

Bryant College's student newspaper since 1946



The Archway

May 22, 2004



2004 Commencement Issue



From the President



May 22, 2004

Dear Graduates:

Today is a new beginning for each of you as you march through the archway on your way to Commencement exercises and proudly join the ranks of thousands of Bryant graduates. I want to express my own best wishes as well as those of Bryant's trustees, faculty, and staff as you embark on a bright future full of adventure, continued personal growth, and rewarding professional success.

Bryant has provided an exceptionally rich environment for you to grow intellectually and socially, and I want to thank each of you for your important contributions to our community. I encourage you to take all you have learned here and pursue your dreams with the same intensity you demonstrated at Bryant.

The future is full of the promise of new friends and opportunities for exciting 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 upon the landscape so that others will benefit from your unique talents.

Graduation is a momentous accomplishment. You are now a member of our distinguished alumni family, a network of more than 37,000 professionals throughout the world. At every opportunity you should make connections with other Bryant alumni and further enhance this powerful network. It is also our hope that you will return to campus often and maintain a lifelong relationship with the College.

Everyone at Bryant – especially Kati and I — are proud of your achievements and confident about your future. Set high standards of excellence and I am certain that you will achieve your personal best in all that you do. We thank you for all you have brought to this College and extend our congratulations to you!

Sincerely,

Ronald K. Machtley
President

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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 Schwabb and a famous US 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 Unistructure. 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 College students on Tupper campus for the past 30 years, and will continue to shape that of more in the years to come.



Andrea Barbosa

"Everything happens for a reason." The saying seems so cliché, but I am a true believer in it. I would not be the person I am today without the lessons I've learned, experiences I've had, or people I've met at Bryant College, and I think that many of my classmates would agree.

From our first tours of Bryant's campus to our first official walk under the archway, from freshmen orientation to commencement information sessions, we have all grown and become better students, individuals, and soon-to-be professionals.

While looking forward to life beyond graduation, I am anxiously anticipating facing the next challenge life has to offer me. However, looking back at my experiences in my four years at Bryant College, I cannot help but to beam with a sense of accomplishment, fulfillment, and pride. I personally feel that I will leave Bryant as a confi-

dent young professional.

My family and friends used to say to make the most of my college years because they fly by. Their words never rang as true as they do now. I have tried to take their advice to heart and make the most of my experience here. And now, looking back, I know that I will never second-guess the path I chose to take.

We all have an infinite amount of opportunities available to us, but it is up to each of us as individuals to act upon these opportunities and embrace them as our own. We must take the initiative to own our lives and make the most of what life has to offer.

"You're fired!" may resonate in many people's ears as Donald Trump's most famous words. However, before *The Apprentice* craze set in across the campus and around the globe, I was quite fond of another set of words said by the famous multimillionaire entrepreneur, which may be appropriate on this occasion: *"As long as you're going to be thinking anyway, think BIG."*

The involvement I have seen by student leaders across Bryant's campus leads me to believe that many Bryant students, deep down inside, agree with Trump. I know that I do. If you are going to put in the effort to do something, to accomplish a goal, why not put in your all? Why not push it to the limits? Why not think BIG?

I truly believe that your performance in a

task is equal to the efforts you put into it. To be the best you can be, you must make the effort to challenge yourself and give it your all.

For many students, getting involved in several activities on campus or participating in sports is the norm. Students have learned to perfect the art of balancing school work and extra-curricular activities. We have all learned from each other and have become better people for it. Now it is time for my fellow classmates and I to explore a whole new set of experiences and to conquer the business world. To those accompanying me on graduation day, remember to take a chance. Move out of your comfort zone and try something new. Meet new people. Explore your options. Don't settle. Everything happens for a reason, remember?

While at Bryant, I honestly could not have survived without the love, advice and support I have received from my family and friends. To my fellow classmates, thanks for a great four years of memories that I will laugh and cry about for the rest of my life. Thanks to the ladies of F9, Karen and Amy for always being there to lend an ear or make me laugh. Kyle – you are amazing; you can always find a way to bring me back to earth.

Eu quero também agradecer minha família. Eu te amo muito!

To professors like Sanjay Putrevu, Lynda St. Clair, Keith Murray, and Judy McDonnell, to advisors like Hank Parkinson and Mike Thorp, to staffs like College Relations and Alumni Relations – THANK YOU. You are what make Bryant College the institution that it is today. And, for that, I will forever be grateful.



As I sit here now writing this, what is to be my “final mark” on Bryant College, I feel more than ever before that I have truly accomplished a lot in my four years here.

I think to myself, it was only yesterday when I sat in a freshmen residence hall room wondering what to do while I am here, besides failing to battle Ryan (aka Lingo or Fletch or which ever pseudo he goes by now) in a rap contest. Who would have guessed that I would become a person known by many different names and on many different levels?

Many of the people I could thank have long since graduated from Bryant College. However, I am proud to call many of the people responsible for who I am today, my fellow members of the Class of 2004.

Those people who saw me during Orientation with my first “appearance” were some of the most influential people here. They always wanted more out of the “Rappa.” From that time on, it became more and more clear that who I was before was not the person I wanted to be when I left Bryant.

What I did want was to be a person who could be counted on, in and out of the classroom. Many people definitely agree that I have achieved that goal through a variety of ways.

The first of which was through Hank Parkinson, who I must thank more than anyone else at Bryant. Hank, you have been there for me every step of the way as an advisor, a mentor, and a friend. And I couldn’t have done any of it without you.

Hank was part of the reason I got involved with the Student



Programming Board, a group that through the years has become a second family to me. We didn’t always see eye to eye, but I always cared about you all. You know who you are, and I thank every single person I have ever worked with in the big S-P-B!

Even with that, I knew I could do more while I was here. That is where some of the most genuine friends anyone could ever have came into play.

The administration has told us time after time: this year’s Senate has excelled. If not for the encouragement from people who became my other second family at Bryant, I would never have taken part in some of the greatest moments of my Bryant career.

I would never have seen exactly how much I could accomplish. From the moment I joined the group last April, you made me feel more of a part of Senate than I ever could have imagined.

Thank you to the 2003-2004 Senate, you will always be in my heart.

I need to thank another group of people at Bryant, and these guys and gals really showed me the light.

From my Hall 14 2-South floor-mates freshmen year, to living right above me for a year and a half, to the fun times in F1, you guys showed me more to being a complete person than anyone ever could. That also goes for the people who were there during those times and helped to dub me “Rappa.”

To the accounting professors I had, you all led to my development in a professional way that I could never repay you for. Special thanks to Professor Lynch for looking at my resume countless times.

No matter how much or how little I knew you; every single person in the Class of 2004 is always a part of me.

Thank you all!!!



Jessica Donovan

Upon graduation of high school, a good friend and mentor of mine gave me a large magnet with a quote by Emily Dickinson. It read "dwell in possibility." This quote has guided me through my time here and will continue to as we leave Bryant and venture off to wherever the future takes us. Simple and understated, these three words symbolized to me the many opportunities and experiences that were possible as a freshman beginning my four-year journey here at Bryant.

As I reflect back on the four years I have spent here, I feel I have taken advantage of the many oppor-



tunities that were available to me. This school and the people I have met here have given me many experiences, ones that I will forever treasure. It is difficult to encapsulate all these experiences, but I will mention some.

I found a sport I love in racquetball. This sport enabled me to be part of a team and travel to Las Vegas, Texas, Arizona and Los Angeles to compete at the national level. My involvement in the Bryant Psychology Association and the

Women's Center have given me the opportunities to work within two subjects, psychology and women's issues, that I have become very passionate about while here at Bryant.

It is also through academics that I have had some great experiences. Within the classroom I grew from experiences such as listening to a Holocaust survivor share her grueling story after we read the book *The Pianist*. Outside classroom experiences have been valuable as well, like visiting a local Association for Retarded Citizens for abnormal psychology class and seeing how their program helped better people's lives. It is also outside the classroom that I have been inspired by many motivational speakers such as the Cardi Brothers and Sherman Alexie.

