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Spirit of Entrepreneurial Success is Alive and Well

Merrimack College

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Spirit of Entrepreneurial Success is Alive and Well
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Merrimack Community:

Spring is here, temperatures are rising, and things are heating up all around campus. From academics to athletics to applications, Merrimack College is on the rise. This particular issue of the Merrimack magazine highlights just a sampling of Merrimack graduates and current students who have taken their true passion and turned it into a successful reality.

In my mind, entrepreneurship is not always a blatant activity or necessarily always directly related to business. It is a state-of-mind, a mode of accomplishing, and Merrimack is working diligently to ensure that our students discover their inner entrepreneurial spirit.

As Merrimack prepares to celebrate its 60th anniversary, the college continues to evolve academically, socially, and spiritually, without compromising tradition. Merrimack is taking its cues from national career and higher education trends in order to provide our students with a quality education that promotes lifelong learning.

The college is undergoing a rigorous curriculum review as we prepare to move to a four-credit, four-course curriculum in 2008. This will give Merrimack even greater distinction and will put us in a group of 35 top-ranked liberal arts colleges in the country who have adopted this 4 x 4 academic curriculum.

As always, students are enjoying unique learning opportunities at Merrimack. A team of our civil engineering students recently won first place in the Steel Bridge competition, beating out MIT (2nd place), and UConn (3rd place), as well as Northeastern, UNH and several other schools. Our students will now go on to the national finals next month in California. Other students recently returned from alternative spring break doing community service throughout the United States, and still others will have the opportunity this summer to study sculpture and drawing in Italy.

And word seems to be getting out. This year alone, we have experienced an 11% increase in applications. We have accepted five valedictorians for the class of 2011, and our students are coming from more than 20 states and countries.

Whether encouraging self-starters or underlining the importance of serving the community, the quality and versatility of a student’s education has always been and always will be number one for Merrimack.

We thank you for your support and hope that you will continue to inform others about the positive changes at Merrimack as well as the future endeavors that we are embracing.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Santagati
President
SPIRIT OF SUCCESS

How Merrimack College Prepares Entrepreneurs

We meet entrepreneurs every day, from the kid pushing lemonade in his driveway to the florist shop owner who sells us bouquets on Mother’s Day. Not all of them make it big, but they do share certain qualities: passion, energy, vision, and the savvy to recognize business opportunities and make the most of them.

At Merrimack College, entrepreneurs aren’t just encouraged, they’re fully trained, says Dr. Robert Cuomo, dean of the Girard School of Business and International Commerce at Merrimack College. “Leadership is a learned skill like anything else, and we teach that here every day.”

Students can take courses that offer up-to-the-minute theories and hands-on practice in accounting, finance, international business, management and marketing. More importantly, every business course stresses critical thinking, creative decision-making and ethical reasoning, and students are encouraged to integrate and use what they know on team-based projects.

Last fall, Merrimack students wrote a business plan to help the head of a real estate agency attract a younger market audience. This spring, they’re teaming up with Jericho Road Lawrence, a nonprofit organization that provides free professional services to nonprofit agencies in Lawrence, Mass. The focus of this alliance will capitalize on Girard students’ marketing skills to expand a nonprofit corporate mentoring program abroad. By the time they graduate, Merrimack students are fully qualified business professionals who can succeed as entrepreneurs.

“What the most valuable people in business are those who can put together everything they know to solve problems,” he says. “At Merrimack, our focus on active learning allows students to learn how to do that through case projects, internships, cooperative education programs and study abroad. By the time they graduate, Merrimack students are fully qualified business professionals who can succeed as entrepreneurs.”

In these pages of our magazine, we offer the personal stories of Merrimack entrepreneurs who prove his point.

Chris LaPlaca ’87

“Impressed by how excited and engaged they are.”

Dean Cuomo is as excited as the students. He, too, is an entrepreneur at heart. Following his graduation from Merrimack College in 1968, he earned a doctorate from Boston College before becoming chief economist and CFO at N Star (formerly Boston Edison). He learned about entrepreneurship in the trenches by forming and managing his own enterprises: Decision Support Associates, an economics consulting firm, and Joey Fournier Services 501c(3), a nonprofit organization that provides violence prevention programs in the Lawrence schools.

While not everyone possesses the drive to own a business, being an entrepreneur has definitely become more prevalent in today’s marketplace. In the 1980s, for instance, only 2 percent of graduating MBAs wanted to become entrepreneurs; today up to 20 percent long to work for themselves, according to University of California, Berkeley researchers. There are about 25 million small businesses in the country, and over 10.5 million Americans are self-employed; small businesses account for 75 percent of new jobs added to the economy every year.
SPIRIT OF SUCCESS

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You Can Be That Someone

Larry, and Chris was up until 1 a.m. trying to cut her own by hand, and “wishing I could just go to the bakery and buy cookies like everyone else,” she remembers. Her next thought was, “Hey, that’s a good idea. Someone ought to do that,” followed by the realization that she could be that someone.

Despite majoring in computer science at Merrimack College, where she took advantage of the co-op program to ensure that she would graduate with professional experience as well as a degree, “I’d always had this secret dream of being in business for myself,” Chris admits. She took business classes as well as computer science courses at Merrimack, and one of her favorite courses was an entrepreneurship class where she learned to create a business model.

“I knew I’d be a lot happier trying to have my own business and failing than never even trying. What does become clear when you go into business for yourself is what you’re not good at. You have to fill in those gaps as fast as you can, either by educating yourself or hiring people who can help you. To succeed in business, you need the mindset that nothing can be too perfect.”

– Chris LaPlaca ’87

In 2003, Chris developed two nut-free cookie recipes – chocolate chip and sugar – while taking steps to register her home as a restaurant kitchen. She then test-marketed her cookies on family and friends before hand-walking her goodies in gift bags to local grocery and specialty shops. About 90 percent of the retailers took on her baked goods immediately.

Within two years, she had to expand into a commercial kitchen, and today Chris oversees a staff of women, mostly mothers, who make cookies, cakes, brownies, granola bars and gift baskets for Rebecca’s Nut-Free. Since launching the website for Rebecca’s Nut-Free (rebeccasnutfree.com) in 2005, revenue has skyrocketed 300 percent, and 90 percent of its value at auction) and installed the machinery in the back room for repairing and sharpening skis, and employed certified technicians to use it, but it was such a costly service and use of space that the practice didn’t benefit anyone the way it could.

“Skis are more high-tech than ever before, and customers want things better and cheaper,” he points out. “I thought that if you had a facility centrally located to a bunch of ski slopes that did nothing but service skis, with vans that ferried the skis back and forth, you’d end up with a more effective, cost-efficient service.”

