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Maine Campus January 28 2008

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the maine campus

Monday, January 28, 2008 Vol. 126, No. 24

If you freeze it, they will come

Heather Steeves ♦ The Maine Campus

Thousands of gallons of water were pumped into Lengyl Field to create an ice skating rink for students on Friday.

UMS plan could delay tuition rises

Action agenda targets cutting system administrative costs

By Derek Mitchell

This month the University of Maine System (UMS) unveiled a five-point plan — the Agenda for Action — to increase the role, value, reputation and impact of the universities of the UMS.

For students, the plan could mean a slow-down in the rate and size of tuition increases, an improvement in the quality of education and an increase in the amount of financial aid available to students.

Goals include an increase in the number of bachelor's degrees to 5,000 per year by 2012, and a 20 percent increase in non-loan financial aid by 2012.

Campus programs are largely safe from cost cutting. "The guidelines for reducing costs include instructions to protect the academic integrity of programs and services for students," said John Diamond, executive director of external affairs for the UMS. "The presidents of each university are responsible for finding the cost reductions on their respective campuses. The chancellor is responsible for identifying those that pertain to system-wide services."

Diamond said local cost control will help to make operational changes easier on campuses. "The chancellor does not believe that these changes can be achieved if they are imposed on the universities," he said. "Instead, he feels that the universities must collaborate on finding ways to achieve these goals."

See ACTION on page 7

It's a 'delegate' process

Democrats, Republicans to caucus in early February

By Lynnsay Maynard

Maine will begin Republican and Democratic Presidential caucuses across the state on Friday, Feb. 1 and Sunday, Feb. 10.

In a caucus, registered voters meet to debate and vote for candidates.

During presidential election years, Republican and Democratic caucuses serve to allow citizens to discuss and vote for candidates and select county delegates.

"Communities really publicize their own caucuses and it just takes care of itself from there," said Anthony Libby, regional field coordinator for the Maine Democratic Party.

Absentee ballots are available for those who cannot attend a caucus. To vote absentee, an individual must contact the town clerk of the town or city in

which he or she is registered to vote. An absentee ballot application will be sent back to the individual and when the application is returned, a ballot will be issued.

Applications can also be downloaded online on both Maine Republican and Democratic Party Web sites. Votes may also be placed in person at the town clerk's office.

The number of delegates is proportional to the county population. The county selects delegates for the state-level, who in turn select delegates to attend the national party convention. At the national party convention, delegates vote for a candidate who receives the party's nomination for president.

For Democratic caucuses citizens meet, campaign for a candidate and

See CAUCUS on page 7

A less costly experience

University proposes to give interns one free credit

By Derek Dobachesky

University of Maine students struggling with finances and considering internships may soon have one less cause for concern.

A proposal outlining a program to allow UMaine students to obtain one tuition-free academic credit has recently been drafted by fourth-year journalism student and Vice President of Student Entertainment Derek Mitchell.

In-state UMaine undergraduate students pay \$218 for each academic credit, while out-of-state students pay \$625 according to the Bursar's Office. This includes credits received for internships, paid or unpaid. This policy is comparable to those at the University of Vermont and the University of New Hampshire, both of which charge tuition for students receiving academic credit for internships.

Mitchell worked with the Career Center and Provost Edna Szymanski to draft the proposal, which outlines a one-credit UMaine Internship Course administered online through WebCT. The course would comprise a weekly journal submission, reviewed by either a graduate student or a staff member in the Career Center.

This stands in contrast to the current mode of administering internship courses. Currently, each academic department administers its own internship courses with varying requirements.

If the proposal is adopted, departments will still retain discretion in determining requirements for internships worth more than one credit.

According to Mitchell this program is aimed toward students participating in

See INTERSHIP on page 7

GCI brings recycling competition back to campus

UM initiative attempts to 'redeem' itself after last year's dumpster dive

By Lynnsay Maynard

The University of Maine joined hundreds of colleges across the country in RecycleMania, a competition that measures how much material a school can recycle while raising awareness about waste reduction and management, on Jan. 27.

The Green Campus Initiative (GCI) is hosting the event and hopes that the 10-week competition will motivate students to recycle. Cody Martel, GCI coordinator, is organizing the event on campus; "We are really trying to get the word out and get people involved."

RecycleMania has four preliminary competitions and an additional competition that aims to recycle specific materials such as bottles and corrugated cardboard.

The Depot Recycling and Redemption Center will collect materials from dorms and other facilities on campus on a weekly basis and report the amount recycled in pounds.

UMaine competed in RecycleMania last year but did not receive any awards. "We will have posters during the first week of the competition with incitements and Earth-friendly tips," Martel said. Bins will be made easily accessible in resident halls and other campus



Adrienne Hess • The Maine Campus

GCI is competing in a contest on campus to improve recycling.

facilities. UMaine is one of seven Maine colleges participating in this year's competition.

RecycleMania began in 2001 when Ed Newman and Stacy Edmonds Wheeler of Ohio University and Miami University, respectively, started a competition between the two universities measuring materials recycled in dorms and dining halls. Miami University beat Ohio University in the 10-week competition. After success of the first competition, colleges across the country joined with the goal of raising awareness on college campuses nationwide.

GCI has already taken steps at UMaine to ensure that materials are recycled. The group coordinates Eco Reps, students who perpetuate student awareness, efforts toward recycling and check that dorms are recycling as much as possible. There are currently four Eco Reps working through GCI.

RecycleMania ends nationwide on April 5. While Martel hopes to win in this year's competition, he said the main goal is to make recycling a habit at UMaine. "We want to make recycling stay at the University of Maine," Martel said.

www.maineecampus.com

Community Calendar

MONDAY

Indoor Flag Football
8:00 a.m.

Student Recreation and Fitness Center
Teams consist of several players. Leagues are scheduled for men's, women's and coed play.

Religion, Politics and Women in Iran: Edging Toward Democracy?
12:15 p.m.

Bangor Room, Memorial Union
By Shahla Haeri, director of Women's Studies and associate professor of Anthropology, Boston University; part of the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program Lunch Series.

JAN 28

TUESDAY

General Student Senate Meeting
6:00 p.m.

Bangor Room, Memorial Union
Student Senators discuss campus issues.

To submit your event to The Maine Campus Community Calendar, please send time, day, date, location and fee information to Heather.Steeves@umit.maine.edu or drop it off in our offices, located in the basement of Memorial Union. Deadlines for submissions are 9 a.m. Sunday for Monday publication and 9 a.m. Wednesday for Thursday publication.

JAN 29

WEDNESDAY

Diversity Dialogue
8:30 a.m.

Walker Room, Memorial Union
With Betsy Arntzen, part of the Peace Studies Diversity Dialogues Series.

Career Fair
10:00 a.m.
Student Recreation and Fitness Center
A campus-wide career fair offering students in all majors an opportunity to meet with 120+ employers, learn about career opportunities and obtain information about internships and full-time jobs after graduation.

JAN 30

WEATHER

Orono's five-day forecast

Monday: Snow showers

29 **25**
high low



Tuesday: Cloudy

36 **30**
high low



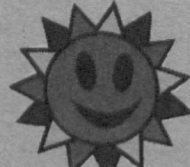
Wednesday: Rain and snow

36 **16**
high low



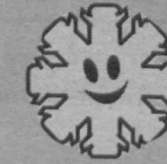
Thursday: Sunny

26 **15**
high low



Friday: Snow

26 **25**
high low



NASA experiment to drop UMaine students in airplane

Zero gravity flight provides research opportunity on lung toxins

By Corey Cole

This summer six students and two professors from the University of Maine system will travel to Houston, Texas to run experiments on a zero gravity flight at NASA's Microgravity University, a Reduced Gravity Student Flight Opportunities Program. The team is one of 40 that has been selected to participate.

The focus of the experiments is to see if gravity has a role in the effects of toxins in lung cells. The team will test lead and silver particles, and these experiments will be compared with experiments done under normal gravity conditions.

"Finally, we will examine if the reduced gravity will adversely affect the DNA repair mechanisms of the cell," said Benjamin Freedman, a student who will be going on the flight. Freedman's role during the flight is to stop the experiments after each zero-G period. Freedman explained that he will either freeze the cultures or use Vitamin A to stop toxin uptake.

"The results will help determine whether additional precautions will be needed during prolonged space flight to protect astronauts and cosmonauts on future space missions," Freedman said. After the experiment, all the data will be sorted through at the University of Maine.

Though NASA covered the cost of the flight and the use of their facilities, the group had to

fundraise the money for the trip and their lodging. "We had to pay for our own travel costs ... we have to get our own equipment," said Michael Mason, assistant professor of chemical and biological engineering at UMaine. "They provide the space and we get to use all of their lab and infrastructure when we get there." The team was awarded a matching grant from the Maine Space Consortium.

To achieve zero-G, the plane must fly in a parabolic curve. As the plane descends toward earth, its acceleration will match that of gravity, causing a neutralizing effect in which there is the sensation of weightlessness. For each descent,

there is about 25 seconds of microgravity (a zero-G environment) followed by 30 seconds of hypergravity (1.8G-2G) as the plane flies upward. To keep everything from crashing against the plane during hypergravity, things are bolted down or are strapped in with Velcro. The parabola is repeated thirty times. Due to the repetitive and extreme changes of G-forces, the flight has been affectionately dubbed the "Vomit Comet."

Along with Freedman, John Wise Jr. from USM, the team leader, Adam Courtemanche of USM and Michael Brown of UMaine, will be the people who go on the flight. Acting as ground crew will be Mason and John Wise Sr. Director of

See NASA on page 6.

*Due to the repetitive and extreme changes in
G-forces, the flight has been affectionately
dubbed the "Vomit Comet."*

Tyler, from the comic strip "Boxer Romps," respectfully requests that you get your pets spayed and neutered.