These treasured experiences are characterized by these great times but also by the bad times. I made mistakes along the way, as we all have. Some of these have been minor and some major, but we have learned from these experiences. I do believe everything happens for a reason. In the end these good and bad decisions and experiences have shaped us as individuals. We have become more confident and self-aware because of our four-year journey.

Most importantly are the friends who have been there through the journey to share in our successes and failures. These friends have been with us through the good times and the bad. It is these strong relationships, the ones that we will sustain after college, that are most meaningful. These friends and the laughs and good times shared during

these four years will be with us forever.

There are many people who have been a special part of my life here at Bryant who I would like to give thanks to. The racquetball team has been a great group of people who I have shared many great times with. My fraternity brothers in Delta Sigma Pi have given me many special memories as well. Thank you also to the many professors and staff members who have given me guidance in all my academic, extracurricular and personal endeavors.

Last of all, my successful journey here at Bryant could not have been accomplished without the love and support of my family. A special thanks to my mother, my father, my brother and grandparents for all the support they have given me up to this point. I am thankful for the ways they have helped shape me into the person I have become today. I could not have asked for a better family.

We have all had many memorable experiences here. Bryant is a place that has forever bonded us as alumni who shared a common four years of our lives. Now, as I depart from the Bryant Community into a new world, I look forward to the possibilities ahead of me and all of us graduates.

I challenge myself and the other graduates to *dwell in possibility*. Whether the next phase of life is graduate school, a job, traveling or taking time off, the possibilities are endless. Find something you love to do! There is a vast world of opportunity out there waiting for us to grab a hold of. If you find this passion and thrive off it, you will be a success. Good luck and best wishes to the class of 2004!

I cannot believe that my time at Bryant is up. Who turned out the lights?

I remember my first day of college like it was yesterday...all of my anxieties...feeling cramped in my room, not wanting to share a bathroom with those maniacs, and wanting to throw my books at the guy who picked up the Hall 15

it is my experiences outside of the classroom that have taught me the most, and I am living proof that Bryant College does more than just produce square pegs for square holes.

From the Delta Chi Fraternity, to WJMF, to the Office of Residence Life, to Extravaganza Night, to Mr. Bryant, to studying

sure where I am going to end up, but I know that my *Bryant Experience* will have an impact on my future. I am so grateful for the friendships that I've made and for the people that I've learned from. I also have to thank mom and dad, and the rest of the gang for being so supportive (i.e. not freaking out when I went an entire semester without cutting my



garbage—right outside my window—every Monday at 6:00 AM sharp! Yes, it was a rocky start to what turned out to be the best four years of my life (although I know my folks wish I had come home more than once a semester).

To quote [our silly] President George W. Bush, I received some “darn good intelligence” inside of the classroom, but

abroad—Australia is the biggest slice of heaven you'll find on this earth—to AWA, to Student Senate, and all of the other activities I've been involved in...I hope I have left my mark and raised the bar for future students and leaders.

I thought I had it all figured out when I came here, and that this place was just a stepping stone... boy, was I wrong. I'm still not quite

hair)...I would not have made it this far without my family.

I was going to end this charade with a quote from Biggie Smalls, but I thought it might be a little too crass for this publication. So, I'll leave you with a quote from John and Paul: “In the end, the love you take is equal to the love you make.” Believe it!



Andrew Higgins

What is college? Some call it the best five or six years of your life. For others, it's a four-year party with the occasional exam thrown in for good measure. Webster's defines college as "an undergraduate division or school of a university offering courses and granting degrees in a particular field." Regardless of how you define college, one thing is certain: the lessons learned, the knowledge gained, and the memories made will last a lifetime. College is what you make of it, and the last four years at Bryant have certainly given me the skills to be the person I hope to be.

As I enter the "real world" this fall, without a job, without money, and without any real talents (who would've thought a good Chris Farley impression wasn't something employers look for), I couldn't be happier. The lure of the unknown is a scary thing, but one that brings with it excitement, adventure and the chance to shape your own future day by day. We are standing on the

edge of tomorrow, and the world is ours for the taking. Always remember to take the time to appreciate the things around you, and learn to love the risks and adventures that life has to offer. The world is a gigantic place full of great places, people, and journeys waiting to be made. Remember to cherish the small things in life, but keep in mind where you come from and where you want to go. No matter where the winds carry me to, there are certain college lessons that will stick with me forever.

First is the value of family and friends. Through thick and thin, good times and bad, tears and laughter, family and friends will always be there. They are the first to congratulate you on your successes, the first to offer a shoulder to cry on, and the first to support you - even when it's a morning phone call to tell them when your court date is! Family and true friends are the only variables that will stick with you through the years. No matter where

you go or who you become, they will love you for who you are.

The past four years has also taught me the value of helping others. The world is a very big place, and believe it or not folks, we are all in this thing together. It's amazing how just a smile, wink, or a kind word can make all the difference to someone else. Imagine the world if everyone took 5 minutes to help someone else or to do a good deed. I guarantee there would be no more hunger, violence, or wars. In a world where the headlines are chock full of bombings, terrorism, and evil, seek out the good in the world and the good in other people. Strive to love yourself, others, and the world in which you live.

Ralph Waldo Emerson posed the question "What is success?" Success comes in many different forms and is measured in a variety of ways. As we graduate, think of success not in terms of bank accounts, cars, or stock portfolios, but rather in terms of the difference you have made in the world. Everyone has something unique and valuable to offer the world, but it is up to you to do what makes you happy.

In a world filled with uncertainty, the most certain thing is to simply be yourself. If you can't depend on yourself, then what are you left with? Socrates noted, "The unexamined life is not worth living." Take the time to remember who you are, where you came from, and where you are going. As we depart Bryant College, remember the laughter, the memories, and most importantly, how the Class of 2004 is going to change the world. God bless and good luck!





We entered Bryant not knowing what the next four years had in store for us. We came from different places with different backgrounds and friends. But we all had one thing in common; on May 22, 2004, you would be sitting in your cap and gown as a member of the Bryant College Class of 2004. Think back to four years ago, when most of you stepped onto this campus that would inevitably become your home. All I can remember is feeling like I was a “nobody” in a world of “somebodies.” Like most of you, I was worried about finding people who I could call friends, succeeding in my classes, and not finding my “comfort zone.”

It is hard to believe that in the past few years each of our lives have changed so much. We came here as “sons and daughters” and now we leave as young adults. Not only do we leave Bryant well educated in our field of study, but knowing more about ourselves than we ever thought possible. There is no one right answer to why this has happened to each of us, but there are a few that stick out in my mind. First – I want you to think about that one professor, staff member, or

administrator who has seen your special spark and has made you believe in yourself. Always remember the way they made you feel because one day I can guarantee you’re going to be that person someone is looking up to. Then think of your family - these are the people who have stood by you and supported you. Next, think of the people who sit next to you in their caps and gowns. The friends that you have gained are ones that you will cherish for the rest of your lives. You have lived, learned and grown with them. They have picked you up when you have fallen, but more than that, they have left an impact on you that will last a lifetime. Lastly, I want you to think of one other person. It’s the person who has challenged you, held you to such high standards in and out of the classroom. They know what truly drives you; this person is none other than your unique self. Many times at graduation you will hear graduates tell family, friends, and special people in their lives “They couldn’t have done it without them.” I have said and feel the same way but there are two words in that sentence that really stick out to me. They are the words “done” and “it.” Today is the recognition that each of you has “done it.” You’ve accomplished an amazing goal and you should be proud of the young adult you have become.

Today is a celebration of the journeys each of us will now take. We are now defined as a product of success but don’t forget that Bryant is part of that success. You and only you are in control of your future and I challenge you to be the happiest you can be as your future is in your hands.

