

THOMAS AQUINAS COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 1997

College Granted Charter Membership in New Accrediting Agency

Thomas Aquinas College has received accreditation as a charter member of the newly formed American Academy for Liberal Education (AALE), a national association of colleges and universities dedicated to strengthening liberal arts education through accreditation.

The College is one of four colleges across the country to receive this recognition. "We are honored to have been selected as a charter member of the American Academy for Liberal Education and pleased to be a part of this important effort to sustain and improve liberal education," said College president Thomas E. Dillon. "The Academy's review process was thorough and very constructive. We look forward to a long association with them."

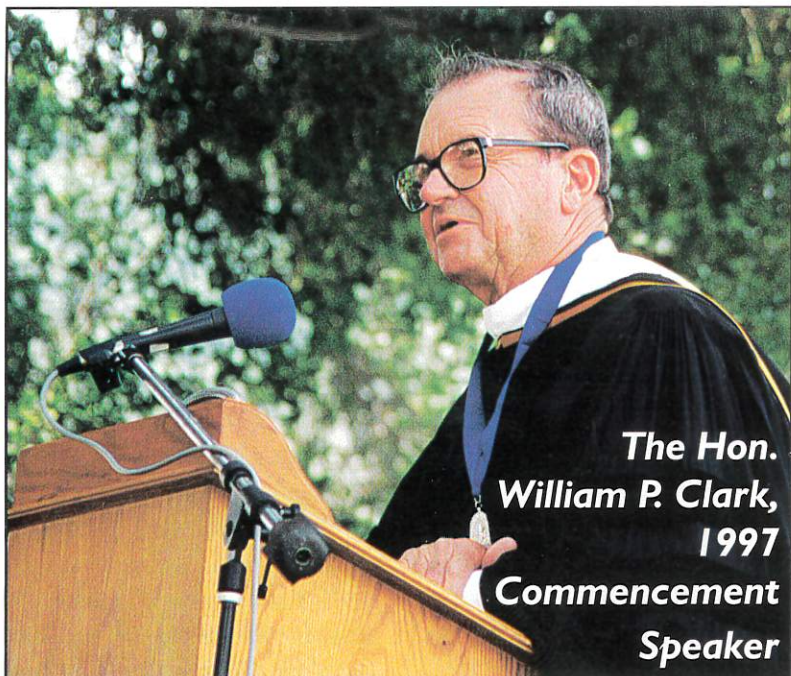
A blue ribbon panel of distinguished educators visited the College to evaluate our program and interview students, tutors and administrative staff: Christopher Nelson, President of St. John's College, Annapolis, team chairman; Ralph A. Rossum, Salvatori Professor of American Constitutionalism at Claremont McKenna College; Raymond L. Dennehy, Professor of Philosophy at the University of San Francisco; Joseph L. Pappin, Dean of the University of South Carolina at Lancaster and Jeffrey Wallin, President of the AALE.

"The Team wishes to commend the faculty of Thomas Aquinas College for their selfless dedication to the college and its mission, for their intellectual curiosity and love of learning, for their wish to know and for their willingness to work hard so that they might know, for their commitment to the life of the teacher, and for the inspiration and model they provide to their students (and to their colleagues elsewhere) of what it means to live the life of the mind."

"Few institutions in American higher education understand themselves so well, communicate that understanding to its various publics so effectively, decide every curricular question and student issue so self-consciously in light of that understanding, or manage to build a true sense of campus community based on that understanding so successfully."

*From the report of the
Visiting Evaluation Team of the
American Academy for Liberal Education*

Thomas Aquinas College's commitment to a strong liberal arts curriculum and its dedication to high standards of teaching combine to make it a natural member of the AALE. "Thomas Aquinas College has demonstrated a steady and exacting commitment to liberal education that will stand as a model and an encouragement to colleges and universities throughout the country," said AALE President, Jeffrey D. Wallin. For more on the standards of the AALE, please see Page 3.



**The Hon.
William P. Clark,
1997
Commencement
Speaker**

Our Graduates: Answering God's Call To be a Light to the World

Thomas Aquinas College? No way!" That was the response of Maggie Isaacson, Class of '86, to her parents' invitation to apply to Thomas Aquinas College for admission when she was eighteen. "It took a few years of discovering my own ignorance and the limitations of a university education to open my mind and heart to what Thomas Aquinas College had to offer," Maggie, now Sister Marcella of the Missionaries of Charity, reports.

Her parents already knew the value of the College's education, but as a teenager, Sister Marcella wanted to determine her own path rather than follow their advice. "I studied locally, then abroad, and finally at a Catholic university closer to home. Gradually, I began to perceive that I was missing something, something vital, but I couldn't put my finger on it."

"Then one night, when I was sharing my difficulties with my brother Jim, he began to tell me about his first year at Thomas Aquinas College and his words were full of enthusiasm and love for the education provided. As he spoke, it seemed to me as if I were hearing about the College for the first time. *That is, I finally saw the need*

in my life for what the College had to offer. I recognized that my mind was becoming 'fat' on 'rich fare' but it was starved of a balanced diet of truth, order, discipline and good example. I realized that I was like a ship floating without an anchor or compass and I understood that Thomas Aquinas College would provide my mind with this necessary equipment."

Jim recalls that his sister's decision "seemed to 'come out of the blue', it really caught me by surprise. I don't know who talked her into it. I think it was more God than anyone else."

Looking back, more than ten years after graduation, Sister Marcella reflects on what she expected and received at Thomas Aquinas College. The College provided her with far more than she expected, she says, "my faith was nourished not only by the magnificent readings which we were assigned, but also by the good example of peers and the daily nourishment of the sacraments. I began to see the world in a new light."

When reminiscing about her days as a student, Sister Marcella especially remembers Fr. McGovern and Fr. Steckler, who were "filled with contagious enthusiasm, kind words and thoughtful guidance. Their simple cottage was always open to anyone who needed their time, their advice or even just their encouraging words. I remember one day feeling that I was becoming hopelessly confused in philosophy class and so I asked Fr. McGovern if he would help me. He sat down with me in his serious way and guided me through the material, step by step, until it was perfectly clear. Then noticing that I still hadn't cheered up, he offered me a dish of ice-cream!

"His sudden death later that year was a great sorrow for all, but each one of us, I believe, was convinced that he would continue to assist us and all the students at Thomas Aquinas College—and even more effectively—from heaven."

There are two priests and two other sisters from the graduating class of 1986.



Sister Marcella with Mother Teresa, "The College provided my mind and heart with the 'fertile soil' which I needed to respond to God's call as a Missionary of Charity."

From The President's Desk

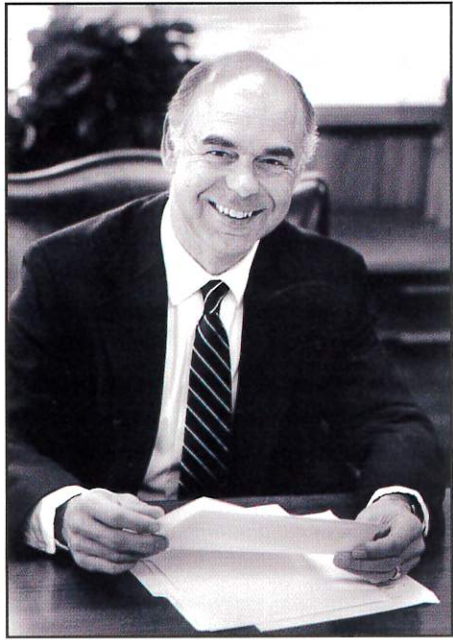


Photo Tim Teague

College President Thomas E. Dillon

Why We Are Here

This issue of our newsletter focuses on the College's reason for existing, namely, to give young men and women the kind of education which best prepares them for life here on earth and for eternity.

The question "How are we to live?" has occupied the greatest minds and encompasses all the great questions: "Where did we come from?" "What kind of being are we?" "How can we know what's true and what is not?" Education has to start with the realization that these are the important questions; unless there is an attempt to find an answer to these, education is pointless.

If a student asks these questions, and humbly and patiently seeks the answers, he finds a wisdom which guides him through the mazes of life to the kind of life worth living. If he is blessed with

the grace of faith, he finds the fullness of truth in God's revelation.

