ON THE COVER:
Jane Walsh '75
ushers in a new era as chairman of Merrimack's Board of Trustees

INSIDE:
Are you really happy with your life? These alumni risked security for satisfaction
Merrimack adds something special to education

At Merrimack College we have always known we are "something special," but sometimes that "something" has been difficult to define. Now, however, our students have done it for us.

According to recent focus-group discussions on campus conducted by an independent consulting agency, Merrimack College students see their experience here as an "awakening of their minds and hearts.

If we had been asked to come up with an expression ourselves to characterize the Merrimack College experience, I don't think we could have phrased it any better. But to have this sentiment originate with our students makes it all the more gratifying and meaningful.

As our students explained in their focus groups, Merrimack College is giving them the opportunity to enhance not only their intellectual skills, but also to expand their capacities for love of God and their love of their fellow human beings. To some students, it is an awakening to reality; to others it was an awakening to God not only in the form of our Sacred Heart tradition, but in the more general sense.

At Merrimack College we spend many hours discussing, debating, and considering how we can serve our students best — and how we can impart our values upon which the college was founded and which the college has always known we are "something special," but sometimes that "something" is the awakening of their hearts and minds. And because of this awakening, they begin to explore and find their place in the world — something not all of them understood when they were considering which college to attend. This is gratifying news for all members of our community dedicated to enhancing the overall educational experience of our students.

So, while we are heartened, I can promise you we will not be complacent. We will continue to expend the resources to provide that something extra that makes a Merrimack education truly "awakens minds and hearts."
Choosing a Better Life

Making your dreams come true can mean saying goodbye to 9 to 5.

By Melanie Wilson

Larry Bergeron ’70 spied them early on his first morning in Russia: two half-naked children playing in a dusty field. One sat in a rusty wagon whose back had been torn away; the other tugged at the wagon’s handle, trying to drag his friend around.

The children, orphans rescued from the streets of St. Petersburg and sent to the remote country camp — a former Communist training camp — for the sum of his own good fortune. Bergeron, a former marketing consultant and partner in a corporate training consultant and partner in Michaels, a corporate controller and she’ll say it was a disaster. But there was a small problem. She and her husband, Karl ’82, whom she met at Merrimack when they both were freshmen, never had time together. Her long hours, coupled with her commute and Karl’s busy lifestyle, big birthday parties. But they didn’t give up eating; they didn’t give up a bed. Some people sleep on the streets.

They also have the love of their friends, their church, and the people in it. Real love, Bergeron says. Real understanding, real fellowship. On the day they moved, 18 men from the church showed up to help haul their things; church women had been cooking for two weeks to help hide the family oven.

“I didn’t find that in the corporate world,” he says. “In the corporate world you’re on your own. The higher you go, the thinner the air gets. You don’t have friends, you have acquaintances.”

The prospect of stepping off the well-worn path — the one that yields riches and status and social approval, the one we are taught to pursue with near-abandon — is indeed daunting. Yet the number of Americans doing it is growing, and those thinking of doing it are gathering like an enormous wave behind them.

In a 1994 U.S. News and World Report survey, 51 percent of Americans said they would sacrifice a portion of their income for more time off; a quarter said they had recently moved to less hectic places to live quieter, more sane lives.

The number of men working full-time has fallen to record lows — according to government figures, less than 70 percent of working-age men are now employed full-time — and one of the country’s top trends is a movement toward simplicity, in which people pare down their possessions and work commitments to a minimum.

Searching for fulfillment

Why are so many people stepping outside the once well-defined boundaries of work to find meaning? Charles McVinney, a corporate training consultant and partner in Michaels, says, “If the Reidls weren’t in town — or rather, in the country — the one that yields riches and status and social approval, the one we are taught to pursue with near-abandon — is indeed daunting. Yet the number of Americans doing it is growing, and those thinking of doing it are gathering like an enormous wave behind them.

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Karl Reid '82 at the shop he and wife Martha '82 opened after they decided to change the course of their lives. "We say we're unemployable," Martha says. "We're self-employable. I can't imagine having someone tell me I was late or early or whatever. I can't imagine it anymore. This has de-stressed our lives. There are things I still worry about, but I'm not going to get an ulcer here."

"We're like professional volunteers," Karl says, noting their involvement in the nearby Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, civic and business groups, even the committee that decorates the city for holidays. "People may want to change their lives but can't bear to give up all the perks their current lives afford them, all the secondary gains that are the rewards of life in the fast lane. If that's the real conflict, Dugal says, it's worth knowing; at least you'll understand why you're still in that unsatisfying job."

"I dream about it, I dream, however cherished, makes us very nervous indeed." Dugal says, and given the daily distractions of money doing whatever they're doing for work, the modern notion of the goodness of work can be crossed off, or if happiness requires a radical change. After all that work, a painful truth sometimes emerges: People may want to change their lives but can't bear to give up all the perks their current lives afford them, all the secondary gains that are the rewards of life in the fast lane. If that's the real conflict, Dugal says, it's worth knowing; at least you'll understand why you're still in that unsatisfying job.

"One easy way for the work-weary to change the quality of their lives is to make changes around the edges — taking a day off from work and sitting in front of the fireplace, for example. But no matter what degree of change they end up deciding on, the goal, Dugal says, should always make sense: while dreams of escape are normal, if you're pinning your hopes on the lottery, it's time to get real."

"Looking at whether you've accomplished your early dreams — or even found work that has meaning for you — can be devastating," Dugal says, and given the daily distractions of life, people find that introspection easy to avoid. But for those contemplating a big change, a clear-headed look at the real choice to be made is essential. "The choice isn't from problems to no problems. It's from one set of problems to a different set of problems, since life is still an arduous and sometimes tragic journey," Dugal says. "Would you rather have problems associated with trying to distill your life, give yourself time to think, give yourself a broader range? Or do you want to just keep what you've got and yearn for more?"

He encourages change-seekers to ask themselves two questions: what are they doing too much of, and what are they doing too little of. Then they must decide whether anything from the "too much" list can be crossed off, or if happiness requires a radical change.

"On one hand, they've finally collected enough experiences to be able to analyze them and intelligently redefine their life direction. On the other hand, such hard-earned wisdom comes at a time of high obligation to others.

"There are a lot of people who say that if it weren't for the kids in college and the mortgage, they can see themselves doing blah blah blah," says Dugal. "They're stuck because they know they can make a certain amount of money doing whatever they're doing for work, and even if they don't like it, it'll put the kids through school and pay the mortgage. They can't quite see how they can live with themselves and have an identity if suddenly the kids have to cough up more for their own education or if they have to live in a smaller house. If it comes down to the difference between desire and security, for the vast number of people, security will win out."

"We've got books on birding destinations all over the world," Karl says, pointing to a crowded shelf in a corner of the store. "I don't want to read about them. I want to go to them."

"And what about all the risks they took starting over? Like Bergeron, they simply had faith that it would all work out in the end. Says Karl, "You just kind of walk over the edge and see what happens."

"I'm hard-headed — hit upon the idea of opening a nature store, a place where they could be their own bosses, satisfy their love of the outdoors, and fashion a new kind of life together. Which is how they ended up with The Birdwatcher of Newburyport, their personal sanctuary from the hassles of modern work.

"The store, within walking distance of their home, is peaceful. Classical music drifts out of speakers and floats among the hanging wind chimes; their dog Ringo dozes on a cushion. No longer worried about losing their jobs to downsizing or spending whole chunks of their lives in traffic, the Reidls eye the future optimistically. The couple intends to open a second store, a place where they could be their own bosses, satisfy their love of the outdoors, and fashion a new kind of life together. Which is how they ended up with The Birdwatcher of Newburyport, their personal sanctuary from the hassles of modern work.

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"Following the call"

Our attitudes toward work are determined not only by our need to feel secure, but by our cultural beliefs about work — beliefs so deeply engrained on our collective psyche that we are hardly aware of them. The modern notion of the goodness of work originated with the Protestant work ethic and the concept of vocational callings, says David Knepper, the chairman of Merrimack's history department — hit upon the idea of opening a nature store, a place where they could be their own bosses, satisfy their love of the outdoors, and fashion a new kind of life together. Which is how they ended up with The Birdwatcher of Newburyport, their personal sanctuary from the hassles of modern work.

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Whether security is vested in personal identity, in status or money, putting it on the line to achieve a dream, however cherished, makes us very nervous indeed.
When you have illness made rething how she time to sit around and think," she said, what changes you want to make in your life.

