Merrimack's Future is Our Future

Merrimack College

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Merrimack's future is our future.
A Mission and a Plan for Merrimack in the New Millennium

Growth and change metaphors are inevitable when it's spring in New England. The changes that take place in the soil and in the air evidence the hand of God, and offer tremendous insight into the human condition. Hippo was far from New England, but even Saint Augustine said his piece on the quiet sacraments of spring.

"Really, is there any more marvelous sight, any occasion when human reason is nearer to some sort of converse with the nature of things, than the sensing of seeds, the planting of cuttings, the transplanting of shrubs, and the grafting of slips?" It is as though you could question the vital force in each root and bud on what it can do, and what it cannot do, and why." The Literal Meaning of Genesis 8.8

Change and growth are part of the divine plan.

The mission of Merrimack College, initiated and nurtured for nearly a half-century by the Augustinian friars, remains nearly unchanged: providing, in a values-sensitive environment, the opportunity for students to develop a mature intellectual, cultural, social, emotional, and moral awareness and combining professional training of high quality with a commitment to the liberal arts.

Those words are drawn from the Mission Statement that guides Merrimack today. While our mission has remained the same, our world by its nature is ever-changing.

Today, a student at Merrimack needs more than an armload of books, pencils, paper, and maybe a slide rule. Computers are in the residence halls, in the library, and in the classrooms.

Today, our students, half of whom are women, are predominantly 18 to 22 and single. Gone are the returning G.I.s, their wives and families. Over 70 percent of our students live on campus. They hail from 29 states and 25 foreign countries. Merrimack graduates face an increasingly competitive job market, and an increasingly complicated world. Their education must provide them with job skills, life skills, and the philosophical and moral underpinnings of wisdom.

Today's students are savvy and demanding consumers. Gone are the days when providing a good education at a reasonable price, not too far from home, were enough to entice quality students. Today's students demand a high-quality education, an extracurricular schedule crowded with events, and a professional placement program with a record of achievement.

Modern facilities, cutting-edge technology, and homey residence halls also rate their attention. In this issue of Merrimack, you'll see that Merrimack meets and even exceeds these requirements.

As we face the next millennium, Merrimack has a plan, a Strategic Plan which takes into account our rich history as a Catholic and Augustinian college.

With that history as its foundation, the plan is guiding Merrimack on its way to becoming a pre-eminent small Catholic college.

The plan is, in fact, already bearing fruit. Admission applications are arriving in greater numbers than ever before. More and more creative uses of information technology are becoming commonplace on campus. And the success our most recent class of graduates had in establishing careers was unprecedented.

In some ways, the reason students choose Merrimack hasn't really changed over the many decades. Stated simply, at Merrimack, a student receives an education as good or better than he or she could receive anywhere else. But at Merrimack, a student is a whole person, a mind and a heart.

Our Augustinian heritage has a lot to do with why students choose our college, as well. A student isn't likely to get lost in the crowd here. The value Augustine placed on community and hospitality is ingrained in everything we do at Merrimack.

You, the graduates of Merrimack College, are an important piece of the plan for Merrimack's future. Your support and encouragement of our efforts make all the difference.

Working together, we can ensure that Merrimack's future is the best it can possibly be.
Bruce Baker Appointed V.P. for Student Life

Dr. Bruce Baker has been appointed vice president of Student Life. Baker brings more than twenty years of student life management experience to the position.

Previously, Baker was dean of Student Development, responsible for directing many of the programs in Student Life. Before coming to Merrimack in 1983, Baker served at Bentley College as director of Student Activities.

He earned a Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration from Boston College, an M.S. degree from Northeastern University, and a B.S. degree from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He lives in North Andover, where he was recently elected to the school committee.

Other Appointments

Three administrative appointments, aimed at furthering progress on the college’s planning initiatives, have been announced. Linda Murphy has joined the college as assistant to the president. Maureen Lanigan has been promoted to managing director of the Rogers Center for the Arts and Special Events; and Richard Reming has been promoted to director of the Friends of Merrimack and Community Relations.

As assistant to the president, Murphy will be responsible for providing executive-level support to the President and members of the President’s Cabinet. Murphy will coordinate aspects of accreditation visits and reports and the orientation of new members of the community, supervise the Rogers Center and Special Events, and coordinate special projects.

Previously, Murphy served as Director of the Office of Community Affairs. She received a master of arts in Student Personnel Services from Pennsylvania State University, where her doctoral work has focused on race and gender issues in higher education. She received a master of arts in Student Personnel Services from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and a bachelor’s degree in Human Development from Pennsylvania State University.

Maureen Lanigan previously served the college as director of Fundraising Events and executive director of the Friends of Merrimack. In her new position, managing director of the Rogers Center and Special Events, Lanigan will manage operations of the new arts facility and plan campus-wide events such as building dedications and academic ceremonies.

Since joining the college in 1981, Lanigan has held a number of positions, including director of research, records and special events in higher education. She received a master of arts in Student Personnel Services from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and a bachelor’s degree in Human Development from Pennsylvania State University.

Richard Reming has served as the college’s manager of conference and events since 1983. Reming has held a number of positions, including director of research, records and special events in higher education. He received a master of arts in Student Personnel Services from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and a bachelor’s degree in Human Development from Pennsylvania State University.
Class of ’99 Fares Well in Job Search

Merrimack seniors made a strong start in their job searches this year. After the first month of the semester, many had already accepted offers, and the annual salary average was over $34,000. Last year at the same time, that average was just $20,500.

Accounting and Finance majors were being offered an average of $32,400; Civil Engineering graduates an average of $42,000. Among the companies that hired Merrimack graduates are Arthur Andersen, Deloitte and Touche, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Tomson Company, Liberty Mutual, Investors Bank and Trust, Sullivan Bille, Fidelity Investments, The Boston Company, Shatswell Maclead, Bannockburn Capital, Smith and Nephew, Patnam Investments, The Mitre Corporation, Vanesse Hagen Brustlin, and Modern Continental.

Web News

More than 8000 people visit Merrimack’s web site each month. Drop by at www.merrimack.edu. While you’re there, register on our Alumni Registry. It’s a great way to keep in touch with the college and old friends.

The capital campaign video, Awakening Minds and Hearts, is available for viewing on line, too, through the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities in Massachusetts. The address is www.massmentor.edu/campusour.

