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The Moral Life

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MERRIMACK

SUMMER 1996



The Moral Life

Augustine and the 'authority of truth'

Merrimack

You're only human

(The following is excerpted from President Richard J. Santagati's charge to the graduating class of 1996.)

My fellow alumni:

You have just completed an important and significant, and I hope pleasurable, passage in your life's journey.

Someday you'll look back on your time at Merrimack and be amazed at how it sped by. You'll forget all those times you felt your sophomore or junior years would never end and that your "real" life would never begin.

Well, you made it.

But if you think that Commencement means closing the book on Merrimack, if you think, "Well, that's over; now it's time to get on with the business of living," you'll be making a mistake.

Because the lessons you have learned here and the friendships you have made here will be part of your memories and your substance forever.

You may forget some of the dates in history class, experiments in science, or business cases you analyzed. But never forget to question and challenge everything you read and hear. Never forget that you're NOT the center of the universe but a part of it - a responsible part of it. Never forget that you have a spiritual life and that your spiritual health is as important as your physical well-being and intellectual growth.

If you do not forget these things - if every day you practice questioning, examining and testing yourself as you have been tested at Merrimack - your lives will become easier as you confront the thousands of choices that confront everyone.

Your teachers and mentors at Merrimack have tried to give you useful skills for now and for the future. But, most important, we have tried to give you the desire and the ability to examine your life and to live up to your principles of truth, justice, integrity and moral courage.

We live in a time that, as seemingly out-of-control as it is, is really no more difficult to live in than any other time. Throughout history people have had to make choices, sometimes dramatic choices between good

and evil, but much more often subtle choices between "good" and "not-so-good." These are the tough ones. And, like anything else, they become less difficult if we practice making those good choices.

Look at the men we honor here today.

Aaron Feuerstein could have walked away from his burned-out mill and away from his employees, who suddenly had nowhere to work. Because of his principles, and because of his continual practice of those principles, he chose not to walk away but to expand his definition of his responsibilities beyond profit and loss, beyond the bounds of business.

For that he is called "hero." I don't think Aaron Feuerstein thinks of himself that way. In his mind, he was just doing his job.

Professor James Q. Wilson, a public policy adviser, has dared to go where policy advisers fear to tread. He has not been content with merely describing causes and effects of joblessness and despair, he has prescribed solutions. He believes that merely recognizing injustice is not enough. Morally courageous people take the necessary steps to right a wrong. Professor Wilson's trenchant writing and insights have left him open to criticism. He could have decided not to speak out publicly and spared himself that criticism.

Some people call Professor Wilson a hero. Professor Wilson would say he is just doing his job.

And our Commencement speaker, Tim Russert, could perhaps have settled for a quiet, lucrative law career. Instead, he plunged into the maelstrom of modern life by turning his knowledge of law and government and his communication talent into informing millions of people.

His integrity and passion for truth are mirrored in the kind of information he brings to the public - and the public is better informed, can make wiser and more thoughtful choices, because of him. Just doing his job.

Why do we celebrate these individuals? It is not only for what they have accomplished, although that would be sufficient reason. It is also so you can see them and say: "This is the kind of person I want to become - the kind of person I want to emu-



late." A person for whom choosing the "not-so-good" is no choice at all.

Call it your final lesson at Merrimack College.

Unfortunately, there are other lessons abroad today. It has become fashionable to blame others for our own shortcomings and transgressions, even our sins. Today we hear over and over, "It wasn't my fault. It was my unhappy childhood, or the teacher who was mean to me." An industry has grown up dedicated to reassuring us that it is never our fault when we act badly, when we choose the "not-so-good."

In her book, "How Could You DO That?!" Dr. Laura Schlessinger suggests that people are responsible for their own actions. Is this a revolutionary thought? I hope not. You may have had a difficult life or been victimized, but having been a victim does not absolve you from taking responsibility for your response to victimization.

A pet peeve of Dr. Schlessinger's is that people excuse bad behavior by saying "I'm only human." Why have our expectations of human behavior sunk so low? Why don't we equate being "human" with being courageous and selfless, with being inspired?

So, members of the Class of 1996, I charge you to be human - nothing more, certainly nothing less.

Be human. Seek inspiration. Choose the good. Rise above any meanness or untruthfulness in yourself. Exercise your powers of choice. Practice choosing the good until you feel yourself choosing the good easily and naturally.

And then, you will discover, the good will choose you.

Society is awash with cultural critics decrying the values of young people, but, all dogma aside, are today's young adults really in such bad moral shape? If so, what can be done about it, and how? In this issue of *Merrimack* magazine, we look at issues of morality, and especially of moral development as it is broached by higher education. Methods of addressing moral issues vary, but as you'll see, much of academia remains undecided on which course, if any, to take. Also inside, Andy Harris '81 writes of his recent UN-related trip to Rwanda, a trip that was supposed to turn him into an expert on the country but instead brought him face to face with the surreal quality of life there. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the college's founding, and in our Merrimack News section we include a year-long agenda of events celebrating it. The Oct. 4 kickoff weekend begins with Founders' Day festivities and includes the first annual Fall Homecoming and football game. It's the team's premiere season, and inside you'll find the story of the program and the man who built it from scratch. We hope you enjoy this issue of *Merrimack*. Write or call to let us know what you think.

Melanie Wilson
Editor

On the cover: "Saint Augustine" by Antonello da Messina, National Gallery, Palermo, Italy. Courtesy of Augustine, published by Editions du Signe in honor of the 200th Anniversary of the Augustinians in the United States.

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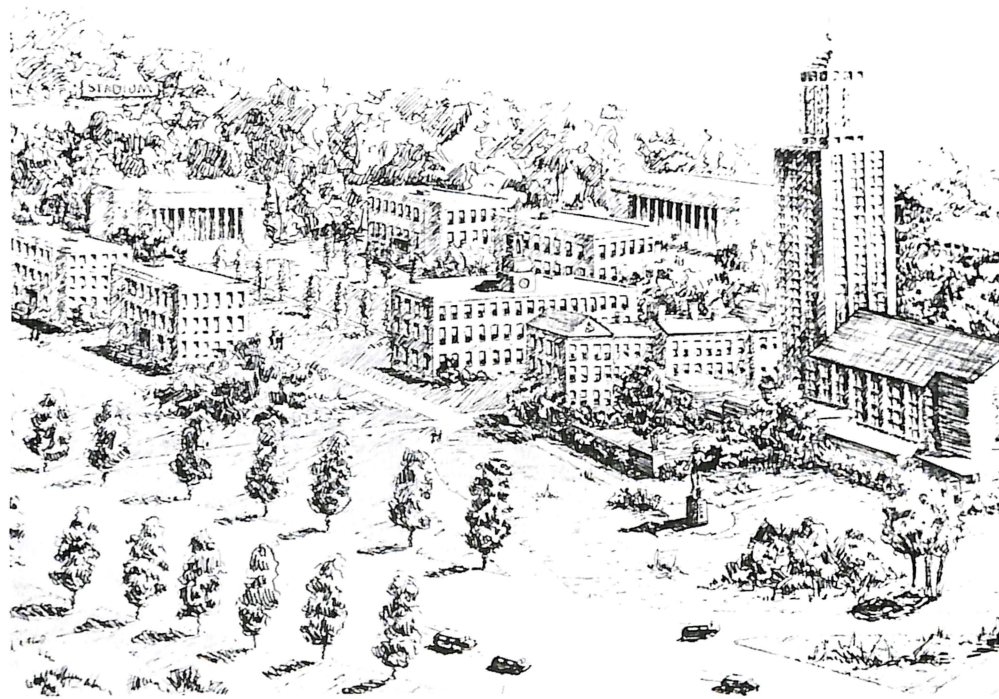


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MERRIMACK is published for the alumni, parents, and friends of Merrimack College.

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This drawing, made during the college's early years, depicts the campus as the artist thought it might one day look. The sketch appeared in Merrimack's 1953 yearbook.

After half a century, a celebration

In the scheme of things, fifty years isn't such a long time, but in retrospect it was plenty of time for Merrimack to evolve from a vague idea to a fully realized liberal arts college. Originally conceived as a means of coping with the flood of returning GIs after WWII, Merrimack was once meant to be a two-year, all-men's college, a junior college of sorts for older commuter students mostly seeking degrees in business. But by the time the doors had opened, the plan had already become more ambitious, and every decade grew more so. Today Merrimack is a far larger and more diverse college than it once was - one with a growing academic reputation and students from 24 states and 18 countries.

The college's year-long 50th anniversary celebration begins with **Founders' Day** on Oct. 4. Festivities will open with a presentation honoring some of the founding members of the Merrimack community. The event, held in the Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher, will be followed by a trolley tour of the campus. The evening's schedule will feature an outdoor dinner buffet and, later, a candlelight pro-

cession involving members from every graduating class. Afterward alumni will be invited to watch a just-completed video on the history and goals of the college, told through interviews with faculty, students, administrators and Augustinians. An outdoor dance party will follow.

Close on the heels of **Founders' Day** will be **Homecoming**, held Oct. 5. A cook-out party will precede the fourth football game of Merrimack's first varsity season, played at home against Curry College. That evening a **President's Council Black Tie Dinner** will take place at the Volpe Center. Comedy lovers, meanwhile, will find entertainment just for them in a 9 p.m. show in the church basement. Mass on Sunday will feature music by "Augustinians and Friends," a 49-member chorale from Villanova.

Events will continue throughout the year as well. An **Augustinian lecture series** will begin in the fall with a lecture entitled "Integration of Faith and Reason." The talk will be preceded by informal seminars in which groups will get together over dinner to discuss readings on the

theme. An academic lecture series and cultural concert are in the works as well.

The conclusion of the year's festivities next fall will mark the start of Merrimack's **50th Anniversary Comprehensive Capital Campaign**. The campaign, whose goal will be announced at a kickoff event next October, was approved by the Board of Trustees in November 1995 and has been in its internal phase ever since. Revenues will be directed toward the creation of a campus center for students; endowment for financial aid and faculty support; expanded on-campus computer technology; and ongoing Annual Fund support.

New Friends, old causes

In May the Friends of Merrimack, formed last spring by merging the separate Ladies and Men of Merrimack groups, concluded its first successful year. Although the name has changed, the organization's mission has remained the same - to support higher education at Merrimack by raising money for student scholarships. Guided by executive director Maureen Lanigan and co-presidents Jay Doherty and Carol Poor, the Friends raised \$43,000 this year through membership and fundraising events. The money will go toward the Friends of Merrimack Scholarship Endowment, which now stands at \$1.1 million. The Friends of Merrimack scholarship committee awarded \$67,000 to 52 students for the upcoming academic year, amounting to an average award of \$1,288 per student.

At the group's annual meeting, members and their guests mingled over cocktails and hors d'oeuvres on the quad, then moved inside for a buffet. Radio talk-show host Eddie Andelman was guest speaker. For more information about membership in the Friends of Merrimack, please call Maureen Lanigan at (508) 837-5448.

Those unavoidable 0's

The year 2000 may be advancing slowly, but its arrival is certain. As is the arrival of this year's freshman class. Combined, the two have already caused more than their share of commotion.

The fact is that this year's incoming freshmen - all freshmen, everywhere - are going to take up more space in computer data bases than any preceding class in history, and all because of their unique place on the historical timeline. They are, after all, the Class of 2000, and they're a big deal in more ways than one.

If you think about it, the statistical problem they pose was really quite predictable. Most college computer systems were designed at least three decades ago. To minimize disk space, programmers allowed only two slots to describe years - a student's year of birth, say, or year of graduation. Programmers didn't allow extra space for the "19" prefix, because it was only mid-century and they assumed new extra-digit programming would replace the old long before it was actually needed.

Well, they were wrong. Programs didn't change, and now colleges and universities are hustling to prepare for the first four-digit students in computer history. Merrimack's Information Technology Center has been working on the problem since last year, and with 95 percent of campus administrative software upgraded and every procedure on campus reviewed,

they say they're confident that nothing unseemly will happen come fall registration.

Considering the way campuses use class-year dates, that's a very good thing indeed. Academic and social life revolve around those numbers - they're needed to fix a specific year's degree requirements to the corresponding-year class, to notify groups of alumni about events like Reunion and Homecoming, and to make sure the right groups of students get the right literature in the mail (in a properly computerized world, sophomores, for instance, shouldn't be getting class-ring order forms, nor seniors offers from fraternities.)

Without changes to accommodate the entire four digits of "2000," freshmen would automatically become members of the class of "00." In other words, the members of no class at all. They'd be data, all right, but only data, floating around in a sea of electronic ephemera. They'd be, well, lost souls.

"Pretty much," said Gary Kelley, the ITC's coordinator for administrative computing.

"Lost souls," Charline Mahoney, head of center, agreed.

Some colleges - those with home-grown computer systems featuring separate databases for each department - could be facing real problems making the change-over, says Mahoney. Merrimack's system is united, however, making the process here a bit easier.



Rob Dunlavy

Taylor new director of development

Kent Taylor has joined Merrimack as executive director of development. He comes to Merrimack from Westbrook College in Portland, Maine, where he had been vice president for external affairs. He had also been director of development and director of the college's senior adult education program. Taylor, who began at Merrimack in June, fills the position left vacant by Don Weinbach '80, who left the college in February to become vice president of development at Quinnipiac College in Hamden, Conn.



Earlier, Taylor was assistant to the president at American College in Jerusalem. He had also been director of admissions and assistant professor of history there. He has a master's degree in colonial American history from the University of Rhode Island and is currently working on his doctorate in history at Boston University.

At Merrimack, he will manage fundraising operations and all individual giving programs, including the annual fund campaign, reunion giving, volunteer development and information management.

He lives in Portland with his wife Ruth. They have one son, Joshua, currently a student at Clark University in Worcester, Mass.

Merrimack takes part in immunization study

A coalition made up of the college's Urban Resource Institute, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, and Boston University's School of Public Health is working with Lawrence, Mass., elementary schools on a study of early childhood immunization in that city. In another project last spring, students and adjunct professor of biology Robin Tomasino grew flowers in the college's Mendel Center greenhouse for window boxes in Lawrence neighborhoods.



The Augustinians: 200 years in the United States

If you haven't had a chance to see them yet, the red and gold banners hanging on buildings around campus are designed to commemorate the bicentennial anniversary of the Augustinians in America. The banners display the combined symbols of heart, cross, book and flame, a pictorial presentation of the bicentennial's theme, Sharing the Fire.

The story of the Augustinians in America is as dramatic as such stories come - and most dramatic of all for the fact that the order nearly died before finally taking hold. Augustinians were, in fact, a long time coming to the United States: though the order had been established in Europe for centuries, the first Augustinian didn't set foot on American soil until twenty years after the American Revolution. His name was Matthew Carr, and he had come to Philadelphia - the most tolerant of cities in a country generally hostile to Catholics - from Ireland to lay the foundations for an Augustinian order. Michael Hurley became the first American to join it.

But growth proved slow and painful, with Hurley, eventually the only surviving member of the original founders, at times struggling singlehandedly to keep the mission alive. By 1844 there were still only two Augustinian houses and 12 priests in the country. Still, the order was putting down roots. St. Augustine's Church - the first and for many years the central locus of the order in America - was built in Philadelphia at the beginning of the century; it was burned to the ground by a Nativist mob in 1844, but rebuilt on the same site just four years later.

