

Our Sesquicentennial Year Begins



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Lighting a cauldron, which burned throughout the ceremony, are William H. Hausdoerffer '36, professor emeritus of mathematics, and Lauren Kohout '08. Representing "old guard" of our alumni body and generations yet to come, they completed the ceremonial link between our 1855 origins and the beginning of our 150th year.



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Bagpipers from the New Jersey State Police (piping on the right is Mark Falzini '91) and TCNJ President R. Barbara Gitenstein led representatives of the Board of Trustees and dignitaries from state and local government from Paul Loser Hall to the Brower Student Center for speeches and entertainment.



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Gathered outside Grant Elementary School on Clinton Avenue in Trenton, students prepare to cheer the start of the Torch Run from the original site of the New Jersey State Normal School to the Ewing campus of The College of New Jersey. Somewhere in the crowd is Rashawn Adams '91, the school principal.

The final leg of the run was taken by William Neiss '81, who drove up from Virginia, where he works for the Department of Homeland Security, for the event. He's followed by TCNJ students enrolled in the Army ROTC, who ran the entire six-mile route carrying the colors ahead of 150 volunteer torch carriers. They're heading from Paul Loser Hall in the background to the Brower Student Center.

Holding a banner with the College's various names over the past 150 years are (left) Taras Pavlovsky, dean of the Roscoe L. West Library, and Leonard Tharney, professor emeritus of education and a member of the Sesquicentennial Planning Committee.



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Announcing the new name of our Lion mascot followed a secret ballot held last spring that was open to all members of the campus community. "Roscoe" (named for Roscoe L. West, president of the College from 1930 to 1957) won out over "Linus" (the original name that long has been out of use), "Norm," "Phelps," "Quimby," "Rodman," "Roy," "Trent," "Walker," and "Walt."

"Roscoe" won friends wherever he appeared.



Members of TCNJ's Dance Team celebrated the naming of Roscoe and the creation of a new College cheer written by Laureen Biruk '05. The Cheerleading Squad demonstrated the winning entry, which goes like this:

(With steady clapping throughout)

We're the Lions; get up and cheer. (clap, clap)
 We're the Lions; we have no fear. (clap, clap)
 If you're no Lion, we have been told, (clap, clap)
 You're gonna get beat by the Blue and Gold.
 Hey, hey hey, T-C-N-J (clap, clap)
 Hey, hey hey, T-C-N-J !



Balloons filled the atrium of the Brower Student Center. These were released just as the torch set the cauldron afire.



A big hit with the crowd swarming through the Student Center was a special ice cream concocted especially for TCNJ's 150th birthday. As a result of another campus contest, won by Meghan O'Reilly '08, it was named "Sesqui-mint-ennial." It's a rich dark chocolate loaded with tiny chips of mint-flavored chocolate. Glendale Barrios '06 seems to have graded it an "A."

