Field Hockey Warriors Take Season Conference Title

Matthew LaMalfa
Assistant Sports Editor

A year ago, Merrimack field hockey dropped a 4-2 season-ending decision to Adelphi at then-Warrior Field. With no past season to look forward to, Head Coach Anne Rounce gave her final interview of the year to Assistant SID Rob Rossi. When asked about her team’s play Rounce said, “We did some good things tonight, especially our passing. There’s a lot of work to do for next year but it was an exciting step in the right direction.”

She was right about that, but no one realized then how big that step would be. After falling 4-2 to Indiana University (Pa.) on the road to begin the season, the Lady Warriors have reeled off an impressive streak of 16 straight wins. They finished the regular season a perfect 10-0 in Northeast-10 conference play, winning the conference title as the league’s only unbeaten team. This was the first regular season championship Merrimack has ever won in field hockey.

Last week, two pivotal games stood between the Warriors and the elusive conference crown. Both would be played on their home turf of Martone-Mejail Field, the first being a Tuesday night showdown with the rival UMass-Lowell Riverhawks. Merrimack and Lowell is always a rivalry game, though in field hockey it has been a historically lopsided match-up.

Merrimack has beaten Lowell only once before in 2006 when ironically, Rounce was a member of the squad. The Warriors knew going in that it would be important to score early to set the tone and that’s exactly what happened when Jessica Otis took a cross from Candice Waldie, burying it to give the Warriors a 1-0 lead. Fifteen minutes later, April Daugherty would double the Warrior lead on a similar play to the first goal, taking a feed from Katie Zubkus and beating Lowell goaltender Melanie Hopkins.

‘Rape Lot’: Offensive or Tradition?

Ashley Sarris
Editor in Chief

Eight years ago, the back of Merrimack’s campus was transformed from a wooded wetland to a quarter-mile-long paved parking area for students, adding 670 spots to the college’s parking inventory.

Rather than Lots 8A, 8B and 8C, though, students have referred to the three sections as the Apartment Lot, the First Lot and the Rape Lot.

However, in the history of Lot 8C (and, in fact, the entire campus) there has never been a reported rape, sexual assault or robbery in any of the parking lots.

“The biggest problem we see in the parking lot is vandalism” said Deputy Police Chief Michael Delgreno.

At Mack Meeting, Questions About Transport, Wi-Fi, Credits

Joan Corcoran
News Editor

What do you want from your school? This is the question that drives the Mack Meeting. Merrimack is undergoing changes and has been making many plans to further enhance the school. The Mack Meeting is an opportunity for the students to voice their opinions and ask questions directly to Hopey. At this semester’s meeting, the topics ranged from a “taco bar Tuesday” to the expansion of the college.

One of the first discussions regarded transportation off campus. Many students said they were expecting more transportation into Boston. A few ideas to fix the solution were raised, including more frequent bus trips to Boston, a possible Zipcar location on campus, or even a shuttle to the train station. This would greatly help the students get to places that are not on campus.

Another issue many students were extremely concerned with is wi-fi. Hopey and Chip Stiles, interim chief of IT, said students should email their concerns to askit@merrimack.edu or to call extension 3500.

President Hopey takes questions from students during Mack Meeting

School staff are willing to help fix these problems to the best of their abilities. Hopey said.

Some of the most important conversations were those involving academia. The conversation first began with a discussion about the advising process. Many students find advising an extremely difficult and stressful time.

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continued on page 3
MACK MEDIA

@Kel_Woods
best part of #fall is walking around campus and stepping on all the #crunchy leaves!

@mannyvelezz
Out of bed before 11.. #improving

@Brittanyyy_M
Stuffed-shells then lasagna the next day... the cheese isn't left over or anything #ipaytoomuchforthsis

@taylafernandez
Love when I have 3 mins to walk across campus #dead

@JBobAdilla
thank you merrimack, HEATS on #nolongerfreezing

@jaymurr
That awkward moment in the elevator when you and the other person are both staring at your phones pretending you are talking to someone.

Compiled by Siobhan Licudine, @SiobhanHL_04

Police Log

10/15/2011 00:40 A & B- Simple
A Resident Advisor of O’Brien Hall requested an officer to speak with a victim of assault. Officers arrived and spoke with a female resident about an incident that ocurred during a party that involved pushing with another male resident. Both parties later came to police services to file written statements about the incident. The incident with documented and no charges have been filed.

10/15/2011 00:50 VANDALISM
A Moroccan Centre Resident Advisor called police services to report that a table was thrown out of the back window of the building. Officers responded and took photographs of the damaged property. The incident was documented and the investigation is still open.

10/16/2011 00:54 ALCOHOL-Assessed/Amb/Transport
Police Services reported finding a non student unconscious on the ground near lot 8A. Officers requested Andover Fire and Ambulance for further assistance. When the ambulance arrived the non student woke up and became combative. After assaulting an officer the male individual was transported to Lawrence General Hospital for further evaluation. Before he was placed in the ambulance the police services officer made him aware that he will later be summoned to court for disorderly conduct, assault and battery on a police officer, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

10/16/2011 15:09 B & E- MV
A police services officer responded to lot 8C to take a report on a possible breaking and entering into a motor vehicle. The officer reported speaking with a friend of the owner of the vehicle and advised her to cancel her debit card which had been stolen from the vehicle. Photographs were taken of the damage and a report was filed. The owner was told to call police services if any further assistance was needed.

10/16/2011 22:49 MEDICAL – Suicide – Gesture/Intentions
An Ash Centre Resident Advisor called Police Services to report that a female resident expressed thoughts of suicide. Officers responded along with the Area Coordinator. The female resident was later transported to Lawrence General Hospital for further evaluation.
MC Aids Kids with Cancer
Live2Give’s Newest Fundraiser: Up ‘til Dawn

Stephen Tullgren ’13
Standards Editor

What are you doing this Wednesday from 5 to 10 p.m.?

Live2Give, the organization that runs Relay for Life every year, is running an inaugural Up ‘til Dawn event to support St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

St. Jude, based in Memphis, Tenn., specializes in treating children with various forms of cancer and finding cures for these catastrophic diseases. Children are treated from all 50 states and around the world, with upwards of 260 patients daily.

