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Fresh Faces, Bright Futures

Merrimack College

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Fresh faces, bright futures
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Merrimack’s 50th Commencement — Celebrating Our Achievements and Our Future

Thanks to your support, we begin our second half-century stronger than ever. Most recently, we have broken ground on our new campus center, a long-awaited and critically important project.

Our picturesque New England campus has changed a great deal from its humble beginnings. I invite you to visit and see for yourself. The vision of Father McQuade, a most forward-thinking man, has been realized. And, the heart and soul of Merrimack remain true to the lofty ideals of Father McQuade and our founders. Our community of scholars, founded in the love of Christ and modeled on the example of his servant St. Augustine, grows larger, and stronger, and more far-reaching with each new class of graduates.

The following is drawn from my remarks to the newest members of our alumni: the class of 2000.

Let me begin by saying thank you to our graduates for committing yourselves to your work here, and for contributing so much to Merrimack College.

You have been students at Merrimack during an unprecedented time of growth. Backhoes and hardhats have been as familiar and ordinary on campus as backpacks and baseball caps. Despite the inconveniences, there has never been a better time to be a Merrimack student.

The small segment that is your professional life.

As you do, remember this: just as Merrimack is more than bricks and mortar, your degree is more than an academic accomplishment. You have studied history and literature, philosophy and theology, economics, physical sciences, and more. Use your knowledge to build a life, a whole life, as carefully as you construct the small segment that is your professional life.

Choose your friends carefully, and then take care of those friendships with the same diligence you'll apply to your retirement accounts. Make time and space in your life for the people you love. They are the richest riches you will ever attain.

Make a deliberate choice to serve your community. Volunteer at your local library or YMCA, or be a big brother or sister for a lonely child. Feed the hungry, clothe the naked, comfort the disturbed souls in our world.

We will continue to grow and change to meet the needs of our students, and you will continue to be an important part of Merrimack’s future. That is because Merrimack College is more than residence halls and classrooms. It is a community of scholars — faculty, alumni, administrators, parents, and friends — dedicated to educating the minds and hearts of our students. You will always be part of our community.

St. Augustine taught us we would find truth through our relationships with others. His teachings emphasize maintaining strong communities here in the earthly city. In the end, the lives we touch, not the things we collect, are the essential measurement of our lives.

In the coming years, you will undoubtedly meet many challenges and obstacles. Like our college, you will change and grow to meet those challenges, and surmount many obstacles. As you do, remember this: just as Merrimack is more than bricks and mortar, your degree is more than an economic tool. You have studied history and literature and philosophy and theology, economics, physical sciences, and more. Use your knowledge to build a life, a whole life, as carefully as you construct the small segment that is your professional life.

As always, we can draw inspiration from St. Augustine’s brilliant mind and passionate heart. “Some people are peacemakers in themselves,” he said. “By conquering and subjecting to reason all the motions of their souls... they become, in themselves, a kingdom of God. They enjoy the peace that is given on earth to persons of goodwill, the life of the consummate and perfect person of wisdom” (Sermon on the Mount, 1,2).

Welcome, class of 2000, to the ranks of the alumni. Go forth and act wisely, love deeply, and live fully. Make your world, our world, a better place.

God bless you.

President Richard Santagnti

See page 2

See page 9

See page 10

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MERRIMACK • SUMMER 2000 PAGE 1
Former Senator George J. Mitchell of Maine, who chaired the negotiations that led to the historic peace accord in Northern Ireland in 1998, spoke in hopeful terms about that tenuous peace. He urged members of Merrimack’s Class of 2000 to understand their influence on and responsibility for the world they live in.

Mitchell’s short, stirring address to 478 graduates was a highlight of the 50th annual commencement, held May 21 in the Volpe Center. The senator, who received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree, was one of four honorary degree recipients. The others were Emmy Award-winning TV news reporter Amalia Barreda (Doctor of Humane Letters), chairman and CEO of the CTC Communications Group Robert J. Fabbricatore (Doctor of Commercial Science), and the Rev. John J. Hagen, O.S.A. (Doctor of Literature). Hagen, a former member of the Merrimack Board of Trustees, is a recognized scholar in Medieval English Literature.

Introducing Mitchell, Merrimack Professor Marguerite Kane referred to President John F. Kennedy’s “City Upon a Hill” speech, which reminded us that history would measure the success or failure of our leaders by asking whether they were men of courage, judgement, integrity, and dedication.

“It is clear that for the man we honor today, the answer to all four questions is yes,” said Kane. She noted that Mitchell “readily accepted a dangerous and daunting task that many thought impossible, because in his own words, ‘We cannot let men of violence control the agenda and control the future.’”

In reference to that historic accord, Mitchell acknowledged that an agreement alone will not ensure peace. “But it makes peace possible, even though there are many difficult decisions ahead.”

“In Northern Ireland and elsewhere, the making of peace is a never-ending process, as each generation struggles anew with the tension between the legacy of history and the promise of the future,” Mitchell said. “Can people who have been in conflict for centuries rise up and make peace?”

Class of 2000 leaves mid messages of peace and personal responsibility

by David Rattigan
Like father, like son

Nathaniel Ward '00 is flanked by parents Philip "Art" Ward '51, a member of the first graduating class at Merrimack, and Yvonne Ward.

"I've often felt that coming to Merrimack is the best thing I've done in my life," said Nathaniel Ward, one of the most active members and top students in the Class of 2000. That's news that doubly pleases his father, Philip Arthur "Art" Ward, who was a member of the first Merrimack College graduation class in 1951.

Nathaniel chose Merrimack, in fact, in part because of periodic visits he made with his dad from their home in Cleveland, Ohio.

"He took me here as I was growing up. We came here for the 40th reunion, and I met a bunch of people from the school," Nathaniel said. "When it came time to pick a college, I thought, 'Why not?' I was familiar with the school, had other relatives in the area, and here I am."

"I was delighted at Merrimack's choice," said the elder Ward, who at one time owned a private four-year college in Cleveland, the Electronic Technology Institute. "He really enjoyed it here."

Art, now 72, was born in Chelsea, Mass., and raised in Stoneham. He was a World War II veteran who came to Merrimack on the G.I. Bill back when there were two buildings and no residence halls on the college campus.

There was also a fledging dramatic society, and Ward was one of the actors in a Three-Monkey play called "Refund."

"I had a leading part, but didn't remember my lines," he recalled. "I could improvise very well, so I improvised. Everybody loved it, except the director, Father Smith. He never invited me back."

His son did a little better with his dramatic career. Nathaniel was both president of the On Stagers and vice-president of the Concert Choir.

A magna cum laude student who majored in Philosophy with minors in French and Japanese, Ward is hoping to begin graduate work in applied ethical and political philosophy in September.

He hopes one day to serve as a diplomat in a foreign embassy, or perhaps to become a professor of philosophy or French or Japanese. The younger Ward says his involvement in activities on campus allowed him to develop a better sense of himself and how he can best impact the world.

