offs, the Observer has decided to obtain
cost-cutting measures in the current
look at the overall salary picture of the
salary list of NECC employees to
work hours (full-time to part-time), vol-
elimination of overtime.

it,” Wolfe said.

our budget reductions, unfortunately,
size our budgets for FY10, and to meet
ple a little more time to share the bad
job,” Wolfe said. “We want to give peo-
unfortunate position of having lost their
cy and space when they are in the
list is not yet being made available.
layoffs in the majority of the divisions.

Steve Fabbrucci, and the president
with the Dean of Human Resources
action,

A consolidated list of personnel
actions that have been taken at the col-
are not yet being made available.

“Each vice president is working
with the Dean of Human Resources
actions that have been taken at the col-

Also, two full-time profes-
sional staff positions, which were grant
funded, were eliminated.

Wolfe confirmed there had been
reductions, cuts from 12-month to
10-month contracts, in the area of
Enrollment Management and Student
Services.

The Observer has been able to con-
firm four of the five retrenchments of
staff, three in the Career Planning and
Advising Center and one in Student
Activities, at a total savings of $37,000
to the college.

The total budget savings as a result of
all layoffs and personnel actions will not be
fully determined, or disclosed, according to Wolfe,
but the Board of Trustees finishes its budget review and
presents it at the trustees meeting on June 3.

The salary list also reflects recent

According to Professor Joe
LeBlanc, president of the Massachusetts Community
Council, the union that represents pro-
to the college, raises are determined by

NECC student Jose Garcia practiced the violin in the empty Quad on a late Friday afternoon, April 24.

NECC faculty and staff salaries released

In response to a number of recent
layoffs being made by the college as
cost-cutting measures in the current
budget crisis, and growing concerns
among faculty and staff about these lay-
offs, the Observer has decided to obtain
the salary list of NECC employees to
look at the overall salary picture of the
college.

According to Vice President of
Administration and Finance Sue Wolfe,
personnel actions in response to the
budget shortfall include reorganizations (reductions in contract length), layoffs of faculty and staff members, reduced work hours (full-time to part-time), vol-
untary furloughs and the reduction and
elimination of overtime.

These staffing plans need to be in
place by July 1, the start of FY (fiscal
year) 2010, according to Wolfe.

“We’re getting to the point to final-
ize our budgets for FY10, and to meet
our budget reductions, unfortunately,
personnel actions will have to be part of it.

There have already been a number of
layoffs and reorganizations, according
to Wolfe, although she would not con-
firm a specific number, and she only
expects that number to go up.

“I expect there may be some addi-
tional personnel actions over the next
few weeks,” Wolfe said.

A list of specific positions that
have been eliminated wouldn’t be
released by the administration, the
Observer has been able to independent-
tly confirm several positions that appear
on the salary list, according as of April
2009, have since been eliminated.

These positions include a non-union (union) professional director position at
a rate of $77,608 and a unionized part-
time Student Activities staff assistant
position at a rate of $23,556.

Also, two full-time profes-
sional staff positions, which were grant
funded, were eliminated.

Wolfe confirmed there had been
reductions, cuts from 12-month to
10-month contracts, in the area of
Enrollment Management and Student
Services.

The Observer has been able to con-
firm four of the five retrenchments of
staff, three in the Career Planning and
Advising Center and one in Student
Activities, at a total savings of $37,000
to the college.

The total budget savings as a result of
all layoffs and personnel actions will not be
fully determined, or disclosed, according to Wolfe,
but the Board of Trustees finishes its budget review and
presents it at the trustees meeting on June 3.

The salary list also reflects recent

According to Professor Joe
LeBlanc, president of the Massachusetts Community
Council, the union that represents pro-
to the college, raises are determined by

Although Senate Adviser and Director
of Student Engagement Diana Brown men-
tioned to the senate that three colleges had sent
in appeal letters in response to their prelimi-
nary budget allocations, it was not
announced to the senate which colleges had sent
in appeals or not were those appeal letters
read to the senate.

Senators only began debating
the budget allocation of a particular club
that submitted an appeal, literary magazine
Parnassus, when Vice President Blubik
Alani asked the senate to reconsider
the club being made to be their allocation.

“I am advocating for them,” Alani said.
“I’m here for the students, to represent the people.”

Alani questioned if the senate
was making an informed decision.

“Did anyone do their homework and
talk to different clubs?” Alani said. “Would
you just vote on it? I have a problem with
the way we’re doing this.”

Parnassus’ preliminary budget alloca-
tion was $4,200, which was down from this
year’s budget of $6,557, and more than 50 percent
less than the $8,500 they requested.

Senators questioned why a club that
only has a staff of 5 to 10 people would
receive such a large budget allocation.

“If it’s a five to 10 member club it’s
obviously not representative of the college,”
senator Alani Rubbuck said.

Two Parnassus members
were present at the senate meeting to speak on
the club’s behalf.

“This is for the students, by the stu-
dents. It’s for all students to submit to and
be part of the magazine, not just the staff,”
Denyta Blanco, a Parnassus staff member,
said. “This is not just about the staff, this is
about the entire student body.”

However, Parnassus staff members
were unable to convince the senate the value they believe Parnassus has.

“How important is this really for the students? Is it really important that it does
really benefit the students?” senator Lena
Dziewczowska said. “Shouldn’t they be
spent better on something people actually
care about?”

The senate president agreed.

“Not everyone knows about it, how
is that going to happen? Each college should
just talk to different clubs,” Dziewczowska
said. “This is for the students, by the stu-
dents. It’s for all students to submit to and
be part of the magazine, not just the staff,”
Denyta Blanco, a Parnassus staff member,
said. “This is not just about the staff, this is
about the entire student body.”

However, Parnassus staff members
were unable to convince the senate the value they believe Parnassus has.

“How important is this really for the students? Is it really important that it does
really benefit the students?” senator Lena
Dziewczowska said. “Shouldn’t they be
spent better on something people actually
care about?”

The senate president agreed.

“Not everyone knows about it, how
is that going to happen? Each college should
just talk to different clubs,” Dziewczowska
said. “This is for the students, by the stu-
dents. It’s for all students to submit to and
be part of the magazine, not just the staff,”
Denyta Blanco, a Parnassus staff member,
said. “This is not just about the staff, this is
about the entire student body.”

However, Parnassus staff members
were unable to convince the senate the value they believe Parnassus has.

“How important is this really for the students? Is it really important that it does
really benefit the students?” senator Lena
Dziewczowska said. “Shouldn’t they be
spent better on something people actually
care about?”

The senate president agreed.

“Not everyone knows about it, how
is that going to happen? Each college should
just talk to different clubs,” Dziewczowska
said. “This is for the students, by the stu-
dents. It’s for all students to submit to and
be part of the magazine, not just the staff,”
Denyta Blanco, a Parnassus staff member,
said. “This is not just about the staff, this is
about the entire student body.”

However, Parnassus staff members
were unable to convince the senate the value they believe Parnassus has.

“How important is this really for the students? Is it really important that it does
really benefit the students?” senator Lena
Dziewczowska said. “Shouldn’t they be
spent better on something people actually
care about?”

The senate president agreed.

“Not everyone knows about it, how
is that going to happen? Each college should
just talk to different clubs,” Dziewczowska
said. “This is for the students, by the stu-
dents. It’s for all students to submit to and
be part of the magazine, not just the staff,”
Denyta Blanco, a Parnassus staff member,
said. “This is not just about the staff, this is
about the entire student body.”
Editorial

You can’t argue the value of art

We believe one of the most disturbing things to come out of the most recent senate meeting was the debate over whether Parnassus, NECC’s award-winning literary arts magazine, had any benefit to the student body and college community.

NECC is an academic institution where the value of art, literature, poetry, photography and design should be apparent, nurtured and appreciated. It is arguably priceless, and literally, at NECC it is.

The high-quality magazine is provided to the NECC community for free. Parnassus advisory board member Patrick Lochelt worked at a school where their literary magazine sold for $21 at the campus bookstore. If it came to that at NECC, especially at a community college, there should be no argument there.

Parnassus does indeed benefit the college community, there should be no argument there. It provides the school with positive publicity and recognition for the students whose works are published within its pages.

And just this opportunity alone, to be published, is extremely important. Everyone has to start somewhere, and this is a community college that should be dedicated to giving its students an opportunity such as this.

Ironically, Parnassus’ budget is being cut at a time when Parnassus is winning awards and is among the top community college literary magazines in the nation, and it has the potential to become only better.

Is this how the school rewards the hard work and success of its students?

Though that makes no sense to anyone, it makes sense to us somehow. No one could ever replace him, literally, as his section more than likely leaves with him.

Christian, well there’s not much we can say about Christian that wouldn’t get us all into trouble. We were never lonely when we were with him.

Ryan was one of the nicest guys we know and our pages look better for having him around.

We couldn’t have deserved a better staff, and it is not goodbye, but until we meet again in Kansas City. For good food, friends, meat bread, Northeastern pig ‘lovers’ and Yummo’s.

We'll always have Kansas City

The Observer is losing many valued staff members who are graduating this semester: Opinion Editor Hansel Lopez, Alt. Edge Editor Nick Sermuksnis, Sports Editor Christian Stone and Staff Photographer Ryan McBride.

They have become part of our Observer family and will greatly missed. Their impact around.

Christian, well there’s not much we can say about Christian that wouldn’t get us all into trouble. We were never lonely when we were with him.

Ryan was one of the nicest guys we know

Christian, well there’s not much we can say about Christian that wouldn’t get us all into trouble. We were never lonely when we were with him.

Ryan was one of the nicest guys we know and our pages look better for having him around.

We couldn’t have deserved a better staff, and it is not goodbye, but until we meet again in Kansas City. For good food, friends, meat bread, Northeastern pig ‘lovers’ and Yummo’s.

We'll always have Kansas City

The Observer is losing many valued staff members who are graduating this semester: Opinion Editor Hansel Lopez, Alt. Edge Editor Nick Sermuksnis, Sports Editor Christian Stone and Staff Photographer Ryan McBride.

They have become part of our Observer family and will greatly missed. Their impact around.

Christian, well there’s not much we can say about Christian that wouldn’t get us all into trouble. We were never lonely when we were with him.

Ryan was one of the nicest guys we know and our pages look better for having him around.

We couldn’t have deserved a better staff, and it is not goodbye, but until we meet again in Kansas City. For good food, friends, meat bread, Northeastern pig ‘lovers’ and Yummo’s.

We'll always have Kansas City

The Observer is losing many valued staff members who are graduating this semester: Opinion Editor Hansel Lopez, Alt. Edge Editor Nick Sermuksnis, Sports Editor Christian Stone and Staff Photographer Ryan McBride.

They have become part of our Observer family and will greatly missed. Their impact around.

Christian, well there’s not much we can say about Christian that wouldn’t get us all into trouble. We were never lonely when we were with him.

Ryan was one of the nicest guys we know and our pages look better for having him around.

We couldn’t have deserved a better staff, and it is not goodbye, but until we meet again in Kansas City. For good food, friends, meat bread, Northeastern pig ‘lovers’ and Yummo’s.

We'll always have Kansas City

The Observer is losing many valued staff members who are graduating this semester: Opinion Editor Hansel Lopez, Alt. Edge Editor Nick Sermuksnis, Sports Editor Christian Stone and Staff Photographer Ryan McBride.

They have become part of our Observer family and will greatly missed. Their impact around.

Christian, well there’s not much we can say about Christian that wouldn’t get us all into trouble. We were never lonely when we were with him.

Ryan was one of the nicest guys we know and our pages look better for having him around.

We couldn’t have deserved a better staff, and it is not goodbye, but until we meet again in Kansas City. For good food, friends, meat bread, Northeastern pig ‘lovers’ and Yummo’s.

We'll always have Kansas City

The Observer is losing many valued staff members who are graduating this semester: Opinion Editor Hansel Lopez, Alt. Edge Editor Nick Sermuksnis, Sports Editor Christian Stone and Staff Photographer Ryan McBride.