In just a few short hours, we

will drive away from Bryant taking with us these past four years. But one thing is for certain, that feeling of being a “nobody” on our first day at Bryant is over, because to Bryant and the Class of 2004, you will always be a “somebody.” Billy Joel once said, “life is a series of hellos and goodbyes.” So fellow classmates, today we take a step to the future and say goodbye but promise to, from this day forward, say “hello” to the memories we have shared. Good luck, God bless, and congratulations to the Class of 2004.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank those people who have made a difference in my life. To my mother for always loving me and teaching the meaning of friendship. To my father who has taught me that there is good in all. To my family, for their love and encouragement. To Marisa – I could have never made it through it all without you; you are my rock and my best friend. To Dr. Eakin for being the best mentor one could ever have. To Judy, Bob, Chuck, Amanda, Emily, Michelle B., and Hank for their guidance, love, and support. To my senators who will always have a place in my heart. To Professor Samter who made me believe in myself. To Kara, Willis, Dano, Bridget and Johnson – your support and friendship has meant the world to me. To Mike T. – you’re not just an advisor, you’re a friend for life. To my second mother Karen – I will never forget all you have done for me. To L2 – The memories are too many, I am lucky to have each of you in my life, and I will always love you. Lastly to those people who have touched my life through organizations and friendship – You will always be remembered.



David Kwag

Hello Bryant! Hi, what's up, how you doing, what's going on, or just a move of the head and a smile. All of this happens on a daily basis. It's amazing to count how many people you acknowledge during the course of one day.

Some may be your closest friends; some of them could be people you've just met. However, it always feels like you see the same faces everyday.

In the beginning of my life here, I knew Bryant was the place. Jumping from a big school to a small school, Bryant was just right. From my orientation in the beginning, until graduation at the end, I have not regretted coming here one bit. Everyone has been good to me and there will be one day that I will

give back to what has been given to me.

Being involved in numerous activities outside of the classroom has really shaped who I am on this campus.

For that I am thankful to Bryant. I found out that without being involved on campus, my life here would not be the same. From ISO to the Bryant Jazz Ensemble, I have truly accomplished all that I could accomplish in a school.

"If one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams, and endeavors to live the life he has imagined, he will meet with success unexpected in common hours." – Henry David Thoreau

So, to all the friends I've made these years, from my class to underclassmen, international to

national, I have been treated well and I thank you all for that.

One of the things I have learned to enjoy on this campus is just spending time with friends. Whether it is in Smithfield, Rhode Island, France, New Orleans, or the Bahamas it is always been a great experience.

The friendships will last forever, and should never end. The memories that are made are memories that will be taken for a lifetime.

The reality is, we, Bryant students will never forget what we have done here. It will be with us, bad or good, happy or sad.

Now I would like to honor the support of my family in South Korea. Without the support and love from my family I would not have made it this far.

With all that they have taught me from baby to man, I have learned so much. I cannot illustrate how I would be now without all their support and knowledge. So, to my family, I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

So as we leave the school leaving our marks intact at this college or university, we go into a world where many challenges will arise; however, with what we have experienced, learned, and accomplished, we shall all overcome the obstacles that appear ahead of us.

Let us enjoy and cherish what we have learned and bring it to the world that awaits us. Keep smiling, stay positive, and just make sure that you're there. The "grandpa," "Kwaggie," "Jungjae," "Kwag," "Davidkwag," or just David Kwag is now moving on, wish me luck and I hope to still be there when you need me, Bryant College. Good-bye and good luck!





It feels like just yesterday my parents were settling me in to Hall 15 and today they will be helping me move out of Bryant for the last time. As a freshman I remember a number of seniors saying, “enjoy college while it lasts; before you know it, it’s *you* walking through the archway.” I never gave much thought to what they were saying until I found myself relaying this same message to the freshmen this year. College is certainly what you make of it; it’s an experience like no other. Unfortunately, like all good things, our time at college has come to an end, but it is evident today that we have all had a chance to shine and because of this the opportunities to succeed are endless, “The World is Our Oyster.”

From the moment I stepped foot on this campus I knew my life would never be the same. Although the past four years seemed to have flown by, the friendships I’ve made and the knowledge I have obtained will last a lifetime. It has been my absolute pleasure being able to live and learn with such a dynamic group of individuals. On a daily basis Bryant College and its community has challenged me in ways I

never thought possible. Through my interaction with college leadership, the instruction of my world class education, and the confidence I have gained to pursue my dreams, I believe I made the right choice by coming to Bryant.

“Life happens while you’re making other plans”

One minute I’m in PPS trying to format my Excel spreadsheet and the next I’m in MKT 410 presenting the last business proposal of my 17 year education. May 2004 seemed so far away but here we are 4 years, 120 credits, 20 research papers, over 1,000 Salmanson meals, 7 parking tickets, and 119 weekends later...at Graduation. I never thought this day would come; like many seniors I’ve had many mixed emotions about this occasion. With much uncertainty I’ve asked myself the following questions throughout the course of this year, “Do I want to attend grad school?”, “What should I pursue with my degree?”, “Should I move back home?”, “Is there life after college?”, and “Am I ready for the *real world*?”

Thankfully from the love and support of my family and friends I have answered a lot of these questions and am anxious to venture on to the next chapter of my life.

College has a unique way of bringing out your true potential. You endure experiences that defy who you are and what you are destined to be. We are all leaving this campus today more in tune to our inner self and long term aspirations than ever before. Of course, without our personal drive and determination this would not be the case, but it is important to also realize the people in our life that have helped us along the way. I know for myself without

the unconditional love and encouragement from my parents I would not be half the woman I am today. They are my confidants, my critics, my role models, and my best friends. The sacrifices they have made to give me a “better” life is unreal. I can never thank them enough, but I hope they know that I hold them in the highest esteem.

As for my family away from home, my sorority, I can’t thank you enough. You girls have all been there for me with open arms through some very uneasy times in my life. Thank you for giving me nothing but all your love, smiles, and a constant reminder that sisters don’t have to share the same family to be “sisters.” Sigma Sigma Sigma will always hold a special place in my heart.

To my other loyal friends and the amazing Student Senate, words cannot explain how grateful I am to have shared these past 4 years with you. You have helped me grow, laugh, and be me. I want nothing more than to always be a part of your life.

Time and time again I’ve heard people say “College is the best years of your life.” Okay, so far I would have to agree with this quote, but for most of us we are only 22 years old, there is so much more of life to live. I believe that this is only the beginning of the best years to come. We have all accomplished great feats to get to this day and nothing stands in our way. These past four years have been only stepping stones to bigger and better things to come. I’m very proud to be sharing this day with you (especially my freshman roommate “G”)!



Traveling the Path of Four Years

As we are about to make our first steps through the iron archway we have avoided for four years, we realize that the archway really is a gate into someplace we've never been before. To some, this might not seem too intimidating, but to others, it's a frightening experience. As graduating seniors, we hope that we all possess everything we need to go forth from Bryant and discover what is best for us. But the most startling thing we might discover is that we will never stop learning from the experiences that we will be faced with for the rest of our lives.

Most people remember parts of their lives so vividly, it's like it happened yesterday. I'm sure, for most of us, one of those memories is the day we moved in, back in September 2000. Both anticipation and anxiety overwhelmed the incoming class of 2004. For all of us beginning the college experience, we all were bound to have different experiences. Even though Bryant is a relatively small school, and sometimes you feel like you know everybody else, each graduate will tell a different college story when they look back. College has meant so many different things to each of us, but we have all gone through some extraordinary events, both internal and external to our college lives, that will always hold us together.

As freshmen, we all learned why some of the residence hall regulations are set as they are, even when we don't agree with them. Hall 14 residents had to learn the hard way why candles were not allowed in the residence halls. Over 250 students were housed in that building in early December, when a candle ignited a room on the fourth

floor and caused serious damage to the room and other items when the sprinklers went off. Although, thankfully, no one was seriously hurt, I'm sure everyone will remember that fire and how they felt when they found out about it. Even if you didn't know anyone involved, it was still a frightening situation.