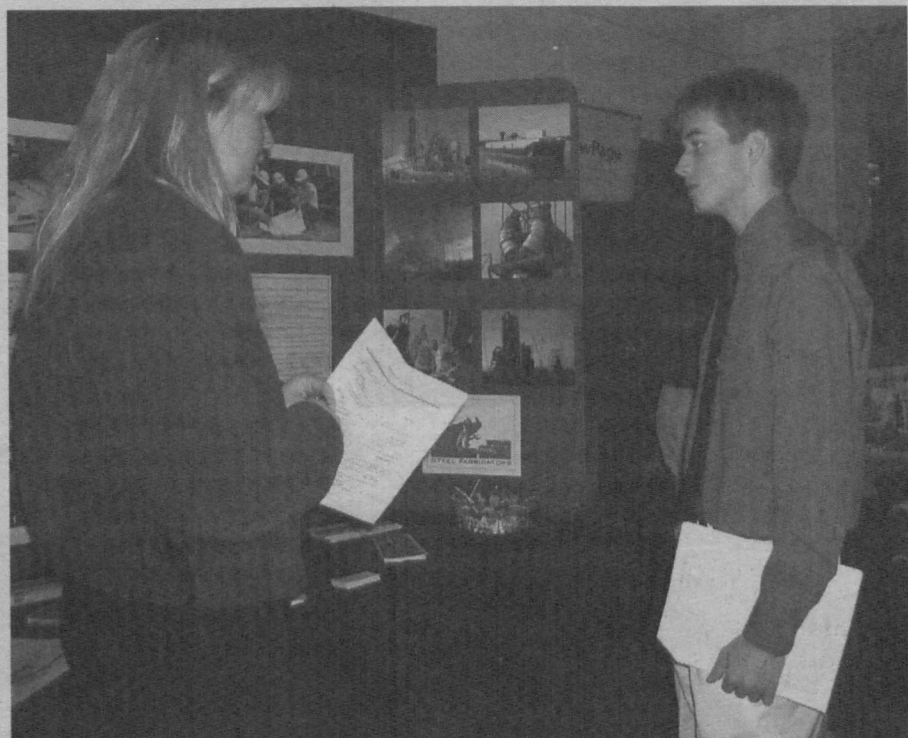


"It doesn't make me any less of a man."

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Careercenter
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Wed, Jan 30
10am-3pm

**Student Recreation
& Fitness Center**

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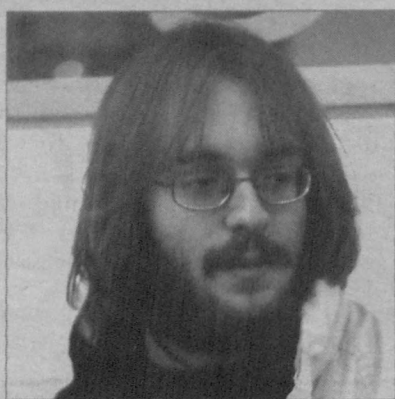
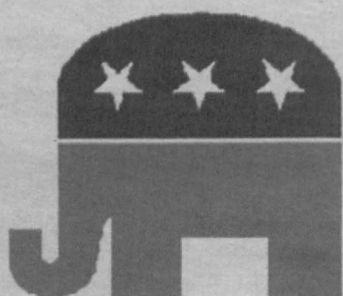


Word of mouth

Presidential Candidate Edition

We asked the first ten people we saw to tell us which Presidential candidate they least support and why. Five were asked about Republicans and five about Democrats.

Which Republican Presidential candidate do you least support and why?



"Huckabee, because I don't think the U.S. needs another evangelical Christian."

John Brabant
Music education

"McCain, I feel like he's past his prime, and his ideas are out of date."

Jennifer Howitt
Undecided



"Mr. 9-11, because that's his only platform."

Mason Emery
Computer science



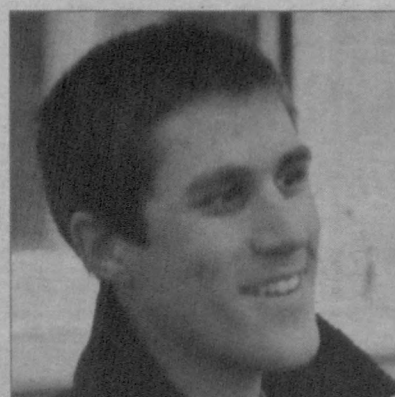
"Mitt Romney, I feel John McCain is more qualified."

Kimberly Cyrway
Sociology



"Ron Paul, he's got some great ideas but sometimes he acts like a kook."

Jeremy Labbe
Geo-technological engineering



Which Democratic Presidential candidate do you least support and why?

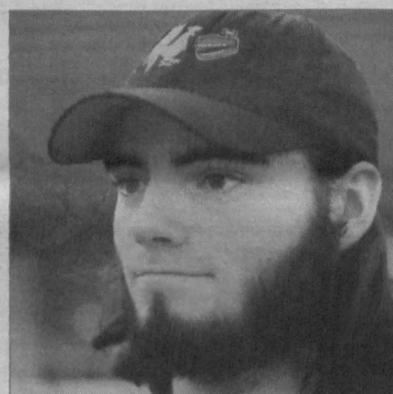
"Hillary Clinton, I don't support all of her views."

Hibat Sharif
Biology



"Hillary Clinton, what she's pushing for is against what we actually care about."

Zach Lewis
English



"Hillary Clinton, I think another Clinton would be like 'Bill Part Two.'"

Alissa Burgess
Chemical Engineering



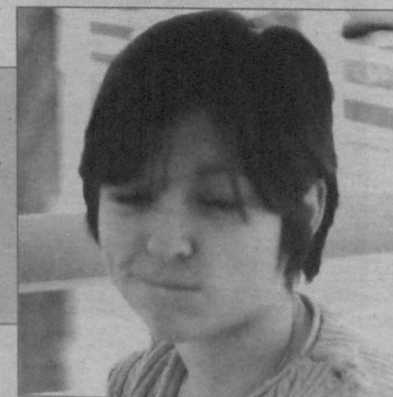
"Hillary Clinton, I feel like she has low values because she didn't leave her husband."

Brian Hardy
Undecided



"Hillary Clinton, Bill Clinton would run the entire show, and her foreign affairs policy isn't what I would like it to be."

Mandy Fahey



Police Beat



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

Marijuana Possession in Gannett

On Jan. 14, police received a call at 10:23 p.m. for suspected marijuana use on the first floor of Gannett Hall. When police arrived, Amy Heino, 18, of Orono, opened the door. The officer told Heino he smelled marijuana and advised her to turn over any marijuana or drug paraphernalia. Heino surrendered a pipe and a bag of marijuana to the officer. Heino was issued a summons for possession of marijuana.

Ten Minutes Too Late

Police were called at 4:30 p.m. on Jan. 14 due to a strong scent of marijuana on the third floor of York Hall. Samuel Green, 20, of Orono, was questioned by the officer. He denied allegations. After questioning, Green admitted to a marijuana pipe in the room and surrendered it to police. Green was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia.

Fight at Beta Theta Pi

On Jan. 12, a fight was reported at 4:19 a.m. at Beta Theta Pi. When officers arrived, they found a 22-year-old male in the living room who was out of breath. Andrew Higgins, 20, of Orono,

was drinking and allegedly made several anti-Semitic slurs. Higgins and the victim began to fight. The man stopped fighting but Higgins grabbed and repeatedly punched him in the face. The fight continued on a couch until Higgins was physically restrained by a witness. Higgins allegedly swung a cane at the man but did not strike him. The man refused medical treatment and Higgins was summoned for assault. The case has been referred to the Attorney General's office for review as a potential hate and bias crime.

Intoxicated driver in MCA parking lot

The Deputy Police Chief saw a vehicle driving erratically, swerving in and out of traffic and hitting snow banks in the MCA parking lot on Dec. 21 at 10:45 a.m. The driver, William White, 21, of Brewer, was asked to perform field sobriety tests. White was arrested for an OUI and a small mason jar of marijuana was found in his pocket. White was charged with operating under the influence.

Compiled by Melinda Hart

Engineering school encourages girls to pursue math, science

University of Maine's "girls' night out" works to abolish stereotype that engineering is a boys-only profession

By Chelsea Cameron

On Wednesday, Jan. 23, The University of Maine College of Engineering hosted "Girls' Night Out," an event to inspire middle school girls to pursue careers in math and science.

The event included a panel discussion, a tour of science facilities and a UMaine women's basketball game for 30 girls from the Cohen and Doughty Middle Schools. The girls were selected because of their math and science abilities.

According to John Vetelino, a professor of electrical and computer engineering, the idea for the event came from middle school teachers Trisha Bernhardt and Tracy Vassilieve, and Jason Bolton, a student involved in Research Experience for Teachers. The RET program selects teachers from the surrounding Bangor area during the summer, showing them how to integrate cutting-edge technology into the classroom. It also shows students that math

and science can be fun, said Vetelino.

A tour of UMaine's research facilities and labs began at 3:30 p.m., followed by talks from Dana Humphries, Dean of the College of Engineering and Cindy Blodgett, UMaine Women's Basketball Coach.

"It offers an excellent vehicle to use to get kids excited about science."

John Vetelino
Professor of electrical
and computer engineering

The girls participated in a panel discussion lead by eight women. "It was very enlightening," Vetelino said. Heidi Purrington, a senior electrical engineering major who participated in the panel, said it was important to show girls that science was not about suspenders and beakers. "It was great to reconnect with them. It was an opportunity that would have been exciting for me," Purrington said.

After the panel the girls formed small groups to interact with panel leaders. "It was more of an informal discussion," Purrington said.

See GIRLS on page 6

Smoking is bad for your lungs.

Mind if I ask you a personal question?

Sure?

Do you ever get tired of listening to the same top 40 music day in and day out?