“From that initial investment, I built up a reputation for providing good service and stayed in the business as a direct player,” he says. Today, MLB Ski Service offers top quality products and services, and Matt’s shop is recognized as a Nordica, Marker and SWIX Race Center. About 80 percent of his business is done through his mail order catalog, which reaches 18,000 customers globally and offers ski products, tools and advice for people who want to tune their own skis. He also sells outdoor sports products through various web sites, gives educational clinics, and outfits ski teams with complete race packages. When Leisure Trends, Inc., recently evaluated over 23,000 ski shops nationwide on service, volume and product offerings, MLB Ski Service ranked among the top 1400.

Excited about his idea, Matt wrote up a business plan describing it for one of his Merrimack business classes. What he hadn’t anticipated was the resistance of the ski industry. Undaunted, Matt set about proving them wrong. He invested in ski tuning equipment of his own (bought for a small percent of its value at auction) and installed the machinery in the basement of his parents’ home in Georgetown, Massachusetts. Then he set out to convince ski race teams that he could tune their skis cheaper, faster and better than anyone.

“None of us would be as successful without the experience and knowledge we gained while attending Merrimack.”

– Matt Brodie ’04

Matt Brodie ’04 has built a reputation for quality service with his MLB Ski Service.

BLENDING PASSION AND BELIEF

Even before leaving elementary school, Matt Brodie ’04 was showing his entrepreneurial flair. When he started hanging out at the town library around the corner from his childhood home to feed his bookworm habits, he recognized the location as the perfect commercial center. He made the most of it by pedaling fresh, hand-picked produce from a stand he built onto his father’s riding lawnmower.

“There were several students in my graduating class who have gone on, like me, to open their own companies,” he says. “None of us would be as successful without the experience and knowledge we gained while attending Merrimack.”

– Matt Brodie ’04

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SPIRIT OF SUCCESS

"As an entrepreneur, you'll win some and lose some. You have to think on your toes and know when to walk away or change your plan. That means learning from your failures and not being afraid to try something different."

― Matt Brodie ’04

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Passion and Belief

“Because I’m a small business, I can be lean and agile,” Matt notes. “There are so many shipping options out there that it’s easy to sell internationally. I listen to my customers because they help drive what products and services I’ll provide next year.” Periodically, Matt returns to Merrimack to meet with former professors and to talk with current students. He also keeps in close touch with fellow Merrimack entrepreneurs. "There were several students in my graduating class who have gone on, like me, to open their own companies,” he says. “None of us would be as successful without the experience and knowledge we gained while attending Merrimack.”

Helen Williams

SUCCESS ON AND OFF THE COURT

“I’m very competitive, and winning means a lot to me as a coach,” says Williams, who came to Merrimack with over 17 years of Division I women’s basketball coaching experience, joining the Warriors after four seasons as the first assistant and recruiting coordinator at Princeton University. “But becoming the head coach at Merrimack gives me the opportunity to help young women advance their growth personally and professionally as well as athletically. I take a holistic approach to coaching and try to do things for my players that will have a lasting, positive impact on their lives.”

In particular, Williams is concerned with helping players “follow their bliss,” words she borrows from the mythologist and writer Joseph Campbell. As a girl who grew up with only brothers, she discovered her love of sports early in life and went on to play basketball for Wake Forest University. Prior to her post at Princeton, she also coached at various other colleges, and served as head coach of the 2002 All Navy Team.

“I’m one of the few people I know who can honestly say that I’ve always done what I love to do,” says Williams, who earned her master’s degree in counselor education from LeMoyne Rheine. “Some of my players know what they want to do after college, but a lot of them don’t. It’s not a good feeling to graduate without having any idea about what should happen next. I know, because that happened to me. It was pure luck that I fell into coaching and loved it. What I want these young women to learn is that college lasts only four years. Then you have to work for the rest of your life, so it’s important to ask a lot of questions and educate yourself about what careers you might enjoy.”

To help achieve her goal of mentoring young women into their careers as well as on the court, Williams has reached out to local chapters of the Business and Professional Women’s Foundation and the American Association of University Women. Both of these groups promote education and equity for women and girls in the workplace, and Williams has engaged them to come to Merrimack and talk to her players about internships, community service opportunities and careers. She is also drumming up financial support so that her team can travel. They have a trip to Fairbanks, Alaska, scheduled during the 2007-08 season.

“We live in a global economy, and not everyone is going to be the same,” she says. “I want our players to embrace differences rather than shy away from them.” The broader their perspectives, the more successful these young women will likely be in their chosen professions, she adds. “What we do at Merrimack is give our students a complete education, not just in academics, but for the ‘real world’.”

Joseph Graziano ’65

Building on Solid Foundation Yields Success

In his more than forty years in business, Joseph Graziano ’65 has played an incredibly important role in the strong financial health and success of household names such as Apple Computer, Inc. and Sun Microsystems, Inc.

Graziano has worked with - and sometimes for - extremely successful entrepreneurs. “I have realized that most entrepreneurs share many common personality traits and behavioral attributes, the most common are their extreme confidence and belief in their missions.”

Graziano offers advice to keep in mind when pursuing professional goals in the business world:

- think globally;
- pure, plain hard work is always a necessity;
- always have high morals and ethical standards;
- take risks or else you will never know what’s possible;
- listen to yourself and be guided by what you personally enjoy;
- have a healthy dose of skepticism;
- deal with people of very high caliber;
- always try and hire someone smarter than you;
- enjoy the journey
SPIRIT OF SUCCESS

Before his professional experiences and successes, Merrimack was where Graziano studied accounting, what he considers “...the language of business” with the strong belief, based on experience, that it “...always comes down to numbers in the end.”

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Thus, Graziano was recruited by Sun Microsystems as their CFO where he saw the company through tremendous growth. Once again, in 1989, Apple wanted Graziano back and under his financial leadership, Apple saw an increase from six to twelve billion dollars.

“Business can at times be like swimming in shark-infested waters and Merrimack gave me just as much preparation for that reality as my Ivy League colleagues and employees from Harvard and MIT received.” – Joseph Graziano ’65

Graziano recognizes the importance of helping other young enterprising students and has been a generous contributor to the college. A classroom in Merrimack’s Girard School of Business and International Commerce bears his name in recognition of his contributions. He also visited Merrimack last fall and spoke with students and alumni about his experiences.

Those students who chose to take up the challenge were eligible to win a $15,000 per year scholarship for four years to study civil engineering at Merrimack College. The competition took place at the college’s first ThinkFest held in March.

“Student designers didn’t embark on what would typically be defined as entrepreneurship, but they needed to be innovative – an important quality in someone containing an entrepreneurial spirit,” says Dr. Gary Spring.

