

# campus currents

## Application Numbers Highest Ever



MORE THAN 3,050 APPLICATIONS CAME POURING IN TO THE MOUNT HOLYOKE admission office this fall and winter, breaking the 3,000 mark for the first time.

The total number of domestic and international applications for first-year admission—not including transfer or Frances Perkins applications—came to 3,053 as of February 14 and could rise slightly from there, says Diane Anci, the College's dean of admission. This application pool is five percent higher than last year's, and a staggering 60 percent higher than a decade ago.

The numbers are a "statement of the great momentum we have now at the College," says Anci, who attributes the

increase to the "strength and vitality" of the College itself, and also to a number of new initiatives designed to get the word out about Mount Holyoke.

One addition to the recruitment effort is the Joy Mooney Jenkins Room, a large meeting space that hosts daily information sessions for visitors in the Newhall Center. The room was built with funds from an anonymous donor in honor of the late Carolyn Joy Mooney Jenkins '53.

This addition is key to the College's higher profile, says Jane Brown, vice president for enrollment and college relations; prior to the space's construction "we were only able to have information

sessions on the weekends or in the summer," says Brown. There was a 26.2 percent increase in visitors last year because of this expansion, according to Anci. The increase is especially significant because, Anci says, once young women visit Mount Holyoke they often apply.

Alumnae, too, have "played a tremendous role" in spreading the word about Mount Holyoke and helping with the admission process. Alumnae interview prospective students and run information sessions, among many other roles. "Alumnae are a huge part of our recruitment program," says Brown.

Anci says, "These are good days at Mount Holyoke."



## MHC Board Chair Looks to Future and Next Fundraising Campaign

AS LESLIE ANNE MILLER '73 enters her second year as president of the Board of Trustees of MHC, she relishes the extraordinary position of strength the institution enjoys and the opportunity she has to secure that strength in this new century. "I've inherited a board with a strength of leadership, staff, faculty, and student body; a balanced budget; and an endowment at an all-time high," says Miller, whose term runs through 2010.

Even as the College celebrates the achievements of the recent past, Miller says, the board must work hard to sustain the gains it's made. "The price of the kind of education we bring to students is high, and we are challenged to maintain the level of financial and educational strength we have achieved," she points out. "We want to ensure that MHC continues to attract a population of students that is as diverse as we see on campus today. In addition, we continue to be committed to offering competitive faculty salaries both to retain and attract the very best."

One of the primary goals of Miller's term, she explains, will be to lead the College and the board (twenty-three of its twenty-nine members are alumnae) through another fundraising campaign, with the objective of "sustaining the momentum that we have seen over the

recent years." The board has formed a steering committee of alums and others, and this fall will announce the campaign, to be completed at the end of 2011. "Of particular importance will be increasing the Mount Holyoke endowment," notes Miller. "We have made great strides from the last campaign and we look forward to building on that success."

It is a bold move, Miller admits, to initiate a new fundraising effort just three years after the close of the last campaign in 2003. But the continued relevance of women's education as the new century opens, the increased networking abilities of the alumnae body to get the good word out about the College, and a growing body of financially successful alumnae make a new campaign workable, she says.

Miller, who serves as the first woman general counsel for the state of Pennsylvania in the cabinet of Gov. Edward Rendell, was the first woman elected president of the Pennsylvania Bar Association and has served a host of community organizations, including the Pennsylvania Breast Cancer Coalition, the Free Library of Philadelphia, and the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. She lives in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania.

"A liberal-arts education is a gift we can give future generations," Miller says. "I firmly believe that an institution committed to the education of women continues to have a strong relevance, as events going on around us prove every day. It is an honor and privilege to lead the board at this time."

## Global Economy Scrutinized at MHC Conference

STUDENTS, ALUMNAE, PROFESSORS, ADMINISTRATORS, SCHOLARS from around the world, and others gathered at Mount Holyoke March 3–4 for the conference, *New Global Realities: Winners and Losers From Offshore Outsourcing*.

The conference was hosted by the Center for Global Initiatives, led by economics professor Eva Paus. The event drew over 350 attendees, about fifty of whom are alumnae, and 130 of whom are

MHC students enrolled in a companion minicourse that started in January and culminated in this conference.

Conference speakers included representatives from the European Parliament, the World Bank, the United Nations, the International Labor Organization, and Accenture, a communications corporation.