They have become part of our Observer family and will greatly missed. Their impact around.

Christian, well there’s not much we can say about Christian that wouldn’t get us all into trouble. We were never lonely when we were with him.

Ryan was one of the nicest guys we know and our pages look better for having him around.

We couldn’t have deserved a better staff, and it is not goodbye, but until we meet again in Kansas City. For good food, friends, meat bread, Northeastern pig ‘lovers’ and Yummo’s.

We'll always have Kansas City

The Observer is losing many valued staff members who are graduating this semester: Opinion Editor Hansel Lopez, Alt. Edge Editor Nick Sermuksnis, Sports Editor Christian Stone and Staff Photographer Ryan McBride.

They have become part of our Observer family and will greatly missed. Their impact around.

Christian, well there’s not much we can say about Christian that wouldn’t get us all into trouble. We were never lonely when we were with him.

Ryan was one of the nicest guys we know and our pages look better for having him around.

We couldn’t have deserved a better staff, and it is not goodbye, but until we meet again in Kansas City. For good food, friends, meat bread, Northeastern pig ‘lovers’ and Yummo’s.

We'll always have Kansas City

The Observer is losing many valued staff members who are graduating this semester: Opinion Editor Hansel Lopez, Alt. Edge Editor Nick Sermuksnis, Sports Editor Christian Stone and Staff Photographer Ryan McBride.

They have become part of our Observer family and will greatly missed. Their impact around.

Christian, well there’s not much we can say about Christian that wouldn’t get us all into trouble. We were never lonely when we were with him.

Ryan was one of the nicest guys we know and our pages look better for having him around.

We couldn’t have deserved a better staff, and it is not goodbye, but until we meet again in Kansas City. For good food, friends, meat bread, Northeastern pig ‘lovers’ and Yummo’s.

We'll always have Kansas City

The Observer is losing many valued staff members who are graduating this semester: Opinion Editor Hansel Lopez, Alt. Edge Editor Nick Sermuksnis, Sports Editor Christian Stone and Staff Photographer Ryan McBride.

They have become part of our Observer family and will greatly missed. Their impact around.

Christian, well there’s not much we can say about Christian that wouldn’t get us all into trouble. We were never lonely when we were with him.

Ryan was one of the nicest guys we know and our pages look better for having him around.

We couldn’t have deserved a better staff, and it is not goodbye, but until we meet again in Kansas City. For good food, friends, meat bread, Northeastern pig ‘lovers’ and Yummo’s.

We'll always have Kansas City

The Observer is losing many valued staff members who are graduating this semester: Opinion Editor Hansel Lopez, Alt. Edge Editor Nick Sermuksnis, Sports Editor Christian Stone and Staff Photographer Ryan McBride.

They have become part of our Observer family and will greatly missed. Their impact around.

Christian, well there’s not much we can say about Christian that wouldn’t get us all into trouble. We were never lonely when we were with him.

Ryan was one of the nicest guys we know and our pages look better for having him around.

We couldn’t have deserved a better staff, and it is not goodbye, but until we meet again in Kansas City. For good food, friends, meat bread, Northeastern pig ‘lovers’ and Yummo’s.

We'll always have Kansas City

The Observer is losing many valued staff members who are graduating this semester: Opinion Editor Hansel Lopez, Alt. Edge Editor Nick Sermuksnis, Sports Editor Christian Stone and Staff Photographer Ryan McBride.

They have become part of our Observer family and will greatly missed. Their impact around.

Christian, well there’s not much we can say about Christian that wouldn’t get us all into trouble. We were never lonely when we were with him.

Ryan was one of the nicest guys we know and our pages look better for having him around.

We couldn’t have deserved a better staff, and it is not goodbye, but until we meet again in Kansas City. For good food, friends, meat bread, Northeastern pig ‘lovers’ and Yummo’s.

We'll always have Kansas City

The Observer is losing many valued staff members who are graduating this semester: Opinion Editor Hansel Lopez, Alt. Edge Editor Nick Sermuksnis, Sports Editor Christian Stone and Staff Photographer Ryan McBride.

They have become part of our Observer family and will greatly missed. Their impact around.

Christian, well there’s not much we can say about Christian that wouldn’t get us all into trouble. We were never lonely when we were with him.

Ryan was one of the nicest guys we know and our pages look better for having him around.

We couldn’t have deserved a better staff, and it is not goodbye, but until we meet again in Kansas City. For good food, friends, meat bread, Northeastern pig ‘lovers’ and Yummo’s.

We'll always have Kansas City

The Observer is losing many valued staff members who are graduating this semester: Opinion Editor Hansel Lopez, Alt. Edge Editor Nick Sermuksnis, Sports Editor Christian Stone and Staff Photographer Ryan McBride.

They have become part of our Observer family and will greatly missed. Their impact around.

Christian, well there’s not much we can say about Christian that wouldn’t get us all into trouble. We were never lonely when we were with him.

Ryan was one of the nicest guys we know and our pages look better for having him around.

We couldn’t have deserved a better staff, and it is not goodbye, but until we meet again in Kansas City. For good food, friends, meat bread, Northeastern pig ‘lovers’ and Yummo’s.
Who observes the ‘Observer’?

As I ride towards the sunset I reflect on my time at the ‘Observer’
By Hansel Lopez

It is with a heavy heart that I must announce that after 3 and a half years here at Northern Essex Community College, I am ready to close shop. Some of you might be saying “finally that jerk is leaving,” talking out of his mouth what you know with your heart. And I understand this sentiment since I didn’t even see myself lasting this long (for further proof, read my article titled “If you thought high school was bad…” that ran in the September 3, 2008 issue).

For my last three semesters here I have served as the Opinion editor for the highly regarded college paper we know as the “Observer.” My time on the “Observer” has been one of the most satisfying experiences in my life. After 56 different articles the only regret I have is that I didn’t join the staff sooner. Well that and all of the articles that were written still couldn’t lift the absurd smoking ban and “Parnassus” is still getting the short end of the stick.

As has been reported, Parnassus is facing an enormous budget reduction for 2010, a cut that will take our allotment down well over 50 percent from only two years ago. Such a cut in our funding, if approved, will be incredibly detrimental to our ability to provide NECC students with a proper showcase for their amazing art and writing that is submitted to us each semester. When I took the helm at Parnassus three years ago, my goal was to elevate the quality and design of the book to both interest and entice readers and NECC artists and writers and to give the school a platform for its students to be proud of. In that time, I have rejected payment for my role with the book, and we have not yet held a student editor. In fact, we haven’t appointed an editor since H. Graham, so that the project can continue and improve. Our current, forthcoming issue is our best yet — with an increase in our traditional layout for the first time, an increase in our artwork and photographs and create a wall of fame that students can be proud of.

I suggest that the next time they try these tricks, you either refuse to leave until arrested (on what grounds?!) or call in the local newspapers for backup. I for one would encourage student government finance meetings to call on their responsibility. Even if you are not able to attend, be sure to sign the petition to keep them from dictating the content of our campus newspaper. Yes, that is what we are fighting for.

Parnassus faces uncertain future

To the Editors of The Observer and the NECC community:

The Parnassus production team, from the English department and faculty advisor of Parnassus, the NECC literary magazine, to Hansel Lopez and the rest of the Observer staff for the support and several articles devoted to helping Parnassus print over this past year.

As has been reported, Parnassus is facing an enormous budget reduction for 2010, a cut that will take our allotment down well over 50 percent from only two years ago. Such a cut in our funding, if approved, will be incredibly detrimental to our ability to provide NECC students with a proper showcase for their amazing art and writing that is submitted to us each semester. When I took the helm at Parnassus three years ago, my goal was to elevate the quality and design of the book to both interest and entice readers and NECC artists and writers and to give the school a platform for its students to be proud of. In that time, I have rejected payment for my role with the book, and we have not yet held a student editor. In fact, we haven’t appointed an editor since H. Graham, so that the project can continue and improve. Our current, forthcoming issue is our best yet — with an increase in our traditional layout for the first time, an increase in our artwork and photographs and create a wall of fame that students can be proud of.

I suggest that the next time they try these tricks, you either refuse to leave until arrested (on what grounds?!) or call in the local newspapers for backup. I for one would encourage student government finance meetings to call on their responsibility. Even if you are not able to attend, be sure to sign the petition to keep them from dictating the content of our campus newspaper. Yes, that is what we are fighting for.

Closed door Senate meetings are illegal

Dear Editors,

I picked up your newspaper when I attended a spring chorus concert with my son on Sunday, May 3, at NECC. Hats off to Observer Editor-in-Chief Julie Varney for exposing the closed-door illegal and immoral student government finance meetings.

What are these kids practicing to work with the corrupt politicians at the State House? What are they thinking, holding secret meetings to decide how much more than $500K of student fees are spent! And throwing out the press! Arrogant morons. You should publish each of their names and photographs and create a wall of shame and post them on it.

Sincerely,

Patrick Lochelt
Faculty member, English Dept.
Parnassus Advisor

Dear Editors,

I was really impressed by the attention that the April 29 issue of the Observer gave to the Student Senate and Parnassus. I’d like to build on what I said to the reporter. I believe that the NECC Student Senate and all of its committees should observe the State Open Meeting Law even if it is not legally binding on them.

When any entity reaches decisions in the open, support for the work of that entity increases. Decisions reached behind closed doors diminish support. Based on the “Roaming Reporter’s” findings, I’d say that the Student Senate needs to work on getting the student body to support it and have confidence in it. Transparency can only help in this effort.

Stephen Russell, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of History

Student Senate has its work cut out for it

Dear Editors,

I was really impressed by the attention that the April 29 issue of the Observer gave to the Student Senate and Parnassus. I’d like to build on what I said to the reporter. I believe that the NECC Student Senate and all of its committees should observe the State Open Meeting Law even if it is not legally binding on them.

When any entity reaches decisions in the open, support for the work of that entity increases. Decisions reached behind closed doors diminish support. Based on the “Roaming Reporter’s” findings, I’d say that the Student Senate needs to work on getting the student body to support it and have confidence in it. Transparency can only help in this effort.

Stephen Russell, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of History
Opinion

The journey in search for myself

A recollection of my life out on the road and what I found

By Mark Palermo

Guest Columnist

When I turned 27, I felt the existential void breathing down my back. I visualized my remaining days on earth as a fifty-year routine of work, hot suppers, beer, and TV. I was financially secure, but I remembered what Thoreau said: “Most men lead lives of quiet desperation.” It was time for action, so I quit the job, the apartment, and cashed in my retirement account. I bought an old Econoline van, equipped it with a bed, canned food, guitar and ice box. I drove across country, worked odd jobs, and spent a year meeting sinners and saints along the way. Looking back now at 59, it was a good thing.

After a couple of months on the road, I found myself one Sunday afternoon in a Mexican bar where I would typically retire for “lunch” to “The Owl,” a 1930s tavern with a mahogany and brass bar and card room out back. Lunch usually lasted until 10:30, with the temperature around 100 degrees and rising, the crew would go for nude midnight jogs in the town’s central park. And Larry never, ever worked. He just drank and helped out in his Mom’s rooming house. In the evenings, I would sit on the porch and drink beer, and he would sometimes join me. He was a self-reflexive and engaging conversationalist, with profound insights into human nature.

I asked him once if he ever had the desire for women, and he surprised me by saying that once in a while, he did indeed feel the urge, but insisted that he himself was “all woman inside” and preferred men. He yearned to play the role of 1950s housewife to a straight-acting husband. He would often talk about Bob, a Marine drill sergeant from San Diego. Their relationship didn’t work out, and he pined for Bob—whom he called the great passion of his life.

Larry could deal gracefully with difficult people, but he despised homophobes, and insisted that behind their macho poses, they were all closeted gay. He told me stories about judges, cops, teachers, ministers—Larry had dined out on half the town, which is why they mostly left him alone.

Larry’s life had been marked by horrible accidents and catastrophes—stuff that would have made anybody crazy. When I asked him once if he ever had the desire for women, he pushed it away.