Thomas Aquinas College bases its entire educational program on the centrality of these fundamental questions, and on the authoritative answer which has been given to us in Jesus Christ, present to us through history in the Church which He has established. In the studies here, students encounter the fundamental questions definitively set forth by the greatest minds in history, and they see how those questions are best answered in the theological and philosophical tradition of the West, especially in the writings of our patron, St. Thomas Aquinas.

We have been blessed, both to be called to do this important work, and to be able to report to you about so many signs of success: a tremendous number of religious vocations, such as Sr. Marcella of the Missionaries of Charity; the success of our graduates in careers of leadership and service like those of Bill and Katie Short, Rex Møhun, F. J. and Germaine Milligan, and Mark and Nan Barrett; and the rich and beautiful harvest of children raised in the families of our alumni to be spiritually and intellectually responsible.

Without doubt, these wonderful results of Thomas Aquinas College show that God has blessed us; equally they show that you who have given so much, have not invested in vain, but are getting a wonderful return. Thank you for all you have done and will do in the years ahead to give young people this vital education. May God bless you for your goodness to us.

Your Prayers Requested for Two Great Men

Henry Salvatori who gave the initial donation toward the founding of Thomas Aquinas College, died on July 6, 1997 at the age of 96.

In August 1968, after reading the first draft of *A Proposal for the Fulfillment of Catholic Liberal Education*, he met with Dr. Ronald McArthur, the College's founding president, and Peter DeLuca in his Century City office and agreed to give the "seed money" for the project.

During the succeeding three decades, Henry Salvatori continued to be a generous donor to Thomas Aquinas College. He contributed almost \$2-million, including a generous bequest with which the College will establish a perpetual scholarship in his memory.

Henry Salvatori's generosity was not limited to this College. A true philanthropist, he donated millions of dollars to hospitals, schools and other charitable institutions, often with little or no public recognition.

Mr. Salvatori was born in Italy in 1901 and emigrated to the United States as a child. He worked his way through College, receiving a degree in geophysics. He pioneered the use of seismic methods of prospecting for oil. In 1933, he founded Western Geophysical which later merged with Litton Industries.

A man of great patriotism, Mr. Salvatori contributed to a variety of anticommunist and patriotic organizations throughout his life. He played a key

role in persuading Ronald Reagan to run for Governor and remained a key advisor.

He was delighted to live to see the fall of communism and his final years were filled with projects to teach school children the founding principles of the United States.

L. Brent Bozell passed away at the age of 71 on April 15, 1997.

In 1966, Mr. Bozell founded *Triumph*, the first of the "alternative" Catholic journals of thought and opinion to champion orthodoxy in the post-Vatican II era. An attorney, journalist and conservative political activist, Mr. Bozell was an early and important leader in the pro life movement.

On April 25, 1970, at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco, more than 450 people gathered to help launch the effort to found Thomas Aquinas College. L. Brent Bozell shared the podium with Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen. Mr. Bozell's remarks about the need for this College, and his prophetic vision of its importance in the future of the Catholic Church, galvanized us all. So important was that speech that the College later published it under a title drawn from Mr. Bozell's own description of the new venture, "A Bridge to the Future." Mr. Bozell always remained a friend of Thomas Aquinas College and last spoke on campus in the late 1980s.

Mr. Bozell leaves his wife Patricia, six sons, four daughters, 24 grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Ambassador Keyes Addresses Students



Alan Keyes

Ambassador Alan L. Keyes gave the 1997 President's Day Lecture at Thomas Aquinas College, speaking on the topic of

"The Declaration of Independence and the Spirit of American Law." In introducing Dr. Keyes, Dr. Dillon noted that his career in public service has been marked by a profound fidelity to American principle and to the intellectual tradition of the Christian West: "The deepest roots are in the Church, in Plato, in Aristotle and St. Thomas, in Lincoln, and in the kind of education that seeks first a formation of the mind in light of these timeless teachers. He is a kindred spirit with this college and with all liberally educated men."

In his lecture, Dr. Keyes argued that it is impossible to understand the meaning of the Constitution, or the meaning and intention of the founders in framing it, except in light of the principles of justice stated most clearly in the Declaration of Independence. The Constitution, he said, is an instrument whose purpose is the accomplishment of the kind of government that the principles of the Declaration require in light of the ultimate aim of justice.

Without this background, the Constitution is not even verbally intelligible, he said, asking what meaning we can give, merely from the document itself, to the phrase "republican form of government."

Dr. Keyes added that isolating the Constitution from the Declaration is not merely an impediment to understanding the literal meaning of the Constitution's words. If we take the Constitution as our first political principle, and refuse to ground that acceptance in any higher eternal principle, we in fact embrace the principle that might makes right. He denied that there is any difference between the idea that might makes right and the idea that there is no basis for law except positive legislation.

Dr. Keyes concluded that the Declaration leads us from a concern with justice and the fate of our republic, to a concern for truth and the heart of truth, the will of God.

Peter D. Lemmon (class of '85) served as Director of Development at the College from July 1995 through the Spring of 1997. During this period, Mr. Lemmon helped launch our special events campaign and make the 25th Anniversary Dinner one of the most successful such celebrations.

Our best wishes go to Peter and his family in the Sacramento area, where Peter has rejoined the law firm of Knox, Lemmon and Anapolsky.

On behalf of his newest client, California Secretary of State Bill Jones, Peter is defending Proposition 140 (term limits) in federal court. Our Board of Governor's member, William Bentley Ball and Justice William P. Clark, have associated with Peter and his firm on this case.

Ave Atque Vale

John W. Blewett Retires as V.P. - Michael Collins new Business Manager

John W. Blewett has retired after sixteen years as a vice president of the College. He came to Thomas Aquinas College in 1981 to assume the Vice Presidency for Business and Finance and in 1995 was appointed Vice President for Building and Construction. Mr. Blewett was in charge of coordinating the design and construction of five of the college's six permanent buildings, and they stand as an enduring legacy of



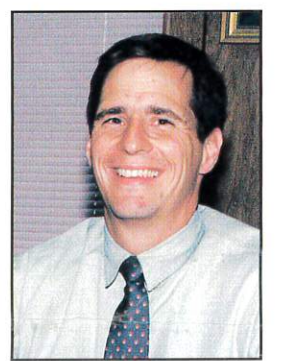
John Blewett receives memento from Dr. Dillon

his good work.

Less tangible than buildings, but of even greater value, was John Blewett's role in protecting the College against a local oil company which sought to permanently traverse the campus with their trucks. Mr. Blewett threw himself into that protracted dispute, carried out before the Ventura County Board of Supervisors and a resolution was made in favor of the College, thus assuring protection of the campus, and the College itself.

Mr. Blewett has been elected president of the Wisconsin-based Wanderer Forum Foundation, directing the work of conducting educational conferences throughout the country and of publishing documentation on current affairs and issues within the Catholic Church. John will continue to serve as a member of the Thomas Aquinas College Board of Governors.

Michael C. Collins has been appointed the new Business Manager of the College, replacing Mrs. Judith Bowles.



Michael Collins

Mr. Collins received a business degree from the University of Alberta, in Edmonton. He has spent the last eight years in the computer business, first as a software developer, then as a systems consultant.

Coming to Thomas Aquinas College fulfills a "long-standing dream to help run a Catholic College", Mr. Collins said. As far back as his high school days, he was aware of the importance of Catholic education as a means of changing people's lives.

Michael Collins' brother Sean is currently a tutor at the College.

Emigrating from Canada has been complicated and the red-tape has meant that Michael's wife Karen and their four children remained in Canada for three months. As summer ended, Mr. Collins was able to return to Canada and bring his family to their new home in southern California.

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Graduates Answering God's Call

Dr. & Mrs. Francis J. Milligan, III



The F. J. Milligan Family

Francis (aka "F.J." [Class of '85]), and Germaine (Durocher, class of '88) are now enjoying a relatively quiet life in the rural town of Bow, New Hampshire. As an Army doctor, F.J.'s assignments had taken him from one global hot spot to another: Somalia, the Persian Gulf, and Haiti where, "because of his outstanding motivation, skills and attitude" he was given the assignment of personal physician to President Aristide. During these assignments, F.J.'s free time was spent setting up health clinics for the poor and teaching natural family planning. Having already achieved exceptional honors during his medical studies, F.J. earned the commendation of his commanding officers for his ability to teach, raise morale, and improve the quality of patient care in the clinics where he was assigned.

