Agenda for Distinction Gains Momentum

Patrick Lawlor ’13
Editor

Early morning sounds of bulldozers and dump trucks trailing through campus is a sure sign that the Agenda for Distinction — is in full swing.

The two current projects are the Volpe expansion project, which adds athletic facilities and a state of the art sports medicine facility, and the residence hall project, which will house about 350 additional students.

The master plan that outlines the way the college plans to grow is over - seen by President Christopher Hopey and his senior leadership team, made up of the vice presidents of student affairs, academic affairs, fiscal affairs and administrative affairs, as well as deans of schools, faculty senators, and athletic advancement and presidential staff.

Last spring, the President’s Office hired Felipe Schwarz as assistant vice president for external affairs to help execute the master plan. Schwarz is a planner and project manager who has experience in the planning aspects of campuses, most notably at Northeastern University, where his previous firm worked on the master plan. The college has also hired the firm Shepley Bulfinch, a renowned architecture firm, which worked on the plans for Harvard, Duke, and the Massachusetts State House.

Underlying the plan is increasing student enrollment to 3,000 by the year 2021, according to Jeffrey Doggett, Hopey’s chief of staff and a driving force of growth initiatives on campus.

“Year one of the Agenda for Distinction was aspiration, year two is the initiatives,” he said.

The strategic plan will lead the college to the biggest growth plans in its 65 years of existence. “We will use strategic initiatives to move the Agenda for Distinction into a physical plan,” said Doggett.

With the growth of student body, academic deans will be involved with applying trends and finding out what majors are popular and where there is most interest.

Schwarz will focus on the balance between buildings and green space, as Merrimack’s grounds and green space are widely lauded, Doggett noted. The college will undertake a lone walker avoids Wednesday’s rain.

See STRATEGIC PLAN Page 10

Hamel Head Promises Better Services for Students

Kara Marie Joyce ’15
Staff Writer

Have you heard about the changes in Hamel Health?

In June, Merrimack welcomed Suzanne Slattery, Ph.D. as director of the health center. Slattery is a licensed psychologist who was previously employed at Babson College, Berklee College of Music, and the College of the Holy Cross.

Slattery said she accepted the position mainly because of the sense of community she felt at Merrimack. Her goal is to make the health center more student-oriented and have the students take full advantage of all the health center has to offer.

Currently the Hamel Health staff is made up of three counselors, Sharon Brousard, Nic Wildes and Slattery. Counseling sessions are available by walk-in during a crisis as well as by appointment. Common reasons for students to see a counselor include stress, anxiety, depression, relationship concerns, personal issues, and family problems. Anything said in the sessions is completely confidential (except in cases of danger to self or others) and kept in a file separate from the student’s medical as well as academic records.

Aside from the three counselors there are also two nurses at the health center, Stephanie Callahan and Linda Sorrenti, and an office manager, Katie Tavares. Nancy Barry, the nurse supervisor, recently retired after 47 years at the college.

See HAMEL
Page 5

Staying Dry Near Sullivan Hall: Under an umbrella and autumn leaves, a lone walker avoids Wednesday’s rain.

Merrimack Honors Rabbi Visotzky

Brett Julian ’13
Staff Writer

Almost two decades ago Merriam College began its Center for the Study of Jewish-Christian Relations. On Oct. 4, 2008, through continuous efforts to grow and support the study of other religions, the Center for the Study of Jewish-Christian Relations expanded to include Jewish-Christian-Muslim Relations. Three years ago, a Jewish-Christian-Muslim minor became available to students, the first such undergraduate academic program in the country.

Every second year, the Center awards the Goldziher Prize. This award, with a $25,000 prize funded by the William and Mary Greve Foundation, honors an individual for helping advance Jewish-Muslim dialogue. This award honors individuals that have done their best to create a better relationship between the two religions in the midst of many contemporary misunder- standings and conflicts.

This year Rabbi Burton L. Vi- sortzky, Appleman Professor of Midrash and Interreligious Studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City, will be awarded the Goldziher Prize for his life’s work in advancing understanding, reverence and common moral purpose among Jews and Muslims.

On Oct. 15 interfaith leaders from across the country will be gathering at Merrimack to honor the Rabbi. Cardinal Sean O’Malley, Archbishop of Boston, will join with the College in honoring Rabbi Visotzky’s work.

The first part of this event will be an opportunity for students to meet these leaders in a “Heroes and Worship” dinner that takes place from

See VISOTZKY
Page 10
Questions on the Quad

By Agata Adamczuk

What do you do on rainy days?

Chris Indrisano ’13
Go to the gym.

Mary Murphy ’15
I usually have track practice.

Matt O’Niel ’14
Watch the Lion King

Police Log

Sept. 27
Officer flagged down by two women who reported that a 40-year-old man was walking around campus and had harassed them.

Sept. 27
A neighbor who lives on the corner of Foxhill and Brookdale called to report kids smoking around the neighborhood and in the rear of the Townhouse and sitting on the Monican gate. It has been happening regularly (day and night).

Sept. 28
Residents called to report that their apartment had been broken into the previous night. They reported the common area furniture was in disarray and the robbers may have come in through the windows. Police responded to document the scene and take pictures, and Physical Plant was called to repair the screen.

Oct. 04
A student called to report a dispute between a man and woman in lot 8 B and C.

Suspicious odor reported in Monican third floor. Units responded and confiscated marijuana from students.