Education Department Receives Endowment

Joe and Nancy Traina recently awarded $6,000 to the Education Department to fund an award for the top-ranking student from the Greater Lawrence area. Mrs. Traina was the secretary in the Physics Department from 1968 to 1978; she and her husband are the grandparents of Jason Toomey ’98.

Civil Engineering Students Tackle Town Traffic

Students enrolled in Transportation Engineering with Assistant Professor Marc Snow are playing in traffic. As part of a semester-long project, a group of students analyzed the traffic pattern in Old North Andover Center. The students, Dave Lachance ’99, Steve Pouliot ’01, and Peter Volpe ’00, then presented the first half of their project to classmates, as well as to members of the town’s Old Village Traffic Committee.

Analysis of the Town Center’s traffic problem required that the students first obtain some critical data. Merrimack students worked closely with the North Andover Police Department to obtain accurate counts on the number of cars traveling the area at various times of the day as well as recent accident statistics. Students then had to photograph the various intersections in the Center and take note of all existing traffic controls such as road striping, traffic lights, islands, and guardrails.

As part of the second half of the project, these students will create a conceptual design with sophisticated software to map out a more effective traffic pattern for the center. They’ll also work closely with a consultant hired by the Stevens Foundations of North Andover to develop solutions.

“A project like this has real-world application with tangible results,” Snow said. “It’s easy to get the students excited about it.”

In addition to their work with the Police Department, the students at- tended various public meetings and had several discussions on the proposed redesign of traffic through the center. “It’s been a great experience for the students to learn that working on a project often means collaborating with various constituencies,” Snow said.

Other students in the class worked on mapping out plans aimed at improving traffic flow on the Merrimack campus.
This world of ours, this here-and-now is no rose garden, Saint Augustine tells us, but maybe we can fashion it with fewer thorns. Thus, in "The City of God," he bids us to work together for the common good in a constantly changing world, and while we can never achieve the perfect society we can make things better. While Augustine believed that the ultimate good cannot be found in this life, he held that Christians agree with the Greek philosophers that the life of virtue should be a life in society, even though there are enormous drawbacks in social living. There are misunderstandings, disagreements, and social conflict of all kinds in society. The broader realm of society — in the "Earthly City" as opposed to "the City of God" — are social battles, civil and criminal (with the frequent injustice of legal procedures and the terrible use of torture), and the bloody sacrifices made in the name of "temporal goods" required by all. The "Earthly City" of today, like "the city of God" in antiquity, is a superb illustration of what might be called a therapeutic relation between religion and politics. Religion affirms a positive approach to politics, but it provides a distance between the two in regard to all that concerns our purely human life and does not interfere with faith and worship. (The City of God, X, 19.)

Throughout his "political theology," Augustine's favorite metaphor for "the City of God" is "pilgrimage." These people of faith and hope are "on the way" to the "City of God" while wayfaring on earth. Augustine insists that there ought to be "redeem" what seems to be our worst bond of mutual love — how attractive it is as a solace for unhappiness than the joy in loving ourselves as long as we love God, and loving God requires us to love our neighbor. Regarding love of neighbor, the ideal is mutual love, mutual assistance. It seems that Augustine would have "love" rather than "justice" as the bonding ideal of the social order. To the extent that this ideal can be realized, the City of God would have a most beneficial effect on society. It is most important to note that the focus of Augustine's use of the notion of the City of God is not on its heavenly fulfillment but on its "wayfaring on earth." It is this emphasis on the historical pilgrimage that Augustine makes Augustine a major figure in the history of political philosophy. He portrays an ideal vision of what social life can be when the bonds that unite people are love of God and love of neighbor. For instance, in light of the contemporary socio-political value of diversity, the following lines are worth quoting: "So long then, as the heavenly City is "wayfaring on earth," she invites citizens from all nations and all tongues, and unites them into a single pilgrim band. She takes no issue with that diversity of customs, laws, and traditions whereby human peace is sought and maintained. Instead of nullifying or tearing down, she preserves and appropriates whatever in the diversities of diverse races is aimed at one and the same objective of human peace; provided only that they do not stand in the way of the faith and worship of the one supreme and true God." (The City of God, XIX, 17.)

Augustine insists that there ought to be common cause between the Heavenly City and the Earthly City on what concerns our purely human living. Citizens of both cities must obey the civil law governing details of our "common human life." While the City of God cannot share with the earthly city a common religious legislation, it is bound to share with the latter a common commitment to the pursuit of those political ends that provide the "temporal goods" required by all. The heavenly City while wayfaring on earth "not only makes use of earthly peace but fosters and actively pursues along with other human beings a common platform in regard to all that concerns our purely human life and does not interfere with faith and worship." (The City of God, XIX, 19.)

Further Reading

For those interested in reading more about Augustine of Hippo, Dr. Joseph T. Kelley, vice president for mission effectiveness and director of Merrimack's Center for the Study of Augustinian Study and Legacy, offers the following suggestions:

Rev. Tarcisius van Bavel, O.S.A., a Dutch Augustinian, provides a very readable and reliable introduction to the life and writings of Saint Augustine, in the short, beautifully illustrated Augustine, Editions du Signe, 1996.


The newest, and many critics say the best yet, English translation of Augustine's Confessions is by Sister Maria Boulding, O.S.B., a Benedictine nun of Stanbrook Abbey in England (New City Press, New York, 1997).


Adolar Zumkeller, O.S.A., provides the most complete study of the medieval Augustinian school in his Theology and History of the Augustinian School in the Middle Ages, Augustinian Press, 1996. It is a collection of his very thorough studies on the topic over many years.

Tarcisius van Bavel, O.S.A., Augustine's Option for the Poor: Preaching and Praxis, Pubblicazioni Agostiniane, Roma, 1992 provides wonderful insights into this aspect of Augustine's ministry as a bishop.

All the above texts can be ordered through Augustinian Press, P.O. Box 476, Villanova, PA 19085; tel. (800) 671-9404; fax (800) 527-0571; see also www.augustinian.org.
Religion affirms a positive approach to politics, but it provides a distance between the two in which religion can provide a “countercultural” critique of politics.

Given the land of Canaan to the Israelites, it seemed that the fulfillment of the divine promise of salvation through the Christian society on earth before its ultimate consummation in the Kingdom of God to come.

