



THE
NEW ENGLANDER

2022 SPORTS RECAP



NEC GRADUATE FIGHTS IN UKRAINE

SUNUNU TO SPEAK AT COMMENCEMENT

TYLER BAKER ELECTED SENATE PRESIDENT

NEW NEC DIRECTOR OF DIVERSITY

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Photo by Alex Elliot



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NEC GRADUATE FIGHTING IN UKRAINE

March 6, 2022

By Justin Nimmo

More than one week into the Russian invasion into Ukraine, there has yet to be any sign of resolution. Since the early morning of Feb. 24, Russian forces have been penetrating the interior of Ukraine, attacking cities—most notably the capital Kyiv. Ukrainian forces and even civilians have stayed to fight.

Pavlo Budaievski, who recently completed a graduate program with New England College, is among those fighting to defend his country of Ukraine according to Dr. John Callahan, Dean of the School of Graduate and Professional Studies.

“We have New England College students who are actually fighting there now, who are soldiers,” said Dr. Callahan.

Dr. Callahan has had limited contact with Budaievski via Facebook messenger and learned he is located in the capital city of Kyiv.

“We were just in a fight,” Budaievski said on March 1.

Budaievski was a graduate student in the Master of Arts in International Relations program until 2021.

“I wish nothing but safety, happiness and health to that person,” said NEC Assistant Professor of History, Craig Gallagher about Budaievski.

For Ukrainians, conflict with Russia is not foreign.

“From a historian’s point of view, I think you could definitely see some trends,” Gallagher said. “In 2014, there was already a military confrontation that led to the seizure of the Crimea, so there was definitely a foundation in which this conflict was built.”



According to Gallagher, there are distinct differences between the 2014 conflict in Crimea, the Russian invasion in Georgia in 2008, and what is taking place right now.

“Both of those wars were smaller scale, and—in a way—a ‘tradition’ for Vladimir Putin in which he uses this roaming Russian military against smaller regions, Ukraine is not that,” he said.

Though most cities have been well defended by the Ukrainian defenses, early Wednesday morning the port city of Kherson was captured. Its population hovers around 300,000 people.

Over one million Ukrainian refugees have fled the country leaving behind shells of houses and buildings.



Photo by Alex Elliot

FORMER PRESIDENT OF POLAND TO SPEAK AT COMMENCEMENT

May 1, 2022

New England College announced that Former President of Poland and Nobel Peace Prize recipient Lech Walesa will be the honorary speaker at their 2022 commencement ceremony on May 14. Walesa will be receiving an honorary degree from the college putting himself among the ranks of NEC Alumni.

“We are thrilled to welcome to our campus such a historic figure,” said Michele Perkins, the president at NEC. “We are honored he will join us. He is welcome amongst the NEC Alumni.”



Walesa offers a unique perspective specifically seeing his home country’s proximity to Ukraine during their conflict. An important international scope to send off the 2022 New England College graduates.

SUNUNU TO DELIVER COMMENCEMENT SPEECH

By Justin Nimmo

March 15, 2022

New Hampshire Gov. Chris Sununu will be delivering the New England College commencement speech for the 2022 graduating class, on May 14. This will be the first in person commencement since 2019 after a two year pause due to COVID-19.

"We are honored to have such a distinguished leader as our 2022 commencement speaker," said Michele Perkins, president of NEC. "As our 2022 graduates prepare for the next phase of their lives, I'm certain Governor Sununu's message will serve as a great inspiration."



Governor Sununu is in his third term as New Hampshire Governor and began serving in 2017.

"This graduating class deserves to be celebrated and it's an honor to have the sitting Governor," said Josh McElveen, a spokesman for New England College. "He has the ability to deliver a message of working hard for what you want."

"That certainly was not the prime motivation," said McElveen when asked if NEC wanted a big name for the first in-person commencement in two years. "This certainly is not political."

NEC is graduating an expected 500 students from the Henniker and Manchester campuses. This will be the first time since the two schools merged that all students will be graduating in the same ceremony. These students include face-to-face, online, and hybrid forms of schooling.

"I think post-COVID anything that feels getting back to normal feels good," said McElveen.

