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# Maine Campus January 28th 2010

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# The Maine Campus

Thursday, January 28, 2010 • Vol. 128, No. 27 mainecampus.com



**John Gaylord • The Maine Campus**  
**Luke Finnemore converses with Lynn Lombard** about working at Maine Mutual Group Insurance during the UMaine Career Fair, which was held in the Student Recreation and Fitness Center on Wednesday. MMG Insurance was one of 96 companies and businesses represented that offered internships, co-ops and full-time positions.

## Accused stabber released from jail

### District attorney: Fraternities are “totally out of control”

**By William P. Davis**  
*Editor in Chief*

#### Crime

The University of Maine student charged with stabbing another student Saturday morning was released from jail Monday after his arraignment.

Christopher Girouard, 20, of Sebago faces up to 10 years in prison on charges of aggravated assault, according to Penobscot County District Attorney Christopher Almy. Police originally charged Girouard with elevated aggravated assault, but the charge was reduced because there wasn't sufficient bodily harm, according to Almy.

Girouard, a member of Delta Tau Delta, is accused of stabbing a member of Phi Gamma Delta (FIJI) early Saturday morning with a folding pocketknife outside the FIJI house after Girouard was denied access. The victim was taken to Eastern Maine Medical Center where he received 22 stitches and was released later that day.

Girouard was released on unsecured bond, meaning he did not have to post the \$10,000 up front but is liable for it if he does not appear in court. Under the conditions of his release, Girouard must reside at his parents' house in Sebago; not return to the UMaine campus without permission from the administration; have no contact with the victim; not use or possess alcohol; submit to searches of his person for use of alcohol and possess no weapons.

"I don't know if he was drunk but he'd been drinking," Almy said of Girouard.

The DA said that underage drinking at UMaine is "like giving out candy. It's all over the place. It's a problem."

"Alcohol is always a factor in these fraternity things," Almy said. He said the fraternities are a big trouble for police and the community.

"It's trouble for the community, it's an expense to the taxpayers in the sense that it costs the police," Almy said.

"The university's unable to control it," Almy said. "It's totally out of control, nothing the university can do about it, so it's just a huge burden on

the taxpayer every time we have one of these things."

Dean of Students Robert Dana said UMaine's fraternities are mostly well behaved, and that "the Greeks are not overrepresented in terms of conduct code offenses."

"The University of Maine maintains a very close relationship with the Greeks," Dana said. "We have expectations of them, and they're high expectations, and by and large I believe that the students have responded to those expectations. Where things go bad with the Greeks it's important that we don't paint the entire Greek system with a broad brush."

Dana did not say whether there would be charges related to underage drinking, but that "it will be addressed and attended to."

Dana said he had met with leadership from the fraternities involved. "The meetings went very well. They were very serious and very, very concerned," Dana said.

Girouard will be indicted Feb. 24 and will appear in court in April to enter his plea.

***"Where things go bad with the Greeks, it's important that we don't paint the entire Greek system with a broad brush."***

**Robert Dana**  
Dean of Student Affairs

## Pattenaude rebuts critics in e-mail

### Chancellor sticks to claim that the system is in a dangerous financial situation

**By William P. Davis**  
*Editor in Chief*

#### System

University of Maine System Chancellor Richard Pattenaude responded to concerns that the system overstated the precariousness of its financial situation in an e-mail to employees Jan. 20.

Two recent independent analyses of the system's finances, one commissioned by the Associated Faculties of the Universities of Maine and the other by the University of Southern Maine Student Senate, asserted the system has large cash reserves it is unwilling to tap into.

"Any suggestion that the University of Maine System is broke or out of money is preposterous," wrote Howard Bunsis, professor of accounting at Eastern Michigan University, in his analysis of USM's Student Senate.

Without directly responding to either analysis, Pattenaude sought to tamp down concerns the system is not using its reserve funds while the economy is in a downturn.

"You cannot make long-term commitments using one-time money," Pattenaude wrote. "This is tantamount to buying a car because you have enough savings to pay the first few months' payments, but not enough income after that to cover the ongoing costs."

Pattenaude also stated that much of the system's funds are restricted, meaning they are reserved for a specific use such as scholarships.

According to the system's most recent annual financial report, it has nearly \$132 million worth of restricted funds and \$83.6 million in unrestricted funds. Restricted funds are down \$14.7 million from 2008-2009, but unrestricted funds are up \$6.4 million. Pattenaude said the system is currently

aided by federal stimulus funds, which can not be counted on in the future.

"The next direct challenge, following the current year budget cut of \$6 million, will be the permanent loss of \$5.9 million in stimulus funds after [Fiscal Year 2011]," Pattenaude wrote. "Stimulus funds are helping us handle the current budget cut, preserve jobs, pay the bills, and hold tuition increases down."

"We cannot accept the idea that state revenues will return quickly to former levels and that enrollments can be increased with ease," Pattenaude wrote in the e-mail. "Nor can we simply ignore the costs of retiree health care or deferred maintenance for several years."

The system is projecting flat enrollment for the next several years, according to system spokesperson Peggy Markson. The system's enrollment has decreased 4.3 percent over the last five years.

Bunsis, a certified public accountant accountant, said Wednesday that universities generally use overly pessimistic projections and that enrollment at institutions of higher education generally increase when the economy is in trouble.

"I think the [University of] Maine system has more financial flexibility than they are claiming," Bunsis said. Bunsis based his findings on expendable assets, which include unrestricted and some restricted assets, he said.

The accountant rejected the assertion that the system is in trouble. "I really think that's unfair," Bunsis said. "I really think that borders on irresponsibility."

The system spends too much money on administrative costs and should cut in those departments before furloughing or cutting faculty, Bunsis said.

"The University of Maine System is not putting enough dollars into education," Bunsis said.

## Campus theft up in 2009

**By Mario Moretto**  
*For The Maine Campus*

#### Campus Life

Theft at the University of Maine was up in 2009, with increases reported in the Student Recreation and Fitness Center, the Marketplace and the rest of Memorial Union according to UMaine Public Safety.

In 2009, 258 thefts were reported on campus — an increase from 2008 when 208 thefts were reported. Theft at Fogler Library and Hilltop Commons was down, with 10 reported thefts at the library in 2009 and 12 in 2008. Hilltop lost \$4,300 worth of dishware in fall 2009, as opposed to \$6,300 the previous fall.

Officials from Dining Ser-

vices, Student Affairs, the Rec Center and Public Safety all said that theft at UMaine is a "crime of opportunity."

Police Chief Noel March said the declining state of the economy also played a role in increasing incidents of theft in 2009.

"We're finding that in all jurisdictions, theft is on the increase in Maine," March said. "Our campus community will reflect the community at large in that respect."

March identified the Rec Center as the No. 1 hotspot for theft at UMaine. Thirty-one thefts were reported at the Rec Center in 2009 — more than double the number reported in 2008. He said the most valuable items stolen on campus were bicycles and wallets. Officials at the Rec Center said

iPods were also stolen.

Officials at the Rec Center said that while there are security cameras in the facility, police records indicate 98 percent of thefts occur in the locker rooms, where cameras would be illegal.

David Mahan, director of operations for the Rec Center, said all the thefts were the result of Rec Center users leaving possessions in unlocked lockers or on benches.

The increase in theft reports in the Marketplace and the rest of the Union comes despite the installation of security cameras in January 2009. Public Safety received reports of 16 total thefts last year — seven thefts in the Marketplace and nine throughout the rest of the

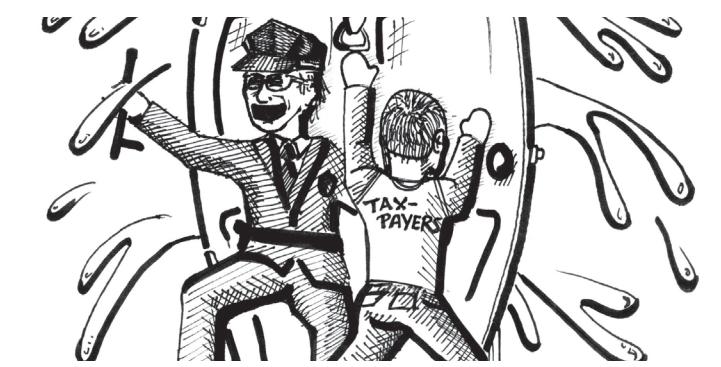
See Theft on 5



**Amy Brooks • Photo Editor**  
A security camera monitors Fogler Library. Reports of theft at UMaine increased in 2009.

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Vietnam vets, Marketplace waste and tax breaks



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# Guest lecturers talk superheroes, slackers

By Jamison Cocklin  
For The Maine Campus

## Guest Lectures

At home or in public, adults are exposed to a dizzying array of media messages. They come from every conceivable form of device, publication and company. Often the messages are mixed, filled with stereotypes and target marketing. These messages often go unnoticed by those who receive them.

Even more disconcerting is that the messages reach young boys and girls, according to authors Lyn Mikel Brown, Sharon Lamb and Mark B. Tappan, developmental psychologists who explore this trend among boys in their new book “Packaging Boyhood: Saving our Sons from Superheroes, Slackers, and Other Media Stereotypes.” The book is a follow-up to the 2006 “Packaging Girlhood,” authored by Brown and Lamb.

On Tuesday, Brown and Tappan came to the University of Maine to discuss the book and their experiences conducting the research necessary to write it. In the book, they explore how media and marketing target boys as they grow up and how media messages and stereotypes affect boys’ identities, choices and expectations about what it means to be a boy and a man.

“This really isn’t a book about boys per se,” Tappan said. “It’s a book about the cultural landscape

in which boys find themselves. It takes a broad look at a boy’s life, their vulnerability and what they are exposed to.”

Brown and Tappan, who share a home and have a daughter together, are professors of education and human development at Colby College. They said the trio’s motivation for writing a book on boys was the amount of public interest generated during the “Packaging Girlhood.”

“Throughout our research and engagements with the public we kept hearing, ‘What about the boys?’ So we figured we might as well start a new project and include Mark,” said Brown.

“From our work we know that boys take more risks. We know that they suffer more injuries, because they take part in violent acts more often than girls. And alcohol and drug abuse is higher among boys, so we really wanted to know if boys are naturally drawn to this lifestyle or does the media help to invoke these types of inclinations,” Tappan said.

The group gathered their information by conducting an online survey of more than 600 boys in different age groups. They asked a host of questions about general interests and got hands-on experience by going to malls, playing popular video games and talking with teachers, store clerks and counselors.

Brown and Tappan said Tuesday they expected much of what they encountered during their research, such as the contrast of blue for boys and pink for girls, but

some results were unexpected.

“We really paid attention to the different kinds of marketing techniques used to sell products. One that proved to be constantly pervasive instilled a sense of artificially increased anxiety,” Tappan said. “The idea is to make the boys feel like they aren’t measuring up, make them feel as though they aren’t good enough because they need the next over-the-top toy, costume or clothing line to achieve perfection and coolness.”

In the book, the authors argue that toys like Nerf or Hot Wheels use this tactic in product design and advertisements. An example of the exaggeration provided is the Nerf N-Strike EBF 25-Blaster — which looks very similar to a military issue M-60 — or the new Hot Wheels set with nine crash zones. Further examples included ultra-padded superhero costumes to give the effect of a bulked up body or over-the-top colognes like Axe, which promise to attract more girls than a preteen can handle.

“What concerns us about these over-the-top techniques are the mixed messages boys receive. They tell the boys that they’re in control; they make it happen, when in reality they aren’t. At the same time, toys like these also encourage kids to be out of control, to be absolutely wild. Not to mention the violence, aggression and revenge some of the other superheroes and action figures promote,” Tappan said.

Tappan remarked Tuesday on the over-the-top technique and its



Rebekah Doherty • Assistant Photo Editor

Lyn Mikel Brown, one of the authors of “Packaging Boyhood,” speaks in the Memorial Union on Tuesday. The book focuses on the media’s influence on male youth from sexually themed advertising to movies that focus on alcohol, violence and objectification of women.

goal of instilling a sense of power and coolness; Brown stepped in to answer the question, “What if you can’t be the best?”

“What surprised us during the research even more than these techniques was this concept of a slacker,” Brown said. “The marketers have created a counterweight within the culture to poke fun at the intensely masculine stereotype.”

These burgeoning characters — like Jack Black in “The School of Rock” or Will Ferrell in “Old School” — somehow still man-

age to become success stories even though they are lazy.

“This slacker stereotype proved to be everywhere, and it really astonished us. It’s definitely a save-face alternative to not matching up to those ideals of perfection,” Brown said. “The idea of a slacker has really been cultivated within the boys medium. It has become the I don’t care position; it’s an identity now.”

The authors agree that at some point boys will more than likely grow out of this impressionable stage, but the book itself is being

marketed as a tool for parents and teachers to help children become more media literate in a world constantly filled with countless media messages.

“I think a lot of what is out there naturally freaks parents out, but the best thing they can do is remain calm. All it really takes is real conversations about real issues. Listen to what children are interested in, introduce the concept of a stereotype and differentiate between what is right, what is wrong and what is real,” Brown said.

# Poliquin visits UMSG

By Mario Moretto  
News Editor

## Student Government

Republican gubernatorial candidate Bruce Poliquin spoke with the General Student Senate on Tuesday, outlining his platform and answering questions from senators.

Senate grilled the candidate on his positions on the two most controversial issues on the ballot last year: same-sex marriage and TABOR II.

Poliquin, a Waterville business owner, said that while he is a proponent of “traditional marriage,” he feels it is not the government’s role to answer tough social questions for the people of Maine.

“It doesn’t matter what I believe,” Poliquin said. “As governor, I will not impose my beliefs on the rest of the state.” Poliquin said he would send any bill on gay marriage that passed his desk back to the people for a referendum.

