Freshman class biggest in decades

By Shannon Nickerson
Staff Writer

With a school of less than 2,500 students, you may wonder why Merrimack chose to accept over 600 freshmen as part of the class of 2012. There has been speculation that the main reason for accepting so many students is to make up for lost revenue from the small class of 2011. Though this may be one reason, there is a large spectrum of decisions and variables that led to the high acceptance of students. Some of the decisions made by Merrimack and the admissions office are controversial.

The number of applicants was higher, the review process was changed, and for the first time, Merrimack did not require SAT/ACT test scores to be submitted. So, you may ask, were all of these changes made to support bringing in more revenue this year, or were these changes just coincidence? Though many believe that the school is trying to make up for lost revenue, some of the changes may be due to coincidence. To try to answer this question, I interviewed Jorge Hernandez, director of admissions at Merrimack.

The freshman class of 2012 is made up of 610 students. “There is a 52:48 ratio of boys to girls, which goes against the national trend,” said Hernandez. The number of applicants was higher than it has been in previous years, which led to a higher number of acceptances. This fact is just a coincidence that contributed to a larger freshman class. In the past, 65 to 70 percent of all applicants have been accepted; this year, 70 percent of applicants were accepted. With more applicants, the 70 percent accepted this year was much greater than the 70 percent that have been accepted in previous years. There were many factors that led to the full 70 percent being accepted. One reason is the extensive changes made to the application reviewing process.

This past year, admissions at Merrimack decided to change their reviewing process. The main criteria that admissions looked at were an applicant’s high school classes. If an applicant was taking honors or AP courses, they were viewed more closely than those just taking college prep courses. The idea behind this was that if a student could handle honors or AP courses and their workloads, they could handle the curriculum at Merrimack. Of course, grade point averages were assessed as well. Next, extracurricular activities and community involvement were looked at. What the admissions office was looking for in extracurriculars were activities that showed responsibility and commitment. If an applicant could receive decent grades and be involved in sports, extracurriculars, or in the community, the admissions office viewed that applicant as a potential contributor to Merrimack’s community.

Then, the remainder of the application was looked at. This included test scores, letters of recommendation, and essays, which were read and reviewed. A unique aspect of the reviewing process was that the SAT/ACT test scores were not required this year. In my interview with Hernandez, it was said that about 70% of applicants submitted their scores, though the scores were not focused on. However, the most crucial change in the reviewing process was the waitlisting methods.

This year, Merrimack admissions changed their waitlisting methods. There was a “strategic decision made early on to not have a large waitlist,” said Hernandez.
Hello Everyone!

Judging by the buzz of classes, the hustle and hustle through the Sakowich Campus Center, seeing new faces and the reunion of old ones, we have officially begun another year at the Mack and I for one, am very excited! With a new year ahead of us, it is my hope that each and every one of you makes the best of it, especially the seniors since the dreaded “G” word is not so far off in the distance as it was when we were freshmen. I encourage everyone to get involved, attend events, cheer on our teams, have fun, and make memories because college definitely does fly by! I look forward to seeing each of you, especially Merrimack’s largest freshmen class! Remember, college is what you make of it, so I hope Merrimack has and will continue to infect you with the sense of community and spirit I know it possesses. If you have any questions or concerns about anything, please feel free to contact me! Study hard and have fun…WELCOME BACK!

See you soon!

Andrea Faris
SGA President

A Note for the Class of 2009

Hey Seniors,

Can you believe it’s finally here? Our senior year, our final year at Merrimack, time for all of us to pull together and enjoy an amazing year. I encourage you all to take advantage of the senior events the Class Council of 2009 and I have worked hard to put together. Our senior fun kicks off this Friday, September 12 with the Spirit of Boston Cruise. Other planned events include a trip to Six Flags Fright Fest, Mohegan Sun, and a trip to NYC. I hope most of you can join us and I wish you all the best of luck with our last two semesters here.

Sincerely,

Tori
Senior Class President

Incoming class has record numbers

This may be the main reason why there are so many freshmen. Instead of waitlisting people, Merrimack sent out acceptance letters to them. The idea behind this was that a lot of times when applicants get waitlisted they choose another school. Since Merrimack had a very small number of applicants who were waitlisted, the number of acceptance letters was much higher. If those applicants received acceptance letters from Merrimack while being waitlisted at other schools, chances are that they would choose Merrimack. Later on, the very small number of applicants who were waitlisted received acceptance letters as well. Knowing that there was going to be a small waitlist must have forced admissions to make decisions quickly. Also, making the decision this year to not have a large waitlist and then to accept everyone on the waitlist is probably the most controversial change. It is controversial because the admissions staff knew how much was lost in revenue last year by the small number of students who enrolled and seems obvious why there was no waitlist this year. However, it can be argued that the school was interested in accepting more applicants to enlarge or broaden the Merrimack community rather than just make up for lost funds. Either way, both goals were achieved.

The retention and transfer rate should also be taken into consideration when enrolling such a large class. The retention rate at Merrimack has lingered between 80 to 82 percent in recent years. This year, there were a total of 97 transfer students. With a retention rate of 80 percent the class of 2012 would still have 488 students, assuming there were no transfers in. That seems to be about the standard number for a class at Merrimack. Of course, no one can predict the number of students who will transfer in and out of the school, so the class of 2012 could remain the largest class on campus this year.

Nobody can predict what the future will hold for Merrimack’s admissions or the standards they will set for the class of 2013 and beyond. What we know now is that there were many changes made to the acceptance process this past year. Standardized test scores are no longer required and waitlist was at a minimum. Merrimack achieved the goal of making up for some lost revenue and enlarging the community. Whether or not making up for lost revenue was the main focus is left up to opinion. For the class of 2013 and beyond, we can only speculate if admissions will set the standard based on improving the school and not for financial reasons.
School News

Presidential Search Committee: Explained

By Molly E. Warren
Staff Writer

Have you ever wondered how the new President, President Champagne, was chosen to be Merrimack College’s President? Many people have been wondering and up until recently, the school has been very closed mouth about the process. However, now that a new President has been chosen for Merrimack the committee that chose him have opened up and are happy to share the process with everyone now.