"The complexity of the issues really came out well," at the conference, says Paus. It was a sign of the conference's success, she adds, that it raised more questions than it answered on how to reduce the number of "losers" and increase the number of "winners" in the global economy.

The conference started with a keynote address, "The Great Doubling: Labor in the New Global Economy," by internationally known Harvard economist Richard Freeman. The major economic gap, he argued, is no longer between industrialized and nonindustrialized nations, but between rich and poor people within each nation. One major shift is increased competition for jobs among workers brought on after the global workforce doubled with the opening of China and the former Soviet Union, and the growing inclusion of India in the global economy.

Phyllis Kodi '07, an economics major, enjoyed the conference, concurring with other students that the variety of views represented by the speakers made for thought-provoking discussions. She took issue however, as did other students, with the exclusion of Africa from the outsourcing picture.

Overall, Kodi says she learned at the conference that "outsourcing is neither inherently good nor bad." It can be good, she notes, if there are structures in place to make sure that positive changes are not temporary or restricted to a select few.

More policy ideas from the conference are available through the speakers' papers, which are on the conference Web site at [http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/programs/global/conferences/conf\\_2006\\_readings.html](http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/programs/global/conferences/conf_2006_readings.html). An edited version of the conference will be available on DVD in May.

—Erica Winter '92

# Newsbriefs

## College a Top Fulbright Producer

THE COLLEGE is once again a leader among liberal arts institutions in producing Fulbright scholarship winners. Six Mount Holyoke students won awards for 2005–06. They include grants to teach in Indonesia, Korea, and Austria, and to study philosophy in Germany, chemistry in Ghana, education in China, and Latin American studies in Brazil. Other top-producing schools were Smith, Wellesley, Kenyon, Vassar, and Wesleyan. The Fulbright program provides funding for one academic year of study or research abroad after graduation. This year, more than 1,200 students were offered grants for work in more than 100 countries.



Windmill, by  
Vincent van Ojen

## Dutch Treats

DUTCH WORKS OF ART from the permanent collection of the Mount Holyoke College Art Museum will be on view through July 31 as part of “GoDutch!”—a six-month celebration of Dutch art, culture, and horticulture throughout the Pioneer Valley. Participating event partners include the members of Museums10, a collective of seven college and university museums and three independent museums in the area. Seventeenth-century

landscapes by Jan Booth and Willem de Heusch, Old Master prints by Rembrandt van Rijn and Hendrick Goltzius, as well as the work of contemporary artist Vincent van Ojen will be among the works shown at MHC. Area bed-and-breakfasts also have planted 4,000 tulips for visitors to enjoy. For up-to-date information, go to [www.museums10.org](http://www.museums10.org).

## Musicorda Shuts its Doors

THE MUSICORDA FESTIVAL, an independent classical music program that drew to campus gifted young musicians from around the country, shut its doors permanently at the end of its nineteenth season last summer, citing funding difficulties. Consisting of a training institute for gifted preprofessionals, a road company, on-campus recitals, and a children’s string workshop, the festival was housed on the MHC campus, where mini-recitals emanated from the dorms for six weeks as string musicians practiced their repertoires.

Jacqueline Melnick, a recently deceased MHC professor of music, and her husband, Leopold Teraspulsky, who taught music at the University of Massachusetts, founded the festival in 1987. The nurturing, family atmosphere created by its founders and the institutes that graduates established in their hometowns were a testament to the founders’ vision and musical integrity, said Gloria Russell, a longstanding Musicorda board member. “The music was exceptional and the reviews were fantastic,” she said. A combination of factors, including financing competition from wealthier summer festivals Tanglewood and Aspen, led to Musicorda’s closing.

## Medieval Studies for the Modern Mind

NEED A LITTLE frontal lobe refreshment? Many of the College’s academic departments have created useful and fun Web sites that outline not only current course offerings but also link to fascinating Web resources. For example, if you think looking at digital facsimiles of ancient manuscripts scanned from the originals

might be fun, the medieval studies program’s Web site ([www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/medst/](http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/medst/)) can link you directly to the Oxford University repository. Even more illuminating is the department’s offer to let you rearrange the face of Henry Tudor via the miracle of Java script. A visit with those expert in the Middle Ages—and many other academic areas—can open up your world.



Trisha Brown and company in “Set and Reset”

## “Acts of Reconstruction” Spring Theme for Weissman Center

THIS SPRING, the Weissman Center for Leadership and the Liberal Arts focused on the efforts of individuals, communities, and nations to restore or renew the social, political, artistic, cultural, and religious spheres. The series explored provocative ways in which land, history, art, and society have been transformed by those acts. The full range of reconstruction—along with implications for transforming the earth and impacting future generations—was explored.

