

Bryant University's student newspaper since 1946



The Archway

May 21, 2005

2005

Commencement Issue



From the President



May 21, 2005

Dear Graduates:

Commencement is the celebration of a new beginning. I want to express my and Kati's best wishes as well of those of Bryant's trustees, faculty, and staff as you embark on a bright future full of adventure, continued personal growth, and rewarding professional lives.

I am confident that you have found your time at Bryant to be challenging and fun. It has been our pleasure to have you be part of our community, and I want to thank you for your contributions. As you take this next step in your life, I know that you will build upon the extraordinarily solid foundation that Bryant has provided.

Exciting new opportunities await you. 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.

Your graduation is an enormous accomplishment that culminates in your membership in our alumni family of more than 37,000 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. And wherever you are in the world, make connections with other Bryant alumni and further enhance this powerful network. It is our hope that you will return to campus often and that your Bryant education is just the beginning of a lifelong relationship with the University.

We - Kati and I and everyone at Bryant - are proud of your achievements and confident about your future. We thank you for all you have brought to this University and extend our best wishes to you!

Sincerely,

Ronald K. Machtley
President

The Honor of the Commencement Issue

At the end of every spring semester, the Archway finishes up the academic year by producing the final issue of the campus newspaper. That final publication is graduation's commencement issue.

The commencement issue is a compilation of reflections dedicated to the current graduating class. The authors of those reflections are chosen by the Archway staff based on the students' contributions to, and representations of, Bryant University.

The student authors of the following reflections have demonstrated integrity, responsibility, and leadership within various aspects of college life. Whether playing on an athletic team, becoming a leader within Greek life, or dedicating their

lives to running an organization, these students have proven themselves as strong individuals within the Bryant community. Their dedication to friends, school work, and Bryant has been made prevalent in their day to day lives since they first stepped foot on campus.

The commencement issue of the Archway is dedicated to the Class of 2005 and to the individuals who have made such a powerful impact at Bryant over the course of their time here. Congratulations Class of 2005, and may your path to success be filled with fond memories of Bryant.

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Editor-In-Chief

Archway Editors 2004-2005

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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: they walk through the archway.

The story of the archway dates back to 1905. Isaac Gifford Ladd, an associate of Charles Schwab 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 was renamed Bryant College. To provide more space for classes, an

addition was constructed and Hope Hospital was renamed South Hall. Earl S. Tupper, inventor of Tupperware, donated his 392 acre hillside estate to Bryant College in October of 1967 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 new sign for the front entrance, relocated the archway between the two ponds enroute to the

Unistrucre. 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: Quentin Phipps

"I don't care where you go, but you have to leave here!" Am I the only one who feels as if the ol' school party mantra shouldn't apply to the college experience? We, the Class of 2005, have all shared many great experiences; however, the best can't already be over. The Bryant community has drastically transcended its humble origins. We all have been an element in an era of institutional evolution and commitment to excellence. We have been the leading factor in the school's journey to prominence, and we can never forget that.

I am grateful so many welcomed me with open arms into the community. When things were not going great, my Bryant family was a constant reminder that things aren't that bad, and there is always a reason to smile or laugh. I have learned so much from everyone here, and I have thousands of outstanding "thank you's." I probably owe the most thanks to the Bryant University Student Senate, Residence Life, the

Multicultural Student Union, and Ms. Queen Williams, my Mommy.

These four years have made me wonder when a Student Senate concentration would be initiated. I would have thoroughly enjoyed courses titled: "Reelection Theory PSC312," "Budget Allocation FIN375," and "Presidential Execution: When to Cry, When to Scream MKT112." My fellow senators, you are the reason why my experience was so amazing. I can't tell you how many times I lost sleep, cried, laughed, or smiled from all of our hard work, but I wouldn't have had it any other way.

Being a resident assistant has been an incredibly rewarding experience. I owe the professional staff a huge thank you for not hiring me my freshman year. I learned so much from that major disappointment, but looking back, it is blatantly obvious I did not deserve that position when I first applied. However, aren't you proud of the monster you helped create? I know you all will miss me when I am gone. By the way, my friends (I refuse to say 'residents') in Hall 8 have been the best senior year RA gift. You all are great examples of why I am going to hate leaving Bryant.

My extended family of MSU, The Legacy, and Bro-Sis are my foundation. I truly believe I could not have excelled without you and I cannot imagine sharing my successes without you all. You all have been the epitome of a family by illustrating unconditional love through hardships and success. I hope you all realize the importance of our role on campus. To paraphrase Kanye West, "Shall we

quit, make them welcome? They don't know our struggle and they can't match our hustle. They can't fathom our love." We Shall Overcome.

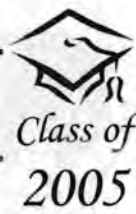
Mommy, it takes a strong woman to let her baby grow to become a man. You paid for braces so I wouldn't be afraid to smile, made me feel as if my opinion always mattered, and illustrated the importance of giving for the sake of giving. I can only wish to continue being my "Mother's Child" in heart, spirit, and soul. Your constant sacrifices could never be repaid, but I am willing and eager to try.

Being at Bryant has been a giant expedition in discovering ways to serve. I am appreciative that the Bryant community has given me opportunities to excel, mature, and have fun. Bryant University (or dare I say Bryant College) was a chance to start completely over. It takes an amazing place where someone can go to great lengths to surpass an undesired identity. It can easily be argued that I went from a self-proclaimed, reserved, above-average athletic, pessimist, to the young man I am today. Little did I know, when I entered Bryant I could "change" my name or at least modify the spelling. However, looking back at the experience, I think my natural progression from 'Quentin' to 'Que' mirrored the growth of our institution. Yes, peculiar name replacements occurred; nevertheless, it more accurately reflected our true essences. The 'name' is an achievement and a goal. It's a reminder of who we were, who we have grown to be, and who we aspire to be.

Thank you Bryant and God's speed.



Student Class Charge: Nick Merollo



English essayist Joseph Addison once wrote, "What sculpture is to a block of marble education is to the soul." It is true that a block of marble will stand in strength throughout its centuries of existence. When an artist of great quality sculpts that same piece of marble, it becomes a thing of beauty - it takes on a purpose and a full meaning to its existence. Your life would have gone on without an education as it unfortunately does for so many in our world. In line with Addison's words, however, education brings beauty to our very soul. The gaining of a good quality education and the knowledge, wisdom, and understanding that come with it has indeed helped your life to take on purpose. It has helped all of us to find meaning to our very existence.

Some said that the year 2000 was the dawn of a new age of mankind. Whether that is or is not the case, my questions is, what will we, as the class of 2005, truly accomplish with our lives? Perhaps among the graduates here today, a few will rise to what is deemed greatness in the eyes of the world. Yet, what will the entrepreneurs, artists, and sports heroes of today be remembered for if they are remembered at all? To my peers here today I ask, who was the richest man in the world fifty years ago? Who was the greatest sports hero in the world fifty years ago? Who was the greatest artist? Do we know, what is more, do we even care? Greatness of that type is an ephemeral thing; however, the greatness that lies in a true citizen of the world is not fleeting.

