Merrimack Blackout

By Alexandra Picardi ’13
Staff Writer

At approximately 11pm on Thursday night blackness struck throughout the campus of Merrimack, leaving only Santagati and the Deegan buildings with power. Weather conditions were treacherous throughout the day between a rain/hail storm and a wind speed of 61 miles an hour was reported at Lawrence Municipal Airport at 11:13pm. As the night approached, conditions grew worse and kept up steady until early morning hours...

The lights continued to flicker for about a half hour in the dorm rooms, as the powerful wind continually banged off of the windows, sounding as if it were going to rip the screen window right from its hinges. As if this was not enough to keep the typical person awake at night, the heavy rain continued to grow stronger. Finally the final flicker of lights happened and the dorm was left in complete darkness.

For the majority of students that were awake on Thursday February 25th they can relate to what happened this night, as everyone flowed into the hallways because they were left in pitch black dorm rooms and their only sources of light were emergency lights located in halls and if they were lucky, a flashlight! For those students who lived in the townhouses and apartment buildings, they were left in complete darkness. Many students feeling the eerie mood decided to put on scary masks and roam the hallways, in hopes of getting a couple screams out of some students. While a power outage was one thing that caused a serious problem, so did the flooding.

Outside of Ash, a lake began to form, stretching from the turf field down to the street. By the time the power went out on campus the lake was so deep that it became possible to swim in it. This lake is nicknamed “Warrior Lake” and when rainstorms hit campus, students can be found in tubes or cannoning around in it. Unfortunately, this time some students were the daring ones to take the plunge, when the lights went out.

When the initial excitement was over and the late night grew into an early morning, many students realized the lights were not coming back on and guided by flashlights decided to doze off to sleep. Students crossed their fingers for no classes the next day but that was asking for a lot (or so they thought).

Power Outage continued on Page 3

Richard Runs Boston

By Kayla Morong ’12
Sports Editor

Ever since Jenny Richard was a little girl she would go with her grandmother to watch her mom run the Boston Marathon. During the year 1995, her family suffered through two tragedies. Her Aunt passed away from cancer and her grandmother was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, dying nine months later. In the same year, Richard’s mother joined the Dana Farber Marathon Challenge, which funds money for cancer patients. In memory of her sister and mother, she ran six years in the Boston Marathon alongside her teammates, fighting for cancer prevention. Throughout her years running for Dana Farber she raised $26,000. Richard’s mom participated in the organization. Richard would attend pasta dinners the night before the Boston Marathon. “This is an inspiring night,” says Richard. People that run in the race are paired up with a child that is being treated by the Dana Farber Marathon Challenge. These children come to the pasta dinner and stand at the twenty-five mile mark where they run or wheel chair to the final mile.

Marathon continued on Page 10

Merrimack's New President: Dr Christopher Hopey

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A Toast to President Champagne

By Pat Lawlor ’13
Associate Editor-in-Chief

Although he has four months left in his position, The Beacon decided to sit down with our college’s president, Ronald Champagne, to recall his years in office, talk about his experiences sitting at the helm of Merrimack, and what he envisions for Merrimack.

In just a short two years, Champagne was called in as an interim president to do what he does best. Fix things, get things done, and get the college to where Merrimack community wants it to be. In those two years, Champagne has had a great experience. “The best part of being Merrimack’s president is the privilege of working with the finest individuals ever,” Champagne said.

He has worked as an educator for his entire career, teaching, administrating, and leading colleges. Champagne holds Merrimack to the highest of all his professional experiences. “Everyone from the students, to the staff has been such a resourceful, committed group.” Champagne mentioned how he, the staff, and Merrimack’s students are all looking for more robust Merrimack. Growing the college is a main mission of Merrimack and the resourcefulness of the entire community has impressed Champagne greatly.

See CHAMPAGNE on Page 3

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Marathon continued on Page 10

Relay for Life

By Kim Trapasso ’10
Staff Writer

With just three simple words, my entire world was turned upside down. I can vividly remember the way that the painful words effortlessly rolled off my mother’s tongue. “I have cancer,” she said. At that moment, I was unable to grasp the realization that my life would be drastically changing. I could have never imagined the difficulties and the pain that would later be inflicted upon me and my family. But, I was not alone in my obligation to succumb to such changes. Every year, millions of families struggle with the same anguish, responsibilities, and confusing circumstances that having a loved one battling cancer forces us to endure. Nonetheless, even after the all difficulties and pain, we emerge from the struggles with the type of strength that most people cannot obtain in an entire lifetime. According to the American Cancer Society, cancer is the second leading cause of death in the United States, affecting half of all men and one-third of all women. In the year 2001, my mother was just one of the whopping 9.8 million people living with this disease.