At about the same time, Villanova College (later designated a university) was founded, and Augustinian outposts were established in Lawrence and Andover. By 1874, the order had grown to include some 30 priests and 14 churches in four states. Today there are about 700 Augustinians living and working in the United States, 300 of them in the Villanova Province alone. American missionaries also work in Japan and Peru.

No Easy Road: The Early Years of the Augustinians in the United States, 1796-1874, by Arthur J. Ennis, O.S.A. (Peter Lang), is an excellent source of information about the founding of the order in this country.



President's Cup: Big winners, bigger bucks

One hundred forty golfers teed off April 13 at the Indian Ridge Country Club in Andover, Mass., in support of the 15th annual President's Club Golf Tournament. The event added \$40,000 to the President's Cup Golf Tournament Scholarship Endowment Fund, which now totals \$665,000. Throughout its history the tournament has raised a total of \$842,665 and provided scholarship assistance to 134 students.

Big winners were Patrick Annese in the "longest drive" contest and the Hon. Michael Stella '65 in the "closest to the pin" contest. Ed Collins '56 aced a 115-yard hole-in-one with his eight iron. Unfortunately, the prize of a 1996 Ford Escort, offered by Henry Nassar of Nassar Ford in Lawrence, was reserved for the first hole-in-one on the 7th hole; Collins' was on the 16th. (No one snagged the car, by the way.) Mike Demoulas of the Demoulas Foundation was the tournament's major corporate sponsor.

Co-winners of the coveted President's Cup trophies (gross and net scores) were the teams of Jim Gavin, Ric Gervais, Jeff Churchill and Greg Kaplan; and Tom Treacy '62, John Treacy '61, Tom Humphreys '62 and Howard Melanson.

Jerry Camuso '72 chaired the event.

Bresnahan joins development team

Molly (O'Donnell) Bresnahan '89 joined Merrimack in March as senior development manager and director of the President's Council. Bresnahan comes to Merrimack from World Congress, Inc., in Burlington, Mass.,

where she was director of marketing. In her new position she is responsible for developing the college's financial resources and for acting as a liaison between the college and alumni, parents and friends. Bresnahan is also outgoing president of the Alumni Association at Merrimack. She lives in North Andover, Mass., with her husband Dan and their daughter, Megan.



Promoting an understanding of 'the Other'

Merrimack's Center for the Study of Jewish-Christian Relations the first of its kind

When Padraic O'Hare, professor of religious studies at Merrimack, first approached his friend Martin Goldman - years back, this was - with his idea for setting up a center for the study of Jewish-Christian relations at Merrimack, Goldman had to be perfectly honest with him.

"I'd smile at him and say it's a wonderful idea, a great idea. But it's not possible," Goldman says. Goldman, a scholar, journalist and long-time organizer in the Jewish community, had good reasons for saying so. First, though American Jews have always been generous in supporting a wide variety of causes, no cause could be as important as the one they were already confronting: their own cultural survival - a survival, Goldman says, increasingly threatened by low birth rates, high divorce rates and high rates of intermarriage.

And second, there was Merrimack itself. Though the college had long since organized an annual Jewish-Christian Study Week, it nonetheless remained a Catholic school, and thus an unusual place for a center focusing on Jewish faith and culture.

That the center did indeed come to life - it opened its doors on campus last fall - is a measure of the commitment of two people, Goldman says: his friend O'Hare, who lobbied relentlessly for it, and of Merrimack president Richard Santagati, whose support for the effort was based partly on the 1963 papal encyclical *Nostra Aetate*, or "In Our Time," which asked Catholics to reach out to Jews in a new spirit of reconciliation and mutual respect.

Indeed, *Nostra Aetate* would seem to make Merrimack the perfect place for such a center. "Even though this is a Catholic college," Goldman says, "our kids go into the world and the world is a multi-cultural world, a

multi-ethnic world, a multi-religious world, not a Catholic world. And in order to do right and do well, there's going to have to be an understanding of the Other."

Santagati sees the center's role in much the same way. "We're not here to ascribe fault or blame, but to create an understanding of the strength of sameness between these two great religions," he says. To the extent that the college "opens the hearts and minds" of students to the painful historical relationship between Jews and Christians, it will help stem the prejudice and distrust that sometimes still flows between the two groups. "If we were not able to do that, we'd be in fact denying what we are; we'd be inconsistent with our Catholic identity and the mission of this

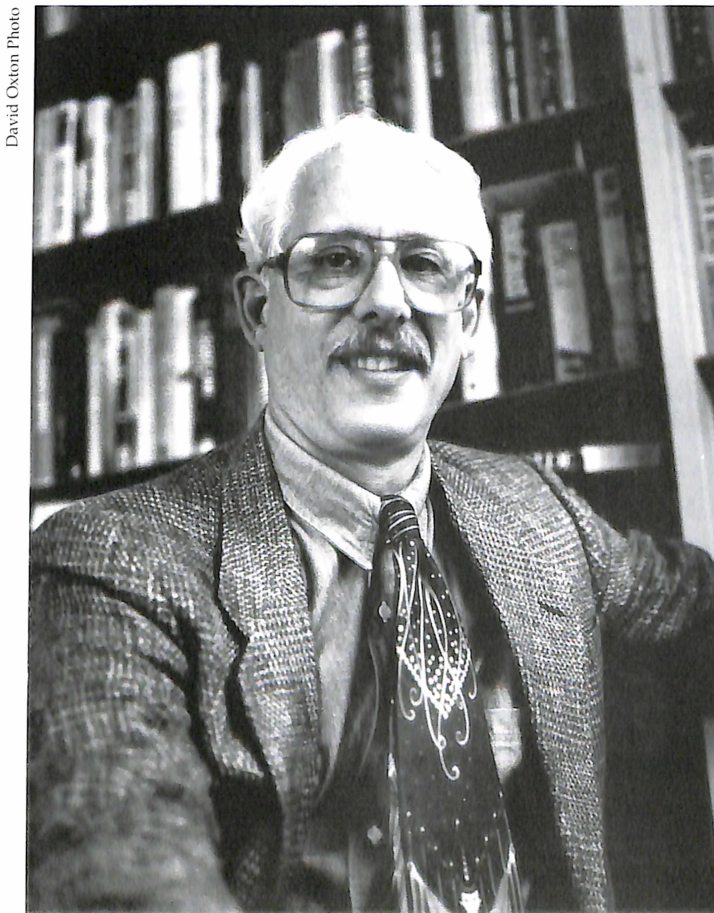
institution."

Goldman's list of credentials is formidable: he has worked as associate director of the American Jewish Committee in Boston, as director of education for the New England region of the Anti-Defamation League and as editor of the general-interest *Boston Ledger* - all roles that make him highly visible both inside and outside the region's Jewish community. Goldman, whose doctoral work is in history and who has taught courses on American political history and on the Kennedy presidency, is also the author of four books. His most recent are *John F. Kennedy: Portrait of a President*, published last year, and *Crazy Horse: War Chief of the Oglala Sioux*, published this spring.

Now, as an articulate and clearly passionate spokesman for the center, Goldman is at work mapping out its long-term agenda.

The center, he says, has three distinct goals: to augment the college curricula with courses on diverse Jewish issues; to program summer educational seminars for teachers; and to provide an ongoing lecture series featuring leading scholars in Jewish studies and Jewish-Christian relations. The lectures will be free and open to both the public and the college community.

By now settled into the center's bright third-floor office in Austin Hall - an office full of books and mementos, yet somehow dominated by a stylized illustration of Anne Frank hanging on one of the walls - Goldman says the center's relationship to the college makes it one of the first of its kind in the country. "There may be other centers of Jewish studies in Catholic institutions, and there may be other colleges that raise money to do programming - Holy Cross does Holocaust pro-



David Oxtom Photo

gramming - but this is the only one fully integrated into the academic framework of the college community itself."

Without the promise of true integration, he says he wouldn't have headed the center. "It couldn't be like a Hillel. It couldn't be, 'Oh, there's a nice Jewish guy up there in the corner of Austin. Let's go talk to him about Hanukkah.' First of all, I don't know much about those subjects; I'm not a rabbi. And second of all, if (the center) wasn't an overall part of this campus, it would ultimately be overlooked."

If his inaugural semester is any indication, Goldman needn't have worried. His first class, a multi-disciplinary analysis of the Holocaust, was filled shortly after registration began; he ended up with double the number of students most professors accept. It all came as a bit of a surprise to Goldman, who has taught widely - he's been on faculty at Rutgers, Holy Cross and Boston University, among others - but not particularly recently. "You never know where one generation's head is at, and I was off campus for more than a generation....Would the Holocaust be ancient history to them? Would they look at me and say, 'Oh, this guy's really out of it?'"

The answer, as it turned out, was no; most students came in knowing very little about the Holocaust and were interested in finding out more. "When I took the course," says Doug Farmer, then a senior history major, "I knew about the laws the Nazis passed and about the camps, but outside of that, I guess it was more kind of like hearsay. I learned a lot about the roots of it, the centuries of anti-Semitism, the various elements after WWI that kind of built up in Germany's psyche - and in Europe's psyche in general- to make it accept something like this." Now, he says, he has a better frame of reference for understanding Jews' perspective on world events.

Another student's father approached Goldman, hand outstretched, in a campus parking lot on the last day of classes. "He said, 'My daughter's in your class, and I just want to thank you.'" Goldman smiles at the memory. "I've done a lot of things," he says, gently clasping his hands together, "but those kinds of things, you can't measure them. I think - no, I don't think, I know

- I really touched some of these kids, and there's nothing better to me in the world than that."

He emphasizes that the center will offer courses on various Jewish themes, some of them taught by visiting scholars, others by faculty members. Next year students can choose among classes on Jewish humor and filmmaking as well as classes on Judaism, Jewish-Christian relations and anti-Semitism. Goldman will continue to offer the Holocaust course once a year, but he emphasizes that its inclusion in the center's curriculum shouldn't be misconstrued: the center, he says, isn't about victimization. However devastating its

"There may be other centers of Jewish studies in Catholic institutions, and there may be other colleges that raise money to do programming - Holy Cross does Holocaust programming - but this is the only one fully integrated into the academic framework of the college community itself."

impact, the Holocaust isn't the whole Jewish story, or even the most important part of it. In fact, he says, elevating the negative experiences of Jews over the "largely positive" ones would be a serious mistake.

Goldman, who started his teaching career in the 1960s as a professor of Afro-American studies, saw firsthand the damage such a victim-oriented approach can do to multi-ethnic programs - both in terms of the historical record and to the survival of the programs themselves. Black studies courses, for instance, were politicized and ethno-centric from the beginning. "It became a story of whites bad, blacks good; blacks victims, whites oppressors, and that's real simplistic. That's not the story, not the whole story," Goldman says. And so students, at first excited by the material, simply stopped coming.

Goldman says he won't let the same thing happen to the center's courses. "Jews are much more than victims. Jews have developed an entire culture. They've had a major influence on the culture of America and of the world. The Holocaust isn't a story of defeat, it's a story of triumph. The Jews survived, Israel came out of the ashes of the Holocaust."

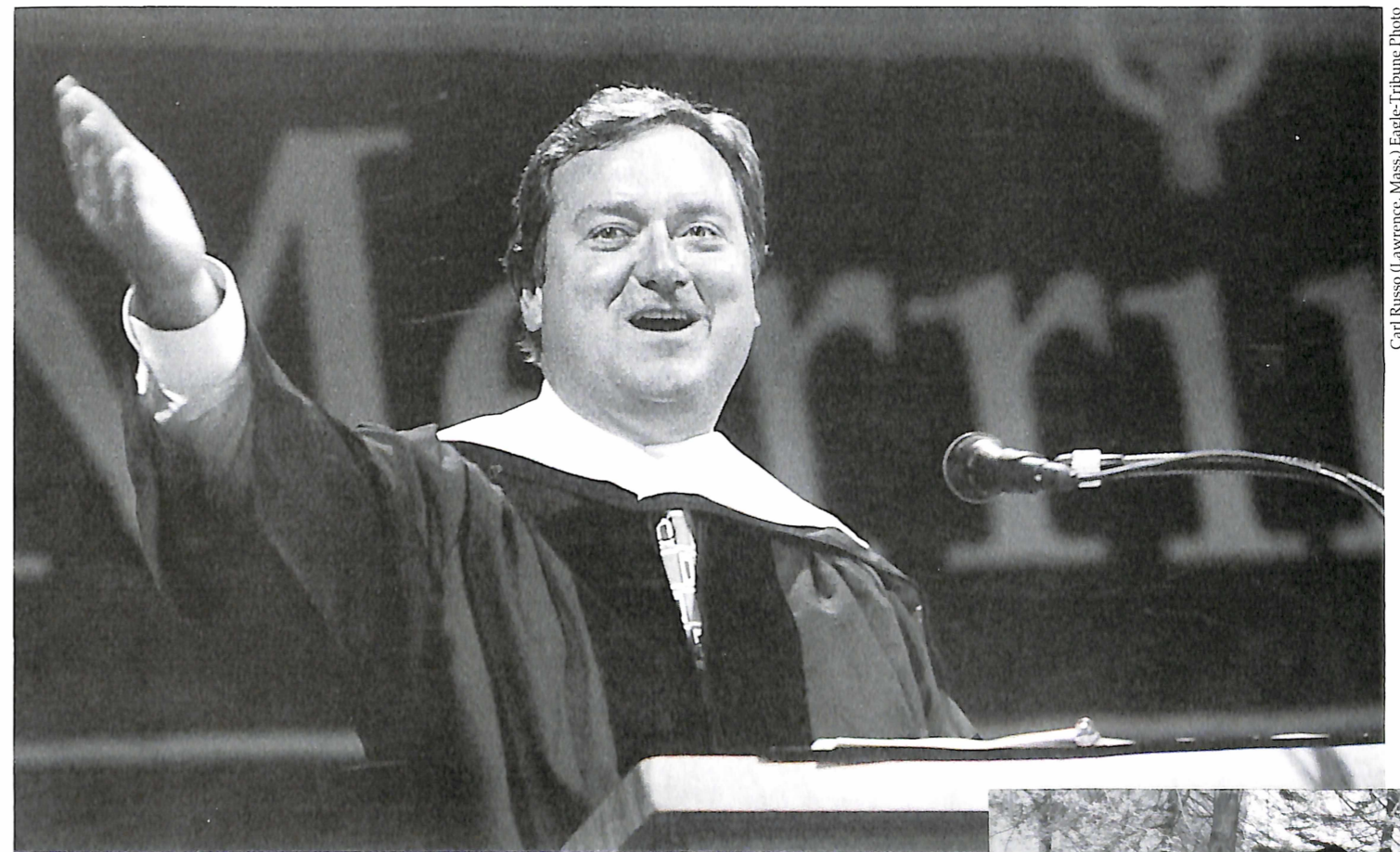
The center's second goal - programming summer seminars for middle school and high school teachers - is still in the planning stages, but Goldman hopes to get it up and running within the next few years. The program, which would provide scholarships to a small number of teachers from around the country, is meant to do one thing: expose young educators to the best Jewish scholars in the country and let them take what they've learned to their classrooms back home.

The final goal of the center involves community outreach, and again Goldman has his eye on the brightest stars in Jewish studies; already scheduled are Deborah Lipstadt of Emory University, author of the well-received *Denying the Holocaust* and one of the country's top Holocaust scholars, and Julius Lester, a black Jewish writer and professor of Judaic studies at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.

