

President John Remembers Forrest Football Coach Tom Sparkman

The class of 1961, being honored at this year's alumni reunion, knew Tom Sparkman well. He is remembered as a man of character and integrity. Tom came to Chapel Hill in 1956 and served as teacher and coach through 1962. He was married to Martha Jean and together they had three children, Jimmy, John and Milla. The Sparkman family became very involved in the community and were well respected and loved by all.

Tom grew up in tiny Quebeck in White County, between McMinnville and Sparta. I never fail to think of him as I travel Hwy. 111 and see the sign pointing to Quebeck. Tom played his high school ball in Sparta then went on to play at Middle Tennessee State. Because of his speed during his playing days, he had been tagged with the nickname, "Cruiser," but none of his students or players dared to address him by that name.

During his coaching days at Forrest, he had a series of outstanding football teams. The teams of 1958, 1959, 1960, and 1961 won the Duck River Valley Conference. Lynchburg always strong and Huntland, still having the last remaining Majors' brother, was no match for the Rockets. Coach Sparkman's team was a mid-state small school powerhouse, running the single wing and punishing other teams with superior blocking, "gang" tackling and, of course, a winning strategy.

The young men from the Class of '61 playing on Coach Sparkman's winning team were Joe Coble, Dan Pickle, Horace Hill, Jimmy Joe Gillespie, Leroy Davis, and Larry Boss. From Pete's Barber Shop to Mr. Harry Joyce's Produce House, the talk revolved around Forrest Football. These conversations by the town elders fueled a desire in the young boys listening that they too might play the game well enough for the Rockets someday that they themselves might be the subject of conversation by these old sages. This dynamic is perhaps a successful formula for winning traditions.

After his time at Forrest, Coach Sparkman went on to coach at McMinnville in Warren County. Sadly, he would pass away in 1974 at the young age of 48. Tom Sparkman, and men like him, served as positive role models for the young people at Forrest and had a profound impact and influence on the community that exists even today. We that knew him will fondly remember our old friend, Tom Sparkman.

As a side note: The first guitar I ever owned belonged to Coach Sparkman. It was an old arch-top Kay my parents purchased for \$15. He could play it pretty good and told me he could have made it in music if he had concentrated on it---I believe he could have! Tom showed me how to play the old country instrumental standard, "Wildwood Flower". You could almost expect a man from the hill country of Lester Flatt, Jimmy Martin, and Dottie West might be able to pick and strum a guitar, at least a little.

Remembering Forrest Football Coach, Tom Sparkman

by Mary Margaret McCormick Henson

Coach Tom Sparkman came to Forrest School in 1956-57 as football, girls' and boys' basketball coach. His wife Martha Jean and his two sons Jimmy and John were well-liked. The family lived across the highway from Forrest High School in the rock house known as the "Teacherage."

Coach Neighbors had moved to Cornersville School as principal. (He later went to Pulaski to coach.) We, the girls' basketball team, were all disappointed at Coach Neighbors' leaving. Our goal was to win the district tournament. Coach Sparkman came in with two different colored socks on and that happened almost every day and we wondered exactly what kind of coach he would be!! He liked ham and biscuits and red hair. We all liked him, worked hard and we DID WIN every game during he season. Next came the district tournament. We won the district tournament! Next was the regional tournament which was at that time the last tournament for the girls. We played Loretta and lost by five points. Should have won!!! Loretta won the regional. At that time the state tournament started the very next year after our senior year of '56-'57.

Coach Sparkman stayed at Chapel Hill for three years. A daughter – Milla- was born here. He then moved to McMinnville (his home town) to coach. He died there of a heart attack at a young age. Mrs. Sparkman remarried and is now in an assisted living facility in McMinnville. Coach Sparkman was well liked by everyone. He was a good coach and a good man.