“Larry the Queer,” yet nobody ever called him that to his face—with good reason.

Larry was crazy. And it’s true what they say—when they go berserk, it takes five strong men to take them down. Even the cops were a bit wary around him. Larry was about 40, not big or mean looking, but ferocious when ridiculed or threatened by big or mean looking, but ferocious when ridiculed or threatened by his peers. Larry was about 40, not big or mean looking, but ferocious when ridiculed or threatened by his peers. Larry was about 40, not big or mean looking, but ferocious when ridiculed or threatened by his peers.

Several times, I would sit on the porch for a night on the desert. Larry spoke unabashedly gay—this was 1977 in a desert cowboy town—Larry spoke with a lisp and walked with an effeminate swishing gait. I didn’t care about that, but the guys on the job would joke about me living with a breeding ground for sociopaths

I found myself one Sunday afternoon in a Mexican bar where I would typically retire for “lunch” to “The Owl,” a 1930s tavern with a mahogany and brass bar and card room out back. Lunch usually lasted until 10:30, with the temperature around 100 degrees and rising, the crew would go for nude midnight jogs in the town’s central park. And Larry never, ever worked. He just drank and helped out in his Mom’s rooming house. In the evenings, I would sit on the porch and drink beer, and he would sometimes join me. He was a self-reflexive and engaging conversationalist, with profound insights into human nature.

I asked him once if he ever had the desire for women, and he surprised me by saying that once in a while, he did indeed feel the urge, but insisted that he himself was “all woman inside” and preferred men. He yearned to play the role of 1950s housewife to a straight-acting husband. He would often talk about Bob, a Marine drill sergeant from San Diego. Their relationship didn’t work out, and he pined for Bob—who he called the great passion of his life.

Larry could deal gracefully with difficult people, but he despised homophobes, and insisted that behind their macho poses, they were all closeted gay. He told me stories about judges, cops, teachers, ministers—Larry had dined out on half the town, which is why they mostly left him alone.

Larry’s life had been marked by horrible accidents and catastrophes—stuff that would have made anybody crazy. When I asked him once if he ever had the desire for women, he pushed it away.

“Larry the Queer,” yet nobody ever called him that to his face—with good reason.

Larry was crazy. And it’s true what they say—when they go berserk, it takes five strong men to take them down. Even the cops were a bit wary around him. Larry was about 40, not big or mean looking, but ferocious when ridiculed or threatened by his peers. Larry was about 40, not big or mean looking, but ferocious when ridiculed or threatened by his peers.

Several times, I would sit on the porch for a night on the desert. Larry spoke unabashedly gay—this was 1977 in a desert cowboy town—Larry spoke with a lisp and walked with an effeminate swishing gait. I didn’t care about that, but the guys on the job would joke about me living with a breeding ground for sociopaths.
Inresponsible decisions harm students

What students need to know about the Student Senate

BY DENYA BLANCO
Correspondent

This piece will not be without controversy and I may have to face certain consequences for my courage. I agree that such a topic is controversial. But I believe that it is necessary to broach some tough issues. I hate that politics has its teeth in education, but I also hate the mess and welfare of the student body and the disbursement of public funds are not things to be hidden away. We have a duty toward progress and reward. I cannot fathom why decisions have to be made at all for the expense of the world’s most valuable commodity: intelligence.

Have you heard of Project Pluto? I doubt you have, and let me tell you, this is a great idea, how much money do you think it would cost, and it could probably not be done. Do you think it was a great idea? I do not pussyfoot around issues. I cannot fathom why decisions have to be made at all for the expense of the world’s most valuable commodity: intelligence.

The NECC Student Senate is supposed to be the checks and balances to the administration and great ideas will greatly affect the student body. It is supposed to explore the idea of giving the student voice for the students that do not have the opportunity to become decision makers. But no one is leading. Senate members should open their ears to the pleas of those students that articulate their grievances. Their goal should be to have a presence on the campuses in Lawrence and Haverhill, so that they could perceive problems and address the injustices that sometimes occur against the student body, but some of these rulings are unrealistic and realistic goals have been achieved. Instead, they have set the student body in a position of having to feel their unwillingness to put in the work of gathering information and deciding the necessities of the clubs and their needs. There are so many possible solutions. I believe that the Senate is tolerant, guidance, and leadership.

Regardless of what controversial topic you are talking about, the student administrators and Student Senate’s main objective is to remain objective and enhance the academic interests of NECC students. Instead of putting in your efforts toward judging the way challenges against the senate and Finance Committee are expressed, focus your energy into considering the arguments and exerting your influence into the discussions. It is the duty of administrators and the Senate to make just decisions. Make changes that are necessary, so that something of value can be produced.

I value education and fairness.

College

Between work and school there is only so much you can take

BY BEN KNIGHT
Correspondent

At this point, in my fellow freshman, senior, and student, feeling overwhelmed by the work of getting a college degree, we can always say we are on the brink of a new machine.

Then on the other hand you have the realist. "The NECC Student Senate is supposed to be the checks and balances to the administration", these people put on the moon, brought them to the Earth, and invented Velcro and made Tang, so I know what I am talking about.

The NECC Student Senate is supposed to be the checks and balances to the administration, but none of those reasonable and effective arguments are ignored. Students should open their ears to the student voice. The NECC Student Senate is supposed to be the checks and balances to the administration, but none of those reasonable and effective arguments are ignored. Students should open their ears to the student voice.