“Business can at times be like swimming in shark-infested waters and Merrimack gave me just as much preparation for that reality as my Ivy League colleagues and employees from Harvard and MIT received.” – Joseph Graziano ’65

Graziano says, “I learned that business wasn’t the perfect world I had imagined and that I was able to perform and achieve successes I had never imagined were possible for me.” I guess I had an inferiority complex that I let go of when finally agreed, after a previous offer, to become the chief financial officer for Apple, where under his leadership, the company became a two billion dollar corporation. In the mid-80’s, Graziano took “a break” and resigned from Apple, but after two years he felt he still needed the resources to survive and compete with colleagues of different backgrounds and educational credentials.

During his early business experiences in the late 1970’s, Graziano says, “I realized I could compete with the best.”

This realization escorted Graziano throughout his career when he finally agreed, after a previous offer, to become the chief financial officer for Apple, where under his leadership, the company became a two billion dollar corporation. In the mid-80’s, Graziano took “a break” and resigned from Apple, but after two years he felt he still had more to accomplish professionally.

While helping Apple with a spin-off business, working side-by-side with accomplished entrepreneurs, Graziano was recruited by Sun Microsystems as their CFO where he saw the company through tremendous growth. Once again, in 1989, Apple wanted Graziano back. He returned and under his financial leadership, Apple saw an increase from six to twelve billions dollars.

Graziano was a director of Pixar, Inc. from 1995-2006. Currently, he is a director of Packeteer, a California company that provides wide area network (WAN) application optimization systems. He has served on a number of boards throughout his career. Graziano has a B.S. in accounting and was awarded an honorary doctorate of business from Merrimack College. He is a certified public accountant.

“Merrimack clearly helped me find myself and helped me to continue building on a solid foundation,” he says.

Graziano clearly helped me find myself and helped me to continue building on a solid foundation,” he says.

“A B S S P I R I T O F S U C C E S S

Designing Winning Catapult
Uses Entrepreneurial Skills

By Heather Notaro

A n entrepreneurial spirit can manifest in a variety of forms: a small-business owner, a venture capitalist...even a high-school egg catapult designer.

Though the levels of expertise vary in these positions, the skill set remains the same: the ability to conceptualize, make the concept a reality; and learn from trial and error.

Merrimack College professor Dr. Gary Spring, chair of civil engineering, challenged high school juniors and seniors across New England to design and build a Trebuchet-style (www.trebuchet.com) catapult that could throw an egg into a frying pan up to 60 feet away. Those students who chose to take up the challenge were eligible to win a $15,000 per year scholarship for four years to study civil engineering at Merrimack College. The competition took place at the college’s first ThinkFest held in March.

“Student designers didn’t embark on what would typically be defined as entrepreneurship, but they needed to be innovative – an important quality in someone containing an entrepreneurial spirit,” says Dr. Gary Spring.

Creativity with design was critical, adds Spring, given the students’ technical expertise level, the uncertainties involved in this type of catapult, and the fact that they were being asked to predict how far the egg will go.

“By attending ThinkFest and watching the catapult contest, visitors witnessed innovation, creativity, and good old-fashioned engineering at work. Most importantly, they saw the fun and sense of accomplishment that engineering can provide,” says Spring.

Though engineering exists in the science realm and entrepreneurship in the world of business, the two fields do share points in common: the inherent love of a challenge and the belief that failure is not the end, but the start of another try. Even when flinging eggs from homemade catapults, self-accomplishment is the lesson these young engineers, possibly future entrepreneurs, take home.
Love of Cars Fuels Entrepreneurial Spirit

David probably will, too, at the rate he’s going. The 21-year-old Merrimack College business major has been working all of his life, starting with a grunt job in his dad’s warehouse and working his way into the office. David McLaughlin, Sr. heads up his own transportation company and was his son’s first – and favorite – role model.

“I’d probably enjoy being a CEO and managing a big company, but I always thought it would be a hundred times better to start a business myself and watch it grow,” says David, Jr. “The entrepreneur inside of me wanted to get out.”

David was sure that he could fill a market niche. With his father as a start-up partner, David already had access to trucks. He invested in six enclosed car trailers and put the word out at car shows. When David’s Ferrari mechanic found out about the business, he began directing customers to David as well.

Within one short, hectic year, business was booming, as Ferrari dealers in New England and beyond caught wind of McLaughlin & Son Transportation’s Exotic Car Division. David was soon in the market for more car trailers.

“We were booked months in advance and turning people away, so I had to expand pretty fast,” David notes cheerfully. “Now I have a pretty good fleet of trucks and trailers. We sell ourselves as a service that’s above industry standards, and our customers know that we treat their cars the way we treat our cars. I definitely plan to keep growing this company after I graduate from college.”

When people ask me what it takes to be an entrepreneur, I always tell them not to do it for the money. If you’re just going for the money and it doesn’t pan out, you’ll be miserable. Go for something you love and have fun doing it, and the money will follow.”

– David McLaughlin, Jr. ’07
**SPIRIT OF SUCCESS**

You just never know when a good business idea might strike. For John Vitti ’01, a business major who moved to California after graduation, the light bulb went on during his hour-long commute from his San Francisco apartment to his sales job with a software company in Cupertino.

“Frankly, I was spending a lot of hours in the car, and my underwear was uncomfortable,” John admits. “So I started asking my friends about their underwear.”

When they all told the same sad stories of boxers riding up and wedgies under their denims, John began looking at men’s underwear with a more discerning eye. “Most of it was heinous underwear, like tighties whities, ripped boxers or saggy and gray underwear,” he says. “Frankly, I was spending a lot of time with a more discerning eye. Most of it was heinous underwear, like tighties, whities, ripped boxers or saggy and gray underwear.” He decided to do something about it.

He conducted market research to develop a line of comfortable, fashionable men’s underwear. Surveys among San Francisco’s diverse population and forays into boutiques to examine what was on the shelves revealed two key bits of information: half of all men’s underwear is bought by women, and there really wasn’t much to choose from.

The name “Artificial Flavor” was born of their research. The book project began when Art decided to tell the story of his Haitian AIDS patients and his overall work in Haiti. Dan Herlihy, an English major, became a high school English teacher in Methuen, Massachusetts school system for 34 years; he is also a part-time real estate developer.

The pair might have opposing skill sets, but both Art and Dan agree that a Merrimack education “empowered their hearts” to succeed in all of life’s challenges. The Merrimack experience embodied both passion and compassion, says Herlihy. “Those passions guided me through my years as a teacher and a business person—those passions still guide me today.”