Distinctly American events, such as the formation of a vast common market that united the separate colonies economically, created the opportunity for national growth and prosperity — a development that gave the hard-working and creative a chance to profit like never before. The country's bountiful natural resources, the development of railroad and river transport, the pull of the West — all fueled the economic fire. Despite the vast amount of work to be done and the lack of modern tools with which to do it, workers in colonial times lived less hectic lives than the workers of today. Knepper says. And for a very simple reason: the law of the seasons, the law of light and dark, bound workers inescapably to nature. A nation of farmers, Colonial America worked when the sun rose and slept when it fell. They worked hard in spring and fall, intermittently in summer and very little in winter. Rest was imposed on them by physical laws that could not be broken — at least not for a time.

Artificial light became available in the form of inexpensive oil and gas lamps in the early 1800s, and it became possible to work after dark. At about the same time standardized timepieces became widespread, and workers' time could suddenly be organized into shifts. A day was no longer a period of light followed by a period of darkness, it now consisted of 24 equal segments, each one a discrete unit telling workers what they should be doing. "When you have both [timepieces and artificial light] available, you can regiment life much more, you can create an environment where you can work more, and you can become more productive — especially with the spread of the factory," Knepper says. The changes revolulized work. "There really is a great dividing line in history: history up until the beginning of the 19th century, and all the time since."

Given the radical changes these early devices imposed upon the nature of Americans' work lives, it's not hard to envision more modern inventions — e-mail, say, or the cellular phone or laptop computer — as their present-day counterparts, making life even more convenient and efficient, but at a price we never agreed to pay. We still can't say where our relentless march toward progress will ultimately lead us, but one thing rings clear: Having defeated almost all natural barriers to work, we're now left in the unenviable position of having to spend more and more of our lives doing it.

Taking a break

Most of us, perhaps, but not Cathie Maloney '82. An account manager for a multinational insurance company, Maloney knows she'll be working for the rest of her life. And so she wants a break. A real break, with a distinctive change of scenery. To that end, Maloney recently gave her notice and plans to move to England. The length of her stay is still up in the air — she'll be there for at least six months and perhaps up to five years.

No impetuous risk-taker, Maloney has prepared herself well. To save money, she put off buying a house and watched her car odometer tick over the 100,000-mile mark. She's done months of research and made four job-hunting trips to London; if she doesn't find a job, she'll use the city as home base for travel to Europe or Africa. Love of travel, in fact, is why she decided to make the move in the first place — and that a discussion she had with her mother, who loved to travel herself, but who died of ovarian cancer four years ago, before she had a chance to do much of it.

"Two weeks before she died she told me, "Your father might talk to you about buying a house, and that would be a good thing to do, but I think you should travel. It's what I would do, and I think it's what you should do, too."

Her mother's words took on added urgency last summer when Maloney's doctor discovered a cyst on one of Maloney's ovaries. Maloney recently gave her notice and plans to move to England. The length of her stay is still up in the air — she'll be there for at least six months and perhaps up to five years.

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Maloney's doctor agreed to pay. We still can't say where our relentless march toward progress will ultimately lead us, but one thing rings clear: Having defeated almost all natural barriers to work, we're now left in the unenviable position of having to spend more and more of our lives doing it.

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"When you have time to sit around and think," she said, "You think about what changes you want to make in your life."
Jane Walsh: Chairman of the Board

Members of Merrimack’s Board of Trustees recently blasted new ground in electing Jane Walsh, president of Northmark Bank and a board member since 1994, the first woman to chair the board.

Recently, she sat down with Merrimack’s editor to talk about the college, herself and her new role.

Just reading your résumé is exhausting. Founded Northmark Bank at 33. Chairman of the Massachusetts Bankers Association. On the board of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, the local Chamber of Commerce, Winchester Hospital, and Nazareth Academy, to name a few. And now, Chairman of the Board of Merrimack. Does your day have more than 24 hours?

No, but most days, I wish I had just a few more hours. I can tell you that when I get to bed at night, I never have trouble falling asleep. I've always believed that you live to your values that began at home, was a value-centered education, and I hope I carry around and act out those values every day of my life. I believe that’s the true gift of a education from Merrimack College is pretty well. You weren't just a number, you were a real person. Looking ahead, where do you see Merrimack going?

Neither you nor President Santagati are Augustinian friars. That’s a big change for Merrimack.

Although Dick and I may not be Augustinians, the Augustinian presence is alive and well at Merrimack College. The Augustinians are in the classrooms, around the campus, in important administrative positions, and clearly evident at the Board level. I may not be an official Augustinian by vocation, but I absolutely share the beliefs, values and charism of the Augustinian order.

You’re the first woman to preside over our Board. Does that mean anything to you? What does it mean for the college? For me, filling this position is an honor. regardless of whether I am male or female. For the public, it certainly involves a different mindset for me. Merrimack was a small enough environment that you got to know your professors and classmates pretty well. You weren't just a number, you were a real person.

Looking ahead, where do you see Merrimack going?

I see Merrimack continuing to build on its reputation as a premier small Catholic college in New England. An education from Merrimack College is one of the best-kept secrets around. I plan, on my watch as Chairman, to let this secret out.

A Board member since 1994, the first woman to chair the Board of Merrimack’s Board of Trustees.

On the wish list for the new facility are common areas, study areas, academically advising offices, computer rooms, exercise areas, apartments for Resident Life professionals and Augustinians, and meeting space for First-Year Seminars and other educational and social programs.

The housing will more closely resemble standardized residence halls than apartments.

The need for a new facility, said President Santagati, is evident in the growing number of students to live on campus — even if a student lives relatively close to the college — and the college’s wish to provide the experience of community living to students who want campus housing.

The number of applicants and enrolled students has been rising, as has the number of resident students. And, with most students drawn from the Northeast, the college has seen a marked increase in applications nationally as well as internationally, said Santagati.

Father McGuire has served as trustee of Malvern Preparatory School, the Augustinian College, and Austin Preparatory School.

Father McGuire was treasurer of St. Thomas Monastery in Villanova; treasurer of the monastery at Mtg. Bonner, a member of the Augustinian Province’s Finance Committee; benefactor of the province; and a member of the State Committees on Finance for the St. Thomas of Villanova Province.

After earning a bachelor’s degree at Villanova, Father McGuire earned a master’s degree at Augustinian College in Washington and completed additional graduate work in education at The Catholic University of America.

Ciejek, until recently an independent fashion consultant, is a trustee of Noble Health Systems and Noble Hospital, Inc. She is a director of the Greater Westfield YMCA, a member of Holy Trinity Church’s Finance Committee, and has been co-chair of the residential division of the Noble Hospital Capital Campaign, president of the Noble Hospital Auxiliary. Co-parents of the William Northampton School’s Annual Fund, and a past director of the American Cancer Society. Both graduates of Merrimack, Ciejek and her husband, Daniel, established the Ciejek Fellowship in Humanities at the couple’s alma mater.

The Ciejeks have three children, Alex, Emily, and Katherine, and a daughter-in-law, Mary Jo.

Builder’s Contribution Remembered

All the hoopla surrounding the college’s 50th anniversary is helping to rekindle memories for many. Jeremiah J. Murphy Jr., of Rochester, N.Y., and his sister-in-law, Dr. Joseph T. Kelley, vice president for Student Life, noting the value of providing a sense of community for students, said all students benefit from an additional student residence and the co-curricular program that Merrimack offers students.

And, as an Augustinian college, Merrimack has a special heritage of community life and a responsibility to teach students how to build a focused and purposeful community.

Construction schedules have not been set, as planning for the new structure is still continuing.

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Well-loved education professor dies

Father Bogardus was revered for his passion and expertise in education, leaving a lasting impact on students and colleagues alike. His contributions to the field of education, particularly in the areas of Modern European History and Chemistry, were significant and well-recognized.

Spectroscope Will Add Color to Chemistry Classes

The acquisition of a spectroscope in the chemistry department will not only enhance the educational experience for students but also bring cutting-edge technology to the classroom. This addition signifies the college's commitment to staying ahead in the field of chemistry.

Biking for a cure

Chris McDermott is committed to making a difference, not just for himself but for others as well. His journey, fueled by a goal to bike the Pan-Mass Challenge, is a testament to his dedication and personal growth.

ARE YOU BEING SERVED?

Your feedback is crucial in helping us improve. We welcome your thoughts on how Merrimack magazine can serve you better. Your responses will be used to enhance future issues.

Questions:
1. How would you rate the overall quality of Merrimack magazine in comparison to other publications you receive?
2. Do you receive other alumni publications? How does Merrimack compare?
3. Rank the following sections of Merrimack magazine in order of their interest to you.
4. Rate your interest in each story in this issue, using a scale from 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest.
5. What other magazines do you subscribe to?
6. What would you like to see more of in future issues? What would you like to see less of?
Friends Plan Golf Tourney

Dust off your clubs and get ready for the 50th Anniversary President’s Cup Golf Tournament planned this year for Monday, June 2, at Indian Ridge Country Club in Andover. This is the 16th year for the tournament, which has raised nearly $900,000 throughout its history.

The format will be foursome best ball. Men and women are welcome to play.