During his college career he traveled to 11 states and 4 countries, always involved in some study or program. He is spending this summer in Chile, studying Spanish and doing volunteer work.

"Even though it's a small school, I've traveled everywhere," he said. "I just got back from San Francisco with the choir. Merrimack has given me a well-rounded view of the world."

"He's done a lot and gotten a lot out of it," his father said. "The college fit him perfectly. He had the chance to develop himself, and meet people. He's always done well academically."

"He's a much better student than I was. He graduated magna cum laude, and I just graduated."

In teaching, she finds real rewards

On the anniversary of its first graduating class, Merrimack College graduated its first Master's Degree student.

Kathleen Kendall, a teacher at St. Augustine School in Andover for eight years, became the first graduate of the Master's program in education.

A 1992 graduate of the University of New Hampshire, where she majored in psychology, Kendall worked at that school and was pursuing further education but unsure of what direction to go in her professional life. When she discovered teaching at age 26, originally as a substitute, she found it enriching and rewarding.

In 1998 she was one of six students to enter the inaugural year of the Master's program in education at Merrimack College. While teaching full time, she took two courses a semester — fall, spring and summer — to complete the degree in two years.

Kendall is certified to teach in both Massachusetts and New Hampshire. She intends to continue to teach fourth graders at St. Augustine, and become more involved in curriculum development.

"I love teaching," said Kendall, who lives in Andover. "It's different every day, and you're rewarded with smiles and hugs and positive comments from the children."

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Richard Santagati, received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

Dunn, a magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, shared her personal epiphany of the day she went into the heart of the Lawrence projects while working for the city's school department. Children walked barefoot past a boarded-up house with plastic over its windows. Broken-down apartment buildings were overcrowded with families; an incubator for the meningitis outbreak that had hit area children. The schoolhouse had chains on the door, a tall fence on its border. As she parked her car, Dunn wondered whether it would be safe.

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"I've traveled everywhere," he said. 
"We graduate with a lot of knowledge in our heads ... we have a myriad of opportunities open to us. However, the next time we find ourselves watching the evening news and we begin to detach our emotions because images of abject poverty and children dying are too much for us to handle, remember, the same society that brings jobs, opportunity, and amazing technology also alienates people based on race, class, ethnicity, and sexuality. In our heads, we know this alienation exists, but we need to know it in our hearts."

"In a letter to his friend, St. Augustine wrote, 'There is no one in the human race to whom love is not due, either as a return of mutual affection or in virtue of their share in our common nature.' This quote, and the Augustinian tradition of community, reminds us that we are all brothers and sisters ... Live Augustine's message, live Merrimack's mission. "Love and justice are due to all people."

Kelley knows some old tricks

Kelley went to work in a variety of fields, as the owner of a small painting and construction business, a wastewater treatment specialist, foreman of construction projects at Harvard University, and other jobs. He also carved a niche as an amateur actor in various local productions.

In 1992 he retired from work and decided that he "owed it to myself" to attend college. He started at Northern Essex Community College and in 1996 transferred his credits to Merrimack. Four years later he has achieved his goal, graduating with a degree in sociology.

While at Merrimack, Kelley was a member of Merrimack's branch of Amnesty International. The North Andover resident is also involved with his community outside of school. He contributes regularly to the "Hot Topic" column of The Eagle-Tribune in Lawrence, and has been a member of several community groups, including "Citizens for Peace" and "Local People for the Environment."

Kelley has been married to his wife Josephine for 45 years. He has five children, four stepchildren, and as he told a member of Merrimack's public relations department, he has 14 grandchildren, he thinks.

"I won a couple of scholarships, but seemed to have more important things to do with my life," he said. "I did some traveling, and before you knew it I was married, and the rest is history."

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Kelley's story is one of perseverance and dedication to education and community involvement. Despite facing challenges in his personal and professional life, he maintained a strong commitment to self-improvement and giving back to his community. His journey is a testament to the power of education and the importance of staying active in one's community.
Academic V.P. McCloskey sees opportunity in challenge
by David Rattigan

As the new vice president of academic affairs, Rev. Gary N. McCloskey, O.S.A., intends to leave an imprint. “I think you’ll see that my ideas will come quickly,” says McCloskey, who took over the position on June 1. “Working out the programmatic and administrative details will come gradually.”

As this year’s closing of the small liberal arts institution Bradford (Mass.) College illustrated, small- and medium-sized colleges face serious challenges. Costs related to education are going up, and expansion of the state college system has made that group of schools a viable higher education alternative for middle-class families. In response, more private colleges are offering technical and scientific degrees.

“We’re in the midst of massive changes in higher education,” McCloskey says. “We’re more concerned with our mission and our markets than we ever had to be before. Institutions of higher education are being pressured to change or go out of existence.”

Answering that challenge, he says, involves making changes without losing the identity of the college as a small, comprehensive, modern Catholic center of higher learning. Nor do we wish to change our commitment to an integrated liberal arts component, and to developing an intellectually mature student in a liberal arts context, and to develop a deeper understanding.

McCloskey cites an example from his own experience. He completed a Computing in Education Degree at Columbia University in 1994, and never used the Internet. However, because he had learned how to think about technology and technological problems, he was able to learn about the World Wide Web quite quickly when it burst into common usage a few years later.

“The real education is how to inquire: how to ask questions and formulate problems,” McCloskey says. “If you can make a sensible inquiry, you can learn how to do something and continue to do it. It’s lifelong learning. We give students the tools to know how to do that, and how to go on.”

“The same thing happens in the degree program at Merrimack, something that alumni can look back at over time. Higher education should be a vehicle to help people learn more in life. If we reduce it to practice and training, we’ve lost our mission. In academic terms, it’s a search for wisdom.”

McCloskey, most recently the vice president for academic affairs at St. Thomas University in Miami, Fla., worked at Merrimack as assistant to the president for urban affairs from 1990 to 1991. He intends to maintain the academic standards at Merrimack, and — with the deans of various faculties — the school’s link to professional organizations. He plans to create more educational interfaces with the city of Lawrence, and a system to welcome a more diverse student population. Fifty percent of Catholics in the United States are Hispanic, says McCloskey, noting that, “education is the major vehicle for social justice.”

While he has a strong background in using computer technology, McCloskey feels human contact between students and faculty is a more effective educational tool. Particularly, the interaction that allows students to see the teacher going through the process of inquiry to understanding.

“The Internet doesn’t light a fire the way interaction with excellent faculty can,” says McCloskey, who notes that one need only walk through the self-help section of any bookstore to see the demand for mentoring and direction.

Building an intellectual foundation from a liberal arts perspective is one of two important components in the Merrimack identity. The other is the school’s Augustinian tradition.