Most of the conversation turned to the economy, which the candidate said is his number one priority. Poliquin described himself as a manager, saying he had the skills and experience necessary to run the state. He said he is “someone who understands how an economy works and the importance of capital formation and job creation, who has been successful with financial issues and can turn the state around.”

Poliquin stressed the need for the state to get its “fiscal house in order” to attract more business and opportunities for young people to find employment in Maine, rather than having to move for a job.

He described Maine as a “a football team that throws a Hail Mary every year but can’t block and tackle,” and said that every government program and department would go through an auditing process to evaluate if it was meeting its goals and where cuts could be made. He also criticized Maine’s history of increasing spending.

“If we could spend our way into excellence, Maine would be nirvana,” Poliquin said.

Some members of Student Government, most notably Sen. Timothy Smith and Acting Vice President of Student Entertainment Joseph Nabozny, prodded the candidate on his aggressive support of TABOR II and scoffed when he indicated he would sign a TABOR-like bill if it crossed his desk, instead of passing it back to a popular vote as he would with a same-sex marriage bill.

TABOR II would have limited the Legislature’s ability to raise taxes beyond the rate of inflation as determined by the rise of the consumer price index. The bill was defeated by referendum in September. GSS passed a resolution denouncing TABOR II in the fall.

After an hour of conversation, senators thanked the candidate for his time, and Poliquin thanked the senate for its involvement.

“I salute you,” Poliquin said from the podium.

## In other GSS business...

- Three students were sworn in as senators Tuesday. Chris Knobloc, second-year communications student; Stefanie Veneziano, third-year international affairs and political science student; and Caleb Rosser, second-year political science student. Sen. Josephy Nabozny was confirmed as vice president of Student Entertainment. Sen. Zachary Jackman resigned from senate, saying he felt his time was done.

- Vice President of Student Government Nyssa Gatcombe said there are seven people on the wait list to become senators, and that she “would love to have a wait list as long as the senate roster.”

- Sens. Stephen Monaghan,

Ryan Gavin, Mary Emmi and Nicholas Smalley were appointed to the ad hoc committee to review Fair Elections and Practices Commission. Ross Wolland, former vice president of Student Government, was also appointed.

- Senate passed an amended resolution to allocate \$1,400 to REACH, a student outreach program, for its service trip to Peru during spring break. Senate also passed a resolution to amend the standing rules of GSS to allow executive committees to propose senate resolutions.

- Senators nominated Ian MacKinnon, James Lyons, Ross Wolland and Owen McCarthy to FEPC to fill the seat vacated by Matthew Donahue.

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# Tales of sing-a-longs, backrubs and gift potatoes on the drunk bus

By Rhiannon Sawtelle  
Features Editor

It drives through the streets of Orono and Old Town, lurking around dark corners, searching for college students. But it's not a stalker — it's a ride home.

The Late Night Local — more commonly known as the “drunk bus” — is on the watch for University of Maine students who need a ride home from a week-end-night out.

Driven by the brothers of Alpha Delta and the sisters of Gamma Sigma Sigma, the Late Night Local is a voluntary taxi service that offers free rides home on Friday and Saturday nights.

The service runs from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. and will take riders pretty much anywhere in Orono and Old Town. There's no telephone number to call, as the six seats in the van would be quickly overrun, but if you're lucky enough to spot it, the driver and assistant will get you home in one piece.

The blue van, rented from UMaine's van-rental service, can be spotted by its lighted taxi-like sign on the roof and a sign with their logo on the back doors.

“It's a way to help keep UMaine safe late at night, by keeping students, intoxicated or not, off of the streets and helping them get to their destinations faster,” said

Kendra West, president of Gamma Sigma Sigma.

“Riders are very grateful and excited when they're picked up, and they definitely let you know that they appreciate your help,” she added.

“The people we pick up are unbelievably grateful. I've picked up people in Old Town ... and they're walking to campus in the cold and rain,” said Luke Cyr, membership vice president of Alpha Delta.

“It makes it kind of rewarding for us too,” said Matt Shannon, another brother of Alpha Delta. “That's what most of the riders are, at least later at night, are people that are walking.”

The brothers and sisters team up for the night. One drives and one rides along to keep order and track how many passengers they pick up. Although the service is completely anonymous, the Greeks keep a count of riders to report to Student Affairs. Drivers volunteer throughout the semester, but some like driving more than others.

The Late Night Local was established in the early '80s with a paid driver position, but the program was cut due to budget issues. In 1988, the project was reinstated with support from brothers of the fraternity and Robert Dana, who at the time was working in Substance Abuse Services. After

over 20 years and a promotion to Dean of Students, Dana still supports the program.

In the fall of 1989, the sisters of Gamma Sigma Sigma were asked to join the project in order to make women feel more comfortable.

The rules of the ride are simple enough — behave yourself and the drivers will take you where you need to go in Orono or Old Town.

*“Last semester, one guy gave a potato to us because he wanted to give something in return for helping him. Where he got said potato, who knows? In general, people are so happy to see the Local that you get a good story, no matter what.”*

Kendra West  
President  
Gamma Sigma Sigma

However, there is no smoking or alcohol allowed in the van and even if passengers are grateful for the ride, the drivers don't accept tips.

Drivers say they have very few incidents where passengers are unruly, but they have the right to call campus police or kick people out if things get out of control.

“It's more of a community service thing, not like trying

to get someone in trouble,” Shannon said.

The problem the service faces more often is someone getting sick in the van.

“At that point we have to close everything down for the night and get the van cleaned. It's usually a very long process,” West said.

Above all, drivers usually find passengers grateful for the help.

“My first night on the Local, one rider was so grateful for my help, he decided to give me a back massage. People have also pet my hair, which was really awkward. I've been serenaded and taught songs, and have witnessed some pretty intense dance parties,” West said.

“Last semester, one guy gave a potato to us because he wanted to give something in return for helping him. Where he got said potato, who knows? In general, people are so happy to see the Local that you get a good story, no matter what,” she added.

Cyr and Shannon have similar good-natured stories.

“We have a lot of sing-alongs,” Cyr said.

Although the trips are often light-hearted, the Late Night Local drivers take their job seriously. Cyr explained that one brother picked up a student at Burger King in Orono who was visibly intoxicated and wanted to drive home.

“He picked him up and told him he had to get in the van or he was calling the cops. He got him in the van and took him back home and left his car there,” Cyr said.

Cyr believes the Late Night Local cuts down on drunk driving and OUI arrests. In 2008, there were 31 OUI incidents in Orono alone. These were not all college students, but Cyr thinks the service helps keep the number down.

Although the Late Night Local can't pick up everyone, Cyr estimated they pick up around 200 passengers a weekend. He said they pick up anywhere between 75 and 120 students a night.

“Some ride from one end of campus to the other and some from College Avenue to The Dime in Old Town,” Cyr said.

“We're proactive about finding people,” Shannon said. “We'll actually stop them and said, ‘Hey, do you need a ride?’”

“We get a lot of strange looks from some of the freshmen that don't know,” Cyr said. “They think it costs money or don't know what it is.”

However, if the van doesn't spot walkers, Cyr and Shannon welcome people to flag them down. You're guaranteed a ride if they're not at capacity.

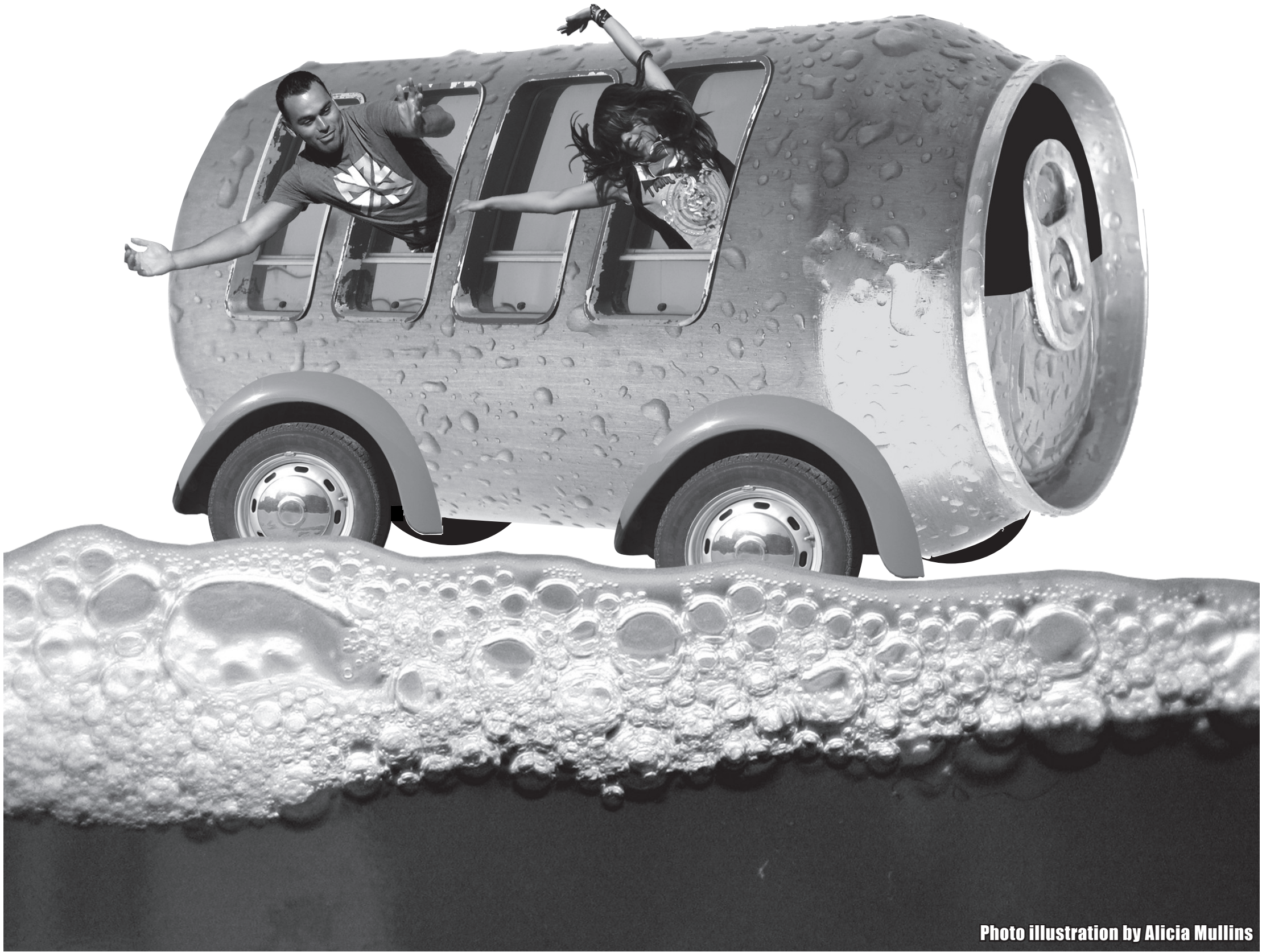


Photo illustration by Alicia Mullins



# Police Beat

**The best from Orono, Old Town and UMaine's finest**



## Suspicious staggering

Officers on patrol observed three males acting suspiciously as they walked through Hilltop Parking Lot at 11:52 p.m. Jan. 22. One male, holding a plastic shopping bag, was staggering. He appeared to be underage. Officers questioned the group and identified the staggering male as Nathan Winsor, 19, Orono. Officers charged him with illegal possession of alcohol by a minor by consumption. None of the males had alcohol on them, but Jordan Hess, 19, was charged with illegal possession of a useable amount of marijuana, and David Connors, 19, was charged with illegal possession

of drug paraphernalia.

## Jump around

A 20-year-old male resident of Knox Hall was jumping around and making “loud, unreasonable noises” in the second-floor lounge at 9:18 p.m. Jan. 25. When the individual refused to calm down, a resident assistant called police to the scene. An officer responded and gave him a disorderly conduct warning.

## Pot or pine

An officer responded to the fourth floor of Gannett Hall for report of the smell of marijuana at 11:21 p.m. Jan. 25. By the time

the officer arrived, all he could smell was pine air freshener. The two students in the room allowed the officer inside and said they had not been smoking anything.

## York yellers

An officer found four male students standing outside the York Hall entrance yelling at 11:55 p.m. Jan. 24. They were given warnings for excessive noise.

## Elusive odors

Officers responded to Cumberland Hall for complaint of the smell of marijuana in the first-floor stairwell at 2:42 p.m. Jan. 23. When they arrived, the smell was gone. At 9:37 p.m. the same day, officers returned to the hall after a report of the smell of marijuana in the first-floor hallway. Again, police could not detect the smell upon arrival.

## Early call to York Hall

Officers were dispatched to the fourth floor of York Hall on a complaint of underage drink-

ing at 3:39 a.m. Jan. 23. Two people were in the room. Officer determined Robert Sagona, 20, Orono, to be intoxicated. Officers charged him with possession of alcohol by a minor by consumption. The other person had not been drinking.

## You never know who's listening

An officer conducting a walkthrough of Androscoggin Hall overheard a conversation about drinking from a room on the fourth floor at 11:49 p.m. Jan. 23. He knocked. The door opened and he found eight underage students inside the room consuming beer and hard liquor. All were referred to Judicial Affairs.

## Making an entrance

An officer was in the lobby of Gannett Hall when a male walked through the entrance showing “extreme signs of intoxication” at 12:45 a.m. Jan. 24. The male, Derek Pratt, was found to be underage and was

charged with illegal possession of alcohol by a minor by consumption.

## Cumberland craziness

An RA of Cumberland Hall reported an intoxicated student to police at 1:22 a.m. Jan. 24. In a first-floor room, the responding officer found a heavily intoxicated 19-year-old female who admitted to consuming vodka. UVAC was dispatched and cleared her medically. She was not transported to the hospital but was referred to Judicial Affairs.