To promote its mission, the center has established an annual award, Tikkun Olam ("To Repair the World"), the first of which was presented to Massachusetts Lt. Gov. A. Paul Celluci at a ceremony in May. Celluci was selected for his interfaith trade missions to Israel and for his work with the Boston Jewish community. The event doubled as a fundraiser for the center, which is largely self-supporting.

Goldman says he'll know in five years if the center can reach its goals. "If we're successful, watch how many centers for the study of Jewish-Christian relations pop up at Holy Cross and Notre Dame and Boston College and Fordham - name any Catholic institution," he says. It's a pleasant possibility, one that makes him smile. "They'll be imitating us," he says. "Then I'll be happy on another level."

—M.W.



Carl Russo (Lawrence, Mass.) Eagle-Tribune Photo

Russert to graduates: reach down the ladder

It was the first hot day of summer, with trees blooming and humidity thick; beneath their gowns students wore shorts and sandals and stood in the sun outside Volpe rearranging their mortarboards and grinning. Tassles, bouquets, and glittery "Thanks, Mom and Dad" messages were, as always, in abundance. All of which is to say that, although Merrimack's 46th commencement ceremony was particular to its own time and place, the ritual itself was ageless.

In a sometimes passionate speech to the assembled graduates and their families, journalist Tim Russert, the

featured speaker at the May 19 ceremony, focused on values and responsibility, saying he knew firsthand the benefits of a religious education.

The first college graduate in a blue-collar family, Russert attended John Carroll University, a small Jesuit school that, like Merrimack, emphasized ethics and morality. "I too have heard the smug remarks people make about small Catholic schools," he said. But "you have one thing most people would give anything for: something you believe in."

Russert, moderator of "Meet the Press" and a political analyst for "NBC



Phil Scalia Photo

THANK YOU, THANK YOU: (Top) Commencement speaker Tim Russert urges graduates to give their parents a hearty round of applause. (Above) Kara Eustace strides through the after-graduation crowd outside Volpe Center, diploma in hand.

Nightly News" and "Today," was joined onstage by Aaron Feuerstein, president and CEO of Malden Mills in Lawrence, and James Q. Wilson, an author and sociologist. All three received honorary degrees.

Lauding the staying-power of the

VALEDICTORIAN

'I am sure of you'

Brian Poulliot didn't want anybody to know. Not anybody. Which doesn't mean a few people didn't find out anyway. First, two roommates picked up a phone message from a secretary intended for him. Then his older sister caught him red-handed with a couple of inspirational books, an obvious tip-off. "I told her I just wanted a little easy reading, maybe something to read before bed," he recalled sheepishly.

Even his parents - who, at home in Maine, were at least a few steps removed from the campus grapevine - caught wind of the news, this time when Brian's freshman-year RA offered him hearty congratulations at the baccalaureate dinner-dance the night before commencement. Right in front of them, of course.

It seems that when you've been elected valedictorian, people are going to find out one way or another.

But though Poulliot, who graduated with a degree in accounting, had hoped to prepare his address without all the



David Oxtom Photo

lessons he learned from his truck driver father, Russert promised the members of the Class of '96 that if they worked hard and played fairly, "things really would turn out all right." He also reminded the graduates that personal values have social

commotion and congratulations, it turned out all right in the end. At the May 19 ceremony he was in top form, quoting both Robert Frost and Winnie the Pooh and emphasizing his confidence in his classmates as they go out to make their way in the world. "Take care; I am sure of you," he told them from the podium. "There is no mistaking, it is time for us to leave Merrimack College and face the road ahead."

For Poulliot, the speech and award were only part of saying so long to Merrimack. Before he left campus, he also made the rounds, spending a few minutes with everybody who's meant something to him over the last four years. The list included the entire floor of his old dormitory. "It's a matter to me of bringing things to closure, of saying 'thank you' to the people who helped me along the way, and of not saying goodbye," he said in an interview before the ceremony.

In addition to making top grades, Poulliot was vice president of student government and served on half a dozen executive boards; for his involvement in campus activities he won the Merrimack Medal for outstanding service to the college community.

Though he said it's tough leaving a campus where he's felt both protected and challenged, Poulliot won't be going far. Only to Boston, in fact, where he'll work as an auditor for Price Waterhouse. And, according to him, leaving is just an illusion, anyway. "I'll be back somehow, someday," he vowed. "I'll probably be back too much, and people will say, 'What's that kid still doing here?'"

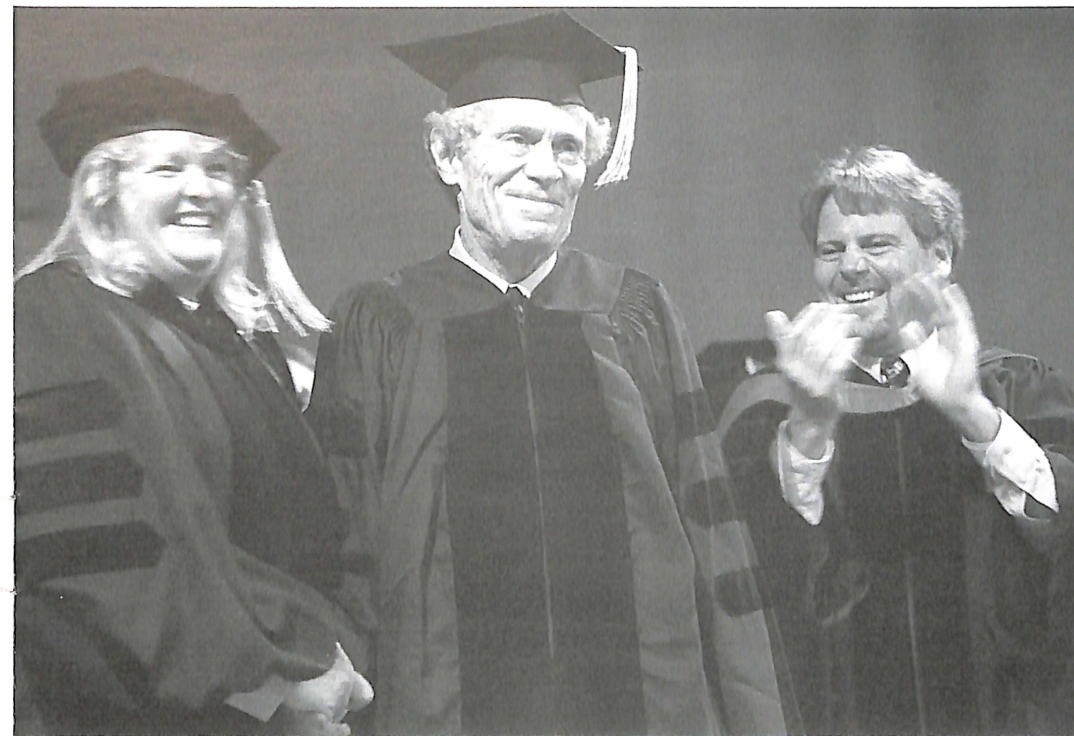
implications, citing a stream of discouraging statistics about the poverty almost inevitably faced by young unwed mothers and their children. He exhorted the graduates to help reverse the trend. "The central mission of society," he told them, his voice rising, "must be to convince ... our children to finish school, learn a skill, get married and have babies. In that order."

He also urged graduates to respond to others in need. "No matter what your political philosophy, reach down the ladder and see if there is some child you can pull up a rung or two. Give them a hand. Give them a chance. Give them dignity."

A total of 434 students received diplomas at the ceremony. Brian Poulliot was elected valedictorian and was also winner of the Edward J. Burns Medal for the first-ranking student in business administration. He was also awarded the Merrimack Medal for outstanding service to the Merrimack College Community. (See sidebar.)

Other medal and cash award recipients were: Aura A. Fluet, the Bishop Markham Medal for the first-ranking student in humanities; Laurence J. Welch, Jr., the Very Rev. Mortimer A. Sullivan, O.S.A. Medal for the first-ranking student in science and engineering; Connie Correia, the Cardinal Cushing Medal for the first-ranking student in social sciences; and Janice Elaine Valliere, the Victor J. Mill Medal for the first-ranking student in continuing education.

The winner of the Edward G. Roddy, Jr. Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award was Dr. Warren Kay, an associate professor in the college's religious studies department. (See article, page 20)

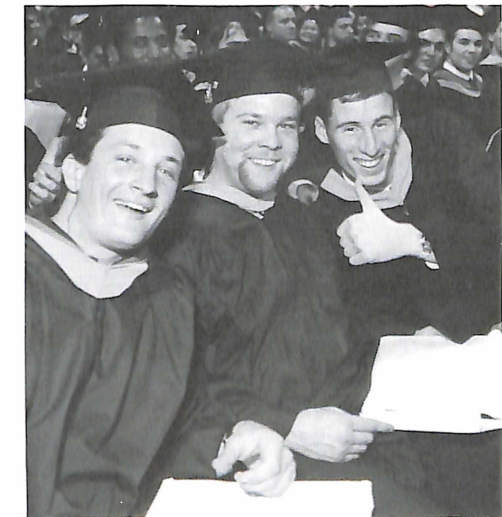


Carl Russo (Lawrence, Mass.) Eagle-Tribune Photo

DEGREES OF JOY: (Above) Honorary degree recipient Aaron Feuerstein, president of Malden Mills, joined onstage by professor Susan Pariseau and associate professor Harry Wessel. (Right) Civil engineering graduates Jeffrey B. Ferrero, Michael P. Drum and Michael E. Cashin (left to right) give thumbs up to the proceedings. (Below) Clutching flowers, a camera and the all-important diploma, a mom and her graduate celebrate.



Phil Scalia Photo

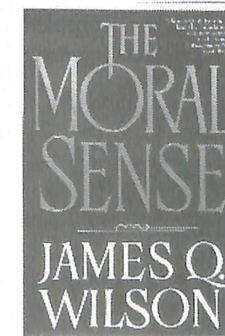


Phil Scalia Photo

BOOK EXCERPT

Selfishness and the Tiger

(The following is an excerpt from *The Moral Sense* by author and sociologist James Q. Wilson. Wilson received an honorary degree from Merrimack at the college's May 19 commencement ceremony.)



Human existence requires cooperation; cooperation requires reciprocity. An example used by Peter Singer will make this clear. Suppose two primitive men are attacked by a sabretooth tiger. If both run, the slower of the two will be killed. If one fights and the other runs, the fighter will be killed. But if both stand and fight, the tiger will be killed. If the two men are entirely self-interested, both will run. They each will think as follows: If my buddy fights, I will run. If my buddy runs, I will be killed if I fight. No matter what my buddy does, I am better off running. So I will run. Both think the same way, and so both wind up doing something that gives to each a 50-50 chance of being killed by the tiger. They would be better

off if they both fought, but for that to happen, one or the other of two conditions must exist. Either they must be so committed to one another that each feels he has a duty to help the other, or they must be able to agree after a brief discussion that fighting makes them better off....In the first case, they do the right thing because they are altruistic, in the second because they are fair. After a few thousand encounters with sabretooth tigers, this primitive culture will probably come to consist disproportionately of people who are altruistic or fair or both. The others will have been eaten.

From *THE MORAL SENSE* by James Q. Wilson. Copyright © 1993 by James Q. Wilson. Reprinted with permission of The Free Press, a Division of Simon & Schuster.

Weather (barely) permitting, Warriors make it back to NCAA action

In Short After a winter that left New Englanders wondering if spring would ever come, the job for Merrimack's baseball team was finding a way to play enough games to qualify for national championship consideration. Finally, after a season schedule of doubleheaders on back-to-back days, the team indeed found its way to the NCAA Regional Championship tournaments.

The team ended its season in New Haven in the NCAA Northeast Regional Championship game against Adelphi University of New York. Merrimack needed to defeat the Panthers twice to advance to the National Championship Tournament in Montgomery, Ala. Merrimack defeated the University of New Haven, 2-1, but a 9-2 loss to Adelphi in the championship game drowned Merrimack's visions of a national championship.

The Warriors returned from Florida after a 2-6 start and established a winning way when the weather in New England finally allowed area teams to play. Merrimack's record since March 30 was an impressive 21-4 (regular season). A 17-3 mark in Northeast-10 play proved to be the best in the conference. Wins over the University of New Haven and two over UMass Lowell solidified the Warriors' standings in the New England polls as well.

Merrimack's best defense was a potent offense all season long.

Impressive offensive numbers, like a .367 team batting average and 54 home runs, were only part of the story when the Warriors came to bat: a total of 158 extra base hits were also part of the arsenal. Those numbers translated into 762 total bases and 392 runs for the season (11.9

runs per game). Leading the hit parade was All-America shortstop Garrett Larkin, who hit .437, 13 home runs and 47 RBIs. Centerfielder Dave Melchionda and Chris MacDonald also hit well for the Warriors, compiling .417 and .411 averages respectively.

While those numbers were impressive by them-

selves, other players like Joe Jupin, who hit 14 home runs and had a .352 average, and Brendan Reen, with a .359 average, six home runs and 34 RBIs, added to a potent lineup.

Though Merrimack's pitching staff started out cold down south, they warmed up upon their return home. With the offensive support noted already, the Warriors' pitching staff responded by keeping runs off the board as best they could when pitching with such big leads. Jeff Arnold, Cory Spencer and John Guilmet all pitched 4-1 records for the Merrimack nine. Angelo Amico also proved tough in stretches of the season in which Merrimack was forced to play 11 games in nine days.

Inclement weather plagued all of New England but Barry Rosen's Warriors rose to the occasion by fashioning two seven-game winning streaks and never losing back-to-back games north of the Mason-Dixon line. The Warriors captured the NE-10 Conference regular season crown and tournament championship. Merrimack also broke into the national polls before the close of the season.

Coaches from the Northeast-10 Conference named five members of Merrimack's team - Larkin (SS), MacDonald (3B), Reen (C), Jupin (DH) and Melchionda (CF) - to first team All-Conference honors. Larkin and Melchionda also were named to the All-Northeast Regional team that played at Fenway Park.

—Tom Caraccioli

1996 Merrimack College Football Schedule

SEPT			
Saturday	14	WESTERN NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE	1:00 pm
Friday	20	at Bentley College	7:00 pm
Saturday	28	at Nichols College	1:00 pm
OCT			
Saturday	5	CURRY COLLEGE/HOMECOMING	1:00 pm
Saturday	12	MIT	1:00 pm
Saturday	19	at Assumption College	1:00 pm
Saturday	26	STONEHILL COLLEGE	1:00 pm
NOV			
Saturday	18	at UMass Lowell	1:00 pm
Saturday	19	at Sacred Heart	1:30 pm

Lady Warriors' NCAA bid ends at Regionals

In Short The Merrimack Lady Warriors' softball team entered the 1996 season ranked fourth in the country in Women's Division II play. Having already tasted the fruit of an NCAA Championship in 1994, a return trip to the Kansas prairies was what the Lady Warriors had in mind.

The team ended its season with a 33-9 mark, including two consecutive defeats in the NCAA Northeast Regionals - a 2-1 loss to American International College and a 5-2 loss to the University of New Haven - that quashed the team's hope of recapturing the title and sent the Lady Warriors home.

The Lady Warriors opened the season with a doubleheader sweep over the University of Tampa. Kerri Lyman's no-hitter in the third game of the season against St. Leo's College was the first highlight of a season that featured its share. St. Leo's came back in game two, winning 4-3 and handing Merrimack its first season loss. The team finished up its trip south by sweeping Rollins College. Lyman came home with a 4-0 record and Carrie Ladebauche with a 1-1 mark. Together, these two righthanders teamed up for 28 regular-season wins, including a 10-game and 11-game winning streak by Lyman and Ladebauche respectively.