Oct. 06
Merrimack College Police received a 911 hang up from O’Brien lobby. Unit was dispatched to area.

Mack Tweets

@snichelfritz
In case you missed it @KeyAndPeele name dropped #merrimack in this week’s episode. #movinonup

@Leonid1991
Well I guess party hard, duty harder #mcrafteroff

@NotTimWhitehead
Drew’s Merrimack already have a women’s hockey team?

@seddNjakeAfter
21 years I still truly believe that “a lot” should be one word

@Carilicious
Nap time is my favorite time

@KaraMarie_Joyce
Morning talk radio in the cafe is all about booty calls #classy

@lawsome33
Good to see the professor learned how to use a thermostat and the class isn’t 90 degrees

@JoyCollette11
This place is a ghost town
On-Campus Crime Still Low

Luigi DiSisto, ‘13
Staff Writer

Every year at Merrimack College, the department of police services releases the Clery Report, details all of the happenings over the last year in which police services had been required.

The first half of the report outlines a lot of the rules and regulations of the school, and the second half goes into detail about the different occurrences in the last couple of years.

Data is displayed for each year since 2009 in terms of fire safety. Only one fire was reported during that entire year, and that caused no damage, making 2009 a very safe year. The fire occurred in Deegan East and its cause was undetermined.

In 2010, there were two fires: one in Monican Centre, the cause of which was unknown; the other, in Ash Centre, was accredited to arson and generated about $100 in damages.

In 2011, the school again reported only one fire.

Another portion of the Clery Report that students may find interesting is the section on crime statistics and crime rates. Again, information is tracked back to 2009.

This section of the report is divided into incidents on campus, in residential areas, and in public areas. Merrimack has had no public offenses since 2009.

Looking strictly at incidents that occurred on campus since 2009, Merrimack College has had four forcible sex offenses, two aggravated assaults, 56 burglaries, 43 liquor law arrests, a grand total of 801 liquor law referrals ("violations of law that were referred to the college’s student conduct system without any criminal prosecution"), six drug law arrests, 107 drug law referrals, five weapons law arrests, nine weapons law referrals, and only one hate crime.

The statistics appear to be steady, as they do not show any dramatic increases in any particular incidents on campus. The report also goes into detail on incidents that occurred strictly at the residence halls on campus. The report is accessible on Police Service’s website.
Election Special

Race Tight as November Nears

Joan Corcoran ’13
Associate Editor in Chief

Every four years American citizens are given the opportunity to cast their vote for president of the United States.

This year’s election is between Democratic President Barack Obama and the Republican candidate, former Massachusetts Gov Mitt Romney.

Obama is running with Vice President Joe Biden and Romney has chosen Representative Paul Ryan of Wisconsin as his running mate for the 2012 election.

Romney and Obama are almost even in most national polls. Romney was said to have been more aggressive during the first presidential debate last week, while Obama was seen as flat and lackluster.

Because of this Romney was able to catch up in the polls; he had been lagging by single digits in recent weeks. Each candidate has his own plan of action to turn this country around.

Obama wants to be given a second term to continue what he believes is the best course of action for America.

The president has implemented a new system of health care, called “Obamacare” by critics (but the term was embraced by the president during the debate) and promotes himself as a president for the people. “Obamacare” attempts to give all citizens access to affordable health insurance.

Obama says he strives to lower taxes for what he considers to be the middle class of America, and intends to raise taxes for those he sees as wealthy. Obama is also a strong supporter of women’s rights, and of a woman’s right to choose abortion.

He promised to end combat in Iraq and has done so, and is following his schedule to withdraw the troops from Afghanistan.

Al Qaida leader Osama Bin Laden was also killed under Obama’s watch. Romney has espoused more conservative views. He said he plans to re-appoint the same Supreme Court justices that he considers to be more liberal.

Obama’s plan for taxes also differs from Obama’s. The plan addresses two different types of taxes, individual taxes and corporate taxes; Romney wants to cut taxes for both.

He has not made many statements regarding his stance on women’s rights. He believes that abortion is wrong and, according to his website, would ideally like to overturn Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion.

If Romney is elected he plans to place more control into the health care professionals’ hands regarding women’s access to birth control and abortion.

He also believes that Obama withdrew U.S. troops too quickly from Iraq.

He believes that the decision to withdraw the troops has compromised national security.

This year’s election is being held on Tuesday, Nov. 6.

Register to vote at www.register-tovote.org.

All Eyes on Senate Race

Marissa Diaz ’14
Staff Writer

The race for the Massachusetts open US Senate seat will come to a close on Nov. 6, resulting in one incumbent who will serve for the next term of six years. Running on the Republican ticket is Senator Scott Brown.

He will be running for re-election after winning the garnered considerable media attention as special election in 2010 to replace former Senator Ted Kennedy.

Opposing Brown is Democratic hopeful Elizabeth Warren, a Harvard Law Professor.

Senator Scott Brown is running for senate with the issue of our nation’s high unemployment rate in mind.

Brown wants to leave this country in a better economic standing for future generations and promises to continue his fight for jobs, keep taxes low, and repeal Obamacare because of its higher taxes and cuts to medicare.

Warren knows the people who she is fighting for and they are considered America’s middle class.

She wants to create a level playing field for all citizens so that everyone has equal opportunities. She also believes that higher education has become more difficult to achieve with the high costs and lack of support for public school teachers.

Contrary to Brown, Warren supports the health reform and believes they will provide tax breaks for small companies providing health care as well as many other positive outcomes.