Fees are $175 to play in the morning which includes breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and $200 for an afternoon tee time which includes lunch and dinner.

This year’s tournament is sponsored by the Friends of Merrimack.

Corporate sponsorships are welcome. Anyone interested in playing should contact Maureen Lanigan at 508/837-5448.

Judge Fenton to receive the Tikkun Olam Award

Judge John E. Fenton Jr., Dean of Suffolk University Law School, will receive this year’s Tikkun Olam Award from Merrimack’s Center for the Study of Jewish-Christian Relations.

The reception and award dinner will be Tuesday, May 6, at the Copley Plaza Hotel in Boston.

The Tikkun Olam (“To Repair the World”) Award was established to honor and recognize an individual in the community whose professional life has served as an example and an inspiration to both faiths in their efforts to improve relations between Christians and Jews.

Hot times for the Warrior hockey team

After a slow start, the hockey team turned up the heat on its opponents and made its assault on the Hockey East elite. The Warriors became one of the hottest teams in Hockey East.

Averaging an earlier season loss to Colgate with a 4-3 win at the Syracuse Invitational Tournament, the Warriors gained a chance to play for a championship trophy in December and although Merrimack fell to the ECAC’s top team, Cornell, in the finals, the weekend in Syracuse turned out to be the start of a Warrior climb.

Merrimack roared off wins in 10 of its next 15 games with a record of 10-4-1. Included were two wins over one of Hockey East’s top teams, the Maine Black Bears. The Warriors defeated Maine, 3-1, behind the spectacular goaltending of Martin Legault (St. Gloucester, Ont.).

Legault turned away 33 Maine shots and sophomore Rejean Stringer (Gravelbourg, SASK) supplied the heroics with his second game-winning goal of the season. The win was Merrimack’s first over the Black Bears since joining Hockey East. The fun didn’t stop with Maine as Merrimack turned a month-long homestand into a 3-3 record and a steady ascent in the standings. But it was a 4-2 Valley Cup win over UMass/Lowell that brought a four-game winning streak that included four conference wins and what may be the biggest win of the season in a 5-4 overtime win over Maine at Alfond Arena.

Casey Kesselring’s (Cambridge, Ont.) overtime goal with :29 remaining stunned a sell-out crowd. Stringer tied the game with :57 left to send it to the extra period. Eric Thibeault (Sept-Iles, Que.) backstopped the Warriors with 36 saves.

The Warriors defeated Boston College at the Volvo Center.

Senior captain John Jakolin in action during the Warriors’ 3-1 win over Maine at the Volvo Center.
Sophomore Darrel Scoville (Regina, Sask) scored three goals and one assist in the first period, a record for Hockey East defenseman...The 11-goal outburst was Merrimack's most in a Hockey East game and the most in any HEA game played this season...The win marked the most conference wins Merrimack has had since joining HEA...Legault broke the career-saves mark of 2994 (set by Jim Hrivnak) by recording 23 saves on the night. He boosted his career mark to 3005 and was named to the All Hockey East team...By recording over 3000 saves, Legault distinguished himself by becoming the first goalie to record that many numbers...Senior captain Rob Beck (Flin Flon, Man) was named the Hockey East Player of the Week (2/17)...Stringer garnered the same honor in September...Beck also became Merrimack's 41st player to record 100-plus career points...Kesselring scored in 15 straight games...Jayson Philbin (N. Andover, Ma) came on strong with a streak of 3-2-5 in a span of eight games near the end of the season.

Slippery stretch knocks Merrimack men out of NE-10 Championship

Almost like a slippery patch of ice that sends your car into a skid, the Merrimack men's basketball team hit a stretch of ice in the middle of its season that cost it a spot in the Northeast-10 conference playoffs. It was the first time in 13 years in the league that Merrimack failed to make the postseason.

Two wins in the first three games was a positive start for Head Coach Bert Hammel's Warriors...One of Hammel's concerns entering the season was how well the freshmen would assimilate. Some of those concerns were answered early with wins over West Chester and Valley Cup rival UMass/Lowell...Senior Daren Alix (HadMcm, Ct) was named tournament MVP and Alix, along with freshman Deman Keys (Jersey City, Nj), was named to the all-tournament team...Another win followed over highly touted Sunshine State Conference foe, St. Leo College, and then the road got slippery.

Merrimack came back north to resume NE-10 action and lost five conference games in a row. The Warriors were answered early with wins over West Chester and Valley Cup rival UMass/Lowell...Junior Lynn Gaglioti (East Hartford, Ct) assumed the torchbearing status for next year's Lady Warriors as she and Greatorex, who passed the scoring torch, led the team with 20 points each.

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A Conversation on Campus Ministry

by Rev. Richard Jacobs, O.S.A. and Wendy Darwin Wakeman

It’s almost inarguable. The Catholic and Augustinian spirit is the heart of Merrimack College. But what does it mean to be Catholic? What does it mean to be Augustinian? The questions generate passion, and trying to answer them is a bit like grabbing a handful of oxygen.

Still, discussing, debating, and sometimes even arguing about the college’s Catholic and Augustinian spirit is a tradition here. Whether on the floor of the faculty senate or around the boardroom table, in the admission office or at curriculum-planning meetings, that spirit comes into play.

In 1990, kindling the debate, Pope John Paul II defined his vision for Catholic higher education entitled ex corde Ecclesiae (from the heart of the Church). His vision challenges the Church’s colleges and universities to make their Catholic identity more explicit.

To that end, President Richard J. Santagati is sponsoring a series of discussions, calling them From the Heart of Merrimack.

The discussions bring together people who share a love for the college to discuss how to elucidate Merrimack’s Catholic and Augustinian spirit.

The first group focused on Campus Ministry as it relates to that spirit. Participants included students Robert Wiselik and Andrea Lascasky ‘81 and Maureen Lanigan, and Sharon Broussard ‘69; alumni Frank ‘56 and Emilie ‘53 Collopy; Rosa Bertorelli, whose daughter Rita is a senior; and Campus Ministry staffer Sister Elaine Polcari, S.S.N.D. and the Reverends Scott Ness ‘84 and Joseph Farrell, O.S.A.

Also at the table were Casey Cuborn, director of Public Relations; Rev. Richard Jacobs, O.S.A., assistant to the President; and Wendy Wakeman ‘93, Merrimack magazine editor.

Cherishing our heritage

The group convened over lunch in the President’s House. Although many of the participants hadn’t met before, discussion was both lively and enlightening from the start. Sometimes, opinions differed. But there was universal agreement on one point: Merrimack’s Catholic and Augustinian identity is vitally important.

Our Catholic and Augustinian identity is what makes us different as a college,” Maureen Lanigan said. Lanigan, director of fundraising events at Merrimack, is the mother of two Merrimack students — Stephanie, a marketing major, and Kristen, a religious studies major. Her husband Bob is a graduate of the college.

She said, “Merrimack is very open, very liberal in allowing students to come to their own understanding of their Catholicity.”

Sharon Broussard agrees. “We’ve kept the best of the ‘sixties and ‘seventies. I see other Catholic colleges becoming more restrictive, and I find that disturbing.”

Broussard spoke both from her experience of Merrimack as a graduate and her work with students as a counselor in the Health Center.

“Parents expect the human dimension at a Catholic school,” she said. “I know with my own kids, I pray they’ll make friends. Relationships are important — with each other, and with God.”

Sister Elaine Polcari agreed. “One of the big things we try to impart is the feeling of belonging,” she said.

Broussard and Polcari often work in concert with each other and with parents toward that goal. Broussard is likely to refer a student who is having trouble adjusting to campus life to Polcari, and both receive calls from parents concerned about their children.

“We get them involved in something,” Polcari says. And, through their involvement, students make friends.

In making friends, a new student feels welcomed to Merrimack. Father Scott Ness said hospitality is a hallmark of Augustinian Catholicism. “Augustine would say get to know yourself very well and you will get to know God,” he said, and added that the essence of Augustine’s philosophy is sharing the experience of knowing God with others.

And Campus Ministry is a very hospitable place. “It’s the nicest space on campus,” Broussard says. The lounge, on the second floor of Gildea, is indeed a comfortable place, with easy chairs, tables, and a piano. With two walls of windows, it is light and cheery, just the place to take a break from the rigors of academic pursuits.

Opting for values

Rosa Bertorelli’s daughter Rita studies international business. As a native of a small town in Italy, Rosa’s family’s social life centered on the church. She is bright and articulate and wears the top parental qualification on her sleeve: an obvious, consuming love for her children.

In our family, we stressed learning, maybe because I didn’t have a great education. My parents didn’t either,” Bertorelli said. “And we have an old-fashioned background. We chose Merrimack because it is small, homey, and Catholic.