The search process began after Father Joe Calderone was chosen to be Merrimack’s interim President until a permanent president could be found. Dr. Laurence M. Demers, a graduate from Merrimack College and the Chairman of the Merrimack College Board of Trustees, explains that the Board of Trustees decided to ask the Augustinian Order to select someone to be an interim President for Merrimack. The Augustinians recommended Father Joe Calderone, whom the Board liked due to his academic qualifications, the fact that he was from the Augustinian community, and that he had been at Merrimack before. The Board approved Father Joe’s appointment and he became the interim President until his successor was identified. Once Father Joe was chosen, a formal search Committee was put into place. The people on this committee were chosen in several different ways. Demers explains that “as Chairman of the Board of Trustees, I automatically became Chair of the Search Committee and personally appointed the individual members of the committee after consultation with the Executive committee of the Board of Trustees, Alumni Association, faculty senate officers and select staff of the college. I tried to be as inclusive as possible and bring on the committee the major stockholders in the colleges interest. This included asking for individuals from the Men of Merrimack, Alumni Association, Faculty, Staff, Trustees and a student representative.”

Once the committee was chosen, they began the search process, a lengthy one at that. Mike Poirier, a senior here at Merrimack and the only student on the committee, explains that the committee began the search process by first deciding what skills, qualifications, and goals they wanted the candidate to have. Dr. Patricia Sendall, a professor of management at Merrimack, says that the committee wanted to find the best person to lead Merrimack College, one who understands our values and one who comprehends our challenges.” Dr. Michael J. Bradley explains, a professor in the mathematics and a member of the search committee says that one of the committee’s goals was “to secure the services of an accomplished and experienced president who can help us to formulate a new vision for Merrimack College and lead our entire college community together to accomplish that vision.” Poirier adds that the committee was also looking for someone who could bring revenue, such as fundraising, in for Merrimack and also someone who had a high moral character to help improve the representation of Merrimack. Once the committee set their goals they decided to work with consultants to better help them higher Merrimack’s next President. The consultants, says Poirier, had the idea to bring in a two year interim President to help get Merrimack back on its feet and heading in a better direction. Next the consultants provided the committee with resumes for them to look over. The committee chose three candidates that they would like to meet in person. The committee then recommended these three candidates to the Prior Provincial of the Augustinian Order, from which the Order picked Dr. Champagne.

All of this leads to the question of why was Dr. Champagne chosen over the other two candidates? Stay tuned for more information and an interview with Dr. Champagne in the next issue of The Beacon.

English Club makes big advances

By Ashley DeRuosi
Editor-in-Chief

What started as an idea floating around the English department last year is now developing into a flourishing accomplishment. The English Club, which is now applying for Student Government Association recognition, began last semester when three professors, Dr. Branca, Dr. Scherwatzky and Dr. Vatalaro, put out a call for any students, not interested in just joining, but interested in founding an organization. The “first edition” of members met and worked out an executive board and, along with their advisors, brainstormed ideas and possibilities for the club’s future. It was an excellent opportunity for these twelve students, many of which are seniors this year, to leave a stamp on Merrimack College by laying a foundation that will be followed years after they have graduated.

With news spreading and the help of the Student Activities Involvement fair, the club has already held their first meeting and has expanded to include thirty-three members. The English Club is not just limited to those with an English major or minor, anyone who appreciates the language is welcome. Some of the newest members are actually undeclared, while others are in Communication Studies or the Business Program.

With the planning stage well underway, the club has a full plate for the upcoming semester. They will be holding a Welcome Back night for all English majors and minors on September 24th. Upperclassmen will speak to incoming students and share anecdotes and advice. A mentoring program will be initiated here to help underclassmen in the department have the best possible academic experience. Mentors will especially help before advising periods. The group is also planning an outing in October, most likely to the Fruitlands. The Fruitlands is a place where members can explore and learn about Native Americans, the Alcott family, the Shakers, and other New England literature and thinkers.

In November, an alumni night will be held to show anyone interested just how many career paths are open to English major and minors. It is important to show the versatility the major has, and to break the stereotype that all English majors become teachers or search tirelessly for work after graduation.

Additionally, and with the holiday spirit in mind, the club hopes to run a book drive in late November to donate to those in need. There are many other ideas in development, an interesting possibility being a campus-wide poetry slam to kick off the spring semester.

If you are interested in joining the English Club, please contact this writer directly at ashleymderuosi@merrimack.edu.
Spotlight on: Professor Keohan

By Abigail Clark
Staff Writer

Professor Keohan has been an English professor at Merrimack College for 52 years. His experience and expertise here at Merrimack College makes him an excellent candidate to interview.

Professor Keohan grew up in Wakefield, Massachusetts and has lived there ever since. Before he was 10 years old, his father, a World War I veteran, passed away. Because of his father’s status, Professor Keohan received free tuition to attend Merrimack College as a child of a deceased WWI veteran.

Ever since attending the school in his undergraduate days, Professor Keohan loved Merrimack. He wanted to come back and do his part by helping the Augustinians. Upon graduating from Merrimack, Professor Keohan told Father McQuade, Merrimack College’s first president, that he wanted to come here and teach. After working in business for a year, Father McQuade called Professor Keohan at the age of twenty-three and asked him to teach at Merrimack.

With the exception of journalism, Professor Keohan’s favorite subject to teach, his next favorite course to teach is Politics & Literature, a spring semester course. English is a passion of Professor an avid Dickens’ fan. Dickens is an author, in Keohan’s opinion that tried hardest to change the world. Professor Keohan feels as though we are put on earth to help one another, and Dickens illustrates this thought. In addition to Dickens, Professor Keohan also enjoys Shakespeare and Chaucer. During the interview, he remarked that if he could meet one person up in heaven and interview them, he would love to talk to Chaucer.

When asked about his favorite part of teaching, Professor Keohan says that being around young adults, ages eighteen to twenty-two keeps him younger. He also enjoys learning from his students. To incoming freshman, Professor Keohan requests that they all “Come with an open mind,” there is a severe disadvantage to coming into any new situation with a closed mind.

Did you know?
The Merrimack College guest policy has changed!

Previously, the guest policy prohibited residents from signing in guest of the opposite sex for over night visits. The guest policy now states that residents can sign in guests of the opposite sex as long as the guest agrees to sleep in a room occupied by the same gender.

Proper thanks due to Physical Plant for summer improvements

By Bryanna Violette
Staff Writer

While most of Merrimack students were off getting tans and working and enjoying all things summer, Physical Plant was hard at work, making improvements all across campus! New kitchen cabinets were installed in the St. Ann’s apartments, an emergency generator was installed for the St. Thomas apartments, new smoke detectors with battery back-up were installed in all living spaces, and one-third of all the carpets in the residence halls were replaced. Lots of painting was also done across campus-the North wings in Ash and Monican, Deegan East and West, the first floor of Santagati, all the rooms of the St. Thomas and St. Ann’s apartments, Andover and Salem townhouses, and all other rooms that required touch ups were painted as well. The Mendel building roof was repaired, the front façade at Austin Hall and the Collegiate Church’s steeple were refurbished, and new landscaping was done for the Christ the Teacher statue at the entrance of the college. Obviously, Physical Plant was very busy this summer! A big thank you goes to Bob Coppola and everyone else at Physical Plant for all their hard work!

