Campaign Has a Record Year

New Repository for Caribbean Art

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A Magazine for Alumni, Family and Friends

On the cover:
A winter storm has a silver lining for students: the chance to pitch some snowballs. Photograph provided by Sean Quinn ’00 C.E.E. and Enrique Mendoza ’00 C.E.E. Inset: The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S (left) will become president of Villanova University when the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58 A&S retires in June. Photograph by Paola Nogueras.

(Right) Volunteering in Slidell, La., during their Fall Break, Villanovans appreciated the community spirit of their fellow students and of the Habitat for Humanity homeowners they helped.

Volume 20, No. 1
Winter 2006

A Magazine for Alumni, Family and Friends
Basketball Action, Coast-to-Coast

Coaches' Receptions
Fans of Villanova University basketball got a jump on the action with a series of Coaches’ Receptions hosted by the Villanova University Alumni Association (VUAA) last fall in conjunction with local chapters. Coaches from both the men's and women's basketball teams took part to generate Wildcat excitement among the alumni and friends who attended. The coaches, along with special University guests, visited South Jersey, Philadelphia, Manhattan, Washington, D.C., and Windsor, Conn.

Basketball Receptions

This season, excitement has been running “wild” at VUAA Basketball Receptions. With the emergence of the newly realigned Big East division, alumni have had even more opportunities to get together and enjoy Villanova basketball. Game Watches are held throughout the country for many of the season’s most popular match-ups. Check alumni.villanova.edu to see if there is a Game Watch near you!

Liberty Mutual Gives Villanova Alumna a Winning Edge

Liberty Mutual Insurance has sponsored this season’s Basketball Receptions and Coaches’ Nights. Many alumni have discovered the money-saving benefits that come with purchasing renter’s, homeowner’s and auto insurance from Liberty Mutual. To see what everyone is talking about, visit alumni.villanova.edu and click on Corporate Partners, then the Liberty Mutual link.

VUAA Welcomes a New Corporate Partner

ATX Communications, a leading provider of communications technologies, has announced a new agreement with the Villanova University Alumni Association (VUAA) to market voice and data communications and related services to the University’s 87,000 alumni and the businesses they represent. ATX launched its exclusive residential calling program for Villanova graduates at Homecoming Weekend in October 2005. ATX will be helping to sponsor this year’s Alumni Reunion Weekend, so look for them there on June 9-11!

For more information on ATX please visit www.atx.com/villanova.

ATX representatives Tim Allen ’85 A&S (left) and Dwayne McClain ’85 C&F (right) award Greg Hauck ’93 C&F, ’98 J.D. (center) the trophy in ATX’s Long Distance Shoot-out.

Holiday Hoopla Brings Christmas to 100 Children

Christmas came early for approximately 100 children of the North Light Community Center and the Northern Home for Children in Manayunk, Pa. They enjoyed an evening of “Holiday Hoopla” on December 11, 2005, sponsored by the Michael Bradley Family Foundation, the Villanova University Alumni Association (VUAA) and the Philadelphia 76ers pro basketball team.

Michael Bradley ’05 A&S, a forward with the 76ers, signed autographs and posed for pictures with the youngsters throughout the evening. His wife, Ellen Suetholz Bradley ’01 A&S, former president of START (Student Alumni Relations Team), served as hostess of the festivities. Villanova alumni, as well as University and START volunteers, assisted. A visit from Hip-Hop, the 76ers’ mascot, delighted the children, as did Santa Claus, who “descended” from the North Pole. There was even a surprise visit from the Villanova men’s basketball team and the Villanova Wildcat.

A clown, face-painting and balloons were also available for the children. At crafts and activity tables, the young people could create ornaments and other colorful works of art. During the catered buffet dinner, the Villanova Voices led a sing-along. After dinner, volunteers distributed presents to each child, as well as T-shirts to commemorate the evening.

At “Holiday Hoopla,” Michael Bradley ’05 A&S of the Philadelphia 76ers and his wife, Ellen Suetholz Bradley ’01 A&S, greet Hip-Hop, the team’s mascot.

We extend a sincere thanks to all who helped to make “Holiday Hoopla” such a success.

The Villanova Voices led the children in holiday songs.

Bradley autographs a shirt for a young fan at the December event.

We extend a sincere thanks to all who helped to make “Holiday Hoopla” such a success.
See the World with Fellow Villanovans

Mark your calendar and pack your bags for a year of exciting travel opportunities with the Villanova University Alumni Association (VUAA)!

This year, the VUAA has expanded its travel program by partnering with Bucknell and Lehigh universities and has increased its offering to 12 trips, giving Villanovans the finest selection in travel opportunities. There are still some fabulous trips available.

Please visit alumni.villanova.edu for the details. Call Pat Gillin in the Alumni Office at 1-800-VILLANOVA (800-845-5266) or e-mail patricia.gillin@villanova.edu for more information or if you have any questions in planning your trip.

June 18-30, 2006
Cruising the Baltic Sea and the Norwegian Fjords

Experience the fantastic beauty of Norway’s fjords and the rich history and culture of the Baltic states. This very special travel program includes a meeting in Gdansk, Poland, with Nobel Laureate and Solidarity leader Lech Walesa.

Embark the deluxe M.S. Le Diamant in Bergen to cruise Norway’s gorgeous fjords and visit the charming villages and scenic mountains of Flam.

Then explore the recently reborn nations of the Baltic as they embark on a post-Soviet renaissance. Experience their rich traditions and new-found economic and cultural vitality through a series of excursions, including a special early opening visit to the world-renowned State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg.

On the June tour, meet Lech Walesa.

State Hermitage Museum, Catherine's Palace and Peter the Great’s gleaming summer estate at Petrodvorets.

Volga, Sheksna, Kovzha, Svir and Neva rivers, you will arrive in St. Petersburg for visits to the world-renowned

Enjoy superb accommodations at some of Central Europe’s finest hotels and aboard the deluxe M.S. Amadeus Princess while cruising the Danube. Between Krakow and Budapest, journey on the elegant Majestic Imperator, a faithfully restored reproduction of Emperor Franz Joseph’s personal railroad car.

September 28-October 6, 2006
Village Life in the Dordogne

Savor the good life of provincial France in the Dordogne River valley, one of France’s best-kept travel secrets. From your base in the medieval town of Sarlat-la-Canéda, explore the region’s historic, cultural and natural attractions, including the caves of Lascaux and Rouffignac, where some of the most important prehistoric art ever discovered brings the past to life. Retrace the footsteps of Richard the Lionheart at the castle of Beynac, explore Domme’s labyrinth of medieval lanes, gaze in wonder at the dramatic cliffside town of Rocamadour and savor Périgord’s world-renowned foie gras and truffles.

October 13-21, 2006
Island Life in Ancient Greece

The lands of the great gods of ancient Greece and Rome come to life on this unique eight-day cruise across the beautiful Aegean Sea. Throughout this exciting journey, experience the rich history and culture of Greece and Turkey, as well as the Byzantine, Roman and Ottoman empires, while cruising aboard the M.S. Le Diamant. This superb vessel is one of the finest cruisers in Europe and offers well-appointed, deluxe accommodations along with excellent service and gourmet cuisine.

August 15-26, 2006
Waterways of Russia

Join us for the journey of a lifetime through the heart of Russia, from Moscow to St. Petersburg aboard the Kazan, a deluxe river cruiser. Begin in Moscow, then explore the 10th-century town of Uglich, the 12th-century monastery in Yaroslavl and other rustic remnants of Old Russia. After winding through the Russian heartland on the Volga, Sheksna, Kovzha, Svir and Neva rivers, you will arrive in St. Petersburg for visits to the world-renowned

From the spires of Prague and the castles of Krakow to the palaces and cathedrals of Vienna, explore the legendary landmarks of the Habsburg Empire and Central Europe on this exclusive new luxury travel program. Experience the magnificent cities of Prague, Vienna, Budapest and Krakow, as well as the historic castles and magnificent natural landscapes of the Danube’s Wachau valley.

Enjoy superb accommodations at some of Central Europe’s finest hotels and aboard the deluxe M.S. Amadeus Princess while cruising the Danube. Between Krakow and Budapest, journey on the elegant Majestic Imperator, a faithfully restored reproduction of Emperor Franz Joseph’s personal railroad car.

September 24-September 2, 2006
Danube River and Habsburg Empire

Savor the good life of provincial France in the Dordogne River valley, one of France’s best-kept travel secrets. From your base in the medieval town of Sarlat-la-Canéda, explore the region’s historic, cultural and natural attractions, including the caves of Lascaux and Rouffignac, where some of the most important prehistoric art ever discovered brings the past to life. Retrace the footsteps of Richard the Lionheart at the castle of Beynac, explore Domme’s labyrinth of medieval lanes, gaze in wonder at the dramatic cliffside town of Rocamadour and savor Périgord’s world-renowned foie gras and truffles.

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## Alumni Reunion Weekend 2006: Activities for All Ages  June 9-11, 2006

Plans are in full swing for this year’s Alumni Reunion Weekend, from June 9-11. Join the Villanova University Alumni Association for a weekend of activities and events designed for all ages. All alumni are welcome, and special events are planned for those with a class year ending in a “1” or “6.” (The Class of 2001 will hold its Five-Year Reunion at Homecoming Weekend, October 20-22.)

For the most up-to-date information or to make your reservation, visit alumni.villanova.edu or call 1-800-VILLANOVA (800-845-5266).

### Friday, June 9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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| 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. | Breakfast and Lunch  
On-campus dining facilities will be open. |                                |
| 1–2:30 p.m. | Registration  
Klekotka Hall, West Campus |                                |
| 2-5 p.m. | Wildcat Welcome Area  
Klekotka Hall Patio, West Campus |                                |
| 2-5 p.m. | Class of 1956 Welcome Reception  
Wine Tasting Demonstration  
Led by Dr. Michael J. Hones, professor of physics and a wine aficionado | Villanova Conference Center |
| 6-10 p.m. | Class of 1956 Half-Century Dinner  
Donahue Hall, South Campus |                                |
| 6-9 p.m. | Engineering Alumni Society Awards Ceremony and Reception  
Villanova Room, Connelly Center |                                |
| 7-10 p.m. | Class of 1981 Silver Anniversary Celebration  
Montrose Mansion, Villanova Conference Center |                                |
| 7-10 p.m. | Class of 1996 10-Year Reunion Reception  
Dundale Mansion, West Campus |                                |
| 7-10 p.m. | Class Reunion Receptions for Classes of ’41, ’46, ’51, ’61, ’66, ’71, ’76, ’86 and ’91  
Bartley Hall |                                |

### Saturday, June 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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| 7:30-10 a.m. | Buffet Breakfast  
St. Mary’s Hall Dining Hall, West Campus |                                |
| 8:30 a.m. | Alumni Memorial Mass  
Corr Hall Chapel |                                |
| 9 a.m.-7 p.m. | Registration  
Klekotka Hall, West Campus |                                |
| 9 a.m.-Noon | Campus Shuttle Tours  
Departing every 30 minutes from Registration.  
Last tour begins at 11:30 a.m.  
Klekotka Hall, West Campus |                                |
| 9:30-10:30 a.m. | Presentation by Office of Admission  
If you have a son or daughter thinking of applying to Villanova, this is the session for you! It will be followed by a brief walking tour of campus.  
Cinema, Connelly Center |                                |
### Saturday, June 10 (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location/Additional Info</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 10 a.m.-Noon  | Black Cultural Society/Black Student League Reception   
Co-hosted by the Villanova University Alumni Association Committee on Diversity and the Center for Multicultural Affairs. | Connelly Center, Presidents' Lounge                                                      |
| 10:30 a.m.    | “Friends of Bill W.”                                                                                       | Health Services Building, Room 200                                                       |
| 11 a.m.–Noon  | College Open Houses                                          
Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Commerce and Finance  
Engineering  
Nursing | Falvey Memorial Library  
Bartley Hall  
CEER  
St. Augustine Center for the Liberal Arts |
| Noon          | Top ’Cat Luncheon                                            
Graduates of 1955 and earlier are invited to this reception, with special recognition for the classes of ’41, ’46 and ’51. | Radnor/St. David's Room, Connelly Center                                                   |
| Noon-3 p.m.   | Reunion Family Picnic                                        
Spend the afternoon in the shadow of “the Chapel” with family and friends. Entertainment and fun for all ages! Class photos will be taken at the picnic. | Austin Field (Rain location: Dougherty Dining Hall)                                        |
| 3-6 p.m.      | Men’s Soccer Alumni Game and Reunion                                                                       | Villanova Stadium                                                                         |
| 4 p.m.        | Communal Blessing and Renewal of Marriage Vows                                                           
Alumni and their spouses are invited back to “the Chapel” to say “I do”…again.  
Sponsored by Campus Ministry | St. Thomas of Villanova Church                                                                 |
| 5 p.m.        | Vigil Mass and Alumni Awards Ceremony                                                                     | St. Thomas of Villanova Church                                                             |
| 6:30-10:30 p.m.| Alumni Gala—Celebrating our Past, Building our Future  
The place to be Saturday night! Dine and dance with special guests and fellow alumni.  
Professional childcare is available for children (ages 3-12) of alumni attending the gala. There is a fee, and pre-registration is required. | Pavilion (across the street from the Pavilion)                                             |
| 10:30 p.m.—Midnight | Late Night on West Campus                                      
Join friends for an informal post-gala social.                                             | Kleotka Hall Patio                                                                         |

### Sunday, June 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location/Additional Info</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 a.m.</td>
<td>St. Thomas of Villanova Parish Mass</td>
<td>St. Thomas of Villanova Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Farewell Brunch</td>
<td>St. Mary’s Hall Dining Hall, West Campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-11 a.m.</td>
<td>Checkout</td>
<td>Kleotka Hall, West Campus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
For the latest Villanova University Alumni Association and chapter events, visit alumni.villanova.edu or call 1-800-VILLANOVA (800-845-5266).

**Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Southern New Jersey Region**

**April 2006**

**April 1**

**Villanova, Pa.**

**Delaware County Chapter**

Enjoy an evening at Villanova Theatre for the musical *Urinetown*. 8-11 p.m., Vasey Hall. Tickets: $25. RSVP by March 24 to Thomas Seidner ’79 C&F, 1501 Ashton Rd., Havertown, PA 19083.

**June 2006**

**June 9-11**

**Alumni Reunion Weekend 2006**

Hosted by the Villanova University Alumni Association (see schedule on page 4).

**New York, Connecticut, North/Central New Jersey Region**

**June 2006**

**June 24**

**Lake Como, N.J.**

**A Day at Bar Anticipation**

**Monmouth/Ocean Counties Chapter**

Time: 2-8 p.m. Cost: $10 per person. RSVP by June 24 to Steve Zengel ’92 C&F by e-mail to s.zengel11@comcast.net.

**New England Region**

**May 2006**

**May 17**

**Stow, Mass.**

**Boston Chapter**

Boston Alumni Golf Classic. Stow Acres Country Club, time TBD.

**Southern Region**

**May 2006**

**May 15**

**Charlotte, N.C.**

**2006 Scholarship Golf Event**

**Carolinias Chapter**

Enjoy golf with fellow alumni, noon-7 p.m., at Cedarwood Country Club, 5000 Pineville Matthews Rd. Phone: (704) 542-0206. Contact: Rick Stieber ’60 C.E. at therick@carolina.rr.com.

**Western Region**

**March 2006**

**March 18**

**Introducing The Wildcats**

**Southern California Chapter**

Join us for the chapter’s introduction of the long-awaited book, *The Wildcats: A History of Villanovans in Professional Sports*, by Michael P. Connolly ’72 A&S. Nancy E. Brown Connolly ’73 Nur., who shepherded the book through publication following her husband’s death, will make a presentation. The event, also featuring ‘Nova athletes and special guests, will be at 4 p.m. at the home of Joe ’63 Ch.E. and Kathy ’64 Nur. Hagan, 1732 Addison Rd., Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274. Books will be available and refreshments will be served. RSVP to Joe Graziano ’74 C&F at (310) 378-9321.

**April 2006**

**April 22**

**Padres Baseball Game**

**San Diego Chapter**

The price of $25 per person includes tailgate party and game ticket. 5-11 p.m. at Petco Park. RSVP to Megan Sullivan ’04 C&F at megan.sullivan@villanova.edu.

**July 2006**

**July 15**

**Mission Bay Picnic**

**San Diego Chapter**

Join alumni and friends for a picnic including hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken and drinks. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Mission Bay, north of Hilton. RSVP by July 12 to Sabina Roaldset ’98 C&F at sabinar98@hotmail.com.

**Coming Soon: Golf and New Student Receptions**

Warm weather is just around the corner, and with the coming of spring be sure to check the Villanova University Alumni Association Web site for Scholarship Golf Outings and New Student Reception schedules. Plans are in process for these very popular alumni events. Go to alumni.villanova.edu and click on Events.
Campaign Sets a Record During First Year of the Public Phase

The commitments secured in 2005 result in the most successful fundraising period in Villanova’s history.

In December 2004, Transforming Minds and Hearts: The Campaign for Villanova was publicly launched with a grand gala in New York City at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Nearly 400 Villanova University alumni, parents and friends, including its most generous supporters, celebrated the Villanova educational experience and looked forward to the future of the campaign and the University.

It was here that Villanova’s fund-raising began to make history. On that night, the University announced more than $25 million in commitments to kick off the campaign’s public phase. That led the way for $74 million in commitments for the year, bringing the campaign total through December 2005 to more than $180 million. This total represents 60 percent of the campaign’s $300 million goal and surpasses all previous University fundraising efforts. In fact, this past year’s success is more than double the University’s previous record for fundraising in a 12-month period.

Phenomenal growth
These successful results represent a culmination of strategic planning, as well as the phenomenal growth and progress of the campaign since its inception.

“The progression of campaign activity illustrates why we have been able to be so successful in our efforts to date,” said John M. Elizandro, vice president for Institutional Advancement.

During the campaign’s three-year quiet phase, the period of prospect cultivation and early solicitation, fundraising efforts gained momentum. The quiet phase added an average of $22 million in commitments each year and enabled the campaign to maintain growth in anticipation of the public announcement.

With that consistent growth, the campaign entered the public phase, a period of intensified cultivation and solicitation, with more than $106 million in commitments and significant momentum.

“The public launch of the campaign at the Met was a great opportunity for people to come forward with early commitments,” noted the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58 A&S, University president. “The success of this event, and the enthusiasm generated by the more than $25 million in commitments announced that evening, ignited our fundraising efforts. The result was the most successful year of fundraising that Villanova has ever experienced.”

Added campaign vice chairman James C. Curvey ’57 C&F, “The success of the campaign, not only this year but overall, can be attributed to a few factors. It has been well planned and our volunteers have put in a lot of hours helping us to reach out to people we haven’t touched before. It is also because of the involvement of Father Dobbin, who said from the start that the campaign was important and that he would do whatever it took to make it a success, and he has done that.”

Raising the bar
Nearly one-third of the $74 million was raised on the night of the public launch, an impressive example of the impact of major milestones during the campaign, an impact that creates momentum and attracts additional commitments. “Events like this raise the bar. Those who may not have contributed are seeing their peers make large commitments, and it often prompts them to act in kind,” Elizandro said.

Through one year of public phase activity, commitments to The Campaign for Villanova exceed the total commitments to all previous Villanova University fundraising efforts.
Raising the bar not only has been integral within the current campaign but also has emerged as a significant force behind the growth from one campaign to the next. Prior to The Villanova Campaign (1992-97), large gifts typically clustered around $100,000. During The Villanova Campaign, a significant number of gifts clustered at the $1 million level, helping to drive that effort and ensure its ultimate success. During the current campaign, there has been an increase in both the number and frequency of multimillion-dollar gifts, which have been key elements of the effort’s early progress. This progression in giving patterns has generated momentum that has established a baseline for each capital campaign and a formula for successfully reaching strategic objectives.

“We knew in the last capital campaign that we needed to establish a foundation at the million-dollar mark, which we did, and then we knew in this campaign we had to move past that,” Elizandro said. With 12 commitments of $2.5 million or more to this campaign, representing a total of $52.5 million, the efforts at this level have been pivotal to early success. “This captures people’s attention and even their imagination,” Elizandro said.

Father Dobbin noted, “These kinds of fundraising milestones are what Villanova really needs—for people to say ‘I have the assets. Why not give to a place I really feel passionate about?’”

**Portrait of a campaign**

In addition to the clear and steady progress at each stage of the campaign, what has led to that success is equally important. “Not only do we need to monitor the numbers, but it is also important and very interesting to dissect where those numbers came from,” Elizandro said.

Tracking the campaign through the types of gifts by donors reveals just how important every level of contribution is to reaching the final goal. For instance, in the early stages of the quiet phase, total commitments at the levels of Leadership Gifts (gifts of $1 million and above) and Major Gifts (gifts of $100,000 to $1 million) were nearly the same. As the quiet phase moved on and solicitations increased, there was a broadening of the gap between these two top gift levels. “This is a good sign,” Elizandro explained. “What that means is that people were responding at the Leadership Gifts level, and some real activity was beginning to emerge. And success at this level affects, in a positive way, the whole picture.”

**“Formula for continued success”**

The Campaign for Villanova’s early success can be measured not only in its tremendously generous gifts, but also in the number of alumni, parents and friends becoming involved in the life of the University—from volunteer committees, to the emergence of young donors, to parent participation.

“Two strong groups who have really helped to make a difference are young donor and Annual Fund activity.”

Looking past the public announcement to the end of 2005, Elizandro continued, “The picture begins to come into focus. The total of the Leadership Gifts is nearly equal to the combined total of Major Gifts and Annual Giving. This is important to our overall goals, but the success of this campaign will be determined by the amount of participation at all levels of giving. We will need every Villanovan to take part in the campaign to successfully get to our $300 million goal.”