The NECC Student Senate is supposed to be the checks and balances to the administration, but none of those reasonable and effective arguments are ignored. Students should open their ears to the student voice.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Current Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acevedo</td>
<td>Melba</td>
<td>Assoc. Director</td>
<td>$48,974.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcrico</td>
<td>Antoinette</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$77,541.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcalde</td>
<td>Teresa</td>
<td>Staff Assistant</td>
<td>$42,205.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alvarado</td>
<td>Christopher</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>$66,328.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andersson</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>Academic Counselor</td>
<td>$59,984.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archer</td>
<td>Cheryl</td>
<td>Mail Clerk III</td>
<td>$41,730.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arko</td>
<td>Kristi</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>$45,601.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arnold</td>
<td>Hamonfile</td>
<td>Director of Web Communications</td>
<td>$60,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arnone</td>
<td>Donna</td>
<td>Administrator III</td>
<td>$49,009.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashley</td>
<td>Mary Ellen</td>
<td>Executive Vice President</td>
<td>$161,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Azuara</td>
<td>Nourka</td>
<td>Associate Director</td>
<td>$63,401.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bailey</td>
<td>Jane</td>
<td>Assistant Dean</td>
<td>$40,032.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball</td>
<td>Patrice</td>
<td>Assoc Coordinator</td>
<td>$52,659.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baptiste</td>
<td>Pauline</td>
<td>Information Technology</td>
<td>$43,006.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamberg</td>
<td>Paulette</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$77,541.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamberg</td>
<td>John</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>$22,425.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baner</td>
<td>Sterling</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>$14,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bown</td>
<td>Caroline</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>$48,013.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bouchard</td>
<td>Donna</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>$61,131.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bouchard</td>
<td>Charles</td>
<td>Coordinator</td>
<td>$36,187.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bouvet</td>
<td>Louise</td>
<td>Librarian II</td>
<td>$52,814.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bibeau</td>
<td>Debby</td>
<td>Clerk IV</td>
<td>$19,085.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biddle</td>
<td>Jeffrey</td>
<td>Chief Information Tech Officer</td>
<td>$12,300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bird</td>
<td>Patricia</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>$33,260.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bishop</td>
<td>Martha</td>
<td>Staff Assistant</td>
<td>$32,780.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birdhouse</td>
<td>Steven</td>
<td>Step Motor Equipment Mechanic IV</td>
<td>$43,735.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bouchard</td>
<td>Donna</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>$61,131.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bouchard</td>
<td>Charles</td>
<td>Coordinator</td>
<td>$36,187.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bouchard</td>
<td>Louise</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>$38,833.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowen</td>
<td>Carol</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>$66,521.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brandl</td>
<td>Lilliana</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>$45,654.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bransome</td>
<td>James</td>
<td>Director Engineering Services</td>
<td>$72,785.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brady</td>
<td>Joyce</td>
<td>Clerk III</td>
<td>$22,626.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broughton</td>
<td>Michael</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$17,587.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Briscoe</td>
<td>Bette</td>
<td>Staff Associate</td>
<td>$35,128.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown</td>
<td>Dina</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>$60,691.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown</td>
<td>Debbie</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>$47,950.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burchell</td>
<td>Marie</td>
<td>Accountant II</td>
<td>$50,266.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burns</td>
<td>Robert</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>$43,730.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burton</td>
<td>Tricia</td>
<td>Clerk IV</td>
<td>$35,748.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Callahan</td>
<td>Amy</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>$75,975.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campbell</td>
<td>Susan</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>$29,958.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cannata</td>
<td>Frank</td>
<td>Maintainer II</td>
<td>$37,745.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caprio</td>
<td>Mary</td>
<td>EDP Entry Operator IV</td>
<td>$56,648.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carey</td>
<td>Julie</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>$53,042.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cargan</td>
<td>Terry</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$57,754.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carroll</td>
<td>Nancy</td>
<td>Clerk III</td>
<td>$14,719.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carroll</td>
<td>Sherry</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant I</td>
<td>$74,954.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caver</td>
<td>John</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>$17,387.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casey</td>
<td>Toni</td>
<td>Maintainer I</td>
<td>$27,408.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cashman</td>
<td>Linda</td>
<td>Director of Purchasing and Operations</td>
<td>$77,608.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caswell</td>
<td>Michael</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>$53,042.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catalano</td>
<td>Rosalee</td>
<td>Transfer Counselor</td>
<td>$56,110.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cawley</td>
<td>Paul</td>
<td>Clerk II</td>
<td>$48,001.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chabot</td>
<td>Irene</td>
<td>Director ABE &amp; Transition Svcs</td>
<td>$65,767.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaminot</td>
<td>Paul</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>$49,719.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chagny</td>
<td>Mary</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>$70,900.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemesky</td>
<td>Nancy</td>
<td>Painter I</td>
<td>$43,640.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chensin</td>
<td>Susan</td>
<td>Coordinator</td>
<td>$73,144.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clark</td>
<td>Marina</td>
<td>Staff Interpreter</td>
<td>$25,567.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clark</td>
<td>Clifton</td>
<td>超高with</td>
<td>$75,648.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closter</td>
<td>Mother</td>
<td>Telecom Manager</td>
<td>$66,685.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cody</td>
<td>Allyn</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>$55,431.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cogswell</td>
<td>Jessica</td>
<td>Senior Financial Analyst</td>
<td>$65,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cohen</td>
<td>Carolyn</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$61,900.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coret</td>
<td>Tia</td>
<td>EDP Entry Operator III</td>
<td>$36,470.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comeau</td>
<td>Linda</td>
<td>Associate Director</td>
<td>$59,122.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condon</td>
<td>Thomasine</td>
<td>EDP Systems Analyst II</td>
<td>$64,864.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correa</td>
<td>Jose</td>
<td>Maintainer I</td>
<td>$34,537.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correa</td>
<td>Branco</td>
<td>Regional Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>$80,648.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costa</td>
<td>Mary</td>
<td>Administrative Counselor</td>
<td>$23,556.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costello</td>
<td>Donna</td>
<td>Staff Interpreter</td>
<td>$25,767.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cottone</td>
<td>Ann</td>
<td>Coordinator</td>
<td>$55,431.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crivitani</td>
<td>Cynthia</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$70,849.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cunningham</td>
<td>Susan</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$47,471.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curriano</td>
<td>Noemi</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>$51,323.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuticchia</td>
<td>Mary</td>
<td>Staff Assistant</td>
<td>$47,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawkins</td>
<td>Catherine</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$70,049.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daly</td>
<td>John</td>
<td>Clerk IV</td>
<td>$29,697.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>De Vito</td>
<td>John</td>
<td>Clerk IV</td>
<td>$38,554.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeFreeze</td>
<td>Michelle</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>$22,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeNeffo</td>
<td>Mary</td>
<td>EDP Entry Operator III</td>
<td>$29,958.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DePaola</td>
<td>Victor</td>
<td>EDP Systems Analyst I</td>
<td>$42,700.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeLaCruz</td>
<td>Andy</td>
<td>Maintainer I</td>
<td>$27,408.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delgado</td>
<td>Patricia</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>$84,798.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeRosa</td>
<td>Christine</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant II</td>
<td>$49,892.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desjardins</td>
<td>Linda</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$65,423.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dick</td>
<td>Cheryl</td>
<td>Staff Assistant</td>
<td>$46,997.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DiCicco</td>
<td>Charles</td>
<td>Assistant Dean</td>
<td>$70,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DiLeo</td>
<td>Steven</td>
<td>Electronic Computer Operator II</td>
<td>$28,298.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DiPersio</td>
<td>Patricia</td>
<td>Technical Assistant III</td>
<td>$31,588.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doherty</td>
<td>Bonnie</td>
<td>Associate Director</td>
<td>$51,388.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donahue</td>
<td>Pammelela</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$77,541.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donovan</td>
<td>Elizabeth</td>
<td>Statistical Assistant</td>
<td>$63,845.41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These are the current administration, faculty and staff salaries, accurate as of April 2009, obtained by the NECC Observer from the Dean of Human Resources, Stephen Fabbrucci.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Current Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rose Rebecca</td>
<td>Staff Assistant</td>
<td>$35,344.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ronaldson Kathryn</td>
<td>Assistant Dean</td>
<td>$73,840.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rizzo Joseph</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$76,951.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ritter Richard</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$69,604.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Jennifer</td>
<td>Staff Associate</td>
<td>$49,950.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-Goding Jackie</td>
<td>Dean</td>
<td>$102,735.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacy Margaret</td>
<td>Staff Assistant</td>
<td>$45,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landregan Markus</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant I</td>
<td>$32,935.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lena Jennifer</td>
<td>Staff Assistant</td>
<td>$23,556.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maagoul Habib</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>$48,565.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marec Carolee</td>
<td>Coord. Sport Athletics</td>
<td>$64,974.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MacGregor Allan</td>
<td>Sr Marketing Assistant</td>
<td>$54,037.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahallan Rose</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>$49,600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahoney Lisa</td>
<td>Technical Assistant III</td>
<td>$23,085.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manneheimer Marc</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>$25,149.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manolos Eleanor</td>
<td>Librarian I</td>
<td>$50,266.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Markham Michael</td>
<td>Coord. Career Plan &amp; Placement</td>
<td>$63,184.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marquis Donna</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>$45,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Susan</td>
<td>Co-Director</td>
<td>$57,973.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathis Stephen</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$51,156.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McAskill David</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>$90,880.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McCarthy Marilyn</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>$50,915.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McDonald Lindsey</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>$44,145.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McDermot Sharon</td>
<td>Staff Associate</td>
<td>$46,119.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McDonnell Marie</td>
<td>Director - Administration</td>
<td>$67,600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McKenney Deborah</td>
<td>Manager</td>
<td>$43,056.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medlinkins George</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$71,037.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mwakatula Karety</td>
<td>Sr Community/Outreach Counsel</td>
<td>$47,384.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mele Diane</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>$55,519.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melo Mariana</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>$46,610.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercado Elizabeth</td>
<td>EDP Entry Operator III</td>
<td>$39,484.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mcdonnell Richard</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$73,644.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell Kevin</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>$48,158.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell Karen</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>$67,600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mann Marquita</td>
<td>Reproduction Service Supvr</td>
<td>$34,042.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moore Ronnie</td>
<td>Network Manager</td>
<td>$32,649.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moussy Nancy</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>$77,052.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morrow Patricia</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>$48,956.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mossy Andrew</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>$52,500.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murphy James</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>$62,420.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murphy Linda</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>$43,831.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nach Nadeau</td>
<td>Coordinator</td>
<td>$53,846.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naft Nykola</td>
<td>Assistant Director</td>
<td>$45,957.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naundunhas Deborah</td>
<td>Statistical Assn</td>
<td>$53,042.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nickerson Nancy</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$77,378.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noman Michael</td>
<td>Statistical Assn</td>
<td>$25,310.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nunes Jane</td>
<td>Massachusetts Site Coordinator</td>
<td>$37,625.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nunez Michael</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$67,342.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notter Susan</td>
<td>EDP Systems Analyst I</td>
<td>$35,324.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O'Leary Maureen</td>
<td>Written/Production Manager</td>
<td>$50,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officer Gary</td>
<td>Dean</td>
<td>$110,852.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacicin Jodi</td>
<td>Staff Assistant</td>
<td>$23,556.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palermo Jill</td>
<td>EDP Entry Operator III</td>
<td>$29,312.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palermo Marko</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$68,694.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panoff Ambrosina</td>
<td>EDP Entry Operator III</td>
<td>$43,632.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pappalardo Francine</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$91,053.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pardo Mary</td>
<td>Coordinator Learning Resources</td>
<td>$56,000.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parker Robert</td>
<td>Special Programs Coord</td>
<td>$35,769.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pelaez Xavier</td>
<td>Career Development Counselor</td>
<td>$50,404.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pellerin Susan</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant I</td>
<td>$53,042.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pellerin Nancy</td>
<td>Statistical Assn</td>
<td>$41,210.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pepin Seydys</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant I</td>
<td>$45,444.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perkins Laurie</td>
<td>Accountant II</td>
<td>$50,266.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perkins Philip</td>
<td>Maintainer I</td>
<td>$62,863.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phair Charles</td>
<td>Assistant Dean</td>
<td>$76,900.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planouf Kathleen</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>$49,578.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pierce Jeffrey</td>
<td>Academic Counselor</td>
<td>$54,334.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pierce Patricia</td>
<td>Accountant V</td>
<td>$50,915.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pierce William</td>
<td>Curriculum &amp; Assessment Coord</td>
<td>$45,937.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pollock-Campi Judith</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$58,386.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poitras Jean</td>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>$52,107.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Povemnine Alisa</td>
<td>Staff Asst / ESOL Coordinator</td>
<td>$44,533.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proctor Scott</td>
<td>Windows/Exchange Manager</td>
<td>$58,505.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Przybylo Kathleen</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>$56,367.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prouettii Stephen</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$62,998.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pruef John</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>$47,260.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quinn Kenneth</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>$42,601.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radford Mark</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>$47,730.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redenia Candice</td>
<td>Statistical Assn</td>
<td>$23,625.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riccio-Enis Deas</td>
<td>Accommodations Scheduler</td>
<td>$73,720.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riotta Paula</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>$48,906.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rickbaugh Lawrence</td>
<td>EDP Systems Analyst I</td>
<td>$33,145.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rinttu Marilyn</td>
<td>Literacy Specialist/Educ</td>
<td>$52,245.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rizzi Michael</td>
<td>Academic Counselor</td>
<td>$50,035.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rivero Ricardo</td>
<td>EDP Systems Analyst IV</td>
<td>$41,430.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rizzo Anthony</td>
<td>EDP Systems Analyst IV</td>
<td>$77,066.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rizzo Joseph</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$76,951.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rodriguez Yolanda</td>
<td>Financial Aid Counsel</td>
<td>$41,650.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rogers Janice</td>
<td>Assistant Dean</td>
<td>$74,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rogers Joan</td>
<td>Bookkeeper I</td>
<td>$16,500.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ronaldson Kathy</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>$73,840.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosenvill Joanne</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>$47,001.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rose Rebecca</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>$53,350.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: $21,230,164.07
**Annual writing awards ceremony**

**NECC awards 26 students for their excellent essays**

**By CESAR SEGURA**

News Editor

Every year, English professors at Northern Essex Community College select the top essays in their English Composition I and English Composition II classes and recognize the student authors at the annual Writing Awards Ceremony. This year the ceremony was held on Friday, April 24, in the Technology Center on the Haverhill campus. A total of 26 students were honored for the writing awards.

The ceremony included over 200 sections of English Composition I and II offered at Northern Essex Community college each academic year. Each class has an average of 20 students which means the competition is intense. From a group of about 18,000 essays that are written during the course of the year, 26 were selected to be honored.

First Year Writing Award Chair Lisa H. Espinoza observed, “The awarded students’ essays emulate our efforts as English faculty to offer engaging writing assignments and support in the classroom.”

The first place winner of The Professor Roland Kimball Award for an English Composition I student, getting a brand new Dell laptop, was Richard Licciardi of Andover. Richard Licciardi was awarded for his essay entitled, “Marxism and the Short Story, How a Nineteenth Century Idea Continues to Challenge Us.”

Among the students honored for English Composition I were: Alexis DeLuca of Lowell; Justin Centeno of Sandown, N.H.; Jordan Chipman of Florence; Joyce Curtin of Bradford; Nidia Fricia of Lawrence; Juan Ramon Licona of Haverhill; Erica Moscone of Merrimack; Brianna Nicosia of Haverhill; David Niesz of Windham, N.H.; Mark Pecci of North Andover; Sandra Simmons of Lawrence; and Ryan Sturgis of Methuen.

Among the students honored for English Composition II were: Jonathan Centeno of Sandown, N.H.; Joshua Ditton of Methuen; Joycelyn Curtin of Florence; Erica Moscone of Merrimack; Brianna Nicosia of Haverhill; David Niesz of Windham, N.H.; Mark Pecci of North Andover; Sandra Simmons of Lawrence; and Ryan Sturgis of Methuen.

While NECC is a beautiful campus, it needs some changes

**By KELSEY REDDEN**

Correspondent

Last Wednesday, the Contemporary Affairs Club held a meeting for the student advisors and the professors of NECC gathered to discuss the pros and cons of the college and improvements that they would like to see made.

The students and professors agree that Northern Essex is a beautiful campus and its location is convenient for most students. The student involvement at the college as well as the professors are big draws offered to students who would like to join. Parking is free and there are always places to park.

By far, what was most agreed upon was: the thing that makes this college most enjoyable for most students are the instructors. Most of the instructors here at Northern Essex are not only qualified but they are very friendly and supportive. There is always help available to the students who need it.

As much as the students and professors like Northern Essex there are things that they do not agree with, such as the smoking ban. Many faculty members and students here smoke and are angered about the fact that they are not allowed to take a cigarette break anymore. Also it is botheredome to instructors that not all rooms are smoke free.

Faculty say that their salaries are atrocious and that the expense of books for students are atrocious as well. Students are getting angered by the fact that they are buying hundreds of dollars worth of books that they never even use once during the semester. Not only are the prices of books too high but also the food is much too expensive to afford. They are discussing the college’s budget. Improvements have been suggested on how to lower the cost of books by setting up a book rental program.

Other improvements have been suggested too. One that there should be a computer lab in the C building for students who need to take a quick print and do not have time to walk all the way to another building. There was talk about a car-pooling program and a swimming pool on campus. But most of what would like to be seen is improvements to the buildings themselves. The buildings interiors are in poor condition and need to be fixed. Also to help the environment President Joe Donlon brought up the idea of planting in solar panels and wind turbines.

Let’s hope that when next semester students see some of the problems will have been addressed.

---

**NECC faces a loss of $3.9 million for the upcoming year**

**By JULIE VARNEY**

Editor-in-Chief

NECC is anticipating a 16 percent reduction in state support for the upcoming fiscal year, which will result in a total loss of $3.9 million, according to Vice President of Administration and Finance Sue Wolfe.

“In FY (fiscal year) 2010, NECC will receive $16 million in state support, which is $3.1 million less than our original FY09 budget,” Wolfe said.

This was the budget recommendation announced in mid-April by the Massachusetts House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee, which was consistent with the recommendation Gov. Deval Patrick made back in January.

The budget still has to work its way through the Senate, and if all three parties, Governor, House and Senate, agree, then the budget is final.

---

Congress has up until June 30 to finalize the budget.

