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Aquinas Times

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Nelson named president

by Pamela Najor, TIMES Editor

Students will see a different but familiar face in the president's seat to begin the 1990-1991 school year.

R. Paul Nelson, formerly the dean of student development, was appointed president of Aquinas College.

Nelson had served as interim president since the resignation of Dr. Peter D. O'Connor on April 30, and took over full-time on June 20.

Raymond E. Knape, chairman of the Board of Trustees, took the recommendation of the members of the search committee to offer the permanent position of presidency to Nelson, interim president at the time.

The search committee consisted of two members of the Board of Trustees, as well as administrative, faculty, alumni, and student representatives.

Nelson was interviewed by the committee and "after deliberation by the search committee and the Board of Trustees, as well as, administrative, faculty, alumni, and student representatives."

A petition that was signed by about 60 faculty members in support of me being named the president that was given to the search committee...along with a number of letters and testimonials from those in the Aquinas and greater Grand Rapids communities." Nelson said.

Although Nelson did not foresee any permanency in the position when accepting the interim position, he gradually felt more and more comfortable with the position.

"It became more clear to me that Aquinas needed a sense of stability...I became more confident since I had support from the Aquinas community and others that I could do the job." This being Nelson's 22nd year at Aquinas, he attributes his selection to the many different capacities he has served in. "The board looked at me as having been here for a long time...I know the college well and I've gotten to know the students well." Nelson has been on the college staff since 1969 and has served in several positions, including dean of curriculum, dean of continuing education, and most recently, dean of student development.

In accepting the appointment, Nelson was confident in the future in the college. "I feel a sense of both pride and humility," he said. "I am grateful to the Board of Trustees for their trust in me. The generosity, commitment, and loyalty of members of the board, faculty, staff, students, friends, and benefactors will certainly continue to contribute to the growth and development of this wonderful college I have been privileged to serve for the past 21 years." Nelson said.

Please see PROG. BOARD, Page 2

Results showing from '88's purchase

by Pamela Najor, TIMES Editor

The winds of change are blowing onto the campus of Aquinas College. The 68-year-old college has been on this campus, formally the Lowe Estate since 1945.

On this, the 50th anniversary of Aquinas being a four-year institution, the appointment of Aquinas' fourth president, R. Paul Nelson, and the physical outlook of the campus, have instigated a noticeable difference in, but the mission statement remains the same.

The physical changes that have occurred on campus this summer are due to the recent addition of the 17-acre property—including 11 buildings—formerly owned by the Reformed Bible College (RBC).

As of Nov. 11, 1988, Aquinas College officially purchased the campus of RBC. According to the signed contract, Aquinas gained full possession and put to use all 11 buildings by today's date.

School officials have been planning for the campus addition for two years.

The RBC buildings are all located to the east of the existing campus, hence the name "East Campus".

The addition of the East Campus buildings will provide a conference center, classroom space, student housing, a new and closer location for the Aquinas College Child

Please see CHANGES, Page 2

Programming Board formed to raise school spirit

by Sandra Erskine

During the 1989-1990 school year, the student Senate did a self-study. One result of the study was the need for a more balanced approach to student legislation and student programming. The Senate sought input from Aquinas students and senators, as well as input from student leaders from several colleges and universities.

After much discussion, the Senate, in an effort to achieve a desired balance, began the process of establishing a programming board. The confirmation of the board will be on the agenda of the September Senate meeting.

The role of the Senate will be to become an outlet for student concerns and discussions leading to effective resolutions. The Senate will encourage and promote interaction between student and administrator on questions and concerns, according to the Executive Committee of the Senate.

The board will meet once a week all of first semester. The Senate set the membership of the board last spring. The Programming Board will consist of a resident advisor—one from each Residence Hall Council, Vice-Chairperson of Senate, one member from the Student Developing staff, two senators, a commuter, and student-at-large. Approximately half of the Programming Board's membership will change every six months, so the board will never have all new members. Every member will have equal voice.

The role of the Programming Board, Please see PROG. BOARD, Page 2

Results showing from '88's purchase
This summer more than any other in my 20 years of life, have I ever been so shocked that school is back so soon.

Wait! Check the calendars, are we sure we’ve all had summer yet?

I think I’ve aged a couple of years within these last three months. The total gray count is seven, in the four years since my first gray hair, it has befriended three in the last six months, I’m scared!

Oh yeah this summer, as I’m sure with everyone’s, mine was, quite an experience.

In this, my first entire summer away from home, Isabelle north of Detroit, yes, I’m the baby of five, I regained my sight back, not 100 percent, but close enough, for those of you who know and are curious enough to remember. And for those of you who don’t remember or never knew, I’d like to keep it that way.