“The aftermath of natural disasters like earthquakes, hurricanes, and tsunamis; fighting in Iraq and the Sudan; and the civil rights and social justice issues in our own country make it clear that today there are communities and nations under siege. After recovery comes reconstruction,” said Lois Brown,

director of the center and associate professor of English, African American studies, and American studies.

From a lecture, “Set and Reset,” by dancer and artist Trisha Brown, to the play *Sweet Maladies* by artist in residence Zakyyah Alexander, the MHC community explored the kinds of tools, agendas, and innovations needed to perform acts of reconstruction.

“Stories keep cropping up in the news about the quiet, relentless work of social activists who work

to achieve justice and closure for families who have suffered in the wake of wrenching upheaval, destabilization, and trauma,” said Brown. “It’s my hope that this series will highlight further the work—intellectual, social, creative, political, and physical—that we can do as students, professors, thinkers, and caring people. Acts of reconstruction require bold leadership and fearlessness. They have the potential to liberate us and to teach us more about the world we inhabit.”

### Chilly Students Offered Winter Garb

NEW ENGLAND WINTERS are brutal, and students arriving from milder climates often bring little more than a light jacket. Unfortunately, getting outfitted for below-freezing temperatures can be costly.

Sheila Browne, Bertha Phillips Rodger Professor of Chemistry, took this problem to heart in 2000 and asked fellow faculty members to donate coats and jackets to help international students and others who could not afford winter cloth-

## Primates and Performance

**Our series** of visits to MHC courses continues with a look at Theatre 350.

Shakespeare’s *The Tempest*. The film *Planet of the Apes*. Charles Darwin’s *The Descent of Man*. If asked to identify the connection among these works, alumnae might reply: “A new course at MHC, obviously.” Interdisciplinary courses are a given here, but interspecies studies are not.

Primate Dramas: Kinship and the Evolutionary Stage is new both to the College and to the larger world of theatre scholarship. Created by Erika Rundle, assistant professor of theatre, the course fuses theatre history and criticism, performance studies, primatology, and evolutionary theory into what Rundle calls “a discourse of difference.”

Heady material, but the nine students in Rundle’s seminar relish the challenge. As theatre majors, they “leap right into the discourse,” she laughs. Each student also makes a formal presentation, writes two research papers, and reads five texts (as well as thirty-four essays in a course reader that weighs as much as the Boston phone directory). As the semester progresses, the thematically linked writings by anthropologists, cultural critics, playwrights, and animal behaviorists gradually lead the students into a shifting moral territory of shadow and light. In the world of Primate Dramas, the boundaries between human and nonhuman, between stage performance and social behavior, become fluid.

One afternoon in the Rooke Theater’s Green Room, Rundle and her students are engrossed in a lively discussion of “species difference” after viewing a documentary about Koko, the celebrated gorilla who learned to communicate with more than 1,000 hand signs. References fly back and forth—everything from an essay on the cultural values imbedded in *National Geographic* videos to recent theories of language acquisition. Questions are passionately debated: What are the ethical implications

of using fictional primates to dramatize the “darker” side of human beings (think *King Kong*)? What does it mean when Koko learns to “speak”? And one fundamental question underlies all the others: “What does it mean to be human?”

After class, animated discussion continues down the hallway and out into the lobby. “This course has blown me away,” says Marty Seeger ’06. “We have amazing discussions about the importance of language, based on the incredible texts Erika assigns and the films she shows. I was new to all this three months ago; now I’ve become obsessed with the subject!”

Like Seeger, Wakana Nikai ’06 believes that the readings, intense class discussions, and trips to see museum exhibits and theatre performances—including a Wooster Group production of Eugene O’Neill’s *The Hairy Ape*—are radically changing her assumptions. “The course keeps reminding me that I am studying in a liberal arts college,” she says. “I see primates, people, theatre—actually, all of Western culture—differently now.”—*Leanna James Blackwell*

### In Session



The boundaries between human and non-human, between stage performance and social behavior, become fluid in the theatre seminar taught by Erika Rundle (right).

ing. Browne's program got a big boost when the Mount Holyoke Club of Hartford, Connecticut, became involved. Members decided to collect not only winter coats but also professional clothing that students could wear for job and graduate school interviews. Browne made the donated coats and career clothing available to students at the end of J-Term this year.

