



EMMANUEL NEWS

FEBRUARY 2007

Herlihy Opens Inaugural Wyant Lecture With Discussion on Russia

Dr. Patricia Herlihy presented her discussion entitled "The Incredible Shrinking Russia: Why We Care," at the inaugural lecture in the Wyant Lecture Series on January 25th. Dr. Herlihy addressed the consequences of the shortage of men on women and family in Russia and the effects the problems will have on the country's future to an audience of faculty, staff, alumni and friends in the Janet M. Daley Library Lecture Hall.



Dr. James Wyant, Emmanuel President Sister Janet Eisner, SND and Louise Doherty Wyant Professor Dr. Patricia Herlihy

Emmanuel College President Sister Janet Eisner, SND introduced Dr. Herlihy as the College's first Louise Doherty Wyant Professor and honored Dr. James Wyant, husband of the late Louise Doherty Wyant '63, with a glass bridge called "The Partnership," which she said symbolizes the Wyants' efforts to provide linkages between professors and students. The Wyants' son, Clair, was also in attendance for the inaugural lecture.

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Center for Mission and Spirituality to be Inaugurated at Founders' Day

The College's annual Founders' Day Celebration will be held at 12:15 p.m. today in the Emmanuel College Auditorium.

This year's event will mark the inauguration of the Center for Mission and Spirituality. Sister Camilla Burns, SND, Congregational Leader of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur will be the featured speaker at the event, discussing her topic, "The River of Life Runs Through It."

Sr. Camilla was elected Congregational Leader of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur in 2002. Based in Rome, she travels extensively to the 14 countries on five continents where the Sisters of Notre Dame minister.

Previously the Director of the Institute of Pastoral Studies at Loyola University in Chicago, Sr. Camilla earned a doctoral degree in scripture at the Graduate Theological Union, a master's degree in chemistry from the University of Notre Dame and an A.B. in physics and mathematics from Trinity College in Washington.

Founders' Day celebrates the founders of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, Saint Julie Billiart, and the founding mission of Emmanuel.



The Saints get together before a game earlier this season. Below, Brittany Bushman keeps her eyes on the basket as she sets up for a score.

READY TO ROLL

No. 14 Saints Set To Reclaim GNAC Title

The Emmanuel women's basketball team hasn't had many instances this season where it found itself sweating out a win. Yet that was the case when the women faced off against conference foe Norwich University on February 3rd.

Trailing by five points at half time, the No. 14 Saints were locked in a tight battle with their biggest Great Northeast Athletic Conference

threat, with the score remaining tied with under a minute left to play.

Heading into the game, Head Coach Andy Yosinoff and his team were expecting a heated clash with the Cadets, who defeated the Saints in the GNAC Championship last season, marking the first time in six seasons Emmanuel had not

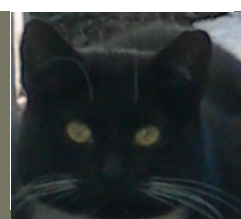
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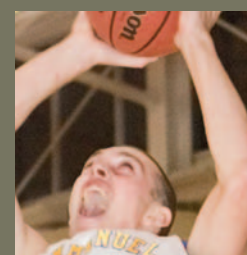


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CAMPUS NEWS

Staff News

Christopher Craig has come to Emmanuel as a Visiting Special Instructor of English. Expecting his Ph.D. in English Literature from Tufts University in May, Craig received a master's degree from Tufts and a bachelor's degree from the University of Massachusetts, Boston. Previously, Craig worked as a writing instructor at the School for the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, the University of Massachusetts, Boston, and Baypath College.

Mary Doorley joins Emmanuel as the new Assistant Vice President for Leadership and Planned Gifts. For the past 10 years, Doorley has managed Doorley and Associates, an independent fundraising consulting practice in Concord and Melrose. A graduate of the Catholic University of America, Doorley is currently pursuing a Master of Science in management from Regis College.

Colleen B. O'Coin is the new Associate Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations. Previously, O'Coin served as the assistant director of corporate, foundation and government grants at Suffolk University. She received a bachelor's degree in English from the College of the Holy Cross.

Ruth Perez joins the College as a new Student Financial Services Representative. Prior to coming to Emmanuel, Perez served as a clerk IV at Bunker Hill Community College. Currently she is pursuing a degree in information technology at Simmons College, having also studied English at Northeastern University.

Courtney J. Smith has joined Emmanuel as a Prospect Researcher. Previously, Smith worked as a Research Analyst at the Museum of Science. A 2005 graduate of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Smith holds a bachelor's degree in psychology with a minor in history.

Emmanuel Celebrates Black History Month



The College welcomed a stage play performance of "Our Young Black Men Are Dying and Nobody Seems to Care" in the Auditorium on February 7th. Right, the Archdiocese of Boston's Black Catholic Choir performs during Mass on February 11th. For a full list of events during Black History month, go to www.emmanuel.edu.

Emmanuel Staff and Faculty Get Ready to GETfit

Over 100 of the College's staff and faculty members registered to participate in the inaugural GETfit Emmanuel program, an 11-week, team-oriented fitness challenge that began January 29th and runs until April 11th.

