

Baylor University's Pat Neff Hall tower, usually illuminated only in the school's traditional green, was lit with Virginia Tech's school colors on April 23 and 24 to mark the return of Tech students to campus. Baylor specifically purchased lighting gels in Hokie maroon and orange for the tribute.



Being a Hokie is not a word, it's a lifestyle. It's who we are and what the university experience taught us; it's the comfort of having a family with us when we spread our wings. To the parents and friends of those who were lost, know that your son, daughter, father, mother, or friend was a member of our family and that we are all better because of them. They have touched the lives of others in a way that will inspire others who will carry on their memory. Hokies everywhere are feeling your pain and we are here for you.

— Sarah Osborn Welty '90, Marching Virginians 1987-1990



French students at Chatham Hall, an all-girls boarding school in Chatham, Va., honored the memory of Virginia Tech French instructor Jocelyne Couture-Nowak.

In Huntington, W. Va., we understand the chill that won't go away. Thirty-six years ago, nearly all the members of the Marshall University football team and several citizens, 75 people in all, died on a rain-soaked Saturday night when their plane crashed while returning from a game at East Carolina University. Their story is told in a recent motion picture, "We Are Marshall."

Today, the tragedy in Blacksburg has created a connection between Marshall University and Virginia Tech, one that we wish had never happened. The states of Virginia and West Virginia have always been separate but close. Blacksburg and Huntington. Virginia Tech and Marshall University. Our communities and universities are now linked by the two worst campus tragedies in U.S. history.

As the healing process goes, we are a little farther ahead of our brothers and sisters in Blacksburg with a head start of more than three decades. To those in Blacksburg who grieve and to those who sent your sons and daughters to Blacksburg, know that we stand beside you in your April mourning.

Today, at Marshall University, "We Are Virginia Tech."

— W. Joseph Wyatt, professor of psychology, Marshall University