TYLER BAKER ELECTED SENATE PRESIDENT

By Alex Elliot

April 21, 2022

After months of campaigning and weeks of debates, New England College's next student senate president has been named. On Wednesday, April 20, student senate announced Tyler Baker had won the race.

"After the work of those around me and I put in, I'm feeling really great," Baker said.



Baker put in countless hours of work to achieve a goal like this. Even before earning the title of student senate president, he has been busy making a difference for the school. He noted the work he has done with Dr. Erica Siguake, NEC's director of diversity, and Laura Anderson, the school's medical director.

"I'm excited for everything that's planned," Baker said. "I'm excited to represent the student body, and—to the upper administration—make the concerns that students have clear."

Baker promised community resource closets for students in need, and he promised to supply free feminine hygiene products in every bathroom at NEC.

"Students should expect the things I talked about to be available when they move back on to campus," he said.

It has been a long campaign, but both candidates get to breathe now.

"It was fun to run with someone who I have known since freshman year," Baker said in regards to Lily Geber, his running mate. "She's someone who I have been involved with in numerous clubs and activities."

"I give my best wishes to Tyler and his e-board," Geber said when she heard the results. "I am excited to see what he is able to accomplish."

Both students have been heavily involved in student senate in their college careers, and they will continue to be involved. In the end, having the students' best interests is on the top of their lists.

"I'm thankful that students gave me the opportunity to represent them as student senate president," Baker said. "It's time for action... It's go time."

2022

NEW DIRECTOR OF DIVERSITY

By Becki Eaton

Feb. 16, 2022



During the start of the spring semester, New England College welcomed the new Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Dr. Erica Sigauke, to campus. She came to NEC excited to work with a diverse student body and to help all students achieve the educational goals that will enable them to positively impact the world.

“New England College is a college that inspired me through its mission, goals, and style of educational setting,” said Sigauke.

She described how, in addition to admiring NEC’s accomplishments and diversity, she appreciates how NEC helps groups of people that do not typically attend college, including women and members of the military, further their education since its inception in 1946. The efforts that NEC makes to give everyone an opportunity to further their education, no matter their ethnicity, gender, economic class, and more, resonate deeply with Sigauke.

Ever since her childhood in Zimbabwe, Africa, Sigauke was encouraged to accept everyone as part of her community, no matter their differences. She practices an Ubuntu philosophy, which emphasizes the importance of togetherness, empathy, compassion and respect. People from different tribes who spoke different languages were welcomed into her home with her family. Despite their differences, Sigauke and her family shared their resources with these people from different tribes and were always willing to lend them a hand. She said such philosophy and experience also inspire her to continue sowing the seeds of a loving community where everyone belongs and helps each other out at NEC.

She already has several ideas for programs to do just that.

“Some of the diversity and inclusion programs I plan to implement, as we go step by step, include collaboration, community engagement programs, and art programs,” said Sigauke.

She said one of her goals is to give students the opportunity to share their different cultures with each other, so they can better understand each other and, through this understanding, become a stronger community. With these programs, especially the art program, she wants to give students a space to share all of the different elements of their culture, including music, food, art, leadership, and more, so they can freely express themselves and appreciate how others express themselves as well.

“I believe that the new diversity and inclusion initiatives we are putting in place are a holistic approach which will further promote transformation, students’ goals and help them learn about inclusive leadership skills,” said Sigauke.

She believes that programs and initiatives that value building a community of love and respect will be able to effectively combat racism and discrimination because this kind of community encourages everyone to respect and be mindful of each other, thereby promoting a safe, accepting environment. Sigauke also thinks that just by furthering their education, NEC students combat racism and discrimination by learning about these issues and discussing them.

“I agree with Nelson Mandela, who argued that, ‘education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world,’” she said.

By supporting students as they pursue their educational goals and creating programs that celebrate diversity and inclusion, Sigauke is excited to help grow a loving, diverse community at NEC inspired by her own loving, diverse community that she had when she lived in Zimbabwe.