The Lady Warriors dropped four games upon their return; a 4-2 loss to Sacred Heart on the last day of March and a doubleheader sweep at the hands of Assumption College on April 3 would be the last time, however, that Merrimack would lose in the regular season.

Next would come 23 wins in a row, another season highlight. Besides pitchers Lyman and Ladebauche, who allowed a paltry 36 runs (1.56 runs per game) and threw a combined nine shutouts during the streak, the Lady Warriors were led by team captains Daniela and Raffaella Paparo. Both first team All-Americans, they again contributed to the team's high quality of play. Raffaella was named the Northeast-10 Conference Player of the Year after she finished second in the NE-10 in hitting with a .454



THE BIG PITCH: Kerri Lyman '97 winds and delivers in a doubleheader split against the Pioneers of Sacred Heart University.

average; she was also among the top five in the league in home runs, runs batted in, doubles and triples. While Daniela's numbers were down from the 1995 season, when she was named the NE-10 and ECAC Player of the Year, she nevertheless hit .309 with 19 RBI and five doubles in the regular season. Both the Paparos were honored this season, with Raffaella named first-team All NE-10, All-ECAC and All-America. Daniela was named to the second team.

The Paparos weren't the only players honored during the 1996 season. Although Raffaella was named NE-10 Player of the Week three times during the season, Keri Bianchini picked up Player of the Week honors and was named All NE-10 honorable mention. Bianchini garnered the league award after hitting .514 in an 11-0 week for the Lady Warriors. Lyman and Ladebauche were both named NE-10 Pitchers of the Week. Ladebauche was named

All NE-10 first team while Lyman was named to the second team.

Others honored by the Northeast-10 Conference included second-team catcher Tammy Caron and outfielder Michelle Lefebvre.

As the schedule entered May, Merrimack put together four of their finest offensive and defensive games in doubleheader home wins over Bentley and Dartmouth. All four games were called before the requisite seven innings of play as Merrimack averaged 13.3 runs per game while allowing only 1.5 runs per game.

The Lady Warriors closed out their regular-season campaign with a 30-5 record, the fourth time in as many years that head coach Michele Myslinski had guided her team to at least that number of wins.

—Tom Caraccioli



Al Pereira Photo

FAST ACTION: Jeff Bromby '96 (left) and Tim Gardner '96 battle for the ball with a player from New Hampshire College; Merrimack ultimately won the game 20-6. The lacrosse team finished its 1996 season with a 7-6 record (3-3 in the Northeast-10 Conference). Under the direction of head coach Frank Aloï, the team improved upon its 1995 mark of 3-7.



AP Photo/Ricardo Mazalan

Rwanda: The bloodshed may be over, but the struggle goes on

By ANDY HARRIS '81

Last November Andy Harris '81, who works for ANSER, a non-profit public service research institute in Arlington, Va., joined a fact-finding delegation that visited two peacekeeping operations in Africa. Below is an excerpt of an article he wrote about his trip to Rwanda.

It was hard to believe driving away from the airport that this was the site of one of the worst instances of mass murder since the end of World War II. It didn't look like a war zone. If you go to Bosnia, Kuwait, or even Beirut, there's a lot of war wreckage, burnt-out buildings and vehicles - a lot of visible destruction of the infrastructure. I didn't see that in Rwanda. Yet eighteen months earlier, Kigali

and the rest of Rwanda had been the scene of a spasm of violence that had had few rivals in modern times. Neighbors armed with machetes and knives took it upon themselves to pull the folks next door into the street and hack them up with wanton, reckless abandon. This wasn't supposed to happen in Rwanda - it had long been called the "Switzerland of Africa," and was one of the most beautiful and serene countries on the continent. Western observers for years had commented that the country was a model of how different ethnic groups could all "just get along." But the Western observers had it wrong.

I was a member of a fact-finding mission sponsored by the United Na-

tions Association of the USA, a non-profit organization that works to promote the interests of the UN in the United States. I was embarking on a ten-day trip to review the operations of two peacekeeping missions, one in Rwanda and one in Angola. We would spend four days in each.

The UNA had arranged for us to be flown out to one of the refugee transit camps on the Rwandan-Zairian border. ANSER had been working on a project for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and here was my chance to really see a camp up close. I had seen the pictures on CNN of hordes of refugees in the big Goma camp - a site located within 300 yards of the transit camp we were visiting -

and I thought I knew what to expect: a big dusty place with about a million people walking around with plastic jugs and living under plastic tarps.

First we met the local UN Military Observer mission for a briefing on their operations. The group's leader turned out to be a Russian lieutenant colonel who had spent most of his career (when he wasn't in Afghanistan) working in Africa. His name was Col. Belcki, and he told me that he and his staff of 24 were responsible for patrolling over 2,000 square kilometers of territory and visiting more than 48 villages twice a week. To manage the traveling the mission used 12 four-wheel drive trucks - necessary because the area was lush, dense jungle.

The jungle is very hard on vehicles, and Col. Belcki and his staff spent most of their time trying to fix the trucks so they could make their appointed rounds - which they did unarmed, by the way. This would be fine, except that a big chunk of the former army of Rwanda - which was routed from the country after aiding and abetting the genocide in April 1994 - had moved across the border into the camp at Goma, which was 400 yards to the right of where I was sitting. Though he informed us he was packing less firepower than a D.C. policeman, Col. Belcki told us not to worry; the insurgents only come out at night. Mainly they blow up power lines and kill people trying to return to their homes in Rwanda; by such means they hope to discourage other refugees, mostly Hutu like them, from doing the same.

Since it was Sunday, there weren't many refugees at the Gynsenyi transit camp, only 200 or so. This place was the Rwandan UN equivalent of Ellis Island, and there were many tents to delouse people, check their papers, give them shots, give them food, and make sure they hadn't been part of the genocide. The camp's goal was to help

Left: A Rwandan refugee family cooks a meal in the Mugunga refugee camp, near Goma, Zaire.

Rwandan refugees, most of whom had been crowded into camps across the border, get back home. But they didn't process many people on Sunday, apparently. After some questioning, it became evident that they didn't process many people during the rest of the week, either.

There were two main reasons, one having to do with food, the other with fear. It turns out that prior to the genocide, Rwanda was the most densely populated country in Africa, and its farms only produced half the food that the population needed. In a good year, most people could manage, but this hadn't been a good year. Furthermore,



ON THE BORDER: Andy Harris '81 on the ground in Rwanda. His helicopter set down just outside the Goma refugee camp in Zaire.

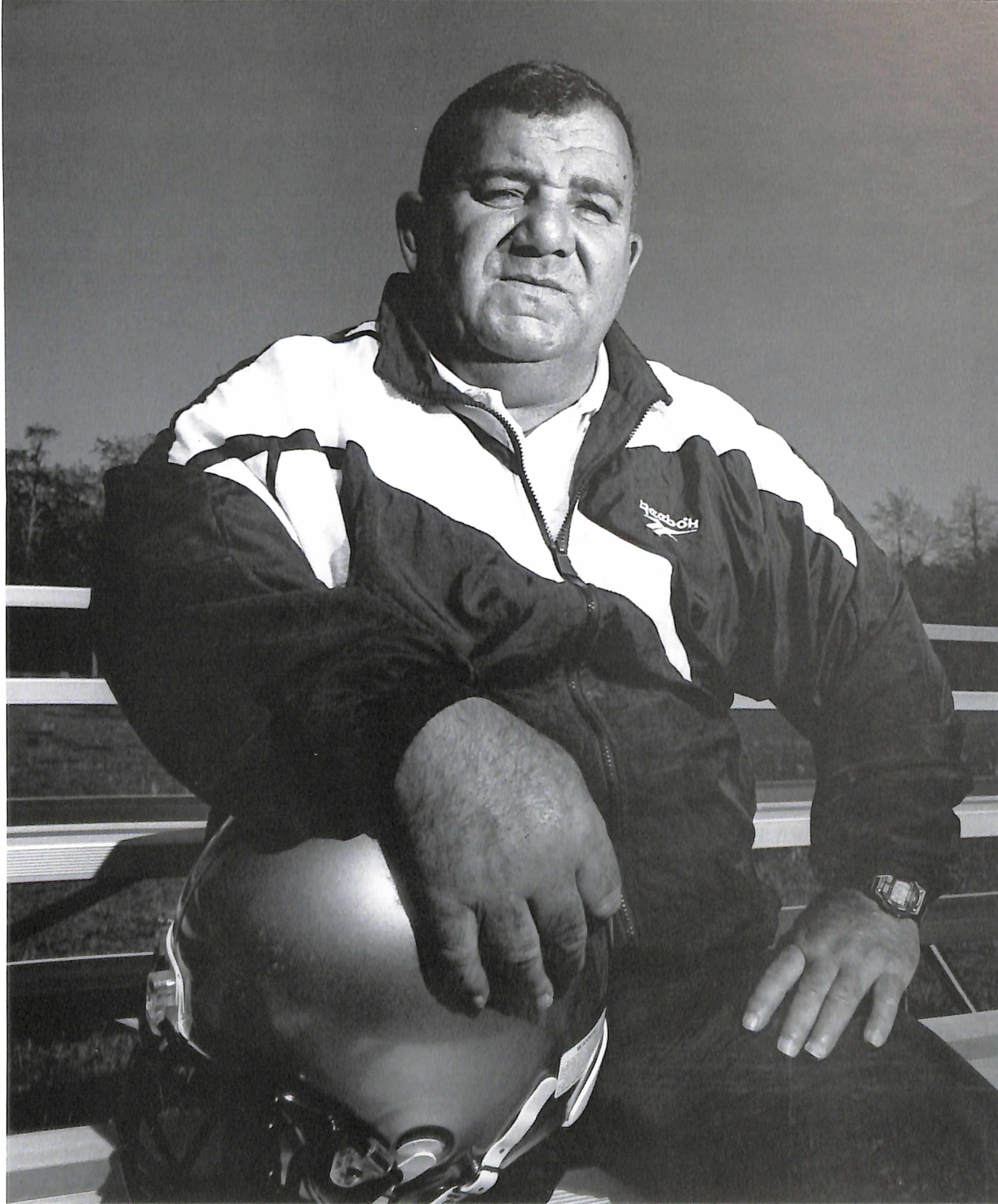
since almost all of the refugees and the former army were Hutu, and the people who took over after the genocide were largely viewed as Tutsi, the refugees had decided that it might be safer staying put in the camps than going back home. At least they'd be fed.

The picture became even more convoluted when we met with Gen. Paul Kagame, vice-president and military leader of Rwanda's newly formed government. He was referred to in the Western media as a "strongman," but looks far from it. Ac-

tually, he is a very thin, ascetic-looking man with big, round wire-frame glasses who resembles a school teacher more than a general. He was very soft-spoken as he explained that far from being a Tutsi-dominated government, as portrayed in the media, the Rwandan cabinet was made up of a mix of 14 Hutus and eight Tutsi. The international aid community, he told us, was "coddling" the perpetrators of the genocide by providing them with a cushy existence in refugee camps, while the rest of the population in Rwanda was starving. I thought that was a bit much, since I was having a hard time visualizing refugee camps as "cushy." At any rate, I asked Gen. Kagame how he was planning to deal with the growing insurgency on the Zairian border. "We are taking firm steps," he said. "We know how to deal with the bandits."

In the hotel in Luanda that evening, some ten hours after our meeting with Kagame and following a six-hour flight across the heart of Africa in a ten-seat turbo-prop aircraft, I happened to notice a piece on Rwanda on CNN...It turned out that while we were having a nice amicable chat with Gen. Kagame about the situation with the insurgents, the Rwandan Army was conducting an operation that left between 200 and 300 of the former army dead on an island in the middle of Lake Kivu. Maybe that explained Kagame's willingness to meet with us; he was trying to send a message to the UN and the American government. Or maybe he just liked Americans. Who knows?

Harris, who has a Ph.D. in international affairs from the University of Maryland, will make another trip to Africa late this summer. His pursuits in disaster assistance include domestic activities as well: he's a firefighter in Prince Georges County, Maryland - at one of the busiest houses in one of the busiest departments in the U.S., he notes - and is a rescue technician with the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Urban Search and Rescue Task Force.



David Oxtom Photo

Caito's team

*Merrimack's new football coach loves God,
good boys and victory. In that order.*

BY MELANIE WILSON

When Tom Caito looked them in the eye, he wanted them to look back. That was the first thing. And when he asked them how interested they were in Merrimack, he expected them to answer that they were highly interested in Merrimack. If they didn't, there was going to be a problem, and make no mistake about it, the problem was going to be *theirs*.

When he began recruiting players for Merrimack's new football program, Caito, for more than 30 years a winning high school coach, knew he'd be starting from scratch. So when the high school seniors began pouring onto campus late last fall - about 175 came over five months' time - he relied on his no-fail, tried-and-true, one-size-fits-all approach, one that may owe something to Knute Rockne and Father Flanagan in its particulars, but that in terms of life theory is all his own: He simply sized up their characters, then decided. Caito shrugs. "I'm an old-fashioned guy," he admits. "I have old-fashioned values. The day they make me change, I'll quit."

It's not likely, though, that anyone's going to make him change. Gruff and fatherly and tough as nails, he knows the game and kids who play it as well as anyone on earth, and he'd do anything - anything at all - to help a kid out. That's including holding any who aspire to play on his team to a rigid code of conduct. You could call it the Caito Code.

"I tell them how I expect them to dress, how I expect them to talk to people, how I expect them to act outside, and then if they do it, fine. If they don't, the door's not going to swing fast enough." And he's anything but apologetic about it. "Football's the last frontier of discipline," he says lustily. "That's why I love it so much."

Whether love or tough love, his approach has plenty of spiritual backbone. Sure he believes in strategy, training and studying the tapes - "football is exactly like chess," he intones - but, as a devout Catholic, he also believes in a whole lot of other things, like respectful treatment of ladies, prayers before games and good citizenship. Say what you will - and Caito has found most parents say 'hallelujah' - it's a mix that works.

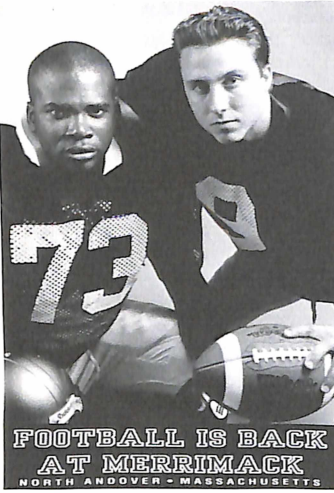
Something of a legend at Chelmsford (Mass.) High, the program he left to come to Merrimack, Caito is one of the most successful high school football coaches in the state. In 32 years he's won seven state championships and 15 league championships, and also been selected Coach of the Year by half a dozen newspapers, including *The Boston Globe* and *Boston Herald*. He's coached in Florida, New Jersey and Rhode Island as well, and as coach for Central High in Providence watched Bobby Thompson, his best player ever, go on to Oklahoma and then the Detroit Lions.