St. Jude houses 78 children at a time, and relies on donations to thrive.

In 1998, a student group started an all-night fund-raising event to benefit St. Jude. They set a precedent that has been followed by more than 250 schools, and has raised more than $20 million to fight catastrophic childhood diseases.

St. Jude was founded in 1962 by the late entertainer Danny Thomas, and has made incredible strides in cancer treatment. Since 1962, the five-year cancer survival rates for blood cancer, Hodgkin lymphoma, bone cancer, and brain cancer (a small sample of the types of cancer that St. Jude treats) have improved by 90 percent, 40 percent, 45 percent, and 75 percent respectively.

To provide the treatment necessary to fight such a catastrophe, St. Jude has a daily operating cost of over $1.6 million, primarily covered by contributions from the public. The most important part of this is that the families do not have to pay a cent that insurance does not cover, no matter what their economic or cultural background may be. This is why events such as Up ‘til Dawn are so vital to the cause.

As Merrimack senior Tara Bartley, who visited St. Jude this past summer and is coordinating the event, put it:

“St. Jude keeps its doors open through donations of $40 or less. Her experiences at St. Jude really changed her way of thinking, Bartley said. “It’s the perfect example of how health care should be run. I believe that St. Jude will make the breakthrough to cure cancer because of how specialized and committed they are,” she said. “I’ve been lucky enough to be healthy my whole life, while children struggle with such a painful disease and the money needed to fight it.”

She elaborated on what makes St. Jude special: “Doctors are at the door asking what a child’s favorite song is to make sure it is playing while going through the painful process of chemotherapy. One of the children that I spoke with said she was more upset to leave when she was cured than when she found out that she had cancer.”

Stephanie Pomerleau, a junior who holds the position of recruitment chair for Up ‘til Dawn, also went with Bartley and spoke about her experience. “When I visited the hospital I was shocked at how colorful the buildings were, with the murals everywhere and the attitude of the children,” she said. “I learned a lot about recruitment.”

These lessons came in handy when implementing programs such as Field is Beautiful, Pomerleau said. “When people saw someone with a shaved head around campus, it really brought a lot of questions and people coming to me to get more information. I know many people who have shaved their head have received questions as to why, and the word has been spreading in an impressive way,” she said.

You may be wondering what Up ‘til Dawn consists of exactly. Well, you can show up to the MPR in the Sak, as an individual or a team, with 50 names and addresses of people to ask for donations. T-shirt labels are then filled out, and a raffle ticket is awarded. This ticket can win you anything from Red Sox tickets to a Dennys’s or Domino’s gift card, along with an assortment of other gift cards.

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Mac-Gray Still Pleasing Students

Brit Reissfelder
Staff Writer

The college’s new private laundry service, Mac-Gray, seems to have left most students pleased.

Merrimack students formerly paid $1.25 for each wash load and $1.25 to dry clothing; this year the college has switched to “free laundry,” which is covered by the $4,000 tuition/fee increase over the past year, but students do not have to pay out of pocket for every trip to the laundry room.

Students over the past week said it has become extremely convenient to do laundry. “The laundry system this year has been such a difference compared to last year,” said sophomore Laura Terrasi. “I am so happy it is included in tuition.”

Emily Bodyk, a junior, said, “I really like that it’s already included in tuition and that we don’t have to worry about having money on our Mack-cards, or having quarters on hand. It makes the whole experience easier.”

“It was so much easier that we do not have to pay for washer and dryers,” said Neil Berzin, also a junior.

Mac-Gray, established in 1927, operates machines in communal settings, such as college campuses, apartment buildings and public laundries. Focused on making its services environmentally friendly, Mac-Gray says it has a “clean and green” approach.

Students also praised the prominent instructions for washing and drying clothing, as well as contact information for the company in case of problems.

Mack Meeting continued from cover

Many at the Mack Meeting voiced said they do not feel that their advisors have any time for them, or that the advisors are knowledgeable about what they should be doing. One of the audience members even said she would not have graduated on time if she took the courses her advisor told her to take.

Many of the deans and Hopey said they had been working on the problem, and said they were offering an advising forum for the all the faculty so they could better understand how to help the students succeed.

There are also plans for a single price credit system for this year. This will allow students to take more classes per semester. There are pros and cons to this new system, though. It will make it easier for the Merrimack students to double-major and to graduate on time, but it also would make it more difficult for students to transfer credits from other schools.

What this ultimately means is that taking summer and winter courses outside of the school may be more difficult.

In addition to discussions about transportation, wi-fi, advising, and new credit systems, there were questions about more food options in the Sparky’s Place, different drink options at Augie’s Pub, and maintaining the academic integrity of the school.

When asked what he thought of the Mack Meeting, A.J. Andreucci, a member of SGA and a resident advisor, said “it was good. A lot of the issues were resolved from last year, so the questions were not as drastic as last year. I wish that more students would come and actually would try to get their opinions heard instead of complaining on Facebook about it.”

The majority of the students who attended the Mack Meeting were RAs and SGA members.
North Andover Selectmen
Name New Town Manager

NORTH ANDOVER—The North Andover Board of Selectmen unanimously chose former Swampscott town manager as their new town manager. Andrew Maylor, according to a statement, said he was very excited to receive the offer, which he accepted after notice from the Board of Selectmen.

James Purcell, a former North town manager, was temporarily filling the post when the last permanent town manager, Mark Rees, left to take the same post in Portland, Maine.

Merrimack College’s official address is in North Andover, though part of the campus is also in Andover.

Maylor’s base salary in Swampscott was $133,000. Two selectmen have been chosen to negotiate his North Andover contract.

Merrimack’s government and community relations effort is run through President Christopher Hoopes’ chief of staff, Jeff Doggett. Prior to Merrimack, Doggett was campaign manager for U.S. Rep. John Tierney, in whose district Merrimack sits, and vice president of government relations and community affairs at Northeastern University.