**A CLOSER LOOK >>><><**

A few of the trends and highlights of Transforming Minds and Hearts: The Campaign for Villanova further illustrate the progress and success of this historic fundraising effort.

- Through December 2005, there were 41 commitments at the Leadership Gifts level ($1 million and above), representing nearly $90 million.
- More than 200 commitments at the Major Gifts level ($100,000 to $1 million) were made through December 2005, representing nearly $50 million.
- Six Villanova alumni from the 1970s and 1980s have made commitments of $1 million or more, indicating an increased interest among younger alumni to become involved in the life of the University.
- The Annual Fund, defined as gifts below $100,000, accounts for more than $40 million of the campaign total through December 2005.
- For 16 of the donors who have made commitments of $1 million or more, this was their first major philanthropic contribution to the University, signaling a broadened base of support.
- The campaign’s five gifts exceeding $5 million received through December 2005 represent an emerging commitment within the Villanova community to provide philanthropic support at the highest levels.
donors and parents,” said campaign vice chairman William B. Finneran ’63 C&E. “We are seeing an increased interest from younger individuals who’ve done extraordinarily well and have made commitments to the campaign. Also, parents are much more involved in their sons’ and daughters’ college education and, as a result, are more interested in making additional investments as an expression of support, as an expression of appreciation.”

This heightened activity and involvement from the extended Villanova community—through opportunities such as volunteer and donor recognition events designed to highlight progress and celebrate milestones throughout the campaign—has helped to ensure continued progress as this historic fundraising effort moves forward.

With the increased potential for gifts at the highest levels, consistent growth from Major Gifts donors and the continual foundation of support from annual contributions, the campaign has captured the interest of alumni, parents and friends. The result of this phenomenal growth so far, and the consistent raising of the bar, demonstrate the campaign’s effectiveness and lead the way for future success.

“This is an exciting time for Villanova University,” observed campaign chairman Gerald S.J. Cassidy, Esq., ’63 A&S. “The campaign is entering the second year of the public phase at a record-setting pace, and Father Dobbin’s leadership continues to be a strong symbol of the University’s direction during the introduction of our new president [the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S]. I think we’ll see all that is happening today proves to be the formula for continued success.”

To mark the most successful fundraising year in the history of Villanova University, members of the Steering Committee for Transforming Minds and Hearts: The Campaign for Villanova met on December 8, 2005, at the University Club in New York City. The first year of the campaign’s public phase netted $74 million in commitments—more than double the previous record for fundraising at the University in a 12-month period.

“We will need every Villanovan to take part in the campaign to successfully get to our $300 million goal.”

—JOHN M. ELIZANDRO, VICE PRESIDENT FOR INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Gerald S.J. Cassidy, Esq., ’63 A&S. “The campaign is entering the second year of the public phase at a record-setting pace, and Father Dobbin’s leadership continues to be a strong symbol of the University’s direction during the introduction of our new president [the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S]. I think we’ll see all that is happening today proves to be the formula for continued success.”

Members of the Steering Committee at their meeting on December 8, 2005, mark the culmination of a successful first year of the campaign’s public phase, which netted a record $74 million in commitments.
of its $300 million goal,” said John M. Elizandro, vice president for Institutional Advancement. “The $74 million that was raised between December 2004 and December 2005 set a record for fundraising at Villanova, eclipsing the $36 million raised after the goal of The Villanova Campaign was increased from $100 million to $125 million in 1996.”

The Steering Committee’s meeting, its ninth during the campaign, began with a presentation by Francis J. Van Kirk ’71 C&F, former managing partner of PricewaterhouseCoopers in Philadelphia. He spoke about the Katrina Emergency Tax Relief Act of 2005 and its implications for financial contributions to Villanova and other nonprofit organizations.

After Van Kirk’s presentation, Elizandro gave a financial progress report on the campaign and commented on key benchmarks for the coming year.

“We have generated an enormous amount of momentum with the early success of the campaign, particularly with the number of commitments at the Leadership Gifts level,” Elizandro reported. “As the campaign moves forward, it is important that we continue to focus on commitments at the highest level and allocate our resources to cultivate these gifts and accelerate campaign progress.”

Elizandro’s comments prompted a discussion about the need for heightened activity at all levels of the campaign as the public phase moves forward, with a focus on regional events that are designed to build camaraderie among new prospects and maximize volunteer involvement in the campaign.

“Volunteer participation is critical at this stage of the campaign,” observed campaign chairman Gerald S.J. Cassidy, Esq., ’63 A&S. “Volunteers broaden the base of support by reaching out to new donors and can share their reasons for supporting the University at the highest levels.”

FIND MORE ON THE WEB
To learn more about Transforming Hearts and Minds: The Campaign for Villanova, visit www.development.villanova.edu. You will find information on campaign leadership, campaign progress and ways to give.
More than 100 alumni, parents and friends gathered on December 8, 2005, for Villanova University’s annual Christmas Celebration at Steinway Hall in New York City. They toasted the holidays and recognized the success of the first year of the public phase of Transforming Minds and Hearts: The Campaign for Villanova.

The festive event featured a musical performance by Steinway artist Michael Cavanaugh, a Tony Award nominee for his work as the musical lead in the Broadway hit Movin’ Out.

Robert M. Birmingham ’66 A&S, former owner and director of Steinway Musical Properties and former chairman of the University’s Board of Trustees, hosted the celebration and welcomed all who attended.

“Through my years of involvement with Villanova, I have been able to work closely with and form relationships with many outstanding members of the University community,” Birmingham said. “I am honored for you to be here tonight for this special occasion. It is the people like you who make the Villanova experience so unique.”

Birmingham then introduced the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58 A&S, University president, and thanked him for his dedicated leadership of Villanova and the campaign. Birmingham invited Father Dobbin to say a few words.

“Last year at this time we gathered at the Metropolitan Museum of Art to mark the launch of the public phase of The Campaign for Villanova,” Father Dobbin said. “And now we return to Steinway Hall to celebrate a very successful first year and kick off the Christmas season in New York City. The campaign has experienced a new level of energy since the launch of the public phase, and because of that enthusiasm, Villanova has received unprecedented levels of support.”

After Father Dobbin’s remarks, campaign chairman Gerald S.J. Cassidy,
Esq., ’63 A&S noted how honored he is to be working with so many committed Villanovans. Cassidy then reported on the progress of the campaign.

“Through the dedication of our volunteer leadership and the widespread participation at all levels of the campaign, we have achieved tremendous early success,” Cassidy said. “I am pleased to announce that the University has received more than $180 million in commitments toward the campaign, including $74 million in the first year of the public phase—a new record for fundraising at Villanova.

“This early success and the remarkable level of involvement,” Cassidy continued, “indicate a strong belief in Villanova among its alumni, parents and friends and a willingness to help the University meet the challenges of the future.”

Steering Committee member Robert M. Birmingham ’66 A&S thanks the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58 A&S, University president, for his dedicated leadership of Villanova and the campaign. Birmingham is former owner and director of Steinway Musical Properties and former chairman of Villanova’s Board of Trustees.

1. James F. Orr III ’65 A&S, a member of the Steering Committee, and his wife, Ann, take in the performance by Steinway artist Michael Cavanaugh.

2. (From left) Major Gifts Committee member Joseph J. Martini ’61 C&F and his wife, Teresa, with Gloria Martini and her husband, the Hon. William J. Martini ’68 A&S, who is also a member of the Major Gifts Committee.

3. (From left) Glenn J. DeSimone ’69 M.E. with Robert M. Melchionni ’69 C&F, a member of the Major Gifts Committee, and his wife, Jeanne.

4. (From left) Major Gifts Committee member Andrew J. Markey ’52 C&F and his wife, Betty, with Kitty Quindlen and her husband, John J. Quindlen ’54 C&F, a member of the Steering Committee.

5. The Hon. Charles A. Heimbold Jr. ’54 A&S, a member of the Steering Committee, with Father Dobbin.

6. (From left) Campaign vice chairman James C. Curvey ’57 C&F and his wife, Shirley, with Nadine Gibson and her husband, William M. Gibson ’66 C&F, a member of the Steering Committee.
Building a University
Villanova’s chief financial officer discusses campaign’s impact.

Record-breaking support of Transforming Minds and Hearts: The Campaign for Villanova is helping Villanova University to excel on a number of fronts, from having an immediate impact on the educational experience to supporting the University’s long-term financial stability.

“I look at the support of this campaign as the gift that continues to give,” said Kenneth G. Valosky ’82 C&F, vice president for Finance. “It not only provides direct budget support, but it also bolsters the University’s endowment.”

Building Villanova’s endowment is chief among the campaign’s goals. Gifts to endow faculty positions and fund research initiatives allow for the expansion of academic programs and support the University’s Strategic Plan. In addition, endowments for scholarships and financial aid have a direct benefit for Villanova students.

“Turning the corner”
Villanova’s endowment has grown by leaps and bounds in recent years, from $159.7 million at the end of 2002 to an all-time high of $259.9 million at the end of 2005. Gifts to the endowment constitute an investment in the University’s future.

“Once we have the funding and we invest it, it continues to earn and to grow,” Valosky said. “It creates a snowball effect.”

Aside from enhancing the educational experience, a growing endowment also helps Villanova to improve its position relative to the other top-level institutions with which it competes, helping to attract the best students and faculty. “This giving helps to level the playing field with the institutions we consider to be our competitors,” Valosky said. “There’s still a long way to go, but the campaign has been a great boost for us financially. We’re turning the corner.”

In addition, strong donor support helps Villanova to maintain its positive credit ratings with Moody’s Investors Service and Standard & Poor’s—credit ratings that affirm the University’s financial stability and ensure its continued access to capital markets. “Those agencies look not only at how we manage our resources, but also at the support we receive from our donors,” Valosky noted. “To be able to say that we’ve had nearly $75 million in commitments since the campaign went public, and that we’ve already reached $180 million of a $300 million target, is extremely positive.”

Support for the future
Contributions to the campaign also take the form of gifts that provide capital support for campus enhancements, which play an important role in improving the University. Valosky pointed to the upcoming construction of the Intercollegiate Athletics and Recreation Facility as an example. “We wouldn’t have the wherewithal to do that without incredible support from our donors,” he said. “We will have a new facility that’s going to enhance Villanova’s successful athletics programs and benefit the campus community, which can only help the University.”

Additional critical support comes from donors who give to the Annual Fund, which provides restricted and unrestricted funding to address ongoing campus needs while also allowing for flexibility in initiating new programs. By the close of 2005, Annual Fund donors had contributed more than $40 million to The Campaign for Villanova, providing invaluable support to programs that benefit the entire Villanova community.

“At the end of the day, all the pledges and commitments translate into resources that allow us to achieve all of these new programs—whether for academics, financial aid, student life or athletics,” Valosky said. “These gifts are crucial to the University’s financial standing.”

“Such generous support of the campaign is a great vote of confidence in the University.”
—Kenneth G. Valosky ’82 C&F

Headed in the right direction
The campaign’s momentum in 2005 was reflected not only in gift commitments but also in an unusually strong surge of pledge payments as the year drew toward a close. “That’s always, for us, a measure of how successful the campaign is—the cash flow—and it’s coming through at an accelerated pace,” Valosky noted.

Some high-level donors are even paying off their pledges ahead of schedule. “We haven’t seen that before, particularly with multimillion dollar gifts,” he said. “Our donors at that level have been extremely generous from a cash-flow perspective.”

The accelerated pace of giving “reflects donors’ belief that the University continues to be headed in the right direction,” Valosky believes. He added, “Such generous support of the campaign is a great vote of confidence in the University. Our alumni, our donors, are committed to Villanova, and I think we should be gratified that that comes through loud and clear.”
On December 13, 2005, the Villanova University Board of Trustees elected the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S as the University’s 32nd president. Father Donohue succeeds the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58 A&S, who in June 2005 had announced his intention to step down as president at the conclusion of the 2005-06 academic year.

Father Donohue currently is a tenured associate professor and the chair of Villanova’s theatre department, a position he assumed in 1992. A recognized University leader, Father Donohue is a highly sought-after academician, teacher, liturgical minister, colleague and lecturer. He is a member of the Augustinian Institute Advisory Board and has served on numerous committees at Villanova, including as faculty representative on the trustees’ Academic Affairs Committee, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Diversity Committee, the Strategic Planning Committee and University judicial boards. In addition, he served on the NCAA Certification Self-Study committees of 1996-97 and 2001-02. Father Donohue served two terms on the Board of Trustees of Merrimack College in North Andover, Mass.

An award-winning director of Villanova Theatre, Father Donohue has received five Barrymore Award nominations for Outstanding Direction of a Musical (from the Theatre Alliance of Greater Philadelphia) for Parade, Children of Eden, Into the Woods, Evita and Chicago. In 2002, Chicago was nominated for nine Barrymores and was awarded three, including the outstanding direction one (see page 26).

A devoted liturgical minister, Father Donohue regularly celebrates the Sunday evening Mass for the Villanova community at St. Thomas of Villanova Church and celebrates weddings for Villanova alumni. He is the long-time chaplain of the University’s NROTC program, offering counsel to midshipmen, presiding over the annual Commissioning Mass and lecturing in the Senior Leadership Seminar.

Father Donohue’s selection caps a six-month process in which many outstanding Augustinian candidates were identified and considered as possible successors to Father Dobbin.

“The conclusion of Father Dobbin’s presidency is both a challenge and an opportunity in the history of Villanova University,” said John G. Drosdick ’65 Ch.E., chairman of the trustees. “We enthusiastically look forward to working
with Father Donohue to build on Father Dobbin’s legacy, while at the same time recognizing the incredible potential of the upcoming years. Father Donohue’s leadership in the arts, and his proven ability to forge positive and productive relationships with Villanova faculty, students, staff and alumni, will be of critical importance as we further Villanova’s reputation as one of the country’s great universities.

“We are all greatly indebted to Father Dobbin for his 18 remarkable years of exceptional leadership,” Drosdick continued. “We are very appreciative of all the significant advancements made by Villanova during his tenure. All one needs to do is tour our campus, engage in a conversation with students about our mission, review our national academic rankings and understand the outstanding qualifications of our student body, to realize the legacy he has left for Villanova.”

Added Herbert F. Aspbury ’67 A&S, vice chairman of the trustees and chair of the Presidential Special Committee, “Father Donohue is an extraordinary choice to become Villanova’s 32nd president. He combines significant academic strengths with demonstrated administrative skills and tremendous charisma. He also epitomizes Villanova’s values of Veritas, Unitas, Caritas (truth, unity and love) and serves as a great role model for students and alumni alike.”

The Very Rev. Donald F. Reilly, O.S.A., ’71 A&S, D. Min., Prior Provincial of the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova and a Villanova trustee, stated: “The Augustinians congratulate Father Donohue and extend their fraternal support and prayers during this exciting time for the University. He is well suited to carry on the Augustinian tradition that is at the very heart of Villanova.”

Father Donohue said, “I thank the Board of Trustees for the honor and responsibility of leading Villanova University. I look forward to working closely with Father Dobbin in preparing for a smooth transition.”

Father Donohue is one of four children of Mary Donohue and her husband, Morgan, who is deceased. A native of the Bronx, N.Y., he and his family moved to Detroit when he was 4 years old. When he was in the fifth grade, the family relocated to Royal Oak, Mich., where his mother and sister Patricia still reside. His brother Michael lives in Los Angeles. His other sister, Denise, died some years ago.

The incoming president was ordained a Roman Catholic priest in the Order of St. Augustine in 1979 and graduated from Villanova in 1975 with a concentration in theatre/communication arts. Father Donohue received an M.A. in theatre from The Catholic University of America in 1983. In 1985, he received a Master’s of Divinity degree from the Washington Theological Union. In 1992, he was awarded his Ph.D. in theatre from the University of Illinois, where he also received outstanding teaching honors.

“We enthusiastically look forward to working with Father Donohue to build on Father Dobbin’s legacy, while at the same time recognizing the incredible potential of the upcoming years.”
—John G. Drosdick ’65 Ch.E. Chairman, Villanova University Board of Trustees

Outgoing and Incoming Presidents Work Toward a Seamless Transition

BY MAUREEN MCKEW

Transitions between presidents in any organization can be either smooth or bumpy, depending on the level of cooperation and candor expressed between the outgoing and incoming chief executive.

At Villanova University, the emphasis definitely is on smoothness and collegiality, as the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58 A&S completes 18 years of service as University president and the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S succeeds him on June 1.

Father Donohue was elected by Villanova’s Board of Trustees on December 13, 2005. He said he was thoroughly shocked when he received the congratulatory call from John G. Drosdick ’65 C.E., chair of the trustees. He recalled the moment: “It was about 20 minutes after 10 in the morning. He [Drosdick] said something like ‘The board would like to
see you. Congratulations. You've been elected the next president. I felt as if the floor had dropped from beneath me.”

Father Donohue and Father Dobbin met after the election and have met several times since then to discuss the transition along with key issues that will become Father Donohue's responsibility. Father Dobbin stated, “I wanted to be sure that Father Donohue was completely comfortable with whatever plans were made. His whole attitude has been one of listening, observing and taking full advantage of the transition period.”

With Father Donohue's input, Villanova has created a process for the incoming president to be briefed by representatives of every major unit in the University. Leaders of each unit will contribute to a briefing book, which will contain an executive summary and issues for which the unit is responsible. The purpose of the book is to be a jumping-off point for in-depth discussions between Father Donohue and the various departments and offices of the University.

Father Donohue, of course, already is strongly identified with the University. The alumnus has been a faculty member since 1985 and is well known to students and alumni. As chair of the theatre department since 1992 and as an award-winning director of plays at Villanova Theatre, he is a recognized and admired figure in Philadelphia and the surrounding area. He has officiated at many weddings for alumni and intends to continue to preside at the weekend Eucharistic liturgies in the St. Thomas of Villanova Church.

Father Dobbin plans to introduce Father Donohue to key donors and members of the Steering Committee of the current capital campaign, Transforming Minds and Hearts: The Campaign for Villanova. He anticipates that Father Donohue's alumni chapter visits will probably begin next year. One of Father Donohue's first events after he takes office in June is to preside over the annual Alumni Reunion Weekend on June 9-11.

Father Donohue will continue with his teaching schedule for the Spring Semester and also will direct a production of the Broadway hit musical Urinetown at the Villanova Theatre. The show will run from March 21 through April 2. He realizes this may be his last theater production—for a while anyway. “Everyone has been telling me to watch out and take things slowly. Everything is going to be coming at me at once,” he said. “Directing a play takes at least five weeks of work, every night and every weekend. If I couldn’t give it my all, I wouldn’t want to do that.” He does, however, hold out the possibility of future productions once he has settled in.

Even as Father Donohue is immersing himself in Villanova's plans, projects and challenges, he has already placed a priority on continuing his predecessor's work in clarifying the University's identity. As an Augustinian friar, he will continue to bring the commitment and the spirituality of that community to the University. “This school was established for the particular reason of educating students in the Augustinian tradition; instilling that spirituality of St. Augustine—that sense of community, of friendship, of searching out and looking for God through other people; and of joining together those images of heart and mind that always have been central to the life of the community,” he said.

The presidential inauguration has been scheduled for September 8 (see box below). Look for details about that event and more about Father Donohue in upcoming issues of Villanova Magazine. One thing is certain. Given Father Donohue's creative talent and enthusiasm for involving not just students and faculty but people from all over the University, the inauguration should be a spectacular occasion. Father Dobbin has said he is looking forward to attending it.

As Father Dobbin's administration draws to an end, the president is planning the first sabbatical he has ever taken. As a tenured professor of theology, he is eager to return to teaching but, he said, he realizes that there have been many changes during the years he has been absent from the classroom. “I need to retool, not so much in theology but in pedagogy and in engaging academically with today's students. They might be brighter than ever but they come with a whole different set of classroom expectations,” he said.

An admitted techie, Father Dobbin has made a hobby of keeping up his reading on the latest advances in technology, and he looks forward to being in a “wired” teaching environment. (Villanova is among the schools listed in the recently published The Princeton Review's “Top 25 Most Connected Campuses.”) He also is eager to engage and exchange ideas with the new generation of students.

Apart from some time away for travel, Father Dobbin plans to spend his sabbatical at the Monastery. However, he will keep a low profile. “I will stay out of Father Donohue's hair. I have very strong convictions that a university president, like a pastor, should get out of his successor's way. I'll be available should he wish to confer with me, but I doubt that will often be necessary. I am confident that he will be a very fine president for this University. He is very bright and has all that energy and creativity. And he is very dedicated to the University and to all the people here.”

**Date Announced for Presidential Inauguration**

A committee to help plan the inauguration of Villanova University’s 32nd president, the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A, ’75 A&S, has announced that the formal ceremony will take place on the afternoon of September 8.

St. Thomas of Villanova Day, the annual celebration of the University’s mission and heritage, which normally would be observed on that date, will be commemorated again in the fall of 2007.

The inauguration committee’s chair, Kathleen J. Byrnes, J.D., ’82 A&S, associate vice president for Student Life, will be working with key units on campus to organize a series of activities honoring this important Villanova milestone.

“He is very bright and has all that energy and creativity.”

—Father Dobbin, speaking of his successor, Father Donohue
Dr. Desmond Celebrates Award at Luncheon

BY SARAH DEFILIPPIS '06 A&S

Villanova University’s Office of Academic Affairs sponsored a luncheon to honor Dr. Mary E. Desmond on October 26, 2005, in the Connellly Center. A biology professor, Desmond conducts research in developmental biology and bioethics. The event, which celebrated Desmond’s receiving Villanova’s 2005 Outstanding Faculty Research Award, was spearheaded by the office of Dr. Gerald M. Long, dean of Graduate Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58 A&S, University president, had presented the award to Desmond during Commencement last May. Given annually to a full-time faculty member with exemplary scholarly activity, the award is one of the most distinguished honors for a Villanova faculty scholar.