I also moved into an apartment at the start of summer. Two months later, I found myself having to move my entire life out of that apartment and into a house, unplanned and I guess unpredictable but nonetheless, turning out for the better for all.

Well, within this time span, I had an awesome, experience-of-a-lifetime, job. Oh, before I got into that, I spent a short time in California, it was incredible!

But back to my point, yes, I had one of my jobs, I spent a truly informative, challenging, educating summer being a ‘real’ staff reporter for my first ‘non-scholarastic’ newspaper, the ‘Aquinas’ had to card to prove it.

Which, of course, brings me back to my main point, that being, how short this summer was and how very much I learned during it.

I learned many aspects of journalism. I never dreamed existed and strengthened the ones I did, i.e., deadlines.

Commitment! You have to have it or you get eaten alive. I guess that’s how I was able, with one new and inexperienced staff member and a still freaky ‘Mac’ to produce this issue for you in one weeks time.

Yeah, I learned something this summer, that I will never stop learning so bear with me, these issues can only get better.

Program Board

Development Center, and additional parking space.
PDP New names have been given to most of the ABC buildings to “honor those people that were longtime supporters of Aquinas College,” said Nelson.

For instance, Knape Hall, formerly North Hall, was named for the Knape family. Raymond F. Knape served on the college’s Board of Trustees from 1954 until his death in 1963.

Today, Knape Hall is one of the four facilities on East Campus to be used as residence halls. The way in which these will be used is another one of the unique changes to campus. Each residence hall will serve as a “program house” that will incorporate a current issue and its need for volunteer help.

For example, the 11 students living in Meijer Hall, held a common goal to create environmental awareness on campus and in the surrounding community. This program house was named for the efforts of Fred Meijer, a longtime benefactor of Aquinas College.

“We hoped to encourage the upperclass students to stay on campus because they will serve as role models and as a positive influence to the underclassmen,” Nelson said.

Pam Strobel, director of residence life, felt the program houses would bring up “pertinent issues that needed to be addressed in today’s society.” I trust the students will grow tremendously through this experience and those they touch along the way, too.”

Aside form increasing volunteer awareness, Nelson hopes to involve special task forces to strengthen other aspects of administration. Nelson has already instigated four special task forces and directors for each to try and develop the area in which they are specialized in, such as: the Promoting Enrollment Task Force, led by Michael Keller, vice president for enrollment management; the Enhancing Development Task Force, led by Frank Bruno, vice president for college advancement; the New Academic Program Development Task Force, led by Lynn Spearing, director of grants and special projects; and the Cost Containment/Cost Cutting Task Force, led by Michael Braughton, vice president for business and finance.

The goal of the task forces is to create a process to work on the vision of the future of Aquinas College, according to Nelson. The progress of these task forces will be publicized at the Fall Institute on Sept. 7 and Nelson hopes to inform all students of the progress at the first Community Senate meeting.

Aquinas College has held the statement, as put by Keller, that it is important to develop holistically as well as be capable to apply one’s education to a career. The mission of Aquinas College is to educate students, through a liberal arts education, to be “trained for a job but also prepared and educated for a lifetime of different life opportunities,” Keller said.

With the new administrative changes and the development of programs, Nelson hopes to “have a vision process working to make the mission of Aquinas come alive...to build on the foundation already here, and make it even more of an exciting, dynamic learning environment.”

The opinions expressed in the Aquinas Times are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of Aquinas College or the Times. We welcome signed letters to the Editor on matters of community interest.

The Aquinas Times is published by students through the Publications Board of Aquinas College, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

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away tee shirts, mugs, painters hats, “What the Heck” buttons, and souvenir baseball hats.

Aquinas has gotten a mascot to help boost school morale. Applications will be available in the near future to act as a mascot. It will be the first Aquinas secret. No one will know who the mascot is, and the mascot can never talk while in costume, “there are staff and administrators who are dying to be a mascot,” Baer said.

Baer believes things to be on track for this year. He says there is a different attitude “we work together.”

The Program Board requested to be on probation for two years, with constant evaluation. After the two years are up, the Senate will decide what may need to be and what works best.

The implementation of the Program Board has taken three years this coming winter. Some of the time it was an uphill battle,” Baer said. He feels much of the credit for the board taking its place at Aquinas goes to 1990 graduate, John Osbourne, and Senate Chairperson, Paul Rossi.

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Aquinas student killed in Eastown

by Pamela Najor,
TIMES Editor

Christopher Joel Battaglia, 23, was killed on Lake Drive and Luton St. (Near Gibsons Restaurant) on June 11, 1990 at about 2:15 a.m.

Battaglia was beaten to death. He was also stripped of personal effects. He was 5'9" and 165 pounds. He had fair hair and brown eyes. He was wearing jeans, a jean jacket, and black cowboy boots.