Her daughter has made a place for herself here, especially as a member of Merrimack, the service arm of Campus Ministry (see related story). That program was a pet project of discussion participants Emilie and Frank Collopy, whom Sister Elaine calls “the mother and father of Merrimack.”

Both Emilie and Frank believe Campus Ministry deserves more attention, both financial and otherwise, at Merrimack. “We read about football everywhere. Anytime anyone speaks about the college, it’s sports,” Frank complained. “We need to talk about our faith.”

The Collopys’ commitment to Campus Ministry is deep, because for them it has been life-changing. “The

The students have helped us grow, to be alive,” Emilie said. “They taught us to listen, to respect, to allow them to go and find their God.”

Continuing the dialogue

The group agreed: the few hours spent hashing out ideas and opinions were worth the effort. The discussion not only provided valuable data identifying how Merrimack College communicates its Catholic and Augustinian spirit, it also provided a benchmark for the Campus Ministry staff to use in its continuous quality improvement effort.

More discussions are planned. This spring, From the Heart of Merrimack will take up the vocation of teaching.

From the Heart of Merrimack welcomes your input. If you’re interested in participating in a discussion group, or if you’d rather put your thoughts on paper, you may write to From the Heart of Merrimack, Rev. Richard Jacobs, O.S.A., Merrimack College, Box A-8, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover, MA 01845, or e-mail at rjacob@Merrimack.edu.

Sister Elaine Polcari, S.S.N.D.

The discussions bring together people who share a love for the college to discuss how to elucidate Merrimack’s Catholic and Augustinian spirit.

Sister Elaine Polcari, S.S.N.D.

Rev. Richard Jacobs, O.S.A.

Andrea Lascasky

Frank ‘56 and Emilie ‘53 Collopy

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“From the Heart of ——”
He's Making Telecommunicating Easier:
Frank Girard '62
by Wendy Darwin Wakeman

When Frank Girard '62 says, "I had to beg to get into Merrimack," it's hard to believe. After all, Girard is now at the helm of one of the telecommunications industry's hottest companies: Boston Technology, a Wakefield, Mass., company with annual revenues approaching $200 million and a customer list including telephone companies in the U.S., Canada, Thailand, Mexico, Japan, and Brazil.

"Father Smith took pity on me," Girard says, explaining that the courses he completed as an evening student could not be credited toward the day division program. (Rev. Francis X. Smith, O.S.A., was the college's first registrar and dean of admission.)

Girard began his Merrimack career as a part-time student. An industrial photographer by day, he attended classes three evenings a week.

"It wasn't easy," he says. "And if someone comes to me now with a résumé that says they went to college nights, I look twice."

With help from Father Smith and Girard's employer, he worked out a plan enabling him to be a full-time student, a "day-hop," as he says, and a part-time photographer. He made Dean's List his first semester.

Upon graduation, Frank married (Janice DuPont), put in a brief stint in the army, and started up the corporate ladder. His career path led him to top sales jobs at Burroughs, Key Data, Wang, and NEC.

It was at NEC, where he served as a Divisional Vice President, that Greg Carr approached him. Carr, Boston Technology's founder and chairman of its board, talked him into joining the then 17-member staff. That was nine years ago.

"It was a bit of a culture shock," Girard admits. The little startup was very different from giants like Wang and NEC. The environment was very creative and certainly more relaxed, as most employees were in their early twenties.

"When you grow with a company, you see everything," Frank says. He remembers watching the first Telco system Boston Technology ever sold go out the door.

Boston Technology produces a variety of systems, most aimed at making telephones more convenient. If you've called your voice mail from a remote location or used a centralized voice, fax, or pager message box, you probably used a Boston Technology product.

The company supports close to 50 percent of the residential telephone mailboxes in the United States.

Its overseas sales are just as impressive. Last year, Boston Technology was one of six firms to receive the "E" award from the United States Department of Commerce, for excellence in exporting.

Girard's last stop before being appointed chief executive officer last year was executive vice president for world sales.

Julie Driscoll '88, a corporate communications administrator at Boston Technology, recalls meeting him for the first time.

"Frank was a vice president, and I was kind of new and goofy," she says. "He stopped by my desk and asked if I went to Merrimack. He made me feel a little more at ease."

Since then, Driscoll has met more than a dozen Merrimack graduates at work. "There's a bond between people who went to the same college and work together," she says.

Driscoll says she knows she would have socialized with Girard if they had been contemporaries at Merrimack. "He's got a great sense of humor," she says.

At Merrimack, Frank was president of his fraternity, SBK. "We were the fun guys," he says, and laughs. "We could never party at the same place twice."

It wasn't all frat parties for Girard, though. He was also the editor of the newspaper and vice president of student government. At graduation, he won the loyalty award.

Father Smith made a good call when he took a chance on Frank Girard. And Frank Girard is glad he did.

"You get a good sense of self when you attend a school like Merrimack," Girard says, noting the college's emphasis on values and ethics. "Those things stay with you."
Helping others

While Fort Lauderdale and Myrtle Beach once again drew throngs of students during this year’s spring break, some Merrimackians flew further south to Santo Domingo.

“It won’t be a vacation, but it’ll be very fulfilling,” predicted Sister Elaine Polcari, S.S.N.D., Campus Ministry Director. “The work will be hard. The conditions won’t be great.”

Students lived and worked among the poor, side by side with Catholic missionaries, in dispensaries, nursing homes, churches, and soup kitchens. It’s Alternative Spring Break, the flagship event for Merrimaction. The service arm of Campus Ministry, Merrimaction has been organizing groups of students to lend a hand for nearly three decades.

And although the Alternative Spring Break students lift more than frozen drinks, the trip always attracts a big crew. Heading to Santo Domingo were Sister Elaine, campus ministers Revs. Scott Ness and Joseph Farrell, O.S.A., and 30 student volunteers. It’s the group’s first-ever overseas trip.

Last year, Merrimaction took on the problems of St. Francis Parish in a poor area near Birmingham, Alabama. “I’m too busy to do much volunteer work during the week,” said Josephine Thomas, a junior mathematics major who took part in the Alabama trip. But she believes in volunteerism. In high school, she taught C.C.D. and organized clothing drives in her parish.

The alternative spring break was a perfect fit for her. “I’m not into going to Cancun and partying,” she said. At St. Francis, she and the others on the team scrambled and painted buildings, putted windows, pounded nails into the roof of an old storage shed, rebuilt swings, and catalogued library books. They also attended Mass and social activities at the mostly black parish.

There were big differences between Mass at St. Francis and Mass as the Merrimaction students knew it. For starters, it lasted more than two hours. Liturgical dance and music were big parts of the service.

“It’s all very laid back,” Thomas said. And much friendlier. “During the sign of peace, everybody got up and greeted almost everybody else,” Maryellen Colliton, director of Student Activities, was also impressed by the warmth of the congregation. “I went on the trip to give of myself and to support the students,” Colliton said. “But the people of St. Francis taught me so much. The presence of community was so important to them. They would be delayed, she said, as much as 45 minutes to wait for a family to arrive.

Colliton isn’t alone in feeling that she received as much as she gave. Helping others often brings rewards. Just ask Karan Mathur.

Born and raised in India, Mathur came halfway around the world to attend Merrimack, attracted by the college’s suburban Boston location and its reputation as a leading business school. But after living here less than a semester, he wanted to transfer. “I found the place really lonely,” Mathur said, describing himself as painfully shy and self-conscious. Somehow, Sister Elaine heard about his predicament. She called him to her office and convinced him to join Merrimaction as he once was. He’s too busy with other activities.

He founded an International Student Association and works with the campus chapter of Amnesty International. But he credits Sister Elaine’s advice and Merrimaction members with keeping him here. “Getting involved kept me at Merrimack.”

Merrimaction is “a big eye-opener,” he says. Of working with retarded adults on another project, Mathur said, “I felt uncomfortable at first, but it taught me about adapting to different situations.”

Working with retarded adults is one of Merrimaction’s ongoing projects. While the Alternative Spring Break attracts a lot of attention, it’s just one event on a full calendar. Most weeks, three Merrimaction projects are planned. Students — sometimes only a handful, sometimes a dozen or more — load into the college van and go into the community and give of themselves.

The mark they leave is lasting. Parishioners at a Lawrence church use an old convent for retreats since Merrimack students cleaned and painted it. Retarded adults enjoy competitive bowling because Merrimack students cleared the lanes.

“Say you want people to experience the retreat for themselves,” Christine Wenzel, a junior from Salem, Mass., a member of the M.O.R.E. board, explained. “People with AIDS at Julie House in Lowell get needed nutrients thanks to the M.O.R.E. retreat.”

Turning inward

While Merrimaction gives students an opportunity to advance into the community, Campus Ministry makes sure they’re given ample opportunity to reach in themselves, too.