Nosiree!

Huh?

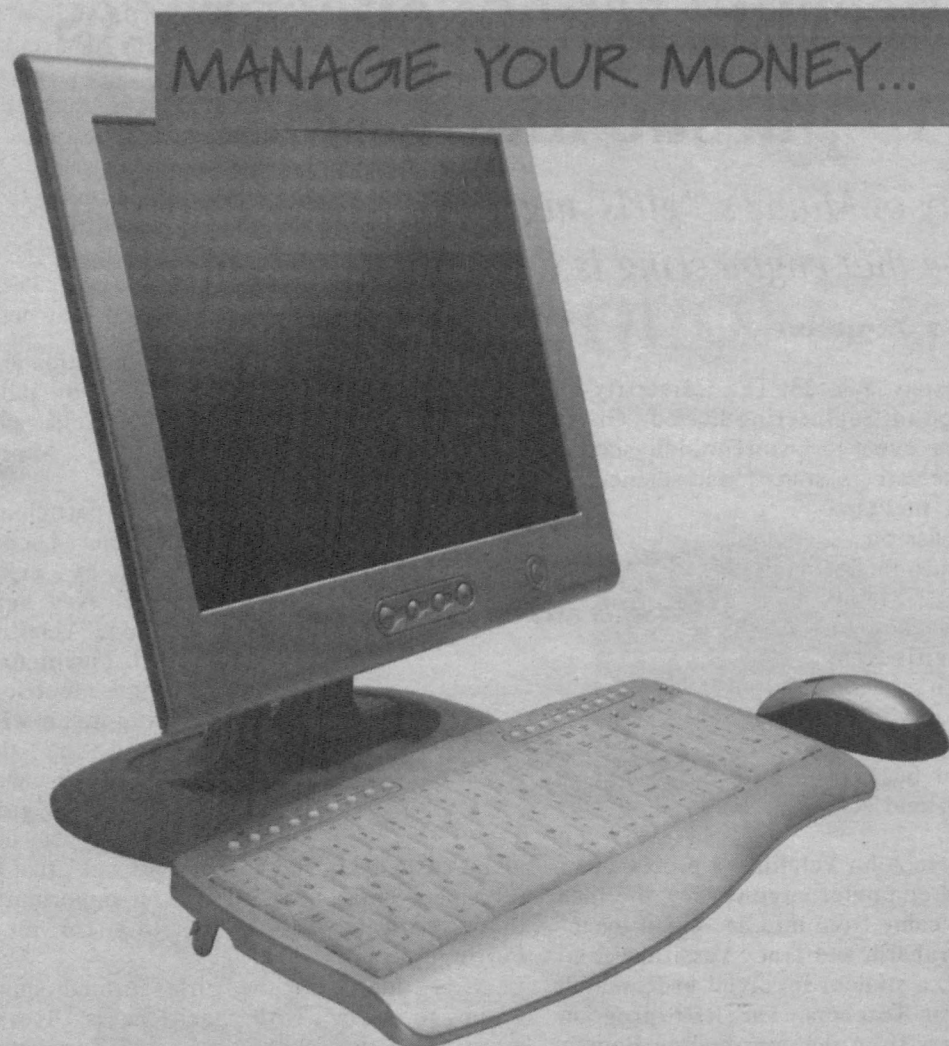
I listen to WMEB 91.9 FM, where there is a plethora of diverse programming, including independent and world music, insightful sports coverage, and a multitude of great student run shows.

Oh yeah! Aren't they the ones that are "Redefining the Alternative"?

ROBOT!!!!

You Betchya! Plus, they will have their online stream back up soon*, making it even easier to listen to them, like, all the time!

*soon = first week of February excluding the instance of acts of god, mail delivery, natural disasters and general catastrophe



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NCUA

Girls

from page 5

At the end of the evening, the girls watched the UMaine women's basketball team challenge Boston University. The girls sat together and cheered for the Black Bears, according to Vetelino. Several girls were chosen to compete in the halftime shooting contest.

UMaine has given tours of campus

facilities in the past but has not had an event like this, said Vetelino. "It offers an excellent vehicle to use to get kids excited about science."

Vetelino has worked with high school students, encouraging them. "You want to at least make them aware of the possibilities," said Vetelino.

NASA

from page 3

the Wise Laboratory for Environment and Genetic Toxicology at USM, along with Nick Link of South Portland High School and James Wise of USM, who is an alternate flyer.

Wise Sr. came upon the program and Wise Jr. took the time to get the team and proposal together. They have been working on it since the beginning of the first semester. Since their project has been approved, each of the team

members will have to undergo a medical exam to ensure they are all in good health. Psychological training will be done at Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas.

The group also plans on visiting local high schools to disseminate their results upon completion.

More information on NASA's program can be found at microgravityuniversity.jcs.nasa.gov.

Corrections...

An article from our Jan. 24 issue, titled "GSS back to business," falsely stated that William Pomerleau had been impeached from his role as president of the student body. This was false. In fact, Pomerleau had resigned from his position. We apologize for the error.

If you wish to report an error, contact eryk@umit.maine.edu.

Can you write?

The Maine Campus wants news writers.

Open news meetings:
Mondays at 2:30 p.m.
Thursdays at 1 p.m.

In The Maine Campus office across
from the post office in the union.

Contact Heather Steeves on FirstClass for
more information.

Internship

from page 1

unpaid internships, who have to "pay for an internship that [they're] not getting paid for."

The idea of a tuition-free three-credit proposal was not financially feasible, according to Mitchell, who was concerned that such a proposal "might be so cost-prohibitive that [the university administration] would down the entire concept." The one tuition-free credit could be bundled with a multiple-credit course so that the cost of one credit is subtracted from the total, according to Mitchell.

The one-credit course fulfills the Federal Labor Department and the Fair Labor Standards Act's requirements that an unpaid trainee benefits from the experience with a company. In addition, liability for the student participating is taken off the company and placed on the university, another benefit for companies considering offering unpaid internships.

Patty Counihan, director of the Career Center, described Mitchell's proposal as very persuasive. Counihan, who worked with Mitchell in drafting the proposal, said the Career Center was behind it. "I absolutely support it ... I think it would really benefit students, and I don't think it would cost the university much money at all."

According to Counihan, employers "expect to see students who have some real-world experience that they can obtain through internships on their resume." Many students understand the importance of internship experience, but "Our students, for the most part, are not wealthy ... [T]hey know that



Rebekah Rhodes ♦ The Maine Campus

Jocelyn Emery prepares to cash out a customer at the University Bookstore.

internships are important; they know that they should do them, but they can't afford them," Counihan said.

Chelsea Lucas, a fourth-year environmental science major, agreed with the premise of tuition-free academic credit for internships. "Why should you have to pay for something where you're doing the work for someone else, rather than the university using resources to educate you?" Lucas said. Lucas completed a paid internship for academic credits in the summer of 2007.

Caucus

from page 1

form small groups of voters that support specific candidates. For a voter group to be considered for delegate support, the group must maintain the minimum percentage of the people attending the caucus. If a group cannot maintain the percentage, they are forced to separate and join an existing group.

Party delegates are then divided among existing groups: the number of delegates is multiplied by the number of people in a group and then divided by the total number of caucus goers.

In the Republican caucuses a poll is taken and delegates are granted to the candidate with the most votes. "It's certainly a conversation about platforms and candidates during presidential years," said Steven Scharf, community chair member for the Cumberland County Republican caucus.

When news polls announce caucus winners, they are announcing the number of delegates that each candidate attained.

Primary voting provides a polling location for voters and allows voters to vote for a candidate through a ballot, without any discussion with fellow voters. Like a caucus, the voter is not voting for a specific candidate but for a delegate who will represent their candidate at the national convention.

"Caucuses keep with the traditional New England town meetings and it's also a chance to meet candidates in smaller groups."

Anthony Libby
Regional field coordinator
Maine Democratic Party

The caucus system began when the first political parties formed in the United States. During the early twentieth century as parties grew and focused themselves the system began to dissolve.

The Iowa caucus receives national attention because it is the first state to vote during the presidential primary season. New Hampshire follows Iowa with a primary election. While the results of

both states do not always reflect the candidate elected to the presidency, the media attention and momentum gained by the winners of each election can be beneficial to a candidate's campaign.

Many have debated if the primary system should replace the caucus system. The primary system allows smaller candidate groups to have a say.

"Caucuses keep with the traditional New England town meetings and it's also a chance to meet candidates in smaller groups," Libby said.

Municipal caucuses will begin for Republicans on the first and end on the third. Orono Republican caucus goers will join other Penobscot County residents at Husson College at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 2.

Maine Democrats will caucus on Sunday, Feb. 10. Unlike the Republican caucuses, Democrat caucuses will be in most towns and cities across the state.

Orono Democratic caucus goers will meet at the Orono Town Council Chambers at 1 p.m.

Action

from page 1

Last week the UMS chief, Chancellor Richard Pattenau, released to members of the State Legislature's Appropriations and Education Committees a plan to

reduce the operational costs of the UMS by \$5 million.

His short-term cost-savings plan includes reductions in the size and cost of the system office operation, to be attained by merging system functions with campus offices. It also includes an elimination of senior administrative salary increases for one year – which includes every administrator at all seven universities and the system office with an annual salary of \$100,000 or more. The chancellor said this "will reduce overall expenses by as much as \$300,000."

The system's long-term savings initiatives include a cost-cutting collaboration with state government and the Community College System, focusing on collective purchasing and potential sharing of administrative functions. The system hopes to secure private funds to improve facilities, while using the savings from reduced energy consumption to finance this work.

The Agenda for Action was first publicly discussed in a Bangor Daily News (BDN) editorial on Jan. 19. "Maine's chief executive has spared the state's higher education institutions from his budget-cutting plans," the staff editorial said. "Instead, Gov. John Baldacci has asked the colleges and universities to look for cost savings and use that money to minimize tuition increases and boost scholarships." The BDN editorial criticized the University System's spending on administrative costs, suggesting that the system spends more on administration than the national average.

