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Le Moyne and Merrimack to Face-Off for Men's Lacrosse Championship

South Easton, Mass. – The Le Moyne College Dolphins and the Merrimack College Warriors will meet for the second time this season with the Northeast-10 Championship title on the line after coming away with semifinal victories Friday afternoon. The NE-10 Championship is set for 12 p.m. Sunday in Syracuse, N.Y. as the Dolphins will host the Warriors.

Top-seed and Northeast-10 regular season champion Le Moyne defeated fifth-seeded Saint Anselm College 16-2, while second-seeded Merrimack was victorious against third-seeded Bentley University 9-6 to advance to the finals.

Le Moyne jumped out to a quick 5-0 lead after the first period against Saint Anselm as the Dolphins went on to win 16-2. The Dolphins were led by sophomore *Matt Chadderdon (Auburn, N.Y.)* who scored a game-high five goals. Sophomore attack *Jack Venditti (Baldwinsville, N.Y.)* and senior midfielder *Brian Welch (Ithaca, N.Y.)* each scored two goals and dished out two assists in the win. Saint Anselm senior Chris Murphy (Winchester, Mass.) and sophomore Ryan Henry (Norwood, Mass.) each scored a goal for the Hawks. With the win, Le Moyne improves to 14-0, while Saint Anselm finishes the year 8-7.

In the other semifinal contest Merrimack scored three first period goals to take an early 3-1 lead over Bentley and didn't look back as the Warriors were able to hold off the Falcons' offensive attack to secure the 9-6 win. Junior *Bryan MacPhie (Scarboro, Maine)* scored a game high three goals to lead the way for the Warriors. Senior *Greg Rogowski (Cohoes, N.Y.)*, the NE-10 Player of the Year, scored his conference best 52nd goal of a year. Merrimack goalkeeper *Cory Spinale (Wakefield, Mass.)* made 16 saves between the pipes. Bentley juniors *Kevin Gould (Duxbury, Mass.)* and *Brad Tunis (Sudbury, Mass.)* each scored two goals apiece, while senior goalkeeper *Kris Dambach (Chester, N.J.)* recorded 12 saves. Merrimack improves to 14-1, while Bentley concludes the year 9-4.

This marks the fourth time that Le Moyne and Merrimack will face each other in the Northeast-10 Championship final. The Dolphins hold a 2-1 advantage over the Warriors in the finals after winning the 2006 championship, 10-3. Le Moyne has won seven of the last eight Northeast-10 Championship finals.

With 15 member institutions the Northeast-10 is the second largest NCAA Division II athletic conference in the nation. Its 23 championship sports provide athletic opportunities for over 5,500 student-athletes, the largest such program of any Division II conference.

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