

The Student Voice of Bryant University since 1946

# THE ARCHWAY

2007 Commencement Issue



1863

EXPANDING  
THE WORLD OF  
OPPORTUNITY

BRYANT

UNIVERSITY



## From the President

---



May 19, 2007

Dear Graduates:

Commencement is upon us and I want to thank each of you for your contributions to the Bryant community. It is my hope that you have found your time here at the University to be challenging, exciting, and fun. As you forge ahead in your career and life, I know that you will build upon the extraordinarily solid foundation Bryant has provided.

New journeys await you; new friends, new colleagues, new personal and professional experiences. Commit yourself to lifelong learning. Apply your skills with enthusiasm. Continue to demonstrate your concern for humanity. Make your own special imprint on the landscape so that others will benefit from your contributions.

On this day of Commencement we look forward to you joining our alumni family of more than 38,000 distinguished professionals throughout the world. They share your high standards of excellence and your commitment to achieving your personal best in all that you do. You are certain to recall with fondness and pride the roots you have put down here at Bryant, and it is our hope you will return to campus often. Your Bryant degree is just the beginning of a lifelong relationship with the University.

We – Kati and I – and everyone at Bryant – faculty, staff, and trustees – express pride in your achievements and confidence in your future. We thank you for all you have brought to this University and extend best wishes for your success and happiness in the future!

Sincerely

Ronald K. Machtley  
President



# The Honor of the Commencement Issue

In order to celebrate the 144th Undergraduate Commencement, *The Archway* has created this commencement guide for the over 700 students who will graduate on May 19, 2007.

Following tradition, we have compiled reflections from students who significantly impacted Bryant during their undergraduate career and have a memorable and insightful story to share. Choosing ten students to write a reflection was difficult and this year, a committee of underclassmen students from all walks of college life selected the recipients.

To continue with a precedent set last year, we selected one

faculty and one staff member to provide a final message to the graduating class. This year's contributors are Lori Coakley and George Coronado. These two individuals were chosen because of the impact they have had on the lives of many of the 2007 graduates.

This guide is dedicated to each student's college experience, from the moment you first stepped on campus until you finally passed through the archway. I wish you the best of luck as you take your next steps as graduates of the Class of 2007.

Lauren Cimino  
Editor-in-Chief

## Archway Editors 2006-2007

*Editor-In-Chief*  
Lauren Cimino

News Editor: Jaritza Cortes  
Asst. News Editors: Roxanne Cowperthwaite and Carlos Ramos  
Opinion Editor: Ryan P. Daley  
Asst. Opinion Editor: Peter G. Connors and Brian S. Kennedy

Sports Editor: Stephen Demers  
Asst. Sports Editor: Dave Giardino  
Variety Editor: Greg Hirshorn  
Asst. Variety Editor: Brigit Clancy  
Copy Editors: Emily Welles, Mike Yakavonis

Photo Editor: Joseph Domancy  
Web Publisher: Joe Pelletier  
Advertising/Business Manager: Shawn Benham

Advisor: Meagan Sage  
Technical Advisor: Larry Sasso

Commencement Committee: Alan Waters, Chris Phelps, Craig Tetreau, Whitney Blasos, Jaritza Cortes, Somalisa Ker, Sarah Campbell, Lauren Cimino, Ryan Daley, Meagan Sage  
Cover artwork by: Joseph Domancy

## Walking through the archway... a Commencement tradition

Other than receiving diplomas on Commencement day, students have another way of symbolizing the completion of their Bryant education: walking through the archway.

The story of the archway dates back to 1905. Isaac Gifford Ladd, an associate of Charles Schwabb and a famous U.S. steel tycoon, constructed a \$1 million building which contained the iron arch on Young Orchard Avenue on the east side of Providence. This building was meant to be a sign of his endearment to his newlywed wife.

However, his wife expressed hatred for the structure which was named after her. Taking this as personal rejection, Ladd took his own life. The building remained unoccupied until Thomas Marsden transformed it into Hope Hospital, which was part of the Bryant-Straton College, renamed Bryant College. To provide more space for classes, an addition was constructed and Hope Hospital was renamed South Hall.

In October of 1967, Earl S. Tupper, inventor of Tupperware, donated his 392 acre hillside estate to Bryant College for the creation of the new campus. To thank Tupper for his generous gift, Bryant named the campus after him and awarded him an honorary degree. Four years later, in the fall of 1971, the

campus moved to Smithfield. Prior to leaving the Hope Street campus, the wrought-iron arch at the entrance to South Hall was transported to the new campus.

Today, the archway remains the only physical link to the Providence campus. Frank Delmoncio, then Vice President for Business Affairs, and Robert Hillier, architect of the Tupper campus and designer of the sign for the front entrance, relocated the archway between the two ponds enroute to the Unistrustructure.

Immediately, after the archway was transferred from the old campus, students began to avoid passing through this out-of-place structure. As rumor had it, walking through the archway before graduation mysteriously jeopardized chances of graduating. Since this is quite a large price to pay for not following tradition, most students opted not to take the chance, which has resulted in worn paths around the arch.

After 17 years of worn paths, the graduating class of 1987 left a brick pathway around the sacred arch. This tradition has shaped the behavior of thousands of Bryant University students on Tupper campus for the past 30 years, and will continue to shape that of more in the years to come.



# Student Senate President: Eileen Hayes

---

What an amazing time in our lives to be part of Bryant University,

There is great meaning in this moment. This is our moment. A moment of realization, of culmination, of success. Tomorrow, this moment will be gone, but we will forever be part of today, and the history we leave here at Bryant. As the last class that applied to Bryant College four years ago, it was our class that chose this institution, and together it is our class that graduates from this institution. Marked with a name and year that will bind us together for the rest of our lives, we are Bryant University's Class of 2007.

We are not only bound by a title, but by four years of growing together, sharing our lives and experiences together and within these walls making a home at Bryant together. Remembering welcome weekend our freshman year and venturing through a maze of suite villages and townhouses, it has become clear how familiar Bryant is to us now. How familiar that walk from C-lot is, the daily routine of passing through the Rotunda and never being familiar with the path through the Archway.

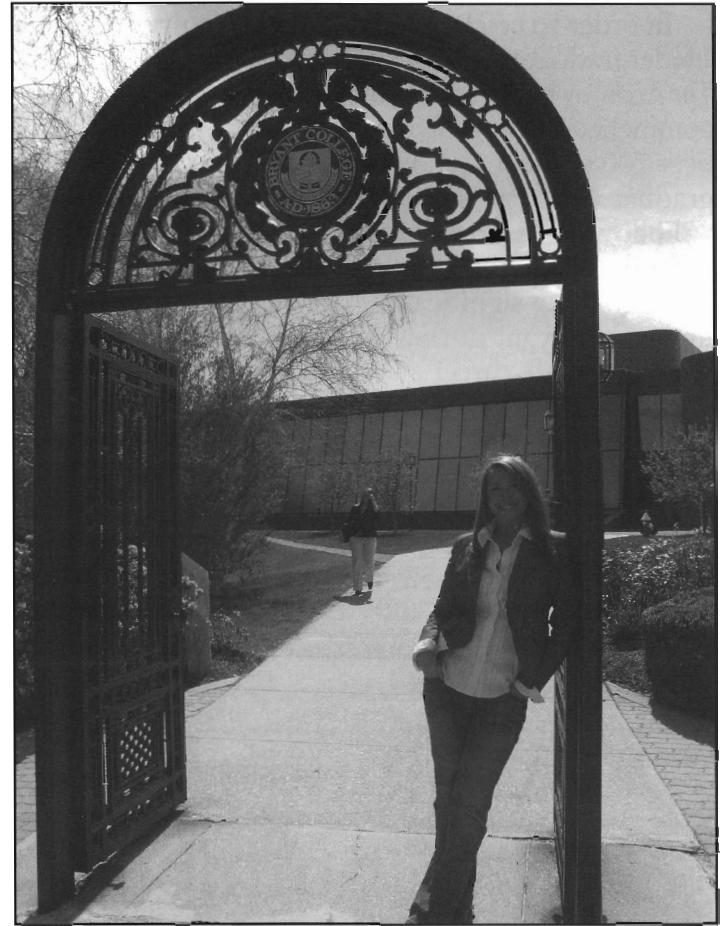
Bryant has challenged us through the face of conflict, debate and adversity; testing our abilities to stand on our own feet, while providing the support and encouragement to do so. And to Bryant, our class has taken these challenges, embraced them and let them turn us into adults, intellectuals and leaders. Stepping onto campus our first year, we were participants and spectators. Climbing the ladder, we became the mentors and directors; the "seniors" who were filled with knowledge, experience and guidance setting new standards for the classes following.

The concept of time and its importance are becoming clearer as we sit together in our cap and gowns. Today, we say good bye to this familiar journey and move onto an unbound and limitless path with new roles, not just as students but as global citizens; exposed to new responsibilities,

---

**This is our moment.  
A moment of  
realization, of  
culmination, of  
success.**

---



challenges and opportunities that will come to each of us. Now is time we must give back to our families and friends who have stood behind us and supported us through our most trivial and challenging moments. We must deliver to society, to our community and to ourselves exactly what our families believe in us; everything.