Pattenau agrees that the system must find more financially lean ways to operate but was concerned about factual errors in the BDN editorial. "Unfortunately, the news editorial contained an error which should be corrected for the record, as it deals with a particularly sensitive point," the Chancellor wrote in an op-ed response on Jan. 26. "Specifically, it involves the assertion that the university system's administrative costs are 'above the national average.' This conclusion appears to be based on a reporting error contained in a national higher education database, which skewed and misrepresented certain calculations pertaining to Maine," he continued. The UMS employs one administrator for every 127 students; compared to the national average of one for every 69. "Without question, we must continue to search for ways to operate our universities in as lean and effective a manner as possible."

Got news tips?

E-mail news@mainecampus.com

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College of Education & Human Development

Applications for Fall Semester Student Teaching/Internships are now available at the Student Teaching Office, 130 Shibles Hall.

Application deadline is Monday, February 11, 2007 for students ready to begin an internship in the Fall 2008 Semester.

For further information, call Pamela Kimball at 581-2456.

THE MAINE CAMPUS

The University of Maine student newspaper since 1875

Athletes receive academic honors

Last weekend brought some welcome news from the athletic department: the University of Maine presented academic honors to more than half of its student-athletes for their academic performance in 2007. This is the fifth consecutive year in which more than half of all athletes received this award.

The awards were given to athletes who achieved a GPA of 3.0 or better for each semester in 2007 or cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better for that time period.

This announcement is a breath of fresh air compared to the headline-grabbing misbehavior from UMaine athletes — and one coach — last semester.

Recently, calls have echoed from the pages of the Bangor Daily News and The Maine Campus to highlight ways in which athletes have a positive impact on their community. The 231 student athletes that received academic honors are an example of the positive achievements of the department and deserve to be acknowledged.

With the department enforcing such measures as mandatory study time, this cannot be written off as simply the achievements of students who happen to be athletes. The department deserves credit for providing a positive support system for its community.

This news, as well as the focus that the department places on academics, should help to dispel stereotypes about the study habits of team players. These athletes have shown that it is possible to balance extracurricular activities and school work.

The above editorial is written by the editorial board, whose members are Eryk Salvaggio, Derek Dobachesky, David Dauphinee, Brett Sowerby, Lynnsay Maynard, Heather Steeves, Nick McCrea, Pattie Barry, Rebekah Rhodes, Adrienne Hess and Meghan Hayward.

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Perspectives

MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2008



Samantha Hansen

Nothing "right" about too much freedom for smokers

For the past year, it has been illegal in Bangor for anyone to smoke in the car when a juvenile is present. As a result of its overwhelming success, a similar ban is being moved through the Maine legislature, which would extend the ban statewide.

This law is fantastic! I wouldn't mind seeing a national version. Why hasn't smoking been completely banned from public places yet? Why not put even more taxes on cigarettes? No mercy, I say!

I have absolutely no sympathy for "smoker's rights." One physician, commenting on this new state measure, noted that only a "knucklehead" would smoke in a car with children present. Of course, I value this man's expert opinion, but I don't understand the distinction, or the mildness of language. Any half-brained son of a wicker chair should know by now that smoking anywhere in the presence of anyone is harmful.

Tobacco has no medical value whatsoever. It is decidedly poisonous. Smoking relieves stress, some claim, or prevents

over-eating, but there are thousands of less harmful practices which lead to the same result.

I can understand, maybe, those who fear a harmful precedent when it comes to civil liberties. Some conservatives call this the "slippery slope." We need to make sure that the government does not meddle with the privacy of its citizens.

In my mind, however, the distinction is clear: Should the government have the right to keep us from poisoning ourselves, with legal means? No. Should it have the right to keep us from poisoning others? Yes! Preventing citizens from physically endangering each other? What else is government good for, besides providing comedic fodder for The Daily Show?

When I was a child, my father smoked in the car when I was with him. My brother and I definitely got some second-hand smoke. Back then it built character, though — remember? Did either of us contract bronchitis or asthma? No. However, we all know that there were children, to whom nature was less favorable, who did get sick. Smoking cigarettes is the number one cause of preventable deaths in the United States. Isn't that a sick phrase? Who wants to hear that their loved one's death was preventable?

Let's take a peek at this from the state's point of view: How many millions of dollars do you think go towards the treatment of preventable diseases? Despite the spirited debates and careful planning of presidential candidates, no one really knows.

It would be one thing if there were laws out there which made it illegal to swallow handfuls of pennies, or shove sharpened sticks in your ears, or use your hairdryer while standing in a tub of water. None of these things need be outlawed, because if a sane person chooses to do so they are perfectly within their own rights. Anyone who smokes, however, is infringing on the rights of everyone around them.

The bottom line is, if it were feasible, I would beg the government to make smoking illegal once and for all. The problem is, as soon as tobacco goes underground all the

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 300 words in length and should include the author's name, address, academic major or job title and phone number or e-mail address. The Maine Campus reserves the right to edit submissions for length and clarity.

The Maine Campus

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See **SMOKING** on page 9

UMaine College Republicans' good name being besmirched

Danielle Palmer

In response to Kyle Michaud's article about the University of Maine College Republicans engaging in questionable conduct, there are several things that the readers should know about Kyle Michaud.

First, Kyle Michaud was ejected from his executive position as UMaine College Republican Secretary. The reasoning was that his conduct within the group meetings became disagreeable. He engaged members in off-color debates outside of the meeting itinerary numerous times. Many of our group members felt targeted by his remarks, including one member who left in the middle of the meeting because of his flagrant disregard for group conduct.

Secondly, Kyle Michaud was not present for the discussion about CPAC funding, nor was he present for the General Student Senate meeting. We had slated our budget at \$7,000 because we were so advised by a member of the student senate. This figure was realistic for the full funding of 25 members. This begs the question "Would we really jeopardize funding for our entire group to go to a much anticipated political event?" This simply doesn't make sense.

During the College Republican meeting following the allotment of less than \$2,000 from GSS, Kyle Michaud had mentioned that this was good news, because we could start a court case against the University of Maine General Student Senate due to bias. He wanted to obtain the minutes from the meeting as a basis for the ridiculous idea of a court case against GSS. Our group saw this as a rash decision that we would never support. We fully cooperated with GSS and look forward to doing so in the future.

When Kyle Michaud was asked to vacate his position on the executive board, he was in the middle of a project attempting to document professorial salaries and other expenditures by the university. He was eventually going to release this information at the cost of sully the university's image. It is ironic that all of

a sudden he is interested in "protecting the university" after working on such projects.

Regarding the "Grossweiler controversy," as Michaud calls it, this was an attempt on the part of our group to bring to light the stark contrast between liberal professors and conservative students on our campus. McDade took this case outside of the UMaine College Republicans to a non-governmental organization, The Leadership Institute. This and any action that McDade was engaged in occurred outside the auspices of the UMaine College Republicans.

Therefore, Michaud's anachronistic claim of McDade being a "McCarthyist" is ill-founded. She withdrew from "The Today Show" primarily because of fear of reprisals from professors who did not share her zeal for academic freedom and fairness within the classroom.

As for me "thwarting" \$10,000 from the university coffers, that's purely a part of Michaud's creative imagination. This was carried out after a press release regarding McDade's experience with Grossweiler and the CPAC monies was released statewide. Numerous conservative donors were quite upset over this news and their choice — if they did so — to withdraw funding was purely their own, not due to any pressure by the UMaine College Republicans. Our group had no direct contact with any university donors whatsoever.

I believe that the student body should be made aware of such attempts by a former secretary with a damaged ego to besmirch the good name and reputation of the UMaine College Republicans. It should also be noted that when Kyle Michaud was asked to vacate his position on the executive board, he declined his appeal to be reinstated and instead chose to leave the group and attempt petty tactics to harm the group's image.

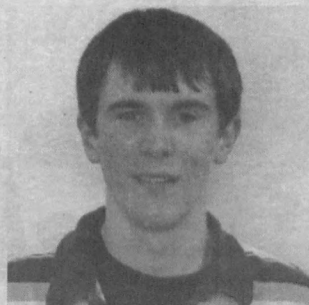
Alison Geagan, Rebekah McDade and Luke deNatale contributed to this response.

Smoking cool kids will start it up again. Then we'd have organized crime, gambling and drive-by shootings, and everyone would blame me for it. No, thank you.

So we can't make smoking illegal outright, but let's make it as inconvenient as possible. I

have a dream, my children, a dream that will not infringe on anyone's right to poison themselves. That dream involves a square, marked out in yellow paint, two feet wide and two feet long, labeled "Smoking Zone." Let's put it in the middle of an intersection somewhere. That's all they need, right?

Samantha Hansen is a first-year political science major.



Nicholas McCrea

Bad boyfriends ensure that nice guys finish in the "friend zone"

I would like to open up with a disclaimer: If you are a woman in a happy relationship with a great guy, you probably won't get much out of this editorial. Please don't bother — go do homework instead. However, if you're a bit jaded from bad relationships — or are in one currently — it may be of interest. With that said, I'll continue.

I'm a "really nice guy." That's what I tend to be told by the fairer sex, anyway. Right before they tell me that we should "just be friends."

Soon after this inevitable conversation, we'll hang out, and I'll be introduced to her friends as "my friend, Nick." At this point, it's official — you have entered the friend zone. Cue the "Twilight Zone" theme music.

This story, with minor plot twists, has played out again and again in my three years at the University of Maine — only the names have changed. So how do guys like me enter this dreaded place, where advancement is an utter impossibility? We're too nice. Girls don't like nice guys.

A lot of you girls are probably saying, "What are you talking about? Of course I want a nice guy who will treat me well. We all do."