The book project began when Art decided to tell the story of his Haitian AIDS patients and his overall work in Haiti, but found that as a medical professional, writing a book without medical jargon posed a challenge. Art called on Dan for help, who had extensive writing experience and was able to translate Art’s “medical-speak” into layman’s terms while capturing the emotions and lessons of Art’s experiences in Haiti.

The pair have recently pooled their talents to write a book and help found a non-profit organization that educates the world on the AIDS plight in Haiti.

**Pooling Talents in Fight Against AIDS**

By Heather Nataro

The book chronicles the effect of AIDS and pays tribute to the courage and resilience of the Haitian people, while demonstrating that it takes collaboration between many forces—science, government, finances, and religion— to fight an epidemic. Proceeds of their book benefit Project Medishare.

Fournier believes that in addition to getting a solid liberal arts education as a pre-med student, Merrimack is also where he discovered how to be a humanist. “I developed an interest in all things human while at Merrimack. The college is deeply rooted in the Augustinian concept of beneficence—the importance of applying one’s talent for the purpose of doing good,” said Fournier. “I think that concept is an important part of what drives me in my humanitarian work.”
What They Know Now - Alumni Share Tips on Career Success

By Heather Notaro

Five accomplished Merrimack alumni visited the campus recently to share the secrets of their professional and personal successes as part of an interactive panel for the 12th Annual Career Networking Night, hosted by the Office of Alumni Relations.

The speakers told of unique lessons they learned along the way. For example, panelist Catharine de Lacy told of her experiences in Asia - in this case, monkey brains - which would be an entirely different aspect to embrace.

"A meal isn’t just cuisine in many places around the world, it’s a ceremony,” said de Lacy. “Many times business negotiations take place over dinner so you have to partake. As part of a ceremony, many times business negotiations take place over dinner so you have to partake. As part of a ceremony.”

Several more panelists shared their stories, including Michael E. Macklin ‘73, news reporter, WHDH-TV; Catharine M. de Lacy ‘80, consultant/Merrimack trustee; Petros J. Voulgaris ‘01, research associate, MRS Investments.

Accept the Challenge Receives Support From TD Banknorth

Merrimack College is proud to acknowledge that TD Banknorth Charitable Foundation has contributed funds to directly support the efforts of the Accept the Challenge (ATC) program.

ATC provides English as a Second Language (ESL) learners a unique opportunity to develop language and academic skills in preparation for college and professional careers. Each year, promising Lawrence High School (Lawrence, Mass.) students participate in an after-school program that culminates in a five-week summer program on the Merrimack campus.

“We are grateful to TD Banknorth for their support of this inspiring program that can literally transform the lives of deserving individuals. We look forward to TD Banknorth’s active participation in the program in the future,” said Richard J. Santagati, president of Merrimack College.

The goals of the program fit well with TD Banknorth’s commitment to youth development and experiential learning. “Career development, high school retention and academic achievement are the key components of Accept the Challenge. Merrimack College has done an exemplary job providing students with the tools to explore life at college and beyond,” offered Joanne M. Sullivan, TD Banknorth Community Relations.

Since 1990, 90% of students in the Accept the Challenge program have gone on to college and over 400 have been involved in the program since its start in 1986.

A Tuition, Room and Board Guarantee

Merrimack College is once again offering guaranteed tuition as a way to help first-year students and their families prepare for the cost of a four-year Merrimack education.

Under this plan, tuition, room, and board costs are guaranteed to not increase during the four years of enrollment for the class entering in the fall of 2006. Merrimack experienced positive feedback when the program was offered to the incoming class of 2006.

The tuition guarantee program takes the guesswork out of planning and offers families a better way to manage their finances over time. By doing so, the college hopes to lessen the financial uncertainty that affects many families during the college selection and admission process.

New Initiatives to Enhance Identity, Launch New Web Site

Merrimack College has embarked on a branding and Web initiative that aims to further solidify the college’s position in the ever competitive world of higher education. The college has engaged Keating Associates of Natick, Mass., to lead the initiative with the college’s community.

An important part of the branding effort will include the development of a new Web site for Merrimack, which will reflect the college’s identity and key messages, and will include new navigation, design, and content. Merrimack College is expecting to launch its new Web site early in 2008.
Alumni Valentine’s Day Celebration

Alumni Couples Renew Their Vows

By Heather Notaro

Whether they met through similar class schedules or a glance across the cafeteria, many Merrimack alumni have begun their marriages in the Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher. Recently, in celebration of Valentine’s Day, more than 90 graduates who either met and/or were married on campus gathered to renew their vows.

The very special event featured a Mass co-celebrated by Rev. George Morgan, O.S.A. ’61 and Rev. Jim Wenzel, O.S.A. ’52 at the Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher where the group renewed their vows, toasted with champagne, and mingled with other couples.

Regardless of how long they’ve been married or where they met, their stories are a part of the story of Merrimack. Michael and Arleen Bradley ’78 ’94 met in 1975 through mutual friends while Michael was a student at Merrimack (he is currently chair of the Math Dept. at Merrimack). The Bradleys celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary this past August at the Collegiate Church on campus and decided to participate in the alumni event as another example of how strongly they believe in the sacrament of marriage.

“The spiritual dimension of our marriage is very important to us,” said the Bradleys. “For 10 years we were part of a PreCana team helping to prepare engaged couples for marriage and for 15 years Arleen coordinated the World Marriage Day Mass at Sacred Heart Parish in Lawrence.” The Bradleys children, Brian and Kelly, now attend Merrimack.

Many couples met for the very first time on Merrimack’s campus. Bruce and Kimberly (Morse) Round ’84 ’86 simply glanced at each other in the Merrimack dining area and the rest is history. After twenty happy years together, they have two sons, Christopher, 18, and Jeffrey, 15.

Another couple who attended the Valentine Mass, Timothy and Jessica (Burgess) Smith ’98 ’00 were married at the Collegiate Church in October 2001. They met when Tim was an alumni advisor on an Alternative Spring Break trip to Louisiana in 1999. When they returned from the trip, they had their first date, appropriately attending the student Sunday Mass together at the Collegiate Church.

More than 90 alumni, family and friends attended the special Valentine’s event with more than 40 couples renewing their wedding vows. Most were married in the college’s Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher. Photo by Neal Hamberg

Photos and stories of alumni couples can be found at http://www.merrimack.edu/Alumni/Event/24

More than 350 people attended the Annual Alumni Christmas Party on November 30, 2006. The reception was a great success as alumni and friends came back to the Merrimack College campus to kick-off the holiday season. In the spirit of giving, 200 gifts for children were donated to the Home Health VNA of Lawrence. The Merrimack College Jazz Band and Concert Choir provided the entertainment.