As any coach would say, it's the results that count, and no matter how you slice it, Caito's results are good: at the end of his high school coaching career he'd won 80 percent of his games. That makes him 25 to 30 percent more effective than most coaches, and also explains why he comes to Merrimack's football

"I tell them how I expect them to dress, how I expect them to talk to people, how I expect them to act outside, and then if they do it, fine. If they don't, the door's not going to swing fast enough."

program with abundant confidence. "I know how to motivate kids, I've got knowledge of the game, I've got a great staff," he says simply. "I've been a winner all my life."

Which doesn't mean he doesn't sweat the details. In the 10 months he's been at Merrimack, he's spent seven days a week at the Volpe Center, often staying late into the night strategizing with one or more of his seven assistant coaches. One day in early summer, with the pads and uniforms still on their way and most of his players just gearing up for high school graduation, he took a walk into the green playing fields outside Volpe. His gait is a little stiff - as a nose guard for Boston University in the early 1960s, he got hit hard in a BU-Penn State matchup and recently had hip replacement surgery - but, like everything else about him, determined. The new football field was being prepared in the distance, and he pointed to the orange trucks crawling along the edge of a far-off stand of trees. There wasn't much to look at yet, but,



This poster promoting Merrimack's new football program was sent to every high school in New England.

seating himself on a lone stand of bleachers, he surveyed the scene like a proud father. Everything, the equipment, the field, the team itself, was on the verge of happening.

The promise of a fresh program, a program shaped and inhabited by no one before him: Caito says it's the same thing that prompted his friend Tom Coughlin, Boston College's long-time football coach, to start up Jacksonville's pro team a couple of years ago. But Caito, who wanted the same chance someday, waited. He had to wait: the father of seven children, he had coached some through high school and seen all of them through college athletic careers of their own. Now Michael, the youngest, was in college, and Caito was biding his time until he too was through. When he almost was, Caito finally made his move. (If Caito sounds like Father of the Year, he's says he's not. He gives all the parenting credit to his wife Marguerite, "one tough lady" who, he claims, actually did most of the work.)

When Caito walked into work his first day, a few things were missing. An office, for instance; a desk, a locker room, a core group of players. Not exactly what most coaches can expect at the start of a season, but so what? The program was *new*, after all, and new things take building. He just rolled up his sleeves and went to work. Soon, with the help of an ad campaign targeting every high school in the state and selected schools around the country, he and his staff began fielding calls and seeing kids.

The fact that Merrimack has never had a varsity football program - it dropped out of club football play in the early '80s, when interest in the circuit was fading among regional colleges - meant that Caito had to recruit freshmen players with the experience, motivation and muscles to carry the team, a highly unusual challenge for any college coach. It's taken a year to choose them all. Out of the horde that visited the school, he eventually chose about 50, some from as far away as Nevada.

Merrimack wasn't a particularly tough sell for these kids; they were drawn by the chance to play as lower-classmen and by the Caito name itself. But in their introductory session, Caito, who knows only three percent of college players ever go on to the NFL, kept the

focus on college rather than the game. He outlined to them the benefits, as he saw them, of life at Merrimack. It went in this order. Number one: the students here. Number two: the small classes here. Number three: the discipline here. And finally, the *piece de resistance*: the cafeteria. Frankly, with some players weighing close to 300 lbs., it's a consideration. Caito laughs and spreads his hands wide. "I told them the cooking is great, and it's all you can eat." Who, his tone suggests, could want more?

"Tom's contagious," says Frank DeFelice, a long-time coach and friend who Caito immediately brought on board as defensive coordinator. The two met more than 20 years ago when both were coaching high school teams west of Boston. Even back then Caito had a reputation for building great teams, and DeFelice admired him for it. "I just went over one day and shook hands," he said. "I was fascinated by the fact that he had such a large group of people and his program was so good." Now, finally working for Caito, DeFelice is still trying to figure out what "makes him go." Not that deep down he doesn't already know. "Football's the ultimate team sport and Tom's the ultimate team leader," he says. "He's a pied piper of football players. He motivates kids. I get motivated being around him."

It's an attitude widely shared. Sal Lupoli was captain of Caito's Chelmsford team in the early '80s, and each of his five brothers played for Caito as well. "He's the real deal," Lupoli says. "He's what all those (larger-than-life football) stories are about. He's why people want to *play* football....He brings out every bit of your talent and makes you all you want to be. He'll get you there, and then it's up to you to maintain it."

Lupoli, now the owner, with his brothers, of a successful chain of pizzerias in New Hampshire, says Caito's influence on his life has been profound, and lasts to this day. Caito, after all, helped him grow up. "He's the kind of guy who if you saw him coming down the road, you'd turn your car around and chase him to say hello. He's the kind of guy you can never forget about." More words of admiration rush out, but it's clear that Lupoli is not going to be able to convey all his feelings. "Love?" he finally says. "Call it anything you want. I guess it's love."

College president Richard Santagati says the football program was launched in response to requests from both students and staff for a varsity team, and hopes that, as it becomes established, the team will be as big a draw for alumni as for those on campus. But both he and Caito agree that, as fun as all the pennant-waving sounds, football won't be the kind of dead-on serious business that it is at bigger schools. The college doesn't offer football scholarships, and students who come to play are also coming to learn, period. "If football becomes all-important, it's easy to lose sight of why you're on campus, or even why you're on earth," Santagati says. "The point is that these kids grow academically, but also spiritually, ethically, morally and physically."

And Caito himself has no desire to work in the kind of pressure-cooker environment he's seen elsewhere. Among the jobs he's turned down is one in Ohio where angry fans hanged a coach's dog from a tree (the coach was only 7-4, Caito notes), and another in Florida where fans - also angry, apparently - parked a moving van in front of the coach's house for a year. And the schools can be just as bad, Caito says, plying a new coach with gifts, a great salary, a new car, but making it all too clear he'd better win, and fast.

And this is just in high school. College can be even worse, and on the pro level - well, don't get Caito started on the pros. "The Egos," he calls them collectively, as though they constitute a vast team of their own. He'll watch the Patriots because he likes Bill Parcells, but admits that, between the spoiled players and the swollen salaries and the coaches who are either crazy or morally impaired or both, he doesn't know how long he'd be able to last among them all.

It's the kids he likes, the unpaid, unpretentious, for-the-love-of-the-game kids - the kids who will probably be embarking on regular careers in a few years but who, for a few brief seasons, have the chance to suit up, play, lose some, win some, cheer and be cheered. When his new players arrive on campus, they'll have a total of three weeks to practice before their first game. Only two weeks, really, after the final varsity team cuts are made. Caito has every confidence in them, though; every confidence. They can be ready. After all, they're good kids, he says, and he's chosen them well.

"It's going to be awesome"

Some things you know for sure, some things you have to guess at. Assessing the impact of 50 new football players on an up-to-now un-footballish campus involves a little of both.

You pretty much know, for instance, that at least one campus constituency will respond positively: the female one. You may not have noticed, but there's been a slight gender imbalance on campus - nothing too serious, nothing too obvious, but still, it's there. Too many gals, too few guys, and you've got a social problem on your hands. Well, come fall, the problem will almost vanish.

"It's going to be awesome," says Anne Giordano, a junior studying psychology. But not just because there'll suddenly be more men around, but because of the new look she expects them to bring to campus. Frankly, it's an issue of style. The football guys, she feels, are going to athleticize the campus in a way other teams haven't. She's made something of a study of the matter. "The hockey teams walk bow-leggedly, and the basketball players wear baggy clothes, and the majority of tennis players are preppy guys. The soccer team guys are clean-cut, too - I'm not saying they are clean cut, they just look that way." The football team, she says, will sport a new look altogether. Frankly, the team and their games will be a morale booster, the sort of thing that will spawn parties and rallies and bonfires-without-the-actual-fire (necessary, she says, because real fires aren't allowed on campus).

And others are equally enthusiastic. Stephanie Lanigan, a Theta Phi Alpha sorority member, agrees that the team will be awfully fun to have around, adding that the new football program may even give her the chance to continue her high school cheerleading career. So far, plans for a squad are

uncertain, but she's working on it. "A friend and I are trying to get something organized," she says.

In any case, there should be no shortage of football-related festivities. The Homecoming game, set for Oct. 5, will be preceded by a barbecue, which may itself be preceded by a parade. Paraphernalia of all sorts - T-shirts, pennants and the like - will doubtless be available at the campus bookstore and from student groups. (A pep club is in the offing as well.)

Food's going to be an issue, too. When Coach Tom Caito treated a group of prospective players to breakfast on campus one morning, they ran the cafeteria out of eggs. "These guys can put away quite a bit," acknowledges Keith Meal, production manager of the campus' food service. Fortunately for the budget, he says, they tend to go for the pasta, the breads - carbohydrates that give them energy without slowing them down. Because of their practice and game schedules, they'll often be eating at odd times, and when they're not dining with the general student population the cafeteria will cater to their special needs. Meal already knows what they'll be serving at the end of August, when the players arrive before everyone else. "We'll have pasta meals," he says. "Lasagna, manicotti, ravioli ..."

And what about the beds, the chairs? Can players who are 6'4" tall and weigh close to 300 pounds fit into the available furniture? Elaine Grant, director of resident life, says they can. The college equips its dorms and townhouses with standard mattresses used at colleges around the country. They're 6'5" long, she says, and ought to accommodate just about anybody. As for the classroom chairs, those little-bitty seat-and-desktop combo jobs - well, we'll just have to wait for some feedback from the players themselves.



Greg Ragland Illustration

The Moral Life

While society debates its meaning,
young people grapple for their own answers

BY MELANIE WILSON

OVER THE YEARS, Warren Kay, an associate professor of religious studies at Merrimack, has taken to using a simple analogy to introduce students to the concept of absolute values. Stepping up to the blackboard, he begins drawing a picture of a building. He draws this, he draws that, but the problem is, nothing much emerges. It turns out that he's drawn his building without first drawing a horizon line. And so it's a child's picture he ends up with, a fun-house image lacking perspective and a sense of reality. "And that," he tells his students, "is the way many Christians view morality as well."

He goes on to tell them that opinions about morality - about whether the death penalty is right or wrong, or whether couples should or shouldn't live together before marriage - are just that: opinions. But absolute morality, he said, transcends opinion. Anybody's opinion, even his. Without the horizon line - a tool of ultimate reference provided in this case by religion - morally correct decisions are about as hard to construct as that freehand-drawn building.

Merrimack student Marialana D'Agata knows it all too well. A conservative child of liberal parents, she says her own generation has lacked firm moral guidance and as a consequence thinks that anything goes, including lying, cheating and shirking responsibility. For them, she said, morality isn't a set of rules, it's an infinitely stretchable garment that can be made to conceal any wrongdoing. "They justify everything by saying, 'Well, if you were in my shoes, you'd do it too.'" It's an attitude that D'Agata, who considers herself only moderately religious, can't fathom. "A lot of people say there aren't right or wrong answers, but I think there are," she said. "I don't necessarily know what they are, but there is a correct way to live and an incorrect way to live."

Kimberly Arakelian, a Merrimack transfer student, says that she too is often disappointed in her contemporaries - disappointed in their opinions on social issues, in the way they act, even in the way they dress. "I'd say that half of my generation can definitely determine right from wrong," she said. "The rest don't have the faintest clue."

In an age in which questions of morality drift around the political and social landscape like a luminescent fog, both obscuring and highlighting ethical issues from physician-as-

sisted suicide to double-parking, the only thing everyone seems able to agree on is that American society has somehow slipped from its moral pillars and is in imminent danger of crashing down. Statistics reveal the national unease: Three out of four adults responding to a 1994 *Newsweek* poll said they believe the nation is in moral and spiritual decline. And the anxiety is hardly restricted to conservatives. "The fraying of America's social fabric - once considered the crotchety preoccupation of the cultural right - has become a national (even a liberal) obsession," the magazine concluded.

Even so, the widespread angst is responsible for the recent rightward shift of the American electorate and for the creation of a veritable virtue industry whose products, like *The Book of Virtues* or the Contract with America, frequently carry a back-to-basics conservative message. Catholics themselves, traditionally liberal on most social issues, have moved right as well - enough, in fact, to help elect the new conservative Congress in 1992. It was an unlikely enough phenomenon to draw the attention of the Christian Coalition, which promptly stepped up its efforts to recruit Catholics.

In the current downbeat climate, it is young people who most often find themselves the target of criticism. Drug use, premarital sex and single parenthood have become increasingly troubling political issues, ones blamed for a plethora of problems affecting the health of society at large. As grammar and secondary schools respond with programs teaching personal responsibility, colleges too are beginning - though some say just barely beginning - to take inventory of their own curricula. So far, progress has been uneven.

Taking religion seriously

Warren Kay has noticed something: Not all students are exactly eager to study religion. Especially when they come from religious schools and think they've heard it all already. And especially when they can't really see the relevance of it all to their daily lives. And so he tells them a story. It's about two professors who find themselves sitting next to one another on a plane. One turns out to be a teacher of astronomy, the other a teacher of theology. They talk a while, then the astronomy professor says, "You know, to me, religion is just people being good

to each other and following the Golden Rule. If you just do that, everybody will be okay, and that's what religion is all about." The theology professor thinks for a moment, then says, "You know, to me, astronomy is 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star.'"

The point he wants to make to them is that religion is more than what they've learned in Sunday school or even in church. It is more than faith, or the simple sharing of religious ideas. It is also an academic discipline - and a demanding one at that.

Kay would know. An ordained Baptist minister and the only Baptist in the college's religious studies department, he's devoted much of his life to its study. After graduating from Villanova, he attended Baptist theological seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, then went on to do doctoral work at the University of Zurich. It took him almost nine years in all, during which time he supported himself as a watchman, a teacher of English and a bookbinder (work, by the way, that he still does in his official capacity as Bookbinder to the Seminary at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in Hamilton, Mass.)

Serious religious scholarship also requires the study of languages, and - de-

spite an early dislike of the subject instilled by an undergraduate Spanish course - Kay speaks and reads several, including German, Greek, Latin, Hebrew and Coptic, a language important to theologians since the discovery of the Gnostic gospels in Egypt in 1945. Under Kay's tutelage, some of his students are studying the New Testament in Greek, its original language, as well.

In his tenure at Merrimack, Kay, who was announced Outstanding Teacher of the Year at the college's May commencement ceremony, has developed a number of religious studies courses, among them a popular summer seminar during which students travel to distant sites of religious significance. This summer's class went to Germany, Switzerland and Austria to study Martin Luther and the Protestant and Catholic reformations. The trips attempt to put the religious sites into social, historical and geographical context - and, in the process, to make the story of Christianity more physically real.

In fact, one of Kay's primary interests as a teacher is getting students to understand that Christianity itself is reasonable, that there is considerable evidence for the claims it makes - evidence that has roots in science and history as well as in common human experience. Though he doesn't seek to convert students, or even to preach a hard moral line - his views vary considerably from those espoused by fundamentalist Southern Baptists - he nevertheless wants them to see that belief in God does impose certain obligations upon them - moral obligations that will affect their understanding of right and wrong.

Though he believes in the existence of a universal morality, he also knows that many of the big moral questions of the day can't be answered definitely, not by him or anyone else. In any ethical dilemma, "two people can have opposing views and, well, we can't get any further than this. We can't prove what the final answer is. But we can't say, as a consequence, that both answers are right. Maybe one is right and one is wrong. We have to be very humble about this, very careful."

The field of ethics, for instance, is burgeoning, but the impact is seen mostly in professional schools - in schools of medicine, law and business. But more general moral development - that is, development divorced from some utilitarian application - lags far behind, and probably will until academia manages to answer some basic questions. Can morality, for instance, even *be* taught? If so, then whose precepts do we teach, and how?