Through the influence of Ambrose, Augustine accepted this imperial theology until the sack of Rome in 410 rendered it implausible. The pagans who had always believed in their own gods had been weak by its acceptance of the Christian God and that the Romans should return to their own gods who had always stood by the Empire. This was the occasion for Augustine’s writing his monumental “The City of God,” in which he refuted this pagan charge.

In “The City of God” Augustine rejected imperial theology. He maintained that God’s designs of redemption and salvation did not include an earthly Christian society as a premise to the final arrival of God’s Kingdom at the end of history.

According to many of his interpreters, Augustine rejected any notion of history advancing toward a higher stage as part of God’s plan. They hold that Augustine taught that Christian hope was only for life eternal for those who converted from love of self to love of God. Accordingly, Augustine individualized, spiritualized, and supernaturalized Christian hope by regarding ongoing history as worthwhile only because it provided the occasion for individuals to undergo the redemptive possibilities of conversion because of the presence of the Spirit of Christ. Thus, for these interpreters, Augustine is interested only in eternity as the fulfillment of human hope.

As we have seen, this interpretation must be modified. The City of God is now a pilgrim people working together to make a better world. While eternal life is our ultimate hope, this eternity will bring our historical efforts in service of justice to fulfillment in the Heavenly City. Only God knows how.

“countercultural” critique of politics. In “The City of God,” Augustine rules out both secular political pretensions of having reached the ultimate in political philosophy and any form of theocracy (government by religious authority—in this case, Christian) here on earth. It seems that Augustine offers a form of “political realism” to all religions, through all time.

Augustine’s political theology was quite different from that of some of his Christian predecessors.

The major political event that had evoked political theologies from these predecessors was the recognition of the Church by the Emperor Constantine in the Edict of Milan in 313. By the year 380 the Roman Empire had become the “Christian Empire” of the Emperor Theodosius, whose Edict of Thessalonica demanded confession of the Christian faith by all who desired public stature in the state. In response to this political “surprise” came the political theology of Eusebius of Caesarea in the East and that of Ambrose of Milan in the West, an enthusiastic optimism known as “imperial theology.”

For both Eusebius and Ambrose, the Constantinian peace meant that the “tempora christiana” (“Christian times”) had begun. God gave the Roman Empire to Christians as He had once given the land of Canaan to the Israelites. It seemed that the fulfillment of the divine promise of salvation through Christ included the construction of a Christian society on earth before its arrival.

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Caron Leads Merrimack Men to ECAC Title

Senior captain Jeff Caron led the Warrior basketball team to a 22-7 record and its second consecutive Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference (ECAC) championship.

Johnson, who was leading the NE-10 in scoring, became another casualty on an injury-plagued team. In fact, Head Coach Bert Hammel had only nine players nearly the entire second half of the season.

In the end, Hammel’s team threatened the school record of 23 wins and nearly gained a trip to the NCAA Regional. “One of our goals was to win the NCAAs.” Hammel commented. “We also wanted to play consistent basketball for the entire schedule.” Those two goals were met with thunder as Hammel’s Warriors finished the season with its third 20-plus win season during the NE-10 era.

The Warriors’ second consecutive ECAC title solved the disappointment of not earning a NCAA bid, but the championship banner also left the team wanting more. Next season, when the Warriors take the floor with five seniors, the story may very well include a trip to the NCAA’s.

Lady Warriors balance youth with inexperience

The women’s basketball team began its season with wins in the first two of four games, including an 18-point win over New Hampshire College and an 8-point win over Stony Brook. Senior Megan Burke was the catalyst in the early-season wins and continued to shine throughout the season. “Megan was the leader of a very young team this season and did a great job.” Head Coach Debbie Cogan said. “She has been, arguably, the best captain this program has ever had.”

When Northeast-10 action opened, the Lady Warriors stood tough. Home wins over St. Michael and Pace left the Lady Warriors 2-1 in conference play and 8-4 overall. “We knew it would be important to get off to a productive start even though we had so many freshmen and sophomores in the lineup,” said Cogin. “Again, Megan was one of the...
Merrimack College Hockey not just in Volpe anymore...

Thanks to Merrimack College alumus Mike Machnik '91, men's ice hockey is played not only in the friendly confines of Volpe Center, but also in cyberspace. Mike is the webmaster of a web page on Merrimack College Hockey found at www.tiac.net/users/machnik/MChockey/ MChockey.html. Mike's site contains links to news articles, statistics, game summaries, player and staff profiles, historical information, and other hockey links. Since its inception, Mike's site has received over 60,000 hits from web surfers around the world. Web surfers can also listen to games live or archived on the site found at www.tiac.net/users/machnik/MChockey/ MChockey.html.

She gets it done

Michele Mylinski '89

A simple term exists in sports when a player or coach wins without fanfare, bragadocio, or pats on the back. The term is known as "getting it done." That's exactly what Merrimack College graduate and current softball head coach Michele Mylinski does. She gets it done.

Merrimack baseball senior captain Brian Macrina leads his Warriors teammates into action this season in hope of recapturing the Northeast-10 crown for the fifth time in six years. The Warriors' championship streak was broken last season at four straight but Head Coach Barry Rosen will be confident going into the game because "We played them tough in the season series." Merrimack fell behind by seven points in the first half and never could get much closer, eventually falling to the Lady Yellow Jackets.

The young Lady Warriors gained experience and even got a whiff of the lofty air near the top of the conference standings. That short and sweet smell will have to suffice until next season.

Merrimack hires new women's lacrosse coach

Karen Murdoch Lahey has been hired as the school's first women's lacrosse coach. The women's lacrosse program began its inaugural season in spring 1999. Lahey comes to Merrimack after spending several years in the high school coaching ranks, as well as the North Andover Youth Program. Lahey, a 1983 graduate of Plymouth (N.H.) State College and a two-sport athlete, spent three seasons as an assistant field hockey, basketball, and softball coach at Burlington High School. Lahey also helped organize and develop summer lacrosse programs at Camp Lockerheam in Vermont and was instrumental in the development of the North Andover girls indoor and outdoor lacrosse program. Lahey served as the head coach during the spring of 1998. "Karen will make an excellent addition to our staff," said Bob DeGregorio, Merrimack's director of athletics. "Her background and enthusiasm speak for themselves, and I think these are the most important qualities to have when starting a new program."

While in college Lahey captained the women's lacrosse team and participated in the NCAA Regional tournament. Lahey was also a four-year member of the women's basketball program.