Restricting Could Have Effect on Merrimack’s Legislative Delegation

NORTH ANDOVER—After the results of the 2010 Census, a special joint committee released a proposed plan for the new legislative districts in Massachusetts. This hits home with the Merrimack Valley, as two local Republican representatives may have to battle for seats. The proposal would have Rep. Paul Adams, R-Andover, and Rep. Jim Lyons, R-Andover, both freshmen, competing to represent the same district.

The proposal also creates a Lawrence-based seat with precincts from Methuen and Andover in which there is no incumbent. Adams currently represents parts of the proposed new district. Rep. David Torrisi, D-North Andover, whose district includes Merrimack’s campus, would pick up a few more precincts, spreading his reach to parts of Methuen and Haverhill.

The district of Rep. Linda Dean Campbell, D-Methuen, would also gain parts of Haverhill. Rep. Brian S. Dempsey represents most of Haverhill. Massachusetts state representatives each have a constituency of about 40,000 people, while state senators have a district of about 150,000. The state legislature acts on issues potentially affecting students, such as texting while driving bans, and more recently have considered laws to bring back video gambling at state fairs. Both the House and Senate have passed versions of the expanded gaming bill that would bring casino resorts to the Bay State.

Lawrence Mayor’s Notoriety Continues

LAWRENCE—The mayor of Lawrence, William Lantigua, has drawn headlines from local news sources, and has been on the front page of The Eagle-Tribune, and featured in The Boston Globe and Herald. News reports have indicated that Lantigua is facing state indictments regarding campaign finance laws among other alleged infractions.

Lantigua has faced multiple allegations regarding scandals and questionable behavior since the start of his term. It started when he was elected mayor in 2010, while he was also serving, as a state representative, a seat he vowed to keep. This raised concern with not only his constituency, but with his fellow legislators, who eventually threatened to block state aid to Lawrence unless he left his Beacon Hill post.

After his resignation from the Massachusetts Legislature, Lantigua was later criticized for living in a house with his girlfriend, also a city employee, who was receiving public assistance for heat and gas bills. Lantigua’s annual salary is $100,000, and Lorenza ortega earns $45,000 as a confidential secretary, which called for an investigation as to why public aid was being provided to the household.

The grand jury began calling in former city officials, the public works superintendent, Lantigua’s former chief of staff, and local business owners. Lantigua also took some criticism for being friendly with local nightclub owners who were cited by local authorities. The Office of Campaign and Political Finance got involved in the investigation when campaign laws were allegedly broken by Lantigua’s campaign.

Lantigua has not seen eye to eye with his police force, as tempers flared when he was brought in for questioning after someone allegedly tried to hit him, and when he was involved in a motor vehicle accident. Lantigua drives a white Chevy Avalanche with a vanity plate that reads “MAYOR.”

More recently an investigation began regarding the trading of 13 police-seized vehicles for four Chevy Impalas that have not been in use; the trade was scrutinized by the City Council and Police Chief John Romero.

This summer, a local minister led a campaign to recall Lantigua from office. The recall petition was unsuccessful after Lantigua hired a professional handwriting analyst to check all of the signatures. In the end, the recall was short 1,000 names.

There have been talks of what will happen to Lantigua’s seat if he is indicted. The state’s secretary for administration and finance could potentially dethrone the mayor and put the city into receivership, under which a control board and a trustee would run the city. Under a provision of state law, the receiver has full powers to lead the city.

Currently the state has a financial overseer in Lawrence to monitor fiscal stability and approve the mayor’s budget; he has approved the last two.

The city was lent $35 million last year to cover deficits. The Lawrence school system, including a newly renovated state of the art high school, is funded completely by the state.
Not Rape Lot continued

Used too casually

The Student Involvement Department has a new face this year. Matthew Gordon comes to Merrimack as the new Assistant Director of Student Involvement for Intramurals and Recreation.

Gordon was an undergraduate at Kutztown University of Pennsylvania and completed his graduate at West Chester University of Pennsylvania. While attending West Chester University, he was in charge of the intramural department for a student body of just over 12,000 in the role the Intramural Coordinator in the Recreation and Leisure Department.

Following graduate school, Gordon accepted the Department of Recreation and Athletics Internship at St. Joseph’s University where he “worked closely with the intramural program and the sports clubs.” He also interned at Madison Square Garden Sports Properties where he created print media, designed radio commercials, and worked as advertisements. There he also participated in deal negotiations with various sponsors.

Gordon wants to bring his “knowledge of intramurals”, that he received from his previous experiences, here to Merrimack. After being a part of much larger schools, Gordon is excited to really bring his ideas and develop our student involvement even more.

“Merrimack has something different” Gordon stated, because here he gets the opportunity to work with other groups and clubs around campus. This is something he couldn’t do elsewhere at a larger school. Since he oversees the intramural program, staff, outdoor activities, and also does a little marketing. Gordon talked about creating a well-rounded staff that is united and works together. With his ideas and a strong staff, the Student Involvement Department can really improve and take off even bigger then it is now.

MC Welcomes Matthew Gordon

The Beacon October 28, 2011

Senior Nick Clini donated blood at SGA’s Blood Drive on Thursday October 13.

What SGA Has Been Up To October Accomplishments

Held a successful Taste Testing for the food served Augie’s Pub attended by over 500 students

Held the annual fall semester Blood Drive open to the Merrimack community

Hosted the open forum Mack Meeting for students with President Hopey and notable Merrimack employees

Approved two new clubs- Live 2 Give, a community service based group and Finance Club, an academic group.

The Academic Affairs Committee met with the Business School Dean about advising

The Campus Infrastructure Committee is making strides to put up markers on the lamp posts in parking lots 8A, 8B, & 8C

The Campus Life Committee is working with Student Involvement to have the decorations for Augie’s Pub completed in the next two weeks

Held an alumni event on the Saturday of Homecoming Weekend

The Finance Committee allocated extra money for clubs to the first round of supplemental budgets

Approved an International Food Week (Nov. 14 - Nov. 18) for Sparky’s Place Dining Hall

Held visiting hours on Main Street on Mondays during the month of October
Fashion for the Lazy Man

Angela Milinazzo
Staff Writer ‘12

With all of the focus on fashion usually directed toward the ladies, it is sometimes easy to forget that there is such a thing as men’s fashion. Although you will usually see campus littered with what seems to be standard guy apparel; jeans/sweatpants paired with a sweatshirt or T-shirt, there are ways for guys to take their look beyond just rolling out of bed and grabbing the first thing that is not completely dirty.