Like many other religious colleges, Merrimack broaches the question of ethics and morality within both religious and secular contexts. Students at Merrimack take at least two courses in religion and two in philosophy, and in them they wrestle with issues as diverse as pollution, divorce, capital punishment and suicide. The classes are meant to open students' minds, not to inculcate them with a set of ideals, though the eventual emergence of a personal moral framework is expected and encouraged. In its emphasis on debate and reflection, it is an approach that draws far more from the Augustinian tradition of inquiry than from behavior-based methods emphasizing strict codes of conduct.

Joseph Kelley, vice president for student life at the college and a teacher of courses on religious psychology, said that Augustine's influence on moral teaching is, in fact, profound. It derives, he said, from Augustine's view, articulated in his early work "The Teacher," that young people should, through a process of inquiry and conversation with their instructors, be led to the "authority of the truth rather than the truth of authority." In other words, to personal convictions based on an honest - even a fearless - search for answers.

The search should work, Kelley said, because, according to Catholic moral theology, human beings are by nature equipped to undertake it. The idea is based on the view, also at the heart of Catholic moral thought, that individuals are naturally oriented to seek truth and goodness, and thus can come to discover "divine law," or natural law, by themselves.

But that doesn't mean that all personally formulated moral codes work. They don't, and Kelley lets his students know it. "It comes up in class all the time. Students say, 'If it's okay in my conscience, then it's okay. I say, 'Conscience is not just you.'" Indeed, he said, healthy conscience is always formed in

the context of a community, and with clear knowledge of what that community, religious or otherwise, deems "good and right and true."

Just what might have led us to our current state of moral paralysis is, of course, open to debate. The heterogeneous and still experimental nature of our society, the gradual democratization that has finally allowed all groups a voice, the birth of the self-actualization movement, even the distorted perceptions of those eager to see bad in behavior that is in fact benign - all have been cited as contributing factors. Even education itself, deeply undecided about what the moral life is and how morality should be taught, has been blamed - and not, perhaps, without reason.

"The religious right is quite constantly talking about the failure of education to help people know what morality is; that education itself has been sucked into secular humanism and relativism and all that stuff," said Steven Healey, an adjunct professor of religious studies specializing in Christian social ethics at Merrimack. "And I think at a certain level what they're saying is right. The education of people is partly adrift. As education is formed in our society, it in part repeats or mirrors some of the shifting moral terrain of the outer world. We're not somehow mysteriously transported to a plane where the larger moral conundrums of our society don't affect us. We're part and parcel of them."

Meanwhile, those who see moral decline point to the everyday behavior they witness around them. Marialana D'Agata blames a breakdown in the family authority structure that has parents letting children "get away with anything" for fear they'll only do something worse behind their backs. "It has to do with not getting a lot of guidance now," she said. "People don't respect each other anymore."

Warren Kay cites the rise in "ethical egoism," the belief that whatever advances one's own aims is morally permissible, and points to the aggressive behavior of drivers as an example. "Many people break laws for their own benefit so they can get ahead on the road. They clearly feel, 'If I can do it, it's okay.'" In today's "ethical free-for-all," he said, that attitude can encompass all sorts of behavior. "Certainly there are laws and regu-

"Certainly there are laws and regulations based on pragmatic concerns, but getting beyond that, if a person can be reasonably sure they're not going to get caught for something, why not do it?"

lations based on pragmatic concerns, but getting beyond that, if a person can be reasonably sure they're not going to get caught for something, why not do it?"

Whatever the case, society's inability to agree on a moral agenda has a good many people harkening back to "the good old days," which, while clearly not so good for everybody, were at least simpler. Widespread agreement on issues of right and wrong made it so. "One of the things it gave people was an ordered sense of what the world was like, and where you belonged and what you should be doing," said Healey. "But whatever it was, that consensus didn't last very long. The '60s started to take it apart in one way, and the '70s and '80s and '90s have continued to take it apart in other ways."

In his course he teaches a method for arriving at moral decisions, one based on a set of personal questions that individuals must ask and answer for themselves. He uses the example of a woman on life support in a hospital. Her doctor wants to remove the support, but asks her family to make the final decision. As her family wrestles with the issue of what to do, they must first ask themselves some difficult questions: Is it right for a person to speak on behalf of another? If not, how will the decision be made? What if, as a family, they stand to benefit financially from her death? Family members then need to ask themselves what their goal really is, and what kind of person each wants to become through the decision-making process. Finally, they must address larger principles of right and wrong. Is it ever right, for instance, to take someone's life?

Working out those and other ethical decisions is a daunting task, however, especially since society, continually distracted by the noisy debate between liberals and conservatives, hasn't managed to answer them either.

"The religious right is quite constantly talking about the failure of education to help people know what morality is...I think that at a certain level, what they're saying is right."

"Like all of us, students are bringing this cultural debate into themselves and are just undecided," said Healey. "One of my mentors used the term *kulturkampf*, or cultural struggle, where the fate of our civilization is not clear; it's being worked out. It's being worked out within our own minds, which is why so many of us are mad. There's too much going on, it's not coherent enough."

Though many professors say the claims against young adults have been overstated, they also know that as a generation, today's youth are not without their particular moral flaws.

Healey and others point to the cynical and even despairing attitudes some young adults feel about society - feelings that can lead them to withdraw from the outer world into their own self-styled cocoons. They've developed what sociologist Robert Bellah calls a "lifestyle enclave," said Healey, "gathering friends or family around them and ignoring the larger questions - questions of politics, the environment, the economy. I think that's morally problematic, even though it's a defense from not knowing what to think about any of those things."

Joseph Kelley is generally optimistic about today's young people - unlike their counterparts in the '60s and subsequent decades, they are more collaborative than individualistic, more interested in the common good than in strictly personal gain. Yet he too sees a problem. "They can be very thoughtful, they in fact very much want to pursue and understand the authority of truth. They want to know, but they are, to a remarkable degree, uninformed about ethical and moral traditions, religious and otherwise." What they need, he said, is exposure to thinkers who have wrestled with the great moral issues - exposure he hopes they will get in college.

Rev. Thomas Casey, O.S.A., head of the

college's religious studies department, finds the old prejudices - prejudices against women and minorities - troubling in some of his students, and tries to help them see that unexamined opinions don't have a place in moral reasoning. He challenges the simplistic assertions some students make - assertions that God is obviously male, for instance, or that wives should be subservient to husbands - and asks them to find the fallacy in the opposite position. If they can't, they'll have to revise their thinking.

It's just this kind of work - the challenging of previously held notions of right and wrong, the sometimes painful self-reflection and correction - that is at the heart of morality education, and not every college student thinks the effort is a worthwhile. "In some sense," Healey said, "making the apologetic argument that this is very important is like the teacher in sixth grade saying that some day you will need to know algebra. People were always somehow unconvinced by that, but it's probably true: Knowing algebra is good. Well, so too with moral thinking. One is better off if one can do it."

Whether courses in religious ethics can legitimately seek conversion from students is another question. Healey looks back to his own conversion in college - one made up of the small transforming events embedded in learning itself. "In college I read quite a bit of Henrik Ibsen. I came from a small town in Pennsylvania, and I had a definite sexist view, which wasn't very modern, but it was real for me. Ibsen presented for me the possibility of fundamentally rethinking what a person was and what a woman was, and who I was in relation to women. I did, and that was a conversion for me." The same transformation should occur in every class a student takes - even ones, he said, in religious morality.

Whether students always understand the material presented in such classes - and no one assumes they do - is almost beside the point. That fact that some leave college better equipped for coping with moral problems is enough. "I think our mission at Merrimack College and others like it is not in vain," said Healey. "We have an impact. How direct that impact is or how pervasive it will be - that's going to need an empirical study. We can hope the impact is fairly profound."



David Oxtun Photo



David Oxtun Photo



David Oxtun Photo



Susan Wojtas Photo

Reunion '96: A Little Wet, a Little Wild

Reunion '96 weekend may have started out damp, but nobody would have known it by the turnout. Kicking off the weekend was the 22nd annual reunion golf tournament, followed that evening by a welcome-back party that gave old friends and classmates a chance to catch up on one another. Alumni were back on campus the next morning - some not too early, to be sure - for a campus tour and a choice of seminars. Alumni had the chance to hear Rev. Michael Scanlon, O.S.A., chairman of Merrimack's Board of Trustees, on the life of St. Augustine; James O'Brien '61 on sharpening job-hunting skills; and attorneys Nick Chapman '71 and MaryBeth McInnis on estate planning. Joseph Cartier, vice president for institutional advancement at the college, spoke at the estate-planning session as well.

Other highlights included an indoor barbecue and an alumni Mass, both on Saturday. Mass was concelebrated by Rev. Joseph Gillin, O.S.A. and Rev. James Hannon, O.S.A., who traveled from California to attend the weekend event. Saturday evening, alumni attended class events on campus.

Clockwise from top right:

A VERY GOOD YEAR: Like all graduates of the Class of 1956, John "Chip" Lalumiere '56 received a 40th anniversary medallion at this year's Reunion. Only he, though, got the chance to show it off on the steps of Austin Hall. Above Lalumiere hangs a banner commemorating the 200th anniversary of the Augustinians in the United States.

GETTING BAGS (THE GOOD KIND): We got at least one partygoer to show off some of the gifts given to alumni during Reunion. Smiling, from left to right, are Kathleen (Colliton) Scanlon '86,

Kevin Scanlon '86, Susan (Bixby) Walsh '86, Peter Walsh '86 and Erin (Tierney) Doane '86.

PUTTING A NEW SPIN ON IT: Katie Bigley, daughter of David '86 and Mary Beth (Ogorchock) Bigley '87, gets a lesson in the finer points of plate-spinning.

THAT'S THE SPIRIT: Can there really be too many balloons at an event like Reunion? Not according to the next generation of McGowans and Magaws. The children are joined by dads Sean McGowan '81 and Richard Magaw, husband of Camille Connell-Magaw '81.

55

After 40 years in the Westford, Mass., public school system, **Henry Leyland** retired this spring. His first teaching job in 1955 had him teaching two grades in one classroom and earning \$2,700 a year. Times changed, of course, and after a long tenure in school administration he retires as principal of Abbot Elementary. He and his wife Joan - he hired her almost 30 years ago as a teacher and they eventually married - live in Lowell with their teenage daughter Patricia.

57

Anne Linnehan McDade has an interesting bit of news: it seems

that her nephew, Rick Linnehan, flew as a mission specialist aboard the Space Shuttle Columbia in June. During the 17-day flight, Linnehan, who is also a veterinarian, acted in two capacities - first as a flight crew member and then as part of a four-person payload science crew in Spacelab. The crew studied the effects of weightlessness on the human body.

58

Michael Dowe has been inducted posthumously into the Central Catholic High School Hall of Fame. Central Catholic, in Lawrence, created the Hall of Fame to honor alumni who have made significant contributions to the school. Dowe fit the bill perfectly: he graduated from Central before attending Merrimack, but

eventually returned to the school to teach chemistry and coach baseball. He later became a guidance counselor and associate principal in charge of academics. Michael, who lived in North Andover, died in 1991, leaving his wife Nancy and four children.



Michael Ohanian '61

61

Michael Ohanian has been elected vice president of Western Atlas Inc. in Beverly Hills, Calif. He joined the company in 1988 as vice president of strategic and government programs. He and his wife Sonia have a daughter, Debra.

63

John F. Carney III, professor of civil engineering and associate dean of research and graduate studies at Vanderbilt University, has been named provost of Worcester Polytechnic Institute effective July 1. John is considered an expert on highway safety, and



Susan Wojcik Photo

TICKET TO RIDE: Alumni at Spring Fling, held in June, enjoy a trolley tour around Boston. The trip included a reception in the North End.

his research in theoretical and applied mechanics have resulted in crash cushions for highway safety uses. He is the author of more than 140 articles and holds a patent in highway attenuation systems. Originally from Lowell, he says that he and his wife Patricia look forward to moving back to New England. They have two grown daughters, Anna Patricia and Catherine Holly.

Paige has become board chair for the Inner Circle Foster Family Agency in Van Nuys, Calif. The agency works with foster parents and abused and abandoned children. She is also owner of HSD Book Producers. She lives in Northridge, Calif., with her husband John. Her web site address is <http://www.he.net/~virginia>...**Judge Michael T. Stella Jr.** was sworn in as presiding justice of the Lawrence (Mass.) District Court in May. He says he's wanted to be a judge for 30 years, ever since he first walked into a courtroom with his father, at that time also a prominent Lawrence attorney. His father died in 1991.



John F. Carney III '63

65

Dennis Hunt was recently profiled in the (Westborough, Mass.) *Community Advocate*. He's the owner of Hunt's Mobil, a gas station/convenience store/repair garage in Marlborough. What's his job like? To hear the way he tells it, fun, time-consuming and rewarding. Dennis lives in Marlborough with his wife Cheryl. They have four children, Dennis (who owns his own station in Methuen), Leah, Craig and Todd...**Virginia Walker**



Nick Chapman '71
Alumni Council President

members-at-large Joseph R. Amante '57 and Chris Liebke '79.

Our fall events schedule will include the Seventh Annual Hackers' Golf Tournament, to take place in September. This is a fun and informal outing that raises money for athletic programs.

During the coming anniversary year I hope all alumni will take the opportunity to share again the Merrimack experience, whether by participating in a phonathon or attending an alumni event, a college concert, lecture, liturgy or sporting event.

On behalf of the council, I would like to invite all alumni to return to campus on Oct. 4, 5 and 6 for Founders' Day and our Fall Homecoming weekend. Founders' Day festivities kick off our year-long fiftieth anniversary celebration. That Saturday, in the first of many

T. Burwell '80, 1996 national Alumni Fund chair, on the Alumni Fund results to date. The featured speaker was Dr. Joseph T. Kelley, vice president for student life, who, along with two students - Timothy Carey '96 and Christine Wenzel '98 - reported on student life at Merrimack in the '90s. Also, the council heard reports from committee chairs of the admissions, alumni resources, Catholic action, nominating and student liaison committees of the council about their programs and events during the past year.

The Alumni Council is pleased to announce the election of Claire A. Holland '87 as vice president; Wayne A. Bishop, Jr. '92, as secretary; and Raymond A. Cebula III '78, as new member-at-large. Molly O'Donnell Bresnahan '89 will continue to serve on the board as past president along with

Founders' Day, Fall Homecoming and the Fiftieth

As we in the Merrimack community begin celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the college's founding this fall, it is time to reflect upon the past accomplishments and future aspirations of our alma mater. It is an auspicious time in the history of the college: A fellow alumnus serves as president; there is a renewed commitment to our Augustinian roots; and, contrary to the national trend, enrollment is increasing. These are just a few of the things of which alumni can be proud.

At our spring council meeting held in April, Mass was said by the Alumni Council's honorary chaplain, Rev. Joseph Gillin, O.S.A. The members then breakfasted with college president Richard J. Santagati '65, who updated the council on the latest developments at the college. Later, the council received a report from Gregory

THE ALUMNI COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S LETTER

67

Linda (Fredette) Kinsey, a freelance writer in the North Adams, Mass., area, has produced a booklet on the history of North Adams for the city's centennial. She says she's convinced that the city, the smallest in Massachusetts, is making the same post-industrial adjustments as many other New England communities. She received a grant from the Cultural Council of Northern Berkshire for the project. She and her husband John have three grown daughters...**Navy Capt. Terence A. McGinnis** has received the Meritorious Service Medal while working under Naval Reserve Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet Detachment 406 in Norfolk, Virginia. He joined the Navy in September 1969. Terence is senior counsel at Bank of Boston...**James X. Wilson** is senior vice president and director of marketing at Martingale Asset Management in Boston. He lives in Marblehead with his wife Janice and their sons Todd and Brian.