The Merrimack women's lacrosse team played a 10-game schedule this spring. Lahey lives in North Andover with husband Colin and their three children, Patrick, Bridget and Molly.

Head Coach Rick Eichmann's men's tennis team is ready to host a 'NE 10 laxers behind the senior leadership of captains for lacrosse. His fellow Warriors are looking to improve upon last season's 6-9 mark.

Gettin it done to the case of the 1998 graduate遏制s a 222-50 career record in six seasons, four Northeast-10 regular season titles, three NE-10 tournament championships, six straight trips to the NCAA Regionals, three NCAA Regional championships, three trips to the NCAA Division II Softball Championship tournament, and the 1994 NCAA Division II National Championship. Mylinski starred for four seasons as a second baseman/pitcher for the Lady Warriors before becoming the head coach in 1993. The head coach was a two-time first team All-NE-10 player, as well as a first team All-New England recipient in her senior season.

The Lady Warriors entered the 1999 season as the top team in the Northeast Regional poll and a top 10 team in the country. The Lady Warriors, holding true to the form of the past six seasons, made a fifth trip to the College World Series. Winning is not a birthright when it comes to championship-caliber athletics. A winning attitude is learned, nurtured and taught by someone who is willing to do whatever it takes and who knows how to win. That someone for the Lady Warrior softball program is 1988 graduate Michele Mylinski.

Stand one game out of second place in the Northeast-10 standings. That short and sweet smell will have to suffice until next season. Keys to our early season success."

Leading into December, the Lady Warriors hit a tough stretch in which they lost four straight, and the January 9 NE-10 matchup with LeMoyne began to loom large. The Lady Warriors came through with a gritty 78-73 win over the Lady Dolphins as Christine Proctor poured in 16 points to pace the winning effort.

On January 27, the Lady Warriors stood one game out of second place in the Northeast-10 Conference with a 67-60 win over St. Anselm College. Merrimack was in the midst of a four-game winning streak and striving toward a home seed in the playoffs after more than half the schedule played.

From that day on, youthful inexperience plagued the Lady Warriors. Merrimack finished seventh in the conference and qualified for a playoff date against American International College in Springfield. "It wasn't a bad draw for us," said Cogan. "We felt confident going into the game because we played them tough in the season series."

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Sign Up Today for the Tenth Annual Hackers' Golf Tournament

This year's Hackers' Tournament is at a new time and in a new location!

We'll play a best ball format Monday, October 4 at the Far Corner Golf Course in West Boxford, Mass. Organize your own foursome! Registration is at 11 a.m., and the shotgun start is at 12:30.

Greens fees, cart, door prizes, and dinner back at Merrimack is included in the $90 per player fee. Proceeds benefit the Athletic Department. For more information or to register, call Susan WCSS at (978) 837-7540, e-mail swojtas@merrimack.edu.
Stringer puts Warriors on hockey map as Hobey hopeful

For college hockey, the Hobey Baker is akin to football's Heisman Trophy. To even be considered for such a lofty and praiseworthy honor puts a student-athlete in rarified air.

In Division I college hockey, the player of the year award is the Hobey Baker Memorial Award, and this year, senior captain Rejean Stringer received national attention as a contender. Though Stringer didn't receive the Hobey Baker Award, it was the first time in the history of the program that a Warrior was a legitimate candidate throughout the season.

Stringer finished the regular season tied for fifth in scoring nationally while fellow senior and linemate Kris Porter finished the regular tied for 11th nationally in goals. The Warriors fashioned a three-game series sweep over Northeastern and a series split with Boston University. Merrimack also had big wins over Boston College and Providence in the course of the season.

Unfortunately, one-goal games proved to be the Warriors undoing as they finished the season 3-10 in games decided by one goal. The Warriors ended their season at the hands of Hockey East regular season champions U.N.H.
A MISSION

The Augustinian fathers and community leaders who founded our college were prescient. Starting small, they built a fine college dedicated to providing students with both a strong liberal arts tradition and quality professional training.

Even today, the hallmark of a Merrimack education remains the same.

Several years ago, the Board of Trustees approved a Mission Statement in which the values our community has defined and embodied are codified. The Mission Statement guides us as Merrimack continues to strive for excellence.

A VISION

Soon after President Richard J. Santagati assumed his post, work began on a Vision Statement.

The Vision Statement is our destination. From its many details, a picture develops showing familiar yet sharper, somehow stronger, Merrimack.

The following paragraph, taken from the Vision Statement, encapsulates that vision.

"Merrimack is a pre-eminent Catholic college of the liberal arts and the professions, founded in the Augustinian tradition. As such, Merrimack is recognized as one of the leading liberal arts colleges in the country, with a low student-faculty ratio, superior academic programs and campus facilities, and a national and international reputation for excellence in higher education."

A PLAN

To get there, Merrimack College has a roadmap for excellence.

The college's strategic plan is thirty pages of specific steps we must take to realize that vision. From developing new ways to celebrate our Augustinian heritage to constructing a state-of-the-art videoconferencing center and from obtaining national accreditation for the college's business division to increasing opportunities for faculty scholarship and professional development, the Strategic Plan is an exhaustive account of Merrimack's next five years.

And, at the end of those five years, Merrimack will be stronger, more sophisticated, and ready to face the challenge of awakening the minds and hearts of a new generation.

Our college will be recognized as pre-eminent; we will have assumed a position of leadership in the national community of Catholic colleges.

MISSION STATEMENT

Merrimack College, a small, comprehensive, modern Catholic center of higher learning in the Northeast, reflects in its policies the teaching traditions of the founding Order of St. Augustine: to provide, in a Christian, values-sensitive environment, the opportunity for its students to develop a mature intellectual, cultural, social, emotional, and moral awareness; to combine professional training of high quality with a commitment to an integrated liberal arts component in all courses of study; to act as a major educational resource for individuals and for the Merrimack Valley community.

The college seeks qualified students of all ages and from all backgrounds who are interested in pursuing individualized education designed to foster high standards of personal development and professional achievement, as well as an appreciation of our cultural heritage and a mature sense of social responsibility.

