Dear Villanova Alumni and Friends:

The new academic year has commenced, the campus is full of activity and the Class of 2012 is starting their Villanova journey. As this year’s freshmen begin their educational experience, the Class of 2008 is embarking on a new beginning of a different kind. At Commencement in May, I welcomed them as the newest members of the Villanova alumni family and charged them with bringing the values they learned here into their careers and their communities. This role, shared by all of our alumni, preserves our traditions and provides a common thread that links generations of Villanovans.

This summer, I had the opportunity to travel to Rome to sign an extension of an exclusive agreement that enables students in our communication and computing sciences programs to intern at the Vatican. While in Rome, our group traveled to Ostia, where we walked in the footsteps of St. Augustine. It was there that Augustine prepared to start a new life dedicated to Christ. It was, in many ways, the beginning of a lifelong journey for Augustine—literally a journey of international travel, as well as a deep, life-changing spiritual journey. It reminded me of the journey each Villanovan is called to, a lifelong pursuit of Veritas, Unitas, Caritas; of Truth, Unity, Love.

With our mutual commitment to these Augustinian ideals in mind, I invite every member of the Villanova community to take part in the events that make up our annual St. Thomas of Villanova Celebration on September 19 and 20. In particular, I encourage you to participate in the Day of Service on Saturday, September 20. This is a great way to join with students, faculty, staff, alumni and family to put into action the values our community holds dear. Opportunities exist to serve at locations throughout Greater Philadelphia or in your own area (see page 48 for details).

There is a lot going on at Villanova. I encourage you to explore what’s new and what’s happening, whether by visiting campus or visiting our Web site at www.villanova.edu.

Sincerely,

Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S
President
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Summer 2008
Eyes on the Prize

Physical Challenges Don’t Deter ’08 Graduates

By Jennifer Schu
Carl Riccio ’08 VSB has never backed down from a challenge. As a high school athlete, he was a national caliber baseball player and county wrestling champ, sought after by college recruiters. When his life changed in a single moment at age 17, he continued to set the bar high for himself. He enters law school in the fall, with an eye on a career in politics. Alisha Welch ’08 A&S is equally determined to make her mark on the world — by making it more accessible for people with disabilities. Described as “tough as nails” she, too, is heading to law school this fall and plans to become a legal advocate for the disabled. “There is no reason why every person shouldn’t have access to any store, restaurant or historic site they want to visit,” she declared.

When interviewed the week before graduation, Carl and Alisha were full of plans — to attend Senior Week events, look for apartments and more. These rites of passage might be more physically challenging for them than for your average 22-year-old — but then, Carl and Alisha are anything but average.

**Carl: He’s All About Hope**

It’s not difficult to imagine Carl one day on the campaign trail. With his smile and sense of humor, he puts everyone around him at ease. He’s been a public speaker since the age of 17, and was one of the few college students in the country who could always count on a governor returning his phone call.

He has a gift for finance — he enjoys playing the stock market with his own money — and an interest in business that stems from summers working at his father’s pharmacy. He has shared what his former high school teacher Gene McAteer calls his “sincere and passionate approach to life” with audiences throughout his home state of New Jersey.

“Seeing how focused Carl is on his goals and the example he sets for others is inspirational,” said McAteer, who invited Carl to be a motivational guest speaker at a youth basketball camp.

“This is a kid who had to carry a 200-pound weight on his back every day, and go to college on top of it,” said Stephen McWilliams, Villanova’s director of International Students and Human Services. “Yet Carl has such patience with life, and he’s all about hope. He takes everything in stride.”

Carl had wanted to attend Villanova since his junior year of high school. His brother, Peter Riccio ’05 VSB, was a member of the Villanova baseball team, and Carl stayed with him. “I had a great time, and really liked the campus,” he recalls.

Carl himself was a standout baseball player, and all of the Riccio kids — Kerry, Peter, Carl, Shane and Tyler — are exceptional athletes. “Sports were a huge part of my life from ever since I could remember,” Carl said.

The Warren, N.J., native also excelled at wrestling. In his junior year he was undefeated and considered a strong contender for a state title.

During one of the last meets before the state championships, his scheduled opponent couldn’t “make weight.” Carl could have accepted an automatic forfeit, but that wasn’t — and isn’t — in his nature.

“I wanted to prepare for the state tournament, and I wanted a competitive match,” he remembered. So he moved up a weight class and took on the same opponent.

During the match, Carl suffered a severe spinal cord injury. In the weeks that followed, as their community rallied around them, Carl and his family learned that the accident had left him a quadriplegic.

“Obviously, my dreams of playing professional sports weren’t going to happen anymore,” Carl said calmly. “I had good grades before I got hurt, but [afterwards], I think I concentrated even more on my schoolwork and knew it was something I was going to have to do to be successful in life.”

Peter Riccio ’08 VSB has a gift for finance and enjoyed playing the stock market with his own funds, while earning grades that earned him a spot in law school this fall.
That fall he returned to high school for his senior year. He was elected homecoming king and captain of the wrestling and baseball teams.

Carl was accepted to Villanova through the early admission program. Though he would have his brother Peter and two cousins, Ryan Carey ’07 and John Carey ’10, on campus for his freshman year, he knew it wasn’t going to be easy.

**Adjusting to college life**

When he arrived at Villanova, Carl was assigned a room in Sheehan Hall, where he lived throughout his college career. His cousin Ryan lived across the hall. He also met Stephen McWilliams, who advises students with disabilities.

McWilliams helped Carl get his personal workout equipment set up in a gym on South Campus. There, Carl worked out on a cardio machine several times a week, wearing bike pants fitted with electrodes to stimulate his muscles and keep them toned. “Carl truly believes he will someday walk again and wants to stay fit,” McWilliams said.

Carl had a live-in aide to assist him with daily living tasks, and another, Betty Berry, who accompanied him to classes and helped him take notes. Few of Carl’s classmates realized the effort and time it took—more than two hours—for him to get ready for class every morning. But they quickly noticed his smarts.

“Carl had a real knack for business strategy. He was a great asset to his business simulation group, in which students ‘ran’ their own companies and competed against each other,” said William Fitzpatrick, business fellow at the Institute for Research in Advanced Business and operations, Villanova School of Business (VSB).

“Carl was a fully developed student when I taught him,” said David Narocki, Ph.D., assistant professor of management and operations, Villanova School of Business (VSB).

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“Alisha: “I Wanted the Adventure.”


In early childhood, a tumor on her spine left her without the use of her legs. Since then, the Marlton, N.J., native has acquired a resolve that seems to make molehills out of any mountains in her way.

“Alisha’s got a kind of grit to her that makes her well-suited to the field of law,” said Dr. Adele Lindenmeyr, the advisor for Alisha’s senior thesis. “I admire her because she’s a really serious student, and I think she’ll make a very significant impact in the field.”

Alisha missed three weeks of her freshman year when she was hospitalized with appendicitis, and was in the hospital a total of 10 times between her sophomore and junior years at Villanova. Yet she never missed a semester and graduated cum laude with a degree in history and a 3.5 G.P.A.

“Alisha has known what she wants to do for several years, and has quite intentionally and remarkably prepared the way,” observed Dr. Catherine Kerrison, a history professor who taught Alisha.

Dr. Paul Steege, assistant professor of history, added, “She demonstrates precisely the kind of open engagement and

Alisha Welch ’O8 A&S shares a laugh with some friends on campus.
intellectual energy to which a liberal arts student should aspire.”

Alisha has spent the past three summers working in legal settings. After her sophomore year, she interned in the Office of Attorney Ethics in New Jersey. “That internship got me interested in making the world easier for people with disabilities,” she said.

Last summer, she worked for U.S. Assistant Attorney Tim Rice. “We had a case in which a lot of voting places were not accessible to people with disabilities,” she said.

At the same time, Alisha is not always serious. She enjoys fashion, visiting Disney World (“My grandparents live near Orlando, and I’ve been there 15 times!” she laughed) and volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House, where she read to and played with children.

Alisha chose Villanova because she felt it was one of the strongest liberal arts colleges close to her home. “My mom was nervous about me coming here, because I would be completely on my own,” she recalled. “But I wanted the adventure.”

When Alisha arrived at Villanova, it soon became clear to McWilliams that he would not often be hearing from her. “Alisha is an exceptionally strong and independent person, and her attitude was, ‘Don’t call me, I’ll call you,’” he recalled. When she did need to make a call—for example, after heavy snowfalls left her car inaccessible—Alisha was heartened by the caring of the Villanova staff. “Steve McWilliams was great. Kevin O’Donnell, the snow plow guy, gave me his cell phone number. Rich McKay from Facilities Management always fixed stuff for me. They were really nice.”

Alisha pledged Alpha Delta Pi sorority at the end of her freshman year, and enjoyed the camaraderie it offered. She enjoyed the sorority’s movie nights, its regular “Grey’s Anatomy” watching party and the formals she attended. “It meant shopping for a lot of cocktail dresses,” Alisha smiled.

While shopping in Philadelphia with her sorority sisters, Alisha was dismayed to realize that some of her favorite stores were not accessible. “There’s no excuse for that,” she said.

Alisha spent the summer of 2007 preparing for LSATs, and was rewarded with acceptances from four different law schools.

“We were very proud of Alisha,” said McWilliams. “She was here at Villanova for sorority recruitment, and my wheelchair broke. My mom drove to campus with my spare wheelchair — waving the Temple acceptance letter in her hand!” she recalled, smiling. “They gave me a $15,000 scholarship for each year.”

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Alisha is excited about a new environment at Temple. She credits her family—parents Jim and Maureen, twin brother Michael and older sister Meghan—for their ongoing support.

As she leaves Villanova she feels proud and excited about her future. “I feel like I had to prove I could do it — that people with disabilities could do it,” she said.

We knew them when
Carl and Alisha’s professors feel confident that they will continue to succeed in the next stage of their lives.

“I am certain Alisha will perform admirably in law school,” said history professor Dr. Wayne Huss. “She will become an attorney well-known not only for her intellectual and legal competence, but also for her genuine caring and compassion for others.”

“Carl is an individual of multi-faceted abilities,” said Dr. Fitzpatrick. “I have the greatest expectations that he will be a real success for himself and a real credit to Villanova.”

Highly motivated and exceptionally gifted, Carl Riccio and Alisha Welch seem destined to do great things, and their achievements will continue to be a source of pride to the entire Villanova community.
University Honors World Religious Leader

By Kathleen Scavello

Villanova University hosted a dinner in honor of His Beatitude and Eminence Patriarch Nasrallah Peter Cardinal Sfeir, recipient of an honorary degree conferred at Commencement. Cardinal Sfeir is the world head of the Maronite Catholic Church, an Eastern Catholic Rite that is in communion with The Holy See and is Lebanon’s largest Christian community.

The event was attended by dignitaries and University officials, including His Eminence Justin Cardinal Rigali, Archbishop of Philadelphia; Bishop Gregory Mansour, Maronite Bishop of Brooklyn; Bishop Roland Aboujaoude, General Patriarchal Vicar; Chorbishop Thomas Mansour; and clergy including Msgr. Sharbel Lishaa and the Rev. Paul Mouawad.

The Rev. Kail C. Ellis, O.S.A., Ph.D., ’69 M.A., dean of Villanova’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, opened the event with an official welcome. Father Ellis and the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president, had met Cardinal Sfeir in July 2007 in Beirut, Lebanon, at the American University of Science and Technology (AUST). Father Donohue delivered the commencement address for AUST’s 2007 graduating class.

AUST has three campuses—in Beirut, Zahle and Sidon, Lebanon—with an enrollment of almost 4,500 students. Five AUST students have attended Villanova in an exchange program.
In his remarks, Father Ellis noted that Cardinal Sfeir’s importance extends beyond that of leader of the Maronite Church. “He is the embodiment of Maronite history and Maronite identity. Cardinal Sfeir’s courage in advocating for peace in war-torn Lebanon has demanded that he play “a role much larger than even that of his illustrious predecessors,” Father Ellis stated. “He has questioned the presence of foreign occupiers in his country. His sermons and statements, and the reports of the Maronite bishops, have challenged the international community to guarantee Lebanon’s independence and sovereignty. “Cardinal Sfeir has fought for those displaced because of war and for economic justice for hundreds of thousands of impoverished Lebanese,” Father Ellis continued. “He has sought to improve relations among all religious communities in Lebanon. He has faced these critical tasks with powerful eloquence and great personal courage.” Villanova’s prayers are with Cardinal Sfeir as Lebanon teeters on the brink of another civil war, Father Ellis said.

Department of communications faculty member Nasser Chour delivered in Lebanese, followed by its English translation, an invocation based on I Corinthians 13 that enumerated the qualities of charity and love. Father Donohue read greetings sent by invited guests from AUST who had been prevented from attending the dinner after a fresh eruption of sectarian violence in the politically unstable country forced the closure of Lebanon’s airports.

Marwan Kreidie, an adjunct faculty member in the department of political science, presented a Governor’s Proclamation to the Patriarch. Cardinal Rigali then spoke. The Archbishop of Philadelphia referred to a quotation from Pope John Paul II: "Lebanon is more than a country. It is a message of freedom and an example of pluralism for East and West."