Also that year, on a lighter note, was that huge snowstorm that caused classes to be cancelled for a few days, a rather rare occurrence at Bryant. The best part for me and so many people in hall 14 and 15 was the giant snowball fight that lasted all day. It is one of my fondest memories at Bryant. Everyone was just having a fun and enjoying the time off. We were all tackled and ambushed and covered in snow. Cars were packed in. It did not matter what else was going on in our lives, it was time to just go crazy.

At the same time as this snowstorm, the union asked for an increase in wages for the workers at Bryant College. This request quickly turned into a strike in which custodians, mechanics, groundskeepers, and food-service workers all participated. All of a sudden, unfamiliar workers were around campus, in the halls and dining halls. I know this made a lot of students uncomfortable, and as wide-eyed freshmen we didn't know what to make of the whole thing. The work got backed up and the school even hired students to shovel. The strike officially ended on March 13, after about two weeks. I think all students were relieved when it ended.

Sophomore year included a few minor changes that affected. South Dining Hall changed over from being a regular meal plan to a point system. The system to which

we picked classes changed from sitting down with an advisor when your number was called, to logging into Banner and in haste, inputting class numbers in order to chance the class you wanted. We were moved into the suite village, construction loomed in the future, and then tragedy hit Bryant, along with the rest of the country.

September 11, 2001. We will always remember where we were and what we were doing the moment we heard what had happened. This was probably the scariest time we experienced at Bryant, especially since so many of us were so far away from our families and friends. So many of us were not well informed, we did not know what was going on and the whole country was in chaos. Phone calls from families exploded the phone lines.

This was also a very sad time. I know Bryant lost members of its immediate and extended family. Many students lost loved ones and close friends. But no matter if you knew someone who was lost or not, 9/11 was something that we all experienced together and we will never forget.

For so many who showed pride for this country after the tragedy, we found another way to show pride and come together. Our sophomore year was the first of two super bowl championships that the New England Patriots won during our college lives. Now whether you are a Patriots fan or not, you could not miss the eruption that occurred that Sunday night. As in Bryant tradition, as the Pats defeated the Saint Louis Rams in Super Bowl XXXVI, students took to the pond to celebrate. Students were throwing them-

selves into the pond even though it was January. This excitement could not be matched and nothing could bring down the spirits of the fans that populate this campus. Not to mention that we were the home to the Pats while we are all on summer break. Those signs directing visitors to Bryant that read "Bryant College: Home of the New England Patriots Summer Camp" quickly changed to "Home to the Super Bowl XXXVI Champions, The New England Patriots Summer Camp." Since the Patriots have only been around since 1959, this was such an exciting victory for this young team, especially with that 48 yard field goal by Adam Vinatieri. Senior year was just as exciting when, in Super Bowl XXXVIII, the Patriots defeating the Panthers, brought home another victory. But sadly, with the newly constructed Gillette Stadium, we said goodbye to the Patriots.

The senior class can remember Bryant when, you might say, the campus was a little bare. Especially compared to what it looks like today. We remember when there was no pool on campus, the tiny gym, and the old library with the cubicles. For those who loved those cubicles more than the bright and open Douglas and Judith Krupp Library, remember too all those other parking spaces that use to exist, and when we used Koffler for everything. Now as we are about to leave Bryant, we know that even more changes are in store. Bryant has definitely had its share of upgrades since we have been here. The laptop system was nonexistent to us, there were hardly any flat screen computers, and we even remember the pre-Blackboard days. So much has changed in four years;

it's hard to imagine what this place might look like in twenty. And with the new radio and television station, Koffler will finally get its own facelift, but unfortunately we won't be here to see it. We also missed the Salmanson changes, since we were in townhouses at that point. But in reality, no matter how disgruntled we might have become with all the construction, changes, and echo in the new library, you have to admit, the campus looks good.

After 9/11, during junior year, America invaded Iraq. Whether or not we agree with this, we all had opinions and questions. Since today, at graduation, we still are not sure when any of this is going to end, and when all our soldiers will be home safe, we realize we are not unlike other generations who saw other wars being fought. Although this has never been considered a war, but rather identified as an operation, the repercussions of this decision have affected us all. Our alumni, family and friends have been in Iraq fighting during the past years, and the rest of us have watched from afar.

Another time when the phone lines at Bryant went ballistic, was in February 2003, when the news came out about the Station Fire in West Warwick. This disaster hit so close to home because it was just that, close to us. The news of this fire was all over the country. We watched the coverage on TV, and when seeing those people who survived we realized that could have been any one of us.

Over the course of our Junior and Senior year, many of us reached a pinnacle in our lives, never to be forgotten. We all hit that landmark birthday of 21.

As we wrap up our senior year, we realize that we have made lifelong friends, and that now everyone we thought would be there for us, still is. We have had our hearts broken and then mended. We have partied at 'Rentes, and cured our late night cravings at the Junction. We escaped printing charges and saw the Red Sox almost break the curse. No matter which side you are on, we all felt something when Aarron Boone hit that home run last semester. We came here as the infamous class of 2000 and will leave much wiser then we were. We played beruit and flip cup. Our volleyball, field hockey, baseball, ice hockey, bowling, and racquetball teams have all been very successful. We have studied all night. Presented, wrote papers and finished group projects 5 minutes before class. We have joined and influenced many organizations on campus, and met forged relationships with influential faculty members.

As we are leaving, we see even more changes as Bryant is pending change to university status. Everything we have experienced has been in different ways, but those of us who are graduating will never forget these and their own other personal experiences at Bryant College. We have left our mark all throughout campus. We will take classroom, group, club, social, and outside experiences with us wherever we go. We'll never forget Bryant College and what experiences being a Bulldog brought us.

Written by Campus News Editor and graduating senior Vanessa Wernik.



Aliana Soto



Who would have known when I walked onto the Bryant campus in 2000 that I would leave the person I am today. My main reason for choosing Bryant was the safety, close-knit environment, as well as the business focus. Little did I know there would be so much opportunity for me to grow and make a difference outside of academics.

I was fortunate to arrive at Bryant with one of the largest multicultural classes, so I did not know how it was “before.” I was a part of a major transition for Bryant in regards to diversity and did not realize it until my first weekend at my new home. I was a part of the Intercultural Center’s Transitions program, where I was allowed to move in early, before the majority of the population arrived on Saturday. Unbeknownst to me, this world I

and other multicultural students had come to know was not reality at Bryant. The reality struck when the majority of the students moved in and I immediately felt lost. I realized that I had to leave my mark and really show that I was not just going to become a student, but an advocate for change for the future of Bryant.

It took a while to explain to students that I was not an athlete, so I wasn’t here on an athletic scholarship, nor was I here on a “full-ride,” but simply a student paying tuition just like them. The “majority” population could not understand what a “city” female like

myself, would be doing at a New England business school. Yet again, this became another realization that I would not just be a student at Bryant but an advocate for change.

I knew I had to show these students that I was here to stay at Bryant and would not fall to the negative stereotypes or attitudes presented to me. I used the negative and turned it into fuel to feed my advocacy. I became immersed in the Bryant community in a variety of organizations, socializing, as well as, programming. I wanted to be an intricate part of the institution and would do so by becoming active in my new home.

Becoming active in the Bryant community is not difficult but for some it may be challenging. I overcame that, and would not let the unwelcoming feeling take over.

I became a source of information for students on this campus, which is what continued to make my stay at Bryant pleasurable. Knowing that I was helping others adjust to their new home away from home and knowing that I was the one to go to when issues needed to be addressed or a change was due to happen is a feeling of true importance. This feeling of importance is what pushed me to excel and advocate change at Bryant. I saw a need and stepped up to the responsibility. Opportunities such as these present themselves frequently at Bryant and it is our choice to notice, accept, and act on them. The ability to excel comes from within; one must feel the passion and have the fuel to advocate for change.