MY TRUTH

By Moneshae Bailey

April 6, 2022



I can recall from my childhood a time where I didn't appreciate the color of my skin. I remember asking my mom why I wasn't white like my dolls, and why my hair could not be as straight and long like theirs. When I was younger, I wanted to look exactly like Barbie; I didn't appreciate the melanin in my skin or the curls in my hair.

My mother took that to heart and decided not to leave it up to my school to teach me about black history and what it means to be black.

She also taught me to appreciate the skin I was born with and the curls I was given. My mom taught me a deeper knowledge of my heritage and the many powerful African American leaders that didn't get holidays. Without the unknown African American heroes of the civil rights movement, we probably would not have been able to vote or been able to end segregation.

My great-grandmother taught me our family history and about her struggles growing up with darker skin in Albany, NY.

My father taught me about what it was like being a black immigrant in New York—trying to make it and achieve his goals while being a black man in America. He was the one who sat me down and introduced me to the miniseries *Roots*. He explained what I couldn't understand, and gave me hugs and tissues through every difficult scene. They taught me to be strong but that they'll be there when I need support.

There is a saying, "It takes a Village to raise a child."

This saying has been told to me throughout my entire life. I'm not sure where the saying originated from but the saying's meaning stems from back when everyone in the black community—or in close neighborhoods—looked out for each other's children. When everyone in the community came together as family to lean on and help to protect each other when there was a lot of police brutality, racial profiling and when people of color were being harmed because of the color of their skin.

My village taught me to be proud of my skin and be a strong woman of color.

STUDENTS PROTEST IN RESPONSE TO RECENT HOMOPHOBIC VANDALISMS

By Justin Nimmo

April 14, 2022



On Wednesday afternoon, a student coordinated walkout and rally was conducted in protest of the recent racist and homophobic vandalisms that have happened on campus. Both the Henniker and Manchester students gathered on their respective campuses. Students were located in the Simon Lawn in Henniker and the French Auditorium in Manchester.

Students were informed of the walkout and rally from a graphic posted on Freshman Isaac Galano's Instagram page. They were instructed to walk out of class at 11:50 a.m. to assemble either on the Simon Lawn or in the French Auditorium.

Dozens of students on the Simon Lawn held signs and pride flags as two students, Isaac Galano and President of QSA Keyanna Matos, gave speeches in protest of the vandalism and the school's response. "You have hurt us, and you have used your power against us, but we will not be powerless," said Galano, "We are strong, we are here, and we are not going anywhere."

Matos then followed and expressed her frustrations with New England College's response.

"We as a community understand that administration has a way of dealing with situations, but we are adults, and we ask that there is at least some honesty regarding the situation," said Matos. "The fact that we have to peacefully protest to get our point across is not okay."

When asked about how she felt the rally went, Matos was optimistic.

"This is very close and near and dear to my heart; it's something I always advocate for, so I'm really glad that everyone showed up and showed their pride and spirit," Matos said.

Further plans have yet to be established, but Galano insisted that the protests do not stop here.

BEST PLACES TO SEE FALL FOLIAGE IN NH

Photos and story by Alex Elliot

Sept. 30, 2021

Fall is here and that means the fall foliage is on its way, too. Living in New Hampshire, we have some of the best opportunities in the world to take in the vibrant colors. To learn about some of the best spots in New Hampshire to take in these beauties, read along!



Lake Winnepesaukee

Lake Winnepesaukee is one of the many gems of New Hampshire, located smack dab in the middle of the state. The lake is known for its beautiful scenery and its pristine waters in the summer months, but it is just as beautiful in the fall. When it gets cold, the water stays just as pristine, but the surrounding foliage explodes with vibrant reds, oranges, and yellows! There are so many spots where you can go to enjoy these colors. If a stroll through a quaint town is your style, I suggest stopping in Meredith. If you prefer to be more secluded, one of my

favorite spots is the A-frame house at Oliver Lodge. Take in the views, and if you're brave enough, take a kayak or canoe out on the water. Just don't fall in!

Kancamagus Highway

The Kancamagus Highway is one of the most scenic drives in the U.S. The road whips you around corners, spanning 56 miles and over the heart of the White Mountains. Around every bend, a beautiful view of the vast landscape is presented in front of you.



