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Friday, October 9, 2009

www.merrimackbeacon.com

# Patience with Gati alarms wears thin



Senior Anthony Nini wraps himself in a blanket while standing outside of residence hall Santagati on a cold morning ~Photo by Courtney Cutler~

By Shannon Nickerson Staff Writer

Since the beginning of the 2009 academic year, Santagati Hall has been experiencing false fire alarms due to a malfunctioning alarm system. There have been around 16 alarms since August 2009. In the same time period last year, there were only five alarms in Santagati

There is action being taken by both Police Services and Residence Life to help solve the problem. Both departments are working with Grinnell Mechanical and Simplex Fire Alarm, the companies that are contracted by the school to repair and maintain the fire alarm systems. They are also working closely with the Andover Fire Department.

The alarms are set into three different categories: mechanical, unknown, and accidental. Since the beginning of the academic year, there have been six unknown alarms, one from burning paper and nine were shower related.

The shower related alarms were due to steam. The smoke detectors in the hall-ways of the rooms are so sensitive that if a student is taking a really hot shower, the steam that builds up from the bath-room could cause an alarm to go off when the steam is released.

Continued on page 4

### Students work to relieve Darfur devestation

By Molly Warren and Lynsie Andrade Staff Writers

Since 2004, over 400,000 civilians have lost their lives in the region of Darfur and the Sudanese government has been implicated in this genocide. During the week of September 28th, Dr. Mark Allman's Christian Social Ethics class, the Girard School of Business, and the Justice and Peace Coalition joined forces to raise awareness for the war in Darfur.

In order to stop the genocide in Darfur, there needs to be a global effort. Students at Merrimack College have contributed to this by stepping up to raise awareness for this cause not only at Merrimack, but also in the surrounding areas. Dr. Allman's class and the Justice and Peace Coalition brought an exhibit to campus named Exhibit Darfur. Merrimack shared this exhibit with Harvard University. Harvard had the exhibit for most of September and it then come to Merrimack from Tuesday, September 29th, until Thursday, October 1st.

The exhibit consisted of over 20 photos that capture the journey of the crisis in Darfur. The photos were taken by six prominent artists: Mia Farrow, Aaron Cohen, Brian Steidle, Isabella Lundberg, Heidi McGiness, and Carol Rinehart.

Darfur Week also had students, faculty and the Merrimack commu-

nity sign petitions. The main petition was for President Obama, since one of the many issues he campaigned on was helping to bring peace to Darfur. There is currently a peace agreement in place in Darfur called the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. However, this agreement is not actively being followed or put into place. President Obama said that he wanted to make Darfur his top priority in foreign policy, especially in light of the peace agreement falling apart in Darfur. This petition will work to get President Obama to honor his campaign promise and subsequently to help the people in Darfur.

The second petition was a continuation of a petition from last

year. Last year, a committee of students including Sean Wittbold, Courtney DeSisto, Nathan Dorman and Lyndsie Andrade, who were part of Dr. Allman's Christian Social Ethics class, sent a letter along with a petition to the Merrimack Board of Trustees. The intention of the letter was to encourage them to divest from Darfur. The Merrimack Board of Trustees responded and stated that they would instruct their investors to begin this process. The class for this semester has sent a letter to the Board asking them if this process has been completed.

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# Submissions

### A message from SGA president Ara Sarajian

Ara Sarajian SGA President

The Student Activities Fee... What is this all about? Some of you may have heard about it here and there through the Merrimack rumor mill, but most do not know exactly what it is all about. Next week a vote will be taking place to see if the student body is in favor of raising the Student Activities Fee by \$100 dollars. In order to make the right decision when you vote, you first should be educated on the issue at hand.

Currently the Student Activities Fee is \$500 dollars. However half of that (\$250) is a Student Tech-

nology Fee that is used for T.V, phone, and internet. The other half (\$250) is contributed to Student Activities mainly distributed amongst clubs to operate and the Merrimack Programming Board (MPB) to put on programs and activ-

By raising the Student Activities Fee by \$100 dollars, students are stating that they are willing to contribute to change at Merrimack. The \$100 dollars will added on to the Student Activities fee, nearly doubling the SGA"s current budget. With such an increase, changes will be seen immediately. The first major change that will occur will be the separation of club sports from the SGA umbrella. That basically means that club sports will officially become their own department run by Nick Lowery, the current Intramurals Coordinator. This will enable club sports to be fully functional on their own without the need of SGA funding giving it a huge opportunity for growth. The second major change that will occur is that SGA will be able to properly fund the 50+ clubs that they currently have on campus. All of you who are in clubs have gone through the supplemental budget process and most clubs do

not receive what they asked for, mainly because of the size of the current budget. In addition, a portion of the fee will go to improvements for special weekends such as Homecoming Weekend Spring Weekend.

With a small increase each student's fee, major changes will be able to take place that will impact the entire student body. Clubs will be properly funded and Merrimack will have established club sports program that will be in a great position to succeed. So please come out and vote on October 14th and 15th.

# From the Office of the Registrar...

Jennifer DiStefano Beacon Contributor

Student Comment: "The four by four should not require a heavier course load. The load is large enough to keep both the students and the teachers extremely busy. Assigning more work in each and every class is not helping further education, nor is it giving us a better opportunity."

Response: Thank you for your input about your experience with the curriculum. In moving to 4x4, each and every course was reviewed by a committee of faculty and academic administrators to ensure it was worth the number of credits assigned (2 or 4 credits). The long-standing general rule in higher education is that every semester credit should translate to about 3 hours of work per week, including classes and labs, online work, and all the studying and work on projects that you do. Thus, a student load full-time should take well over 40 hours of work per week, and courses were reviewed with that sort of framework in mind. In our excitement and enthusiasm for our own disciplines, we professors can sometimes go overboard (as we all know), and moving to 4x4 created an opportunity for that kind of energy around designing our courses. Every semester, the Office of Academic Affairs will continue to survey faculty and students about their experience with the curriculum, and will make observations about how things might change

for the better. Survey re-

sults show (among other things) that many professors at the end of the semester think about ways to improve their courses for the next time, including student workload, possibly adjusting it up or down based on everyone's continuing experience with the new way of teaching and learning at Merrimack. So please keep an eye out for surveys about the curriculum, and continue to give us feedback. Response from Dr. Raymond Shaw, Associate Professor of Psychology, and Assistant to the Vice President for Academic Affairs

Student Comment: "In addition, the exams schedules should be looked at more carefully because students should not have more than 2 exams on one given day. However, myself and dozens of other students in the business school had 3 exams on the same day. When you add more course work during the semester, it only makes it more impossible to perform well on the final, especially when they are back to back if not on the same day."