“This quote refers to the teaching of his predecessor, Paul VI, who spoke frequently about Lebanon. Paul VI never lost hope that the full vocation of Lebanon would be fulfilled.” Father Donohue then presented Cardinal Sfeir with a gift of original art created by the Rev. Richard G. Cannuli, O.S.A., ’73 A&S, chairperson of Villanova’s department of theatre, director of the Villanova University Art Gallery and curator of the University’s art collection. The painting, an icon titled “Do Not Weep for Me Mother,” is reminiscent of a statue of the Blessed Mother Mary that overlooks the city of Beirut.

Cardinal Sfeir commented on Villanova University’s commitment to Catholic education and its association with AUST. The purpose of Catholic education is to “know the world and all of its cultures,” the church leader said.

He then presented Father Donohue with a medal from Lebanon bearing an image of the Blessed Mother on the front with an inscription in French that, in translation reads, “Notre Dame (Our Lady) of Liege Lebanon. Protector of the Patriarchs” and “Patriarchate Maronite of Antioch and all the East” on the back.

Beth Hassel, D.Min., P.B.V.M., Villanova University’s executive director of Campus Ministry, closed the program with a benediction. “It was an honor for Villanova to have such an important world and religious figure grace us with his presence,” Father Ellis remarked. “His work for peace and justice in Lebanon and in the region of the Middle East has been unceasing and valuable.”
John O’Leary, Ph.D. and Bryan Crable, Ph.D. are not exaggerating when they describe Villanova University’s communication and computing science internships at the Vatican as “unique,” and as “once-in-a-lifetime opportunities.”

What other university offers the chance to experience the Vatican first-hand, help get the Catholic Church’s message out to the world through groundbreaking multimedia projects—and learn to speak Italian in the process? None!

The internships, which are held in partnership with the Internet Office of The Holy See and The Pontifical Council for Social Communications (PCSC), offer Villanova communication and computing sciences students the opportunity to participate in cutting-edge projects such as designing databases, improving search engine capabilities, or writing and posting copy on the Vatican’s Web site.

“We call this a ‘once-in-a-lifetime’ internship, and there’s good reason for it,” said Dr. Crable, department chairperson and an associate professor of communication.

“This is just a truly amazing opportunity for our students: to live in Rome for a semester, experience first-hand Italian culture and life, and have an internship experience working for the Vatican. I don’t know what else you could ask for,” he added.

Communication internship coordinator and assistant professor O’Leary agrees.

“It strikes us all as being very Augustinian that our students are engaging the world in the Catholic Church’s conversation with the world.”

Paul S. Wilson, digital media coordinator and the communication department’s director of media production, calls the Vatican internships “a showstopper.”

“When you put this on your résumé, everyone stops and says, ‘Tell me about it,’” Wilson said.

A key part of the internship experience, he added, is participation in a pilgrimage to sites such as Santiago, Spain; Lourdes, France; Auschwitz, Poland; Ostia, Italy; and Malta. The interns’ roundtrip airfare and pilgrimage expenses are paid for by the University.

The one-semester communication internship in the Internet Office is offered to sophomore and junior communication students who have taken at least one media production course and have met all of the University’s study abroad requirements.

The internship program began five years ago as a mutually beneficial compact between the Internet Office of The Holy See and Villanova’s computing sciences department, whose students are still valued interns at the Vatican. The Internet Office, under the guidance of its former technical director Sister Judith Zoeblein, F.S.E., and current co-directors Luigi Salimberi and Lorena Mancini, received valued assistance in organizing and expanding its Web site, while Villanova interns gained hands-on experience performing a high-value service project in one of the world’s most famed locations.

The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president, and the Rev. Kail C. Ellis, O.S.A., Ph.D., ’69 G.S., dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, were in Rome recently to sign a new agreement that expands the University’s relationship with the Vatican. It is titled a “Memorandum of Understanding dated May 23, 2008 Between The Pontifical Council for Social Communications and Villanova University.”

They were joined in Rome by Dr. O’Leary and Dr. Crable, who represented Villanova at the Congress of Schools and Departments of Communications in Catholic Universities, an international conference on Catholic communication. Dr. Crable presented a paper titled “Two Narratives about Ethics and Communication: Understanding Communication as an Inherently Ethical Practice.” The conference, co-sponsored by the PCSC and Villanova, brought together directors of Catholic communication.

Villanova University officials joined Vatican officials in Rome to sign an extension of the internship agreements last spring. Pictured are (seated, from left), the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president, and Archbishop Claudio M. Celli, president of The Pontifical Council for Social Communications (PCSC); (back row, from left): John O’Leary, Ph.D., communication internship coordinator and an assistant professor; the Rev. Kail C. Ellis, O.S.A., Ph.D., ’69 G.S., dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; Msgr. Paul Tighe, secretary of the PCSC; James M. Crowley, a consultant to Villanova and PCSC; and Bryan Crable, Ph.D., chairperson, department of communication.
Vatican Internships

programs from around the world to consider how communication is taught at Catholic universities, to explore ways to improve modern communication methods for society’s benefit and to look at how the Church “talks to the world.” The Vatican specifically expressed its gratitude to Villanova for helping to organize the conference.

Two Villanova students will intern at the Vatican this fall. Samantha Chin ’09 A&S will work in Media Relations. One of her major projects will be to handle media relations for Pope Benedict XVI’s Christmas celebration in Rome. Caroline Ford ’10 A&S will work in the Internet Office.

The Villanova interns have stateside technical advisors. Frank Klassner, Ph.D., an associate professor of computing sciences and director of Villanova’s Center of Excellence in Enterprise Technology, supervises the Internet Office interns on the technical side, while Wilson handles digital media production. Jill Flanagan, an instructor in the communication department, will serve as technical advisor for the PCSC Media Relations internship.

“Students who participate in this internship are transformed by the experience—and they leave Villanova with truly distinctive portfolio materials,” Dr. Crable said.

“IT’s a life-changing experience, and every single student says that they go in one way and come back another,” Wilson agreed.

“This program gives our students the opportunity to take what they have learned in the classroom and to apply it in a most creative manner,” Dr. O’Leary remarked.

Two former Villanova Vatican interns are living proof. Blake Marymor ’08 A&S called his 2007 spring semester experience in Rome “truly amazing, everything I wanted and more.” While in Rome, the communication major produced a documentary on his pilgrimage to Lourdes, France; designed the Easter 2007 Vatican Web page; and served as Sister Judith’s technical assistant. His day-to-day duties included everything from scanning and restoring photos to audio restoration and remastering, video editing, Web site and cover design, and technical troubleshooting.

“This is not the typical study abroad experience; it is a totally different kind of immersion. Working in the office with people from all over the world is something that you don’t get in any other internship,” Marymor explained.

“The communication challenges that it presents are one of the most exciting aspects of the internship. I really got to put my communication theory to the test and develop it and make good friends in the process,” he added.

Since graduating in May, Marymor has taken on an entertainment internship in Los Angeles, and was then hired by Smart Post Sound, where he is redesigning its Web site and promotional video. Marymor credits his Vatican intern experience as fostering the confidence he needed to get where he is today.

“I really proved to myself that I could go anywhere in the world and do anything with my Villanova education,” he said.

Jonathan Bruno ’09 A&S, a computer science major, was equally enthusiastic about his Vatican internship last spring. Bruno helped improve the search capabilities of the Vatican Web site; developed content for a Web site dedicated to the necropolis under St. Peter’s Basilica; recorded a video interview with the new director of the Internet Office of The Holy See, the Rev. Fernando Vergez; and collaborated on a project that will add virtual-reality tours of the major basilicas in Rome.

“My experience as a Vatican intern was a unique opportunity. I learned as much about my own culture as I did another,” Bruno commented.

“I think this internship will help me in my future career by giving me a greater world perspective. I am better able to understand how other cultures live and work,” he concluded.

To view the interns’ contributions, go to www.vatican.va/phome_en.htm.
Villanovans Once Again “Game” for Olympics

Three Former Villanova Athletes Continue University’s Olympic Tradition

By Jennifer Schu
When 21-year-old Vicki Huber Rudawsky ’89 A&S toed the starting line of the 3,000 meter final in the 1988 Summer Olympic Games in Seoul, South Korea, she was elbow-to-elbow with some of the world’s most accomplished runners—including Mary Decker Slaney and the swift Soviet, Tatiana Samolenko. Yet the unheralded college junior had a secret good-luck charm—the word “Villanova” stitched onto her red, white and blue spikes.

With less than two laps to go—as her classmates and professors back in the States crowded around TV sets and erupted into cheers—Huber Rudawsky found herself leading the world-class field. The TV commentators were bowled over by the bold move made by the Villanova student. As for Huber Rudawsky herself, “I thought, ‘What are you doing here? How did this happen?’” she recalled with a laugh.

Huber Rudawsky ended up just out of the medals, in an impressive sixth place—the top finish by an American. On a muggy September evening half a world away from the Villanova campus, she had shattered her personal best time by nine seconds—and once again, the name “Villanova” had resounded at the Olympic Games.

Villanova’s Vicki Huber Rudawsky ’89 A&S (left) earned a memorable trip to the 1988 Olympics, where she competed against veterans like Mary Decker Slaney (right).
Villanovans Have Won 13 Olympic Medals

**GOLD MEDALS:**
- Ron Delany ‘58 VSB, 1,500 meters, 1956
- Charles “Charlie” Jenkins Sr. ‘58 VSB, 400 meters, 1956
- Don Bragg ‘57 VSB, 1,600 meter relay, 1960
- Paul Drayton ‘86 J.D., 400 meter relay, 1964
- William Knecht ‘51 VSB, Pole Vault, 1964
- Larry James ‘70 VSB, 1,600 meter relay, 1968
- Charles “Chip” Jenkins Jr. ’86 VSB, 1,600 meter relay, 1992
- Mike Neill ‘92 VSB, Baseball, 2000

**SILVER MEDALS:**
- Paul Drayton ‘86 J.D., 200 meters, 1964
- Ervin Hall ’69 VSB, 110 meter hurdles, 1968
- G. Larry James ’70 VSB, 400 meters, 1968
- Sonia O’Sullivan ’92 VSB, 5,000 meters, 2000

Villanova: An Olympic Tradition Since 1948

Huber Rudawsky was part of a proud and longstanding tradition that continues today. Since the 1948 London Games, at least one Villanovan has competed in at least a single event at the Summer Olympiad. In the 2008 Games, Villanova was represented by three athletes—Jen Rhines ’96 C.E., Adrian Blincoe ’03 VSB and Kristina Lennox ’07 A&S.

When Rhines sprinted to a second-place finish in the women’s 5,000 meters in the U.S. Olympic Track & Field Trials on July 4, she joined Blincoe in keeping alive a streak of having at least one Villanova track and field athlete compete in every Summer Olympics since 1948.

Remarkably, this was Rhines’ third Olympics. She competed in the 10,000 meters at the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, Australia, and in the marathon in the 2004 Games in Athens, Greece. During her career as a Wildcat, Rhines won five individual NCAA titles, including three consecutive 5,000 meter outdoor titles (1994-96), the 1995 indoor 5,000 meters and the 1994 cross country title. Rhines was also a member of Villanova’s 1995 Distance Medley Relay National Championship squad.

In 1994 Rhines won the Honda-Broderick Cup, an award presented annually to the nation’s top female student-athlete.

Blincoe, currently an assistant coach for the Villanova men’s track and field team, represented New Zealand in the men’s 5,000 meters in Beijing. It was his first trip to the Games—and it is especially meaningful. In 2004, he missed making the Olympic team by just 0.3 of a second.

Missing the trip to Athens by so little “made me even more determined,” Blincoe said. “This has been a goal of mine since I first started training, and I have thought about running in the Olympics thousands of times in the past 10 years.”

While at Villanova, Blincoe won three NCAA titles and earned seven All-American honors. He is the school record holder in the 3,000 meters and a member of the relay team that set the school record for the indoor distance medley. His personal best in the 5,000 meters is 13:17.28. He competed in the 2003 and 2005 World Track and Field Championships.

“I want to do well in Beijing,” Blincoe said. “I am not just going to make up the numbers. All of my training is geared toward being ready to run the best races of my life.”

Lennox is a swimmer, and represented Puerto Rico in the 400 meter freestyle and 200 meter butterfly races in Beijing. She
graduated from Villanova in 2007 after earning Most Valuable Player award for the season, as well as the BIG EAST Championship in the 200 meter butterfly. Lennox qualified to represent Puerto Rico after racing in a meet sanctioned by the Fédération Internationale de Natation (FINA), the international governing body of amateur swimming, diving, water polo, synchronized swimming and open water swimming.

Lennox’s younger brother, Doug, also swam for Puerto Rico in the 2008 Olympics.

“Doug contacted the Puerto Rican Federation about representing the island,” Lennox explained. “Once he established himself, the Federation contacted me and asked me to be on the national team as well.”

“As her fellow Villanova alums prepared for another Olympic Games in Asia 20 years after Seoul, Huber Rudawsky recalled the excitement of that trip, which included a stop at Disneyland in Tokyo. “I think being [young and] so naive totally worked to my benefit,” she recalled with a smile.

When she returned to campus that October, she prepared for the winter track season, worked in the campus ticket office and “just wanted to fit back into the dynamics of the team.”

During the year that followed, Huber Rudawsky and her teammates won Penn Relays Championships, as well as the first of what would be six consecutive Division I Women’s Cross Country Championships. While she went on to earn more NCAA individual titles—as well as a hard-won return trip to the Olympics in 1996, as a 29-year-old new mother—she said the team titles in college were especially memorable.