The highway is a popular travel destination to begin with, but when fall rolls around, tourists flock to take in its awe. There are plenty of turn offs where you can look off into the mountains. The once lush green landscape will soon turn red, looking like fire draped over the White Mountains. Just make sure to keep your eyes on the road!



Artist's Bluff

One of the easiest hikes in the White Mountains, but one that holds just as much beauty, is Artist's Bluff. As the name infers, the hike yields stunning views that have captivated artists for years. The hike resides right off of route I-93, right after Franconia Notch. Once you get to the

top, it showcases the wonder of the notch. The hike is a short 1.5 mile loop and is about 400 feet of elevation. The final destination is a rock clearing overhanging the highway. Viewers can look as the road disappears into the towering mountains like it is being swallowed up. These same mountains are clad with foliage, and in the fall, are stunning with colors. The hike is worth it any time of the year, but the views during fall are almost un-matched.

Dixville Notch

Dixville Notch holds spectacular views, but it may not be common to most New Hampshire residents due to its location. The Notch lays even further north than the White Mountains, in Dixville, New Hampshire. If you can find time to venture all the way



up, it is by far worth the drive. Towering cliffs hug the roadside, as it twists and turns through a valley. A hike called table top rock is home to some of the best views of the notch. The dense foliage on the surrounding mountains make for a perfect canvas for the fiery red trees. Be careful if you do venture to table top rock, as the final path is a 4-foot wide walkway on a rock jutting out of the mountain side. If you are brave enough to venture to the end, you will truly feel on top of the world.



Photos by Kaetlyn Arp
Feb. 6, 2022

Frankenstein Trestle

If you're looking for a thrill along with plenteous views, visiting Frankenstein Trestle is for you. Huge steel beams jut from the ground, holding a railroad over 60 feet in the air. The track hugs a towering rockface, and it creates a picturesque frame of Crawford Notch. A walk along the tracks is scenic enough, as bright foliage canopies over hikers, but once you reach the clearing where the trestle lays, you are greeted with an explosion of color. The brave can venture over the trestle, as there is a two foot wide walk-way. Just be careful because the railroad is still active! To get to the trestle, go to the Arethusa Falls parking lot, go past it up the hill, and follow the railroad to the end.



Henniker

Yes, your campus is home to some of the best foliage in New Hampshire. Covered bridges are iconic in this state, and you get the benefit of having one right in your backyard. Paired with vibrant reds, oranges, and yellows, it makes for a perfect view. Whether you're driving down the street, or walking in between classes, the colors will compliment every view. If travelling to a distant location is tough for you, just take the time to wander all the vast trails this town has to offer. Venture over the covered bridge, walk along the Contoocook river, or take a scenic drive down Henniker's back roads.



NEC STUDENTS CLIMB FOR FREE

By Justin Nimmo

Feb. 13, 2022

With efforts spearheaded by Emily Barnum, a graduate assistant in the outdoor education department, New England College students have a new opportunity at their doorstep. Starting the week of Feb. 21, all NEC students will have a free membership to the New Hampshire Climbing and Fitness rock climbing gym in Concord, N.H.

With this membership, students will have access to the climbing walls and fitness center for free. For those with experience, there are dozens of spots to top rope or auto belay across the gym with varying difficulties. The paths span from easier straight up walls, to walls with a curve that require an extra stretch.

Bouldering walls are also present at NH Climbing and Fitness with an entire section dedicated to practicing your no rope skills.

If you are a beginner in the climbing scene, you are in luck. The second floor has novice level walls. The gym also offers an opportunity to take classes regarding the ins and outs of rock climbing with experienced wall climbers.