Twenty-six teams, made up of groups of three to five people, are competing based on the average number of

minutes exercised each week, with the overall goal being to help Emmanuel become a healthier community through regular exercise.

Each week, teams will strive to reach the minimum exercise-minute threshold, which increases over the span of the challenge from 100 to 220 minutes of fitness-related activity. Teams

with an exercise average that meets the weekly threshold for at least nine of the 11 weeks will be eligible for awards, which will be determined by random drawings among eligible teams. Assistant Director of Athletics/Head Athletic Trainer Sue Scaffidi, who instituted the GETfit program, based the thresholds on what she

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First Overseas Mission Trip to Head to Ecuador

In May, nine Emmanuel College students will travel to Duran, Ecuador as part of the Sister Dorothy Stang, SND Mission Trip. The students will volunteer their services with Rostro de Cristo, a Catholic program that brings together the people of Ecuador and the United States in order to foster a shared Catholic community between the two cultures. The trip marks the first overseas mission trip sponsored by the College.

Founded by Father Jim Ronan of the Archdiocese of Boston, currently the pastor of St. Mary's Church in Charlestown, in 1988, Rostro de

Cristo allows volunteers the opportunity to fully immerse themselves in the culture and daily lives of the people of Duran during the 10-day retreat. Guests spend their time mingling with the people who inhabit the growing city as well as visiting and working at community programs.

"It's very formative for students to go on a trip like this because of the cross-cultural experience," said Co-Director of Campus Ministry Sister Peggy Cummins, SND, who originally started planning the trip three years ago. "It gives them a chance to experience firsthand the poverty in some countries."

The mission trip is named in honor of Sister Dorothy Stang, SND, who was murdered two years ago in Anapu, Para, a section of Brazil's Amazon rainforest. A Sister of Notre Dame de Namur, Sister Dorothy spent 40 years in Brazil helping poor farmers build independent futures for their families. Considered to be the most prominent activist to be murdered in the Amazon since Chico Mendez in 1988, she was well-known for her organized efforts to protect the rainforest and its people from disastrous and often illegal exploitation by logging firms and ranchers.



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Renovations to Historic Admin. Building Continued This Month

The second, more comprehensive phase in the renovation of the Administration Building began on February 12th. The project, which entails a complete exterior facelift of the College's landmark building, marks the largest reconstruction efforts in the structure's more than 90-year existence.

According to Vice President of Operations and Information Technology John J. Aversa, work will be done to complete the permanent repairs and restoration to the building's masonry and roof, with every brick and slate being refurbished. Many of the limestone capstones will also be recast.

The first phase of maintenance on the building's exterior was completed last fall. Work has once again commenced on the library side of the building and will progress around to the front, residence hall side and finish on the quad side. Completion of the project is estimated sometime in the fall.

Alternative Spring Break To Provide Aid in New Orleans, Phoenix

When senior Jesse Holm heard that this year's Alternative Spring Break program was offering a service trip to New Orleans, it didn't take long for her to jump on board.

After having a great experience as a member of the program's Phoenix, Arizona team last year, Holm was excited at the thought of not only volunteering her time to help others in need, but more importantly, to do so for a part of the country ravaged by Hurricane Katrina.

"I really felt a drive to contribute to New Orleans," she said. "I'm very excited to go to this new place that I've never seen before, but at the same time, I'm expecting to be overwhelmed by what I see. I'm sure the devastation is far greater than I could ever imagine until I see it up close."

After a number of students traveled to New Orleans last May with Sister Mary Johnson, SND as part of her *Catholic Social Teaching* course, to assist the Sisters of the Holy Family with relief work, Co-Director of Campus Ministry Sister Peggy Cummins, SND said there was resounding interest from many students to further aid the cause. Thanks in great part to the efforts of the Sisters, an African American Congregation of Pontifical Status that centers on educating youth and caring for the aged, the poor and the most abject of society, the College is able to send a group of 20 students, three staff members and one alumna to



Sister Peggy Cummins, SND and students during last year's Alternative Spring Break trip to Phoenix, Arizona.

provide service to the city this March.

"They realized they could host us and that they needed a lot of help," said Sister Peggy. "It's been a great partnership with them."

Volunteers will spend the week living and working with the Sisters – who operate two independent facilities for low-income senior citizens in the city – assisting them with their continued work for the victims of Hurricane Katrina as well as touring New Orleans.

Many students, including senior Alba Diaz and junior Mark Harrington,

who are both volunteering with the program for the first time, are thrilled with the opportunity to travel to the city and assist the Sisters of the Holy Family, who have already worked so hard to improve the adverse situation in New Orleans.

"The Sisters have done many wonderful and amazing things," said Diaz. "I cannot begin to understand the distress people in that city are feeling to this day. I know that there are areas that have not been touched yet since the hurricane hit. That's really intense to me. It's my belief that the type of service I will be doing in New Orleans

will be very different than anything I have ever done before."

"I believe that the Sisters of the Holy Family, this group from Emmanuel and myself can make changes in the lives of many there," said Harrington. "Even if it's a small change, to affect the lives of others always leaves you warm-hearted."