President David Hartleb stated in March that he “feared we would be facing a 16.5 percent cut.” According to Hartleb, he and members of his cabinet preparing the college’s budget recommendations for the upcoming year are planning for this deep reduction.

“NECC has maintained the high quality of our college’s educational experiences, we must restructure, create efficiencies and find new ways to work together,” Hartleb said.

Hartleb will present the budget recommendations at the June 3 NECC Board of Trustees meeting. Initially Hartleb hoped the federal stimulus money the college would receive would help bring level funding back to the college and public higher education, which was the governor’s original intention, but this turned out not to be the case. As Wolfe announced in April, the federal stimulus money is temporary, one-time money, and would do little to help the college’s current budget crisis.

---

First place winner Richard Licciardi is awarded a laptop from a Dell representative on Friday, April 24, at the English Department Writing Awards.  

---

Julie Varney photo
“Welcome to the campus,” a friendly inviting voice spoke out to me upon my arrival to the Northern Essex Community nearly two years ago. The man behind the kind words was Mr. Charles Diggs, a member of the One Stop Center Team whose primary goal is to help students achieve their educational goals while also developing relationships with them in the process.

As I sat down in the Cyber Café, students were in the background working feverishly on their computers while others chose to converse at the tables. In the midst of the usual chaos, I was greeted by the familiar face I previously remembered helping me get accustomed to a new educational environment.

“Always the gentlemen,” Diggs politely replied, “I would buy you a cup of coffee but I gave away my last dollar.”

Mr. Diggs may be known to most for his witty sense of humor, but dig deeper and you realize that he originates from inside him, he has had his fair share of obstacles and hardships but chose to overcome them and see the good in life.

Digging a bit further, Diggs explained, “I am lucky to be able to work at the One Stop Center Team requires much multitasking. For Diggs, the One Stop Center in his favorite spot, the Cyber Café. There is a certain energy about this place. You never know who you are going to run into. I get energy from others to give to their students, give me a boost to interact.”

For Diggs, the One Stop Center does not end with students. He and he feels that without it, the college campus would simply be a series of separate buildings with no common link holding them together. The unity that is apparent to anyone who walks through its doors.

He also feels that this job title is irrelevant because it just wants to be a God given gift from within. He then keeps in touch with former students showing his true compassion for others. “I had a student thank me once by saying, ‘You know, you can be annoying sometimes.’”

Overall, this caring man is a true asset to the NECC, bringing positive energy and confidence wherever he goes. Even though he may think of himself as a member of a team, Mr. Diggs truly is one of a kind.
Class of 2009!

Giovanna Lazanakis
Danielle Lazzaro
Jessica LeBlanc
Jessica LeBoeuf
Victoria Leare
Laura Ledbed
Shane Lee
Tom Lee
Lovie Lee-John
Jennifer Legere
Laurie Lemmon
Jessica Leonard
Antonella Leone
Lorenzo Lercari
Elizabeth Leszczka
Patricia Liacek
Mirella Lima
Jennifer Limcott
Tanya Lombardo
Hanel Lopez
Lorenzo Lopez
Miriam Lopez
Danielle lovley
Rozlye Lovett
Meghan Luconski
Sacha Lu
Jennifer Luber
Amber Lucia
Michele Lucia
Tiau Lu
Nicole Lynch
Jamie MacDonald
Rebecca Madison
Joyce Mahoney
Cheryl Mahoney
Trace Mahoney
Tracey Mathilb
Colleen Maury
Monika Maloisko
Ashley Mancini
Kathy Mandel
Jennifer Mandrate
Debora Mann
Darlene Manning
Laura Martin
Jeremy Marcinkiewie
Malyssa Marcotte
Yesenia Maria
Pamela Marquis
Karen Maurit
Kimberly Marshall
Lisa Marshall
Eric Martella
Tiffany Martin
Elizabeth Martinez
Nyasha Masimuka
Adam Massu
Cynthia May
Pamela Mischand
Wylife Mhewe
Bartholomew McArthur
Heather McCarren
Barbara McCarthy
Joseph McCarthy
Scarlet McClean
Rosemary McCullough-Halii
Patrick McDaniel
Matthew McDermott
Jessica McDermott
Kaitlin McDermott
Peter McDevitt
Katie McDonough
Giorgia Lazarakis
Lindsay Meade
Laurin Meade
Laurin Meade
Lauren Mears
Johanna Medina
Yordelia Medina
Lori Merced
Lindsay Mericle
Carol Merkle
Theodore Meyer
Charles Michael
Jillian Michaud
Timothy Michelson
Mary Milbury
Melissa Milnes
Samuel Miller
Jimmy Mirand
Gracehilda Miriam
Kevin Mitchell
Vernon Mitchell
Tracy Moffatt
Reynaldo Monter
George Montgomery
Deborah Morales
Sarah Morduch
Sarah Mora
Rosaura Moreno
Brooke Morgan
Connor Mortority
Jason Morin
Cathy Moore
Heather Mortimer
Sarah Mosonyi
Patience Muruau
Jacob Mulcahy
Erin Muldowney
Andrew Mullien
Eriq Mulligan
Mallariana Muncik
Kathryn Mulkin
Mia Munoz
Tania Narcisse
Jennifer Nase
Brandon Nelms
Alissa Neve
Faith Newton
Jacqueline Nganga
Elis Kigidi
Han Nguyen
Phoe Nguyen
Joyce Macharia
Nirsa Nicolieta
Mavisbelle Noble
Kenneth Noel
Allison Nolan
Gretchen Nolan
Katharine Nolan
Beverly Nollet
Katelyn Noonan
Kathleen Noonan
Shawn O'Brien
Shannon O'Neil
Nisha Ocasio
Carlo Olivera
Mark Olson
Azita Omerbegovic
Nguzika Onwuka
Deborah Orlando
Carmen Ortiz
Myra Ortiz
Tammie Ortiz
Melissa Osipin
Nancy Ouellette
Dixie Oyola
John Page
Johnny Page
Alyssa Pahman
Benjamin Palmer
Sary Palmer
Amy Pap
Nancy Papanikolou
Deborah Pappalardo
Jill Paquette
Nicole Pardiu
Charles Pariscandola
Joceyln Parackouakis
Laura Parisi
Nicholas Pasucci
Brenda Patterson
Alvin Paul
David Pendall
Keith Pendak
Allysa Pender
Sherie Pepin
Daniel Pepperman
Stephen Meredith
Loanni Perez Lora
Connor Pero
Katherine Peterson
Joshua Perrone
Monica Perry
Steven Perry
Vanessa Perry
Mary Petrouino
Chris Peura
James Phelps
Paul Phillion
Tara Pickard
Monique Prichett
Allison Pierce
Kristina Pierce
Nina Pierce
Awilda Pimentel
Jaime Piercy
Jullie Pimentel
Jules Pissalise
Andrew Plante
Joel Plant
Jodie Plourde
Francie Poindur
Kris Poindur
Kevin Polanco
Charles Pollano
Miranda Pollari
Adriana Poppino
Melissa Porcella
Kimberly Potts
Lisa Porvin
Michelle Poussa
Christina Powers
Trace Powers
Cheryl Pratt
Elizabeth Preston
John Priest
Steven Privitera
Andrew Provencer
Cameron Prudden
Kyle Pushe
Miguel Quilez
Kathleen Quigley
Shalamar Quiel
Kelly Quigian
Larry Quizz
Amysunny Quinten
Rene Quinn
JonCarlos Quinnones
Gina Radcliffe
Conseulo Ramos
Erica Ramos
Erika Ramos
Jenifer Raskow
Donna Raymond
Jennifer Raymond
Allyson Reardon
Lis Reardon
Felicia Rejniak
Juliane Reyon
Janet Reynolds
Kathryn Reynolds
Margyta Requeno
Christa Requeno
Alysa Rice
Leann Richard
Ryan Richardson
David Richardson
Stephen Ring
Sally Rinaldi
Gabriel Rivera
Mary-Rivers-Rivera
Victoria Roark
James Roberts
Maura Roberts
Corinne Robertson
Elishtisha Robertson
Michael Robidoux
Andrew Robinson
Christine Robinson
Brenda Roberto
Nicole Rocha
Alexis Rodger
Caroline Rodriguez
Nancy Rodriguez
Vanessa Rodriguez
Yessica Rodriguez
John Rogers
Kathy Rodriguez
Diana Ross
Alana Romano
Benjamin Rosier
Bretta Ross
Mabel Romero
Jain Roque
Kamala Roque
Merys Rosario
Oliver Rosario
Meagan Rosas
Christopher Rozema
Casey Ryan
Chester Ryan

Jessica Ryan
Angellynn Ryder
Juan Saldarriaga
Katelyn Salerno
Karen Salvo
Mia Salvo
Amy Sanborn
Justin Santer
Mardel Sanuez
Wandell Santos
Damaris Santana
Joe Santana
Lauran Santana
Richard Santangelo
Christina Santiago
Michelle Santiago
Sarina Santito
Helen Santos
Jonathan Santos
Sara Santos
Cristina Sapirou
Novela Scott
Nicole Seagel
Amanda Schenra
Sarah Schena
Mehghan Schiavoni
Christa Schrader
Joan Schacter
David Schultz
Nicholas Schmidt
Shamim Shahid
Shonda Shahin
Leonard Sharp
Shawn Sharrock
Tregon Shawcross

Lynee Shiu
Theresa Sheehan-Smith
Cantel Shadow
Joanne Shiel
Sara Sigaran
Sandia Signenza-Hache
Mallan Silverson
Kerry Smith
Kevin Smith
Ross Smith
Sarah Snell
Waldo Solano
Judith Solazol
Quirina Soler
Bunael Soto
Edward Souza
Amanda Spacean
Christina Spates
Charles Spear
Kenneth Spina
Lana Spitz
Jillan Spofford
Tara St Cyp
Gregory Stables
Marcia Stanley
Katie Star
Joseph Statno
Lisa Stauti
Randy Stath
Meredith Stevens
Patricia Stevens
Joe Soto
Rhonda Stoker
Kelsey Stone
Sheila Story
Cathy Sullivan
Kaleigh Sullivan
Patricia Sullivan
Eugene Sumner
Jessica Sutrent
Bonnie Sunwic
Ryan Szettler
Paul Tagliaferi
Leigh Tangi
Kallin Tankersley
""
Peace poems and finger snaps

"Be the change you wish to see in the world"

BY BRETTANY ANZALONE Correspondent

Peace was in the air on Friday night when children, students and adults of all ages shared their voices and creative poems in an entertaining crowd at NECC’s first annual Peace Poetry Contest in the Technology Center.

Originating in Ipswich from the group Veterans for Peace, peace poetry was created in honor of Samantha Smith, a young girl who was killed in a plane crash along with her father. A replica of this peaceable organization has since been established closer to home, becoming a new addition to the NECC community this past year. Founded by Professor Paul Saint-Amand, and co-sponsored by the English department and Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, this new contest proved to be an inspiring event for the nearly 500 audience and nearly 600 poems and artwork submitted from all areas of the Merrimack Valley and Southern New Hampshire.

Most prominent members of the faculty also were present and made their thoughts known in regards to the impact this new occasion had on the school community.

"There has never been a community of poets before and peace is something communities need to care about," said Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences Sue Grolnic.

"We're enjoying it. This is out-of-the-ordinary," said Dean of Business and Finance Sue Heney. "Together we can be the change." Heney said. "We celebrate you, because when world events become difficult to understand, you provide hope," Heney said. "Together we can be the change."

Several of the poems are featured in a poetry booklet for all to read, this event gave the 80 authors of these poems an opportunity to bravely recite their works orally in front of the public.

"This is an opportunity to have your writing heard," said Professor Saint-Amand.

The diverse perceptions of how each person saw peace was apparent through many different forms of poetry such as haikus, acrostic poems, and free verse. The common themes and symbols of doves, hope, unity, and change were frequently mentioned while some contributors interpreted their thoughts by expressing themselves through hand gestures and memorizing their work, allowing the audience to feel more involved.

