

# Sports

Hockey

## Playing a woman's game in a man's world

Local grad Lauren Mallo plays on a partial scholarship at Buffalo State College.

by Amy Judd

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Lauren Mallo, 19, knows that there is a more limited future for professional women hockey players than men, but she is hoping that will change soon as interest in the sport is growing. "You always want to go further in hockey," she said, "and there is what they call a professional women's hockey league," but the road there is a tough one. "Obviously still men's hockey is dominant and I don't think that will ever change," she said.

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Lauren Mallo

For Mallo however, hockey has afforded her so much joy and opportunity, it will always be a part of her life. She started skating when she was about 10 years old. She first strapped on figure skates but that did not pique her interest. Next she tried her hand at ringette and eventually was persuaded to join the Meadowridge Barracudas as her mom's friend was president at the time. "I could keep up with the skating," Mallo said of her early days, "but I could barely handle the puck." As she continued through high school she developed her skills and now studies biology and plays hockey on a partial scholarship for the Buffalo State Bengals. "I'm hoping to go into something with animals," she said.

Mallo has been branching out in her playing style this season, as she usually plays defence, but her coach has put her in a more forward position lately. "I'm getting more goals this year," she said.

Despite the pressure of attending school, along with hockey practice and games, Mallo appreciates the busy-ness of it all.

"As long as you know how to manage your time, it's fine," she said.

"It keeps us from partying," she laughed, "and it's way easier to make friends, especially when you have a team to lean on."

Mallo is active even when she is not on the ice, as she loves to run, go for walks, and has recently

discovered the health benefits of yoga. With a hockey crush on Alex Ovechkin, Mallo likes to watch hockey in her spare time and appreciates the way Ovechkin "gets away with stuff" on the ice. She may be able to take some tips from him as the Bengals battle their opponents for the remainder of their season. They are currently sitting in seventh place in the league and Mallo wants them to get to the playoffs, "and to win our first playoff game at least," she said. The top seven teams make it to playoffs, so Mallo knows they have to work hard to move only up and not down. "We should have stolen a few more points," she said of their past games, "but we are still in a good position to make it."



Lauren Mallo is expanding her skills this season and playing a more forward position.

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Joyce Simons

Riley Glennitz was chosen for the All-Star game in San Diego.

#### Glennitz a star

Riley Glennitz was one of the sophomore boys lacrosse players who travelled down to San Diego, Calif., a the first weekend of January to wrap up the 2010 fall season with the Adrenaline Challenge. Co-head coach, Brent Hoskins, said the team had a great tournament.

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#### Ramblers win

The MRSS Ramblers girls senior basketball team continued its winning streak with a 79 -38 win against the Fleetwood Dragons. The girls scored high in all four quarters.

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