



THOMAS A. EDISON STATE COLLEGE

FOURTEENTH COMMENCEMENT

October 10, 1986

Richardson Auditorium
Princeton, New Jersey

AMERICA, THE BEAUTIFUL

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountains' majesties
Above the fruited plain.
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears.
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.

Music by Samuel A. Ward
Words by Katharine Lee Bates

The
Fourteenth Commencement
of
Thomas A. Edison State College

2:30 p.m.
October 10, 1986

Richardson Auditorium
Princeton, New Jersey

Dr. Jerry Ice, Vice President for Academic Affairs
Presiding

ORDER OF CEREMONY

Processional "Pomp & Circumstance"
by Sir Edward Elgar

Hymn for the Audience "America the Beautiful"
by Samuel A. Ward and
Katherine Lee Bates

Welcome and Introductions Patricia Danielson
Chairman,
Board of Trustees

Greetings The Honorable Barbara B. Sigmund
Mayor, Borough of Princeton

The Honorable Arthur Holland
Mayor, City of Trenton

Francis R. Gerard
Major General, NJANG
The Adjutant General

Introduction of Francis R. Gerard
Commencement Speaker Major General, NJANG
The Adjutant General

Commencement Charles E. Yeager
Address Brigadier General, Retired
United States Air Force

Musical Presentation Sonata #3
by Johann Pezel
Trenton Brass Quintet Plus One

Conferring of Degrees Dr. George A. Pruitt
President

Presidential Charge Dr. George A. Pruitt
President

Response for the Graduates Carole A. Nerlino

Induction into the Alumni Frank Hawrylo
Association President of the
Alumni Association

Closing Remarks Dr. Jerry Ice
Vice President for
Academic Affairs

Singing of the Alma Mater Pro-Musica
Frances Slade
Director

Recessional "The Army Air Corps"
by Robert Crawford

Everyone is asked to stand during the Processional, the singing of "America the Beautiful," the singing of the Alma Mater, and the Recessional.

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This Commencement Program does not constitute an official certification of graduation.

ARNOLD FLETCHER AWARD

The Arnold Fletcher Award recognizes Thomas A. Edison State College baccalaureate graduates for exceptional achievement in independent learning. Students selected have demonstrated excellence and have earned a large number of credits using one or more of the nontraditional learning modes recognized by the College: Assessment of Prior Learning through Portfolio, Testing, Guided Study, Correspondence Courses, Nursing Performance Examinations.

The award is named in honor of Dr. Arnold Fletcher, Vice President for Academic Affairs from 1973 to 1983.

The Selection Committee, composed of the Coordinator of Liberal Arts Programs, Coordinator of Business Programs, Coordinator of Applied Science and Technology and Human Services Programs, Director of Nursing Program, and the Dean of Academic Programs have selected the following to receive the Arnold Fletcher Award at the October, 1986 Commencement.

Christopher Brinton, Phoenixville, PA
Carol A. DeFazio, Wanamassa, NJ
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Frederick Trust, Baltimore, MD

BRIGADIER GENERAL (USAF RET.) CHARLES E. YEAGER

On October 14, 1947, General Yeager became the first man to fly faster than the speed of sound. His historic flight in the Bell X-1 aircraft took place at Muroc Dry Lake Air Field (now Edwards Air Force Base, California). During his nine-year assignment as the nation's leading test pilot, he also became the first man to fly more than twice the speed of sound, flying the Bell X-1A on December 12, 1953.

General Yeager has flown 183 types of aircraft during his career. He has more than 11,000 hours of flight time, with over 10,300 of these hours in fighter aircraft. He has recently flown the SR-71, the F-15, F-16, F-18 and the F-20 Tigershark.

General Yeager was born on February 13, 1923, in Myra, West Virginia. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps in September 1941, was accepted for pilot training under the flying sergeant program in July 1942, and received his pilot wings and appointment as a flight officer in March 1943 at Luke Field, Arizona.

During World War II, General Yeager distinguished himself in aerial combat over France and Germany during 1943-1945 by shooting down 13 enemy aircraft, five on one mission, including one of Germany's first jet fighters. On March 5, 1944, he was shot down over German-occupied France but escaped capture when elements of the French Maquis helped him to reach the safety of the Spanish border.

He returned to the United States in 1945 to attend the instructor pilot course and subsequently served as an instructor pilot. In July 1945 he went to Wright Field, Ohio, where he received his first experimental flight test work. His assignment there led to his selection as pilot of the nation's first research rocket aircraft, the Bell X-1.

He returned to Europe in 1954 and became Commander of the 417th Fighter Squadron at Hahn Air Base and at Toul-Rosieres Air Base, France. During his tour in Europe, he took first place honors in the 1956 Fighter Weapons Meet.

Back in the United States in 1957, he was assigned to the 413th Fighter Wing at George Air Force Base, California, and in 1958 became Commander of the 1st Fighter Squadron.