Response: Every attempt is made to limit any student's exam schedule to two on any given day. This has been problematic because as you know, the Girard School offers several two credit courses. We will try to rectify this when doing the spring 2010 final exam schedule. This will not be a problem next year as we will be eliminating the two credit courses.

Response from Robert J. Cuomo, Ph.D., Dean of the Girard School of Business and International Com-

A student with more than 2 final exams on any one day during final exam week is entitled to arrange another time for their 3rd (or 4th) exam to be taken. Response from Jennifer DiStefano, Registrar Chief Retention Officer.

Student Comment: "My best profs are adjunct - they laugh (speak Klingon), care, work with disability services, share experience related examples. The profs with un-relatable style don't apply examples in class (read solely from note / slides, rely on student proctors to grade papers). I appreciate attending Merrimack. My friends in other business schools are not receiving half the education (like case studies for example) that I am. Merrimack's strength is in handson teaching that relates the subject to applicable experience. Thank you for a planned educational pro-

Response: Girard School faculty has made sincere attempts to tailor the content of two credit courses appropriately. In addition to meeting face-to-face for two hours a week, internet assignments common. Many professors in the Girard School have "real world" experience. We feel that these professors complement well faculty members who have a strong educational background. This fall semester the Girard School of Business has instituted an "experiential Learning Portfolio" program to accentuate the importance of experiential learning. Please let me know if you would like additional clarification. sponse from Robert J. Cuomo, Ph.D., Dean of the Girard School of Business and International Commerce

Student Comment: would like wireless internet to be available in the Residence Halls."

**Response**: The college has been researching several options to provide wireless in the Residence Halls, including standard Wi-Fi deployment and amplifying signals for subscription based cell phone vendor data networks. Due to the unique construction and high population density in student housing, costs are high and would require a significant ongoing commitment by the college for funding. We have also looked into providing service only in selected common areas initially, though students would have to sit there to make use of this service. All of these options require a sizable initial investment plus substantial ongoing funding for maintenance and upgrades, as well as for additional support. In addition to the Wi-Fi gear itself, there are significant costs for power and network wiring and additional network switches. Replacements would have to be funded every few years as the technology evolves. We continue to research options and look for ways to fund this project. Response from Charles Maxson. Chief Information Officer

# School News

# Look at me Mom and Dad! Homecoming gets rejuvinated

By Ashley Sarris
Entertainment Editor

Family weekend is fast approaching and this year there is certainly a lot coming home to Merrimack's Campus. Merrimack College has redesigned Homecoming weekend so that there are activities for everyone of all ages. The bulk of all activities begin Friday October 16 and end Sunday October 18.

As far as athletics are concerned Friday starts off with a volleyball game where the Lady Warriors face Southern Connecticut State University at 4pm in the Volpe Athletic Complex. Following the game will be one of Merrimack's first Pep Rally where the entire student body is invited to instill the spirit of the Warrior within them. At the Pep Rally, there will be music, speeches, chants, dances, and a car smash.

The car will be smashed by the captains of each athletic team and a select group of students randomly chosen from the crowd. From the Pep Rally, students are urged to attend the home opener hockey game where Merrimack will try for its first record breaker of the weekend, to get an attendance of over 2,000 people to the first game. The game starts at 7pm in the J. Thom Lawler Arena and is verse The College of the Holy Cross.

Following the Hockey game at 9:30, Student Activities will be hosting. The Merrimack Newlywed Game where one family member and one student team up to see if they can match their answers to each other's to gain points. Does your mom know what you do on a Thursday night? If she says study-

ing and you say you go to the Claddagh, then you are out! This game is rated PG13 so leave the little ones home.

Saturday is the host of many events where you can find any activity from Football Game to volunteering to Mass. The day starts off with Mass at 9:00 in the Rogers Center for the Arts and leads to the Fall Festival located on the Baseball Field. The fall festival includes many things such as Jousting, a Mechanical Bull, snow cone machines and glass etching. There is also a Kids Corner where there will be a pumpkin patch, face painting and arts and crafts. The football team will be playing University of New Haven at 1 o'clock. The main event of the game besides the wondrous plays by the warriors will be the attempt at breaking the second record of the weekend. This is to challenge at the world's Largest Hokey Pokey. This attempt is in support of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and will be displayed by performing the hokey pokey in the shape of the breast cancer ribbon.

Although all of these events are free to Merrimack students with the show of their ID, tickets are still available at a discounted price if ordered in advance. Tickets ordered in advance can be picked up at Will Call section at each event. The improvements of homecoming are brought to you by Tim Cormio of the office of Student Activities, and his dedication to providing the most desirable activities for the student body of Merrimack College.

## Win a Four-Year Scholarship!

First Annual STEM Scholarship Competition

Merrimack College - Cascia Hall Sunday, November 15, 2009 – 10:00 a.m.

and tour the facilities



It is an academic competition in which high school seniors will be tested on their quantitative, analytical and critical thinking skills, as well as their science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) knowledge. If you have ever considered a career in Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics, then the STEM scholarship competition is for you. The competition is designed to help high school seniors explore the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.



Available majors in Science and Engineering:

Students wilt:

• Compete in a STEM scholarship competition for a full tuition scholarship to Merrimack College

• Learn more about science and engineering programs

Prizes
The winning student will receive a full-tuition scholarship to study in any of the disciplines of the School of Science and Engineering at Merrimack College, estimated at \$120,000

Meet current Merrimack College students and faculty

Additional runner-up scholarships of \$15,000 per year are available  $\,$ 

The deadline to register for the event is Monday, November 2, 2009. Open to all high school seniors. There is no registration fee for the event and lunch will be provided. No preparation is required; see the contest site for more details.

To register, visit www.merrimack.edu/stemquest for contest schedule and rules. For additional information, contact Deb Simone at (978) 837-5335 or debra.simone@merrimack.edu.

www.merrimack.edu/stemques



North Andover, MA • www. merrimack.edu

### Procrastination Nation

By Ashley Sarris
Entertainment Editor

There are many activities that the world wide web provide us with that keep our minds busy outside of the daily grind of College life. Some of these sites include some of the greatest games throughout history such as Tetris and Pac-Man. Others include new revolutions of internet entertainment in the means of mentally stimulating quizzes and ridiculous stories from peoples lives.