What if every graduating class around the world this year and every year to follow were to make a solemn commitment that with their lives they would seek to accomplish peace with

purpose? What if they were to agree that they would care more about the environment than about money? What if they were to agree to rise above the prejudices of their ancestors and put aside racism and other prejudice? What if now and forever more every 22 year old on this planet said, "I will love my family and stick by them, I will volunteer in my community, I will treat all my fellow men with dignity, respect, and honor regardless of their cultural background, socioeconomic situation, gender, or sexual orientation." How much heartache, how much suffering, and how much pain will that prevent for each graduate to make such a commitment? Now that would be a great accomplishment - that would be greatness.

It is personal character that will make the world a better place and such character lies within each of us. As Will Rogers once said, "Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there." While we, as the class of 2005, make earnest promises to ourselves to continue our inherent success in the future, we cannot do so unless we continue to act. As soon as we leave here this afternoon, from the place where we spent four long years arduously working for the betterment of our knowledge and character, we will be entering a world full of vast opportunities - opportunities that can be acquired through educational advancement and personal integrity.

Some of us may remain isolated, clinging to that familiar classroom setting, struggling to adapt to the realities of the working world. I have confidence, however, that we will go on to develop into intelligent, respectable individuals, relying on our innate intuition rather than forced stereotypes that have been placed

upon us. In the future, there is no room for intolerance - we will be surrounded by so many different groups of people that hopefully we will learn something worthwhile from just spending a few minutes with them. We will not only broaden our horizons communally, but also intellectually.

The only way to enhance the scope of one's formal knowledge is to perceive everything first hand. Do not let anyone tell you that facts are facts and that is all there is to it. Question yourself, understand your experiences, open your minds and ears to a world overflowing with immeasurable discrepancies. Never be afraid to voice your opinions. Education not only consists of academia, but also social purposes. With these last words I hope that I have left you with at least one impressionable memory. Every day greets us with a new challenge, whether it be familial, social, or rational, though we must handle it diligently, just like we would approach any other situation. The only difference now is that we are left to fend for ourselves. At times we may be left disgruntled, impatient, worried from all the struggles we face, but nothing compares to the gratification we feel today to know that we have made it through seventeen years of hard work. We cannot cheat in the small things and expect these blemishes to never surface. When the real tests in life occur, our character will be able to withstand the pressure because we have chosen the harder path all along. When it rains on your parade, look up rather than down - without the rain there would be no rainbow. Thank you!



Alesha Barnes

“Tradewinds”

There was once a time when higher learning for minorities was unheard of. There was once a time when the right to equal education was ludicrous, and the desire to work outside the home was a dream. Times have changed, as time tends to do; this moment is no different.

Commencement, by its definition, is change. It represents the beginning of a new book and the closing of the former. We, today, are embracing the changes that lay before us, and for that, I congratulate you.

These past years represent the times when change is most prevalent, most important, for ourselves and for others. Four years have passed in what, looking back, seems like an instant. Everyday someone reminds me of when I was an incoming freshman, and they comment on how much I have changed. I don't know how true they are, because in the end I am still myself.

From when I began this journey, a naive young woman from the suburbs, I was bombarded with sights and lessons that were unfamiliar to me. Like many incoming students I was an Accounting major, but like everything else, that soon changed. Who would have imagined that today I call myself, among other things, a Vagina Warrior, a fellow, an alumna.

To my family: Thank you for all you have done. It is with your help that I have achieved my successes and it is my hope that I can pass your support along to those I meet in the future.

To my ladies Marce, T, and Jen: we have stood together for all these

years. After all of this, I will never forget my friends, who, through thick and thin, have stood by me. We have grown together, and it is true when they say that the friends you make in college become your family for life.

To my co-workers and friends: You make Bryant University what it is. Like a family, there are the relatives



we don't talk about and even those we completely disown, but your kindness and friendship make it a family worth being a part of.

To Bryant University: Thank you for giving me the opportunity to discover myself. As cliché as it may sound, all of the challenges that I face, each and everyday, help me to better know my limits and set my goals. The people I have met here have forever changed my outlook, and have given me the opportunity to be myself.

If I can leave one thing as I head out into the “real world,” whatever that is, it would be to embrace change. It is change that brought you to this school and it will be change that will lead you beyond it. It is change that has allowed me to be myself, in all my glory, for I am always changing as I learn and experience. Thank you for four years of change, four years of laughter, fun,


learning, and growth.

“We emphasize that we believe in change because we were born of it, we have lived by it, we prospered and grew great by it. So the status quo has never been our god, and we ask no one else to bow down before it.” ~ Carl T. Rowan

I wish you the best of luck in the changes that are befalling you. I wish you the best of luck in the changes that you create. I wish you the best of luck in all of you seek to accomplish. Congratulations Class of 2005 and God's speed.

**“May the best of your dreams
be the worst of your future”**

Brian Charpentier


Class of
2005

Congrats to the first graduating class of Bryant University! We have all been a part of so many positive experiences at Bryant that will allow us to look back and know that we have grown tremendously as a result of them. For the past three years, we have followed in the footsteps of many student leaders and watched as they graduated to move on to the next great step in their lives. Now it is our turn! I believe the Class of 2005 has made an everlasting positive impact on Bryant and the current underclassmen and we will not be forgotten.

Albert Einstein once wrote, “There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle.” Without a doubt, there are many here today who find themselves echoing the latter thought...it is indeed a miracle that graduation day has arrived. Despite moments of stress, anxiety, and doubt over the past four years, there is living proof that miraculous

things have occurred at Bryant.

When I arrived at Bryant four years ago, I had no idea what I'd come to learn, who I'd come to befriend, where I'd end up going, or what I'd end up seeing along the way. I only knew that there had to be some reason why I ended up choosing Bryant. Looking back on it now, it was a decision I am extremely proud of because I am leaving Bryant with a lifetime's worth of memories, knowledge, and friendships that are centered on what Bryant University stands for, “The Character of Success.” To the Class of 2005, I hope your experience of achieving success has been as rewarding and unforgettable as mine; may the best of your dreams be the worst of your future.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those people that have made a difference in my life along this incredible journey. To Mom, Dad, Matt, and Erin, thanks for always being supportive and encouraging with everything I have been

apart of. I have, and will always, look up to each of you. To Father Joe, Jen, John, Hank, Student Affairs, and the Res. Life Crew: I can't thank you all enough for the guidance, support, laughter, and friendships that we have built along the way. Sure I'll be graduating with this education, but I learned so much more in the unconventional classrooms. To all my friends, these have been the best of times, and I look forward to even more great times in the future. To the student leaders that previously graduated, thanks for being the best mentors and guiding me along the right path. To the many clubs and organizations I am honored to have been apart of, especially Peer Education, Relay for Life, Pastoral Council, and Residence Life, the success these groups have accomplished is surreal, and all the friendships I have made in the process will never be forgotten.

If there is any advice I could give to underclassmen or graduating seniors, it would be to get involved in organizations, either at Bryant or wherever your next step in life may be. The experiences you will gain are phenomenal and so rewarding.

In closing, the life lessons and knowledge I have acquired at Bryant have helped enable me to actively pursue many of my personal dreams and ambitions, all while molding me into who I am today. I would like to thank those who have made a difference in my life one last time, and you all know who you are!