### Five Colleges Mark Fortieth Year Together

FIVE COLLEGES, INC. celebrates its longevity and legacy this year with the launch of the Five College fortieth-anniversary professorships. Professors from each of the colleges

were appointed to three-year terms; each receives an annual research allowance and undertakes a cross-campus teaching stint, with courses starting in the spring.

Christopher Benfey, Mellon Professor of English at Mount Holyoke, is part of the inaugural group of six professors selected. Benfey is teaching a course at Amherst College called *Gilded Age New England: At Home and Abroad*. Ilan Stavans, the Lewis-Sebring Professor in Latin American and Latino Culture at Amherst College, is at Mount Holyoke to teach *The Sounds of Spanglish* in the College's Latin American studies program.

Other participating professors and their courses are Barton Byg, teaching *Brecht and World Cinema* at Hampshire College; Smith College's David Newbury, teaching *Ecology and Imperialism in Africa* at Amherst College; Amherst's Austin Sarat, teaching *Punishment, Politics, and Culture* at the University of Massachusetts; and Hampshire's Daniel Warner, teaching a course called *SoundArt* at Smith.

### How to Be Here Now

TO GET A SENSE of the everyday at MHC, every day, check out the new "Being There" feature of the College's Web site. At [mtholyoke.edu/offices/](http://mtholyoke.edu/offices/)

## MHC Students Teach (and Learn) Leadership at Dubai Women's College

Four Mount Holyoke students traveled to Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from December 31 to January 4 to conduct student leadership training sessions at Dubai Women's College (DWC), under the auspices of MHC's Center for Global Initiatives and the student programs office.

Molly Aplet '06, SGA public relations officer; Emily Freeman '07, head of the campus Model United

Nations; Nicole Tuma '07, who is on the boards of four organizations, including the Association of Pan-African Unity; and Katie Kraschel '06, SGA president; were selected to go to Dubai to conduct the four-day training seminar.

In the training sessions, Kraschel was "struck to see how excited they are" to strengthen their student government, she says. Because the students at DWC see stu-

The Emerati women were most interested in women and leadership, says Aplet, and those discussions were the liveliest. At one point, a DWC student said, 'I want to know how to lead men!' and the Mount Holyoke students responded, 'So would I!'

The DWC students "had so many ideas regarding the system they wanted for both student government and their country," says Freeman, who led the seminar on democracy in the United States. The DWC students understood democracy as well as many Americans do, says Freeman.

Tuma taught a workshop on communication skills, both within organizations and between groups and college administrations. The DWC students were "just as bold and outspoken as I would like to be," she says.

Though in Dubai for only a short while, Tuma says she sensed that Emeratis conduct their lives at a more methodical and easy pace than people in the United States. There are many high-achieving women at Mount Holyoke, says Tuma, "but they lose touch with time, the value of one day, the value of one-on-one connection," she reflects. In the desire to do things both well and fast, Mount Holyoke students might "lose the value of the experience," she says. In Dubai, "I learned as much as I taught," Tuma says; "probably more."

—Erica Winter '92

**WEB EXTRA:** An expanded version of this story is online at [alumnae.mtholyoke.edu/go/dubai](http://alumnae.mtholyoke.edu/go/dubai)

### Student Edge



Molly Aplet '06, second from right, guides students at Dubai Women's College through the finer points of democracy and student leadership.

dent government as a new privilege, they were "very energetic, very motivated," Kraschel says.

[comm/news/being\\_there.shtml](#) you'll find tiny snippets of quotidian life on campus, including cars waiting patiently for Canada geese to cross Lower Lake Road, a finals-week freak-out, and a canine David-and-Goliath tale.

**Tidbits: a collection of brief takes from around campus**

- Professor of Politics Christopher Pyle, a former intelligence officer, in 1970 disclosed the military surveillance of civilians. With reports of the current administration's domestic spying activities surfacing, Pyle is in demand for his expertise. To date, he has done more than fifty radio and newspaper interviews ...



**“Jeff the Chef” Sadowski, manager of Blanchard Café, taught survival cooking skills to students during J-Term.**

- Mount Holyoke's Center for Global Initiatives recently received a \$100,000 grant to examine how all MHC students might have a meaningful learning experience abroad ...

- J-Term revived its popular Passport to Reality series this winter, which offered helpful strategies and information for life in the “real world” including cooking (above), budgeting, and personal finance ...