Responsive to its faculty, Merrimack supports ongoing professional growth and critical inquiry. The college attempts to create a collegial atmosphere in which all members of the Merrimack College community can exercise their proper role in decisions about the conduct and future of the college.
The Strategic Plan

Already, the college has made tremendous progress, and the road we'll travel over the next few years is mapped out. Merrimack's Strategic Plan is all-encompassing. Initiatives are grouped into five categories:

• Catholic and Augustinian Identity
• The Educational Experience
• Our Community of Students
• Merrimack and the Community at Large
• Resources, Facilities, and Administration

Within this structure are hundreds of action items. Many initiatives are bold and visible, like the new Rogers Center and building plans for a new campus center. Others, like providing full computer network access for all faculty and staff, are invisible, yet equally important to achieving our vision. Merrimack College will be a pre-eminent Catholic college, noted nationally and internationally for the quality of our educational services.

Catholic and Augustinian Identity

Our Catholic and Augustinian heritage is what makes us different from many other colleges. The Strategic Plan strives to build upon that strength.

First and foremost is the creation of the Center for Augustinian Study and Legacy. New in its first year of operation, the center is poised to assume its place among the handful of research institutes devoted to St. Augustine in the world.

Plans to build on Merrimack's already successful volunteerism initiatives are also in the works, as are initiatives aimed at increasing our students' exposure to the teachings of St. Augustine and making available daily liturgical celebrations.

The Educational Experience

Throughout the college's history, our faculty has been noted for its devotion to serving the needs of students. To serve the next generation, Merrimack must continue to put students' needs first while nurturing a faculty dedicated to that tradition.

Among the initiatives:

• Increasing opportunities for faculty scholarship and professional development
• Establishing a Teaching and Learning Center
• Developing a program in Environmental Studies
• Promoting excellence in reading and writing throughout the curriculum
• Developing honors programs for superior students
• Increasing the quality and number of co-curricular activities
• Constructing a new campus center
• Expanding laboratory space
• Incorporating the most advanced teaching and learning technology available

Special thanks to Robert J. O'Brien '73, assistant director of McQuade Library, who assembled the vast majority of the timeline information.
Rogers Center

September 1984
Varsity status is granted to women's soccer

September 1985
New student apartments are completed for resident students

Fall 1985
First minor study field offered

Summer 1987
Gildea Plaza is built

Fall 1989
Merrimack joins Hockey East

OF Students

In order to sustain a rich and dynamic community of students, Merrimack will continue to improve the academic quality of entering students, expand the geographical and cultural diversity of the student population, and increase the quality of the resident life experience for students.

Strategies are in place to increase the combined SAT scores, grade point average, and class rank of first-year students. And, once matriculated, those students will benefit from new programs to help them make the transition to college easier.

January 1992
National Microscale Chemistry Center is established at Merrimack

February 1994
Richard J. Santagati appointed interim president

May 1994
Softball wins NCAA Div. II national championship

October 1995
Richard J. Santagati inaugurated; he becomes the first lay president of Merrimack

Full-time day-student enrollment numbers 2010

Cancia Hall opens

Merrimack receives two pledges of more than a million dollars each, one of which is important not only for its magnitude but also its restriction to direct financial aid and a new program for merit scholarships

October 1996
Varsity football plays and wins its first game

November 1996
Jane Currer Walsh '75 elected chairman of the board; she is the first woman in college history to hold the post

September 1997
Merrimack's interactive web site debuts

August 1998
First named endowed chair established by Dan '70 and Linda (Fletcher) '71 Cejk

Merrimack and the Community at Large

In the next few years, Merrimack plans to increase its presence in the world beyond the tree-lined campus. Through partnerships with community action organizations, intellectual and entertainment opportunities on campus, and our extensive alumni network, the college will be an active participant in community life.

At the same time, we will have the opportunity to communicate our values and our mission to the outside world. A comprehensive marketing strategy will guide our efforts.

Gildea Plaza is built

October 1998
Ground is broken for the Rogers Center for the Arts

May 1999
Eight gifts of more than $1 million committed to the Merrimack Campaign; more than 90% of the campaign's $25 million goal has been raised with 18 months remaining

Resources, Facilities, and Administration

The $25 million capital campaign, well under way, is the foundation for the successful accomplishment of the Vision.

Increasing the endowment, expanding the Merrimack Fund, and securing private funding for specific initiatives are just a small part of the college's plans to decrease dependency on tuition revenue. This will allow Merrimack to remain a good value for our students.

Also addressed within this section of the strategic plan are hiring policies, budgetary improvements, and increasing collaboration and cooperation among the many college constituencies.

Spring 2001
Campus center opens

July 1999
Design for Volpe expansion and renovation progresses

October 1999
Rogers Center opens

November 1999
Ground breaks for new campus center

Fall 1999
Merrimack joins Hockey East
MERRIMACK LEADS WITH TECHNOLOGY

Picture yourself in a room dominated by a bank of video monitors. In front of you is a microphone; when you speak, a discreetly-placed camera turns to you. As your amplified words fill the room, your picture appears on the monitors.

Nine video monitors, each with a 50 inch screen, are arranged in a 3 by 3 matrix. What’s on the screens? Perhaps an expert in Augustinian philosophy from a world-class institute in Warzburg, Germany discussing the finer points of a project with the resident scholar in our own Center for Augustinian Study and Legacy.

Or perhaps, a group of international business students conferencing with a similar group from Hong Kong.

People and documents will be transmitted from around the world to the center, and the best Merrimack has to offer can reach just as far.

The Joseph A. Graziano ’65 Technology Auditorium is just one way cutting edge teaching methods will help Merrimack awaken the minds and hearts of a new generation.

M64
Richard Connoza received a doctor of philosophy degree in conflict analysis and resolution from George Mason University, Fairfax, Va. He is a consultant who specializes in organization, public policy, and family conflict.

You've heard of the Pied Piper, certainly. Albert Brien may just be Kingston, N.H.'s answer to the old fairy tale. But he enchants with a fiddle, not a pipe. Albert may have taken up the fiddle late in life, but what with practicing 20 hours a week and organizing a jam session for local fiddlers, fiddling has become much more than just another hobby. In an article in the Rockingham News, Albert said, “I'm hooked. It is an obsession.”

Robert Francis Jervis was the 1998 recipient of the Benjamin Franklin Award of the Printing and Publishing Council of New England in recognition of his monumental contributions to the printing industry.

M65
Michael Kavanaugh was elected to the position of Supreme Court Justice for the Third Judicial District of the state of New York. He has served as Ulster County District Attorney for 21 years. He and his wife Marilyn live in Woodstock, N.Y.