While Harrington, Diaz and their groupmates will be working hard down south, another group of Emmanuel volunteers will be providing service once again in Phoenix with the Society of St. Vincent De Paul, a Catholic lay organization, and the Andre House, a non-profit organization sponsored by the Priests and Brothers of Holy Cross from the University of Notre Dame. This spring marks the fifth anniversary of the College's relationship with the Arizona foundations, which allows students to assist the organizations staffs with a variety of daily tasks.

Sophomore Alison Hurney, also a first-timer with the Alternative Spring Break program and one of the 18 students traveling to Phoenix, thinks the trip will be a lasting experience.

"I was told Alternate Spring Break was an experience I had to take advantage of while I was at Emmanuel," she said. "I don't know what to expect honestly, but I'm really excited to be going. I think it will be an experience that will stay with me for the rest of my life."

Herlihy Opens Inaugural Wyant Lecture With Discussion on Russia

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During her introduction, Sister Janet reflected on her last visit to the Wyants at their Tucson, Arizona home in October 2004, just days before Louise passed away.

"Louise expressed so clearly her desire to give the first endowed professorship ever to her alma mater, Emmanuel College," she said. "[She] well recognized the connectedness of the liberal arts and sciences in humanities, history and the arts. It is with great affection that we say 'thank you.'"

Speaking on his family's behalf, Dr. James Wyant conveyed much of the same appreciation and adoration for the future success of the College as his late wife.

"She talked about Emmanuel a lot and always had great things to say about it," he said. "The past has been very good, but from all the things I've been hearing, I think the future will be even greater. We've been very thankful we've been able to help."

Friends and family members of Sister

Anne Cyril Delaney, SND, a 1930 Emmanuel graduate and longtime English professor at the College whom the endowed professorship honors, were also present for Dr. Herlihy's address. Sister Anne's niece, Ellen Harris Connell '69, spoke on behalf of her mother, Rita Delaney Harris, and her entire family, expressing their deep appreciation for the honor.

A renowned scholar in the field of Russian history, having published four books on the subject as well as having held appointments at Harvard University, Brandeis University, Wellesley College, the University of Wisconsin, Bryn Mawr College and Providence College, Dr. Herlihy focused her discussion upon the "grim and gloomy" truths behind the destitute conditions of Russian society.

Since the mid-1980s, Russia's plummeting birth rates – the lowest of all European countries – have coincided with a disheartening ascent in deaths, with the country's population having decreased by 10 million people since 1992.

According to Dr. Herlihy, current life

expectancy for Russian men stands at just 58 years of age compared to 72 for women, the greatest gap in longevity in the entire world, with males who reach the age of 16 standing just a 60% chance of surviving to the age of 60.

While cardiovascular disease remains the primary cause of deaths among men, external causes, which Dr. Herlihy described as completely preventable cases such as homicides, automobile accidents, drownings and alcohol abuse, have also induced high death totals. Alcoholism has especially been an issue, having noticeably increased among males since the collapse of the Soviet Union.

"In losing hope, Russian men turn to destructive lifestyles," said Dr. Herlihy. "And too often they lose their lives as well."

The shortage of men has had detrimental effects on their female counterparts in a number of ways, most notably though limiting the marriage market by providing women with fewer choices for suitable mates. A correlation between Russia's high

percentage of children born out of wedlock and elevated orphan population is believed to be linked to the problem as well.

Dr. Herlihy concluded her lecture with advice on how the country could improve its current state, mentioning the importance of strengthening healthcare in hopes of further extending the lives of men. She also commented on President Vladimir Putin's attempts to improve Russia's population crisis through the provision of cash bonuses to women who give birth to two or more children, noting, however, that very few statistics can be provided currently due to the proposal's recent institution.

"It's too early to tell how much these projects will stimulate births," she said.

The next lecture in the Wyant Series is scheduled for Tuesday, March 20th Sergei Khrushchev, a senior fellow at Brown University's Watson Institute for International Studies and son of former Soviet Prime Minister Nikita Khrushchev, will discuss the current political climate in Russia.



SPOTLIGHT

First-Year Programs: Easing New Students Transition Into College

The transition into college can often be a challenging one for first-year students. At Emmanuel, great efforts are made through various departments to ensure that transition is made as seamlessly as possible.

Over the years, members of the College's staff and faculty have worked tirelessly to further develop programs and events designed specifically to enhance new students' academic and social integration into higher education. Whether through advising, orientation, residence life or seminars, the common goal of each department – and the College as a whole – has been the promotion of student success through the assistance of these targeted initiatives.

While many colleges and universities offer programs to assist new students with the adjustment to college life, many limit their focus to the initial transition, solely offering programs such as orientation and educational experience seminars.

At Emmanuel, however, steps have already been made to allow the College to take the entire freshman experience to the next level, as many, such as Vice President of Student Affairs Patricia Rissmeyer, realize that the college transition doesn't "only occur during the first year," but instead, develops over the course of a student's entire educational experience.

Emmanuel's Academic Advising program, for example, has long emphasized this point, as staff members focus on assisting students with their educational direction until they officially declare their major during their sophomore year.

"The reason we do this is because we want students to have ample time to explore the breadth of the liberal arts and science curriculum, all the while focusing on their major and minor disciplines as well," Senior Associate Dean of Academic Advising Carolyn Caveny said.