The truth is, most college-aged women don't know what they want. They say they'd like a guy who would treat them well and respect them. What they end up with is the same old guy who will be fun for a while and then decide he can start abusing the privilege of being with her.

This phenomenon is true in many aspects of the female psyche. Guys, let's say you take a girl to a movie and are getting ready to buy her a ticket — assuming you're a nice guy — and you ask her what she'd like to see. The most common response is

"whatever." We all learn through trial and error that this actually means: "You'd better remember my favorite genre, actor, producer and lighting scheme, and pick the correct movie accordingly. Then when we get in there, you'd better pick a damn good seat."

It becomes even clearer when you consider their relationships. I can't tell you how many times a good female friend of mine has complained to me — or even cried on my shoulder — because her boyfriend was treating her like crap. Of course, a few days later she'll be back with him, "happy" as ever. This cycle will repeat for a few months until she has finally had enough and decides to hop off the rollercoaster. Then she immediately starts looking for the next thrill ride at the emotional Busch Gardens that is a college campus.

After a few bad relationships a woman might ask, "Why can't I just find a nice guy?" Well, it's because you seem to be attracted to tools.

Researchers believe that women are naturally attracted to the "bad boy" types. They're drawn to this class of men because they're unpredictable and exciting, while the "nice guy" brand tends to be reliable and boring. College is the prime time for excitement, so I suppose I can't blame women for their preference.

However, ladies, if you're having trouble finding a guy who doesn't treat you like dirt, maybe you shouldn't be so quick to relegate one of the nice guys to the inescapable quagmire that is the friend zone.

Nick McCrea is a third-year journalism major who wants to jump off the Friend Zone roller coaster.



Alicia Mullins

Blame for sexual abuse should be focused on abusers, not victims

Last week a female resident reported a sexual assault against her in Gannett Hall. I am always disgusted to hear about incidents of this nature not only because the act of sexual assault is incredibly disturbing, but also because it seems to happen every semester. Sometimes it's sexual assault, sometimes it's unwanted sexual touching and sometimes it's sexual harassment. Whichever it happens to be, I am consistently horrified by the news and some of the reactions I observe.

Instead of questioning how a person could commit such a reprehensible act, I often hear questions like "what woman in college doesn't lock her door at night," "didn't she know better than to go to a party all by herself" and "why would she dress that way if she didn't want that kind of attention?" I sincerely hope I'm not alone in seeing a huge problem in this kind of thinking.

It isn't that I don't think women should take steps to protect themselves; I personally can't go to sleep without knowing that my front and bedroom doors are both locked. For a person who lives on campus — where you sometimes don't know everyone on your floor, let alone the rest of the building — the risk could be even higher. No, the questions make me angry for a different reason.

More often than I'd like to admit, women are blamed for the sexual abuse that happens to them. Upon hearing about the abuse, people often want to question what the victim could have done differently instead of immediately feeling angry that a woman was physically and emotionally violated.

Insisting that a woman "should have locked her door" or "shouldn't have dressed like that" after an assault has happened is ignoring an important issue: a crime was committed against a person. The implication that the victim holds any responsibility for

being assaulted assumes that she was asking for — or deserved — what happened to her. This is completely untrue, as well as insulting.

When the blame is placed — partially or wholly — on the woman violated, I see it as an insult to men as well. It assumes that it is in a man's nature to rape, and that when a woman doesn't take precautions, she may as well be covering herself in meat and walking into a tiger's cage. This is a deeply ignorant implication.

Men are not wild animals. They feel love, think abstractly and make choices. A man who rapes is still a man because he made a choice. He isn't a beast who can't control his barbaric urges; he is a man who made the conscious decision to ignore human decency in favor of participating in a heinous act of violation.

Significant efforts from campus groups, such as the Safe Campus Project and the Student Women's Association, inform women and men about how to better protect themselves from being targeted. While instances of sexual assault and other reprehensible acts still occur, the work that these groups do is important because they address problems and help students on campus.

We've created a culture that's focused on prevention. As a result, we can sometimes lose sight of the fact that rape isn't an uncontrollable force in the nature of men. Committing rape is a decision that some men — and women — consciously make. While prevention is necessary to keep people safe, it is inexcusable to lay any blame on a victim of this crime. Ultimately, the reprehensible choice is the choice to rape, not the choice to leave a door unlocked.

Alicia Mullins is a fourth-year women's studies major.

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go. *Style & Culture*

MUSIC

Java Jive
The Project
8 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 29
North Pod, Union

Royal Scots Dragoon Guards
Sounds of Great Britain
7 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 28
Bangor Auditorium

"The Last Five Years"
Jason Robert Brown
A Song-Cycle Musical
7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 30
Minsky Recital Hall

Lidral Duo
Chamber Jazz Afternoon
Concert Series
4:15 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 31
The Bear's Den

ARTS

"Test Everything"
Senior Art Show
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Open Daily
Lord Hall Gallery

A Legacy of Collecting: the
Vincent A. Hartgen Years
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
University of Maine Museum
of Art
Norumbega Hall (Bangor)
Free with MaineCard, \$3 w/out

ENTERTAINMENT

Orono Arts Café
Open-Mic Night
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Keith Anderson Community
Center
Downtown Orono
\$3 for adults
\$1 for Students & Children

MPAC Film Series
"Hearts and Minds"
7 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 31
140 Little Hall

LECTURES

Nietzsche, Music Truth Value
and Life:
From Wagner to Mozart
4 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 31
140 Little Hall

BOOK SIGNING

Liam Riordan
"Many Identities, One Nation"
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan 30
Coe Room, Union

If you would like your
event posted in The Maine
Campus Style calendar,
send time, day, date, place
and fee information to Brett
Sowerby on FirstClass

...A Pirate's life for FREE

By Benjamin Costanzi

Are you frustrated by the continuous limitation of your ability to network music and movies? It's a difficult environment for audio/videophiles, now that "sharing" has become "piracy." I mean honestly, don't lawyers learn this stuff when they're kids?

Many of you are probably already familiar with the Media Resource Center (MRC) in Fogler Library, but for those who aren't, let me be the first to tell you: It is a safe harbor for the exploration of media.

The MRC boasts a wide variety of music — over 5,000 CDs — available on 3-day loan, and hundreds of film titles available for 48-hour loan. If you ever have to utilize reserve media for a class, this is the place. The music consists of a large classical section, a varied and abundant blues/bluegrass, folk and jazz collection, international music, as well as classic rock and pop albums.

In addition to providing media, the MRC also caters to the student who is interested in creating it. Eight mini-DV camcorders are available along with digital cameras and digital audio recorders for 24-hour loans and even laptops for 3 hours. It has video editing stations for both Mac and PC format, but the real gem is the audio editing station which features a MIDI keyboard/synthesizer, a workstation PC with multi-track editing software, and even reel-to-reel and phonograph connectivity for those elusive retro format samples.

One thing the MRC seems to pride itself on is the tenacity of information despite format changes. To realize this look no further than the list of formats that can be utilized: DVD, VHS, VD, Laserdisc, CD, mini-DV, audio cassette, Reel-to-Reel and LP. While the video and audio editing stations are enclosed within the MRC, there are additional listening stations just outside in the Science Reference study space at the top of the marble stairs. Below them, across from the Oakes Room, is a film screening room available through the MRC by reservation. If that doesn't satisfy you, they also have scanners and a brand new photo-quality printer that can be used in the center room during its open hours, which are generous.

At the helm of the Media Center are Barbara Allen and Larry Corbett.

I spoke with Corbett, who has been with the MRC for the past 16 years. He noted the

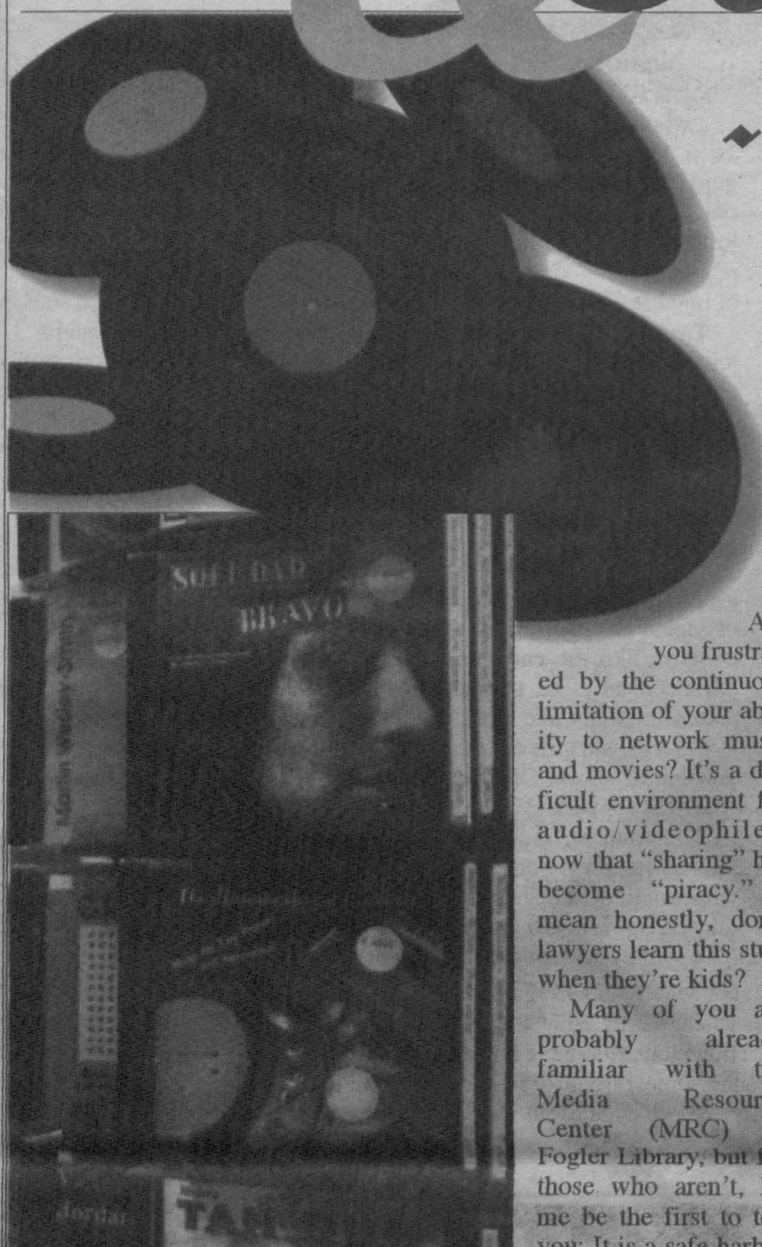
success of the laptop program in particular, which is currently in its fifth year. Having the opportunity to borrow a laptop is apparently very useful to University of Maine students, since they have been checked out over 22,000 times since introduced. While the loan is limited to three hours, borrowing one is perhaps a good alternative to waiting for an opening in the often-crowded desktop computer clusters.

