



# New England Women's Lacrosse Alliance

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## **Bridgewater State Chosen as Preseason League Favorite**

Bridgewater State, which returns to the NEWLA after playing as an independent for two seasons, was selected as the women's lacrosse preseason favorite of the New England Women's Lacrosse Alliance in a vote conducted by the league's coaches. The Bears, one of four new squads joining the league, received five first place votes for a total of 61 points. Bridgewater State, which won five NEWLA Championships between 1998-2003, will be led by seven returners including midfielders Shannon Manning and Lauryn Serratore.

Worcester State returns nine starters including 2007 NEWLA first-team selections goalkeeper Lyndsey Nunes and junior attacker Shannon Feeley. The Lancers, who received three first place votes and 59 points, will need to replace two-time NEWLA Offensive Player of the Year Ann Clark who ranked second nationally scoring five goals per game.

First year varsity programs Becker College and Fitchburg State join Westfield State and Bridgewater State as new members of the NEWLA beginning this spring.

### 2008 NEWLA Women's Lacrosse Pre-Season Poll

<b>Order</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>2007 NEWLA/Overall</b>	<b>2007 NEWLA Finish</b>	<b>Points</b>
1.	Bridgewater State	---/9-7	na	61 (5)
2.	Worcester State	6-1/12-5	2 <sup>nd</sup>	59 (3)
3.	Castleton	5-2/6-6	3 <sup>rd</sup>	45
4.	Westfield State	---/4-5	na	37
5.	Fitchburg State	---/na *	na	31
6.	Elms	1-6/2-9	7 <sup>th</sup>	28
7.	Thomas	0-7/1-7	8 <sup>th</sup>	15
8.	Becker	---/na *	na	12

\*The 2008 season will be Becker and Fitchburg State's first of varsity competition.

*Note:* Points in are awarded in descending order with first-place votes (in parentheses) earning 8 points through eighth-place votes which are worth one point. Records shown are 2007 conference and overall records with last season's regular season conference finish.