Beacon Briefs

Get involved in Greek Life: There will be a Sorority Info Session today, Thursday, September 11th at 6pm in Meeting Room B (2nd floor Campus Center – left at the Post Office). Come learn about sorority life at Merrimack! There will also be an Info Session on Monday, 9.15 at 7pm in Murray Lounge

Want fast money?! The first meeting of the Investment Society is today, Thursday September 11th at 5:00pm. The club will be meeting in O’Reilly 312. All majors and classes are welcome. The theme is “How to Get Rich Fast”.

Recreational trip news: The last day to sign-up for the Paintball Trip is Friday, September 12th. Join the Recreational Department on a Paintball Outing in Windham, NH on Saturday, September 20th. Price of $30 includes 4 hours of paintball, all equipment, van ride to site, and paint! Sign up with Nick Lowery in the Fitness Center. There is $10 due at sign up to reserve your spot. Spots are limited, so sign up now!

Beat the Heat: Kickoff for Sorority Recruitment Week this Sunday, September 14th with the Ice Cream Social at 1:30pm on the Monican Quad. All you can eat ice cream for $2 per person. All proceeds go to Ovarian Cancer research. This event is sponsored by Panhellenic Council.

New Opportunity!: There will be a 6 vs. 6 Dodgeball Tourney on Thursday, October 9th in the MPR. Games will start at 6pm. TeamRegistrations are due by Tuesday October 7th at 6pm, so start planning your teams now! The schedule of first round games will be emailed to all captains on Wednesday, October 8th. There will be two games played at a time, so stick around for the whole tourney! Registration forms are available at the Info Desk and Fitness Center Desk.

Looking for work? Love music?! The athletic department is looking for a student interested in working as DJ at the school’s football games this fall. If interested, please email Daniel O’Reilly at oreilly@merrimack.edu.

Calling all golfers: If you are interested in participating in golf opportunities this fall and starting up a Golf Club on campus, please e-mail Tim Hunter at Huntert@merrimack.edu. There will be more information to follow, including an Info Session.
Questions of computer compatibility

By Christopher Powell

Staff Writer

"If you've been in the computer lab, one may notice that on the front of each HP Compaq workstation, there is a sticker with the Windows Vista logo. Once the screensaver activates, however, a logo and text can be seen floating around the screen, with the words "Microsoft Windows XP Professional". What is the reasoning of this odd yet obvious discrepancy?

The Microsoft operating system (OS) that was intended to replace XP, called Vista, has never been used within the computers in the library lab, despite it being released in January of 2007 and prominently advertised by Microsoft. Since its release, Vista has received heated criticism from everyone, both home users and corporations. When first released, users were overtly frustrated with its inconsistent stability, poor driver support, compatibility with programs built for other OS's, and its heavier use of performance resources (to the point of having separate program resource requirements from XP). Despite Microsoft's apparent efforts to resolve these issues since its release, many users still complain of many of the same issues. As a result, Windows XP is still the OS of choice for many users, both personal and business.

When asked why the newest operating system has not been used for any lab computers, Don Legere, the Hardware Services Manager for the Merrimack IT department, believes that Vista is unnecessary for their purposes. "It's impractical at this point. Vista has issues with compatibility and infrastructure and there's really no need to switch." Legere went into detail of how a switch to the new operating system would require more effort than it's worth, citing domain, software and hardware compatibility issues.

Legere compares Vista to Microsoft's late and poorly received operating system, Windows Millennium Edition (commonly known as Windows ME). "If you look at Windows ME, Vista is similar to that." Just as Windows ME came between Windows 98 and Windows XP, Legere says, "Vista is a bridge between operating systems." Legere notes the recently announced Windows 7, the successor to Vista. "Vista doesn't do things much differently from XP. Vista is an amalgamation of other operating systems, but ultimately has nothing particularly new and worthwhile."

Legere explains the Windows Vista stickers on the front of the lab computers. HP advertises the PCs as Vista-ready, he explains, saying "The computers in the lab were pre-loaded with higher-end graphics cards, which aren't needed. The graphics cards are intended to run Vista, but are very much unnecessary for what we need to do."

When asked if the IT department planned to replace XP, Legere stated that Microsoft's next planned operating system, codenamed Windows 7, may replace the XP machines in the future, although Windows 7 will likely be released well into 2009 or 2010.

"With the compatibility issues, students would have to adjust to the new operating system and deal with those issues. We don't want to leave anybody out in the cold."

Selections from the Police Log

09/04/2008 23:15  ALCOHOL  Assessed/Released to Self  Townhouse Quad
Sanatagati RA reports that there is a freshman girl who has been drinking tonight sitting in the Townhouse quad with her brother and friends. She also reports that the girl was slurring her speech and swaying back and forth. The girl is described as wearing a purple sweater and blue jeans. Both Officers responded and investigated. Resident student has been drinking tonight but she does not need to be transported. Parents came and picked the student up for the night.

09/05/2008 02:08  DISTURBANCE  Fight  G Tower
Received a phone call from an unknown student who states that there is a group of females outside G Tower fighting and yelling. Units off in the area at 0209hrs. At 0210hrs, Officer reported that he spoke to a group of student standing in front of L tower who state that there had been 2 females arguing, but that each had gone their separate ways. All units are going to stay in the area. All units clear at 0212hrs. No problems to report.

09/05/2008 15:20  LARCENY  Theft  Deegan West
Resident student came into the Police Services office to report that money had been taken from her room. Sgt. D. Peterson interviewed her in the conference room. See incident report.

09/05/2008 21:42  LARCENY  Theft  Warrior's Den
Sodexo employee called stating two individuals left without paying for items. No description or info available except that it occurred 15 minutes prior to calling us. Officers dispatched to take statement and retrieve further information.

09/05/2008 22:54  ALCOHOL  Assessed/Amb/Transport  Ash Centre
Call received from Ash RA regarding an intoxicated female guest. RA reported that the responsible student for this particular guest was uncooperative and fled the scene. Officers dispatched to scene for assistance. 22:40 Officer called in 17 y/o intoxicated female, identified as non student. Responsible party for above mentioned individual is back on scene identified as resident student of Ash. 00:03 Officer requested NAFD to Ash for a medical assessment, female continues to vomit and is unaware of her surroundings. 00:09 NAFD on scene. 00:22 NAFD cleared, guest being transported to LGH for further assessment.