Rather than allow new students to walk through their educational experiences alone, the program's mission is to "challenge, support and guide students as they become active participants in their own learning." New students establish relationships with one of the department's five academic advisors, who in turn, help students develop long-term educational plans. Once students decide on a major, faculty members within their discipline step in to advise for the remainder of their educational experience.

While some students enter college already knowing what major they'd like to pursue, Caveny and her team, who were recognized in October by the National Academic Advising Association



A sign welcomes incoming students into the dorms during Move-In Day this past fall.

as an outstanding institutional advising program, emphasize the exploration of "gateway" or introductory courses that could potentially open students' eyes towards a new direction.

"The best benefit of this approach is that they can explore areas they hadn't thought about just based on the way the general education courses are set up," said Caveny. "It broadens their whole educational experience and also provides a nice balance of being open to their needs and interests while at the same time allowing them to be good stewards with their time."

Another step taken in the mission to improve students learning and transitions was the addition of Catherine DesRoche to the Office of Student Activities. A 2005 Emmanuel alumna, DesRoche was recently hired to assume the role of Associate Director for First Year Programs, Leadership Development and Student Activities. While Mary Beth Thomas, now the Director of Student Center Services, once held a similar role at the College before the opening of the Jean Yawkey Center, a designated position specifically for first-year programs had not existed since her move across campus. According to Dr. Rissmeyer, DesRoche's presence marks, in a way, a return to this old model. More importantly, however, her position represents a concerted effort to improve first-year student persistence at Emmanuel.

DesRoche, who earned a Master of Education in administration of higher education from Suffolk University and worked closely with members of the Student Activities staff during her time as an Emmanuel student, is responsible for directing orientation programs for all new students. Returning to her alma mater this past January, just prior to the start of the spring semester, DesRoche's first few weeks on the job could be described as anything but serene.

"I came in right as the department was preparing for the orientation for new students, so it was a very busy time," she said. "But I really appreciated having a lot going on right away because

it allowed me to learn actively. I had helped out with [orientation] programs in the past, but it was different this time being the professional involved."

With the fervor of orientation having now died down, DesRoche has turned her attention towards aiding the development of a more comprehensive set of programs for the first-year experience, in hopes of creating a greater collaboration between different departments.

Her initiatives will undoubtedly connected her with the first-year student residence halls, which were also a new concept to the Emmanuel community this past fall. Instead of separating new students throughout the five on-campus dormitories, as was the case in years passed, this year all new students were placed together in either St. Ann Hall or Loretto Hall.

"We really wanted to attempt to build a close-knit community among first-year students," said Dr. Rissmeyer. "For a lot of reasons it just made sense to devote two residence halls to them."

"There are teaching moments in the first year that are very different than the rest of the years," she added. "We brought in resident advisors (RAs) who had specific interests and expertise with first-year student transition and program development. To have all the students together allows them to develop programs in the residence halls that really meet these students needs."

Some of the targeted programming has included the addition of a newsletter in the first-year dorms to spread information, news of events and activities, building-wide programming to allow new students to meet those living on different floors, and even a "Carrying Conversations" initiative held mid-semester last fall, in which RAs talked with each of their residents on an individual basis to find out how their experiences had been so far.

In addition, Residence Life is also working to establish a program that connects faculty members with new

students. While the concept was only recently presented to faculty members, the concept involves Emmanuel professors taking a more active role with new students as "faculty partners," teaming up with RAs to create a variety of different programming ventures. Director of Residence Life Alicia Van Neil thinks the proposal could do much with helping students feel even more at ease at Emmanuel.

"Our goal with this program is to bring together the out-of-class experience with the in-class experience," said Van Neil. "It would really help students to see faculty in another light."

Another recent change within the College's new student initiatives is the First Year Seminar (FYS) program. The program, which comprises one-semester topical seminars unified under the theme, "knowledge, values, and social change," is designed to introduce first-year students to the ways in which the liberal arts construct knowledge. FYS replaced the Cityscapes course last year and provides new students the opportunity to enhance their analytical abilities and engage in research in a greater variety of topics via more intimate settings.

"First Year Seminar involves smaller classes in which professors give students more options," said Dr. Rissmeyer. "With Cityscapes, it was just one program for everyone, so there really wasn't a choice. The focus of FYS again, is on academic success, so the whole theme of first-year success is consistent across the board."

And with plans of creating an even greater collaboration between many of the College's programs and departments, students' first year experiences could reap even greater success than ever before.

"If you have a good first-year experience, you have a good foundation," Dr. Rissmeyer said. "If students are able to establish good habits early in the experience they can build on that. In turn, they will be able to take full advantage of their college experience."

Long Path To College Education Unforgettable For Daniel Rizzo

"The road of life can only reveal itself as it is traveled; each turn in the road reveals a surprise. Man's future is hidden." – Anonymous

Daniel Rizzo's route to a college education can't be described as direct. His path to becoming a successful business owner, loving family man and political aspirant, far from considered undeviating. Yet through his turmoils arose major life decisions, some made as a young man struggling to find his place in the world, that ultimately, whether by foot, by car, by plane, or ship, carried him through the doors of Emmanuel College and through experiences he considers the greatest of his life.