Relay continued on Page 3

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How Creative Can You Get?

A group of senior boys decided to take their rainy day in, outside and use a guitar and a street sign to paddle their way on their blow-up tube across the re-appearing pond on the extra soccer field across from Santagati Hall.

The pond was a hit for early-in-the-season swimming from students of all years before they realizing the close call of hypothermia from the cold waters.

Photograph Provided by Ashley Bock '11

Spice up your life!

...Or at least your dinner plate

In the mood for a milkshake?
- Two scoops of ice cream mixed with a little bit of milk and stir it up in a cup!

Cheese fries are a must!
- Rip up a couple pieces of american cheese from the burger station and put them on your fries. Heat them up in the microwave and presto! You know have cheese fries!

Pizza bagels
- During dinner time, go over the the bread station and grab a bagel. Then, head over to the pasta station for some sauce. As you’re looping around, the salad station has some shredded cheddar cheese to sprinkle on the top. Pop it in the microwave for 30 seconds and you are good to go!

Cheese Quesadillas
- In the sandwich line, ask (politely, of course) for a plain wrap with three slices of cheese and fold it in half. Heat the wrap in the panini machine until golden brown and enjoy!

Growing tired of the same boring toppings on your ice cream?
- Put some peanut butter in the to-go ice cream cup and melt it in the microwave for 20 seconds. Then, drizzle your fun new topping over your ice cream. We recommend chocolate peanut butter swirl.

Always in our hearts,
Forever watching over us.

We remember Jean M. Elliott

It has been said that the secretary is the glue that holds the office together; that if you need information or a favor, the secretary is the person to see. Many of the staff, student body, and faculty have probably now heard the news that Merrimack has lost a dear colleague, friend, and hard-working secretary.

Jean M. Elliott worked hard at Merrimack for 22 years. She was a dedicated employee who never complained about her work, even the tedious tasks that are sometimes necessary to perform. She was a caring and warm person who always seemed to have a smile on her face, even on her bad days.

Her charismatic personality and hard-working devotion will be greatly missed in all of the departments that she worked for. Jean started out as a part-time employee at Merrimack in the Sociology Department. She then moved on to full time positions in the Registrar Office and the English Department. For the past 11 years, she worked as the Administrative Assistant for Mike Rossi, Dean of Liberal Arts.

Two years ago, Jean was diagnosed with breast cancer. Her dedication to Merrimack was truly shown when she continued to work until this past October, when she took a medical leave of absence. Her presence in the Liberal Arts Department and on campus will be a void for those who worked with her and knew her.

She was married for 33 years and is survived by her husband, Mark Elliott; two children, Matthew and Shannon; a grandson, Brian and a grandson to be born next month. It is important that we all take a moment to remember Jean and keep her family, friends and colleagues in our hearts and prayers during this difficult time. Even for those who did not know her personally, this is a great loss to the entire Merrimack community.
As many leadership roles he has been in, Champagne commends Merrimack on their resourcefulness. “One of the struggles I have had here is trying to do a lot with a little,” Champagne explained. With a tight budget and large operating costs, it is financially difficult for Merrimack to grow without significant tuition hikes. For the 2009-2010 school year Champagne was believed to have needed funding, and Champagne explained that Merrimack needed to retain its students, show the community that they understand the financial burdens and not raise tuition for students. Champagne also noted how this in turn made it difficult on budgets throughout campus. “Financially, Merrimack is very sound,” said Champagne. He noted that Merrimack does things it can afford, and is cautious about taking on anything that could put them at risk financially. Certainly it is more difficult to make a more robust Merrimack, while keeping it an affordable college. While maintaining an affordable education, Merrimack is always been able to come together and be as one. This is something Champagne has noticed and is impressed by. “It is amazing to see the strength of bringing people together and what they can do,” he said. When asked what his plans for the future are; “My job is to go to college and fix things. I can see that there’s going out another degree and getting them on the same trail like Merrimack.” Champagne holds Merrimack to the highest standard, although he does agree that Merrimack still has four months and will be working hard, but certainly a laudable president and one who has been a leader of Merrimack in the writing of our history and legacy.
SGA Presidential Election

The Student Government Association readies for new President

By: Molly Warren ‘10

Staff Writer

Student Government Association presidential elections are right around the corner: Do you know who is running this year for president? Well now you have no excuse because here are the candidates who are running and what their stances are. The presidential candidates will be giving their speeches on April 6th at 6 o’clock in the Den. During these speeches they will explain their platform and the goals they hope to accomplish next year if they are elected. One of the best ways to truly get to know a candidate is to come and hear the speeches and then vote through Blackboard on Tuesday April 13th and Wednesday April 14th for the candidate you want to be YOUR president. (More information will follow as to how to vote on Blackboard.) Below are the candidates for President.