With so many pressing issues, this senate race has garnered considerable media attention as Brown vies to defend his seat. The fourth and final debate will be held on Oct. 30 and the election is the following week on Nov. 6.

Mass. Voters to Decide Marijuana Legalization

Kristin Anderson ’14
Staff Writer

In the upcoming elections on the Massachusetts statewide ballot, there will be three questions to vote on. Each of these three questions covers a significant issue and is a law proposed by initiative petition.

Question 1 is Availability of Motor Vehicle Repair Information. If voted upon, this law proposes that starting with model year 2015, when you buy or lease a motor vehicle, the manufacturer must give you access to all diagnostic and repair information.

Those in favor hold the position that it is more convenient because you can choose where to get your repairs done instead of having to go to the dealership you purchased the vehicle from. Also in favor, some believe that when you buy a car you should have any information relating to how to fix it.

Those against Question 1, make points such as repair information and tools are already available to purchase. Those opposed challenge the current system since it is not broken. The possibility of the release of personal information is also a concern.

Question 2 has to do with prescribing medication to end life. This law would allow a terminally ill patient to request prescription medication by a physician, to end their life. There are some qualifications, which include that the patient has to be mentally capable of this decision, the patient must be diagnosed such that they will be die in six months, and that the patient themselves express their wish to die. Physician assisted suicide is legal in nine states throughout the nation.

Those in favor of this proposed law sympathize with the terminally ill. Positions reflect on the right to choose, especially if it means in the comfort of their own homes and awareness of their loved ones. Those against Question 2 express that this is just a substitute for quality health care and that it enables suicide. They point out that many people out live the six-month life expectancy that physicians give as an estimate.

Question 3 covers medical use of marijuana. This law proposes that qualifying patients would have no more room for criminal or civil penalties for using medical marijuana. Patients would have to have a debilitating medical condition and get a written prescription from a physician. The patient would receive a 60-day supply, and can designate a caregiver if they are over 21 years old.

Those in favor of question 3 take on the position that this law could ease the suffering of many patients who qualify. Those in favor believe this law requires strict regulation and it could lessen the use of addictive narcotics.

Those against think there are too many loopholes, which are left open for corruption of this law. Their position is one that expresses concern that even though this could help some people, there is just too much room for widespread abuse.

These three issues will be voted upon in the upcoming elections on November 6th.
Success Story:  
Patrick Hovsepia

By The O’Brien Center  
for Student Success

Patrick Hovsepia, a junior at Merrimack, is a well-recognized face in our community, showing leadership in a variety of ways. He is an active participant of the Merrimack Programming Board (MPB), an Orientation Leader, Admissions Ambassador, and Career Peer Advisor for the O’Brien Center.

When he is not actively engaged on campus, Hovsepia is pursuing his degree in Computer Science. He reflects on his favorite professor, Mary Noonan, his Introduction to Coding instructor.

“Professor Noonan helped me to embrace my inner geek,” he explained.

Professor Mary Noonan, Dean of the Science and Engineering department “truly invests in our learning and makes a memorable impression,” said Hovsepia.

Last spring, Hovsepia was eager to apply academics to real life experiences in the workforce.

“My professors have a very deep understanding of their subject matter, and this allowed me to effectively explain various topics in computer science as I began my summer internship search,” he said.

His confidence and knowledge would serve him well during the spring Career Fair, where he networked his way through job opportunities.

Hovsepia prepared for the career fair by visiting the O’Brien Center for Student Success, where he received help through resume critiques and career counseling appointments.

As a result, he obtained an amazing summer internship with Fidelity Investments in the Computer Science Department.

During the internship, Hovsepia immersed himself in all aspects of the experiential learning opportunity.

“I took my classroom knowledge and applied it to the internship. This proved to be extremely beneficial,” he said.

Now that Hovsepia has a full-time internship to add to his resume, he’s eager to offer advice to other Merrimack students: “Definitely use the resources offered by the O’Brien Center for Student Success because the office is dedicated to your career growth and helping ensure future stability.”

The O’Brien Center will be hosting an Internship and Co-Op Panel on Wednesday Oct. 17 in Murray Lounge from 6:00pm-8:00pm.

Additionally, Monday Oct. 22 from 6:00pm-8:00pm in Murray Lounge, the O’Brien Center will hold a Post Graduate Service/Non Profit Fair. Stop by the O’Brien Center to have your resume critiqued prior to these events! Register today on Advantage at myinterfase.com/merrimack/student. You do not want to miss out on these opportunities.

Want to share your success story? Send an email to careergradassistant@merrimack.edu.

New Chief at Hamel

HAMEL

From Page 1

There are also doctors who visit Hamel Health every week to tend to the needs of the students. The doctors, however, are available to see students only during certain hours of the week when they visit the health center.

“I have a very busy schedule between my job and my school work. Trying to get to Hamel Health for the doctors hours becomes such a hassle,” said Lindsey Maher, a sophomore.

When Slattery was hired, she realized that the students needed a health center that they could come to on their time to get the service they need. This is why she is in the process of hiring a nurse practitioner. The nurse practitioner will not take the place of the doctors, but will be able to provide a broader range of services similar to that of a doctor.

Doctors’ hours will remain the same; this year they are Monday and Wednesday 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., Wednesday 1 to 2 p.m., Thursday 2 to 3 p.m., and Friday 10 to 11 a.m.