Dr. Milligan's tour of duty as a medical officer was so outstanding that he was nominated for two prestigious military awards. One, the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award, is awarded annually to six individuals, from all services and branches of the military. No Medical Corps officer has ever won it, and F.J. counted it an honor just to be nominated.

The second was the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Award, awarded to one individual each year. In nominating F.J. for this award, his commanding officer said: "Major Milligan is an extremely insightful, thoughtful, and articulate individual. He has a unique ability to penetrate the smog and grasp the core of an issue. He then applies superb analytical and problem-solving skills to develop a solution. In summary, Major Milligan is the finest Medical Corps officer I have known in my thirteen years of service. He combines all the highest qualities of a physician, leader and educator."

On the home front, Germaine has been active home schooling a growing family. The Milligans are expecting their 7th child in November. They are enjoying a year with four seasons, "the best home schooling laws in the country", and, "most importantly," fulfilling F. J.'s "childlike craving to have 'Live Free or Die' on my license plate."

It is no surprise that the Milligans are having an impact in their new community. F. J. is gaining a reputation as a Family Practitioner who follows Catholic teaching. Catholic families are seeking him out, as are others who need his expertise. He recently testified before the New Hampshire State Legislature regarding legislation banning partial birth abortions.

F. J. writes, "At Thomas Aquinas College I developed an understanding of man by first examining human na-

Continued next column, see Milligan

Mr. & Mrs. William Short:
Aquinas Graduates at Law



The William Short Family

Two-attorney family, with a household of children, Bill and Katie (both Class of 1980) know what it means to be busy and productive. Both came to campus to celebrate the graduation of Bill's youngest sister, Nancy, in the Class of '97. Returning home to northern California means for Bill going back to his job as general counsel for an insurance company and for Katie teaching her growing family and continuing her mostly *pro bono* pro-life legal work.

Bill remarks, "It may sound trite, but it's true, that the Thomas Aquinas College experience results in having a sense of where you are going. One is constantly reminded, day in, day out, that no matter what, you have a better grasp of the nature of the task at hand, whether relating to family life, personal or professional life, or your salvation."

Bill admits that his law practice is more mundane than his wife's. He proudly recalls that it was Katie who, after graduation from Thomas Aquinas College in 1980, had the choice of many prestigious law schools, including Stanford, Harvard and Berkeley. Katie chose Boalt Hall at Berkeley, later passing the California Bar. After their marriage, Katie and Bill set up house at Notre Dame, where Bill was earning his law degree. Katie began her pro-life legal work with Americans United for Life in Chicago, and has used her legal expertise to help many pro-life causes. Her excellent legal briefs have been submitted to the U.S. Supreme Court numerous times, earning both praise and favorable rulings.

Katie helped found the Life Legal Defense Foundation, a California group which provides legal aid to those who need legal help in their efforts to help the unborn. Along with fellow alumnus and College Governor Andrew Zepeda, class of '79, she serves as a director and attorney for the group. LLDF currently has a mailing list of 10,000 names for their newsletter and other publications.

Milligan - continued

ture. This was prior to any detailed study of the human body that I acquired in medical school. The growth of my knowledge from that which is philosophical first allowed an ordered growth in the particular knowledge, the knowledge of parts of the body. As an added benefit, this knowledge of human nature has been a beacon guiding me through the many ethical pitfalls arising from the medical field. The study of the art of medicine without an understanding of human nature is much like building a house without blueprints."

Mr. & Mrs. Mark Barrett, Esq.:
Whitewater Prosecutor



The Mark Barrett Family with Special Prosecutor Kenneth Starr

This summer the Barrett Family, Mark ('79), Nanette (St. Arnault, '78) and four daughters, are together in Little Rock, Arkansas, where Mark has joined the team of Special Prosecutor Kenneth Starr working on the trials arising from the Whitewater investigation. Mark will be on leave from his regular position as assistant U. S. Attorney in Denver. After months of having Dad commuting between Denver and Little Rock, the family is excited about spending more time with him.

As a prosecutor of the U.S. Department of Justice, Mark has had many assignments including ones in Washington, D.C., Texas and Miami, and has already built a solid reputation prosecuting complex white-collar cases. He became expert in drug prosecutions and high tech crime detection. He handled one of the biggest investment fraud cases in Colorado history. Mark considered it an honor just to be interviewed for the job with the Special Prosecutor, and is very pleased to have been chosen for this new and challenging assignment.

Nan went on to Indiana University for a Masters in Education following her graduation from Thomas Aquinas College. She worked for five years on the Hill and was Director of Publications for a non-profit group called the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). Nannette has also authored the *Educational Source Book: The State Legislators Guide for Reform* which includes model bills which legislators can adapt for their particular state requirements. Nannette has managed a day-care center and, now that their youngest daughter is four and off to preschool, Nan is returning to teaching.

Mr. Rex Mohun:
California Highway Patrol



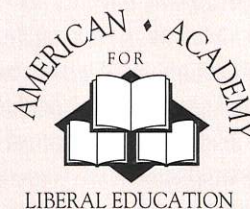
CHP Officer Rex Mohun

"I feel if you want to have good law enforcement, good courts, good government, then put good people in those positions, on the front lines," says California Highway Patrol Officer Rex Mohun, Class of '90. Rex is literally on the front lines, patrolling the highways of Ventura County. Rex sees his job as a logical one for a Thomas Aquinas graduate. He was always interested in law enforcement and had already served in the military prior to starting college. When, as a student, he philosophized about the role of government, he felt that looking out for the safety of its people made sense. Now, as a peace officer, he is involved with teaching, the promulgation and enforcement of the law, and promoting public safety.

Following his graduation, Rex and Serena (Grimm, member of the Class of '87) lived in New Hampshire, where Rex taught in a Legionaries of Christ school for boys. Now they and their six children live in Santa Paula where they enjoy the proximity of their extended family and friends. Serena's celebrated coloratura soprano once again graces musical events in St. Joseph Commons.

Rex remembers fondly the debates in the dorm during his college days. The tools acquired during class were put to good use in the evenings, discussing everything from great moral issues to rock 'n' roll, he recalls. It's helpful, too, in reasoning with motorists who don't see things his way!

Please tell potential students
about our Website...
thomasaquinas.edu



The American Academy of Liberal Education

(see story on page one)

The AALE is the first national accrediting agency to focus on the liberal arts. Its establishment will bring the proven benefits of peer evaluation and assessment to the mission of preserving and strengthening undergraduate academic quality. Its founding reflects growing concern that the society is losing sight of the fundamental purpose of college education.

The Academy has developed a set of demanding Education Standards on history, literature, mathematics, laboratory sciences, foreign languages, and other elements of the liberal arts curriculum; these are overseen by an independent Council of Scholars.

The AALE Standards, *inter alia*, encourage member colleges and programs to:

- recognize the importance and centrality of liberal education.
- support the importance of teaching;
- articulate the importance of liberal education for both the individual and society at large.
- Adopt curriculum requirements that insure an orderly progression from elementary to advanced levels of knowledge.
- Require students to demonstrate proficiency in English by frequent writing.
- Involve all faculty members in general and introductory teaching and academic counseling.
- Adopt class size appropriate to subject matter, level of instruction, and need for class discussion.

William P. Clark Addresses Record Graduating Class 23rd Commencement

Abbot Ladislav K. Parker Presides
Two St. Thomas Medallions Awarded

Bachelor of Arts degrees in Liberal Arts were conferred on a record fifty graduates at the 23rd commencement exercises on Saturday, June 7. The graduates of the class of 1997 came from 21 different states and three foreign countries.

The Baccalaureate Mass of the Holy Spirit preceded the Commencement exercises. More than 700 guests attended, enjoying the beauty of the setting under spreading oak trees. The College choir, led by Stephen Grimm, class of 1975, sang the Missa Brevia in G by Casali as well as polyphonic motets by Palestrina, William Byrd and Aichinger. The Gregorian propers of the Mass of the Holy Spirit were chanted by the College Schola Cantorum, under the leadership of College tutor and class of 1989 alumnus John Nieto.