“In a very technical world, we should be educating students to the mystery and wonder of life,” McCloskey says. “As an Augustinian institution, we can look at questions that have no answer and problems that are not easily solvable. Things can change when we bring in new perspective and ideas.”

“The Order of St. Augustine, through Merrimack, can address the wonder and mystery of creation without having to apologize for it. Neither the college nor the Augustinians need permission to do it. We can do that together because that is what our mission is about.”

Campus Center will enhance community life
by David Rattigan

When it’s completed, there’ll be more to Merrimack’s new Campus Center than glass, bricks and mortar.

“Part of the Augustinian mission of Merrimack College is to encourage a sense of community,” says Maryellen Colliton, associate dean of student development. “We’re looking at this as a means of bringing the entire Merrimack College community together, to help fulfill our mission even more. There’ll be something for everybody in this building.”

The new Campus Center will double from 65,000 square feet to 130,000. Through renovation of the Gildea Student Center and new construction, the Campus Center will be not only bigger, but more versatile. A newly-built multi-purpose room was designed to house any function from recreational sporting and social events such as a concert or an alumni dinner.

When completed, the new facility will house, among other rooms, a study lounge; a cyber café; a chapel; areas for faculty-student meetings, faculty events, and clubs and organizations; and offices for campus ministry, student activities, residential life, and career and co-op services.

A 35-member campus advisory board, representing faculty, administrators and students, will determine the best uses for the building, which will become a focal point for students and enhance quality of life at the school.

The center will also create more student employment. A professional staff will manage the facility, and it will be run by student employees.

Change will not come without cost, financially and otherwise. Already, some of the departments formerly housed at Gildea, such as the bookstore and post office, have had to move. Although the refurbished dining hall is expected to reopen in September, many other departments will operate from temporary quarters until the project’s expected completion in January 2001.

“The fall semester will be a time of transition for a lot of us,” Colliton says. “A lot of people will be in different areas across campus.”

Ground-breaking for the project was in fall ’99 with the construction of a “Main Street” walkway running from the quad to the residence area. That’s one of three parts in the project, the others being renovation to the existing Gildea and the new construction. In order to build the center, the college’s former power plant was torn down; utilities will be relocated into the basement of the new building.

Cost of the entire project is estimated at $15 million, which will come from a number of resources including a national Kresge grant, and gifts and pledges received from individuals through the capital campaign.

“The entire college is looking forward to the opening,” says Colliton. “We believe the campus center will complement the academic experience and at the same time be a catalyst for enriching student life at Merrimack College.”

A pile of bricks is all that remains of Gildea Hall’s main entrance. The demolition is part of the new campus center construction project.
For students, Pilgrimage 2000 was a spiritual journey

by Betsy Johnson

When Fenway Park hosted a concert and Mass for throngs of young Catholic men and women on April 26, Merrimack students were among the faithful. An almost year-long spiritual journey, begun in September, Pilgrimage 2000 focused on helping younger Catholics grow and develop in a deepening of their faith.

Led by director of campus ministry, Rev. Joseph Farrell, OSA, approximately 40 Merrimack students participated in an educational process of defining their faith in answer to a call from Cardinal Bernard Law. The year kicked off with an event at Foxboro Stadium Sept. 25 and culminated with the one at Fenway Park.

In between the two large events, young Catholics were asked to participate in small group discussions about church participation, owning their faith, and discovering what it is they actually believe. Father Farrell explained.

Pilgrimage 2000 was designed to reach out to Catholics ages 14-35, the "future" of the church in Massachusetts. For Pope John Paul II, the third millenium is a special time of forgiveness, reconciliation and worldwide evangelism. Cardinal Law determined that helping younger Catholics to grow in their faith was a meaningful way to celebrate the Pope's vision.

For Merrimack students, the process was a valuable one, Father Farrell said. "They're told they are the future of the Church. They are meeting, in part, to see what the future of the church is, because that's going to be them," he said.

Led by seniors Jaime Swift and Suzanne DiMack, the students focused on service work and topics such as how reaching out to others affects their faith; discussions about the latter, students have held discussions about women and ordination whether ordination will ever be open to women and, more generally, what the church could look like in the future, Father Farrell said. Another student discussion focused on Mass on campus vs. Mass at home, with students prepared to return to their home parishes. "Some find it difficult to return," Father Farrell said. At college, students who attend Mass are more active as lectors, readers and greeters than they may be at home, he said. Homilies on campus are geared specifically toward a population of 18-20 year-olds, which can often make church feel more meaningful, he added.

"The best part about Pilgrimage 2000 is it has enabled our students to have an increased awareness and appreciation of our faith — even those who haven't formally participated. Students are having more conversations about their faith, and they are free."
Alan and Susan Lewis Solomont receive Tikkun Olam award

Merrimack College’s Center for the Study of Jewish-Christian Relations has deep respect for the couple it wanted to honor. In turn, the couple cited respect for the center as a reason for accepting.

“This isn’t about me, it’s about the college and the center,” said Alan Solomont, co-recipient with his wife of the prestigious Tikkun Olam (“Heal the World”) award at a spring luncheon at the Seaport Hotel at the World Trade Center in Boston.

Solomont, founder and CEO of the A+D+S Group (elder-care services), a leader in the Jewish Fund for Justice and other causes, and former National Finance Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, indicated that he would prefer to eschew the limelight. But he accepted the award with wife Susan Lewis Solomont — similarly dynamic in promoting public broadcasting, the arts, corporate social responsibility and equality for women in the home and workplace — as a means of spotlighting the center. He applauded its mission to promote reverence, appreciation and commitment to collaborative human enterprises between Jews and Christians by study, conversation and action.

“I’m glad to help showcase the center to an audience that they wouldn’t ordinarily reach,” Solomont said. “This is not about me and not about my wife. It’s a vehicle for giving the center some exposure and some money that they wouldn’t ordinarily get.”

New resource: Job Line

The alumni’s newest and best resource for job hunters is the Job Line, a 24-hour service available for job hunters at www.merrimack.edu.

The Job Line provides job hunters with a direct line to the center’s Job Line, a 24-hour service available for job hunters at www.merrimack.edu.

Softball

Merrimack was again a factor in the national picture, making its third straight appearance in the Division II National Tournament, its fifth in eight years. The Warriors finished in fifth place at the tournament and a record of 39-12.

“arit Rattigan

Softball

Senior captain Jen Connolly fired two post-season no-hitters. She’s a true-time All-America team selection.

Sports Report

by Larry Napolitano,
Merrimack Sports Information Director

Merrimack dropped its first four games, including three losses to the top three teams in the nation. The Warriors then posted the longest winning streak in Division II, capturing 12 straight decisions to finish the year 12-4.