Bringing a nurse practitioner on board means that there will be someone there to treat students full time, as well as write prescriptions.

Slattery is looking for someone with a master’s degree who is a certified adult or family nurse practitioner.

This person will not only hold the title of nurse practitioner to the Hamel Health Center, but also become the assistant director of health services.

Slattery hopes the nurse practitioner will be hired by January 2013.

Hamel Health is open Mondays and Thursdays 8:30 to 6, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays 8:30 to 5.

For more information, call (978) 837-5443 or stop by the center in person.

Center for the Study of Jewish-Christian-Muslim Relations

awards the 2012 Goldziher Prize to

Rabbi Burton L. Visotzky, Ph.D.

Appelman Professor of Midrash and Interreligious Studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City

For his courageous and pioneering work in Jewish-Muslim Relations

The award will be presented on October 15, 2012 through the generosity of the William and Mary Greve Foundation.

Cardinal Sean O’Malley, Archbishop of Boston will be in attendance.

Center for the Study of Jewish-Christian-Muslim Relations

Merrimack College, North Andover, MA 01845.

JCM@merrimack.edu – www.merrimack.edu/JCM – 978-837-5428
Who Will Be Crowned Mr. Merrimack?

KaraMarie Joyce ’15
Staff Writer

During homecoming weekend Merrimack College will hold its annual Mr. Merrimack competition. This year’s pageant, run by the Junior Class Council, will be held on Friday Nov. 2. Schuyler Watkins ’14 and A.J. Andreucci ’13 will be the hosts.

The competition will be judged by Kevin Salemme, director of the media instructional services, Jane Parent, associate professor of management, Beverly Lavallee, assistant to the vice president of mission and student affairs, and John Perry, head coach of football.

The night has a formal wear section, a talent show, a swimwear competition, and a question and answer session.

Tickets will be on sale this upcoming week with a pre-sale price of $3 for students. Following the pre-sale tickets will be priced at $5 for students and $8 for non-students.

Gallery Eyed At Augie’s

Sarah Buckwald ’14
Staff Writer

Campus has been buzzing with news of Merrimack student Paulina Amato’s proposed student-run art gallery.

Amato is a fifth year student working toward her bachelor’s degree in art history. By her senior year, she knew she wanted to pursue her dream of becoming an art curator. To gain more experience, Amato assisted Professor David Raymond with the McCoy Gallery in the Rogers Center that later led to the creative idea of a student run art gallery.

“I believe that this gallery will be influential in attracting new students to the school as well as help promote and celebrate the diversity and talent of our peers,” said Amato.

Amato’s proposal would place her gallery in Augie’s Pub. Students would be able to hold art workshops as well as be able to create pieces of art without having to worry about the price of materials.

Augie’s, according to Amato, has a wonderful atmosphere and would also give students a sense of community while browsing the artwork. The proposed art gallery would be open during lunch and dinner for students to view exquisite displays of art by their talented peers.

Amato presented her plans for the art gallery to the Student Government Association and is waiting for the board to vote. If a majority of the members approve of the gallery then it will officially be given student organization status.

The gallery would not only be used to display pieces of art, but to host different events. Mainly, the gallery exhibitions will include work created by Merrimack’s own students.

“My goal is to promote the collaboration of different majors within the Visual and Performing Arts Department and give students a chance to experience and learn about the workings of an art gallery,” she said.

Amato believes that this gallery would be a great opportunity for students to advertise their work in a gallery setting as well as interact with peers. The gallery would be accommodating to new ideas from the students and alumni who contribute their art as well.

The gallery would include a student committee to be in charge of the upkeep and responsibilities. Some of the work entailed for the students may include curatorial responsibilities, installation, fundraising, publicizing, and marketing.

Establishing this committee as a club would provide funding for materials and other necessities in order to promote the gallery.
Merrimack senior Trent Weiss is bringing his band Avalar from their hometown of Lancaster, Pa., to campus. The band, with Weiss on drums and brothers Spencer, Zach, and Skyler Fiel on vocals, bass and rhythm guitar, plays Augie's Pub on Nov. 17. Avalar has been influenced by bands like Lost Prophets and The Dangerous Summer, whose lead singer A.J. Perdomo pitches in vocals on Avalar's eight-song EP “Storylines,” available on iTunes, Amazon, Rhapsody and Spotify.
Patrick Lawlor ’13
Editor in Chief

Coming to an End of Being a Vegetarian

OK, so I have been eating a lot of pizza. Not even that I want to eat it a lot, but it’s always available. You can find it in the cafe at Merrimack, and there’s always a pizza shop around the corner. The Margherita pizza from Bertucci’s to the Coleste frozen pizza, they always seem to do the trick.

I also eat a lot of chips. Mostly tortilla chips. For some reason I believe these are healthier for me. One roommate remarked: “oh you’re hungry, and you’re eating chips? What a surprise.”

To find more protein I picked up some beans from Whole Foods. My mother gave me a $50 gift card to Whole Foods; it doesn’t go very far there. I walked away with only two bags filled with organic beans, carrots, tortilla chips and some very tasty guacamole.

I want to use this post to highlight some of my favorite foods I have eaten this month. I have broken it down into two categories: food I have made, and food made for me. To avoid upsetting anyone, I won’t rank the food made for me.

Food that I have made:
• homemade macaroni and cheese with a ritz cracker topping, with possibly the best salad I have ever had on it. Yes;
• butternut squash ravioli (from Sal’s Restaurant in Lawrence);
• caprese sandwich from Jacob Wirth’s in Boston.