Litchfield, N.H...**Richard C. Raiche**, principal of Methuen (Mass.) Comprehensive Grammar School, has received the Passios Outstanding Principal of the Year Award and the National Distinguished Principal Award. The two honors are given together by the Mass. Elementary School Principals' Association, the Mass. Department of Education, and Fitchburg State College Alumni Association and the National Association of Elementary School Principals. For all his success as an educator and administrator, Richard says that as a boy he was a "normal student ... looking out the classroom window thinking about playing baseball." After Merrimack, he opted for a career in education. "I'm glad I did," he says. "That's where the action is. It's where you can make a significant impact." He lives in Bradford with his wife **Carol (MacNeil) '81**. They have two sons, Richard and Christopher.

69

Col. Paul V. Kelly, USMC, was the featured speaker at Charlestown's 27th annual Michael Patrick Quinn Dinner Dance in February. The dance is held to raise funds for college-bound Charlestown teenagers. After a number of assignments in the military, including a stint in Vietnam, Kelly earned a master of science degree in business administration from Lowell Technological Institute and went on to

68

Thomas J. Carroll has received his doctorate in education from the University of New Hampshire. He and his wife, **Kathleen (Sweeney) Carroll '68**, are owners of Kathleen Carroll & Associates, a marketing and public relations firm in Manchester, N.H. They live in

66

Frank A. Sambuceti has become principal of Walpole High School in Walpole, Mass. He's been an educator for 29 years, most recently serving as principal of Lunenburg High School. He began his career as a social studies teacher in Avon. He lives in North Marshfield with his wife Janet and son Michael... **Jean (Furneaux) Tearno** was featured recently in a (Lawrence, Mass.) *Eagle-Tribune* series about creative teachers. A first-grade teacher at the Ashford School in Methuen, Jean is a hands-on, down-on-the-floor-with-the-kids type who says she can't imagine spending her time any other way. She lives in Methuen with her husband Carl '65. They have two children, Laury Cote and Carl.

NOVEMBER CLUB SCHOLARSHIP: Members of the November Club attended a June 5 luncheon hosted by college president Richard Santagati. Among the 28 in attendance was Julie Marsh '97, for the third year the recipient of the club's scholarship. The group, under the direction of Gladys Sakowich, its most recent president, makes the annual scholarship available to a female senior from Andover High School. The annual luncheon is held in the club's honor. Pictured are Marsh, left, and Sakowich.



Carl Russo/Lawrence, Mass./Eagle-Tribune Photo

Calling all jobs

The Career Services and Cooperative Education office at Merrimack is on the lookout for job opportunities for students in all majors. Career-related jobs for students in the sciences and in sports medicine are particularly needed. If you have a job you'd like to offer a Merrimack co-op student or graduate, call (508) 837-5184 or fill out and return the form below to the Career Services office, attn: Gail Doyle. The office's fax number is (508) 837-5004.

JOB OPENING

Position Title: _____

Name of Organization: _____

Address: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Job Description: _____

Salary: _____

Benefits: _____

Qualifications: _____

Submitted by: _____

Date: _____ Phone: _____

graduate from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces in Washington. He also served as legislative assistant to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. His awards include the Purple Heart and the Meritorious Service Medal. He and his wife Linda have two children.

70

Last May the YWCA of Greater Lawrence honored **Elizabeth A. Devlin** with a Tribute to Women in Business & Industry Award. The award is given annually to women in the area who have demonstrated leadership in their fields and

helped empower others. Betty is vice president of Lawrence High School...**Marguerite Labrecque** has been named to *Who's Who Among America's Teachers for 1996*, an honor accorded only 5 percent of teachers in the country. She teaches at St. Joseph's School in Salem, Mass., and lives in Salem as well...**William Twomey Jr.** and his wife Karen recently moved their family from northern New Hampshire to Londonderry so that Bill could expand his contracting business (no pun intended) over the border into Massachusetts. He specializes in home and light commercial construction. The couple has two children, Carolyn and Sean.

71

Massachusetts Governor William Weld has appointed **James F. Poirier** as clerk-magistrate of the Norfolk County Juvenile Court. Jim has been a probation officer since 1974.

73

Anne Golden has become director of human resources/Northwest region for PacifiCare, a managed care organization covering Washington and Oregon. She formerly worked for HealthSource New Hampshire. She lives in Seattle...**William Merchant** has been elected to the finance committee of the board of directors of Printing Industries of New England. He is also vice president of Winthrop Printing Co. in Boston. He lives in Hudson, N.H...**Carol (Kay) Montbleau** has become laboratory manager of Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge, Mass. She lives in Windham, N.H.

74

The National Catholic Educational Association has named **Richard Lee** and **Mark Rumley** recipients of the organization's 1996 Catholic Elementary School Distinguished Graduates Award. Both graduated in 1966 from St. Francis of Assisi School in Medford, Mass. Richard is aide to Medford mayor Michael McGlynn and Mark, a lawyer, is assistant city solicitor for Medford. They were honored for their out-

standing personal and professional accomplishments.

76

As usual, he ran it, but this year **Dave McGillivray** was also responsible for it, for every paper cup and yard of ribbon, for everything anybody - runner or spectator - needed. As technical director for the 100th Boston marathon, McGillivray - who for 20 years has run the course as well - spent 14 months planning the race, coordinating all the details and making sure that each of the seven cities along the 26-mile course was prepared, and he meant perfectly prepared, for the coming hordes. But it was Hopkington, the tiny town where the race begins, that concerned him most. There could have been trouble, he said: he had crowds, he had three separate starting lines, he had at least one pace car that looked like it wasn't going to start. But in the end it all came off without a hitch. True to form, McGillivray ran the marathon as well, starting about dinnertime and ending just before 10 o'clock, long after most other runners had gone home. He wasn't entirely alone, though: about 150 family and friends were there to greet him as he crossed the finish line...**Patricia Wells Thornton** received third prize in the (Lawrence, Mass.) Eagle-Tribune's annual poetry contest this year. Her poem was entitled "Washtay in Spring." It was the first award she's won in the contest, though she's received plenty of honorable mentions in the past. She lives in Andover.

77

Donald MacLauchlan is vice president of development for Pivotpoint in Woburn, Mass. He and his family live in Methuen.

78

He's been privately donating sports equipment to the kids of Derry and Londonderry, N.H., for 20 years, but last year he made his work official by founding a non-profit organization dedicated to the same cause. **Mike Beeman's**

Totally for Kids distributes T-shirts, trophies and equipment to sports camps and youth programs throughout the area. He doesn't take corporate sponsorship, preferring instead to raise his own money through fundraisers - last year alone he held 10 of them. "I take pride in the fact that I can still provide the shirts and trophies to the camps without any outside help," he says. "I've never been able to say no. Even if it's (a small item), it's better than saying no to a kid." Mike is also owner of Total Sports in Londonderry. He lives in Londonderry with his wife Sara.

79

Mary Ann (Connolly) Quinn was appointed state treasurer of the Women's Council of Realtors in February. She lives in Reading, Mass., with her husband, **Bob '77**, and two children Emily and Michael.

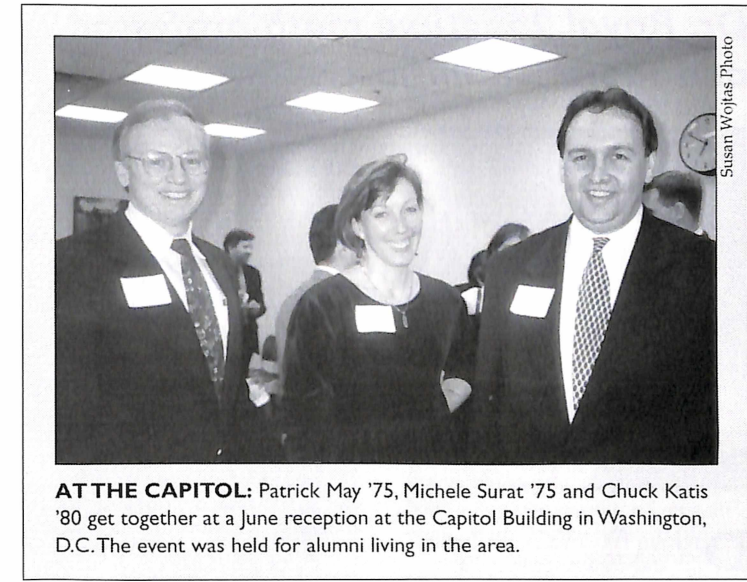
81

When **Peter Amari**, a 22-year veteran of the Tewksbury Police Department and a police prosecutor in Lowell District Court, wants something, he wants it badly. When he wanted a master's degree in political science, he went out and got it. When he wanted to take a couple years' worth of law-school courses, he did that too. So,

when he wanted to become a nurse, the end was a foregone conclusion. Last spring, after attending a two-and-a-half-year evening nursing program at Northern Essex Community College in Haverhill, he finally had his diploma in hand. "The program was the hardest thing I've ever done," he says, but the work seems to have been worth it. In over two decades as a police officer, he remembers "only four or five people ever saying 'thank you.' Where, as a nursing student, it was just great. You do something as little as giving a back rub, or talking to a patient, and it's appreciated." He plans to continue in his police job while getting nursing experience on nights and weekends. When he retires - perhaps in five years - he's set his sights on moving south, possibly to the Caribbean, where he hopes to continue nursing. He lives in Bradford and has two grown sons...Attorney **Mary Connelly** works in the civil rights division of the Mass. Dept. of Mental Health in Boston. She lives in Charlestown...**Kris J. Kelley** has become director of financial reporting at Uniroyal Chemical Co. in Middlebury, Conn. He lives in Southbury, Conn., with his wife Tammy and two sons Andrew and Shane.

83

Jim Albiani, owner of Best Buy Real Estate Service in Winchester, Mass., takes a new approach to the



AT THE CAPITOL: Patrick May '75, Michele Surat '75 and Chuck Katis '80 get together at a June reception at the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C. The event was held for alumni living in the area.

real estate biz: he works for buyers instead of sellers. It's such a break from tradition that so far he's the only one in his area doing it. He lives in Stoneham, Mass., with his wife, Jill, and their children Julie, Dave and Betsy...**Michael F. Keefe** was promoted to hot melt adhesives section manager for Bostik's Middleton, Mass., plant in April. He lives in Everett...**Jeanne M. Sutherland** has been promoted to assistant vice president of the database marketing department at New England Life Insurance Co. in Boston. She lives in Canton, Mass., with her husband Mark Murphy.

84

Frances L. (Davidowicz) Eason is a software project manager for DDM software products. She lives in Waltham, Mass., with her husband **Jeffrey '82**...**Charles Mollor** has become director of consulting services at King & Richards in Waltham, Mass. He also lives in Waltham...After 10 years at Raytheon, **Martha Jaquith Noone** has left to work as a system engineer for the Northeast sales division of Sun Microsystems in Burlington, Mass. She lives in Woburn with her husband John.

85

Charlie Dewire has been promoted to Northeast regional sales

manager for the Old Mother Hubbard Pet Food Company in Chelmsford, Mass. He and his wife Melissa live in North Andover. Still practically newlyweds, they were married August 19, 1995...**Louise Stilphen** is founder of the Sparhawk School, an alternative kindergarten through sixth grade in Amesbury, Mass. A teacher with a background in educational and health administration, Stilphen says the school stresses learning through doing and through observation of natural and social processes. The school, which uses a high number of speciality teachers, creates individualized learning programs for each student and prefers multi-age groupings to the standard single-age classes found elsewhere. For some of her success, Louise thanks Merrimack marketing professor Dominick Nicastro, who she says influenced her greatly. "I did my best work with him," she says. "He generated, expected and received the best from his students." Louise lives in Amesbury with her husband Neil and children Lauren and Curtis.

86

Joseph Pottle has joined Cain Food Industries of Dallas as Northeast regional sales manager. He lives in North Andover.

Dr. Royal, longtime math professor and sports enthusiast, dies at 68



Dr. John W. Royal, a mathematics and computer science professor at Merrimack since 1959, died at his home in North Andover on March 27. He had been fighting cancer for several years. He was 68.

Long known as "Doc Royal" around campus, he had been head of Merrimack's math department for 10 years, and was popular among students for his approachable and supportive manner. He served as class adviser to the class of 1986.

Dr. Royal was honored by the college last fall at its first annual Founders' Day celebration.

As one of Merrimack's biggest sports boosters, Dr. Royal was a fixture at college sports events, before his illness attending nearly every home game. He served as academic adviser to one of the teams and was chairman of the campus athletic committee. He was also responsible for several intramural programs.

He had also been the college representative in the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

His wife of 42 years, Annette (Kimball) Royal, said their family often attended Merrimack games together. Dr. Royal's interest in sports went beyond Merrimack, however. He attended Boston College home games as well, and also served as referee for football, Little League and basketball games in the community.

"I admired his beliefs, his goodness and his honesty," Mrs. Royal said. She said he had been a good family man and a role model for his five children. He introduced his three sons to the pleasures of Boy Scouting, becoming a leader of Troop 75 in Andover. When his sons grew older, he went on to establish an Explorer group

Dr. Royal was a member of St. Augustine Church in Andover, and his wife said that his strong faith gave him the courage to face the recurring bouts of his illness.

At his funeral, Richard J. Santagati, president of Merrimack, recalled that Dr. Royal had been kind to him as a math student in the 1960s. In fact, he said, Dr. Royal had been unfailingly generous with all his students, and had made guiding and teaching them his lifelong mission.

"In 1959, Doc Royal had a choice between devoting his life to coaching or coming to Merrimack—a young, then relatively little-known college. He chose Merrimack even though he was a three-sport star in high school and a part-time basketball and football referee and coach. He obviously had a passion for sports, but he had a stronger passion about helping to shape the lives of young people by being a teacher.

"In 1990, Doc Royal said that at that point he could not have imagined doing anything else with his life. He enjoyed every minute of it, he said—right up to the last day he taught."

Dr. Royal was a life member of the Knights of Columbus, and also a member of the Mathematics Association of Massachusetts.

He received bachelor's and master's degrees in mathematics at the University of Maine and earned a doctoral degree at Boston University.

Before coming to Merrimack, he taught high school in Maine and in Lebanon, N.H., where he met his wife. He also coached high school football and basketball.

During weekends and summers, he worked for the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, for AVCO and for Service Technology Corp.

He also worked on projects such as satellite orbital simulation, nuclear blackout studies and NASA computer programs.

In addition to his wife, he leaves sons Thomas, Stephen and Douglas, daughters Cindy De Hart and Kathleen Royal, and seven grandchildren.

A Warrior Athletic Scholarship Fund has been set up in his honor. Donations can be made to Merrimack College, OIA Box A-8, North Andover, MA 01845.