In another Cumberland Hall incident, an officer observed an extremely intoxicated female enter the building at 1:50 a.m. Jan. 24. She appeared to be in distress. The officer learned she was a juvenile visiting a friend at the university. UVAC transported her to St. Joseph's Hospital. The case is under investigation.

## Gannett graffiti

Police received report from an RA of derogatory comments

written in blue permanent marker on two microwave ovens in the Gannett Hall basement at 11:25 p.m. Jan. 24. The comments were offensive and aimed toward a particular individual, according to police. Later that day at 12:49 p.m., police received report of the same writing in a Gannett Hall elevator. Police have no suspects. The case is under investigation.

## Drinking in Somerset

An officer was dispatched to Somerset Hall at 1:22 a.m. Jan. 23 to address an underage drinking complaint. Of the five people in the room, the officer found a 19-year-old male resident and a 20-year-old male non-student who admitted to consuming alcohol. A juvenile was in the room but had not been drinking. The resident was referred to Judicial Affairs and the others were given criminal trespass warnings.

**By Aislinn Sarnacki  
For The Maine Campus**



**Amy Brooks • Photo Editor**

**Erica Woods** of the Student Women's Association advertises for the Vagina Monologues and raises money by selling vagina-shaped chocolates. SWA has been bringing the Vagina Monologues to the campus or 10 years. All proceeds benefit Spruce Run, Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center, Rape Response Services and the V-Day Movement.

## Theft from Page 1

Union. In 2008, there were 14 total thefts.

Technical issues prevented Black Bear Dining staff from using security cameras until fall semester of 2009. The cameras are not watched around the clock, but are used to verify the identities of shoplifters.

Associate Dean of Student Affairs Kenda Scheele said that cameras are not necessarily for prevention of theft, but that they were used to aid in the identification of thieves.

“The cameras are more safety than security,” Scheele said. “They were mostly to make sure the building was secure in making sure people aren’t getting in who shouldn’t. They weren’t necessarily put there to keep people from taking things.”

Scheele said that while the cameras’ purpose may not be theft prevention, they did serve as a deterrent and to help identify thieves after thefts had occurred.

Kathy Kittridge, director of dining operations, said Tuesday that one of her employees pointed out a Marketplace patron acting suspiciously. She reviewed the tape and claims to have identified someone stealing a drink. She is working with Public Safety to identify the alleged thief.

“We were experiencing a lot of theft,” Kittridge said. “Quite frequently, when we catch people in the marketplace shoplifting, they’re eating before they purchased [the food] or putting things in their backpacks,” Kittridge said. “We put in the cameras kind of as a deterrent.”

Kittridge said an advertising campaign accompanied the cameras to promote awareness of the consequences of shoplifting. She stressed the seriousness of shoplifting, which can culminate in a criminal record.

“Sometimes there seems to be a sense of entitlement — ‘Well, I pay a lot for this.’ People think they can take things,” Kittridge said.

Scheele said the Campus Safety Committee is considering installing more cameras in the Union near the information desk, the commuter lounge and the hallway leading toward the Wade Center for Student Leadership. She said the cameras are likely to be installed within the next two years. The cameras might help identify thieves, but they exist for other reasons as well, Scheele said.

“We’ve had damage done to the bathroom on the first floor,” Scheele said. “That men’s bathroom has been vandalized twice in the past year.”

Steps are being taken in the Rec Center to prevent theft. Director of Campus Recreation Jeffrey Hunt said the Rec Center will continue to use posters inside and outside locker rooms to educate members and nonmembers alike on how to protect themselves and not be victims of theft. Mahan and Hunt also said there were plans in the works to put automatic locks on the lockers to prevent Rec Center users from being vulnerable. But Hunt and Mahan said that Rec Center users should exercise more caution with what they bring to the center, as well as making sure it’s secure.

“Just recently I took 15 iPods to Campus Safety,” Mahan said. He said these were recovered from the locker room after Rec Center users left them behind.

Scheele said this kind of common sense is key in preventing theft on campus.

“The biggest thing in these theft cases is not to be a victim,” Scheele said. “These are crimes of opportunity, and not everyone on campus is part of our community.”

*Dylan Riley contributed to this report.*

# UMaine awaits state’s budget decision

**By Dylan Riley  
For The Maine Campus**

## Budget

The University of Maine’s 2011 budget awaits the approval of the proposed statewide budget, while the university is exploring ways to fill a \$5.9 million budget gap.

Janet Waldron, vice president of administration and finance for the university, said various parts of campus are looking for ways to cut costs to meet the budget reduction that is largely the result of decreased state funding.

“We will have a tuition and fee increase. We’re trying to keep that to a modest level,” Waldron said, indicating the possibility of a 5 to 6 percent tuition increase.

“We’re asking people to be working on [cuts] as we speak,” Waldron said.

The cuts, combined with the tuition and fee increase, will help

pay for the budget gap. Waldron added that no programs will be cut without giving students in them a chance to finish their education. It is unclear whether any programs or majors will be cut completely. Waldron said the university is also capitalizing on vacant employee positions to help decrease costs. In addition, UMaine is facing decreased endowment revenue for scholarships.

Gov. John Baldacci’s proposed state budget is currently in the hands of the legislature. The Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs is examining the portion of the budget that affects, among other things, the university system. They are scheduled to make recommendations on Thursday to the Appropriations Committee, the body that ultimately must approve the budget before sending it on to a vote.

“What I expect they will say is that ‘we know times are difficult,

but if you can find any money can you restore some of [the appropriation]?’” said Rebecca Wyke, vice chancellor for finance and administration for the University of Maine System.

The university won’t know its exact share of state appropriation until the budget is finalized, but it already has its hands full dealing with prior reductions in state appropriation and decreased revenue.

UMaine’s state appropriation in fiscal year 2010 was \$82,039,274. If the state budget was adopted as the Governor proposed it in December, it would reduce that appropriation to approximately \$79 million. Federal stimulus money will help offset the reductions, according to Waldron, but this will be the last time UMaine will get federal dollars, as none is available after fiscal year 2011.

Chancellor Richard Patten-  
aude — alongside other administrators, staff, faculty and students

— testified before the Education and Appropriation Committees in Augusta on Jan. 14, where he said the system is at the breaking point.

“Given the timing and magnitude of these reductions, it is not possible to avoid any negative impact on students,” Patten-  
aude said. “More staffing reductions will occur this year in order to maintain a balanced budget.”

Last year, 111 system employees were laid off, of which five were faculty members, according to Patten-  
aude.

Rep. Emily Cain, D-Orono, said that once the Appropriation Committee receives the budget recommendations of the Education and Health and Human Services Committee, it will likely take six to eight weeks to work out a final budget proposal for the full legislature.

The university is hoping to have its budget in place by May, in time for the board of trustees’ approval.



## Editorial: Globe must stay united in Haiti relief effort

**The Issue:** Reflecting on the relief effort for the earthquake in Haiti.

**What We Think:** It is an opportunity to refresh Haiti and unify the world if officials can steer clear of unfounded criticism.

Generations are often defined by, more than anything else, the national and global tragedies they endure — the events that reach across barriers and boundaries and unite a vast amount of people.

Although we’ve been alive for a comparatively short time, we have already seen several catastrophes, wars and natural disasters that have left deep marks in our collective memory. One such disaster is the recent magnitude 7.0 earthquaker in Haiti, which, Haitian officials reported Monday, has killed more than 150,000 people and left 1.2 million homeless.

The disaster is, without question, a tragedy of historic proportions, but there is potential for good to come out of it. The nation of Haiti was struggling long before the earthquake hit, and with the support of most of the world now behind them, it could become a new beginning for the proud people.

However, if the global community is to stand together in the relief effort, comments like those made recently by French and Italian officials must be avoided. The officials criticized the United States for seeking publicity more than contributing aid, bringing too many troops and not contributing enough — a strange claim considering the U.S. government alone has contributed far more in terms of money and materials than any other nation.

The United States is not perfect, and Hurricane Katrina’s devastation of New Orleans in 2005 showed how badly our government can botch a relief effort, even on our own soil. But the contributions from American public and private sectors have been heartfelt, generous and substantial.

Greater order and leadership in the relief effort is needed, but naysaying will only sour the good will of global powers, which Haiti will sorely need as media coverage of and private support for the relief effort wanes in the coming year.

## Readers Speak: Best of Web comments

**RE: “Supreme Court ruling lets corporations get ‘personal’”**

Good comments all and great perspective on what could arguably be the biggest single threat to American democracy since the Bush v. Gore election. In his new book “Threshold: The Crisis of Western Culture,” Thom Hartman does a great job of explaining how we’ve allowed ourselves to descend to this sorry state and then points directly to hope for change. Unfortunately, such sources of clarity and inspiration are rare in media today, but another is Justice Stevens’ dissent in this recent Supreme Court decision. Every American should print out a copy of it, frame it and commit it to permanent memory.

– S. Lyon

**RE: “Student stabbed near frat house”**

Wishing a speedy recovery to the victim and harsh punishment for the attacker. FIJI, I don’t know if you were involved in this or if it was just coincidental that it happened near your house but honestly, there’s always something negative being associated with you.

Please clean up your act; you give a bad reputation to the already struggling (and constantly bashed by non-Greeks) fraternities and sororities at UMaine.

– Clint Deaux



**Ke\$ha article displays questionable ethics**

Although I do not go to your campus, I received a link to the article posted about pop singer Ke\$ha (“Thieving artist Ke\$ha is ruining music,” Jan. 14, 2010). After reading it, I was appalled.

The way the “journalist,” if you want to call someone as unprofessional as this writer that, speaks about Ke\$ha and her listeners is just ridiculous. Yes, I understand that’s his opinion, but as a Ke\$ha listener he insulted me and all the other Ke\$ha fans. I understand he’s mad that Ke\$ha’s rap is similar to some girl named Uffie but he still shouldn’t say things like “Her songs appeal to the lowest common denominator and are spoon-fed to the masses ...”

Look, I know you’re trying to give your bratty, snobby college students a chance, but you should know what to and what not to publish. This is a college newspaper, not a random blog full of bitter people.

Get some professionalism and teach it to your students because so far, this campus disgusts me. If you published this, it only conveys you have no ethics.

Darwin Martinez

**Gibson’s ideas threaten airline passengers**

These days, folks, it’s a big hassle to go anywhere by airline, considering the failed underwear and shoe bombers and all the new passenger screening it has caused. And for me — and especially for those poor travelers just ahead and behind me in the screening line — it’s even worse.

I’m not proud of this, but truth be said, my dogs and the American-made New Balance 498s that keep ‘em comfy stink bad — locker room gone rancid bad. So, Michael W. Gibson and his recent opinion page tirade on women’s clothing (“Women on UMaine campus need to change their clothes,” Jan. 14, 2010) leaves me pig-biting mad, and you should be too.

Gibson, in case you didn’t read it, flatulates against the tightness of women’s clothing and



Send letters to [opinion@mainecampus.com](mailto:opinion@mainecampus.com).

## Letters to the Editor

the uselessness of pockets in women’s apparel. Not being a transvestite, I am a bit out of my league here, but tight clothing is precisely what we patriotic Americans need.

The very women Gibson rants against are the ones who can go through security leaving no worries whatsoever about whether they might have explosives in their underwear. Instead, Gibson’s lame brain carping only opens the way for burqa-wearing transvestite suicide bomber terrorists, not to mention longer waits beside red blooded, but stinky-footed, Americans like yours truly.

Joseph Sixpack, Jr., former student

**Fraternities maligned by recent articles**

Throughout the past week, the words “frat” and “out of control” have been over-used in this newspaper. As a Greek, student and active reader of The Maine Campus, I am disgusted. I have never seen such judgmental reporting.

When a UMaine student died last year due to falling down a flight of stairs while drinking, students were concerned and came together to help the healing process. They did not trash talk the students involved.

I understand it was a quote from the district attorney (“Student accused of stabbing released from jail,” published online Jan. 27, 2010), but as a reporter, you should know what is tasteless. I know many Greeks who will no longer read The Maine Campus due to the content of your recent articles.

Fraternities are a safe and responsible place for students. The reason Girouard was so upset was because he was denied access to the house due to his behavior. Phi Gamma Delta is not getting any recognition for this, though. Any other group of friends could have lied, treated the situation lightly, and not called for help. As Greeks, we know how to handle such situations and I think the light The Maine Campus has cast on Greek Life is appalling.

Ashley Willis, UMaine student

**TABOR-like plan could cripple UMaine**

During his address to General Student Senate Tuesday, Bruce Poliquin attempted to veil the catastrophic implications for the University of Maine System of his position on TABOR II-like initiatives. Poliquin voiced that he would support such initiatives if elected to the Blaine House. In an act of self-delusion or political greed, Poliquin asserted that such a measure would not have a foreseeable impact on the funding or tuition of the University of Maine.

Effective management — accompanied by system-wide efficiency audits — and “innovation” are important to budget alleviation; however, the notion that such measures would offset the rise in tuition brought on by TABOR II-like initiatives is simply naïve. To get the facts clear, the system board of trustees is currently seeking new ways to reduce administrative cost given the massive budget shortfall in the past year.

It’s difficult to see how Poliquin’s rhetoric on effective management is more than just a red herring to cover the entrance of fringe, neo-liberal fiscal policies. Consensus amongst experts in both the Maine Republican and Democratic parties is that said policies would effectively gut the state’s universities. Taxes in Maine are unreasonably high; this fact does not justify a fiscal haymaker.

Tim Smith, student senator

The attitudes and views expressed in the opinion section are those of their authors only and do not necessarily represent the views of The Maine Campus or its staff.