Merrimack College Jazz Band and Concert Choir provided the entertainment.
Tolle Lege Authors Recognized

Four alumni helped to add to the college’s Tolle Lege collection this year and were among those authors honored recently at a reception for those in the Merrimack community who were published this year. In addition, 23 Merrimack faculty members and two administrators were also honored. The collection, which is housed in the Perkins Periodical Room of McQuade Library, has reached 109 journal entries and 78 books. For a complete listing of Tolle Lege authors honored this year, visit www.merrimack.edu/bin/readmcnews.cgi?id=405.

Do you remember...

We're searching through the archives for photos that span 60 years of Merrimack College. If you know "who, what, when and where" this picture was taken, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at (978) 837-5440 or alumnirelations@merrick.edu. We'll publish the answers in the next issue of the alumni magazine.

A gift will be sent to the first person who correctly identifies the photo!

ITINERARY

FRIDAY, JUNE 1

Fore! Reunion Par 3 Golf, 2:00 p.m. We will reserve your tee times at Middleton Golf Course on Route 114. 9 holes - $ 20, 18 holes - $32
Welcome Back Reception, S15 Includes:
Wine & Beer Tasting, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Taste, compare and enjoy a variety of vintage wines and brews with faculty and friends. Enjoy the soft sounds of jazz. Rogers Center, casual attire
And/or Watch the Red Sox vs. Yankees, 7:00 p.m. Cheer on the Red Sox as they take on the Yankees as we gather around the big screen TV in the Sakowich Campus Center. Ballpark food and cash bar available.
Young Alumni Boston Bash, 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. Enjoy a night out in Boston, watch the Red Sox/Yankees game, and catch up with friends. Light appetizers and cash bar.
The Place, 2 Broad Street, Boston, S15

SATURDAY, JUNE 2

Classrooms without Quizzes 9:00 a.m. - "The Spirituality of Running" Religious and Theological Studies Professor Warren Kay
10:30 a.m. - "Higher Education and Augustinian Values" Dr. Joseph Kelley, Provost and Vice President of Mission Effectiveness
10:30 a.m. - "Stone Circles, Towers and Swamps: Archaeoastronomy in New England" Dr. Russell Pinnizzotto, Dean of Faculty, Science and Engineering
1:30 p.m. - "Education and Athletics" Hockey Coach Mark Dennehy and Women’s Basketball Coach Helen Williams

Meet at the Voipe Center for this 5K fun run around the Merrimack campus. $5 per entrant
Campus Tours 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Dine in the company of old friends, enjoy lively conversation, exchange pictures and relive your college days! Cocktails and hors d’oeuvres will begin at 2:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 3:30 p.m., $50 per person

Class of 1952 Reception and Dinner, 6:30 p.m., Sakowich Campus Center
Dine in the company of old friends, enjoy lively conversation, exchange pictures and relive your college days! Cocktails and hors d’oeuvres will begin at 2:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 3:30 p.m., $50 per person

Class of 1957 Reception and Dinner, 6:30 p.m., Sakowich Campus Center
Dine in the company of old friends, enjoy lively conversation, exchange pictures and relive your college days! Cocktails and hors d’oeuvres will begin at 2:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 3:30 p.m., $50 per person

SUNDAY, JUNE 3

Mass will be celebrated in the chapel in Austin Hall at 10:00 a.m., followed by a continental breakfast.

REUNION HIGHLIGHTS

Reunion Fun Run, 9:30 a.m. Meet at the Volpe Center for this 5K fun run around the Merrimack campus. $5 per entrant
Class of 2002 After Hours @ the Claddagh Pub, 11:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. Lawrence, Mass., $3 cover at the door

SUNDAY, JUNE 3

Mass will be celebrated in the chapel in Austin Hall at 10:00 a.m., followed by a continental breakfast.

DESTINATION NECESSITIES

- Choose to stay on campus in Santagati Hall
- Use the college’s fitness center
- Shop for your blue and gold in the college bookstore, 10% discount.

Giving Back

The community service project for Reunion Weekend will be to collect school supplies for New Horizons for Youth, an after-school tutoring program run by Mary Wesson ’57, and for the Bellesini Academy, run by Julie DiFilippo ’92. Collection boxes will be located in the Sakowich Campus Center.

Please note – Reservations are due by May 10. No tickets will be sold at the door. All tickets must be ordered and paid for in advance and will be distributed at registration. Go online at www.merrimack.edu/reunion for registration. Call 978-837-5440 or email reunion@merrimack.edu with questions.

Visit www.merrimack.edu/reunion for more information.

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LEGACY

Legacy students will be recognized at Commencement on Sunday, May 20 with a Legacy Medallion. A Merrimack Legacy is anyone who has had a relative graduate from Merrimack College. If you are part of a legacy family, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at legacy@merrimack.edu or 978-837-5440.

Tolle Lege Authors Recognized By Marie DeMarco

The collection, which is housed in the Perkins Periodical Room of McQuade Library, has reached 109 journal entries and 78 books.

Do you remember... We’re searching through the archives for photos that span 60 years of Merrimack College. If you know “who, what, when and where” this picture was taken, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at (978) 837-5440 or alumnirelations@merrick.edu. We’ll publish the answers in the next issue of the alumni magazine.

A gift will be sent to the first person who correctly identifies the photo!

ITINERARY

FRIDAY, JUNE 1

Fore! Reunion Par 3 Golf, 2:00 p.m. We will reserve your tee times at Middleton Golf Course on Route 114. 9 holes - $ 20, 18 holes - $32
Welcome Back Reception, S15 Includes:
Wine & Beer Tasting, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Taste, compare and enjoy a variety of vintage wines and brews with faculty and friends. Enjoy the soft sounds of jazz. Rogers Center, casual attire
And/or Watch the Red Sox vs. Yankees, 7:00 p.m. Cheer on the Red Sox as they take on the Yankees as we gather around the big screen TV in the Sakowich Campus Center. Ballpark food and cash bar available.
Young Alumni Boston Bash, 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. Enjoy a night out in Boston, watch the Red Sox/Yankees game, and catch up with friends. Light appetizers and cash bar.
The Place, 2 Broad Street, Boston, S15

SATURDAY, JUNE 2

Classrooms without Quizzes 9:00 a.m. - “The Spirituality of Running” Religious and Theological Studies Professor Warren Kay
10:30 a.m. - “Higher Education and Augustinian Values” Dr. Joseph Kelley, Provost and Vice President of Mission Effectiveness
10:30 a.m. - “Stone Circles, Towers and Swamps: Archaeoastronomy in New England” Dr. Russell Pinnizzotto, Dean of Faculty, Science and Engineering
1:30 p.m. - “Education and Athletics” Hockey Coach Mark Dennehy and Women’s Basketball Coach Helen Williams

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52 Friday night lights are big in Connecticut school towns. On November 10, 2006, at Wayland, Mass., the football teams respectfully watched a color guard perform prior to the game. There was a special sacrifice, as a uniformed Marine looking for duty was a member of the color guard. The Marine revealed the Marine to be our own Paul Montague. A sincere thanks to Paul and all Merrimack alumni who served our country and God bless those who did not make it back to our shores.