"Pray for each other that you may grow in those things which matter most and which last and never fade away"
- Rev. Hugh C. Barbour

The Homily was given by Rev. Hugh C. Barbour, O. Praem., S.T.L., Ph.D., Prior of Saint Michael's Abbey in Orange County, California. The presiding prelate for the Mass and the Commencement was the Rt. Rev. Ladislav K. Parker, O. Praem., Abbot Emeritus of St. Michael's.

Fr. Barbour's homily focused on the acquisition of wisdom. He spoke of the wisdom of St. Thomas and how we might approach that wisdom. He told of the infant St. Thomas clinging to a little piece of paper with the words of the Angelic Salutation written on it. And he advised that wisdom comes to those who stay close to the Mother of God. She gave Thomas teachers, like St. Albert, and likewise, she will provide sources of wisdom for those who follow her guidance, said Fr. Barbour, as he urged the development of the habit of gratitude for all that God has given.

The Commencement ceremony began with a moving invocation by College Chaplain Fr. Bartholomew de la Torre, O.P. Graduating senior, Regina Aguinaldo of Glendale, Arizona then led the singing of the National Anthem. Another senior, Justin Alvarez of Grants Pass, Oregon led the Pledge of Allegiance.



"The Great Books lift us above our material existence and make us confront what is divine."
- Stanley F. Grove, Class of 1997

Among the class of 1997 who proceeded behind Senior Tutor Dr. Marcus Berquist as they marched from St. Joseph Commons was Stanley Francis Grove of Reedsport, Oregon, who then gave the Senior Address.

Mr. Grove reminded his classmates that the completion of their course of studies marks, even more significantly, a beginning. "We have just begun to understand the things we have read," he said, and "we have only made a start on reading all of the books that deserve our attention."

"So far from being intellectual or cultural chauvinists," said Mr. Grove, "we wish to indulge a prejudice only in favor of truth, wherever God shall have enabled man to discover it."

"Most importantly, we have only begun to benefit by what we have learned. To know the way things are, with respect to God and man and everything else, is not enough; we must live according to that knowledge."

Mr. Grove also spoke of the importance of humility, "no small challenge to those who have made headway in the acquisition of learning." For humility, he said, "acknowledges our true relation to God and the universe. It will be fostered by prayer, and also by remaining close to the things of nature."

Finally, Mr. Grove warned his friends of the dangers of complacency and expressed profound gratitude for the College and the blessings received and "for the inspiration we were given, to go forth and be instrumental, in some way, in the work of the Holy Spirit: to renew the face of the earth."

Stanley Grove will be enrolling in a doctoral program in philosophy at Catholic University, Washington, D.C. in the fall.

...
Giving the Commencement Address was longtime college friend and benefactor, the Hon. William P. Clark of Paso Robles, California. Mr. Clark's eighteen years of public service include time in the Reagan Administration as Secretary of the Interior, Advisor to the President for National Security Affairs and Deputy Secretary of State. Earlier, Mr. Clark had served as Justice of the



Senior Tutor Marcus Berquist, Eve Bouchey of Olathe, Kansas and Dean Glen Coughlin

California Supreme Court, Judge of the Superior Court and Chief of Staff to Governor Reagan.

Regarding his impressive resume, Judge Clark paraphrased the Senior Class quote from I Corinthians 13:2,



"Be not afraid to speak the Truth that you've learned here."
- William P. Clark

"Without charity, without love, my bio is nothing but straw."

Drawing from his many experiences in government, Mr. Clark chose six words of advice to share and colorfully illustrate:

"*Humility*," he said, "means admitting when you're wrong. And I can tell you, it ends a lot of debate!"

"*Patience* can be shown by saying something nice to somebody, even if they don't deserve it. Sometimes they become what you had hoped for!"

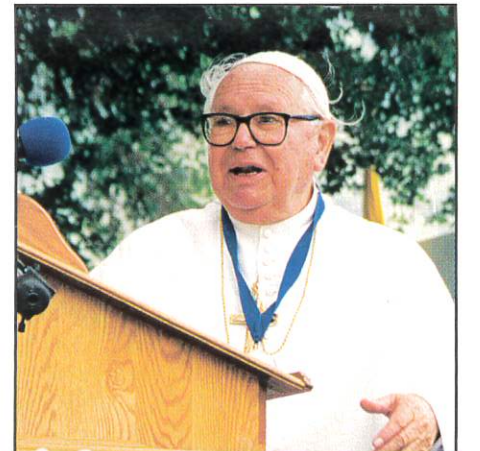
Courage is illustrated by St. Peter launching into deep waters, following Jesus' advice and filling his nets. From his own life, Judge Clark shared how a corporate law client of some ten years told him he was taking his business elsewhere because of the potential embarrassment of Mr. Clark's pro-life stance. "Don't be afraid," he told the graduates, to "stand up with courage when you know you are right."

Loyalty is important; not only to God, country and family, but to friends.

Mr. Clark shared an episode where his loyalty to his friend, President Ronald Reagan led him to fly all the way to Paris one night to confront French President Mitterand about the disparaging remarks he had been making about President Reagan. Delighting his listeners, Mr. Clark described in detail the encounter late at night in the Élysée and the way the conversation ended, with the French President telling him, "I wish I had someone on my staff like you!"

Communication: "My recommendation is to err on the side of disclosure and please, never forget, as Catholics, use humor."

Finally, Judge Clark spoke of the importance of *Prayer*. "You don't have to be a religious person. Prayer is just talking to God." But, he said, combine it with action, "become pro choice in that regard. Choose action, choose prayer and 'Be Not Afraid!'"



"Respicere finem - Look out always for your final destiny."
- Abbot Ladislav K. Parker

Hungarian-born Fr. Parker escaped Communist oppression in Hungary in 1955 and came to the U.S. He founded a novitiate and junior seminary which eventually became St. Michael's Abbey of the Norbertine Fathers in Silverado, California.

In his remarks to the graduates, Abbot Parker spoke of his own graduation in 1935. Then, in the Austrian-



The College Choir under the direction of Stephen Grimm

Graduates of The Class of 1997 and Titles of Senior Theses

Maria Regina Torres Aguinaldo, Glendale, Arizona - Via Virtutis: Guiding Children from Sensibility to Sense

Justin Michael Alvarez, Grants Pass, Oregon - "...Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect." Matthew 5:48

James Lee Atkinson, Tehachapi, California - Scientific Knowledge as a Means to Charity

Eve Marie Bouchey, Olathe, Kansas - Intellectual Custom and the Search for First Principles

Brooks Darby Braden, Red Bluff, California - The Search for Science

Esther Elizabeth Buis, Amherstburg, Ontario, Canada - The Wisdom of Men and the Power of God: On the Relation between Faith and Reason

Mary Jane Burnham, Farmington, New Mexico - One for All or All for One? Whether the Common Good of the City Should Be Loved More Than the Private Good of the Citizen

Jennifer Ann Cabaniss, Raleigh, North Carolina - "Behold...I have sought thee sorrowing": An Exposition of the Divine Sorrow

Katherine Mary Chavez, La Mirada, California - "Evil be thou my Good": The Fall of the Angels According to St. Augustine and John Milton

Sean Christopher Cosgrove, Merrick, New York - The Self-evidence of Euclid's Fifth Postulate

Maria Florence Dillon, Santa Paula, California - A Consideration of Shakespeare's *Othello* in Light of Aristotle's View of Tragedy in the *Poetics*

William McKinley Dunn, Tulsa, Oklahoma - How the Metaphor Serves Sacred Doctrine

Nika Erastov, New York, New York - "Coming for to Carry Me Home": Why Elijah is Taken Up to Heaven in a Fiery Chariot

Michelle Leeann Firmin, Collierville, Tennessee - A Miserable Madness: An Inquiry Into the Pleasant Effect and Moral Benefit of Tragic Poetry

Paige Francisca Fraide, Palm Springs, California - Sympathy for the Devil?