09/06/2008 02:30  ALCOHOL  Assessed/Amb/Transport  Deegan West
RA requests an officer for an alcohol assessment of resident student. Officer requested NAFD to respond for a medical assessment of an 18 y/o male resident student DW. NAFD called and in route. 02:39 NAFD on scene. 02:45 Officer cleat, student being transferred to LGH for further assessment.

09/06/2008 04:18  MEDICAL  Adm. First Aid  Deegan West
Officers dispatched to DW for medical assessment. Upon arrival Officers spoke with a student resident who stated he jumped off the wall at Ash and bruised his left foot. Student stated that he jumped off the wall at approx. 7pm. Student declined medical treatment, signed a medical waiver, and was assisted with basic first aid (ice pack provided). Units cleared.

09/06/2008 13:20  DAMAGE  Unk. Cause  Townhouses
Physical Plant called to report he was about to replace the lock at a TH. The students kicked the door and it splintered and broke the lock off. Officer responded to take pictures for any future repercussions.

09/07/2008 00:10  ALCOHOL  Assessed/Amb/Transport  Apartments
RA for the apartments called to request assistance for an intoxicated gentleman being carried out in The apt area. Officer dispatched for a medical assessment. Upon arrival he spoke with an 18 y/o male. Officer requested NAFD for further medical assessment. 00:14 NAFD called and in route. 00:20 NAPD on scene. 00:29 Student went to LGH for further medical assessment.
Sodexho serves up change this fall

By Joe Bonanno
Staff Writer

While most students have already experienced true Sodexho cuisine, there are 611 new freshmen who have yet to delight in the variety, quality, and flexibility of on campus dining options.

Headquartered in Issy-les-Moulineaux, France, Sodexho, Inc. is the world’s largest foodservice provider and has been the contracted provider for Merrimack College since 1978. According to its website, Sodexho is responsible for serving 9.3 million meals per day in eighty countries. It caters to countless educational institutions, hospitals, military bases, hotels and remote locations, including offshore oil rigs.

I was fortunate enough to interview Sodexho’s general manager, Dennis Gillespie and Sodexho’s operations manager, Thomas Cornacchia. Dennis has been GM of Sodexo at Merrimack for seventeen years and has worked for Sodexho at many other colleges in New England since 1975. Tom has been Sodexo’s operations manager at Merrimack for four years. Before coming to Merrimack, Tom worked for Sodexho in the healthcare industry for fifteen years.

During our interview, I asked Tom and Dennis questions about everything Sodexho, such as sustainability, dining service improvements, finance and budget, Sodexho’s business relationship with the College, and last, but by no means least, the food.

In order to help put things in perspective, the business relationship between Sodexho and Merrimack must be explained. Sodexho is the contracted foodservice provider for Merrimack. When students purchase meal plans at the beginning of the year, the full amount of the meal plan goes directly to the college, who in turn pays Sodexho a daily rate to operate. Merrimack is responsible for paying all utilities, such as water, electricity, and natural gas, maintaining all equipment including stoves, refrigeration, and anything else tangible, including the missing Edy’s ice cream machine. Merrimack should also be credited for placing chicken breast on the dinner menu two times per week and keeping dinner open an additional half hour from two years ago. The College regularly pays approxim ate $25,000 per year replacing and maintaining cafe equipment. Essentially, Merrimack dictates just about every detail about on campus dining.

So, for those of you who wish to start breakfast earlier, increase menu selection, change meal plan structure or change anything else relating to dining services, you must do so through the college, namely through Residence Life and Student Government.

Since last year, students have been able to enjoy fresh romaine lettuce at every meal. Compared to iceberg lettuce, romaine has many more vitamins and minerals. The college has also replaced all chairs in Crossroads Cafe at a cost of $40,000, changing from the black and orange scheme to the cloth black chairs. I suppose orange just wasn’t part of the campus beautification plan. Returning students may have noticed that the old stir-fry station is serving up more than just a mix of vegetables and rice. During lunch the exhibition station now offers tossed salad and sandwiches made to order. An increased focus has been placed on using fresh ingredients. All this has been accomplished despite an 8% increase in food costs since last year.

Future Crossroads improvements in the works include switching from steam warmers to hot plate warmers. Hot plate warmers are safer, more sanitary and more visually appealing compared to steam. Tom also told me that students will also be able to enjoy fruit-flavored waters in the near future. Also mentioned is that the Sodexho administration is constantly looking for ways to reduce traffic at peak times. Tom mentioned that Sodexho is one of the top 50 companies in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index.

Both Tom and Dennis emphasized Sodexho’s corporate philosophy about the importance of environmental sustainability. From the use of completely recycled napkins, to more efficient ware washing that uses less harmful chemicals, to tray-less dining days and even the planned reduction of weekly deliveries, Sodexho aims high to reduce its impact on our environment and at the same time reduce anticipated increases in costs.

Dennis is currently evaluating the viability of reducing deliveries from Sysco, the largest foodservice distributor in North America, from three to two per week. A study by Sodexho shows that if all institutions in Boston, Chicago, Atlanta, and northern Virginia reduced their deliveries by one third, there would be a total reduction of about 31,000 deliveries per year. Since the delivery trucks operate at five miles per gallon, a great decrease in carbon dioxide emissions and fuel consumption could be realized if all institutions participated.

He mentioned, however, unlike some institutions Merrimack is fortunate to have ample refrigerated, frozen and dry storage necessitated by less frequent deliveries. Some fun figures to note include the 11,000 meals served at Crossroads and the 6000 meals served at the Warrior’s Den just last week. Sodexho uses $33,000 of food per week. One year ago, a 100lb bag of flour cost Sodexho $9, today it costs $27.

Convocation Day

Students gather at Convocation Day, September 10th, in the Multi-Purpose Room and listen to Dr. Lyons give a speech about Merrimack College efforts to become a “greener” campus. This was just one of the many community-building events held that day.
**Health and Fitness**

**Fun fitness facts**

**Fun Food Facts: Apples**

Apples are a great, healthy choice in the cafeteria. They are packed with nutrients and are an easy snack anytime. Here are some fun facts about this awesome autumn fruit!

1. Apples are fat, sodium, and cholesterol free.
2. A medium sized apple only has about 80 calories.
3. The largest apple picked was three pounds.
4. One apple contains five grams of fiber.
5. It takes the energy from fifty leaves to produce one apple.
6. 7500 varieties of apples are grown throughout the world.
7. Twenty-five percent of an apple’s volume is air, which causes them to float.
8. Two thirds of the fiber in an apple is found in the peel.
9. It takes about 36 apples to make one gallon of cider.
10. Apples are a member of the rose family.