“When my teammates and I went to meets and felt ‘proud to be a Villanovan,’ it wasn’t cockiness, but a confidence,” she recalled. “It was, ‘Villanova’s here, and you’re going to have to run fast to beat us.’”

It is that pride and camaraderie that have helped Villanova produce so many Olympians over the years, according to Huber Rudawsky.

“At Villanova, you are blessed to have so many great athletes as teammates. For me, it was Kathy Franey Fleming [’89 A&S], Celeste Halliday Over [’88 VSB] and Debbie Grant Marshall [’87 C.E., ’94 G.S.],” she recalled. “They are the ones who made me who I was—and helped me get to the Olympics.”
At Villanova University’s 165th Commencement, held May 18, the “Power of Villanova” radiated everywhere—especially in the happy faces of graduates and the proud faces of parents, family and friends.

The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president, presided over the ceremony, and Ken Hackett, president of Catholic Relief Services, served as an inspirational Commencement speaker. Honorary degrees were awarded to Hackett and to Jane Golden; Greg Mortenson; Eric Reeves, Ph.D.; Harrison A. Ridley Jr.; and His Beatitude and Eminence Patriarch Nasrallah Peter Cardinal Sfeir.

More than 2,000 students received degrees, including the University’s first doctoral nursing graduate, 1,444 undergraduates, more than 100 M.B.A. graduates and more than 200 law graduates.
Villanova awarded honorary degrees to six outstanding individuals whose extraordinary accomplishments span the fields of the arts, religion and social justice.

Jane Golden
Doctor of Fine Arts

Jane Golden, renowned mural artist and executive director of the City of Philadelphia’s Mural Arts Program and adjunct professor of art at the University of Pennsylvania, was awarded the Doctor of Fine Arts degree for her work in urban transformation through public art. The international expert has worked for 11 years with Philadelphia’s Anti-Graffiti Network in its mission to redirect the destructive forces of graffiti writers and use mural painting to channel them toward the positive power of art. Golden’s efforts, and her mantra, “Art Saves Lives,” have brought hope to marginalized communities, the homeless, incarcerated individuals and adjudicated youth. Directing the creation of more than 2,800 murals in Philadelphia, Golden’s art has inspired countless visitors, earning Philadelphia international recognition as the “City of Murals.”

Kenneth F. Hackett
Doctor of Humanities

Committed to human rights and social justice, Kenneth F. Hackett, president of Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and Commencement speaker, received the Doctor of Humanities degree. Hackett has focused his entire career on aiding the poor and disenfranchised in impoverished nations worldwide. As CRS’ president, he oversees operations in more than 100 countries and commands a global staff of nearly 5,000. In 1993, he launched a strategic planning exercise to clarify the mission and identity of CRS. Under his leadership, CRS began using Catholic social teaching as a guide, incorporating a justice-centered focus in all of its programming, particularly in places of ethnic conflict or socio-economic inequities. During his tenure, CRS led a robust effort to engage the U.S. Catholic community in the work of the organization.

Greg Mortenson
Doctor of Humane Letters

Greg Mortenson, author, humanitarian and mountaineer, received the Doctor of Humane Letters degree. The New York Times best-selling author of Three Cups of Tea: One Man’s Mission to Promote Peace...One School at a Time, has dedicated his life to promoting education and literacy—especially for girls—in the volatile regions of Afghanistan and Pakistan. Mortenson has established more than 70 schools in those countries. He is the co-founder and executive director of the nonprofit Central Asia Institute (CAI), which promotes the ideals of education and literacy, especially for girls, in the remote regions of these countries. It was Mortenson’s expert skills as a mountain climber, which he put to use climbing Pakistan’s treacherous K2 in 1993—the world’s second highest mountain—that actually inspired his desire to advance educating girls in these countries. Due to a canceled flight, Mortenson was unable to be present as he was awarded his honorary degree, but he will visit campus this year to officially accept the honor.

Eric Reeves, Ph.D.
Doctor of Literature

Eric Reeves, Ph.D., professor of English language and literature at Smith College, an expert in his field, a humanitarian and activist for Sudan and its victims of persecution, was recognized with the
Doctor of Literature degree. For the past decade, Dr. Reeves has dedicated himself to the cause of peace in Sudan and tirelessly has educated himself on the escalating conflict and human rights violations there in order to raise public awareness of the complex situation. For a decade, he has reported on the atrocities in Sudan by writing, speaking out, and publishing extensive information in the print and broadcast media. As a result, his detailed accounts of the atrocities have greatly raised public awareness.

Harrison A. Ridley Jr.
Doctor of Music

Philadelphian Harrison A. Ridley Jr., a professor of music history at Temple University for 26 years, received the Doctor of Music degree. Ridley is well known as a musicologist, historian, collector and communicator in the field. Recognized as “a walking encyclopedia of jazz,” Ridley is also the veteran host of the popular, Temple University-sponsored radio program, “The Historical Approach to the Positive Music,” which is how he prefers to define jazz—as “positive music”—resisting using jazz as a descriptive label. As a collector of music history, he has amassed a 50-year compilation of LPs, 78s, 45s, CDs and books on African-American history and music.

His Beatitude and Eminence Patriarch Nasrallah Peter Cardinal Sfeir
Doctor of Humane Letters

His Beatitude and Eminence Patriarch Nasrallah Peter Cardinal Sfeir, the Maronite Patriarch of Antioch and all of the East, received the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters. Cardinal Sfeir heads the Maronite Catholic Church, an Eastern Catholic Rite that is in communion with The Holy See and is Lebanon’s largest Christian community. Cardinal Sfeir was recognized as a tireless champion of freedom and pluralism in Lebanon during its tragic civil war and occupation by foreign powers. His leadership is seen as a symbol of unity in Lebanon, and his role of peacemaker in this conflict-ridden area has made him a significant figure in the Church. Cardinal Sfeir also is considered Lebanon’s great bridge builder, and he has espoused dialogue and peaceful resolution of conflict in the country’s difficulties. —Irene Burgo

FACULTY AWARDS

Villanova presented awards to seven exceptional faculty who are outstanding scholars and academic leaders, and who reflect the University’s Augustinian mission through service and collaboration. The select academicians who have distinguished themselves by their contributions to the University include the following recipients:

The Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Award for Outstanding Teaching
Philip J. Stephens, Ph.D., professor, biology

The Lawrence C. Gallen, O.S.A., Faculty Service Award
Susan Mackey-Kallis, Ph.D., associate professor, communication

The Outstanding Faculty Research Award
Robert H. DeFina, Ph.D., professor, sociology

This year, Villanova was pleased to initiate a series of specialized awards to recognize additional members of the University’s faculty who have distinguished themselves in the classroom.

Faculty Awards for Innovative Teaching
Randy D. Weinstein, Ph.D., chair and professor, chemical engineering
Debra A. Arvanites, Ph.D., associate dean for accreditation and assessment, Villanova School of Business, and assistant professor, management and operations

Junior Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching
Mary T. Kelly, Ph.D., assistant professor, economics and statistics

The University recognized an outstanding faculty member with the Pohlhaus-Stracciolini Award for Teaching Excellence, named after two faculty members whose efforts successfully promoted and enhanced the status of the adjunct faculty.

The Pohlhaus-Stracciolini Award for Teaching Excellence
James L. Barnes, chemistry
“You Can Transform the World”

Commencement Speaker Kenneth F. Hackett Urges Graduates to Make a Difference

Commencement speaker Kenneth F. Hackett, president of Catholic Relief Services (CRS), encouraged graduates to use their Villanova educations to make a difference in a volatile world. Comparing the precarious world political climate of today to that of 1968, the year of his college graduation, Hackett said unstable conditions open the door “for deeper reflection.” It is possible, he said, to overcome the daunting challenges facing the world in 2008—war, terrorism, global climate change and a worldwide food crisis. “I’ve seen miracles created by smart, dedicated people,” Hackett said. “You can transform the world.”

Hackett, a former Peace Corps regional director, is committed to fostering human rights and social justice and has been a driving force at CRS, one of the most effective and efficient relief and development agencies in the world. As president of CRS, Hackett oversees operations in more than 100 countries, and commands a global staff of nearly 5,000. Under his leadership, CRS began using Catholic social teaching as a guide and consequently, incorporates a justice-centered focus in all of its programming.

Hackett is currently a member of the boards of the Pontifical Commission Cor Unum, the Vatican body that coordinates the Church’s charitable work; the U.S. Bishops’ Migration and Refugee Services, and International Policy Committee; and the Africa Society. In 2004, the U.S. Senate unanimously confirmed Hackett’s nomination to the board of directors of the Millennium Challenge Corporation, a federal effort to increase aid to countries committed to ruling justly, investing in people and encouraging economic freedom. A native of West Roxbury, Mass., Hackett is a 1968 graduate of Boston College. He lives in Baltimore with his wife and two children.

—Irene Burgo
Father Donohue, Your Eminence, members of the Board of Trustees, distinguished faculty, supportive parents and members of the Class of 2008.

It is wonderful to be here with you today. It is a true honor. I realize that Ken Hackett is not exactly a household name, and when I looked at the list of some of your past Commencement speakers, I started to get a little bit nervous. Jack Kemp, Brian Williams, the president of Ireland. And last year, Chris Matthews of “Hardball.” Now that’s a heck of an act to follow!

And when I Googled a little bit, I found there was a controversy some years back — you invited Big Bird as your Commencement speaker? That put me on edge a bit.

But our relationship with Villanova is a strong one. I’ve been made to feel most welcome here. And it is my great pleasure to acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of the Class of 2008. The things that you’ve accomplished are something remarkable. I am especially impressed with your increasing global outlook, as evidenced by the growing ties between Catholic Relief Services and Villanova. We are doing some impressive things together, working on issues of immigration, studying the impact on the poor of the Central America Free Trade Agreement. I understand that you have fair trade coffee throughout the campus. That’s powerful. You’re making a difference. And I just heard earlier today that there’s a faculty delegation that is going to visit our operations in Rwanda in July. You are engaging globally.

Although being president of Catholic Relief Services doesn’t exactly make me a celebrity, the job does come with a few perks. My wife and I got to sit in the infield during the Papal Mass in Washington. It was a special thrill. We also got totally sunburned! I get to meet a few saints like Mother Teresa and a lot more sinners, from corrupt heads of state to rapacious war lords.

And then there are the inside-the-Washington Beltway connections. I got to see President George Bush boogie to an African beat in the White House Rose Garden on World Malaria Day. Condi Rice and I are on a first-name basis — she calls me Ken and I call her...
Madame Secretary. But none of this impressed my kids — that is, until I told them I met Bono.

It’s something of a commencement speech cliché to say that I was in your shoes 40 years ago. But I’m going to use it anyway. A) It’s true. I graduated from Boston College in 1968, almost 40 years to the day. And B) there are some striking similarities between the world I faced then and what you will be facing literally starting tomorrow.

In some respects, we can look back to 1968 with a sense of nostalgia. Gas was 33 cents a gallon. The Beatles recorded “Hey Jude,” and “The Graduate” was the top-grossing picture. And even more important for our modern culture, McDonald’s sold its first Big Mac, and the era of super-sizing began!

But it was also a time of unease and unrest.

Martin Luther King Jr. was shot just a month before my graduation. Cities across the country were burning. Like this year, we were in the midst of electing a president. That summer, Bobby Kennedy was killed and the Democratic National Convention in Chicago turned violent.

Beyond our borders, students were rioting in Paris and Mexico. The Prague Spring, the short-lived democratization movement in Czechoslovakia, was crushed by the Soviet Union.

And our country was engaged in an unpopular war. There were protests on nearly every college campus in the country. The draft made the war a reality for every male student graduating that year.

1968 was a very chaotic time for our country and for the world.

Sound familiar?

It was in this context that I sat with my classmates in cap and gown, wondering where life would take me.

As luck would have it, I did have one next step planned. That January, a buddy of mine had asked me to sign up with him for the Peace Corps. Given my options, it didn't seem like a bad idea. I'd done the round of job interviews with a few corporations — Mobil Oil, GE, Ford — but they didn't really get me going. The Peace Corps sounded exotic and possibly exciting. Why not? I really didn't have any specific thoughts about changing the world, fostering world peace or bringing my vast academic wisdom to the poor and downtrodden. It was just something interesting to do.

On the day of my college senior prom, I received a letter inviting me to take a position with the Peace Corps in Ghana. It took it, and the experience transformed my life. Africa and its people transformed my life. The three and half years I spent there gave me time to grow. I was living in a completely different cultural context; meeting people and confronting ideas totally different, amazingly diverse. Socialism, communism, statism, animism, polytheism, and all kinds of liberation rhetoric were flowing around Africa in those days. The experience gave me room for deeper reflection. It allowed me to see myself and my country from a different perspective. It made me appreciate what we have in the United States and to value the special humanism that I came to know in African societies.

Going into that experience, I was naive. I think my classmates of 1968 were all a little naive. But we thought big, and we had passion. We as young people were ready to change things. The Black Panthers wanted change. The Hippies, the Yippies and the Students...
for a Democratic Society all wanted change. Bob Dylan sang about the times that were changing. Bobby Kennedy talked of a new nation. Martin Luther King had a dream.

That hope, that dream, that we can be a catalyst for change, has sustained me through a career of trying to make a better world for the poorest of the poor.