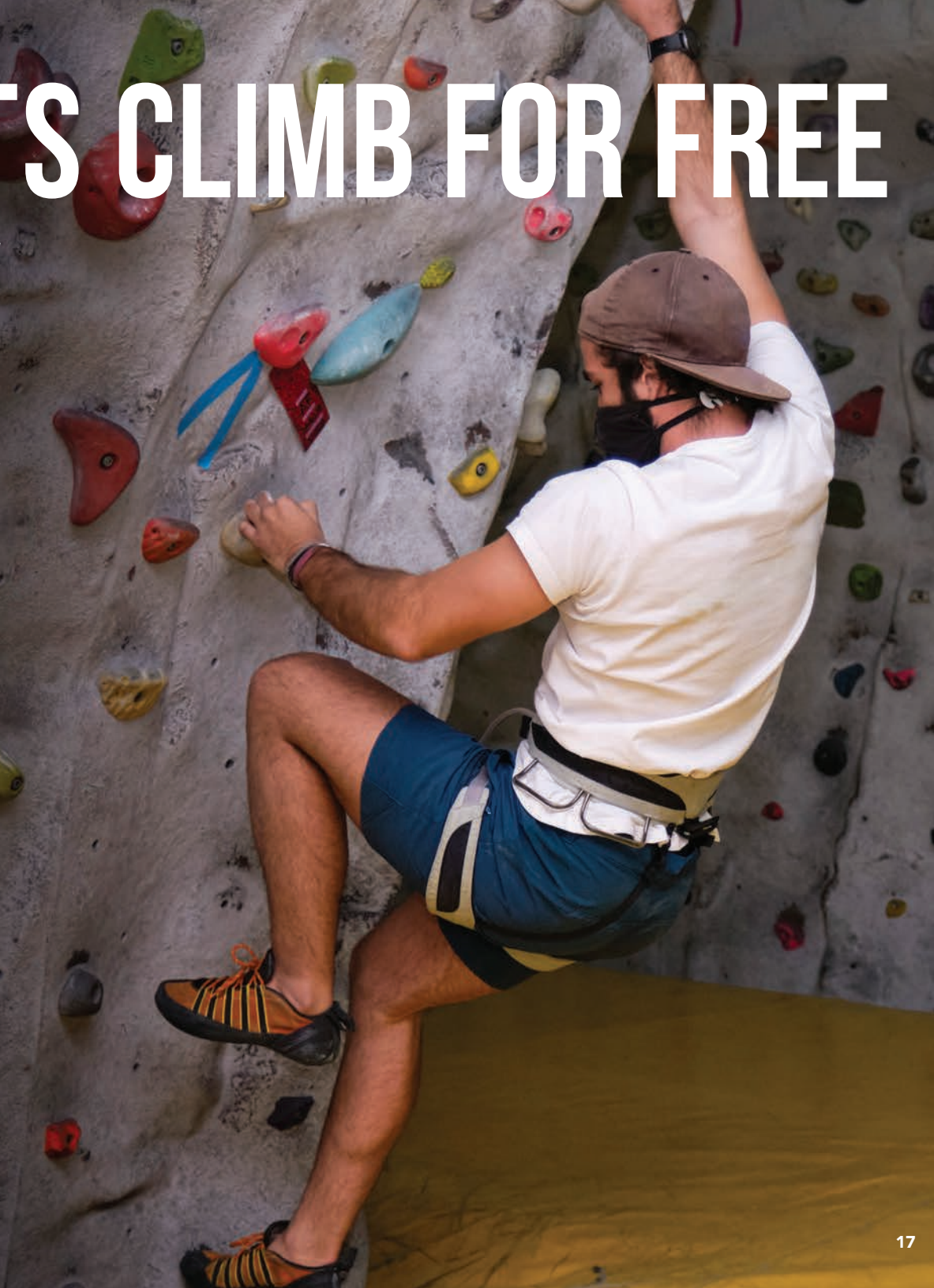
If you don't have the proper equipment the gym offers rentals including harnesses, shoes and any other climbing equipment you can think of.

The fitness center on the second floor also offers a place to break a sweat without even climbing the walls. Loaded with various workout equipment and machines, there are plenty of areas to get a workout in.

Located just one mile off I-93 in Concord, the gym is just a twenty-three-minute drive from the Henniker campus and a nineteen-minute drive from the Manchester campus. The gym is open from Monday to Saturday with hours spanning from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on the weekdays, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Fridays, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays.

"It's crazy that we can climb for free," said Emil Schultz, a freshman in the outdoor education major. "I'm going as much as possible."

