

+92 were to graduate in 1950. Out of that 105 were married men.

Hartman Hall was the Freshmen Dormitory. This building was previously Franklin and Marshall Academy. The influx of a class this large created a real challenge for the College Administration. The college found classroom in places you may not believe. Quonset Huts were erected on the campus to provide space. Discipline was relaxed to accommodate the adult students-they had just won World War II. The sophomore class and their hazing and pajama parades did not have a chance. Our freshmen class adapted really well and showed real maturity in the classroom and on the athletic fields. Wrestling was the most popular sport, followed by football, soccer and an undefeated cross-country team in our senior year. In 1948 the Sponaugle coaches, Woody Boyer, came over from McCaskey High School to improve the athletic department especially football and basketball. We were also influenced by the old time coaching legends Uncle Charlie Maysen- Shober Barr-Tom Floyd and Austin Bishop and George McGinness. The other young coaches Bill Ianicelli and Roy Phillips joined us our senior year. There were freshmen coaches-freshmen were ineligible for Varsity Sports.

Fraternities really thrived in our 4 years. There were 12 Fraternities associated with Franklin and Marshall and they did a great job of disciplining themselves. The Inter Fraternity Council was very active and sponsored the Inter Fraternity Ball with the name Big Band.

We had a marching band under the director of John Peifer Jr....John was a Franklin and Marshall graduate and sold insurance. He truly loved directing the band out of the generosity of his heart.

We had an opportunity to act. Darrell Larsen was director of the Green Room.

Our Present Theodore Distler was a remarkable man. He is accredited with saving the college during World War II. He was an excellent speaker and old time podium beater. We started with Dean Gibbson. He later was joined by Dean Breidenstein. When Dean Dean Breidenstein joined us in 1948 he interviewed every student on campus. He must have been impressed, he didn't leave.

Upon graduation in 1950 many of us were eligible to serve in the Armed Forces. The Korean War was on the horizon. Finding a job was difficult with the service looming.

We were visited March 2, 1950 by General Dwight Eisenhower. He was then President of Columbia University, later to be President of the United States.



### Reflections of the Class of 1950

Entering F&M, fresh from High School, in September of 1946 was quite an eye opener. The average age for our class was over 25. Veterans taking advantage of the GI Bill made up over 85% of the class which numbered over 500-the biggest freshman class enrolled up to that time.

Tuition, back then, was \$225-a semester. The class was all male and with the veterans in it I learned how to play poker real fast.

Chapel was held each week during a semester-Wednesdays as I remember-attendance at 10/semester was mandatory. The same rule applied to assemblies in Hensel Hall.

The upper floors of East Hall housed married class members. The infirmary was on the first floor. Jim Appel-the name long associated with the college was the physician. He was also a President of the American Medical Association.

At the end of our Senior year we had to take 2 days of comprehensive exams which covered our 4 years of education.

Being local and a member of the Lamda Chi Alpha (now the Wholsen House for Admissions) I had a good social life. There wasn't much of one for a person who did not belong to a fraternity. When we had parties and dances, the guys moved out of the "House" and the girls moved in. The guys stayed with local members. For the evening meal, shirt, tie and coat were required. I had a Work/Study award and was the janitor for the Quonset Huts at \$60/hr.

All in all, college life was wonder and it's source of pride to realize our degree is worth more now than when we earned it.