After graduating from Woburn High School in 1977, Rizzo appeared ready at first to take a more traditional route to a college degree, intending to attend the University of Lowell that upcoming fall.

The summer before his freshman enrollment, however, a friend, whose father worked for Honeywell, convinced him to defer his educational pursuits in exchange for what was, at the time, a lucrative opportunity for a young kid to work for the multinational corporation at \$10 an hour.

"It was always my intention to go to college right after high school," said Rizzo. "But I saw the dollar signs and the money became a distraction to me. I saw an opportunity to make \$400 a week right out of high school and I thought maybe I didn't need college."

Rizzo quickly found himself in a dissatisfying situation at Honeywell, working the night shift and unable to switch over to days. As good as the money was, after a year the unhappy lifestyle soon proved too powerful to ignore, forcing him to search for other options.

At the behest of his father, Rizzo tried his hand at selling life insurance, a field his father had worked in for 20 years. It didn't take long for him to discover this path too led to many challenges for a young man still in his teens.

"It takes a special person at that age to sell life insurance," he said. "To go out there as a young guy with no life experience and know why people should have life insurance, that's a hard sell."

Needless to say the experience was short-lived, and within a year Rizzo was again back searching for other avenues of employment. Feeling devoid of options, he decided to return to Honeywell. The only problem was, there wasn't a job for him.

"Only he that has traveled the road knows where the holes are deep."
– Chinese Proverb



Daniel Rizzo, who has owned and operated Rizzo Insurance with his brother Paul since its inception in 1986, is a proud graduate of Emmanuel's ECAP program.

Dead set on getting back with his former company, Rizzo contacted some friends down in Florida, thinking he could attempt to find an opening in Honeywell's St. Petersburg division. Selling his car to finance a trip south, he soon found the change in location and climate did little to improve his financial anguish, let alone his feelings of uncertainty.

Disoriented and admittedly "running on empty" at this point, Rizzo was forced to walk the streets of Florida in search of anything that might help set his direction in life on some type of guided track.

Passing by a Navy recruiting station, he decided to swing in, soon finding himself chatting with a recruiter. Although looking back, Rizzo admits he was just looking for someone, or anyone, to talk to at that point, within a couple of hours he was taking the military entrance exam. Within a couple of weeks, he found himself signed up for six years in the United States Navy.

He remembers being in the air when the decision final hit him.

"I was flying back home to Massachusetts when I found myself saying 'what did I just do?'"

Upon immediately entering the Navy, Rizzo's decision seemed to fall right in line with his previous major life conclusions, as he found himself frequently questioning his choice during his first year of service. Rather than revert back to his previous capricious tendencies, however, he eventually decided to see his military commitment through to the end, hoping to make the best out of the situation.

"There was just a point when something clicked," said Rizzo. "I told myself, you know what, I'm in the military now and I'm going to do the

best job I can while I'm here and just see where it takes me."

The realization ended up reaping positive rewards for Rizzo, who became a respected leader during his four and a half year stay aboard the aircraft carrier the USS Independence. By the end of his service time, he even considered re-enlisting and possibly would have, had it not been for a conversation with his younger brother Paul, who had also entered the insurance business and was experiencing much of the same dissatisfaction as he did years before. After discussing the possibility of starting an agency together, Rizzo decided to leave his military life behind him and return home.

The rest, you could say, is history.

Today, the Rizzo Insurance Group in Revere, owned and operated by Daniel and Paul Rizzo since the agency's inception in 1986, serves over 3000 clients, having just recently celebrated its 20th year in business.

"It's been a great experience," said Rizzo. "To have an opportunity to have a job you love, work with your brother and be able to control your own destiny, that's just a great thing."

"Success isn't how far you got, but the distance you traveled from where you started."
– Unknown

In the years since he and his brother formed their own business, one could say Rizzo has experienced much in the ways of life. He started a family with his wife Jane and his two sons, Ryan and Nicholas, who are now 19 and 17 years old, respectively. He's been able to serve the community in a number of different capacities as well, including as an at-large city councilor in Revere, where he's currently serving his fourth term. He's even considering running for a State Senate seat if one vacates in the near future.

Taking all that into consideration, it seems one could also argue that Rizzo's assumption years back that he didn't need a college education proved true in some respects.

For Rizzo, however, nothing was farther from the truth.

"One of the voids I always felt I missed out on was getting the formal education side of things, as part of my personal portfolio," he said. "Even though I had experienced moderate success in my business life, started a family with my wife and two children, something was always missing and after a while it started to eat away at me."

When he decided to do something about filling that empty space a few years back, it didn't take him long to see that Emmanuel College's ECAP program was the right path to take.

"Emmanuel's a very well-respected school and that was important to me," he said. "It's a school I thought I'd be proud to graduate from."

One of the most unforgettable memories Rizzo has of his time as an Emmanuel student was a comment one of his first professors made to his class on the first day. Addressing the students for the very first time, Rizzo remembers the professor making a point of telling the class his course would not be easy, a simple and honest statement that Rizzo has never forgotten.

"Unfortunately, over the years there have been a number of programs that while being accredited, have developed reputations for delivering a substandard educational experience in exchange for a quick graduation date," he said. "He was insinuating that Emmanuel was not just printing diplomas. That really resonated through me."