Stanley Francis Grove, Reedsport, Oregon - What's the Matter? An Inquiry into the Stuff of the Sciences, especially Mathematics

Ave Maria Grumbine, Whittier, California - Augustine vs. Aristotle on the Attainment of Happiness

Adam Lawrence Guy, El Segundo, California - "Gambling on God?" A Consideration of Pascal's Wager

Philip David Halpin, South Pasadena, California - Is the Parson Extreme? An Inquiry into the Necessity of Recreation

Marco Carlos Emerson-Hernández, Stanwood, Washington - Servants but Friends: An Exegesis of John 15:15

Benjamin Martin Anthony Johnson, Sidney, British Columbia, Canada - Whether Privation is Rightly Understood by St. Albert the Great to be an Inchoation of Form

Caroline Maria Theresa Johnson, Sidney, British Columbia, Canada - How the Understanding of John 6:54-57 Leads to the Conclusion that Christ's Actual Presence in the Eucharist is Necessary for Salvation

Sarah Elizabeth Kluge, Sheridan, Oregon - "...And Sarah Laughed...": Whether Risibility Will be Present and Functioning in the Blessed After the Final Resurrection

Rolfe Stephen Kratz, Springfield, Virginia - Ethical Relativity: A Refutation of Situation Ethics as Presented by Joseph Fletcher

Wendy Marie Marsh, Austin, Texas - Grace: A Change in the Soul? An Investigation into Justification by Faith Alone

Anna Mathie, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada - The Whole Truth: A Reconciliation of Poetry and Philosophy in Plato's *Symposium*

Peter Thomas More McCabe, Surrey, British Columbia, Canada - The Machiavellian Prince: An Analysis of Virtue as it is used in Niccolò Machiavelli's *The Prince*

Devin Matthew Columba McEnerney, Rutherfordton, North Carolina - The Fine Arts: The Necessity for the Good Life and the State's Responsibility Over These Arts

Brigit Mary McNally, Wonder Lake, Illinois - Hamlet's Almost Blunted Purpose - A Moral Analysis of Hamlet's Inaction

Kaleb John McNeeley, Bristol, Quebec, Canada - An Inquiry Into the Nature of the Disciple in Philosophy

Sara Marie Minkel, Prescott, Arizona - Whether Aristotle's Objections to the *Republic* made in the Second Book of the *Politics* are Fair

John Robert Mortensen, Boise, Idaho - Whether Multilocation is Impossible

Sean Michael Murray, Spring, Texas - The Unity of Time: Whether and By What Time is One

Rory Kieran Nugent, Casper, Wyoming - Whether Man Can be Predestined and Yet Have Free Will

James Lee Rea, Jr., Jefferson City, Missouri - On the Certainty of Religious Faith

Mary Elizabeth Robinson, San Jose, California - Sword and Spirit: An Investigation of the Proper Relationship Between State and Church

Auksuole Aurelia Rubavichute, Vilnius, Lithuania - Aristotle and the Stoics: Whether Natural Happiness of Man is an Activity or a State of Mind

Laura Mae Shields, Ojai, California - "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father": An Examination of the Expediency in Christ's Departure from His Apostles

Nancy Marie Short, Ridgefield, Connecticut - *Jucunditas consummata et felicitas perfecta*: An Explanation of the Resurrection in Congruity with the Beatific Vision

Sarah Elizabeth Sims, Ridgefield, Washington - "Beatus Vir Qui Time Dominum" - A Consideration of Fear as a Necessary Consequence of Perfect Love

Brigid Marie Sinnott, St. Joseph's, County Cork, Ireland - The Truth About Lies

Sara Anne Stevens, Lebec, California - A Search for the Just Wage Scale: Whether or not the Political Economy of Adam Smith is Capable of Creating a Just Wage Scale Naturally or if Christian Ethics are Necessary

William Edward Stock, Cincinnati, Ohio - Keep It Moving: A Consideration of Motion

Andrea Marie Stoltz, Duarte, California - Plutarch's Polemarchs vs. Greek Goodness: Whether Alexander and Alcibiades Were Virtuous According to Aristotle's Criteria in the *Ethics*

Scott Edward Strader, Monticello, Indiana - Abstraction and the Agent Intellect: An Inquiry into Their Legitimacy as Principles of Knowledge

Heidi Annette Strom, North Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada - An Inquiry into the Necessity of the Sacrament of Penance for Man's Salvation

Owen Michael Sweeney, Toms River, New Jersey - Rights: Enemy of the Common Good - An Inquiry into the Contemporary Misconception of Individual Rights

Monica Marie Tittmann, State College, Pennsylvania - The Rigor of Newton's Demonstration on the Cause of Our Solar System

Sean Cameron White, Hightstown, New Jersey - On Whether What is Good for One Man is Necessarily Good for Another

Ryan Morris Wolford, Rancho Cucamonga, California - Philosophy and the Poet's Eye: How Poetics is a Part of Logic



Regina Aguinaldo of Glendale, Arizona

Hungarian Empire of his youth, he and his classmates focused on their accomplishments, instead of looking forward to their future. "How wrong we were, that we looked only backward, and not forward in 1935." Looking forward, he said, might have meant a different course than the one which resulted in the bloody 1940s. More importantly, had the guiding stars which Fr. Barbour spoke of in the morning's homily been followed in those days, then perhaps some of the tragedy of the World War might have been avoided. He challenged the graduates to make decisions wisely, remembering that the consequences of those actions will shape their earthly and eternal destiny.

A crowd of over 1,000 students, family, and friends of the College participated in the Mass and commencement exercises. A splendid feast and music by the Ojai Brass Quintet added to the festive character of a perfect commencement day.

St. Thomas Medallions Recognize Outstanding Catholics

The Medallion was established by the Board of Governors of the College in 1975 as a means of specially recognizing those who have demonstrated extraordinary dedication to God and Church.

President Dillon noted "that we are presenting this year two Saint Thomas Aquinas Medallions to two outstanding Catholics who typify the two distinctive types of Christian witness in the church, namely, the religious, who, forsaking worldly things, turns his attention to the spiritual, and the layman, who applies all the truth of the gospel to family life, and work in the world."

"As founder and first abbot of St. Michael's Abbey," explained Dr. Dillon, "Fr. Parker has been a model of priestly and religious life."

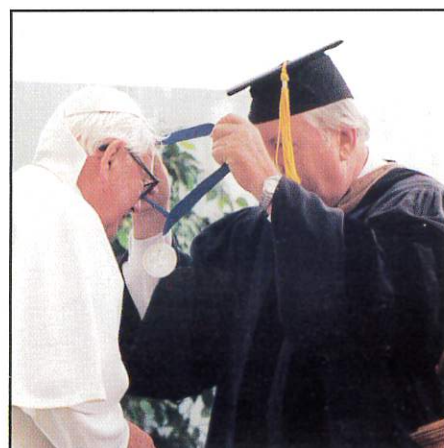
Dr. Dillon recalled that Abbot Parker, "spent many days traveling the southland with Dr. McArthur, helping him to find funds and support needed

to start Thomas Aquinas College."

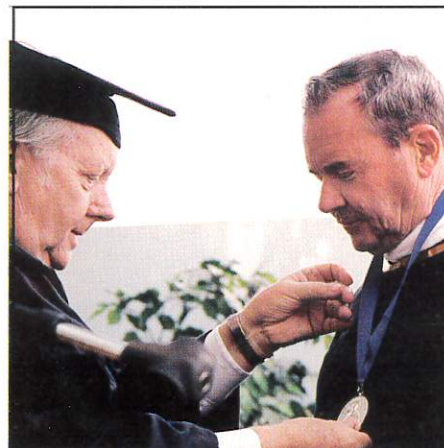
Abbot Parker accepted the honor by saying that he wished to do so with humility, acknowledging "that the recognition is due to a God-given talent, we call it Grace."

In bestowing the medallion on this year's commencement speaker, William P. Clark, Dr. Dillon said, "Perhaps most notable . . . is the courageous witness to the truths of the faith which he carried into so many branches of public service. Not by pious statements, but by quiet, patient, effective actions to protect the right to life, the right to religious and political freedoms and the sanctity of the family. We salute William Clark for demonstrating that virtue, conviction and fidelity can solve great problems of this world."