Junior Jaime Stefani led the Merrimack offense with 14 goals and 45 assists for 59 points. Senior Mike Morgan and Ryan Polley also contributed to the offense. Morgan tallied 42 goals and added 10 assists for 52 points while Polley scored 43 goals and added five assists for 48 points. Polley was outstanding in the Northeast-10 Tournament, earning Most Valuable Player honors after tallying three goals and adding one assist in the championship game over Le Moyne. In the ECAC Championship game, Stefani led the offense with three goals and three assists, but it was senior defender Mark Ivany who earned Most Valuable Player accolades. Ivany helped Merrimack hold its opponent to just five goals in the championship game.
**Men's Basketball**

The 1999-2000 Merrimack men's basketball team had one of the most successful seasons in school history. For the first time, the Warriors earned both the regular season Northeast-10 title and the Northeast-10 Tournament crown while gaining a bid to compete in the NCAA Division II Regional Tournament for the fourth time.

Senior Matt Gibson became the first of three players to join the prestigious 1,000-point club in a loss to St. Michael's (75-61). Senior Shawn Brown became the third of three players to join the Northeast-10 regular season all-stars, including seven three-pointers.

Warriors' 105-104 overtime win. He earned both the regular season conference and also a bid to compete in the NCAA Division II Regional Tournament for the fourth time.

Senior Reggie Carter was the team's leading scorer and rebounder and Men's Basketball Northeast-10 Defensive Player of the Year.

**Northeast-10 defensive player-of-the-year.**

**Ice Hockey**

The hockey team's 11-19-6 record (6-12-6 in Hockey East) belied the kind of battle the Merrimack men's hockey team endured in the Northeast-10 quarterfinals but rebounded to lead the Warriors to the Northeast-10 Tournament semifinals.

**Women's Basketball**

The Warriors' 14-15 record was the second best in the program's history, but what was most impressive was a playoff showing that carried Merrimack to the Northeast-10 Tournament championship game.

First-year coach Ann McInerney left the sideline of Bentley College, where she had been an assistant under Barbara Stevens for five years, to take over a Merrimack team that had finished the 1998-1999 season at 9-17 and had never made it past the first round of the conference playoffs. When the season began, no one would have predicted that the Warriors would make it to the Northeast-10 finals.

Merrimack posted a record of 9-7, 6-3 in the Northeast-10 conference play. The Merrimack men's tennis team had a record of 1-2. Merrimack posted three straight wins including two in conference play. The Merrimack men's tennis team alternated wins with losses in the next four matches before winning two of their last three to earn a playoff position.

Merrimack fell to Pace University in the Northeast-10 quarterfinals but rebounded to end the season on a good note with a win over UMass Lowell, 6-3.

In the final game, Merrimack battled hard but the three-point accuracy of Bentley was too much as the Warriors were defeated, 85-58.

The 1999-2000 Merrimack men's basketball team had one of the most successful seasons in school history. For the first time, the Warriors earned both the regular season Northeast-10 title and the Northeast-10 Tournament crown while gaining a bid to compete in the NCAA Division II Regional Tournament for the fourth time.

Senior Matt Gibson became the first of three players to join the prestigious 1,000-point club in a loss to St. Michael's (75-61). Senior Shawn Brown became the third of three players to join the Northeast-10 regular season all-stars, including seven three-pointers.

Warriors' 105-104 overtime win. He earned both the regular season conference and also a bid to compete in the NCAA Division II Regional Tournament for the fourth time.

Senior Reggie Carter was the team's leading scorer and rebounder and Men's Basketball Northeast-10 Defensive Player of the Year.

**Ice Hockey**

The hockey team's 11-19-6 record (6-12-6 in Hockey East) belied the kind of battle the Merrimack men's hockey team endured in the Northeast-10 quarterfinals but rebounded to lead the Warriors to the Northeast-10 Tournament semifinals.

**Women's Basketball**

The Warriors' 14-15 record was the second best in the program's history, but what was most impressive was a playoff showing that carried Merrimack to the Northeast-10 Tournament championship game.

First-year coach Ann McInerney left the sideline of Bentley College, where she had been an assistant under Barbara Stevens for five years, to take over a Merrimack team that had finished the 1998-1999 season at 9-17 and had never made it past the first round of the conference playoffs. When the season began, no one would have predicted that the Warriors would make it to the Northeast-10 finals.

Merrimack posted a record of 9-7, 6-3 in the Northeast-10 conference play. The Merrimack men's tennis team had a record of 1-2. Merrimack posted three straight wins including two in conference play. The Merrimack men's tennis team alternated wins with losses in the next four matches before winning two of their last three to earn a playoff position.

Merrimack fell to Pace University in the Northeast-10 quarterfinals but rebounded to end the season on a good note with a win over UMass Lowell, 6-3.

In the final game, Merrimack battled hard but the three-point accuracy of Bentley was too much as the Warriors were defeated, 85-58.
Entreprenurial Donegan takes a swing at golf world

by David Rattigan

Tom Donegan ’62 has a new venture. Donegan is co-owner of The Ledges Golf Club in York, Maine, a part-time public course that’s being celebrated by both those who play it and experts in the field.

The March issue of Golf Magazine named it among the top 25 new public courses, and dubbed it the best new public course in New England. With the hilly, challenging and aesthetically pleasing course as his “portfolio piece,” designer William Bradley “Brad” Booth has become an extremely popular golf course architect. There’s a steady demand for tee times among its public but limited membership.

This is the first foray into golf club ownership for Donegan, who has had the entrepreneurial bent since founding a company in 1970 that sold and distributed computer components and semiconductors. That enterprise was part of an evolution from the technical end to the business side of the industry for the former design engineer, who at one time worked on post-Apollo applications of which was formerly a stone quarry.

He became a charter-boat captain in York Harbor, where he owns a summer home. He sold the boat in 1995, not too long after he signed on as an investor in the proposed golf course with longtime friend Pat Rodleaux, a developer. They later added a third partner, Ken Sullivan, and steered the project from concept to construction.

“This was done for fun,” says Donegan, an occasional golfer who barely played while he was building his businesses during the 1970s through the mid-1980s.

Built on approximately 300 acres, part of which was formerly a stone quarry, The Ledges is an uplands course with tremendous changes in elevation. The key to playing is to hit the ball straight. If you don’t, it may be a frustrating few hours.

“The course will accommodate all skill levels, but it plays particularly hard from the tips (back tees) if you’re not a good golfer,” Donegan says. “We’re probably the second-toughest-rated course in Maine (after Sugarloaf), for slope and stroke rating from the tips. It plays just 65,000 to 70,000 (including tourists) in the summer months. Profit may not have been a driving motive, but Donegan is pleased to report that the course has made one since its first full year of operation. Revenue has exceeded projections by 35 percent.

As a breed, engineers tend to be people who like to figure things out. Entrepreneurs are willing to take risks, and have a strong belief in themselves. Those aspects of Donegan’s makeup have paid dividends in his life.

