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EDITOR'S NOTE

In the wake of the 9/11/01 events, **The Franciscan 2002** celebrates the architecture of New York City. Throughout the yearbook, we sprinkled pictures of Brooklyn and Manhattan, to acknowledge the greatness of this city and its world-renowned sights. The St. Francis College students are an intricate part of the city life: while studying to complete their degree, they often work in these buildings, or they often go for a walk or have lunch in the places we viewed as representative of New York City.

We hope you enjoy the Tour!





ST. FRANCIS COLLEGE

Office of the President

Dear Graduates:

When we open a college yearbook, memories abound. Our college days are filled with friends, professors, classes, exams, papers, clubs and sports. Each of these recollections carry happy and sometimes painful moments. Each year as I write this message I recognize how proud we, as a College community, are of our graduating class. You are now beginning a new phase of your lives, closing a chapter and beginning another brilliant and beautiful one. What a thrill it is to see the apprehensive faces that I looked at during Freshman Orientation, now filled with excitement, pride and an incredible sense of accomplishment.

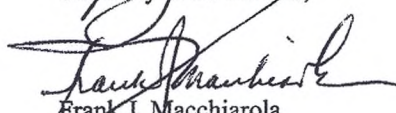
This academic year was especially challenging, as it has touched us like no other. We all worried what the future held for us after the tragedy of September 11, 2001. I worried how the year would progress for our St. Francis community. It has been repeatedly said that our lives changed forever on that day, and they have. Yet what I have seen since then is the spirit of St. Francis emerge and bloom in each and every one of you. We came together as a community and supported those who lost loved ones killed in the World Trade Center. We continue to mourn for our lost students and alumni, many of whom sacrificed their lives to save others. We have witnessed incredible heroism in those alumni who dedicated themselves to the recovery efforts. What I would encourage you to dwell on, are the joyful moments that you spent here at St. Francis. I am not suggesting that you push aside the sadness and forget about the pain, but out of that pain, recall the incredible growth, renewal and hope to which all of you have contributed and achieved. I have witnessed in our student body, faculty, administration and staff a deep faith and resilience to persevere. Each and every one of you carries this same grace within. St. Francis College has a tradition of dedication and service that resonates like no other and all of our graduates are a testament to this. This selfless spirit was evident to me in the Class of 2002 and their generous senior gift. At the writing of this letter the class participation rate for the gift takes precedent over others and exhibits a remarkable Franciscan energy.

Remember that St. Francis College has been graced by your presence and I hope in turn, we have given you something to take with you on this next step of your journey. This year was one that was incredibly challenging for you all in many ways and on many different levels. Yet you have all achieved, mastered and even excelled at what you sought to do when you began your work here at the College.

St. Francis College is very proud of the graduating class of 2002. Please know that the doors are always open for you, now as proud alumni. We wish all of you the very best in your future endeavors.

Congratulations.

Sincerely in St. Francis,



Frank J. Macchiarola
President