

[ceremony we love] Graduation

By:Lauren Truax

The Class of 2005's graduation was held at the Cintas Center at Xavier University at 1:30 PM on Sunday, May 29th. Students had to report in the side entrance and be in the back room by 12:15 PM. In that room was where they picked up their graduation medals and got in order to walk out for the graduation ceremony.

"I enjoyed meeting in the back room because it gave me a chance to see all my friends in their gowns before we had to go into the graduation ceremony," said **Nicole Stowers**.

While the students waited to proceed into the graduation ceremony classmates walked around passing out marbles. The idea for the marbles was one marble for each student. When the student shook **Principal Mr. Kenji Matsudo's** hand they would pass along the marble to him. Every student had to shake his hand, therefore, he would end up with over 450 marbles. Where he would put them, the students did not know, but they did know it would be funny to watch.

However, teachers saw the passing of the marbles and told the students to turn them into the teachers. Many students turned them in but also many hid them in their hats or their mouths when the teachers walked by so they could keep them to give to **Matsudo**. During the ceremony **Matsudo** received many marbles, not 450, but enough to notice.

"I hid my marble in my hat when the teacher walked by so I could still give mine to **Mr. Matsudo**," said **Erica Weber**.

The welcome speech was given by **Venkat Shanker**, who walked up the stairs with his mascot hat on with his green robe. It was very entertaining. The National Anthem was sung by **Andrea Thomas** and **Eric Shen**.

Laura Steiner gave the class president speech while **Maya Pillai** gave the student address. **Emily Tolos** also gave a class president speech. Also, the school choir performed a "Song of Farewell," and **Amber D'Souza** sang "Breakaway" at the end of the ceremony.

For students to participate in the graduation ceremony they had to be present at the rehearsal on the Friday before graduation. If you were unable to attend the rehearsal, a person had to sit in your place at the practice.

Before the rehearsal, senior parents provided students with breakfast. There were donuts, yogurt, juice, bagels, muffins, and lots of other wonderful foods. There was time to eat the food while all the students were picking up the seat placement card from their counselor.

"It was really nice of the parents to give us one last senior treat. It was great to hang out with some people that you knew you were not going to see again in a long time," said **Kate Scheineson**.

Overall, graduation was a big success. No one completely fell going up the stairs, there were only a few cases of slight trips. It definitely will be a graduation that will be remembered.



AMANDA BOWER AND ELIZABETH WILFONG SING TO THE Class of 2005. They sang a beautiful song that many thought was one of the best performed at graduation. Both **Bower** and **Wilfong** sang in school functions throughout their high school careers.



EMILY TOLOS ACCEPTING THE DIPLOMAS FOR ALL THE students. After all students received their diplomas they watched **Tolos** for their cue to cross over their tassel from their left to their right. Many students looked forward to this part of the graduation ceremony.