To be fair, there really is not anything wrong with grabbing jeans and a T-shirt — there is a reason why that combination is such a classic. It works. The key to making it look a bit more put together is to find jeans and a T-shirt that fit well.

No, this does not mean you should work the T-shirt that is way too small. Not only does that not make your muscles look bigger, it makes it seem as though you think that your muscles should be on display. And at the same time, a T-shirt that is too large can sometimes just look sloppy.

Try on a T-shirt before you buy, if you do not know your size — usually that will help — and when paired with jeans that fit just as well, it will instantly give off that cool vibe without actually making it seem as though you tried. If you are looking to graduate from the standard T-shirt and jeans combination, try pairing it with a cardigan or sweater — both V-neck or crewneck types will do the trick.

Cardigans do not have to be some foreign object in your closet. Try pairing a solid-colored cardigan with a graphic T-shirt, and your favorite jeans and a pair of casual sneakers (not running shoes). You will have yourself a look that makes it seem as though you are put together without actually having to do much to put it together. The same goes for the sweater and jeans, and if you are willing to mix it up, throw on some boat shoes or Vans slip-ons.

Even if you are the type of guy who really is not one for experimenting much with your wardrobe, your footwear gives you the opportunity to try something new without really changing your entire look. It can be anything from a pair of bright-colored sneakers (as seen on Roberto Vincent) or a variation on the Converse high-top (as seen on Ryan Pinette) to add some interest to your standard T-shirt and jeans uniform.

Just because you are a guy does not mean that you should not care about what you are wearing, but at the same time, you do not really need to do much to elevate your look beyond your typical everyday apparel. Add a few more sophisticated elements by throwing on a cardigan or sweater with a pair of jeans that actually fits well — straight-leg jeans in a dark wash are a personal favorite — with a pair of sneakers that are not your average running shoe. After all, you are going to class and to meetings — you are not going to the gym every day. With a few simple modifications, there will be no disconnect between the words “style” and “men.”

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Senior Ryan Pinette poses in his stylish Lazy Guy attire

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Question on the Quad:
What Will You Be For Halloween?

President Obama and his Secret Service
-George Swartz ’13
-Evan Chamberland ’12

A kitty cat
-Li Wiegren ’15

A hippie
-Ryan Hunt ’13

Nicki Minaj
-Alexis Mitchell ’13

A lime!
-Connor Larkin ’14

Supergirl
-Meghan Folino ’14

The Jonas Brothers!
-Jake Alldredge ’13
-Manny Velez ’13
-Zach Gilbert ’13

Dora the Explorer!
-Becca Blackett ’12
BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

TRICK OR TREATING

AT MERRIMACK!

On Wednesday, October 26 children from the Lawrence Boys and Girls Club, as well as children of faculty, came onto campus and trick or treated around campus. It was a great success, as the children from Lawrence do not have a safe neighborhood to trick or treat in. The freshman area in particular did a great job dressing up and supplying the trick or treaters with candy.

continued from page 3

The fun doesn’t end there though. There will be food, a DJ, skeeball, games and game show-type events, donation opportunities. The biggest event of the night might be when Jordyn, a girl who was helped by St. Jude, will be making an appearance with her father and may even speak a few words.

So far over $900 has been raised through the two Bald is Beautiful events on campus, the first of which involved sophomore Pat Bradley shaving his long, curly locks off, while the second was a community-wide “shave it off” event.

Junior Matt Kirkham took part in this event and spoke fondly of his experience. “At first I only had it buzzed, but when I got back to my room I had my roommate take a razor to it to shave it clean,” he said. “It really brought about a feeling of solidarity and support, and I’m more passionate for causes to support children. I can tell I’m not alone when I walk around campus and see how many people shaved their heads to stand for it too.”

Allison Kemon, the event marketing representative from St. Jude, echoed this sentiment: “I am very impressed with the Merrimack College community and how caring and giving they have been to our mission.”

The key to the success of this program comes from the students being prepared with their 50 names and addresses. If this number seems too overwhelming, take Pomerleau’s advice: “Ask your mom for her Christmas list. Ask a relative or friend who just had a wedding for their guest list. Even teaming up and having two people find 25 names will work.”

Between family, extended family, co-workers, family friends, former teachers, coaches, church or service friends, neighbors, and personal friends, you can definitely name 50 people and their addresses.
Tobacco: A Real Problem or Not?

Michael Romanella
Staff Writer '13

Tobacco use by students is becoming more and more a common campus across the country, according to campus officials. Over the last couple years colleges around the country have been running the use of tobacco, both smokeless and smoking, to clean up their campuses.

Most recently Salem State University, located just south of Merrimack in Salem, implemented a policy requiring students to move of campus grounds if they wished to use any tobacco product. Karen Hruska, MA, LMHC (licensed mental health counselor) is the staff member responsible for implementing the change. She declined comment.

Salem State is just the most recent. University of Massachusetts-Amherst and Bridgewater State University have also implemented such policies for their campuses also. In the policy, as stated on Bridgewater States website, says, "Bridgewater State University prohibits smoking and tobacco use on all University property. University property includes, but is not limited to, University owned and leased buildings and facilities; University owned and leased vehicles; parking lots, building entrances, and common areas. The University will fully implement this policy and all applicable laws, regulations, and local ordinances."

The University reserves the right to initiate disciplinary procedures, up to and including termination for employees or expulsion for students, against any individual found to be in continuous violation of this policy."

Some may say this is a pretty harsh policy for "just smoking," but there are over 500 campuses across the country that are moving towards these policies and that number only been growing over the past year. And these policies are not just on small campuses; larger campuses like University of Kentucky, University of Oregon, and Oklahoma State University are also on board.