“I think the education I got at Merrimack really pushed me in that direction,” says Donegan, who also owns and manages commercial real estate. “In ’62, the engineering department was a young department. We were taught the latest in technology and the courses were extremely tough. We had a very full schedule, and would take economics with the economic majors, along with history and government courses. What made it taught to do was to think. I know when I got out of Merrimack and did post-graduate study at Northeastern and M.I.T., I found the undergraduate education I’d prepared me to compete with students from larger undergraduate schools.

“The rest was sort of a natural evolution, from design engineer to program manager, where I was responsible for budgets and people. That gets you to think in the business area of the job, instead of the design area. That led to me getting involved with a startup company, and then going out on my own.”

For more on The Ledges Golf Club, check out the Web at www.ledgesgolf.com.
Catching up with ...  

After her 37th year as a political science professor, Margaret Kane is preparing for a sabbatical.

"I'll take a year off to study and travel and be back in the fall of 2001," says Kane, who’s still deciding between a couple of options, including a trip to Europe to study Machiavelli and to visit the Order of St. Augustine's center in Florence, Italy, or writing a history of Essex County government up to its dissolution in 1999.

"There are some good histories of the 19th century, but not much has been done on the 20th century," says Kane, who's still active in politics and policy issues. "Election years, I feel a double kinship with them. I remember many of them in my classes, enjoyed them all, and learned as much — if not more — from them as I've given them, in terms of knowledge. They've kept me on my toes."

Prof. Marguerite Kane

M61 Mary Kane has retired from Merrimack College and is now living in New Hampshire. She had spent 15 years in education and human services. After 20 years in Andover, she now lives in Rye, N.H. She writes that she has "five grown children and five wonderful grandchildren."

Jeanne (Heuer) Eddy has joined National Grange Mutual Insurance Co. of Keene, N.H., as its first vice president and chief actuary. She's a fellow of the Casualty Actuarial Society and a member of the American Academy of Actuaries.

Jeanne (Heuer) Eddy

M62 Peg McGinnis Beeman, Karen (Lucasa) Seutinler, and Natalie (Hart) Platts-Wilkins are alumni who have spent 10 years as Essex County commissioners until county government was disbanded, and also served on the Lawrence City Council and the Lawrence School Committee.

She still enjoys teaching, which has changed tremendously over the years. Among the many differences, she finds technology driving changes in the way she works.

"It's more active, participatory learning," she says, less reliant on lecturing and more on videotape, computers and student discussion. "There are all kinds of things you can do to involve students as partners in learning."

Her message to alumni: "As a graduate of Merrimack ('60) myself I feel a double kinship with them. I remember many of them in my classes, enjoyed them all, and learned as much — if not more — from them as I've given them, in terms of knowledge. They've kept me on my toes."

Mark Beeman '61

M63 Donna (Bever) Dovis is a Master’s level teacher under full tenure with the public school system in Edgartown, Mass. Her eldest son, David, 14, writes that before starting her career 15 years ago, Donna served two terms as an Edgartown School Committee chairman while raising four children. "She is one of the hardest working professionals in her field... well respected by both her peers and students," writes David, who reports that his mother is extremely active on volunteer school and community boards, as well as in her church. "Now a proud grandmother of four and an active participant in their lives," David adds. Donna is determined to strive to be the very best person and professional she can be.

Donna Dovis

M64 Hall Brown and wife Kathleen, and David Strong, are returning from the Winter Carnival in Quebec.

M65 Frances (Cameo) Robbins, PhD., completed her doctorate in communication psychology and post doctoral internship in clinical neuropsychology at MIT and New England Medical Center in 1998. She is a clinical neuropsychologist at AHN, a small psychiatric hospital that is part of Flagstaff Medical Center in Flagstaff, Ariz.

M66 Helen (Gomi) Huffman has returned to teaching special education, in Newmarket, N.H. She had spent 15 years in management and sales education and human services. After 20 years in Andover, she now lives in Rye, N.H. She writes that she has "five grown children and five wonderful grandchildren."

David and Kathleen (Belle) 92 DiFulipo's company is comprised of current or future Merrimack graduates. Their children graduated in 1994, 1999 and 2001.

After her 37th year as Essex County commissioner until county government was disbanded, and also served on the Lawrence City Council and the Lawrence School Committee.

Leonard Nowacki has been in the insurance industry since graduating and has worked in many states. Now living in Gulfport and working in St. Petersburg, he would love hearing from classmates in the area.

Christopher Sheehan has been appointed communications specialist in the Department of University Relations at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn. He is also an adjunct English and communication instructor at Northern Connecticut Community Technical College in Waterbury. He is a participating scientist from the Smithsonian Museum, quoted on the website. “If more data confirm Eros is primordial, Eros will be a link between the chondrite meteorites and planets evolved. Early findings indicate that the asteroid’s elemental composition is similar to the most primitive rocks in the solar system, called chondrites,” said Dr. Tim McCoy, a participating scientist from the Smithsonian Institution, quoted on the website. If more data confirm Eros is primordial, Eros will be a link between the chondrite meteorites and planets evolved. Early findings indicate that the asteroid’s elemental composition is similar to the most primitive rocks in the solar system, called chondrites.”

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Jeanne (Heuer) Eddy

M67 Joseph Butler has been elected to a two-year term as co-president of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE). Joseph Butler, 97, of Sharon, Mass., has served as IEEE's nine-year term as chair of the Massachusetts Technical Section,1991-93. He was an IEEE member from 1962 to 1990.

The Massachusetts Hall of Fame will induct Thomas DiBenedetto, his mother is surviving by his father, and his stepmother, and his stepfather.

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Jeanne (Heuer) Eddy

M70 Jerry Crossman of Concord, N.H., is a retired US Secret Service agent.

Bethesda, Md., is a retired US Secret Service agent.

M71 Teir (Swartzwelter Lefau) has retired from the Dow Chemical Company. She held various positions at Dow in sales, marketing, human resources, and investor relations since she graduated from Merrimack. She is serving as an ad-hoc member of the Finance Committee of Dow’s Board of Directors. Along with her responsibilities at Dow she is also a member of the Wolverine Bank, a regional bank headquartered in Michigan. After son Matt leaves for college in the fall, she and husband Joe will relocate to Vail, Colo., and spend their summers in Charlevoix, Mich. She is considering consulting, but may opt to just enjoy retirement.

M72 Jeanne Mortise Burns is vice president and chief actuary at Central Catholic High School in Lawrence.

Leonard Nowacki has been in the insurance industry since graduating and has worked in many states. Now living in Gulfport and working in St. Petersburg, he would love hearing from classmates in the area.

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Tom McCoy, a participating scientist from the Smithsonian Institution, quoted on the website.

Jeanne (Heuer) Eddy

M73 Thomas DiBenedetto has been nominated by Dr. Edward Piccerelli, Gilstein, and Company, for an endowed professorship at Merrimack College. He will receive the Ph.D. degree in classics from the University of Arizona in May.