Outward signs of peace were also noticeable, with many young poets wearing shirts covered with peace signs. A few advocates of peace were also mentioned such as John Lennon, Martin Luther King Jr. and President Barack Obama.

Perhaps the most inspiring and unexpected submission was from a 10-year-old Pakistani boy named Oneed Bin Nauman who recited his poem with passion, substituting it to the contest through a video. Although he could not share it in person, he had an impact on the audience who erupted in applause after hearing his interpretation of peace as “coming from the heavens above.”

“I was amazed this little kid had such seeds of hope,” says Professor Saint-Amand.

Another influential speaker at the event was Gayle Heney, a Poet Laureate of North Andover who is responsible for introducing poetry to several libraries and senior centers in Massachusetts. Through her experience in teaching poetry, she has also managed to create North Andover’s first Poetry Slam group, a community of individuals who now have a platform to express their poetry through artistic forms like singing and tapping.

In addition, Heney established the Poetry Wall at the Stevens Memorial Library in 2006 and continues to encourage people to write poetry through her cable TV show, “Write Now.”

“Poetry provides an opportunity to discover possibilities, poetry is power," said Heney.

She also shared the benefits she saw in recognizing the authors of the peace poems and her hope for the future.

“We celebrate you, because when world events become difficult to understand, you provide hope,” Heney said. “Together we can be the change.”

Poets as young as kindergarten made their work known in more ways than one when a parent of a young poet had to recite his child’s work and accept the certificate as a result of stage fright.

After reciting their poems, each of the poets were rewarded with a certificate designed by NECC student Kristen Anderson, while four winners were selected from each age category to receive a gift certificate to Barnes and Noble and the school bookstore courtesy of Tina Boyer.

The four winning poems came from 1st grader Caity Wahl of North Andover, 8th grader Brianna Rastello of St. Joseph’s in Salem, N.H.; 11th grader Deve Lockwood from Phillips in Exeter; and teacher Kathleen Bunkle Scharmin from Community Day Charter Public in Lawrence.

Parents of young poets proudly showed their happiness by taking pictures of their children during and after the conclusion of their poems.

With so much peace filling the campus in one night, it is hopeful to imagine what the world would be like if everyone made these thoughts and views on peace a reality.

As Gandhi once said, “Be the change you wish to see in the world.” To obtain a copy of the peace poetry booklet, contact Paul Saint-Amand at: psaintamand@necc.mass.edu.

Melody Makers

BY AARON SOUCY Correspondent

Singing and spring just seem to go well together. Just ask the crow that woke you out of bed this morning. Okay, that’s easier said than done. You could, however, ask any member of the NECC Choir, whose rich, harmonious voices filled out the Technology Center of the Haverhill Campus for their Spring Concert on an otherwise dreary May 3.

Accompanied on piano by Cynthia Bliss and directed by Prof. Alisa Bucchiere, the NECC Choir gave their performance to a packed house that bustled with anticipation before the concert.

"You are in for an absolute treat," enthused as her students. She summed up the afternoon in a few words. "It was excellent."

"I was really happy with today’s performance," said Choir member Kevin Kimball.

"I was a little bit nervous," said Alumni of the choir. "But I am very happy with today’s performance. I was a little bit nervous, but I am very happy with the performance."

"I was really happy with today’s performance. I was a little bit nervous at first, but overall everything was amazing. All the solos and solos and solos. Fabulous overall," said choir member and theater major Kevin Kimball.

April Vittuni, an Early Childhood Education major, agreed whole heartedly. "It went very well, she said. "The whole choir is amazing, and Alisa does a great job conducting us."

Alisa Bucchiere was equally enthused as her students. She summed up the afternoon in a few words. "It was an amazing success. I am so proud of my students. They did wonderful.”
**Today NECC, tomorrow Hollywood**

**BY CRISTINA NAPOLI**  
Arts & Entertainment Editor  

Scripts and bright stage lights are nothing new to NECC’s Performing Arts major Jon Moriarty. The first year NECC student has been in 2 productions held by the school in the Top Notch Theater; “A Christmas Carol” and “Dead Man Walking.” He was also one of the performers in the student directed Over Acts that were performed on May 1 and 2 in the Top Notch Theater. The play was entitled “The Nude Scene.”

A musical performer, Moriarty has performed in “Fiddler On The Roof” and “Dead Man Walking.” Moriarty has been involved in the performing arts since his junior year of high school and says that he does not plan to pursue it.

“I’ve met a lot of friends in the performing arts. And they are very great people. I love them all,” he said. “I don’t think they have the same goals as I do. They seem to have different goals in life. But, hey, to each-his-own.”

Moriarty says that his ultimate goal is to act in Hollywood films. “I love to mostly act, write plays and screenplays and sometimes direct. That’s the end goal,” he said. “I’ve been a lot influenced by acting my whole life, whether he’s both stage and screen acting. I love the idea that I can express different parts of my own personality this way.”

Recently back from his Spring Break trip to L.A., Moriarty says that he felt like he was home. “I felt like I could easily fit in there, and some people actually told me that they could honestly see me living out there,” he said.

He says he plans to either transfer to a college in California or to one in Boston to see if he can act in and write in films. As of yet, he isn’t sure just where he plans to transfer, but knows that he wants it to be somewhere in California.

“While still at NECC, Moriarty says that the Theater Program is very well done and that there is a lot of creativity that goes into the productions. Moriarty says that his family is supportive in his choice of the performing arts.”

“They love coming to see me perform,” he said about his family. He says that there are no productions available this summer, he may audition.

“The best part of the performing arts is the people. I have made so many friends through the performances I’ve been in. And they are by far the most talented and most wonderful people I’ve ever known,” he said.

With the performing arts business being as difficult as it is, only one thing can really be said: Break a leg, Jon.

---

**Professor leads historical tours**

**BY THOMAS KIENJE**  
Correspondent  

This summer, faculty and students of NECC will be presented with an inimitable opportunity to experience a small part of the history of the city of Lawrence. Free historical tours led by NECC Professor Richard Padova, will be given at the Lawrence Heritage State Park.

“Lawrence Heritage really is a hidden gem, and everyone always walks away from there amazed,” Padova said.

Padova, who will act as tour guide, and historical interpreter, will help transport participants back into 19th century Lawrence, and tell a tale of one of the nation’s first planned industrial cities. A tale of how industries transformed from Boston, thanks to the Merrimack River, created a city of mills, and interconnected canals, and of immigrants who would be mill workers, and the dawn of Lawrence as an Immigrant City.

The guided indoor museum tours and outdoor walking tours will take place from June 23 through Sept. 7. In addition, all are invited to join Padova in welcoming President Abraham Lincoln to Lawrence. Padova also states that he would be proposing a new course for NECC on the history of the Merrimack Valley to start fall 2010.

For more information, contact Padova at the park, from June 23 through Labor Day. at: 978.794.1655. Please call ahead, especially for large groups.

Lawrence Heritage State Park is located at 1 Jackson St.

---

**When will he die?! Denny will return yet again**

**BY CRISTINA NAPOLI**  
Arts & Entertainment Editor  

Most fans of “Grey’s Anatomy” will remember the heartfelt that came in the Season 2 finale when Izzie laid beside her dead fiancé, Denny Duquette.

“Hell, people that don’t watch ‘Grey’s Anatomy’ know what’s been happening with our dear Denny. It was wonderful to see Denny,” said Padova.

JDM says that Denny will be returning from the dead. “I have had many friends through the performances I’ve been in. And they are by far the most talented and most wonderful people I’ve ever known,” he said.

With the performing arts business being as difficult as it is, only one thing can really be said: Break a leg, Jon.

---

**Arts and Entertainment**

**Moriarty breaks a leg**

Cristina Napoli photo

**Professor leads historical tours**

Julie Varney photo

**When will he die?! Denny will return yet again**

He’s baack...

**BY CRISTINA NAPOLI**  
Arts & Entertainment Editor  

Most fans of “Grey’s Anatomy” will remember the heartfelt that came in the Season 2 finale when Izzie laid beside her dead fiancé, Denny Duquette.

“Hell, people that don’t watch ‘Grey’s Anatomy’ know what’s been happening with our dear Denny. It was wonderful to see Denny,” said Padova.

JDM says that Denny will be returning from the dead. “I have had many friends through the performances I’ve been in. And they are by far the most talented and most wonderful people I’ve ever known,” he said.

With the performing arts business being as difficult as it is, only one thing can really be said: Break a leg, Jon.

---

**Parnassus, from first to second**

Julie Varney photo

The 2009 issue of Parnassus was released this week. It is show here at the Parnassus release party held on Monday, May 4, next to the frist issue of Parnassus, released 45 years ago, and the award the 2008-2009 issue won for second place in the Community College Humanities Association Eastern Division.
Calamities of Nature by Tony Piro

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO EAT?

HOW 'BOUT THE BISTRO LIASON?

NO FEAR, IT'S PRONOUNCED LEE-AVE-ZON.

HOW CAN YOU HEAR IF I'M MUCH FAITH IN OUR READERS' INTELLIGENCE.

OF ALL THE ORDERS TO SCREW UP.

BE CAREFUL JOHNSON! WE'RE ABOUT TO GO INTO A MINE FIELD.

“This just in: Larry, I'm cheating on you — details when I get home...”

SUDOKU

THE WORLD OF PUZZLES

Level: 1

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

ACROSS
1. Delphine
2. “I'm a dirtbag”
3. “One Dog, One Bite”
4. “One Dog, One Bite”
5. Word for brain on head
7. Lillian Gish
8. Beatnik
9. “I'm a dirtbag”
10. Friend of Minnie the Moth
11. Disney-Dick Tracy merger
12. Gary’s character in “Midnight Caller” (1958-60)
13. — (1960-Caesar Speech)
14. Number of sessions for “The Hammermen”
15. Big heart
16. Illusionist, to Elsa Dotskis
17. Olsen and McKittrick’s parrot
18. Queen of — (11W: 66)
19. Alcoholic agent, able
20. Unpleasant square
21. Spike for angle of pole
22. Anthropoid aquatic reptile

DOWNS
1. Falling to friends
2. List of winners for 2007
3. Actress in “Six Feet Under”
4. 816 and 318
5. Who said “I’m not a robot!”
7. Agent James (1959-64)
8. Debut of Bing Crosby
9. Actor of “Six Feet Under”
10. “Hammermen” (1949-50)
11. Gnome
12.— — (1466-69)
13. Elmer Fudd
14. “Hammermen”
15. “Hammermen”
16. Trail
17. “Hammermen”
18. Podiatrist
19. “Hammermen”
20. “Hammermen”
21. “Hammermen”
22. “Hammermen”
23. “Hammermen”
24. “Hammermen”
25. “Hammermen”
26. “Hammermen”
27. “Hammermen”
28. “Hammermen”
29. “Hammermen”
30. “Hammermen”
31. “Hammermen”
32. “Hammermen”
33. “Hammermen”
34. “Hammermen”
35. “Hammermen”
36. “Hammermen”
37. “Hammermen”
38. “Hammermen”
Remain open to creative or controversial opinions and information. Key issues may involve family loyalties, romantic history or unrealistic expectations. Stand your ground: all is well.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) - Early this week expect loved ones to leave six weeks of restlessness and inward thought in the past. Optimism and acceptance are now an ongoing theme. Use this time to resolve outstanding differences or firmly establish important relationships in the present. For some Cancerians this marks the beginning of significant romantic and social changes. After Thursday watch for complex proposals or unusual romantic overtures. Timing and family relations will prove vital: stay focused.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) - Family communications will now demand added attention; before Wednesday expect private discussions or minor home tensions to be publicly revealed. No long-lasting or serious consequences will result, so not to worry. Do, however, carefully study new social promises or unrealistic short-term plans. Thursday through Saturday business records, expense reports and financial calculations will need to be double checked. Watch for legal errors and unrealistic estimates.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Yesterday's business suggestions will now be closely evaluated. After Tuesday friends and colleagues will ask serious questions or publicly challenge the ideas of the group. Don't be drawn into unusual workplace differences. No clear priorities will be established. Wednesday through Saturday highlights romantic expansion, new relationships and surprising flutters. Potential lovers will easily express their feelings. Respond quickly and honestly: your instincts are valid.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Revised work assignments may soon bring about unique alliances. Before mid-week listen closely to the suggestions of potential business partners. In the coming weeks a secondary source of income will demand a strong memory and a relentless commitment to detail. Tuesday through Friday, relatives or close colleagues may express a strong need for social change. Entertainment and new creativity are needed. Watch for unusual ideas or fast invitations.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 22) - Key officials may this week offer several alternative solutions to recent workplace differences. Personality clashes between colleagues are now less useful. Opt to maintain the integrity of the group and all will work to continue in your favor. After mid-week a previously shy or withdrawn friend may express strong ideas or controversial opinions. Family traditions, recent home decisions or group loyalties may be a central theme. Remain detached: tensions will increase.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) - Romantic partners may now end a brief phase of family disruptions or home power struggles. Some Sagitarians, expect that some bonds have been broken in mid-December, will this week make an important emotional choice. Push for reliable information and refuse to rely on yesterday's rules: there's much to check in detail. Thursday cancelled business plans from several weeks ago will reappear. If so, ask bosses and reputable written agreements: reliable information is needed.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 21-Jan. 19) - Before mid-week a co-workers may provide an unique perspective on recent social conflicts or business errors. Team alliances and the emotional history of colleagues may soon prove bothersome: ask key friends and colleagues for suggestions: the experience of others will now provide fast leads.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - This week may be complex and emotionally strained. Watch for long-term or previously silent colleagues to publicly discuss recent workplace dynamics. Avoid choosing sides, if possible. Political decisions and business differences are temporary. Later this week a private family decision may draw public debate. If so, remain diplomatic: at present friends and relatives will offer controversial opinions and unrealistic expectations. Stand your ground: all is well.