I asked Corbett what his favorite titles were among the vast movie catalog: his current films of choice were Ken Burns' recent seven-part World War II documentary "The War" which was released in 2007, and the 2006 BBC nature documentary "Planet Earth." His choices are illustrative of the diversity of content found in the MRC's collection. Corbett, an aspiring musician on the cello and fiddle, also recommended the Jazz section for anyone looking to broaden their musical horizons, and regretted that there was not much of a selection of fiddle music. Perhaps that will not be the case for long, as the collection is always growing thanks to a combination of private donations and larger academic grants.

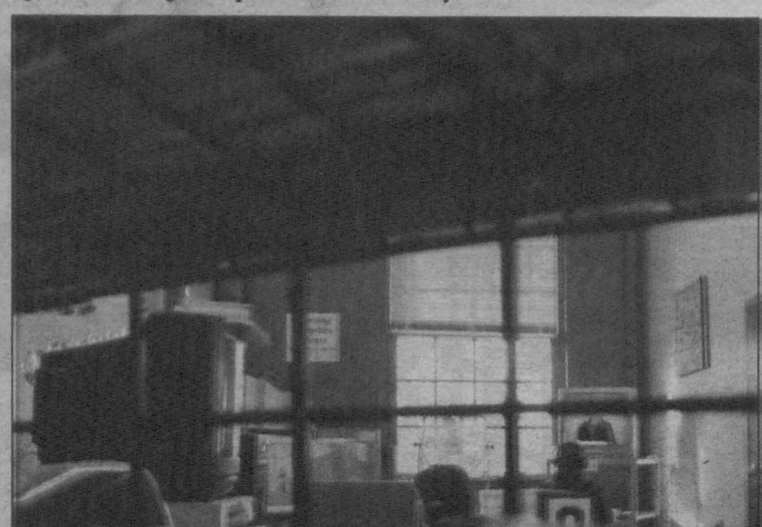
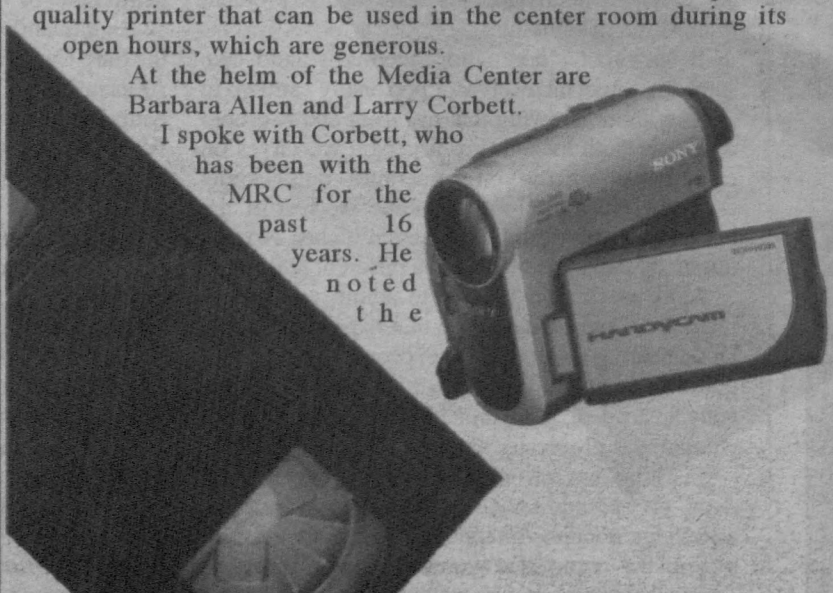
In addition to his duties as guardian of the MRC, Corbett is a resource himself through his knowledge of media and equipment alike. So much so that he recently created a podcast using archival footage from the library's special collections and the MRC's editing equipment. The podcast, which can be found in the "What's New" box on Fogler's homepage or by going straight to the library's podcast page, is a look at the library's evolution since its inception in 1962. Another podcast available at this location describes the MRC in a more succinct fashion, and demonstrates Corbett's command of stop-motion.

Like the library, the Media Resource Center is constantly adapting to the changing stream of information. I recommend that you do the same, and check out the MRC to avoid the perils of becoming a media pirate.

The Media Resource Center is located on the second floor of Fogler Library in the far right corner when ascending the marble stairs. It is open from 8 a.m. to Midnight Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and 10 a.m. to Midnight on Sundays. The hours are subject to change so please call Library Hours at 581-1664.



Chris Pappas ♦ The Maine Campus



Chris Pappas ♦ The Maine Campus

BEER POLICE



This week, local beer police investigated the savory world of stouts. These dark and aromatic beers all proved to be full of flavor. Stouts were originally brewed to contain more ingredients to help them survive long journeys overseas without spoiling.

Lion Stout, an import brewed and bottled in Sri Lanka, was the first beverage surveyed. Lion boasted its eight percent alcohol content on the label and proclaimed that it was the winner of five international gold awards. Lion poured into the glass, weighed in at

an opaque brown, and hit the nose with a tangy scent, reeking of barley. This 650-milliliter brew began with a thick fluffy head, followed by a sweetness on the tip of the tongue and a slight bitterness in the back. At about \$3, Lion Stout was a good deal for being a pint-and-a-half. A long haul off this beer yielded a rather bitter taste, which told me this beverage is certainly meant for sipping.

Next up to bat was a definite staple of the stout world. Although Guinness Extra Stout states "traditionally brewed in St. James Gate, Dublin," a glance at the rear label uncovers that, although it is imported, it's actually brewed and bottled in New Brunswick, Canada. It isn't shown on the label, but this 12-ounce beer has four percent alcohol per volume. Guinness pours out in a much lighter coloring than the Lion, looking more like a dark amber color and slightly more transparent. The extra stout smells and tastes lighter, like a light version of the Lion and to be honest, it leaves a bit to be desired in the area of full-flavored taste generally expected from this renowned beer.

The next seal cracked was Gritty's version of a stout: Black Fly. Straight out of Freeport, Maine, this was more akin to the Lion Stout's dark complexion and thick head. It had a hefty amount of flavor and an aromatic touch of almonds. Much like the Lion Stout, it left a hint of bitterness on the back of the tongue. Unlike the Lion Stout, Black Fly only packs 4.1 percent alcohol per volume. At about \$3, I would probably choose the Lion Stout over the Black Fly.

The last brew of the night was Dogfish Head's World Wide Stout. On the label, World Wide Stout claimed it was made "with a ridiculous amount of barley." This beer holds true to the name, offering a ferocious helping of barley taste. World Wide Stout also

See **BEER** on page 13

BY
**BRETT
SOWERBY**

A day fit for a King

By Rachel Hirsch

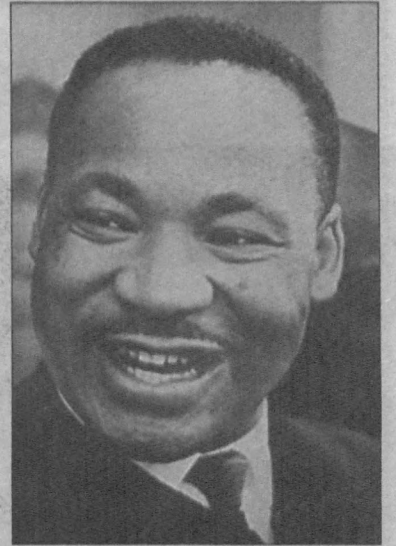
On a brisk early morning, while many were still sleeping, others took the time to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at the twelfth annual breakfast at Stodder Commons. The event was sold out and reached capacity with 250 people. There was also a waiting list for the event.

The event included speeches from Dean of Students Dr. Robert Dana, Joseph Perry of the Bangor NAACP, Laila Sholtz-Ames representing the Black Student Union and professor Douglas Allen of the University of Maine Peace Studies department.

The breakfast consisted of speeches from inspirational to informative speeches. Dana mentioned a proposed memorial garden in remembrance of King and his wife Coretta Scott King. The garden will be located behind the Memorial Union, near the Advanced Manufacturing Center.

Sholtz-Ames and Allen provided their honest opinions of the event and other cultural issues.

One topic addressed was the threats to the Bangor NAACP branch in fall 2007 and the forced cancellation of the Kwanzaa holiday celebration. However, the Bangor NAACP continues to be sustained through the support of local community groups.



Have King's "dreams" been accomplished? They have, according to Sholtz-Ames:

"I truly believe in my heart that if King were alive today he would be proud of the strides we have made. He would be proud of that fact that today I could walk down that hall and drink water from a water fountain without checking to see if there is a sign that said 'for whites only.'"

