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Who's the Merrimack Spring Weekend Concert Performer? FIND OUT WHO, WHEN, AND HOW INSIDE!



The Beacon

The student newspaper of
Merrimack College

Established 2001

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IN THIS ISSUE

Curler on Campus!

Men's Basketball-
page 10

By Ashley Sarris '12
Editor-In-Chief

Popularly known as an Olympic sport, Curling is not just something to watch on television every four years in the Winter Olympics, it is a lifestyle and a skill that has been heavily acquired in years past. Curling was introduced in the Winter Olympic Games from the start where it was only seen as a demonstrated sport in the first ever winter Olympics in 1924 in Chamonix, France. In 1988, the sport of Curling was officially added to the Olympic program for the Nagano Games.

Curling is a game that requires one to be aerobically fit, have a steady hand, and quick reflexes. All of these can be found in Merrimack College's own Stephen Dropkin. For the past fourteen years Dropkin has been curling with his family at the curling club in Wayland, Broomstones.

"My Dad, Keith, curled in college, I started when I was five and now my whole family curls." Dropkin explained. His brother is one of his teammates and together, along with their two other teammates, they placed

fourth this past year in the Country at the Junior Nationals Level. In fact next semester he will be studying abroad in Scotland to explore his major in Marketing and advance his skills in Curling.



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First Lecture

By Molly Warren '10
Staff Writer

On Monday, February 22, 2010, Merrimack held its first "First Lecture" in Cascia Hall. Senior Brian Caira was the student chosen to be the first "First Lecturer." Caira is expected to graduate in May with a degree in English and Elementary Education. He has been very involved in Merrimack life: he has served as a member of Student Government, Merrimack's Mission Effectiveness Council, and the Merrimack Programming Board. He has also played for Merrimack's Varsity basketball team and has worked on campus in the Athletic Department as Merrimack's public address announcer for soccer, lacrosse, baseball, and softball. This semester, Caira has been student teaching and coaching varsity basketball at Wilmington High School. Caira hopes to continue to teach and coach upon graduation.

The "First Lecture" provides "an opportunity for one student to speak in a formal, disciplined fashion about what matters most to him or her at this point in their life." The "First Lecture" is a parallel to the "Last Lecture" given by a faculty member in the fall. This year's last lecturer was Associate Professor Jonathon Lyon of the Biology department.

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~Photo by Pat Lawlor~

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Spring Fever!

By Kim Trapasso
Staff Writer

I think that many of us can agree that there are an innumerable amount of perks to being a college student. We are able to choose our own class schedule. Our living arrangements are an endless slumber party with our best friends. It is excusable to engage in "Thirsty Thursday" and "Sunday Funday" festivities, and late night fast food runs are an acceptable routine. Among many others, these are some of the simple luxuries that contribute to making college the "best four years of our lives." However, there is one week a year that triumphs all the other countless advantages that we have been given as college students—spring break. Throughout the last decade, attending spring break has transformed into a quintessential part of being a college student. In fact, for those who choose to partake, spring break can be the highlight of our entire college career. Because spring break traditionally falls in the beginning of March when the weather is far from spring-like and the winter

cold is beginning to feel unbearable, many students escape to tropical locations to "relax" on the beach. Our contemporary American culture has even unintentionally trained college students to seek out the locations in which the drinking age is lower than it is here in the states. Desired locations in which the drinking age is as young as 18 include the Bahamas, Mexico, the Dominican Republic, and even a variety of cities in Europe. This gives students who are underage the opportunity to engage in the consumption of alcohol without the hassle of using fake IDs, getting caught by campus police, or thinking of a new, clever way to sneak alcohol past the attendants at the residence hall desks. It even lessens the worries of students who are of legal drinking age because they can purchase and consume an unlimited amount of alcohol, as opposed to abiding by the new alcohol policy that limits each student to an equivalent of 12 beers per person allowed in the dorm room, and possession of 6 beers per person at any given time. After following a strict schedule of classes, work,

homework, group meetings, and various other obligations, students enjoy the lack of restrictions and abundant free time that spring break offers. With the media and technology growing at an extraordinarily rapid pace, television, movies, and even music have popularized the idea of spring break as a wild endless party. The wide variety of media that we are exposed to on an everyday basis has unfortunately helped promote the cliché idea that "what happens on spring break, stays on spring break." However, this cannot be further from the truth. If the right precautions are not taken, a trip that is supposed to be carefree and pleasurable can quickly turn into a dangerous nightmare. In order to help the student body have a fun, enjoyable, and SAFE spring break, Jim Matthews from the Hamel Health Center has provided *The Beacon* with some spring break safety tips to share with our readers.

- Be sure to use sunscreen, especially during the midday hours
- Hydration is important especially in tropical

areas. Use bottled water when necessary.

- Maintain healthy nutrition with plenty of fruits and vegetables.
- Sleep!

If consuming alcohol:

- Space your drinks apart to a rate of about one per hour to minimize level of intoxication. However, keep in mind that in tourist areas, drinks may be more potent than what you are familiar with.
- Alternate alcoholic beverages with non-alcoholic beverages which will keep you hydrated and slow down alcohol consumption.
- Never accept a drink from a stranger
- Stay in a group.

Following these tips and using common sense can help to ensure a safer and more memorable spring break. Regardless of whether or not you are planning on going away, we wish everyone a fantastic and rejuvenating week off!

Mystery Unveiled GET EXCITED!



SPRING WEEKEND CONCERT PERFORMER

Find out the opening act and the main performance of the weekend

Wednesday March 3rd

12:00 PM

Main Street

School News

Blood Drive a Success

By Abigail Clark '12
Copy Editor

Last Thursday of February 18, Merrimack College held a blood drive in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Sakowich, hosted by the Student Government Association. SGA had high hopes for the blood drive and most of their goals were completed.

At Merrimack, 60 units of blood had been the most units ever collected. Though SGA looked to double this number of 60 units to 120 units, they fell short only by 12 units. Out of 159 presenting donors, 108 were able to donate. Of the 108 donors, 59 of these were first time donors. The 108 units of blood has doubled the numbers Merrimack has presented in the past. Also, more than half of the donors were first time donors.