BULLETIN BOARD

World Religions REL 101-HR
Intro to Philosophy PHI 101-HW
Intro to Philosophy PHI 101-O1A
Practical Logic PHI 121-LLT
U.S. History I HIS 101-LLT
World Civilization I HIS 121-HW
World Civilization II HIS 122-O1A
American Gov & Politics GOV 101-O1A
American Gov & Politics GOV 101-HT
Intro to American Law GOV 110-LM
Intro to Geography GEO 101-O1A
Microeconomics ECO 201-HM
Macroeconomics ECO 202-HW

Intro to Philosophy PHI 101-T9
Intro to Philosophy PHI 102-11
U.S. History I HIS 101-1
U.S. History I HIS 102-9
Western Civilization I HIS 111-T9
Western Civilization II HIS 112-9
World Civilization II HIS 201-19
World Civilization II HIS 201-19
Contemporary World HIS 221-TN
American Gov & Politics GOV 101-1
Intro to Political Science GOV 102-11
Intro to Geography GEO 101-19
Microeconomics ECO 201-8
Microeconomics ECO 201-10
Microeconomics ECO 201-T

Still seats in these day classes!

ECON 202-HW
ECON 202-1
ECON 202-11
ECON 202-19
ECON 202-19
ECON 202-19
ECON 202-19
ECON 202-19
ECON 202-19
ECON 202-19

Other sections also have seats. Register at the One-stop Center or On-line!
Student proposes ideas to promote good health for the future

By Christina Schneider
Correspondent

Heart disease is the number one killer among Americans which most people know, but what they don't know is what causes it. While people everywhere are worrying about going green and saving the world from global warming people aren't realizing that we may be saving our planet but we are not helping ourselves. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention there are about 652,091 deaths per year which is 27 percent of all U.S. deaths. Most people know this is the number one of our killers but they don't realize how big of a deal it is.

We need to start putting an end to this killer and it really isn't that hard to prevent. You can take a walk everyday instead of just sitting in front of the TV or even park your car further away from the building you're going into. Watch your sodium and cholesterol intake and overall just look out for yourself. If you are increasingly gaining weight or already are obese then maybe it's time to think about your future because what most people don't know is that heart disease does not just happen when you're older, it can happen anytime.

It is becoming more common now due to the lack of exercise kids are getting. Let's face it instead of coming home and running outside to take a bag of chips or any other snack and plant themselves in front of the TV or play video games. Most parents now both work and they are gone until later, so they are not there to tell their kids to go outside and play. Parents are not helping or setting good examples for kids. Instead of running to the closest drive-through to: 1, put a smile on their faces, and 2, make life easier for themselves; do a little extra work and cook yourself or at least pick up something that is not from a drive-through restaurant.

So let's start protecting ourselves and the children who are soon enough going to be the future from going down the drains. All it takes is for everyone to do a little bit just like how people are doing a little bit to save our planet. Everyone just needs to do their part. Let's raise awareness for ourselves just like we do for our world.

 protect against heart disease now

Exercise is one of the best ways to keep your body in shape and disease resistant.

Sayonara!

Fabled reclusive and artistic savant bids farewell to college

By Nick Sermuksnis
Alt. Edge Editor

Two years ago I had no interest in journalism. I was seemingly tucked into my college classes with little flavor as possible. It wasn't until then Editor-in-Chief Dan Potocki offered me a position on the newspaper with pizza and comic books. He put me in charge of Alternative Edge, his brainchild that was meant as a breath of fresh air for readers. Did I succeed? I'll let the finished product speak for itself.

I think that journalism is a subject that everyone should at least dabble in. It pushes you to look underneath the surface, to dig in places you would normally overlook. It ranges from revealing layers of people you would have otherwise ignored, to bringing hard truths to the surface, to letting you in on some aspects of life that we tend to ignore.

This is what I got out of journalism. It's what I got out of working on the "Observer" and writing articles about human trafficking, bake sales, UPS guys, hot dogs and so on. The paper gave me an outlet that not many get to have. It didn't have to be a campus-altering news bulletin. I just hope I tackled stories that people never knew they wanted to read about.

I want to express my appreciation for those who expressed both compliment and criticism about my section. Hearing feedback is usually what got me fired up about working on the paper. My section was for you guys so I'm glad you took advantage of it.

I do want to announce that this is the final issue of Alternative Edge as far as I'm concerned. Its future is entirely up to the next generation of staffers but I think it will probably continue on with some other name.

In my short experience at Northern Essex I have met a colorful cast of characters. There was an energy and sense of urgency here that I wish was more apparent in high school. It became easy to relate to others who struggled balancing their personal and work lives with their school career. I hope that I captured in my own bizarre way some sense of what really makes Northern Essex tick.

I figure it being my last issue I would recommend one last comic book. I still want you all to check out Scott Pilgrim but I'll leave you with something new.

The Unwritten: This is a brand new series by Mike Carey and Peter Gross and published by Vertigo. The first issue hits May 13. It deals with the son of a famed writer of a series of books about a boy wizard who was fashioned off said son. Sound familiar? The boy grows up living off the fame his father established, never able to escape its shadow until one day his father disappears and the lines between reality and fiction start to blur. It's a wild trip through some of the greatest and even obscure literary classics. It's something new that I would recommend giving a shot.

Here’s the scoop

Departing editor dishes on what new faces need to know

By Hansel Lopez
Opinion Editor

So yeah before I leave this campus for good (unfortunately) I’ve decided to write something up for you new kids who are going to show up and have no idea what is going on.

First of all know where you are. The main buildings/areas you will spend time in are either the C or Spurk buildings or the Tech center. What you need to know next is what is important within each building or in the surrounding areas.

First off the library: it’s probably one of the places you want to get most acquainted with if you are a new student. They have computers and a great supply of magazines, newspapers and books to keep you entertained in your off hours.

The second place you should know like the back of your hand is the C building since it’s likely you’ll spend most of your time there. Know that Jitter’s Café is here where you can get a hot cup of Starbuck’s coffee and junk food. I love me some junk food.

Third place you should know is uh… Probably the student center which is where all of the student stuff goes down. You know the really fun stuff like registering for classes and buying books and Red Bull. Always a good time believe me, well not really but I have to sell this article somehow.

Kidding aside you might want to check out the B building cafeteria also if you want to sit down and chill out for a while. If you want to do homework without being bothered then trust me this is the best place to do so.

They say if you can make it here you can make it anywhere. No, really, it’s a good place to start.

Other than that the best place I can think of to get work done and meet new people is the Observer office (which is literally right school they grabbing so I don’t know if it counts). Sure it’s a biased answer but hey, I’m being honest.

So yeah good luck to all of those who have just decided to come to NECC. It is a lot more fun than what people make it out to be.
Alternative Edge

More young people are bearing children

Having a child out of wedlock doesn't have to be a negative

By Kashmir Frizzle
Correspondent

It seems as though in the past couple of years everyone I went to highschool with has given birth to a baby. Within the last four years, if not a girl from my grade, then one behind me or in front of me has had a child. I suppose these girls would be considered young mothers, considering the fact that I am only 20-years-old myself (21 in the end of May).

There are some people who think it is a life-changing mistake to have a child before you have an established career, as most of these girls do not, and that it is even worse that most of them are not married either. However, you ask someone like myself if having a child at 20 years old and out of wedlock is a mistake you’ll come to regret, and I’ll tell you you’re crazy. Granted, I can understand where the people who find problems with it are coming from.

I am almost 21-years-old, am not married, and do not have an established career. I have a steady boyfriend who I currently live with, and his income covers all of the bills that are necessary to pay in order to live a comfortable life. I am going to school, majoring in who knows what as of now, and most importantly I am six months pregnant. I am expecting my bouncing baby boy, Kayden Michael Woodfill Dempsey, on August 4... but would not mind if he decided to pop out earlier.

My point here is that I fit the profile of a young mother giving birth out of wedlock. I can admit that my boyfriend and I don’t have all the money in the world, but we aren’t exactly struggling either. People close to me, my mother in particular, have voiced their opinions on my decision to have this baby, and some of them are not very positive. I have heard some pretty terrible things. I even had someone very close to me, who is clearly not supportive of this pregnancy, ask me just last week if it was too late to have an abortion. In my head I was like, “Are you freaking crazy? This is a child in my stomach at this point, not just a fetus anymore! He can be born any day and have more than a 50 percent chance of a completely normal life!” So insensitive, I could have smacked them.

Another concern of these non-supporters is the fact that I am not married. “What kind of an example are you setting for your child when you aren’t married before he is born?” Okay, maybe this one I can understand a little bit... most people understand the fact that people have concerns about young mothers being able to deal with the demands of motherhood. My opinion is that if you are lucky enough to be graced with such a miracle as the one that is life, you should take full advantage of that, as many are not so lucky. I know my life is going to change, there will be no more spare time for me to just sit and watch the television program of my choosing, but I am going to have a son. A son who is going to love me (until he is a teenager) and believe that I am a queen. I cannot wait, and I know I have made the right choice.

Being a young mother has brought up to think that the natural order of things, the only order that is right, is marriage before children. However, as of 2005, babies born out of wedlock were at an all time high, with four out of 10 babies being born to unwed mothers. Experts say this is because a lot of people are waiting to be married, instead choosing to live together first. It seems to me that this is because having a baby without being married is more acceptable nowadays. Perhaps not in my family, but overall.

I am now going to tell you how I feel about my decision, and the decisions of the countless amount of girls who have done this at my age. Although having a baby at a young age is a struggle without a doubt, it is one that comes with way more rewards than tough times. First of all, my son can never throw the “well you don’t understand me! You’re too old!” card in my face. How good is that! And, becoming a mother completes your life in every sense of the word. In a little over 3 months, I am going to love someone unconditionally, with every fiber of my being, for the rest of my life no matter what happens. How could something so beautiful be a mistake?

As I said in the beginning, I can understand that the countless amount of girls having children out of wedlock don’t have to be a mistake. Perhaps not in my family, but overall, I do not think it is a mistake. No, in my eyes, having a child out of wedlock doesn’t have to be an issue, as long as the parents are young, healthy, and can support their child. It’s not often a difficult issue. However, it can be, that is why I decided to write this article.
The Celtics and the Bulls made history in the first round of the playoffs

By CHRISTIAN STONE
Sports Editor

If the first round of the playoffs is any indication of how the rest of the postseason will go for the Boston Celtics, then as spectators of the game, we’re in for a real treat.