In a 2009 survey with a random sample of over 500 Merrimack students:

- 7.2% used smokeless tobacco in 30 days prior to the survey
- 20.3% used smoking tobacco in 30 days prior to the survey

When large campuses start making the move this is when you know you will start to see other "big schools" follow right behind them. While campuses begin to move towards new policies against tobacco, some people think this might catch storm and eventually become a national policy. Jim Matthews, the coordinator of health education at Merrimack, responded to these newly implemented policies.

"It seems as though more campuses are moving toward a totally tobacco free environment based on concerns for the health of students faculty and staff. There are shared concerns for the smokers as well as the second hand smoke effects on those around the smokers. Although there seems to be just a small number of campuses implementing this so far, I suspect there could be a snowballing effect as more and more individual colleges become successful at restricting smoking on their campuses," Matthews explained.

The Great American Smoke Out is Nov. 17. This is a day when smokers "commit to quit" for at least one day. There will be resources available for them Nov. 16 and 17 located on Main Street. Also, MyStudentBody.com has a smoking cessation component to it. This is the service through which Merrimack students can set up their user name and then utilize all the components.

Merrimack Occupy Boston

Esther Aromando
Staff Writer '13

After listening to what students at Merrimack College have to say about "Occupy Boston," it is clear that there is a vast assortment of opinions. People are voicing all kinds of different perspectives, ranging from beliefs that the protest are disorganized and ineffective, to beliefs that they are exactly what this country needs and will definitely help make a positive change. Then, of course, there are a large number of students who either do not know what the protests are about, or simply do not care.

After venturing to Boston myself this past Friday to take a look at the people occupying Boston, it was clear that the differing opinions do not just take place on the Merrimack campus. There were people playing instruments, holding up signs, handing out flyers, or just sitting there and "occupying." Many others, with curiosity similar to my own, were wandering around asking questions, most likely trying to figure out the unclear demands of the protesters.

Some of the main questions now circling the protests include: Will they have a positive effect in regards to jobs, taxes, tuition, and etcetera? Will there be a political impact; more specifically on the presidential race? Are the protesters getting their message across, and if not--how could they do better? Two members of the Merrimack College faculty and staff give their input on the situation. Mary McHugh, the Executive Director of the Stevens Service Learning Center, gave some interesting insight on the protests, as well as Luis Saenz de Viguera, professor of World Languages and Cultures, including a class on political resistance.

When asked about her general opinion on the protests, McHugh stated, "I think its novel...we have not seen this type of sustained gathering in years." She goes on to describe how it transformed from something very small to very large in a short amount of time. But is it relevant? McHugh says, "I find any sort of spontaneous movements something to pay attention to, whether it’s organized or disorganized...I think that as a movement, or as an organized group of people, they’ve become someone to reckon with."

Professor Saenz de Viguera states, "I think that the most important effect that the Occupy movement has had is the resurrection of a horizontal, democratic, popular politics outside of the stale political system." He goes on to mention that opening up these peaceful protests so anyone from the public can participate proves that "they have reclaimed a forgotten (or hijacked) ideal of popular power, and they have found a practical alternative to the two large parties and the special interests (corporate or otherwise) that guide institutional political policy." It is a way for people to actively engage in politics and fight for change, rather than just watching it happen without any input. "As said by McHugh, while the protests may not directly make a change, it could easily become a catalyst for change. When it comes to politics, McHugh believes that while there has not yet been a change, there will be an effect on the candidates. The candidates have been talking about the issues, and are trying to gain favor from the people in the protests because they have a large number. While people in the inside of the elections can have an effect, so can "outsiders." Outsiders have to do things such as literary campaigns, letters to the editors and group campaigns, and as a last resort, protests such as "Occupy Wall Street." When it comes to the effect on politics, Saenz de Viguera says, "I would like to think that the political impact would not be first and foremost noticeable in the presidental race...but rather in a refocus of political energy in our more immediate environment, and with it a renewed awareness of our relationship to and responsibility towards the global community."

From McHugh’s point of view, sitting on one true message is a way for the protesters to improve their movement. She says, "A core ideal, issue, or purpose is what sustains a protest like this." What is important is whether the message last and make an impact. There has been much speculation on the protesters due to their lack of specific demands. If they come up with a specific goal, it could be much more effective.

Do You Have Special Dietary Needs?

Stop by and meet Erin Hickey, R.D. at Sparky’s Place!

Friday, November 4th
11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Questions about nutrition?
Contact Erin Hickey, Registered Dietitian
Erin.Hickey@merrimack.edu
978-837-3599

Our MyZone area, located in the back of Sparky’s Place is:
Gluten-Free, Lactose-Free, and Nut-Free.

Our MyZone area, located in the back of Sparky’s Place is:
Gluten-Free, Lactose-Free, and Nut-Free.
Who Uses Blackboard?

Robert Porecchi ’12
Staff Writer

Blackboard is a tool that allows faculty to add resources for students to access online like word documents and short videos. According to the Blackboard website: “We enable clients to engage more students in exciting new ways, reaching them on their terms and devices — connecting more effectively, keeping students informed, involved, and collaborating together.”

Despite these tools that Blackboard gives students you often hear them complaining about it. The complaints aren’t usually about the interface, or even the slow loading times. They are directed at teachers who aren’t utilizing it to its full potential.

The first question that comes to mind is: why are we still paying to use this website if no one is using it? The answer comes from a statistic. According to Merrimack Internet Technology “The Total number of active courses that contain full Blackboard content is 1492.” This statistic is from the 2010/2011 school year. So although your teachers may not be utilizing Blackboard there are still plenty that do. This measurement is taken every year to determine whether Merrimack College should renew a contract with Blackboard or not. So if teachers do abandon it, you won’t see it again.

The second question is: why aren’t more teachers utilizing the tools Blackboard has to offer? With the new print regulations in swing students are wondering why they are still stuck printing papers to bring to class or even having to print power points off of blackboard because a teacher wants them to. The answer isn’t as simple as this time but English professor Mary Kay Mahoney gives us some insight. “My use of Blackboard depends on the nature of the course being taught. There are classes for which I do no more than post a few basic documents, but with other classes, I rely heavily on features like the Discussion Board.”