I cannot tell you what choices to make, or give you advice on entering the real world as I am entering it with you, but I can tell you this. I have been inspired each day by this class, by the maturity in leading this institution as club Presidents, team captains, honor students and the students who have given a piece of their heart to Bryant and worked to make this a better place.

I have seen great changes happen because you wanted it to, because you believed in it and because you are part of it. If this is the message our class is going to send to the world when we leave, I can only say I am proud to be part of Bryant University's class of 2007. There is great meaning in this moment, this is our moment

**Congratulations, I wish you the Best of Luck!**

I wish that I could prepare this after I have already launched a successful career... when I've discovered my place in the work force, decided where I will live, where I fit, and what I will become... That would give my words the clout and weight I desire... But today, I am here with you looking forward with *uncertainty*...

My English teachers always said to write about what you know... So, what exactly do I know? Well, as a transfer student, I know about change... I know about another school... I know about starting over again...

I've had a previous college experience. I completed my first 2 years at

a small junior college in upstate NY. I had a very successful college experience there. I participated in a graduation ceremony, earned awards, and very important for *me*, participated on a college team. I had some wonderful mentors and felt as though I had learned a good deal about character and dignity. I didn't think it could get any better than that. Then I came to Bryant...

When I first came to Bryant I intended to focus on soccer. But while I was doing that, something was happening to me... Slowly, one relationship at a time, I was being transformed. I was meeting new people... people who, on the outside, were different from me... some spoke different languages, some were a different color, a different nationality, a different culture... and some who were just *plain different*...

Not only did I meet these people, but I lived with them... I ate with them, laughed with them, argued with them, and at times even danced with them. I listened to and was touched by them. They opened my mind and heart.

And though we were all so different, we were always able to find something that we had in common. My friends and I share a love of family, religious beliefs, a sense of humor, a sense of honor...

My good friend Ignacio, from South America once said, "Sammy, you've got to be open-minded." That really hit me. I realized that here at Bryant I've learned to be open minded. The rich diversity of students on our campus has offered me the opportunity to really understand something about other people...and add another layer to my character. While we may have surface differences, inside we are all the same, and character and honor can be found across cultures, colors, races and religions.

---

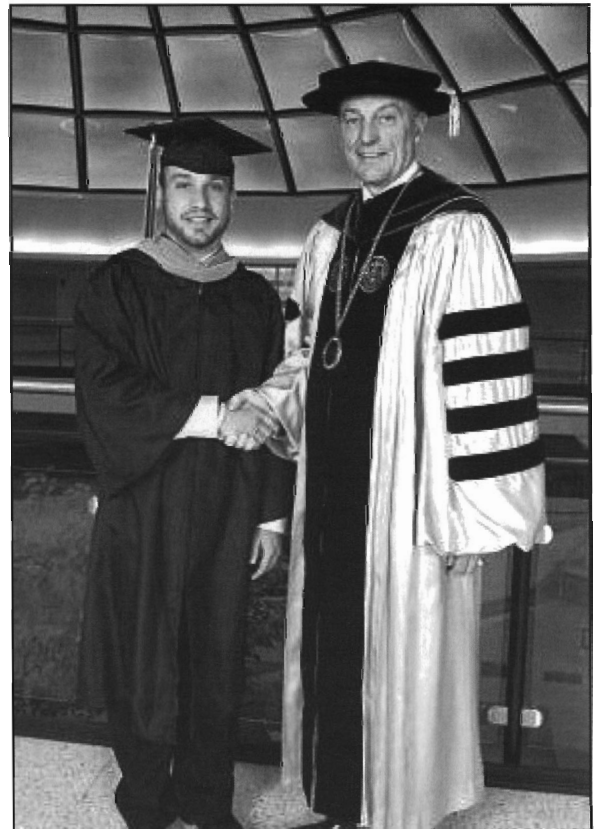
**I didn't think it  
could get any better  
than that. Then I  
came to Bryant...**

---

At Bryant I have been able to form important personal relationships with my professors, and I am proud to say that character has been a valued part of our education here... Since I've been here I have met people who are successful... successful in business, successful in the arts, and successful as human beings... I realized that "success" has different meanings to different people, but in the bigger picture I found that they were all human just like us.

When I was growing up I was always a forward on my soccer team... my eye was always on the goal... I guess you might say that I am a goal oriented individual. Making good choices and doing the right thing is important to me... being a person of character is paramount to who I want to be. Bryant has opened my eyes to a larger goal... We must have our minds open in order to hear each other and share...across cultures, races, governments... Our success will be measured by what we do and how we treat each other, not by how much money we make...Our character will count. That is what will set us above the rest.

And so we are off to another change, another beginning... I don't believe that my college experience could have been any better than it has been here at Bryant. My goal? To be a success and use what I have learned here to be beneficial to society...to keep my character strong and above all to keep my mind open...





# Katherine Araujo

Our experiences at Bryant have allowed us to grow into the extraordinary men and women we are today. After all, what more is college than a trial run; a social and analytical dress rehearsal to allow us the time to channel all of our energies into learning to better our world and ourselves? As we go forth into the “real world,” we leave behind the security of a safe haven that has embraced us for the past four years. But we take with us many tools that promise to enrich our lives and ensure our successes: the lifelong friendships we have developed that are just beginning, the unquenched curiosities we have begun to ponder, the insurmountable obstacles we have overcome, and the invaluable lessons we have learned both inside, and more importantly, outside the walls of the Unistrukture. I’d like to share three such lessons with you.

*Lesson #1: Life is not fair, but that doesn’t mean you should attribute all of your successes to pure luck.* You’re here today, receiving this great honor, because you worked hard and earned it. Luck is a wonderful thing, but believing in it too much forces us to trivialize our successes and shirk responsibility for our failures. Take control of your life, take risks, and follow your dreams. But don’t chalk your successes up to “good luck” and your failures up to “bad”- the more you believe in luck, the less you believe in yourself. As Doug Larson once said, “Some of the world’s greatest feats were accomplished by people not smart enough to know they were impossible.” Let your failures help you better shape your successes, and do not let silly superstitions get in the way of achieving your dreams.

*Lesson #2: Always stand up for yourself. If you don’t, no one else will either.* Wherever you go in this world, you

will inevitably meet people who will try to take advantage of you. Don’t let them, and don’t sit around waiting for someone else to confront this injustice. Do it for yourself- you are your own responsibility. It may be a daunting task, but taking the time to challenge those who treat you unfairly is the only way to treat yourself with respect and ensure that others do the same. As Winston Churchill once said, “You have enemies? Good. That means you’ve stood up for something, sometime in your life.” You cannot live your life in fear of disapproval. Learn that it is okay to say “no.” That single-syllabic word is not only liberating, it is downright powerful. As long as you always put forth your best efforts, preoccupying yourself wishing you could please everyone is a waste of your time and energy.

*Lesson #3: Find your passion, and share it with anyone willing to listen.* I once read a line from the Talmud that said, “Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world’s grief... You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it.” Our beautiful planet is a place full of pain and anguish. Use the skills and knowledge you have gained at this institution to not only better yourself, but to better the world and the people around you. After graduating from this prestigious university, you will have a great influence among your future peers and colleagues. You might travel far and wide on business trips, or hold meetings with top government officials, or maybe even spend sixty seconds in an elevator with Bill Gates himself. Dedicate yourself to a worthy cause, and use every opportunity you have at your disposal to educate others as to your undertaking. The diploma you receive today is a powerful tool. Use it wisely in pursuit of your passions, and never underestimate the difference you can make in this world.

These lessons, along with countless others, will follow us for the rest of our lives. No matter where we go and what we do, they guarantee that we will never, ever forget the time we have spent here. I’d like to take this opportunity to thank my family and friends for shaping the last four years of my life. I’d also like to congratulate all of my peers, the Class of 2007, for a job well done. For my parting words, I’d like to leave you with a quote from *Back to the Future*’s Dr. Emmett Brown: “Your future hasn’t been written yet. No one’s has. Your future is whatever you make it. So make it a good one.” Congratulations, and best wishes!



*Struggle is defined as to progress with difficulty. You know what that means? It means that you're going to make it. And I can't say that I know what you went through or that I understand what you're going through, but if you take one piece of advice, experience tells me that you're going to make it and that struggle is just part of this journey we call "life."* – Cornelius "See" Flowers

To say that I did it all on my own or that college was "a walk in the park" would be a fallacy; I've struggled. I've labored with academics, SPB, job hunting, Residence Life, even a death in the family, and though times seemed hard I always had this voice saying that I was going to make it. To others, this could be any number of things, such as a higher spiritual being. To me, this voice was my friends, family, professors, advisors/mentors, and SPB.

To my friends – I'm so grateful for each and every one of you. No matter what, you have always encouraged and lifted me up when I was down, telling me that I was going to make it.

To my family – Though we never saw eye to eye on the path that I chose, you still supported me when times were tough and encouraged me to strive for more.

To my professors – Thank you for continually challenging me to work to achieve my best as well as being there to provide advice outside academics.