**New face of the Fitness Center**

By Shannon Nickerson  
*Staff Writer*

The Fitness Center is also abounding with opportunities to get in shape. New machines purchased for the new school year include a multipurpose bench, many cable attachments for the cable crossover machine and a lateral pull down machine. Fitness classes are also running for anyone who purchases a $25 ticket which grants you unlimited participation all semester.

On behalf of the Merrimack Beacon, I would like to welcome Nick Lowery to our college community and thank him for such a smooth beginning to our school year. I am sure we can expect even more progress and innovation as the year continues. Best of luck, Nick!

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**Words from Barbara Lisa**

My advice to all students is to make sure you eat breakfast. A quick easy breakfast should consist of carbs, protein, and fat. Also, girls need at least 1000mg of calcium a day and can get that requirement by drinking 3 cups of vitamin enriched milk. Preferably non-fat but one percent is fine. A typical breakfast from the cafeteria should be:

- Fresh Fruit if available
- 1/2 bagel (multi grain if available)
- 1 Tbs peanut butter
- 1 banana

If you don’t do peanut butter, you can substitute with a slice of cheese and a glass of milk.

Another choice is cereal and milk with fruit OR eggs and multi-grain toast. If you do an omelette you can have the eggs. Even people with high cholesterol can have up to 4 eggs a week. The key to staying healthy with eggs is preparation. When choosing a cereal, try to stick with ones that have some grain in them, or have oatmeal. Try to avoid the sugary cereals because they have so many additives, not to mention a lot of sugar.

Lunch choices can be simple. Lunch will also keep you going and give you energy for your afternoon classes. Having a good lunch will help avoid snacking in the afternoon. An example of a good lunch would be:

- 2 slices of multi-grain bread or a pita pocket stuffed with:
  - Turkey or Tuna with light amount of mayo, add a slice of cheese and fill it with veggies.

  *If you want a salad please add some protein to it! Though darker greens are best, iceberg lettuce will be fine. Adding beans or turkey as a protein source is an easy way to add flavor and will help keep you full. Also, putting dressing on the side of your salad will keep you from over-dressing it.

Dinner can be the most challenging meal to eat in the cafeteria. Including protein, veggies, and carbs is the best way to make a meal. Protein should make up about a quarter of your plate; carbs should make up another quarter of it. Veggies should make up half of your plate. Try to avoid veggies that are in sauces or dressings. One example of a friendly meal to have would be:

- Chicken without skin; baked not fried. Include half of a baked potato and at least two veggies. If you do pasta or pizza, go for whole grain and lots of veggies with light cheese.

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**New face of the Fitness Center**

By Ashley DeRusso  
*Editor-in-Chief*

Nicholas Lowery has worked with several professional sports organizations, including Reebok International in their Sports Marketing Department. He has also worked for the University of Massachusetts Lowell in their Recreation Department. But, it was Lowery’s own positive small school experience that brought him to Merrimack this year as our Coordinator of Intramurals and Recreation.

“I went to a small school and liked the atmosphere and close connections you can build with people,” he says. During his undergraduate study, Lowery received his Bachelor’s Degree in Sport and Recreation Management. Sports Management is also a new major option here at Merrimack that is becoming quite popular.

As the third week of classes is coming to a close, work is well underway for Lowery. The first quarter of fall intramurals has already begun with a Flag Football League, Outdoor Soccer League and Indoor Volleyball League. The next intramural season deadline is October 16th where I will offer Men’s and Co-ed basketball leagues on Mon, Tue and Wed and a Floor Hockey league on Sundays all in the MPR. An additional Dodgeball Tournament, separate from intramurals, is scheduled for Thursday October 9th. The winner of this tournament will play in the UMass Lowell Stride Gum Dodgeball Tournament. Once there, the winner will take home a $1000 cash prize. A basketball trip is scheduled for September 20th. And all this is just with intramurals and recreation!

The Fitness Center is also abounding with opportunities to get in shape. New machines purchased for the new school year include a multipurpose bench, many cable attachments for the cable crossover machine and a lateral pull down machine. Fitness classes are also running for anyone who purchases a $25 ticket which grants you unlimited participation all semester.

On behalf of the Merrimack Beacon, I would like to welcome Nick Lowery to our college community and thank him for such a smooth beginning to our school year. I am sure we can expect even more progress and innovation as the year continues. Best of luck, Nick!
Raising Cancer Awareness

By Alicia Cyr
Staff Writer

Cancer is a widespread disease that takes the lives of over thirteen percent of the world’s population. Presenting itself in its many forms, cancer affects the lives of people all over the world. There are over seventy different forms of cancer. When cancer is active in a person’s body, the cell divides uncontrollably, beyond its normal limits. Cancer cells invade and destroy the adjacent issues. Metastasis refers to the spreading of the cancer cells throughout other locations of the body via lymph or blood. Most cancers form a tumor, although not all cancer cells present themselves in the form of tumors. Cancer can either be malignant, which means cancer is spreading, or cancer can be benign, meaning it will not metastasize.

Practically all forms of cancer are caused by abnormalities in the human genetic material of transformed cells. The cells can be due to carcinogens or infectious agents. Cancer can occur due to a mutation in the process of DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) genetic replication. These abnormalities affect both cancer-promoting oncogenes and tumor suppressor genes. Oncogenes are activated in cancer cells and promote hyperactive growth and division to protect against cell death. The tumor suppressor genes are inactivated in cancer cells, which results in the loss of normal cell function.

Having recently been affected by the effects of cancer, I watched the process occur so quickly, in the blink of an eye. My grandmother passed away after suffering from cancer. I use her as an example in this article, not to bring any personal touches, but because she was a sufferer from the rapid spread of cancer cells throughout her whole body. It was a surprise to the family, because no one, including herself, knew that cancer was in her body. From what can be gathered, my grandmother’s throat swelled up and she was told by doctors that it was her thyroid. Unbeknownst to her, the swelling was actually a tumor in her throat. Throat cancer! After living with this for months, she ended up in the hospital. It was then that the doctors discovered that the tumor was, in fact, not the only area of her body affected. Cancer was spread throughout her whole body. I believe there was not one part of her body that did not have the cancerous cells metastasizing. She passed away three days after being admitted into the hospital. Within such a short time, the cancer attacked her body, fully, and she died.