Congratulations to the Class of 2005, this is a time for celebration. I wish you the best of luck with future endeavors and look forward to seeing you soon. God bless!





John "Johnson" Cullen

"How I did it my way"

And now the end is near, and so I face the final curtain. Here we are Class of '05, at the end of a four year journey that flew by faster than the previous 18 years of our lives. I remember arriving here back in '01 and thinking, "Wow, I have the next four years to have the time of my life." And now, four years later, I'm thinking, "Wow, I had the time of my life," just like I thought I would when I read this book freshman year up in the Senate office. I remember reading through it and asking someone what exactly it was. They explained how it's an opportunity to provide some hard working seniors a chance to reflect on their experiences. That person then told me that I'll probably get the chance to write one when I become a senior. My reaction then was, "I doubt it." Thanks Rich, you called it from the beginning.

The thing that I always liked about Bryant was that there seemed

to be an opportunity around every corner. Whether it was joining a club, playing a sport, a fundraiser here, an all you can eat there, bingo or a comedian, and oh yeah, class.

Sometimes you never got a chance to experience everything because there was so much going on.

The other nice thing about Bryant was how, if there wasn't an opportunity available on campus, it was possible for you to be the one to make it happen. I wanted to open up for the comedians when they came to campus. I talked to the right people, and junior and senior year, I was the opener; hopefully someone else will take over for me now that I'm gone. That's a nice benefit to being the one that starts something on campus. At Bryant, clubs, organizations, fraternities, sororities, special events, and varsity and intramural sports all become a part of our proud tradition.

I'd like to share a story with you that made me realize how important the opportunities are around us. One day while at work at the Boys and Girls club in my hometown, I was talking to six year old Brandon. He was asking me about college and what I was going to do when I graduated. I told him I wasn't sure yet and I still had plenty of time. Brandon then told me a piece of advice that I know he didn't literally mean, but I will never for-

get. He told me, "Just do what I do. Everywhere I go, I pretend it's my playground and I have fun." I looked at Brandon and asked him what he meant. He just looked back up at me

and screamed, "c'mon Johnny, let's go on the swings!" and ran off across the field. I stood there for a few moments

thinking about what Brandon said, and I figured out what he said, in my own terms. The world is my playground. Use it: travel, take risks, have fun, scrape your knees, fall down, get back up, travel, meet people you like, learn to like people you don't, relax, work hard, laugh, love, trust, forgive, travel. I'll stop before I sound too much like that "use sunscreen" speech. Oh yeah, which reminds me: Don't "use sunscreen." But I think you guys get the point. Get out there and use the world to your liking. Use it like a playground.

Well people, what a long strange trip it's been. I'd like to thank everyone who has made my four years at Bryant the absolute best years of my life. I wouldn't trade them in for anything in the world, and I mean that. If I traded them in for four years as Ashton Kutcher, I'd just be punkin' myself. Best of luck Class of '05, it's been real.

To all the underclassmen, I hope one day you all will enjoy our kind of success. I'd like to be remembered as a man who had a wonderful time living life, a man with good friends and fine family, and I don't think I can ask for anything more than that, actually. Couldn't have said it better myself Frank. Thanks Bryant. Uno.

“ Get out there and use the world to your liking. Use it like a playground. ”

~John Cullen



“Visions for the Future”

Jesse Lewis


Class of
2005

Most people will start of their reflection by reminiscing on past memories, but as you can see in my picture, I like do be different. I would like to start off with my visions for the future. I see a Bryant that will expand beyond Smithfield, Rhode Island, reaching out to cut a big piece of the worldwide business pie. I see a Bryant that resembles the ever-changing face of America. I see a Bryant that continues to come together in times of trouble and builds and even stronger bond within the community. I see a Bryant full of spirit and pride for every team that may take the field, court, or whatever arena of play. I see a Bryant whose desire to achieve academic excellence will never be satisfied. You ask how I can see all of these things; well I see them because this is how my experience has been my last four years.

When I first came to Bryant, I didn't take advantage of the surrounding community. Like many incoming freshman, I stayed in my own little box; I rarely stepped out and never let anyone in. By my second year, I learned that things went a lot easier when I opened up and began to be more than just a student. I became a true member of the Bryant community; getting involved in organizations allowed me to make the best of my experience here and also allowed me to share myself with the community. As my junior and senior years unfolded, I could see the growth in myself and in Bryant. I was no longer the shy, sheltered freshman. I opened my box and great things resulted from doing so. As I prepare to make my way into the "real world," I can look back on my career here at Bryant and say that it was well worth the investment. I've learned so much about how the world works and that I have the ability to change it. I've learned about new and different cultures and in the process,

developed a new-found respect for my own.

The relationships I've built are truly my greatest achievement. The community that is Bryant has allowed me to

me how much you appreciate what I've done for you, but it is because of your character that I can be myself. Keep fighting to win and always remember that



connect with people and develop bonds that will never be broken. My years here on the field have developed my leadership skills and left me with memories that have been carved in the stone of my heart. My coaches, professors, and administrators have pushed me to be the best student but more importantly the best person I could be.

To my friends I would like to say thank you for your love and support. You have allowed me to enter your lives, plant my seeds, and after four years of nurturing, we can enjoy the fruits of our labor. To my teammates, I would like to say thank you for pushing me to be the leader and player that I've become. Many of you have told

golden rule, "Y'all know what it is!" To the rest of the Bryant community, as I cross this bridge to a new world I leave you all with these words. Keep your eyes open to see what is ahead. Do not close them to the people around you because you never know who may be you next best friend. Realize that thinking "outside the box" isn't just a business strategy; it is how we should approach any and every situation, for you never know when the next opportunity may come to change the world. And keep a smile on, people may always remember the thing that put a frown on their face, but they will never forget the smile that brightened up their day.



Stanley Lomangino

“As I turn my head, I look back and see...”

“And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years.” ~Abraham Lincoln

My mom always told me what you put into this life, you will get out of it. What can I say, my mom was right on the money with that statement. At the end of four years, everything that I have worked so hard for has actually paid off. Academically, things went well; I became highly involved on campus to make the Bryant experience for everyone just as enjoyable as mine, and I developed some of the best friendships of my life.

As the years passed, I saw myself developing into a person that I always yearned to be; an independ-

ent, self-sufficient, confident, and outgoing person who could, in some way or another, affect many people's lives. Who do I thank for this? I would start with the support of my family, who has been there for me through the best and worst of times. Words can not begin to describe how lucky I am to have them. Then there is my second family, my friends. They know exactly who they are and without them, I could have never enjoyed or had such a positive experience at Bryant. I have to say, it was an absolute privilege to develop the friendships I have had over the past four years and to continue on with the ones I will possess in the future. Lastly, the experience of Bryant has altered me in profound ways. Living on campus for four years, learning to become an inde-

pendent person, and getting involved in organizations have, in one way or another, made me into a person that I can officially say I'm proud of.

Four years later, what can I offer to the senior class as we step away from our college careers and step into a whole new world?

