanding career with the Falcons, John was selected by the Indiana Pacers in the 1969 ABA draft.

Randy Jones...
Randy lettered four years in football for Fairmont State. Two of those years, 1979 and 1981, Fairmont State won the WVIAC Championship. Randy was named a First-Team All-American in 1981, to the All-WVIAC First-Team and the WVIAC Defensive Player of the Year. The defensive tackle was the league’s Defensive Player of the Week four times during 1981’s 10-week season.
This year marked the 25th anniversary of the 1979-1980 Fairmont State men’s basketball conference championship team. As part of the celebration, the team was honored at halftime of the WVIAC men’s championship game on Saturday, March 5, 2006, at the Charleston Civic Center.

Team members were Andre Allen, Kevin Beaford, Mike Collins, Darryl Corley, Dave Jasper, Robert Jones, Carl Lenoir, Leroy Loggins, Danny Oliveto, Bruce O’Neal, Joe Riley, Mike Stone and Fred Wright. The team’s coach was Joe Retton, and the assistant coach was Dave Cooper.
Alumni Notes

Career
James C. Baker '94 is a West Virginia state trooper. Married to Tammy Reeves.
David A. Bartlett '74 retired from FedEx as a professional pilot instructor in 2003.

Julia J. Benincosa '95 employed by the WV Department of Education as an instructional technology coordinator, 2005, after teaching in Harrison County for 9 years. Lives with 10-year-old son in Charleston.

Linda (Morris) Bigi '92 employed as CEO, M&M Consulting.
Kelly C. Brett '02 employed as architectural technician, Alpha Associates, Inc. Served as AIAS Chapter Vice President at Fairmont State, 2000-2002.
Jennifer L. Corder '03 employed as third grade teacher, Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools, NC.
Kevin E. Copley '88 is a teacher/coach at Millbrook High School, VA. Married Tracy Elder '95.
John F. DeVault '95 employed as guidance officer, Fork Union Military Academy. Married to Heather.
Patrick Elkins '88 employed as police officer, VA Medical Center, Martinsburg. Has one daughter.
John V. Forte '75 employed as education specialist, U.S. Department of Labor–MSHA. Married to Carol.
Brandy L. Harris '03 is an RN, United Hospital Center, Clarksburg.
Debra (Hurst) Herndon '76 employed as city manager, Shinnston.
Sherald E. Hill '04 employed as financial advisor, Merrill Lynch.
Karl R. Hummer is a firefighter, Loudoun County, MD, Fire and Rescue Department. Married to Angela.
Lisa D. (Wilmoth) Jones '89 is an elementary school principal, Albemarle County Public Schools, VA. Married to Joe.
April L. Lewis '04 is a self-employed interior designer, Alderson.

Mary Jane (Branham) Merendino '89 employed as teacher, Marion County Board of Education. Member, WVDE Math Task Force and Board Member, WV Center for Professional Development. Married to Joseph. Children, Katy and Tony, both Fairmont State graduates.
Steve Morgan '99 employed as safety inspector, CONSOL Energy, Inc. Married to Kelly.
Dorothy “Jan” Nichols '93 completed Master’s, Muskingum College. Employed as principal, Kingwood Elementary.
Lisa Nicholson '90 received MS, WVU School of Medicine, Health Education.
Jane L. (Smith) Poling '86 employed as RN, Ruby Memorial Hospital, Morgantown. Married to Rick.
David G. Rogers '65 is an automation specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, TX. Married to Connie Crosby.
Amanda L. Runions '05 employed as interpreter, Moorefield Elementary School, Moorefield.
Timothy R. Rutkowski, DDS '79 retired at age 49.
Cynthia M. (Shields) Shaw '81 is an educator, Harrison County, WV, Board of Education. Married to Mark.
Heather M. Panetti-Simpson '97 employed as federal police officer, U.S. Capitol Police. Married to David.
Sabrina M. (Wiles) Skidmore '00 is director, Project C.A.R.E., Fairmont State. Married to Paul '96.
Ernest G. Stevens '73 and '83 joined West Coast Life, Atlanta, GA, as senior underwriter after 20 years serving for companies in DC and Lincoln, NE. Fairmont resident, 33 years.
Lori E. (Knight) Stiles and First Lady Gayle Manchin were married March 21, 2006. First child, Ryland Asher, born December 22, 2005. Retired, Blue Cross/Blue Shield as vice president of public information. Survived by wife of 57 years, Joanna Garlow, and daughter, Christian Allen. A son, David, is deceased.

Shawn LeeAnn (Sleppy) West '05 to James, June 10, 2006, Wheeling.

Family
Jason Cozart '97 Zachary Jacob, first child, born December 22, 2005. Married to Tisha. Employed as doctor, PA.
Paul A. Toothman and wife, Ellen, have 10 children, 20 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren. Graduated from Ohio University, MA, '57. Retired, 1983.

Deaths
(Deaths are published in maroon&white at the written request of family members.)
Walter Christy Traugh '52 died October 21, 2005. Retired, Blue Cross/Blue Shield as vice president of public information. Survived by wife of 57 years, Joanna Garlow, and daughter, Christian Allen. A son, David, is deceased.