The Chicago Bulls gav a Kevin Garnett-less Celtics team a run for their money during a historical first round of the eastern conference play-off series. A series that featured a complete seven game set with an NBA playoff record seven overtime periods played to determine who wins and who goes home.

In the first game of the series, Bulls rookie point guard Derrick Rose tied NBA legend Kareem Abdul-Jabbar’s record for points by a rookie in a debut playoff game. Ray Allen on the other hand had a miserably first game of the series, scoring just four points on a pathetic 1 of 12 shooting. It was the fifth time that Ray Allen has scored four points or less in a playoff game for the Celtics. They are 1-4 in those games; needless to say, the Bulls took the first game of the series 105-103 in overtime, just one overtime, from the Celtics in front of their home fans at the TD Banknorth Garden.

Allen was able to bounce back in game 2, scoring 30 points, but it was Rajon Rondo who stole the spotlight. Rondo put up a triple double, scoring 19 points with 12 rebounds and 16 assists, to go along with five steals. Allen had the task of handling another former UConn Husky in Ben Gordon, who did everything he could to try and bring the series back to Chicago up 2-0. Gordon had a career playoff high 42 points including a game tying jumper with 12.3 seconds left. But Allen got the better of the baskets, draining a three pointer with 2 seconds left on the clock. The Bulls would miss the next attempt and Boston went on the win 118-115.

After two highly dramatic games in Boston, the third was never in doubt when the Celtics arrived at the United Center in Chicago. The Celtics came away with 16 steals, second best in franchise playoff history behind the 18 they amassed in Game 5 of the 2008 NBA finals. Paul Pierce scored 24 points on 9 of 15 shooting, as he seemed to find his comfort level a few games into the series. “In Game 1 and 2, I was a little indecisive but I’m getting comfortable with what the Bulls are trying to do,” he said.

However it was the Bulls who buried themselves in the third game with shabby play. They turned the ball over 22 times, shot thirty-seven percent from the floor and missed 10 free throws (17 of 27). The Bulls shot 46 of 51 from the line in the first two games of the series. The Celtics won in impressive fashion 107-86 and after the game Celtics coach Doc Rivers said he was “thilled” by the way the team had played.

With the Celtics up in the series 2 to 1, the Bulls decided to up the physicality of the series and make an effort the hurt the Boston in their tracks. Brad Miller, who had taken a palm from Rondo upside the head in Game 3, decided to extract a little revenge in the fourth quarter in Game 4 after Glen “Big Baby” Davis bumped him under the hoop. Miller came back with a forearm to the head of Big Baby, it was originally assessed a flagrant foul 2, but it was later reduced to a technical foul. Rondo meanwhile had his second triple double of the series, scoring 29 and gathering up 11 boards and 11 assists. Rondo is the first Celtics player since Larry Bird in 1986 to have two triple doubles in one playoff series and the first player to do it in the NBA since Jason Kidd in 2002, against the Celtics. However, the Bulls managed to pull out more effective and efficient playing down the stretch to top the Celtics in double overtime, 121-118. It was just the second time since the NBA merger in 1976-77 that the Celtics had three players score at least 25 points in a playoff game and manage to lose.

Boston’s Big Three needed the help of the role players to oust Chicago in Game 5, and they got it. Rondo was up to his usual domi- nant self in the playoffs, ending just 2 boards shy of his third triple double of the series. He finished with 28 points, 8 rebounds and 11 assists. Kendrick Perkins stepped it up with 16 points, 19 rebounds and seven blocks. The number of blocks would tie Robert Parish for the most all-time in a Celtics playoff game. With Kevin Garnett injured and Ray Allen fouling out with 5.47 left in regulation time it was up to Paul Pierce to step it up at crunch time. He hit a jumper to tie the game at the end of regulation and three more in the final seventy-seven seconds of overtime to propel the Celtics to victory. Pierce even impressed the competition. “Paul Pierce was unbelievable,” said Joakim Noah.

“Guys are taking crazy shot after crazy shot. It’s all about who’s going to make that shot at the end of the game.”

In Game 5 it was Paul Pierce as the Celtics managed to win 106-104 in a game that saw Chicago up by 11 at one point. The fact that the game went into overtime made it the first ever playoff series that had three games conclude in overtime.

If Game 5 set the record for most games played in overtime, then Game 6 shattered the record as it took 3 additional overtimes to deter- mine the winner, totaling seven over- time periods in a 6 game span. But the amount of additional time played wasn’t the only record to be tied or broken in Game 6. Ray Allen scored 51 points, which tied the second most in Celtics playoff history. He was the first player to score 50+ points in a playoff game since John Havlicek scored the franchise record of 54 in 1973. Rondo also tied Bob Cousy’s playoff record of 19 assists. With 8 seconds remaining in the game, Rondo was blocked by Rose, who in turn missed two free throws, with a few seconds left Rondo heaved up a midcourt prayer that missed and saw the Bulls tie the series up 3-3 with the final score 128-127. At this juncture, everybody, players included, knew they were a part of something spe- cial.

“This series has been a lot of fun for the fans, the people of Chicago and the people of Boston. It’s a lot of fun for us, too, playing in the big stage. It’s special to be a part of one, and I know it’s a series people will be talking about for a long time,” said Joakim Noah.

“It’s unbelievable,” added Kendrick Perkins, “shot after shot, tough make after tough make. It’s a tough series.”

Pierce on the other hand was flabbergasted after the game. “I really don’t know what to say about this series,” he said. “This has been a phenomenal series.”

In the final game of the series it was perfect execution and the perfect shooting of Eddie House that wound up advancing the Celtics past the Bulls in the first round. House shot 5 for 5 from the floor, which doesn’t sound like much, but 4 of the shots were from behind the three-point arch, he finished with 16 points. Although it was the efficiency that helped the Celtics win the game as they hit 11 out of 11 free throws in the final two minutes of the game. Chicago had eight turnovers and missed four free throws down the stretch.

After the game, Pierce summed it up best, “It was a long grueling series. I thought this was one of the most mentally tough series I’ve ever been in. Thank goodness we were b-tested and we were able to pull this out in seven games,” he said.

The Celtics will have their work cut out for them as they are matched up against the Orlando Magic and All-Star center Dwight Howard. Howard is a freak of nature when it comes to his size and his dominance on the court. The Celtics right now are struggling to find people to fill the big man position with Garnett and Leon Powe out with injuries. Pierce, Allen, Rondo and the rest of the Celtics will be put to the test, but no time better than after coming off one of the most remarkable, motivat- ing wins over the Bulls in a series that will no doubt be talked about for years to come.

Glen “Big Baby” Davis of the Celtics gets some resistance from Bulls’ big man Joakim Noah during Game 7 of the first round of the Eastern Conference playoffs. The Celtics managed to hold off the seventh seeded Bulls in seven games.

This has been a phenomenal series.

- Paul Pierce

Boston Celtics

Read the Observer online:

www.necc.mass.edu/observer
No way, Jose to join MMA

Jose Canseco to join MMA?

BY HANS EL LOPEZ
Opinion Editor

The highly muscular but meagerly talented Jose Canseco has tried everything from baseball to book writing and now he will attempt another hobby to his collection; Mixed Martial Arts.

Opponent of course being claims. Reports have varied since the announcement. At first it was reported that he has a background in karate (the only man I can think of who has ever been able to convert karate successfully into MMA is Lyoto Machida and Canseco he ain’t) then it was an alleged black belt in Taekwondo and Muay Thai training. So either Canseco has spent a good amount of his life training various martial arts or this is complete and utter crap.

Dream is calling it the Super Hulk tournament and features perennial MMA losers like Bob Sapp and Jan Nortje. To be honest the only legitimate mixed martial artists I can think of participating in this fiasco are Gegard Moussaev and Thierry Sokoudjou and they are most likely the two finalists participating in the finals.

And if you happen to be the one person on earth who is rooting for Canseco in this bizarre tournament keep in mind one thing his opponent is Hong Man Choi. For those who aren’t hardcore MMA fans Choi is that novelty fighter who may have a record of one win with two losses but keep in mind those two losses have come to none other than Fedor Emelianenko and Mirko “Cro Cop” Filipovic. That and the fact that Choi is seven feet two inches tall and has a respectable kickboxing record.

Good luck trying to ruin this sport Canseco.

Weekly Sports Trivia

QUESTIONS:

1. Who led the NBA in assists in the ’08-’09 season?
2. Who hit the most three-pointers during the NBA ’08-’09 season?
3. Who was the Coach of the Year in the NBA ’08-’09 season?
4. Which player played the most minutes during the NBA ’08-’09 season?
5. Which NBA team finished the ’08-’09 season with the most losses?

ANSWERS:

1. Chris Paul (New Orleans Hornets)
2. Rashard Lewis (Orlando Magic)
3. Mike Brown (Cleveland Cavaliers)
4. Andre Iguodala (Philadelphia 76’ers)
5. The Sacramento Kings (17-65)

There’s a green light in your future.

Finish your 4-year degree at Green Mountain College.

The nation’s leading environmental liberal arts school offers:

- Rolling Admissions
- Spaces still available for fall 2009
- A generous transfer policy (up to 90 credits)
- Financial aid (up to $20,000 in merit and other scholarships)
- 25 academic majors & certificate programs
- Cutting edge curriculum that will prepare you for the emerging green economy.

Green Mountain College
One Brennan Circle
Poultney, VT 05764

admissions@greenmtn.edu
800-776-6675
admit@greenmtn.edu

Weekly Sports Trivia

QUESTIONS:

1. Who led the NBA in assists in the ’08-’09 season?
2. Who hit the most three-pointers during the NBA ’08-’09 season?
3. Who was the Coach of the Year in the NBA ’08-’09 season?
4. Which player played the most minutes during the NBA ’08-’09 season?
5. Which NBA team finished the ’08-’09 season with the most losses?

ANSWERS:

1. Chris Paul (New Orleans Hornets)
2. Rashard Lewis (Orlando Magic)
3. Mike Brown (Cleveland Cavaliers)
4. Andre Iguodala (Philadelphia 76’ers)
5. The Sacramento Kings (17-65)
Program to remain open one year, students say fight is not done yet

By Julie Varney
Editor-in-Chief

One of the loudest student protests has been going on at NECC for the last couple of weeks, but no one has heard it. That is because it is taking place in a silent, passionate flurry of hands.

Students from NECC's Deaf Cluster Program have been protesting the closure of the program that teaches its students the basic English and writing skills necessary for their successful communication.

And last week they achieved somewhat of a victory when it was announced the Deaf Cluster Program, which was slated to close at the end of this semester because of budget reductions, was granted a one-year reprieve.

"With the prospect of temporary federal stimulus money aid for higher education in Massachusetts, the college will continue to support Deaf Cluster classes through the 2009-2010 academic year for purposes of providing current students the opportunity to complete their studies," Vice President of Academic Affairs Lane Glenn announced last week.

These budget reductions consisted of the elimination of the sole faculty position in the Deaf Cluster Program, held by Professor Elaine Glennon, which therefore eliminated the entire program. Glennon will now remain to teach the classes.

"But students say their fight is not done yet, it has just begun a new phase. "We're hoping we can keep raising money and keep it open beyond one year to accept new students," Annie Hamilton, from the ASL club which helped sponsor a bake sale last week to raise money for the program, said. "We have all next year to fundraise.

"It's not just about fundraising but to raise awareness about the program," Hamilton said.

Deaf Cluster Program student Sumit Malik said, "It's not fair to the deaf community because it's not taking any new students. There are new people that need to be learning English."

"I understand the business and economic side of it, but it would take away the opportunity for deaf students to be successful," Malik said.

Students from the ASL and Deaf Cluster Program held a bake sale on Thursday, April 30, to raise support for their efforts to keep the program open.