Upon further research it became clear that some types of classes just don’t have as much use for Blackboard. This seems to point that psychology, the sciences, sociology and the like rely on blackboard much more than liberal and fine arts classes. This would make sense since uploading a painting or what have you is no way to give it true impact. But still, some teachers simply find their job easier when they have a physical paper to grade and write notes on, and yet other teachers like Nancy Kay can barely imagine organizing a class without it “As for blackboard, I can say that it has become an essential tool for me in designing and organizing my course material. The format has evolved significantly since I started using it, and I really appreciate that it is becoming a one-stop-shop for both my students and me... Best of all, it’s green and I’m happy to help save a few trees along the way.”

If you have a teacher that is causing your printing bill to skyrocket bring it up with the professor and maybe the head of the department because blackboard might be the solution and not the problem.

‘Voice of Men’ Grabs Male Attention

Jillian Toce
Staff Writer

Students, faculty, and staff gathered in the basement of the library on Tuesday, October 25th to watch the “Voices of Men.” The one-man play was written and performed by Ben Atherton-Zeman. The topic being addressed was men who do not abuse women standing up against the men who do abuse women. While people entered the auditorium in the library, there was a PowerPoint slide on the screen that said: “Warning—this play contains swearing, graphic images, and descriptions of violence.”

According to the play, every twelve seconds a man abuses a woman he claims to love and one in four women on a college campus is a victim of abuse. Both of these statistics can be shocking to someone that does not know about violence against women, or domestic abuse. These statistics, as well as this play, are not intended to scare people but are meant to inform about this topic.

Ben has performed this show in 44 states, Turkey, England, South Africa, and Canada. If you did not attend this event, you may be surprised to learn that he uses humor to teach about violence against women. Atherton-Zeman used impersonations of Rocky, Tom Hanks, Arsenal Gunners, Leonardo, Reeves, Kermit, and Elmo to convey different messages. After the play Ben told me, “Humor is used as a tactic to reduce audience’s defensiveness.”

There were extremely serious parts of the play, including a 911 call from a six-year-old girl that called about her “step-daddy” that was beating her mother and siblings. The call was terrifying and it was difficult to listen to. It certainly showed what these men are trying to eliminate. They are trying to eliminate the violence against the three million women that are battered every year.

No means no. All of us have heard that expression before, but did you know that the word no doesn’t actually need to be the spoken word, no, to count? It does not matter how you say it, you could be laughing, or say it softly. It could be said in a variety of ways. If you give a disgusted look, like you clearly do not want to be kissed, or you moved away, it means no. If all means no. Consent needs to be verbal, sober, and unmistakable. That means if someone is drunk it is ILLEGAL to have sex with that person. If the person is unable to give consent, it is RAPE.

At the end of the play, Ben asked if any of the men in the room would like to make the pledge of the white ribbon with him. Almost all of the men in the room stood up and recited the words that were across the screen. “I pledge never to commit, condone, or remain silent about violence against women and girls.” If you would like to take this pledge, please visit http://www.whiteribbon.org/pledge.

If you or someone you know has been affected by any kind of domestic violence, or sexual assault, please call 978-837-5555.

Athletics Seeks Swim Coach

According to Merrimack’s Employment Opportunities web site, the Athletic Department is seeking a part-time head swimming coach.

The college has never announced it is adding swimming to the college’s sports lineup.

The posting indicated that Athletics is seeking a coach to oversee the first-ever swimming program at Merrimack College.

The primary duties for this position, according to the posting, includes being responsible for coaching, recruiting qualified student athletes; conducting and supervising regular practice sessions and contests; budget administration; mentoring and monitoring academic progress of student-athletes; developing contest schedule and coordinating all team travel; responsible for compliance of NCAA, Northeast-10, and Merrimack rules and regulations.

The posting did not indicate whether the team would be Men’s or Women’s swimming.

The Athletic Department is part of an ongoing Title IX investigation by the U.S. Office of Civil Rights. Title IX is a federal law that states “No Federal funds shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance...”

Merrimack recently added two women’s sports, crew and golf, in order to come into compliance.
Matthew LaMalfa ’12  Assistant Sports Editor

In January of 2011, Merrimack announced their intention to add women’s golf to its athletics repertoire. Shortly after, Nick Crovetti was hired as the program’s first head coach. He was hired into a unique position: given the reins to put his mark on a new program.

“This is such an exciting and special opportunity for me,” said Crovetti shortly after his hiring. “I am really looking forward to building a NCAA program from scratch. I am very excited to recruit a group of talented student-athletes to Merrimack College and to work with the athletic department to build a competitive women’s golf program.”

As he noted, his first task was to find golfers to compete on the first year Warrior squad. He first signed Bethany Arnold and Ali Reed, two Massachusetts natives, to National Letters of Intent. Arnold hails from Wrentham and attended King Phillip High. She spent her four years there as the only girl on the golf team and earned three varsity letters. Reed is from Westbrook and competed for four years at Westbrook High School. She has a win in a prestigious junior tournament and a runner-up finish in the MIAA tournament to her credit.

Next, Crovetti added Lloyd Heohle, who hails from Fullerton, California. She offered some insight about what led her here to North Andover: “In April, Coach Crovetti sent me an email asking if I had signed a National Letter of Intent (NLI) with any school for golf and I hadn’t! He said he was interested in having me look at Merrimack. After a few weeks of correspondence I flew out for my final visit. I absolutely loved the small campus and community feel that Merrimack offered, and I was excited to sign with a new program.

Crovetti then added Vanessa Martinex, all the way from Tempe, Arizona. She came to Merrimack after two years at South Mountain Community College, earning Second Team All-Conference honors.

New teams are usually given a grace period during their first year of existence. If they fail, it is chalked up to inexperience and quickly overlooked. No such grace period was necessary for the new Merrimack golf squad, who came out swinging in their first ever match and fell to Wellesley College by only two strokes.