To my advisors/mentors: Meredith, even though this semester was a bit rough we got through it and learned a lot about each other. It has helped me grow in so many aspects to become a more patient person.

Hank, since I met you freshman year you have always been there for me. Not only have you been a great mentor but a friend as well. Your guidance has helped me develop into a student leader and I

appreciate everything you have done. I wish you the best in your future endeavors and know that I will be there for you as you have for me.

Lastly, SPB - I cannot begin to express what this organization has meant to me. I've developed some of my closest relationships through SPB and I'll never forget all the memories, like: the 2 am concert breakdowns, retreats, random quotes, or staying up in the Bryant Center until closing. You guys are amazing and have become a second family to me. I will deeply miss you all.

Upon retrospect, I've been through a lot. These past four years I've accumulated more failures than successes and as I prepare to enter the "real world" I find myself questioning my future. But as I look back on things I realize that it's nothing new. I've experienced many hardships and though I have fallen



more than succeeded I have always lived by this one phrase - It does not matter if you have tried and failed. What defines you is how you pick yourself up and move on from that failure. Struggled, I have, but there are no worries because I know I'm going to make it.

Congratulations Class of 2007!



# Benjamin Caisse



Well, what can I say? Where did my four years at Bryant College go, or should I say Bryant University? I have been witness to the vast transformation of Bryant throughout my stay in Smithfield, Rhode Island. My initial college search did not treat me well, as the Division I tennis team I was going to play for in New York dropped their program with two months left in my senior year of high school. That was one of the most devastating emails I have ever received. I had to begin the college search all over again. But, because of Bryant's competitive academic programs, and unbelievable athletic facilities, I applied to Bryant and got in. I am a huge believer that everything happens for a reason. I was meant to be a student at Bryant University and contribute to its growth as an institution. The devastating email I received from New York was, at the time, a painful experience to go through, but in the end was probably the best thing that could have ever happened to me. That email led me to Bryant, and allowed me to accomplish things that would never have been possible anywhere else.

I came into the school as a freshman, hoping to be a walk-on onto the varsity tennis team. I ended up gaining a starting position by late fall first semester and have remained a starter ever since. The past two years I have accepted the role of co-captain for the team, enduring many trials and tribulations, but always maintaining a cohesive and successful team. I have also been involved heavily in the transformation of Bryant University's music program. During junior

year I was part of the first a capella singing group on campus. We have grown in numbers over the past two years, and our ability level has skyrocketed. We now perform at venues such as Salve Regina, MIT and various functions around the Bryant campus to help spread Bryant's newly developed musical savvy.

It has truly been special to witness Bryant's transformation, including more liberal arts programs, competitive athletic programs, and a variety of new organizations and clubs. One of those clubs that I took an interest in is the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM). Since I am a management major, I

took an interest in this field, and my involvement in this group has allowed me to learn so much more about the Human Resource field, not to mention meeting so many great people that took an interest in the same things I did. Other groups that I became involved in are the Student Athlete Advisory Council and Senior Advisory Council. Both groups allowed for issues to be addressed on the University's and student's behalf, making everyone involved feel that they had a voice. The curriculum and academic services at Bryant have allowed me to learn a lot of new skills as well as provide ample opportunities for future employment possibilities. I have been a true beneficiary of these services as I was able to receive an internship at the Hartford Insurance and Investments the summer of my junior year. This followed with a recent acceptance on my behalf for a full-time position at the Hartford Life Company which I will start on June 11, 2007.

I can't say enough good things about my experience at Bryant University. The friendships that I have made and knowledge I have gained through this truly remarkable time have left me with memories to last a lifetime. I would give anything to relive these four years all over again, as these were the best years of my life. Bryant University has made me a true professional, and given me the motivation and character needed for success in the real world. I am grateful and honored to say that "I am a Bryant University Alumni."



All I keep thinking is, "I can't believe I made it!" I'm going to let you guys in on a little secret: I have walked through the Archway on several occasions before today, graduation day. So, to tell you the truth, I was extremely nervous that something was going to happen to me; maybe a fall, sleeping through the commencement ceremony, or missing class credits that I didn't know I needed until today! Anyway, let me keep going before they find my records and start checking for things!

These past four years have been filled with many wonderful memories that I will never forget. The memories start from the time I first met my best friend and only roommate, Shantel to this last week, Senior Week! As I looked around during Senior

Week I saw so many familiar faces that I am truly going to miss. I also saw many faces that were not as familiar, but were comfortable to me, faces that I am going to miss seeing around campus and in classes.

In the words of Des'ree in *You Gotta Be*, "Time asks no questions; it goes on without you. Leaving you behind if you can't stand the pace. The world keeps on spinning, you couldn't stop it if you tried to. The best part is danger staring you in the face!" This is where we should all stand right now at this point of our lives. Looking to the future we should be nothing but confident that we are all going to achieve greatness. We are graduating from Bryant University, a place that not only gave us a top-notch education, but also an awesome administration and staff from whom we have learned much about life outside the classroom. We do not really think about these things as we are in a rush to move on, whether it is starting a career or moving on to graduate school, but the things that we are taking from Bryant are not only GPAs, medals, awards, and recognition. No, the most important things we are taking with us from Bryant are our great friendships, and life lessons that we would not have learned anywhere else.

We are so lucky to have all these tools with us. No matter where we are five or ten years from now, we should never forget where we came from; Bryant is the place where we first had a taste of our freedom, of our independence, of the real world. We have all graduated, so obviously we did something right! Let's keep doing it! And if some day down the road we



happen to get off track for some reason, let's remember all the hard work that brought us to that stage. Remember the feeling we had walking and looking into our family and friends' faces the day of graduation. Remember that feeling that some of you had the first time that you walked through the Archway! Remember that feeling and get back on track, because we have all the tools to achieve anything we want! We just have to remember to use them!

Lastly, I just wanted to say that I am honored to be graduating with all of you in the class of 07!!!! I'm proud to be graduating with the people I met and the people that I didn't get to meet. I am honored because in a sense we all did this together!!! From that first day of our freshman year when we were all ready for our parents to leave so that we could go to the block party and scope out the territory, to these last months where we all had the bittersweet feeling of wanting to move on, but at the same time wanting to stay in this wonderfully comfortable place that we have called home for the past four years. Again thanks to all of you for making this experience here at Bryant unforgettable! I also want to thank all of my loved ones for supporting me, because without their support I probably would not have made it. Thank you mom and dad for all that you've done for me; all your sacrifice, all your prayers, and all of your patience. I love you! I can finally say this: Class of 2007, WE MADE IT!!!!!!!!!!!!



# Riley Doherty

How do I start when I need to talk about the end? How do I talk about the ending when I don't even know my new beginning?

We all entered Bryant College as adolescent, naive, eager high school grads. As we sit here today, not one of us is the exact same person we were back in September 2003. The experiences we have faced, and the actions and decisions we have chosen, have molded us into the individuals that we are at this very moment.

Freshman year was an adventurous challenge. I chose to become an innovative leader by joining the SAA, GEP, and the Women's Tennis team - to name



just a few. It was a fabulous year having the opportunity to discover the nicest, craziest and most caring people I would know for the next four years as my classmates.

Sophomore year tested my ability to hit rock bottom and then gain the strength needed to climb higher than I had ever been. It was during this time I realized true friends believe in you when you have ceased to believe in yourself. It was the combination of their support and my desire to find my true inner self that I recognized my talents and opened up my business. 'Artistic Accents' allowed me to channel my energy into a creative, entrepreneurial painting company as I revealed my true passion for art and design. For your patience and love, thank you Lizzy, Crystal, Tiana, Hogs, and Ica.

Junior year was a new beginning. Living in Spain and traveling the world for my Study Abroad semester gave me a new outlook on life. I met my best

friend Todd who shared an appreciation of art and a love for the Spanish language with me. I could never be grateful enough to Bryant for presenting me with this opportunity to discover such a diverse place that enhanced my understanding for other cultures.

Senior year has been a gift. Doctor Frank Bingham confirmed my desire to work in sales and supported me in my organizational endeavors, and I thank him for his inspiration. I was able to send CEO to Chicago for their national conference with the support of Dr. Thomas Eakin. Dr. James Segovis taught me vital tools to be successful in business and in life. Most of all, however, senior year fortified my friendships. Nights at 'Rentes consisting of popcorn, cards, singing and, of course, wine, will always be considered the 'good times.' Singing and dancing to Whitney Houston with Lauren, visiting my L3 Boys, and simply walking through campus and getting smiles from familiar faces are all moments I will miss dearly in the coming months.

Looking at the last four years, I wouldn't change any of the paths for which I opted. Each fall I took, each time I stood strong, and every time I strived to make my parents proud transformed me into the independent, determined, and confident young woman I am today.

How do I talk about an ending when I don't even know my new beginning? I can because I know the coming years will bring new challenges, limitless opportunities, times to lose my balance but come back standing strong, and simply more times to just love being alive.