Jackie Dow: Jackie is a junior at Merrimack and majors in biology with a minor in Spanish and chemistry. Her hometown is Wakefield, Massachusetts. This is currently her second year serving on SGA. On her first year she was a member of the Academic Affairs Committee. She is currently serving for her second year as the chair of the Public Relations Committee. For this campaign she is going to focus on building a stronger relationship among members of SGA, as well as bettering the communication between SGA and the rest of the student body. Jackie believes many students who are not a part of the Student Government Association may not have a clear sense of what goals the members are trying to reach each year in order to improve the overall state of the college, as well as the reasons behind each final decision. She thinks that there needs to be a better sense of communication between the students and SGA members. Also, she would like to focus on spreading the idea of conservation and environmental awareness across campus and the surrounding communities. This is a topic that she is very passionate about, and has dedicated a large portion of her time to (such as with the weekly recycling on campus). She has also been communicating with a large variety of students, and many great ideas have been brought to her attention in order to better the overall experience here at Merrimack College. Jackie says that the significant amount of pride she has for attending this college will be her greatest motivation and inspiration for successfully playing the role of the SGA president.

Timmy Smith: Timmy is a junior and is double majoring in mathematics and physics. He is from Needham, Massachusetts. Currently this is his third year of serving on Student Government Association. He currently sits on the Executive Board as the Treasurer, which chairs the Finance Committee. He has served on the Finance Committee during his freshman and sophomore years. He has been the student representative on the Drug and Alcohol Task Force for a semester. The main points he is choosing to run on are: the voice of the Merrimack students and a positive attitude. First, Timmy believes that many students do not realize how much of an impact they can make on this school. One of his favorite quotes is “We all have ability. The difference is how we use it,” which he admits is a bit cliché. He thinks that anyone can make a difference at Merrimack for the better and wishes people would realize that. Secondly, he has a very positive outlook on Merrimack. He will try and get the student body to stop nitpicking the bad and focus in on many amazing professors we have teaching us, how close we can get to the administration, and what an awesome community we are as a whole. Timmy has decided to run for president because he wants to make this an even better school to attend than it already is, in all aspects of its various communities, whether it be academics, student-faculty relationships, activities, or the overall community that is Merrimack College.

Are you interested in running for an SGA Representative position or for Class Council? Petitions are available in the Office of Student Involvement and are due by Monday, March 29.

Photos: Left: Jackie Dow
Right: Timmy Smith
Submitted by the candidates

How to get involved with SGA & Class Council

-To run for office, you must obtain 50 signatures and a letter of intent. These are due by March 29, 2010

-You must have a minimum G.P.A of 2.5

-You may NOT run for both Class Council and Student Government

SGA: Being a representative & being a part of one of the three recognized governing bodies at Merrimack. You are a voice for the school by sitting on the student governing body & meeting once a week (Tuesdays at 5 PM for 1.5 hours)

Class council: Being a representative & holding a seat on the governing body of your class. Class Council plans events for class bonding & fundraises for senior events.
Alternative Spring Break

Participants of Campus Ministry’s Alternative Spring Break submitted photographs and shared their personal experiences from the trip.

Compiled by Pat Lawlor ’13, Associate Editor in Chief & Fries, VA Team

It was great being with our students and experiencing their generosity and having the opportunity to affirm this. It was wonderful to see how well they formed community, pitched in with all details, cooperated with everyone and so quickly bonded with each other. It was fantastic to experience how well those we served (veterans and young children) responded to them so gratefully.

-Father Bill Waters, Nassawadox

Twelve students and two faculty advisors travelled to the historic town of Selma, Alabama for a week of service and learning. On Sunday, our group participated in the annual crossing of the Edmund Pettus Bridge, rally, and jubilee where we learned about the events of Bloody Sunday and the Civil Rights Movement and March from Selma to Montgomery. Throughout the week we also learned about historic efforts put forth by the first African American mayor of Selma Mr. Perkins and the famous Dr. Reese who was a civic activist for many years. Selma is an extremely historic town with many amazing people but the civil rights movements and history have brought about much turmoil and hardships over the years. In addition to learning about the history of Selma and the surrounding towns, our community service work throughout the week included painting a lot of walls and houses for people in need in the community.