Sporcle is a website that has been growing in popularity in the past year. The site has challenging timed quizzes in every subject possible. Whether you are naming every country in Europe or every character on the Simpsons, this site has the challenge for you. A way to make this site even more of a race is to find a longer quiz such as, "100 most common words in the English Language" and challenge your roommate at the same time. You can race to see who can find the most answers in the given time.

TFLN.com is also a popular upcoming website attracting Merrimack students. This abbreviation stands for Texts From Last Night and they are submitted by users of the site. If you are looking for a good laugh, this website is sure to provide it for you. Look through your phone, maybe you have some ridiculous text messages.

FMYLIFE.COM is full of stories from users who don't have the best of luck and feel the need to share their sorrow with you. Everyone has experienced a moment where they hate their life because of a certain event like, "Today I was locked inside my dorm room, yeah, inside. How? Some of my floormates decided to stick pennies in the doorframe, which jammed the handle. I was stuck in my room and had to pee really bad and I couldn't call the RA to get me out either Why? I am the RA. FML"

Farmville, an application on Facebook has also been making waves throughout the technological generation. It provides the user with life-like situations one would find on a real life farm. The application is like a farm version of the SIMS. Activities for you to complete include harvesting crops, trees, and collecting from animals. With the money you earn from your farming you can move up in levels which unlock more crops to plant, and decorations for your farm. Be careful though, if you don't harvest your crops on time they will wither and die.

Sure these games are new and exciting but lets not forget about the original websites we've using for years like addictinggames.com and yahoogames.com. It is amazing how entertainment has evolved from Minesweeper and Solitaire.

## Dorm cries wolf

Continued from cover

The shower related alarms were due to steam. The smoke detectors in the hallways of the rooms are so sensitive that if a student is taking a really hot shower, the steam that builds up from the bathroom could cause an alarm to go off when the steam is released.

The alarm sensitivity level has been set at 2.3. Merrimack is working to get the sensitivity level raised to 3.3. This means that it will take

more than just steam to set off an alarm. The only problem with this is making sure that raising the sensitivity level will still be within the National Fire Prevention standards and the codes and regulations of the state of Massachusetts.

Another proposal that has been made is to remove the smoke detectors from the halls of the suites and replace them with heat detectors. Again, Merrimack will need to be sure that these detectors are within safety codes and regulations. One concern with having heat sensors as opposed to smoke detectors is that it will take longer for the heat sensor to set off the alarm in case of a fire.

There are many dangers involved in false alarms continuously going off. One of the major dangers is that students are starting to ignore the alarms. It is very important to recognize that, while it may be annoying to have to constantly

be interrupted and having to leave the building, it is better than thinking it is a false alarm when its not.

Police Services is trying to be understanding of the problem and want students to know that the problem is being worked on. The problem with some students not leaving their rooms is that Police Services still has to check every room to make sure that it is clear. With students still in their rooms,

the fire drill ends up taking longer because Police Services has to make sure that the entire building is clear. Police Chief Ronald Guilmette has asked that, "Every student please try to cooperate while the problem is being fixed." By cooperating and getting everyone out before the room checks, the fire drills will go more smoothly and quickly.

One major problem with the constant alarms is the reality that to say that a fire drill is an excuse for doing poorly in school.

When the alarm goes off in the middle of the night, students are often wide-awake because of the noise level of the alarm. This interrupts sleeping patterns. With so many studies conducted about sleeping patterns and the importance of sleep with college-aged students, one could venture to guess that the students of Santagati are not getting the recommended

The Andover Fire Department is required to come to Merrimack every time an alarm goes off. If the alarm is not a malicious pull, the school does not get fined. It is costing the Andover Fire Department every time they have to respond to the call. They have to pay each man on the truck, plus fuel for the trucks. With the departments of Andover and North Andover incurring these costs, it is starting to become a waste of their money and resources.

There could be ordinances put into effect that states that the fire departments have the right to charge the school after a certain number of false alarms have been responded to. Not only is it costing them money, but also if there was a real emergency, they would be tied up at Merrimack responding to a false alarm. This could create major problems for someone with a real fire emergency.

panel is going off. Also, they are

able to track how many times the

fire doors are being opened and a

range of the times of day that it is

most often used.

It could be a major problem for Merrimack if ordinances have to be put into place and the fire departments start charging Merrimack. The school will have to start paying, which may force them to start charging the students, especially if there is no room in the school's budget.

The most important thing to remember about the alarms going off is to get out of the building. The problem with the alarms is being worked on collaboratively between Merrimack and the companies that the school has contracted to maintain the alarms. Hopefully the problems can be corrected quickly so that there will be no more inconvenient and costly alarms.



The fire alarm control panel inside of Santagati has gotten plenty of use this academic year ~Photo by Courtney Cutler~

the students sleeping and study patterns are being affected. A fire alarm going off once or twice a semester is not a cause for complaint, however, when they are going off at all hours of the day and night, students are being affected. If a student is trying to study for a big test and they have to leave for a fire drill, their pattern will be interrupted and their focus may be thrown off. Nonetheless this is not amount of sleep.

Not only are the alarms getting worked on, but new technology has been introduced in Police Headquarters. This new system is computer-based and run by Simplex Fire Alarm. Every alarm that goes off and every fire exit door that is opened can be tracked and pinpointed. This makes it easier for Police Services to reset the alarms because they know exactly which

### Townhouses receive needed renovations

By Abigail Clark If you are lucky Copy Editor enough to be a Townhouse resident, you may or may not know of the changes that have been made to the facilities over the summer. Talking to Donna Swartwout, Assistant Dean of Students, I learned of what exactly was done in the

Updating the bathrooms in the Townhouses was the most extreme renovation. New sink faucets, toilets, and privacy units were put into all of the Townhouse bathrooms. The plumbing, electrical and heating issues in a select number of Townhouses were also addressed. An interesting new feature to Haverhill Townhouse was the addition of solar panels to the roof. This project,

Townhouses.

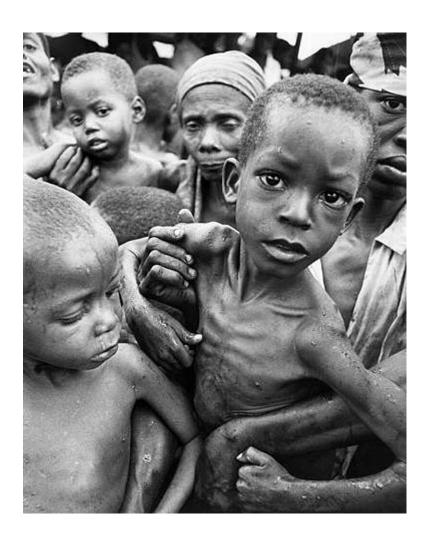
created by Professor Jack Adams and some of his students, is serving as a pilot for Merrimack's efforts of "Going Green." If successful, Merrimack may implement the panels onto other buildings. Also, there are no more front-door keys to the Townhouse entrances; instead, Mack Card swiping access has been added.