While Rizzo admits the program's workload did prove more demanding than he anticipated, he took to the challenge much the same way he approached his time in the Navy: with enduring resolve and a strong will to succeed.

"I told myself if I'm going to do this, I'm going to finish it," he said. "And that's the attitude I had to keep. It turned out to be a real learning experience for me."

Expecting himself to be at a slight disadvantage considering the number of years it had been since he'd last been in a classroom, Rizzo was pleasantly surprised at how much more useful the coursework was to him as an already experienced professional.

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CAMPUS NEWS

"Campus Cats" Call Emmanuel, New Cat Houses, Home

They take up residence just inside the gates of Emmanuel's campus, welcoming in students, faculty and visitors as they drive on through. Maybe they hang out there in hopes of providing backup assistance to the guards inside the security hut. Realistically, they're probably there because underneath the shade of the bushes and shrubs in front of the Administration Building is the best place on campus to grab some food and take a nap.

The "campus cats" have been a fixture around the College for the last few years, having originally gained the attention of Assistant to the Vice President of Finance and Administration Patricia Devaney about five or six years ago when she began feeding them. At that time, according to Devaney, the Fenway neighborhood had an abundance of felines, with possibly 50 cats inhabiting the surrounding area including what is now the Merck building, which was under construction at the time.

Today, three cats are permanent residents, with a great number of their former playmates and litters having been adopted thanks to the efforts of Devaney, Assistant Registrar Sherry Lavallo and a number of others who stepped in to help the homeless animals, curtailing a potential overpopulation problem that could have



One of the "campus cats" hides along the wall of the Administration Building.

plagued the Fenway area.

"It was upsetting to know these cats were out there all starving," said Devaney. "We could have had hundreds of cats in the neighborhood if we didn't do anything about it."

With the assistance of St. Meow's, a non-profit, no-kill cat shelter based in Cambridge, as well as Regina Flynn, a volunteer rescuer with a love for animals, a great number of cats found permanent homes. Devaney and Lavello each have adopted kittens born to Sunshine, the oldest of the three resident cats, with Lavello taking in two from an earlier litter and Devaney adopting Manny, the friendliest kitten from Sunshine's latest litter.

Last May, Lavallo and veterinarian Dr. Jane O'Donnell helped capture Sunshine to have her spayed. O'Donnell was instrumental in finding homes for Sunshine's kittens as well as caring for her during her lengthy stay at Lavallo's home.

This past September, Sunshine returned to campus to be reunited with the "Teenagers," her fellow resident felines, a male and female. To ease her back into the transition, as well as provide her and her family with further protection from the weather, Flynn contributed an insulated house for the cats, placed along the outside of the Administration Building.

Just last month, Flynn added a second house for the cats, when it was discovered that Sunshine, either spoiled by her time at Lavallo's or intent on enforcing a tough love approach with the Teenagers, refused to share the comfortable abode. The new house arrived just in the nick of time too, one day before the first considerable snow fall of the year.

While feral cats are usually intimidated by people, due to the fact that they missed out on proper socialization with humans during the critical stages of two to 12 weeks of age, Devaney and Lavallo say the cats are friendly, with a number of people including Security Guard Dennis DePierre having much success with them.

"Dennis can pat both of the Teenagers, they sit on his lap, they love him," said Devaney. "And Sunshine loves Sherry. She still won't let her pick her up, but she follows her around everywhere."

And affection for the cats goes well beyond the likes of Devaney and Lavallo.

"People I don't even know come up to me and ask me 'how are the cats doing'," said Lavallo.

Judging by their new setup, it's safe to say Sunshine and the gang are doing just fine.

Emmanuel Staff, Faculty Get Ready to GETfit

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considered "doable" for people of all fitness levels, in hopes of encouraging anyone interested to jump in and participate.

"We thought 20 minutes of exercise, five days a week was a good place to start," she said. "We looked at the problems with obesity and the biggest thing was that less movement was much more prevalent with people who were overweight. Just a few minutes a week can really help diminish those problems."

Throughout the process, Scaffidi plans on providing suggestions and advice to participants on the program's web site, where all participants can stay up-to-date on how teams and individuals are performing. Scaffidi kicked-off the challenge by offering team members the opportunity to get their heart rate, blood pressure, body fat and weight measured, with the same procedures being offered in the final weeks of the challenge to allow participants the chance to see how far they've come.

While she admits she's been over-

whelmed by the support of the program, which originally came about last October when a committee made up of Human Resources Representative Leah Kendall, Director of Human Resources Erin Farmer Noonan, Facilities Coordinator Katy Mulvaney, Director of Student Center Services Marybeth Thomas, Assistant to the Vice President of Student Affairs Maryanne Murphy, System Integrator Brian Hayes, Director of Publications and Communications Molly Honan, Senior Graphic Design Specialist/Director of Print Production Helen Smirnoudis, and Assistant Web/Graphic Designer Jessica Barnoski, put the wheels in motion, in other ways, Scaffidi has not been completely surprised by the turnout.