*Dad*, you are my role model, my inspiration to stay focused and determined, and without a doubt - my partner in crime. *Mom*, you are my inner strength giving me the endurance I need to live each day to the fullest. Both of you, thank you for all the sacrifices you have made that have allowed me to be who I am today. Someday, I hope to be half the parent you have been to me. *Erin*, my sister, you are my guiding light when I veer off course. Your examples have inspired me to do well in school and to live honestly. I love you. To my cousins, *Corey* (Cmac) and *James*, you are the brothers I never had. I truly value your love and protection.

I would like to thank the Bryant Administration for the skills you have taught me which have allowed me to take full advantage of the many opportunities available at this school and to succeed with each endeavor.

Finally, to my Suitemates, friends, and Classmates. Thank you for the best four years of my life. May your days be filled with happiness and every night end with a classy glass of wine - good luck!

I was recently at a presentation by Michael Tatelman, Corporate Vice President and President, Asia Pacific, for Mobile Devices Business, Motorola, Inc. Toward the end of his discussion on business transformation, he stated “business is all about risk,” and it struck me that this holds true for life itself after graduation. I have watched many of you undergo your own transformations over the past four years. In the process, you may have stumbled on occasion, but ultimately you have risen to the challenges presented to you by your professors, your peers, and your parents. Hopefully, too, you have gained confidence and knowledge, but more importantly, you have gained the insight to know that opportunities come when least expected, and, to borrow a phrase from Margaret Heffernan’s book, *The Naked Truth*, the path you pursue will be irregular, interrupted, and above all else, individual. All you can be guaranteed now is the job you have hopefully obtained. After that, the possibilities are endless if you are willing to take the chance, to make the change, to embrace the uncertainties. The best advice I was ever given was to not be so focused on my goals, so bounded by my responsibilities, so narrow in my pursuits, that I permit an opportunity to slip by because it did not “fit” with where I was going. If someone had told me on the day of my graduation from the University of California, Santa Cruz, with a degree in American Studies, that I would earn a Ph.D and pursue the life of an academic, I would have thought them crazy. This was NOT in my career plan, nor anywhere on my horizon. Yet, in graduate school, a professor I had for several classes made a suggestion, planted a seed, and ultimately convinced me to take the risk. It was one of the best decisions I have yet to make.

Bryant has provided you with a great foundation. Not only have you been given an education, but you have acquired immeasurable experiences and a network of faculty and friends who will forever roam in and out of your lives. One of the greatest joys of being an academic is teaching, not only because you are continuously challenged by your students, and are required to be on top of your game, but more for what happens next. It is the years that follow your students’ graduation that can have the greatest reward, for it is then that you receive the emails, the notes, the phone calls that inform you of the opportunities embraced, the risks taken, and the

challenges conquered. And you hope, as I do now, that in some small way, you have contributed to your students’ confidence, their success, their willingness to take that uncertain path that will lead to great places.



As has been written before me, it has been an honor to be your professor, and I look forward to that future call when you let me know all that you have become.

Best of luck, Class of 2007.

Lori Coakley, Ph.D  
Chair, Department of Management



# Remember when...

---

## Freshman Year:

- You saw the biggest bulging vein in an adult's forehead after yelling at the top of his lungs at orientation? Enter Hank Parkinson.
- You had the same people in every class your first semester.
- Globetrotting the townhouses: remember that? Of course you don't...
- When you learned to bring beer into your freshman dorm during the day so you wouldn't have to drop your bag
- Went to your first club meeting...be honest, you were there for the free pizza!
- You realized that Spring Weekend was clearly a lie, as you soon learned it was really Spring Week
- The size of your room mimicked a kennel cage
- You waited for Monday, just because you knew the bathrooms would be clean again in halls 14 and 15
- You wished you were deaf so you would have a legitimate excuse for not participating in the many fire drills
- You pulled all nighters for PPS....oh wait, nevermind
- Dear Journal, I am so sick of writing in you for my FFL class!
- You had James Segovis for BUS 101. If you didn't have him...God obviously liked you better than the others
- When you learned that Salmanson and laxatives are two interchangeable terms

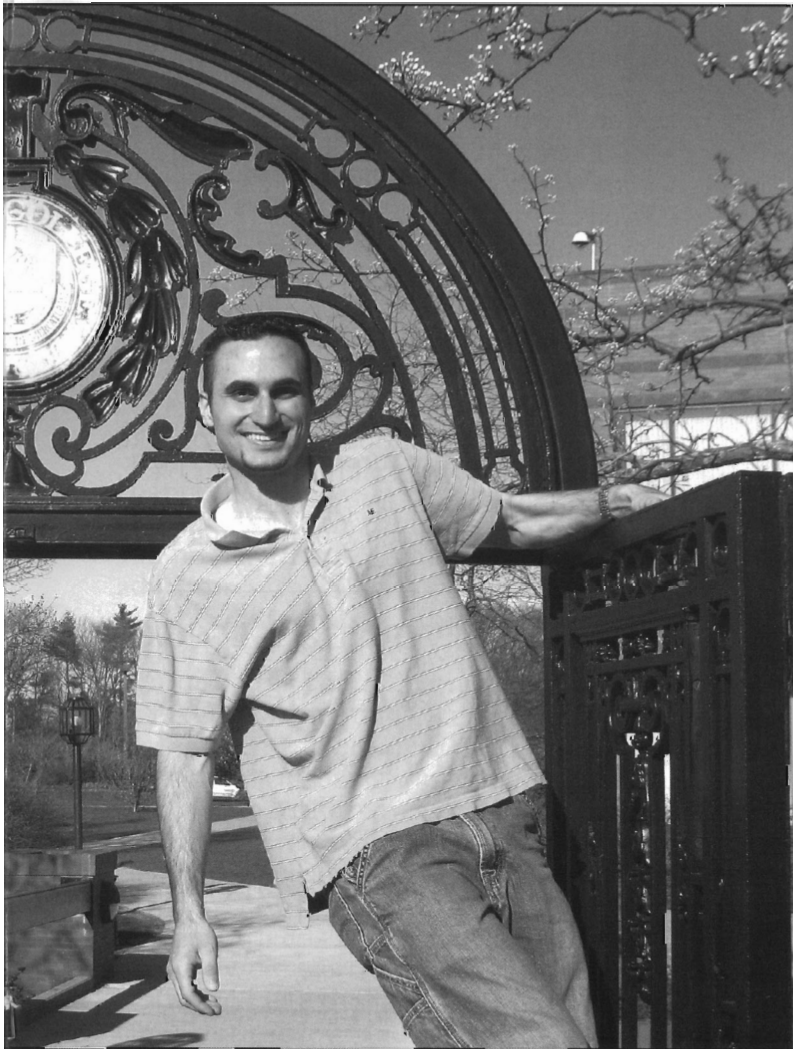
## Sophomore Year:

- Three months away from your newfound friends seemed an eternity; you were ready and raring to go!
- No longer a college student, you transformed into a bigger and better University student in just three months!
- The wait was over, you finally experienced the joy and spacious freedom of a common room
- ...But where'd the AC go?
- ...and we had to clean our own bathrooms? Wait a minute...
- You watched as tree-lighting became an event not in December, but in September for those traveling the world
- You yelled, screamed, and perhaps even dove into the frigid pond as the Red Sox reached the seemingly unreachable
- Like a proud parent, you joined in a chorus of cheers and tears for Bryant Basketball's NCAA Elite 8 shining moments
- The Freshman and the Stockbroker were seen not as lifetime titles, but delicious staples to the Bryant student diet



## Junior Year:

- You were welcomed back to what has been called the *hardest* year of your college education. Enjoy!
- You got a spot on the strip...and refused to drive for group outings for weeks
- Leadership became a reality as you took the lead on your organization's E-board
- Despite your stellar leadership, you somehow found the time to enjoy Mike Colletta at 'Rentes
- You turned 21, congratulations! You could finally *legally* continue to do what you'd been doing for many years
- Excitement was in the air for the construction of the "new new" townhouses, will you get one?



- The fear, excitement, and pressure of internships loom over your head. Guess it's time to buy a suit!
- You were afraid of losing your favorite pair of underwear to Expedient Laundry, but enjoyed the gargantuan signs nonetheless
- During many sunny afternoons of wiffle ball, you wear the grass down to pure dirt, causing facilities to have to put in new sod
- Method Man rocked your world. Dashboard rocked it a little less...