However, Allen's speech provided a different and opposing answer. He thought that many situations have worsened. "With the multidimensionality of violence, economy, status quo, there is no peace without justice." He noted that many people in the

See **MLK** on page 13

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**Tuesday, February 26th
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8:00pm**

**\$5 for students,
faculty and staff**

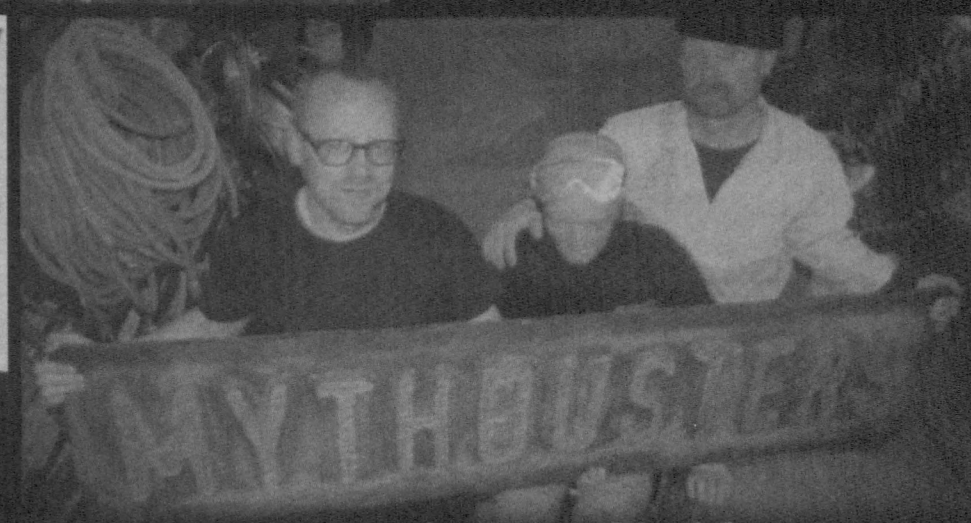
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**SATURDAY
ON THE SLOPES**

**Saturday, February 16
7:00am until 10:00pm**

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Motor Coach Only, \$20



**Adam and Jamie from Mythbusters
Sunday, March 30th at 1:00pm
Hauck Auditorium**

A limited number of guaranteed tickets will be available online for \$5
First come, first served tickets free at the door.

RAMBO



Photo Courtesy of IMDB

By Kyle Kernan

Like a once-great athlete who decides to stay in the game a little longer before calling it quits, 61-year-old action icon Sylvester Stallone still has what it takes to deliver the action that fans scream for, even if the phrase "gratuitous violence" is thrown in to describe it.

Sitting in on "Rambo" makes one feel like the blood-hungry spectators of Rome who adored gladiators and bloodshed. The action and ultra violence that Rambo and a team of mercenaries unleash upon the Burmese army brings images of hell's fury — and then some. It causes us to acknowledge one of our most animalistic guilty pleasures.

The "First Blood" franchise chronicles Vietnam veteran John Rambo. The master of guerilla warfare has

been exiled to Thailand where he runs a longboat along a river and wrangles poisonous snakes. After seeing his exciting life in the early scenes of the film, a team of missionaries asks him awkwardly to guide their team in Burma to help ailing villagers repressed by the ruling army. After first grunting "no," he heeds the words of the female team member.

The missionaries, who claim to have gone into Burma four times, must have known that their presence would ensure pillaging and destruction, as the Burmese army comes in and captures the missionaries, killing nearly all of the villagers early upon their arrival. The easily foreseen plot rages on further as the missionaries' pastor asks Rambo to now lead a team of mercenaries into Burma to extract the abductees.

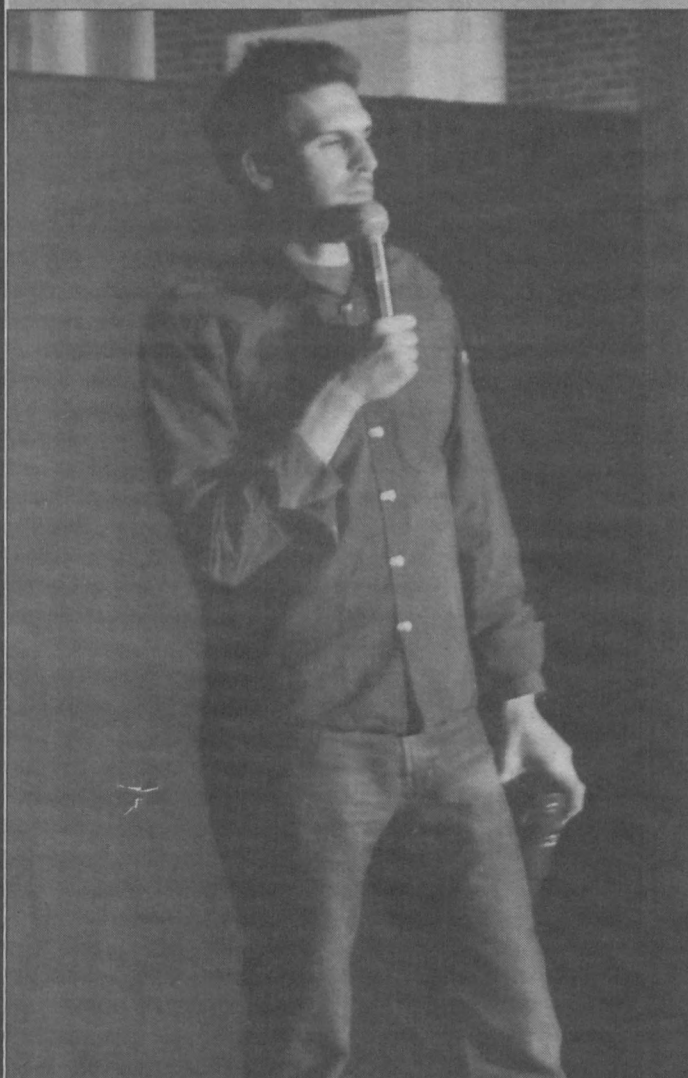
Stallone's John Rambo is a reserved man still shaken by the memories of his traumatic past in Vietnam. He gazes stoically and is reluctant to speak unless spoken to. It's good to see, once again, that Stallone has not forgotten how to play the character's nuances.

Rambo is also reluctant to fight as he ignores the conflict in Burma. When he asks the leader of the missionaries if they are bringing in any weapons, his response is no. Rambo said, "then you're not changing anything." Doesn't he know the fury of the one-man war within him? He needs the voice of Colonel Samuel Trantman in his dreams to urge him to kick ass and take names, and we would not want it any other way.

The war violence is brutal and sometimes numbing, but, like the spectators of the gladiators, you get used to it. "Rambo" is not for the

See RAMBO on page 13

From music to vomit



Nicholas Chiumenti ♦ The Maine Campus

Comedian **Craig Baldo**, performed Friday night in the Union where he poked fun at the Bangor, Orono area.

By Corey Bean

Most appreciators of stand-up comedy will agree that the most irritating thing about any show is that you're never quite sure when to laugh. You hear something that you think might be funny, but in the back of your head you think, "I wish there were someone sitting behind me that could clarify that this joke is indeed funny!"

That's why I was super glad to watch comedian Craig Baldo's performance on Friday night in the presence of a fantastic person sitting two rows behind me. This person saved me from ever being confused about any of Baldo's jokes by laughing obnoxiously loud at everything, even the intermission music, and commenting on several jokes with things like "That's so true!" and "Haha, that's just ridiculous!" and "I don't know anything!"

Craig Baldo himself is a bipolar comedian. He had moments of hilarity that nearly made me fall off my chair, but they're often punctuated with long periods of awkwardness. His opening dialogue, for example, consisted of about five minutes of Baldo seeming to look for jokes from his audience. Tossing an orange to a random audience member is only comedic material if they later manage to pelt you in the head mid-joke. Connecting the fact that we like hockey and the fact that we're from Maine — by some accounts, a cold area at certain times of the year — is also not mind-blowingly hilarious. In fact, for the first few minutes I was concerned that Baldo was performing a parody of bad standup comedians — a routine that I perform on a daily basis.

However, as I mentioned, Baldo had moments of hilarity. The most memorable part of his show was a routine of roughly 20 minutes about sending a mix CD to his ex-girlfriend. The mental image he created by talking about having sex to the theme from "Star Wars" was itself worth the 20 minutes.

I also gave props to Baldo's originality. Music was a theme throughout his routine, but he used it in a completely original way. Not many comedians spend 20 minutes playing snippets from roughly 20 songs and providing commentary, and the originality is enough to make it funny.

Baldo also had a collection of short, one-or-two sentence jokes. These had everyone laughing, partially because they were completely unexpected. One minute Baldo was trying to summon jokes from his audience; the next, he was telling a completely out-of-the-blue joke about the art of beautiful vomit. I couldn't help but laugh at the sudden mental image — and neither could anyone else. In general, the audience reacted positively to Baldo. Even the ones who didn't know anything enjoyed the show thoroughly.

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By Eryk Salvaggio

This Week in SeX

Pop Porn

Britney Spears did it. Amy "Long Island Lolita" Fisher has one. Rumormongers say Vivica A. Fox has, too. Even the Minister of Health for Malaysia, Chua Soi Lek, has one. Saucy, right? Add Pamela Anderson, Paris Hilton, a slew of B-list celebrities and the phenomenon has passed the trend barrier and is now a cultural mainstay: homemade porn is sweeping the globe.

The good news for budding sexual documentarians is that the technology is cheap and accessible to everyone. The bad news is, so is the result: your spring break exploits are only a bitter ex and a Google search away from the most awkward dinner conversation you'll ever have with your parents.