According to the Grand Rapids Police Department and family members, there has been some anonymous calls, but none have led to substantial clues. There is a $15,000 reward offered through friends and family members.

"Joel's (the name he was more commonly referred to) uncle works for Pinkerton Security Services (private detective agency out of California) and his employers put up $10,000 of the reward," Jerry Battaglia, father, said.

Battaglia was survived by his parents, Jerry and Gail Battaglia and his 13-year-old brother, Jeremy.

After spending a year in California sailing, one of his favorite hobbies, with his cousin, Joel enrolled in classes at Aquinas to begin his senior year. A 1985 graduate of Catholic Central, Joel wanted to become a secondary school teacher. "He could respond to others so well...he was a teacher to us as well as others," his father said.

He was walking to his new home on Carlton from Eastown. "We've always been removed from violence, very peaceful, but he was happy, he felt safe there, we like this community...it just doesn't make sense...it remains a tragedy...(that) no one could have seen anything," Jerry Battaglia said.

The family hopes, if anything, this will serve as a warning. "After dark," Joel's father paused, "it gets pretty risky out there."

Anyone with information, please call Silent observer: 774-2345 or the Grand Rapids Police Department: 456-3380. You may remain anonymous. All calls are confidential.

Donations may be made at any old Kent Bank to the Joel Battaglia Memorial Scholarship Fund.

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Applications for the paid positions of assistant editor, staff reporters, photographer, darkroom technicians, and typists for the Aquinas TIMES are being accepted in the Times office, Wege Student Center, lower level.

Those interested must submit an essay as to why you are qualified for any of these positions.

Clippings of past newspaper work or samples of writing are strongly encouraged. Professor and/or employer recommendations are welcomed but not required.

All interested, former members of the TIMES included, must contact the Editor, Pamela Najor at extension 4106 or stop in the office immediately to set up an appointment to interview this week.

Deadline is this Friday, August 31!!
I wanted to write something wise, or witty, or amusing, or intellectual, or creative for the first issue of the year. But I couldn't think of anything. I couldn't even think of anyone to quote. I wanted to turn over a new leaf, put my best foot forward, start fresh (now there's some lame quoting for you). But I find myself stuck in that senior thing and there's nothing new or fresh about that. Perhaps it was a visit from recent Aquinas graduates that threw me off. One graduate didn't have a job, and the other graduate hated the job he did have, and then there was me—thinking that's going to be me in less than a year. And all the thinking I had done over the summer about future careers, about moving out of the state or country, all the thinking I had done about anything and everything, went swiftly and totally out the window. Yeah, well. And now I find myself sleeping until noon, working five or six hours a day, with the attitude, I knew it still worked. But, it's only August, and if I've counted correctly I still have some time to run, hide, freak, drink, and maybe shrivel or bawl about the whole thing. Yes, I believe everything is in order. I'm a senior, I have no clue what I am doing or what I am going to do, and right now I'm not going to think about it. It's good to know these things. I was wrong, I managed to think of someone to quote—I find it extremely appropriate.

"I'm in this room, I know that much, but I have no idea what the hell I'm doing here." —1990 Aquinas graduate.

**Power of the pen**

"Pump up your adrenalin by making the world a better place!" This was the response of a friend when discussing this year's programs for the Social Action Committee (S.A.C.)

For those new to campus, or for those who hid in a dark cave last year, the work of SAC is to turn our education into action, focusing on issues of social justice. The recent events in the Middle East provide a prime example of our interdependence with people around the block and around the globe.

Consider the following information from a recent issue of World Development Forum: Assuming that the world population could be viewed as a village of 1,000 people: 60 people would control half of the total income, 500 would be hungry, 400 would live in shantytowns, and 700 would be illiterate.

But what do such sobering statistics have to do with the community of Aquinas College? Many say they have lots to do with us! We are a part of that global village, and we are responsible for our part in it.

But many respond with 'what can we do? Such statistics are too overwhelming!' In order to act responsibly, we must first educate ourselves and experience the situations of those in need.

The next question should be, 'How can we do that?' The SAC Office has plenty of events planned for this year in order to respond to some of those problems. Watch for Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, Amnesty International meetings, workshops on regional conflicts, opportunities for volunteer service and more!

Check the bulletin board outside the SAC Office (Wege Center Lower Level) for weekly updates and information. Watch your mailbox for further information, and look for us at the Clubs & Organizations fair at the Wege Mall. Remember: Pump it up for interdependence!

**SAC: Turning our education into action**

"twentysomething" generation ... roll up your sleeves and volunteer

The Community Action Volunteers of Aquinas (C.A.V.A.) cordially welcomes all new and returning students to campus for the 1990-91 school year.