As I journey on to another part of my life, I hope students realize the opportunities that are available to them to excel in this small home of ours. Find your passion, your fuel, and advocate a difference. My passion was in diversity, but find yours from within and follow it. Having been given the opportunity to develop leadership qualities and to set positive goals for ourselves, our independence is unleashed as we come to trust on our merits and decision-making ability. With these qualities we have made our mark at Bryant. Let us continue to follow through with these into our next stage in life. As we approach the challenges of tomorrow, do not forget that although we cannot predict what the future holds for our lives, we are at least better prepared to choose our responses. Best of luck to the class of 2004, in our new journeys!! Thank you to my family for all of your guidance, support, and love.

May 22, 2004, a date we not only looked forward to, but a date that put so much apprehension into an entire graduating class. It seems like only yesterday that freshman year arrived and we were all moving into our new room and meeting our new friends for the first time. Looking back, it is amazing to see how much each of us has grown over such a short time.

Four years was all it took for so much change, not only on campus, but within each and every one of us, too. We are arriving on the final page in this chapter of our lives, and while apprehensive about moving on to the next chapter, looking forward to it at the same time.

Getting involved early on during my college career was one of the best decisions I ever made. I was able to meet so many different people and learn so much not only about them but about myself as well.

I was given so many opportunities to further my growth in leadership and I grasped as many as possible. From all of my experiences I am able to look back on my four years at college and say that I accomplished more than I ever thought I would. If given the chance to change anything I wouldn't, and that in itself is how we should all feel. Don't regret anything, instead look at what you have done and reflect on that as an accomplishment.

Life as we have known it for four years is about to end and we all have the potential to succeed in one way or another. One lesson I have learned is that you learn something new everyday. Don't pull away from that aspect of life and strive to learn something new, whether it is about someone else or even about yourself.

These pieces of information will help in growing as an individual.

Being able to do the things I have done and grow as a person while at Bryant College would not have been possible without all of the support, guidance and help I received along

the way. So many people have touched my life in one way or another, whether it be from being a co-chair of a committee, helping me out with something that I needed or being there as a friend.

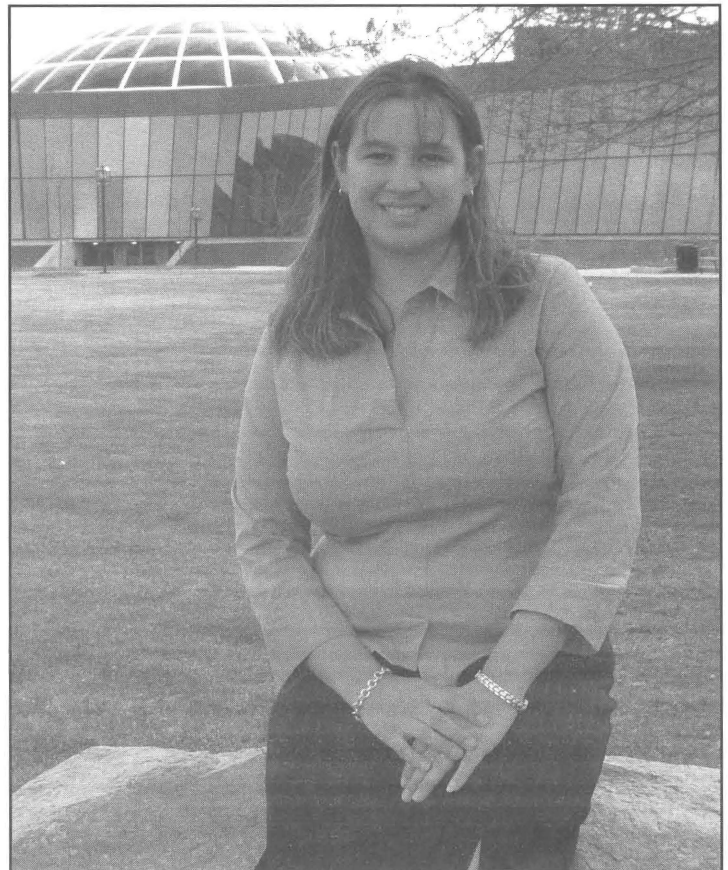
It would be impossible to thank you all, but know you have all meant the world to me.

My mother, father, and brothers were always there to listen and support me no matter what. They each helped me in making difficult decisions and were my shoulders to cry on when I needed it. I feel so fortunate to have such a caring and loving family.

Bryan, you are amazing. I could never have asked for someone more supportive of me in everything I do. You have encouraged me to do (and not do) whatever I should to make me happy. You stepped into my life at the perfect time and without you I would have been lost this year. I love you!

Megan, what can I say? You have known me longer than just

about anyone. I don't have to say a word and you know I need someone and you come running. You truly are what a best friend should be and will always be in my heart. You have been there for me in all the ups and downs of our college years and I



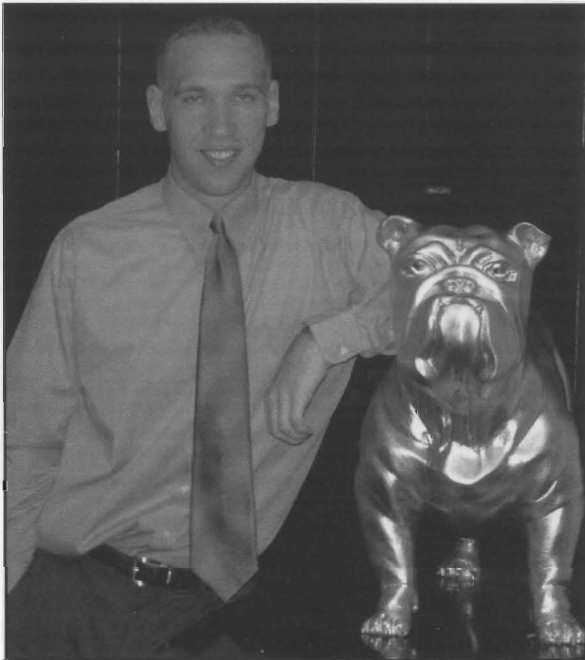
can't express in words what you mean to me. I know you will always be there for me and I will always be there for you. Thank you for everything. I love you!

While my college career has come to an end along with the rest of the Class of 2004, I look back and know I will always have the great memories, and that it is something no one will be able to take away. I wish the entire graduating class good luck in everything that you do. We made it!!!!



Nicholas Ward

It seems like yesterday that I was looking at colleges and weighing the pros and cons that all of my top choices had to offer. It's scary to think, but that was four to five years ago now. As the expression goes, "time flies when you're having fun." My experience at Bryant College has been nothing short of unbelievable. In



the past four years I have grown and matured so much as an individual and a man. I can say without a doubt that Bryant College has fully prepared me and helped to mold me into a future leader in the business world.

I can honestly say that as I prepare to graduate from Bryant, I have fulfilled every expectation that I could have possibly had of my college career. Being involved at Bryant gave me the opportunity to make a difference in the community and to make more friendships than I ever thought possible. The friendships I have made over the past four years are priceless and I hope they will last a lifetime.

If I could give just one suggestion to future Bryant students, it would definitely be get involved with as much as possible, and don't let these priceless opportunities pass you by. Without a doubt one of the best parts of getting involved on campus is getting to know so many great people. These people have been my guiding light over the past four years, and I am forever indebted to them.

To President and Mrs. Machtley, Betsy (my mom away from mom), Coach Laughlin, Father Joe, the Residence Life staff and anyone else I might have forgotten, I can't thank you enough for everything you've done for me. You guys have been great role models for me and have always supported me in my involvement at Bryant.

To all of my friends that have always been there to support me and share

laughter and good times with over the past four years...I want you to know that I will never forget you and I will always be there for you as you have been there for me. The wisdom, stories, and experiences that we've shared together are something that I will always cherish. It is those things that have made my stay at Bryant so enjoyable, and it is those things that I will always share with friends and family.