General Yeager was graduated from the Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, in June 1961 and became Commandant of the Aerospace Research Pilot School, where all military astronauts are trained, in July 1962.

In 1966 he assumed command of the 405th Fighter Wing at Clark Air Base, Republic of the Philippines. While Commander of the 405th Fighter Wing he flew 127 missions in South Vietnam. General Yeager assumed command of the 4th Tactical Fighter Wing at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, North Carolina, in 1968 and went with the wing to Korea during the Pueblo crisis.

He was promoted to the grade of brigadier general in 1969. That year he became Vice Commander, Seventeenth Air Force, with headquarters at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. In 1971 General Yeager assumed duties as United States Defense Representative to Pakistan. He became Director of the Air Force Inspection and Safety Center at Norton Air Force Base, California, in 1973. General Yeager retired from active duty in the Air Force on March 1, 1975.

His military decorations and awards include the Distinguished Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Silver Star with one oak leaf cluster, Legion of Merit with one oak leaf cluster, Distinguished Flying Cross with two oak leaf clusters, Bronze Star Medal with V device, Air Medal with 10 oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal, Purple Heart, Distinguished Unit Citation Emblem with one oak leaf cluster, and the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award Ribbon.

He was awarded the MacKay Trophy in 1948, the Federation Aeronautique International Gold Medal Award in 1948, the Collier Trophy in 1948, and the Harmon International Trophy in 1954.

General Yeager is a graduate of the Air Command & Staff School, 1952, and the Air War College, 1961. He was awarded honorary doctor of science degrees from West Virginia University, 1948, Marshall University, 1969, Salem College, 1974, and the University of Charleston, 1983.

General Yeager was selected one of the "Ten Outstanding Young Men" by the Junior Chamber of Commerce in 1953, elected to the Aviation Hall of Fame in 1973, presented the "Golden Plate Award" by the American Academy of Achievement in 1974 and the Horatio Alger Award in 1986, awarded a peacetime Congressional Medal of Honor by the Congress of the United States, presented by President Gerald Ford in 1976, and was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Reagan, May 23, 1985.

General Yeager currently serves on the Board of Directors of Louisiana Pacific Corporation, Dahlberg Electronics Corporation, and the Air Force Academy Falcon Foundation. He is a Consultant Test Pilot for Northrop Corporation, a Consultant for Lear-Ziegler Corporation, Piper Aircraft Corporation, and the Flight Test Center, Edwards Air Force Base.

General Yeager was appointed by President Reagan to serve on the National Commission on Space and the Commission to Investigate the Shuttle Accident.

Currently his Autobiography "Yeager" continues on the "bestseller" lists.

General Yeager is married to the former Glennis Fay Dickhouse of Grass Valley, California. They have two sons, Donald C. and Michael D. Yeager; and two daughters, Sharon C. Flick and Susan F. Yeager. His hometown is Hamlin, West Virginia.

ACADEMIC HERALDRY: THE SYMBOLS OF LEARNING

While the current code concerning the types of academic costumes to be used by the colleges in the United States dates from 1960, distinctive academic dress dates from the medieval universities of the eleventh and twelfth centuries. The college or university commencement procession today is a pageant, alive and bright with a dress and ceremony deep in the tradition of the oldest universities.

Academic life as we know it today began in the Middle Ages—with Bologna and Paris, Oxford and Cambridge, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Louvain—first in the Church, then in the guilds. The teaching guild was the Guild of the Master of Arts, where the Bachelor was the apprentice of the Master and the dress was color and pattern, the unity of men of like purpose. Twelfth century records of Oxford University carry this justification for academic dress: "It is honorable and in accordance with reason that clerks to whom God has given an advantage of the lay folk in their adornments within, should likewise differ from the lay folk outwardly in dress."

The principal features of academic dress are three: the gown, the cap, and the hood. Their design and heraldry were, from as early as the eleventh and twelfth centuries in the great European universities, the outward sign of the bringing together of students and privileged persons under the same discipline.

To preserve their dignity and meaning, it early became necessary for these universities to set rules for academic dress. American universities agreed on a definite system in 1895 and set up a suitable code of academic dress for the colleges and universities of the United States. In 1932 and again in 1959 the American Council on Education revised the code which, for the most part, governs the style of academic dress today.

THE GOWN. The flowing gown comes from the twelfth century. Many think it was worn in olden times as protection against the cold of unheated buildings. It has become symbolic of the democracy of scholarship, for it completely covers any dress of rank or social standing underneath. It is black for all degrees with pointed sleeves for the Bachelor's degree; long closed sleeves for the Master's degree, with a slit for the arm and round open sleeves for the Doctor's degree. For the Bachelor's or Master's degree the gown has no trimmings. For the Doctor's degree it is faced down the front with velvet and has three bars of velvet across the sleeves, in the color distinctive of the faculty or discipline to which the degree pertains. Of late years, the official colors of the College may appear in the gown or its decorations.