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NEWS FROM FORREST

Forrest Alumni,

The 2010-2011 school year was a year of exciting changes at Forrest. After completing almost three years as principal at Forrest, Dr. Larry Miller accepted a position as Assistant Director of Marshall County Schools and moved to the central office. Mr. Danny Morgan has replaced Dr. Miller as principal. Mr. Morgan first came to Forrest to teach U.S. history but had more recently filled the office of assistant principal. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from David Lipscomb University in 1996 and his Master's of Education Degree from Cumberland University in 2007. More recent alumni will remember his mother Peggy Morgan who taught Family Consumer Science at Forrest several years ago. In addition to a new principal, Forrest now has two assistant principals! Davy McClaran moved from the math classroom to assume duties of assistant principal at the high school level although this move means we will relinquish his coaching responsibilities. Mr. McClaran is married to the former Melissa Daugherty, Forrest Class of 1994. When the county funded an assistant principal position at the middle school level, Robby Reasonover was appointed to fill that role. Although he had been a successful language arts teacher in the middle school, Mr. Reasonover is probably best known as having coached the 2006 Lady Rockets to a state basketball championship. Other additions to the faculty include a middle school guidance counselor, an additional science teacher. We have revamped the class schedule for the 2011-12 school year in order to add more honors classes as we pursue the goal of increasing the rigor of instruction for our students and strengthening the academic requirements.

In May, ninety-seven seniors were honored at graduation. Two Forrest graduates, Lenzie Howell and Jacob Terry were among the twenty-four students from across the state that had spent two years at the Tennessee Governors Academy in Knoxville. Nearly 3/4 of our graduating students qualified for the HOPE scholarship. Several of our students have taken advantage of the opportunity afforded by dual enrollment with Columbia State. One student, Tommy Ring, graduated from Forrest with twenty-one college credits.

Please feel free to visit the campus and school at any time. The 2011 Homecoming Celebration is scheduled for September 9. Come and join us!

News from Chapel Hill Elementary School

Chapel Hill Elementary School ended the 2010-2011 school year with 762 students. Our kindergarten classes graduated 117 students. At fifth grade graduation, 139 students graduated with anticipation of attending sixth grade at Forrest School in August!

Mrs. Warren and Mrs. Garvin's classes shared the top attendance prize of getting to paint Mr. Delk's truck any color they choose! So...if you see a Rocket blue truck in town with black stripes and a tiger tail with the message "WILD about CHES!" ...that's Mr. Delk! Great job!

We're looking forward to having six classes of each grade K-5 next year! We're going to be packed not only with priceless students but packed with the excitement that our great country will be a little brighter because our students will be ready for

the challenges that await them! Drop by for a visit. Our doors are always open to you.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE CLASS OF 1961

In the fall of 1960 thirty Forrest students took their place as members of the Senior Class of 1961. Joe Coble, class President, headed a very capable set of officers. These included Vice-President, Billy McCool; Secretary, Jimmie Lou Hedgcoth, Treasurer, Jane Warner; Concession Stand Business Manager, Joe Carlton, and Concession Stand Manager, Otis Griggs.

In January 1961, the youngest man to be elected President of the United States, John F. Kennedy, was inaugurated asking Americans to think about what they could do for the country and the world. Indeed many Americans, young and old, volunteered for the Peace Corp, which was created the same year.

Fall of every school year brings with it the fun and activities of Homecoming. The Rocket football squad selected Jane Warner as the Homecoming Queen. Sara Scott was elected by the Senior Class to be the class attendant. Needing to save money for the annual senior trip to Florida, the class spent very little on the class float that urged the football team to “Wreck Lynnville”.

At Forrest, students went about their regular routines—attending class, practicing football, basketball, or cheerleading, learning play parts, and taking part in and leading school clubs. The Forrester staff consisted of Jimmie Lou Hedgcoth, Jane Warner, Kay Palmore, Joe Carlton, Billy McCool, Joy Walker, Joe Coble, and Jimmy Harber. Valedictorian of the Class of 1961 was Joy Walker while Jimmy Lou Hedgcoth was the Salutatorian. Jane Warner and Joe Coble represented Forrest at Girls’ State and Boys’ State and Jimmie Lou Hedgcoth was selected as the DAR Representative.

In athletics, four girls served as either football or basketball cheerleaders. These included: Jane Warner, Anna Margaret Joyce, Kay Palmore, and Sara Scott. In the same year that Johnson and Johnson introduced Tylenol, Captains, Dan Pickle and Joe Coble, lead the Rocket Football team to an 8-2 regular season. Other seniors of the football team were: Leroy Davis; Jimmy Joe Gillespie; Horace Hill, Jr, and Larry Boss. Two senior girls, Jane Warner and Anna Margaret Joyce, led the Lady Rocket basketball team while Clinton Edmonson, Jimmy Harber, Joe Coble, and Dan Pickle lead the Rocket basketball team.