Food made for me:
• homemade macaroni and cheese with a ritz cracker topping, with possibly the best salad I have ever had on it. Yes;
• homemade macaroni and cheese with a ritz cracker topping, with possibly the best salad I have ever had on it. Yes;
• butternut squash ravioli (from Sal’s Restaurant in Lawrence);
• caprese sandwich from Jacob Wirth’s in Boston.

Today I ordered an item for the next phase of the Modern Warrior Project: a used Samsung flip phone. Next month I will be giving up my iPhone, Facebook and Twitter. I ordered the phone in about seven seconds, off of my iPhone--something that will not be possible next month. On Monday Oct. 15, I will be back to eating meat, but my iPhone will be locked away, and I’ll be off Facebook and Twitter. Stick with me through the second month of my experiment.

Roger McCormack ’14

The United States is at war. The conflict is costing billions of dollars each year, there’s no end in sight, and with public approval grown moribund, the Washington political monolith has become reticent in advocating steps to bring it to an end. It is, of course, the war on drugs, waged on foreign and domestic soil for the last 40 years at horrific human cost. It’s time to end the calamitous drug policies, and renew focus on articulating truly preventive measures, not those that simply demonize addicts and sow brutality.

Since the 1970s, the United States has spent more than $2.5 trillion fighting the sale of illicit drugs, using punitive measures that have left ston- ningly malicious sentences on many countries, as most recently evidenced by the virulent wars between rival cartels in Mexico. While the United States has mandated increasingly harsh measures to prevent trafficking, drug sales and violence have stayed in lock-step.

The violence wrought on Mexico demonstrates testimonies against U.S. enforcement measures. The president of Mexico, Felipe Calderon, told the BBC: “If the Americans are determined to and resigned to consuming drugs, they should look for market alter- natives that annul the stratospheric profits of the criminals, or establish clear points of access that are not the border with Mexico. But this situation cannot continue like this.”

Yet Washington has refused to reform its policies. Since 2006, 40,000 people have been massacred in Mexico, and recent violence along the U.S.-Mexican border city of Nuevo Laredo dra- matically illustrated the cartels’ ruthlessness. In just one case among multitudes, 23 people were decapitated and hung alongside the bridge in the city; 14 heads were discovered by police in cooters.

Furthermore, U.S. do- mestic policy on illicit drugs attests to gross human degradation. Reason maga- zine recently profiled the brutality fostered in Ameri- can correctional facilities, where inmates spent 23 hours a day in a cell the size of a typical elevator” — even if they were incarcerated merely for testing pos- itive for marijuana. “They use the bathroom in that cell, and they shower in it,” Reason wrote. “Some- times, a cell mate is forced to share that space with an- other inmate.” In addition, prisoners are denied coun- seling to address their substance addictions. This punish- ment surely does not fit the crime.

The paradigm that de- fines drug use as a moral failing that must be dealt with harshly is idiotic. In a New York Times op-ed enti- tled “The Living Death of Solitary Confinement,” Lisa Guenther, professor of philo- sophy at Vanderbilt Uni- versity, wrote: “There are many ways to destroy a person, but the simplest and most devastating might be solitary confinement. De- prived of a meaningful human contact, otherwise healthy prisoners become unhinged. They experience intense anxiety, paranoia, depression, memory loss, hallucinations and other perceptual distortions.”

Substitute “healthy pris- oners” with “drug addicts,” and an immoral and unjust system that foments the ill- ness and decrepitude of its wards, comes clearly into view.

History demonstrates that the proscriptive meas- ures that focused on knowledge, rather than the word of law, would further vitiate sales.

Knowledge is a potent force that is chronically un- dermined by the belief that morality is intertwined with systems of power. It’s hard to imagine cocaine and heroin holding the same thrill if a government en- shrined legal status upon them. As Martin Luther King Jr. said: “We should never forget that everything Adolf Hitler did in Germany was ‘legal’ and everything the Hungarian freedom fighters did in Hungary was ‘illegal.’”

We should not appeal to law for moral decision-making when sense and educa- tion can dictate decisions that supersede governmen- tal edicts. As Ron Paul once asked, “Who would do heroin if it was legal?”

Solutions like these, promulgated by many U.S. statesmen, can only lead to a future increasingly red of tooth and claw.
A Way to Honor a Deserving Priest

Patrick J. Lawlor
Editor in Chief

Merrimack College was not founded for millionnaires or donors with deep pockets. Merrimack was founded by the Augustinians for troops returning from the war as a place for those who gave back to their country.

The new residence hall should not be sold to a name. It should be used to pay homage to an Augustinian who devoted his life to Merrimack College.

Now there are many who may be deserving of such an honor, but the most deserving is Fr. Kevin Dwyer.

Dwyer retired two years ago after 48 years of teaching at Merrimack College. I had Dwyer for American Catholicism, and was always impressed and amused with his stories, his quick wit, and his sharp intellect. I can truly say it was an honor to be taught by him at Merrimack.

His first year of teaching was at Villanova. He was then assigned to Merrimack, arriving here on July 26, 1963—he still remembers the exact day.

Besides teaching, he served in many roles that directly impacted the students. He was moderator of the school newspaper, then called The Warrior during the Vietnam war, a time he explained very interesting for a student newspaper.