- Don't sleep much at night? You're in very good company, according to the airline magazine *Attaché*. Light sleepers have included the likes of Albert Schweitzer, Florence Nightingale, and Mary Lyon—who apparently slept but four hours nightly ...

Fred LeBlanc

## A Murmur in the Trees

TREES. They're inspiring, the source of the oxygen we breathe, and a challenge to every child with a yen for a better view. At MHC, you can't go far before you run into one, and in spring, they put on a spectacular show. Ellen Shukis, director of the Botanic Garden, provided these campus tree facts. Next time you're on campus, take a few minutes to examine some of these spectacular specimens.

Total number of trees on main campus: approx. 2,000

Number of campus trees that are now extinct in the wild: 1

The last confirmed observation of *Franklinia* (*Franklinia alatamaha*) in the wild was in 1790 in southeastern Georgia. A young *Franklinia* was planted in the Drue Mathews Garden (between the greenhouse and the Art Museum) in 2005 to replace an older specimen that died in the mid-1990s.

Species of tree with the greatest number of individuals: sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*): 164

Tree with largest flowers: Ashe's magnolia (*Magnolia ashei*)

This, the rarest of native American magnolias, has flowers that can be a foot or more across! It is 1998's class tree, and despite its Floridian origins, is growing happily in the Virginia “Tim” Craig '31 Rhododendron Garden (on the north side of the Art Building).

Number of trees planted on campus in 2005: 58

Tree with the largest leaves: Kentucky coffee tree (*Gymnocladus dioica*)

The compound leaves of this rugged member of the pea family can reach two feet wide and up to three feet long! As its name suggests, it was once used (by early settlers) as a coffee substitute. Although students these days go to Rao's in the library for their espresso, hundreds pass our Kentucky coffee tree every day on their way to Kendall.

Most celebrated tree: copper beech (*Fagus sylvatica Atropurpurea* group) at Dwight Hall At 73.8 inches, it is also gets “tree with the greatest diameter” honors.

Trees with interesting bark: paperbark maple (*Acer griseum*) has cinnamon colored, smooth bark that peels off in curls; paper birch (*Betula papyrifera*) has chalk-white bark that peels off in curled strips; and Japanese Stewartia (*Stewartia pseudocamellia*) has bark that flakes off in patches, revealing shades of pink, brown, and cream

Tree with the best fall color: Bowhill red maple (*Acer rubrum* “Bowhill”)

Tallest tree on campus: The sugar maple north of Mary Lyon's grave is 111 feet high.



[ campus currents ]

# Scientifically Speaking, and Thinking

**When we want to put a nail into a wall,** we reach for the hammer. But, when people turn their attention to the job of explaining something, what tools do they reach for? And why do they choose those specific tools?

These are some of the research questions being posed by assistant professor Araceli Valle, who joined the psychology department this fall.

“I’m interested in the origins of scientific thinking,” says Valle, who is examining her belief that children’s attitudes toward logic and scientific reasoning are influenced by conversations with parents. “Schools teach science, but the ways in which parents explore questions with their children give messages regarding the value of reason and science in knowing things,” says Valle.

In Valle’s research, “scientific thinking” means making decisions based on reason and objectively verifiable evidence.

In contrast, a person not using scientific thinking might make decisions or explain phenomena based on personal experience or societal beliefs and norms.

“People usually rely on both” scientific reasoning and personal experience in making decisions and explaining things, says Valle.

For example, she looked at how parents in California explained earthquake safety to their kids. Valle found that explanations of what types of buildings are more likely to fall down varied based on the science backgrounds of the parents.

Most parents reached for the scientific reasoning tool, such as discussing the relative pliancy of brick versus wood. Most

also brought up relevant personal experiences in recent earthquakes, such as telling the child about a brick chimney that fell down even when the wooden house itself remained standing.

People with science training, however, were more likely to rely only on scientific reasoning than those who were not trained in scientific fields. This was “surprising to me,” says Valle; it was interesting for Valle to see that, even with other perfectly workable tools available, people develop “habitual ways of reasoning” that they rely on when faced with a question.

More recently, Valle found that the degree to which parents emphasized scientific over other types of reasoning in a problem-solving task related to how well their children did on an abstract logical reasoning test.

Valle continues to look at what children learn about scientific thinking from conversations with parents and how any patterns she finds in the research outcomes relate to parents’ educational backgrounds.