"I think the competition part has drawn people into it," she said. "I also think the desire to be physically active played a big role as well. Some people have the desire to be active, but just aren't really sure how to do it. I think GETfit will not only draw a lot of attention to how each individual person feels, but also establish an even greater sense of community within the campus."

Long Path To College Unforgettable For Rizzo

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"In all reality, the classes were better to take then at that stage of my life and career, then if I had taken them right out of high school," he said. "I had a real sense of how it all affected people in the real world, not just strictly in an academic book sense.

"For example, classes such as Accounting, Business Law, Micro/Macro Economics, and Marketing helped answer the how and whys of reports that I had been reading in my business for years, but wasn't really sure how all the numbers go to where they did," he added. "My accountant had always prepared our income statement and balance sheets, so I had always taken a bottom-line approach. To learn how to prepare this report myself really brought much more clarity to the process. It was really something that helped me in my business life."

While the sacrifice was great for both Rizzo and his family during

those years, the payback of bringing them to his graduation ceremony in 2001 was that much greater. His diploma hangs proudly in his office, offering a constant reminder of just how far he's come.

And despite some of the hard times he experienced during his life travels, he insists he wouldn't have traded it for anything.

"I've been blessed and have had a great life," he said. "I've had a chance to see the world in the military. I spent Christmas in Bethlehem, not many of my friends can say that.

"Looking back, those were some of the best days of my life and I have a strong sense of pride about it," he added. "I think the ECAP program provided me with everything that I would have learned had I been a traditional student."

"I took the road less traveled by, and that has made all the difference."

— Robert Frost



SPORTS NEWS

Men Basketball Nabs Another Shot at Norwich in Tourney

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regular season schedule with a 73-68 loss to Emerson College, Head Coach Jamahl Jackson didn't even have to ask his guys what team it was they wanted to suit up against.

"Norwich," the third-year coach said last week. "They don't care if it's at home or at their place. That's who they want. They're chomping at the bit."

As luck would have it, the men got their chance at a third try against the Cadets this past Tuesday in the quarterfinal round of the conference tournament. Results, however, were not available before press time.

Heading into the much-anticipated contest though, according to Jackson, the Saints had the advantage, despite coming into the game 0-2 against their conference foes this year.

"The toughest thing in sports is to beat a team three times," he said.

While last season the Saints hosted the tournament after finishing the season with a program-best 17-1 mark, Jackson was also looking forward to the different approach to the tournament this season as a five-seed.

"This year we're the hunters," he said. "This puts us in a better position to go after people. Although it could be a tough road to get to the GNAC finals, I think the guys are up to it."

With a win against Norwich, the Saints would prepare to take on the



Sophomore Mack Spellman goes up for a shot earlier in the season against Gwynedd Mercy.

winner of the Western New England College/Daniel Webster game, with odds greatly favoring top-seeded WNEC, who Jackson referred to as "the team to beat" throughout the championship. Indeed the road to the finals could be a tough one for boys in blue.

"It's going to be interesting," said Jackson. "But the one good thing is that they know they have to earn everything. They're hungry and that's

what they need to be at this point in the season. They realize they've got to take this and take it every single second they're out there on the floor."

One thing the Saints have in their favor for a potential postseason run is the return of sophomore captain Mack Spellman, who missed five games earlier this month after suffering an injury during practice. Spellman returned to the lineup during the game against Emerson, playing 31 minutes while

leading all scorers with 21 points.

While before the game Jackson was unsure of how much he'd allow Spellman to play, he addressed the importance of allowing Spellman to reunite with his teammates in a game situation before the start of the conference tournament.

"I want him to get back into a rhythm with the guys instead of throwing him in cold during a playoff game," Jackson said.

During Spellman's absence, a number of players stepped up to fill the void left by last season's GNAC Rookie of the Year, with junior captain Brian Lindsey and sophomore Rob Williams-Hinton bearing much of the load. During the five-game span, Williams-Hinton averaged 22.2 points per game, while Lindsey nearly 16 points and 10 rebounds per contest. Levi Smith also reached double-digits in scoring in four of those games, while freshman point guard Mike Jackson continued to impress as a leader on the court.

With his team playing the best basketball of the season down the stretch and the return of his star player, Jackson remains optimistic about the outcome of this year's postseason, despite the potentially difficult road that lies ahead. In fact, as far as he sees it, the Saints are the team everyone should fear right now.

"I can't see any team in the league wanting to play us," he said. "Our record is not indicative of our team's ability. It's just a matter of putting it all together."

Volleyball Takes Second at MIT Invitational Tourney

The men's volleyball team finished second at the annual MIT Volleyball Invitational Tournament during the weekend of February 10th. The Saints advanced to the championship against the host team, but fell by a score of 3-0. During the tournament, Emmanuel notched victories against Lasell and Polytechnic in straight sets.

Freshman Michael Townsend led Emmanuel with a combined 51 kills in the four matches, while senior captain John Bluhm tallied 38 kills for the weekend. Both players were named to the All-Tournament team. Freshman setter Taylor Lowe dished out 161 assists in the tournament.

Most recently, the Saints suffered a 3-2 loss to Endicott College on February 15th. Townsend and Bluhm once again led the charge for Emmanuel, adding 15 kills apiece along with a combined 26 digs. Brandon Ellis finished with 10



Junior Sophanna Lout gets up for a spike in a game earlier this season.

digs and two blocks as well.