Dwyer captures what we all refer to now as the “Merrimack Community.” He immersed himself in nearly every aspect of campus. Dwyer was a professor in the Religious Studies department, and also served as the college’s archivist. He was the coach of the sailing team—a story he always enjoys telling is when his team won a regatta over the Coast Guard’s sailing team.

When the Ash Centre was called Austin Hall, he lived in the residence as a priest prefect, becoming a part of the residential community. Dwyer also served as the advisor of the Phi Kappa Theta fraternity, of which he was also a brother.

Dwyer’s favorite part about being a part of the students, and contributing to their lives in a positive way, and seeing them get through life in a positive way.”

Dwyer is thankful for the friendships he has gained from his half a century of being part of Merrimack — he spent Columbus Day visiting a former student in Killington, Vermont.

His legacy at Merrimack could not be more perfect, as he served the community in academics, athletics, Greek life, and residence life. It seems obvious for the residence project to be named Kevin Dwyer Residence Village, after an Augustinian who has such a rich history in every aspect of campus.

Let’s pay back the Augustinians for their tireless work for campus.

Opinion

Commuting Is a Two-Way Street

Jackie Bagley ’14
Staff Writer

Being a commuter at Merrimack has its advantages, and its disadvantages—which are different for every commuter.

The reason one commutes, could be his or her choice completely, or not at all. One could commute for convenience and comfort, being their choice. But someone could also have to commute, due to financial restraints.

There are two different kinds of commuters. One kind comes to campus just for class and nothing else. They do not eat here, they’re not here for deep, and are not involved in many organizations. For the most part, they usually hang out with other commuters and only talk to people in class. The second kind is a commuter in disguise. They have meal plans, stay for more than just class, stay over sometimes on the weekends with their friends, and are involved with many clubs and organizations on campus. They hang out with mostly residents since they practically live with them anyway.

Either way, commuters are well accepted into Merrimack’s community. Although more students are residents, nearly 74 percent of Merrimack students are residents, according to merrimck.edu.

Commuting brings with it a lot of responsibility, which could have a positive or negative impact. Students could grow more independent or they could allow their laziness to deter them from coming to campus.

Commuters save a little bit of money by not paying for room and board, though they have to pay for a car and gas. Cars are expensive to service and can easily break down. Another issue could be traffic, depending on where a commuter is driving from, and depending on the time of day. Next, the issue of weather arises, which can make driving to campus difficult, especially in the winter. Planning accordingly to traffic and weather is needed. Last, there is the issue of parking this semester, which can cause some problems with commuters, having nowhere to park in the morning.

Commuters do not have to deal with housing registration. They also do not have any distraction, like people do living in residence halls on a regular basis. One could go through roommate and hall disruptions. Also, they could have a fear living with a roommate.

Commuters have to pick their class times more carefully. Big gaps in between classes can be troublesome since they do not have a room to go back to. And driving home could be a waste of gas and time. Many just go to the library and wait for their next class.

When a professor cancels class without sending an e-mail, commuters will go to class, not knowing about the cancellation until they see a sign outside their classroom door.

Though commuters must keep time and money always in mind, they feel in control of their college experience and view it in a positive light.

Jackie Bagley is a junior who commutes to Merrimack.

Be a Halloween Hero: Give Blood

Domenica Fuller ’13
Student Government Assoc.

October is synonymous with ghosts and ghouls; mystery and horror; blood and guts. At Merrimack, October also means the Fall Semester Red Cross Blood Drive is upon us. While the blood drive involves donating blood and giving back or giving blood will come around the corner and scare donors, they should offer a round of applause for those who take the time out of his/her day to donate blood and save a life.

The act of donating blood is by no means a small one. Donating Blood can lead to one person helping to save up to three lives. Blood that is donated can be separated into three parts: red blood cells, white blood cells, and plasma. Blood is something a person can spare, but there is still not enough to go around. Every year five million patients in the United States need blood, but only 38 percent of the population is eligible to donate. Blood cannot be manufactured, there is no substitute; it takes a person; a volunteer; a hero.

Being a hero does not require a fancy costume or fighting off bad guys, it requires only one hour of a person’s day. One hour could save up to three lives. The Student Government Association is proud to work with The Red Cross and sponsor the blood drive on October 18th. If anyone is interested in signing up please visit an SGA representative on Main Street Oct. 15- Oct. 17 during lunch and dinner hours. Thank you to those who have already signed up. The SGA is looking forward to meeting the brave donors. Donations from Merrimack College will be in hospital less than one week after the blood drive. This is an opportunity for Merrimack to make a huge difference in the community. Be a part of that difference. Be an everyday hero; donate.
Plan Under Way

**STRATEGIC PLAN**
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“green initiatives” to help maintain and stabilize the environment.

All this growth needs to be financed. The Volpe expansion project is being paid for by gifts, and revenue from the ice rink. Richard Gallant, a local youth hockey entrepreneur, put up a $2 million gift.

The projects are also being paid for by a strategic financial move that the college made this summer. Merrimack sold approximately $65 million in bonds. Nearly $34 million was used to pay down prior debt and approximately $31 million is new debt, according to information provided by the President’s Office.

The construction has not gone unnoticed by those outside the gates of campus. Labor unions have threatened to protest the work being performed at Merrimack by Pro Con Construction, a non-union construction firm. Those union companies who protested, according to Doggett, did not bid on the projects at Merrimack.