-Janine Morretti, ’11, Selma

There was no better feeling then helping the people of Fries, VA. To see such emotion in people, and the sense of pride that we brought to the community was like no other experience in my life. The way that our group bonded so quickly, and how fast we became so comfortable with each other was amazing. I truly recommen this trip to anyone who wants to feel like they have done something good for a community, to anyone who wishes to have a life changing experience.

-Pat Lawlor, ’13, Fries

Past participants who are interested in being leaders should return their application by April 9, 2010.

The ASB Reunion for 2010 Partipants is April 28, 2010 at 5 PM in Cascia Hall

If you are interested in participating or have questions, contact Brian Suehs-Vassel in Campus Ministry

ASB Trip Locations
Fries, VA
Selma, AL
Bronx, NY
Philadelphia, PA
Nassawadox, VA
Opinion

Beacon Editorial

The Passing of the Universal Healthcare

By: Ashley Sarris '12

As a resident of Connecticut, I carry Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Insurance of the Connecticut Branch. In November of 2009 I broke my thumb playing intramural basketball. I went over to Hamel Health and they told me it was definitely broken and I had to go see a hand specialists. I showed them my insurance card which they said was acceptable. Two months later, after my hand was completely healed, I received a hefty bill from the Doctor's office saying my insurance was not accepted because I am an out of state resident and my insurance doesn't cover practices outside of Connecticut guidelines. The insurance doesn't cover practices outside of Connecticut for my insurance company, I was extremely happy with my insurance benefits. It was only five dollars for all over the counter drugs from my pharmacy and ten dollar co-pay for any doctor visit, I didn't need referrals and everyone in my family was covered under my Dad's insurance that he received working for the local government.

With the passing of the universal healthcare plan for Americans, it worries me that if I were ever to break my hand again, it wouldn’t be just the bill I’m worried about, but the reliability of being treated in a timely manner. To quote my mother, “Money doesn’t matter when it comes to your well-being.” I hope everyone can take this attitude including myself as the dark cloud of healthcare passes over Americans who can already provide themselves with the health opportunity suitable for them and their families. I do however hope this healthcare plan can help individuals for better insurance than they currently have. This is the land of opportunity, and I hope that my health opportunities don’t fall to the level of the Canadians where it can take weeks, even months to get something as simple as a cat-scan or an MRI.

As a result of this bill, you should be interested to know that a 10% tax has been added to the service of In-door Tanning. This tax is a mirror image of the high tax on cigarettes, put in place to help Americans make healthier choices in life. Tanning outside is permissible for free still, however, we do not know how much longer that will last.

Taxes were increased in every direction possible, including more taxes from your paycheck, you will have more money deducted from your paycheck to go toward “increased Medicare payroll taxes. In addition to higher payroll taxes you will also have to pay 3.8% tax on any unearned income, which is currently tax-exempt.” I urge you to pay close attention to upcoming mail, news announcements and political discussions with your professors and classmates. Research the topic online and form your own opinion, not a republican point of view or a democrat’s, but your own. Will this bill affect you positively or negatively? What about your community or relatives?

Meet the Beacon

Name: Heather Kent
Year: 2013
Hometown: Auburn, NH
Major: Fine Arts - Digital Media Arts
Years at Beacon: 1
Beacon position: Photographer
Reason for joining the Beacon: Photography Experience.
Favorite Newspaper: The Union Leader
What does the Beacon need: More Photographers for next year
Favorite Beacon Activity: Take Photos
Favorite part of Merrimack: Going to the Hockey Games
Favorite Food: Chicken
Favorite Musical artist: AC/DC
Favorite TV show: Lost or Glee
Favorite movie: Miracle
Favorite Activities: Playing tennis water skiing and watching hockey
If you had to be one animal, what would you be? A Monkey because they climb trees
Long-term goal: To take Photos for a hockey magazine
Short-term goal: To not flunk out of school
What would you do for a Klondike Bar: Nothing, because I don’t like them.
What is your favorite color? Green or Yellow

Police Log

On February 25 2010 at 13:47 officers observed an apartment resident attempting to drive around the secured chain at the St. Thomas Apartments. The vehicle became stuck in the mud causing significant damage to the lawn. Physical plant assessed the damage and that operator is picked up by a sober friend. Unit clear.

On March 4, 2010 at 16:55 resident student of Ash called to report that her wallet was stolen from her room. Ptl responded and spoke with her. See incident Report.