The American Red Cross has difficulty in retaining donors to become regular donors. Therefore, SGA made attempts to get people back who had donated in the past, as well as getting people to donate for their first time. These attempts included a free Bruins long-sleeved T-shirt for every donor, pizza and other snacks provided by Sodexo, and a chance to enter raffle prizes free of charge.

In the approximate five hours that the blood drive took, SGA had gathered waiting list of people who wished to donate blood. The ten tables

of donor stations were full at all times. Also, there were two double-red donor stations. At this station, some donors of a certain age, weight, height, and health are able to donate two units of blood instead of just one.

The blood donation process takes time. A donor is asked a series of questions regarding their current and past health problems or complications. After a donor passes this section, they can move on to the actual donation phase. After the donation is complete, usually around 20-30 minutes, the donor will sit at the canteen to re-hydrate and nourish themselves with fluids and snacks. After all of that, the process is complete.

The blood drive hosted by SGA was an over-



Stephen Ramunno, class of 2012, prepares for a double-red donation.

~Photo by Abigail Clark~

all success. Again, more than half of the donors were first time donors and about 45% of the rest of the donors had donated before. Keep on the lookout for the next blood drive at Merrimack next fall!

The First Lecture

Continued from cover...

Caira's lecture began with him explaining that he wrote this message as if it were his last message to the audience. One of his main goals was to prevent the audience from making the same mistakes he did. He began by talking about his focus. He explained that his focus up until this summer had been primarily on himself. However, over the summer everything changed. One Saturday morning he came home after sleeping over a friend's house and his sister, his angel as he called her, told him that she had cancer. From then on, he felt that he was between "a rock and a hard place." He did not want to be at home because of all the sadness regarding his sister's situation, but at the same time, he felt guilt by not being there. He explained that from the moment he found out his sister had cancer, his focus changed. He began to focus on his mother, father, other sister, and brother; his family. He explained

that one's family would always "be there" in support. He explained how much he depended on his own family.

Caira then went on to explain what he felt was important in life. Just a few of the many things he mentioned was laughing, crying, smiling, dancing, noting not to be afraid of failure be a good listener, be respectful, dream, say sorry, be spontaneous, be happy with what you have, and never drink and drive. He ended by saying that life is short and that he is "going to start taking advantage of second chances" and he hopes that the audience will too.

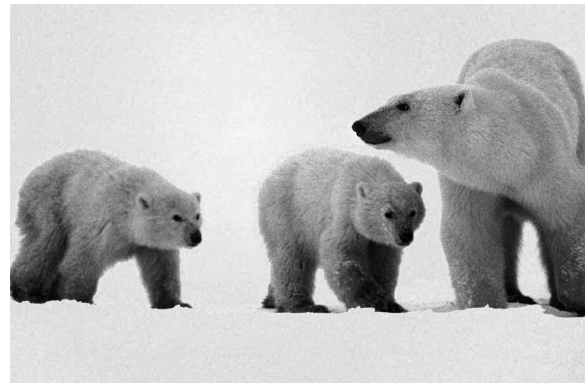
When Caira completed his lecture, many members of the audience were left in tears. The best moment was when he went over to hug his family, including his sister suffering from cancer. This showed that his family truly was one of the most important things in his life.

Club Bio Fact of the Week: Polar Bears

In 2010, the polar bears are a nearly endangered species living in the circumpolar north. They are animals which know no boundaries. They pad across the ice from Russia to Alaska, from Canada to Greenland and onto Norway's Svalbard archipelago. Biologists today estimate that there are 20,000 to 25,000 bears with about sixty percent of those living in Canada. Today, global warming poses the biggest threat surrounding the continuous survival of the world's polar bear population.

Are you a member of Club Bio? Did

you know that Club Bio has gone to the annual beach clean-up in NH, tide pooling, hiked outdoors, baked goods for fundraising, and most importantly Club Bio is currently involved in a special volunteering program at Lawrence High School?



If you did not know that, there has never been a better time to join Club Bio! Join us every Wednesday at 4:45 p.m. (Shine Lounge, 2nd Floor). This semester Club Bio will go on a hiking trip, a whale watch excursion, tour a hospital, visit the aquarium (backstage pass), sponsor the career panel and much more!

Interested in Writing for the Beacon?