Thomas DiBenedetto, his mother is surviving by his father, and his stepmother, and his stepfather.

Jeanne (Heuer) Eddy

M74 Mark Barry '79 and Paul Ciccarelli '79

Two Merrimack alumni and one of their former professors are part of a scientific exploration that, quoting from its official website, “promises to answer fundamental questions about the nature and origin of near-earth objects, such as the numerous asteroids and comets in the vicinity of the sun.”

It may also provide information on the origins of the solar system.

SSG, Inc. engineers Paul Ciccarelli '79 and Mark Barry '79 were part of the team that designed one of the six instruments aboard the satellite circling the asteroid Eros.

Anthony DeLuzio, assistant professor of civil engineering at Merrimack and a consultant for the company, did substantial analysis on the project. Ciccarelli and Barry were responsible for a large portion of the instrumentation, which included a portion of the electronics and all scanning systems.

Their Near-Infrared Spectrometer (NIS), a space telescope, is on a car-sized satellite orbiting 85 to 91 million miles from earth, circling 31 miles above the asteroid - which measures 21 miles long, eight miles wide, and eight miles thick - at a speed of under seven miles per hour.

On February 15, 1996 the NEAR (Near-Earth Asteroid Rendezvous) satellite became the first launch of the Discover Program, a NASA initiative for small planetary missions. The automobile-sized NEAR spacecraft came into the orbit of the asteroid Eros on February 14, 2000 - Valentine's Day - and will stay close to the asteroid for a year, gathering data.

"This is the first telescope that’s ever orbited an asteroid," notes Ciccarelli, Director of Electrical Engineering at SSG. “NASA plans to closer and closer, and discover more and more details. They will be able to gather all kinds of information.”

According to the near-earth website, by mid-June the NIS alone had gathered over 58,000 "separations" - the measured distances - covering more than 60 percent of the asteroid’s surface. The instrument is designed to map the mineral composition of the asteroid’s surface by measuring the reflected spectrum of sunlight. Some of the information it gathers should help scientists understand how the rocky planets evolved. Early findings indicate that the asteroid’s elemental composition is similar to the most primitive rocks in the solar system, called chondrites,” said Dr. Tim McCoy, a participating scientist from the Smithsonian Museum, quoted on the website. "If more data confirm Eros is primordial, Eros will be a link between the chondrite meteorites and planets evolved. Early findings indicate that the asteroid’s elemental composition is similar to the most primitive rocks in the solar system, called chondrites,” said Dr. Tim McCoy, a participating scientist from the Smithsonian Museum, quoted on the website. "If more data confirm Eros is primordial, Eros will be a link between the chondrite meteorites and planets evolved. Early findings indicate that the asteroid’s elemental composition is similar to the most primitive rocks in the solar system, called chondrites,” said Dr. Tim McCoy, a participating scientist from the Smithsonian Museum, quoted on the website. "If more data confirm Eros is primordial, Eros will be a link between the chondrite meteorites and planets evolved. Early findings indicate that the asteroid’s elemental composition is similar to the most primitive rocks in the solar system, called chondrites.”

To check out the website, go to http://www.near.jhuapl.edu.
Diane D’Amico is a professor of Pennsylvania and has recently added Louisiana State University. Jack is also a professor of Northeastern University’s evening program, and a big supporter of the Danver Fawer Cancer Institute and the Jimmy Fund. He’s married to Nancy (Callahan) Driscoll ’74. Their wedding began at their 20th class reunion.

Timothy Mooney has been elected vice president of the Boston (N.H.) Sportsmen’s Club, for the fourth time. He is the oldest trap-shooting club in the country.

Mark Pothier was one of just 12 journalists selected as a Newcomer Fellow at Harvard University. Pothier had been the only journalism student selected from a weekly newspaper company. He is the executive editor of MNP Newspapers in Plymouth, Mass., a group of nine newspapers including the 74-year-old Plymouth-based Old Colony Memorial.

Robert Burns has become the controller of the Drake Center, a rehabilitation and long-term care hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio. His wife Caci live in Liberty Township, Ohio.

John Donovan returned to Boston, after living in California since 1984. He is a managing director for the financial firm of Robertson Stephens. He is a member of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

Tom McGillis was present with the Business Week Achievement award from the publishers of the Business Week, calling the award the breakthrough of the nation's businessmen.

Walter Meyer was named by Business New Hampshire as one of the New Hampshire Leaders for the 21st Century. Meyer is a Tax Principal with Deloitte & Touche of Manchester, New Hampshire and a member of the N.H. Society of CPA’s, Massachusetts CPA’s, American Institute of CPA’s, and the Institute of Management Accountants. He also sits on several corporate and non-profit boards, and community service organizations.

Paul Denning is the lead systems engineer for the MITRE Corporation, for the execution of time-related operations. He is the company’s principal for the loan and dental care and vision care. He and wife Randie live in Natick, Mass.

Allison (O’Reilly) Hazel is assistant vice president of commercial lending for Lawrence Savings Bank. He is responsible for commercial real estate and construction lending in the Merrimack Valley and Southern New Hampshire.

Paul Fanning is vice president and business unit manager of the northeast region for TMSF Executive Recruiting in Boston, a business unit of TMSF Worldwide, which is the parent company of Monster.

Maurice Catlett ’94 reports that classmate Judy Briody ’84 “hosted a terrible party in February” as a mini-reunion, as proofed by this photo. The party-goers included (front row) Stephanie Quinse ’84, Barbara Jean Angello ’84, Jennifer Murphy ’84, Alain Mele ’84, Kevin Timoney ’86, Karen Mitchell-DeLass ’84, George Catella ’84, Jay DeLass ’84, Bruce Truax ’84, and (back row) Dan Mignone ’84, Jean Collens Tinyly ’84, Judy Briody ’84, Sheila White Hanson ’84, Bertha Nettler Reddy ’84, Maurice O’Connell Catlett ’84 and Bob Day ’84.

John Teoli is vice-president of commercial lending for Lawrence Savings Bank. He is responsible for commercial real estate and construction lending in the Merrimack Valley and Southern New Hampshire.

Arthur Powell was recently hired as a credit and collection manager for Oracle Research, of Beverly, Mass. He is a member of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

David Rich is the regional sales manager for VeryNet Sales in New England.

Joe Schwartz was promoted to major in the U.S. Army Reserve. He is a member of the N.H. Society of CPA’s, and is involved in computer security network security.

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TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

If you’ve received an award or a promotion, been married or had a baby, earned a graduate degree, moved, obtained a new job, celebrated a special anniversary, taken an exotic vacation, or have other news (or favorite recipes or gossips) you’d like to share, write us. Send photos along, if you wish, the more candid the better. Please complete the form below or use the electronic registry AlumniNet, at www.merrimack.edu.