Governor Joseph Manchin III, Lori Stiles and First Lady Gayle Manchin were married March 21, 2006. First child, Ryland Asher, born December 22, 2005. Retired, Blue Cross/Blue Shield as vice president of public information. Survived by wife of 57 years, Joanna Garlow, and daughter, Christian Allen. A son, David, is deceased.

Save the Date!
Woodridge Plantation Outing and Dinner
September 16, 2006, at 2 p.m. 
Parkersburg, WV Area
Woodbridge Plantation Golf Course
301 Woodbridge Drive
Mineral Wells, WV 26150

Come for a rousing day of golf on the 18-hole Bermuda grass fairways and USGA Pennlinks greens.

For information and reservations, call (866) 372-ALUM or download a registration form on the Alumni link at www.fairmontstate.edu.
The Nossokoff Family

Since 1993, the Nossokoff family has personally contributed over $75,000 to establish and maintain The Len Nossokoff and Sons Athletic Scholarship and to underwrite the Nossokoff Family/Fairmont State Golf Tournament, which benefits the Fairmont State Athletic Scholarship Fund.

The annual tournament, currently in its 14th year, is held each spring at Bridgeport Country Club. Chaired by Gary Cox, Vice President and Director of Marketing for MVB, this fundraising event has netted in excess of $300,000 to date. The tournament is a marquis spring gathering, where business and community leaders connect and compete at one site in support of Falcon athletics.

Craig Nossokoff said that his parents maintained a strong sense of personal, community and corporate responsibility, which they passed down to their children.

“With the success of our business, our family is in the wonderful position of being able to make a difference by giving back to the community.”

— Craig Nossokoff

Leonard Nossokoff Sr. started working as a part-time clerk for Kroger’s in the Pittsburgh area while still in high school. He worked his way up the ladder into a management position. After successfully managing some of Kroger’s biggest and best producing stores, he was offered a job as a regional supervisor with Charlie Brothers, a division of Super Value. In this position, he was presented the opportunity to purchase his first franchise in Fairmont.

From 1980-1987, Len owned and operated the Fairmont store under the Shop’n Save name. In 1987, his store was incorporated as part of the Giant Eagle franchise. The family currently owns three national stores operating under the franchise name of Shop’n Save. Sons Len Jr. (39) and Craig (44) maintain the family business alongside Len Sr.

Len and his son Craig, who currently resides in Morgantown, maintain close ties to the North Central West Virginia region and Fairmont State, in particular.

The Nossokoff Family represents an enduring example of teamwork for Fairmont State athletics. Their endowed scholarship and title event sponsorship make a difference in the lives of countless Falcon athletes, many since graduated, raising families and pursuing vocations as citizen-leaders in their communities… much like Leonard Nossokoff and sons.

To make a gift of influence at Fairmont State, contact Kim Riggi, Director of Major Gifts, at (304) 367-4014 or toll free at (866) 372-2586. Endow a personally named scholarship, underwrite an event or honor your family name through a facility naming opportunity; there are countless ways to influence minds and change lives with a gift to Fairmont State.
BEHIND THE NUMBERS

SCHOLARSHIPS
Fairmont State Athletics has 20 named and/or endowed athletic scholarships.

“An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest.”
— Benjamin Franklin

30% of each purchase at www.fightingfalcons.com is deposited into the Fairmont State Athletic Association Scholarship Fund.

Frequently Asked Question:
How many people visit the Fairmont State Athletic Association web site?

answer: www.fightingfalcons.com averages in excess of 800,000 hits per month.

$3 MILLION RAISED TOWARD GOAL 2005-06

The aim and purpose of the FSAA is to further the interests and welfare of Fairmont State by increasing club member participation and contributions to Falcon Athletics. The FSAA serves as a medium for uniting alumni, letter winners, friends, fans and corporate sponsors in organized support for advancing the competitive success of Fairmont State Athletics within the West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WVIAC) and NCAA Division II. To make a gift to the Fairmont State Athletic Association Scholarship Fund, mail a check to the Fairmont State Foundation, Inc., 1201 Locust Ave., Fairmont, WV 26554. Please make a note on your check designating the gift to Athletics.

299 Student-Athletes
14 NCAA Division II programs and cheerleading
89 WVIAC Championships

All information is current as of June 1, 2006.
The 1967-68 Fighting Falcons captured the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics small college crown and brought the first and only national championship to Fairmont State.

The victory proved what Coach Harold “Deacon” Duvall already knew, that West Virginia Conference football teams could compete with any small college team in the nation.

After defeating nine conference foes by overwhelming margins, the Falcons beat Northern Michigan 21-7 in the semi-final game and enjoyed a big win over Eastern Washington State in the finals, 28-21.

This team was the fourth coached by Duvall to remain undefeated; the others were the ‘52, ‘57 and ‘59 teams.

For more information about Fairmont State Athletics, contact Scott Gines, Athletic Director, at (304) 367-4220 or visit www.fightingfalcons.com. Fairmont State is a member of the WVIAC and a Division II NCAA school.