In the spring of 1961, seniors turned their thoughts to that of the Senior Play, Baccalaureate, and Graduation. On the national scene, Alan Sheppard was training for his twenty-minute flight into space, becoming the first American and second man to be launched into space. As I remember this event, Mr. Earl Barnes, principal, had Lawrence Brothers deliver a television to the school auditorium so that students could view this historic event.

The Campbell’s Are Coming was chosen as the Senior Play. Under the direction of class sponsor, Mrs. Sara Nelson, Janice Hickman, Kay Palmore, Jane Warner, Clinton Edmonson, Joe Coble, Dan Pickle, David Griffy, Anna Margaret Joyce, Otis Griggs, and Sara Scott brought to the stage the antics of the back woods Brannigan family.

On May 17, 1961 those same thirty students who had taken their place in the senior rows of the auditorium walked across the stage for the last time to receive their

diplomas. Now 50 years later, the Forrest Alumni Association is proud to recognize and honor the Forrest Class of 1961.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE CLASS OF 1986

As the 1985-86 school year began, the United States was facing a year of scandals, mishaps, and disasters that would continue through the coming year. In August 1985, fourteen-year-old Ryan White was banned from attending school in Kokomo, Indiana. Ryan, a hemophilic, had contracted the AIDS virus through a blood transfusion and as little was known about the disease, parents in Kokomo were fearful that their children would be exposed to the then deadly virus. In September of that year the wreckage of the Titanic was found on the ocean floor in the North Atlantic and in January of 1986 Martin Luther King Day was observed for the first time. January also brought the explosion of the space shuttle Challenger, killing the 6 astronauts and teacher/astronaut Christa McAuliffe. On the lighter side, the Coca Cola Corporation and the Statue of Liberty both celebrated their 100th anniversary, “Top Gun” was the top grossing movie, and students everywhere sang the song of the year, “That’s What Friends are For.”

At Forrest the school year began like any other with new notebooks, new clothes, and new classes. Jeff Moorehead, Mike Whaley, Shown Mayes, and Tanya Lamb lead the thirty-five member Senior Class.

Academically, Tracy Cook would earn the Valedictorian spot with Mike Whaley being the Salutatorian. Tanya Lamb, Laurie Bullock, Todd Blalock, Shown Mayes, Shane Turner, Carol Ann Pruitt, Lisa Coble, and Cindy Robinson would round out the Top Ten. Mike and Tracy were the delegates to Boys’ and Girls’ State and Steffon Crutcher was the DAR Award winner.

Mike Whaley, Tracy Cook, Terry Wray, Tonya Lamb, Carol Ann Pruitt, Jeff Moorehead, Bill Nix, Ames Hill, Kim Fults, Tony Daugherty, Clint Bowman, and Steffon Crutcher were part of the newspaper staff. The Forrester staff included Mike Whaley, Lisa Whitefield, Jeff Moorehead, Tammy Harber, Jill Bradford, Wendy Dunaway, and Stanley Trout. Laurie Bullock was selected in the fall as the 1985 Homecoming Queen while Lisa Coble served as the Senior Class attendant. The entire student body selected Lisa Coble as Miss Forrest and Steffon Crutcher as Bachelor of Ugliness.

Angie Jones, the lone senior on the cheerleading squad, cheered on the other senior athletes. For football these included: Jerome Crutcher, Steffon Crutcher, Shown Mayes, Bill Nix, Eddie Smith, Parnell Taylor, Stanley Trout, Shane Turner, and Tommy Wray. On the basketball court Shown Mayes, Stanley Trout, Parnell Taylor, and Tommy Wray represented the Senior Class.

On May 25, 1986 Phil Lamb, a Forrest graduate, delivered the Baccalaureate address and five days later on May 30 another Forrest graduate, Dr. Joe Nunley, gave the Graduation address. With diplomas in hand those 35 students who had begun the year full of promise headed out to face whatever challenges would come their way.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2011 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Tommy Ring. Parents: Keith and Darlene Ring.