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# The war continues for Vietnam vets and families



*My father served in our country's military, so why can't he now get the help he needs for health problems acquired in Vietnam?*

Kristine Syrjala

When my father came home from Vietnam, he was given his discharge papers and a bus ticket to where he had enlisted. This was after a year of bullets, bombs, jumping out of helicopters and being sprayed with, drinking, eating and bathing in pesticides. The U.S. Army never wanted to admit, even after the Vietnam War ended, what they had done to him. They still won't.

Suffering with chronic back pain from the stress of multiple jumps into Viet Cong strongholds, my father receives no benefits or recognition. Though he was a paratrooper, because of the Army's improper medical care and record keeping, they say he could have hurt himself when he reentered the civilian world instead of during his time in the military.

Another problem for many veterans is post-traumatic stress disorder. According to conservative statistics from the National Institute of Mental Health, 19 percent of Vietnam vets were officially diagnosed with PTSD, while the national average of those diagnosed in the U.S. is only 3.5 percent annually.

PTSD affects the entire family of a veteran, but the Department of Veteran Affairs refuses to recognize it most of the time. They have not and will not give any benefits or proper treatment.

The problems caused by the infamous Agent Orange are worse than many know. My father has suffered for about 20 years with diabetes. The diabetes has led to ailments such as peripheral artery disease, stroke, kidney damage, nerve damage, hypertension, retinopathy and glaucoma, just to name a few.

Diabetic neuropathy has caused so much numbness in the toes and feet that he cannot feel a needle going into his foot. He is not receiving proper treatment for this. The pain medication he needs to get through the day is mailed to the house. It is never sent on time and it is received over a week after his other pills are gone. The same goes for the insulin he direly needs to keep his blood sugar under 200.

Agent Orange also left its mark on his skin, leaving chloracne and hairless areas on his body. The VA will not recognize this on veterans because they provided no medical care to discharged soldiers out of Vietnam.

Agent Orange has also affected my health in many ways. The VA and the U.S. Government refuse to recognize the children of male veterans who suffer from birth defects and ill health, except for a few with spina bifida.

I was born with part of my jaw unformed, and I have had other health problems since I was a young child, many of them similar to ones that other Vietnam veterans' children have been dealing with. I am not asking for recognition by the VA, I just want them to give my father what he was promised when he was shipped to Vietnam as a young man and doused in pesticides.

Why does a veteran have to decide what pills they should give up because they make around \$30,000 a year with a family of four, one of whom is in college and the rest disabled? The VA doesn't care about our veterans. And so, the war goes on even though most of us thought it was over. How can they say we don't all have PTSD?

*Kristine Syrjala is a senior anthropology major.*

# Wastefulness is a widespread disease, but there is a cure



*The Marketplace is a perfect example of the wasteful habits that are destroying our planet and desperately need to be changed.*

Michael W. Gibson

We need to change our wasteful habits, starting at the Marketplace.

We're clearly worried about the environment and our daily impact on it: Words like "green," "organic," "sustainability," "footprint" and "impact" are everywhere. The question is whether these are practical efforts for change or mere words slapped on plastic benches to project a false aura of activity.

Either way, it's not enough. We should encourage new modes of conduct to fight garbage build-up, climate change and other problems.

The Marketplace generates terrible amounts of waste. There are more than 17 large trash containers in use. But the Marketplace directors have improved their facilities over the years by composting and adding recyclable containers, so accusing them would be naive.

Who then, is the Marketplace? You are. If you eat or work there, you are producing the material that gets thrown away everyday. The overflowing Marketplace trash receptacles are larger than your home trash bags and full of recyclable and nonrecyclable plastics. Nonrecyclable plastics do not have a proper recycling container available, so they should be recycled but aren't. All of this waste is absurd just for convenience. We should at least recycle the containers that can be recycled.

UMaine and Green Campus Initiative, what about all those other plastics?

Single-use eating utensils degrade the environment

for everyone. Since you are the Marketplace, I prescribe a treatment for this neurosis. We all should act on a personal commitment with discipline to challenge this destructive behavior because if you waste here, you'll waste elsewhere.

Begin to look at your plates truthfully. You see a plastic soft drink cup. You fill it up once and you throw it away. Multiply this by the thousands on campus who act this way and you can imagine how much space they take up in landfills. Why not bring your own cup? Problem solved.

The only things we return to the Marketplace are trays and waste and recyclables, and of course they'll recycle what brings in the cash return. I'd say you can even bring in your own plate, bowl, fork, spoon and knife. As for those brown napkins everywhere? Bring your own napkin. Not just another disposable one. Take the nice one from your grandmother's dining table. This can be washed and reused. I can already see the trash bags disappearing.

If put into practice, this would be a beautiful change to our microcosm. Everyone would be using his or her favorite utensils and then walking by the trash instead of filling it. People would show off their utensils and they'd not only be truly "green," they'd be conversation pieces too. Another result would be a change in consciousness toward other behavior and may initiate more inquiry into our "footprints." Lots of other things could change as a result. Why limit this activity to the Marketplace? We don't throw away our cooking utensils, so why should we have to throw away our eating utensils?

I don't care about saving money. My concern is for the environment, waste of resources and the mental states that determine how we act. Just think: If everyone started bringing their own forks, there'd be thousands less to throw out. From there, it could spread and the habit of throwing something away everyday would begin to fade. We'd be less addicted to ease and comfort and more disciplined, with true concern for action for a better environment. We don't need a catchphrase or a logo; we need to change our behavior, because the vast amount of waste we produce is disturbing.

*Michael W. Gibson will be bringing his own utensils if he decides to eat at the Marketplace.*

# Tax exemptions favoring clergy defy Constitution



**Madelyn Kearns**

Columnist

Life is good for the Rev. Michael Rodgers and his loving wife, Bernadette. Between the loyal congregation of the Faith Baptist Tabernacle Church Mike shepherds in North Highland, Calif., and the couple's charming 1,600 square foot residence located only three miles from the office, luck certainly seems to work in the Rodgers' favor quite often.

However, in this case, it's more than good fortune that's siding with the Rodgers family: They happen to have the government to champion them in the form of an exclusive tax break on their housing expenses. How does one qualify for this housing allowance? Well, with the title of minister and a church behind you, this untaxed bonus could be all yours, too.

*The government should provide tax breaks for those who contribute to the good of society, but current housing policies benefit clergy exclusively.*

According to Rodgers, his monthly housing allowance — \$1,452 of untaxed cash separate from his \$31,000 annual salary — is a minor, necessary benefit for ministers, who spend a great deal of their days aiding the community. He notes that churches and the clerics who devote their lives to run them are "stepping in to help where the government can't" — a sobering fact that goes without argument.

Churches' charity and the positive aspects of religion is not what is being questioned. Rather, it's the blatant disregard of the laws and standards expressed in the Constitution that these so called "small rewards" bring to the forefront.

Can we honestly consider such allowances, offered only to a certain class of individuals defined specifically by the degree of their religious commitment, and conclude that they are not only fair

but maintain the separation of church and state called for in the First Amendment? The answer, after careful reasoning, is absolutely not.

As of October, the Freedom From Religion Foundation, a free-thinking activism organization based in Wisconsin, has produced a lawsuit in hopes to abolish clergy housing exemptions and has found a spot on the docket in Sacramento federal court. The foundation, although a bit overzealous in some of its battles, may have picked a winner with this one because of the exclusivity embedded within the Clergy Housing Clarification Act.

Due to the fact that only ministers are allowed to apply for the housing tax exemption, while other non-profit organization employees such as teachers and day care workers are barred, there is an unwarranted favoritism toward religious workers in the law.

Erwin Chermerinsky, dean of the University of California, Irvine School of Law and constitutional law expert, articulates it best in an e-mail he sent to the Sacramento Bee concerning the problem at hand: "[The Clergy Housing Clarification Act] gives a tax exemption for 'ministers of the gospel' that is not available for anyone else. The Supreme Court has said that the government cannot favor religion over secular activities. This does just that."

The practice is unconstitutional and unfair to taxpayers in this country, especially those who work so hard to provide for the good of the community such as social workers, nurses and teachers. A tax exemption like this should be fashioned for all non-profit workers, not just one particular group that happens to have a stronghold in politics.

Not all of us have jobs that pay a sustainable salary and include our religious beliefs as a focal point. Despite the certainty of death and taxes, as well as the ever-tightening budget belt, somehow we all manage to get by just fine. But to live in a country that displays an imbalance merely because of favoritism and bias when everyone is struggling is just plain unacceptable.

"If they take this away, well, my Bible says God will supply all my needs," Rodgers commented when asked about the possibility of losing the tax break.

That's how it's been for everyone else for a while now, Mr. Rodgers. Welcome to the neighborhood.

*Madelyn Kearns is a sophomore mass communications major.*

## Love us? Hate us? Write us.

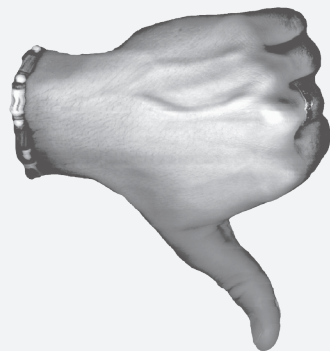
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## Thumbs up / Thumbs down

Turkey	Turkey
Greek dressing	Greek dresses
Haitians	Hatin'
Chile	Chili
Being Hungarian	Being hungry





## No time for a beer in the daily grind? Try coffee

This may sound blasphemous, but there isn't always time for a beer in a single day. Perhaps not even in a single week or month. Sometimes, just trying to keep your act together on a day-to-day basis while reserving a reasonable amount of time for sleep makes drinking a beer seem like an unattainable luxury. I can probably count the number of beers I have had since the beginning of the semester on one hand. It is during these trying times that I abuse another drug, perhaps the only drug even more socially accepted than alcohol — caffeine.



**Beer Police**  
By Andrew Catalina

What business does a beer columnist have writing about coffee? Like alcohol, caffeine is a substance that is often abused wholesale. Like beer, coffee has attributes associated with it, more or less objective, that determine its quality. And especially, people are perhaps even more likely to subject themselves to poor quality coffee out of sheer ignorance than beer.

Why even bother? What's the difference? If you're more than satisfied with what you're drinking, the short answer is no, you shouldn't bother. But like almost all things culinary, you owe it to yourself to understand what it is you're missing. A good cup of coffee should be sharp and bright and full of subtle nuances like fruity notes. A bad cup falls flat — like substituting government cheese for mozzarella on a pizza. Ultimately, the choice of what to consume is yours and yours alone, but that doesn't mean better alternatives aren't out there.

Now that I have justified myself, we can continue. Over the holidays, I was fortunate enough to receive a French press and a burr grinder — essentials for a good quality homebrewed cup. Where drip coffeemakers often have problems brewing grounds evenly, a French press immerses them all in hot water to ensure they extract at the same time. Whirly-type blade grinders cut through beans instead of just grinding them, producing uneven grounds. Don't even bother with pre-ground coffee; the best way to ensure a fresh cup — never stale — is to grind beans just before brewing. Whole beans are going to be more expensive than a typical can at a supermarket, and the equipment is downright pricey, but you get what you pay for. Over time you'll still save money over buying DD's or CharBucks every day.

Although there is a time and place for cream and sugar in your coffee, the biggest step toward an enlightened cup is to skip them. They simply mask the taste of what you're really getting after and without them you can truly evaluate its taste. I still retain the right to use them in other peoples' brews, especially if they're flawed, but they are no excuse for making an inferior brew yourself. Once you have ditched them, it's hard to go back, so brewing a proper cup does not seem like an outrageous proposition.

To understand how to make a proper cup, you need to know exactly what it is. A cup of coffee is an emulsion of oils excreted by the beans in water, much like a vinaigrette — oil in vinegar. Immersing the grounds in hot water extracts their oils. If you leave them in for too long, you extract more than the oil and bitterness ensues. Not long enough and the cup is too dilute.

This is why a French press makes a great cup — the grounds are infused in the water much like tea, so they extract evenly. There is no paper element, so no oil is lost due to absorption into a filter. Just a strong, full bodied cup every time. If you don't want to pony up the cash for a new coffeemaker, you may be able to get by with a drip pot if you choose a special paper type for your filter, but these are often unavailable for the cheapest pots. Once you have had a non-drip cup, it will be hard to resist blowing a pile of cash on gear.

The allure of a good cup of coffee is literally intoxicating. I find that my standard two cups, when brewed properly, are enough to make me positively looney. Like alcohol, you will need to seek reasonable limits for your consumption, but rest assured — you may not be able to sneak whiskey into work in the morning, but you might get a sideways glance if you're without coffee.

## That party last night...

### UM version of TFLN lets students share inside jokes

By Kegan Zema  
Style Editor

Weekends at the University of Maine are usually ripe with their fair share of misadventures, intoxicated rendezvous, selective memory loss and day-ruining hangovers. These stories are as old as the university itself, but only recently has there been an attempt to catalog students' escapades.

The Facebook group "Texts From Last Night: UMO" was created by first-year student Pat Keogh and has grown to nearly 1,600 members. Based off the popular national Web site "Texts From Last Night," members post text messages from the night before, often documenting sexual exploits and drunken debauchery.

Unlike the national site, which is strictly moderated, the UMaine-specific page is open to any and all posts. There is a sense of community, with posts coming from fellow students instead of people in other states.

The success of the

UMaine version of the site was mostly an accident, according to Keogh. He started the group after hearing about a "Texts From Last Night" at the University of Rhode Island.

"I didn't really think it would get so big," Keogh said. "I invited a couple of my friends — it was probably only like 10 or 11 people. I think after the second or third day it was like 1,000 people."

Keogh said he checks the national Web site daily to read the humorous stories. The relative anonymity — just because a certain person posts a text doesn't mean they wrote it, according to Keogh — lets people share a laugh guilt free.