Contact one of our Editors

Our next meeting is

Monday March 1st at 6:30 PM

Beacon Office located in Police services

6th Annual Robert D. Keohan Book Lecture

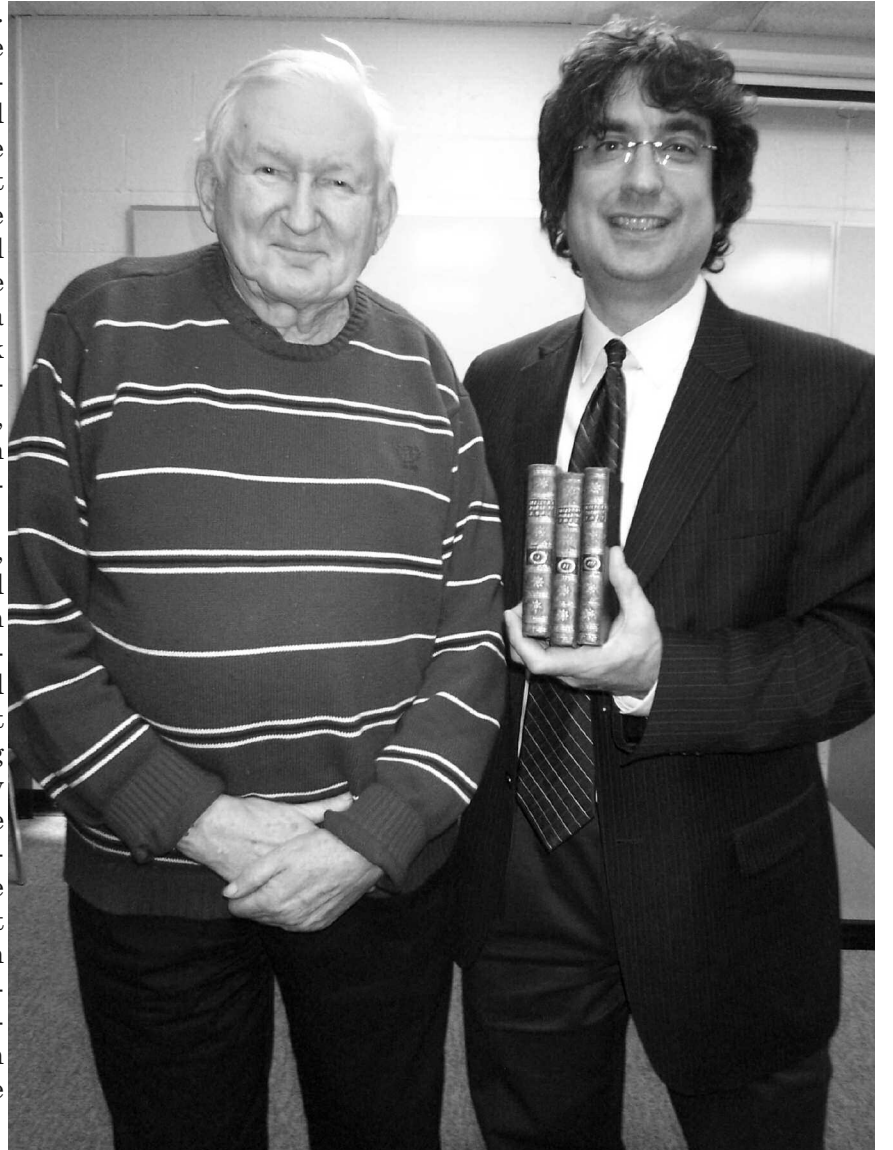
By Katie O'Neil '10
Beacon Contributor

Every year, Professor Robert Keohan, of the English Department, donates money to the Robert Keohan Book Fund that allows the English Department to purchase a valuable book that correlates to a topic that a member of the department teaches. This book fund was started to preserve the importance of the material book. This year, Dr. Steven Scherwatzky chose a 1795 edition of Milton's epic poem *Paradise Lost*. On February 19, Dr. Scherwatzky gave a lecture entitled "Angels and Demons: Milton's *Paradise Lost* in the Eighteenth Century." Over thirty-five people attended, including students, staff members, and faculty members from a wide range of departments, including English, Religious Studies, Psychology, Physics, and Mathematics.

Dr. Scherwatzky spoke about why he chose to buy this specific edition of the poem, explaining to the audience that this edition contains many annotations from editors of previous editions. Dr. Scherwatzky explained that "the annotations in this edition will allow students to see the reception that *Paradise Lost* received in the eighteenth century." He went on to talk about the poem itself, which he called "the great-

est poem in the English language." Dr. Scherwatzky explained that *Paradise Lost* covers "such monumental material" including the fall of mankind and the battle between good and evil. He told the audience that you simply "can't find a horror movie any more horrible than Milton's descriptions of sin and death." Part of the value of *Paradise Lost*, said Scherwatzky, is that "it's a very learned poem, steeped in Greek and Roman antiquity and Judeo-Christian tradition." He hopes that this poem, which he will be teaching a course on in Fall 2010, will put his students in a contemplative mindset.

Toward the end of the lecture, Dr. Scherwatzky invited people to hold the book and flip through it, though most people were hesitant about handling such an old book. He reminded everyone, though, that books are meant to be held and touched. After answering a few questions, Dr. Scherwatzky wrapped up his lecture by joking that he did not want people to have the same response to him talking as they did to the epic poem: That nobody wished it longer. I think I speak for everyone in the audience though when I say that listening to Dr. Scherwatzky speak so passionately about *Paradise Lost* was both entertaining and thought provoking; we could have listened all day.



From Merrimack to Hollywood

By Lauren Dello Russo '10
Beacon Contributor

Andrea Karthas, a 2001 graduate from Merrimack College,

has become extremely successful in Los Angeles, CA in the television production industry.

Since her graduation, Andrea has worked as a post production coordinator for the television series *House Rules* and a post production supervisor for the television series *Knight Rider*. Presently Andrea is working as an In-House Syndication Coordinator for HBO. Three thousand miles away, she thanks Merrimack College for the exposure to educational, personal and leadership opportunities that have been vital for her success in the entertainment industry and in the "real world."

Originally from Danvers, MA, Andrea selected Merrimack College as her gateway to success because of its numerous programs of study and close proximity to her home. Andrea was very involved with campus life while she attended Merrimack College. Her many campus roles included: Resident Advisor, Community Liaison for the First Year Students, Peer Educator,

member of her sorority, Xi Lambda Psi's Executive Board officer, and officer on the Pan-Hellenic Council. Andrea majored in Fine Arts, and recently reflected that her Merrimack campus experience instilled in her "a very strong work ethic, compassion for my community, as well as helping me to become a well rounded individual." Andrea moved to Los Angeles in September 2002, and she did not know a soul. Starting off in the entertainment industry, she began at the bottom and was given menial tasks, such as

transporting tapes to and from post production facilities. However, quickly following those jobs, Andrea was hired as a recruitment consultant for crowd scenes for the blockbuster movie *Seabiscuit*. After this noteworthy position, success in the entertainment industry was clearly in her cards! Shortly following that job, Andrea received an offer to come work as post production assistant for Steven Spielberg's *Taken* for the Sci-Fi channel.

successfully go after my dreams."

Andrea loves working in Television and Entertainment and has giant plans for the future. She yearns to "become more involved in the creative process, either as an Executive or a Producer in Television and Movies." So, keep your eyes peeled, because soon you may be unknowingly watching one of Andrea's masterpieces. In terms of advancing within this particular industry, Andrea suggests that one should always be learning

things for the next employment position because "in this business there are so many opportunities that will open themselves up to you with hard work and dedication."