1. Enjoy life. Life is a gift that we must appreciate every passing day, no matter how bad that day may be.

2. Enjoy your health. We are young and have our whole lives

ahead of us, so enjoy everyday of your youth because in a flash it could all be gone.

3. Career wise, whatever you choose as your career, make sure that you don't like it, but love it. I have seen a fair share of people in my 22 years who take a job based on pay alone disregarding their feelings of dislike surrounding the job. If you dislike something, you will never be successful at accomplishing the goals you have associated with it.

4. Happiness, where does it come from? It doesn't come from living in a big house, driving a nice car, or having material objects. Happiness comes from within, and no matter how much money you have, it will never ever buy you happiness; that is something you have to achieve on your own.

5. In life, you will fail more than you will ever succeed; that's why success is so great.

Bryant, and the people here, have pointed out my downfalls, but at the same time, brought out the best in me as a person. Those downfalls will be continuously improved upon in the future and as for the best of me, I will strive to hold on to. As I walk away from Bryant and look on the past four years of my life, I can honestly say it has been one hell of a ride. In the end, it was well worth it, not only for the experience, but the people I met as well. Those people will always and forever have an impression on me as an individual. President Lincoln could not of said it better himself.



I am astonished as to how four years have gone by so quickly, and I'm sure to everyone it only seemed like yesterday that it was move-in day. I remember move-in day distinctly. It was a rushed and hectic day as freshmen poured in from all over the place. Parents and siblings helping their brother or sister move in all their things into what would be their new home, in essence, for the next four years. We were all ecstatic and trying to rush along the process so that we could start our “new” life. I know for me it was a fresh start where I could essentially be anyone I wanted. As my parents helped me move-in, I distinctly remember meeting my roommate, Christian, and shaking his hand and introducing myself, not as Andrew, but Drew. To most, this small change means nothing, but for me it was a new beginning. I knew that these four years would give me the chance to find myself and become the person that I am today.

However, I don't believe I would've been able to do that if it weren't for my friends, family, mentors, and the experiences I had at Bryant. As the years progressed, so did my personality, maturity, and way of thinking. Through being involved on campus by being a part of the Dance Team (a.k.a now “Velocity” in which could start me on a whole new discussion, but I won't), Bryant Rugby Football Club, and being a resident assistant, I was able to become a more well-rounded and knowledgeable person. I also became a stronger person and learned to believe in myself more.

Through a trust system and the strong friendships that I was able to build with all my friends here at school, I was able to easily come out

to them and show them who I was. For most of my friends, I was their first African-American/Colombian friend, and now, I have become their first Gay friend. For them, it was a new experience that they took in willingly with no objection, and that is what I cherish the most about my four years. It exemplifies how everyone has changed in some way through the influence of their mentors, teachers, or friends. I believe that my friends changed the day we became friends and the day I came out to them because they were introduced to a new lifestyle and culture. This was the same for me as I learned more about them over the years.

For four years, we have lived with these people day in and day out, sharing frustrations over exams, drama between relationships, enjoyable moments over a few drinks, the Red Sox finally winning the World Series, and many more memorable moments. Some people don't believe that this campus is diverse enough, but I think it is, in the sense that as you get to know people and realize what they have to bring to the table, our campus becomes diverse because of our many different personalities and eccentricities. I am grateful for the people I've met and have touched my life.

When I was asked to write in the Commencement Issue of *The Archway*, I was dumbfounded as to what I was going to reflect on and

how I was possibly going to fit the best four years of my life onto one page. But I realized that I would reflect on how we, as a whole, have grown into strong, assertive, and candid people who



have been influenced by everything that encompasses Bryant. With this ability, I believe that we can achieve anything as we progress in life. For the past four years, we have learned about ourselves and one another and have touched each others lives in some way, shape, or form. As we enter the “real-world,” we will start a new chapter in our life that will encompass the same struggles, challenges, growth, and influences but in a different manner. I will always remember these years as making me the person I am and the people I met along the way. As Georges Duhamel said, “We do not know the true value of our moments until they have undergone the test of memory.”



Traveling the Path of Four Years

"Please follow the signs, continue down the path, get your ID, do not park in front of the residence halls, and unpack as quickly as possible." These were the first greetings we received as incoming freshmen back in 2001. That day would be the first of many that we would experience at Bryant.

As we moved into Halls 14, 15, and 16, many thoughts began racing through our heads. Where's my roommate? What side of the room do I want? Do I know anybody living nearby? Where are those people I met from orientation? But we all became a quick family as we sat down at the Machtley's house for a BBQ. We even got to hug the First Lady and shake hands with the President. Our week of solitude was quickly disrupted by the moving in of the upperclassmen.

That first week of class was completed as we made our way to the cramped bookstore to discover the cost of textbooks. Luckily, if we completed the Freshmen Success Program, \$100 dollars was taken off the cost.

This savings offered us the opportunity to venture into the local community and we soon navigated our way around the area, taking cruises to Wendy's, getting snacks from Stop & Shop and Shaw's, and getting our

money's worth at Taco Bell.

After a while, Salmanson just didn't cut it when you had a 40+ meal plan. The chicken finger wraps at South were all the rage, and we soon learned how dining dollars disappeared quickly from our Bryant One cards. Some of us begged our parents to put more money on, but others continued to dine in Salmanson, despite



their pension for other dining on campus.

Things were flowing nicely as the semester began, until the morning of September 11, 2001. Crowds were huddled around televisions in the Unistructure, students skipped classes to find out more on the breaking news, and tragically, two Bryant alumni were killed in the terrorist attacks. Although this tragedy left a signifi-

cant impact on the community, our time at Bryant marched on.

Later that semester, the Banner system crashed when we tried registering online for the first time. Our spring schedules were in jeopardy and we would dread ever having to register again. Luckily, no similar problems occurred in the years to come, but some students did experience the heartbreak of being locked out of classes they wanted.

Returning back for the spring semester, we enjoyed our first major pond celebration when the New England Patriots would go on to win the first of three Super Bowls during our tenure here at Bryant. But the ice on the pond eventually melted, the sun began to shine, and the clothes began to come off. Music was heard emanating from Hall 7 while sunbathers laid out by the Bryant beach, frisbees flew, and whiffle balls soared over the "quad." The urge to skip class was inevitable and soon the first year of our college lives was over.

The next year we returned to an upgraded

campus. Not only did we move from the freshmen residence halls to the Village, but we also had an opportunity to utilize new facilities such as the Wellness Center and Bello Center.

Unfortunately, there were some downsides to sophomore year: no more Patriots training camp during summer session and a revised alcohol policy. We also learned that we were the last class to have to put up with

our clunky desktop PC's, as freshmen were given laptops included in their tuition. In addition, our dining options changed a bit as campus welcomed Sodexo in as the new food service provider.

Throughout the remainder of our sophomore year, a number of events and campus changes affected our daily lives. The Station nightclub fire impacted many students as well as the local community. For days after the tragedy, concerned parents and family members flooded campus phone lines to ensure their sons and daughters were safe.

After this event, the state fire codes became stricter. The flyers and posters that once hung on the walls throughout campus facilities were removed, causing students to develop more creative advertising methods. Our email inboxes also quickly became flooded with all sorts of campus-wide announcements from every organization you can think of. If you didn't check your mail daily, you'd be surprised to find dozens of unread messages and sometimes a maxed-out account.