Mr. Frederick J. Ruopp of Los Angeles, past chairman of the Board of Governors, presented the Medallions on behalf of the College.



Frederick J. Ruopp presents St. Thomas Medallions to Abbot Parker and William Clark



The Medallion's figure of St. Thomas Aquinas is adapted from a painting by Botticelli, c. 1480. The medallion is crafted of pure silver and is inscribed, "In sapientia manet sicut sol" from Ecclesiasticus 27:12, "A holy man continueth in wisdom as the sun."

Mother Teresa of Calcutta was the recipient of the St. Thomas Medallion in 1982 when she visited the College to speak at Commencement. Other recipients include H. Lyman Stebbins, founder of Catholics United for Faith, Charles Rice, noted Catholic legal scholar and advocate for the unborn, Congressman Henry J. Hyde, now Chairman of the House Foreign Relations Committee, John Cardinal O'Connor, Archbishop of New York, in 1989, Sir Daniel J. Donohue, President of the Dan Murphy Foundation in 1993, Archbishop Renato R. Martino in 1995 and Dr. Ronald P. McArthur, founding president of Thomas Aquinas College, in 1996.

High School Great Books Program Makes Successful Debut

There was an overwhelming response to the inaugural offering of a Great Books Program for high school students this summer at the College. A session in July was added, so that twenty six more students could participate. Thirty-four attended the August seminar.

The program is open to students who have completed at least two years of high school. The sessions were led by College tutors Michael McLean, Paul O'Reilly, Kevin Kolbeck, Richard Ferrier, Andrew Seeley and Brian Kelly. The two-week course includes readings from Sophocles' *Antigone*, the *Crito* of Plato, the *Declaration of Independence*, the *Book of Genesis*, as well as selections by Shakespeare, Euclid, C.S. Lewis, Bertrand Russell and more.

The 60 participating students came from twenty-six different states, almost half from the midwest or east coast. The goal of providing a taste of a Great Books education in a supportive envi-

ronment was fulfilled as the participants reported enthusiastically:

"This has been the best two weeks of anyone's existence!"

"It's pretty neat how you go into a class with your own ideas and then by putting your ideas into words, your own thoughts are clarified and you find new insights."

"It's an incredible atmosphere—Catholic, respectful, private, no distractions, and a bunch of nice people. And the hikes are just beautiful."

"I thought we'd just sit there and the tutors would talk to us, but it was a jolly surprise to have open forum conversations in the classroom."

And this from a student who claimed no Christian faith: "Concerning agnosticism and theism, it's a new challenge to seriously consider both sides of the questions."

For those interested in the program, which will be offered again next summer, please call the Admissions Department at 805-525-4417.



High school students experienced Thomas Aquinas College this summer.

Fifty Friends Enjoy Summer Seminars

The goal of the Summer Seminar weekends at Thomas Aquinas College, is threefold: deepening friendships, setting aside time to think seriously about important questions that face us all, and drawing nearer to God, all while enjoying outstanding food and a beautiful setting.

From among the Great Books that form the unique curriculum of the College, President Thomas Dillon selected three special readings for discussion in small Socratic seminars. Discussions of the readings, this year Shakespeare's *Othello*, Plato's *Symposium*, and a question from St. Thomas' *Summa Theologica* on love, were led by the President, Dean and other faculty of the College.

Through the give and take of rational argument, the seminar participants probe the readings for the author's meaning. Their lively discussions are

carried on in a spirit intended to foster wisdom. Through them, participants discover renewed interest in the life of the mind.

Careful attention is also paid to good fellowship, beginning with dinner Friday evening and continuing through the Sunday brunch, held in the Doheny Hacienda.

Participants described the weekends this way:

"Meticulously planned, and the plan was expertly executed. Every event was an 'occasion' . . . whether it was a class, a social gathering, a Mass with its beautiful music, etc. It seemed that the schedule, operated tiempo espanol, was a part of the plan."

- Claire Smeed, Bakersfield

"This weekend invigorated my mind, rejuvenated my soul, focused my standards, and I drove away with a heart more content than when I drove in Friday afternoon." - John O'Hara, Cerritos, California

"The Seminar was wonderful and challenging. Give me more Thomas Aquinas . . . you have whetted my appetite." - Allen G. Browne, Las Vegas

"The spiritual, intellectual, and material gifts are so abundant. We are indeed blessed by God." - Florence A. Hnatko, Inglewood, California

"This weekend, as last year, is the best weekend of the year. Merci, Merci!" - Monique Back, Los Angeles

"We have been attending these sessions since 1992, they are the most wonderful experiences for us. The sessions are not



Left: Student Peter Bacik serves Dr. Harry G. Browne and Dr. Dillon.

Ranchers and Rotarians Visit Campus

The College campus was the site for gatherings of two local groups in recent weeks. About 120 members of an informal group of Ventura County ranchers and friends, came for a visit one Friday in June. Ten times a year, for some twenty years, this group has put on barbecues at sites around the county. "Some months the lunch is a 'stag' affair, but when we go to some place interesting, like Thomas Aquinas College, we invite the ladies, too," said Paul Leavens, a Ventura rancher and the unofficial leader. A grill next to the college soccer field soon sent the aroma of tri-tip and roast chicken over the picnic tables under the spreading oak trees.

After lunch, on a tour led by campus Special Events Coordinator Jacqueline Slay, the visitors learned about the College, which many had



Rotarians descend towards the Doheny Hacienda

driven by, but few had visited. Going through St. Bernardine Library, one citrus rancher's wife exclaimed, "We have lived in the county for years, but never realized what a beautiful campus you were building up here. This is a delightful spot!"

Earlier this spring, eighty members of the Santa Paula Rotary enjoyed a luncheon prepared by the campus food service in St. Joseph Commons. Welcomed by Vice President of Development Daniel Grimm, the Rotarians divided into two groups to tour the campus, visiting the Library and the Doheny

Hacienda, which serves as the residence of the College president. Local historians in the group especially enjoyed the look inside the hacienda, built in 1929 for the Doheny family by famous architect Wallace Neff.



Ventura Ranchers admire St. Bernardine Library



intimidating: we are encouraged to express our own opinion and thoughts and consequently gain in wisdom and confidence. I feel that I am a better thinker as a result; a better reader, too. Spiritually, it's most rewarding and we enjoy the beautiful exchanges with friends." - Betty Martin, Pasadena

"Friendships established on solid ground because of the spiritual and intellectual environment of this memorable weekend." - Robert Monahan, New Canaan, CT

For more Summer Seminar Information contact Mrs. Jacqueline Slay
805 • 525 • 4417



Campaign News

In the first half of 1997, donations numbered 2,466 and totaled over \$1.9 million. This brings our Comprehensive Campaign total to \$20 million toward the goal of \$25 million. (note graphs)

The Building Fund has once again been generously augmented with inspiring gifts from the Fritz B. Burns Foundation (for Blessed Junipero Serra Hall), the Virginia Piper Foundation (for the new Women's Dormitory) and the Weingart Foundation (for Albertus Magnus Science Building).

The Helen Brach Foundation has been steadfast in their support of the Financial Aid Campaign. Their annual support has helped build this portion of the campaign total to over \$9 million.

Pledges from the John M. Olin Foundation and the Lynde and Harry

Bradley Foundation have helped tremendously in planning and budgeting; while the donations of the Effie Quay Trust and the bequests of the Hanna Estate constitute effective planned giving whereby both the grantor, during their lifetime, and the College, as the ultimate beneficiary, have benefitted.

Long time friends of the College, Mr. and Mrs. James Barrett, Mr. and Mrs. John B. Friedrich, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kocher, Mr. Francis Montgomery, Mrs. Frisroe Mullins and the Fletcher Jones Foundation have generously directed their donations to be given to the Student Financial Aid Fund.

Thomas Aquinas College continues to grow, while maintaining its purpose, with the steadfast, generous help of friends such as these.

Already, more than \$500,000 has been received in the new fiscal year.

President's Council News

Dear Fellow President's Council Member:

As chairman of the President's Council for the last 18 years, it has been my special privilege and pleasure to join with you in its vital work. Our council has provided the necessary support for the College's operation. Through your help in spreading the word, we have swelled the ranks of our council to 371 members.