There are plans to make even more renovations to the Townhouses in the future. Adding more single rooms, retiling the bathroom floors, and making its outside appearance more pleasing to the eye are all on the list for updates. Thanks to the efforts of the Physical Plant, in cooperation with Residence Life, Merrimack is going to be even more visually appealing.



Town houses have received many updates over the summer ~Photo by Courtney Cutler~

# Students join global cause for Darfur



Continued from cover

On Tuesday September 29th at 7 p.m. in Alumni Hall, (McQuade Library) there was a showing of the movie The Devil Came on Horseback. It depicted the war taking place in Darfur and how it is seen through the eyes of one American witness. This witness has since returned to the United States and has taken action to stop the war. The movie is particularly interesting because the American whose eyes the movie is seen through was able to obtain access to parts of Darfur that no other journalist could go to. Due to this, the movie shows more about the war then any other movie has ever been able to do. The movie was introduced by Irit Tamir. She works pro-bono as the Director of Government Relations and Outreach for Investors Against Genocide and sits on the Steering Committee for the MA Coalition to save Darfur. She has also been a strong advocate of Darfur since 2005 and co-led the effort to pass the Sudan Divestment bill in Massachusetts.

Finally, on Wednesday September 30th at 7 p.m. in Cascia Hall, there was an "Investing in Genocide: What You Can Do to Stop It" work-

shop. Eric Cohen, who is the cofounder and the Chairperson of Investors Against Genocide, presented it. He spoke about how millions of Americans unknowingly invest in companies that fund the genocide in Darfur. Cohen also discussed how Investors Against Genocide have been campaigning to end this practice, what they have achieved so far, and how individuals can help make companies change their investments.

It seems that Dr. Allman's class and all those helping with Darfur Week 2009 are fulfilling the core values that Merrimack preaches. By helping with Darfur, they are embracing the Augustinian value of community since the civilians that are being murdered, raped, and abused in the region can be considered our global neighbors. By divesting from Darfur, the college will be able to achieve a symbolic resolution condemning genocide.

The results for the petitions are as follows: 1050 signatures for the Obama petition and 1037 signatures for the Clinton petition.

At a university where **7** colleges,

173 academic programs, 913 professors,

and 14,117 students come together

on a beautiful seaside campus,

we'd like to count you in.

UMass Boston Open House 2009 Saturday, October 17, 8:30am

Sign up at www.umb.edu/openhouse or by calling 617.287.6000.



# ATTENTION

The Study Abroad Application Deadline is Thursday, October 15th

All students who would like to go abroad in the spring 2010 semester must submit an application by October 15th.

Please visit the Office of International Programs in Sakowich 370 or call 978-837-5210 if you are interested in studying abroad.

# Entertainment

# Monster Jam: an unforgettable experience

Kayla Morong Staff Writer

The crowd goes wild as Jadakiss, Ne-Yo, and Jay-Z

take the stage. Fans are dancing in their seats, enjoying the music that echoes the TD Bank Garden. You are having so much fun with your friends, singing and rapping to your favorite songs. What might this concert be? It is Monster Jam!

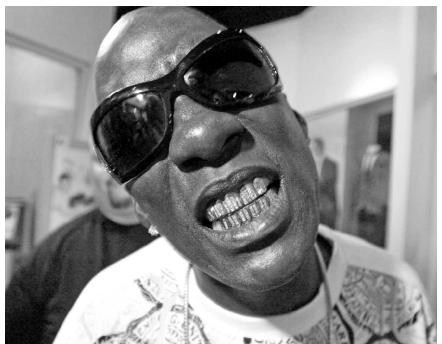
If you are a person who likes R&B and rap, then Monster Jam is the concert for you! Monster Jam is put on by Boston area radio station, Jam'n 94.5 every year during the month of October. The concert's first debut was in fall 2005. This marks the fifth year that Monster Jam has been around.

People who attended the 2008

concert may know that last year's performance lacked rapper Lil' Wayne, making the concert a disappointment.

However, the 2009 concert on October 26th has a wide range of various artists that may strike your interest. Some of these artists are Pitbull, Three Six Mafia, Jay Sean, Mario, The Dream and Keri Hilson. With such a wide variety of performers, it is guaranteed to be a fun experience.

For those who may be interested in going to Monster Jam, tickets are easy to find. Go on any website, such as Stubhub or Tickmaster, and you should be able to come across an affordable ticket. Given that, try something fun this month and go witness the excitement by attending Monster Jam!



### This is it



Kyle Neary
Staff Writer
The King of
Pop. Do you
remember

where you were when Michael Jackson was pronounced dead? Although strange in his later years, Michael Jackson was undoubtedly one of the best performers to ever walk the planet. He will be remembered for his outrageous stage apparel, his chart topping songs, as well as a great friend and father from those who knew him best.

As he is missed dearly, Merrimack will be providing students with a positive outlet so that they do not dwell on his

death, but celebrate his life and the outstanding musical advances that he made.

In an effort to get students together to have a great time and remember a legend, the Merrimack College Program Board will be hosting a Michael Jackson Tribute Dance on October 23, 2009 at 8 PM in Cascia Hall. There will be a continuous playlist of Michael Jackson songs, in which remembering his performances and dancing will occur.

There will also be winners declared at the end of the night. Prizes will be given out to the "Best Dressed Michael", "Best Dancer", "Best Moonwalk" and more. It is going to be a great once in a lifetime experience that will be filled with many memories.

A tribute dance this special may never occur again, so this is legitimately the only time that you will be able to celebrate with other fans at Merrimack. Food and drinks will be served, as well as many games and overall festivities that will make this night very special for a Michael Jackson Tribute.

# Boston activites on a budget

By Ashley Sarris
Entertainment Editor

Merrimack College offers students with a variety of activities to do on any given day of the week. For some this just isn't good enough, and luckily for them Boston is just around the corner.