On March 28, 2010 at 08:28 Officers report being out on Cullen Ave. by Walsh way on a motor vehicle stop. Operator is intoxicated. Vehicle is towed by Elm Street and the operator is picked up by a sober friend. Unit clear.

On March 4, 2010 at 23:42 Resident student of Ash called to report that his MacBook Pro Computer had been stolen.

On March 4, 2010 at 16:55 Resident student of Ash called to report that her wallet was stolen from her room. Ptl responded and spoke with her. See incident Report.

On March 14 2010 at 13:15 officers report being out on Cullen Ave. by Walsh way on a motor vehicle stop. Operator is intoxicated. Unit clear.

On March 14, 2010 at 17:43 Deegan west desk worker called stating there were several individuals hanging out of windows on the top floor of Ash. Lt. was dispatched. Unit reports that there were no individuals hanging out of windows. All is normal. Units clear.

On March 19 2010 at 23:46 M-tower resident called to report loud music coming from the area, unknown origin. Sgt and Ptl. responded and report to K-tower. Officers reported the noise was coming from tower. Spoke with resident student and escorted roughly 25 individuals from the room.

On March 20, 2010 at 23:46 call came in reporting a male has jumped off the balcony of M-tower in the apartments. Resident student is 19 years old. Conscious at the time. Student transported to Lawrence General Hospital. Sgt reports clearing out approximately 300 students.

On March 20, 2010 at 20:45 a resident student reports that she believes someone turned the lights on in her vehicle. She further states that her boyfriend may have done it but has no proof and she received a disturbing text from him earlier in the day.

On March 21 2010 at 2:25 Sgt. reported a grill outside of K-tower filled with wood was ablaze. Fire was extinguished and removed away from building.

On March 21, 2010 at 18:45 a non student was swelling and making threats in the Reference section of the McQuade library. The non student was escorted off the college’s property and issued a written trespass.
**The Beacon Page 7 March 26, 2010**

**Questions on the Quad**

By Pat Lawlor & Ashley Sarris

Who do you have winning March Madness?

**UCONN Women**
- Serena Germain
  Class of 2010

**Syracuse**
- Lisa Monarcho
  Class of 2010

**Cornell**
- Andrew McCarthy
  Class of 2011

**Kansas**
- Joe Broderick
  Class of 2011

**What is your favorite spring activity?**

**Spring Weekend**
- Tom Halley
  Class of 2011

**Having Fun**
- Henry Torres
  The Warrior's Den

**Birthday, and nice weather**
- Janine Morretti
  Class of 2011

**Sun and flowers**
- Bailey DeNisco
  Class of 2012

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**Theology with Tim**

**Knights of Columbus**

By: Timothy Iannaccone ’12
Columnist

The Knights of Columbus is the world’s largest male Catholic organization in the world. To date there are more than 1.8 million members and over 14,000 councils. The history of this organization goes back to the late nineteenth century where its founder, the Venerable Fr. Michael J. McGivney of Waterbury Connecticut, founded the organization in New Haven Connecticut circa 1882. The purpose of the organization was to be a beneficial society especially to widows who had lost their husbands, who in those days were the primary “breadwinners.”

While most council’s are located within parishes, there are many college councils around the United States which include the Catholic University of America, Stonehill College, St. Anselm College, the University of Notre Dame and the University of St. Thomas.

At some of these colleges and universities the Knights of Columbus is the only fraternity that is allowable on campus. Some council’s on campus participate in what is called “Go Roman W e e k ” which is a spin off on the other fraternities which are Greek, while the Knights of Columbus is a Roman Catholic Organization.

There are four degrees within the organization, first degree being the lowest and fourth degree being the highest. The Knights have committed themselves to be at service of the Catholic Church, its fellow Knights and all the members of the Church. Although individual council’s perform activities which support their towns and neighboring towns, worldwide the organization has funded the renovation of the facade of St. Peters Basilica in Rome. The Knights worldwide have also paid for the equipment and air time for televised holiday masses at the Vatican. The organization’s most well known activity around the world is the promotion of the Crusade for Life which mission is to defend the unborn against abortion.