Whether it's one of your favorite hobbies or something fun that you're willing to try, as an NEC student you can now go at your own leisure.





2021-2022 SPORTS RECAP

By Lily Geber and Alex Elliot

April 28, 2022

This past year has been a fantastic year for the NEC Athletic Program, filled with championships, emotional playoff runs, and so many achievements.

FALL

Women's soccer had a great year, even making it to the NECC championship with a 3-0 win over Mitchell. In the finals, however, the team fell short, 1-5, to Lesley University.

On November 7, 2021, men's soccer went on to win the NECC championship with a 3-1 win over Eastern Nazarene. **Panagiotis Galatas**, **Wiskens Flavil**, and **Cooper Ribaud** were the three players who notched a goal. After moving on, the team was defeated by No. 7 Tufts University 5-1.

Cross country won the NECC championship on October 23, 2021. It was their first NECC championship win in ten years. They had two runners compete in the NCAA East Regional, **Ian Morse** and **Noah Raz**.

Men's golf had their first season, which landed them in 6th place in the MASCAC championship.

Volleyball finished their season as the 1-seed, going 19-6. **Jaycie Kodama** highlighted their season, winning Defensive Player of the Year, and the head coach, **Kristin Morrison**, won Co-Coach of the Year. The team swept Lesley, 3-0, in the semifinals, which landed them a spot in the NECC championship. The team fell short in the finals, losing 1-3 to Eastern Nazarene.

Field hockey played a total of twenty games, winning three conference games. The National Field Hockey Coaches Association named the team to the Division III national academic team.

WINTER

Men's basketball played a total of twenty-four games, winning 11. A standout star is **Calvin Cheek**. He collected two NECC yearly awards, winning Co-Player of the Year and winning Defensive Player of the Year. The team couldn't make it to the finals, as they lost, 94-95, to Mitchell in the semifinals.

Women's basketball landed in the NECC championship after a 74-40 win over Lesley. **Kayla Goldring** racked up 20 points and 13 rebounds for the Pilgrims. In their final game, the team lost to Mitchell, 74-85.

Women's and men's skiing both had great seasons. **Giovanni Fassina** took sixteenth at the USCSA Eastern Regional Championships.

Men's ice hockey had a stellar year and played twenty-five games, with 89 goals and 41 assists. The team made it all the way to the quarterfinals, but they could not get past No. 6 Elmira. They lost 7-1.

Women's ice hockey had a total of twenty-four games. They had a rough start to their season, but they were able to clinch a playoff spot. The team could not make it past the first round, however, as they fell to Johnson & Wales University, 5-0.

Wrestling went through a significant change, naming **Ray DeRosa** new head coach, in the middle of the season. **Diego Santiago** was the star for the team, as he clinched a spot in the NCAA Championship. The team's journey ended there, as Santiago went 0-2.

SPRING

Women's lacrosse had an exciting season, as **Lauren Rich**, a senior on the team, scored her 100th career goal. The team also saw success in the playoffs, as they pushed to the NECC championship and beat Mitchell 18-4 in a dominant win. This was the second time in four years that the team has won the championship.

Men's lacrosse also saw records broken. **Quint Bartush** broke his record for most ground balls picked up in a single game with 21. **Sam Cray** also broke his record, scoring eleven goals, the second most goals in program history.

Softball looks to wrap up their season soon. In the regular season, **Destiny Helmedach** ended up breaking the record for most career runs with 106.

Baseball looks to rack up a couple more wins before the regular season ends. **Connor Morin** passed the record for most doubles in a season in program history, with 29 and counting.

END OF AN 18-YEAR HOCKEY CAREER

By Lily Geber

Feb. 16, 2022

Feb. 12, 2022, marked the end of an era for ten male ice hockey players. For one of those players, senior Connor Dunn, it was the end of an 18-year career.



Dunn, and those nine other players were honored as it was their senior night.

"There weren't a lot of defensemen trying out when I came in," Dunn said, reflecting on his time at NEC. "I came in as a freshman and was put in a role where I was getting a lot of ice time right away. I think that helped me become an experienced player."