Andrea Karthas has proven that with hard work and dedication one can succeed in one of the most competitive industries out there. Now residing in her West Coast home, Merrimack College Alumnus Andrea Karthas reflects to her East Coast counterparts at Merrimack that "despite the physical changes that Merrimack has undergone since my Freshman Year, whenever I come back for a visit I still have that same feeling of an old friend welcoming me home."



Since then, she has put together quite an impressive resume working for a series of shows as a Post Production Coordinator, Post Production Assistant, and Supervisor. Andrea has worked on the television series *Tarzan and Jane*, *Tru Calling*, *The Deerings*, *Empire*, *3 Moons over Milford*, *Bones*, *Misconceptions*, *In Justice*, *Knight Rider*, and *House Rules*. Andrea believes that the leadership roles she held at Merrimack College helped her excel in her profession, and has given her "the courage and confidence to suc-

Curling;

More than just a sport

Continues from cover...

The lifestyle Dropkin leads as a serious curler allows him the luxury of traveling coast to coast competing in Wisconsin, North Dakota and other mid-western States. International competition for Dropkin takes place in Ireland, Canada and his soon-to-be new home, Scotland.

Curling wasn't the only sport that took up Dropkin's time, in high school he competed in Varsity Soccer and Volleyball. Although curling affects his social life, in college he has still been able to get involved by joining Merrimack's Fraternity chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon.

The curling community is the base of Dropkin's friendships where friends from all over the country keep in contact with him through

facebook. "Nationals is the one week all year that I live for"

His friends at Merrimack are really supportive of his sport, "It's pretty awesome I guess. I wouldn't have watched the Olympic Curling if I didn't know Stephen did it." Says Alex Bernier.

"It takes a lot more than people would expect, it's all about finesse, weight control and rock placement." explains Dropkin. As the Skip of the team, he is expected to lead the team and use his intelligence for strategy of rock placement.

The curling season typically starts in mid-October and ends in April. The competitive season takes place in March and last year at this time, in North Dakota, Dropkin and his team received All-American Honors.

Presidential Search: Dr. Jo Ann Rooney and Dr. David Hopey have been named the finalists for president of Merrimack College. Rooney is president of Spalding University and Hopey is vice president of Northeastern University. Check out their updated resumes on Merrimack's website.

Track: Cross Country runners are hopeful for the passage of Men's and Women's Track for the winter and spring seasons. Track goes before the Board of Trustees on March 3. Matt Pimentel, assistant cross country coach would assume the position of Head Track Coach.

Physical Plant: Kudos to the Physical Plant for a speedy removal of snow from the last storm, students and faculty appreciated their efforts.

MackCards: Your weekly meal plans are now refreshed every Sunday instead of Mondays. So be careful when you start swiping!

Student Involvement: After winter break Student Activities changed their name to The Office of Student Involvement.

Lessons Learned

By: Dean Cuomo
Beacon Contributor

It is undeniable that 2009 was a

watershed year in U.S. economic history. Prior to 2009 it was commonly believed that economic fluctuations under basic capitalism would be limited in duration and self-correcting. For the first time since the Great Depression, we were faced with a perfect storm of economic devastation: suppressed financial markets, a rapidly deteriorating housing market, a shrinking labor market, and a serious confidence crisis on the part of consumers, employers, and the financial community. We will in all likelihood have better economic performance in 2010. However, what happened in 2009 could reoccur in the future if we do not understand the fundamental principles of a capitalist economy and if the behavior of our principal economic players does not change.

What did we learn in 2009? During 2009 the unemployment rate rose to 10.2%, a 26 year high. Many workers held and continue to have multiple part time jobs. Both the manufacturing and service sectors were affected and it is questionable as to whether we are truly out of the "recession". The official definition of a recession according to the government is two consecutive quarters of declining Gross Domestic Product. However, Gross Domestic Product is dependent upon employment growth and productivity growth. It is possible for Gross Domestic Product to rise predominantly because of productivity growth. Therefore, it is possible to have a "jobless recovery". The unemployment rate still hovers around 10%. One can argue that the "statistical" recession is over but that the "human recession" continues. Without a job, consumers will be reluctant to spend and banks will be leery to lend. Until employment increases, true economic recovery will remain on hold.

Overspeculation led to a "housing bubble" in 2009. Housing prices fell precipitously and foreclosures reached record highs. We forgot that housing markets are cyclical and that housing prices can fall and that we should view homes as commodities and not investments. A home should be purchased for the satisfaction it provides us and not because it might appreciate in value. Households must learn to live within their means. The alarming rate of personal bankruptcies attests to this.

At the height of financial collapse in 2009, \$7 trillion of personal wealth was eliminated. Banks were reluctant to lend and credit was essentially frozen. It became clear for the economy to rebound, banks and financial intermediaries would need to begin lending again. This gave rise to the saying "we need to go down Wall Street to help those on Main Street." A government financial rescue plan was necessary in order to provide liquidity to the financial system and to restore confidence in financial markets. Without the government financial rescue plan, there is no doubt that economic recovery will be painfully prolonged.

Government regulation came under careful scrutiny in 2009. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac were loosely regulated in the early 2000's. Both of these institutions expanded their loan portfolios at a significant rate. This undoubtedly led to the housing bubble. As housing speculation increased dramatically, regulators were slow to increase interest rates. There was very weak regulation of banks and financial intermediaries and consumer borrowing regulations were extremely weak. This led to reckless and irresponsible borrowing. We learned that proactive government regulation is necessary for a stable economy.

In an attempt to maximize their profits on the funds deposited with them, banks and financial interme-

diaries pursued lax lending standards. This led to a substantial number of loan defaults and numerous bank failures. Banks are now "lending shy." They will not lend if they don't think the economy will improve. One criticism levied at the banking community is that it is too inflexible in its loan modification process. Some argue that banks should work more closely with homeowners in default so that they may remain in their homes.