Robert K. LaPointe ‘71

53 Frank Monahan was hired posthumously as an inductee of the class of 2006 from the New England Basketball Hall of Fame. Tom was the men’s basketball head coach at Merrimack from 1978-80. He passed away in November of 2000.

54 Dorothy (Olsen) Pekala, inducted in June of 2006 from Merrimack Middle School in Charles County, Md. She now lives outside of Lewes, Del.

Tom Quinlan announced the appointment of a new CEO of The Quinlan Companies, a record storage and management company headquartered in Providence, Rhode Island. Tom will continue with the company, focusing on growth through acquisitions. The Quinlan Companies will acquire record centers in New York, Maryland, Texas, and Florida, adding over 130,000 square feet of record storage capacity. Also, 2007 is the company’s 75th anniversary, which is also celebrated by the third generation of the Quinlan family.

56 Mack Cunningham was elected to the city council office in N.Y., N.Y. in 2004 for a four-year term.

58 Robert K. LaPointe has been promoted to chief operating officer and chief financial officer. Monahan has more than 25 years of healthcare financial management experience, most recently as the vice president for finance at the University of Chicago Hospitals and Health System. A certified public accountant, Monahan holds a MBA from the University of Chicago.

59 Dan Anthony Maurano was named editor-in-chief of two journals.

60 John R. Condon was elected to partner at a partnership by Nixon Peabody LLP in its Boston office. He will focus on the structuring, documentation and due diligence review associated with the syndication of multifamily real estate projects entitled for low-income tax credits, and asset management work deriving from previously syndicated transactions. John has participated in The Citizens School mock that program, which provides inner-city youth with the opportunity to gain insight into the legal process and careers in law. He is also a graduate of Suffolk University Law School.

61 Tricia Lent recently obtained her Phlebotomy/DKG certificate and is working as a blood collection specialist for the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in memory of her dad, who passed away in June of 2006.

62 Kristin (Picariello) DeSimone is a senior compliance officer in the new fee-based multibillion- dollar division of Bank of America.

63 Ana CONTRERAS-PIANA is a former price reporter in the San Francisco Chronicle. Her daughter, Anapaula, is studying health and human services.

64 Mark Bickford was recently appointed as a finance manager at Edward B. F. Fitzgerald.

66 John Mordach was Edward B. F. Fitzgerald’s controller, the parent company of Edward B. F. Fitzgerald, as its senior vice president and chief financial officer. Mordach has more than 25 years of healthcare financial management experience, most recently as the vice president for finance at the University of Chicago Hospitals and Health System. A certified public accountant, Mordach holds a MBA from the University of Chicago.

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Virginia Holiland is currently the senior software manager in the new Solutions & Software Division of Avaya, Inc.

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Senaor Merrimack alumni enjoyed a fantastic time in New York City, visiting Engineering inc. and the 
CLASS NOTES

WEDDINGS

CELESTE C. GAMACHE '78 and John D. Wermers, May 6, 2006. Alumni in attendance were Nicholas C. Petrucci '74, Dr. George W. Wermers '53, Nancy (Arnesano) Wermers '78, Dr. George W. Wermers '53, Mary (Wermers) Schessel '96, and Lynn Wermers '78.

LAURA DICHIARA '98 and Derek Hampton, July 8, 2006, in Peabody, Mass.

STEPHANIE ATKINSON '98 and Daniel Tanguy, July 22, 2006. Ascension Memorial Church in Ipswich, Mass. Alumni in attendance were Carolyn Domers '96, Cheryl King '98, Meghan Clapp '98, and Paul Tanguy '00.

BYRON MAGRANE '96 and Alyson Manassoo, October 9, 2005, St. Mary's Center Church of the Assumption Church in Brookline, Mass. Alumni in attendance were Julie (DiScola) Kelleher '96, Alexandra Giugliano '96, Kim (Mason) Phillips '96, Gail (Goddard) '96, Greg Farrington '95, Kris Lissaukas '96, Jim Connolly '96, Colleen (Heinsey) Irving '96, Ann (Riggins) '96, Mike Kane '96, Nick Giordano '97, Shawn Reddick '96, Eric Bedien '96 and Dan Reid '96.


SHERI ROGERS '99 and Dan Fitzgerald, October 21, 2006. Alumni attended were Stacy Smart '99, Jennifer Pixiey '99, Julie Aburat '99, Joanna Bielawski '98 and Alyssa Workman '99, the maid of honor.

BRIDGET CONNORS '00 and Gregory Pesinoments, November 5, 2006 in Northampton, Mass. at St. Mary of the Assumption Church. Alumni in the wedding party were: Tara Pastel '99 and Jaimie Swift '00 and Britt Horton '00. Alumni in attendance were Lisa Parrott '00, Melissa Polio '99, Ann (Lane) Pare '99, Lisa Bezis '99, Krista Bucelcat '99 and Cara Kozimski '99.

STACY CAQUETTE '01 and Chris Walsh, September 2, 2006 on Lake Winnipesaukee. Alumni in attendance were Caitlin Nash '03, Heather (Racz) Wolfe '02 and Melissa Buden '01.

KERRY CONLIN '98 and ALEX GREGOON '99, August 11, 2006, St. Bernard's Church in North Kingstown, Rhode Island. Alumni in the wedding party were: Courtney Conlin '98, Kim Hall '98, Adrianna Fay '99, April (Dundham) Lemire '98, Erin Murphy, and Tim Shuart. Alumni in attendance were Karen (Kieser) Guilmet '98, John Guilmet '98, Julie Russe '99, Brian Lang '98, Slova McAvadie '98, Jay Walker '99, Derek Fredericson '98, Sienna Fredericson '98.

We'd like to hear more about you...