I started with CRS right out of the Peace Corps. I got rejected at first. They said I wanted too much money when I asked for $6,500! But I persisted because I knew then what I wanted.

I’ve seen some horrible things. I was there in Ethiopia in the famine of the ‘80s when they were stacking dead children like cords of wood. In the late ‘80s I stood at a collapsed high school in the Philippines after a terrible earthquake and listened helplessly to the screams and calls of children trapped in the rubble. I knew people whose limbs were hacked off in Sierra Leone, and I saw the aftermath of the tsunami in Asia … entire communities wiped out, people who saw family members swept away in flood waters. I’ve felt the shock and pain of learning that former colleagues and friends from my years with CRS in Africa had died from AIDS.

But I’ve also seen miracles created by smart, dedicated people.

• Clean water cutting childhood deaths from diarrheal disease by half.
• Although devastated by the tsunami, peace coming to Aceh Province in Indonesia after 20 years of war.
• Antiretroviral drugs giving life back to people carried into hospitals to die.

Last week I heard from a woman in Fond des Negres, Haiti, who had contracted AIDS. Her husband left her as her health deteriorated, her hair fell out and her body suffered from severe shingles. After months of suffering, her friends convinced her to go for HIV testing. Six months later, she is on therapy and her life is renewed again.

Things can change almost miraculously.

Today, we are once again hearing calls for change. We hear from the people who want to be the next president of our country. We hear it from ordinary people who are concerned about the rising cost of food… the uncertainty of our supply of energy… the danger of global warming and … the threat of terrorism.

2008 is an uncertain time for our nation and the world. We are facing some daunting challenges: war, terrorism, global warming and a worldwide food crisis.

The good news for you and for me is that you are smarter, you are better trained and you are more aware than the college graduates of a generation ago. You have had the benefits of living in a more diverse environment and on a more diverse campus than I did.

On this most auspicious day, a day of new beginnings, of a new journey, this is what I want you to know: that you can make a difference. That you can transform the world. As you leave here, you take with you the excellent education you’ve received, and the core values of the Augustinian tradition of Villanova: Veritas, Unitas and Caritas. Let me focus on each for a bit.

Veritas: Truth. Not Stephen Colbert’s truthiness—(what we want to be truth) but what is right. Look for it. Take time to reason toward the truth. Use faith in that quest. Don’t jump at something simply because it pays a lot or it offers prestige. Follow your heart, embrace your passion. Discern what is right and true.

Fast Fact: Villanova University is one of just five Catholic institutions of higher learning to collaborate with Catholic Relief Services to deepen the shared missions to further global justice and peace and build solidarity.

Unitas: Look out beyond your immediate surroundings and engage the world. Catholic tradition tells us that we are one human family. Globalization is showing us that we are interconnected politically, economically and socially — for good or ill. Many of you have experienced a world beyond Pennsylvania, beyond the Main Line, to our cities and around the world. You have done service trips and seen a chunk of the world in service. You know that people, after the externalities come off, are the same no matter where they live.

Caritas: Whether you are making millions or are hardly making ends meet, do something for others. It will make you feel great. It will make you feel like your life is worthwhile. And you may make a difference in someone else’s life.

A couple of months ago, during the March Madness broadcasts, there was a commercial that proclaimed The Power of Villanova. It may have been the work of an ad agency, but I think there’s something to it. You all know something about being powerful. The Power of Villanova was very much on display in this year’s March Madness — when you Wildcats advanced to the Sweet 16 for the third time in four years!

As you embark on the next phase of the incredible journey you have ahead of you, realize the power you have. You are the Power of Villanova. You have the power to touch people and change lives. You have the power to engage and impact the world.

You are powerful beyond measure. Use your power well.
You Must Be Villanova

Nova President’s Baccalaureate Mass Homily

A Reading from the Holy Gospel:
God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him, may not perish but may have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. Whoever believes in Him, will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. —Gospel of John: 3:16-18

The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president, celebrated the Baccalaureate Mass for members of the Class of 2008, their families and friends in the Villanova Stadium on May 17. A capacity crowd listened as Father Donohue delivered a resounding Homily—a message reminding graduates that God energizes with His spirit, and each should go forth remembering they are not only Villanovans—but that they are Villanova.

“The voice of creation, the human touch, the energy of the spirit—God comes to us in many ways, in many fashions. God appears to us through moments in our lives. God touches us with His healing presence, His forgiveness, and God energizes us with His spirit. God helps to lead us to different places. God is truth, God is the call to community, God is the very realization of love. Each one of us is called to be in that presence, and each one of us is called to reflect that presence in our lives,” Father Donohue said.

Father Donohue created a mental picture of the Gospel’s message as he urged the congregants to invoke the power of God in their lives and to try to achieve the virtues demonstrated by God’s magnanimous example:

“God is so powerful in His mercy, in His forgiveness, in His compassion, that John tells us in the Gospel [that] ‘He so loves us that He sends His son into the world. He becomes one with us, so that we may become one with Him.’ God never condemns the world. God never takes a position that negates another person in the world. God always is the presence of creation, of compassion, of love. God is always that sense, that spirit that fills us and demands from each one of us that we continue that very presence in our lives, that we continue to be those people who move through this world, invigorating ourselves with the power of God, in all of his multiple facets, that each one of us continues that creation, that each one of us continues to speak those words of truth, that each one of us must build that community and that each one of us must love—love God’s creation. Love one another. God did not condemn us, and we cannot and should not condemn one another. We so easily pass judgment, and God does not. We so easily ignore, and God does not. We so easily turn away from each other, and God does not. We so easily shut each other out, and God does not.”

Father Donohue invited the graduates to reflect on their future and imagine how the power of God could help them pursue their goals of commitment and service as they pursue their careers.

“God appears to us and asks us to be people who are committed to that life. But oftentimes we can be very stiff-necked in our approach to the way we live our lives. Paul tells us in today’s letter that we must be people who greet each other with that compassionate kiss, to be people who greet each other in the presence of God, to be people who greet each other in the light and in the spirit of Jesus—to be people who energize each other in the very love that God has shown to each one of us.”

To the graduating class, Father Donohue reiterated the importance of following God’s will as they embark on different paths in the world and workplace. “God asks us to continue to move through this world, bringing that Gospel message into all we see, into all we experience and into all we come to know.”

Father Donohue cited a historic masterpiece painted by the renowned Renaissance artist Raphael. “Recently I was reading an article by an assistant professor of English at Xavier University, and he spoke about what it means to really educate and how we must educate, and he spoke of a very famous picture by Raphael—‘The School of Athens.’ In this painting, Raphael depicts the two great philosophers, Plato and Aristotle, in the midst of this marketplace. There are all kinds of things going on around them, but they almost seem to ignore it all. They seem to be wrapped up in their own debates. Plato on one side is standing there with book in hand, raising his hand up, almost to say that we must be people who continue to look for that eternal visit—that vision above us—that we must be people who continue to take what
we know and raise it upwards.” Aristotle on the other hand, standing next to him, carries the book and has his hand flat out—almost to say to his teacher, “Yes, that eternal vision is important, but we cannot forget the reality of this earth.”

Father Donohue encouraged the graduates to reflect on the value and power of their Villanova education and what a Villanova legacy will mean for their future. “At Villanova, we have asked you to examine those two elements. We have asked you to look at the elements of this earth. We have asked you to examine the problems of this earth. We have asked you to examine how you experience community. We have asked you to look and experience how you serve community. We have asked you to be in that marketplace and, like those two great philosophers, to pay attention to it—to really see the people who are around you and recognize that your knowledge, your information, must be something that touches them. But in the same way, you must be able to translate that knowledge into a greater truth and see a larger vision, and move yourselves beyond what we sometimes get caught up in, in this world, and recognize that all of us must lift ourselves up—that we must create a greater vision that we must be people who really learn—to take what we experience here on earth and to move it to transcend ourselves upward.”

Father Donohue reminded the congregation that God calls us to summon our gifts and talents for a greater good. He exhorted the graduates to translate their knowledge into vision and action that will make a difference for others. “We are called to be people who really continue to know what it is that we must be, and that we must take all of that information and become something different. All of us here at Villanova hope that your experience here has enabled you to recognize the power and creation of God. That it has helped you to recognize and realize that human touch and compassion of God. And we hope that it has energized you in His Spirit—that you may go forth from here to continue to preach that Gospel—to live that life that does not condemn, that does not negate, but rather heals and demonstrates compassion, and continues to build up those images that we have shared with you.

“We speak so much at Villanova about the heart and the mind and how those two things must come together. But those images of heart and mind also carry with it all kinds of other ideas, of other metaphors: The mind to be an instrument of imagination, of exploration, of seeking something new, of debating what is true. The heart, pulsating with the energy of life. The heart, beating something different. The heart, learning to love. The heart, being an instrument that allows others to have life, and joining those things together is what we have tried to instill in each one of you. And now it is up to you to move from this place and instill it in others.”

Father Donohue urged graduates to understand that their education, and the values imparted by Villanova, will infuse their actions. Learning is a lifelong experience, but now is a time to put into action the ideals and values that they have learned. “You must come down from the mountain, carrying those tablets and bring with you the message of God, that He is always one with His people, that God is always present to His people, that God will always energize His people. You must show others the intellect of the mind. You must to be able to ignite their hearts and illuminate their spirits. You must show to them what God has demonstrated in your lives, and you must bring to them the energy and compassion and creation that He has shown to us.”

Finally, Father Donohue reminded the graduates that throughout their lives, their actions and examples ultimately will reflect the measure of their Villanova education and the values they have personally absorbed. “We go forth from this place knowing that God is a God of compassion and love. And therefore so must we be people who live that mind, be people who will allow that heart to beat, and be people who illuminate that spirit for others. If you are able and willing to do that, then you have taken the greatest gifts from Villanova. You have taken yourselves, and we are proud, excited and grateful for your presence here. We know you will bring together the compassion of this world, the love of this world, and raise them up to new heights. You must be Villanova.”
What Makes Villanova Different?

Student Commencement Speech Delivered by Brian Murray ‘08 A&S

Brian Murray ‘08 A&S, Biology, served as the student speaker at Commencement. Murray told his classmates, that as graduates “leave [campus] changed and full of anticipation, Villanova will forever remain our home. Why? Because just as we have left an indelible imprint on Villanova, it has left a mark on our hearts that has forever transformed us.”

The valedictorian noted that Villanova inspires purpose in all of its students. “Villanova is the messenger of purpose ... the spark that has ignited the guiding light, forever aflame, yet sometimes hidden, in our heart[s]” because Villanova has shown us “how to transform the current world into what it will be tomorrow.”

—Irene Burgo

Father Donohue, deans of the University, members of the Board of Trustees, honored guests, friends and family of the Class of 2008, thank you for allowing me to speak today. I am truly honored to have the privilege to share a few thoughts with you about our time at Villanova.

I am almost positive that during the last four years you have been asked plenty of times what seems to be an inescapable question. The question usually comes in the middle of a conversation, after you have bragged about the incredible service
opportunities here, or how you can talk to a professor like he or she is your friend, or that Coach Jay Wright is the best-dressed person in the world. For some of us it has probably come as a welcome surprise in a job interview; I know when I heard it I was pumping my fist in relief, thanking God for what I thought was an easy question. And as a philosophy major still in search of a job, some have told me that I should be looking forward to many more of those. Yes, just like so many other people, one of my potential employers asked me the forever recurring question, why did I decide to come to Villanova?

Why did we choose to come to Villanova? On the surface, the question appears simple, but it really asks much. I often wondered whether it was possible to clearly state the reasons for why and how I ended up here. It is especially difficult to answer when you are talking to someone unfamiliar with the aura that permeates this place we now call home.

Because in truth, the question asks more than why we ended up here. It also asks what we’ve experienced since we’ve been here. It wonders why the spontaneous late-night talks, the ones we’ve had with our roommates and close friends, make real Villanova’s community. It also asks what makes the time we serve the poor, sick and less fortunate enlightening and life-changing. Indeed, what is special about when we attend Mass every Sunday or participate in Diwali? What makes the Nova Nation, which helped defeat UConn and Boston College, gave us three Sweet 16s, and is more than a student section, unique? In essence, the question really asks us, “What makes Villanova different?”

I believe that what we have done at Villanova and what Villanova has done for us sheds light on this question. The space between the SPIT and St. Mary’s is a spot we eagerly came to, now leave changed and full of anticipation, and that will forever remain our home. But why? Because just as we have left an indelible imprint on Villanova, it has left a mark on our hearts that has forever transformed us. For all you biology majors out there, if we are the seed, then Villanova is the soil.

As apprehensive freshmen walking into McGuire, Delurey and Stanford, many of us did not know what to expect. Some of our heads were spinning when we realized that we were about to share our room with not one, but two people. Yet sure enough we survived and made friends, joined a service organization or played intramurals and enjoyed writing a paper every week in our Core Humanities class. But from the moment our parents dropped us off four years ago, Villanova has offered us three equally important gifts for the taking. First, it has instilled in us a purpose worth pursuing. Second, it has offered us the possibility to prepare for the future. And third, it has provided a place to prove ourselves.