Even then, after the first match, a letdown would have been understandable yet it never came. Throughout the fall season, the Warriors never finished in the bottom two at any event, defeating teams with programs that have been around for alot longer than their own. In their final event of the fall back at Wellesley, the Warriors shot 337 as a team, their lowest score of the season. To put this in perspective, the only team in the event to beat that score was Williams College, one of the top women’s golf programs in the country. Not bad for the new kids in town.

In Myrtle Beach, the Warriors took on twenty other schools from around the south and came away with a seventeenth place finish. Considering this was their first event of that size and the field included highly nationally ranked Division 2 competitors, it was an invaluable experience for the young team.

Crovetti said this of his team after the conclusion of the fall season: “I am extremely proud of our team and the way they handled themselves this season. They gave it their all and competed to the best of their abilities. We recorded a team low score of 337 twice, along with three top ten finishes. Merrimack women’s golf is currently ranked 109th in the country. It was extremely exciting getting this new program off the ground and is something no one else can say they have done at Merrimack in respect to women’s golf. A lot of people have put a lot of time into building this program and is one we all should be proud of. I am blessed with a group of players who are successful both on and off the golf course. I can’t wait for this program to develop and grow over the years.”

Lloyd Heohle echoed her coaches feelings on the state of the program adding: “After having been here for a little over a month, I’m excited about the program and I think Coach Crovetti has been working so hard and his efforts are commendable. He’s a very good coach and has excellent insight into the game, as he was also a college player. All the players have been very pretty well, and as a team we’ve been posting some pretty good scores. I think, as with every program, there’s always room for improvement, and I am very excited to see how we improve over the next few months and into the spring season when we start up again.

With all the optimism surrounding the program, the future looks bright for Merrimack women’s golf. If the growth track from just the beginning of year one continues into the future, this group could be one of Merrimack’s top teams in no time.

Hammel Honored at Home Court

Matthew LaMalfa ’12  Assistant Sports Editor

The Merrimack Athletic Department continued its tradition of recognizing achievement this past weekend by honoring longtime basketball coach Bert Hammel. At a ceremony during the homecoming football game, Warrior Court was renamed Hammel court in honor of the coach who also in 1981 was named head coach, a position he held for 28 years. Over this span he amassed a career record of 459-423 and guided his team to the NCAA Tournament six times.

“Today reminds me of the memories of all the practices, games, and ABA camps over the last 31 years,” said Hammel. “Merrimack has been my second home and family, and I am extremely appreciative of everything that they’ve done for me. This is truly humbling.” As well as serving the men’s and women’s basketball, Hammel

As well as serving the men’s and women’s basketball, Hammel

Field Hockey

Continued from Cover

With 10 minutes to go in the second period, Ramsey McCarthy beat Kerri Bergquist to cut the lead to one but that was as close as they would get. Merrimack’s defense shut down the Riverhawks for the final ten minutes, allowing a single shot and preserving the win. “I’ve never done this before in my career” said Daugherty, who scored a goal in his first game, “it was just a different feeling going out onto the field tonight.”

With at least a share of the conference title assured, Merrimack entered Sunday’s game vs. Adelphi needing a victory to take the regular season title outright. As it turned out, this was one of the most closely contested games of the year. After 70 minutes of regulation time, the score was still tied 0-0, while the teams held a 13-6 advantage in shots. Four minutes into the extra frame Katie Zubkus again served as the setup woman, crossing the ball to the left and Jessica Otis who gave the Warriors the win, the undefeated season and the conference championship. In the victory Bergquist stopped all five shots she faced to notch her 10th shutout of the year as well as her 16th win in 17 chances. “We came out here and knew our fate was in our hands. This was a good way to finish the regular season, earning the North-east-10 regular season title outright,” said head coach Dave Ronce. “We needed to be a little hungrier around the cage today. We will definitely work hard all week to get ready for the Northeast-10 play-offs.”

The next step for the Warriors is the NE-10 tournament, which will be held here at Merrimack. Semi-final action will take place Friday the 28th on Martone-Mejail Field with the Warriors taking to the turf at 7 PM against the winner of the Bentley/America International quarterfinal matchup. The winners will play for the championship on Sunday. Come out this weekend and cheer on the Warriors as they look to claim the NE-10 Tournament crown.
Merrimack Football Team Sets Out to Make a Run at the Northeast-10

Jack Messinger ’12
Staff Writer

The Merrimack football team is set to make a run at the Northeast-10. Merrimack, 5-2 (4-1), have three games remaining on their schedule against arguably the three best teams they’ve played all season in New Haven, American International College, and Southern Connecticut. If the Warriors win out those three games they solidify at least a share of the Northeast-10 championship.

Merrimack has an explosive offense that leads the conference in yards and points per game. Offensively, Coach John Perry, has played both quarterbacks, James Suozzo and Joe Clancy throughout the year. Each quarterback has different skill sets, but each has been productive while under center.

Suozzo, a former MVP of the conference, has had another good year accounting for 20 of Merrimack’s touchdowns both rushing and throwing.

Clancy has come into play for Suozzo in every game and has contributed to every win, most notable, the win over Bentley, where Clancy led a come-from-behind victory with two late touchdowns.

The two quarterbacks haven’t been without help though. Sure handed wide receiver Isaiah Voegeli has had a monster year. Voegeli averages almost 24 yards a reception, meaning that every time he makes a catch it’s a big play for the Warriors.

Voegeli not only leads the Northeast-10, but the all of Division II in yards per game with 135 yards a game.

The Warriors are also talented on the defensive side of the ball. The defense is led by captains Shawn Loiseau and Tony Johnson. Loiseau is an All-American Linebacker and has led all of Division II in tackles the last two years. Tony Johnson holds the school record for sacks in a season and for a career.

The Warriors will start their championship run this Saturday when they host national ranked New Haven University for Senior Day. New Haven, defending Northeast-10 champs, are once again undefeated and number one in the conference. With an upset over New Haven, Merrimack would then share a three-way tie for first place with New Haven and Southern Connecticut.

Then the Warriors will travel to Springfield to play an AIC team that Merrimack hasn’t beaten in their last four matchups. Finally, the Warriors will travel to Southern Connecticut for the last game of the regular season, which could potentially be a matchup to determine the 2011 Northeast-10 champions.