Sarah DeFilippis ’06 A&S is an intern in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs. An English major and education minor, she plans to pursue a career in publishing.

Nursing Lecture Details Tsunami Relief

BY AMY SIRIANNI ’06 A&S

The former chief of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps, Brig. Gen. William Bester, USA, ANC (Ret.), delivered the 28th Annual Distinguished Lecture in Nursing on November 9, 2005. In his talk, “Waves of Relief: Medical and Nursing Support for the Tsunami Victims,” Bester described his experience as the leader of the nursing staff on board the U.S. Navy hospital ship USNS Mercy while stationed off the coast of Banda Aceh, Indonesia, following the December 2004 tsunami.

The disaster killed upwards of 140,000 people in that region alone and wiped out local hospitals. In early 2005, while in route, Bester, along with the medical director, planned the workings of the floating hospital with 100 beds, two operating rooms and 10 ICUs. For the first time in disaster relief, the medical team included both military and civilian personnel, organized through a partnership with Project Hope. More than half of the 200 volunteers were nurses. Other volunteers included physicians, oral surgeons, veterinarians, optometrists, social workers, dieticians, translators and administrative personnel. They worked in two rotating groups for several weeks.

The Mercy team first addressed the injuries related to the tsunami then tended to injury and sickness resulting from the region’s poor-to-nonexistent health care. Patients were triaged on land and transported via helicopter to the ship. Tsunami victims were permitted one family member as an escort, and many of these family members were infected with tuberculosis and needed to be isolated.

Bester volunteered while on leave from the University of Texas at Austin’s School of Nursing, where he is a professor of clinical nursing.

Amy Sirianni ’06 A&S is a returning intern in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs. A communication major with a concentration in public relations and a minor in English, she plans to pursue a career in public relations upon graduation.

Teaching Engineering in the Middle East on a Fulbright

BY DR. DOTRHY W. SKAF

Dr. Dorothy W. Skaf, associate professor of chemical engineering at Villanova University, was awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture at the University of Qatar during 2005-06. She is teaching in Qatar’s chemical engineering department.

Skaf has been a member of Villanova’s faculty since 1988. Her research interests are alloy coatings, solar cell development and flammability. Her teaching interests include process control, process modeling and optimization, and numerical analysis.

Qatar University, founded in 1977, overlooks the Persian Gulf in northern Doha, Qatar’s capital. The university’s engineering, natural sciences and business courses are in English.

Skaf is one of approximately 800 U.S. faculty members and professionals who are traveling abroad to some 140 countries for 2005-06 through the Fulbright Scholar Program. Established in 1946 under legislation introduced by the late Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, the program builds mutual understanding between the people of the United States and those of other countries.

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VCAN Connects Communications Alumni with Students

BY KATE SZUMANSKI ’95 A&S, ’97 M.A.

Villanova University’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (A&S), in conjunction with the department of communication, has launched VCAN, the Villanova Communication Alumni Network. VCAN is designed to connect alumni working in advertising, film, graphic arts, journalism, marketing, media and public relations. The goal is to facilitate mentorship relationships, career networking opportunities and internship opportunities for Villanova students.

VCAN hosted its inaugural event in Center City Philadelphia on October 17, 2005. The well-attended event at Davio’s Northern Italian Restaurant attracted Villanovans in fields ranging from public relations, marketing and journalism to corporate and nonprofit communications.

This spring, VCAN plans to kick-off its New York City regional group.

“The purpose of VCAN is to help our alums build lasting relationships with their colleagues in the communication field,” according to William L. Cowen, faculty director of VCAN. Cowen is owner and founding president of Metrospective Communications, based in Philadelphia. He teaches public relations at Villanova.

Cowen added, “We want our alums to stay connected so that they can serve as a resource for each other and our current students who will be looking for internships and jobs in the not-so-distant future.”

Villanova representatives attending the event included Gary R. Olsen ’74 A&S, ’80 G.S., associate vice president for Alumni Affairs and executive director of the Villanova University Alumni Association; Dr. R. Bryan Crable, chair of the department of communication; Mario J. D’Ignazio, assistant dean of A&S; Dr. Robert DeVos, associate dean of A&S; and John O’Leary, assistant professor of communication. In addressing the group, Crable, O’Leary and Olsen expressed their gratitude to alumni willing to get involved in VCAN. They also emphasized their pride in the strong sense of community that links all Villanova graduates.

Noted Crable, “The field of communication has become more and more central to contemporary life, and the opportunities for students trained in the theory and practice of communication have simply exploded over that past 15 years. The communication department at Villanova has strategically moved with these developments, and has really grown in terms of faculty, students and curriculum. We see the VCAN project as another way in which our department is on the leading edge of developments in our field.”

Crable added, “It was great to see our graduates at the kickoff, whether they graduated last year or 15 years ago. It really speaks to the sense of community our graduates have, and I’m very excited about the future of this program.”

Noted Olsen, “The Alumni Association is looking forward to having VCAN join our international network of geographic and constituent chapters. VCAN will further strengthen the power of the Villanova Alumni Network.”

For more information on VCAN, or to launch a network in your city, please contact Cowen at william.cowen@villanova.edu.

Kate Szumanski ’95 A&S, ’97 M.A. interned for two years in what is now the Office of Communication and Public Affairs. She is the director of college communications for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. In 2005, she was awarded a master’s degree from the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism.

Workshop Focuses on Industrial Energy Efficiency

BY LISA DITURO ’06 A&S

Villanova University showcased its state-of-the-art engineering facilities on November 15, 2005, when it hosted an industrial training workshop in CEER, the Center for Engineering Education and Research.

The one-day workshop, Fundamentals of Compressed Air Systems, was geared to helping industrial facilities be more efficient about one of their most expensive utilities. The sessions guided them on how to be more profitable, achieve higher productivity, reduce downtime, earn greater energy savings and increase product quality.

Bill Scales led the workshop focused on increasing efficiency in compressed air systems. He has been involved in the air compressor industry since 1952. CEO of Scales Air Compressor Corporation, he co-authored the Best Practices for Compressed Air Systems manual.

The workshop was co-sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy’s Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, which works with a wide array of state, community, industry and university partners. The federal office promotes a diverse portfolio of energy technologies to encourage energy efficiency and clean, renewable energy. Other co-sponsors were Sunoco, Pennsylvania’s Department of Environmental Protection and Villanova’s Center for the Environment.

Lisa DiTuro ’06 A&S is an intern in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs. An English major, she hopes to pursue a journalism career.
Students from Former Soviet Countries Tell of Transition to Democracy

BY LISA DITURO ’06 A&S

Dr. Jeffrey W. Hahn, director of the Russian Area Studies Concentration (RASCON) program and professor of political science at Villanova University, moderated a roundtable discussion in the St. Augustine Center for the Liberal Arts on October 25, 2005. It was titled, “After the Fall: How Have Things Changed in Four Former Communist Countries?”

This was precisely the question answered by four Villanova graduate students whose homelands are Bulgaria, Kyrgyzstan, Serbia and Armenia.

“There was a theme common to all four presenters,” Hahn said. “Each talked of predominant conflict, change and uncertainties in their post-communist countries. They faced catastrophic upheavals, hardships, economic problems and shortages.”

While several were too young to recall the socialist lifestyle, all vividly recounted the turmoil of change that they faced.

Igor Logvineko of Kyrgyzstan talked about a “painful, insecure environment of growing up.” The older generation feared democracy and the “evils” of the West that the fall of communism would bring. He said his parents were part of the generation that felt it was re-writing history. The younger generation, he explained, welcomed democracy and the freedom from an “oppressive regime that incarcerated hundreds of thousands of people for their beliefs.”

Lilit Poghossian of Armenia remembered being allocated only two hours of electricity per day. While she called Armenia’s transition a “smooth political” one, the economic aspect was harsh.

A native of Serbia, Goran Peic experienced his country’s similar economic transition, although the period was not as peaceful. Peic called it a “painful transition” that brought with it a “profound sense of isolation and poverty.”

Bulgaria’s transition occurred later, so Konstantin Guncchev could remember the roundtable talks on television about what his country should do next. The economy suffered greatly, and he had to wait in line for two to three hours at the grocery store. “Most young people have left the country since the change,” Guncchev said, and emigration is one of the biggest problems Bulgaria now faces.

The post-communist period in each of these four countries has been extremely trying, especially for the younger “Y generation,” Logvineko said it best: “When you don’t know what’s going to happen tomorrow, and when that happens for a lot of tomorrows, that really takes a toll.”

Executive M.B.A. Program Ranked Globally

BY LISA DITURO ’06 A&S

Villanova University’s Executive M.B.A. program placed 60th in the world in the Financial Times annual ranking released on October 24, 2005. This ranking of Executive M.B.A. programs is based upon three broad areas—career progress, school diversity and idea generation. It weighs various performance criteria, including alumni salary and salary increases, aims achieved, work experience, number of international faculty and faculty credentials and research.

The international Financial Times, published in the United Kingdom with numerous foreign language editions, examined Executive M.B.A. programs throughout the world to put together its list of the top 75. A relatively young program, Villanova’s Executive M.B.A. program finished in front of several established and highly esteemed programs, including those of Vanderbilt, Pepperdine and Wake Forest business schools.

“This program has only been around for three years and it found itself in an international ranking,” said James M. Danko, dean of the College of Commerce and Finance. “That is a positive mark and it is just an entry point.”

Among Executive M.B.A. programs in the United States, the Financial Times placed Villanova’s 34th overall and ninth in terms of participants’ work experience. Villanova placed second in the career progress rank category (seniority in their companies) and also second in the women board members category. The average salary three years after graduation and the percentage of women faculty members also landed Villanova in the top 20 among U.S. institutions offering Executive M.B.A. programs. All are outstanding achievements for such a young program.

This is the first time that Villanova’s Executive M.B.A. program has been recognized by the Financial Times, and according to Danko, it will not be the last. “This is a notable achievement,” the dean said, “but it is only the first step in achieving even greater recognition for our business school.”
Villanova Unleashes Fantastic Fall Festival for Special Olympics

BY LAUREN HUMANN ’06 A&S

On November 11-13, 2005, Villanova University opened its arms and fields to its 17th Fall Festival for Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA). With the skies clear and the temperature just brisk enough, one could not have selected a more suitable fall weather weekend.

The excitement began on Friday with the arrival of approximately 1,000 athletes, trained and ready for competition. In the evening, the opening ceremony was emceed by none other than NBC 10’s John Clark, sports anchor. The Pavilion was decorated with the 2005 committee’s safari theme, “Unleash the Competition.” Speakers included the 2005 Miss Pennsylvania, Nicole Brewer, and Pennsylvania Gov. Edward G. Rendell.

One feature of the evening recognized special SOPA figures, including the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58, University president. He was named one of the “35 Faces of Special Olympics Pennsylvania” for his instrumental role in bringing SOPA to Villanova in 1988. It was under Father Dobbin’s leadership, just a year after his inauguration, that the student committee was formed to plan and manage the annual festival.

Today, Villanova has the largest annual student-run Special Olympics program in the world. Christine Quisenberry, assistant director of student development and University advisor to the program remarks, “It’s amazing to me the amount of time, effort and heart that all the students put into the program for an entire year. It really reflects our mission of transforming minds and hearts, for they are truly transforming themselves through this process.” Seeing the shining faces of triumph worn by every athlete was the only reward these dedicated students needed for their entire year of planning and an exhausting weekend.

The heart and effort of the 75 students on the 2005 committee were evident at every turn throughout the weekend. The students planned six areas of competition. Five of them (bocce, long distance
running, power lifting, soccer and volleyball) took place on campus. The Roller Skating took place at Skate 309 in Hatfield, Pa. For the first time, the long distance runners had a winding track plotted throughout the main campus. Mendel and Austin fields were packed with soccer players and fans all Saturday and Sunday.

New this year, Fall Festival also hosted the 2005 National Games Training Camp for Special Olympics athletes competing in aquatics, athletics, basketball, bowling, golf, gymnastics, softball and tennis. The Olympics would not be complete without a celebration, served perfectly by "Olympic Town" in the Quad, which buzzed with activity throughout the weekend. To make the ceremonies even more special, the committee converted Alumni Gym into a venue for athletes to receive their medals. Enthusiastic student volunteers announced names of the proud winners.

Incredibly, the approximately 1,000 athletes who competed were supported by 2,500 volunteers. Fall Festival director Matthew Harris ’06 A&S, a political science major, reflects, “Besides the athletes themselves, the most amazing thing about the weekend were the volunteers, because without all of their hard work and enthusiasm, this weekend would not have been nearly as successful.” His dedication to the program throughout his years at Villanova was evidenced by how smoothly the program ran and by the many new ideas put into place by the committee this year.

Do not expect the committee to dwell on this year’s success, however, for the planning of the 18th Fall Festival has already begun. The 2006 director, Danica Feustel ’07 M.E., is in the initial stages of selecting next year’s committee.

Each year, Villanova comes alive with the arrival of the remarkable athletes of SOPA. To experience the magic for yourself, mark your calendar for November 3-5, when the 2006 Fall Festival will take the campus by storm.

Lauren Humann ’06 A&S is an intern in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs. A history major and French minor, she plans to pursue a career in law or politics.

Lecture Sheds Light on Our Common Ancestors

By Amanda Roselli ’06 A&S

Dr. Theodore G. Schurr, biological anthropologist at the University of Pennsylvania, discussed “The Expansion of Homo Sapiens from Africa to the Rest of the World” in his lecture on November 10, 2005. It was part of the anthropology lecture series sponsored by Villanova University’s Office for Mission Effectiveness with other co-sponsors.

Schurr is interested in the unwritten story that predates books, parchment and clay tablets. He has explored DNA and the bones left behind by our ancestral race. He explained some of the new, molecular techniques developed to track the global journey of our common African ancestors, a journey that began some 60,000 years ago.

As head of the North American branch of the Genographic Project sponsored by the National Geographic Society, Schurr took DNA samples from members of the Seaconke Wampanoag tribe to ascertain when their ancestors arrived in North America. In the 1600s, written records were limited and oral records were lost as tribe members died during the Pilgrims’ war on them. Schurr hopes that projects like this will help us understand how and when our ancestors emigrated to various countries.

His talk was the third in a series that will continue through April. All lectures take place in the St. Augustine Center for the Liberal Arts. Visit www90.homepage.villanova.edu/lowell.gustafson/anthropology/.

Amanda Roselli ’06 A&S is an Honors and English major with a concentration in writing and rhetoric. She is an intern in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs.

Dr. Theodore G. Schurr of the University of Pennsylvania explained the molecular methods of learning our ancestral stories.
Committee Unveils Blueprint for Diversity

BY BARBARA K. CLEMENT

Senior administrators representing faculty, staff and students gathered at the Villanova Conference Center on January 31 to review progress in plans aimed at creating a more diverse community at Villanova University.

The process began in January 2005 under the leadership of Dr. Teresa “Terry” Nance, assistant vice president for Multicultural Affairs; Dr. John M. Kelley, executive director of OPTIR (Office of Planning, Training and Institutional Research); James Trainer and Dane Hewlett of OPTIR; George Walter, associate dean of University Admission and Financial Assistance; and Dr. Edwin L. Goff, director of the Honors Program and associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

During the past year, a blueprint for diversity was developed using information provided by 17 University departments and offices. According to Trainer, the Diversity Planning Committee carefully considered all of the information gathered, nearly 100 goals, which then were grouped into five general areas of activity. The result: a plan that when funded will cost about $7 million.

Progress already has been made in attaining some of the goals, noted Dr. John R. Johannes, vice president for Academic Affairs. “From 1996-2001, 33 percent of new hires were female. In the past five years, 50 percent of new hires have been female,” he said. “In 2001,” he continued, “48 members of the faculty fell into the category of traditionally underrepresented, compared with 61 for fall 2005—an improvement of 27 percent.”

The half-day conference included presentations by two noted speakers. The Rev. J-Glenn Murray, S.J., director of the Office for Pastoral Liturgy for the Diocese of Cleveland, emphasized the “Catholic” in diversity. “It is not outside,” he said, “It is integral to the work we do as a Catholic institution.” Dr. Thomas Poole, associate vice provost for Educational Equity at Penn State University, reviewed Penn State’s strategic planning process for diversity. Poole noted the mistakes that had been made and the subsequent progress since the plan’s inception.

The conference concluded with Goff and Nance presenting the diversity blueprint to the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58, University president. “There is no question about whether this plan will be implemented,” Father Dobbin said. “It will.”

At Luncheon Reception, Villanova Dedicates Picotte Hall at Dundale

Since his days as a student, Michael B. Picotte ’69 C&F has remained a loyal son of Villanova and a generous supporter of Villanova University. His generosity was formally acknowledged on October 17, 2005, when Picotte Hall at Dundale, the stately stone mansion that graces the West Campus, was dedicated in memory of his parents, Bernard and Kathleen Picotte, who taught their children love of God, family and education.

Picotte is a member of both the Steering Committee for Transforming Minds and Hearts: The Campaign for Villanova and the University’s Board of Trustees. As chair of the trustees’ Physical Facilities Committee, he took a particular interest in preserving the unique character of the historic home that most recently had been known as Dundale Mansion.

Through a significant gift of $1 million, Picotte and his wife, Margaret, have helped the University transform this mansion into an elegant venue for special occasions while maintaining the integrity of its historic interior and exterior features. The Picottes’ gift also has provided for upgrades to the technological capabilities of the Office of University Development, which is housed in Picotte Hall at Dundale.

On the morning of the dedication, members of the Picotte family gathered with Villanova faculty, staff and students to dedicate Picotte Hall at Dundale in a brief ceremony, followed by a luncheon at the campus landmark. The Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58, University president, welcomed the guests and noted the history of the Dundale estate, the mansion and its significance to the University.

“Picotte Hall at Dundale serves as one of the University’s most important facilities for creating and nurturing lasting partnerships with all of its constituencies,” Father Dobbin said. “With the Picotte’s gift, Villanova has been able to maintain and update this valuable building, preserving an architectural treasure and providing a gracious setting for University events and fundraising activities.”

More than just an architectural landmark, for Michael Picotte, Picotte Hall at Dundale represents the importance...
of family. While researching the history of the mansion, he identified very strongly with the love and togetherness exhibited by the Morris family, the estate’s founders. He saw within them a reflection of his own family upbringing.

“I am very fortunate to be surrounded by all of you,” Picotte said, addressing his many family members who attended the dedication, “and I am grateful to my mom and dad who shared the importance and the pure joy of family.” Both of his parents faced adversity but made great sacrifices to instill in their children a strong sense of faith, a loyalty to family and a commitment to education—values that have defined the Picotte family.

These values also helped shape Picotte’s career and have motivated the couple to be active members of the community. He is president and CEO of The Picotte Companies, the leading commercial real-estate company in the Albany, N.Y., area. Together, Michael and Margaret Picotte are involved with many organizations that provide education and human services. They also direct two charitable foundations that provide funding for education, human services, arts and health care. The Picottes are the parents of three children: Nicole, Joseph and Michelle.

In addition to maintaining and upgrading Picotte Hall at Dundale, the couple’s gift will serve as a way for them to express thanks and admiration for the remarkable strides that Villanova has made in recent years.

“Under the leadership of Father Dobbin, the University has reached a new level of academic achievement,” Michael Picotte said. “I am still in wonderment of the significant progress that has been made, and I believe Villanova’s greatness has just begun.”

A Stately Home, an Elegant Venue

The history of both the Dundale estate and Picotte Hall at Dundale dates back to the manufacturing boom of the late 19th century. The estate was established during a period when Philadelphia’s elite built vast country homes as a respite from urban life for their families. Industrialist Israel Morris II bought the property in 1874 and named it Dundale, meaning brown valley, after observing its rolling fields and woods. To this day, a tall stone marker with “Dundale” etched across the top exists along County Line Road, indicating the original entrance to the estate.

In the early years, the Morris family lived in Philadelphia but used one of the estate’s farmhouses as a summer cottage. As the family grew, Morris decided to build additional houses for his sons. In 1890, he constructed the largest of the homes. This 35-room mansion (now Picotte Hall at Dundale) was constructed by the famous architect Addison Hutton. It had 14 bedrooms, four bathrooms, a parlor, a music room, a library and a dining room. The eclectic design reflects a broad range of inspirations, from the Queen Anne windows, to the mix of Country French and Pennsylvania Dutch that mark the exterior, to the hint of Colonial influences on both the exterior and interior.

After this first mansion, the estate continued to grow. By 1920, the property had eight homes, each one added by a new generation seeking to live in the country. The last member of the Morris family to reside in what is now Picotte Hall at Dundale was Charles Christopher Morris, who passed away in 1971. Most of the land was then divided and sold, but the mansion and surrounding property stayed in the Morris family’s possession. Through their generosity, it housed Villanova students and priests until the University purchased the mansion and 38 acres of the remaining estate in 1978.

Since its acquisition by the University, this stately dwelling has welcomed many special people and events. In 1978, it was selected as the Vassar Club Designer’s Show House. It was carefully restored in 1994. Today, Picotte Hall at Dundale will continue to serve as an elegant setting for special events, as well as the home of the Office of University Development.

Top Executive Looks at the “Wired” World

BY HEATHER STICKNEY ’06 A&S

John P. Jones III ’72 Ch.E., chairman, president and CEO of Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., on January 18 addressed the Villanova community on globalization’s impact on business and engineering. He was the first speaker in the Distinguished Speaker Series, held in celebration of the College of Engineering’s 100th anniversary. His lecture took place in the Center for Engineering Education and Research (CEER).

Air Products, a leading industrial gas producer, is a Fortune 500 company with headquarters in England, Singapore and Pennsylvania’s Lehigh Valley. It has 20,000 employees worldwide. The company’s products and services include semiconductor materials, home health-care services and advanced coatings and adhesives.

