

President Lavery laments a loss

One of the best things about Virginia Tech, President Lavery told the board of visitors Monday, is that it attracts so many outstanding people to its faculty and staff.

On the other hand, he lamented, it's that very factor which occasionally brings about the loss of one of those people: they are sometimes wooed — and won — by other institutions or corporations in search of talent. Such a loss, he said, has occurred now. Ken Haines, director of public affairs, has resigned and will leave the university Aug. 31 after more than 10 years here.

"Ken possesses an unusual combination of talents and abilities," the president told *Spectrum*. "His interest and involvement in all aspects of the university, his willingness to work long hours, and his ability to inspire confidence, have brought a dimension that has been terribly important to our development in recent years.

"Ken's ability to work with the media, and their trust in the integrity of his open and honest philosophy have been invaluable, both to the university and to me, personally. They have made it much easier for me to function as president.

"The breadth of Ken's interest, talents, and dedication will be very hard to replace."

Haines joined the staff in 1971 and rose from an hourly position in radio production to become director of information services in 1978. During that time, in addition to his role in public affairs, he developed the Virginia Tech Sports (radio) network into one of the largest in the country, and has played an instrumental role in the promotion and development of the athletic program.

Last year, Haines was chief spokesman and mover for the university's successful effort in the license transfer of public radio station WVWR (now WVTF) to Tech.

Haines will join Raycom Corp. of Charlotte, N.C., as vice president for network operations. He has worked closely with Raycom officials in the production of television coverage of Tech athletics, was courted strongly to become one of the company's top executives, and was finally won.

Haines and his wife Stephanie will move to Charlotte at the end of August.



Haines