- On a beautiful Sunny day enjoy the sights of Boston by bicycle! You can rent bikes from Boston Bike Tours for a minimum of 2 hours for \$15.00. It is recommended to tour through the Boston Commons and the public garden. You can also follow the freedom trail to explore other parts of what Boston has to offer,
- If you are more of the artsy type rather than the athletic type then check out Cantab Lounge in Cambridge for weekly poetry slams starting at 8pm. The cover charge is \$8.00
- Monday nights are College Nights at Fire and Ice restaurant and bar where you are sure to have the most unique dining experiences. For \$10.95 a person you get an all you can eat buffet cooked especially for you including an all you can eat salad bar.
- Shopping for all the latest styles and trends is always made possible thanks to Newbury Street which provides you with all the stores you could imagine from the Gap to Aldo. Also about a block away is The Prudential where designer jeans, Lacoste polos and Sephora make-up are also in stock.

No matter what you are looking for, or what style you choose to rock the City of Boston has something in store for you. So get out there and explore the countless museums, galleries, stores and historical landmarks made available to you.

# Opinion

# Inside College Sex, Love and Dating

### "Are We Being Stalked?"

Lauren Reilly Layout Editor

The years spent at Merrimack College have culminated into two recent revelations that I find,

have been equally expressed by others as I turn the corner senior fall. First, that though my education has been a valuable experience, my confidence about what it will attest for me in the job market is at times failing. While my other thought comes after a very eye opening post hook up situation, in which it became very clear that the ease of high school dating definitely no longer exists. As I jog my memory to recount the times in secondary school when I became infatuated with that one person who took up most of my brain space, it seems as though it was always a "given" that the feeling was mutual. Relationship ensued. However as we get older, less and less individuals find themselves falling into said relationships: is it because we have been drained from past breakups and are too scared to revisit similar torment? Is it because our expectations have somehow increased as we become clearer about what it is that we do want? Or is it just more fun this way?

Recently, I was, for the lack of a better term 'dismissed" by a guy that not only was I not dating, but also for whom I knew nothing about. Everything about it seemed pretty typical; the bar meet, the male follow up initiation, the number exchange, right down to the awkward party visit. As the incessant hookups became more frequent, a very familiar pattern began to evolve; I was in fact being used. Was it the dismissal until late night hours, yes, the over fluctuation of compliments, yes, and the hand grab-boyfriend routine when you're about to lose faith, all yes. I had pulled this routine many times myself and vowed it would never happen to me. And when I began to fish for a deeper motive, all I received was the blank, "I've liked you for two years, you have no idea." He was right, I did not have an idea. What was it that he had liked about me all this time - the way I walked around campus? I slammed back hard, demanding the all or nothing ultimatum. And in due course, lost.

Nothing seems that striking about it as I look at it now; no hurt feelings, nothing lost, and a couple okay nights gained. And on the upside, I can walk away knowing that someone had actually thought about getting with me for the last two years. But something else had appeared in the previous month, which seemed peculiar, a recurring female figure, that over the course of my time at Merrimack has unfailingly pried her way into many of my faux relationships.

When I began studying here and had recently parted from my long-term boyfriend, all I wanted was someone cute that I would find comforting without actually filling any empty gaps. And I found him quite easily, may I add. This was, as we all recognize, a time in college when it mistakenly seemed a plethora of suitable dating individuals existed. He was a friend of mine and though I had no intention of falling in love, it made me extremely happy. However, one night at a party he called to me from another room to answer his phone, as he rummaged around searching for a pair of shoes. I opened the phone to find the most disturbing message staring back

### "What was it that he had liked about me all this time - the way I walked around campus?"

at me. A very explicit text, for which there is no reason to repeat. I gawked as I read it to him out loud. Was it a response to something he had forwarded or was there this floozy girl roaming the halls whose unnerving presence I had not foreseen? Either way, it was most unappreciated and I decided it probably wasn't worth bringing up ever again, except hilariously to every single friend. And not so shocking, he would later confirm that the next year he had casually hooked up with her and that she repeatedly sent him disgusting messages for which he did not respond. Was he lying to make himself look better, in hopes that something with us might develop or was it really the girls that had seemed to lose all self-respect in their search for a new guy?

Months after my spatial invasion when I began dating a very sweet and unsuspecting guy, I would vet again find myself confused by the actions of this insecure anonymous female. During a conversation with several girlfriends, it was revealed that this girl has spoken at great length of her ongoing attraction for my new boyfriend. What was going on here - sure the campus was small but, how small? Apparently so small that it took until me becoming involved with them for girls to decide to pounce, but my conclusion went unresolved.

Now a season later, she appears once more. Several weeks ago at a party, she moseyed the crowds, grinding up on credulous and flattered guys. And even as she stumbled on several friends and current hookups, I for one was not going to stop this train from crashing. Sue me. At the end of the exhausted evening, I emptied my clutch onto the desk of a new beau. A girl at the other end of the room embarrassingly asked if the comfort level in my actions should lead her to believe I was staying the night. I laughed, partially because that definitely wasn't going to hap-

pen, at least with me or because at this point I was very much over it. When I said "no," pawing for an equally comic response, she shook her head, nodding in his direction. As I turned around, there she was with bra straps out and on a mission, hands around his waist. It made me smile to see the work, and I realized it's become far more horrifying trying to find someone than it's actually worth.

As I struggle to understand the reasons behind this pattern, I think it is safe to say that maybe this girl has really had it right all along. She new that nothing she had been able to construct may have been worth more than the humor she received, from watching guys paw over something they couldn't fully obtain. Or possibly, and maybe more accurately, a complete Bridget Jones Diary sequel has played out on Merrimack College campus. When you find someone stalking your path with all the people you've shared, is it possible they really are just trying to get to you? I think knowing she may have a girl crush is more appealing than the thought of the school being too small for her to find anyone else. And as we all move forward this year, let's be thankful that we are not in high school anymore, though relationships may have been far less complicated, they were not as unconstrained and certainly were not as entertaining

# Are our Dogs domesticating us?

By Pat Lawlor Staff Writer

The typical relationship between dogs and humans is that the human is the dog's master, the dominate species. In the last few years, dogs have become the master in the lives of many people. For instance, people do not travel because of their canine pets, because of the cost of boarding the dog, or the dependence the dog has on its master, and vice versa.

It is puzzling to me that a

species that eats off the floor, and out of our hands determines our plans, and restricts our lives. Domestic pets have become a burden. If we continue like this, how long will it be before our pets domesticate us?