Recently, students on campus have joined the Knights of Columbus councils in neighboring towns of Merrimack College. The purpose of this is to achieve their third degrees as Knights so they themselves can start a council on campus to promote the true Catholic identity of Merrimack College. The only rule for being a member of the Knights of Columbus is that one must be a male practicing Catholic who is of eighteen years of age or older in good standing with the Church. Soon these students who achieve their third degrees will promote membership for those who wish to join the Knights of Columbus on campus. A fraternity whose slogan is “In service to one, in service to all,” the fraternity is a wonderful way for male students at Merrimack to serve the college and surrounding communities promoting the Catholic faith. This is also a wonderful experience for those on campus who do not belong to a fraternity. The organization’s numerous contributions to society have not gone unnoticed and those who join this fraternal organization will not go unnoticed either. For more information on the council at Merrimack please contact Rev. Dr. Edward J. Enright, Interim head of the department of Religious and Theological Studies or Darrell Donati, class of 2012.

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Entertainment

Music

By: Ryan Pinette '12
Staff Writer

Lip Tease

“John Mayer lets his music do the talking”

Over the past few months John Mayer has come under much scrutiny for his words and actions. In the February edition of Playboy Magazine an interview with Mayer appeared and cause a lot of controversy with his racially charged and raunchy comments during the interview. If anyone was holding a grudge against him, it wasn’t evident on February 24th, when John Mayer took the stage in front of a sold-out crowd at the Boston Garden. Wisely, Mayer didn’t do much talking during his set, aside from thanking his fans for sticking by him and helping him achieve his dreams but beyond that he let his guitar do the talking for him. Mayer rocked the house for nearly two hours blending his old pop-rock hits like “No Such Thing” and “Big Ger Than My Body” to songs off his new album Battle Studies like “Half of My Heart” and “Heartbreak Warfare.” A few times throughout the night Mayer made reference to his roots in music, namely Berklee College of Music in Boston; where Mayer spent a semester studying music before dropping out and rising to stardom. Mayer also showed some of his roots during his songs, slipping in bits of other artists songs into his own. The Police were worked into two songs; “Message in a Bottle” was mixed into Mayer’s hit “Why Georgia” and “Wrapped Around Your Finger” was slipped into Mayer’s song “Assassin.” The night was full of mesmerizing solos, from John Mayer’s work on the guitar to drummer, Steve Jordan’s, heart pounding drum solo. At one point in the concert Mayer stood alone on the stage with just an electric guitar and played the John Mayer Trio hit “Who Did You Think I Was?” and slipped seamlessly into the edgy “Neon.” One of the many highlights of the night was Mayer’s soulful cover of the Bill Withers classic “ Ain’t No Sunshine.” Mayer practically made his guitar talk as if it was singing the lyrics. Mayer had the crowd captivated throughout the whole show, and had the girls, who outnumbered the guys at the concert about 4 to 1, screaming. John Mayer didn’t let his publicity troubles get in the way of his performance; from the opening note of “Heartbreak Warfare” to the closing note of the soulful “Gravy,” Mayer did not disappoint.

Residence Halls? Now deliveries or drop offs have become quite the inconvenience. Are these road blocks really necessary?

- Sparky’s Place now opens at 4:30 PM, but most would argue that it would be better if it was open later. Maybe now the lines will be not as long just to get swiped in at 5 PM

- Why is it that Sodexo prepares the best meat dishes on Fridays during Lent? Last Friday they offered Beef Fajitas, the Friday before they actually had Bacon at breakfast. You think at a Catholic school, such temptation would be minimal, or perhaps they are testing us.

- What is with the closed off Service Roads around the Residence Halls? Now deliveries or drop offs have become quite the inconvenience. Are these road blocks really necessary?

- The Beacon will have two more issues this year. If you have anything that you would like to contribute or any ideas, send them in as soon as you can!

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March 26, 2010

Beacon Briefs
Player Profiles

Sports Features of Merrimack Athletes

By: Jill Bradford '10

Staff Writer

Cahill Gears Up for Final Season

A common understanding throughout the Merrimack softball team that each player is a part of something bigger than themselves creates its well-known reputation of commitment and hard work. Senior Atlee Cahill, a walk-on pitcher and first baseman from Gloucester, Massachusetts is no exception to this understanding. Being a part of a program filled with tradition and a highly successful history has allowed Cahill to fully reap its benefits.

The primary team goal for Merrimack softball to win the NE-10 Championship has not changed. Last year, the Warriors lost in the semi-finals of the NE-10 tournament to New Haven. Determined to reach the next level this year, the team understands the need for 100% effort day in and day out. “We plan to show up on game day prepared to play each game like it is a playoff game,” Cahill commented. “If each player gives everything they have each day, then we know we will have success.”