Since joining Air Products after his Villanova graduation in 1972, Jones, a chemical engineering alumnus, has witnessed many changes in business and engineering. Noting that 50 percent of Air Products’ business is international, he emphasized the importance of adapting to changing times. Globalization...
has increased rapidly in the last five to seven years, prompting Air Products to act, think and compete globally, he said. He has implemented a criterion of treating all of his employees the same and has establishing a uniform work standard. By also using a single SAP business process system for its locations in more than 30 countries, Jones ensures that Air Products will remain ahead of the curve.

Jones believes the one positive result to come out of the “dot com” era is the world’s “wired” connectivity. Knowledge can be moved around the world more fluidly, allowing for improved international cooperation.

To become better prepared for the global working environment, Jones offered students a list of suggestions. Students should develop more than just a solid G.P.A. and should immerse themselves in hands-on experiences. Enhancing both

communication and interpersonal skills is an important counterpart to sharpening technical skills. Students—and companies—should develop “a sense of other” and be attuned to the needs of their communities. To continually discover new innovations, students need to think and act like entrepreneurs. Most importantly, Jones told the students, never compromise your integrity. He reminded them to be happy; flexibility is good, he said, but always follow your heart. He cautioned them never to ignore reality, explaining that if he and his colleagues had ignored the reality of globalization, Air Products would not be the competitor it is today.

Heather Stickney ’06 A&S is an intern in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs. A communication major with a sociology minor, she plans to pursue a career in public relations.

25 Years of Advancing Graduate Education for Nurses

By Ann Barrow McKenzie ’86 B.S.N., ’91 M.S.N.

This year, as Villanova University’s College of Nursing celebrates the 25th anniversary of its Graduate Nursing Program, the College recognized the milestone at two events. At the 28th Annual Distinguished Lecture in Nursing on November 9, 2005 (see page 17), a timeline was displayed, several graduates offered testimonials and alumni were recognized during a reception. On March 30, the program’s annual Research Symposium, co-sponsored by the Alpha Nu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, focused on the research accomplishments of graduates.

Responding to a need in the professional community, the College established the Graduate Nursing Program in 1980, shortly after the arrival of Dr. M. Louise Fitzpatrick, R.N., FAAN as dean (she is now Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor). The program was launched by offering the M.S.N. degree through two role preparation concentrations—Nursing Administration and Nursing Education—and focused on developing leaders in those areas. From the first grant that helped establish the Graduate Nursing Program a quarter century ago, the program has grown to include:

- a Ph.D. in Nursing,
- seven master’s degree concentrations,
- six post-master’s certificate options and
- nearly 1,050 nurses who can call themselves Villanova M.S.N. graduates. These nurses now operate hospitals and health-care systems, nursing departments and their own businesses. They are deans of nursing schools in the United States and abroad. Around the country and the world, they influence education standards, research a variety of issues, teach patients and nurses, manage countless patient cases, create and run clinics, and deliver safe anesthesia care. In short, they are leaders and scholars in their fields who have been recognized with numerous honors.

Among the advances since the program’s early days, several stand out. In 1992, students from Jordan and the Palestinian West Bank arrived to begin the M.S.N. program, followed soon after by students from the People’s Republic of China and the Sultanate of Oman. International students not only have enhanced the student body but have extended the imprint of Villanova Nursing around the world. In 1993, the College’s addition of the nation’s first Clinical Case Management option in an M.S.N. program came about through a federal grant. The College also has expanded its M.S.N. options with the inclusion of three Nurse Practitioner concentrations (Geriatric, Pediatric and Adult), plus a highly
**Graduate School Open House Is a Success**

**BY AMY SIRIANNI ’06 A&S**

More than 500 prospective graduate, part-time undergraduate and Continuing Studies students attended Villanova University’s Graduate and Part-Time Undergraduate Open House on October 18, 2005. The attendance increased by nearly 100 this year compared to the past two years. The departments of biology, English and psychology, along with the College of Nursing, all reported more prospective students at the event, which took place in the Connelly Center.

“The various seminars and campus tours were generally well attended, offering the visitors a chance to see the campus and learn about the excellent programs at Villanova,” said Dr. Robert D. Stokes, assistant vice president for Part-Time and Continuing Studies in the Office of Academic Affairs.

Much of the success, according to Stokes, is due to the Advertising and Marketing Committee, which includes representatives from each college and school.

“It is truly a Villanova community event in that the Open House is planned by representatives from all the colleges, as well as staff from areas such as Communication and Public Affairs,” Stokes said.

Dr. Gerald M. Long, dean of Graduate Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, noted, “What I have been most pleased with in talking to the program directors is that not only has the number of applicants increased, but the quality of those applicants has increased as well.”

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**Villanova Receives Campus Safety Award**

**BY ANDREW SHEEHAN ’06 A&S**

The Health and Wellness Education Program at Villanova University was awarded the Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Award during ceremonies on November 15, 2005, in the campus Center for Health and Wellness Education.

This award was created by Howard and Connie Clery, the parents of Jeanne Clery, following the freshman’s rape and murder in 1986 in a Lehigh University dorm room. The award, given by Security On Campus, Inc., a nonprofit organization founded by her parents after her death, recognizes organizations and individuals for taking an active role in promoting awareness and personal safety on campuses.

The award recognizes Villanova’s numerous educational efforts in campus safety. Foremost is that Villanova has the distinction of being the first school to require that all freshmen complete the AlcoholEdu program. This online course teaches how alcohol interacts with the body and explains the strength of different beverages and the effects various degrees of consumption can have on an individual. The award also recognizes the center’s P.O.W.E.R. (Peers Offering Wellness Education and Resources) program for its “exceptional” contributions.

Andrew Sheehan ’06 A&S is an English major with a concentration in Irish Studies. He hopes to pursue a career in public relations upon graduation.
Acting Beyond its Means

For students behind the scenes or in the spotlight, Villanova can be the prologue to Hollywood and the Great White Way.

By Sarah DeFilippis '06 A&S

The Villanova University Graduate Theatre Program has come a long way since its obscure beginnings in 1958. When Dr. Dick Duprey, an English professor, launched the department, it served as an extracurricular activity for students with a passion for the stage. They would assemble in the Field House, performing plays with what little space they had.

Over the past years, the department quickly gained attention for its commitment to excellence and its high level of theatrical achievement. The graduate theatre program took off in the 1980s under the direction of Dr. James J. Christy '65 M.A. With the creation of the Villanova Summer Shakespeare Company, the theatre department was applauded by critics throughout the decade.

Almost half a century from its beginnings, the department stands as a highly celebrated, award-winning program. Villanova Theatre has earned six Barrymore Awards and more than 35 nominations since 1995. While the theatre program currently lacks a formal building, its continued success is apparent through the attendance at its shows and the numerous accomplishments of its graduates.

Since 1992, the theatre department has been headed by the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., '75 A&S. (In December 2005, the associate professor became president-elect of the University.)

Each year, Villanova Theatre offers four plays and welcomes over 7,000 audience members and 700 subscribers to its 185-seat thrust stage in Vasey Hall. Popular Philadelphia media outlets frequently review its performances. Villanova Theatre actively participates in the American College Theatre Festival, the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance and the Theatre Alliance of Greater Philadelphia.

The M.A. in theatre program, one of only a few such master's programs in the United States, has 43 students, seven faculty members and six staff members. While the department typically accepts 10 to 12 graduate students a year, a record 18 students were accepted for 2005-06.

According to Father Donohue, the success of the program largely can be credited to its “merging the practical and theoretical. This combination is a unique feature that really sells our program to prospective graduate students.” Students attain expansive knowledge in all things theatre related. They take core courses in script analysis, dramaturgy, theatrical tradition and dramatic vision and form, then complement their learning through electives in acting, directing, design, voice and diction, and playwriting. Another key component to the program provides students with the opportunity to conduct a specialized study in an area of artistic and research interest.

Students who might not want to earn the M.A. degree can pursue a Graduate Certificate in Practical Theatre to gain expertise. While there is no theatre major (though the department hopes to initiate one), undergraduates eager to hit the stage can minor in theatre.

Students participate in Villanova Theatre’s storied productions—musicals and plays that always seem to stir buzz among savvy theatre-goers in the greater Philadelphia area. When walking past Vasey Hall, passers-by often take a moment to pause, watching students transport a tree into the theatre or construct a set. During the height of the theatre season, students can be seen belting out high notes, performing monologues and strutting their dance moves in the style of the late Bob Fosse. By becoming active in all aspects of the shows and learning alongside a full-time production staff, they gain hands-on insight into technical theatre, stage management and acting.

Transformed on Villanova’s stage

Andrew Belser ’87 M.A., artistic director of The Gravity Project at Juniata College, recalled the significance of his active participation as a graduate student. “Some of my fondest memories of Villanova Theatre were working on pieces in Vasey with Jim Christy. I was in a fabulous production of Spring’s Awakening back in 1983. It was a transforming experience for me to work with a director with such clear and focused vision.” Christy, who chaired the department for 14 years, has been a faculty member at Villanova for 39 years. In October 2005, the Theatre Alliance of Greater Philadelphia honored him with its Lifetime Achievement Award.

Belser also noted the inspiration of directing Father Donohue in the 1987 production of A Christmas Carol, two years after Father Donohue had become a faculty member: “He was the Ghost of Christmas Present and he was, shall we say...present! He was completely in the moment—dancing, eating, wearing a big fat suit and just a huge spirit in the piece.”

Nurturing success

After Father Donohue became chair in 1992, the theatre department reached even greater heights of critical acclaim. Since 1995, Villanova Theatre has been...
nominated for at least one Barrymore every year, ranging from Outstanding Musical Direction and Costume to Lead Actress and Ensemble Cast. The Barrymore Awards for Excellence in Theatre are presented annually by the Theatre Alliance of Greater Philadelphia. Villanova Theatre's 1997 production of Angels in America, Part II: Perestroika earned eight nominations and won for Outstanding Ensemble Performance, Outstanding Direction of a Play (for Christy and Harriet Power, associate professor) and Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Play (for Maureen Torsney-Weir). In 2002, the razzle dazzle Chicago brought home the Barrymore for Outstanding Direction of a Musical (for Father Donohue), and a total of nine nominations.

To the stage…and big screen
The theatrical success stories stretch beyond the University's hallowed halls. Villanovans have permeated all areas of the entertainment business, from teaching and stage direction to Broadway and film. Some students became interested in the performing arts while majoring in other areas as undergraduates.

Maria Bello ’89 A&S may be the most renowned Villanovan in the business. She's now busy filming Oliver Stone's “World Trade Center,” in which she plays Donna McLoughlin (Nicholas Cage), one of the last two Port Authority officers to be rescued after 9/11. At Villanova, Bello majored in political science, her eyes set on law school. Taking acting classes at Villanova sparked the undergraduate's interest in theatre. After being cast in several off-Broadway productions, among them The Killer Inside Me, Urban Planning and Small Town Girls with Big Problems, Bello began appearing on countless television series, including a major stint on “ER.” During her career, the Norristown, Pa., native has had roles in more than 20 films, from “Coyote Ugly” to “A History of Violence” and “Flicka,” to be released this year.

Like Bello, Greg Rikaart ’99 A&S also discovered his desire to act after taking theatre classes as an undergraduate. Also a political science major, he minored in English and communication. Once he reached his senior year, Rikaart had no interest in pursuing a career in his field of study, so he stacked his last semesters with acting courses and decided to move out to Los Angeles for a Q&A). Actor and writer Andrew Davoli ’95 A&S also turned to acting as an undergraduate. In season three of “The Sopranos,” viewers watched his demise over four episodes as Dino Zerelli, the young mobster. Davoli also appeared on “CSI: Miami” and as Jake Perini in HBO's recent “Warm Springs” about Franklin D. Roosevelt's search for a miracle cure for his polio. Davoli has appeared in numerous films, from “The Yards” to “Knockaround Guys.” He also wrote the script for his short film “Brando from the Neck Down” (2004).

Richard “Rick” Holmes, who completed coursework in the graduate theatre program, has been enjoying success on the Broadway stage. Last fall, he was in The Pillowman alongside Jeff Goldblum. In the national tour of the Broadway hit Cabaret, Holmes portrayed Sally Bowles' lover, Clifford Bradshaw. The actor’s other notable stage performances have been in Major Barbara, The Deep Blue Sea, Timon of Athens, Saint Joan and The Government Inspector. His acting expertise also has landed him roles in the Public Theatre, the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts and the New York Shakespeare Festival's Othello and Richard III. As if the bright lights in the big city weren't enough, Holmes appeared in the films “Melinda and Melinda” and “The Stepford Wives” and in television shows, among them “Law and Order,” “Talk to Me,” “The City” and “The Petrified Forest.” He'll be touring nationally as Sir Lancelot in Monty Python's Spamalot.

Dana Amendola '84 M.A. went on to become vice president of operations for Disney Theatrical Productions Ltd., supervising the operations of theatres around the world for Disney’s The Lion King, Aida and Beauty and the Beast. His office is at New York City's New Amsterdam Theatre, home of The Lion King. Amendola wrote A Day at the New Amsterdam Theatre (2004, Disney...
Several theatre graduates have formed their own theatre companies. John Doyle ’88 M.A. and Randall Wise ’88 M.A. started the Iron Age Theatre company in Philadelphia right after graduation, and serve as its co-directors. David M. Keller ’89 M.A. is the artistic director and co-founder of Act Out Theatre in Woodstown, N.J.

Jack Gilhooley ’64 M.A. has made a name as a playwright, as has Michael Hollinger ’89 M.A., assistant professor of theatre who teaches playwriting at Villanova. Villanova Theatre last fall produced *Incorruptible*, Hollinger’s darkly comedic look at what happens at a 13th-century French monastery in desperate financial straits. Gilhooley, who lives in Sarasota, Fla., has had many plays produced in New York City, as well as nationally and internationally. In October 2005 he attended the world premiere of his play, *Shooters*, at the Focus Theatre in Dublin, where the dark comedy received critical praise. Among the actors who have performed in Gilhooley’s plays are Tommie Lee Jones and John Lithgow.

To cite the accomplishments of everyone who has studied theatre at Villanova would be impossible. Their contributions to the stage, television, film and teaching have been extensive, and the list of their accolades seems to go on for miles.

**The next act**

Even though the theatre program’s successes are expansive, the department still looks to improve and expand. Ever since his arrival, Father Donohue has been hoping to create a new arts facility to “showcase the incredible talent of our students both in and out of the department,” he said. While the theatre program is well known, Father Donohue finds it needs both more funding and a space to call its own: “Our greatest lack is a space dedicated to fostering the creativity of students in the arts. There really isn’t a place for students to express themselves through the arts; there’s no specific place for a musician or dance ensemble to practice.” The fact that Villanova’s theatre program has achieved such success without a formal arts building is a true testament to the talent and abilities of students, faculty and staff.

### Coming This Spring to Villanova Theatre

**Urinetown**

March 21-April 2  
**Directed by the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S**

The Tony Award-winning musical takes an irreverent look at a city’s unusual steps to conserve water during an epic drought.  
**Music and lyrics by Mark Hollmann. Book and lyrics by Greg Kotis**

Visit [www.theatre.villanova.edu](http://www.theatre.villanova.edu) for more information.

**Irish Festival**  
April 24-30  
**Directed by Harriet Power, associate professor of theatre.**

This weeklong festival, co-sponsored by Villanova Theatre and the Irish Studies Program, features Irish music and dance and showcases the drama, poetry and fiction of Sebastian Barry. He holds the Charles A. Heimbold Jr. Endowed Chair in Irish Studies at Villanova University for the Spring Semester (see page 38).

Each night will include Barry’s one-act play *Fred and Jane*. Set in an Irish convent, the play tells the delicate yet funny story of two nuns, the young Anna and the mature Beatrice, and their commitment both to spiritual life and to the mysteries of the human heart.
Young and Not Too Restless in L.A.

As a relative newcomer, Greg Rikaart ’99 A&S scooped up a Daytime Emmy for his complex role on a popular CBS soap opera.

BY SARAH DEFILIPPS ’06 A&S

Following his graduation from Villanova University, Greg Rikaart ’99 A&S, a Staten Island, N.Y., native, decided to move westward and pursue his dream to earn his living as an actor. After holding a long-standing role as David on “Dawson’s Creek,” Rikaart landed his current role as Kevin Fisher on CBS’ hit soap opera, “The Young and the Restless,” where his character has ranged from being creepy to commendable. The role earned him a 2005 Daytime Emmy Award for Best Supporting Actor, and in February he received his second nomination. The first profile of him in Soap Opera Digest (March 25, 2005) was headlined, “American Psycho: Greg Rikaart Relishes Being Y&R’s Most-Hated Man.” Rikaart also can be seen in the movies “Fake Stacy” (as Josh Patterson), “X2: X-Men United” and “Prey for Rock & Roll.” Despite his rigorous taping schedule, he took the time to answer some questions regarding his career.

Q. (Sarah DeFilippis ’06 A&S) What originally fueled your desire to become an actor?
A. (Greg Rikaart ’99 A&S): I had always had a passion for acting. I was in drama programs from grade school on. My mother even told me after the [2005 Emmy Awards] ceremony that when I was 7 or 8, the Emmys were on TV and we were watching them as a family. I told my mother I was going to win one of those someday, but when I first began studying at Villanova, I never knew that it was tangible. At 18, I was not really considering acting as a possible career. I was a political science major with minors in English and communication. But in my junior and senior years, I realized I had no interest in applying for jobs within my major. I decided to take theatre classes my senior year, and moved out to L.A. to pursue an acting career after graduation. I did not really study acting seriously until I moved to California.

Q. How did your Villanova theatre classes help foster your interest in acting?
A. I took a theatre class with Father Peter Donohue, and he was extremely dynamic; the class was really fun [the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, chair of the theatre department, is now president-elect of Villanova]. The class actually served as a sort of prerequisite for my studies in L.A. In that class, we learned a lot of the same exercises that I would use later on. They were geared towards lightening up any inhibitions I may have had about performing. I also took a film analysis class that gave me a different perspective on acting. It was not based on performance, but was more about appreciating the process. Sometimes I talk to graduates from bigger theatre programs and I wonder if I should have gone to a school like that, but then I stop and say “That’s ridiculous,” because I have taken so much from Villanova with me.

Q. What are some of your favorite memories from Villanova?
A. It was a great four years with great friends. I grew up a lot at Villanova. I took a lot of really great classes, and as a whole, it was a remarkable experience. In October of my freshman year, we decided to camp out on the football field to get tickets for a basketball game. It was unseasonably cold, and we had planned on staying out for two nights. Some parents who knew about it called the school to address their concerns, and they ended up giving us tickets after one night. We waited 10 hours instead of two days. That was the year Kerry Kittles ['96 C & F] was on the team and we went to the NCAA tournament.

Q. What do you think jumpstarted your career?
A. I have a great professional team, manager and agent. It is also definitely one part persistence. The most difficult part is not getting an audition. Talent takes you a long way, but when you do well, there are five other guys with more experience than you. They beat you to the part because they won’t take a risk on you. I had to keep reminding myself that even though I was close, it was only a matter of time before I would get a chance. My role on “Dawson’s Creek” was my “break,” which allowed me to quit my day job. It gave me a steady job. Six weeks after the role ended, I got a call from “The Young and the Restless,” and I signed on to the part for a few weeks.

Q. As a Daytime Emmy Award winner, where do you see yourself in the future?
A. I love what I do, and I hope I get to do it for 40 or 50 years. I really enjoy working on the soap. Daytime is a lot like acting boot camp. On “Dawson’s,” we taped one hour in eight days. On “The Young and the Restless,” we do a show a day. I want to continue to grow and learn here. I am also interested in primetime television and movies. The award was icing on the cake. When you are doing something you love, it is such a gift when your peers pick you.
Caribbean Art
Warms up the Campus

In the Connelly Center, the gift of an important repository of paintings, sculpture, video interviews and writings will radiate with the artistry of contemporary Caribbeans.

"CHAPMAN LANE" (OIL ON CANVAS, 12 X 14.5 INCHES)
BY FIELDING BABB OF BARBADOS
outside, an atmosphere of winter blahs loomed over the Villanova University campus. Fresh from Christmas break, students and faculty attempted to re-adjust to their hectic schedules. The sky was gray, and a biting chill swept through the air. Inside the Connelly Center, however, the scene came alive with the vibrancy and color of the Caribbean.

The lively melody of steel drums welcomed visitors to the Presidents’ Lounge on January 20 as the Villanova University Art Gallery offered the preview opening and reception for a unique collection of post-colonial Caribbean paintings, sculptures and writings, donated by an anonymous benefactor. According to Mercia M.T. Grassi, curator for the Post-Colonial Caribbean Art Repository and a retired professor of marketing at Drexel University, the event marked an important date in the history of the repository, which will be housed permanently at Villanova. Grassi signed copies of her new book, *Caribbean Artists Today* (see page 33 for an interview).

The reception was hosted by the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58, University president, and held under the patronage of His Excellency Michael I. King, ambassador from Barbados to the United States. Other guests of honor included Grassi and artists Virgil Broodhagen of Barbados, Ellon Lewis of Grenada and Jerry Sylvanus Barry of Guyana, S.A.

The repository features 27 pieces by 21 artists, as well as video interviews, books, catalogs and published reviews of their work. It focuses on the period

"FRUIT COCKTAIL" (OIL ON CANVAS, 14.5 x 15 INCHES)
BY OMOWALE STEWART OF BARBADOS/TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
from 1962 to 1999, when many Caribbean nations came to the end of their first generation of independence.

The collection began in April 1991 in Philadelphia as part of Drexel’s centennial celebration. A traveling exhibit was then invited to Washington, D.C., that September as part of bicentennial festivities in the city. The collection traveled to Florence, Italy, in 1992 for the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus’ New World landing in the Caribbean. Then in 1994, the collection traveled to Barbados for the 20th anniversary of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), which was formed to promote the region’s economic integration and development.