Recently, a fellow member of the Men's Cross Country team was bitten by a dog while practicing. Now, animal bites are not something unfamiliar to us, and often. we just don't worry about it. The runner was fine, and only plagued for a day or so, but this is not what caught my attention. As we ran back through the woods about a week later, the same woods we run to walk them, plan weekends and in nearly everyday, we proceeded with caution. We expected to run on by, maybe hear a few dog barks, and be on our way. However, as we turned the corner we saw the dog standing on the public trail in Andover that abuts a street. The dog had gained control of the path, with his small entourage of careless canines around him. This created a block in the road that us runners were not about to surpass for obvious reasons.

This is what made me realize the power that dogs are having over us. Typically this "power" is having

nights around them, but in this case it was a little more intense. In this case, dogs physically posed a threat to humans, and turning back was imperative to their safety. Now the men's cross country is cautious when they hear a barking bitch or a dangerous dog, but it sure won't stop us from running.

## Beacon Editorial:

### Where's your blue & gold?

"We here at Merrimack take pride in our athletic teams, they have exhibited prowess both on the field and in the classroom." Yes we've heard statements like that countless times before — from admission counselors, coaches, tour guides, college information pamphlets and a variety of other places. However, the question beckons, is it true?

There is certainly a decent turnout at the athletic events on campus given the student body's small size. However, there are other small schools that are primarily in division one or two of the NCAA that have far greater turnouts to their games.

The explanation behind this could be a number of reasons. Perhaps sports are not that deeply routed in Merrimack's student

body—possible but unlikely. Walking past dorm rooms the sounds of ESPN's sports center can be heard from all directions. A vast portion of the student body has played sports at some point or another including in high school.

It is painful to walk back from a thrilling basketball win to see students playing NBA 2k9 in their dorm rooms. If you like basketball so much, go to the game! We have a phenomenal team that looks like they could go far this year.

Hockey games seem similar. While there is typically a better turnout at hockey games it is still kind of embarrassing compared to other schools. Yes, we might be smaller and have a smaller arena but we can use that to our advantage. If we pack a thousand students into Lawler, I can guarantee

you that the opponents will HATE it. Being such a small arena, that many students breathing down your neck is not a comfortable feeling for any opponent.

Lets get behind our teams and head to some games! Football is currently first in the conference, field hockey is ninth in the country, and we have lacrosse and tennis teams that compete in the post season quite often. The hockey team is a far different animal than it was four years ago and they have an opportunity to do some great things. Students from practically every other Hockey East school show up to their games early and in jerseys...we show up late and jersey-less.

Now, the jersey part is not really our fault, a Merrimack jersey currently costs \$250. This price consists of an actual (non-replica) jer-

sey for yourself as well as a donation in the form of a jersey for the hockey team. Most schools supply their students with 65 or so dollar replica jerseys. Lets show the team our support by sending an email to both Coach Dennehy at DennehyM@merrimack.edu and Glenn Hoffman at HoffmannG@merrimack.edu, and let them know that we want Jerseys in the bookstore!

Our hockey home opener is Friday October 16, at 7:00 PM against Holy Cross. Lets make for a record attendance. Show up early, wear your blue and gold, and cheer loudly! Lets show the rest of college hockey that Merrimack has a team and an arena to be reckoned with.

- Beacon Editorial Staff

### Meet the Beacon

Name: Lauren Reilly

**Year:** 2010

**Hometown:** Brewster, MA **Major:** Fine Arts & Economics

Years at Beacon: 2

Beacon position: Layout Editor

Reason for joining the Beacon: Journalism experience.

Favorite Beacon Article: This one..

Favorite Newspaper: The New York Times.

What does the Beacon need: A larger variety of writers.

Favorite Beacon Activity: (Laughs) Finding quality material.

**Favorite part of Merrimack:** The opportunity to take advantage of so many things because of the small student body; study abroad, clubs, association with professors.

Job: Currently unemployed.
Favorite Food: Spicy Tuna Roll.

Favorite Musical artist: My friend Sam Adams Wisner. Check him out

Favorite TV show: Entourage

Favorite movie: Anything Woody Allen.

Favorite Activities: Big boat racing and making clothes with Mom.

If you had to be one animal, what would you be? Lioness

**Long-term goal:** Living and working in New York, maybe involved in the fashion industry but, definitely writing.

**Short-term goal:** Graduating with a high grade point average and great connections with my teachers. Constructing enough garmets to actually have enough for a trunk show in the Sak. Having fun!!

What would you do for a Klondike Bar: Wouldn't you like to know?



Workin' hard or hardly workin?

### **Op-Ed Disclaimer:**

The opinions expressed in the Opinion section of The Beacon are soley those of the contributors and do not represent the opinions of The Beacon Newspaper as a whole

If you would like to submit your own opinion article or rebutt one you've read, contact us at MerrimackBeacon@gmail.com

### 9/17/2009 22:35

#### SUSPICIOUS Person/Activity/Vehicle

The front desk attendant in Ash called to report that some female resident students told her that there was a suspicious man in the Warrior's Den. They reported that he asked them if they like to party and offered to sell them drugs. Officers were unable to locate the individual.

#### 9/17/2009 22:30

#### MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT

Physical Plant reported that the Ford Ranger had been stolen when he left it running in front of M Tower. Officers responded and checked the campus. Officer reports locating the vehicle behind L Tower parked up the dirt hill. Truck was returned to Physical Plant.

#### 9/23/2009 13:05

#### SUSPICIOUS Person/Activity/Vehicle

A female caller reported that a male in a red pickup truck stopped to ask her about "law classes" in front of Sullivan. She stated that they did not have law classes there, and he replied stating, "well what are you doing later", to which she responded "I have a lot of work to do." He then drove off onto Route 114. The individual was described as a white male in his 40's with 2 earrings.

#### 9/25/2009 21:55

#### SUSPICIOUS Person/Activity/Vehicle

Police Services received a call from the Warrior's Den stating they believe they saw a trespassed individual that was dealing drugs on campus recently. An officer was dispatched to investigate but could not find the individual.

#### 9/27/2009 01:22

#### FIRE/SMOKE Non-Arson

An apartment RA reports there is a campfire outside of H Tower. An officer has been waived down and is on the scene. The officer has extinguished the fire, all units clear.

#### 9/30/2009 01:52

#### SUSPICIOUS Person/Activity/Vehicle

A night class student reported a suspicious older Caucasian male, roughly 6' tall, mid-to-late 40's with brown hair was seen in Sullivan sitting near the vending machines, talking on a cell phone. When student approached the vending machine, suspicious male quickly hung up his cell phone and left. Student also reported no one in her class had seen this individual before, and that her class was the only one in the building at the time. Units responded and conducted a walkthrough of Sullivan. No individual matching the description was found. Units clear.