Like most collegiate athletes, balancing commitments can be stressful, but the acquired skill is invaluable life lesson. “Athletics have taught me extremely important time-management skills. Beyond time management, Merrimack softball requires its players to work towards goals as one unit. “I have learned unbelievable team-work skills and the ability to work towards a common goal with a variety of different people,” Cahill added.

Such skills were developed earlier this year when the team participated in Judgement Day, an intense, weekend-long team building training camp led by Erik Kattilik from The Program Athletics. “Judgement Day was a great way for us to start off our season. Throughout the weekend, we faced numerous levels of adversity that helped us to grow closer as a team and become a more accountable group,” Cahill commented.

As a Business Management major and Economics minor, Cahill plans to enter the business world upon graduation. Her current commitment to the classroom at Merrimack, however, has not gone unnoticed. “The first word that comes to my mind when I think of Atlee is commitment. She is committed to her sport just as she is committed to her education,” Assistant Professor of Management Jane Parent commented. “I know that I can always ask Atlee her opinion on an issue and she will provide an educated and informed opinion. She is a pleasure to have in class.” Both on the field and off the field, Cahill’s commitment to priorities has granted her success so far, and will continue to in her professional life.

Cahill understands and appreciates the positive impact Merrimack athletes has had on her life. Without a doubt, when she pulls the number 23 jersey over her head one last time she will experience the fulfilling feeling Merrimack instills in its athletes.

Cummings Ready for One More

When Emily Cummings, a senior captain on the Merrimack softball team from Andover, MA, began her college career at UMASS Amherst she immediately knew one thing was missing from the experience: softball. Cummings transferred to Merrimack this year when the team participated in Judgement Day, an intense, weekend-long team building training camp led by Erik Kattilik from The Program Athletics. “Joining the program at Merrimack led me to fully reap its benefits.”

Cummings is as serious about softball as she is about her school work. As a Marketing major, Cummings has used the same skills to establish herself in the classroom just as she has in the outfield through dedication and commitment.

“I have known Emily since her freshman year and consider her one of my best students. Emily is constantly looking for feedback to make herself a better student. I have watched her grow both academically and athletically while at Merrimack,” Assistant Professor of Management Jane Parent commented. “Emily is so involved in all things Merrimack. Her success in school and with softball will take her far in her career.”

The discipline and structure Merrimack softball has provided for Cummings has established a lifestyle of commitment for her. “Playing softball at Merrimack has prepared me for what I have set ahead of me in all aspects of life. It has taught me to balance my priorities and allowed me to acquire necessary time management skills. It has also given me the opportunity to face life challenges and adversity and work together with my teammates to overcome both,” Cummings said.

But like many, what Cummings will miss the most about Merrimack athletics goes beyond the base-hits and diving catches. It will be the feeling of team unity that Cummings will miss the most. “I will miss putting on my uniform before each game and knowing that I have 15 teammates behind me that will always have my back, both on and off the field.” Cummings concluded.
**Sports**

**Warriors shock Hockey East with sixth place finish**

By Michael Salvucci '10
Staff Writer

The men's hockey team fell to the Terriers of Boston University two weekends ago losing the three game series 2-1. Despite the loss it was a weekend of firsts for the Warriors. It was their first playoff appearance since the 2003-2004 season also making it the first playoff appearance for all of the Warrior's players. It marked the first win at Agganis arena in the history of the Merrimack hockey program. However, most importantly it was a first major in the right direction.

When Mark Dennehy took over the program he started his career off with a three win season, not much to brag about. People laughed at his rebuilding plan and his upbeat attitude. There were calls for the program to move to weaker D1 conferences or even to drop it altogether.

Five years, one coach of the year award, and one rookie of the year award later the Warriors shocked all of Hockey East with a 16 win season and a sixth place finish in what could be argued as the strongest conference in division one hockey.

Dennehy's sixth place warriors were headlined by star freshman Stephane Da Costa who put up 45 points in 34 games and won the leagues rookie of the year as well as College Hockey News' rookie of the year award. If he chooses to stay at the collegiate level the warriors will be returning a huge proportion of their scoring between Da Costa, Barton, Cucci and Brodhag.

The Warrior's season ended in the first round of the playoffs and while Warrior teams would have been content coach Dennehy expressed otherwise. “There's a lot of disappointing people in that room”, he said after losing game three to BU. Next year should bring more good fortunes for the Warriors, Junior Chris Barton said that as a team they were "able to turn a huge proportion of their scoring and won the leagues rookie of the year as well as College Hockey News' rookie of the year award. If he chooses to stay at the collegiate level the warriors will be returning a huge proportion of their scoring between Da Costa, Barton, Cucci and Brodhag.