Noted King, “The collection represents a good opportunity to showcase the skills of Caribbean artists and to introduce many people in the Villanova community to what the Caribbean has to offer beyond sun, sea, sand and the music of Bob Marley.” Since 2000, he has served as ambassador and as permanent representative to the Organization of American States. During his career, he has represented his nation at the European Union, the United Nations and the World Trade Organization. As executive director of the Caribbean Conservation Association, King has been involved in joint efforts with Caribbean leaders to preserve, protect and enhance the region’s resources.

Barbados, like many Caribbean nations, was once a British colony. King has seen a dramatic change in its quality of life since it gained independence in 1966. “Barbados has become the highest rated developing country on the United Nations Human Development Index—30th out of 191 countries,” the ambassador said. (The index ranks countries on three key “well-being” factors: life expectancy, adult literacy and gross domestic product.) He added, “Indeed, only Canada and the United States have ever surpassed Barbados on the index, which has been in existence for about 13 years. Our government has invested heavily in human capital, with free education provided from primary school to university.”

King hopes that the “Caribbean Artists Today” collection will encourage young artists in this region and its diaspora to aspire to excellence and aim at a broader audience. “I also hope that it will encourage more people to visit our region and enjoy the true delight of the Caribbean,” he added.

The Rev. Richard G. Cannuli, O.S.A., ’73 A&S, curator of Villanova’s collection, director of the Villanova Art Gallery and professor of studio art, noted, “From this collection, I hope the University gains the understanding, the appreciation and the knowledge of the arts of the many nations of the Caribbean. It is important for the University to be a repository for these works of art and to use them as a study guide for students and the University community. We try to continue the tradition of keeping artwork and using it for educational purposes.”

The project was supported by Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts, the regional arts funding partnership of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.

At the January 20 reception for the preview opening of “Caribbean Artists Today,” the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58, University president, greets Ambassador Michael I. King of Barbados. A steel drum band sets the mood at the reception. Artist Virgil Broodhagen of Barbados smiles next to “Rolling Hills” (watercolor, 10x9 inches), which he painted in 1993.
In this interview with Mercia M.T. Grassi, curator of Villanova University’s new Post-colonial Caribbean Art Repository, she tells of her love of this region’s art and of the remarkable collection now housed at Villanova University. A retired professor of marketing at Drexel University, Grassi lives in Rosemont, Pa., and Barbados. She is the author of Caribbean Artists Today.

**Q** (Michael Nataro ’06 A&S) Thank you, Professor Grassi, for the wonderful opportunity to get some insight on the opening of the Post-Colonial Caribbean Art Repository, given to Villanova University by an anonymous donor. Did I say that correctly?

**A** (Mercia M.T. Grassi) That’s a fancy way of saying it; that’s technically what it is, but I like to say that it targets the first generation of artists after the countries became independent from colonial possession. I like to use “possession” because some of the countries in the Caribbean are still possessed by western European countries. These paintings and sculptures target the countries that are independent, so it’s the first time in that generation that the artists are able to express what they wanted to, not what the colonial possessors wanted them to depict.

**Q** What is the significance of Caribbean art?

**A** I have been involved in Caribbean art since 1970 in terms of collecting and getting to know the artists. It started in Barbados, which was my first visit to the “real” Caribbean. I’ve always been interested in art; prior to that I was living in Florence on a Fulbright. I grew up with art on the walls; maybe it’s my Italian background or my experience with fashion and design. I’m always sensitive to art. I feel that when you visit a foreign country, you need to really look at the museums and the music and the culture to understand the diversity of the area you’re visiting.

Going first to the furthest southeastern island in the Caribbean—Barbados—I was immediately struck by the light. It’s the same as seeing Tuscany for the first time. Those lights are just nowhere else. In Tuscany it’s golden, and in the Caribbean, it’s raw, pure, unadulterated, natural light, where true colors come out. I was also fascinated by the diversity of art, because prior to going there, I understood that most people attributed Caribbean art to the Haitian primitives. That’s all that was really known. It was an American Peace Corps worker in the 1960s who was primarily responsible for bringing Haitian art to the international forefront. So when I saw what was there, I immediately got to know the artists. Time passed, and I went back and forth to Barbados because I loved it.

**Q** How did this repository come to be?

**A** I was still teaching at Drexel, and every semester I was off to Barbados except for the summers, when I went to Florence. In 1987 I founded the Drexel International Forum, which would bring together the leaders of business, government and the arts to conduct seminars for both students and executives in the Delaware Valley. My No. 1 project at that time was to formulate a traveling exhibition of Caribbean art to be part of our Drexel Centennial in 1991. I wanted to prove that the art would sell, so the correct kind of art was chosen, as well as to bring to the floor all the products of the West Indies. In everything I ever did, I involved my students.

The exhibit traveled to Washington, D.C., in 1991. Then it was invited by the Italian government to Florence, because Philadelphia had a sister-city relationship with Florence, and I had been involved with that since 1959—it brought lots of exchanges and exhibitions. The exhibit had been invited to Italy to...

**“Here was New World art, which is what the Europeans called it, ...in the center of all the Renaissance works, and it held its own strength.”**

—Mercia M.T. Grassi

**BY MICHAEL NATARO '06 A&S**

Winter 2006 33
On a cold winter day in her apartment in Rosemont, Pa., Mercia M.T. Grassi recalls her first visit to Barbados some 35 years ago. Intrigued by the light on this West Indies island, she set out to learn more about the painters who capture it.

commemorate the quincentennial in 1992 of Columbus’ “discovering” the New World. It was a gift from the Italian government because poor Columbus was getting bashed—everywhere from Africa all through Latin America to the Caribbean—as the beginning of the main possessors. I have a grandmother who was born in Genoa, so I had a double-edged sword. I wanted to prove that Columbus—one can’t discover what’s already there—wasn’t really all that bad!

Here was New World art, which is what the Europeans called it, and it was the first time they had ever seen New World art coming back to the Old World. There it was, in the center of all the Renaissance works, and it held its own strength.

The Italians [for exhibit space] gave us this wonderful restored crypt made famous by the work of Brunelleschi. The visitors would gasp because the colors just rose up from this dark crypt, and it was phenomenal. Europeans came from all over the continent; there were Caribbeanophiles who lined up in the chilly March weather to see the art.

After that, the exhibit went back to a private collection in Barbados. It came forward again for the 20th anniversary of CARICOM (the Caribbean community), when the heads of state met in Barbados. The summit paid for it this time. This was the first opportunity Caribbean people had a chance to see the work.

Then, everything went quiet. I thought this exhibit really needed to be seen by the public in perpetuity because there’s nothing like it. I felt it needed to go where it could continue to educate students about the arts, and I really started searching for one venue. But I was never satisfied because these venues could sell the pieces, as museums do to make money. I wasn’t too pleased with what I was finding.

spaces; it was like it was built as a gallery. It was surrounded with windows, which meant it had great light. The world visits that United Nations building because it represents all the missions for Latin America and the Caribbean. We were able to place 39 pieces there.

I told them I didn’t want a fancy opening with all the ambassadors; I just wanted to invite children—grammar school children, little ones—so they could understand what their own country’s art was all about. Then, in the afternoon, we could invite the high schools with their teachers.

On the morning of the opening, these little kids came in with their teacher from a school that the U.N. had adopted, more or less, because it was right near them. These bright-eyed 8- and 9-nine-year olds came in, and I started asking them questions. “What do you see here? What appeals to you about what’s on the wall? Do you have any questions you want to ask me?”

They were a little shy. They all wore their school uniforms. I said “I want you to go around and pick out your favorite pieces and then the pieces you don’t like. Then, we’re going to come back and I’m going to ask you which were your favorite pieces and why, and what your least favorite pieces were and why.”

Well, that opened up a very interesting discussion because of course they were all black, but many shades of black. Barbados was the first country where the slave ships stopped to work the British sugar plantations. Therefore, the people living in Barbados got the pick of the best slaves. Then, they sent them off to Barbuda, which was a breeding station. After that, they brought them back, so that again, they got the best of the female and male slaves: tall, long-legged, broad-backed. They could really work the plantations.
Because these slaves, the best of the best, came from West Africa, these children, their descendants, were beautiful and looked very much like their ancestors from Africa.

When you go further west in the Caribbean, you often will see people who are a mixture of Chinese, French and Spanish genes with high cheekbones; add East Africans into the mix, and you have the very distinctive look of Caribbean people. But the Barbadians—they look African.

One of my favorite paintings, I told the children, was of this vegetable vendor sitting under a very bright red umbrella. She’s very, very black, although her arms have highlights because of the way the light is shining.

Nobody liked the painting. I said “Why not?” The children said, “She’s too dark.” So you see, even in the Caribbean, they talk about light-skinned persons or the dark-skinned or brown-skinned. I said, “All of you hold your arms out. You’re all the same shade, right? That’s dark. Her face is dark, but look, there’s light here.” But there was that bias even among themselves, which really showed a point of social consciousness that these little kids already had built in. It was really interesting for me to see this.

In the afternoon, one of the teachers who came was an artist I knew from early on. He had two pieces there, and everyone was very excited that his work was up on the wall. One of his early students, whom he had introduced me to years ago, had the largest paintings in the conference hall and was there, too. So I quickly went to the photographer and said, “Here are three generations of painters: the teacher, his very successful student and the current students he has. This is happening right here in Barbados, where fine art is just beginning to emerge.”

I had visited Cuba, legally, in 1995, when President [Bill] Clinton was just beginning to raise the bar to allow you to enter. I knew the Cuban ambassador in Barbados. I was about to take about 18 of my undergrad and graduate students from Drexel to Cuba for two weeks. Well, what an eye-opener that was in terms of art!

Next thing, I was on my way to Santiago; it was like Florence or Philadelphia, with the art and architecture. All three cities were first capitals; there is something about first capitals.

We moved the pieces from Barbados to Santiago, where the artists had never been. I thought the artists should get together and exchange ideas among themselves.

There was still this other grouping of art pieces, though, that I was trying to place in the United States. I wanted a repository!

Q What exactly is a repository? What’s the difference between that and an exhibit?

A All the documentation of where we have been, the interviews, magazine articles, books, poetry—it needed to be in one spot with the art. All these are brought together for research and learning purposes, not only for art appreciation.

Q Why did Villanova deserve this honor?


Father Cannuli looked at the transparencies and said “Yes, yes, yes!” He had told me about what Villanova already had—art spanning hundreds of years—which impressed me. We really synched in terms of how the collection would be cared for and valued. The repository would be unique—it really doesn’t exist in this dimension anywhere else in the world, even in the Caribbean.

At Villanova, Father Cannuli told me, it would be available for continued study and education. That is what I was looking for.

—I thought this exhibit really needed to be seen by the public in perpetuity because there’s nothing like it.”

—Mercia M.T. Grassi

Michael Nataro ’06 A&S is an intern in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs. A political science and philosophy major, he has a concentration in Arab and Islamic Studies. Last fall he interned at the Vatican Internet Office in Rome.
Ever since being captivated at a concert by the Clancy Brothers more than 40 years ago, Lewis Becker, LL.B., professor of law at the Villanova University School of Law, has been amassing an impressive collection of traditional Irish and other music in print. He has graciously lent a part of the collection to Falvey Memorial Library for a special exhibit, “Sing a Song: A Celebration of Traditional Music of Ireland and Elsewhere in Print,” from March 13 through April 27. The exhibit is free and open to the public.

Becker hosted a preview of the exhibit on March 13 and talked about how he began—and has never stopped—amassing this collection, which contains many unusual items. He said he was delighted to share parts of his collection with Villanova. Of particular interest to Villanovans are a broadside and a songster containing songs that grew out of the virulently anti-Irish, Nativist riots in Philadelphia in 1844, which resulted in the burning of Old St. Augustine’s Church and the subsequent growth of Villanova College.

Folklorist Mick Moloney on March 16 gave a talk on traditional Irish music’s origins and themes, as well as on the Becker collection. A fiddler illustrated the lecture points in song.

Moloney is the author of Far From the Shamrock Shore: The Story of Irish American History Through Song (2002, Crown Publications). He holds a doctorate in folklore and folk life from the University of Pennsylvania. He has taught ethnomusicology, folklore and Irish studies courses at Penn, Georgetown, and Villanova universities, and is now Global Distinguished Professor of Music at New York University.

On April 6 at 7 p.m., another event reflecting the theme and components of the exhibit will bring to Villanova two musicians with very interesting credentials. Dr. David Caudill, J.D. holds the Arthur M. Goldberg Family Chair at Villanova Law School and Richard H. Swain is director of library services at West Chester University’s Francis Harvey Green Library. Both sing and play various instruments.

The Becker exhibit illustrates high points in the history of the collection and the transmission of traditional and popular music. For the purpose of the exhibit, traditional music is defined as songs that have been handed down over generations, usually orally. Popular music refers to songs of a more temporal nature, which have identifiable composers and commercial purposes.

The exhibit has been divided in several sub-themes:

- the unity between political events and origins of songs;
- the beginnings of academic collections of folksongs, starting with the Rev. Thomas Percy, an 18th-century bishop of the Church of Ireland who rescued a manuscript from his fireplace;
- non-academic development and transmission of popular songs on broadsides, which were single-page, illustrated sheets;
- the collecting of songs in the 19th century;
Clancy Brothers inspired the collection

Becker, who is in his 34th year of teaching at Villanova Law School, is a graduate of Temple University and the University of Pennsylvania School of Law. He first became aware of Irish music when he heard the Clancy Brothers performing on Sunday morning television in the late 1950s. “I bought their albums,” he recalled. “Then I gradually learned there were more traditional versions of the songs they sang. At some point, I started to collect folk music books. My main interests are English, Irish and Scottish music, folklore—Irish in particular.”

The Irish culture appeals to Becker for many reasons. As a Jewish person, he sees some similarities to the Jewish experience. “In the Irish, you had people who were persecuted for their religion, unable to practice their religion, who were the subjects of social discrimination, economic discrimination and vicious stereotypes, people who were unable to have political control of their country, but who fought against these obstacles and overcame them,” he said. Becker claims that he may be the only person in the Philadelphia area who subscribes to both The Jewish Exponent and the Irish Edition.

Becker is fascinated by the romanticism of the songs. As he noted in the exhibit catalog, there are many poems written by Irish writers along a nationalistic theme. These were set to music and became widely sung. He considers these a particularly strong feature of Irish music. “These are songs that rolled out of a difficult political and economic environment; they continued to be sung for hundreds of years,” Becker said.

The song books of Capt. O’Neill, Chicago’s chief of police between 1901 and 1905, are great favorites of Becker, who owns a first edition of some of them. He believes some are still in print. O’Neill “was an Irish bagpiper who traveled to many places before settling in Chicago and joining the police department,” Becker explained. “It was said that if a man played the bagpipes well, he could find a job in the Chicago police department. In fact, there’s a letter in the exhibit, published by the Folksong Society journal. O’Neill wrote in the letter that in America, as opposed to Ireland, traditional musicians were well employed: they had good jobs and pensions. Of course, they probably all worked for the Chicago police department.”

Another favorite of Becker’s is The Rising of the Moon and Other Poems by John Keegan Casey. He died on St. Patrick’s Day of 1870 at the age of 23, following brutal treatment in prison for being a Fenian. There’s a faint inscription in the book: “To my friend from the author, 20 July 1869.” The title poem was later set to music. Only two books of Casey’s poems were published in his lifetime, which makes Becker’s copy one of a rare few.

Becker generally obtains his books from dealers’ catalogs or the Web site abebooks.com. However, he also has had good fortune with eBay. “Really amazing stuff shows up on eBay. I just won something called An Irish Emigrant’s Guide to the United States, written by a Father O’Hanlon and published in Boston in 1851. I am really looking forward to receiving it.”

- American songsters;
- traditional song in Ireland and the work of the folksong societies;
- the literary and political influence, as seen in part through the “national” songs of Ireland;
- the role of Harvard English professor Francis J. Child, who collected English and Scottish ballads in the 19th century, and England’s Cecil Sharp, who came to America and in the early 1900s collected the songs of the Appalachian settlers, songs that descended from English ballads;
- traditional music and musical instruments;
- African-American songs;
- the contributions of Capt. Francis O’Neill (1848-1936), the Chicago chief of police, avid bagpiper and tune collector who published several volumes on Irish traditional tunes; and
- the spoken word: stories, dialects and Celtic cultures.
Sebastian Barry, the Irish playwright, novelist and poet, holds the 2006 Charles A. Heimbold Jr. Endowed Chair in Irish Studies at Villanova University for the Spring Semester. Barry, whose novel, *A Long Long Way* (2005, Viking) was short-listed for the 2005 Man Booker Prize, is leading two courses: “Modern Irish Voices” for undergraduates and a playwriting course for graduate students. A wider audience has had the opportunity to see Barry’s literary gifts on campus. In February, Villanova Theatre produced his play, *Prayers of Sherkin*. It tells the story of a Shaker-like community living in isolation off the coast of Ireland in the 1890s. A young woman from Sherkin Island falls in love with a lithographer from Cork and must decide between her traditional life and a new life—and marriage—on the mainland. Dr. James J. Christy ’65 M.A., who is marking his 39th year with Villanova Theatre and as a faculty member, directed the play.

In 1984, Barry was the International Writing Fellow at the University of Iowa. During the 1980s, he published several poetry collections, among them *The Water Colorist* (1983, The Dolmen Press) and *Fanny Hawke Goes to the Mainland Forever* (1989, Raven Arts Press). *The Pinkening Boy* was published in 2004 (New Island Press).

In 1988, his first play, *Boss Grady’s Boys*, was produced at Dublin’s Abbey Theatre. In 1990, Barry became Writer in Association at the Abbey, which produced several more of his plays, including *Prayers of Sherkin* and *The Only True History of Lizzie Finn*. In London, *White Woman Street* was produced at the Bush Theatre and *The Steward of Christendom* was produced at the Royal Court Theatre and subsequently at the Gate Theatre in Dublin and the Brooklyn Academy of Music in New York City. *Whistling Psyche* was produced at the Almeida in London in 2004.

In addition to *A Long Long Way*, Barry has published the novels *The Engine of Owl-Light* (1987, Carcanet), *The Whereabouts of Eneas McNulty* (1998, Picador) and *Annie Duke* (2002, Faber & Faber). His books have been nominated for a variety of awards.

**A child of the Dublin theatre**

Sebastian Barry is a bred-in-the-bone Dubliner, even though he spent some of his younger years outside the city proper. He was born in 1955 “between the canals,” as he likes to put it. The Grand Canal and the Royal Canal are in the old city of Dublin. His father, Francis Barry, was an architect and poet; his mother is the actress Joan O’Hara. When Barry was a youngster, his grandfather purchased a huge old Victorian house in Monkstown. The family moved there, and Barry took the train into Dublin each day to attend the Catholic University School. He remembers wearing his bright red school blazer, walking about Stephen’s Green, even having his midday meal at The Country Shop.

At Trinity College, Dublin, Barry read Latin and English—“ancient and modern literature we called it, although I never was sure which was which”—and graduated, although, he admits, he skipped many of the lectures.

Barry also recalls “going the odd time” to the Abbey as a small boy and watching his mother on the stage. “I was unable to distinguish between make-believe and reality. I still can’t and don’t want to, especially...”
when I am writing a play,” he said. “Something amazing would happen when I watched my mother. I remember her playing an old woman and thinking, How are we ever to get home? Then I would go to her dressing room, and there was my mother again. I never got over that.”

It is that sense of wonder that Barry brings to his two courses at Villanova. He’s the first to admit he is not an academic, although he enjoys being in the atmosphere. “All I am,” he said, “is a working writer for 27 years and half my work has been in the theatre.”

After the first day of “Modern Irish Voices” for Honors undergraduates, he moved the course from a room in Tolentine Hall to the Villanova Theatre. It is a more appropriate venue since the course covers 10 Irish plays—“including, disgracefully, one of my own”—that he has seen in production.

“I grew up in the Abbey Theatre,” Barry said. “I know the actors, directors and playwrights. They’re cherished colleagues. And this is what I talk about. I find myself digging up little things about them, which actually I find interesting myself.”

Barry’s second course, on playwriting, is for graduate students. He found the assigned room at Falvey Memorial Library acceptable if a bit light on things he considers necessities. “I tried to bring in coffee and that mixture you have for milk here, and biscuits. Of course, there wasn’t an electric kettle to be found in the building, so I went to a hardware store and bought one. This is a three-hour course; students need refreshment.”

His approach is not so much one of teaching, in the strict sense, as it is one of enlightening. He explained: “I want to be there with something I had seen in the world that I could tell them about, so that when they saw it they would recognize it.”

Barry lives with his wife, Alison, and their three children, Merlin, Coral and Tobias, in Ireland’s Wicklow Mountains, in an old stone rectory that they have restored. His family is with him at Villanova and the children are attending school locally. Barry hopes to work on several projects, including a book based on his years living in the Monkstown house.

The Charles A. Heimbold Jr. Endowed Chair in Irish Studies was inaugurated in 2000. Since then, it has hosted several of Ireland’s leading literary lights: Peter Fallon, Nuala Ni Dhomhnaill, Eamon Grennan, Marina Carr, Vona Groarke and Conor O’Callaghan, and Michael Coady.

### A Poem in Appreciation

Michael Coady, the 2005 Charles A. Heimbold Jr. Endowed Chair in Irish Studies at Villanova University, sent the following poem to Dr. James J. Murphy in appreciation of the welcome he and his family received from the Villanova community last spring. “In the depths of winter, Michael’s poem is full of the celebration of renewal. Let us all hear its voice,” noted Murphy, who is director of Villanova’s Irish Studies Program and associate professor of English.