With the loss, the Saints record fell to 6-8 overall. The Saints next match is today at Lasell College.

Indoor Track Wraps-Up Season at Wesleyan Invite

The men's and women's indoor track Teams closed out their season February 10th when they competed in the Wesleyan University Invitational. The final meet of the winter season proved positive for the Saints in a number of ways, as many athletes set school records in their respective events.

Junior Matt Hickey tied his school record in the 800m, completing the race in a time of 2:05.55. Juniors Emily McCaffrey and T.J. Griffis also established new marks of their own in the 1000m, with McCaffrey crossing the line in a time of 3:32.74 and Griffis in 2:43.43.

Senior Brett Adell broke the record in the weight throw with a toss of 29'8.75" while freshman Mark Proto bettered the high jump record by clearing 5'5.25".



Senior captain Patrick Chviruk crosses the finish line during a race earlier this season. The Saints closed their winter season February 10th at the Wesleyan Invitational.



SPORTS NEWS

Men's Basketball Nabs Another Shot at Norwich in GNAC Tourney

After suffering two heart-wrenching one-point losses to Norwich University earlier this month, the Emmanuel men's basketball team just couldn't seem to get the Cadets out of their thoughts.

Replaying both games in their heads, the Saints (10-15, 8-8 GNAC) struggled to cope with the two losses that came less than one week apart. The first, a 67-66 loss at Norwich on February 3rd, was a game Head Coach Jamahl Jackson described as one his team should have had, had it not been for a misfortunate late-game decision that cost them the win. The second game, which occurred just five days later, was much of the same as the Cadets once again topped the Saints, this time by a score of 68-67 on the hardwood of the gymnasium at the Jean Yawkey Center.

While the GNAC tournament bracket wasn't finalized until this past weekend, after the Saints closed out their

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The men opened up the GNAC tournament against Norwich University this past Tuesday. Heading into the game, the Saints had dropped both regular season match-ups against the Cadets, who defeated the Saints by just one point in both games.

Saints Set To Reclaim GNAC Title

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claimed the honor. Furthermore, with each team's records marked with one loss apiece, both at the hands of top-ranked Bowdoin, the Saints expected the outcome of the game to have great implications when it came to postseason play.

ceeded down the court back on the offensive. Choosing not to utilize a time-out as to not allow their opponents time to set up an appropriate defensive scheme, the girls worked the ball around until they found freshman guard Iman Davis, who sank an 8-foot jumper with five seconds remaining to

"It's been a great season. If we can win the conference championship, I think we have a chance to go far if things go right."

—Andy Yosinoff

"We knew that hosting the GNAC tournament was on the line and we wanted to stay at home," said Yosinoff. "We were expecting it to be a physical game and we wanted to pay them back for taking away the title from us on our own court."

Although throughout the second-half of the season the Saints rarely found themselves in close games, as their margin of victory over their last 12 games – besides the game against Norwich – was a difference of more than 24 points, a close game was exactly what they had in front of them, with 40 seconds left until the buzzer and the Cadets holding the ball.

As the clock ticked down to 25 seconds, a steal by junior point guard Jade Paez placed the Saint's fate back into their own hands, as they pro-

give the Saints a 61-59 lead. Another Emmanuel steal in the waning seconds clinched the victory for Yosinoff and his team, who walked away from the game with a special realization about this year's group of players.

"This team has a lot more poise than teams in the past," said Yosinoff. "I have a lot of confidence that this team knows what it takes at the end of the game."

Since the win against Norwich, the Saints have rumbled through six blow-out victories, including an 89-64 romp over Rivier College on February 17th to close out the regular season with an overall record of 24-1. According to their longtime coach, this year's record marks the best performance of any Saints' squad in his 30 years of coaching, surpassing the 2001 lineup that reached the Final Four with two losses during the regular season. Needless to



Senior captains Catherine Gallant and LaTeisha Johnson look to guide the Saints deep into postseason play this winter.

say, expectations are running high for the Saints this postseason.

"It's been a great season," said Yosinoff. "If we can win the conference championship, I think we have a chance to go far if things go right. They feel good about themselves right now and I think everyone is on the same page. They're peaking at the right time and they seem ready to bring it to another level."

Teamwork has been a powerful force for Emmanuel so far this season, as the team has posted a number of impressive statistics both on the offensive and defensive side of the ball. Four players, including Paez, Davis, Brittany Bushman and Tommia Davis finished the season with double-digit scoring averages, while as a team, Emmanuel led the nation in steals, averaging more than 17 per contest.

With the best record in the conference, the Saints once again earned the right to host the GNAC tournament, which began Tuesday, February 20th. As the top seed, Emmanuel took on eighth-seeded Rivier. Results were not available before press time. The winner of the Saints-Raiders contest will take on either Western New England or Emerson in the semifinals Friday, February 23rd, with the championship set for the next day.

Prior to the start of the tournament, Yosinoff remained confident about his team's chances to reclaim the GNAC title.

"They feel good about themselves and I think everyone is on the same page," he said. "This could be a special season if they continue to play hard and play together."