But even with a win over Southern Connecticut, Merrimack will still need help from last place teams St. Anselm’s or Pace to upset New Haven, for Merrimack to win sole possession of the Northeast-10 title.

The Merrimack football team has a tough road ahead as they look to become Northeast-10 champs, but this Merrimack team is no stranger to winning big games. Two years ago Merrimack won a share of the Northeast-10 and had to beat Southern Connecticut in late October to do so. Merrimack still has nine players who started for that made the 2009 championship run and a handful of players that were key contributors.

Being experienced and talented isn’t a bad place to start when eyeing a championship. Merrimack will look to that talent and experience as they try to win out their last three games to win the Northeast-10 title for the 2nd time in three years.

Senior Quarterback James Suozzo Earned the Northeast-10 Conference Offensive Player of the Week

Next Home Game This Saturday
October 29th at 1:00
Hockey Picks Up Where They Left Off

Matthew LaMalfa ‘12
Assistant Sports Editor

The Merrimack hockey team had a light schedule the first few weeks of their season, playing one game each over their first two weekends. Their first two game set took place at home during homecoming weekend and the Warriors took full advantage of the big stage. They registered wins over Northeastern on Friday and UCONN on Saturday by a combined score of 9-1. As a result of these wins, the Warriors are now ranked 9th in both major national polls. Goaltender Sam Marotta also made headlines earning Defensive Player of the Week honors in Hockey East.

On Friday night, the Northeaster Huskies made the trip to Lawler Arena. Led by first year coach Jim Magidan, Northeastern was looking to continue a string of recent success at Lawler. Merrimack opened the scoring halfway through the first period when Mike Collins took a feed from Ryan Flanigan and buried it for a power play goal. After a scoreless second, Jordan Heywood netted his first of the year less than a minute into the third. Shawn Bates took a shot from the side of the net, the rebound came out to the front of the net and Heywood blasted it past Husky goalie Chris Rawlings. Kyle Bigos added some insurance shortly after when he blasted a lazer from the point past Rawlings, giving the empty net to secure the Warriors 4-1 victory.

Merrimack was back in action the next night against the Huskies, but this time the opponent was from the University of Connecticut. The story of the night was Warriors a 3-0 lead. Husky freshman Ludwig Karlsson provided the only blemish to Joe Cannata’s night at 7:40 of the third, when he beat the senior goaltender to the glove side to make the score 3-1. In the last minute, Ryan Flanigan ended any hopes of a Northeastern comeback when he willed one into the sophmore goaltender Sam Marotta, who recording a shutout in his first collegiate start. Marotta stopped all 25 shots that came his way. “I was just thinking ‘I have to make the first save,” Marotta said. ‘Then, to be honest, me and Joey (Cannata) talk about it all the time but I think I blacked out. Then I wake up, the puck is in the net and Velevca scored and turns out I get an assist on it. It’s a fast game, sometimes you don’t think, you just play, and that was one of those.”

Offensively, Elliott Sheen notched his first goal of the year in the last minute of the first period. Jeff Velleca added to the lead in the second when he broke away and slipped the puck between the legs of UCONN goalie Garrett Bartus. Karl Stillerly, Brendan Ellis, and Flanigan all contributed third period goals for the Warriors in route to the 5-0 victory. “We’re confidence (sic) in our goaltending” added Head Coach Mark Dennehy. He’s worked hard all year, he worked his tail off all year, and whoever we put in we have confidence in. We weren’t just putting him in to give Joe a rest, at the end of the day, we put together a team that we think can win the game and Sam did his job tonight.”

The Warriors are back in action this weekend against the University of Vermont at Gutterson Fieldhouse in Burlington. The Catamounts are coming off a weekend split on the road at the University of Minnesota.

Lady Warriors Run One Point Short of Third

 Ranked Third in the Region

Kayla Morong ‘12
Sports Editor

Stanley Park in Westfield is known for its luxurious gardens, wildlife sanctuary, walking trails and fields. The private owned park is opened to the public for recreation, but most recently, held the Men’s and Women’s Northeast-10 Conference championship on Oct. 23.

Going into the conference meet, the Merrimack women’s cross country team was seeded 10th. The Warriors put up a fight throughout the flat scenic course, placing fourth out of the 16 teams competing in the race. The Warriors only missed third place to Saint Michael’s College by 1 point, giving them inspiration to pass the Knights at the Regionals.

The team worked hard, setting personal bests for the season, with the top 10 runners under 19:50. Sophomore Fiona Coleman led the Warriors, finishing 22nd with a time of 18:48, missing Third Team All Conference by one place.

“I felt like the hard work paid off. I know other girls are capable to be right up with me,” said Coleman excitedly.

Following Coleman was sophomore Briana Deveraux, placing 35th with a time of 19:08, and junior Anne Bajor, finishing right behind Deveraux, running 19:09. Freshmen Megan Brophy and Chandler Ortega gave outstanding effort, placing 39th and 41 behind Bajor. The 14 Warriors who competed finished under 21 minutes, making the conference meet to be the strongest race of the season so far.

“Everyone ran their personal bests for the season. The meet really showed the effort we have been putting into our workouts. We are peaking at the right time and I think we will do even better at Regionals,” said junior Julie Binney, who crossed the finish line in 20:28.

The Warriors haven’t placed fourth in the conference meet since 2000. The women really worked hard, resulting in their successful performance.

“Our high finish is a result of the Athletic Department adding track. To have everyone run under 21 minutes shows how hard we have been working,” said graduate student and captain Rebecca Ainscow.

Currently the Warriors are ranked third going into the Regional meet, which will be held on Nov. 6 at Franklin Park.

“I am really proud of our team. Before the conference meet we were ranked 10th and post meet we are ranked third moving up seven spots, the most in the country,” said senior captain Ashley Sarris.

The Warriors have a little over a week of hard training until the season comes to an end. For seniors this will be an emotional experience and for underclassmen, another season checked off. With the conference meet just a week away, the team is packing up, the ladies hope to finish the season strong.

“Our strengths are going to show at Regionals and that will surprise people,” said an enthused Ainscow.