Three Merrimack Alumni met in San Francisco and spent four days touring California. Mary Dwyer Jordan '64 was in California for the first time on a business trip. Pat Wallace McCommon '65 moved from New Jersey to Tucson, Arizona two years ago. Pat is married to Jim McCommon '62. The third alum to meet in SF was Richard Noone '53 and wife Betty were two of the guests at the Florida Alumni Event at Jack Baker's Lobster Shanty in Vero Beach.

M70
William Wood was recently promoted to colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve. He is serving as the Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer for the Army in Massachusetts. In the event of a natural or manmade disaster, Bill will assist with disaster mitigation. He is also the Director of Field Operations for the Massachusetts Department of Correction's Education Division and is responsible for all educational programs provided to inmates in the state prison system. He and his wife Patricia live in Worcester.

M73
Lenny Marshall is Danvers' town accountant. He is also a longtime member and past president of the Danvers Touchdown Club and served as treasurer for the D.H.S. Soccer Boosters for seven years.

Thomas Murphy was appointed health agent for the Town of Rowley. His duties include overseeing septic system tests, inspecting septic system failures.
Merrimackians gathered in Vero Beach this winter. Pictured are James Dennis ’89, director of resource development; college friends Emil and Mary Camuso, parents of Gary ’72; and Bill Blake, a former Merrimack staff who retired in Florida.

approving additions to houses, and investigating water issues.

Mark Palange is project superintendent at Modern Continental Enterprises, the residential and commercial development division of the Modern Continental Companies. His current project is transforming a former Boston public school building into luxury condominiums. He and his wife Judy live in Woonsocket, R.I., with their children Anthony and Anne.

Maureen (Hurley) Zuladzo, Woonsocket High School Principal, was named Massachusetts Principal of the Year by the National Association of Secondary School Principals. She was also honored as the Metro West Woman of 1998.

M74 Bart Burnett has taken a position with the King Davis Agency Partners as a Sales Associate. He and his wife Mary live in Haverhill with their children Lydia and Briana.

Phillip Gonet was named General Manager of City Water, Light, and Power in Springfield, Ill., the largest municipally owned utility in the state.

ThomasKenton is the director of aviation at Logan Airport. He is one of the main figures behind the multi-billion dollar construction efforts to improve the condition of the airport.

Mark Rusmey, Assistant City Solicitor of Medford, was ordained a deacon by Cardinal Bernard Law of Boston.

M75 Claudia (McKee) Fanaras of Bradford, Mass., has joined the Craig Bresnay Group, a real estate development company based in Newport Beach, Calif. The firm develops, owns, and manages upscale outlet shopping centers.

As a senior executive, she will be responsible for two centers in California and another in Oregon. She will conduct business from a satellite office in Bradford.

M76 Lt. Gene Kee, an 18-year veteran of law enforcement, became a commissioned officer in the Massachusetts State Police upon his promotion to the rank of lieutenant. Lt. Kee is assigned to the Division of Investigations and Intelligence at the FBI in Boston. He and his wife Ellen live in Tewksbury with their children Brian and Maura.

William Pillbury Jr. has been appointed by the Haverhill City Council as Director of Planning and Grants Coordinator.

M77 Eugene Nigrelli, town accountant providing legal advice and analysis, particularly for claims and other legal issues related to the $3.8 billion Boston Harbor Project. She also participates in litigation, negotiation, and mediation of construction claims.

Susan (Bachand) Hunter was elected a vice president at United Asset Management Corporation. Her responsibilities include a wide range of activities related to acquisitions and startups. She also works closely with CAM Operations Group on affiliate growth initiatives. She lives in Andover with her husband Michael ’84 and sons Jonathan and James.

Charles McCarthy was named Northeast regional manager of USA Capital LLC’s new office in North Andover. USA Capital provides business-to-business lending services to medium-sized companies nationwide.

This year, reunion celebrates the graduating classes of ’54, ’59, ’64, ’69, ’74, ’79, ’84, ’89, and ’94. Festivities kick off Friday, June 18 with a golf tournament during the day and the ever-popular Welcome Back Party in the evening.

On Saturday, there’ll be campus tours and seminars, a barbecue, special Masses, and for the Class of ’94 a special excursion to Boston, and on-campus dinners followed by music, dancing, and more.

For more information, call Susan Wotjes ’79 at (978) 837-5440.
ALUMNI COUNCIL PRESIDENT’S LETTER

Dear Fellow Alumni,

Another school year has come and gone at Merrimack, our last commencement of the century held. This year has been one of exceptional expansion and growth, both academically and in renovations and building expansion. The Rogers Center for the Performing Arts will open in October, and soon ground will be broken for our 21st century campus center.

There are also plans to renovate the Volpe Center. When done, there will be arena-style seating, regular seats, no bleachers, and some box seats. The Warrior’s Club will also find a permanent home. On the academic front, Merrimack now hosts the Suffolk University MBA program and has instituted its own Master’s Degree in Education.

The Alumni Council has been particularly active in its committee work. The admission committee, along with other alumni ambassadors, continues to make calls to potential enrollees and admissions numbers are up again this year. The alumni resource committee has expanded the career networking list to approximately 950 and has set a goal of 1000 participants. These volunteers make themselves available to talk with students and fellow alumni engaged in job searches. If you are not on the list, contact us now!

Catholic Action hosted a most successful retreat in February. Dr. Joseph T. Kelly, the new Vice President for Mission Effectiveness, facilitated the topic of “exit and redemption” to a group of more than 50 participants. The committee also hosted an alumni night of reflection in March. Led by campus minister Joseph Farrell, O.S.A., retreatants followed the Way of the Cross, reflecting on pictures, drawings, and thoughts of Merrimack students who participated in Alternative Spring Break.

The student liaison committee continues to attend Student Government meetings and serves as an important link between our students and our alumni. CEDAR has grown through additional committee members and the input of the new Student Services Director in the DCE office. In January, a holiday reception for Continuing Education Alumni held in Deegan Residence Hall was well-received by attendees.

And the nominating committee again presented the council with a full slate of nominees to serve on the council for the next year.

Our regional clubs continue to grow and expand. Our new Northern New Hampshire Alumni are meeting more often. Receptions have been held throughout the country. And in April, a group of 25 alumni, friends and parents of the college visited Vienna, Salzburg, and Prague for this year’s annual Alumni Trip.