There were much bigger problems occurring off campus, such as the beginning of the war with Iraq. These events had many concerned for the well-being of our country and for family and friends fighting in the war.

At the end of our sophomore year, students gave back to the local community by developing and implementing Relay for Life at Bryant. Many attended this first time program benefiting the American Cancer Society and since then it has become a yearly event raising thousands of dollars for the fight against cancer.

Junior year finally gave us a taste for the "real world." We needed to declare our majors & minors, start looking into internships and jobs, and step it up to 300 and 400-level courses.

No more intro classes to hide behind. The changes on and off campus continued. Salmanson, Janikies Auditorium, and the Rotunda were all newly remodeled. Off-campus, we saw the relocation Lupo's Heartbreak Hotel, Rhode Island's premier concert venue to the old Strand building. If concerts weren't your thing, the opening of Ultra gave the clubbers a new place to go to on Thursday nights.

The spring semester ushered in the Townhouse selection process. Old or new? 5-person or 6-person? Who will get the singles? Washing machine or no washing machine? What's an SCN number? Even after that was all sorted out, there was the lottery to go through. What a stressful, yet necessary, process that was.

As we pulled up to unload and move in for our last year at Bryant, we noticed the entrance sign had been covered over by a tarp. "University" had replaced "College" just about everywhere you looked. The process was gradual, but everything was soon replaced with the new name... except the logo on the floor of the Bello Center.

Throughout September, students, faculty and staff also needed to re-register their vehicles as everything changed from College to University.

During the beginning of senior year, reality set in. Finally, we're seniors! Townhouse living. No more meal plans to worry about... but can we actually be bothered to cook for ourselves? Our cooking tools had been upgraded to charcoal/propane grills, actual stoves, and, more importantly, a full-sized refrigerator with a real working freezer big enough to fit something bigger than a box of Hot Pockets. Despite these amenities, stops to the Junction for buffalo chicken calzones became more frequent, as it was within short walking distance from our new home in the

Townhouses.

Our senior year also started with an unfortunate event when a toilet-papered tree was lit on fire. As a result, campus policies were amended and enforced to a greater degree.

As the year rolled on, the interview process began for most, starting with accounting and finance. Career Services & the BCC became a daily stop for many seniors, as the job market was finally in sight. Some opted to continue their education through the esteemed grad school program and some are still undecided with their career choice.

As the fall semester came to a close, we registered for classes for the last time. No more Banner lock-outs. The Red Sox/Yankees feud was finally settled as Boston staged the biggest comeback in all of sports history, only to go onto ending their eighty six year World Series drought.

For some, "Senioritis" set in hardcore in the spring semester. The motto for students with jobs lined up during finals time became "I just want to graduate."

It's going to be tough breaking the four-year long habit of walking around the archway, but it's something we've been waiting to do since we took out first tour. It'll probably be just as hard as it was to break the habit of calling the school Bryant University instead of Bryant College. Nevertheless, these changes are for the better.

Through the years, we've expanded and changed as much as the campus itself. The knowledge we've taken away from classes and the experiences we've shared with friends have shaped us into who we are today. We should be extremely proud and honored to be the first graduating class of Bryant University.



Ryan O'Toole

"College is People"



This is the place. I remember saying those words to my parents on my first visit to the then Bryant College. I really felt at home when I walked onto the campus. It had everything I was looking for; outside of Connecticut, a medium sized student body, and a well respected business program. Today, I can say that the decision to come to Bryant comes with no regrets.

Of course, I'd be lying if I said that college was simply about buildings and classes. College is about something more. College is about people. The people you meet here are the ones you will be emailing during those long days in the office or the ones who will come to your bachelor party and wedding. Here is where relationships are built that will last a lifetime. During my years at Bryant, I have made some friends that I will not soon forget. These people have given me stories that I may tell my children someday, when

they are old enough, of course. Living at college can be described as an experience unto itself. The late nights to bed and the late afternoons, when we get up, are something that people who live in the "real world" long to have. I remember freshman year, living in Hall 14. My door was never closed. It was like Grand Central Station with people coming in and out. To me, that was the essence of college. My most vivid memory of Hall 14 was when my roommate, Steve Kilsey, brought the original Nintendo to the room. It was great playing the games that I grew up playing. In no time at all, the entire floor was in our room screaming and yelling instructions on how to beat Sandman in Mike Tyson's Punch-Out. It was a memory I will remember always.

On this graduation day, I find myself thinking of all the people who helped me make it to where I am today. I want to thank all my brothers in Delta Chi. They made college a better place. Through my

involvement with the fraternity, I learned the importance of community service and helping others. To all of them, I say thank you, and I will remember you always. Also, I want to thank Father Joe. He reached out to me as a freshman and helped me to become involved in something at Bryant. Father Joe, you helped me to become a better student, and more importantly, a better person.

The greatest thanks I have today is to my family, my Dad and Mom, who sacrificed so much to send me to Bryant. They have always been there for me in whatever I have done in my life. I have always tried my hardest to make them proud. When I walk across the stage today, they will be walking with me, every step of the way.

I also want to acknowledge my brother, Eric, and sister, Katie. You both have also made me a better person. You are exceptional individuals; I look forward to being there for your successes in the future, and I will always be there for you in your

failures to help you get back up. To my extended family that is here today, I thank you for all the cards and support over the past four years.

There is one person in my family that I want to single out, my grandfather

Joe Skerritt. He died during winter break of my freshman year. He was always a symbol of determination and compassion. I want to thank him for simply being himself. I can only hope that one day, I could be half the person that he was.

"I'd be lying if I said that college was simply about buildings and classes. College is about something more. College is about people."
~Ryan O'Toole

I closed my eyes for a few minutes and four years have passed. I remember walking up a hill with the girls that were soon to be part of my heart, along with the rest of my freshman class, to our welcoming ceremony. I just moved in to my dorm room in Hall 15 among hundreds of strange faces. I turn to wave a final goodbye to my parents and think, I am actually here!

The first time I set foot on this campus, I was in eighth grade. I was fortunate enough to attend Parents and Family Weekend as a guest of my friend's family. I knew from that first moment, this school was going to be my home away from home someday.

I made it as a student to the school of my dreams and I have taken advantage of all the opportunities Bryant University had to offer me. Throughout my career at Bryant, I have been fortunate enough to impact others lives while creating everlasting friendships and interacting with faculty, staff, and administration who have motivated me throughout my journey. Bryant University has shaped my career, along with the individual I am today, by allowing me to experience “the character of success” this school lives by.

I have grown up with a piece of advice from my grandfather Orlando Moranino who said, “Do the job, big or small; do it right, or not at all.” This quote has motivated me to work to the best of my ability at all times, and I challenge others to do the same. My goal was to become an intricate part of this community through my involvement in the organizations I chose to be an active member. It was my resident assistant freshman year, Richard Hurley, who

introduced me to a world of wonders here at Bryant. Richard was an outstanding leader and a mentor; he became my guiding light.