"I feel kind of bad because it's not supporting partying, [but] a lot of it has to do with kids going out and partying and making bad decisions," Keogh said. "I think it appeals to

[the college] demographic."

For some, the texts are comforting, according to Keogh. He has been told by members of the group they read the texts and find solace in the fact that, as crazy as their weekend was, somebody else's was even worse.

"The [UMaine] page personally makes me feel better about some of the stupid situations I find myself in from time to time," wrote second-year student Zoe Kubachka in an e-mail. "I'll think to myself, 'Phew, so I'm not the only person who's done that before.' It helps to know that everyone has had that text from last night."

For Michael Rogers, a first-year mechanical engineering major, the UMaine-specific site is a great place for inside jokes that normally would never make it onto the national Web site.

"It's always cool to check the site in the morning after a

good party, see a text that only people from UMaine would understand, and say, 'Haha, I remember that,'" Rogers wrote in an e-mail.

First-year student Vanessa Roach echoed the same sentiment about the local feel of the UMaine site. She said she enjoyed the feeling that what she says or does could end up on the page.

The texts shared on "Texts From Last Night: UMO" range greatly in both vulgarity and subject matter. Keogh said one of his favorites was written by a friend and made it onto the national site — "Last night you walked up to every Asian girl and blamed her for breaking up The Beatles."

Often, topics posted to the Facebook group page are topics many students can identify with:

"(207) Daaanngg, I could have supported a really good

See Texts on **10**

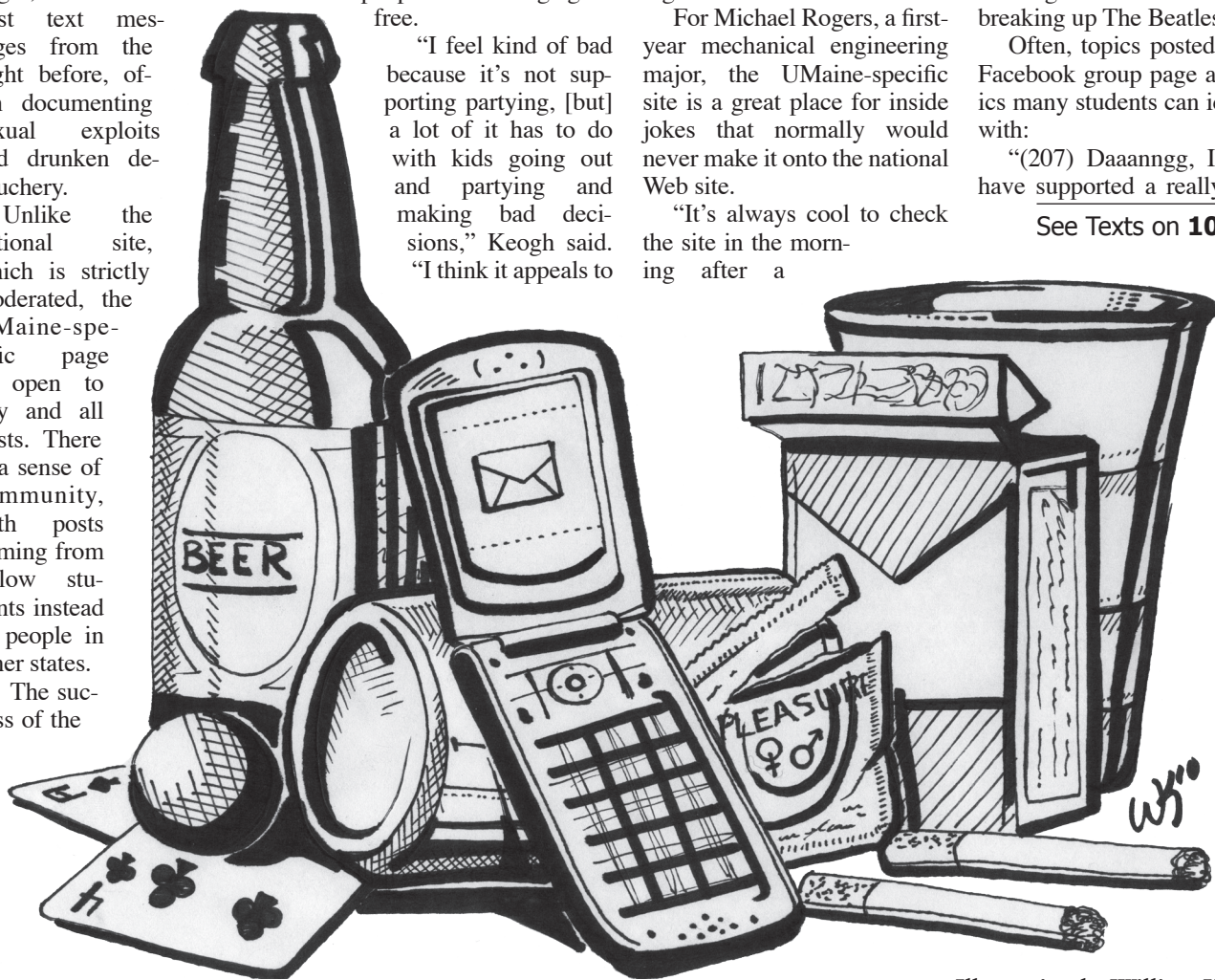


Illustration by William Kramer

## More KahBang for your buck

By Kegan Zema  
Style Editor

BANGOR — For the organizers of The KahBang Music and Arts Festival, bigger is better. They have recently announced the festival will return for its second year, expanding to include film. Now called "KahBang: Music, Art, Film," the event will be stretched out over a week this August, culminating in two days of music.

According to Communications Director Chris Michaud, the organizers are building on the success of last year's festival. With extra clout they have been able to do more, such as team up with the Bangor Film Festival. He said that with a year to plan it, they wanted to expand it to include multiple genres and all art forms.

"We wanted to do the whole independent mindset for Bangor," Michaud said. "We want to revitalize the area — it's not the cultural hotbed one would want. We're trying to offer a broad base for different things for people to experience."

Michaud said he wanted to give KahBang more of a festival feel, similar to national gatherings like Coachella and Bonnaroo. He wants people to feel like they can come and go as they please instead of just buying a ticket for a one-off event.

No bands have been confirmed as of yet, but Michaud said they are currently in the process of booking acts — the full lineup will be released in the spring. Similar to last year's event, KahBang will feature a mix of local and national acts. Michaud said he is hoping for a big-name headlining act.

The film festival will kick off the first weekend and include features as well as shorts,



Photos courtesy Adam Hess  
**ABOVE:** Ida Maria rock out at last year's KahBang festival  
**RIGHT:** Matt and Kim perform as a beachball rolls by.

according to Michaud.

The board of directors for KahBang consists of Michaud and some his friends, all of whom are from the Bangor area. After moving away to various cities like L.A. and Boston, and exploring different endeavors, they have all moved back to Bangor.

Michaud, who was in a touring band before returning to Maine, played at the South by Southwest festival in Austin, Texas. Michaud wanted to model KahBang after the festival but on smaller scale after seeing the an economic and cultural impacts. He said the estimated economic imprint of

See KahBang on **10**

# go!

Thursday, Jan. 28

**"To Save a Life"**  
Bangor Mall Cinema  
1:35, 4:00, 7:00 and 9:30 p.m.  
\$6 - \$8.25

**"Tetro" — A film by Francis Ford Coppola**  
Collins Center for the Arts  
7 p.m.  
\$6

**I Love the '80s Pop Culture Trivia**  
Bear's Den, Memorial Union  
8 p.m.  
21+

Friday, Jan. 29

**Kickin' Flicks: "Where the Wild Things Are"**  
Bangor Room, Memorial Union  
7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.

**Rockin' Ron and the New Society Band**  
Hollywood Slots, Bangor  
8 p.m.

**Improv: The Focus Group**  
Next Generation Theatre at Between Friends  
39 Center St., Brewer  
8 p.m.

**Chee-Yun, Violin / Alisa Weilerstein, Cello**  
Minsky Recital Hall  
8 p.m.  
\$34

**Dead Season**  
With These October Skies, A Days Confession, Day Without a God  
103 Ultra Lounge  
\$12 advance, \$15 door

**Karaoke**  
Bear's Den, Memorial Union  
9 p.m.

**Museum of Art exhibits**  
University of Maine Museum of Art  
Harlow St., Bangor  
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 30

**Alfred Hitchcock's "Rear Window"**  
Collins Center for the Arts  
7 p.m.  
\$6

**Museum of Art exhibits**  
University of Maine Museum of Art  
Harlow St., Bangor  
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 31

**Bangor Symphony Orchestra: Brahms for Two**  
Collins Center for the Arts  
3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
\$18 - \$42

A more comprehensive list of postings is available at [mainecampus.com/calendar](http://mainecampus.com/calendar). To submit your event, invite [calendar@mainecampus.com](mailto:calendar@mainecampus.com) via iCal or Google Calendar.





# CD REVIEW: Robocop

New media thrashers deliver riffs and irony

By **Jeremy Swist**  
For *The Maine Campus*

What happens when you watch too many nerdy movies? What happens when you spend too many hours in the Collaborative Media Lab? What happens when the majority of bands in the state of Maine produce God-awful music?

For three UMaine students, you form a band called Robocop. Then you pack a plenitude of creative energy into twelve minutes of madness. Powerviolence is the name of the game: abnormally fast, hardcore blasting combined with groovy riffs of the metal variety. Some call it thrash-core. Yet reflecting guitarist Ryan Page's approach to music, "to add something that makes it better," Robocop toss in a sinister dosage of doom.

This is the same Ryan Page who made this paper last semester with his solo project, Body Hammer. His dedication to the guitar and devoted study of experimental music composition in new media help Robocop stand out. He skillfully combines his passion for innovation with homage to bands like Napalm Death and Municipal Waste. Luke Abbott, another stand-up New

Media major, proves his skill on the bass to add just as much depth of artistry as of sound. The experimental doom influences of his solo band Giant-Giant introduce the record with foreboding force. Tom Bennett's lightning speed as a drummer matches his technical prowess as a jazz percussionist. All three members shout, growl and scream satire of our silly society.

Right away, Robocop get their point across and take no prisoners. One close listen will tell you these aren't just a bunch of angry kids wrecking their instruments for its own sake — they know their stuff. Each song combines engaging riffs with irresistibly head-bangable drumming. Thrash metal fans take note. Bursts of speed and groovy chord progressions are book-ended by two trance-inducing doom tracks, the latter drenched in guitar effects.

The demo on its own is fun in small doses, but for those with longer attention spans, I wouldn't call it a soundtrack to a rainy afternoon. Robocop is a band meant to play live, as the production aims to advertise. It's merely a lure to see these guys in real life, and boy do they put on a show. Their



**Rebekah Doherty • Assistant Photo Editor**

**Robocop** are, from left to right, Luke Abbott, Tom Bennett and Ryan Page.

recent performance at Jester's in Brewer filled a small space, and a small crowd, with much enthusiasm. They even smashed a guitar on stage just to make an ambiguous political statement.

This short demo is hope-

fully a taste of what's to come and surely worth a listen. Download it free from their Web site (robocop.me) or ask for a copy from a band member in nothing other than a brown paper bag. Got to love the underground. Just be

warned that Powerviolence isn't for everybody; if everyone loved Powerviolence, bands like Robocop would lose their purpose, namely, hating on local bands that are more popular than good.

So what does this band

have to do with "Robocop" the movie? Absolutely nothing. The band's moniker has everything to do with the expectation of what only a gaggle of intelligent musicians can create.

**Grade: A-**

# DVD REVIEW: The Hurt Locker

Realistic war movie not bogged down by message

By **John Shannon**  
*Staff Writer*

Most — if not all — of the films set in or around the Iraq war spend so much time preaching their message and being grim that they have forgotten to be interesting or entertaining. Thankfully, that is not the case with Kathryn Bigelow's "The Hurt Locker," which has received enormous amounts of awards buzz and is currently available on DVD. The film eschews the modern formula of war films, labeling the U.S. Army as being good and the insurgents as bad, refusing to delve into the politics behind it all. There's not a scrap of political commentary or anti-war propaganda in "The Hurt Locker" — it is simply the story of three men doing their job. This job just happens to be possibly the scariest and most deadly position in the world.

Jeremy Renner plays Sgt. William James, the team leader of an EOD Unit stationed in Iraq. Their daily task is to defuse roadside bombs left by insurgents. As the film unfolds, we learn of the pure adrenaline rush that comes with such a harrowing gig. James is an adrenaline junkie, appearing cool as a cucumber as he struts into the blast range with careless abandon and turning off his radio when his teammates get on his nerves. He walks the fine line between being a useful tool and a wild card, and when one

of his team members considers fragging him, you understand the reasoning behind it.

The film is thrilling, with characters to root for and action scenes that are intense and brilliantly choreographed. Director Bigelow uses handheld photography to tell her story, but doesn't cut rapidly to dizzying effect, such as in the "Bourne" films. The action and the players are clearly laid out, and at no time are we confused as to what is happening. It is presented in a matter-of-fact style, making it all the more real and consuming.

The key to this film is the pacing. Bigelow employs the right movements at the right moments. A simple windshield wiper causes the hair on your arms to rise, and the sight of a kite in the air can fill you with dread. There are no enemy lines to be found for these men. As they defuse bombs in the streets of Baghdad, life carries on all around them, and any of the onlookers could be insurgents waiting for the right moment to trigger the bomb. The paranoia and adrenaline that comes with such a situation is unfathomable, and the actors sell it perfectly.