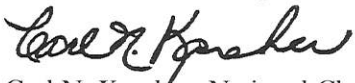
As we enter the last year of our \$25 million comprehensive campaign, we want to recognize the unique contribution of the members of the President's Council, and inspire others to join us. With this thought in mind, we have decided to confer on all members of the President's Council membership in our new Spiritual Alumni Association. As the new Association, the President's Council will continue its vital role in providing funds for student financial aid.

The Spiritual Alumni Association is no empty honor. Consider this:

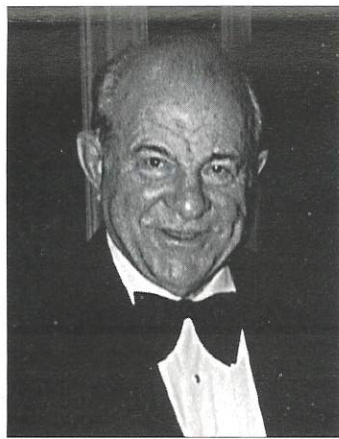
Spiritual Alumni are bonded in spirit to the students and graduates of Thomas Aquinas College. These alumni are going out into the world to be witnesses to Truth, Beauty, Goodness, and to be the yeast in the dough of our Church and society. We—the spiritual alumni—are truly with these graduates "in spirit." We have supported and helped nourish their formation so that we are in fact specially bonded to them. As Spiritual Alumni, we consider it a duty and a privilege to support Thomas Aquinas College. It is in truth our school—our Alma Mater.

The Spiritual Alumni are going to be the mainstay of financial support for Thomas Aquinas College. Through our College, we can really make a difference in getting our Church and society back on track. It's long overdue. I feel proud and privileged to be part of Thomas Aquinas College through the President's Council, and even prouder to be part of the Spiritual Alumni. I'm sure you do, too.

Your personal intentions, and those of each member of the Spiritual Alumni, will be remembered in a special Mass every month



Carl N. Karcher, National Chairman



Carl N. Karcher

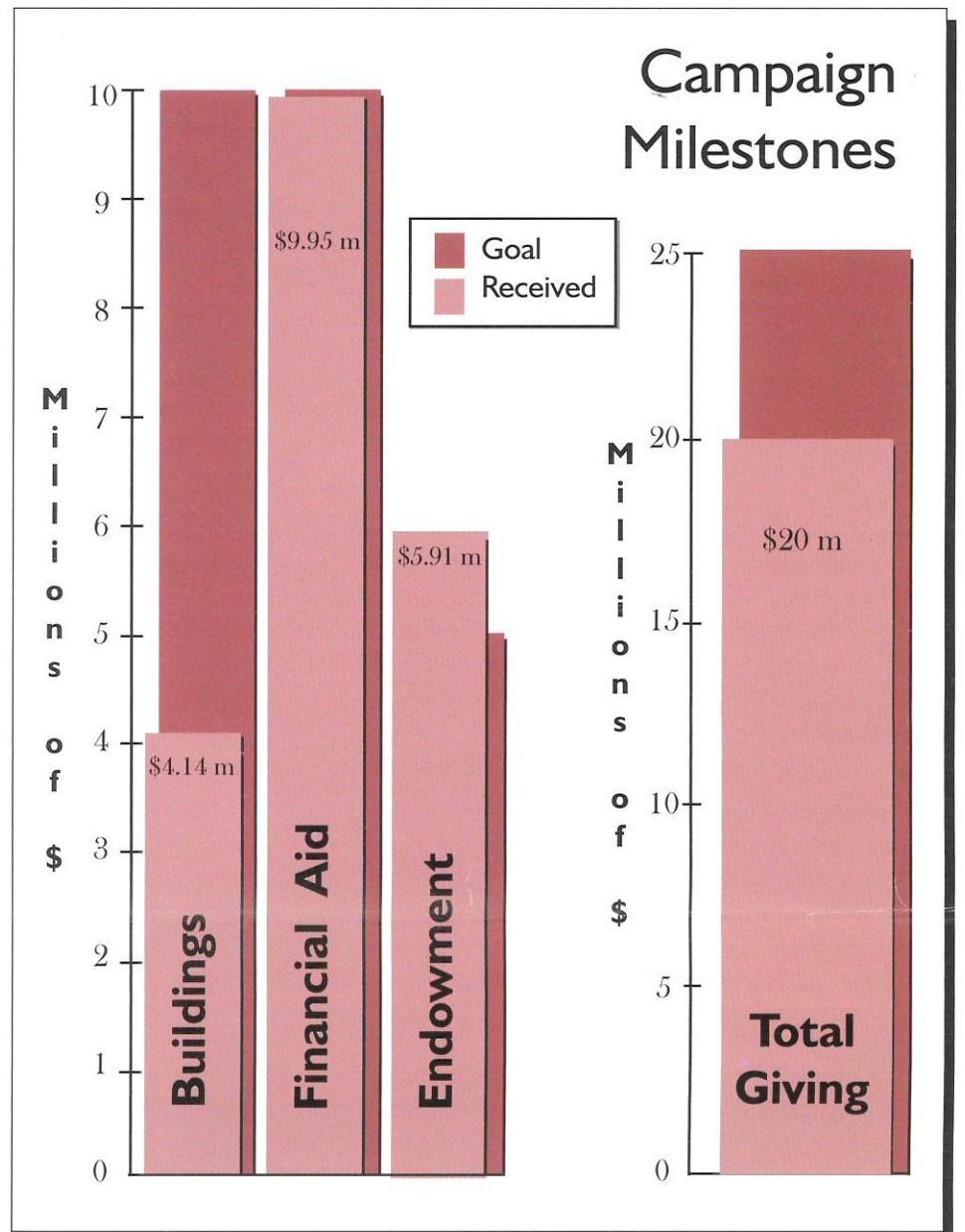
President Dillon to Serve Second Term College Governors Sharpen Campaign Focus for Final Year

The Meeting of the College Board of Governors in May was held at the College Campus in the Browne Board Room in St. Bernardine Library. It was preceded by a mini-retreat for the members. Meeting in several committee sections, the Governors focused on the special challenges of the final year of the campaign.

At the Board meeting itself, College President Thomas E. Dillon was unanimously elected to a second six-year term. Board members John P. Heffernan, Carl N. Karcher, J. Edward Martin, Edward N. Mills, Francis J. Montgomery, Felix S. McGinnis, Jr. and

Richard L. Noble were elected to new 3-year terms. Vice President for Development and General Counsel Daniel J. Grimm, Class of 1976, was elected to the Board.

Jim Barrett, president of Chateau Montelena Winery and chairman of the Scholarship and Admissions Committee, announced to the Board his plan for securing needed scholarship funds, the College's primary goal. The Board enthusiastically endorsed Mr. Barrett's proposal and members undertook the project of each introducing two new friends to the College by bringing them to the campus for a visit.



We gratefully acknowledge the following donors to the College, whose names should have appeared in the 95/96 Annual Report.

Life Members - President's Council

Mr. Paul F. Arnerich
Mr. Lawrence Barker, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Terrence R. Caster
The Marcellus L. Joslyn Foundation
The Koch Foundation, Inc.
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Krause

Members - President's Council

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Norfolk Southern Foundation
Reader's Digest Foundation, Inc.
Rockwell International Corporation
Shell Oil Company Foundation
Whirlpool Foundation

Recent changes in tax laws may have impacted your estate arrangements. Gift planning can save you income taxes and worries now, and provide for Thomas Aquinas College and your loved ones in the future. Call us if you would like to know more about these planning opportunities.

Daniel J. Grimm, General Counsel, 805-525-4417

Calendar of Events

October 10, 1997
Friday Night Concert:
The Grimm Family

To Be Announced

President's Council Awards Receptions
Los Angeles
New York
Orange County
San Francisco

October 17, 1997
Friday Night Lecture:
Rev. George W. Rutler, S.T.D.