The CAVA office serves as a resource center for students looking to volunteer for local social service agencies to gain personal experiences. CAVA has information on a wide variety of needs in the Grand Rapids community. The Aquinas community is welcome to come into our office, thumb through our information, and decide if there is anything they would like to become involved in. The agencies we deal with range from soup kitchens to hospitals to churches. The types of work on file include clerical, counseling, janitorial, tutoring, and tour guiding.

The CAVA office, located in the lower level of the Wege Student Center, is open Monday through Friday, and will never pressure anyone into a commitment.

Upcoming events that CAVA is promoting include "Fair Day" at Kent Community Hospital; "The Hispanic Festival" at Celebration on the Grand; and "Campus Outreach Day," on campus.

The Kent Community Hospital is in need of volunteers to escort wheelchair patients to and from the fair which will be held on their premises. The fair will take place on September 8.

Organizers of the Hispanic Festival are looking for volunteers to help clean up on September 6, 7, and 8 and are offering free food as a stipend. The "Campus Outreach Day" consists of representatives from local volunteer agencies that will be on campus, September 13, to distribute information about their organizations to the Aquinas community, look for this event in the Wege Mall area.
Community senate: "For the People"

For the first time in a long time, the Aquinas College Student Senate feels they have a "Vision for the Future." With a new Executive Council and a more-defined purpose, the Community Senate plans to take an active role in answering the questions and concerns of the Aquinas community.

"In our attempts to involve students we would like to invite all students to our senate meetings as we discuss key issues which effect each and every one of us," Chairperson for the Community Senate, Paul Rossi said. In order to encourage student participation, the Community Senate would like to introduce "Townhouse Meetings" to the residence halls. These informal gatherings will provide an arena for all students to voice their ideas. There may be food and drink available at these gatherings. Dates and times of these meetings to be publicized when determined.

The Aquinas College Community Senate pledges to address and take necessary actions on any issues which effect the student body.

"With the People, For the People, By the People:" means the Aquinas College Community Senate and You!
John Gardella was almost like a fixture in the credit union, but has been replaced by Susan Anders. The 22-year-veteran, Gardella has taken on a new position with MPS Credit Union. Anders, a graduate of Grand Valley State University, began her 10 year career with credit unions in a co-op position during her senior year in high school. The past three years, Anders worked for Bell Com Credit Union in Grand Rapids. Anders hopes to obtain a Master’s in Management degree sometime soon. Anders has made a number of changes in credit union policies since her start on April 16. "We have updated the computer systems so now we are directly online," Anders added, "We want to give many new services to the customers, as well."

Michael Braughton is the new V.P. of Business and Finance

Braughton received his Bachelors of Science in Accounting from Millikin University and is a CPA. He would like to someday have an MBA and is considering the Masters in Management program at Aquinas. Braughton has an open-door policy which welcomes all with questions or concerns regarding Aquinas financial state.

Debra Milarch has an itemized list of ideas as new director of bookstore

Milarch graduated from West Shore Community College. Spending spring breaks with a friend that attended Aquinas, Milarch has been familiar with the campus since she was approximately 12-years-old. The bookstore is adding new product lines under Milarch’s management. There will be a larger and more affordable gift line geared towards students. One example of her plans is to have helium balloon bouquets available to be delivered on campus.

Milarch has also made plans to bring a variety of new items into the bookstore to offer customers as well as a new atmosphere to shop in. There will also be promotions throughout the year.

"I want the bookstore to be a fun and exciting place to be; a place where students, faculty, and staff will want to visit often."

Aquinas graduate, Susan Gerrity is the new Director of the Aquinas College Child Development Center. Formerly employed by St. Thomas, the Apostle School as a pre-school and kindergarten teacher for eight years. Since the center recently moved from the Marywood Academy, 2025 E. Fulton, Gerrity said she and the staff are trying to organize themselves for daily operations. For example, "which is the best way to serve lunch (and) simple things like that."

Although the center is open to the Grand Rapids community, 50 percent of enrollment is made up of children affiliated with Aquinas College. The infant and toddler rooms are currently filled, but there is room in the preschool for more children. The center is expecting to have 32 children by September, but is licensed to hold 45 children.

"It’s a great job," Gerrity said, "I get to play with babies and children all day."

Familiar face gone but Susan Anders is welcome in the credit union

The 22-year-veteran, Gardella has taken on a new position with MPS Credit Union. Anders, a graduate of Grand Valley State University, began her 10 year career with credit unions in a co-op position during her senior year in high school. The past three years, Anders worked for Bell Com Credit Union in Grand Rapids. Anders hopes to obtain a Master’s in Management degree sometime soon. Anders has made a number of changes in credit union policies since her start on April 16. "We have updated the computer systems so now we are directly online." Anders added, "We want to give many new services to the customers, as well."

Susan Gerrity takes on 30+ kids, as the new dir. of the AQ C.D.C.
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