—Erica Winter '92



## Brainstorms

- Professor of history Joseph Ellis spent January on a national book tour for his best-selling biography, *His Excellency: George Washington*.

## Free Web Resources Help You Learn Unusual Languages

IF YOU HANKER TO HEAR HUNGARIAN or want to speak Wolof or any of seventeen other less commonly taught languages, you’re in luck. The Five College Center for the Study of World Languages offers free online resources for independent language study at [langmedia.fivecolleges.edu](http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu).

The site includes short videos of everyday conversations—on topics such as taking a taxi, shopping, mosque etiquette, and telling time—in authentic cultural context. For example, you can listen to Arabic as it’s spoken in Jordan, Swahili in Tanzania, Serbian in Serbia, and Twi in Ghana. There are also video clips of interviews and conversations from other countries, and self-study course guides. The center’s director, UMass Professor of Italian Elizabeth H.D. Mazzocco, says few institutions offer such a range of free online language materials.

## Sports Shorts

### College Plans for Two New Athletics Facilities

IN AN EFFORT to remain competitive with peer institutions and better serve the entire MHC community, the College is in the early planning stages for a new artificial turf field with lights and an eight-lane synthetic track. An artificial turf field would allow the field hockey team to practice and compete on the sport’s preferred playing surface, on which 75 percent of the team’s away contests are now played. (At publication time, the location had yet to be decided.)

A new, lighted field also will provide a place for varsity teams including field hockey, lacrosse, and soccer, and club sports and intramurals to compete at night, limiting conflicts with academics and other extracurricular activities. An eight-lane oval

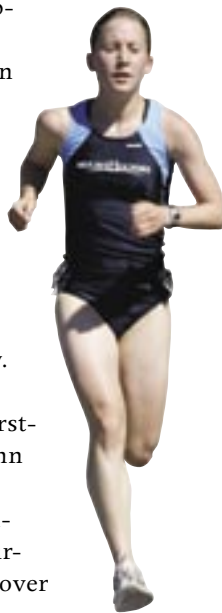
and ten-lane straightaway synthetic track would enable the track-and-field team to host a home meet for the first time in more than ten years.

The current six-lane track, installed in 1984, is literally peeling away from its foundation, coaches say, and collegiate competition now requires eight lanes and a steeplechase area. (The women's steeplechase event consists of a 3k run over 30" barriers and a water jump.) Both new facilities would attract prospective student-athletes in all sports and further the success of MHC athletics, as well as provide much-needed space for recreational programs. A committee of athletics administrators, coaches, students, and facilities management personnel has been formed to explore possible design options for these new facilities.

### Winter Sports Roundup

THE WINTER SPORTS TEAMS achieved great success as the first semester drew to a close. The basketball team had its best season (23–6) in MHC history, winning the Seven Sisters Championship for the fourth straight year and capturing the ECAC Division III New England Women's basketball championship. Swimming and diving went undefeated (4-0) in dual-meet competition and earned

eleven first-place ribbons at the Pioneer Valley Invitational on December 3, where diver Lauren Griffin '09 qualified provisionally for nationals in the one-meter event. She is only the second MHC diver ever to qualify. Squash evened its record to 3-3, and first-year Pam Anckermann went undefeated at the number one position, including a four-set win December 4 over a nationally ranked player from Bowdoin. Indoor track and field started its season well, earning several top performances at Wesleyan on December 3, including a regional qualifying time in the 400m by Valerie Shepard '06 and a first-place finish in the 5k by Anna Zimmerman '09. The riding team also competed December 3 at the Holiday Tournament of Champions—the two Lyons teams placed second and third out of twenty-eight squads and senior Kyla Makhloghi earned Grand Champion Rider honors.



Anna Zimmerman '09

## Modern Memories

Remember Andy Warhol's strange lifestyle? What about the French "New Wave" films of the 1960s or Jimmy Carter's cardigan? First-year students don't. These defining characteristics of time periods near and dear to many of us are so not relevant to the class of 2009, for whom

- Bill Gates has always been a billionaire
- Cut and paste has never involved scissors
- Television news and entertainment are synonymous
- The Starship Enterprise never seemed cutting edge
- Salman Rushdie has always been watching over his shoulder
- Airports have always had boutiques and edible food
- Voice mail has always existed
- Men named George Bush have been president half their young lives
- Jackie Gleason has always been dead



Source: Adapted from the Beloit College "Mindset List"



MHC won the ECAC title in its first-ever post-season basketball championship.