My passion, the Student Senate, was both fulfilling and rewarding. It taught me to take students' suggestions and find solutions that would benefit the Bryant community. The challenges I faced gave me the courage and determination to continue my objectives. The friends I made along the way, throughout my involvement, will stay with me always.

Today, we start another part of our journey. We will leave here with confidence, better prepared to enter the real world. Through our academics, student activities, and athletics, we have learned leadership, tolerance, acceptance, and the ability to come together as one. While the unknown of what tomorrow will bring may cause anxiety, remember how far we have come from the unknown of four years ago. We would not have made it this far without the support of others. Family, friends, roommates, faculty, and staff have all been an important part of our experiences at Bryant. It is a time for new beginnings, with the knowledge that our successes have brought accomplishment and our failures have given us the courage to continue.

“The future belongs to those who believe in their dreams.” ~Eleanor Roosevelt.

I would like to thank my parents for their endless support and love in allowing me to follow my dreams. They taught me the benefits of honest work, to use my voice for the good, and to believe in my convictions. Largely because of you, I have become the person I am today. My

brother Brian, you are my mentor, my best friend, and one I will always look up to. Brian, you have paved the path of success and I want to thank you for all your love, honest advice, and for always being there for me when I needed someone to lean on. To my grandparents, friends, faculty, and staff, thank you for your guidance, knowledge, and the room to allow me to grow these last four years.

Last but not least, thank you to my roommates Jennifer, Kristen, Jennifer, Julie, Kim, and Alicia. Without your sisterhood, compassion, love, laughter, and relentless support. I would not have accomplished my goals with so much success. To the senior class: *“Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet. Only through experience of trial and suffering, can the soul be strengthened, vision cleared, ambition inspired, and success achieved.” ~Helen Keller.* I wish the senior class success in all your endeavors and the best of luck. Today as we walk through the archway of Bryant University, the knowledge and experiences we have shared together will continue to shape the individuals we become tomorrow.





Carola Pierluisi

“My home away from home”

On a sunny day in Puerto Rico, I was on my way to gym class. I saw my high school volleyball coach talking with two strangers wearing engraved polo shirts and carrying some brochures; they were Theresa and Ted Garlacy. I was only 16.

A month later I was sitting at President Machtley's office with my parents. The mere idea of having a personal interview with the president exceeded our expectations. As we walked around campus that day, we could foresee the beginning of a great experience; an experience I decided to live, not only because of the opportunity to participate in an NCAA Volleyball program, but also because of the quality of Bryant's academics and campus life. Four months later, I was a Bryant Bulldog.

That first encounter at President Machtley's office was not an isolated event. There were so many precious moments I will always remember, such as the day I shared a table at the Bryant Center with President Machtley for a sub. Even something as simple as a smile from faculty and administrative staff, members of the maintenance crew, and the department of public safety made me feel that the Bryant community had become my extended family.

One of my most important challenges at Bryant was to meet the high standards implemented by Dr. Stanley Baran. I was thrilled and honored when he recognized me as one of his top students: "This is a thoughtful, intelligent, hard-working student, among the top 1% I have had in more than 30 years of university teaching." The impact he had as my mentor has been key to the success I am having now as a profes-

sional in the media industry.

I was also fortunate to have the mentoring and professional advice of highly talented and dedicated professors, such as Dr. Julie B. Morrison. She was my mentor during the experimental research I conducted for her Research Methods in Psychology course that led to the publication of our article in the New England Psychology Association journal. My experience working with Dr. Morrison rounded up the academic and professional skills I gained at Bryant that will certainly get me on the right direction towards a successful career.

The support I received from the Bryant faculty and administrative staff extended from the classroom to the gym; going out on the court and seeing them inspired me to proudly represent the Bryant Bulldogs each night. Being a Bulldog is like being part of a big family.

The success of the Athletic Department is owed to the leadership and professionalism of Dan Gavitt and his staff. Talking about smiles, he is an expert. Not only us, the girls, but even our parents when cheering for us on the bleachers, felt and shared his happy spirit and support. This support was across the board from the Athletic Department to all Bryant Varsity

Teams and from the student-athletes among themselves. Imagine how loud and energizing it is to have the whole football team cheering for you!

I would like to thank the entire Bryant Community for making my experience one I will never forget. The very recent recognition I received from the Intercultural Center will have a very special place in my heart. It will not be easy to give back all I have received during the great moments I lived at Bryant, but I will make sure to serve as an ambassador to maintain the strong link that binds Bryant University and Puerto Rico.

Con amor para siempre.



“No Regrets”

Alicia Robbins


Class of
2005



It didn't hit me until the day we bought our caps and gowns. I think most of us have gone through senior year thinking that it would never end. Well, the time has come. The Bryant bubble has popped, and we have been exposed to the real world. Today we move forward, but first we need to take the time to reminisce.

Someone asked me the other day what I thought was the true value of a Bryant University Diploma. I told them that the value of a diploma from this school is the education that we receive. And by education, I mean not only the things we learned from books and teachers, but the education that we got from being on our own for four years, the lessons that our friends taught us, and the education that can only come from the simple act of growing up. This diploma that we will each receive today means different things to everyone. Maybe it means a job offer, or thousands of dollars in student loans. But hopefully, it will mean more than that.

This diploma symbolizes the place that was my home for four years. For four years, this college loved me when I did well, punished me when I didn't (DPS), and molded and shaped me into the person I am today. It ultimately became my family. To think of leaving a family that taught me about life for four years is a sad thought, but also a promising one. Everything that I learned and everything that helped me to grow will cross my path outside of Bryant. Hopefully, the people that have affected my life these past four years will always be a part of my future.

I don't have any words of wisdom to leave to you; I think that everyone can learn through their own experiences. But, there is one thing I do believe and I hope everyone can relate to. Never leave a part of your life with regrets. Regrets aren't worth your time, you cannot go back and change the past, so why should you regret it? Just learn from it and move on. Any mistakes you make in

life build your character.

Today is not only an end, but also a beginning. We are at the crossroads of life, and the only thing you can do at a time like this is to live for today. It is not a day where you can change the past, or your future for that matter. So live for today; CELEBRATE! Today may be all we have to celebrate. As much as we want to think that we know where we are going in life and what we want to do, the courses of our lives are uncontrollable. I learned that lesson this past year. You may think that you have it all figured out, and you know exactly how things are going to turn out, then one day, something incredibly unexpected happens and your life turns upside down. Maybe you didn't cause this event, but there are other people that affect your life and the outcome of it. Whether good or bad, happy or sad, these life changing events cannot be ignored. So don't plan out your life now, leave a little bit up to fate because in the end it may make you a stronger person.

Thank you to each and every person who has affected my life in any way and made me the person I am today. Because of all of you, I will never regret my past, always live for today, and never try to predict where I will end up. But most importantly, I will always remember the past four years as the most influential part of my life.

"I can't remember all the times I tried to tell myself to hold onto these moments as they pass."~Adam Duritz



Jenny Tam

“Congrats Class of 2005”

Where do you begin to write about something that is about to end? After much thought, it would only make sense to start describing my most vivid memory from the



beginning. I won't ever forget the day I stepped foot onto this (and then it was) Bryant College campus. I had my “smiley” pillow my mother gave me in hand as she, along with my grandmother and brother, drove off campus. The pillow would remind me, according to my mother, to not worry and to always be happy, no matter how bad things might be during my four years in college.