In an interview with The Beacon, Doggett was clear in saying, “These projects will be done in a safe way, and the college will be careful with finances.”

Doggett also said that there will be sessions for students on the rollout of the master plan, to gather input from those already enrolled here at Merrimack.

**Site Cleared for Residence Village**

Tom Lanzoni ’14
**Staff Writer**

Merrimack College has begun building a new village of residence halls.

Land has been cleared and forms for foundations have been laid between O’Brien Hall and the Sakovich Campus Center.

This new set of five buildings, which are described as townhouse-type living, is intended to house students by the fall of 2013. The new buildings will add 350 beds, which will move Merrimack closer to its goal of enrolling 3,000 undergraduates. Currently enrollment is just under 2,400, with more than 1,600 beds on campus.

The campus community is discussing which upperclassmen will move Merrimack closer to its goal of enrolling 3,000 undergraduates. Currently enrollment is just under 2,400, with more than 1,600 beds on campus.

The campus community is discussing which upperclassmen will have the opportunity to live in the new residence halls next year.

“I think it’s a much needed addition, and I’m excited that it could be my future residence next year,” said John Pastyrnak ’15.

New Look at Gender Divide

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“Truth About Boys and Girls: Challenging Toxic Stereotypes About Our Children” by Dr. Rosalind Chait Barnett of Brandeis University will explore the truthfulness of these generalizations. Barnett will present considerable evidence that challenges the idea that boys’ and girls’ brains are wired very differently.

Most people know that mass media and toy companies push traditional gender roles onto children from a very young age. But the prejudices Barnett will address run even deeper, delving into beliefs that many have accepted as scientific facts for decades.

“There’s an enormous disconnect between the research out there and what people think,” said Barnett. She believes we do ourselves a great disservice if we continue to buy into these untrue assumptions, and aims to challenge the audience to rethink their ideas of what’s male and female, and to open their minds to aspects of gender that they’ve never thought about before.”

The lecture will be held on at 7 p.m. on Oct. 22, in Cascia Hall.

Merrimack Honors Visotzky

**VISOTZKY**
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5:15 to 6:30 p.m. Each leader will host a table and students will be able to choose a “hero” with whom to sit and converse during dinner. More than 75 students have signed up to participate.

Later in the evening, Rabbi Visotzky will be honored at an award dinner and ceremony.

The Center works to bring peace among religions in a time when they have had difficulties coming to peace.

In the words of Prof. Joseph Kelly, Director of the Center, “Today when there is such provocation and reaction among religions, it is important that we work for mutual understanding and peace across religious borders.”

There will be several notable “heroes” at this event who have dedicated their lives to interfaith work.

Goldziher Prize Winner Rabbi Burton L. Visotzky will of course be in attendance. Mr. Jacob Bender, an independent documentary filmmaker and Goldziher Finalist, as well as Cardinal Sean O’Malley will be speaking with students.

Joining them will also be Rev. Dr. Diane Kessler, past Executive Director of the Massachusetts Council of Churches, Dr. Mohammed Lazzouni, Imam and interfaith leader in New England, and Dr. Jennifer Peace, a member of the Center for Interreligious and Communal Leadership Education.
WARRIOR SPOTLIGHT

Isaiah Voegeli

Stephan Lockwood ‘14
Staff Writer

Named to the Northeast-10 All Conference First Team last year, wide receiver Isaiah Voegeli, the pride of Cape Cod, led the Warriors in receptions, receiving yards, reception touchdowns … and the list continues. The senior is now looking back on a stellar MC career, and looking ahead to post-graduation play.

Q. Who is your favorite professional athlete?
A. Jerry Rice

Q. What are some of your pre-game rituals?
A. Usually I’ll go down to the field and go through my route patterns while listening to music, and say a little prayer before we start.

Q. If you had the chance, would you want to play in the NFL? And for what team?
A. Absolutely, and I don’t have a desired team to play for. Just to make it there is a blessing.

Q. If you had the chance, would you play professional football overseas?
A. Possibly. Whatever opportunity comes up, at whatever point I am in my life. I’m going to take it.

Q. What is your favorite celebration after getting a touchdown?
A. Something I’ve been doing since high school; I would point to the sky and give God thanks.

Q. As a player in high school, did you ever think you would be this successful at this level of competition?
A. To be honest I did not, I just had the mindset that I had to work my tail off, and doing that brought me this far, so I am grateful for that.

Q. How did it feel to set the record in the Northeast-10 for most receiving yards and touchdowns in one game?
A. I didn’t know it happened until after the game. Obviously it feels good to set a record. Honestly, it felt better to come out with the win after the game.

Q. What do you want to be when you graduate from Merrimack?
A. In the immediate future, after college, if the door is open for professional football I will take it, but down the road becoming a physician’s assistant at a hospital.

Q. What has your experience at Merrimack done for you so far?
A. It’s been a good experience. I can’t complain about it. Athletically, it’s been a good experience; socially I have good friends. All in all my experience at Merrimack has been good for me.

Warriors Not Skating on Reputation

MC Squad Hoping Hard Work Will Pay Off At Goal Line

Patrick Bradley ‘14
Staff Writer

We work hard. That simple, three-word reminder means everything to the Merrimack Warrior hockey team this season, and it was evident during Saturday night’s 4-1 victory over no. 5 Union on the road.

“You will not make it two minutes in our locker room without hearing or seeing those three words,” says starting goaltender Sam Marotta. “Some may think it is simple but, with our talent, if we work hard every night, our team will have a very good chance of winning every game.”