## Senior Year:

- You said you would be cooking awesome dinners in your kitchen, only to realize you were still just as lazy as past years. Easy Mac anyone?
- You realized your Senior Slide actually started your junior year, but you still continued it anyway
- The Senior Class Gift Committee raised half of their goal during the kickoff fundraiser!
- You pretty much attacked members of the Senior Class Committee just to find out where a Senior Night would be
- Friday afternoon was never complete until you received the Bob Soules Corporate Recruiting Reminder
- You rejoiced when you found out Junction would be closing AFTER you'd graduate!
- You were happy to know that your tuition helped fund Hall 17 to be a state-of-the-art facility that you would never get to set foot in
- You wondered, where the hell is Oak Circle, Plum Court, and The Pines??
- Night class or 'Rente's? Always an easy decision!
- You considered calling a tow truck because some

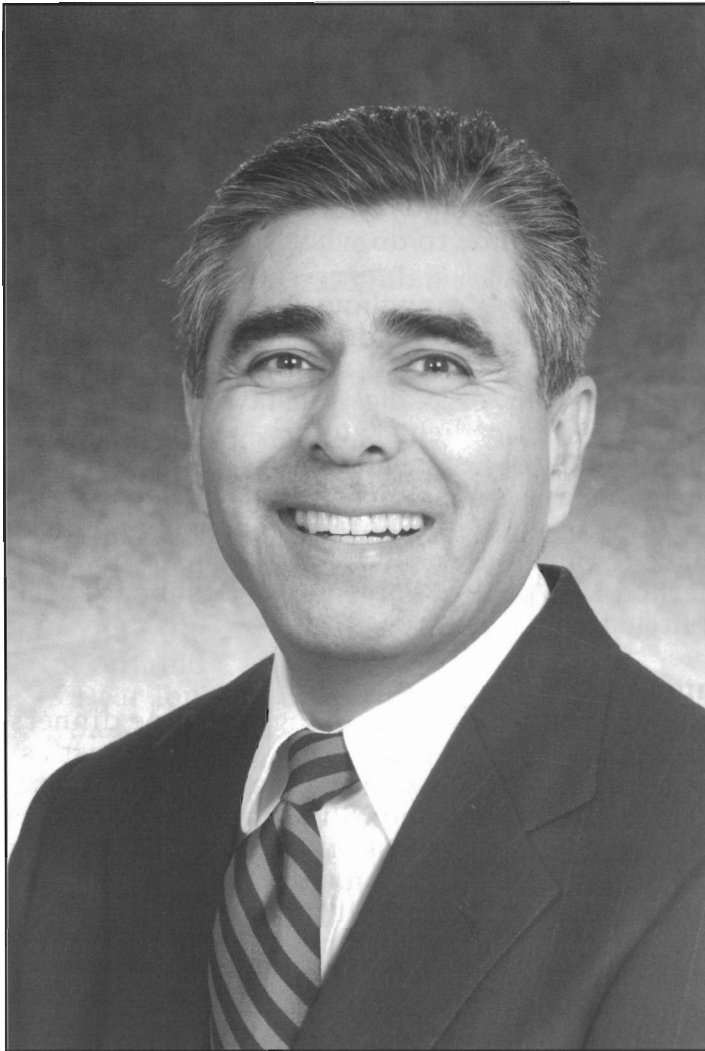
underclassman still parked in the townhouse area

- You said goodbye to club members and teammates at your last function
- You oversaw the younger members of your organization stepping up to leadership roles, while you quietly stepped down
- Rain or shine, warm or cold, it was always a perfect time to use your grill
- "Hi Brian!" You've seen DPS officers so much that you know them by name
- You became sick of interviewing after telling your three best and worst qualities, why you wanted to work for that company, and where you would see yourself in 10 years for more times than you care to remember
- Your townhouse put a kiddie pool on your deck & turned it into a Jacuzzi (yeah K!)
- You first laid eyes on that beautiful, \$132,000 piece of paper



# George Coronado

---



When I've talked to alums in the past I've often asked them, "What's the hardest thing you've had to do after leaving Bryant?" To my surprise and amazement, most claim that it's getting up early in the morning to go to work, usually 6 am or earlier, no more mid-morning or afternoon classes to kick start the day. I tell them not to worry, they've got the next 40 years to get used to it.

I'm a practical guy. Don't expect much philosophical advice about horizons, risk taking, and reaching for the stars. I can, however, offer basic principles that are time-tested and work, most of the time. Yes, we all know that if you prepare well (which you have) you stand a good chance of landing a decent job. If you get up every day and go to work, you get paid, hopefully well. And, if you work hard and follow company rules, you eventually get promoted. And yes, getting up early is usually part of the equation.

The last 4 to 5 years at Bryant you have been preparing for one thing - success. You've received a

cutting edge education in a wonderful facility surrounded by supportive, caring people. Everything at Bryant has been designed to ensure your success- *Everything*. All you had to do was add plenty of effort and hard work. Of that you should be proud.

But, there is one aspect of life that few of us talk about - the setbacks, failures, and heartbreaks. Yes, you may feel that you've encountered these dilemmas already, but nothing of the sort life has in store for you. Although an optimistic outlook will minimize some of the difficulties of the world, you must prepare for hardship, nonetheless. Only then will you be able to minimize the setbacks and move on to achieve your goals.

The first sentence of Dr. M. Scott Peck's book, *The Road Less Traveled*, reads, "Life is difficult." In many ways this sentence epitomizes many of life's situations. If you can accept the principle that life is difficult and that there will be hard times, disappointments, and sorrows, you've taken the first step at countering their negative effects on your life.

Life can be like a beautifully gleaming sheet of ice. You can enjoy its glistening beauty and the possibilities of the frolic it may provide. However, the moment you disregard its slippery surface or take it for granted you may find yourself flat on your back. Yes, take risks but don't be reckless or foolhardy. Don't delude yourself at the expense of ignoring the obvious. Involve

yourself in purposeful behavior. Realize that a good command of any language includes knowing when to keep your mouth shut. I've never regretted remaining silent when I've been upset. And, the big one - one of the things you can't preserve with alcohol is your dignity.

Getting up early may be the easiest thing you'll do.

---

**All you had to do  
was add plenty of  
effort and hard  
work. Of that you  
should be proud.**

---

Congratulations Class of 2007,

George Coronado  
Director of Department of Public Safety

We have learned so much during our years at Bryant, our education preparing us to continue our lives in the “real world,” whatever that may be. Some people are accepting jobs far from home, others are moving back in with Mom and Dad, while some still are confused on which path to take. Regardless of what direction we are heading, I have recently noticed that many of my fellow peers, including myself, are not prepared to say goodbye to the life that we currently lead in our “Bryant Bubble.” Maybe it’s because as seniors most of us don’t have class until 12 and have mastered writing a ten page paper in one night or maybe because it really has been that good.

I hope that we all take in this moment, for it is an accomplishment that can never be taken away. Every late night studying in the library and early morning cramming in the rotunda is over, and it is our turn to enter the world, beginning a new chapter in our lives. We as Bryant students know that it isn’t all work and no play; ‘Rentes, countless adventures, the Moontower, and late night Oakie games, all combine to create this experience.

During the course of my four years at Bryant, many things occurred that have changed my life and my perceptions of the world. Bryant gave me the opportunity to study abroad in Australia, an experience that will forever be in my heart. It was not easy to leave friends at Bryant that I consider family and travel across the world alone, but the memories and new friendships that I made in a mere four months were worth every worry.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my family for the love and support they provided for me over this bumpy journey of college. Mom, Dad and Chrissy, I hope that I have made you proud. I stand before you today a better person because of the lessons you have taught me and the examples you have set. Thank you for letting me make my own mistakes, for supporting my every decision (even if you thought it was the wrong one) and above all, for letting me just be a kid.

Al girls, I hope that you know how much you mean to me. I will miss our dirty townhouse, hearing music blasting from downstairs when the sun goes



down, waking each other up on Saturday morning for Coffee & More and gossiping about the night before, and practicing dance routines for our friends down at Raccoon Road. We may never again get ready together in the morning, but I know we will never lose touch because even miles apart sisters are always near in heart (cheesy I know).

I remember before I came to Bryant hearing the saying, “these will be the best four years of your life.” Thinking back, I can honestly say that they were, even though some times are a little blurry. What I will remember most is the memories I have made and shared with friends that I don’t know how I’m going to live without.

Today as we walk through the Archway (finally!) I feel that the biggest lesson I will take away from my college experience is knowing that it is who you are that defines you. Bryant has allowed me to find who I really am, and for that I will always be grateful. Congratulations and Good Luck Class of 2007!



# Alexander Hayes

Reflecting upon my experiences at Bryant can be paralleled to an artist's attempt at describing their work that is so remarkably striking, and so meaningful, that words cannot possibly serve to communicate its true intimate value. Here, I am faced with an unimaginable task...

My intentions within this year's Commencement Guide are to prescribe words to one cumulative image that commenced as a freshman, and fully developed today. Words such as family, brotherhood, friendship, and achievement are all central themes that tie the Bryant Experience together in an all-inclusive package that no one would dream to take for granted. The essence of prescribed words reveals what I find more meaningful to me than anything in the world: my intimate piece of the illustration as a whole. Excuse me for this, but it is time I put aside my objective and composed personality attributes, what I usually consider to be one of my most significant character strengths, and let my emotions get the best of me.

My family means everything to me; yes, it is small, but our unfathomable love for each other supersedes the largest and most reputable families ever conceived. My parents are my best friends; without them I would be insignificant compared to the man who stands in front of you today. My grandmother always told me how lucky I was to have them, and no matter how much I defied them when I was younger, or whatever foolish words I may have expressed at their attempts to steer me down the right path, I have always known that I was lucky, and I will never forget how fortunate I am to have them.