In greater numbers than ever before, Merrimack students are participating in the retreats organized by M.O.R.E., the Merrimack Outreach Experience. The program has always been popular, but to get a spot on a retreat this March, students lined up outside the campus ministry office like scalpers before an Elton John concert.

First in line was a group of three freshmen: Maryann Markey, Jill Kenney, and Tara Luhta. They arrived at Gildea at 4 a.m. Only 20 students are accepted for each retreat, and spaces are first-come, first-served.

The events of the retreats are top-secret. The people in line have only a vague idea of what’s in store for them. Sister Elaine and the students who run the retreat say secrecy is important.

“I want people to experience the retreat for themselves,” Christine Wenzel, a junior from Salem, Mass., a member of the M.O.R.E. board, explained. “People need to reflect on their lives.”

Wenzel expresses the same sentiment with a twist: “Going on retreat is a little sanity break.”
M55 John and Ann (O’Day) McGovern take humor seriously. The couple travels around the country teaching people to use humor and creativity to cope with chronic illnesses and life changes. They also contributed stories to the book Chicken Soup for the Soul at Work.

M57 Nancy (Duncan) Critchley has informed us that her home in Tombstone, Arizona is a historic site. The entrance to the Mountain Maid Mine and the original mine shack and ore car rails are in her yard. The mine was the first filed by Wyatt and Virgil Earp. A number of recent conflicts between Southeastern Arizona Behavioral Health and Service, Nancy is looking for retirement in the next few years. Thomas Davis has contributed a few lines from Utirongku, Kenya and is returning to The Pentagon and his home in Springfield, Virginia.

M58 John P. Kane has had a great 1996. He first landed one of three-at-large seats on Amherst’s first municipal council and then was named vice president of the council. Soon after, he was named associate dean of the department in charge of the Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science. Kane has been qualified to practice before the U.S. District Court. He is married to Susan Kane and they have two children.

M61 Meline Kasparian was recently named president of the 77,000 member Massachusetts Teachers Association. She had previously served as vice president and was a member of both the Executive Committee and Board of Directors. Melvin was president of the Springfield Education Association from 1987 to 1994.

M63 Kathleen (O’Neill) Maginn was promoted to assistant vice president of commercial lending at Randolph Savings Bank. Frank Battles traveled to Washington to meet with the Massachusetts Association of College Trustees. Kathleen was awarded the prestigious Albert Gallatin Award. He and his wife Dana live in Bethesda, Maryland.

M64 George Cukor has been appointed chief professor of law at Lawrence District Court. He has served as an assistant chief professor of law at Essex Superior Court for 24 years. Prior to that he served as a judge in the Department of Central High School and Mellen High School. Paul Hiltz, an anesthesiologist at El Camino Hospital, was recently named to the Department of the Board of Directors. He has served as board president since 1983. He and his family live in Los Altos and San Francisco, California. Paul Hiltz has retired after more than 31 years with the Secret Service. In recent years, he has been named as deputy special agent in charge of the Dignitary Protective Division. Paul had also served in the New York and Cleveland FBI offices and was assigned to the Justice Department’s organized crime and racketeering task force in Detroit and Boston from 1969 to 1973. In the late 1960s, Paul supervised the Congressional Affairs Office in Washington. Upon his retirement, he received the Treasury Department’s Albert Gallatin Award. He and his wife Ursula live in Medfield, Massachusetts.

M67 Alice Henrek has joined Berlyn Company as a sales associate. She received her real estate license at Gateway Academy and specializes in residential sales.

M69 Rev. Phil Negel graduated with honors in Andrew Newton Theology School with a doctor of ministry degree. He was recently assigned by the LaSalle Academy to Mary Queen of the Americas Church in Plainville, Texas. A.J. Belleville is editing and translating, at his own time, a collection of works written on her Mirrorniks days in a column called "Isa A. T was never on campus these days. Makes a parent think..."

M70 Marie (Riellits) Pouliot has accepted a new position as senior alliance manager at the Corporation. She and her husband Roland ‘70 live in North Andover.

M72 Meredith Rou leveled Flynn has been named as president and commercial lending officer for Enterprise Bank. She joined Enterprise in 1994. Meredith has been involved with both the bank’s commercial lending and mortgage lending activities...

M76 John Czarnecki of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts after four years in the Legislative Service has joined Amresco Advisors, Inc., a real estate and financial services company. His new office at Cleveland Executive Bank & Trust Co. as senior vice president and will oversee data processing and technology. He went to Glendale from a Cooperative Bank where he had been employed for the past 10 years, the last three as president.

M77 Lorena (Fillman) Donaldson has relocated to Def, Minn California, with her husband Michael, who is an assistant professor of psychology at Cal. State University. They have their children, Robert and Michael, and their dog, Snowy.

M78 William Cavanaugh, a director for the Manchester, N.H. Police Department, has been assigned to the MPD’s high schools and junior high schools. He has been with the department for 15 years serving in the patrol division and in executive capacities. He is the member of the department’s rock band, Friends in Blue. He plays guitar, tenor sax, and tenneur.

M79 Carol Haberman recently accepted a position as first grade teacher at the Line School in Newfield. Maine. She had been employed as a special education teacher at the Line School’s Partnership Center. She lives in Sanford, Maine with her husband and children... David Bailey has joined the Gloucester Cooperative Bank & Trust Co. as senior vice president and will oversee data processing and technology. He went to Glendale from a Cooperative Bank where he had been employed for the past 10 years, the last three as president.

M81 William Hart was elected to a second term as attorney for Rockingham County in New Hampshire. During this term he will focus on improvements in the area of workman’s compensation, caseloads, and prioritization of the cases handled. He lives in Exeter. Nancy (Gaglielmini) McMahon has joined the staff of Seacoast Works in Vells, Maine as an instructor. Seacoast Works is a business and technical skills training company specializing in flexible scheduling and web-based learning in a professional setting. Nancy brings more than nine years of experience in finance and office management into the classroom. She lives in Kennebunk... Lee Slattery has accepted a new position as advancement director of Concordia’s Sports for Women.

M83 Cindy Ann (Lachance) Douglass has changed careers for a study in nursing... Barry Begley began his post career as an Andover letter carrier in 1983. He is in charge of Andover’s main post office, its three substations: North Main Street, Old Town Hill, and Ballantyne; and more than 100 postal workers. He and his wife Delilah live in Methuen. William Hart is the newest member of the Board of Assessors in Newmarket.
Fifty years is not a long time in the history of an institution. It is but a grain in the sands of time. Yet, in the forty years of Merrimack College, the world has changed—man walked on the moon, the Vatican Council was held, and the Berlin Wall fell. The first students at Merrimack were all men, trained mostly by priests and from the Merrimack Valley. Today, our students are both men and women. They are taught by a mostly lay faculty and they come from around the world. Despite these outward changes, the distinct character of the college as a Catholic and Augustinian institution has not changed.

In 1951, Merrimack welcomed its first alumna—a mere 111 men. Today, the number of women now also stands over 16,000 men and women, from New England and beyond. To meet the needs of our growing alumna population, the Alumni Office has expanded our regional clubs to include Hartford and Southern New Hampshire along with Boston, New York City, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C.

As the college and its number of alumna have grown, the alumna have become an increasingly important resource for the college community. Alumni assist the college in many areas—alumni serve as Alumni Ambassadors assisting the Admissions Office in attracting new students (and future alumna) to our institution. Alumni assist the Office of Institutional Advancement by serving as class chairs and class agents. Alumni offer help to students and fellow alumna by being part of the Career Networking Program. Also, alumni serve on the College-Wide Council and the Alumni Council itself. In addition, alumni serve on special committees from time to time to assist the college in many endeavors. By giving of their time and talents, alumna have become important assets for the Wilking community.

As I conclude my first term as Council President, I would like to thank the members of the Executive Board, the Committee Chairs and the other Council members for their dedication and support. In addition, I would like to thank the Alumni Relations Office, Susan Wojtas, John Obert, and JoAnn Orso for their support and guidance. Their dedication to our alma mater makes all of us proud.

Everett. He was previously elected to the board of UNICEF New England. Executive vice president and director of operations for Ritschard Associates, Inc., Jay has been a leader in the fund raising profession for nearlv ten years. He lives in North Andover with his wife Martha (Miller) ’77. Michael Cecere has been promoted to manager at Gray, Gray & Gray CPA’s in Boston. His responsibilities include audit, accounting, and tax services for clients in the oil, heat, insurance, manufacturing, and energy industries. Michael lives in Chelsea. Tracy Blais Durkin has been certified as a Massachusetts municipal collector. She is the collector and manager for the town of West Newbury and is also the town’s finance director. Susan (Demers) McCue, of Parton Party, Inc., was voted one of the top five female disc jockeys in the nation at the Mobile Best Magazine Convention. She lives in Salem, N.H. with her husband Kevin ’87. Brian Sifferlan of North Andover has been appointed to Divisional controller at Mellon Trust. At 33, he is the youngest controller ever at the company. He will be in charge of the information management and resource division. Brian joined Mullen Trust in 1995. Robin Withrow was named account manager of the design group for Haddo Corporation and lives in North Andover with her wife Sara.

