

## Class of 1998 History

The ten years that have passed since we graduated from Franklin & Marshall College have gone by so very fast for most of us. In fact, so did our four years at F&M. However, in those four years, the Class of 1998 surely made our mark in the annals of Franklin & Marshall history.

The Class of 1998 made the most of the opportunities afforded to us by F&M. Most of the time we upheld the traditions and legacy of F&M and its founders. Yet, like most classes, we had our fair share of "memorable" moments that, well, let's just say we certainly added to the experience of all students, faculty, alumni and administrators alike during our time on the picturesque Lancaster campus.

The nearly 430 students that graduated in our class entered F&M at a time when Pulp Fiction was on the big screen and the television-hit series Friends not only debuted, but quickly became a permanent part of our lives joining Jerry, Elaine, George and Cosmo Kramer. At the same time, we also watched Brandon Walsh and his sister Brenda slowly make their way out of our lives on "Beverly Hills 90210."

We experienced many highs and lows in our world during our time at F&M -- too many to list them all. But, we will certainly remember watching the O.J. Simpson criminal trial verdict being announced. Israel Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated and the Unabomber was found while we were students. Most of us were just returning to campus in August of 1996 when we first heard the news of Princess Diana's tragic death.

On a lighter note, we began searching for our first summer internships while Monica Lewinsky was becoming famous for her's.

Students also experienced the Million Man March in Washington, D.C., and some made the trek down to Camden Yards in Baltimore to see Cal Ripken, Jr. break the all-time consecutive games played record in Major League Baseball.

We might have also been one of the last classes to not carry cell phones - although some may have had one of those Zack Morris walkie-talkie looking things. Yes, we do remember Zack Morris and the rest of the gang on "Saved by the Bell."

We were, however, one of the first few classes to use something called the "Internet" on a daily basis. In fact, it was a big deal during our time as students when the school announced that it was now on the "World Wide Web." The Class of 1998 also may have used the original IM. Only then it was known as "Broadcast," as student spent hours talking to one another "online." Both Yahoo and Ebay were founded while we were students.

We were one of the first classes to have the first-year experience, where we had residence-hall based seminars with Dean Trachte, Dean Drum and others. These seminars were the foundation for solid academic programs and achievement that helped our class reach great

heights in the professional world after F&M. Of course our Freshman Year did start with the Pajama Parade during orientation that so many other classes have also enjoyed.

On the social scene, our class got off to a rocky start. The Blizzard Bash was one to forget, as students got sick, vandalized the hall, broke a toilet and forced the buses to leave early. Also, on the down side, our Junior Journey event was canceled when students arrived to a closed and locked club. Yikes.

For the most part, though, we got our act together. Over our four years at F&M, the students from the Class of 1998 were instrumental in hosting high profile speakers, such as poet Maya Angelou, writer John Updike, former head of the NAACP Kweisi Mfune, John Major, former Prime Minister of Great Britain, and speaker of the house, Newt Gingrich. In addition, we were honored to have CBS-news anchor Charles Osgood as our commencement speaker.

Students from our class also played vital roles in bringing entertainment to the campus including the local band "Live", just as they were hitting it big. In fact, they were so good that we brought them to campus twice while we were students! We also hosted the Gin Blossoms, Billy Joel, George Clinton and the P-Funk All-Stars, George Carlin and Penn and Teller.

And who can forget the revival of the weekend film series during our four years at F&M, and the entertainment of Rock-A-Like. Students from the Class of 1998 also contributed to many performances at Hensel Hall, the Green Room and Other Room theaters.

On the athletic front, members of the Class of 1998 led some of F&M's sports teams to major titles and awards. During our first year, the women's volleyball team earned their first bid to the NCAA tournament in school history. The men's basketball team reached the Sweet 16 and Final Four during our four years at F&M and Coach Glen Robinson notched his 500th victory.

The baseball team won the Centennial Conference Championship, and the football team went from worst to first, as they won their fifth conference championship in ten years during our sophomore year.

And hundreds of students achieved glorious victories too numerous to count on beer pong, Beirut and quarters' tables in dark and dingy basements across Lancaster.

Our class also witnessed the final practice of the Philadelphia 76ers at Mayser Gymnasium. After 16 years at F&M, the professional basketball team decided to change their pre-season practice venue to the University of Delaware.

The campus and surrounding area also went through significant changes while we were students. The water towers, George and Martha, came down. The Alumni Sports & Fitness Center was officially opened and dedicated during our time. Doc Holiday's came to College

Square, while, sadly for some, the food court and the fine food of Mau Mau's, Steak Attack and others were replaced with Gibraltar.

The College Center turned 20, and renovations to the then Pfeiffer science building and Hensel Hall were started. The off-campus offices of the Psychology Department became home to monkey labs.

Off campus, Pi Lam burned and was rebuilt. And nearly every student will always remember walking to and from the fraternities late at night despite the weather or temperature. The fraternities were a large part of the social scene for our class.

And there are little moments that hold together the major happenings during our time as "Fummers" on campus. Like going to the then Common Ground for a "Meal Deal," which was a great deal, but we're not too sure about the meal. Using "Power" MacIntosh computers. Going to Ben's Underground for "Ben's Bread." Trying to find parking, and when you did find parking, you were usually at risk for a steep parking ticket or having your car broken into -- even if you were in the "cage" on Harrisburg Pike. Many of us out-of-state students even tried to see who could get the most parking tickets our senior year, only to find that the rumor that only PA residents have to pay the fine was, in fact, just a rumor! During the year after we graduated there were many of us who received three dozen summons from the City of Lancaster for unpaid tickets! Some of our classmates may still be in Lancaster City Jail.

We played hall sports and lived in dorms called "The Pit" and Marshall-Buch.

We went to Breuger's Bagels in College Square, and remember the iron scrap yard where the new tennis center sits.

Of course, we went to Hildy's and Brendee's, but we left our own unique stamp on these places - and elsewhere - along the way. Some of us even had senior seminar classes in these fine bars... the beer made the discussions even better!

All of this was a part of the experience and history of the Class of 1998.

Together, we learned and grew together, and today we are a network of doctors, lawyers, teachers, accountants, business executives and more.

From the fall of 1994 to the spring of 1998 we made history. Today, the Class of 1998 is proud to stand together once again, make new memories and write another chapter in our history as members of the F&M family.