At our spring alumni council meeting, council members learned more about the Merrimack tradition of service. Professor Mary McHugh, director of the Stevens Learning Center, discussed the program’s pilot year’s success. Joining her were two Merrimack students. The enthusiasm, intelligence, and caring they exhibited were boundless.

My message to you would not be complete without thanking everyone who has made a donation to Merrimack College this year. Our fundraising efforts depend upon alumni participation. As this issue went to press, 24 percent of our alumni has contributed to the Merrimack Fund. Our goal is to reach 33 percent. It’s not too late to help us reach our goal!

Also, I complete my first year as Alumni Council president. I want to thank the other members of the Executive Board and Council for their dedication and support, and I’d also like to thank the staff of the Alumni Relations Office for the work they do to make all of our programs so successful.

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MERRIMACK / SUMMER 1999 PAGE 17

Christopher Trim was promoted to associate vice president at Morgan Stanley Dean Witter. He and his wife Jean (LaPointe) ’99 live in Beverly, Mass., with baby daughter Sreatha Nina.

M92

Robert Bushnell recently joined Sudder Kemper Retirement Services as a retirement plan coordinator. He and his wife Marcia in Haverhill with son Nathan.

Brian M. Cresta, state representative in Wakefield, is the chairman of the Massachusetts Republican Party. He and wife Michelle (Surrette) ’94 live in Wakefield.

Tracy J. Ellsworth is an associate with Barres & Stufeld, P.C. in real estate and commercial finance department. She is also a member of the Massachusetts Bar Association and the Massachusetts Country Bar Association.

Rosemary Kinner has

in Ireland, Cayman, Luxembourg, and throughout Asia, Europe, and Latin America.

M89

Michael Fischer, after four years with Teradyne Inc. in Boston, was recently promoted to Test Development Manager. He and wife Janice (Carrier) ’94 live in Wilmington, Mass., with their children Ryan and Alexander.

Roger LaPointe was promoted to Vice President at Morgan Stanley Dean Witter.

Gregory Matti received national recognition for product compli-

Robert Tosi Jr. was recently elected Grand Knight of the Arlington Knights of Columbus. He is currently working at Health South Home Health Services in Burlington as a payroll and accounts payable coordinator.

Charles E. Moran was appointed manager of community and
government relations for Bay State Gas Company. He lives in Holyoke.

Dianne Roaf, CPA, has joined the accounting firm of F.J. Bruno (Patrick F. Bruno ’77) & Company as tax manager. She brings more than eighteen years experience to the Lynardware accounting firm.

Rolande Tellier was promoted to Marketing Coordinator at Olympic Fasteners roofing products division.

M91

Dr. Keith Briggs has joined the Liberty Group in Saugus, Mass. He is an active member of the American Chiropractic Association and the Massachusetts Chiroprac-
tic Society. Briggs is also a certified chiropractic sports physician.

Peter F. Casey, CPA, has received an MBA from Boston College. He works at Colt Corporation in Boston and lives in Quincy.

Sean D’Ursu accepted a position at BIC in Swampscott, Mass. as Director of Finance. He and his wife Johanna (Real) live in Haverhill with their daughter Taylor.

Matthew Knauf has opened his own law office in North Andover. He specializes in elder

and medical law.

The annual Boston Alumni Reception, a continuing success, was held in the Bay Tower Room for the first time this year. Students abused their best one to right: Doug Safford ’94, Patty Scarlottie ’94, Izak Weinzweig ’94, Dan Eckert ’94, Bill McCain ’94, back row: Mark Lamont ’97, Angela Rizor ’94, and Mike Connell ’94.

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Michelle Donohue Magner is the assistant director of financial aid at Boston College Law School. She and her husband John live in Hull.

Cheryl Aime is the general manager of the North Conway N.H. Athletic Club. Previously, she was a personal fitness trainer and aerobics instructor at the facility.

Chris Wood has been promoted to imports manager of Southeast Asiatics. He has moved to the Dallas area to work with retail buyers and manufacturers of hardware products. His responsibilities include developing products, monitoring sales, and directing merchandising.

M95

Kimberly (Rayals) Ross is an account executive with The Wilmark Group. She and husband Chris ’93 live in Newton Center, Mass.

M96

Robbyn Chaisson is enrolled in the early childhood education graduate program at Salem State College. She is a pre-school teacher at Andover Community Child Care and lives in Ipswich.

Jodi Kingley recently received a master’s degree in counselling from the University of Bridgewater. She lives in Norwalk, Conn.

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Oops! In the last issue of Merrimack magazine, Andrea Turner’s name was listed incorrectly. We apologize for the error.

Janine Van Patten is pursuing a master’s degree in English Literature while teaching College Writing courses at Rutgers University.

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Steve Cate was recently promoted to director of distribution operations for Segreys, a subsidiary of Liz Claiborne, Inc. He lives in Gloucester.

Clare McNeary received a master’s degree in early childhood education from Lesley College in November 1998. She is a teacher and coach in the Worcester Public Schools. Clare also teaches Irish Step Dancing.

Andrea (Brush) Woods joined the law office of Samuel Rotondi, Esquire, P.C. as a hospital liaison. She and her husband Mike live in Weburn.

M94

Paula Bergeron received a doctor of optometry degree from the New England College of Optometry in Boston and practices in Stoughton. She lives in Stoughton, Mass.

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Stephenie Messa's '81 and Vernon Scrolls at St. Michael Church in North Andover.

Maura Galvin '86 and Gregg Jones at the Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher on October 10.

Lisa Carillo '97 and Thomas Rossi at St. Catherine of Genoa Church in Somerville on October 10.

Jacqueline Fantarella '87 and Daniel Quesnel at St. Maura Galvin '85 and Stephanie Messina '81 Andover.

Jacqueline Fantarella '87 and Daniel Quesnel at St. Maura Galvin '85 and Stephanie Messina '81 Andover.

October 26.

Debra (Gallig) Arsenault '90 and Edward Michael Church in North Nantucket, Mass.

John Rittenhouse '87 and Christine Voltero '88 and Michael Russo at Holy Trinity Church in Reading, Mass.

Mary Church in New Haven, Conn. on September 26.

John Rittenhouse '87 and Christine Voltero '88 and Michael Russo at Holy Trinity Church in Reading, Mass.