It became eminently clear in 2009 that employers will not hire if consumers are not spending. In addition, competition and productivity concerns have led to sluggish hiring as businesses attempt to reduce costs. Layoffs are commonplace and the probability that an employee will work for one employer for his/her entire career is close to zero. Employment growth areas will be in the fields of biotechnology, health sciences, and education. We also learned that deteriorating economic conditions tend to breed entrepreneurial activity as individuals identify profitable opportunities and the satisfaction of self-employment. Many successful businesses were started in a weak economy.

The events of 2009 highlighted the consumer obsession with the "want it now" society. Many households exercised poor financial management and borrowed far beyond their means to purchase the convenience and status associated with the most recent consumer goods and services. Much of this is due to widespread financial illiteracy. Very few institutions of higher education require financial literacy as a requirement for graduation. Questions that arise are: How responsible were consumers for the financial crisis? How far should the government go to bail them out?

Health care reform took center stage last year. More than 47 million Americans are without health insurance and 25 million are underinsured. The U. S. ranks 49th in

life expectancy among nations while spending twice per capita on health care as other developed countries. Medical problems account for about half of housing foreclosures while losing a job usually means losing one's health insurance. The health care reform alternatives discussed in Congress included: building upon the existing system, establishment of private cooperatives, and the establishment of a single payer system or the public option. It appears that health care reform legislation will focus upon building upon the existing system to include private cooperatives. To truly reform our health care delivery system effectively, we must address the following questions: Should illegal immigrants be covered? Should abortions be covered? Should health care be rationed? Should there be tort reform? Should there be coverage for pre-existing conditions?

Perhaps the greatest lesson to be learned is that 2009 will be known as the year of greed. Financial institutions to maximize their profits made many risky loans and investments, consumers spent way beyond their means, and investors engaged in reckless stock market and housing market speculation. This was reflected in instances of obscene executive compensation and the case of Bernard Madoff. What is needed is behavior modification. Without this there is a high likelihood that the financial disaster we experienced in 2009 will occur again.

Opinion

Beacon Editorial

By Abigail Clark '12
Copy Editor

College is a time for new experiences. For some people, it is a time to experiment with alcohol. We all have our own reasons for experimenting with alcohol or abstaining from it. Whether you chose to drink alcohol or to abstain, it is crucial for everyone to familiar with the signs of alcohol poisoning.

The signs of alcohol poisoning include mental confusion/stupor/coma, someone that cannot be awoken, vomiting, seizures, slow or irregular breathing (less than eight breaths a minute/ten or more seconds between breaths), and hypothermia. Hypothermia can be characterized

by a low body temperature, which can cause a bluish skin color or paleness.

If a person exhibits some of these symptoms, he or she could have alcohol poisoning. However, not all of these symptoms need to be present to be classified as someone having alcohol poisoning. Even after a person has stopped drinking, alcohol continues to circulate throughout the body. Therefore, it is extremely dangerous to allow someone to "sleep it off". If a person who is experiencing alcohol poisoning goes to sleep or is unconscious, he or she could asphyxiate from vomiting. This can lead to severe consequences, such as death.

If you ever find yourself in a situation in which you think someone has alcohol poisoning,

do not be afraid to get help. Trust your instincts even though other people may think the person is "fine". All Merrimack Resident Advisors are trained in knowing the signs of alcohol poisoning. Using your own judgment and the judgment of those who are trained to know how to deal with these kinds of situations, you can help save a life. Remember, an angry friend is better than a dead friend.

Information regarding alcohol poisoning from collegedrinkingprevention.gov

Olympian Heroes?

By Michael Salvucci '10
Staff Writer

The Olympics; an event for the countries around the world to come together and bond over a common human drive of competition. However, in recent years many people's faith in the Olympic games have been wavering.

A week before the opening ceremonies I had a conversation with a friend, a friend who was not nearly excited for the Olympics as I was. He talked the usual talk about steroids, age scams (China), kids being banned from singing the anthem due to being too ugly (China again), etc. "The games come with too much pomp" he said. I thought about it and perhaps there is some truth to this. Athletes are paraded

in nation by nation to majestic Jurassic park-like tunes, people cheer and clap for the men, women, (and toddlers) who will be competing for their country. Competition in Olympic games is not the only thing that these athletes will partake in – the host country trucks in 100,000 condoms for the Athletes and their coaches and trainers. That works out to about 14 condoms per person.

The acquisition of this knowledge has only reinforced my belief that men and women, no matter their statue or position in the world are, just that...men and women. That is something to keep in mind as we watch these 2010 Vancouver Olympics. I am not taking anything away from these athletes, I for one could never ski a mogul field like

the free style mogul skiers do, nor could I slide a rock down 150 feet of ice and have it stop in a target a few feet wide.

I personally love the Olympics; I love witnessing the drive of competitiveness that exists within all humans. I clapped when the United States of America entered the arena during the opening ceremonies, I cheered out loud when Lindsey Vonn overcame her shin injury and won a gold, and I screamed when USA beat Canada earlier last week. However, how often do we cheer for nurses who left their job and flew to Haiti to volunteer? Or how often do we clap when a fire fighter walks into a sub shop for their lunch break. How often do we scream in joy for our men and women in our armed services?

Just last week Catholics kicked off their Lenten season with Ash Wednesday. Lent is a 40 daylong period symbolic of Jesus' journey into the desert. Regardless of your religion, I want to propose something to you. Over the next 40 days, think about the men and women in our society who deserve praise but rarely get it. Take a step further, write a letter to one of them, it doesn't have to be someone you know; in fact it may be more powerful if it is sent to someone you do not know, and thank them.

All that being said...USA leads the medal count.

Follow Michael online at:
SalvucciM.blogspot.com

Police Log

02/13/2010 03:03

Medical Injury-Ambulance/No Trans.

Resident reported her roommate broke a glow stick and the fluid went into her eye. Units on scene. 3:09-AFD notified. 03:15-ADFD on scene. 3:30-Units clear, waiver signed.

02/13/2010 20:05

Well-Being Check

Father of resident student came in to report that he was concerned he could not make contact with his daughter. She was not answering her phone and he usually talks to her multiple times a day. The student was inside the room. She spoke with her father.

