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NEW ENGLAND'S 2007 NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

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WELCOME TO THE BIG TIME

Freshmen get first taste of high school

By MICHAEL BRINDLEY
Staff Writer

Brian Conley and Brittany Carmona didn't have to be in school Tuesday, but they both showed up.

The students, both seniors at Nashua High School South, were at school to help guide freshmen through the maze of hallways that make up the interior of the large school.

Tuesday was the first day of school for freshmen at both of the city's high schools. All other high school students start school today.

But many upperclassmen, like Conley and Carmona, were spending their last day of summer playing the role of tour guide and mentor, helping their new younger schoolmates acclimate to the high school environment.

"You guys know where you're going?" Conley asked as students walked by. Jesse Diaz, a freshman, came up to Conley and humbly asked for directions to room C-2001.

Conley pointed him in the right direction. Diaz admitted he was still getting accustomed to the large building.

"I got lost a little bit," he said.

Conley said he didn't mind coming to school Tuesday to help freshmen adjust. An important part of establishing



Nashua High School South seniors Brian Conley and Hillary McCabe field a question from incoming freshman Matt Poirier during orientation Tuesday at the high school.

SCHOOL | PAGE 7

240 college students to bunk in city

Nashua | UMass Lowell is leasing rooms in the Radisson to deal with more housing requests.

By MICHAEL BRINDLEY
Staff Writer

NASHUA – Housekeeping on a weekly basis isn't an amenity usually associated with college dorm life. But it's one of the perks that come with living in a hotel.

In response to a surge in the number of students requesting on-campus housing and several other factors, the University of Massachusetts Lowell has contracted with the Radisson Hotel Nashua to house 240 undergraduate students.

The university leased three floors and will contract with the hotel for spring semester if there is still a need.

Larry Siegel, dean of students at UMass Lowell, said it's a

short-term solution to a larger issue of a lack of housing available on campus. But he also said it's a unique opportunity.

Students staying in the hotel would have access to amenities that don't usually come with a college dorm, he said.

"I think it's going to be pretty plush living to be honest with you," he said.

Private bathrooms and access to the hotel pool and fitness center are some of the other benefits that will be afforded to the students. The hotel will place two beds into each of the rooms to accommodate students.

The rooms will be cleaned on a weekly basis, including linen exchange.

HOTEL | PAGE 7

Firefighters deal gets panel's OK

Nashua | Proposed pact now goes to aldermen.

By PATRICK MEIGHAN
Staff Writer

NASHUA – The budget review committee approved a contract covering city firefighters although the contract would create a nearly \$431,000 shortfall in the city budget by next summer.

With committee member Ward 5 Alderman Michael Tabasco absent, the committee voted 4-2 to send the contract to the full board with the committee's recommendation.

The board of aldermen's next

regular meeting is scheduled for Sept. 9.

Voting for the \$18.11 million contract were Alderman-at-Large Brian McCarthy, the committee chairman, Benjamin Clemons, the resolution's sponsor, and Lori Wilshire and Ward 3 Alderman Michael Tamposi Jr.

Voting against the contract were Alderman-at-Large David Deane and Ward 1 Alderman Mark Cookson.

FIREFIGHTERS | PAGE 7

Sex offender released with charges pending

Courts | With child porn inquiry ongoing, prosecutor couldn't push probation violation.

By ANDREW WOLFE
Staff Writer

NASHUA – A registered sex offender was released on personal recognizance Tuesday while facing a probation violation and possible child pornography charges.

Craig Driscoll, 28, formerly of 9 Mark St., Nashua, was found drinking with two teenage girls in Wilton in July, and probation officers found pornography and suspected child pornography in his home in August, a prosecu-



DRISCOLL
Arrested drinking with teen girls.

tor said Tuesday.

"The state has some very serious concerns about Mr. Driscoll being out on bail," given his record, said Assistant Hillsborough County Attorney Paula Philbrook, adding later, "The state has serious concerns about possible threats of violence that he may have made in the past."

Driscoll is on probation as a result of a 2006 conviction for felony sexual assault charges, stemming

RELEASED | PAGE 8

Steiner touts experiences in House bid

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the sixth in an occasional series of stories based on interviews with candidates for federal and state office by The Telegraph editorial board.

By JOSEPH G. COTE
Staff Writer

HUDSON – Jim Steiner's run for the U.S. Congress, competing against four other Republicans in the 2nd District primary, has been a long time coming.

With a mother who served as a state representative for 14 years and a father who served on a school board, Steiner said he grew up in a family in which public service was "honored and respected."

"I've had an interest in running for a long time," he told The Telegraph editorial board Tuesday morning. "I feel I can make a difference."

VOTE '08
U.S. HOUSE

STEINER | PAGE 7



Republican congressional candidate Jim Steiner talks with Telegraph reporters and editors Tuesday.

Staff photo by DON HIMSEL

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WEATHER
Mostly sunny and pleasant, high of 77. Full weather report, Page 16.

Art by Ashley G. of Nashua



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