MAIL TO: Merrimack Magazine, Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike Street, Box A-8, North Andover, MA 01845; FAX (978) 837-0225; or e-mail swojtas@merrimack.edu

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Here’s what NEWS.

M89
Brian Butler is assistant vice-president of Merrill & Grew, Inc., Boston.

Michele (Thacuse) Streater, CPA, has been appointed director of finance for community practices for the University of Massachusetts Memorial Medical Group.

Patrick Young has been appointed by Johnson Controls, Inc. as president and chief operating officer of the Cardkey Systems subsidiary in Somerville, Calif. He is responsible for managing Company brand integrated security solutions.

M98
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Nancy Ignazio Griffliths manages a software engineering group at Phase Forward in Waltham. She and husband James recently purchased a house in Cambridge, Mass., where they live with their daughter, Gabrielle.

Erik Riera Ed.M., CAS, MBA, is director of child and family services at Genesis - the Counseling Group in Laronca, N.H.

M90
Wendy (Maxwell) Borglum is living in Pittsburgh with her husband and new daughter and would love to hear from old Merrimack friends. Her e-mail address is borglum@quion.com.

Montignor David Diomas has been elevated to the Order of Bishops and appointed auxiliary bishop for the Archdiocese of Fairhaven. The Revere, Mass., resident founded the Mission Parish of St. Nicholas of Myra, which serves parishes in Malden, Everett and Revere. Montignor Diomas is a member of the Worker Priest movement whose members secure secular employment so as not to be a financial burden on those they serve. He works as a bookkeeper and office manager for Used Furniture Outlet and Performance Vehicle Warehouse, both in Malden.

James Gillion is a corporate sales representative for Sysconc Inc. in Concord, Mass.

Timothy Kinsella is financial manager for Spaulding & Shelle Services, Lexington, Mass.

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Noelle (Merenda) Taylor is a fifth grade teacher for the Everett, Mass., School Department. She received her Master’s Degree in Elementary Education from Salem State College.

Susan Fitzgerald Teixeira has earned a Master’s Degree in Computer Information Systems from Bentley College, Waltham, Mass.

Stephen Wyka, CPA, has been named a partner at Cowan, Bolger & Company.

Bishops and appointed auxiliary

Monsignor David Dismas has been appointed as auxiliary bishop for the Diocese of Springfield. The Revere, Mass., resident founded the Mission Parish of St. Nicholas of Myra, which serves parishes in Malden, Everett and Revere. Monsignor Diomas is a member of the Worker Priest movement whose members secure secular employment so as not to be a financial burden on those they serve. He works as a bookkeeper and office manager for Used Furniture Outlet and Performance Vehicle Warehouse, both in Malden.

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Class Notes
**CLASS NOTES**

**John Farrell** has been named Police “Officer of the Year” by the American Legion Smith-Tobey Post 21 of Bath, Maine. The former religious studies major, who has been a youth minister and school teacher, works as the city’s first school resource officer, assigned to a local high school. In two years on the force, he has received several commendations from the police department and letters of appreciation from the public.

**Phil Barlas** is a student in the MBA program at Merrimack College in South Boston. She is an engineer for Post 21 of Bath, Maine. The former religious studies major, who has been a youth minister and school teacher, works as the city’s first school resource officer, assigned to a local high school. In two years on the force, he has received several commendations from the police department and letters of appreciation from the public.

**Jennifer Terrill** is publisher of Colorado Homes and Lifestyles magazine in Englewood, Colo. Chris Wood is division manager of Crown Bolt, Inc., of Texas, a leading supplier of fasteners in the retail industry. Chris Wood is division manager of Crown Bolt, Inc., of Texas, a leading supplier of fasteners in the retail industry.

**Kim Murphy ’94**

**Michael Sullivan** is assistant vice president/assistant controller at Andover Bank. He has been in the banking industry for more than eight years.


**Susan McCarthy ’85** and bridegroom Brian O’Keefe on September 11, 1999. They are the bridegroom’s parents.

**Calling All On-Stager Alumni**

**Scott Jones ’94** at (978) 772-9649, or by e-mail at sjones@bxi.com, or 
**Jonathan Merenda ’95** at (978) 475-4304, or by e-mail at jonathan@massnet.com.

**Weddings**

Daniele (Chiodell) ’97 and Paul Amon."
Mary Driscoll '94 and Nichole Stefanides at Sacred Heart Church, July 24, 1999.
Shirline Nassar '94 and Oliver Faryadel at St. Pio Curch, Beirut, Lebanon, December 5, 1999.
Douglas Barton '95 and Patricia Condon at Immaculate Conception Church in Salem, Mass.

Anthony Bruno '95 and Andrea Rotondo at St. Mary Church in Lawrence.
Denise Giordano '95 and Mark Tuma at September. 1998.
Christine Liguata '95 and Brian Maccetti at St. Ann Church, Gloucester, Mass.
Jennifer Newell '95 and Wade Killman '95 at the Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher, September 18, 1999.

Dana Lewis '96 and Thomas Sellinger '96 were married at Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church in Lowell, Mass., on May 16, 1999. The wedding party included, from left, the bride, Heather Hussey Murphy '94, Matthew Sellinger, Ann Rotondo '95; and (back row) Jim Niland '94, Brian Pilat '93, Chris DiBella, Jim Foskett, Lisa Shanks '96, and Bob Sellinger.

There was a large contingent from Merrimack at the wedding of alumnus Jodi Kingsley '96 and David Giorlando. They include (front row) Daniel Reid '96, Eric Sullivan '96, and Bob Sellinger.

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BIRTHS


Lisa (Consor) Roche ’80 and husband Bill: a daughter, Kendall Corin. September 6, 1999. She joins sisters Kristen, Kelsey and Caroline.


Joseph Pierso ’86 and wife Nancy: a son, Michael James. He joins brother Joseph Nicholas.

James Burns ’87 and wife Carrie: a son, Peter. October 14, 1999.


Alison (McLaughlin) ’87 and Kevin Lalib ‘88: a daughter, Riley Alison. December 4, 1999. She joins sister Molly and brother Jack.

Barbara (Limmel) ’87 and David L’Heureux ’87: a daughter, Olivia Marie. April 28, 2000. She joins sister Laura Rose.


Susan (Flynn) ’88 and William Estes ’88: a daughter, Sobhan Martine. May 1, 1999. She joins sister Meredith Shanelle.


Susan (Burns) Holland ’88 and husband Dennis: a daughter, Olivia Marie. April 28, 2000. She joins sister Laura Rose.


Susan (Flynn) ’88 and William Estes ’88: a daughter, Sobhan Martine. May 1, 1999. She joins sister Meredith Shanelle.


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James McLaughlin ’51,  a  graduate of Merrimack College, was a professor of biology at the college for 35 years. His family in addition to his wife of 45 years. They were the parents of Stephen Chasse and his wife; three grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. They were also the parents of the late Matthew McLaughlin. He was also the brother of the late Alfred Marion; eleven grandchildren, and seven nieces and nephews.