M89 Christian Arcidiacono recently received CLARION’s engineering director’s award for outstanding contribution. Chris is a hardware design engineer at CLARION, a division of Data Corporation. He lives in Haverhill. Joseph Frazier accepted a new position with Electrical Design, Inc., as the company’s financial officer. He and his wife Anne (Butterfield) ’70 live in Dracut with their new daughter Alexandra Marie (see below)... Joseph Fazera was inducted into North Andover High School’s Hall of Fame for his overall performance in golf, football, and baseball. Joe is the current principal of Andover High School, a regional physician assistant program at D’Youville College in Buffalo, N.Y. He and his wife Ann Marie (see weddings) live in Buffalo... William T’Netts recently opened Dynamic Chiropractic Health Care in Tewksbury. The health care center offers chiropractic, acupuncture, massage, and nutritional therapies. He and his wife Margie live in Tewksbury.

M90 Kelly Crimmins was recently elected chairman of the board of UNICEF New England. Executive vice president and director of operations for Ritschard Associates, Inc., Jay has been a leader in the fund raising profession for nearlv ten years. He lives in North Andover with his wife Martha (Miller) ’77. Michael Cecere has been promoted to manager at Gray, Gray & Gray CPA’s in Boston. His responsibilities include audit, accounting, and tax services for clients in the oil, heat, insurance, manufacturing, and energy industries. Michael lives in Chelsea. Tracy Blais Durkin has been certified as a Massachusetts municipal collector. She is the collector and manager for the town of West Newbury and is also the town’s finance director. Susan (Demers) McCue, of Parton Party, Inc., was voted one of the top five female disc jockeys in the nation at the Mobile Best Magazine Convention. She lives in Salem, N.H. with her husband Kevin ’87. Brian Sifferlan of North Andover has been appointed to Divisional controller at Mellon Trust. At 33, he is the youngest controller ever at the company. He will be in charge of the information management and resource division. Brian joined Mullen Trust in 1995. Robin Withrow was named account manager of the design group for Haddo Corporation and lives in North Andover with her wife Sara.

M88 Dawn (Maynard) Dunn received a master’s degree in computer information systems from Bentley College in May of last year. She and her husband Kevin live in North Andover with their two sons. Thomas (see births)... Robert Stack has completed his master’s degree in taxation at Northeastern University. He is a tax and financial analyst for Haddo Corporation and lives in North Andover with his wife Sara.

M87 Joseph Capratale was recently elected chairman of the board of UNICEF New England. Executive vice president and director of operations for Ritschard Associates, Inc., Jay has been a leader in the fund raising profession for nearlv ten years. He lives in North Andover with his wife Martha (Miller) ’77. Michael Cecere has been promoted to manager at Gray, Gray & Gray CPA’s in Boston. His responsibilities include audit, accounting, and tax services for clients in the oil, heat, insurance, manufacturing, and energy industries. Michael lives in Chelsea. Tracy Blais Durkin has been certified as a Massachusetts municipal collector. She is the collector and manager for the town of West Newbury and is also the town’s finance director. Susan (Demers) McCue, of Parton Party, Inc., was voted one of the top five female disc jockeys in the nation at the Mobile Best Magazine Convention. She lives in Salem, N.H. with her husband Kevin ’87. Brian Sifferlan of North Andover has been appointed to Divisional controller at Mellon Trust. At 33, he is the youngest controller ever at the company. He will be in charge of the information management and resource division. Brian joined Mullen Trust in 1995. Robin Withrow was named account manager of the design group for Haddo Corporation and lives in North Andover with her wife Sara.

M86 Linda DeCiccio was recently promoted to employment operation manager at Bank of Boston, the newly merged BayBank and Bank of Boston. She has also been appointed to the board of the Maribor Historical Society. Linda lives in Webum, Me. Tracy (Ohlstien) Hennebert is a math teacher specializing in learning disabilities at the International School of Brussels in Belgium. She has completed a degree in Sacred Theology at the Angelicum University in Rome and is now working on a degree in Moral Theology at Alstoniana University, also in Rome. Her ordination to the presidency is set for June 1998... Philip Duellstein was recently promoted to the position of circulation manager for the Salem Evening News. He first joined the company in May of 1995 as the circulation home delivery manager. Philip lives in Lynn.

M85 John Karavolas is a civil engineer for the Mass. Highway Department in Boston and recently opened his own small civil and structural engineering firm in Peabody. Adele Widen recently performed in An Evening of Song with the Vernon Street Music Center in Wakefield. A mezzo-soprano, Adele also studied at the Longy School of Music and the Boston University Theater Institute. She has been the cantor at St. Catherine of Genoa Parish in Somerville for many years, having been hand-picked by the well-known and famed organist John Kiley after he heard her sing the national anthem at the Boston Garden King night at the Boston Garden... Nancy O’Toole has a second-year microbiology degree at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell. She is also the town’s finance director... Susan (Demers) McCue, of Parton Party, Inc., was voted one of the top five female disc jockeys in the nation at the Mobile Best Magazine Convention. She lives in Salem, N.H. with her husband Kevin ’87. Brian Sifferlan of North Andover has been appointed to Divisional controller at Mellon Trust. At 33, he is the youngest controller ever at the company. He will be in charge of the information management and resource division. Brian joined Mullen Trust in 1995. Robin Withrow was named account manager of the design group for Haddo Corporation and lives in North Andover with her wife Sara.

M84 Andrew Coppinger is in the new principal of the parochial school in New Hampshire. He has been teaching at Stratford since 1989. He lives in Lancaster with his wife Lauren (Roberts) ’86 and daughter Adele. Susan (Buck) Moore has been appointed to directing accounting research at United Asset Management Corp. in Boston. She lives in Andover with her husband Michael ’84 and their children Jonathan and Jimmy. John Metzelle was awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor in the biology department at Salem State College. He teaches immunology and biochemistry. John is married to Jane, a biology major in Salem. They have three children: Andrea, Amy, and Michael. John lives in Wakefield. After graduation, Michael joined Mullen Trust in 1995. Robin Withrow was named account manager of the design group for Haddo Corporation and lives in North Andover with his wife Sara.

M83 Leslie Deperssone, serving as a Mercy Corps volunteer at Catherine McAuley House in Plymouth, Penn., was an aide for the homeless women and children... Robert Dannew was appointed account manager for the Boston Teaching Hospital. He and his wife Linda live in Nashua, N.H. with their children Kelly, Kyle, Corey, and Colleen... Kevin Foley, a member of the Massachusetts Board of Review in Boston, has completed the Administrative Law Unemployment Compensation course held at the National Judicial College in Reno... Paul Mullan recently opened his own law practice in Worcester. He was previously with the Worcester law firm of Joseph, Patten, and Cariglia, specializing in civil litigation, notably personal injury. He has also worked as a mediator and probation officer in Worcester Probate and Family Court. He’s married to Kathleen (McHugh) ’85.

M82 Catherine Hames has completed medical rotations in Queens... David Rembis of Haverhill has been appointed to the audit and small business department at Sullivan and Blakes, CPA’s in Billerica.
College of Law at American University and has joined his father’s law practice, Guthrie & McAvoy in Melrose... Lynne (Manohari) Parr is the new employment manager for the Watertown Police in Watertown. She previously worked at Filene’s in Downtown... Lynne has her husband Chris live in Wakefield.

M93 Brian Cresta was selected for inclusion in Who’s Who in the East. Why? Who’s includes 24,000 notable leaders from this region. Brian was also second term as student council president at Merrimack... Brian and his wife Michelle Sciretta ‘94 live in Walpole. Matthew Hayes recently moved to Medfield, accepting a position as an account sales associate for NHP's New Equipment Division. He and his wife Tam and their daughter Ashley Lynne (ne’er born) live in Clinton Township... Joline Romano is the psychologist for the O’Donnell Middle School in Stoughton. Kent Sherran recently accepted a position as an attorney for Waynée, McMahon & Sullivan in Boston. She lives in Woburn... Janelle Terraciano graduated from Suffolk Law School. She was graduated at the Massachusetts Bar in December. She is an attorney at the Boston Company.

M94 Robert Butler has received the certified public accountant designation from the state Board of Public Accountancy. He joined Koenke & Hickey, CPAs of Wakefield as an associate. He lives in North Andover. His brother, Robert, was appointed manager of Eastern Bank’s branch in Lynnfield. He will be responsible for day-to-day operations of the banking office, business development, and community outreach... Michael LaMarche recently graduated from the Coast Guard recruit training program. During the training cycle at the center, students are taught general military subjects to prepare them for further academic and on-the-job training.