Let us in on your news. If you've received an award or promotion... Been married or had a baby... Earned a graduate degree... Moved... Obtained a new job... Celebrated a special anniversary... Or have other news to share with your fellow alumni, please contact us at alumnirelationships@merrimack.edu or send your information to Alumni Relations, Merriam College, 315 Tumpake Street, North Andover, MA 01845.
AMY DE GARAVILLA ’02 and Brendan Doucette, September 23, 2006, Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher, Merrimack College. Rev. Jim Wexler, O.S.A. ’52, officiated the ceremony. Alumni in the wedding party included Julie de Garavilla ’05, Allison (Brear) Farrell ’02, Kimberlee (Murphy) Johnson ’02, Marybeth Hull ’02, Kristen (Douceau) Siciliano ’97, and Matt Maloney ’01. Alumni in attendance were Michelle (Belrose) Strawinski ’02, Jill (Goodhue) Armstrong ’02, Marie (DeSanto) Schweitzer ’02, and Susan (Agostinelli) Doyle ’74. After a honeymoon in Italy, Amy and Brendan make their home in North Andover.

NICOLE SLAGER ’03 and ROBERT MARINO ’00, July 22, 2006, Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher, Merrimack College. Alumni in attendance included George Gipolin ’01, James Johnson ’01, Martin Ambroz ’03, Kate Davey ’03, Carly Linder ’03, Kate Berstone ’03, Cheryl Loiste ’03, Nicole Thompson ’02, Robert Marino (groom) ’00, Nicole Slager (bride) ’03, Erin Nowak ’03, Kathleen Lyons ’03, Lauren Barbour ’03, Sarah Roth ’03, Melissa Patterson ’03, Meaghan Duff ’03, Megan McDonough ’03, Erik Gunning ’01, Brian Vacino ’01, Michelle (Gavagnani) Gipolin ’01, Matthew O’Neil ’03, Tod McGrain ’03, Brad Bamberg ’02, Cara (Hagerty) Richmond ’02, Jennifer (Hines) Johnson ’02, Jeff Bergeron ’01, Michael Connolly ’01, Michael Chace ’00, Colin Rhodes ’02, Robert Johnson ’03, Michael Harrington ’01, Kevin Tuttle ’99. Alumni also in attendance were Jennifer (Brown) Doyle ’99, Brian Doyle ’99, Wes Richmond ’02, Lori (Baden) Connolly ’01, Matthew Buma ’00, Christina Doucette ’04, and Alyson Scott ’04.

MIKE SNOW ’06 and Cilda Hazael, June 24, 2006. Alumni in attendance were Tom Colb ’06, Deepak Vatt ’06, Josh Johnson ’06, Kay Quin ’06, Eilee Dahane ’06, Liz Murphy ’06, Matt Stanley ’06, Chris Smith ’06, Matt Simoni ’06, Ross Sheinhite ’06, Bart Nelson ’06, Medie Kerrigan ’06, Sarah Noftsker ’06, Melissa Pellegrino ’06, Kristen Lynch ’06, and Erica Blevins ’06.

Send us your news: alumnirelations@merrimack.edu

NICKOLE SLAGER ’03 and Robert Marino ’00 celebrated their marriage with many Merrimack friends in attendance.

MERRIMACK 24
ATHLETICS

On June 30, 2005, Mark Dennelly became Merrimack College’s seventh head coach of ice hockey. Currently in his second season at the helm of the Warriors, Dennelly took some time out of the winter competitive schedule to sit and answer a few questions from the general public. Here are a few thoughts from Coach Dennelly. To ask a question of your own, please visit www.merrimackathletics.com and go to the hockey page. Find the “Ask the Coach” button and fire away!

Q. One of the main goals Merrimack was looking to satisfy when they hired you as a coach was the recruiting process and improving the talent stepping on the ice for Merrimack. The improvement has already been seen with this year’s freshman class. How difficult is it to recruit players to come to an arena that is as outdated as Lawler?

A. I had a nickel from everyone who has asked me about our rink would have enough money to build it myself. Still, the current facility situation is not going to stop us from succeeding. At some point, the rink will be renovated. My job is to make sure this coincides with a good product on the ice.

Q. In our current situation, I care about two things: I want our players to be comfortable, and I want a home ice advantage. If you have ever seen our locker room, lounge, Blue Line Club, and weight room, you know the players have a comfortable home. I know Hockey East teams do not look forward to playing at Volpe, which in and of itself is a home ice advantage. There is no rink in our league where you can get as close to the players.

Q. Describe the kind of student-athlete you’re looking to bring to Merrimack College.

A. When my staff and I joined the Merrimack College community, we knew that rebuilding this hockey program was going to be a multi-stage process. Because of this, each recruiting class will have athletic differences. With our first class, we knew we needed to improve our overall ability. In order to play at the elite level of Hockey East, we also felt we needed to improve our overall speed. We have to be able to skate with the best players in the country.

Q. With our second class, we have tried to continue recruiting skill and speed, but have really had to identify productive players. We have been able to attract leading scorers in every position. They will only be fresh- men next year, but once they get acclimated to Hockey East play they should help us solve our scoring issues.

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Throughout the process, we have refused to sacrifice intellectual discipline or character. We need to make sure the players in the Merrimack Hockey locker room are motivated to pursue their education, while having the mental toughness to continue the process of moving this program in the right direction. Talk a little bit about your recruiting and where it’s taken you.

A. We have spread our recruiting wings and rekindled old relationships that the school has had in Western Canada. We have complemented this effort with existing relationships in the SUIHL (Mid West) and New England, and have cultivated a new relationship in Quebec. Quebec can be a tough place to recruit because of the language barrier, but the good news is that Assistant Coach Darren Yopik Ph.D. is not only from Alberta (which gives us a strong recruiting base), but also speaks fluent French.

Beyond this, we have employed the same aggressive recruiting tactics as we did during my tenure at the University of Massachusetts. We have to identify talent more quickly than our competitors and work in unison with the entire college to ensure each prospect is the right academic and social fit. We have tried to make sure to leave no stone unturned. This is evident in our first two classes. We have been able to attract players from six different states and three different Canadian provinces.

A. Because of some of the positives you’ve seen in year two.

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Q. Our goals against average has gone from 4.1 in 2004-05 to 3.5 in 2005-06 to 3.1 this season. We have given up 58 fewer 5x5 goals.

The fact that four of our top six scorers are freshmen is positive as well. As they mature at the collegiate level, this will help to address our current lack of production. Finally, the average GPA of our entire team has gone from 2.44 in the spring of 2005 to a 3.0 this past fall. We even had two players with perfect grades this past fall. There are all significant steps in the right direction.

As tough as this season has been, our confidence has not waned but strengthened.

You entered the season with what you felt was one of the best goaltending trios in the league in Pat Watson, Jim Healey and Andrew Braithwaite. Talk about their play this season, as they have been the backbone of the team.

A. Goaltending has been our best and deepest position this season. Still, they did not get out of the gate great. I gave our goaltending a ‘B’ for the first half, but the grade quickly went up to an ‘A’ after the break.