Freshman year was a year of transition for myself and I'm sure many others as well. The newfound freedom, not having class from eight in the morning to mid-afternoon, eating at all hours of the night, and of course, the new faces from all over the United States and the rest of the world. My roommate Alice Chan was the complete opposite of myself. She's from Boston and we had little in common but in time,

grew to develop some similarities. Another relationship started after I knocked on our neighbor's door. Stanley Lomangino was his name. His roommate Sean was in one of my groups and after finishing a project, I really got to know Stan. Since meeting him and the rest of his suitemates, the rest of freshman year was like a reoccurring episode of “Friends.” From nights where Alice and I would barge in during “The Sopranos” to a nightlong super soaker fight between my suite and Stan's, the transition disappeared and it became how life was at Bryant.

The Bryant life was fun and extremely memorable. Bryant gave me

not only great friends, but great opportunities as well. When I wanted to explore a different kind of Greek life, Bonita Yip, along with two other girls from Boston and I chartered an off-campus intercollegiate multicultural sorority in Boston, MA. I managed to focus on my studies and also be part of a unique sisterhood that was originally founded in New York.

Another opportunity I couldn't miss was studying abroad. I went my second semester of my sophomore year to Florence, Italy. I was the only one from Bryant at the time and that semester was one of the biggest challenges in my life. I traveled throughout Italy and several other countries in Europe. Taking liberal arts classes in Italy was unique; one example is I would study different types of artwork in

the Uffizi, and the next class, I would be able to go in and actually see it. The semester was absolutely amazing. Meeting so many different students from the U.S. was something that was beyond memorable. To this day, I still keep in touch with my roommates and friends from abroad.

Junior year was when the course load gets tougher and senior year was getting closer. I took more core classes and for once I didn't have a roommate. Alice was abroad in Florence studying; I tackled on Junior year, growing closer to past acquaintances like Will Dennen, John Tran, Tenzin Norzin and Laura Tong, just to name a few. I took on an executive board position within the Multicultural Student Union. This brought me closer to even more great people. As the Vice President of the Asian American Alliance under MSU, it made my experience here at Bryant more rewarding. From late night meetings and planning campus-wide events, it brought stress but also unforgettable experiences with my close friends.

After all that I've done these past four years, I didn't need to look back at my pillow for a push to be happy because I never was unhappy. There were tough times when exams were difficult, there was not enough time in the day, or when love wasn't love anymore, but all those were learning experiences throughout college. I've grown so much along with the others in the Class of 2005. Now when I drive off this Bryant University campus, I'll take with me the memories and who I've become today. With that being said, I look forward to a new vivid memory that will lead me into a whole new type of beginning after the Bryant life.

“The Journey is the Reward”

Stephen Vigliotti


Class of
2005

Four years. To an incoming freshman, it appears as if it will last an eternity, but to a graduating senior, it seems as if it has passed by in the blink of an eye. They say that “time flies when you’re having fun,” so I guess that must be a good indication of our time here at Bryant. All of the classes we’ve struggled with, all of the late nights (whether for work or for fun), all of the group projects, all of the practices, meetings or rehearsals, and all of the changes that have occurred during our time at Bryant have seemed to meld into one moment.

It is easy to say that Bryant has changed a great deal over our time here, but it can also be argued that the essence of Bryant remains the same. As seniors, we can say we remember when the library was in the Unistrukture, before we had a state of the art fitness facility, when no one had laptops, when we still had to deal with Aramark food, and of course, what it was like to spend three years at Bryant College. Despite this, Bryant is still a small, surprisingly windy campus which you can conveniently walk across in about 7 minutes. It is still a place where you can see the president walking around campus and you may even have the chance for him to sit with you during lunch at Salmanson.

Whatever view you take, one thing is definite; Bryant has certainly changed us. It was not long ago that we were worried about passing microeconomics and freshman seminar, but by now, we have completed more coursework in various subjects than we may have ever thought

possible. We have all chosen different paths through Bryant, but here we are reunited one last time.

I would be remiss without taking the time to thank people who have helped me to this point in my Bryant experience; however I will thank people in groups to avoid the chance of leaving anyone out.

First of all to my parents for their support through my college career and for understanding when I was too busy to make the 15 minute drive home.

To the faculty and staff who have helped me along the way, thank you for providing your time, guidance and experience through the years.

To the underclassmen, you have helped influence me as much as I

have influenced you. I thank you all and wish you the best of luck during your remaining time here.

To my fellow graduates, thank you for being next to me every step of the way. Together we have made a journey that will affect the rest of our lives.

I would like to end with a quote from the film *Donnie Darko*:
“If the sky were to suddenly open up, there would be no law, there would be no rule, there would only be you and your memories.”

No matter where we end up in life, I hope that we all remember that we can always look back to our memories from Bryant.





Jamie Zolli

"Make the Bad Times Good and the Good Times Unforgettable"

It feels like just yesterday I was driving to Bryant for the first time. I kept thinking, am I going to make friends, will my classes be hard, and could I handle being away from home? Well, no offense Mom and Bill, but after only one night, I knew this was the place for me. I moved out of my comfort zone and tried something new. Bryant University has allowed me to achieve countless things I would have never imagined possible for myself. College is what you make of it - and I can honestly say these have been the best four years of my life (how cliché!). My endeavors here have been everything but dull! Everyday I am faced with challenges and confrontations, but no matter how hard my life has gotten, I know I can handle anything because I believe in myself. I completely agree with Madonna in saying, "I'm tough, I'm ambitious, and I know exactly what I want."

Involvement with student activities has opened me up to a whole new community that allowed me to have a voice. I have learned to perfect the art of balancing school work, internships/jobs, and extracurricular activities. Learning through my own mistakes, and sometimes through my peers, I have acquired valuable lifelong lessons. From being an RA, SPB chair, Mr. Bryant Executive Producer, Orientation Leader, Extravaganza model, Senior Class Committee member to Student Life Editor for Yearbook and all of the other activities I have failed to list, I hope my presence has made a difference. Being so involved, I have made friends that will last a lifetime, because of the experiences that we have shared (i.e. Spring Weekend

volunteers, deadlines, RA training, week-long rehearsals).

Many may deem me a feminist, but I know I'm just proud to be a woman. Clare Luce said, "Because of this, I must make unusual efforts to succeed. If I fail, no one will say, 'She doesn't have what it takes'. They will say, 'Women don't have what it takes.'" Froso (my best) - we are living proof that women can succeed! I am so proud of you and could have never made it through the years without your blunt constructive criticism and always loving support. You were the best roommate, and I could always count on you... remember countless visits to the emergency room, being single together, watching Lifetime movies, and the list continues... I'll miss my Hall 13 girls and crazy dance parties! Now it's time to move on to the real world, in which I have mixed emotions about. I will miss everything about this school, even waking up at 9:00a.m. when I don't have class until 1:00p.m., attending five meetings in one day, and basically running around for twelve hours. I know now that goodbyes will always hurt, memories (good or bad) will bring tears, and words can never replace feelings.