# Questions on the Quad

By Ashley Sarris & Abigail Clark

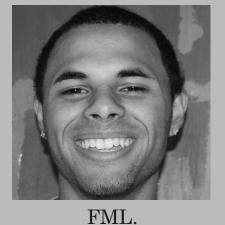
## FML or Texts from Last Night?



Texts from last night. - Anthony Nini, class of 2010



Texts from last night. - Kyle Neary, class of 2012



- Josh Key, class of 2012



Texts from last night. - Jen Cronin, class of 2012

# What's your favorite thing about fall?



Carving Pumpkins!

Sunny, cool weather.

- Mary Sabelli, class of 2011



My birthday!

- Amanda LeLacheur, class of 2012



Leaves...not on the trees.

- James Fitzpatrick, class of 2013

- Dave Gabboiz, class of 2012

# Sports

### Warriors Hold the Line

By Mark Lindquist 2009 Sports Editor Merrimack College foot-

ball team, under Head Coach John Perry, have simply played outstanding football in the first half of the season. The Warriors have increased their winning streak to 4 games, improved their record to 4-1 overall with a 3-0 record in the conference, and moved up to 2nd in the NE-10 standings only behind Southern Connecticut. At the halfway point of this season, the Warriors have established their key players. Sophomore 5'8" 170lbs running back, Anthony Smalls, has been the Adrian Peterson of the conference, rushing for over 800 yards in 5 games averaging 7.2 vards a carry and 163.2 vards a game. Smalls is on pace to run for over 1600 yards this season, which if he accomplishes this scenario, he would break Calvin Bryant's singleseason rushing yards record of 1,547. Senior wide receiver Chris Laham leads the conference in receiving yards with 557 and touchdowns with 10. Sophomore quarterback James Suozzo has been a double threat with his arm and his feet. He has thrown 11 touchdown passes with 8 interceptions, completed 52.7% of his passes, and rushed for 8 touchdowns.

Starting inside linebackers, sophomore Shawn Loiseau and senior Shane Brown, have been the team's tackling leaders with 56 and 44, respectively. Loiseau's 56 tackles puts him 3rd in the conference. Sophomore outside linebacker Tony Johnson is 3rd with 35 tackles, with 10 of those for a loss of yardage, 4.5 sacks, 2 forced fumbles, and a fumble recovery. Sophomore pass rusher Nick Desjardins has been "Johnny on the spot" with 4 fumble recoveries, with 1 for a defensive TD. He also has 29 tackles with 8 for a loss, 3.5 sacks, and 2 forced fumbles. Sophomore strong safety Jason Fischer leads the team with 2 interceptions. Junior defensive lineman Garrett Boyd has also made some solid contributions with 26 tackles with 4 for a loss.

The Warriors first defeated St. Anselm 2 weeks ago in a high scoring game, 41-31. James Suozzo led the way, completing 15 for 25 passes for 237 yards, 3 TDs, and 2 interceptions. He also ran the ball for 151 yards including an endzone trip. Anthony Smalls once again left the opposing run defense in the dust, running the ball 28 times for 219 yards and 2 touchdowns. The receiving tandem of seniors, Chris Laham and Jeremiah Watts, were simply a nightmare for the opposing secondary. Laham posted 7 catches for 112 yards and 3 touchdowns. Watts caught 5 Suozzo balls for 85 yards. Shawn Loiseau led the Warriors with 13 tackles. Shane Brown was not far behind with 11 tackles and a forced fumble. Tony Johnson brought down the ball carrier 10 times including 2 sacks. Senior cornerback Richard Johnson had a solid game with 9 tackles. Finally, Nick Desjardins recorded 7 tackles, 2 sacks, and another fumble recovery. Ultimately, Merrimack's offense outclassed St. Anselm's offense.

The Warriors defeated a very strong Bentley University team 14-12 by, as my title said, holding the line. For both teams it was a defensive struggle with everyone scratching and clawing, trying to want it more than the other. Merrimack's defense bent to 6 Bentley drives but when backed up against their goal line, refused to break. Bentley's offense never entered the end zone and resorted to 4 field goals to accumulate their 12 points. Their first attempt was blocked by freshman cornerback, Jesse Fowler, which at the end of regulation, proved to be the key play of the game. Linebacker Shawn Loiseau led the stand with 17 total tackles. Shane Brown recorded 10 tackles of his own in the effort. Defensive backs Richard Johnson and Andrew Rebello are both showing improvement on understanding coverage schemes and man-to-man coverage, as both recorded their first interceptions of the year. Rebello also recorded 8 tackles. Tony Johnson recorded 8 tackles of his own, with a sack and a fumble recovery that was forced by Nick Desjardins. As for the offense, Anthony Smalls posted 28 carries for 115 yards. Suozzo helped his own cause with a rushing TD and completed 11 for 24 passes for 117 yards and a touchdown. Chris Laham made 4 receptions for 61 yards and a touchdown pass from Suozzo. Coach Perry praised his team after the victory. "We've been saying all year that it takes a 60-minute effort, and we did that today. Some days it's the offense that has to step up, but today the defense did it for us. Bentley's a great team, but we pinned our ears back when we needed to, and we stuffed them at just the right times." The Merrimack Warriors look to make it 5 straight wins at Assumption College on Saturday October 10 at 1pm.

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# MCXC Staying Strong

The By Ashley Sarris men's cross Entertainment Editor country

team is entering the second half of their season and racing at a surprising level. After losing their top three runners from the 2008 season, they were left with only three returning runners. Recruiting was the only thing that would keep the men's program alive and competitive within the NE-10 conference. Luckily, the five talented members of the class of 2013 were up to the challenge.

Freshman John Lawrence of Peabody, MA, has been leading the Warriors for the past two meets, including his most recent race at Franklin Park finishing first for the time of 26:56. Other freshman hold their own on Varsity include Harry Mullin, Chris Lawrence, and Connor

Returning runners include sophomore John Doherty who has proved he has had a hard summer of training by coming in as the lead returning runner. Junior Brendan Mormile has shown great effort as a

team leader taking the freshman under his wing and showing them the ropes of what it is like to be a Division II athlete. Senior Captain Chris Stanwyk keeps the team moving through workouts and daily practices.

The Warriors continue their season Saturday, October 10 at Franklin Park in Boston. You can catch a double feature witnessing the Lady Warriors cross country team racing at 12 noon and the men following at 1:30. The course includes a rigorous journey through grass fields, dirt trails and "the wilderness." The most interesting part of the course may be the hill that is ran up referred to as "Bear Warriors, and 40th overall with a Cage Hill" where an empty bear cage sits at the top of the hill. The course is laid out besides the Franklin Park Zoo where spectators can visit after

> New England is the largest race of the season where runners from all three divisions race to see what team will prevail as the best regardless of Divisional status.