**Merrimack student runs Marathon**

By Kayla Morong
**Sports Editor**

“Whenever I feel like I’m having a bad day, I just remind myself about the individuals getting treated by Dana Farber. Immediately, I snap out of it. Knowing there is going to be hundreds of people waiting at mile 25 where I used to stand waiting for my mom. This is all the motivation I need get out the door on the coldest days, and it will be all I need to make it to Boston.”

Currently, Richard is a senior at Merrimack College majoring in Sports Med. This spring she will be attending the University of Connecticut where she will be getting her doctoral degree in physical therapy. Along with her studies she has been an essential runner for the Merrimack Women's Cross Team.

During the 2009 season, Richard new her collegiate running career was coming to an end. She wanted to pursue a new goal so she applied to run for Dana Farber Marathon Challenge in September. Once October came around, Richard learned that she was accepted to run for the team. Richard was ecstatic to tell her mom the news.

Her mom was overjoyed and has been influential throughout her funding. After cross country ended, Richard began training with the team. Every Saturday, she attends “group long runs” which have been a great way to meet her fellow teammates. The team members come from twenty-eight states and five countries. Once a month she has meetings with the group to discuss the marathon, upcoming events, team goals and funding that has been made thus far. Richard has raised $3,250 and hopes to reach $4,500 for April 19th. “I have a personal time goal which would be nice, but it is completely unimportant in comparison to my fundraising and enjoying the experience of being in Boston, running the marathon, and being part of such an amazing program.”

This year the fund has already passed the two million mark which is a record compared to last year. The organization hopes to surpass last year’s earnings of 4.1 million dollars and reach 4.4 million dollars by the marathon. If you want to help support Richard, the easiest way to make a donation is through her personal webpage, www.runforme.org/2110-jenny. Any amount would greatly benefit the Dana Farber Fund along with allowing Richard to meet her goal.

On April 19th, Richard will be at the starting line with her teammates wearing the names of cancer patients that have significance in her life. Already, fifty names will be pinned on her singlet. “For years, I have dreamed of someday following in my mom’s footsteps. Between our personal family connections combined with multiple family friends who have been diagnosed or passed away to cancer has added further meaning to why I am running.” The Boston Marathon will be an emotional experience for Richard as she runs to benefit cancer patients along with achieving a lifelong dream running in Boston.
Men’s Lacrosse Starts Season

By: Katie O’Neil ’10

Staff Writer

Coming off a strong season last year in which they made their first ever Final Four appearance, this year’s Men’s Lacrosse team is off to a strong start. The team has been picked to finish second in the Northeast-10 pre-season poll and already has two wins under their belt. The Warriors defeated Florida Southern 12-11 on March 7 to open their 2010 season. Freshman Corey Lunney was a major factor in the win, tallying five goals, while senior Mark Webber registered four assists. The Warriors continued to play well into their second game, defeating Rollins College 14-4 on March 10th. Lunney continued to be a powerhouse for the Warriors, scoring 5 more goals. Freshmen Nick Vazquez and Greg Melauha both scored their first collegiate goals. Junior David Robinson netted a career-high three goals in the win. Senior Captain Cory Spinalone recorded his 26th collegiate win. The team’s first loss came in their Florida trip conclusion game against St. Leo’s on March 13, 12-11. Despite the loss, Lunney continued to shine, scoring another three goals and contributing one assist. In three games Lunney has already racked up an impressive thirteen goals and four assists and was named Northeast-10 Player of the Week last week. In addition, he was named NE-10’s Rookie of the Week for two straight weeks in a row.

The Warriors team also has four players who were named Preseason All-Americans by Inside Lacrosse. Senior Captain Cory Spinalone took home the honor of being named to the Preseason All-American first team, with sophomore Nick Maggio earned second-team honors. Senior Shane Mahar and junior Michael Balbuena received honorable mentions.

In what is sure to be an exciting and successful season, the Warriors open their conference and home schedule on March 24 against St. Michael’s at 4 pm.

~Photo courtesy of Merrimack Athletics.com~
Congratulations to the Spring 3rd Quarter Intramural Champions of Merrimack College

Co-Ed Basketball League Champions
Matthew MacConaughey

Girls Ice Hockey League Champions
MutherPuckers

Indoor Soccer
Short Bus and the Special Stars

Men’s Basketball Div B League Champions
Landshut Lemons

Men’s Basketball Div A League
Champions Team Robbery

Men’s Ice Hockey League Champions Team Ligas