As I wrap this up I just want to take this time to thank the most important people in my life for giving me the chance to come to Bryant and for always being there for me. First off, Mom and Dad, I don't know where to start. Words can't

express how much I appreciate everything you've done for me. Throughout my life you guys have always been there for me to turn to and I know you will continue to be. You taught me to be a leader and to never give up; it is those things that have made me successful at Bryant and in my life. I appreciate everything you guys have done for me and I will never forget it.

Kevin, thanks for always being there to supply some laughter and support. Along with Mom and Dad, you've been at every one of my track and cross-country meets. When times have gotten tough, I've always known that I could look up to see you there cheering me on. By the way, I owe you a couple of throws.

Finally Katie, you have always been there for me. Always making sure I'm getting my work done and staying on top of things, but also making sure that I'm enjoying college and the experiences that go along with it. When times have gotten rough and I've been stressed I've always known that I could call you to make things better. College is now over and we made it!!!

To my family and Katie, I love you and I will never forget how much you've all helped me and been there for me over the past four years.

To the Class of 2004, I wish you all the best of luck. We have shared so many memories and friendships; don't ever let them fade away!!! I know I will always be proud to call myself a Bulldog and to don the black and gold, I hope you can all say the same.

Congratulations to all of you and I look forward to seeing you in the future. Take care of yourselves.



Recently someone asked me, "If you could go back and do it all again, would you?" And you know what my answer was? Absolutely, and I wouldn't change a damn thing! These last few weeks have been really tough for me. I just can't seem to accept the fact that it's over—that 16 years of schooling has finally come to an end, and I have to say good-bye to the place I've called home these past four years. Not to sound too cliché but it really does seem like yesterday that I packed up my life, and moved it into Hall 14. These truly have been the best four years of my life, and I would give my right arm to relive all the memories.

Now the question is, where do we go from here? Some of us will be headed for the corporate world, others to travel and exploration, but whatever the next step may be, I feel that Bryant has prepared me to step out into this big, bad world.

For me, college has been more than just homework, papers, and group projects, I believe that it has been my experiences outside the classroom that have taught me the most. Through leadership programs and student organizations, I have developed a sense of who I really am (an extremely, well organized extrovert, who occasionally likes to stay in and watch movies on a Friday night). I have to admit I may never know the difference between debits and credits, but I could teach you a thing or two about producing a full-scale male "Miss America" type-com-

petition.

Not everyone goes through college and gets involved as much as I did. At first, it seemed like too much to handle, but that is the beauty of it. With my busy schedule I enhanced my time management and organizational skills, and have been able to juggle classes, activities, meetings, and part-time jobs, without letting the ball drop.

I attribute much of my success to those who have supported me along the way. To the best family in the world, I love you all. Mom & Dad, words cannot express my thanks for this wonderful opportunity you gave to me, and for being by my side through thick and thin. Grandma, thank you for all the encouraging emails and for Clifford, who has been with me these past four years and who has brought me good marks, just like you said he would. Josh, for being the best little brother, good luck at Bing next year!

To all the faculty and administration, especially Hank, you have taught me more about leadership than one person can, and you have helped mold me into the leader I am today. Thanks for being such a great advisor, and thanks for being my friend.

Baby...you are one of my best friends. Lauren I can't thank you enough for all the late night walks and talks, and for always knowing the right thing to say. <Big Hug>

Scott, thanks for always listening. You always know the right things to say and make me think positive when all I really want to be is negative.

So many people have helped me along the way, but there was one in particular who taught me so much about myself and he may never know that I thank him for everything.

I took my first steps on campus alone and scared, and today I am graduating with the best friends a girl could have. Coming to Bryant was the best decision I've ever made and will probably ever make. I've made life-lasting friendships and memories that will forever live on in my mind. 4 South: Jenn, Becky, Lauren, Britta, Alison and Jillian, thanks for all the laughs. Hall 5: thanks for the best summer of my life (XOXO Jamie & Jen).

I am leaving this place knowing I had an impact on many lives, knowing I contributed to the Bryant community and knowing I gave it my all, and that's all this girl really needs! Congratulations Class of 2004. Thanks for the memories and good luck with all that you do. **We did it!!!**



Laura Wiederhold

Senior year has come and gone too quickly, too fast.

Sixteen seasons have passed since first arriving as a freshman. Sixteen seasons, eight semesters, and four years...wow!

It is coined as *The Bryant Experience*, and I have enjoyed my experience, and gained much from it. There have been fun times and tough times, exams aced and some failed, loves gained and loves lost, some peace, a little drama, and in the end I have much more than just a great education and irreplaceable friendships.

Existing. Initially I thought Bryant wasn't for me, and I am grateful to say I was proved otherwise. Freshman and sophomore year I went through the motions of being a college student. I attended classes and enjoyed 'extra curricular' activities. I was placed in Hall 16 freshman year, and stayed there throughout sophomore year with the same great ladies. Life here was all right, but nothing too special. I needed something more. I saw a lot of students involved with different organizations and activities. It amazed me that after two years I hadn't involved

myself past being a student and socialite.

Illumination. Junior year, the second half of my life at Bryant came with many changes. I was elected into the Student Senate legislative body. This major organization involved me with a diverse group of people and in many, many activities and events on campus. I became friends with several individuals from all class levels and connected with more than a few staff members and offices on campus. Bryant had grown with new buildings the same year as I grew into a more involved and responsible young adult. I gained knowledge from members of our community that far exceeded the walls of the classroom. Some of the greatest resources on are campus aren't books that cost hundreds of dollars each semester, but the people that allow this campus to breathe and to exist. The conversations with professors and staff members are the most striking moments of my career here. Junior year opened me to these untapped resources that pushed me straight into my final year.

Career oriented. Having a communication major at a business school, my career resources weren't as available as other concentrations. I made senior year my transition year to gain experience in a field that I wanted to enter post graduation. I joined *The Archway* as Campus News Editor, as well as interned at *NBC* during the summer and spring semesters. I needed experience added to my education to prepare me for the struggle they call *job searching*.

Too much stress and too little time is what senior year turned into. A blur, and period where every-

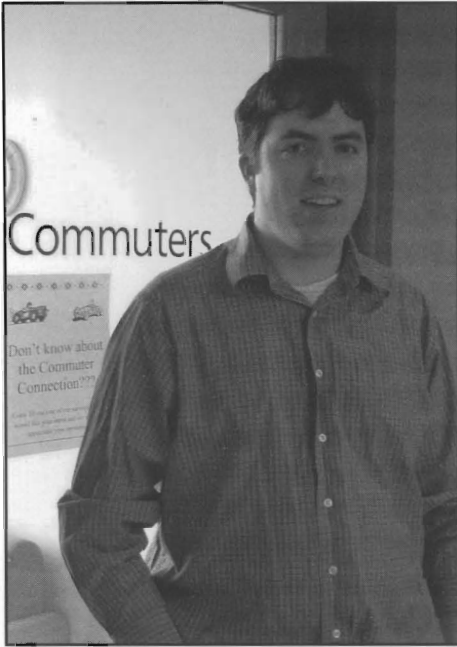
thing was "the last" and all I wanted to do was hold on to the past, to the youthfulness of early college years. I look back on the time spent on campus I'm filled with mixed emotions. There is nothing I fully regret, only a lot gained in four years time. I tried to squeeze as much learning and memories out of Bryant and all that has now tapered to the end.

Not only an education, but friendships and personal growth are what I walk away with today. Many people made my Bryant experience what it was. My special group of ladies, friends, and colleagues I will forever remember. In addition to all that, this school has given me one thing that is truly priceless. There is not a memory of this campus without the one thing Bryant gave me my first day freshmen year, my roommate Niki. I never could have imagined being randomly placed with a girl that would hold all qualities for an unbelievable friend and roommate. My time would not be complete without her.