As most individuals, I was ignorant to the subject of cancer and its intensity. Most people believe that there are a few types of cancer and that it is what it is. In actuality, cancer is a rapidly spreading disease amongst the world’s population, causing over seven million deaths around the world each year. Cancer can be treated, and if caught early on, can be helped and a patient enters a state of remission. Though is remission, a patient is always at risk of the cancer cells presenting themselves again. As of now, cancer cannot be cured. But with the research and the many scientists working toward a cure, there is still hope that the death rates caused by cancer can be lowered immensely.

There will be a 6 vs. 6 Dodgeball Tourney on Thursday, October 9th in the MPR at 6pm

Team Registrations are due by Tuesday October 7th at 5pm
Registration forms are available at the Info Desk and Fitness Center Desk.

The winner of this tournament will play in the UMass Lowell Stride Gum Dodgeball Tournament for $1000

Fitness Class Schedule: Fall 2008

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Tickets for Fitness Classes are available at the Info Desk.

The price of a ticket is $25 and offers you unlimited participation in all classes.

More classes coming soon!
Entertainment

Tropic Thunder tops off a great summer

By Mark Lindquist  
Staff Writer

The action-comedy “Tropic Thunder” since its August 13th opening has dominated the latter end of a highly competitive blockbuster movie summer. Ben Stiller wrote, directed, and starred in this highly anticipated comedy. The movie is rated R for language and violent content. “Tropic Thunder” is about a group of pampered and highly incompatible actors trying to make a high budget Vietnam War movie based on the heroics of Vietnam War soldier John “Four Leaf” Tayback (Nick Nolte). The movie is a month behind schedule just 5 days into shooting because of the actors’ inability to cooperate with each other and the director. Also, the studio executives are thinking about ending the movie’s production due to heavy media criticism and ridicule about high costs. In a desperate attempt to save the movie, “Four Leaf” Tayback and the movie’s director (Steve Coogan) drop the unawares and unsuspecting actors alone deep into the Vietnam jungle filled with hidden movie cameras, real enemies, real weapons, and a real chance that they could die. The movie actors primarily consist of has-been action movie hero Tugg Speedman (Ben Stiller), spoiled comedian Jeff Portnoy (Jack Black), and multiple Academy Award-winning Australian actor Kirk Lazarus. (Robert Downey Jr.) If the actors are to survive, they must become real soldiers.

“Tropic Thunder” has been the #1 movie in the box office for the entire month of August edging out arguably the summer’s headline movie “The Dark Knight”. “Tropic Thunder” made over $36 million in its opening weekend and has made a total of $114,343,076 worldwide. “Tropic Thunder” is also the only movie in 2008 other than “The Dark Knight” to hold the #1 position in the box office for more than two consecutive weekends. Also for 2008, the movie is the fourth-highest grossing domestic rated R film. The movie has mostly seen nothing except positive reviews such as an 84% positive rating on the website Rotten Tomatoes. On the movie review website Metacritic, the film received a 71% positive rating. USA Today’s Claudia Puig in her positive review wrote that “There are some wildly funny scenes, a few leaden ones and others that are scattered, with humorous satire undercut by over-the-top grisliness. Still, when it’s funny, it’s really funny.” A quote from David Ansen of Newsweek states that “Tropic Thunder is the funniest movie of the summer so funny, in fact, that you start laughing before the film itself has begun.” The movie’s trailer that was released in April received the award for Best Comedy Trailer at the 9th annual Golden Trailer Awards. In my opinion, “Tropic Thunder” lived up to the hype and delivered as one of the funniest comedies of the summer.

A tribute to LeRoi Moore

By Robert Braczyk  
Staff Writer

Upon first glance at the headline, you more than likely thought “Who is LeRoi Moore?” In fact, when I first read the headline on CNN’s website, I had to think to myself to remember. LeRoi Moore was the saxophonist, and a founding member, of the ever popular Dave Matthews Band. Moore had been injured in an ATV accident in late June, suffering a punctured lung and broken ribs. The band continued touring with Jeff Coffin of Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, a group of equally talented and accomplished musicians, including bassist Victor Wooten. Moore was re-hospitalized in July, and then died on August 19, from complications stemming from the ATV accident.

The loss of LeRoi Moore not only affects Dave Matthews Band fans, but the entire music community. LeRoi’s instrumental talents ranged from five different types of saxophones, and three other woodwind instruments. Moore helped define the band’s signature sound along with violinist Boyd Tinsley. While the band has gone on touring, and may continue to tour next year, LeRoi Moore’s signature style will not be easily replaced.

Ever since I became a DMB fan (at a young age), I had always wanted to see them live. That opportunity came this summer when the band came to the Comcast center in Mansfield, MA. I was able to witness one of Moore’s last live performances. Out of the many concerts I have attended, Dave Matthews Band was by far the best, and hopefully the band continues to do so in LeRoi’s memory.

Boston Music Spotlight will be hosting

Battle of the Bands

Thursday, September 18 at Olivers next to the Caskn’ Flagon

Five bands that will compete:
The Candace Brooks Band, Cemetery Superfly, Hello Mahalo, Six Day Slide, and Tunnivision

Each band will perform 30 minute sets for a panel of five judges

The grand prize includes studio time, a photoshoot, cd packaging, and more!

Tickets are $10

For more information, check out: www.bostonmusicspotlight.com
By Melissa Peterson
Staff Writer

Every week we laugh at the nerdy antics of Rainn Wilson, portraying the socially inept Dwight Shrute of NBC’s The Office. Recently, Wilson stepped out of the office and took a seat behind a drum set for his new movie, The Rocker, which opened August 20. In this film, he plays a 40-year old washed-up drummer who got kicked out of a struggling metal band called Vesuvius in the eighties, just as they were making their big break in the industry. Twenty years later, Wilson’s character, Robert “Fish” Fishman is still having trouble landing on his feet, as he finds himself living in his sister’s attic. Coincidentally, his nephew is on the lookout for a new drummer to play with his band, A.D.D., at their high school prom. As the movie goes on, “Fish” becomes an official member of the band and gives A.D.D. their big break after becoming a YouTube phenomenon: “the naked drummer.”

The movie is essentially carried by Rainn Wilson’s overenthusiastic, comically pathetic character, who I expected to be the heavy metal version of The Office’s Dwight. However, Wilson shows that he is quite a dynamic actor, able to differentiate the two characters, despite a main similarity: they are both incredibly odd individuals. Supporting Wilson in The Rocker are Josh Gad (Matt), Teddy Geiger (Curtis), and Emma Stone (Amelia), who play the younger members of A.D.D. All three of these relatively fresh actors do quite a good job in their roles, depicting the awkwardness of growing up. However, Geiger’s natural abilities as an actor and as a real-life musician pull him into the forefront of the film. You might know Geiger from his 2006 hit “For You I Will” off his album Underage Thinking. While Geiger’s natural ability to play the role of A.D.D.’s lead writer/singer/guitarist is refreshing, he stands out even more when the band performs, showcasing his musical talents. He even lends his vocals to 9 out of the 12 songs on The Rocker’s soundtrack, all of which are featured at some point in the movie. Although these songs are not quite as interesting or insightful as Geiger’s usual style of writing, they are catchy and keep you rocking out in your seat.