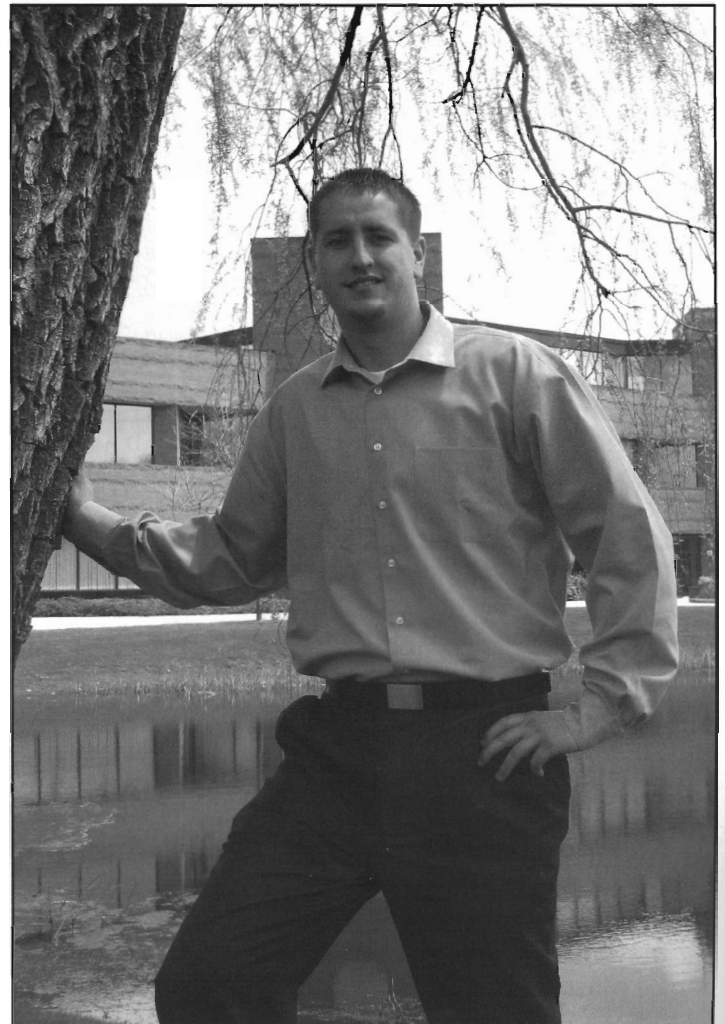
There is one person who is not physically here today. My grandfather was the personification of integrity, compassion, and thoughtfulness, and married one of the few women in the world who portrays the same humanistic persona. For everyone who reads this, my grandmother is here today; you can spot her by her snowy-white hair, but more noticeably her enormous heart; every time she sees me she tells me how proud of me she is. I am the one who is proud to have a grandmother of her profound distinction, and to have had her husband as my grandfather.

Uncle Jim, your ways of showing how much you care are subtle, but they surely do not go unnoticed; we are more similar than you might realize. Debbie and John, you have served as an extension of my parents growing up. My three cousins, Chris, John, and Nicole, you are the only siblings that I have. You will all be successful in whatever endeavors you choose. Chris, always remember, "Don't let anyone tell you that you have to be a certain way. Be unique.

Be what you feel."

To my extended family, Tau Epsilon Phi... the first organization in Bryant's long history to be nationally honored as the Most Excellent Overall Chapter of a National Organization: we have shared experiences few will have the fortune to treasure eternally. Connolly, Bullock, OD, T, Jit, Vadala, Murrah, Will, Kelberg, Neil, Cheeze, and the rest of my brothers, you guys have provided me with a type of heartfelt friendship that has made these four years the most paramount of my life. Realistically some of us will grow apart, and some will grow together; I am counting on the latter. Either course, you have all grown to be a part of me. So one last time...

*Come fill up your glass, we'll give you  
a toast, to Tau Epsilon Phi. Ideals of our  
dreams, the prides of our boast, to Tau  
Epsilon Phi. A symbol of faith, a brotherhood  
true, we live, we love, we'll die for you.  
Together now boys, lets drink to the joys, of  
Tau Epsilon Phi.*





To be completely honest, I have nothing to say that you haven't already heard or read somewhere else. I don't want this to sound cliché, but I don't want to ramble on about nothing either. I have no pearls of wisdom; I majored in finance, not philosophy. Nor have I quotes from Dave Matthews or Gandhi (see sentence about cliché above). So what can I possibly discuss in five-hundred words or less that can make you think, "Wow...that's interesting," instead of, "This kid has no idea what he is talking about!" What I do have are facts.

The fact is that by the time most of you read this we will have finished with something we have known our whole lives: school. We have been tested, scaled, examined and groomed since we could turn a page in a text book. That is all over now. September will signal autumn's arrival, instead of move-in day, and May will bring spring instead of final exams. Don't misunderstand; I am not going to the miss group projects, tests and papers. If there is anything we should take from graduation, aside from a diploma, it is at least a moment's worth of reflection.

Think about your first memory of Bryant University. Go ahead... I am not over the word limit yet. I would be willing to bet that your memory has

**Our character is defined not  
by grades and transcripts,  
but by our words, actions  
and thoughts.**

nothing to do with academia. For me, I remember drilling holes in the concrete

wall of a friend's Hall 14 dorm room. The holes I drilled allowed us to bolt a television stand to the wall. Little did we know that the television was far too heavy for the stand and the bolts. The twenty-five inch TV was mounted on the stand for no more than a minute when the bolts ripped out of the wall and the TV and stand came crashing to the ground,



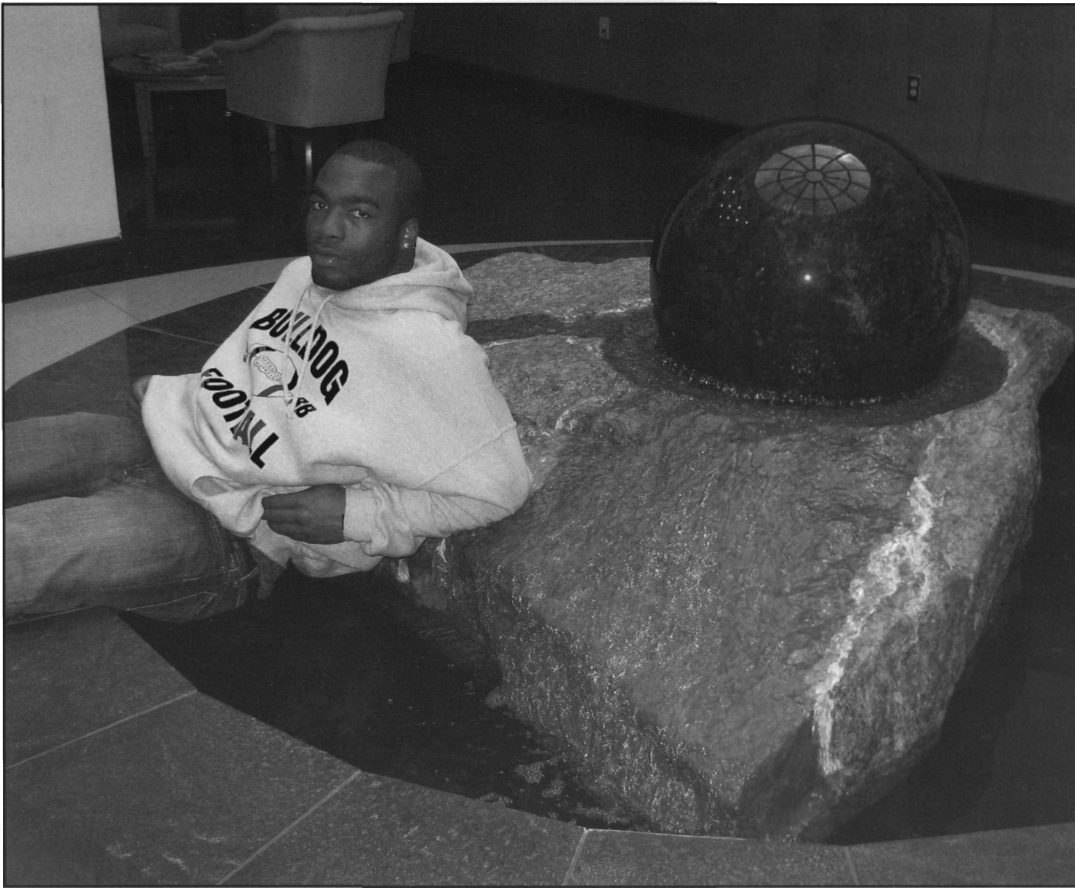
almost crushing my friend; luckily he dove out of the way.

Our experiences in the classroom are a given. If we could not perform academically, it would have been brought to our attention a while ago and we would not be graduating. The word "character" gets tossed around on campus often. Our character is defined not by grades and transcripts, but by our words, actions and thoughts. For the past four years we have changed each others' characters as we worked toward the same goal; until we find ourselves here, in our caps and gowns, fathers with cameras and mothers with boxes of tissues. Pause for a moment, to realize how far we have come collectively and as individuals. Realize that nothing would have been the same without the words, actions, and thoughts of the class of 2007.

This last paragraph is to thank a number of people. First and foremost, thanks to my parents and the rest of my family for their continuous support. Thanks to Joe for being a good friend for as long as I have known him. Thanks to professors Murat Aydogdu, Julia Gladstone, Martha Kuhlman, Gaytha Langlois, Peter Nigro, and Elizabeth Walden. Finally, thank you, and congratulations; it has truly been an honor.