During our time here we have noticed how the lives of those around us—the joking Augustinian we have held in confidence, the professor who has challenged us to think harder, the service group leader who has inspired us to serve and the staff who make events like today's a reality—demonstrate the Power of Villanova on the human heart. We have seen the purpose with which these people live, the call that they have heeded and the question that they seem destined to answer. Villanova is the messenger of that purpose, the spark that has ignited the guiding light forever aflame, yet sometimes hidden, in our heart. This gift will infinitely inform our lives, reminding us of who we are and what is expected of us. Villanova has shown us in countless ways the age-old truth that a life lived pursuing knowledge and in the service of others, with an eye to our Creator, is not only worthwhile, but priceless. This special mark cannot be erased, and we have been chosen to carry it. We will take it to our new offices on Wall Street and in Washington, classrooms of higher learning and especially to those people and places in need. This purpose is unique: While most colleges teach their students how to live and survive in this world, at Villanova we learn not only who we are and how to live today, but
Villanova has supplied diverse experiences that have prepared us. Our business students are routinely snatched by the best firms not only because they grasp the intricacies of financial markets or opportunity cost, but also because they approach their work with a sense of social responsibility. Our engineers are the architects of the bridges we see in CEER today to those that will connect our neighborhoods tomorrow. Our nurses, awake at 6 a.m. and dedicated to clinical, consistently care for those most in need, thereby personifying St. Thomas of Villanova’s call to charity. Finally, our liberal arts and sciences students challenge the boundaries of knowledge and scholarship with their Augustinian-like yearning for truth.

But our preparation has extended beyond the walls of Tolentine, crowded desks and bookshelves of Falvey, and the labs in Mendel. We have taken what we have learned and let it affect our hearts and guide our actions. We have built houses on Saturdays and in places like Almost Heaven, served in soup kitchens and helped inner-city youth. We have traveled abroad to Sevilla and Florence, China and Chile, opening our eyes to an ever-changing world. We have worshipped God and broken bread together during Mass, at the end of Ramadan and at Passover. Indeed, Class of 2008, we are prepared for what lies ahead because the soil that is Villanova has nourished our roots and allowed us to spring forth in myriad directions.

Yet it would probably be unnatural if we did not feel at least some apprehension and anxiety at this moment. Just like when we came for Orientation, we do not know entirely what will come next. Of course, even our time here has not always been smooth sailing, and there will be trials and tasks that we have not tackled before. But if there is one thing that we must remember, it is this: These past four years serve as proof of what we can do and more importantly, what we will do. Villanova has enshrined in us a purpose and has prepared us for the pursuit. But it has also been a fertile proving ground in which we have grown and shown ourselves what we are capable of. Our lives are proof of what Villanova means.

What we have done here, like speaking out against the genocide in Darfur and standing against hate and discrimination, proves that we are more than willing to pass the threshold from doing what is comfortable to doing what is just. Our minds love to learn and our hearts have learned the true meaning of love. We now take personally the idea that we are a chosen community, bonded through mutual love and guided by God, who takes its responsibility and obligation to others seriously.

These four years have made us who we are. In case there were any doubts, we are Villanovans. We have accepted this charge, fully prepared our minds and hearts, and proven to ourselves that we can accomplish anything. We now hold the key, the one that Villanova has imprinted and inscribed forever. It will unlock the doors that we are yet to open. So let us take these gifts even further. Beyond the green of Mendel Field, the pews of the Church, the bleachers of the Pavilion, and beyond the 50-yard line where you are sitting right now. Let us take it into the world, confident in ourselves and the power of this special place, forever leaving the Villanova imprint wherever we may go and on those around us. As alumni, let us continue to spread the seeds of Villanova on an earth desperately in need of new life, conscience and love. And as we have been transformed, let us transform the world, showing others that our lives are the answer to the inescapable question of what makes Villanova different. Let’s Go Nova!
Rich in disciplinary breadth and depth, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences proudly celebrated the academic achievements of its top graduating students from the Class of 2008 at its annual Academic Medallion Ceremony on Saturday, May 17, in the St. Thomas of Villanova Church.

Graduating seniors who have excelled in their major received a special medallion with their name engraved on the back. In addition, students who have been awarded prestigious national scholarships were presented with a special Dean's Award in recognition of their significant accomplishment.

About the Medallion

The Sun encircles and supports the other symbols of this medallion.

The Faces, illuminated by the Sun, represent all those who are receiving this medallion of excellence.

The Cross represents the nature and character of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, indeed of the entire University, one that is Christian and catholic in its view of education. It is the universal representation of victory over trial, pain and suffering.

The Landscape represents the familial, social and academic backgrounds of the recipients, powerful factors that influence behavior.

The Stars and the Moon symbolize the providential power of God and the goals and aspirations yet to be achieved by the recipients.

Joining the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president; John R. Johannes, Ph.D., vice president for Academic Affairs; and the Rev. Kail C. Ellis, O.S.A., Ph.D., ’69 G.S., dean of the College, were the parents, families and friends of the College’s most distinguished graduates.

Helen K. Lafferty, Ph.D., the University’s first college professor in liberal arts and sciences, served as the master of ceremonies. Graduating senior Margaret A. Lafferty ’08 A&S, Biology, delivered the student speech, and Brian P. Mehler ’08 A&S, English and senior class poet, recited his original work, “Stopping for a Crash on Rt. 80 While Moving to Tahoe.”

Father Ellis congratulated the graduates on receiving this honor and explained to them that a liberal education is both a privilege and a responsibility, one that not everyone is fortunate enough to experience fully.

The medallion, designed by Mary V. Sentner, a graduate who majored in the Bachelor of Fine Arts program, was created for the purpose of honoring those who have excelled in their fields of study or work.
You are our inspiration,” M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Inspiration and Achievements Celebrated at Nursing Convocation

Professor, told the College of Nursing’s Class of 2008 at its Convocation. During the ceremony, all degree candidates from December 2007 and May 2008 were recognized by name, including 90 B.S.N. (Bachelor of Science in Nursing) students, five registered nurses who completed their B.S.N., 47 M.S.N. (Master of Science in Nursing) students, three post-master’s students and one Ph.D. student.

That Ph.D. candidate, Bonnie Baloga-Altieri, Ph.D., R.N., CNAA-BC, became the first graduate of Villanova’s Ph.D. degree program in Nursing. “I am honored to have a part in the history of the College of Nursing at Villanova,” says Dr. Baloga-Altieri. In 2004, the College implemented the Ph.D. program to prepare teacher-scholars for careers in academic settings.

Individual bachelor’s and master’s honors were awarded for service to the College and academic and leadership achievements. Those acknowledged are leaders in the College, on campus and within the nursing profession; board members and volunteers for nursing organizations and other activities; members of the international nursing honor society; and students pursuing research interests. After hearing the achievements of the degree candidates while enrolled in such a rigorous academic environment, the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president, remarked, “In a very real way you exemplify what Villanova is: Unitas, Veritas, Caritas.”
The Villanova School of Business (VSB) hosted its annual Graduates’ Recognition Ceremony on May 17, during Commencement weekend. Gen. Anthony C. Zinni ’65 VSB, retired Marine Corps four-star general and former commander-in-chief of the United States Central Command, offered the keynote address to the graduating class. Gen. Zinni reminded the class of the unique code that has been embedded in them as Villanova students — a code that demands their business education be used for the greater good of humanity.

The ceremony proceeded with expressions of gratitude to retiring faculty members Michael Walsh and Peter Sanchez; the awarding of the Gerald A. Dougherty Teaching Excellence Medallion to Finance Professor Gerard Olson; and remarks from graduating senior Jerica Youngken. Youngken addressed her fellow graduates and reflected upon the bonds that now exist between VSB classmates and professors. Echoing the sentiments of Gen. Zinni, she stated, “Now we must take these gifts of passion, sincerity and friendship and use them to create community wherever we may go.”

VSB continued its tradition of awarding Bartley Medallions for academic excellence to graduating students from each of the undergraduate academic disciplines and graduate business programs. The ceremony concluded with the singing of the Alma Mater, led by graduating senior Katharine Kroll and a benediction by graduating Executive M.B.A. student Jose Palomino.
A s part of Commencement weekend 2008, the College of Engineering paid tribute to its 241 undergraduate and graduate students at a Recognition Ceremony on Mendel Field.

Led by bagpipers and a color guard and dressed in academic attire, students, faculty and administrators processed to a large tent, where family members and friends awaited them. Students were called to the stage, where Dean Gary A. Gabriele, Ph.D. presented them with a College of Engineering diploma cover. In addition, the following students received special distinction:

Angela Lynn Russo received the Engineering Alumni Society’s prestigious Robert D. Lynch Award for academic achievement and dedication to community service, as well as the Civil and Environmental Engineering Faculty Award.

Christopher M. Furcht was presented with the Robert E. White Chemical Engineering Award.

Dustin J. Getz was given the Computer Engineering Outstanding Student Award.

Haig S. Norian received the Electrical Engineering Outstanding Student Award.

Regina M. Ondrejco was presented with the Mechanical Engineering Outstanding Student Award.

Jevon M. Avis received the Graduate Student Research Excellence Award.

A highlight of the ceremony was the hooding of doctoral student Clay Emerson.

In his Commencement address, Mark Howell ’08 M.E. reflected on how the Villanova experience directs students’ lives: “Villanova isn’t just the education or the campus or the professors; It’s the people, the tradition and the community we form. We are called to go forth and use our experiences to benefit others.”

Beth Hassel, PBVM, D. Min., executive director of Campus Ministry, echoed this theme in the benediction, calling the students “a community of scholars searching for truth in order to create a world of peace.”

Students from the Engineering Class of 2008 cheer and smile for the camera during a pause in the Commencement ceremony.

A graduate of the College of Engineering is congratulated by one of his professors.
All hands were on deck at Villanova University on May 17 as the ROTC program commissioned 22 Naval officers and two U.S. Marine Corps officers in a ceremony in the Villanova Room of the Connelly Center.

Prior to the ceremony, the midshipmen and cadets, their families and friends attended the Commissioning Mass, celebrated by the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president, in the St. Thomas of Villanova Church. The invocation was given by Father Donohue and welcoming remarks were delivered by Col. Glenn L. Wagner, commanding officer of the Naval ROTC Unit and a professor of naval science.

Rear Adm. Mark A. Handley ’81 G.S., Civil Engineer Corps deputy commander, Navy Installations Command and director, Ashore Readiness Division, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (Logistics), was the commissioning officer. Rear Adm. Handley graduated from Villanova’s College of Engineering with a master’s degree in mechanical engineering in 1981.

Rear Adm. Handley commended the newly commissioned officers for choosing to serve their country at a volatile time in our nation’s history. He assured them that many other ROTC alumni had stood in their places in years past, similarly taking their commissioning oaths with firm resolve for a future of military service. He told the young men and women that their challenges would be great, but that “Your Villanova education has prepared you well for the future, and that your ROTC training has groomed you to be leaders, and to lead with a purpose. The men and women under your command will look up to you and rely on you with confidence as you guide them with the integrity and principles you’ve learned.”

After the speeches, family members were invited to pin the insignia on their sons’ and daughters’ uniforms. Immediately following the ceremony, the newly commissioned officers gathered for the traditional first salute and they also posed for a group picture with Col. Wagner and Rear Adm. Handley.
Wavecam: Alumnus designs innovative live-feed camera

By Irene Burgo

There’s nothing better than being in the front row when the Villanova Wildcats play, but when you’re far away from the roar of the crowd and the crash of the ball, Wavecam™ can help you feel like you’re not missing a thing.

Wavecam, an aerial, mobile, broadcast-quality robotic camera system that provides live feed of sports and entertainment events, was the brainchild of Villanova Engineering alumnus Edmond J. Dougherty ’69 E.E., ’86 G.S.

It was installed in the Villanova Pavilion last January, and a second Wavecam system is being installed in the scoreboard section of Villanova’s Stadium. Wavecam has supplied live on-air feed for ESPN, as well as for three Villanova men’s regional basketball games and three women’s basketball games.

Dougherty, an engineering entrepreneur, excels at designing solutions to complex, high-tech challenges in the engineering and computer fields. He is a visiting associate professor of computer and electrical engineering and holds the title of professor of Think Tank industry in Villanova’s College of Engineering. He is chief technology officer of Live Event Media Inc., which engineers and manufactures Wavecam, and is CEO of Ablaze Development Corp., a creative engineering firm, that in his words, “tries to develop some of my ideas and will engineer anything that is high-tech and fun.”

Engineering Aerial Innovation

In some ways, Wavecam is similar to—but not the same as—the elite Skycam, a flying steadicam used commercially in stadiums to provide broadcast-quality live feed of major events like the Super Bowl and Olympics. Dougherty was a key person in the engineering of the components for the robotically controlled Skycams. He was part of the team that won a 2002 Emmy Award...
for technical achievement for development of a high-definition version of Skycam.

Although he “loved working on Skycam,” Dougherty wanted to invent his own aerial camera. The process was not simple. He devised his own prerequisites and set of goals, which he based on his past experience engineering flight simulators for NASA and the U.S. Army.

Dougherty especially wanted his design to be compact in size, unobtrusive, for use indoors, safe and economical. He hopes to manufacture a cost-effective Wavecam, to be marketed primarily to universities and high schools. Now that Wavecam is ready to be deployed, Dougherty estimates he has trimmed production costs to a viable figure for his target markets.

Wavecam can simplify the production process by providing streaming video of live events on the Internet. This offers clients the advantage of not having to use several stationary cameras set up on tripods in the stands, Dougherty says. Instead, Wavecam can literally fly around the stadium to catch the action from any position and any angle. Any type of camera can be fitted into the Wavecam platform and customized according to client specification.