Overall, I did not get just an education but also skills and personal qualities to guide me through business and life, great relationships with many people, and an engaging atmosphere to grow.

Bryant helped teach me that self-initiative is the key to my success. You can't be happy, successful, or helpful to anyone else until you truly understand yourself and make yourself happy first. By taking the chance and involving myself I began to understand and develop qualities that made me set goals and achieve greatly. Life is full of choices and it was up to me make the best of it and I have so far. Sixteen seasons, eight semesters, and four years, and I did it my way!





When I first came to Bryant College four years ago, I knew I wanted something more out of my education. As I am about to graduate, I could not be more satisfied about my decision to attend Bryant.

As a commuter it is usually hard to get involved on campus. However, that all changed when I found out that Bryant had an organization for commuters called the Commuter Connection. After learning new card games such as Hi-Lo Jack and participating in paintball my freshman year, I knew that getting involved at Bryant was right for me.

Student involvement is what makes Bryant special. Hank Parkinson put it best last year, "many students come to Bryant to get a degree, not an education." Thinking back, I couldn't imagine just coming to college to go to class.

It's also important to point out that Bryant doesn't help you get involved; it helps motivate you to get involved. For example, at Commencement last year Governor Carcieri spoke about never being

afraid to fail. With these words of encouragement, I purposed to the Commuter Connection to take on the task of the Commuter 500. With the Commuter 500 we set up a track where we got teams of four to race around on go-carts shaped like toilets. By writing letters to outside businesses, we were able to get several prizes donated, the most notable being an autographed "Trot Nixon" baseball.

If it was not for the huge support we got from the Student Senate, the faculty, and the students, we would not have been able to make the Commuter 500 such a great event and we wouldn't have been able to raise over \$600 dollars for *Relay for Life*. At Bryant, you just have to learn how to motivate yourself and others to achieve a common goal.

As I am about to pass through the archway and cross into another stage of my life, I can't go without thanking the many people that spent endless hours helping me achieve so much at Bryant.

First and foremost I want to thank my parents for their endless support. Without them there is no way I would be at Bryant right now. Next, I need to thank President Machtley for making Bryant the student based college it is today. A lot of respect goes out to my home away from home which is Student Activities. I want to thank Judy Kawamoto because without her endless ideas and energy student involvement would mean nothing. I also want to thank Karen Misiaszek, Mike Thorp, Hank Parkinson, and Rich Dankel for their help and endless encouragement on every event and project the Commuter Connection implemented. I also

want to add that without the encouragement of Rebecca Murray, the Commuter Connection would not have been the same. You were our sanity throughout the madness this past year.

While I am proud of the experience I have had getting involved at Bryant, I know that if I didn't pay attention to my studies, I wouldn't be here today. I want to thank Professor Michael Filipelli for the lessons in accounting and helping me get the job I've had for the past 2 fi years. I also have to thank Professors Charles Cullinan, David Beausejour, Tim Krumwiede, and Michael Lynch for making accounting very enlightening over the last four years. Thanks also have to go out to Professors Demetra Pappas, Julia Gladstone, and Gordon Mulligan for making me want to be a lawyer someday.

Lastly, I have to recognize the friends I've made over the last four years here at Bryant. This year would not have been possible if it wasn't for the amazing energy of Andrew Bagaglia, Amanda Boyle, Kevin Lima, Greg Gruenfielder, and Neil Young. I want to thank Rich Hurley, Kara Paganini, Que Phipps, Matt Willis, and especially Mike Bauer, one of our "resident-commuters."

If there are any hopes that I have for Bryant in the future, they are to reach for the sky. Stick with the excellent curriculum and, at the same time, emphasize student involvement. Help others learn to achieve their own dreams as you have helped me. I look forward with great enthusiasm to the challenges of graduate school and beyond. *Carpe diem!*



Senior Class Charge: Benjamin Waldron

"Leaves are forming all around, it's time I was on my way. Thanks to you I'm much obliged, for such a pleasant stay, but now it's time for me to go." These words, slightly modified from the original lyrics of Robert Plant, are a way of saying thanks for the memories here at Bryant College. It has changed us in many ways, and we have changed with it, and are here today to face one more change, entering into *responsible* adulthood.

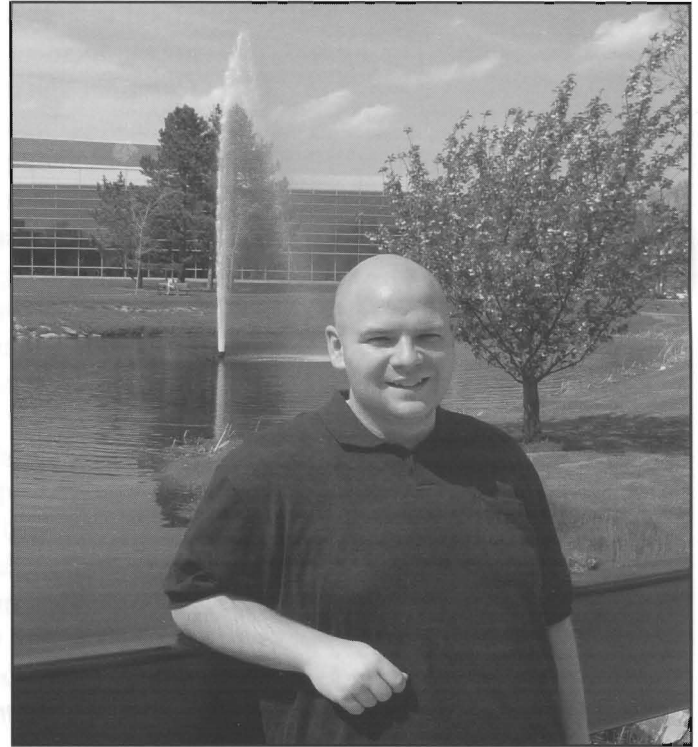
We entered Bryant College as freshmen and learned our way as college students by living on our own, a drastic switch from the comforts and rules of home. We made new friends, whether it was in the pit of Hall 14 or the penthouse of Hall 15. We then moved into the village, and had to learn to adapt to more freedoms, further entrenched in the Bryant student culture now that we were no longer freshmen. Two years later we moved to the townhouses and realized how close we were to leaving college - and that we must make the most of the time we had left. The year has flown by, and here we are today ready to embark on the future that once seemed so far away.

Being able to adapt to changes is a theme we heard in many classes throughout our educational experience here. We were changing into adults, but the college was changing with us before our eyes. We returned as sophomores to a new fitness center and a new library, one of the best in New England. We received accolades from the national press. US News and World report recognized Bryant as one of the top 25 colleges in our field, and Wired magazine listed us as one of the top five most wired

colleges. Now plans are in the works on a major change, giving Bryant University status. Bryant has truly changed with us, and adapting to these changes has helped us understand the ever-changing environment we now must live in.

We came here expecting a top-notch education and believe me, we got one. Our professors have been great leaders, consistently using references from personal work experience when examples in class were needed. Bryant professors have experiential knowledge, not just facts from the textbooks they've used over the years. We also received a great liberal arts education. Most people I know chose their professors in non-business courses because of their strong reputations as teachers. These classes brought us different perspectives that would cover topics to help us form beliefs and opinions about history, literature, art. We needed to learn past profit margins and return on equity, and we have.

My earlier quote from the Led Zeppelin song, "Ramble On", has many bearings on what we do from here. "Thanks to you I'm much obliged, for such a pleasant stay, but now it's time for me to go." We have thanks to give to many people, the people on stage with me, our professors, our families, and our friends, but now let's thank Bryant



College as a whole for the experiences it gave us to help get us here today. Part of our accepting the responsibility of adulthood is our participation in democracy. So, before we go I have one last request for everyone here today — would you all please stand up, even you folks here on the stage ... And would you all please raise your right hand.

We have taken from many people, and now it is time to give back ... This is an election year. Please repeat after me: "***I promise to vote this year.***" Thank you. You have now pledged to yourself that you will make a difference by exercising your right to vote.