Although Wilson’s running around like a stuck-in-the-eighties “rock god” is sure to make you laugh, The Rocker isn’t just about good music and laughs. It has its fair-share of “aww” moments, as “Fish” gets his chance to mentor each of the younger members of his new band. This gives “Fish” a chance to step outside of his goofy “rocker” dream and show a more caring, paternal side. Most endearing is his relationship with Curtis, who struggles with a troubled past and a father who walked out of his life when he was young.

Overall, I found the film to be quite predictable as far as relationships and other plot elements go, but The Rocker is not intended to make a profound statement. Instead, it illustrates the 21st century power of self-promotion over the internet; after you’ve bought into the plot a little, it becomes a fun film about an older man’s second chance to live out his dream, while teaching his nephew and young bandmates what it means to be a “rocker.” What it lacks in an unexpected storyline, it more than makes up for in humor and spirited adventure.

The Rocker isn’t epic or revolutionary, instead it serves as a light-hearted, fun movie that never seems to drag, even through the somewhat unsurprising plotline. With plenty of laughs, fun music, and great live concert scenes, it will keep you entertained throughout.

Overall Score: 3.5/5 stars
Opinion

Obama’s policies: Deceptive?

By Michael Salvucci
Editor-in-Chief

It is only September and I am already looking forward to November. I was asked a question in one of my politics classes which when first asked I thought was kind of a dumb and silly question. However, hours after the class was over I found myself still thinking about it. The question is “do you think that the United States will be better or worse off five years from now?”

The answer to this question is neither short nor simple. November will play a huge factor in whether the country will better or worse off five years from now. Let us run through the possibilities.

It is the morning of November 5, and Barack Obama has been elected president. What would we have to look forward to in the next five years? We might possibly see free health care, better welfare and unemployment benefits and cheaper college tuitions. However, one has to wonder, how on Earth could a president all of a sudden give us all of these free things? One word…taxes. There can only be one way to pay for all of these social welfare programs being preached about by Obama, and that would be to raise taxes. This might come as a shock to some of you, especially those who think that the government grows money on trees, however when you sit back and think about it, you realize that some way, somehow, these programs must be paid for.

Obama can go on and on about how he is not going to raise taxes on the lower and middle classes and that very well may be true. He plans on raising taxes on businesses, which is perhaps worse! Think about it, where do you go buy your groceries? Clothing? How about your car? All of these things are bought from companies, some of which operate on a very small profit margin. This means that when (hopefully this will remain a hypothetical) Obama raises taxes the cost of living will skyrocket.

So, is it worth taking the chance of having to pay 70 percent income tax? Is it worth paying an average $45,000 per car? How about paying seven dollars for a gallon of milk? The obvious answer here is no.

Whatever you do, educate yourself on the issues before voting in November. Take the time to see who is offering true change and who is offering eloquent teleprompted speeches.

Obama offers relief to middle class

By Courtney DeSisto
Staff Writer

After attracting a crowd of over 80 million people at the Colorado Democratic Convention a couple of weeks ago, Barack Obama accepted the Democratic nomination for President of the United States. Delaware’s senior Senator, Joe Biden, accepted the party’s nomination for Vice President.

Obama’s speech included his plans which were particularly appealing to middle-class citizens, mentioning issues regarding affordable health insurance and lowering college expenses. He even appealed to college students “working the night shift” while attending classes all day. Americans “now work more for less”, Obama explained, which has, of course, been affecting all ages.

Also included in his speech was a promise of discovering another source of oil, not just the temporary band-aid of drilling, which would begin by the time his term in office has ended. Obama mentioned his belief that McCain, a dedicated American, is a good man. But he also doesn’t fail to mention a jaw dropping direct quote from his Republican opponent. According to John McCain, to be a part of his middle class, your income must be under a whopping 5 million dollars.

Obama also once again points out that John McCain is 90% with George W. Bush’s viewpoints, which goes against everything Obama believes in for our future - this new coming of “change”.

McCain recently announced his running mate, Alaska’s female Senator Sarah Palin, who coincidently is just as young and “inexperienced” as McCain claims Obama is.

Surprisingly enough, it is going to be a tight race against the old and the young.

Beacon Editorial

By Ashley DeRuosi and Mike Salvucci
Editors-in-Chief

With a new semester just beginning, clubs and organizations across campus are looking at fresh starts and blank slates. The start of the fall semester puts everyone, even individual students, in a great position to make marked progress and improvements in the year ahead. The Beacon is no exception here and has set out with goals for a productive year.

The newspaper has experienced much growth in recent years, and it is our top priority to continue to excel. Constantly improving our content and layout are always on our minds. We are planning to print two to sixteen page papers each month, with even more quality articles than before. Quality is an area we do not attend to overlook or skimp on.

Additionally, our first few weeks have turned out our biggest staff of writers we have seen in quite some time. Our hope is to keep this group and welcome others as the months go by. Seeing as a lot of what happens in our club is done through email, as editors we would like to work to foster more of a sense of community within our staff and keep everyone interested.

We would like to thank everyone who has helped make our first issue possible and get us off the ground. We are also grateful to our readers throughout the years, especially those who have taken the time to give us feedback and suggestions. It is much appreciated and we would love to hear from more of you. If you would like to become involved in any aspect of the Beacon process, please contact us at newspaper@merrimack.edu.

“Mass without Walls”

In order to give students another opportunity for Sunday Mass in addition to the 5:00 P.M. Mass in Our Mother of Good Counsel Chapel, Austin Hall, there will be a "Mass without Walls" for the next three Sundays in the three Quads.

This Sunday, September 14th, Mass will be at the Monican/Town House Quad at Noon. Bring your blanket to sit on, and your friends to accompany you.

In case of inclement weather, Mass will be in Cascia Hall.
Questions on the Quad

What was your favorite thing you did this summer?

Spent an entire month in Chatham down in the Cape
~Rob Furrier

Went on the Maid of the Mist at Niagara Falls
~Ryan O'Rourke

Going to the NCAA lacrosse tournament
~Maddie Basile

A road trip to Canada
~Stefanae Silva

What is your favorite thing about Merrimack College?