"My first home game, I was so nervous," Dunn said. "I had no idea what I was doing out there. I think my first shift of college hockey, I went up to make a hit, and we got scored on. Now I think it's a lot different. I'm settled into my role—what I bring—and I'm confident in that. I'm no stranger to college hockey now, so it's another day, another chance to get a win."

After four years as a Pilgrim, Connor Dunn remembered one of his career highlights was a sixteen-game win streak his sophomore year.

"I think one of my favorite moments was sweeping two of the top teams in the league to keep alive," he said. "I'll always remember being in the locker room with the fellas – all the laughs going around; I'll remember the big wins; I'll remember the road trips; I'll remember all the get togethers with the guys out of season, as well. It was just like having a nice little family in this nice little town."



When asked about what he will miss, Dunn seemed to be taken back. As if he had the realization that, in just a couple of hours, he would be on the ice for the last time.

"Honestly, it sounds a little cheesy, but just throwing on that jersey on game day, getting ready with the boys to go to war," he said. "That's the type of feeling I'll miss."

"Any big shifts, blocking a shot, making a hit, getting a puck out when I need to," he added. "I'll miss the rush when you get a big goal when we need it. I'll just miss the feeling in the locker room after a big win."

Dunn wanted to pass along advice for freshmen ice hockey players.

"Be yourself, work hard and trust the process," he said. "Don't let yourself get caught up in too much pressure."

After graduation in May, Dunn plans to take a year to work and study. He then hopes to attend medical school in the fall of 2023.

**SCAN THE QR CODE FOR
MORE SPORTS CONTENT!**



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2022!



At the end of the 2021-22 school year, The New Englander invited all seniors to write senior reflections on their time here at NEC.

Scan the QR code to read all senior articles on our website.

The New Englander will be seeing two of their students graduating this semester. One co-editor-in-chief, Alex Elliot, and the social media manager, Hannah Massoni.

Read along to hear about Hannah's time at NEC.

MY REFLECTION: HANNAH MASSONI

Farewell New England College

Since I entered high school, my grandmother and I had planned my life out in four years. The first plan was to graduate high school and then graduate college. I will complete my first four-year plan without her in just a few short weeks.

Freshman year started with a bundle of nerves, and the lesson of rooming with a stranger is as awful as it sounds—at least for me. However, I ended up meeting one of my closest friends to this day, who broke me out of my shell sophomore year. Sophomore year began the real roller coaster ride as sickness and covid killed spring semester. Junior year was practically a zoom university where I learned the skill of power napping through the boring parts of lectures, and the skill of multitasking was mastered. I stayed home for the spring semester and prepared myself for my final year in college.

My senior year started with uncertainty; I wasn't sure I would be able to readjust like I did my freshman year. However, it was like I had never left within a few days. The workload seemed over piling and never-ending as my senioritis kicked in. Yet I still had time to be dragged around by Lily Geber to attend the fun events, where we usually ended up pitching in to make things run smoothly. The sleepless nights of random laughter from idiotic sentences could no longer be interpreted between the wheezing and clapping, trying to keep quiet as it peaked in the middle of quiet hours. The hike to West Lot was right before a snowstorm that generally ended in baking random cookies and giving them to Kenneth and others. Scream singing in the empty parking lots, the endless trips to caffeinate, or the trips to Walmart always end up being filled with purchases that won't be needed. These are just some of my favorite memories from this year.

I joined The New Englander and learned that writing articles and covering news wasn't exactly my cup of tea. However, taking detailed notes, making social media posts, and representing The New Englander at whatever events popped up was. I have formed relationships and skills that I will forever take with me. I will genuinely miss the staff of The New Englander who've made it my favorite class to attend.

I will forever appreciate George and my aunt and uncle for being my supporters and my rock. They pushed me through and even worried more about my schoolwork than ever. They listened to my rants when individuals seemed to hit a nerve. I was always told that it took a village to raise me, and it did. So, I am forever thankful for my village.

New England College, you have taught me the importance of communication and time management, and more importantly, I leave here with thousands of memories that I will forever cherish.

Sincerely,
A burnt-out senior



STAY CONNECTED!



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