Now we must leave the comforts of Bryant College - we don't know where we're headed, some towards large corporations, some towards the family business, some just home to figure it out. But whatever your path, never forget these years and this place.

Senior Class Gift

The Senior Class Gift Committee of 2004 is comprised of Elizabeth Servant (chair), Amanda Boyle, Lorinda Eggers, Richard Hurley, Kristen Lyons, Bridget Morse, and Sylvia Weinstock. Each member has spent the past year dedicated to re-structuring the Senior Gift Campaign to have a more meaningful and an educational focus; which has become hidden over the years.

We decided to make the Senior Class Gift of 2004 benefit the Junction/Cornerstone Project. This change will move the Junction Café to the site of the former Cornerstone building which will provide more programming space for clubs and organizations on campus as well as a new social gathering spot among students. Our goal for the campaign was to raise \$20,000 in gifts and pledges.

On February 20th we hosted the 1st Annual Senior Class Gift Kick-Off Celebration which was a formal reception held in the Bello Center with cocktails and appetizers. This event was free and the entire Senior Class was invited. It was a quite successful considering this was the first year an event like this was attempted; we had over 150 Seniors in attendance.

The Members of the Class Gift Committee were quite active during the months of March and April. We have a website where students could e-mail questions, obtain detailed information on our gift, view pictures from our Kick-Off Celebration, and also make an electronic pledge or gift. Throughout these months we visited each townhouse and made presentations to our peers informing them of the Gift Campaign this year. We contacted

Commuter students through a Phone-A-Thon in the Development office one evening. We hosted a Gift Campaign Finale Reception in the Rotunda on April 23rd. And finally, we also collected pledges and gifts and the Graduation Fair day on April 27th.

All students who made a contribution to the campaign received a gold Class Gift pin which they will wear in support of the Class of 2004 on their robe on Commencement Day; May 22nd.

I am pleased to announce that the committee has achieved our fundraising goal for this year and have secured \$20, 500 in gifts and pledges to facilitate the Junction/Cornerstone Project! I would like to thank all students, parents and friends who have made a donation. Your generous support is truly appreciated!

Senior Service Awards

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

Recipients were selected by the Student Senate Service Awards Committee, which was chaired by junior Froso Tsambazis.

Nominees were evaluated on various criteria, such as their dedication to campus life, their stature among their peers, their accomplishments of goals that enhanced student life through their Bryant years, and their eligibility as a degree candidate.

This year's awards winners are no exception from the norm. Each, in their own way, has made a significant impact on the Bryant College Community. Congratulations to each of the following individuals:

Andrea Barbosa
Truc Thi Lai
Andrew Higgins
Aliana Soto
Nicholas Ward
Sylvia Weinstock

Class Flag

Bryant College 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 2004 Class Flag was designed by seniors from the Student Alumni Association — Andrea Barbosa, Christina Gleeson, Jesus Gonzalez, and Rachel Harper. The class flag is carried today by Andrea Barbosa and Jesus Gonzalez.

"Remember the past ... welcome the future" symbolizes for the Class of 2004 that every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end.



From the Editor-In-Chief, Emeritus

"After climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb. I have taken a moment here to rest, to steal a view of the glorious vista that surrounds me, to look back on the distance I have come. But I can rest only for a moment, for with freedom comes responsibilities, and I dare not linger, for my long walk is not yet ended." -Nelson Mandela

Bryant has changed and grown considerably as an institution since I first remember walking onto its premises. In a similar way, as a business student and as an individual, I feel I have mirrored the school's growth. There have been times when I have felt confident and prepared with all the necessary qualifications to take on the real world just as Bryant has done in its bid to become a university. There have been other occasions in which I have met stumbling blocks and needed to step back to re-evaluate myself just as the school has also done when it has faced diversity issues on its premises.

My point is that growth is not a smooth process. The experience gained through the process is what counts. I have experienced growth at Bryant and just as Mandela said, I am taking a moment to rest to look back on how far I have come.

From the shy, conservative, international student who was not sure whether his English sounded good enough (despite coming from an English speaking country). To the culmination of my time here at Bryant as the Editor-In-Chief of *The Archway*, I am no longer unsure of who I am or what I am capable of.

Bryant has challenged me culturally and socially and allowed me to experiment to find out what makes me unique. It has been hard to adapt to calling adults on a first name basis and a definite challenge to change misconceptions on Africa and its people. In my efforts as a student both academically and socially, I hope I have challenged notions of an African or a black person which are dictated by the media, which I also serve.

As a student journalist, I realize that the opinions of journalists do not reflect the opinions of the experts. However, the credo 'there is no news like bad news,' forms the basis for every news event. My job as Editor-in-Chief ends here, but the responsibility of being a student journalist will always be a part of me. It is a struggle to remain ethical while reporting news and informing the public but not leading it towards an established opinion.

The process has been harrowing and in Charles Dickens words, "I have been bent and broken, but -I hope- into a better shape." As individuals, the Class of 2004 has each gone through the process albeit different paths and we each have been 'bent and broken' to become better business people and students. Now together, we have been unleashed on the world and where it would have been easy to break us individually, together, we are a powerful force to contend with.

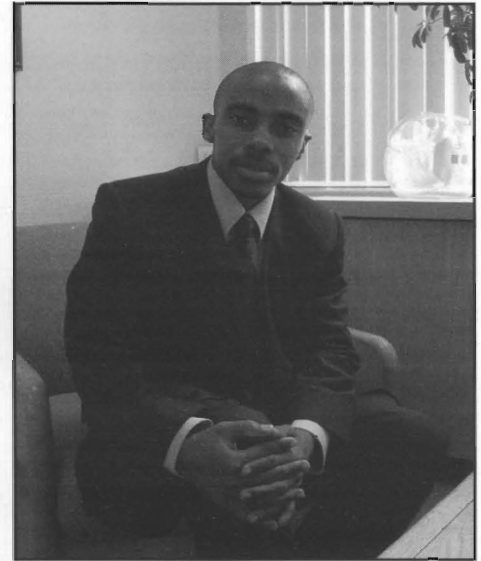
To the Class of 2004, I say, our potential knows no bounds because we know that we are still students of the world. Constantly learning and knowing that the growth process is all that counts, our paths will not be easy but attainable nevertheless. Our moment of rest is fleeting, for after Commencement, we have a long journey ahead of us.

To my family and friends, the process would have been considerably different without you and I am grateful for your support and encouragement.

To *The Archway* staff and ACE staff (my other families), I will try not to be too sappy. I will miss you considerably. You guys have given me a gift that I cannot repay. I will always remember that gift of friendship.

Sincerely,

Ebenezer Mills-Robertson, *The Archway* Editor-In-Chief, Emeritus



From the Dean of Students



May 22, 2004

Dear Graduates:

Today is a day you've been waiting for, a time for celebration and reflection. A time for celebrating the accomplishments which combine to make this day possible and to look ahead with optimism at the opportunities spread before you.

This journey has been about more than the accumulation of credits. You have been challenged in so many ways and your responses have produced a different person with new knowledge, enhanced skills and a maturing character. You are ready to enter new arenas where your personal and professional qualities will allow you to perform effectively.

You've earned the right to celebrate, but do not let this time pass without acknowledging those who have supported, taught and assisted you. Let them know how much their help has meant to you.

This day of celebration and saying thanks is also a time for reflection — it is not too soon to begin planning by reflecting on who you are, what you've done, and what you want to do with your life. We hope that plan will include a continuing relationship with this institution. So savor this time, but look ahead. In a real sense you must chart your course, you are the CEO of your future. The vision, skill and character you bring to the process will be critical to your destiny.

So Marj and I join in wishing you well and thank you for enriching our lives by being part of this great community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. T. Eakin". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light-colored background.

Dr. J. Thomas Eakin

Vice President for Student Affairs/Dean of Students