The patent-pending Wavecam successfully reflects Dougherty’s goals, including reducing the system’s size. “It was important to compact it and make the camera as small as possible,” he says. “Although it is suspended on six cables (Skycam uses four), Wavecam’s cables are thinner —like fishing lines made of a high-tech fiber. With our design, if you zoom in for a close-up shot, the cables are nearly invisible, like a spider,” he says.

“A major differentiating characteristic is our use of a configuration called a Stewart platform. This is a six-legged platform that lets the user move an object, or in this case, stably control the camera, with six degrees of freedom, basically any way you want,” explains Dougherty.

The engineer cited other advantages: “Wavecam is permanently installed. Our system is super strong, is not affected by weather, is practically invisible. The ‘spider’ travels on cables that rise up at a 15-degree angle, on a system of incredibly flexible thin cables able to traverse a whole stadium. It is simpler to design, build and operate, less cumbersome, less intrusive and offers more safety features,” he adds. A big advantage to the school is that Wavecam is there every day. It can be used for the “big game” but also can be used for coaching and lower-profile events.

Villanovans engineered Wavecam

Dougherty toils tirelessly at his endeavors and he hand-picks his staff—a team of Villanovans. A loyal Villanova alumnus, Dougherty says: “Besides the advantage of graduating from Villanova, one thing I realized is what a great resource it is. I work with students on their senior engineering projects, and if I like their work, I hire them for my summer projects.” Several sophomores have worked on Wavecam and were later hired full-time after graduation.

Villanovans who assisted Dougherty on Wavecam include his son, Edmond J. Dougherty III, who earned a bachelor’s (1992) and master’s degree (2001) in computer science; George Robert Simmons ’87, who earned an M.S. in computer science; Maury Bayer ’04, who earned an M.S. in computer engineering; Suzanne Sweeney ’07, who majored in mechanical engineering; and Evan Hollenshade, who will earn his B.S. in electrical engineering in 2009. Dr. Hashem Ashrafiuon, a Villanova professor of mechanical engineering, developed computer models of Wavecam’s design and was able to test the concept before even a single part was machined. The work was supported by a grant from Pennsylvania’s Ben Franklin Technology Partners.

Dougherty’s career has been profiled on ABC-TV’s “Prime Time” series, and his work on fire safety has been featured on ABC-TV’s “20/20” news magazine. This spring, Dougherty was recognized by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Philadelphia Section with its Member Award for “outstanding contributions to systems design and engineering.”
Five Villanova University students have joined the elite ranks of national fellowship competition winners, further strengthening the University's growing position as a producer of top scholars.

This year’s coveted awards included two Fulbright grants, one Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, an Honorable Mention in the Goldwater Scholarship competition and an Honorable Mention in the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship competition.

Amy Knop-Narbutus ’08, Honors/Latin American Studies, the winner of a Fulbright U.S. Student Program Grant, will travel to Costa Rica to conduct research into the impact of fair trade on local banana farmers. Michael Arthy ’08, Political Science, will spend a year in South Korea on a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship. Alexandra Bausch ’09, Chemistry/Honors, won a Goldwater Scholarship, which benefits undergraduates planning research careers in the sciences, engineering and math. Jose James ’10, Biology/Honors, received an Honorable Mention in the Goldwater Scholarship competition. Haig Norian ’08, Electrical and Computer Engineering, won an Honorable Mention in the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship competition. Norian plans to study for a doctorate in electrical engineering at Columbia University.

“I am truly excited for our scholarship winners and for all of the students who participated in the nationally competitive scholarships this year,” said Jane Morris, instructor and director of the Undergraduate Grants and Awards Office (UGA).

“Each student who engages in the process of active self-reflection that these competitions require gains valuable insights about themselves and their plans for life beyond
Villanova. Those that win awards such as the Fulbright and the Goldwater find wonderful opportunities and experiences that help them achieve their long-term goals,” Morris added.

During the past 15 years, Villanova has produced 82 national fellowship competition winners. Among master’s institutions, the University is one of the top producers of Fulbright awards for U.S. students, according to the Institute of International Education. Since 1976, more than 30 Villanova students and alumni have received Fulbright grants.

The Fulbright Program, established by the U.S. Congress in 1946 to honor the late U.S. Sen. J. William Fulbright, is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State to “increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries.” The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, which honors the late Arizona U.S. senator, was established in 1986 by Congress to provide “a continuing source of highly qualified scientists, mathematicians and engineers by awarding scholarships to college students who intend to pursue careers in these fields.”

Caitlin Fouratt '05 A&S probably couldn’t have imagined how far (literally and figuratively) applying for grants and scholarships at Morris’ urging would take her. First, Fouratt won a Connelly-Delouvrier scholarship, which gave her an opportunity to intern with the Catholic Church to study human rights conditions on Costa Rican banana plantations. Energized by her experience with the Institute for Central American Development Studies (ICADS), Fouratt was encouraged to apply for a Fulbright fellowship so that she could return to Costa Rica to continue her work.

While waiting for word on the Fulbright, Fouratt was admitted to Cambridge University in England to pursue a master’s degree in Latin American Studies. When the Fulbright subsequently came through, Fouratt deferred her studies in England to continue the work she had started in Costa Rica. Under the auspices of the International Center for Sustainable Human Development (CIDH for its initials in Spanish), Fouratt worked on issues related to immigration, corporate social responsibility and sustainable livelihoods. Fouratt’s time there taught her, she remarked, “to deal with setbacks, delays and the unforeseen (“floods, canceled meetings, monkeys stealing my camera!”). While in Costa Rica, Fouratt also met the man who would become her husband. This fall, Fouratt plans to pursue a doctorate in anthropology at the University of California, Irvine.

“I can’t say enough to convey how important the UGA assistance in applying for grants and scholarships is,” Fouratt said. “I was hesitant to apply because I knew the Fulbright was highly competitive; but Jane Morris and Nora Pillard were very encouraging. During the application process they continued to be an invaluable resource and provided strategic advice,” Knop-Narbutis said.

The UGA assists students through the fellowship application process. The office also administers the Presidential Scholarship Program and the Connelly-Delouvrier International Scholars Program and maintains a list of scholarships, fellowships, research grants and internships for students to investigate.

Many alumni may be unaware that UGA assistance in applying for grants and scholarships is not limited to undergraduates and graduating seniors. Even longtime graduates are encouraged to contact the UGA if they are considering applying for fellowship study at any stage of life.

For more information on fellowships and awards and this year’s honorees, go to www.villanova.edu/artsci/college/academics/uga/.
Paul A. Tufano ’83, ’86 Elected Alumni Association President

By Irene Burgo

Paul A. Tufano ’83 VSB, ’86 J.D. is something of a fixture on the Villanova campus. Despite his high-profile position as senior vice president and general counsel of Independence Blue Cross, the Philadelphia region’s largest health insurer, he makes time to attend games, alumni and Board of Trustee meetings, reunions and other events. He’s been involved in campus life since his days as an undergraduate and has continued his commitment for 25 years, serving as a member of the Villanova University Alumni Association (VUAA) Board of Directors, the Law School’s Board of Consultants, the Law School’s Capital Campaign Committee member and more. Tufano and his wife, Christine ’84 A&S, ’86 G.S., were married in the St. Thomas of Villanova Church by — and their two children were baptized by — a friend the couple met while serving as resident assistants: none other than the current University president, the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A. ’75 A&S.

So, Tufano jokes, “I’ve never really left Villanova!”

Tufano was recently elected to a one-year term as president of the VUAA. As head of the association, Tufano will guide a 15-member alumni Board of Directors and more than 94,000 alumni worldwide.

Tufano officially assumed his duties during Reunion Weekend 2008 last June 6 to 8 — the 25th anniversary of his Villanova graduation. “It’s special for me to serve as president in the same year that my class is celebrating its 25th,” Tufano said.
A call to action

With the fun and camaraderie of Reunion behind him, Tufano is ready to get to work and wants alumni to join him. He believes that participation from alumni will be invaluable in developing a significant vision for the University’s future. During his year as president, he plans to enlist the support of alumni everywhere and has issued “a call to action to alumni.”

“This is a defining moment for the University, in terms of strategic planning,” Tufano said. “Villanova has never stood higher in the many accolades it has received — for the colleges of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Engineering, Nursing, the Business School or the Law School.”

Tufano urges alumni to contribute their talents.

“One of my main goals is to recapture the attention of alumni and make them aware of what’s happening on campus in terms of the business of the University for the future.”

He wants to establish a continuing platform for people to connect with each other. “People are interested in an organization that they are part of, and my job is to make sure the army of alumni understands all of the issues and opportunities to participate. That’s a yearlong conversation I’ve already started to have and one on which I’m getting a lot of positive reaction,” Tufano said.

Tufano believes Father Donohue’s dynamic personality can inspire and engage alumni. “Alumni need to get down to business shoulder-to-shoulder with Father Peter, the administration and Board of Trustees to help sketch out the future. When the planning is done, alumni need to roll up their sleeves and say: ‘We are going to be there in droves for the University.’ With the help of alumni, Tufano is confident good things will happen.

For more information about the Villanova University Alumni Association, including events, alumni benefits, ways to get involved or stay connected, visit alumni.villanova.edu.
Paul A. Tufano '83 VSB, '86 J.D. is currently senior vice president and general counsel of Independence Blue Cross in Philadelphia, the region's largest health insurer. He is responsible for managing litigation, legal and business issues, strategic planning and other responsibilities for the $10 billion dollar company.

Prior to Blue Cross, Tufano served as general counsel for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania from January 1995 to November 1999, working directly with former Gov. Tom Ridge in a job that he calls “a once-in-a-lifetime experience.” Highlights of his tenure include working to reestablish state funding for free community legal services organizations, negotiating an unprecedented economic development agreement to repurpose the former Philadelphia Naval Shipyard and arguing a case before the United States Supreme Court.

Tufano also served as co-chair of the transition team for current Pennsylvania Gov. Edward G. Rendell and formerly was a partner in the Philadelphia law firm of Blank, Rome, Comisky & McCauley. Tufano is active in community affairs, serving as a board member of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts Inc., and WHYY Inc.

Tufano was honored with the Pennsylvania Legal Services Outstanding Leadership Award in 1995 and the Community Legal Services of Philadelphia Champion Justice Award in 1997. He received the Pennsylvania Bar Association’s President’s Award and its Pro Bono Award, the Justinian Foundation’s Professional Achievement Award and the St. Thomas of Villanova Medal from Villanova University. Tufano has been honored also for his contributions to the arts by the Philadelphia Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts.

We are fortunate that Paul contributes to advancing Villanova and its Augustinian mission in many ways. As VUAA president, he has a great opportunity to unite the alumni community in support of the University’s strategic goals. This role is a great match for Paul’s enthusiasm for Villanova, and I look forward to working with him this year.

—The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ‘75 A&S
President, Villanova University

Shaping a leader

Tufano says his Villanova education helped him develop career skills and values, and his love and gratitude toward his alma mater are evident.

“Villanova absolutely prepared me for life. It prepared me for my career when I was in government and in law. Villanova not only taught me the substantive skills I needed from a business degree perspective or legal training, but it also taught me about ethics, integrity and character, which are incredibly important in business and in government today,” Tufano said.

Tufano credits Villanova for instilling values that guide him in pro bono work. “I like to think it was a Catholic education that infused my thinking,” he said. “I attended Catholic school from kindergarten through law school. But certainly the Augustinian influence during my seven years at Villanova had a lot to do with how I approach things, especially community service.”

Tufano acknowledged appreciation for support he received from a favorite professor, Alvin A. Clay ’51 VSB, dean emeritus of the College of Commerce and Finance (now Villanova School of Business). “Dean Clay stands out as one of the great teachers, and he became a mentor to me during my undergraduate days,” Tufano said.

Tufano served as a student senator on the University Senate during his junior year and was elected student body president his senior year. “As I got more involved in the Senate and later as president, Dean Clay gave me advice about governance of the University. It helped me in understanding how to navigate with regard to different issues, and, of course, he helped me with my accounting homework,” he joked.

Tufano knows that Villanova has also shaped the lives of many of his fellow alumni, and he hopes that they will now join him in his quest to give back to the University that gave so much to them.
More than 2,000 Villanovans returned to campus June 6-8 to prove that “Tradition Never Graduates,” the theme of this year’s festivities. The Family Picnic alone attracted more than 1,000 alumni and family members and included special appearances by the Wildcat, Villanova cheerleaders, and members of the football team and the men’s and women’s basketball teams, who signed autographs and took photos with the guests.

The Alumni Gala, attended by more than 600 guests, was lively, and the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president, regaled guests as he sang a resounding rendition of “New York, New York.”

Villanova University Alumni Association President Paul A. Tufano ’83 VSB, ’86 J.D., who celebrated his 25th reunion, welcomed guests to the Gala and challenged alumni to become more active participants in fulfilling the mission of Villanova. The “Call to Action” theme was present in conversations held throughout the weekend.

Supporting the Mission

Gary R. Olsen ’74 A&S, ’80 G.S., associate vice president of Alumni Affairs and executive director of the Villanova University Alumni Association, noted, “We are increasingly using this event as a platform to educate alumni about why it is so important for alumni to support the University financially in whatever way is right for them.”