89

Brian P. Butler has been named assistant vice president of the commercial real estate firm Meredith & Grew/ONCOR International in Boston. He lives in Melrose with his wife Sheila and daughter Haleigh Anne...**Diane C. Campochiaro** has become a loan officer at East Boston Savings Bank. She lives in Newburyport...George and Avra Skrekas of Lowell have pledged a donation to the Andover-North Andover YMCA in memory of their daughter **Deborah '89**, who died in a car accident in 1993.

Georgia Skrekas '85, Deborah's sister, is a co-sponsor of the gift. The YMCA will use the money to offer scholarship assistance to needy local children. The Skrekas' have also established a scholarship for high school students through

the Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church in Lowell and are working at developing additional scholarships at elementary schools in the area. Last year the family established an annual award for deserving Merrimack students majoring in business. Donations can be made to Merrimack College, OIA Box A-8, North Andover, MA 01845.

90

The Rev. David Dismas has been appointed pastor of the Mission Parish of Saint Nicholas of Myra in Beachmont, Mass. The parish was formed last spring by the Philippine Independent Church, and Masses are celebrated according to a modern version of the ancient Gallican rite...**Michael T. Dube** has been appointed probation of-

ALUMNI CAREER EXPO '96

A Job Fair For Recent Grads

Sponsored by the Catholic College Consortium of New England for graduates of

Anna Maria, Merrimack, Providence, Regis, Salve Regina, St. Anselm's, St. Michael's, and Stonehill

Top Six Reasons for Attending

1. All your friends are working and you are watching soaps.
2. September is coming and you're not going to school.
3. You need a new car, new clothes and a haircut.
4. Your parents have rented out your room.
5. The Loan Police are after you.
6. You didn't win the lottery.

Mark Your Calendar:

Thursday, October 3, 1996

4 - 7 p.m. Job Fair

6 - 8 p.m. Alumni Reception

92

In February, **Brian J. Courtemanche** was named head of circulation at McQuade Library. Brian and his wife, **Kelly (Panek) '93**, live in Lowell.

94

Kevin Bateman, former infielder at Merrimack, is taking his talent back to Central Catholic High in Lawrence, Mass., as top assistant to baseball coach Marc Pelletier. Before coming to Merrimack, he'd been a key player on the Central team...**Beth Brown** has two pieces of news: one, she moved from Salem, N.H., to Bloomington, Minn., in February, and two, she passed the CPA exam. She's now working at Deloitte & Touche LLP in Minneapolis...**Shawn M. Lynch** has finished his first year at Villanova, where he's studying for a master's degree in American history. He did so well the first semester he was chosen to be a teaching assistant the second.

95

Kristine Caron recently became a field administrator with Bozell Worldwide Advertising in Braintree, Mass. She lives in Braintree.



FRIENDS ALL: Merrimack's annual Scholarship Luncheon, held March 24, gave students and their families an opportunity to thank scholarship donors personally. Alesandra Giuggio '96 spoke on behalf of scholarship recipients. Pictured above are recipients of Friends of Merrimack scholarships along with several of the organization's board members. In the front row (left to right), are Melissa Smith '96, Amy Spickler '97, Jessica Koosa '96, Jennifer Stiles '97, Jennifer Demers '97, Laurie Buckley '97, Melissa Lang '97, Kay Koutrakos '97 and Jennifer Beaulieu '97. In the back row (left to right) are: Brian Poulliot '96, Timothy Brennan '85, Nicholas Fillipon '96, James Connolly '96, Frank Leone, Jr. '61, Robert Kelley '68, John Linsky '97, Alesandra Giuggio '96 and Marybeth McInnis. Brennan, Leone, Kelley and McInnis are Friends board members.

ficer in the Framingham (Mass.) Division of the District Court Department. After leaving Merrimack, he earned a master's degree in criminal justice at Northeastern. He lives in Waltham...**Dr. Peter W. McManus** has opened a chiropractic office in Lynnfield, Mass. He plans to take advanced courses in neurology, and says he's interested in doing community-based charity work and in lecturing on health. He lives in Lynn...**Stephen Olivieri** has become assistant editor of *The Revere Journal*, a weekly newspaper in Revere, Mass. At Merrimack, he was sports editor for *The Warrior*. He lives in Somerville, Mass.

England School of Law, work at the firm as well. Patricia lives in Malden, Mass...**Susan Stewart** recently became women's basketball coach at Central Catholic High School in Lawrence, Mass. An accomplished player and coach, she scored a combined total of 1,000 points as a player at St. Mary's High School and Merrimack. One of the youngest coaches in eastern

been named a staff accountant at Vitale, Caturano and Company in Boston. She lives in Brighton...**Craig Winkowicz** is territory representative for Sandoz Pharmaceuticals Corp. He lives in North Andover.



JoAnna Tavolieri '91

91

Patricia Kelley received her juris doctorate from the New England School of Law in May. After taking the bar exam, she will join the family firm, headed by her father, Charles D. Kelley. She'll feel right at home there: her brother and two sisters, also graduates of the New

Massachusetts, she led Reading to its first state tourney in 17 years last winter. She will be assisted at Central by **Keri Guertin '96**, who was Merrimack's team captain last season...**JoAnna Tavolieri** has

Seventh Annual Merrimack and Friends Hackers' Golf Tournament

Saturday, September 7
1:00 shotgun
4-person scramble

Hyannis Golf Course,
Iyanough Hills, Rt. 132, Hyannis

\$75 per player includes golf, cart and lunch
\$20 is tax-deductible. Proceeds will benefit Merrimack athletic programs.

For information and reservations, call the Alumni Office at (508) 837-5440, or e-mail Susan Wojtas at swojtas@merrimack.edu



TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

If you've received an award or a promotion...been married or had a baby...earned a graduate degree...moved...obtained a new job...celebrated a special anniversary...taken an exotic vacation...or have other news (or 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 the form below.

Mail to: Merrimack magazine, Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike Street, North Andover, MA 01845; FAX (508) 837-5225; or e-mail swojtas@merrimack.edu.

Please type or print

Name _____ Date _____

Maiden Name _____ Nickname _____

Home Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home Telephone () _____

Business Telephone () _____

() This is a NEW address. My previous address _____

Employed by _____

Position _____

Business Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Here's what's NEWS

Merrimack Class Year _____ Degree _____ Major _____

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

Children's names, birthdates, other information _____

Summer 1996

Births

Jim Lupo '79 and wife Maureen: a son, Matthew James, Sept. 29, 1995.

Karen (Kingston) Brouillard '80 and husband Christian: twin daughters, Cassandra Jeanne and Amanda Renee, March 3. They join their sisters Noelle and Danielle, and their brother Joseph.

Lenore (Sabelli) Barbeau '82 and husband James: a daughter, Anna Marie, April 14.

Alphonse Lucchese '82 and **Tracey (Tobia) '85**: a son, AJ, July 16, 1994.

Irene (Barrett) Ludwick '82 and husband Robert: a daughter, Amelia Barrett, Feb. 25.

Mary (Ducharme) Hart '83 and husband Robert: a daughter, Sarah Elizabeth, April 23.

Eileen (McDonough) McManus '84 and husband Kevin: a son, Ryan John, June 26, 1995. He joins his brother Robert Thomas.

Barbara Jo (Angelillo) O'Rourke '84 and husband Kevin: a son, Laird Patrick, Jan. 15.

Nancy (Donohue) Becotte '85 and husband **Michael '85**: a daughter, Amanda Mary, June 16, 1995.

William Hunter '85 and **Ann (Rooney) '85**: a son, Brian Charles, April 10. He joins his siblings Allison and Robert.

Paul Koch '85 and wife Patricia: a daughter, Lillian Mary, Sept. 15, 1995. She joins her siblings Paul Jr., Katherine and Julia.

Michael Slauter '85 and wife Sandra: a daughter, Kali Lynn, Feb. 29. She joins her sister Ashley.

Paul Hewett '86 and **Deirdre (Camillo) '86**: a daughter, Casey O'Brien, Feb. 22. She joins siblings Caitlin Ryan, Connor Walling and Kyle Spencer.

Theresa (Binsack) Bradford '87 and husband Bob: a son, Samuel Robert, April 4. He joins siblings Alex and Jaclyn.

Peter W. Kirk '87 and wife Julie: a daughter, Delaney Catherine, May 21.

Troy Kolden '87 and wife Diane: a son, Austin, March 11. He joins his brother Cory.

Karen (Roy) Schaeffer '87 and husband Daryl: twin sons, Colin James and Taylor Christian, March 28.

Anna (DiCecca) Mahan '88 and husband Michael: a son, Ryan Christopher, April 9.

Sheila (Boyajian) Finstein '89 and husband Mark: a son, Matthew Richard, March 9.

Joan (McCole) Luna '89 and husband David: a son, Michael John, April 6.

Tom Rossi '90 and **Katherine (Richardson) '89**: a son, Christopher Michael, Jan. 29. He joins his brother Kevin.

Paul DiMartino '90 and **P.J. (Venturelli) '90**: a son, Andrew John, Feb. 16.

Cherie (Lafreniere) Moynihan '93 and husband Daniel: a son, Daniel Francis, Dec. 8.

And this, falling under the heading of "Things We'd Like to Know More About": **William P. Naples '87** and wife Kathleen: a son, Connor Eamon, delivered in the couples' bathroom at 4:05 a.m. Dec. 12. He joins - to his great relief, we suspect - his brother Liam Keegan.

Weddings

Anthony Boschetti '78 and Silvia Mae Lorette at St. William's Church in Tewksbury, Mass.

Edward Wolfe '77 and Eve West in Thousand Oaks, Calif., Feb. 23.

John Byrne Carroll '81 and Margarita Broggin at St. Augustine Church, Andover, Mass., Feb. 17.

Paul Tivnan '85 and Patricia McGuinness at St. Mary's Church in Milford, Mass., Aug. 12, 1995.

Laurie Pangione '86 and Joseph Mancinelli at St. Michael Church in North Andover, Mass.

Arthur Daniel Powell '86 and Shelley Ann Parisella at St. Mary Star of the Sea Church in Beverly, Mass.

Pamela Alicia Greer '87 and Steven Ashe at Merrimack College, Sept. 16, 1995.

Elena-Lee Ritoli '87 and Richard Bevilacqua at the Church of St. Patrick in Farmington, Conn., July 8, 1995.

Lynne Winer '88 and John Rogers, Jr., at St. Joseph Church in Amesbury, Mass., Nov. 25.

Brad Atol '89 and Maria Hess in Bloomington, Minn., Feb. 9.

Brian Cote '89 and Blair Beaumont at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in High Point, N.C., April 13.

Jody Beth Andersen '90 and Kevin O'Brien, Jr., at Holy Spirit Church in Newington, Conn., Sept. 30, 1995.

Stephen Cardosi '91 and Helen Souda at St. Anne's Church in Shrewsbury, Mass.

William Gallant II '91 and Rebecca Zahornasky at St. Joseph's Church.

Keri Johnson '91 and Michael Gray at St. Anne's Church in Littleton, Mass., Oct. 28, 1995.

Mark Olivieri '91 and Christine Engrassia at St. Catherine of Genoa Church in Somerville, Mass.

Karen Robillard '91 and **Joseph LoCoco '91** at Merrimack College, Oct. 7, 1995.



Enjoying the wedding reception of Paula (Pistorino) Higgins '92 and Patrick Higgins Oct. 7 were (back row, left to right), Susan O'Brien '91, Claire Morgan '91, Rob Wilson '92, Julie DiFilippo '93, Karen Smith '92, Cheryl Leveille '91 and Kevin Williams '92. Front row (left to right), are Deirdre Finnis '92, Erin McGuirk '92, Stephen Guilmette '92, Patrick Higgins and Paula (Pistorino) Higgins '92, Cheryl (Venza) Chadwick '91 and Jody Chadwick '92.

Paul Zahornasky '91 and **Cynthia Cox '93** at St. John's Episcopal Church in Saugus, Mass.

David Abbott '92 and Nancy Lee Worrell at St. Theresa Parish in Rye, N.H., Oct. 14, 1995.

Stephen DeRosa '92 and Kerri Fadden at Christ Church United in Dracut, Mass.

Paula A. Pistorino '92 and Patrick Higgins at Merrimack College, Oct. 7, 1995.

Carolyn M. Widgren '92 and **Christopher P. Jordan '94** at Merrimack College, Oct. 8, 1995.

Christopher Fazzio '93 and Andrea Tavano at Merrimack College, Oct. 28, 1995.

Tracy Qualters '93 and **Shawn Garrett '94** at Merrimack College, Aug. 4, 1995.

Thomas Hanson '94 and Jennifer Ladd at the Center Conway Methodist Church in Conway, N.H., Aug. 26, 1995.

Keith Harnum '95 and **Celeste Gagne '96** at Merrimack College, Jan. 6.

Sarah Pearson '95 and Christopher Beevers at Immaculate Conception Church in Newburyport, Mass., Oct. 14, 1995.

Gary Deschenes '96 and **Maryanne Gaudet** at St. Pius V Church.

Keith Iwanicki '96 and **Elissa Bongiorno** at Sts. Martha and Mary Church in Lakeville, Mass., Sept. 24, 1995.

Jonathan Miller '96 and **Mary Lambert** at St. John's Church in the Georgetown section of Washington, D.C., Dec. 30.



All smiles at the Oct. 8 wedding of Christopher Jordan '94 and Carolyn Widgren '92 was an illustrious group of Merrimack staff and grads. Back row (left to right), Linda Brum '94, Flory Arcidiacono (Academic Affairs), Bernard Smith (Human Resources), Rose Shamberger (Institutional Advancement), Judy Guerra (Payroll), Mary Ann Morin (President's Office), Jay Houghton '94, Mary-Beth Morin Ham '93, and Bobby Jones '92. Front row (left to right): Kay (Catalano) DeBurro '56 (Student Life), Christine Saake McGroory '92, Christopher Jordan '94, Carolyn (Widgren) Jordan '92, Tammy MacAulay '92 and Phyllis Widgren (Human Resources).

Fulfilling the Promise

The Merrimack College Annual Fund: Meeting the Challenge of the Next Fifty Years

I AM HONORED to serve as the 1997 Chairman of Merrimack's Annual Fund. Voluntary annual support of Merrimack College is a direct reflection of the pride which alumni, parents and friends have in the college, and I share in that pride.

MERRIMACK'S FOUNDING in 1947 represented a major commitment to fulfilling the dreams of those in the Merrimack Valley and beyond — people for whom a college education was an opportunity to participate in the American dream. That commitment has been renewed in every generation since. In this respect Merrimack has fulfilled the promise of its founding. It was my parents' dream to provide me with an outstanding college education. I am profoundly grateful to them and Merrimack College, and I welcome the opportunity to help current and future students fulfill their dreams and educational aspirations.

YOUR ANNUAL GIFT to Merrimack College builds on a tradition of support that goes back to its founding years. The tangible impact on the quality of life on the campus and the ability of students to fulfill their educational dreams is no less important today than it was half a century ago.

AS MERRIMACK ENTERS its fiftieth year of service, I want to express a hearty thanks to over 4,000 alumni, parents and friends who supported the College in Fund Year '96 and extend an invitation to everyone to participate in fulfilling the promise!

*Greg Burwell '80
Chair, 1997 Annual Fund*



In 1996 Annual Fund support of Merrimack College made possible direct scholarship assistance to 70 percent of our students - students who would otherwise be unable to attend Merrimack. It also provided substantial funding for program and classroom enhancement and important unrestricted funds, all totalling more than \$1 million. Let's make '97 our best year yet!


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