THE CAP. When Roman law freed the slave he won the privilege of wearing a cap. And so the academic cap is a sign of freedom

of scholarship and the responsibility and dignity with which scholarship endows the wearer. Old poetry records the cap of scholarship as square to symbolize the book, although some authorities claim that the mortar board is the symbol of the masons, a privileged guild. The color of the tassel on the cap denotes the discipline.

THE HOOD. Since almost all of the students and faculty in the medieval universities were clerics (minor church ecclesiastics) and were tonsured, the hood served to cover the shaved head from the cold of unheated buildings. Eventually the hood was superseded by the skull cap which evolved into a headdress more or less like those in use today. Heraldically, the hood is an inverted shield with one or more chevrons of a secondary color on the ground of the primary color of the college. The color of the facing of the hood denotes the discipline represented by the degree; the color of the lining of the hood designates the color or university from which the degree was granted.

The Associate degree is a modern degree which dates back only several decades rather than centuries. In the hierarchy of the academic world, the associate degree is the modern entry point. Its equivalent in the guild of teachers would be that of a junior apprentice.

The hood is not worn by the Associate graduate. The Associate's cap and gown are grey.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The staff of the College wishes to thank the Trenton Brass Quintet Plus One for providing music for the ceremony.

The staff also wishes to thank Pro-Musica of Princeton for singing the *alma mater*.

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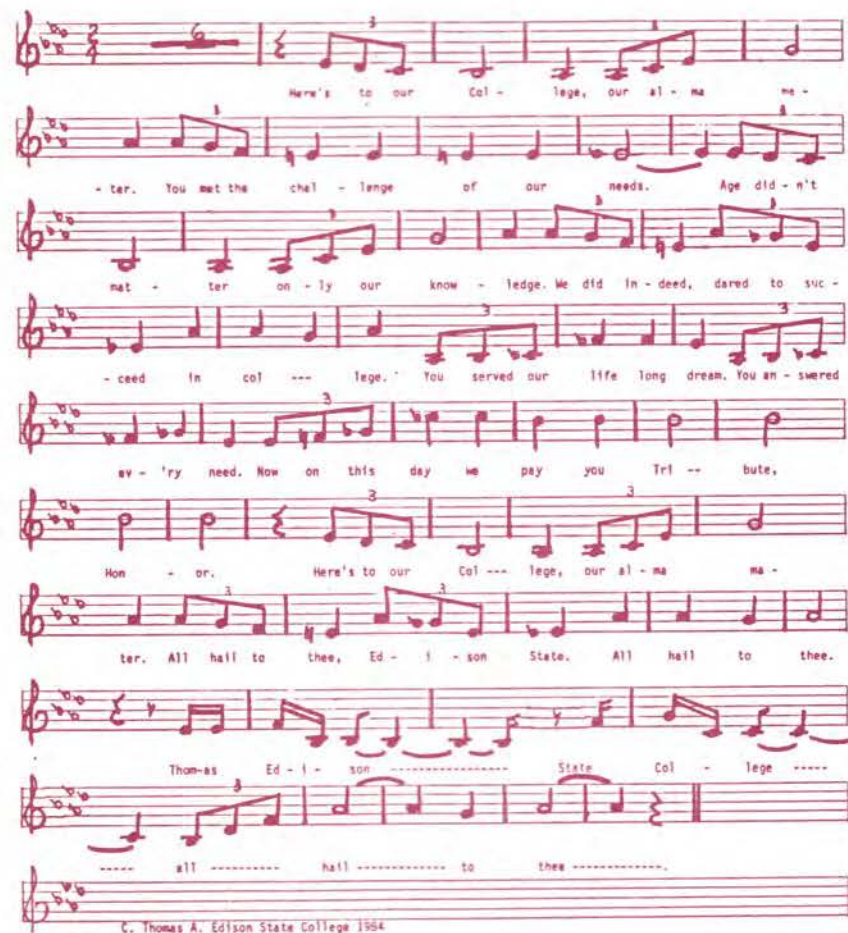
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THOMAS A. EDISON STATE COLLEGE
Alma Mater
Words and Music by Roy Meriwether



The Thomas A. Edison State College *alma mater* was composed in 1984 by noted jazz pianist and recording artist, Roy Meriwether. We are indeed fortunate that Roy Meriwether has chosen to recognize the uniqueness of Thomas A. Edison State College by donating his considerable talents to the creation of our *alma mater*.

ALMA MATER

Here's to our College
Our alma mater
You met the challenge of our needs.

Age didn't matter
Only our knowledge
We did indeed
Dared to succeed
In college.

You served our lifelong dream
You answered every need
Now on this day we pay you
Tribute—Honor.

Here's to our College
Our alma mater
All hail to thee
Edison State
All hail to thee.

Thomas Edison
State College
All hail to thee.