There is a special emphasis placed around the 50th anniversary reunion year. At the dinner Villanova recognizes the classes for their achievement, and the Class of ’58 won in all three categories: highest overall participation rate, largest amount of unrestricted gifts and largest overall gift. In conjunction with efforts from the Development Office, the total amount raised by all classes was $4.68 million.

“For our purposes, Reunion is more about getting alumni acquainted with what is happening here today and looking forward. I think it is a powerful experience,” Olsen said.
Alumni Reunion Weekend 2008

Family Picnic

Half-Century Society Dinner

Class of '58 Bench Dedication

Mass/Marriage Vow Renewal

Black Cultural Society Alumni
Your Alumni Association

Save the Dates

October 24-26: Homecoming Weekend and the Five-Year Reunion for the Class of 2003

Join the Villanova University Alumni Association, reunite with friends, enjoy a picnic on the Villanova campus, visit your favorite students and cheer on the Wildcats. There’s no better way to spend a fall weekend!

Kick-off the celebration early on Tuesday, October 21, where you can catch Head Coach Andy Talley’s football radio show broadcast, live from Kelly’s Restaurant and Tap Room in Bryn Mawr, Pa.

Wednesday, October 22, from 6-8:30 p.m., enjoy drinks and dinner while you preview the Villanova basketball season at a Coaches’ Night with Jay Wright, Head Coach of Men’s Basketball, and Harry Perretta ’95 G.S., Head Coach of Women’s Basketball.

The Homecoming Family Picnic gets under way on Saturday afternoon from noon until 3:30 p.m. This event is a tradition you won’t want to miss! After the picnic, head over to the Villanova Stadium as the Wildcats take on James Madison University.

There are lots of special events during the weekend, including the Five-Year Reunion for the Class of 2003 and a Legacy Day Program for high school students and their parents, hosted by the Office of Undergraduate Admission.

Go to alumni.villanova.edu and click on Events—Homecoming in the blue sidebar to see the most up-to-date schedule.

June 5-7, 2009: Alumni Reunion Weekend 2009

Classes ending in “4” or “9” will celebrate special reunions June 5-7. The Class of 2004 will hold its Five-Year Reunion at Homecoming from October 23-25, 2009.

Annual Engineering Alumni Society Awards Ceremony and Reception: New Date and Location

The Engineering Alumni Society Awards Ceremony and Reception will be held on Friday, September 26, from 3:30-6:30 p.m. This year’s reception will take place in the Center for Engineering Education and Research (CEER) on the Villanova campus and will include opportunities to tour CEER, meet current students and view student projects, many of which are funded through the Engineering Alumni Society (EAS). Since 1972, the EAS has honored outstanding alumni for their achievements.

Please join us for this very special event to salute Villanova engineers. Additional information is available in the Events Calendar at alumni.villanova.edu or at www.villanova.edu/engineering.

Become Involved in an Alumni Chapter

Did you know that the Villanova University Alumni Association has more than 60 alumni chapters and nine affinity groups across the country and internationally? If you have ever considered getting involved in a local chapter or alumni group, we would love to hear from you. To find out more about the opportunities available in your area, learn more about alumni groups or connect with local alumni and events, contact Charles Bass at charles.bass@villanova.edu.

Visit Class Notes Online

Be sure to take advantage of online Class Notes in the NovaNetwork™ to inform your fellow graduates of events and activities in your life. Browse here for news of your former classmates and take a moment to submit a note of your own. Online Class Notes allows you to post photos, update information more frequently and keep your information displayed for a longer period of time. Information from online Class Notes is also used for the printed version in Villanova Magazine. Click on NovaNetwork at alumni.villanova.edu and share your vacation photos, business promotion, and wedding and baby announcements—it’s a great way to keep in touch with your friends from Villanova.
St. Thomas of Villanova Day of Service: September 20

Join with Villanova students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends as they honor the spirit of St. Thomas of Villanova, Villanova’s patron, with a special day of service. Villanova University Alumni Association chapters across the country will be hosting service events. Visit the Events Calendar at alumni.villanova.edu or contact your local chapter leader to find a service project in your area.

Pack Your Bags for an Unforgettable Travel Season

Australia and New Zealand
March 8-21, 2009

River Life in Saxony
April 17-25, 2009

Cruising the Baltic Sea and the Norwegian Fjords
May 26-June 7, 2009

Danube River and Habsburg Empire
May 30-June 10, 2009

Village Life in England’s Cotswolds
May 31-June 8, 2009

The Danube River—from Vienna to Istanbul
August 2-12, 2009

Village Life in the Italian Lake District
September 19-27, 2009

Island Life in Ancient Greece
September 20-28, 2009

River Life in Burgundy and Provence
October 2-10, 2009

Cultural Capitals of Russia
November 7-16, 2009

Yuletide Traditions in Salzburg and Vienna
December 5-13, 2009

If you plan to travel this season, why not explore new regions and cultures with the Villanova University Alumni Association Travel Program? This special benefit is designed for the University’s extended family of alumni, parents and friends. Our 2009 schedule and comprehensive brochure are now available and detail trips to these 13 exciting destinations:

Tanzania Safari
February 1-11, 2009

Coastal Life: Cruising Thailand and the Malay Peninsula
February 18-28, 2009

2008 Coaches’ Nights

Basketball season is just around the corner, so check alumni.villanova.edu and plan to join the Villanova University Alumni Association at a pre-season Basketball Coaches’ Night. Hear the latest updates on the 2008-09 season from Jay Wright, Head Coach of Men’s Basketball, and Harry Perretta ’95 G.S., Head Coach of Women’s Basketball, along with other special guests. Join University guests, alumni and friends for an evening of great food and drinks and the latest chalk talk. Visit alumni.villanova.edu for the 2008 Coaches’ Night schedule.

Events Calendar

For further information regarding these events, please call 1-800-VILLANOVA or visit alumni.villanova.edu.

Pennsylvania, Delaware and Southern New Jersey Region
September 20
St. Thomas of Villanova Day of Service
September 21-23
“Mendel in the 21st Century: The Scientific, Social and Ethical Impact of Genetics in Our World”
September 26
Engineering Alumni Society (EAS) Awards Ceremony and Reception
September 27
Jessica’s Race Against the Sun

New York, Connecticut and North/Central New Jersey Region
August 28
Villanova Alumni Night at the U.S. Open
October 9
Monmouth/Ocean Counties Scholarship Golf Outing

Midwest Region
September 11
Chicago Scholarship Golf Outing
September 20
St. Thomas of Villanova Day Service Event—Chicago Chapter

New England Region
September 11
Boston Young Alumni Harbor Cruise

Mid-Atlantic Region
November 18
BECAPo Networking Event in Washington, D.C.

Western Region
August 23
Day at the Races—San Diego Chapter
November 15
Fall Planning Meeting—San Diego Chapter
1940s

Class of 1944: 65th Reunion, June 5-7, 2009

Class of 1949: 60th Reunion, June 5-7, 2009

Joseph J. Hinnenkamp ’49 Ch.E. was honored by St. Leo's Athletic Association in Lancaster, Pa., for his role in providing athletic fields and finding coaches to help area children become involved in various sports. From 1999-2001, he served the Villanova alumni chapter in Lancaster as a member of its leadership council.

1950s

Class of 1954: 55th Reunion, June 5-7, 2009

LeRoy S. Zimmerman, Esq., ’56 VSB, E.Co., former Pennsylvania attorney general and currently senior counsel in the Harrisburg, Pa., law office of Eckert Seamans, was elected president of The Pennsylvania Society. The Society’s purpose is “to honor achievement, to reward excellence, to promote good will and understanding, and to celebrate service to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and to humanity in general.”

Class of 1959: 50th Reunion, June 5-7, 2009

Robert Coleman, Esq., ’59 A&S, Arts, former chairman and CEO of Marshall, Dennehey, Warner, Coleman & Goggin, received the Philadelphia Association of Defense Counsel’s Distinguished Service Award.

C. Dale McClain ’59 VSB, Acct., ’64 J.D. was inaugurated as president of the Pennsylvania Bar Association. He is sole practitioner in the Haverford and Worcester (Pa.) law firm of C. Dale McClain Ltd. He earned an LL.M. degree in taxation from Temple University School of Law.

1960s

Class of 1964: 45th Reunion, June 5-7, 2009

Edmond Andre Bussard ’65 A&S, Soc. is living in Lancaster, S.C., where he enjoys gardening and music. He volunteers at JAARS, which supports worldwide Bible translation through Wycliffe Bible Translators. James H. Scott ’65 E.E., ’07 G.S., Lib. Studies was appointed to the Gettysburg College Board of Trustees. He retired after serving as executive director with Morgan Stanley Investment Management and director of portfolio strategies with Van Kampen Investments.

Leo P. Carroll, Esq., ’66 A&S, Engl. was elected to a two-year term as chairman of the Board of Trustees of The Milford Bank, Milford, Conn. He has been a corporator of the bank since 1992 and a trustee since 1993. He is a partner in the Milford law firm of Stevens, Carroll and Carver.

Rodney Plourde, Ph.D., ’66 C.E. has been named 2008 Philadelphia Civil Engineer of the Year by the Philadelphia Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers. Dr. Plourde is president of McMahons Associates Inc. in Exton, Pa. He has been a major contributor to the growth of this transportation engineering and planning firm from 11 employees to nearly 150 employees in 11 offices today.

Class of 1969: 40th Reunion, June 5-7, 2009

Philip J. Friedrich ’69 A&S, Soc. joined Take Charge Consultants in Coatesville, Pa., as an executive consultant and coach. He leads organizational development projects with federal government agencies and organizations such as the Smithsonian Institution and the National Geographic Society.

1970s

Class of 1974: 35th Reunion, June 5-7, 2009

Robert Wieder ’74 VSB, Mkt. has relocated to Delray Beach, Fla., where he is enjoying golfing, fishing and travel. He is an active supporter of the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts in West Palm Beach.

Linda Becker Wisniewski ’75 G.S., Lib. Sci. has published her memoir Off Kilter: A Woman’s Journey to Peace with Scoliosis, Her Mother, & Her Polish Heritage (Pearlsong Press, 2008), available online through Amazon, Barnes & Noble and the publisher (www.pearlsong.com).

Class of 1979: 30th Reunion, June 5-7, 2009

Scott Mackin, Esq., ’79 A&S, Hon. is senior managing director of Denham Capital Management LP, a global private equity firm with offices in Boston, Houston, London and Short Hills, N.J. His home is in Morristown, N.J.
Robert B. Nolan ’74 VSB, Bus. Adm. (left) is shown at his swearing-in ceremony as the U.S. ambassador to the Kingdom of Lesotho in Southern Africa. The ceremony took place in September 2007 at the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C. Holding the Bible is his wife, Nancy Wilson Nolan ’75 Nur. A career member of the Senior Foreign Service, Ambassador Nolan most recently had been the director of the Office of Career Development and Assignments in the State Department’s Bureau of Human Resources. His overseas assignments have included service in Helsinki and Havana, and he speaks French and Spanish. Swearing him in is John D. Negroponte, deputy secretary of State.

Mark S. Raspani, Esq., ’79 A&S, Hist., a partner in the Philadelphia law firm of Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick & Raspani, LLP, was a principal speaker at the Philadelphia Institute of Certified Public Accountants’ 2008 Health Care Conference, held in May in Hershey, Pa. His presentation was titled “Hot Fraud Topics for 2008.”

1980s

Vito A. Canuso III ’80 M.E. was appointed vice president, intellectual property at CoreValve Inc. in Irvine, Calif. He is responsible for expanding CoreValve’s global leadership position in the transcatheter heart valve therapy market.

Gregory P. Lambert ’80 C.E. joined RETTEW as project manager in land development operations in the firm’s Camp Hill, Pa., office. RETTEW provides engineering, land development, planning, surveying and environmental consulting services to clients in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Ernest F. Patti, D.O., ’82 A&S, Bio. is director of the Department of Emergency Medicine and Employee Health Services at St. Barnabas Hospital in the Bronx, N.Y. Dr. Patti was interviewed on Fox Cable News about the Discovery Channel’s documentary focusing on the hospital’s advanced 21st-century trauma care. The series, “911: The Bronx,” aired beginning in May.

Class of 1984: 25th Reunion, June 5-7, 2009

Lyn Kanter Steinberg ’84 Nur. is a health-care case manager specializing in pediatrics in the Division of Youth and Family Services at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. She also paints fine art murals in homes and businesses under the professional name of Brush in Hand LLC Trompe Loeil Murals. She resides in Moorestown, N.J., with her husband and five children. Thomas F. Kolon, M.D., ’84 A&S, Bio., a pediatric urologist at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, has been appointed president of the Society for Fetal Urology and as fellow program director for pediatric urology at Children’s Hospital and the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. John Evans ‘85 VSB, Bus. Adm., of Tiburon, Calif., is vice president of sales and marketing and equity partner at WelCom Products Inc. in Tiburon.

Four Villanovans from the Class of 1987 who were NROTC classmates have all been promoted to the rank of captain in the U.S. Navy Reserve. They are Capt. Rob Finkelston ’87 M.E.; Capt. Thomas M. Foley Jr. ’87 VSB, Bus. Adm.; Capt. Joseph Lamack III ’87 Ch.E.; and Capt. Kevin Monagle ’87 A&S, Gen.

Cheryl Nicolson, Esq., ’86 A&S, Psy. has founded the law firm of Nicolson Associates LLC in Media, Pa. The firm will practice in the areas of products liability, retail law, school law and insurance recovery. Nicolson, a member of the Pennsylvania and New Jersey bars, has been practicing law for nearly 20 years.