Dorothy Turner Leblanc ‘34 died on January 27, 2000 at Hannah Duston Hospital, in Haverhill, Mass. She was the lifelong resident of a weston was graduated from St. James High School in Haverhill in 1932, and attended Merrimack College in 1934. She was an executive secretary and bookkeeper with Hoyt and Worthington, Inc. She retired at the age of 65. She was a member of the St. Therese Society, the Sisters of Saint Joseph, and a sister-in-law of the late Mary Ann Skahan. She is survived by her husband, Joseph, and five grandchildren.

Richard J. Hungerford ‘66 of Peabody died March 9 at Maine Medical Center in Portland after a lengthy illness. He was 66. He was a retired U.S. Army veteran, and attended Merrimack College, where he was a member of the Phi Kappa Theta fraternity. He was a member of Merrimack’s first varsity football team. He was a graduate of the Cook College in Boston. He is survived by his wife, Joanne; two daughters, Patricia and Donna; and two grandchildren.

Raymond A. Reilly ‘60 of Londonderry, N.H. died on February 26 at Parkland Medical Center in Derry, N.H. He was 66. William Duda ‘97 of Reading, Mass., died February 2 in Lowell. He was a graduate of Merrimack College, where he was a member of the Phi Kappa Theta fraternity. He was a member of Merrimack’s first varsity football team. He was a graduate of the Cook College in Boston. He is survived by his wife, Jennifer; two daughters, Jennifer and Ashley; and two grandchildren.

James Jaksal ‘95 of Lowell, Mass., died February 28 at Saints Memorial Medical Center in Lowell. He was 38. He had been employed by the Lowell Housing Authority since 1995 as director of lending and occupancy. He was a member of the National Association of Housing Authorities and the Massachusetts Public Housing Officers and Officials Section. He was the community reader for the Merrimack College Student Association of the U.S. Army. He was a former member of the Massachusetts Army National Guard. He was also an active member of the Massachusetts Business Education Association, and is a former volunteer for parish ministry. He is survived by his wife, Pamela; daughters Michelle and Mary; and five grandchildren.

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Dear Fellow Alumni,

It was exciting to be part of a graduation that marks many firsts for Merrimack. It was the 50th commencement, the 50th anniversary of the first woman admitted to Merrimack, and the first conferral of a Master’s Degree. It was an exciting to be part of a graduating class of 2000.

Many of these enhancements have been made possible through the generosity of our alumni. This generosity from the pocketbook (of course) but also from the heart, is appreciated.

At commencement, it occurred to me that Merrimack’s commitment to “Awakening the Minds and Hearts” of our students. Surrounded by the faculty, family, friends, trustees, administrators, and honorary degree recipients, I could feel the sense of Augustinian community that marries the intellectual with the spiritual which distinguishes Merrimack. This community was all taking part in honoring the 50th graduating class for a job well done academically, as well as for their contributions to the Merrimack community and the community at large.

That Merrimack continues to attract and nourish intellectually curious and socially responsible students was apparent to all, as we listened to the student commencement speaker. In her eloquent address, Angela M. Dunn, appropriately nicknamed Angel by friends and family, spoke of her progrnsion from a purely intellectual understanding of poverty to witnessing it first hand during her work in the inner city. From her experience she came to understand poverty from her heart. She counseled against looking at injustice only on the intellectual level. Though she didn’t mention it in her speech, and several other members of the Class of 2000 will continue their service from the heart by serving in the Augustinian Service Corps. Others will serve in the Peace Corps and Jesuit Youth Corps.

I am confident that other members of the class will also continue to share their talents and enthusiasm as volunteers in their communities and at Merrimack. We are blessed to have them join the ranks of thousands of Merrimack alumni volunteers and donors who contribute to making us such a special community.

I thank everyone who gives back to our college. We should be thankful to those who give of themselves for the betterment of all.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

ALUMNI COUNCIL PRESIDENT’S LETTER

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Calendar of Events at Merrimack

September

15 - Hackers Golf Tournament
16 - SoL Y Centro at the Rogers Center for the Arts
20 - Film Series at the Rogers Center for the Arts
27 - Film Series at the Rogers Center for the Arts
28 - Oct. 1 - Homecoming/Family Weekend

October

6 - 4 Center for Augustinian Study and Legacy Thag Tate Symposium
4 - Film Series at the Rogers Center for the Arts
6 - Rory Block at the Rogers Center for the Arts
8 - Reduced Shakespeare Company at the Rogers Center for the Arts
11 - Film Series at the Rogers Center for the Arts
13 - Merrimack Valley Philharmonic Orchestra - Pops Concert at the Rogers Center for the Arts
14 - Family Theater: Dan Butterworth - Gifts of Joy at the Rogers Center for the Arts
15 - David Soses Recital at the Rogers Center for the Arts
21 - Pre-game Reception - Merrimack Football at St. Anselm College
25-26 - Ann Arbor Film Festival at the Rogers Center for the Arts
26 - The Black - Andover Chamber Music Series at the Rogers Center for the Arts
TBA - Delaware Valley and New York City Regional Alumni Events

November

3 - New England String Ensemble at the Rogers Center for the Arts
5 - Merrimack Valley Philharmonic Orchestra at the Rogers Center for the Arts
11 - International Guitar Night at the Rogers Center for the Arts
13 - Speaker Series: George Stephanopoulos at the Rogers Center for the Arts
14 - Center for Augustinian Study and Legacy: Reverend Theodore Tuck, O.S.A. (former prior general, Order of St. Augustine)
15 - Alumni/Student Career Networking Night
16-18 - Oklahoma: Midnight's Dance at the Rogers Center for the Arts
19 - Julia Scolnick - Andover Chamber Music Series at the Rogers Center for the Arts
21 - Pre-game Reception - Merrimack Hockey at Boston College
30 - Alumni Christmas Party at the Bay Tower Room, Boston
30 - Pentucket Players Performance: Gypsy at the Rogers Center for the Arts

December

1-2 - Pentucket Players Performance: Gypsy at the Rogers Center for the Arts
3 - Merrimack Concert Choir at the Rogers Center for the Arts
8-9 - New England Civic Ballet ‘The Nutcracker’ at the Rogers Center for the Arts
10 - New England Classical Singers at the Rogers Center for the Arts

For Coach Center events, call (781) 837-3333
For Center for Augustinian Study and Legacy programs, call (781) 837-3217
For alumni events, call (781) 837-5482 or (781) 837-5187

Visit Merrimack’s web site at www.merrimack.edu for updated schedules and additional information, including sporting events.

Save the date: Reunion 2001 June 8-9
Thank You
Alumni, Parents and Friends.

John Salmon '00 with grandmothers, Agnes Salmon, left, and Lavinia Urciuolo.

Your Contribution Makes Moments Like This Possible.