For an underdog unranked nationally in the preseason and picked to finish 8th in Hockey East, hard work can’t be overlooked. But are these Warriors really underdogs? “If people want to classify us as underdogs, that’s fine by me. But I prefer not to concern myself with how others think I’m more concerned with what we think of ourselves,” said junior captain and defenseman Jordan Heywood, who finished with an assist on the night.

“We won Saturday’s game because we were in better shape…we worked hard last spring, summer and this fall to get ready for the season and we knew few teams have actually trained as hard as we did.” That hard work in the off-season paid off because, as

Heywood notes, “usually the team who scores more goals in the third period is the better conditioned team.”

Sophomore Josh Myers must have worked extra hard then, scoring two quick goals early in the third period that would give Merrimack a lead they would hold onto for the rest of the night. Simply stated by Marotta, “Our team did not make Union’s night an easy one.”

Despite a relatively easy night for the Warriors, however, Heywood isn’t ready to settle just yet. “It’s the first game of the year, so we can pretty much improve on everything. You can’t expect to be playing playoff hockey in October - but the sooner you get to that level, the better.”

So what about the rest of the season? What should we expect from these unnoticed Warriors? Well, if Saturday is any indication, we’re in for a fun ride. Even in a blowout victory though, Heywood stays focused. “We’re happy with the win, but we’ve got a long way to go.”

Even so, adds Marotta, “everyone in our locker room believes we can skate with anyone in the country.”

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At The Beacon’s press deadline, Merrimack dropped a 4-2 contest against Northeastern on the Huskies’ home ice.

Tough Losses, Tough Parking

After graduating eight seniors, including team MVP and star goalie Joe Cannata and two top goal-scorers, Merrimack Hockey took the ice looking to build off an 18-12-7 finish in the 2011-2012 season.

This season is a whole new story. They are led by their three captains Jordan Heywood ‘14, Kyle Bigos ‘13 and Brendan Ellis ‘14.

The Warriors’ home opener is 7:30 p.m. Oct. 26 against Vermont.

With nearly every game sold out and approximately 2,500 people in attendance at Lawler Arena, parking and traffic on game days will be different this year with the construction of the new Volpe complex expansion.

Merrimack has added parking lots to go along with the already existing four parking lots on campus at Volpe Field and near the Student Recreation Center. Although these additional parking locations have been created, construction on campus will make parking a challenge for spectators.

— Terence Barclay
XC in run-up to NE-10 meet

Michael Perdie '13
Staff Writer

Cross-country is gearing up for a positive showing at the Northeast-10 Conference meet next week. Under head coach Chris Cameron, the Warriors have finished in the top 10 in four out of their seven races this year.

Last weekend the men’s and women’s teams competed in the New England Championships. They competed against top-level teams in the New England region from Divisions I, II and III. The men finished 32nd out of 37 teams while the women finished 28th.

The men’s team was led by freshman Nick Christensen who finished with a, 8K time of 26:15, coming in at 140th overall. Behind him was Sherif Ali (26:54.08) who finished in 183rd place right ahead of Merrimack’s third-best runner, Adam Gidley (26:54.42).

The women’s team was also led by a freshman runner, Kerry Phelan, who set a school record at the New England Championships with a 5K time of 18:43.19. Phelan also earned NE-10 rookie of the week honors for her performance.

“That was a brilliant race for Kerry and I couldn’t be more proud of her in setting a new school record,” said Cameron.

Rounding out the top three for the women’s 5K was sophomore Kelsey Grimmer (19:22.88), who finished in 139th place, and senior Christina Fisher (19:50.39), in 175th place.

“I was certainly pleased with the efforts from both the men and the women, but we need to continue to work on tightening that gap between the No. 1 and No. 5 runners,” Cameron said.

That could ultimately determine our fate at the NE-10 championships in two weeks, so we’ll be working very hard at that over the coming two weeks or so.

The Warrior runners made their mark early in the season at two invitational. “Winning at Rivier and taking runner up at the Shacklette invitational were definitely highlights,” said men’s captain John Lawrence, ’13. Lawrence said some challenges have been dealing with injuries and transitioning some of the younger runners from the high school to college competition.

“13, one of the women’s captains, also attributed some setbacks to injuries. “Hopefully our top seven will be healthy and ready to run hard at conference,” she said.

The Warriors’ next meet is Northeast-10 Conference Championships on Oct. 20.

Madness to Grip MC

Evan Mercier '14
Staff Writer

As Merrimack continues to make changes on campus, the college is beginning to re-ignite an old tradition: Midnight Madness.

This is the first time since 1999 that Merrimack will attempt to rev up the Warriors in preparation for the upcoming sports season. Midnight Madness is a late-night pep rally, typically celebrated at Division I colleges across the country.

All winter sports will be recognized. Cheerleaders and the Dance Team will offer special performances.

There will also be contests and prizes for students along with free T-shirts and pizza for the first 700 to arrive. The school is also offering a $300 gift card to Apple for the best-dressed “Ultimate Warrior.”

This event is being sponsored by the Merrimack Planning Board, Student Government Association, Student Life, Residence Life, and Live to Give.

“There are so many groups working on this event that we hope it attracts students from every group on campus, it will be an exciting night for the college community,” said Kathryn Ganser, the Student Athlete Advisory Committee president.

The rally is tonight, Oct. 12, at 10:30 in Volpe Arena.