# Lorenzo Perry



Wow! I can't believe that the end, but yet a new beginning, is upon me and my fellow 2007 classmates. It may sound extremely clichéd, but these four years of college have flown by. Graduating from college is an absolute dream about to come true, but to graduate from such a prestigious university makes the accomplishment that much better. Bryant has given me the opportunity to acquire a top notch education that I am proud to boast anywhere.

I never truly understood the magnitude of graduating from college until talking to my uncle a couple of weeks ago. After speaking with him I looked at graduating from an entirely different perspective. I always understood the importance of graduating from college in terms of job opportunities, but he helped me to see the significance from a family, economic and societal standpoint. The moral of the discussion was that, religion aside, you control your own destiny. There will always be people in better situations to succeed than yourself, and how you deal with that is what will ultimately define who you are. There are two approaches that a person can take: you can either feel sorry for yourself or you can be motivated to overcome those odds that are stacked

against you and go get IT! A very wise man once told me there are three kinds of people in this world: 1) people that watch things happen, 2) people that let things happen, and 3) people that make things happen. Which are you?

The majority of my collegiate experience has revolved around playing football or taking part in football-related functions. Any collegiate athlete can attest to the fact that while in season the majority of your day is consumed by that sport. Therefore, as a student-athlete I felt as though it was my responsibility to not only master the sport but also extract the core values and apply them to

everyday life. The essence of being a college football player stretches far beyond running, tackling, and catching. As a member of the Bryant University football team, discipline, commitment, teamwork, and how to overcome adversity were some of the guiding principles that carried us to success. These are characteristics that one can carry with them throughout life's journey regardless of the road you travel.

To all my Bull "DOGS" on the football team: nothing made college more special than playing with you guys every Saturday. I loved the silent breakfast we ate before every game and the rowdy 'Shoulder Lean' after every win. I'll never forget the nights you guys dragged me out to 'Rentes, or the weeknights that you were at 'Rentes and found it fun to try and knock down my door at 1:30 in the morning. I will truly miss every last single one of you. To my entire family, thank you for the inspiration and confidence that you showed in me. I love you all and I'll do anything for you.

As for the class of 2007- "These Four Years Are Toast...Now Let's Make The Most!!!"

I feel lucky to have made the choice to come to Bryant University four years ago. I had nearly signed to go to another school, when I decided to come out for an official visit and instantly decided this was the school I would attend for the next four years. Little did I know I would look back at my four years and realize how that decision was the best decision I have ever made.

My sister and I never planned on going to the same school, but knew that if we ended up together, we were ok with that too. I called her on my visit to tell her how beautiful the campus was and how nice everyone seemed to be. Without having seen it and based on my word alone, she decided to come with me and we made the journey to Rhode Island together. I think about what my four years would have been like without her, and I don't think I could have made it so far from home had she not been with me. Although most people know we are very different people, and may clash at times, I would do anything in the whole world for you! Thanks for all the laughs, challenges, and memories Lorie! For having been blessed with a twin sister and automatic best friend, I feel lucky.

Making the decision to play volleyball in college seemed like an obvious one. I played sports all my life and was accustomed to a crazy schedule of balancing school, sports, and other commitments. I knew the time commitment would be significant, but I never would have anticipated just how much; it was like having a part-time job with the added bonus of muscle fatigue, injuries, and mental struggles. However, had I not chosen to play, I wouldn't have learned how to push myself to limits I thought couldn't be reached, how to handle losing in the best way possible, and most importantly how to work with a new group of girls every year. Despite being together nearly every minute of every day, and the occasional frustrations, we are all friends forever. I love each and every girl I had the privilege of playing with in my four years, especially my class of 2007!! To all the girls, even if we're far apart, there are always reasons to reunite. And "words can never express" just how thankful I am to Theresa and Ted! Thank you for taking a chance with me and all the opportunities in and out of volleyball that you have given me! Wherever I end up, I will be sure to come visit you and your new team, and I hope you'll give me a call if you ever come to Chicago (best city ever Ted)! For all the lessons learned and the relationships I have formed, I feel lucky.

Thank you Hank for being such a kind, giving, and awesome leader! You are the best leader I have ever met, and a perfect role model for all students! I'll never forget meeting you at the "Booty Shaking Contest!" I will miss you very much, and your smile and silly side that I had the privilege to work with! I wish you and Michelle the best!

Thank you to President Machtley and Mrs. Machtley for all your help in the past four years! I think about all my friends back home at their schools, and reflect on how lucky I am for going to a school where I know the President and his wife personally, and have even been inside their home! It is so great to see you both at student events, and know that you are so personal with students!

That is what makes Bryant such a great community!

Thank you to Professor Lynch for pushing me to not give up and for all the help you have given me in the past couple years! You are brilliant and inspiring! I will never forget all the things you have done for me!

Thank you to the one man who has seen me turn around 180 degrees over my four years here. That would be my 8 am FFL teacher freshman year, Dr. Eakin. It became my goal to do better in all areas of my life in an effort to make you proud. I hope I have done that because I value your opinions very much. I can't wait to come visit you and catch up when I'm out in the real world!

Thank you to Ernie Almonte for all your help in the last two years! As everyone has said after mentioning your



name, you truly are one of the nicest men I have ever met! I feel lucky to have been able to meet you and work with you!

Thank you to all my friends, roommates, and acquaintances for sharing all the laughs and making it past the struggles. I will never forget any of you and can't wait to stay in touch for years to come!

And of course THANK YOU to the number one person in my life who made all this possible...my mom! I admire your strength and character and cannot tell you how much I love you! You have done so much for me, from watching all my volleyball games, to listening to me vent, to giving me a little extra money on my gift card, to always forgiving me! Tears come to my eyes frequently when I think about how lucky I am to have you as my mom. You have raised a perfect family and I am thankful for all my sisters and brother too!

For all these people and the many others I have met along the way, I am lucky! Although at times it has been hard here at school, these past four years will contain some of my most favorite memories forever.

Best of luck class of 2007!



# Seniors Speak Out- Your Favorite Memory

"Move-in day freshman year. Looking back to that day, I remember thinking it was a horrible experience because I had to drag my bags through the rain to a room that looked too small to share with someone else. That day became most memorable to me because I met the five girls that have made my four years at Bryant unforgettable."

~Kristin Pavao

"Getting hired as a Bryant Center Manager as a freshman, and having the chance to help operate the student center and all the responsibilities that go along with it."

-Alise Elliott

Establishment of the Bryant University Archway Investment Fund. Finance students received the opportunity to actively managed a portfolio with over \$400,000 of real money. The courses were demanding and time consuming, but the real-world experience was priceless.

~Tarang Patel

Number 1 favorite memory at Bryant was looking out at the crowd of appx. 2,400 people at the Dashboard

Confessional/Method Man concert on 4/29/06- the biggest concert Bryant had ever done. Number 2 was banging pots and pans at a party in the townhouses with about 100 people to the beat of "Call On Me" at the end of my junior year.

~Bret Clancy

"When I walked onto stage for my first production in the Bryant Players. The show was Alibis and I got me started in a group that has been my rock for the last four years."

~Colleen Keegan

"TEP formal sophomore year, not knowing anyone and winding up having the best weekend of my life. And now some of the best friends anyone could ask for!"

~Jess Nowell

"Seeing Brad Mates, the lead singer in Emerson Drive working out in the gym. I met them once in Tennessee so I had no problem going up to him and talking to him! It only took my four years at Bryant, for a country band to come to perform, and the concert was awesome. Thanks SPB!"

~Rachel Finley

"Being involved, either directly or indirectly, in the DPS log of the Archway for the first six weeks of my senior year"

~John Sacchetti

"My first week of school freshmen year. I met friends who have become as close as family and have made the past four years at Bryant an amazing and memorable experience I will never forget."

~Tim Lavigne

"Sophomore year on my best friend Abby's 21st Birthday. Heather, Abby and I decided to bring the Delta Chi boys some cake and it turned into an all out food war. Before we knew it, Abby and I were being carried down to the pond where we soon be part of the Bryant Tradition...being thrown in the pond on your 21st."

~Tanya Gill

"The ISO Gala was my favorite event. It brought together many people from different backgrounds to celebrate culture and international entertainment. It was great to indulge in other cultures, view their form of dance, listen to various types of music, and it doesn't hurt to look spectacular while doing it."

~Cherima Blyden

"It's incredibly difficult to choose a single memory, but one of my favorite memories of Bryant would be my sophomore year, running down to the pond the night the Red Sox won the World Series. There was so much energy circling that pond; it was such a great night!"

~Adrienne Sheedy

## ***Senior Service Awards***

The Senior Service Awards is a prestigious award presented to six deserving students of the graduating class. This award was designed to give seniors recognition of their outstanding service to the student body of Bryant University. The recipients were chosen by a committee chaired by Whitney Blatsos this year, the Student Senate representative.

Nominees were evaluated on various criteria including; their contributions to the overall Bryant community, their participation in clubs or organizations, athletics, community service, campus employment, or academic/professional achievement, as well as any additional personal achievements throughout their time at Bryant.