02/15/2010 18:42

Stolen Property

Volpe Complex

Lacrosse coach called to report that items had been stolen from the football and lacrosse locker room in Volpe. Caller reported that students had seen a suspicious individual earlier coming from the locker room area. An officer responded to investigate. That suspect is later identified and is issued a Notice of Trespass pending further investigation.

02/17/2010 17:31

Suspicious Person/Vehicle/Activity

Austin Hall

Caller reports a suspicious person walking the halls on the 3rd floor of Austin. A description is taken and officers respond. Units report a walk-through of the building and an outside area check with negative findings. Units clear.

02/18/2010 22:26

Damage-Intentional

Lot 5-DW Lot Walsh

Resident student reports vandalism to her vehicle while it was parked in the Deegan West lot. An officer took pictures of the damage and filed a report. Incident is currently under investigation. Unit clear.

02/20/2010 00:03

Disturbance-Fight

Ash Centre

Officers respond to a fight on the first floor of Ash. The fight had broken up on arrival. Incident is currently under investigation. Units clear.

Theology With Tim

The Season of Lent

By Tim Iannacone '12
Staff Writer

For many, Lent is a season of repentance to prepare ourselves and renew our baptismal promises at Easter. Our Baptism roots ourselves in the forgiveness of sin as well as Christ's paschal mystery. This includes His death, resurrection and glorification. We must prepare ourselves through prayer, penitence, and self denial not only to strengthen our bond with Christ, but also to strengthen our bond with all of our brothers and sisters in Christ. In many languages, the word "Lent" actually means "fast." This is where the custom of giving up something for Lent originated. Although self-denial, in the imitation of Jesus Christ's withdrawal into the desert is expected, one must remember that Lent is not entirely about giving up something; for faith is not about giving up. Faith is about gaining belief and gaining trust.

The purpose of the liturgical calendar is to relive the major events in Jesus' life in real time, which is why Lent is forty days long. If Jesus were born on December 25th, then His conception, thus also His incarnation would have been nine months earlier, on March 25th. This is when the angel Gabriel would have announced Jesus' birth to Mary. Thus, March 25th is known in the historic Church as The Annunciation. The Bible does not

mention the custom of Lent, however, the practice of repentance and mourning in ashes is found in 2 Samuel 13:19; Esther 4:1; Job 2:8; Daniel 9:3; and Matthew 11:21.

In every case, Lent is a time for serious, disciplined self examination, a time spent in inten-

without preparation during Lent would be similar to someone diving into the ocean without knowing how to swim.

Thinking of the many things which can help us examine ourselves this Lenten Season is Scripture. St. Jerome put it most eloquently that "ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ." The recently added group to Campus Ministry called Campus Renew helps that individual root his or herself in Scripture. Campus Renew brings one closer to Christ through Scripture which everyone should strive for. If you are thinking that this group or scripture reading is embarrassing, then this would pinpoint that you might be embarrassed of your own faith, which leads to an embarrassment of Christ Himself. This Lenten season you could possibly strive for being bolder in your Catholic or Christian faith and actually be proud to be Catholic. This would include minor details such as actually praying out loud and singing during mass when you are supposed to, or going to confession to clear yourself of sins before receiving communion, for we are all sinners. You could even possibly think about joining Campus Renew for a renewal in Scripture. Examine yourself and think personally what would best fit your repentance as well as faith developing this Lenten Season. God Bless!



sive prayer and repentance before the cross which we all must bear. Put simply, Lent is a time to examine ourselves carefully. If the door is closed, the light cannot come in, especially into our hearts. It is time to open our hearts to the light of Christ. Jumping into the Easter Season

SUMMER I:
Day: May 17 - June 24
Evening: May 17 - July 2

SUMMER II:
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Evening: July 6 - August 2

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Meet the Beacon

Name: Tim Iannacone
Class Year: 2012
Hometown: Norwalk, CT
Major: Religious & Theological Studies
Years at the Beacon: 1
Beacon Position: Staff Writer
Reason for Joining: Contribute to Merrimack College
Favorite Article: Theology with Tim
Favorite Beacon Activity: Writing
Favorite part of Merrimack: Hockey games in Volpe
Job: Youth Minister
Favorite Food: Italian
Favorite TV Show: Everybody Loves Raymond & King of Queens
Favorite Movie: Everything
Favorite Activities: Instrumental activities
If You Could Be Any Animal: Gorilla
Long-Term Goal: To be the Pope
Short-Term Goal: To make it back to my room on a Friday night



Questions on the Quad

Questions & Photos compiled by Pat Lawlor and Courtney Cutler

What is your favorite Winter Olympic event?



Lindsay Vaughn

-Ryan McNeil,
class of 2010



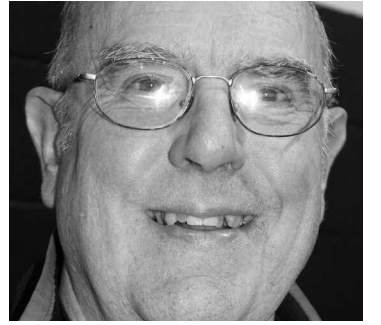
Hockey

-Dan Borges,
class of 2013



Snowboarding

-Victoria Delacey,
class of 2012



Skiing

-Father Bill

What are your plans for Spring Break?