Pat Watson put together a number of solid performances, including a 3-0 shutout against Massachusetts. Jim Healey then came in and put together one of the most impressive goaltending runs in all of college hockey. He won Hockey East Goaltender of the Month in January with a goals against average of 1.68 and a save percentage of .944. Both were league bests. Andrew Braithwaite has played well when given the opportunity. Add to these nice efforts an average GPA of 3.33, and it is easy to see that these goaltenders perform well both on and off the ice.

Q. You’re dressing anywhere from eight to 10 freshman a night in a conference you’ve often said is dominated by upperclassmen. Talk about their progression through the season and what it means for the future of the program.

A. Coming into this season, we expected it to be a tale of two halves. With 35% of the team participating in their first season of intercollegiate play, we were well aware it was going to take some time for the freshmen to get accustomed to the level of play in Hockey East. The coaching staff was also aware that there were going to be nights when they would not be performing out of our seats with how well they played and pulling our hair out on others. We were always confident this freshman class had the athletic ability and mental fortitude to improve all season long.

With four of our top six scorers coming from the freshman class and roughly 50% of our shots being taken by freshmen, they have not disappointed. Still, they are freshmen and have yet to reach their full potential. Each player develops at a different rate and comes into his own at different times in his career. The tough part currently for the Merrimack Hockey Program is how reliant we are on the performance of our freshmen class as compared to the other teams in our league. As our better players mature, we will ask less and less of our younger players.

Q. Next season, you’ll have one senior in Derek Pallardy. Looking ahead, what are you hoping to see out of your team this off-season and entering the 2007-08 season.

A. It is not fair to the current team to get too far ahead and talk with any great depth about next season. We want to make gains this season. It is part of my job to spend a certain percentage of my time thinking about the long term. We will again be looking next season with over 50% of our team consisting of underclassmen. Still, the experience this year’s freshmen class has gained will serve them well next season. We still need to make things much more competitive on a day-to-day basis. The only way to truly motivate people is to push them. Also, this is the second season where we will end the season without a full compliment of players.

Because of these two factors, we will carry more players next season. This will help to motivate all the players in our program to be the best they can be, while also giving us the depth to finish strong.

As far as our returning players are concerned, my staff and I have already sat down with strength coach Justin Goullet in order to put together a complete spring and summer strength program. We expect our players, new and old, to show up in late August in great shape for the 2007-08 season.
APRIL

1  Andover Chamber Music Series presents William Albright's "Rustics of Spring," 4 p.m. (Rogers Center)

10-12  "The Courage to Remember," the Simon Wiesenthal Center's acclaimed traveling exhibition on the Nazi Holocaust (Sakowich Campus Center)

11  Zamir Chorale of Boston, Joshua Jacobson, artistic director, 7:30 p.m. (Rogers Center)

12  Prayers in Remembrance of Victims of the Holocaust on April 12, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. (Casca Hall)

13  Duke Ellington Orchestra, 7:30 p.m. (Rogers Center)

14  New England String Ensemble Spring Concert directed by Federico Cortese, 7:30 p.m. (Rogers Center)

19, 20, 21  Pentucket Players Inc. present "Thoroughly Modern Millie," 8 p.m. plus 2 p.m. matinee on April 21 (Rogers Center)

21-28  Alumni Spring Trip Rhine River Valley Cruise

24  International Film Series presents "Bread and Tulips," 7 p.m. (Rogers Center)

25  Tzimakos Film Series presents "The Adventures of Robin Hood," 7 p.m. (Rogers Center)

26  Scholarship Donor Reception, 6:30 p.m., (Multi purpose room, Sakowich Center)

27  Merrimack College Jazz Ensemble, 7:30 p.m. (Rogers Center)

29  Merrimack Valley Philharmonic Orchestra – Antonin Dvorak, 2:30 p.m. (Rogers Center)

Through April 20 – prints and virtual images of Ford Stone (McCoy Art Gallery)

MAY

3  Evening with the Provost and Deans: Values and Vision of Merrimack College (Boston)

3  Athletic Donor Reception, 6:30 p.m., Multipurpose room (Sakowich Campus Center)

4  The von Trapp Children, 8 p.m. (Rogers Center)

6  Andover Choral Society – Allen Combs, conductor, presents Festive Odes of Henry Purcell, 3 p.m. (Rogers Center)

10  Boston Lyric Opera presents "The Barber of Seville," 11:45 a.m. (Rogers Center)

12  Treble Chorus of New England presents: "Sing, New England, Ring" 7:30 p.m. (Rogers Center)

19  Baccalaureate, 4 p.m. (Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher)

20  Commencement, 10:30 a.m. (Volpe Athletic Center)

20  Legacy Reception after Commencement

JUNE

1-3  Reunion Weekend Celebration

Travel Back to where it all started 1952-1957 (all years) www.merrimack.edu/reunion

4  President's Cup Golf Tournament sponsored by the Friends of Merrimack to raise money for scholarships, at Indian Ridge Country Club. Contact: Joanne Mermelstein at 978-837-5117.

15  Young Alumni Day at Fenway Park – Red Sox vs. Giants


JULY

15  Family Day at Fenway Park – Red Sox vs. Toronto

By making a gift to Merrimack in your estate plan, you can support something from the University and/or renovations of a building such as McQuade Library, establishing a scholarship in your name, or making a gift to your favorite academic department. Charitable Estate Planning also provides several options for making a gift.

Charitable Estate Planning gifts include bequests and life income gifts such as gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts. In all cases, a Charitable Estate Planned gift can enable you to make a larger gift to Merrimack College than you might have otherwise thought possible. Income and tax benefits you may receive, as well as the flexibility of Charitable Estate Planning gifts make this possible.

In addition, by establishing an estate plan, you ensure that your assets are distributed according to your wishes. Through a bequest, you can have satisfaction knowing that you will help Merrimack College for years to come, at the same time, providing a message to your surviving loved ones as to what is important to you.

Please contact Thuyson Suraux J.D., Charitable Estate Planning Officer at 978-837-5300 to learn how you can receive a stream of income for life, leave a legacy and make a valuable gift to Merrimack College.

ALUMNI EVENTS
Visit www.merrimack.edu/alumevents or call 978-837-5440

ATHLETICS
For the complete schedule of athletic games, as well as athletic news, visit www.merrimackathletics.com

ROGERS CENTER
Event listings and tickets, visit www.merrimack.edu/rogers or call the box office at 978-837-5355

Save these important dates
Sunday, May 20 – Commencement June 1, 2 & 3 – Reunion 2007
The time is now...

Your support of Merrimack shows your pride in our college ... and its students.

Give to Merrimack TODAY!

www.merrimack.edu/gift