**Harmonium**

*Early morning in midwinter.*
*In a living room of silence*
*I’m waiting for first light.*

*Impenetrable black outside holds garden, tree and sky.*
*It’s still too dark for birdsong.*

*In the southern sphere right now it’s height of summer and high noon*
*and deep down under waves the hills are alive to cetacean blues and rhapsodies.*

*Meanwhile the cat’s switched on beside me; intense ears and eyes*
*taking in my grandmother’s long dumb harmonium there in the corner.*

*A huntress, she leans intently towards whatever is seen and unseen*
*the verdigris on reeds, the bellows that have not breathed in or out for fifty years,*
*some hint of far-off voices choiring Latin chant for scented Benediction.*

—Michael Coady
Just a few weeks after Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast last summer and wiped out lives and property across the states of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama, a group of 21 Villanova University students arrived in Slidell, La. They were led by Eric Quisenberry ’98 C&F, director of regional and scholarship programs for the Office of Alumni Affairs. Even though they had followed media reports on the storm, they were not prepared for the scene of devastation they witnessed.

Located about three miles north of Lake Pontchartrain, Slidell had endured 145 mph sustained winds with gusts of up to 190 mph. Katrina cut a swathe from 4 to 25 miles wide, with storm surges that reached 35 feet. More than 85 percent of the city was destroyed or damaged. Known as “The Camellia City” and a sports paradise, Slidell had a population of 30,000 before the storm, with 60,000 more in the outskirts.

As Villanova student volunteers labored in Louisiana to prepare flooded homes for rebuilding, they were stunned by the scale of devastation—and by the smiles of those they helped. By Maureen McKew

Student leader Ryan Werner, a senior majoring in communication and political science, recalled his initial reaction: “We arrived about six weeks after the storm, and in some places, it looked as though the storm had hit the day before. The hard thing is that the damage is spotty. In some places, things are all right; in others, everything is destroyed.”

The team’s mission was to strip down to the framing some flooded Habitat for Humanity homes and prepare them for rebuilding. These houses were about 3.5 miles from the lake. The first house the students tackled belonged to a woman identified to them as Miss Gracie. John “Murphy” O’Halloran, a first-year student study...
ing civil engineering, said while the house exterior appeared to be all right, “The inside was consumed by mold. Even though we had masks over our faces, the smell of the mold was terrible.”

Nathan Tiedeken, a senior majoring in biology, tried to explain it to his parents. “I told them that if you walked into a house, stood against the wall and put your hand up as high as you could, everything below your hand was destroyed. The house had, at the very least, 6 feet of standing water, maybe more, and the mold went above that. So anything above your hand was safe, everything below was lost.”

Farewell to family treasures
Before beginning the demolition, the team had to remove all of the owners’ destroyed belongings. Practically nothing was salvageable.

Julie Bray, a junior communication major, found herself wondering how she would have felt if everything that was precious to her had wound up being dumped at a curb, waiting for a trash truck. “How would I feel if my whole life had been uprooted and I had to go live in a shelter for six weeks?,” she said. All the team members agreed that carrying out the furniture and little treasures people had loved and cherished was the most difficult part of the trip. Meeting Miss Gracie made it that much more poignant. “She thanked us for salvaging what we could—maybe about 50 small items,” said Alexandra “Ali” Jack, a senior majoring in marketing and international business.

Kimberly Stevens, a sophomore Nursing student, discovered that Miss Gracie’s daughter is a nurse. “I found her old nursing textbooks,” Stevens said, adding softly, “Miss Gracie was so gracious, even though we had gone through all her things, even pulling boxes from under beds, as we cleared out the house.”

Prior to the trip, no one had done heavy demolition. They discovered that taking apart a Habitat house had its particular challenges. Quisenberry explained, “We took it from a full house down to the joists, floorboards and ceiling rafters. We took out the kitchen and bathroom as well. We must have pulled out 10,000 drywall screws. After we pulled down the muddy drywall to prepare the house for rebuilding, the Habitat people told us that there’s a joke about Habitat houses: If you fly over one of them with a magnet, you could pick the entire house up off its foundation. You see, the houses are built by volunteers who insert the screws every 4 inches, instead of the standard spacing, just to be sure everything is held in place.”

At first, the students pulled off drywall in 2- and 3-inch pieces but as they became more adept, they were able to pull off 10x3-foot sections. Without any prior experience, they learned by trial and error...and a great deal of dust.

Ken Schmieder, a junior majoring in electrical engineering, and Rob McDevitt, a junior human services major, had the unenviable task of crawling under the house to pull out the water-soaked insulation. “It was dark down there,” Schmieder said, “and the insulation made us itchy. We met up with a couple of toads, some cockroaches and several spiders, too. We also saw a hive but the Habitat representative told us they belong to non-stinging bees. And, naturally, we believed him.”

Hurricane survivors still need help
“Ali” Jack made a film of the trip. For her, the most difficult part of the experience was that of returning to campus and editing her tapes. “I would watch this incredible group of volunteers laughing and smiling as they worked, and then I would go through the same tape and see a 75-year-old man with a severely diabetic wife. His was not a Habitat house, so he had to do all his demolition alone. We tried a bit to help him, and he told us how he had to get his wife out. They had only $300 cash in the house, and it was gone by the time they got to a shelter. The wife was so sick that it cost around $5,000 just to get her stabilized. And then they had to face their ruined house and people asking them what it was like and how it felt. And they kept saying how nice it was that we and other people had come down to help them. No one who has not been in Slidell can imagine what it was like. They need so much help. “You see on television that the Café du Monde is open again in the French Quarter. Well, the fact is that the French Quarter didn’t get all that water. On the other hand, it has been estimated that it will be five years before Slidell is rebuilt and at least 10 before New Orleans recovers.”

All the Villanova students agreed that their own lives have been changed.

Werner, the student group leader, discovered that leadership can be a burden. “The first 5 minutes I spent in the first house, I was worthless. All I could do was walk around while the others started pulling at the stuff. Somebody told me that in Slidell alone, there are 30,000 houses that will have to be demolished—what we saw in this house will be multiplied by 30,000. We’re not even talking about Mississippi, Alabama and the rest of Louisiana—just this one town. The sheer enormity of this is unbelievable.”

As he worked in and under the houses, McDevitt wondered if they were even making a dent. “Then someone would say, ‘You guys came down here for a reason. God sent you.’ All these people want to do is get back their homes, and they intend to do it. They just need extra hands, so I encourage anyone who can to go help out.”
Anthony Albanese, a sophomore studying Spanish and education, was struck by the positive attitude the homeowners had. “These people who have nothing now will tell you that they really have everything because they still have their lives. They were so gracious to thank us. Those who had plumbing let us use their bathrooms, and they fed us. They have this great sense of community.”

The homeowners have a great spiritual outlook as well, according to Cheryssa Jensen, a sophomore studying communication and elementary education. “I was blown away by the faith these people have in God. When you think of everything that happened to them, the hardships they are going through, you would almost expect the opposite. Instead, they said, ‘Thank God, it wasn’t worse.’”

Quisenberry summed up the experience. “In telling this story to our alumni, we’re not looking for attention for ourselves. We didn’t do anything special. We just did what we signed up for. What we are trying to do is to be advocates for the people hit by Katrina. To anyone reading the story, we want you to know that even now, nearly six months later, people still need help desperately. Regardless of what you read in the papers or see on television, it is a mess down there, and it is going to continue to be a mess, so anything you can do to help will be appreciated—whether you go as part of an organized trip from your own area or would like to sign up for a Habitat trip from Villanova. We’ll be going back again and again, as long as we are needed. Most of us Villanovans are fortunate to be in a position to help.

“Secondly, this group of volunteers is an example of the absolutely incredible students we have here at Villanova. Every year, from 300 to 400 students give up their breaks to go on service trips all over the country and internationally as well. I would say to our alums that you really should connect to these students, so that they can tell you what they are doing in Slidell and all the places our volunteers go. They truly embody the mission of the University.”

Another group of Villanova volunteers, 24 in all, went to Slidell from January 8-15, led by Kathleen J. Byrnes, J.D., ’82 A&S, associate vice president for Student Life. “It was inspiring to see students, faculty and staff, from age 18 to over 60, working, laughing and sharing together,” Byrnes recalled. “We shared some challenging labor, we shared tears as we deconstructed houses and we shared our own reflections on how each of us was impacted by our experiences in Louisiana. People there were so appreciative of our presence—not only because we were there to help with the clean-up and rebuilding efforts, but also because our presence let them know that they had not been forgotten.”

Byrnes added, “Every moment of every day of their lives is still affected by the hurricane. We must continue to reach out to the people and the region for years to come.”

(Left) Six weeks after Hurricane Katrina, the Louisiana city of Slidell looked as if the storm had hit the day before, noted the Villanova students who volunteered there for Habitat for Humanity during their Fall Break. (Top left) Despite no experience in heavy demolition, the Villanovans set to work ripping out flooded kitchens, bathrooms and everything else ruined in several Habitat homes. (Middle left) Pulling out screw by screw, the students took the damaged homes down to the joists, floorboards and ceiling rafters. (Bottom left) The students were impressed by the sense of community they found and how appreciative everyone was.

HELP THOSE AFFECTED BY HURRICANE KATRINA
As Eric Quisenberry ’98 C&F emphasized, Villanovans will indeed help out there as long as they can be of service. Any Villanovan who wishes to volunteer for the effort or to sponsor it monetarily or in other ways may contact him at (610) 519-6865 or by e-mail at eric.quisenberry@villanova.edu.
As part of the federal effort to find credible answers to what happened to New Orleans’ hurricane protection system during Hurricane Katrina, Dr. Robert Traver ’82 M.C.E. has been appointed to an external review panel whose members are eminent national and international civil engineers. Traver, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at Villanova University and director of the Villanova Urban Stormwater Partnership, is providing expertise on urban drainage. Traver traveled to New Orleans in November 2005 to survey the flood damage with other panel members.

The New Orleans Hurricane Protection System External Review Panel was convened by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and authorized by Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld. The independent panel is providing an objective technical review of the federal government’s Interagency Performance Evaluation Task Force (IPET), organized by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The scope of IPET’s work includes:

- data about the systems before and after Katrina struck last summer;
- project construction and maintenance;
- numerical modeling to characterize the storm surge;
- analysis of floodwalls, pumping stations and levee performance; and other assessments.

The IPET study is expected to take eight months.

Several Villanova alumni also are involved in the Katrina assessment effort, including John E. Durrant ’76 C.E., ’80 M.C.E., managing director of ASCE; and Dr. Joseph Wartman ’90 C.E., assistant professor, Geotechnical Group, at Drexel University. Wartman serves on ASCE’s New Orleans Levee Assessment Team (LAT). During a week of field work, Wartman inspected portions of the levee system that had been breached. LAT released a public statement that received wide media coverage last October.

ASCE is widely known for its building performance assessments following attacks at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City and for its technical assessments in the wake of earthquakes, hurricanes and other natural disasters. ASCE represents more than 139,000 civil engineers worldwide.

Near New Orleans’ 17th Street Canal, Dr. Robert Traver ’82 M.C.E., associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at Villanova, stands before houses devastated by Katrina. He visited the city last fall as a member of a panel of eminent civil engineers. The panel examined breached portions of the levees and floodwalls that had failed so disastrously in New Orleans.

For more information, visit www.asce.org/static/hurricane/whitehouse.cfm.
“AIDS is the ugliest four-letter word I know.” Julie Torres ’06 A&S, a student participant in “AIDS in the 21st Century,” spoke these words that cut through the silence of the Villanova Room in the Connelly Center, where students, faculty and community members were circling and absorbing The NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt that lay on display. Broken up into large square blocks, each holding eight 3 x 6-foot individual panels, a portion of the AIDS quilt was on display at Villanova University from November 29 until December 1, 2005, which is World AIDS Day.

“AIDS in the 21st Century,” a variety of monologues, short poems, plays and prose, was spoken by actors dispersed throughout the crowd. “We wanted it to feel like the voices of the quilt were coming alive,” said Dr. Heidi M. Rose, associate professor of communication at Villanova, who compiled and directed the performance.

Other events were presented with the hope of drawing focus to and giving a deeper meaning to the quilt display. They included:

• a lecture on the AIDS epidemic and the Catholic Church by the Rev. Jon Fuller, S.J., M.D., a Jesuit priest and a physician at the Boston Medical Center Adult AIDS Program;
• musical performances;
• the film “Lest We Forget”; and
• “Positive,” an excerpt from Michael Kearns’ play T-Cells and Sympathy: Monologues in the Age of AIDS.

Established in 1987 in Atlanta, The NAMES Project Foundation is an international non-governmental organization that acts as a custodian for the quilt. The quilt also was founded in 1987 as “a poignant memorial” and “a powerful tool for use in preventing new HIV infections.” It is “the largest ongoing community arts project in the world,” according to the foundation’s Web site (www.aidsquilt.org). The last display of the quilt in its entirety took place in October 1996 in Washington D.C.

At Villanova, 20 of the 26 quilt blocks displayed had been requested by members of the community. In a block, each of the eight panels represents a person, people or population. Stacy Andes, a member of the steering committee and assistant director of Villanova’s Center for Health and Wellness Education, said of the panels: “There are actual things sewn to the quilt; a pair of jeans, words, things the person used to say. They are very personal and unique to each person.”

On December 1, during closing ceremonies, several new panels were formally presented and sewn onto the quilt. Villanova presented a panel created by P.O.W.E.R. (Peers Offering Wellness Education and Recovery).
Education and Resources). With a message of hope, this panel was created to remember all those whose lives have been affected by the HIV/AIDS virus.

Several other activities augmented The NAMES Project’s message of “remembrance, awareness and hope.” The benefit Concert for a Cure on November 20 in the Pavilion featured two bands, guster and The Roots. The entrance was lined with the “Road to a Cure,” which contained information, vendors, local charity booths and other displays. “Everyone had to go through the road to get into the concert,” said Andes, “It met all three agendas. It memorialized those lost, raised awareness and was hopeful because of all the proceeds it brought.”

Idah Nambeya Mukuka, an AIDS activist from Zambia, gave a talk on AIDS, Africa and Women (see below). Her very personal and moving speech was well-received by a packed audience.

The arrival of the AIDS quilt culminated a campus-wide awareness campaign, including bulletin boards in the residence halls and a special issue of the Stull Street Journal, a newsletter that hangs on the walls in bathroom stalls. “By the end of the semester, we will know that students will have seen at least one thing in the awareness effort,” Andes said. “The AIDS quilt is not the end of the conversation. It’s the beginning.”

Lisa DiTuro ’06 A&S is an intern in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs. An English major, she hopes to pursue a journalism career following graduation.

**Zambian AIDS Activist Battles Fear and Stigma**

*BY IRENE BURGO*

Villanova University’s Africana Studies Program inaugurated the Senghor-Damas-Césaire Lecture on November 14, 2005, in Dougherty Hall with a talk by Idah Nambeya Mukuka. She is the senior counselor at the Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia (CIDRZ) and a current Fellow at the Coady International Institute at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia.


Since 2001, Mukuka has served as a counselor and educator on HIV/AIDS at the center. She heads community outreach for its Lusaka District Antiretroviral Treatment Program.

With more than 16 percent of Zambia’s population HIV-positive, the AIDS epidemic has “had a devastating impact on all aspects of Zambian life,” according to the CIDRZ Web site (www.cidrz.org).

In an interview, Mukuka explained the many challenges she faces daily in her work. She often counsels patients in their homes, helping them deal with both the emotional and physical aspects of their illnesses. Frequently the work involves trying to change an individual’s way of thinking. Due to lack of knowledge, husbands in rural Zambia sometimes blame their wives for infecting them, and they also resist treatment.

While education is only a beginning, it is crucial to helping patients understand the disease. According to Mukuka, stigma and fear—especially the fear of being stigmatized by society if they disclose their HIV status to their families—is a big part of the problem. “It is a reality that all people infected with HIV will develop AIDS one day,” said Mukuka. “But if they are tested, most of them can be treated early enough to avoid infections and enjoy a long and full life.” She hopes the education and counseling the center offers will help reduce the numbers of those infected in the future.

The center also provides training for health-care workers and conducts clinical trials and biomedical research. It offers medication to pregnant women that helps prevent transmission of AIDS from HIV-positive mothers to their babies. “The drug offers a 50 percent rate of survival for the child,” said Mukuka.

The 34-year-old counselor said she took on her mission to educate others at the request of her brother who died of AIDS several years ago. “He convinced me I really needed to do something about HIV/AIDS. It is from him that I get the passion from my work,” she said. Mukuka has earned certificates in HIV/AIDS counseling, trauma healing management and psychological counseling, and recently received a diploma in community-based development.

Mukuka also organizes dramatic presentations featuring costumed drummers and dancers who travel to villages and marketplaces to raise awareness. She is pleased to be part of the large and crucial organization that CIDRZ has become and cannot wait to see the day when the “end of AIDS will not mean the end of life.”

At the event, Dr. Crystal Lucky, associate professor of English, was introduced as the new director of Africana Studies. Dr. Maghan Keita, associate professor of history, who previously headed the program, was presented with a plaque for his service.
The business school’s Center for the Study of Church Management takes on its biggest project to date: helping to improve the Church’s dire finances in the homeland of the late Pope John Paul II.

By Sarah DeFilippis ’06 A&S

Most recently, the CSCM has taken on perhaps its most involved project to date—developing a comprehensive proposal to address the dire financial circumstances facing the Roman Catholic Church in Poland.

After learning of the CSCM’s reputation and prior work with the Church, the Polish Bishops’ Conference called on the center for help. On December 13, 2005, Zech met with representatives of the conference and the Raskob Foundation for Catholic Activities, a family foundation based in Delaware. Three Villanova faculty members—Dr. James P. Borden, associate professor of accounting; Dr. Roger Van Allen, professor of theology and religious studies; and Dr. Robert N. West, assistant professor of accounting—were also on hand. Meeting in Bartley Hall's Faculty Board Room, the group set out to learn more about the Catholic Church of Poland through Msgr. Lujan Skolik, secretary general of the Polish Bishops’ Conference, who communicated through his translator, Mariusz Hanolzlik of the Mission of Poland to the United Nations.

When Poland arose from communist rule in 1989, drastic changes occurred for the Church and the country at large. While not considered a legal organization under the thumb of communism, Polish Catholicism depended upon fundraising and contri-
butions from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and other organizations in the Western world. In 1989, the Polish government’s official recognition of the Church dramatically changed the scope of its financial outlook. Since the government left little to no guidance as to how to provide monetarily for the religious institution, the Church has been plagued with a financial crisis.

According to Msgr. Skolik, the Church has had to assume control of both its own finances and the management of other charities formerly supported by the government. Its funds have been stretched thin, since its only monetary support in Poland comes through offertory collections, voluntary stipends and the salaries priests earn by teaching in public schools. Unfortunately, these three sources provide only a nominal amount of support for the Church. Msgr. Skolik said a parish near his home only collects about $35 a week in offerings.

As Zech explained, since the current generation of Polish Catholics has never developed the tradition of giving money, the Church has been struggling to maintain itself. High rates of unemployment and inflation, along with the decreasing value of the Polish currency, are proving to be further obstacles. Msgr. Skolik also revealed that the reporting of funds to bishops is frequently inaccurate and inconsistent, and that pastors are “suspicious of providing any information, recalling the day when providing information could get one prosecuted.”

Yet, despite these impediments, the Polish Catholic Church does have some promising factors working in its favor. Poland, at its root, is an extremely Catholic country: 90 percent of its 38 million citizens are Roman Catholic. The meeting also revealed that the country has more than 10,000 parishes, and more than half of its priests are under the age of 40. This younger age bracket is also reflected in the Church’s practicing parishioners. Unlike the United States, the teaching of Catholic religious studies in public school is legal. While other countries may struggle to fill their parishes with priests, Poland has an excess of diocesan and religious priests.

In the meantime, Zech and the CSCM are looking for agencies to help finance the journey to Poland. Since Zech hopes to take part in the on-site study, he most likely will be spending time brushing up on his Polish.

For the CSCM, this first meeting went a long way in delineating the intricacies of Poland’s widespread social, political and economic problems. After the meeting, Zech said, “We have a much better perspective; there was a lot we didn’t understand before about the country’s climate. This is going to be a long-term, five-year project.” Despite the depth of Poland’s financial issues, Zech is confident in the CSCM’s ability to help the situation.

According to Zech, the next step requires an on-site visit. In visiting Poland, the center’s director plans to bring a draft of a survey aimed at better understanding parishioners’ attitudes regarding giving to the Church. After fine-tuning and testing, the survey will be sent to up to 1,000 representative households in Poland. The study will provide demographic information and an indication of respondents’ feelings towards the Church and their means of giving.

As Zech noted, “For Poland, pledging money to the Church is a foreign notion. They are not as aware of the social science of religion.” In implementing the study, he hopes to discover which approaches would best suit the Polish Catholic culture: “We know what works well here, and we want to see if it would work there.” After completing the survey, the CSCM will be better equipped to provide a sound proposal to the Polish bishops.

FIND MORE ON THE WEB
For more on the Center for the Study of Church Management, visit www.cf.villanova.edu/centers/cscm/. The Web site includes information on the center’s research and education programs, including a Certificate in Church Administration residential program to be offered July 9-14. An online M.S. degree in Church Administration is being developed.

Detail of the Wawel Cathedral in Krakow, Poland
Before astronomers can determine the size and expansion rate of the universe, they must calculate the distance to the dwarf galaxy known as the Large Magellanic Cloud (LMC). Yet for more than a century, this important yardstick has been a subject of much debate.

This distance to the LMC, the brightest galaxy visible from our Milky Way, has been estimated at up to 180,000 light years—not far, considering the vastness of the ever-expanding universe. But how far exactly? The answer is critical because it is used to calibrating distances further out in space.