California

-Gina Dicenzo,
class of 2010



Florida

-Emily Moldoff,
class of 2013



Sleeping and
field hockey

-April Daugherty,
class of 2012



Punta Cana

- Kelly McKeown,
class of 2010

Beacon Opinion Policy

The views expressed in the Opinion section do not represent the views held by The Beacon or its Staff

If you would like to comment on an article or share an opinion
please contact us at newspaper@merrimack.edu

Fun & Games

Spring

F D Z X O Z W Q M A Y N M G G P A R A I L L
 G U W L S E U B Q P I Q E Y F C Q S G K C J
 G Q Z R S W D I W L D S E E D O J P W L R P
 L I L A C Q D R X A I H X A I P K R G I W I
 Z A C R D W A D S N U F J Q X K T I W M T C
 K Y H Q C J S S L T B O B W A R M N U Q F N
 O T E Z Y O B R U C B E E S D Y N G A Q D I
 O B R Z U S I E C R B Q T E Y D L B A Q G C
 L J R N T G R T S O J J C A Y W W R Q O W T
 M J Y E Y P T U F P P I L S Y P U E J D Z Y
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 H P S J Y C Y L O K A P R I L F O O L P M T
 T X S W K F L O W E R S B L O O M D M D L D
 H B O D I B E A R S A W A K E G M O P F E Q
 J B M P T G R S A C H N S H E W G G R E E N
 F O O D M A R C H N E W L E A Y E S U K G K
 B U D D H A S B I R T H D A Y B O G G L E S W

flowers bloom	birds return	green
April Fool	cherry blossom	Easter
March	bees	Buddha's Birthday
May	seed	spring break
plant crops	warm	lilac
bears awake	new leaves	picnic



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Sudoku!

	1		6		7			4
	4	2						
8	7		3			6		
	8			7			2	
			8	9	3			
	3			6			1	
		8			6		4	5
						1	7	
4			9		8		6	

	8		5					
		7					2	
		9	2	6		8	4	7
8	2				9		1	
		4				7		
	3		8				9	2
3	9	6		5	8	2		
	5					6		
					2		5	

Sports

Warriors Clinch the #3 Seed

By Mark Lindquist '11
Staff Writer

With offensive victories over both St. Michael's College and New Haven, the 2009-2010 Merrimack Warriors under Head Coach Bert Hammel in his 30th season have secured the #3 seed heading into the NE-10 Tournament with an 18-7 overall record with a 15-6 conference record. Seniors Jared Brownlee, Jeff Hansbury, Craig Woehner, and the amazing Darren Duncan were honored before tip-off against Southern New Hampshire. With Duncan's days in a Merrimack uniform numbered, regardless of how the season ends, the fans will remember him for the incredible production that he has given Coach Hammel. After the New Haven win, Duncan inched closer to 2,000 career points and 800 assists and has been high-ranked in the conference assist/turnover ratio, steals, free-throw %, and overall scoring.

After taking an 8-point lead into the half, the Warriors played well on both ends of the court to pull out a 94-77 victory over St. Michael's College. The Warriors led 48-40 at the half but they at times gave up open looks from 3-point range and back-door cuts which allowed too many easy baskets to keep St. Michael's within striking distance. After Coach Hammel made 2nd half adjustments the Warriors held their opponent to 30 points less and than 50% shooting, which was an improvement.

What ultimately sealed the victory for the Warriors was hitting 20 of 22 free throws, which will satisfy any coach. Sophomore Roland Davis came off the bench and in-

stantly caught fire with his great pure shooting ability for 24 points which led his team. Four other Warriors scored double-figures including sophomore Wayne Mack with 11, Duncan with 21, and 14 apiece for Strothers and junior Darin "Dee" Mency. Duncan made free-throws look easy hitting a perfect 8 of 8. Defensively Mack and Duncan each recorded 4 steals while the team won the turnover battle causing 19 turnovers and only losing the ball 8 times.

Merrimack narrowly defeated New Haven 91-86 with Darin Mency and Roland Davis each dropping 20+ points. Coach Hammel's move of starting Craig Woehner and using Davis as his 6th man, has worked nicely with Davis averaging 21 points over the past 3 games and being a consistent shooter from beyond the 3-point arc. Davis made an immediate impact hitting 4 of 6 from 3-range and hitting 5 of 6 from the free-throw line. Mency led his team with 23 points and grabbed 11 rebounds for a double-double. Duncan is the center of Merrimack's offense and he makes everyone around him better such as Mency and Davis. He recorded 8 assists with only 1 turnover, and had 19 points. Sophomore forward Aaron Strothers leads the conference in field goal % and contributed 15 points efficiently hitting 7 of 7.

With the NE-10 Tournament and probably the Division II NCAA Tournament inching closer, the Warriors do have issues that need to be worked with. The Warriors are an offensive powerhouse averaging 78 points a game and are able to create steals, but defensively give up too many baskets, and put them-



Courtney Cutler/Beacon Staff

Senior Darren Duncan shoots a jump shot on Senior Night selves into dangerous situations far too often. Against teams such as Bentley and Stonehill, the Warriors may not be able to outgun the opposition in order to win if they cannot stay fundamentally solid and alert on defense. The Warriors are a fantastic team, but in order for them to make deep runs in the NE-10 and DII NCAA Tournaments, they need to buckle down on defense.

Bonjour Père!

By Michael Salvucci '10
Staff Writer

Stephane Da Costa, star freshman of the men's hockey team, was greeted with an unexpected surprise after the home game against UMass Amherst. Stephane, a native of France, was told he had a special visitor after the game. Fr. Bill Waters, an Augustinian on campus who helped organized the visit along with Lauren Gannon, told Stephane he had someone who wanted to meet him. When Stephane turned the corner, his father was there to greet him.

Monsieur Da Costa had never seen his son play at the collegiate level until that weekend. "Coming from Europe, it's two different worlds. (there and America), However, the first thing I notice is his faults and things he could be doing better", Da Costa said of his son. Mr. Da Costa is no stranger to

Hockey East, and was very aware of Merrimack's run for the playoffs. During our interview in the Blue Line Club, the Vermont-UNH game was on. The Warriors needed Vermont to lose to gain control of the final playoff spot in Hockey East. Mr. Da Costa, knowing this, was very excited when the Wild Cats won in overtime. "It's a triple wammy for me" he said, "Seeing Merrimack win, my son play, and Vermont lose".

Stephane, the leading rookie scorer in Hockey East, very well could be one of the Warrior's keys to success this season. Stephane was out sick against the 7-0 Boston Massacre at Conte Forum against the Eagles last Tuesday. He is listed as day to day and should be returning to the lineup soon.



