

[Print](#) | [Close Window](#)**THE ENQUIRER**

Last Updated: 5:55 am | Saturday, May 31, 2008

Bellevue graduates 57

57 graduates encouraged to remember good times and bad

BY HOWARD MCEWEN | ENQUIRER CONTRIBUTOR

THE SCHOOL: Bellevue High School**WHERE:** Gilligan Field**THE SCENE:**

As family, friends and the Bellevue High School Band of Gold fan themselves in the heat of the setting sun at Gilligan stadium, graduates gather next door in the air-conditioned comfort of Ben Flora Gymnasium. At 7:30, the students make the long walk two-by-two to their seats in the football field. Many of the graduates are chatting, some are holding hands, others are crying; most walk quietly - grinning.

- [Photos: Bellevue graduation](#)

GRADUATES:

57 students. Women wore yellow robes and caps with yellow and black tassels. Men wore black robes and caps with black and yellow tassels.

THE SPEAKERS:

Class valedictorian Christina Duffy, and Kevin Grau, 1987 valedictorian who went on to Brown University and serves as the institutional historian for the Indiana School of Medicine.

WHAT DUFFY SAID:

"Remember friends who helped us through the good and bad times and gave you the opportunity to learn things about yourself that you never thought possible.

"A successful man is one who lays good foundation with the bricks that others have thrown at him."

WHAT GRAU SAID:

After an introduction by Superintendent Wayne Starnes citing Grau's extensive resume, a breeze kicked up as Grau stood. "It's hard to live up to your introduction, especially when the wind is at your back and you risk having your pages blown away.

"Be mindful of today and tomorrow and the line between the two.

"Before you are the choices you will make - and the consequences therefore."

Grau cited Christopher Wren's epitaph at St. Paul's Cathedral in London, of which Wren was the architect. "If you seek his monument, look around you."



Grau encouraged the students to look around Bellevue and the world to find what good they could do.

PRIVATE CONGRATULATIONS:

While the students sat in the gymnasium before the ceremony, Starnes and Principal Lt. Col. Mike Wills walked among the three rows of students and shook each hand and offered each a personal congratulation.

OVERHEARD:

One graduate talking to another: "For 12 years, I thought this would be a happy day; and today I've just been so sad. All of us might never be together again."

 [Print](#) |  [Close Window](#) | Copyright 2008, *Enquirer.com*