M95 Kelly Burke teaches at Bedford High School. Devon Carney ‘95, her brother David also teaches Devon. Their mother, Lynn Carney is the creator of the Hippos. Through a grant based on Cranston, R.I. Rep. Peter Farley’s Haskell-Burke will be used to establish a “Street Smart Kid” safety program for children in kindergarten through third grade.

Jeffrey Tuccietto ‘93 and Carol Lee Burditt at the Endomet Cancer Center in Dedham.

Genevieve ‘93 and Alexandra Leopori at the University of New Hampshire. She lives in Walpole. Susan Brokate ‘90 and Bradley Galvin at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. Robert Braundt ‘90 and Lynn Zapolla at Sacred Hearts Church in Bradford.

M96 Timothy Carey is studying to be a Franciscan priest in New Lenox, Ill., Colleen Hennessy is teaching at Bedford High School... Mary Klypp has been named assistant to the deacon of admissions at American International College... He will be responsible for marketing the college, including visiting high schools and attending college fairs and college nights. Her territory includes southern New York State, Long Island, N.Y., and New Jersey. She lives in Cranston... Daniel Henryman has entered St. Joseph Seminary in Brentwood. Before deciding to enter the seminary he worked in genetic research... Daniel Peterson is the assistant director for the recreation department in Lincoln. He will be responsible for some administrative work, but plans to spend most of his time working with middle schoolers in the department’s Friday night programs and the tennis basketball program.

In addition to personal appearances, Herbie uses coloring books, songs and rhymes to give young children tips for recognizing the dangers that strangers may pose. Dean lives in Cranston... Daniel Romano has entered St. Joseph Seminary in Brentwood. Before deciding to enter the seminary he worked in genetic research... Daniel Peterson is the assistant director for the recreation department in Lincoln. He will be responsible for some administrative work, but plans to spend most of his time working with middle schoolers in the department’s Friday night programs and the tennis basketball program. Prior to accepting this position he had worked for the Weston recreation department... Matthew Wright accepted an inside sales publishing rep’s position at Schuster Publishing Co., in Needham. Matty lives in Braintree.

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1. Karen Walters '93 and James Gillon '90 vacationed in Spain following their October wedding. In attendance were, back row left to right, Kim Winer '90, Brian Owens '88, Eric Butler '90, Kevin O'Brien '90, Susan (Gorham) Rizzo '90, Drea Sabshin '94, Dan Gough '90, Tom Kristman, the artistic director for the Onstagers, Kelly Walters '90, Karen Murray '93, Denise Guttenberg '94, and Lisa Lee '90; middle row, Michael Peterson '90, Michael Gonthier '90, Dawn (Sinsigalli) Gonthier '92, David Grace '90, and the new Mr. and Mrs. Gillon; and sitting in front, Michael Bartlett '90 and Al Rizzo '91.

2. Megan Sheahan '91 married Peter Lynch in Westhampton Beach, N.Y., on April 27.

3. Ann Chisholm '94 and Chris Boudreau '93, seated, were married in September. Standing behind them are Pam Hanglin '90, Lisa Brogle '94, Robin Allie '94, Jan Dwyer '94, Jan O'Brien '90, Colleen Chisholm '94, Greg Farmington '93, Gal Goddard '96, Jim Arrangos '94, and Kristen Civiello '93.

4. When Allison Lemieux '92 wed Larry Canuso, Merrimack graduates were in abundance. Front row, left to right, are Jon Desmarais '92, Brian (O'Brien) Desmarais '92, Maureen (Archer) Comito '92, Mr. and Mrs. Canuso, Jeannie (Fleming) Canuso '92, Christina Cole '92, Anne Bizzu '92, and Tracy Bowker '91. Standing behind them are Tim Gervais '91, Kris Lane '90, Paul Giggy '91, Lauren (Shanberger) Giggy '91, K.T. Bryan '93, Karen Heisler '93, Jeanne (Murphy) Hendy '92, Suzanne Jensen '92, Beth Gulya '92, Chris (Lagasse) Hume '92, Christine O'Neil '92, Mike Kirby, Lynn Foster '92, Eri McGurk '92, and Paul O'Neil '92.

5. Newlyweds Patricia (Foley) and Giuseppe (Joseph) Ciavattone '88 (front row) pose with Patricia's dad, John, Foley '65. Standing behind them are Paul Galante '94, Thomas Boyle '87, Paul (O'Brien) Boyle '87, David Tagliarini '87, Carol (Dillingham) Tagliarini '87, Mark Sullivan, Leticia (Ruiz) Boyle '98, Matthew Boyle '98, Robert Killaney '98, Matthew Pietro '88, Dawn (Maynard) Dunn '88, Brian Gray '88, and Luigi Schirripa '95.

6. Mary Banusewicz '94 and Bryan Miller '93 left the country after their June wedding in Springfield. The couple is making a home in Calgary.

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8. Merrimack alumni were well-represented at 1991 graduates Karen (Robillard) and Joseph Ciavattone '88's wedding. Front row, left to right, are Robert Pastore '94, Michael Drew '91, Jim Mansfield '72, Scott Robillard '94, Dan Pastore '93, John Barletta '91, Mark LoCoco, Colleen Ciavattone '91, Pat DiSimone '91, and Steve Reda, who planned to graduate in June. In the back row are Lisa (Venezia) Drew '90, Peggy (Greely) DiSimone '91, Lisa (Rice) Lucas '91, Nancy Murray '91, the bride and groom, Sara Torres '92, Domenic LoCoco '92, Timmy (Micking) Magazu '91, J.P. Magazu '92, and Paul Butler.

9. Rev. Thomas Casey, O.S.A., officiated at the August wedding of Joseph Pazera '89 and Ann McBride. Sharing in the festivities were classmates (left to right) Kieran Donnelly, Greg Waters '90, the groom, Timothy Coyne '92, and Tommy Herrion '89.

10. Kimberly Nally '89 and Ron Lilja were married at the Grace Episcopal Church in Norwood in October.

11. When Linda Carleton '93 and James Henderson '91 walked down the aisle in April, plenty of Merrimackians were cheering them on. Going up the stairs on the left are Chris Krake '91, Heather Sullivan '93, Robert Simpson '91, Mike Bermas '93, Edith (Bourret) Bermas '93, Marion Raftery '91, Cindy Cox, Zahrorna '93, Paul Zahrorna '93, Heather Fleming '93, John '92, Lane Empson '92. Going up the middle are the new Mrs. Henderson, Rita (Peters) Civiello '93, and Cathy (Gould) Hobbs '93. And on the far right are the groom, Matthew (Corkhum) Clement '91, George Clement '91, Karin (Zaccardi) Lecceano '93, and John Haley '93.

12. When Cathy Gallagher '93 wed Stephen Albert, celebrating with them were (left to right) Krae (Funck) McCormack '93, Lisa Foxby '93, Charlene Capone '93, John Pallaria '93, Regina Rapp '93, Jan DiMastro '93, the bride, Michelle Brum '93, and Doreen Lenay '93.
Deaths

T. John Sullivan ’53 of Chelmsford died Sept. 22. He was 68. He was an Air Force veteran of World War II, and prior to his retirement he was the chief planning engineer for the Norton Company of Worcester. He leaves his wife Kathleen (Moore), with whom he recently celebrated his 61st wedding anniversary; three children; and twelve grandchildren.

John J. Curtin ’54 of Andover died Sept. 29 at his home after a long battle with prostate cancer. He was 63. He taught history and social studies at Andover High for 28 years. He also coached the cross-country team. John received his master’s degree in education from Salem State College. As an army corporal in the fifties, he was assigned to the honor guard stationed at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Washington, D.C. He was a member of the Massachusetts Retired Teachers Association, the Appalachian Mountain Club and the Merrimack Valley Bird Club. He enjoyed walking and yoga. He leaves his wife Maureen (Ishihara) ’54 a son.

Robert S. Salath ’57 of Newburyport died Jan. 28 at Massachusetts General Hospital. He was 60. A financial analyst for Mentor Clinical Care of Boston, Robert leaves his wife Patricia (Petralia); six children; and 18 grandchildren.

Mary Rowena Gonsalves ’58 of San Francisco died Oct. 3 of breast cancer. She was 60. She worked at NASA. Her interests to her because of a child she researched for NASA. Her studies at Andover High for 28 years. She was a member of the National School Psychologists Association and the Massachusetts Teachers Association. She liked cooking, gardening and the opera. He leaves his wife Elise (Mattucci) and two children.