But above all else, the movie's greatest strength is its honesty. It stays true to the characters, never over-selling their emotional states, nor do they make a fuss about their situation. While other efforts concerning the Iraq war



**Voltage Pictures**

**William James**, *The Hurt Locker's* main character, stands atop a cluster of several IEDs.

aim for profound revelations, "The Hurt Locker" hurdles stuffy political commentary to provide verisimilitude through astonishing examples of simple war routine. Its final shot is one of personal triumph, but when

the cost is considered, one wonders how much has truly been gained. However, the film doesn't push that thought upon us. It comes naturally, and that is the way it should be.

**Grade: A**

# Great winter looks for 'tight' purse strings

As our favorite skinny jeans get too much wear and we reminisce on our summer dresses waiting patiently in the closet, winter dresses are the solution. Complementing them perfectly are tights, keeping you warm and stylish. This winter, tights re-emerged.

They've gone from basic black to new patterns, textures and colors.

Textured tights can include lace, fishnets, cutouts and patterned varieties, à la Blair Waldorf. These go well with simple dresses and skirts, which make loud tights the focal point of the outfit. It is important to wear textured tights with simple clothing, generally free of pattern, as your outfit will look like an eccentric mess rather than clean and sophisticated. Patterned

tights work best if the holes are minimal, exposing less skin, which makes for a more pulled-together appearance. Be careful when wearing fishnets. They can be a bit flirtatious and over the top, especially for daytime wear. Flesh-colored fishnets are a more wearable solution, and can add a small, unique element to your outfit. These look best when worn with neutral clothes, free of excessive prints and patterns.

Colored tights are great this winter for women who wear a lot of dark colors, especially black. Colored tights should be kept to dark shades and jewel tones. These are the most neutral and pair nicely with most skirts and dresses. Winter clothes tend to feature a palate of grays, blacks and browns rather than bright colors and pastels found in warmer weather, so colored tights add color that would otherwise not be there. My favorite is a black dress worn with black boots and deep purple tights. Daring

**See Tights on 10**



**Trend Watch**  
By *Macey Hall*

## Need a romantic idea for Valentine's Day?

## Publish a love note in The Maine Campus

Bring a printed love note (100 words or less) and \$5 to The Maine Campus office or send your message to [info@mainecampus.com](mailto:info@mainecampus.com) by Feb. 12.

Your note will be published in the Feb. 15 edition. Proceeds benefit Spruce Run.

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Photo courtesy Adam Hess  
The view from the stage for Ra Ra Riot. The success of last year's KahBang festival has prompted the event's return.

### KahBang from Page 8

SXSW is \$120 billion.

According to Shirar Patterson, Bangor business and economic development officer, there is no exact way to track any increases in revenue during the festival last year. However, she did say it was a positive force.

"It brings people to the downtown who will hopefully spend money when they're here," Patterson said.

She said even if people didn't spend money when they were at the festival, they might be encouraged to come back to the area.

Michaud said that Bangor was a great hub for the Northeast: two hours from Portland, four hours from Boston and eight hours from Halifax, Nova Scotia.

"Bangor gets a bad rap for not being as cool as Portland," Michaud said. "We think it can do better. Anything we can do to get people in to experience it changing the better."

Unlike the American Folk Festival, which receives money

from the city, KahBang is entirely privately funded. According to Michaud, generous investors and ticket sales allow the event to happen. He said it was tough to convince people it was a worthwhile investment the previous year, but after last year's success it has been easier.

According to executive director Tim Lo, private sponsors who asked to remain anonymous gave the board a line of credit to put on the show last year. Local businesses were instrumental in helping with the event as well.

"As part of the whole grassroots thing we wanted to offer them unique sponsorship and advertising opportunities," Lo said.

The funding has not been completely figured out yet for this year's show, according to Lo. Contributing businesses last year were connected with the Maine arts scene, such as Bullmoose Music and The Portland Phoenix.

KahBang is currently accepting submissions for music and film and looking for interns and volunteers. Visit KahBang.com for more information.



Rebekah Doherty • Assistant Photo Editor  
Folk artist Suzanne Vega performed at the CCA on Sunday afternoon, enchanting the audience with her smooth voice and acoustic guitar.

### Texts from Page 8

crack life for how much I just spent at the bookstore..."

Scatological humor is always a hit as well:

"(860) I'll leave the door open for you, I may be taking a s--- when you get here."

Some texts are snapshots of the night as it as happening:

"(207) Just pounded 3 PBRs in 2 minutes. Time for laser tag."

Others are accounts of the aftermath:

"(803) So I had an interesting night last night.

"(207) Oh yeah? you get lucky [?]

"(803) I found my remote in the fridge this morning.

"(207) Very interesting? (sic) I guess that's lucky..."

And some are just plain dirty:

"(207) So fill me in on his penis situation.. ha.

"(207) I have only felt it with my leg so far, but it seems pretty decent."

Keogh said there was no sure-fire formula for what makes a funny text — he just knows one when he sees it. He did say he preferred ones documenting a conversation.

Fictional texts are a recurrent problem associated with the national site, but Keogh feels that is not as much of an issue for the UMaine version.

"Because there's no screening process you can pretty much post whatever," Keogh said. "I know a lot of people go to the 'Texts From Last Night' Web

site and they have to, like, make up a really funny text. I'd like to think that they're all true but that's probably not."

Despite most of the texts' connotations of partying and mischief, Keogh said the purpose of the site is not to condone irresponsibility.

"A lot of them do have to do with partying and alcohol but it's not all just like, 'I got arrested, I got in a fight, I ruined my friendship,'" Keogh said. "A lot of it's just like, 'Have a good time.'"

### Tights from Page 9

fashionistas can rock brighter colored tights, such as red or orange, but be sure to keep the rest of the outfit minimal to avoid looking like a clown. For women not bold enough to wear color on her legs, gray tights are a great option in lieu of standard black. They are still as mundane as black tights, yet spice up your outfit just the right amount.

Another tights trend that is

gaining steam is trompe l'oeil. French for "trick the eye," these include tights that give the illusion of a 3-D addition, such as a bow, the appearance of a garter or lace. These tights are detailed and attention-grabbing, yet still keep you warm.

The trompe l'oeil trend was made popular in part by little Jenny Humphrey on Gossip Girl, known for her girly yet rough rocker style. These tights are not for the timid, as they are on the wild and sexy side.

Confidence is a must to rock

this trend. Trompe l'oeil styles are generally not appropriate for daytime wear, and should be kept in your sock drawer until the sun sets.

The tights trend is easy to follow. Tights are inexpensive and can be a cheap way to jazz up an outfit. Target carries a wide variety, and they are all reasonably priced. A tights mecca is TJ Maxx. TJ's, as I lovingly call it, carries high-end brands such as Spanx, Hue and DKNY for low prices. Tights are not an item you need to spend a lot

of money on, but sometimes higher-quality brands are worth it because they last longer. The Spanx varieties are a fashion savior because they have control built into them, which gives you extra confidence in form-fitting clothing. American Eagle sells swiss dot patterned tights, and J. Crew's pointelle-stitch tights are my favorite of the season. As it's likely to be cold for a few more months, there is plenty of time to hop on board the tights trend and make otherwise usual outfits unique and fun.

Are you a Leader?...

Are you a Gentleman?...

Are you a Scholar?...

Are you a Man of Principle?

Do you want to be part of the Legend?

**RUSH BETA**

1/23 Pizza and Bowling @ 3pm

1/24 AFC Championship @ 3pm

1/24 NFC Championship @ 4pm

1/28 Celtics vs. Orlando @ 8pm

1/30 Snowball Capture the Flag @ 2pm

2/3 Celtics vs Miami @ 8pm

2/5 Maine vs New Hampshire @ 7pm

2/7 Superbowl @ 6pm

2/13 Pizza, Pool, and Poker @5pm

For location of events and more details about rushing Beta in general, contact **Ryan Merchant** on FirstClass

The Origin of UMaine's Mascot, Bananas the Black Bear

The First Fraternity House & Still Oldest House on Campus

Largest Philanthropy at UMaine, the "Beta Sleep-Out"

The Most Involved Alumni

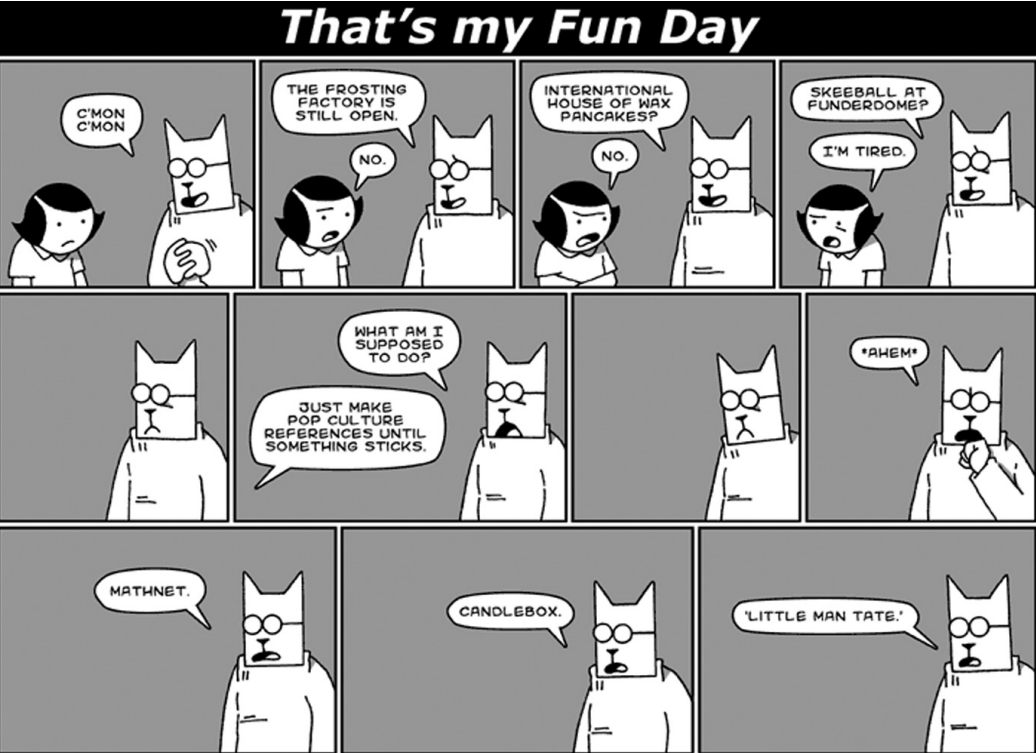
More Than a Group of Men...  
...We are a Brotherhood



# Diversions

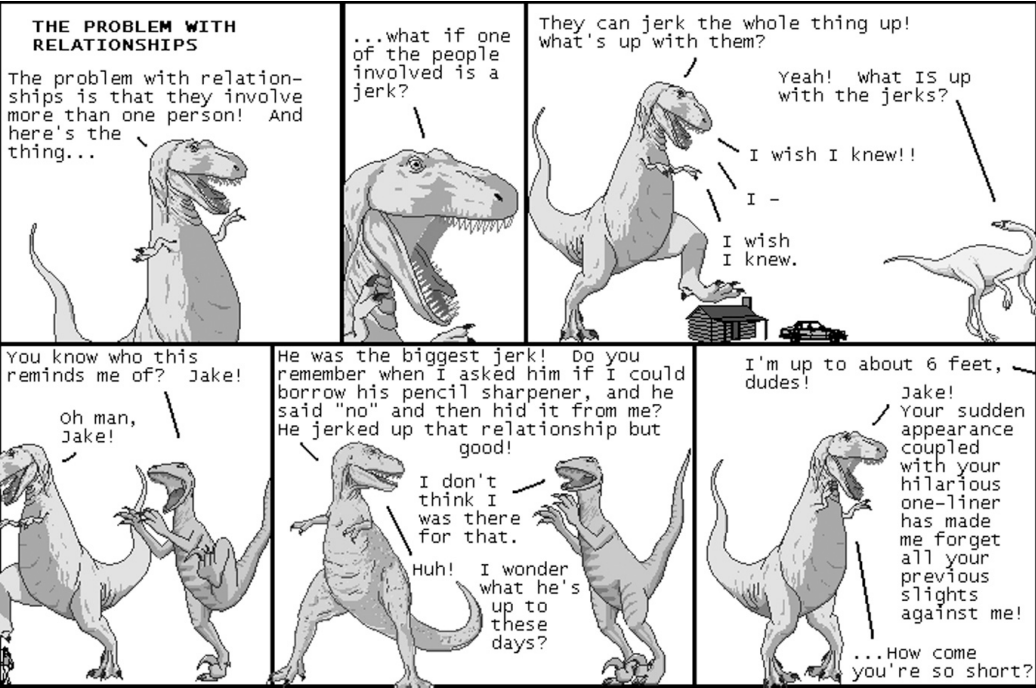
Cat and Girl

By Dorothy Gambrell

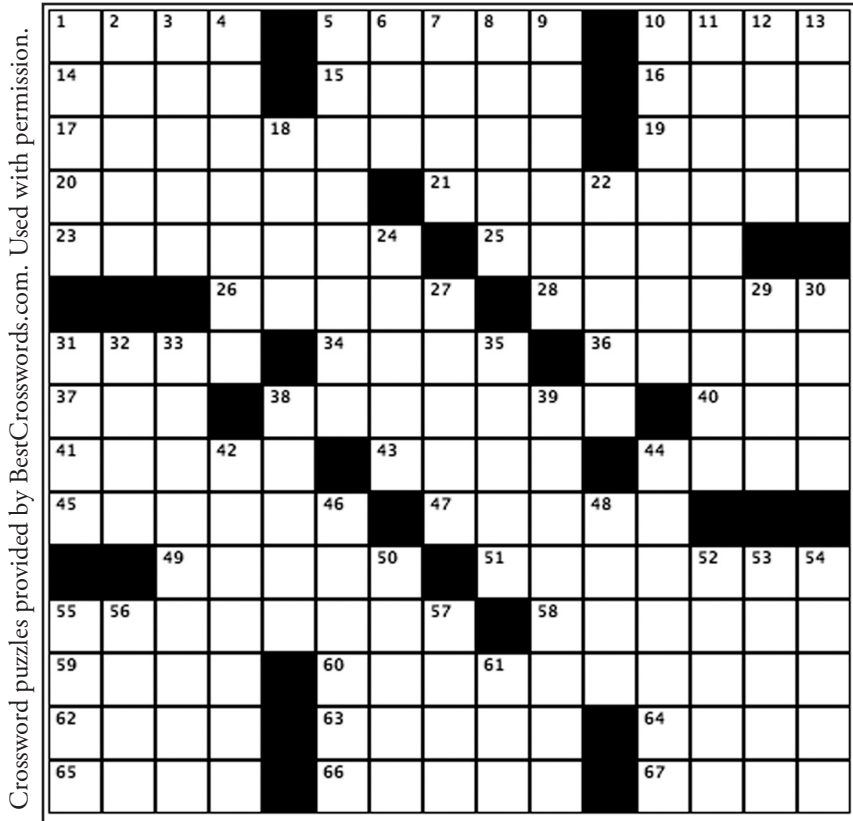


Dinosaur Comics

By Ryan North



## Crossword Puzzle



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com. Used with permission.