October 18, 1997
Southern California Alumni Dinner
Ventura, California

December 5, 1997
Friday Night Lecture:
Mr. Scott Hahn

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In This Issue

New Accreditation	1	Commencement 1997	4, 5
Graduate News	1,3	Seminars	6
From the President	2	Campus Visitors	6
In Memoriam	2	Campaign Updates	7
On Campus News	2	President's Council News ...	7



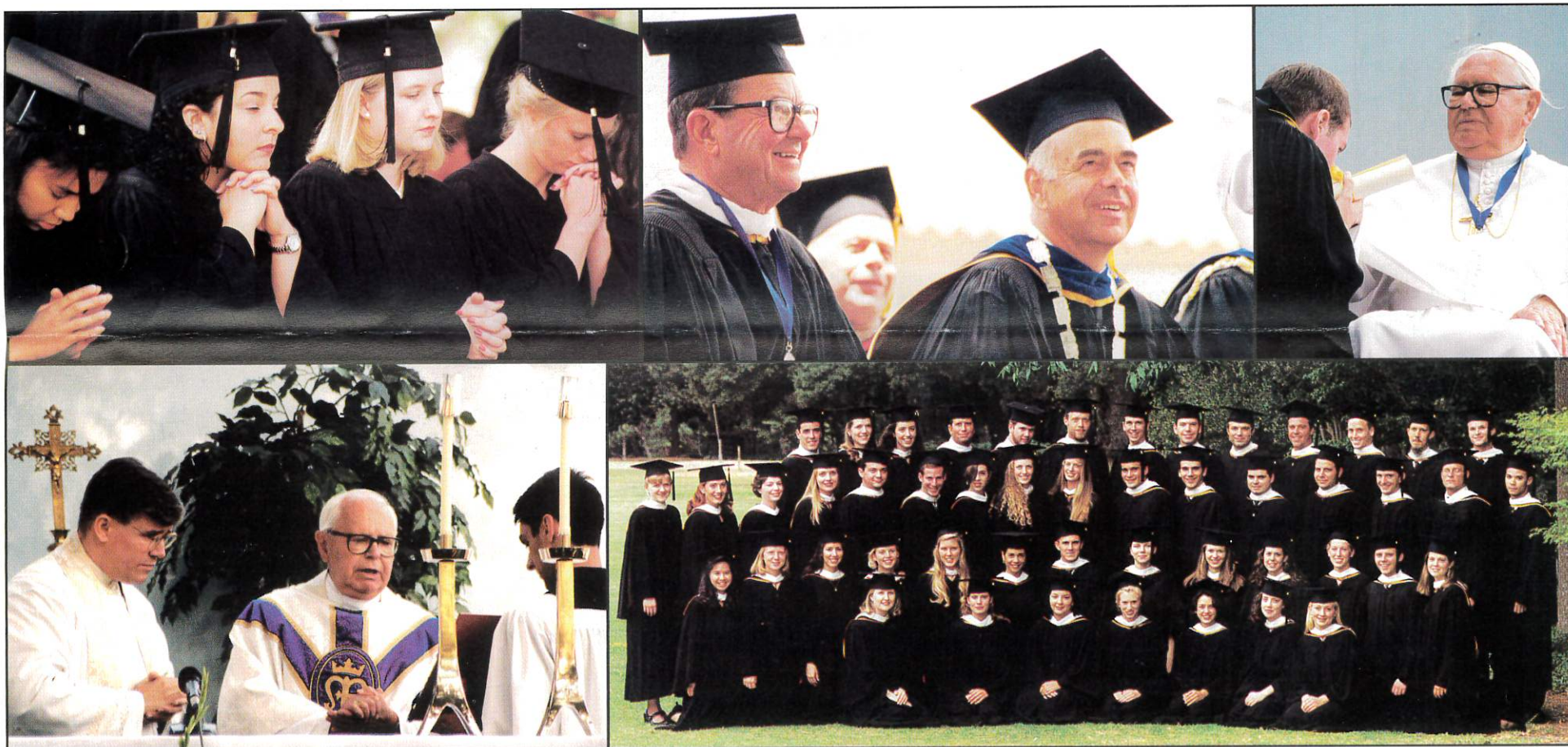
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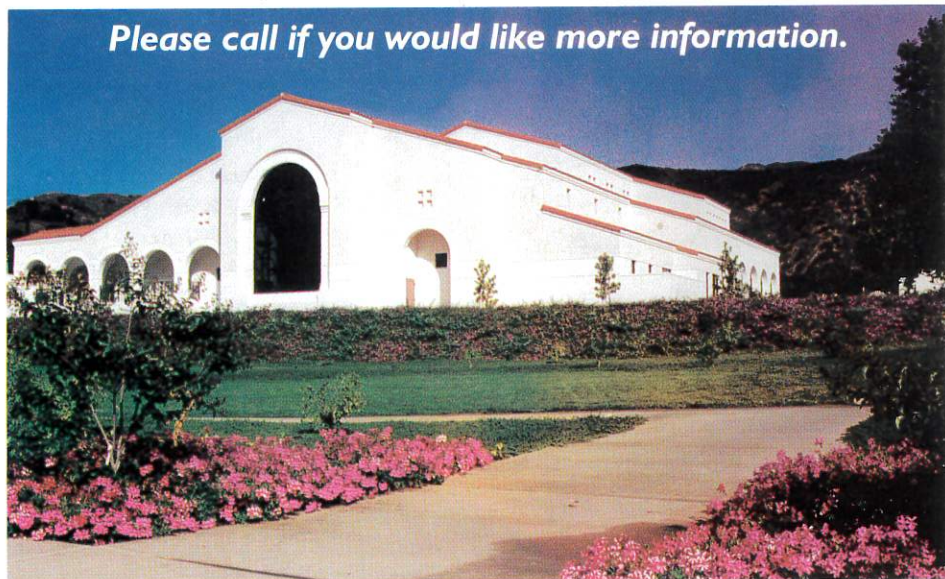


"Lovely as a Tree"

- Gift Trees will Beautify new Science Hall

The Campus has been transformed over the summer: acres of green lawn now surround St. Bernardine Library and Blessed Junipero Serra Hall, accented by colorful plantings, ground cover, box hedges and trees. But, we need more trees. If you love the beauty of trees, please consider giving one to enhance the campus for decades to come. To buy and plant the mature trees needed for the landscaping of Albertus Magnus Science Hall costs are from \$250 - \$450 each: Jacaranda, Ornamental Pear, Liquid Amber, California Sycamore and others.

Please call if you would like more information.



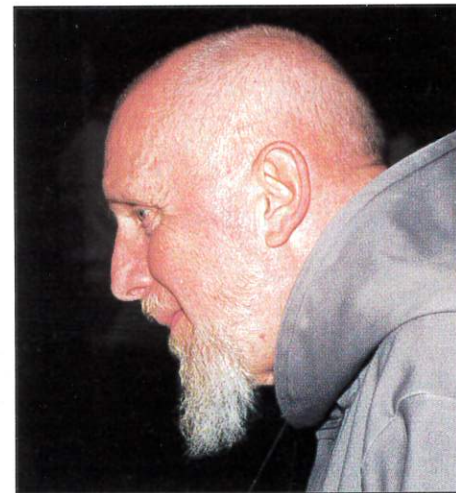
Fr. Benedict Groeschel Speaks at College

One of the nation's most sought after Catholic speakers, Fr. Benedict Groeschel, C.F.R., offered Mass, preached a sermon, and then gave a talk to assembled students, faculty, staff and others in St. Joseph Commons. Fr. Groeschel is Director for Spiritual Development in the Archdiocese of New York and founder of the Trinity Retreat center for prayer and study for clergy.

Speaking to 300 on "The History, Meaning and Future of Devotion", Fr. Groeschel traced the role of devotion in Catholic life, from a time when it was so important that liturgical participation was largely ignored, to the present, when the movement of liturgical revival has led to liturgical and devotional prayer being muddled.

In clarifying the differences between the two, Fr. Groeschel emphasized that devotional prayer is personal, spontaneous, individual, often silent. It

complements the liturgy, as preparation and as a follow-up to it, but it is not the same, he stated.



Fr. Benedict Groeschel

Fr. Groeschel reminded the students of the College to make devotion a part of their life. While lauding the College and its goals, he reminded his listeners that it can't all be done with one's mind. Devotion to Jesus Christ, he said, is the key to our survival.