Villanova University astronomers, as guest investigators using the Hubble Space Telescope, have been studying a very promising way to measure this distance. Their method has been to study two eclipsing binary star systems in the LMC containing pulsating supergiant stars known as Cepheids.

At the 207th meeting of the American Astronomical Society (AAS), the Villanovans reported on the progress of their research. The team consists of two professors, Dr. Edward F. Guinan ’64 A&S and Dr. Edward L. Fitzpatrick; an associate professor, Dr. Frank P. Maloney; and a graduate student, Scott Engle ’03 A&S. (Engle is listed as a co-author on five of the 11 papers that Villanova astronomers presented at the 207th AAS meeting, which was held in Washington, D.C., January 8-12. See the Fall 2004 Villanova Magazine to learn about Engle’s work with Guinan on “The Puzzle of Polaris.”)

The two binary star systems the team reported on in January are known to follow a pulsation period—a brightness relationship—that makes this class of stars very important as cosmic distance indicators.

The team’s work is especially significant because the chances of finding a Cepheid in an eclipsing binary system are exceedingly small. Only three are known from the tens of thousands of stars studied. Finding one permits the direct determination of the star’s mass, radius and luminosity.

The Villanovans’ research offers not only greater understanding of Cepheids but an important opportunity to minimize uncertainties in previous ways of determining distances, including the Cosmic Distance Scale and the Hubble constant.

In 1998, Guinan, Fitzpatrick, Maloney and other colleagues established the “first accurate distance determination” to the LMC using an eclipsing binary system, as they wrote in The Astrophysical Journal (December 10, 1998).

This latest finding represents an unprecedented opportunity to probe that critical distance, the team noted at the 207th AAS meeting. Their research also will enable a “self-calibration” of the pulsation—the luminosity relations of Cepheids—and to determine directly fundamental physical properties and ages of the Cepheids. The team’s findings have been lending support to the “short distance” theory: that the LMC is 150,000 light years away.

The team’s research on this project is supported by grants from NASA and the National Science Foundation.
What Type of Star Will Become a Supernova?

A international team led by a Villanova University astronomer has taken a major step toward identifying the type of star that is among the strongest candidates for becoming a Type 1a supernova. Used as "standard candles," Type 1a supernova help astronomers to measure the size of our universe and to show that its expansion is accelerating instead of slowing down.

The team, led by Dr. Edward M. Sion, professor of astronomy and astrophysics, has reported the first detection of direct radiation from the surface of a white dwarf star in a pre-supernova binary star system, using the Hubble Space Telescope.

The team also includes Dr. Paula Szkody of the University of Washington in Seattle; Dr. Jan-Erik Solheim of the University of Oslo in Norway; Dr. Boris Gaensicke of the University of Warwick in England; and Dr. Steve Howell of the National Optical Astronomical Observatories in Tucson, Ariz.

They presented their computer modeling of the Hubble data at the 207th meeting of the American Astronomical Society, which took place in Washington, D.C., January 8-12. The team's work has been accepted for publication in Astrophysical Journal Letters. Their project is supported by grants from NASA and the National Science Foundation.

Before Type 1a supernovae can be used as reliable standard candles, astronomers must understand what kind of star exploded. The team's white dwarf detection helps provide this information. The astronomers demonstrated that the presupernova binary star systems are much cooler and spinning more slowly than predicted by theory.

The rare cataclysmic binary system the team studied, a type known as AM Canum Venaticorum (AM C vn), has virtually pure helium gas in its outer layers. AM Cvn stars consist of two white dwarfs—an extremely dense, planet-sized one and a less-dense donor star. Sion has described white dwarfs as "still glowing embers of dying stars." The white dwarf's surface chemistry is laden with heavy metals. A mere teaspoonful of its stellar matter weighs over 100 tons.

In AM Cvn stars, the white dwarf is normally surrounded by a swirling disk of helium that it accumulates from a very closely orbiting, helium-rich lighter-weight donor star. In a stellar dance that occurs every 28 minutes, the lighter, larger star transfers helium to the heavier, smaller one. The Hubble team observed the binary object during a brief time when the helium disk hiding the white dwarf temporarily goes away.

At present, only about 10 such double, nearly pure helium white dwarf systems are known. But recent estimates predict that there are enough to account for the observed rate of Type 1a supernovae. The team's first spectroscopic detection of the white dwarf in an AM Cvn system allows astronomers to find directly, for the first time, the chemical makeup, spin rate and mass of the white dwarf, as well as to estimate how fast helium is accumulating onto the primary white dwarf.

These binary systems can undergo a Type 1a supernova explosion even before the white dwarf first reaches its maximum possible mass. If the incoming helium accumulates slowly enough onto the heavier white dwarf, it will gradually compress or crush the matter below. This triggers a helium thermonuclear explosion that causes the carbon in the white dwarf's core to detonate 10 million times more violently, as it becomes a Type 1a supernova.

The AM Cvn binary systems are also the only known source of the low frequency gravitational waves predicted by Einstein's Theory of General Relativity. When the two compact stars in an AM Cvn revolve around each other, they lose energy and angular momentum through the emission of gravitational waves, at the expense of their own orbital energy. This causes their orbits to shrink ever further. The orbit shrinkage has been observed in binary radiopulsars—observations that led to the 1993 Nobel Prize in Physics. But there has never yet been a direct detection of gravitational waves.

AM Cvn systems' binary white dwarfs are expected to be the dominant sources of gravitational waves to be detected by LISA (the Laser Interferometer Space Antenna). This NASA mission, due to be launched around 2015, will help to provide answers to fascinating cosmological questions, among them "How did the Universe begin? Does time have a beginning and an end? Does space have edges?," according to its Web site (lisa.jpl.nasa.gov).

To read about Dr. Sion's work with students, see "Companions to a Bright Star" in the Fall 2005 Villanova Magazine.
Focus on Students

The Natural

After hiking the highlands of Scotland and the American Southwest, Goldwater Scholar Morgan Jones ’06 A&S prepares for his next peak experience: earning an M.D./Ph.D.

BY SARAH DEFIILIPPI ’06 A&S

Glancing at his accomplishments, you can find few things that Morgan Jones ’06 A&S has not achieved. As a Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship recipient, member of Phi Beta Kappa, Eagle Scout, Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do and the founding scholarship chair of Villanova University’s newly installed Kappa Chi Chapter of Sigma Chi, Jones stands at the top of his graduating class. His recent honor of being named a New York district finalist for the Rhodes Scholarship serves as a fitting culmination to such a highly touted undergraduate career.

The idea of attending Villanova was always looming in the back of his mind. During his junior year in high school, Jones had stayed on campus while attending the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine. When applying for college, Jones remembered his grandfather’s words when he had picked him up at Villanova. “My grandpa really liked the school and said it was where I should be,” Jones recalled. “That stuck in my mind as I was going through the decision process.”

In addition to following familial instincts, Jones also was attracted to the University’s Honors Program and the chance to become a part of Villanova’s inaugural class for its B.S./M.S. degree in biology. This combined degree program presented Jones with the opportunities not only to gain his bachelor’s and master’s degrees within five years but also to experience diverse research rotations beginning in his freshman year.

As Jones moved through the varied rotations, his interest in research and science fully bloomed. Drawing away from a more traditional path into medicine, he became attracted to what he calls the “puzzles and hands-on” quality of delving into laboratory studies. “Research pushes me to really think things through and experiment with my analyses,” Jones said. “I really enjoy all of the intricacies and unanswered questions that define the way nature works. It forces me to think in a different way.”

While he once envisioned himself as a surgeon, Jones now is paving his path toward an M.D./Ph.D and a career in cancer research, developing therapies. “It’s the ‘science instead of the medicine’ that attracts his attention now, he said. After four years of rotations and upper-level biology courses, he has chosen to present his graduate thesis with the immunology laboratory, paired with Dr. Anil Bamezai, associate professor of biology.

Jones’ desire to focus on the immunology lab was sealed after the summer following his junior year, when he worked alongside Nobel laureate Dr. Eric Wieschaus at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Summer Program in Molecular Biology, which took place at Princeton University. Wieschaus, who shared the 1995 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, is the Squibb Professor in Molecular Biology at Princeton. Mesmerized by Weischaus’ infectious passion for biology, Jones found him to be a natural mentor once they began working in the lab, separating fruit fly embryos to extract RNA for microarray analyses.

His time with Wieschaus had an impact on Jones beyond the realm of science. In talking about both science and the arts, Wieschaus “taught me great things about life,” Jones recalled. “He said that college was the only time in life where I could try different things. He encouraged me to read beyond what was science.” Wieschaus also encouraged Jones to apply for the Goldwater Scholarship. In winning the scholarship in 2005, Jones became one of 320 outstanding undergraduates nationally honored. The award supports graduate work for careers in mathematics, the natural sciences or engineering.

For Jones, his love of science directly coincides with his fascination with the natural world. Following in the footsteps of his father, he found an interest in achieving his Eagle Scout rank at an early
age, camping out in the backyard and always wanting to be outside. “The Scouts taught me how to be a leader, helped me with problem solving, and drew upon a lot of different talents,” Jones said. As he approached earning Eagle Scout rank, he traveled and hiked in the United Kingdom, then attended the international jamborette in Blair Atholl, Scotland. After taking in the natural beauty abroad, he was chosen to lead an 11-man expedition in the rugged Boy Scout camp in Philmont, N.M., where he and his companions faced an arduous, yet inspiring, 10-day trek through the wilderness with few supplies. As Jones explained, “Being outside and thinking about nature are very closely related to my love for science.”

The senior credits his parents and family for being a wonderful inspiration in his life. “They have been with me all along the way. They have given me the opportunity to do what I want, always asking me where I wanted to go.” While his mother focused him on his studies, his father encouraged him to maintain a balance between doing well and having fun via outlets such as sports. Jones also noted that his parents “always encouraged me to read a lot. My dad would always buy me a new book, but they were very leery of video games.” The eldest of five children, Jones is very close to his younger brothers and sisters, playing sports or spending time with them at the family’s lake house.

“I really enjoy all of the intricacies and unanswered questions that define the way nature works.”

—Morgan Jones ’06 A&S

As he rounds off his Villanova education not only with a combined degree but a double major in biology and Honors, Jones seems to be ahead of schedule. At the end of the 2005 Fall Semester, he was already finished with his coursework for his master’s, and will be focusing on his thesis over the next year. He looks forward to pursuing an M.D./Ph.D., hoping to work at a research hospital such as Cornell’s or Sloan-Kettering.

How does he manage to stay grounded in the midst of his studies? Jones notes the importance of maintaining a balance in life. When he is not in class or studying, he can be found in the gym, playing his guitar, relaxing with friends or watching Villanova basketball.

Despite his astounding accolades, Jones remains both level-headed and modest. While he was not named a Rhodes Scholar, he said he feels that “the fact that I was recognized as a finalist speaks so highly of our school. For me, it is recognition of my hard work and reflects upon what I have done and want, but it also reflects so highly on the school’s offerings and the degree of impact our faculty has on its students.” After winning a Goldwater Scholarship, Jones said he was “more proud of our school than I was of myself. Some people may not think about Villanova in that way, but they should.”

Villanova is sure to hear of Morgan Jones’ groundbreaking discoveries and future achievements as he continues his explorations in science and nature.
Stringing Together: The New Villanova Sextet

BY SARAH DEFIllIPPS '06 A&S

A lthough some students may opt to leave their instruments at home when entering college, the more musically inclined Villanovans choose to continue their passion for melody through Villanova University’s Office of Music Activities.

At last summer’s Villanova Music Camp, a unique group of talented females aligned, marking the start of Villanova’s new string sextet. On August 13, the freshmen entered the Music Camp, eager to begin their careers as Wildcats. Villanova’s free, week-long Camp, held right before New Student Orientation, gives incoming students as well as upperclassmen the opportunity to perform in music, dance, choirs, band front and theatre.

For John Dunphy, director of Music Activities, the formation of the group was a “moment of serendipity—things just started happening.” Dunphy, current director of the sextet, explained, “They are six ladies with lovely talents that answered the call for the Villanova Orchestra.”

Although the members—Colleen Avery ’09 Nur., Catherine Bautista ’09 Nur., Trisha Cadungon ’09 A&S, Gloria Chung ’09 C&F, Julie Gennaro ’09 A&S and Heather Stewart ’09 A&S—had never met prior to the Music Camp, they seemed to have a natural ability to work together as a musical team. They orchestrate their talents through the violin, harp, viola, string bass and cello.

According to first violinist Chung, “John Dunphy saw how we bonded and played together so well, even from the start. So, we decided to become our own chamber ensemble as the Villanova Orchestra came together at the beginning of the school year.” The only string component entering into the orchestra, the sextet fell into place just a week after camp began.

The string instrumentalists range in experience levels from four to 10 years. While Bautista became inspired to play the viola at a young age after listening to the deep, melodious sound of her brother’s practicing, Cadungon began to play the string bass to fill a need in her high school’s concert band. Avery has played both the violin and viola for nine years, and Stewart has strung harp cords for four years following an immediate attraction to the instrument. Gennaro added the cello to her musical repertoire in the fourth grade, following three years of piano lessons that served as the foundation for her music appreciation. Chung began developing her interest in the violin during the fourth grade as well, and for the past four years has been tutored by the Philadelphia Orchestra’s Yumi Ninomiya Scott.

With this breadth of experience, it is not surprising that the newly formed group has already garnered an impressive start at Villanova. After only a few weeks of practicing together, the group gave a highly successful performance at the Parents’ Weekend reception last September. Avery looks back fondly on the experience: “We surprised each other and ourselves with the way we came together under such short notice. It was a proud moment as a team where we felt like professionals!”

Since their highly applauded debut, the six have participated in two other engagements on campus. The sextet meets weekly with Dunphy in St. Mary’s Hall, as time permits. Although its members wish they could devote more time to their love of music, scheduling has become difficult with the demands of school.

These multifaceted musicians not only possess strong creative talents but also hold high hopes for academically challenging careers. Several are working toward a career in science. Stewart, for example, is double majoring in astronomy and astrophysics. While their employment goals may diverge from their passion for musical pursuits, all six plan to continue using their string instruments as an outlet for expression and fun. Their talent could even serve as a means of funding their educational endeavors: Stewart jokes, “Playing at weddings and restaurants may even be a great side job as I go through graduate school. It would be much better than waiting tables!”

In a few short months, these six freshmen not only have transitioned into the Villanova community but also have gained a lifetime bond through a mutual appreciation and love for music. They look forward to many more performances and memories in the coming year.

“If you are interested in having the string sextet perform at an event, please contact John Dunphy at john.dunphy@villanova.edu.

“...we came together under such short notice.”

—Colleen Avery ’09 Nur.
The once ramshackle SEPTA commuter train station serving the Villanova University campus looks brand-new now because of the persistence of Ed McCusker ’06 C&F and the help of Pennsylvania state Sen. Stewart J. Greenleaf (R-12th District).

McCusker, who has been involved in Villanova’s Student Government Association (SGA) since his sophomore year, said the project was not a simple endeavor. As chair of the SGA’s Campus Improvements Committee, he works to enhance the University’s aesthetic value. He realized that the train station has been problematic for years—not only unappealing visually, but physically dangerous to train patrons.

“The station is not part of Villanova’s property,” McCusker said. “So, because of legal issues, Villanova was not allowed to make repairs.” Knowing this, McCusker attempted to contact SEPTA directly, but his efforts were unsuccessful. At this point, he decided to take a different route and got in touch with Greenleaf.

Noted Greenleaf, “I was very impressed that the student leaders were so involved and tenacious.” A member of the SEPTA board, the state senator was aware that the Villanova station was in a state of deterioration and that this was not an image the transportation company would want to project. So Greenleaf went directly to the head of SEPTA.

Within two weeks of McCusker’s call to Greenleaf, improvements began on the station. Repairs included new gutters and overall painting, as well as fixing those dangerous loose wires. The entire process, fully paid for and contracted by SEPTA, was finished in approximately five weeks last summer. “Constant pressure was necessary and paid off,” McCusker said. He monitored the project, as well as other campus improvements. He also chaired the committee for the repair and renovation of the South Campus gym, which took place last summer.

Serving the R5 Thorndale/Paoli route, the commuter train station on the edge of campus is used frequently by students, faculty and staff.

McCusker expressed his appreciation not only to Greenleaf but to Robert Morro Jr., executive director of Facilities Management at Villanova, for their help on the project.
The Wildcats:
A History of Villanovans in Professional Sports

BY MICHAEL P. CONNOLLY ’72 A&S
SHANGHAI LEXICOGRAPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE
397 PAGES HARDBOUND
$78.00

This is a book by a Villanovan, about Villanovans, for Villanova sports fans everywhere. Michael P. Connolly ’72 A&S was a teacher and also worked in the minor leagues and did professional photography for sports and politics. He had a very serious, research-rich hobby for more than 20 years: He was on a mission to chronicle the professional careers of former Wildcat student-athletes. His intention was to give something back to his alma mater. He also wanted to preserve a part of athletic history at Villanova University that was slowly being forgotten due to the passing of time.

Connolly’s starting point and inspiration came from his father, Dr. Joseph P. Connolly ’33 A&S, and his uncle, John F. Connolly ’24 C&F (both are deceased), as well as from other family and friends in his hometown of Stamford, Conn. His research took him to every professional sports Hall of Fame across the United States. Private collections, libraries and professional sports organizations donated materials for his book.

The book is presented in two parts. Part I is a biographic anthology of the athletes and Part II is the author’s scrapbook “of events and athletic endeavors, a history of sports development, and the place individuals and teams played in that development,” noted his wife, Nancy E. Brown Connolly ’73 Nur., in the book’s preface. The scrapbook highlights more than 640 photographs, memorabilia and some factual surprises.

The biographies begin at the collegiate level and go on to describe in detail the professional careers. Each entry in Part I is a separate read, complete with comments and anecdotes from the athletes. And since these are post-Villanova experiences, they offer a fresh look into the lives of many of the Wildcats who became professional athletes—before their stories disappear from Villanova’s rich athletic history.

The book’s cast of characters begins with Denny Mark, who played baseball at Villanova from 1868-69. Other athletes profiled, to mention some at random, include Fred “King” Lear ’15, baseball; Lou Pessalano ’29, football; John “Brick” Dora ’24, football; Alex Bell ’38, football; Mickey Vernon, who played for the Wildcats in 1937 before joining the pros; Joseph Restic ’52 A&S, football; Frank Budd ’60 A&S, track and field; Mike Siani ’72 C&F, football; Chris Ford ’72 C&F, basketball; Dwayne McClain ’85 C&F, basketball; Shelly Pennefather ’87 A&S (now Sister Rose Marie), basketball; Brad Parpan ’93 A&S, football; and Kerry Kittles ’96 C&F, basketball. In all, 175 athletes are profiled, including some easily identifiable ones, such as Howie Long ’82 A&S, Ed Pinckney ’85 A&S, Harold Pressley ’86 A&S, Stewart Granger ’83 A&S, Bill Melchionni ’66 C&F, Paul Westhead ’63 G.S. and Larry James ’70 A&S.

The last biographical entry is for Tim Thomas, who attended Villanova in 1996-97 before turning pro in basketball. Several recent athletes did not make it into this book, for in September 2001, Michael Connolly suddenly passed away. He had concluded gathering all the information for his book. Nancy Connolly was able to take her husband’s manuscript through the publishing process.

“This was truly Michael’s project,” Nancy Connolly recalled. “Divine intervention clearly was part of the completion process. So many family and friends who knew of Michael’s mission came to my aid. Without them, I don’t know if it would be finished. I am so relieved that I could finish the book for him. I knew I had to do it, but I didn’t know if I could. To me it was sacred trust just to finish this for him.”

—Reviewed by Holly Stratts

The Wildcats’ Proceeds to Fund Scholarships for Villanovans

Proceeds from The Wildcats will be used to fund the Michael P. Connolly Legacy Foundation. Family and friends formed the nonprofit organization to provide scholarships to Villanova University students who, due to the death of a parent, become financially unable to continue their education. It was established in memory of the author, Michael P. Connolly ’72 A&S, who had envisioned this book as a gift to fellow Villanovans.

Connolly worked tirelessly to promote Villanova University. He served for 15 years on the board of the Villanova University Alumni Association (VUAA) and helped form the Los Angeles alumni chapter. He was working on a way to provide scholarships to aspiring Villanovans who had a family legacy in the University but were unable to afford the cost. The Legacy Foundation will carry on his goal of meeting the immediate needs of enrolled students with financial hardship due to the death of a parent, and then expand to include those sons and daughters of Villanova who because of a family tragedy need additional financial assistance.

Contributions may be sent to: The Michael P. Connolly Legacy Foundation P.O. Box 2075 Media, PA 19063-9998
Hell Is Upon Us: D-Day in the Pacific, June-August 1944

By Dr. Victor Brooks
Perseus Books Group
319 pp. Hardcover
$27.50

Dr. Victor Brooks makes history...interesting in his 319-page depiction of the other D-Day, the one launched just days after the Allies landed on the beaches of Normandy. On June 14, 1944, 800 U.S. ships bearing 162,000 troops headed for the central Pacific to re-take the Marianas (including Guam) from the Japanese. Describing the Marianas campaign in its entirety, Hell Is Upon Us carefully examines the differences in the Japanese and American approach, plan and execution of this World War II campaign that spelled the end for Japan’s naval air fleet.

What truly makes this book a good read is its novel-like persona. The pages combine romance, facts, war stories and human interest details. The reader learns what happened behind the scenes. Brooks breaks down the events in terms and ways that any civilian can comprehend. He writes of how certain Japanese commanders who had attended American universities became gung-ho about taking down the Americans even though they predicted with absolute accuracy their own imminent defeat. He tells how the Americans, by continuing to train more and more pilots and rotating novice and veteran fliers, gained air superiority in the long run compared to the kamikaze efforts of the Japanese top guns.