Answer key in Sports

- Across**

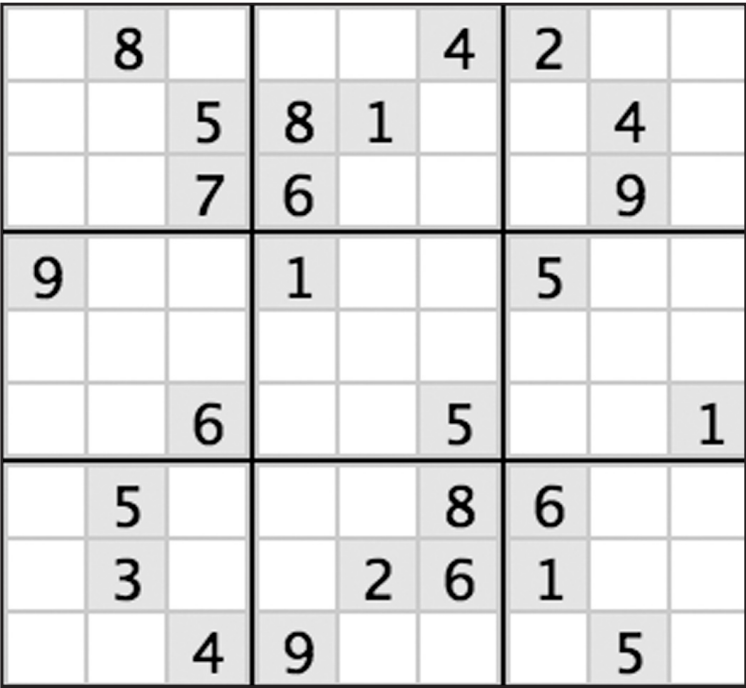
  - 1- Curse
  - 5- Lucid
  - 10- Celestial body
  - 14- "East of Eden" director Kazan
  - 15- Lofly nest
  - 16- Fork feature
  - 17- Writing desk
  - 19- Bibliography abbr.
  - 20- Jumpy
  - 21- Harshness
  - 23- Casserole dish
  - 25- Satan
  - 26- Grammarian's topic
  - 28- Yellowish color
  - 31- Bit of gossip
  - 34- Milk source
  - 36- "Til \_\_\_ do us part"
  - 37- 13th letter of the Hebrew alphabet
  - 38- Permanently attached, to a zoologist
- Down**

  - 40- Acapulco aunt
  - 41- Up
  - 43- Actress Hatcher
  - 44- Denomination
  - 45- Ski lodge
  - 47- Geneva's lake
  - 49- Forest makeup
  - 51- Pert, to the fingers
  - 55- Clerisy
  - 58- Volcanic material
  - 59- Arthur Ashe's alma mater
  - 60- Having united carrels
  - 62- Turned right
  - 63- "Pomp and Circumstance" composer
  - 64- Dresden's river
  - 65- Swirl
  - 66- Sordid
  - 67- Drop of water expelled by the eye
- Down**

  - 1- Stupefy with drink
  - 2- Coeur d'\_\_\_
  - 3- More pleasant
  - 4- Membrane in the ear canal
  - 5- Link together
  - 6- Meadow
  - 7- Goddess and sister of Ares in Greek mythology
  - 8- Broadcast
  - 9- "Speed" star
  - 10- Aseptic
  - 11- Excite agreeably
  - 12- Med school subj.
  - 13- Be dependent
  - 18- Sponsorship
  - 22- Circumvent
  - 24- Discharge
  - 27- Art supporter
  - 29- Auricular
  - 30- Come again?
  - 31- Apple product
- Down**

  - 32- 9th letter of the Hebrew alphabet
  - 33- Beset by conflict
  - 35- Exhausted
  - 38- Guide
  - 39- Serving as a limit
  - 42- Now
  - 44- Fragment
  - 46- Tantalizes
  - 48- Antiquing agent
  - 50- Genre
  - 52- Fulcrum for an oar
  - 53- Island off Venezuela
  - 54- Coherent light beam
  - 55- Sled
  - 56- Chilled
  - 57- Swenson of "Benson"
  - 61- Engine part

## Sudoku Puzzle



- Each row must have numbers 1 - 9 in any order but each digit can only appear once.
- Each column must have numbers 1 - 9 in any order but each digit can only appear once.
- Each 3x3 box must have numbers 1 - 9 in any order but each digit can only appear once.

There is only one correct answer.

Difficulty level: Hard

## Candy Word Search

- ALMOND JOY  
BABY RUTH  
BAZOOKA GUM  
BOTTLECAPS  
BUBBLE YUM  
BUTTERFINGERS  
CANDY NECKLACE  
CHICLETS  
CHUCKLES  
CLARK BAR  
COFFEE CRISP  
CRACKER JACK  
DUBBLE BUBBLE  
GOOBERS  
GUMMI BEARS  
HERSHEY KISSES  
HUBBA BUBBA GUM  
JAW BREAKERS  
JUJUBES  
KIT KAT  
LEMON DROPS  
LICORICE PIPE  
LIFESAVERS
- LOLLIPOPS  
MILK DUDDS  
MILKY WAY  
MOUNDS  
NECCO WAFERS  
OH HENRY  
PEPPERMINT PATTY  
PEZ  
POP ROCKS  
PUMPKIN SEEDS  
RED HOT'S  
SEN-SEN  
SLO-POKES  
SMARTIES  
SOUR BALLS  
SPEARMINT LEAVES  
SWEETARTS  
TOOTSIE ROLLS  
TWIX  
TWIZZLERS  
WAX LIPS



Find and circle all of the European capital cities that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell a secret message.

Word search courtesy of puzzles.ca

## Horoscopes

- Aries - March 21 to April 20** - Today is the right time for making the desired changes in your love life and in business. Partnerships are going well and it's a good time for closing deals and signing papers.
- Taurus - April 21 to May 20** - You are full of energy and have good chances to complete everything you have on your agenda for today. You will have the opportunity to get significant financial benefits and assert yourself in society.
- Gemini - May 21 to June 21** - This morning you will feel full of energy and capable of intensive physical effort. You are advised to avoid overestimating your resources. In the afternoon friends might invite you to visit them. Avoid heated arguments with your loved one.
- Cancer - June 22 to July 22** - Your ideas will be appreciated by colleagues and superiors at work. You are in a good shape and capable of completing all your tasks. Your financial situation may not be very good, but you are determined and self-confident.
- Leo - July 23 to Aug. 22** - Today is a favorable time for investing and for starting a new business. Travelling and romantic meetings are favored as well. Don't turn down any part-time job that you are offered today. However, you are advised to avoid any kind of speculation.
- Virgo - Aug. 23 to Sept. 22** - You can make major changes in your life, especially in the social and sentimental departments. Partnerships, business meetings and investments for home are favored. You are advised to plan carefully and consider your loved one's advice.
- Libra - Sept. 23 to Oct. 23** - You may have a major achievement during a short business trip. You are advised to remain patient and avoid controversies with your business partner. In the afternoon you will manage to solve an old sentimental issue.
- Scorpio - Oct. 24 to Nov. 22** - Today you might have to change your schedule several times, but the changes will be beneficial to you. An older person whom you will meet today will soon help you start a profitable business.
- Sagittarius - Nov. 23 to Dec. 21** - In the morning you are likely to receive a significant amount of money, which will improve your family budget. This might be an inheritance or a loan that you have asked for a while ago.
- Capricorn - Dec. 22 to Jan. 20** - You might encounter financial difficulties, but you will be able to overcome them easily. This is a favorable time for you as far as the artistic inspiration is concerned. Creativity and originality will bring you success in society.
- Aquarius - Jan. 21 to Feb. 19** - You will have the opportunity to solve a sentimental issue. A close friend will give you the chance to join in a recent business project. You are advised to take this opportunity.
- Pisces - Feb. 20 to March 20** - You will have a busy day, with a lot of problems to deal with, but you are in good shape and will manage to get through. You are concerned about your financial situation, but you have no real reason to worry. Things will get much better soon. Do not ignore your loved one's advice.



**BETTER BOWLING NAME:**

**COBRA or  
LAZER?**

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# Wall in a class of his own; clear '10 top pick

Basketball is a unique game. One could argue that athleticism plays more a role in basketball than in any other sport.



By Jesse Scardina

While other popular sports such as football and baseball are getting more position- and situation-specific, basketball is loosening its collective noose as to who plays where and why. Basketball teams still carry the specialist. For every third-down back and lefty reliever, there's a three-point shooter lurking deep on every bench. However, the positions formally known as "shooting guard" and "small forward" have morphed into "swingmen," likewise with "big-men" when referring to the athletes formally known as "power forward" and "center."

One constant in this recent jumbling of on-court designations is the presence of the point guard. Every recent NBA champion had a clear-cut signal-caller

bringing the ball up the floor. Whether it be the up-and-coming Rajon Rondos and Tony Parkers or the seasoned veterans such as the Gary Paytons or Derek Fishers, one thing is for certain: You need a point guard to win.

The most important position on the basketball court is tenured by the smallest players on the court. Don't worry about nonsense facts about how the unbiased writer of this story is five-foot-six and point guard was the only position he could physically obtain. With that said, there is an influx in talent at the point guard spot that is something rarely, if ever, seen before. The '80s saw talent such as Magic Johnson, Isaiah Thomas, Tiny Archibald, John Stockton and even the likes of Gary Payton and Jason Kidd in the early 1990s. Presently, we are able to watch point guard play with such elegance and yet such tenacity that is like nothing we've ever seen.

NBA fans today get to enjoy the evolutionary brilliance of Chris Paul; or the Houdini-esque play by Steve Nash; or the strength and ferocity of Derrick Rose; or

the Flash-like tendencies of Rajon Rondo. Along with that group of present and future all-time greats, the NBA also plays host to the best crop of young point guards ever assembled. The 2009 draft will forever be known as the point guard draft, with Ricky Rubio, Tyreke Evans, Johnny Flynn, Stephen Curry, Brandon Jennings and Ty Lawson looking like franchise point guards.

The quantity of point guards in the upcoming NBA Draft is slim compared to that of the last few drafts, however the quality is still as good as it's ever been. Dick Vitale's nickname for fantastic freshmen, "diaper dandy," seems a little inappropriate when speaking of University of Kentucky freshman point guard John Wall — the latest evolution of the point guard.

Wall takes the shape of a grown man more so than a "diaper dandy," physically draining anyone who tries to slow him down. In the process, Wall has driven Kentucky to a one-loss season and a number one rank in the standings, while becoming the latest of college one-and-

done superstars — taking the unnecessary one-year detour to college before entering the pros. In addition to joining the likes of Kevin Durant and Derrick Rose, Wall is slowly creeping into a more selective class as a sure thing.

With so much weighing on potential in draft picks nowadays, organizations need to be as cautious as possible when choosing a player to build your future around. The great John Thompson quote "potential is what gets coaches fired" never rang so loudly as today.

The difference with Wall's potential is its potency. Not since Lebron and Dwight Howard went No. 1 in back-to-back years respectively has there been a more unanimous first overall pick in the June draft. Wall's future as a point guard is as bright as there has ever been — even having the capability to be the face of the franchise as the point guard not seen since the likes of Magic. Few would argue that this league would belong to anyone other than LeBron in the foreseeable future but that certainty could be questioned. We're Wall witnesses.

## Flynn

from Page 14

I think we jelled well, and we had some success early, so that helped my confidence a lot."

Whitehead did not anticipate a top-scoring line containing two freshmen, but said Flynn quickly earned his spot by being a "fierce competitor." Whitehead also praised Flynn's hockey sense, skating ability and quick release on his shot. Flynn played in all but one game last year.

"We weren't sure just how much he would contribute the first year, but it was quite quickly in the preseason camp we realized that he had prepared himself to play and that he was a fierce competitor," Whitehead said. "He wasn't the biggest guy on the ice, but he was certainly as tough as they come."

Flynn was part of a National Championship-winning team as his New Hampshire Junior Monarchs brought home the title in 2008, his only season of junior hockey. UMaine teammate Mark Nemec was also a member of the Junior Monarchs that year, and associate head coach Bob Corkum held the same title with the Junior Monarchs before taking the job at UMaine last year.

Flynn said Corkum played a significant role in convincing him to come out of Junior's a

year early and become a Black Bear.

"Coach Corkum obviously had a good strong connection with the organization and coach Whitehead," Flynn said. "I was thinking about playing another year of Junior. Maine kind of happened at the last minute."