The six Seniors selected to receive this years Senior Service Awards were exceptionally qualified and have and will continue to make lasting impacts on this campus. Each one of them exemplify dedication and loyal service through the many committees, organizations, and projects they were involved with. Congratulations to this years Senior Service Award Winners:

Adam R. Muccino  
Wilberte Paul  
Ryan Kelly  
Amr Zawawi  
Ashley Lenz  
Joseph Harding

Bryant University extends its gratitude to the late, Emeritus Honorary Trustee George J. Kelley '39, '69H for his generosity in providing ongoing support for the purchase and display of a graduating class flag. The 2007 Class Flag was designed by seniors from the Student Alumni Association – Riley Doherty, Nadine Grindell, Elizabeth Moore, Kristin Pavao, and Amr Zawawi.

Nothing is impossible for the Class of 2007. The 007 theme for our class flag reflects our determination to conquer whatever challenges we face as we go out into the world. The embroidery on the flag, “The World Is Not Enough”, reflects our continuous need to explore these challenges and all the world has to offer. Today, as we walk through the Archway, we

## ***Senior Class Gift***

It's amazing that the end of our senior year is here and what an exciting year it has been at Bryant University. The Senior Class Gift Committee was headed by Amr Zawawi and was comprised of students with various experiences on campus. The Committee's purpose is to build lifelong connections between Bryant and its alumni. All donations made will be directly applied to the renovation of the Junction area into a senior avenue.

The Senior Class Gift Committee's goal is to create a new culture at Bryant through encouraging students to give back to the University and to influence future generations of students at Bryant to donate. During the fall semester, our initiative successfully held a kick off event at the townhouses. We broke all records set by previous classes during this event. Around 200 people attended the event raising \$6,700, close to half of our goal of \$15,000. For the spring semester, the committee has worked on personal solicitation of the senior class. We are finishing off our year with the finale on May 14 and we anticipate that we will reach our goals.

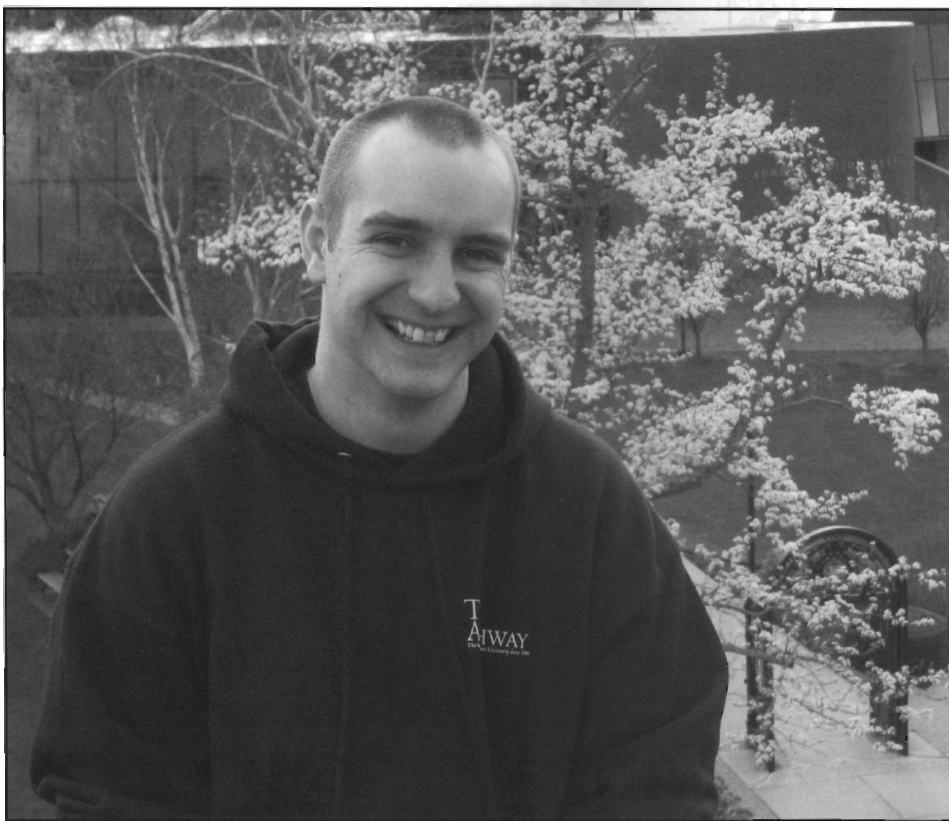
## ***Class Flag***

feel proud of ourselves and the accomplishments we have made at Bryant.

The flag represents our class and who we are in the Bryant community. Things may be forgotten as time goes by, but our class flag will always be displayed at Bryant, reminding all that the Class of 2007 stepped foot on this campus. The globe, which each of us holds proudly over our heads, symbolizes the limitless opportunities that are available to us because of our experiences at Bryant. As we return for our alumni reunions in the future, our flag will always serve as a reminder to us that everything is possible in our lifetime. It is up to us, The Class of 2007, to take the world in our hands — the only boundaries we will ever encounter are the ones we create. Good luck!



## From the editor's desk: Shawn Benham



How many times have I been on this elevator? Once College, now University, but still Bryant Center... still Bryant. On the first floor I've shared countless meals, meetings, and music. The second floor was my work for three years. The third floor; my life. By morning I would crawl around the bi-level cubic labyrinth we call the Unistructure. Nights would be spent sleeping in the residence halls. But, my days, afternoons, and evenings would be spent in the beige and brick confines of our 16-sided student union.

The number one question I've been asked as a tour guide, Fellow, and Orientation Leader, is, "Why Bryant?" That used to stump me. To me, Bryant was the obvious choice once I knew I would be attending a business program in New England, but I did not know how to portray that to others. At first I would say things like, "the location," "the size," or "they gave me the most money." As semesters came and went, this question became easier for me to answer. Now I answer simply and without hesitation, "the people." There is not enough room to list everyone that has shaped me to be the person I am today, but there are some that cannot go without mentioning. Dan, you are, and will always be my only college roommate. Andersen and Tom, even if you don't make me rich someday like I keep saying you will, you've been the solid base that allowed me to be myself, and I cannot thank you enough for that. Kellie, you will always be my honorary housemate. Paul, I can't wait to buy your

first written, produced, and recorded album. Cait, "wake up, wake up you sleeping persons," and play cribbage on retreat after retreat. Jay, Scott, Steckis, Curry, and the rest of the boys of TPC, DGM, Jeunes Filles, and Those Guys... freshman year through today would have been a bust without you. To my girls in the 340's and friends, I leave the leadership program in good hands. Finally for my advisors over the years, you have kept me honest and on track with sound advice and encouraging words: Thank you Sandy, Hank, Karen, Rich, Amanda, Emily, Bob, Judy McDonnell, Dr. D(eMoranville), Meg, and all my friends in Admissions.

What I've learned at Bryant is not the Four P's of Marketing, Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, or the key factors on the Balanced Scorecard. I could have learned those things anywhere. From Bryant, I have learned how to be a professional, a friend, a peer, and a man. Through

SPB, Ambassadors, Res Life, and the Archway, I have connected with so many people in so many ways. I have had opportunities for growth and experience that I would have never thought possible. I've built a roof in Arizona, sang and danced to the "fresh prince" theme song at 5 a.m., addressed crowds of over a thousand people, learned how to "one two step," got lost in Central Falls while driving a mini-van, and even played "God" a few times.

One time, on stage, under bright lights, I was asked what legacy I wanted to leave at Bryant. My response at the time was incomplete, "I want to leave it a better place than I found it." That's wicked tacky and generic. What I meant to say is, "I want to be remembered for changing the lives of those that have changed mine. I want to give back to the community that has given me so much. With much thanks to the people at Bryant, I am strong, confident, and will have a good life. I wanted to teach others how to teach others through example, so that the lives of students to come, whom I will never meet, will be better because I was able to mentor the student leader who mentored them." But honestly, the mark that I want to leave on Bryant is slightly faded 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> floor buttons in the Bryant Center elevator that has lifted not only myself, but the many before, and even more to come, to heights well beyond the third story of the beige and brick confines of the 16-sided student union.

# From the Dean of Students

Class of  
2007



May 19, 2007

Dear Graduates:

This is your day! Hopefully, you are sharing it with friends and family. While it stands as one of your biggest accomplishments, many have accompanied you on this journey. Please thank them!

You came here with exciting dreams. I hope you can look back with satisfaction on the experience and that many of those dreams have come true. Dream up some more and pursue them!

I'm confident you've learned a lot and made new friends. You've been supported and challenged. You have developed your skills and learned from your successes and failures. Your responses to these experiences are why you're here today. You've been part of something special. Now you enter a new phase of your life. Balance your life personally and professionally. Find something that captures your heart and pursue it!

It has been a joy to accompany you on this journey. Marj and I consider our time with you very special. As you leave, we wish you the very best and hope you will stay connected with this great institution. Congratulations and best wishes!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. T. Eakin". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

Dr. J. Thomas Eakin  
Vice President for Student Affairs/Dean of Students