Searl at Sacred Hearts Church in Brandon, Vt. on November 25.

John Lawn '91 and Shannon Doyle at St. Patrick Church in Watertown.

Ann Abel '92 and Steve Jacobsmeier in Spring Lake, New Jersey on August 1.

David Barton '92 and Amy Kaufman at North American Martyrs Church in Massena, N.Y. on July 11.

Christine Gibney '92 and Christopher Madsen at Holy Name Church in Fall River, Mass. on November 7.

Lori Murphy '97 and Scott Dittos '95 had plenty of Merrimack friends on hand at their September wedding. Pictured above are (front row, left to right) Paula (Norton) Cain '93, Donna Gutenberger-Murray '93, Sheila (Kosmaki) Ouellette '93, Paula Berges '94, James Malta '89, the bride and groom, Julie Mascetti '96, Eric Pellerin '95, Erica (Chouinard) Ahaesy '97, (back row, left to right) Alex Cain '93, Karen Murray '93, Rev. Joseph Collins, O.S.A., Matt Ouellette '94, Steve Williams '97, Paul Gremban '96, Marc Gothier, Brian Smith '97, Mike Nelson '97, and Scott Simmons '98.

Groom, Julie Maccarone '98, Eric Pellerin '95, Erica (Chouinard) Ahaesy '97, (back row, left to right) Sheryl Mason, Maureen (O'Connor) Peterson '92, Carolanne Kelley '92, Cathy (Carnes) Martin '92, Tim Martin '92, Andrea Morrison '92, Susan (MacKerron) Briner '93, and, in the back, John Peterson.

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Christopher Berard at the Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher.

Anders Berry '94 and Brian Turner at the Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher.

Tracy Guerra '94 and Michael Grady at Holy Apostles Church in Lawrence on August 1.

September 19.

Church in Brandon, Vt. on September 29.

At the Brandon Congregational Church of Christ the Teacher.

of the Peace Bill Beane on June 13.

Christ the Teacher on September 28, 1997.

Daniel DiPietro '90 and Colleen Flynn at St. Isidore Church in Snow Hill, Mass. on October 24.

Robert Guarino, Jr. '90 and Traci Legate at Whalsewatch in Nantucket, Mass.

Donna Lazzaro '90 and Scott Ruat at St. Philip and James Church in St. James, N.Y. on October 24.

John Lawson '91 and Shannon Doyle at St. Patrick Church in Watertown.

Angie Berard '92 and Steve Jacobsmeier in Spring Lake, New Jersey on August 1.

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Scott Lohan '92 and Kristin Rowe at the Brandon Congregational Church in Brandon, Vt. on September 28.

Christopher Lovett '92 and Heather Mascetti at St. Leo Church on December 25.

Robert Mills, Jr. '92 and Nancy Hamilton at St. Barbara Church in Woburn.

Vincent Campagna III '93 and Paula Silva at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church on November 28.

Anne Marie Harris '93 and Bob Atkinson in Independence Harbor in Methuen.

John Pallaria '93 and Michelle Corbin in Independence Harbor in Methuen.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott Rust (Donna Lazzaro '90)

WEDDINGS

Mr. and Mrs. Scott Rust (Donna Lazzaro '90)

Lori Murphy '97 and Scott Dittos '95 had plenty of Merrimack friends on hand at their September wedding. Pictured above are (front row, left to right) Paula (Norton) Cain '93, Donna Gutenberger-Murray '93, Sheila (Kosmaki) Ouellette '93, Paula Berges '94, James Malta '89, the bride and groom, Julie Mascetti '96, Eric Pellerin '95, Erica (Chouinard) Ahaesy '97, (back row, left to right) Alex Cain '93, Karen Murray '93, Rev. Joseph Collins, O.S.A., Matt Ouellette '94, Steve Williams '97, Paul Gremban '96, Marc Gothier, Brian Smith '97, Mike Nelson '97, and Scott Simmons '98.
Judith O’Connor ’88: a son, Shane joins brother Paul David.
Paula (O’Brien) ’87 and Tom Sean.
Janet (Crocker) ’81 and Chuck Gabriella.
Diane (Barry) Chester ’81 and Patrick.
Liam and Aidan.
Kerry (Kelly) ’87 and Rod Kevin: a son, Marc Edward, Barbara Jo (Angelillo) O’Rourke ’84 and husband Patrick, August 7. He joins family are godparents Michelle and Michael Joan (McCole) Luna ’89 and Geneva, April 9, 1998. Sarah was Kevin Christopher, December 18.
Therese (Bourque) Daly ’89 and husband Kenneth: a daughter.
Kerry (Kelly) ’87 and Rod Johnson: a daughter, Allison, December 16.
Kim (Rhinesmith) Boon ’91 and husband Brett welcomed Brett D’Urso ’91: a daughter, Taylor Garmon ’91 and husband Todd ’93, October 30, 1998.
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BIRTHS
BRIAN (Watson) ’82 and Pat Durante ’91: a daughter, Sarah.
Christopher Ouellette ’85 and husband John, a son.
Karen (Johnson) McCarthy ’92 and husband Patrick, October 5. He joins brother William.
Beverly (Baer) ’92 and Daniel (Watson) ’92 and Pat Durante ’92: a son, Ryan Patrick, October 14.
Linda (O’Sullivan) ’84 and husband David: a daughter, Emily Elizabeth, October 29. She joins sister Haley.
Mary L. Landry of Medford and Katherine Donohoe of Fallon, Nev., Margaret Beltran of Belmont, Calif.; a son, Joseph of Methuen and baby Jacob Ross. God parents Michelle and Michael Cannon of America. He was a board director of the Submarine USS Tench. When discharged in 1946, he received several awards, including the Submarine Combat Insignia with two battle stars. Pacific Medal with three gold stars and five service stars. His retirement salary was employed by Raytheon Co. as an engineering manager and quality assurance manager of the Raytheon AMRAAM and HARM missile programs. He was the husband of Helen (Leon) Enright. In addition to his wife he is survived by three daughters, Donna Traficante and Karen Enright of Beverly, formerly of North Andover, and Philip Baer and Constance Main of Beverly, formerly of North Andover; two sons, Michael Baer and Peter Baer; a brother, James Baer of Beverly; and a sister, Patricia Guadet of Methuen; a few aunts, uncles, and cousins.
BIRTHS
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