



University of Massachusetts Amherst
Office of Parent Services

January 15, 2008

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The Super Bowl will be played Sunday, February 3, which is also the first full weekend that students are back on campus. Based on the current National Football League standings, and their unblemished record, the New England Patriots are favored to play.

As with the Boston Red Sox, the New England Patriots have a loyal following of fans, some of whom have engaged in destructive behavior following a game.

On this campus, we have some concerns about the potential for bad student behavior related to the upcoming Super Bowl. Last fall, I wrote to all of you asking that you speak to your sons and daughters concerning responsible fan behavior during the Red Sox playoffs. With your help, we avoided any real problems on the final night of the World Series: our students celebrated the Red Sox victory, and, for the most part, their behavior was appropriate.

Today, I am writing to ask that you once again speak with your son or daughter concerning responsible fan behavior, specifically reminding them that once a dispersal order is read, there is no such thing as "just standing around." Guidelines for acceptable fan behavior and expectations for UMass Amherst students are available at The Office of Parents Services web site (<http://www.umass.edu/parents>).

We will continue to work with students to communicate the importance of maintaining a reputation of excellence for the University of Massachusetts Amherst. And, as in the past, the University will respond swiftly to any behavior which is destructive and potentially harmful.

Your participation in reiterating these messages made all the difference this past fall, and I am hopeful that we can continue on this positive path.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Sincerely,

Michael Gargano, Ed.D.

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Campus Life