Lisa Welch. Parents: Tommy and Margie Welch.
Cory Bishop. Parents: Mike and Betsy Bishop
Ross Strasser. Parents: Leo and Sherry Strasser
Lenzie Howell. Parents: Billy and Lisa Hill
Connor Perryman. Parents: Mike and Michelle Perryman
Chelsey Bowman Parents: Clint and Cheryl Bowman

2011 Annual Alumni Banquet Information

Reservation form can be found on the insert of this newsletter. Don't delay--Send it now!

Date: Saturday August 6, 2011--Classes of 1961 and 1986 will be honored

Times: 9 AM Alumni Golf Tourney at Horton Park
3 PM FHS doors will be open for fellowship, historian displays and refreshments.
6 PM Dinner will be served by Russell Catering.

Menu: Oven Roasted Pork Loin, Grilled Chicken Breast, Cheesy Scalloped Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad With Assorted Dressings, Rolls, Assorted Cake Dessert, Fruit Tea, and Unsweetened Tea.

Program: Our program will include past and present at Forrest High School. A little walk down memory lane, entertainment, acknowledgement of friends, the opportunity to share with those friends from yester-year over delicious food.

Special Guest: Tim McGehee has been invited to this year's Forrest High School Reunion Aug. 6th. Many of you will remember him as former minister of Smyrna Baptist Church, active member of the Chapel Hill Lions Club and a smiling face many remember seeing around Chapel Hill a few years back. Now living in Tullahoma, pastoring Grace Baptist Church, Tim fondly recalls wonderful years in Chapel Hill and looks forward to being with everyone. Tim is married to Kim and together they have two daughters, Hannah and Katie Beth.

FORREST ALUMNI DEATHS: AUGUST 2010-MAY 2011

Bo Hill	Gayle Hill	Don Osteen
Cody Curtis	William Pate Garrett	John Tingler
Kathy Luker Kritz	Louise Kincaid Moore	Lola Garrett Blain
Mary Ann Hedgecoth Murdock		Monte Osteen
Tracy Sellers	Harold (Buster) Fuller	Pauline Beasley
Billy Hargrove	Tom Haney	Jack Logue
Nimo Jane Perryman	Christine Wilson Perryman	Harold Daniels

Terry Wray	Joe Earl Crosslin	Mary Adeline Horton Beasley
Beulah Elmore Beech	Gordon Fuller	Charles Johns
Bill Young	Ernestine Moore Richardson	
Mike Harris	Jeff Crutcher	Charlie Perryman
Johnny Curtis	Mary Ann Walker	Tommy Ring
Peggy McKnight		

Joe Allen, Forrest Class of 1954 Honored by McGavock High School
 Reprinted from the Martin Methodist "The Voice."

Joe Allen, Class of 1956, was recognized for his love of sports. McGavock High School in Nashville, Tenn., recently recognized their former long-time basketball coach by dedicating the basketball court in his honor. Joe taught math and coached at Donelson High School from 1958 to 1971 and then at McGavock from 1971 until his retirement in 1993. His basketball team won the TSSAA Basketball Championship at Donelson in 1964 and at McGavock in 1976. Joe was inducted into the Martin Methodist College Sports Hall of Fame in 1999.

Notes of Appreciation and Thanks

Special appreciation to Lawrence Brothers Funeral Home and First State Bank for again supporting the FHS Alumni Association. Both have agreed to contribute towards the Reunion Banquet this year.

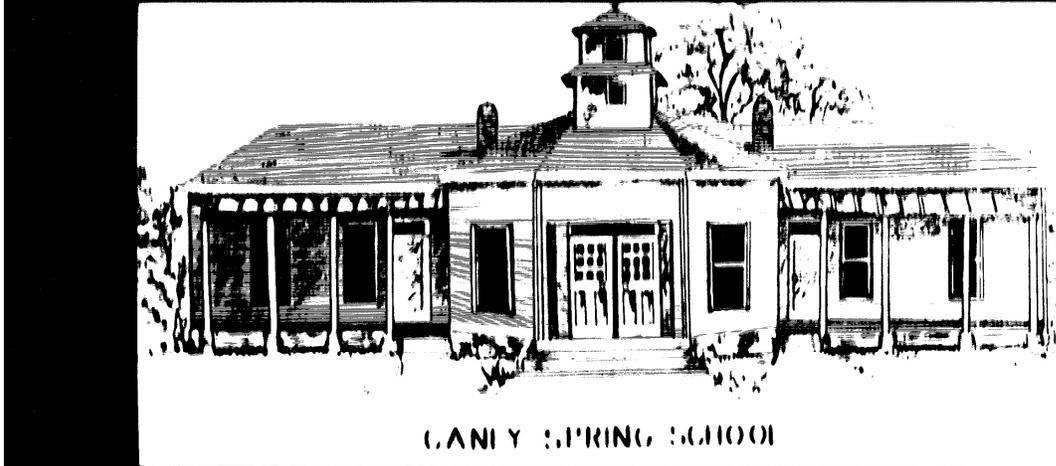
To the Forrest High School Alumni Association:

I would like to thank all of you who gave to my dear sister Mary Ann Walker's memory, a donation to the scholarship fund. That was a very nice thing to do and I appreciate it very much. Mary Ann was a wonderful person and our family misses her very much.
 Sincerely, Ruby Walker Higgins
 May 22, 2011

To the Forrest Alumni Association:

I finally made it to my first degree! Though this won't be my last (I plan on getting a PhD and becoming a professor), it is definitely worth celebrating. Please extend my thanks and excitement to the alumni because their scholarship paid for my meal plan during my freshman year which I am incredible thankful for. I also want you to know that their generosity was neither wasted nor forgotten.

Felicia Brown, Class of 2007 Scholarship recipient
 MTSU – Class of 2011



Caney Spring School closed in September 1957 shortly after I started to school. My daddy used to say that the Ogilvies were getting smarter. It took his daddy eight years to finish at Caney, he finished in six years, and it only took me two weeks! Brenda Brown

Forrest High School Alumni Association

Reunion August 6, 2011 Dinner Reservation

Name _____
Class of _____
Address _____ Phone _____
City, State, _____
Zip Code _____

Total Number of People for Dinner _____ X \$15 _____ Total Amount Due

Make Check Payable to FHS Alumni Association-----Send Check and Form by July 20, 2011 to Ricky Sweeney 1502 Hunters Chase Chapel Hill, Tennessee 37034

"Doors open at 3:00 PM for fellowship, historical displays/Dinner starts at 6:00 PM"

Membership Dues Form - Dates of Membership: July 1 to June 30

Name _____
Class of _____
Spouse's Name _____
Class of _____
Address _____
Phone _____

City, State,

Zip _____

() Yearly Membership: Single \$10 Couple \$15

() Lifetime (under 60) Single \$140 Couple \$175

() Over 60 Single \$85 Couple \$100

**Make Check Payable to FHS Alumni Association---send form and check to
Ricky Sweeney
1502 Hunters Chase
Chapel Hill, Tennessee 37034**

FHS Alumni Association Scholarship Fund Donation Form

() I desire to support the FHS Alumni Scholarship Fund with a one time gift of
\$ _____.

() I desire to donate \$ _____ in memory
of _____

() I desire to donate \$ _____ in honor
of _____

Name (please print) _____

Class of _____

Address _____

_____ City, State,

Zip _____

Please include the name and address of the person(s) to notify of your donation.
Make check Payable to FHS Alumni Scholarship Fund
Send form and check to Jimmie Lee 103 Crosby Drive Hendersonville, Tenn.
37075

Please mail entries to: Stacey Cothran , 3577 Coble Road, Lewisburg, TN
37091

Yes, I would like to help the Forrest Alumni Scholarship Fund. Please reserve the
following:

Sponsorship:
contact:

For more information,

1 Team Sponsor \$300

1 Hole Sponsor \$100

Individual Player \$75

Mulligan \$5 each (2 per person)

Stacey Cothran

Home: 931-364-7227

Mobile: 615-202-3585

email: scothran@wm.com

Make Checks Payable To:
Forrest Alumni Scholarship Fund

Bob Kerr
Home: 615-776-1660
Mobile: 615-714-6117

(Team Contact) Player #1:

Total Enclosed \$_____

Person: _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ City/State _____ Zip _____

Player #2:

Person: _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ City/State _____ Zip _____

Player #3:

Person: _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ City/State _____ Zip _____

Player #4:

Person: _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ City/State _____ Zip _____