Eating food from The Den
~Chris Martinson

Being around my teammates
~Kelly Pasquantonio

My friends
~Allison Doliner

Me and my friends' improv tennis courts
~Kelsie Rogers

~ Compiled by Kyle Neary ~
~Photos by Courtney Cutler~

Interested in volunteering in after school programs at Merrimack this semester?

WE NEED YOU!

The Lawrence Math and Science Partnership and The Merrimack Academic Partnership Programs are looking for volunteers for this semester. Both programs will be starting next week (September 15th). All students are welcome to participate.

For further information, contact the Stevens Service Learning Center:
Leanne Merrill (leanne.merrill@merrimack.edu)
Mary McGough (marymcgough@merrimack.edu)
978-837-5125

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 Ashley DeRuosi or Michael Salvucci
or email newspaper@merrimack.edu.
Fun and Games

“What’s Cooking?”

BAKE, BARBECUE, BASIN, BOIL, BRAISE, BROIL, CAN OPENER, CHEF, Coddle, Condiment, COOK, CUPS, FORK, FRIED, FRYING PAN, GRILL, HEAT, KNIFE, MARINATE, MICROWAVE, MIXER, OVEN, PEPPER, PLATE, POACH, RECIPE, RELISH, ROAST, ROLLING PIN, SALAD, SALT, SAUCE, SAUCEPAN, SIEVE, SKILLET, SPATULA, SPOON, STEAMED, STEEPED, STIR FRY, TIMER, TOASTED.

Hub Words

How many words can you make from the letters in the wheel? Each word must contain the hub letter R. Can you find a 9-letter word and at least 15 other words of five letters or more avoiding proper nouns?

Sudoku Puzzles

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Puzzles courtesy of www.puzzlechoice.com

Solutions to all of the puzzles seen here can be found at www.puzzlechoice.com

Have any jokes, puzzles or brain teasers?

Send them to be published on our Fun and Games page!
www.merrimackbeacon.com
Women’s Soccer looks for its third win

By Michael Salvucci
Editor-in-Chief

The Merrimack women’s soccer team started out the year with two straight wins against Molloy and Felician.

The women’s soccer team was picked to finish third in the Northeast-10 preseason poll behind Franklin Pierce and Saint Rose.

However, the next two games the lady Warriors were not able to pull off wins, they tied Dowling 3-3 and tied UMass.-Lowell 1-1.

The team hit the goal post twice in the first overtime against UMass.-Lowell but could not find the net and had to settle for their second straight tie.

Merrimack was outshot 24-15 in the game but managed to stay in the game due to Shannon Rowan’s 15 saves.

The lady Warriors (2-0-2, 0-0-1 NE-10) will bring their five-game road trip to an end at Saint Anselm on Saturday at 2 p.m. Saint Anselm’s women’s soccer team is currently 1-3, however the record is deceiving.

All of their losses have been within a two point margin. Out of the four games played they are 0-3 on the road, however they won their game at home decisively 4-1.

The lady Warriors will return home September 17 when the host Bentley at 6:30 p.m.

Enjoy watching Warrior sports?

Write about them!

We are looking for coverage on any and all Merrimack sports!

If you are interested in writing for our Sports Section,

contact us at www.merrimackbeacon.com.

Field Hockey struggles with hard schedule

By Michael Salvucci
Editor-in-Chief

The Merrimack women’s field hockey team lost to #6 Saint Michael’s 4-2 yesterday afternoon.

The score was tied 2-2 going into the final minutes of the game when Molly DiMasi of Saint Michael’s netted the winning goal on a penalty shot.

Kelly Pasquantonio and Jaclyn Germano were responsible for the lady Warriors’ two goals.

The field hockey team was picked to finish eighth in the Northeast-10 Conference preseason poll, just in front of Franklin Pierce and American International.

UMass.-Lowell earned the top spot in the poll while receiving 10 first place votes.

The Northeast-10 is a particularly hard conference posting great talent across all teams and contains multiple nationally ranked teams.

The lady Warriors (1-3, 1-2 NE-10) will visit #4 UMass-Lowell this Saturday at 1 p.m.

They will return home September 18 to host Stonehill at 3:30.
Football blows out Husson 42-7

By Bryanna Violette
Staff Writer

The Merrimack football team started their season on the right foot by beating Husson College, 42-7. The win is John Perry’s first as Merrimack’s head coach.

In the first quarter, quarterback Kurt Leone threw three touchdown passes, connecting with Jawara Loftis, Jeremiah Watts, and Chris Laham. In the second quarter, Leone threw a 29-yard touchdown pass to Laham and Richard Johnson ran 79 yards for another touchdown.

At halftime, the Warriors led Husson, 35-0. In the final quarter, Husson scored but Merrimack’s Andrew Jackson returned the kickoff with an 81-yard run for another touchdown.

Sophomore, Kurt Leone’s first career start resulted in 362 passing yards, which is the fourth highest in Merrimack history for passing yards in a single game.

Freshmen Tony Johnson was named the Northeast-10 Freshmen of the Week after he tallied seven tackles and three sacks in Saturday’s game.

Senior Chris Laham finished with 153 yards receiving on 11 catches, which ties with Elfren Quiles on the Merrimack all-time scoring list.

Junior Richard Johnson rushed for 99 yards on 11 carries.

Soccer improves to 4-0

By Michael Salvucci
Editor-in-Chief

Men’s Soccer is off to another great start going 3-0 in its first three games. The team is currently ranked first in the East Region and eighth overall in the nation.

It is certainly hard to imagine a team in the East Region of DII Men’s Soccer to be undefeated through its first three games. The East region is full of tough teams such as Franklin Pierce, Southern Connecticut, Dowling and UMass Lowell.

Although an entire season cannot be predicted from just a handful of games, if the rest of the year works out like the beginning has, we can expect the Men’s Soccer team to go deep into the post season. The top six teams in the East region will have a seed in the NCAA Tournament.

Freshman Robbie Sabadoz of Ottawa, ON. has netted four goals in his first three collegiate games to become one of the most threatening presences in the East region. Wayne Sygrove of Yorkshire England has two goals and Tiago Dalboni of Medford, MA has a goal and two assists. Playing a big role in the Warriors success so far this season is the man behind the net, Rob Pedra, who has a 1.66 goals-against average and a .800 save percentage.

Merrimack has a big regional matchup against Dominican College Sunday September 14 at 2 p.m. It will be the final game of the Merrimack Invitational.
Football opens season with win

Sophomore quarterback Kurt Leone looks to pass downfield

Photo by Michael Salvucci

Story on page 15