Brooks is a professor of education and human services at Villanova University and author of seven books on military history. He runs his classes a lot like this book. Whether reaching the ultimate aim of telling the story of D-Day in the Pacific, or getting through the syllabus, he stops here and there along the way to tell side stories that give insight into the reasons why certain events happened.

This book will appeal to history buffs, novices looking to get started or those who want to find out more about World War II. It’s told in a way that keeps the reader interested and still contains enough details to satisfy the most knowledgeable of readers. Hell Is Upon Us is an excellent read whether you are looking to learn more about the war or simply want to be entertained.

Brooks’ The Normandy Campaign from D-Day to the Liberation of Paris was reviewed in the Summer 2002 Villanova Magazine.

—Reviewed by Lisa DiTuro ’06 A&S

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*Figure based on a March 2005 sample of auto policyholder savings when comparing their former premium with those of Liberty Mutual’s group auto and home program. Individual premiums and savings will vary. **Discounts, credits and program features are available where state laws and regulations allow and may vary by state. Certain discounts apply to specific coverages only. To the extent permitted by law, applicants are individually underwritten; not all applicants may qualify. Service applies to auto policyholders and is provided by Cross Country Motor Club of Boston, Inc., Boston, MA or through Cross Country Motor Club of California, Inc., Boston, MA. Coverage provided and underwritten by Liberty Mutual Insurance Company and its affiliates, 175 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA. © 2006 Liberty Mutual Insurance Company. All Rights Reserved.
Class Notes

Top 'Cats Luncheon during Alumni Reunion Weekend: June 9-11, 2006

1940s
Class of 1941: 65th Reunion, June 9-11, 2006
Class of 1946: 60th Reunion, June 9-11, 2006

1950s
Class of 1951: 55th Reunion, June 9-11, 2006
Class of 1956: 50th Reunion, June 9-11, 2006

1960s
James J. “Jim” Murray ’60 A&S, Engl., president of Jim Murray Ltd., a sports promotion and marketing firm in Rosemont, Pa., and former general manager of the Philadelphia Eagles, received a 2005 award for Outstanding Catholic Leadership from the Catholic Leadership Institute. He is most proud of establishing the first Ronald McDonald House in Philadelphia. He and his wife, Dianne, are the parents of five children and have four grandchildren.

Class of 1961: 45th Reunion, June 9-11, 2006
Theodore T. Gotsch, Esq., ’63 C&F, Eco. retired after 35 years with the federal government, most recently as administrative law judge for the U.S. Social Security Administration in Long Beach, Calif. He served for more than 25 years as a senior trial attorney and counsel for the Office of the Solicitor, U.S. Department of Labor, in New York City.

Stephen Feinstein ’64 C&F, Eco., is director of the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. He is the editor of Absence/Presence: Critical Essays on the Artistic Memory of the Holocaust (2005, Syracuse University Press).

The Rev. Denis G. Wilde, O.S.A., ’65 A&S, Gen., is a priest associate at Priests for Life in Staten Island, N.Y., a position he has held for the seven years. An accomplished pianist and choral director with a Ph.D. in music, he taught at Villanova University from 1977 to 1998. According to the Priests for Life Web site, Father Wilde “feels a unique interest in integrating music and pro-life ministry much as the heart is moved through beauty in life.”

Class of 1966: 40th Reunion, June 9-11, 2006
Stephen T. Carney ’67 A&S, Soc., is pleased with the progress being made on a medical discovery by his company, M.C. Molecular. In clinical trials, a single dose of an all-natural pair of molecules brought about a significant decrease in the HIV virus in patients. Carney is president of Carney Capital Management in E. Greenwich, R.I.

Thomas Balschi, D.D.S., ’68 A&S, Soc., founder of Prosthodontics Intermedia in Fort Washington, Pa., in December 2005 performed a live Teeth in An Hour surgery on ABC’s “Good Morning America.” This was a television first.

Terry Brophy ’68 A&S, Chem., is divisional vice president for Send Global Telecommunications in Newark, Del. He also serves as a consultant for the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Dr. Susan Chianese Slaninka ’69 Nur., adjunct faculty member in the Villanova University College of Nursing, authored two chapters, “Self Care” and “Chronic Disease” in the textbook Faith Community Nursing by Dr. Janet Hickman (2005, Lippincott Williams and Wilkins).

1970s
Dr. Barry C. Johnson ’70 M.E., dean of the Villanova University College of Engineering, has been elected to the board of directors of Rockwell Automation Inc. in Milwaukee.

Dr. Gloria J. McNeal ’70 Nur., associate professor and assistant dean, student affairs, at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey School of Nursing, received a grant of $860,000 for the advancement of nursing education.

Ralph Nevel ’70 E.E. was named technical manager, electrical engineering services, at Spotts, Stevens and McCoy Inc., an engineering and consulting firm in Reading, Pa.

Robert Pizzano ’70 C.E. is deputy director of facilities at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, with responsibility for planning, design, construction, operations and utilities.

Class of 1971: 35th Reunion, June 9-11, 2006
Paul Garnier ’72 A&S, Bio., a candidate for a master’s degree at Rutgers University, plans to teach science and technology at the secondary school level. He retired from partnership in his engineering consulting firm.

Louise Grosso Riley ’72 Nur. was promoted to assistant dean for distance education at Thomas Edison State College in Trenton, N.J.

Michael Randazza ’75 A&S, Gen. is a financial advisor with UBS Financial Services in Westfield, N.J.

Class of 1976: 30th Reunion, June 9-11, 2006

Richard Skorny ’79 C&F, Acct., was honored with a 2005 Presidential Rank Award, Meritorious Executive. The awards celebrate the leadership and exceptional accomplishments of longterm federal employees. Skorny is with the Internal Revenue Service.

Lawrence R. Woehrle, Esq., ’80 A&S, Engl. was selected by his peers as a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer in...
the field of employment litigation. He practices with the Philadelphia law firm of Saul H. Krenzel & Associates.


Mary Viner Enzier ’81 Nur. notes the beginning of a Villanova tradition in her family. Son Douglas Enzier ’02 C&F, Econ. is a Villanovan, and youngest son Greg is a freshman at the University.

Murray S. Kessler ’81 C&F, Bus. Adm. was named president and chief operating officer at UST Inc. in Greenwich, Conn. He had been president of U.S. Smokeless Tobacco Company, a UST subsidiary. Kessler holds an M.B.A. from New York University’s Stern School of Business and is a member of the Young Presidents Organization, the National Association of Convenience Stores and the American Wholesale Marketers Association.


Keith DeMatteis ’83 C&F, Acct. and Charles McInnis ’97 C&F, Fin. opened the sales office of Block Hall, a 1927 building converted to luxury condos in Manhattan’s financial district. DeMatteis, who is chief financial officer at DeMatteis International Group, also works with Kevin DeMatteis ’86 A&S, Pol. Sci.

Gerard A. Malanga, M.D., ’83 A&S, Bio. was named director of sports medicine at Mountainside Hospital in Montclair, N.J. He is founder and director of the New Jersey Sports Medicine Institute in Verona and director of pain management at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

John Abruzzo ’84 C.E. was promoted to principal at Thornton-Tomasetti Engineers in New York City.

Michael J. Garland ’85 C.E. is deputy director of environmental services for Monroe County, N.Y. He works with the director, John Graham ’72 C.E.

Dorrie Breznek Rambo ’85 C&F, Acct., of Baton Rouge, La., rode out Hurricane Katrina with her husband and three daughters. Later the family celebrated the 50th wedding anniversary of her parents in Sugar Land, Texas. Her father is Stanley Breznek ’55 C&F, Econ.

Michael Thome ’85 C&F, Acct. in June 2005 was named vice president for finance and CFO of the seafood company Icelandic U.S.A. Inc. in Newport News, Va. He resides with his wife and four children in Williamsburg.

1990s

Dr. Frances Anne Musto ’90 M.S.N. in July 2005 received her doctorate in clinical psychology from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Navy Lt. Cmdr. Wistar Langhorne Rhodes ’90 A&S, Eco. in December 2004 received an M.S. degree in management and human resources from the University of Maryland.

Class of 1986: 20th Reunion, June 9-11, 2006

Michael Papile ’86 A&S, Eco., managing director at the Boston investment firm of Covington Associates LLC, published an article in Inbound Logistics exploring ways for companies to outsourcing transportation assets.

David Loipersberger ’88 C&F, Bus. Adm. was promoted to senior vice president/branch manager for Wachovia Securities in Yardley, Pa.

Sheila Kearsn Christie, Esq., ’89 A&S, Phil., ’89 A&S, Hon., a partner in the Portsmouth, N.H., law office of Pierce Atwood, was named to the New Hampshire Board of Accountancy for a five-year term.

Daniel W. Deitrich, Esq., ’89 A&S, Pol. Sci. was named a shareholder in the law firm of Marshall, Dennehey, Warner, Coleman & Goggin. He works in the Pittsburgh office.


Agnes M. Morrison, Ed.D., ’91 M.S.N. coordinates the nursing laboratory at Jefferson College of Health Professions in Philadelphia. She earned her doctoral degree at Nova Southeastern University.

Judith M. Young ’91 M.S.N., a retired adjunct faculty member in the Villanova University College of Nursing, and her daughter, Amy McKeever, M.S.N., a current adjunct faculty member and a doctoral candidate at the College, co-authored “Continuity and Accountability for Patients with Hysterectomy” in Perspectives-Recovery Strategies from the OR to Home (Vol. 6, No. 2).

Anthony Ciccarone ’92 C&F, Fin., ’93 M.B.A. is director of managed account product research and development at Nuveen Investments in Chicago.

Robert Varnay ’92 A&S, Gen., is a research analyst at the philanthropic investment firm Geneva Global Inc. in Wayne, Pa.

Teresa Caro ’93 C&F, Mgt. was appointed Internet marketing strategy lead at the Avenue A/Razorfish agency in Atlanta. She had been founder and president of Caro Consulting and was the 2004-05 president of the Atlanta Interactive Marketing Association.

Suzann Ordile, Esq., ’93 A&S, Engl. announces the opening of her law office, Suzann Ordile, P.C., a full service general practice serving clients in the Massachusetts counties of Essex, Middlesex and Suffolk.

Marine Maj. James Rich ’93 A&S, Pol. Sci. is the public affairs representative at Riverside (Calif.) National Cemetery, the fifth-largest one operated by the National Cemetery Administration of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Kerry J. Roach, Esq., ’94 A&S, Comm., joined the Somerville, N.J., law firm of Norris McLaughlin & Marcus, P.A., as an associate. She concentrates her practice in products liability defense.

Kimberly A. Conroy ’95 C&F, Acct. is chief operating officer of the Beverly, Mass., investment management firm of Essex Street Associates. She holds an M.B.A. from Babson College.

Tom Hamel ’95 C&F, Acct. is director of finance, administration and technology at Generations Incorporated, a Boston-based organization that engages older adults in tutoring and mentoring children. Hamel received a 2004 AmeriCorps Alumni National Spirit of Service Award.

Karen Lauffer Hoff ’95 A&S, Bio., ’95 A&S, Hon. is co-owner and vice president of LED-Lightbars Inc. in Houston. The firm, founded by Hoff and her husband, custom-builds lightbars and sirens for EMS, fire, police and other emergency vehicles. At Villanova University, she had been a member of VEMS, the student-run ambulance service.
Two Villanovans who are attorneys with Cozen O’Connor were included in the December 2005 Philadelphia Magazine and Pennsylvania Super Lawyers—Rising Stars edition. They are (left) James P. Cullen Jr., Esq., ‘88 C&F, Acct. and John F. Quinn, Esq., ’94 C&F, Mgt.

Class of 1996: 10th Reunion, June 9-11, 2006

Dr. James Marshall ’96 A&S, Astron./Astro., in December 2004 received a Ph.D. in astronomy from the University of Maryland. He is a software engineer for Innovim, which is in Washington, D.C.

Carla M. Carvalho, M.D., ’97 A&S, Bio., a graduate of Rush Medical College, is a surgical resident at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

Megan Clancy Castano ’97 A&S, Phil., is program manager for the Summit, N.J.-based Family Promise, an organization seeking to redress homelessness and help low-income families nationwide to achieve independence. She returned to Villanova University in September 2005 to speak about careers in social justice for a lecture series sponsored by the University of Kansas Medical Center in October 2005, as is now a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Pittsburgh.

Joy Waronick Migliaccio ’98 A&S, Eng., a reading specialist at Brooklawn Middle School in Parsippany, N.J., earned a master’s degree in reading and certification as a reading specialist, both from Montclair State University.

Dr. Brian Hermann ’99 A&S, Bio., who received his doctoral degree in molecular and integrative physiology from the University of Pennsylvania in October 2005, is now a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Pittsburgh.

Joy M. Reidy ’99 C&E, was promoted to vice president at the environmental consulting firm of Metcalf & Eddy, where he manages the firm’s efforts in Atlanta.

Patrick Cavanaugh ’00 C&F, M.I.S., was promoted to controller at the YES Network (Yankee Entertainment & Sports Network) in New York City.

2000s

Toni Nicole Benedetti, Esq., ’00 A&S, Spanish Lang./Lit., is an associate in the Philadelphia law firm of Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young LLP.

Bradley M. Boyd ’00 M.P.A., in January 2004 received a master of education degree from Wilmington College.

Rani Price ’00 M.B.A., is senior finance officer in the finance division of the United Nations.

Braydon J. Boland ’00 C&F, C&E., is in Washington, D.C.

Navy Ens. Amanda H. Zawora ’04 A&S, Math., is assigned to the guided missile cruiser USS Chosin, homedepmed in Pearl Harbor. She served in the Persian Gulf in support of the global war on terrorism while assigned to Expeditionary Strike Group 1.

Katherine Neville Gray ’02 C&F, Art., is working in Scotland as portfolio monitoring and control assistant in the fund services division at Aberdeen Asset Management. She will live in Aberdeen for a year while her husband participates in a graduate engineer exchange program.

Bonnie J. Baker ’03 G.S., Couns./Hum. Rel., earned certification as a National Certified Counselor from the National Board for Certified Counselors Inc. She is with the Mirmont Treatment Center in Lima, Pa.

Navy Ltjg. Nancy Miller ’03 Nur., is an R.N. in the intensive care unit at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. In September, she will begin a two-year tour at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Yokosuka, Japan.

Navy Ens. Amanda H. Zawora ’04 A&S, Math., is assigned to the guided missile cruiser USS Chosin, homeported in Pearl Harbor. She served in the Persian Gulf in support of the global war on terrorism while assigned to Expeditionary Strike Group 1.

Geoffrey Hill ’05 A&S, Comm., is a sales representative at the Avalon Real Estate Agency in Avalon, N.J.

Marriages

1980s-1990s

Michael Dell’Arciprete ’87 C&F, Acct., married Ethel Zampa.


Lorrie Browne ’91 A&S, Eco., married Tim Chance.

Andrew DeMarco ’93 A&S, Psy., married Diane Borden.

Tina Niemburg ’94 Nur., married Dr. Amadi Reazi.

Kimberly A. Conroy ’95 C&F, Acct., married Peter Borans.


Deborah Maes ’96 C&F, Acct., married Joe Charles.


Carla M. Carvalho, M.D., ’97 A&S, Bio., married John Kevin Ratliff, M.D.

Victoria Makarewicz ’97 Ch.E., married Robert Clark.

M. Consuelo V. Martinez-Mena ’97 C&F, Mgt., married James J. Corcoran.


Bridge Cooper ’99 A&S, Comm., married Peter Osterhaus.


Births

1980s


Michael J. Garland ’85 C.E., twins, boy and girl.

Dawn Baran Timberlake ’87 E.E., boy.

John H. Cinguina ’89 C.E., girl.
Happy 100!
Join us in wishing happy birthday to Catherine Rath, longtime employee in Villanova University’s Housekeeping Department. She will celebrate her 100th birthday on July 1.

Wende Page Salyards ’89 Nur., boy.
Jacqueline Kren Schieferdecker ’89 C&F, Acct., boy.

1990s
Laura Murphy Brann ’90 C&F, Acct., boy.
Valerie Burt Discafani ’91 A&S, Geog., twins, boy and girl.
Kristen Flansburg Indahl ’91 A&S, Bio., boy.
Mark Kester ’91 A&S, Comp. Prog. and Viki Ostick Kester ’92 Nur., boy.
Victor J. Pumo ’91 C&F, Mkt., boy.
Kurt Rosnell ’91 C&F, Mkt., girl.
Jessica Chicone Ayers ’92 C&F, Acct., boy.
Rob Briles ’92 A&S, Comm., boy.
Brian Erdlen ’92 C&F, Acct., girl.
Mary Zoll Freilich ’92 C&F, Mgt., girl.
David Mehok ’92 C&F, Acct., twin girls.
David Connelly ’93 C&F, Fin., boy.
Bridget Mahoney Schmitz ’93 A&S, Math., boy.
Bernadine O’Leary Cataldo ’94 Ch.E., ’94 M.Ch.E., boy.
Julianne Gadsby-Fisher ’94 C.E., girl.
Jennifer Rogers Greiner ’94 Nur., boy.
Bernadette Tartaglia Kearns ’94 A&S, Gen., boy.
Gina Priano Keyser ’94 G.S., Theat., girl.
Aimee Schipper Kuhn ’94 C&F, Acct., girl.
Mary Lou Marguardt Laurie ’94 C&F, Fin., girl.
Carol Kim Tilson ’94 Nur., boy.

Karolyn Boyd Devaney ’95 Nur., girl.
Steve Goodfriend ’95 A&S, Bio., girl.
Christopher Gullotta ’95 C&F, Acct. and Nicole Kundrat Gullotta ’95 A&S, Comm., boy.
Simon Tiffen ’95 A&S, Hist. and Jennifer O’Rourke Tiffen ’95 Nur., boy.
Matthew Abate ’96 C&F, Fin., boy.
Ryan Butler ’96 C&F, Econ., boy.
Robert Duffy ’96 Ch.E. and Cathy Topper Duffy ’96 M.E., girl.
Raymond Knapp ’96 C&F, Mgt., girl.
Kathleen Williams Principe ’96 Nur., ’01 M.S.N., girl.
Lindsey Sellay Strubhar ’96 C&F, Acct., girl.
Mario Marie DellaRocca Villipique ’96 C&F, Acct., boy.
Jeanine Cummings Deramo ’97 A&S, Gen., girl.
Jennifer Gamber Meenan ’97 Nur., boy.
Brian Tortorella ’97 C&F, Acct., boy.
Christopher Duff ’98 C&F, Fin. and Caroline Travieso Duff ’97 Nur., girl.
Michaela Quinn Pavlik ’98 C&F, Fin., boy.
Christopher Kenney ’99 M.E., girl.

Class Notes Submission Form*
Have you received an honor, award or promotion? Did you earn another degree, get married or have a baby? Submit this Class Notes form via fax to (610) 519-7583 or mail to Editor-in-Chief, Villanova Magazine, Villanova University, Alumni House, 800 Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, PA 19085. Please send photos by mail or e-mail digital photos to alumni@villanova.edu. Digital photos should be jpeg or tif format that are 300 dpi and preferably at least 3 x 5 inches.

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MEMORIAL TRIBUTE

A Visionary Military Leader

“The great burden for leaders in this time is to recognize the inevitable and turn it into a virtue.”
—Navy Vice Adm. Arthur K. Cebrowski (Ret.), ’64 A&S

“He was the Pentagon’s driving force for change,” wrote Arnaud de Borchgrave,UPI editor at large, recalling how in the fall of 2001 Navy Vice Adm. Arthur K. Cebrowski (Ret.) ’64 A&S, Math. took charge of the Office of Force Transformation for the Department of Defense. Cebrowski’s mission was to guide the U.S. military into what he had termed “network-centric warfare,” aimed at radically changing training, as well as the allocation of resources. The military would be more agile, linked by high-tech communications and capable of defense on several fronts at once.

Cebrowski, who died of cancer on November 12, 2005, at the age of 63, was buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery. The article by Irene Burgo also mentioned his 1999 visit to his alma mater to address the NRTOG Unit. From 1998 to his retirement from the Navy in October 2001, Cebrowski served as president of the Naval War College in Newport, R.I.

Cebrowski is survived by his wife, Kathrynn; their two daughters; his parents; a brother and sister; and seven grandchildren.


2000s

Emily Cartwright Poole ’00 A&S, Theol./Rel. Studies, boy.
Gary Shumate ’01 C&F, Fin., girl.

In Memoriam

1930s-1940s

Joseph J. Devoldre ’43 Ch.E., on September 21, 2005.
John Appleton Sr., ’49 M.E., on November 14, 2005.

1950s

Jack R. Crossin ’50 A&S, Bios., on December 6, 2005.
Joseph F. Hovell ’50 C.E., on September 7, 2005.
Sister Grace Francis Kirchner, O.S.F., ’51 G.S., Engl., on February 18, 2005.
Joseph Maddern ’52 E.E., on March 5, 2005.
Sister Eleanor C. Iorio ’56 G.S., Rel. Studies, on October 9, 2005.
Michael Walsh ’57 C&F, Eco., on December 31, 2005.


1960s

Francis W. Penn ’60 A&S, Eco., on November 25, 2005.
Francis C. Mulvaney ’63 G.S., Math., on September 5, 2005.
John Tracy ’63 C&F, Eco., on November 15, 2005.
Brian Driscoll ’64 C&F, Acct. on October 21, 2005.
Sam N. Habash ’65 Ch.E., on August 28, 2005.
Girish B. Sawhney ’68 M.E., on December 9, 2005.

1970s


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There’s no time like the present to send in your registration form or register online at: alumni.villanova.edu. Our Reunion Web pages will give you the latest information and schedules; you can even see who is coming. So register for Alumni Reunion Weekend 2006 and don’t miss the best of times.