Michael Salvucci/Beacon Staff

Stephane Da Costa embraces his father after the home win against UMass



Sports



Hockey sweeps UMass, pushes towards playoffs

By Michael Salvucci '10
Staff Writer

Merrimack Hockey looks to rebound from their embarrassing 7-0 loss against Boston College this weekend against the Maine Black Bears. Merrimack, going into last Tuesday's game was flying high on their five game unbeaten streak, but was brought swiftly back to Earth at the hands of Jerry York's eagles.

The way things played out the weekend prior, the Warriors put themselves in a position where they did not need to win the game at Conte Forum in order to make the playoffs, so as the saying goes, they were "playing with house money". There was really not much good that came out of Tuesday's game besides the fact that it did not hurt Merrimack all that much.

The past weekend the Warriors looked like a completely different team, sweeping the #18 UMass minutemen in a home and home series. Cannata turned away 42 shots and shut out the minutemen on

Saturday. He had the benefit of a defense that was spot on, blocking shots and keeping the opposing forwards out of lanes.



Michael Salvucci/Beacon Staff
Joe Cucci celebrates one of his three goals

Meanwhile, Merrimack's forwards went to work; Flannigan, Brodhag, and Da Costa all lit the

lamp. Even though Merrimack only registered 22 shots on net, the shots were quality chances that tested UMass's goaltender Dan Meyers.

The night before at Lawler arena, a different Merrimack forward, Joe Cucci, stole the show.

Cucci registered three goals and his first collegiate hat trick. "[The coaches] have wanted me to shoot the puck more. It's something I was focusing on doing." The shooting has paid off for Cucci who doubled his goal tallies on the year with the hat trick. The Warriors beat the Minutemen 4-1; the non-Cucci goal being scored by Jeff Velleca.

Looking ahead to the two games at home against Maine, they are not "must win" per say but it sure would be nice. The Warriors have the best home ice record in the nation and need to put it to good use against Maine. With a sweep against the Black Bears the warriors would come close to solidifying their spot in the post season, a place they have not visited since the 03-04 season.

The team finishes the season off against last place Providence, who are a tough club but have not found a rhythm all year. When the post season hangs on the line, the Warriors should be able to take all four points from the Friars.

The New Generation

By Mark Lindquist '11
Staff Writer

In the past 3 Olympic games, NHL warhorses such as Gary Suter, Brian Leetch, Keith Tkachuk, Chris Chelios, Mike Modano, Bill Guerin, and other great American-born hockey players despite winning a Silver Medal in 2002, have valiantly tried and failed to bring home another Gold Medal to the USA which has not been done since the 1980 "Miracle" team. With most of those players now around the age of 40, USA Hockey General Manager Brian Burke has turned to a new generation of young and energetic American hockey stars that a small-time hockey fan has most likely is just getting to know these names. About three-fourths of Head Coach Ron Wilson's (Toronto Maple Leafs) 22-man roster is under the age of 30.

Leading the way are offensive snipers Patrick Kane (21 yrs old), Paul Statsny (24), and Zach Parise (25). Kane is 9th in the NHL in points with 67 and is a former #1 overall draft pick. Parise is 17th in the NHL with 61 points. More recently emerging NHL stars include Phil Kessel (22), Bobby Ryan (22), Ryan Kesler (25), Joe Pavelski (25), David Backes (25), Ryan Callahan (24), and Dustin Brown (25). Keeping the new youth under control is NHL experienced team captain

Jamie Langenbrunner (34), Chris Drury (33), and Ryan Malone (30). Team USA's defense has been revamped except for the aging but experienced and reliable Brian Rafalski (36). New players added includes Jack Johnson "not the singer" (23), former #1 overall draft



pick Erik Johnson (21), Brooks Orpik (29), Tim Gleason (27), Ryan Whitney (27) from Scituate, MA, and (son of 1980 "Miracle" team player Bob Suter) Ryan Suter (25). The new goaltender for team USA trying to top performances of Mike Richter and Rick Dipietro is Ryan Miller (29) who is 2nd in the NHL in both goals against average (GAA) and saves %. Backing up Miller is hometown favorite from the Boston Bruins Tim Thomas (36) and young

stud Jonathan Quick (24).

Considered as "underdogs" in this year's Olympics, Team USA proved all doubters that this year's team was a true contender starting off 3-0 defeating Team Switzerland, Team Norway, and finally... the extremely powerful Team Canada in

Vancouver. The team's leaders include (C) Jamie Langenbrunner, (A) Brian Rafalski, (A) Ryan Suter, (A) Dustin Brown, and (A) Zach Parise. The commentator for the USA vs Switzerland game quoted that GM Brian Burke described his team as "workers on a construction site" and that everyone had a certain role to play. Players such as Kane, Kessel, and Parise were recruited to be the scorers. Players such as Langenbrunner, Drury, and Rafalski were

recruited as the experienced leaders. Big hitters such as Brown, Orpik, Malone, and Gleason were recruited to play physical against the opposition.

USA defeated Canada 5-3 despite being outshot 45-23 for the first time in the Olympics since 1960. Miller stopped 42 out of 45 hard shots from NHL superstars such as Patrick Marleau, Sidney Crosby, and Rick Nash with Miller's defensemen and forwards diving on the ice to take bullets for their goaltender. It was the experience that got it done for the Americans as Brian Rafalski rifled a couple of shots through traffic to beat former teammate Martin Brodeur. Chris Drury added another after Canada tied the game at 2-2 to make it 3-2. It was 1980 "déjà vu" when team captain Jamie Langenbrunner deflected a Rafalski shot through the legs of his New Jersey Devils teammate Brodeur to in the end, seal the victory with not as much style as 1980 captain Mike Eruzione, but effective. After Crosby scored Canada's 3rd goal to give his team a chance, Ryan Kesler used his great speed to plow through Canada's defense and sweep the puck into an empty net as he was being checked. This may not be the only time that USA faces Canada in this year's Olympics, but this new generation of USA Hockey has truly become a Gold Medal contender.



Senior Casey Miller blocks a pass to a Southern New Hampshire player at the Lady Warrior's last home game of the season. Congrats on a great four years, Casey!
~Photo by Courtney Cutler~