Flynn said having a former teammate in Nemec join him at the Division I-level helped in the transition. Nemec red-shirted his first year.

"It's nice to start off with that one person that you know when you're a freshman," Flynn said.

Flynn said the encouragement he received from Corkum, a former UMaine and NHL player, gave him confidence that he was on the right track.

"Coach Corkum kind of gave me some encouragement right when I got here, said he thought I was doing well and coach [Whitehead] liked what I was doing," Flynn said. "It just gave me a lot of confidence."

Flynn grew up in Lynfield, Mass., and attended the Pomfret School in Connecticut for two years, where he racked up 112 points in two seasons. He also competed in baseball, soccer and golf. He said golf was the sport he had the most potential in besides hockey.

Flynn is a financial economics major at UMaine.

## DeKastrozza

from Page 14

on our team."

DeKastrozza said he looked up to seniors Michel Leveille, Keith Johnson, Josh Soares, Brent Shephard, Mike Hamilton and Mike Lundin when he joined the Black Bears and said each member of that group brought something different to the team.

"I definitely learned a lot of leadership skills," deKastrozza said. "Not just hockey, but life lessons also with school."

DeKastrozza feels his actions on the ice have a greater impact than his words in the locker room. Whitehead agreed that deKastrozza's leadership style is fitting.

"You've got to be true to your personality," Whitehead said. "Dave's doing exactly what he should, which is leading by example. He'll speak up every once in a while, and when he does, guys are listening."

Whitehead saw unpolished potential when he recruited deKastrozza out of Culver Military Academy in New Jersey. DeKastrozza was the

team captain in his final year at the prep school and scored 45 goals in 87 games spanning two seasons. DeKastrozza also considered the University of Massachusetts and West Point.

"He caught my eye right away as a guy who was oozing of potential," Whitehead said. "We felt that in the right program he would keep developing and improving like he did at Culver."

DeKastrozza is unsure if more hockey is on the horizon after he graduates in May or if he will utilize his degree in Finance. Whitehead has noticed a progression in deKastrozza's discipline to balance a challenging major with his hockey commitments.

"David has made a tremendous commitment to improve his GPA and his perspective on college academics," Whitehead said. "I'm really proud of him."

DeKastrozza said he is grateful for the opportunity to play for the Black Bears.

"It's definitely an honor to say that I played here," deKastrozza said. "The friendships that I've made are going to last a lifetime."

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Thursday, Jan. 28

Women's Basketball  
at Albany in Albany, N.Y.  
7 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 29

Women's Indoor Track  
Reebok Games in Boston, Mass.  
12 p.m.

Men's Indoor Track  
Reebok Games in Boston, Mass.  
4 p.m.

Women's Hockey  
vs. New Hampshire in Orono  
7 p.m.

Men's Hockey  
at Vermont in Burlington, Vt.  
7 p.m.

Swimming and Diving  
vs. Boston College / Dartmouth in Orono  
7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 30

Swimming and Diving  
vs. Boston College / Dartmouth in Orono  
11 a.m.

Men's Basketball  
vs UMBC in Orono  
12 p.m.

Women's Basketball  
at Boston University in Boston, Mass.  
2 p.m.

Men's Hockey  
at Vermont in Burlington, Vt.  
7 p.m.

Women's Hockey  
vs. New Hampshire in Orono  
7 p.m.

## Pare

from Page 14

never gone to a decisive seventh game. The moment it does — especially if the team with a worse record gets home field advantage — the backlash from players, owners and the media will send this band-aid rule into the trash where it belongs.

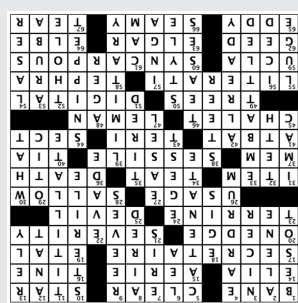
The saddest part for baseball is that they had a great thing in the home run derby, but it is run further and further into the ground every year ESPN personality Chris Berman is allowed to incessantly harp "back, back, back, back, back" every time a ball flies out of the yard.

The bottom line is that the All-Star game is a vacation for players, logic the NFL acquiesced to long ago with the Pro Bowl, only to senselessly abandon this year. Seeking to make up for a one-week content gap in the NFL's 21 weekend-long stranglehold over viewing audiences, business-minded commissioner Roger Goodell has moved the Pro Bowl into the formerly vacant weekend preceding the Super Bowl.

Coming from a man who has already expressed interest in extending the NFL's brutal regular season to 17 or 18 games to put more money into the coffers of league stakeholders, it is clear Goodell's asinine decision is a boon to profit rather than competition as it is in baseball. Nevertheless, by moving the game to a time where football, rivalries and grudges are fresh on the minds of players, competition — meaningless competition — is what he is likely to get. And in the NFL, where a player's best interests have already been superceded by the almighty dollar as proven recently by the league's deplorable treatment of players with concussions, more competitive brutality is the last thing that is needed.

An All-Star game is meant to be an exhibition. It is meant to be fun. So far the NBA has come closest to realizing that the traditionalist policies of baseball and the gold digging ones of football are just the latest testament to the infiltration of corporate greed into the purity that once was sports.

## Crossword Solution



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# Sports

Thursdav, January 28, 2010



## COLUMN

### NBA turning into a league of PGs

Wall has potential to be the next superstar in league

13

## SCOREBOARD

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Saints 31 28 Vikings (OT)  
Celtics 95 89 Clippers

Hurricanes 5 1 Bruins  
Men's Basketball - BC 75 69 Clemson  
Syracuse 73 56 Georgetown

*"He's most valuable because he can effectively wear a lot of hats for us."*  
-Men's Hockey Coach Tim Whitehead on David deKastrozza



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## MEN'S BASKETBALL

### UM buzzer-beater downs Boston U.

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## MLB, NFL fail with all-star games

The bigger players get, the more violent games become and the more we respect — read: pay — the modern athlete, the clearer it becomes that the all-star games in sports are a thing of the past. The NBA realized that a long time ago when they shifted the focus of their All-Star weekend away from the actual game to the three-point shooting and dunk contests. They further confirmed their disregard for the quality of the game this year by continuing the atrocious policy of fan voting that has made Allen Iverson — who has played just 19 games in his worst season as a pro — an All-Star for the 11th straight season.



By Michael Pare

The NBA seems to get the point of the exhibition is less to recognize players — which can be done officially with postseason awards — than it is to whet the fans' appetite for drama and excitement. The other professional leagues, however, are somewhere in between the bargaining and denial stages of accepting this consequence of the modern sporting methodology.

MLB and NFL players haven't cared about their respective All-Star games at any point in the past two decades, yet both league's executives continue to pull all the wrong strings attempting to revitalize a forgotten ideal.

For many years, baseball's Midsummer Classic had legitimate rooting interests, but somewhere along the line — likely when its participants realized the event was little more than a curtain call when you're making \$10 million a year — the games started being managed like a charity event.

The uber-politically correct crowd that tells young kids losing doesn't exist somehow got their voices heard in the mid-'90s when it became status quo to harvest the least sickly looking fruits from baseball's worst teams. This lovely sentiment, while noble, snubs deserving players on the basis of geography and rewards players who are neither deserving nor beloved. These feel-good, talent-depleted rosters, including unforgettable names like — wait let me Google them, were then thrown into the hands of managers who, putting on their best faces for players who may one day be part of their organization, reordered the lineups each inning with a fervor that can only be truly appreciated by an ADHD sufferer. This is all because apathy and economics had pervaded the game.

In an attempt to expel them and return baseball to the traditionalism that commissioner Bud Selig so covets, in 2003 new policy regarding the game gave the winning league home field advantage in the World Series. So far the policy has injected some life into the game without consequence, but it is a thinly veiled success. In the seven years the rule has been in place, a World Series has

See Pare on 13

## Senior emerging as physical forward

DeKastrozza turning into an all-around performer for UMaine, providing leadership in his last year

By Steven McCarthy  
Staff Reporter

University of Maine senior right wing and center David deKastrozza is not one-dimensional. According to Black Bears' men's hockey coach Tim Whitehead, "He's good at everything."

A big, power forward not previously known for his scoring touch, deKastrozza already has three goals and six assists and serves on both special teams units as well as taking faceoffs.

"He's really emerged for us as a complete player," Whitehead said. "He's really come into his own this year."

DeKastrozza is a bruising forechecker and a formidable presence at the net front on the power play. His six-foot-three-inch frame allows him to screen the opposing goaltender and finish rebounds.

"He's most valuable because he can effectively wear a lot of hats for us," Whitehead said.

After helping the Black Bears to their most recent Frozen Four appearance as a freshman, the Toms River, N.J., native lost most of his sophomore season to a torn ACL and struggled to contribute consistently as a junior.

DeKastrozza carried a positive outlook into his final season as a Black Bear, despite still searching for his first career goal. DeKastrozza wasted no time getting that monkey off his back as he found the back of the net in UMaine's home opener against Michigan State University.

"I really wanted to leave everything on the ice this last year," deKastrozza said. "Just to get one goal this year was a little higher than my expectations. To get three, it's been a really good year."

The goal was particularly significant for deKastrozza because Michigan State was the



Amy Brooks • Photo Editor

David deKastrozza pins a Northeastern player against the boards in a December game. The senior center has provided a spark for the Black Bears as a top forechecker and contributor on the power play.

team that eliminated UMaine from the NCAA Tournament when he was a freshman. DeKastrozza said the Frozen Four was his fondest memory as a Black Bear.

"I look back on that and that was the best couple of games of my life," deKastrozza said. "Hopefully we can get back there this year."

DeKastrozza's success as a

senior comes as the culmination of three seasons of determination to make the most of his ability. Even as a junior he was in and out of the lineup and notched just one point, an

assist, in 20 games.

"He's had some tough breaks, and he's fought through them," Whitehead said. "It didn't come easy for him."

DeKastrozza played in 21 of 40 games as a freshman, topped only by former classmate Teddy Purcell who played in all 40 games. He contributed three assists, including one in the NCAA East Regional.

DeKastrozza's knee injury knocked him out early in his second season and required season-ending surgery. He finished with just eight games under his belt.

"That was definitely one of the hardest years," deKastrozza said. "I had some friends off the team that helped me get through it."

DeKastrozza is comfortable in his role as a checking forward and was not concerned with the elusive first career goal or that his offensive stats were not progressing. He maintained a positive attitude despite his misfortune.

"It was kind of on my mind every game I played," deKastrozza said. "But I'm not really a point producing player, so it wasn't that big of a deal."

The four members of UMaine's senior class — deKastrozza, Brett Carriere, Kevin Swallow and Dave Wilson — have all overcome adversity to earn lineup spots. Carriere and Swallow have battled injuries and Wilson has served mostly in a backup role all four years between the pipes. None have emerged as a headline player of the team, but all thrive in their responsibilities and add experience and knowledge to the young nucleus of the Black Bears.

"I'm really proud of our senior class this year," Whitehead said. "They've really established themselves each in their own way with significant roles

See DeKastrozza on 13

## Flynn improving after rookie season

Sophomore forward is second on the team in scoring, plays on one of the top lines in the nation

By Steven McCarthy  
Staff Reporter

University of Maine sophomore left wing Brian Flynn's leap into the glass with arms extended in celebration was seen on ESPNU and is replayed on the Alford Arena JumboTron before every home game. Flynn's game-winning goal with 1:34 remaining in the third period against then second-ranked and defending National Champions Boston College in November of 2008 was his welcome to UMaine Hockey.

"That's one I'll always remember," Flynn said. "We played extremely well all game, and to get the result at the end for the guys was a great feeling."

Now Flynn is hoping for another memorable moment, this time in the form of a championship.

"Right now it's not about scoring big goals," Flynn said. "You want to start winning some hardware."

Flynn's class has been critical in the resurgence of UMaine Hockey, who are battling for home ice in the Hockey East playoffs. Four of UMaine's top five scorers are sophomores, and the same four — Flynn, Gustav Nyquist, Spencer Abbott and Will O'Neill — all finished within the top seven in team scoring as freshmen. The team has had lofty goals after a pair of sub-par, 13-win seasons.

"Our goal coming into the year was to finish in the top four in Hockey East and get

a home ice berth in the playoffs," Flynn said. "Most of the time if you finish in the top four in Hockey East, you're usually going to make the NCAA Tournament."

After finishing second in team scoring last year behind Nyquist, Flynn has elevated his game and is four points shy of his season high of 25. He added eight pounds of muscle to his six-foot frame during the offseason and feels he was prepared entering his second year.

"I feel like I came into the year a lot stronger," Flynn said. "I feel like I've gotten much better defensively."

UMaine coach Tim Whitehead agreed that defense was Flynn's downfall last year and the added muscle will help him at both ends of the ice. Flynn's speed and endurance has improved, as well as the ability to hold off defenders. He now sees ice time in all situations for the Black Bears.

"He's really become a complete player," Whitehead said. "I'm confident playing him in any situation."

Junior center and captain Tanner House joined the two freshmen on the first line last year and reunited with them after recovering from an early season leg injury this fall. Whitehead felt Flynn and Nyquist's offensive feats as freshmen were aided by House's defensive reliability.

"I think Tanner did a great job helping those players adjust to college hockey," Whitehead said.

"He helped me and Gus out



Amy Brooks • Photo Editor

Brian Flynn pursues the puck with a Northeastern player by his side in a game earlier this season. The sophomore forward has been a key contributor on the first line this season, tallying 21 points so far.

a lot," Flynn said. "We both weren't very good defensively, and that's one of the best parts of his game. He's really strong defensively."

House trails Flynn by three points this season but has three more goals. Flynn feels their line has good chemistry and that House is the glue to the trio.

"We seem to click pretty well," Flynn said. "We all bring something different to the line."

See Flynn on 13