M. Anthony Lally ’64 of North Andover died at his home on Nov. 9. He was 59. He received a master’s degree in civil engineering from Northeastern University. He was the founder of M. Anthony Lally Associates, a local consulting engineering firm. He provided civil and environmental engineering services in local communities. He was a registered professional engineer in the states of Massachusetts, Maine and New Hampshire; and was a member of the Boston Society of Civil Engineers, the National Society of Professional Engineers and the American Water Works Association. He was on the board of directors of the Andover/North Andover YMCA and a volunteer at Lawrence Home in Lawrence. He leaves his wife Juanita (Hemer); three children; and his mother.

Alfred Prokop ’60 of North Andover died Oct. 17 at Brigham and Women’s Hospital. He was 66. He received a master’s degree in microelectronics from Tufts University. He served with the Navy during the Vietnam War. Alfred was an avid runner and participated in the Boston Marathon three times. He was a quality control manager at Micro Medical Company of Portland, N.H. and had also worked at Amicus Division in Danvers. He leaves his wife Ellen (D’Onofrio) and two children.

Francis “Chuck” Mitchell Jr. ’71 of Gloucester died Nov. 22 at his home following a courageous bat- tle with cancer. He was 67. He received his master’s degree in education from Cambridge College. He was a special needs assistant at the Beacon Elementary School in Gloucester. He was a member of the Massachusetts Teachers Association and the negotiating team of the Gloucester Teachers Association. He was the building representative and was instrumental in forming the Arts Through Education at the Beacon School. He was also a member of the Driving Club at the Gloucester Boys and was in the choir of Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. He leaves his parents.

Dennis C. Swered ’72 of Methuen died Dec. 4. He was 46. In addition to his Merrimack degree, he also received a bachelor’s degree in dietary nutrition from Framingham State College. He worked as a nutritionalist at Riverview Hospital in Red Bank, N.J. Dennis was an avid fisherman and he enjoyed cooking and food.

Peter J. Pilaitislo ’73 of North Andover died Christmas Day of heart failure. An insurance agent and broker, he founded the Pilaitislo Insurance Agency in Andover. Peter was on the board of directors of the North Andover Booster Club, where for the last ten years he coached base- ball and baseball. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, was a former member of the North Andover Lions Club, and was a basketball referee and a member of the International Association of Basketball Officials. He leaves his wife JoAnn (Wilson), four children, and his parents.

John E. Rouger ’53 of Peabody died unexpectedly Oct. 8 at his home. He was 84. He was a CPA. John coached field hockey, soccer, hockey and Little League teams. He leaves his two children and his father.

Paul E. Tsongas ’67, former U.S. senator and congressman from Massachusetts died Jan. 18. He was 55. He was Merrimack’s commencement speaker in 1987, when he received an honorary doctor of laws degree. He was a graduate of Dartmouth College and Yale Law School. From 1962-1964 he was a member of the U.S. Marine Corps, and a Peace Corps volunteer to serve in Ethiopia. In 1964 he was elected to the Lowell City Council and in 1972 to the Middlesex County Commission. In 1974 he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and in 1978 to the U.S. Senate. In 1985 he joined the Boston law firm of Foley & Lardner. In 1992 he was a Democratic candidate for president. In 1995 he and former U.S. Sen. Warren Rudman, co-founded the Concord Coalition. He leaves his wife with cancer. He was 47. He worked as a nutritionist at Riverview Hospital in Red Bank, N.J. Dennis was an avid fisherman and he enjoyed cooking and food.

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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 vaca- tion...or have other news (or tantalizing bits of gossip) you’d like to share, write us. Send black-and- white photos along, if you wish, the more candid the better. Complete form on p. 6.

Mail to: Merrimack magazine, Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike Street, North Andover, MA 01845; FAX (508) 837-5255; e-mail swjsws@merrimack.edu.

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Maiden Name ________________________________
Nickname ________________________________
Home Address ________________________________
City/State/Zip ________________________________
Business Address ________________________________
City/State/Zip ________________________________

This is a NEW address. My previous address ________________________________

Employed by ________________
Position ________________________________

Home Telephone ________________________________
Business Telephone ________________________________

Here’s what’s NEWS

Merrimack Class Year Degree Major

Dissertation Year

Spouse’s Name (include maiden name and Merrimack year, if applicable)

Date ________________________________

Home Address ________________________________

City/State/Zip ________________________________

Merrimack Spring 1997 Page 30

Merrimack Spring 1997 Page 31
Births

Giselda (DeiPetri) Thompson ’80 and husband John: a daughter, Julie Noelle, Dec. 28. She joins sisters Audrey and Emily.

Janet (Crockett) ’81 and Chuck Coulom ’83: a daughter, Abby, Dec. 2.

Mark Helftman ’81 and wife, Judy: a son, Mark Matthew, Sept. 22.

Barbara (Flasko) ’81 and Gregory Shanahan ’82: twins, Timothy and Taylor Helen, July 1. They join sisters Jamie and Kelsey.

Linda (Gardiner) ’82 and Robert Gerardi ’82: a daughter, Felicia Giovanni, Oct. 16. She joins sisters Alyse, Sarina and Lizz.

James Guertin ’82 and wife Lisa: a son, Matthew. He joins Alyssa and Michael.

George O’Shea ’82 and wife Christine: a daughter, Haley Christina, Dec. 30.

Diane (Sullimine) Edgett ’83 and husband Alan: a daughter, Jacqueline, Oct. 6. She joins brothers Andrew, Jordan and Adam.

Susan (Zielenkiewicz) ’83 and Nicholas Flint ’91: a daughter, Sophia Nicole, Sept. 12. She joins Alexandra and Madison.

Patricia (Tumer) Pavlik ’83 and husband Scott: a daughter, Joanna Tumer, Nov. 23. She joins brothers Alex and Matt.

Diane (Thulller) ’82 and Robert Robert, and Stephanie Rose. Big brother Christopher Modrak ’83 doubled the size of their family with the arrival of twin daughters, Emilia Jane was born July 3. They join sisters Alise and Julia.

Linda (Hill) ’83 and husband David Finck ’83: a son, Christopher James Casazza ’85 and wife Lisa: a daughter, Eileen.

Barbara (Boisverl) ’85 and Ralph Michael, Aug. 19. He joins sister Alise and Julia.

Paula (Kingston) Lane ’85 and husband James, Oct. 8. She joins sisters Frances, Rachel Marie, Victoria Margaret, June 19. She joins brothers Thomas and Corco.

Lorene (Budzinowski) ’86 and Jay Harmon ’86: a daughter, Mary

Brianna. She joins brothers Peter.

Sarah (Murphy) Scher ’86 and husband Patrick: a daughter, Emma Marie, April 18. She joins brother Peter.

Debra (Valenzola) Swanson ’86 and husband Doug: a daughter, Ashley June in September.

Linda (Meyers) ’87 and Eric Brien ’87: a daughter, Haley June, June 26. She joins brother James.

Joyce (Lydic) Censullo ’87 and husband Donald: a son, Michael Donald, Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 20). She joins sister Jennifer.

Deborah (Visalli) ’87 and Robert Fowler ’87: a son, Ryan, June 4. He joins brother Michael and Nicole.

Susan Gravellese ’87 and husband Joseph DeMauro: a son, Joel Michael, July 19.

Brian Gomme ’87 and wife Catherine: a son, Tanner, Sept. 18.


James McAuliffe ’87 and wife Elizabeth: a daughter, Erin McAuliffe, Aug. 17, 1988. She joins brother Daniel.

Tripli the fun: Brenda (Thulller) ’82 and Robert Modrak ’83 doubled the size of their family with the arrival of twin sons, Brian Louis, Anthony Robert, and Stephanie Rose. Big brother Christopher may not yet be free, but he can handle them.

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**reunion** (re-yoon-yen) n. 1. an act of reuniting, or coming together again; the state of being reunited 2. a reuniting of persons after separation 3. gathering together once again at Merrimack to celebrate with old friends and witness the advancements at the College. 4. an act of making a special gift to the College in honor of a reunion.

While we may have taken some liberty with the definition of reunion, we take very seriously the impact that your very special reunion gifts have on Merrimack College and her students.

In 1997, our reunion giving goal is 25-25: reunion classes providing 25% of total alumni dollar support of the Annual Fund, and 25% of total alumni participation.

We need your support! We owe it to future Merrimack alumni.

Merrimack means the world to us. The College has continued to grow in a reputation of academic excellence. Our current and future alumni are our best ambassadors of such growth and achievement. In addition, during this special 50th Anniversary year, alumni are supporting the College at a record pace. They see how important their gifts are to the daily life of Merrimack students. We look forward to adding your name and class to this year's Honor Roll of Donors in the spirit of our reunion year! Don't miss this opportunity to join in the celebration. Remember that the Annual Fund fiscal year ends on June 30th.

Thank you for your continued generosity and enthusiasm. We look forward to seeing you at Reunion Weekend!

**REUNION WEEKEND**

**June 13-14, 1997**

1952 • 1957 • 1962 • 1967 • 1972 • 1977 • 1982 • 1987 • 1992