Mary Ann Lush ’87 Nur., an assistant professor in the Department of Nursing at Wesley College in Dover, Del., traveled to Beijing, China, as an ambassador with the People to People program sponsored by Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society. Ellen Pensick Krawiec ’88 E.E., ’92 G.S., Comp.E. is chief information officer at Monitoring Analytics LLC in Norristown, Pa.

Lisa Sheehe Hilmi ’88 A&S, Pol. Sci. is living in Sri Lanka, where she, her husband and their four daughters have been working in recovery and rehabilitation following the tsunami. She works with AmeriCares and had worked with the World Health Organization.

Class of 1989: 20th Reunion, June 5-7, 2009

Erin Farley Friday ’89 VSB, Hon./Math., ’91 M.B.A. is founder and president of Main Line Accounting, LLC, a CPA firm in Wayne, Pa. She and her husband, J. Eric Friday ’88 M.E., ’91 M.M.E., and their three children reside in Plymouth Meeting. Their daughter was selected to represent Pennsylvania in the First All-Star Tee Ball game, held July 16 on the South Lawn of the White House with President George W. Bush. Jill Salatici Mortimer ’89 Nur. is a surgical case manager at St. Joseph Medical Center in Reading, Pa.

1990s

Lisa Bertuola ’90 C.E. was promoted to executive director in tax at Ernst & Young in Philadelphia. Tami Peter ’90 VSB, Bus. Adm. is a volunteer and board member of Bottomless Closet, whose mission is to promote economic self-sufficiency to economically disadvantaged New York City women. She creates and teaches monthly personal finance seminars, mentoring more than 15 women herself. She has also funded a financial independence loan for women who have demonstrated good financial habits and can become debt-free within 12 months.

Cmdr. Joaquin D. Martinez de Pinillos ’91 M.E. sends greetings from Camp Stone in Afghanistan. Carla Pregnolato Gorman ’93 A&S, Comm. was promoted to local sales manager at WTTG-TV (Fox 5) in Washington, D.C.

Class of 1994: 15th Reunion, June 5-7, 2009

Scott Meyers ’94 C.E. is licensed as both a professional engineer and land surveyor in Connecticut. He is vice president of Meyers Associates, P.C. in Waterbury. Sudhakar Goverdhanam ’95 M.M.E. is CEO and founder of Prime Technology Group in Philadelphia. With 12 years’ experience in the software industry, he has led the company into a multi-national operation where he has received industry-wide recognition as a market-share leader.

Dennis Basara ’90 A&S, Math. was promoted to senior client partner in the Chicago firm of Korn/Ferry International, a global provider of talent management.

Class of 1999: 10th Reunion, June 5-7, 2009

Kevin Monagle ’99 A&S, Bus. Adm. joined RETTEW as project manager in land development operations in the firm’s Sewickley, Pa., office. RETTEW provides engineering, land development, planning, surveying and environmental consulting services to clients in the Mid-Atlantic region.

The Rev. Timothy R. Reichard ’85 G.S., Psy. has been named director of pastoral care for the Masonic Village at Sewickley, Pa.


Summer 2008 45
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 Kate Wechsler, Villanova Magazine, Alumni House, 3rd floor, Villanova University, 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.

Please print or type:

Name ____________________________
Class Year _________ College _______ Major __________________________
Additional Villanova graduate degrees and years:
___________________________________________________________________________

Residential Address _______________________________________________________
City __________________________ State ___________ Zip __________________________
Telephone __________________________
Employer __________________________
Position __________________________
Business Address _________________________________________________________
City __________________________ State ___________ Zip __________________________
Telephone __________________________
Preferred E-mail __________________________
News for Class Notes
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*Villanova University reserves complete editorial rights to all content submitted for Class Notes, and posts and publishes listings as space permits.

Class of 1999: 10th Reunion, June 5-7, 2009

2000s

Ross Antonacci, Esq., ’00 M.B.A. joined the Wilmington, Del., law firm of Morris James LLP as a partner in the Business Transactions Group. He is admitted to practice in Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Lt. Timothy Nick Kozma ’00 VSB, Mgt. sends greetings from Camp Stone in Afghanistan.

Christopher G. Cummings ’04 A&S, Chem., a graduate student at Yale University, was the featured speaker at the Lebanon, Pa., première of “Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull,” in which he was an extra in two portions of the film.

Robert Cunliffe ’04 Comp. E. is an assistant vice president at Credit Suisse Group in Manhattan.

Bethany Deal ’05 A&S, Hum. Serv./Soc., ’08 J.D. graduated cum laude from the Villanova University School of Law and has accepted a clerkship in a New Jersey court.

Megan J. Durwea, Esq., ’05 LL.M. was elected to partnership in the Philadelphia law firm of Fox Rothschild LLP.

Marine Corps 1st Lt. Karl N. Van Haute ’05 A&S, Hist. was promoted to his current rank while serving with Helicopter Training Squadron 18 in Milton, Fla.

Navy Ens. John M. Prendergast ’07 A&S, Hist. has reported for duty at the Naval Air Station in Kingsville, Texas.


Anthony G. Elberti ’05 M.C.E. joined Gannett Fleming, an international planning, design and construction management firm in Valley Forge, Pa. He serves as a water and wastewater resource project engineer.

Ducarmel “Duke” Augustin ’01 A&S, Comm. is assistant principal at a middle school in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., where he is a candidate for a doctoral degree at Florida Atlantic University. His home is in Coconut Creek.

Joseph J. Russell Jr., Esq., ’01 A&S, Comm., an attorney at Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., in Manasquan, NJ., opened a restaurant, the Latin Café, at the Main Street entrance to Manasquan Beach.

Jennifer Shore ’02 Nur. received the Excellence in Nursing Practice Award at the Medical College of Virginia Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory, where she has been working since 2006. She formerly worked in critical care at Georgetown University Hospital and also spent a year as a travel nurse in the Virgin Islands.

Timothy D’Alfonso, M.D., ’03 A&S, Bio., who graduated in May from Rosalind Franklin University’s Chicago Medical School, was named to the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society for 2008-09. He will begin his residency in anatomic and clinical pathology at New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center in New York City.

Class of 2004: Five-Year Reunion, October 23-25, 2009

Marriages

1980s–1990s

Joseph Silvestri '83 Ch.E. married Sondra Tornawoj.
Jill Salutric Mortimer '89 Nur. married Ronald E. Cobb.
Laurie Mazzuca, Ph.D., '96 A&S, Psy. married Joaquin Mateos Pastorin.

2000s

Anne Breznyak '01 Nur. married Delvin Williams.
Elizabeth Jane Pavlick '01 A&S, Hon./Theol. married Steven Francis McGuire.
Elizabeth McGrath '02 VSB, Fin. married Ryan Garvey.
Justin Boland '04 A&S, Bio. married Jill Bauerlein.
Brian Peach '04 Nur. married Julia Ulrich.
Sara Curley '05 Nur. married Robert Whitehead.
Seth T. Pidot '08 G.S., Lib. Studies married Katharine Blake Schogol.

Births

1980s–1990s

Leonard Dooren '88 A&S, Eco., boy.
Bill Russo '91 VSB, Acct., boy.
Suzanne Rickard Moore '93 VSB, Acct., boy.
James Roveda '93 M.E., girl.
James Gryta '94 VSB, Acct., boy.
Tim Seeger '94 VSB, Mkt., boy.
Elaine Paoloni Quilici '95 VSB, Mkt., boy.
Kristen Grillo Eckford '96 VSB, Mkt., boy.
Lisa Pemberton Harris '96 Ch. E., boy.
Christopher Rukus '96 A&S, Hist., girl.
Scott Whitman '96 A&S, Theol., boy.
Ryan Gray '97 VSB, Fin., girl.
Brian Gargan '98 C.E., '03 M.E. and Marie Gribbin Gargan '98 M.E., boy.
Patricia Manion Cellucci '98 A&S, Educ., girl.
Karen Wood Roberts '98 VSB, Acct., girl.
Robert M. Butler '99 M.E. and Julie Campbell Butler '99 M.E., boy.
Timothy Johnson '99 M.E., girl.

2000s

Brian Gargan '02 M.C.E. and Marie Gribbin Gargan '98 M.E., boy.
Jennifer Durfee Bottamiller '03 A&S, Gen., girl.
Tara Bergstrom '04 Comp. E., boy.
Michael Selbert '05 M.E., '06 M.M.E. and Laura Ledgewood '05 Che., girl.
Michael Vezza '05 M.B.A. and Patricia Regan Vezza '97 Nur., boy.

In Memoriam

1930s

Charles F. Kain '36 E.E., on February 19.

1940s

Joseph A. Gallagher '40 C.E. on April 19.
Richard J. Madigan '45 C.E., on February 9.
David H. Cuswa '48 C.E., on April 30.
Sister Mary Lenore '49 A&S, Educ., on May 18.
Alfred B. Pentony '49 E.E., on April 30.
Thomas P. Smith Jr., '49 VSB, Eco., on February 22.

1950s

Donald A. Baralt '50 M.E., on April 27.
John H. Kelly '50 VSB, Eco., on May 1.
Francis McNicholas '57 VSB, Eco., on May 26.
Roger Boyle '58 M.E., on October 30, 2006.
Edward Rossi '58 VSB, Eco., on June 2.

1960s

Daniel J. Donovan Jr. '61 M.E., on May 28.
Vito A. Gerardi '62 E.E., on May 17.
Anthony A. Sauk '63 E.E., on March 22.
Florence E. Gulotta '64 Nur., on April 17, 2007.
Antoinette R. Stabinski '65 G.S., Classics, on March 22.
John E. Collins '66 VSB, Eco., on January 2.
Raymond J. Sauer '68 G.S., Psyc., on February 11.
Dorothy F. Lawley '69 G.S., Lib. Sci., on December 5, 2006.

1970s

Lynne Patterson '75 G.S., Edu./Sec. Couns., on May 1.

1980s

Mary Lee Price '81 G.S., Edu., on April 3.
Winthrop H. McClure III, '83 E.E., on March 29.

1990s-2000s

Diane C. Davis '96 G.S., Psy., on April 1, 2007.
Robert A. Novak Jr. '96 C.E., on July 7.
Victoria Adjo Afum '03 M.S.N., on May 13.

Student

Matt Reimann ’10 on May 1.

Faculty and Staff

August A. Sardinas, Ph.D. on June 17.
Dr. Sardinas taught for 25 years in the department of mathematical sciences.
Nicholas M. Rongione Sr. on April 18.
He served for more than 22 years on the front desk of the Jake Nevin Field House.

Classifieds

Hello Villanovans!
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Classifieds can be the answer to your dream.
The University community gathers at the beginning of each academic year for a series of events that commemorate St. Thomas of Villanova, the 16th-century Augustinian Bishop of Valencia, Spain, and patron of Villanova University. The highlight of this annual celebration is the Day of Service, which unites students, faculty, staff, alumni and families to perform needed work in the community. Wherever you are located, there are opportunities to take part in this unique celebration of Villanova’s heritage and mission.

To learn more about how you can be involved in the Day of Service, please contact your local chapter of the Villanova Alumni Association or visit: www.villanova.edu/alumni. Additional information about the St. Thomas of Villanova Celebration can be found at: www.villanova.edu/president/stvcelebration.
DO YOU HAVE A CHILD APPLYING TO VILLANOVA FOR THE CLASS OF 2013?

FALL 2008 OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE

**Engineering**
Sunday, September 21

**Nursing**
Sunday, September 28

**Legacy Day**
Sunday, October 26

**Liberal Arts**
Saturday, September 6

**Science**
Sunday, October 5

**Villanova School of Business**
Saturday, September 27
Sunday, September 28

CLASS OF 2012 ADMISSION STATISTICS

- Freshmen applications received: 15,100
- Targeted freshman class size: 1,595
- Percentage of accepted freshmen who ranked in the top 10 percent of their graduating class*: 88
- Percentage of accepted freshmen who ranked in the top 20 percent of their graduating class*: 98
- GPA range for the typical accepted applicant: 3.79 - 4.17 / 4.00
- The middle 50 percent range of SAT scores for the typical accepted applicant: 1340 - 1430 / 1600
- Percentage of the freshman class with alumni affiliation: 26

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Preferred filing dates for the Villanova Preliminary Application for Undergraduate Admission

- Early Action: October 15
- Health Affiliation Programs: October 15
- Regular Decision: December 15

Complete Application Deadlines (including Common Application)

- Early Action: November 1
- Health Affiliation Programs: November 1
- Regular Decision: January 7

The Power of VILLANOVA

For Open House reservations, a general campus visit schedule or more information, please visit our website at www.admission.villanova.edu

Office of University Admission • 800 Lancaster Avenue • Villanova, PA 19085 • 610-519-4000
gotovu@villanova.edu
Save the Date: October 22 - 26, 2008

The Villanova University Alumni Association invites you to a spectacular fall weekend. Enjoy great friends, food, football and fun. Kick-off the weekend early with the traditional Philadelphia Coaches’ Night on Wednesday, October 22nd. The Class of 2003 will celebrate their Five Year Reunion during the weekend with special events and opportunities to reconnect with friends and classmates.

Visit alumni.villanova.edu for all the details and the schedule of activities and don’t miss Homecoming Weekend 2008!