Still, the past four years have definitely prepared me for the uncertainty tomorrow will bring. I have so many people to thank for their encouraging and influential roles that have helped me grow into the mature independent woman I am today. Mommy - You are my angel and the wind beneath my wings. I



consider you my inspiration towards everything I do. Thanks for helping me make difficult decisions and lending a shoulder to cry on. I love you. Shaun - Being with you the past eight months has made me happier than I ever thought I could be. You're the man I never knew I always wanted (I'll never stop praying). I love you more than anything. To my role model, Syl - I look up to you more than you know. Ash - My twin; make me proud - God knows you have already! Lau, Jenni, the D Club in Long Island and all of my other friends - You will always be in my heart.

Good luck and congratulations to the Class of 2005! You have given me some wonderful memories and friendships that can never be forgotten! To everyone not graduating today, Tom Petty couldn't have said it better, "You'll never remember class time, but you'll remember time you wasted hanging out with your friends. Go out on a Tuesday with your friends when you have a paper due Wednesday. Spend money you don't have. Drink 'til sunrise. The work never ends, but college does..."

Senior Class Gift

This year the Senior Class Gift project was entirely revamped. Class Chair, John Cullen, was selected as the Senate representative to chair the project. John worked closely with Laurie Musgrove and the Business Development Office to ensure a successful project. A Steering Committee was then selected to assist in the project.

The committee consisted of Dan Myers, Kristen Frongillo, Alicia Robbins, Kelly Van Deusen, Jamie Zolli, Froso Tsambazis, Kara Paganini, Katelyn Gill, and Que Phipps.

Each of the Steering Committee members was responsible for soliciting five volunteers each. This 50

student team would then go on to become known as the Network '05. Every student who made a gift has also become a part of the Network.

The Network selected the class gift early second semester. The gift is a library endowment fund for Bryant's library. This fund will be used to buy new books, magazines, journals, electronic resources, and leisure reading books. This is a tremendous gift on behalf of the class and truly represents the character of this year's graduating class.

The gift will be matched 50% by library donor Douglas Krupp and 50% by President Machtley. This means that the total dollars

raised by the class will be doubled! As of May 11, 2005, 104 students have made pledges towards the class gift with dollars equaling almost \$30,000.

This could not have been possible if it weren't for everyone's help, hard work, and dedication. Thank you to Laurie Musgrove, Shannon Maldonado, Claudette Piette, everyone in the Business Development Office, and especially, the Network '05.

We have paved the way for future class gift projects for years to come.

Thank you,
John Cullen
Class Gift Chair

Senior Service Awards

The Senior Service Awards are presented to six deserving students of the graduating class to recognize their outstanding service to the student body of Bryant University.

Recipients were selected by the Student Senate service awards committee, which was chaired by sophomore Ryan Kelly.

Nominees were evaluated on various criteria, such as their dedication to campus life, their stature amongst their peers, and their accomplishments that enhanced student life throughout their Bryant years.

These applicants were exceptionally qualified and have made lasting impacts on this campus. They all exemplify dedication and loyal service through the many committees, organizations, and projects they were involved with. Congratulations to each of the following individuals:

Brian Charpentier
Jon Colognesi
Jennifer Markacs
Kara Paganini
Alicia Robbins
Jamie Zolli

Class Flag

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 Class of 2005's Senior Class Flag was designed and created by Lynsey Cozens and Froso Tsambazis.

The archway is represented because it is a symbol of strength that has lasted through many changes. The Bulldog is a sign of team spirit and pride at Bryant University.

The Class of 2005 has seen many changes at Bryant and has continued to remain strong. The graduates are a close knit group that has held strong ties to each other throughout their four years at Bryant.

The Class of 2005 can be summed up in a few simple words: "Graduates of Today LEADERS of Tomorrow."

We have been exposed to many different obstacles from freshman year to senior year and have seen them through every bit of the way, taking away as much experience and knowledge as possible.



From the News Editor Shannon Noonan

May 21, 2005

Classes finish, finals are no longer a stress, and seniors walk through the archway as the first class of Bryant University. While I, and my surrounding senior class take our final steps to graduation, take a look back to recognize all your accomplishments achieved both on and off campus. Seeing your success and admitting you achieved a goal gives a sense of fulfillment. Remember the many nights you crammed for an exam; did last minute preparations for presentations; freaked out because you never felt ready for your organizations program and publications to be viewed, and now walking on stage to say you are done and ready to move on. These four years of college will never be called a simple stride but instead successful walks always to remember.

Looking back, as freshmen, we walked in not knowing exactly what our future held. As individuals, we were *Determined* to be recognized, *Fearful* to be alone, *Naïve* when partying with upper classmen, and *Distinguished* as new members of the campus. When breaking the freshman bubble, you learned to do the front gate wave, moved from the dorms to the village with your chosen roommates, and returned the following year no longer at the bottom of the totem pole, but as sophomores. Now leaving Bryant, these memories will withstand time, knowing you grew while the campus changed.

These four years ran by quickly, but my memories and achievements will last forever, as I hope for all the other seniors. I personally had a terrific time at Bryant. I met some of the most amazing people, received an outstanding education, and learned how to get what I want in life. Moving forward to a job or further schooling will be my next accomplishment and I know Bryant College/University helped guide me.

I want to thank my roommates for the many continuous years of living together. Through thick and thin we still managed to be friends and roomies throughout the duration of college. I want to send a personal thanks to my roommate Meghan Greco, some days, without you, I probably would have been alone and confused. I will always remember the movie nights and dinner parties.

To my Mom, Dad, and brother Brian, you guys are the best, and I love you all dearly. You were always behind me 100 percent with every decision I made, even ones you did not particularly understand.

To all the organizations I joined or ran at one point, it was an honor and privilege for your acceptance of me. In particular I want to thank *The Archway* staff for the many Tuesday nights and to the racquetball team who always kept me on my toes. What you guys have done for me and given me, I will never be able to repay.

Sincerely,

Shannon Noonan, The Archway Campus News Editor, Emeritus



From the Dean of Students


Class of
2005



May 21, 2005

Dear Graduates:

Congratulations on achieving the goal of completing your Bryant degree. You have reached a valued goal. It has required a huge investment of time and money and it is a real prize. In addition to a great education, I hope you had a good time. Enjoy this moment!

This is also a great time to acknowledge one of the great realities of life. Few accomplishments we enjoy are solely of our own doing. In most cases, there are others who assist us. Say thanks and show your appreciation to all of those who have played some special role in your time here and in reaching this goal.

Commencements are times when we celebrate the great accomplishments. They are also, as the name implies the beginning of new times and new challenges. You came here

one person and are leaving another. You have skills and qualities which will support your personal and professional success. But you must continue to grow. Find friends and colleagues that will help and challenge you. My guess is that some people who championed your efforts here will continue to support you as you move on. Life long learning is essential for all of us.

Finally, keep connected with us. We want to know how you are doing and we want you to know what is going on here. The Alumni Association provides a means to that end.

As you leave, Marj and I wish you well and thank you for enriching our lives and helping us keep learning in this great community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Thomas Eakin".

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

