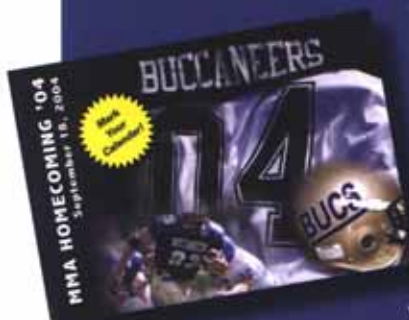


HOMECOMING 2004



The remnants of Hurricane Ivan could not dampen the spirits of the alumni who gathered in Buzzards Bay on September 17 and 18.

Homecoming weekend began on

Friday the 17th with the dedication of the Storer Engineering Building project. The new structure more than doubles the amount of engineering laboratory space on campus. The MMA Alumni Association held its annual meeting, electing Richard E. "Dick" Trudell '61 as its new President.

The highlight of Friday night, however, was the Homecoming Dinner in the newly expanded Memorial Dining Hall. The Class of 1954 were the guests of honor as some 300 people enjoyed dinner and dancing with the beautiful view of Buzzards Bay in the background.

On Saturday, despite the torrential rain and howling wind, a large crowd came to campus hoping for the best. While there was much discussion of the need for a domed stadium with skyboxes on Taylor's Point, many hardy alumni stood fast as the Bucs dropped a heart breaker in double overtime to MIT in the sloppy conditions.

For those hoping to get out of the rain, the Academy dining service provider, Chartwells, had plenty of hot coffee on the field and in the dining hall. All of the Academy's facilities were open as well, allowing returning alums to see firsthand the many changes on campus.

Homecoming 2005 is scheduled for September 24, 2005. Mark your calendar!



Engineering Building Photos Courtesy Dan Saw / Jaded One Photos, Inc.

ENGINEERING BUILDING DEDICATION

The new state of the art engineering building was officially dedicated on Friday, September 17, 2004. Commodore Rick Gurnon, Acting President, recently summed up the "why" of the new facility, "...The maritime academies, the polytechnic institutes, the engineering colleges – we're all part of the same team fighting for the attention, support and participation of young people around science, math, engineering and technical skills. These skills are the only future for the U.S.," Gurnon continued, "Our educational philosophy is 'Learn, Do, Learn'. We wanted to strengthen the 'Do' part of the equation in that we teach chemistry in the classroom and then apply it in the lab. You can learn metallurgy in a book, then go into the new Strength of Materials lab, apply what you learned - and see the results."

To meet this burgeoning need, HKT Architects, Somerville, MA, was chosen to renovate the Storer Building, which housed all the Academy's engineering labs. The result is a dynamic design, a state-of-the-art facility, making MMA's educational philosophy tangible while linking many discrete campus elements. It is a veritable clarion of MMA's desire to position itself at the front of a global battle with such heavy implications for future science and its effect on our economy. And, with the project's focus on youth, it is interesting to note that the designer, architect Aaron Binkley, is a recent graduate himself!

Naming rights are still available for the building at one million dollars. Classrooms and labs can be named for much less. These are truly great ways to celebrate one's family, or corporate relationship with Massachusetts Maritime Academy. Should you like to hear more, contact Gary Lowe, Dean of Development at 508-830-5029, for details.