### WANTED:

### **Sports Writers for The Beacon!**

Contact us for more information at merrimackbeacon@gmail.com



# Sports



# Mack Field Hockey Ranks #9 Nationally

By Abigail Clark  $Copy\ Editor$ 

Unfortunately, little is known about our Lady

Warriors Field Hockey team. The team consists of 19 women. They play in the Northeastern-10 Conference and are Division II athletes. Currently, the Merrimack women's field hockey team stands at 8-5-0, winning more home games rather than winning during away games. In fact, according to the Merrimack Athletics website, the Lady Warriors are ranked #9 in the entire nation. Freshman April Daugherty has lead both the Lady Warriors and the Northeastern-10 Conference in points. However, rival schools

Bentley, Stonehill, and UMass Lowell are also ranked on the list, with UMass Lowell ranked at #4 as of September 29.

For those who are unfamiliar as to how the sport is played, think of it as similar to soccer. There is an offensive line, mid-field players, a defensive line, and a goalie. However, the use of the stick is much more complicated than the use of a soccer ball. The ball can only be hit with the left, flat side of the stick. If the ball hits a player's foot who has possession of the ball, the referee calls out a free hit for the other team. A player from the opposite team hits the ball to fellow teammates in the direction of the goal. The

player who is hitting the ball must have their teammates "circle up" for the hit. This circle is needed to be able to stop the ball quickly and to bring it down further to the goal. Players must stand about 8-10 feet away from the player hitting the ball. This same process happens if a ball is hit out of bounds. In the end and similar to soccer, the point of the game is to rightfully bring the ball down to the other side of the field and get a goal.

Come support the Lady Warriors at their next home game on Tuesday, October 13 at 4 PM. Check out a game for yourself and help the Lady Warriors maintain their #9 rank!







The Lady Warriors 2009 Team Photo ~Photo courtesy of MerrimackAthletics.com~

### 2009-2010 Warriors Break the Ice

Mark Lindquist Staff Writer

The 2009-2010 Merrimack College Warriors Division 1 Hockey East hockey team under Head Coach Mark Dennehy is coming into the upcoming season with a strong sense of confidence. "I believe our goals are higher than anyone else in Hockey East. I'm very impressed with the confident mindset of my guys. Being picked 10th in the Hockey East poll hasn't bothered them at all; we can beat anyone on any given night," says Coach Dennehy. The Warriors were picked 10th in the Hockey East poll after they finished with a 9-21-4 overall with a conference record of 5-19-3 in arguably the strongest NCAA hockey conference in the country. The division consists of the likes of Boston College, Boston University, Northeastern University, and more.

The Warriors lost only a few seniors, and gained many more impact players. Last year's leaders Joe Loprieno and Rob Ricci have gone their separate ways from the team. Loprieno is now playing for the Worcester Sharks in the San Jose Sharks system, and Ricci plays for the South Carolina Stingrays in the East Coast Hockey League. This year's tri-captains are senior defenseman Pat Bowen, junior forward Chris Barton, and junior de-

fenseman 6'4" 210lbs Adam Ross. Coach Dennehy spoke about his new leaders. "Bowen has been a leader by example on and off the ice, Ross is arguably the hardest worker that I have, and Barton had a great year last year and is highly respected amongst the team." Dennehy also commended his senior class consisting of Pat Kimball, Brandon Sadlowski, J.C. Robitaille, Justin Bonitatibus, and Andrew Braithwaite. Last year, Kimball was a good contributor off the bench with 9 total points consisting of 5 goals and 4 assists. Chris Barton was tied for the team lead with 23 points, which consisted of 9 goals and 14 assists. He also led the team in power play goals. Last year, Bowen had 10 points, 1 goal and 9 assists, while Ross recorded 6 points with 3 goals and 3 assists. Junior Joe Cucci posted a terrific 18 points with 7 goals and 11 assists. He also led the team in plus/minus with a +6. Also, juniors Fraser Allan and Francois Ouimet were strong players posting 11 and 13 points, respectively. Allan scored 3 goals and recorded 8 assists, while Ouimet scored 4 goals and recorded 9 assists.

Last year, sophomore Jesse Todd as a freshman made a serious impact with 22 points, 7 goals and a team leading 15 assists. Todd also posted a +4 on plus/minus. Another sophomore that made a serious impact as a freshman was defenseman Karl Stollery with 16 points including 5 goals and 11 assists. Sophomore Ryan Flanigan was a good contributor as a freshman, producing 9 points with 2 goals and 7 assists. New freshman players added to the team include 6'5" 235lbs pound defenseman Kyle Bigos, forward John Heffernan, forward Stephane Da Costa, forward Brandon Brodhag, forward Rob Morton, and goaltender Nick Drew.

Merrimack has a great goaltending tandem of outstanding sophomore Joe Cannata and senior Andrew Braithwaite. Cannata was consistently poised between the goalposts last season, starting the majority of the games and posting a solid goals against average of 2.35 and a saves percentage of .918. Braithwaite backed up Cannata with a 3.08 goals against average and a .892 saves percentage. Cannata's potential is limitless with 3 more collegiate seasons left to play. The rest of the team includes sophomore Simon Demers, sophomore Elliot Sheen, sophomore Carter Madsen, junior John Jameson, junior Bobby Kramer, junior Matt Moulakelis, and sophomore Jeff Velleca.

Hockey East is the most ex-

citing and arguably most physical conference in NCAA hockey. Besides passing the puck across the ice from player to player, even the small-time hockey fan knows that hockey is a very physical contact sport. Ideally, the team that pushes around and consistently hammers the other will usually skate out with the victory. Even though the Merrimack College Warriors may be considered underdogs in the perennial Hockey East Division I hockey conference, Coach Dennehy says, "If you want to come in to Lawler Rink and have success, you have to pay a price." This weekend, the Warriors are heading to the University of North Dakota for a 2-day doubleheader. The home opener will be during Homecoming Weekend on Friday the 16th versus Holy Cross. It will be a very exciting event, which is free for students and only \$5 entry for all non-students. Pregame activities include a BBQ, and a new event called Chuck-A-Puck. For more details, look on the Merrimack College Hockey group on Facebook. It is a new season, all teams have their slates wiped clean and anything can happen.