If you're tempted by such harbingers of celebrity status as Amy Fisher and Britney Spears — oh, and Chua Soi Lek — there's a few things you should consider before making the leap into amateur porn. Make no mistake about it, videotaping yourself having sex, even for an audience of two, is amateur porn. In this day and age, where porn stars are as mainstream as pop stars — and some, as we know, dabble in both — it may be tempting to think that getting on on the TV is cool and real, and getting it on the TV is even cooler and more glamorous.

The widespread nature of pornography has an impact on your sex life, whether you know it or not. Before I sound like a total prude, let me extol some virtues of pornography. For one, evidence

across several studies has concluded that pornography reduces incidents of rape. A 10 percent increase in Web access to porn cuts down a state's rate of sexual assault by about 7.5 percent. So, would-be date rapists and sexual predators: the university is providing you with a high-speed Internet connection — enjoy it to your heart's content.

For the rest of us, there's another side of porn. These days, when the ABC network can be fined \$14.3 million for showing female buttocks on an episode of "NYPD Blue" that it aired five years ago, porn may be the only place left allowed to acknowledge the existence of sex. If that's the case, it has a real impact on ideas of sexual performance and expectations for men and women.

Men might get concerned that their ejaculation isn't adequate because it fails to travel to Europe — or even the edge of the bed. Porn-damaged boys expect women and women's bodies to live up to unrealistically molded proportions and they forget what real girls look like.

Women getting their ideas of sexual expectations from porn are a tragic case as well, since the women of porn never experience any kind of pleasure from it.

Female porn viewers, in many cases, get used to the idea that some degree of physical discomfort must be involved in pleasing a partner, which is setting women's sexual education back to the '50s.

If porn makes your actual sex life look dry and boring, well, that's what it is supposed to be

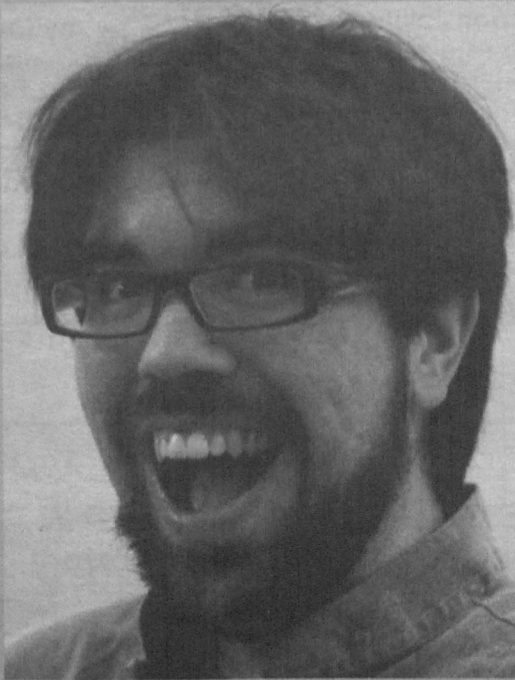
a better person, and respect the fact that you can still look your mom in the eyes — but it's the perfect example of where porn goes to catch desensitized viewers. Remarkably, it's gone mainstream enough to be mentioned on VH1.

Watching porn could make anyone feel overwhelmed by the idea that being real is enough to please anyone these days. People get used to seeing increasingly extreme kinds of sex acts on the Internet, and suddenly, real sex can't compete. To compensate, partners try to imitate the stuff they've seen in porn. This is a problem.

If you lose yourself in bed — or wherever you choose to get it on — you're losing a big part of your relationship. That's the downside of even mild porn: Instead of actually enjoying sex, you're dedicating precious naked-time to an act of performance. When two people are "performing" for each other, they're getting rid of actual intimacy: instead of sex being about

generosity and mutuality and communication — you know, healthy, normal attitudes — it becomes about trying to look and act like a porn star.

Expressing your personality and the complicated dynamics of a



doing. It brings a completely new meaning to "the free hand of the market." Competition for customers propels producers into ratcheting up their content to extremes. If you haven't seen "Two Girls, One Cup," consider yourself

relationship sexually may seem messy and unthinkable, which is tragic — because that's the whole point.

Add this recent drive for couples to document their sex lives on videotape. Some people fetishize a computer screen to the point where they just have to see their own naked torsos thrusting in full-fledged high-definition glory.

Don't get me wrong, if it makes you happy, anything is acceptable — as long as both parties are honest, consenting and everyone is aware of the risks. The trouble with the naked amateur cinematographers of the world is that the risk isn't always clear. Even if you trust your partner, there's no guarantee the pictures won't be found by a third party — a camera gets lost, a computer is repaired, who knows? Then there's the issue of the tapes or files getting around — maybe to a close friend, who then sends it to just one more close friend, etc. Even if you trust your partner now, how can anyone predict how trustworthy they will be after a breakup?

There's nothing wrong with adding some kink to your sex life, but homebrew porn is one of the riskier endeavors a person could take. Emotionally speaking, it's not safe sex. If you want to pump more adrenaline into your sex life, there's plenty of room for your imagination to express itself. If you really can't help yourself, watch it once and then take a hammer to the tape. For the rest of us, if you want to try your hand at imitating celebrities, stick to karaoke night.

Rambo

from page 11

squeamish. Stallone's quick cuts and changing camera angles spark an intense direction for film. Stallone seems to be inspired by Steven Spielberg's direction in "Saving Private Ryan," but he has more blood and guts to show for it. The carefully executed action and different ways the Burmese soldiers are decimated make you forget about the contrived plot. In one scene, as the band of mercenaries are in a bind, Rambo takes on a large machine gun which rips Burmese soldiers apart

along with a fairly large boat in one of the highest body counts on screen.

Earlier in the film, one of the loud-mouth mercenaries tells Rambo the mission is a suicide and that he's calling it off after seeing the dead villagers. Rambo aligns his bow and arrow toward his head and says, "Live for nothing, or die for something!" This is only a sampling of campy dialogue that Stallone mutters and you can't help but smile. "Rambo," along with "Rocky Balboa," are welcome returns to Stallone's iconic film characters.

Grade: B-

Beer

from page 11

contained 18 percent alcohol per volume, but with it, a strong sugary flavor. This brings to mind a flavorful, sweet dessert wine — something to be sipped after a nice meal. This is not a beverage to be consumed in high volumes; but it would make a nice treat after a long day. This "dessert beer" runs at a steep price: World Wide Stout costs about \$7 plus tax and bottle deposit at Burby & Bates in downtown Orono for only a 12 ounce bottle. Although Dogfish Head had created an interesting accomplishment with this beer, I'm not sure it is worth the heavy price tag.

After trying all four stouts — and feeling quite full of the thick liquor — I made my decision on the favorite of the night, in terms of taste, smell, color and cost. Considering all those factors, I landed upon the first beer I tried: the Lion Stout. It was comparable in taste, size and cost to Gritty's Black Fly, yet contained almost double the alcohol content without injuring the flavor. So with a full belly and a light head, I declare Sri Lanka's Lion Stout tonight's winner.

MLK

from page 11

U.S. still do not receive an equal education, health care, employment and the fact that it all equals "violence," and there shouldn't be insufficient funds.

Many people have stereotypes that originate from various media messages. Allen also noted that many people of different cultures struggle because of the "gangsta" stereotype. However, perhaps people can put stereotypes on themselves for survival reasons. Allen said there is "more hopelessness now than then." Back in the '50s and '60s, action was involved to make change. Today, more "minorities" talk about not having future jobs and that they struggle through school, family, and their lives.

Even though we all have the right to use the same water fountain, the quality of education in the inner city, compared with suburban schools, is nowhere near equal. Allen said today's generation has the potential of accepting and understanding diversity.

Many of us live in a highly unmotivated and self-centered society. "People don't realize the different kinds of diversity that surrounds us," Allen said.

Many young people feel hopeless and go about their lives and may feel "we can't make a difference." When Allen was asked how someone from a small place like Maine could make an impact, one of his suggestions was to consider that there is diversity on a local perspective. For instance, many people in Maine speak French, since many French-Canadian immigrants came here. Another factor is having the will to integrate power so that people not only have legal rights, but also opportunities. Everyone should not only accept and tolerate what they see in life, but also embrace it by taking the time to learn about differences and become involved with various groups, Allen said.

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Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 to April 20

You may feel disappointed because a business meeting hasn't turned out the way you wanted. This is not a favorable time for business, but you could spend quality time with your loved one.

Taurus

April 21 to May 20

Although you have a lot on your hands, you may want to slow down. In the morning you may feel tempted to spend too much. Try to be more prudent!

Gemini

May 21 to June 21

This is not a good time for starting new activities, for you will tend to rush. You will tend to be head-in-the-clouds and are running the risk of neglecting important matters. Put yourself together and prioritize!

Cancer

June 22 to July 22

Although people may not really appreciate your ideas, you shouldn't get upset. You are advised not to sign any documents nor deal in business today.

Leo

July 23 to August 22

In the morning you could be lacking practical sense and feel you are wasting your energy. Workmates will be understanding and supportive.

Virgo

Aug. 23 to Sept. 22

Your schedule will change unexpectedly, but changes will prove to be rather beneficial to you. You will have the opportunity to meet an important person who will help you in business.

Libra

Sept. 23 to Oct. 23

You are advised to avoid starting new activities today, for unforeseen obstacles may arise. In the morning you will have to run some errands that will upset your schedule.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 to Nov. 22

In the morning you could be over-sensitive and rather upset. Today you may want to avoid making major decisions, for you will tend to be rather aloof.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 to Dec. 21

In the morning you might encounter minor domestic difficulties. You are advised to keep calm. Tenderness and smooth talking may be very helpful in avoiding a fight.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 to Jan. 20

This morning you might feel tired and confused and your practical sense could be diminished. In such circumstances it is advisable to avoid making major decisions.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 to Feb. 19

In the afternoon you might receive a significant amount of money from an older person in the family. You have good chances of being proposed an extra job, and you are advised not to make a hasty decision.

Pisces

Feb. 20 to March 19

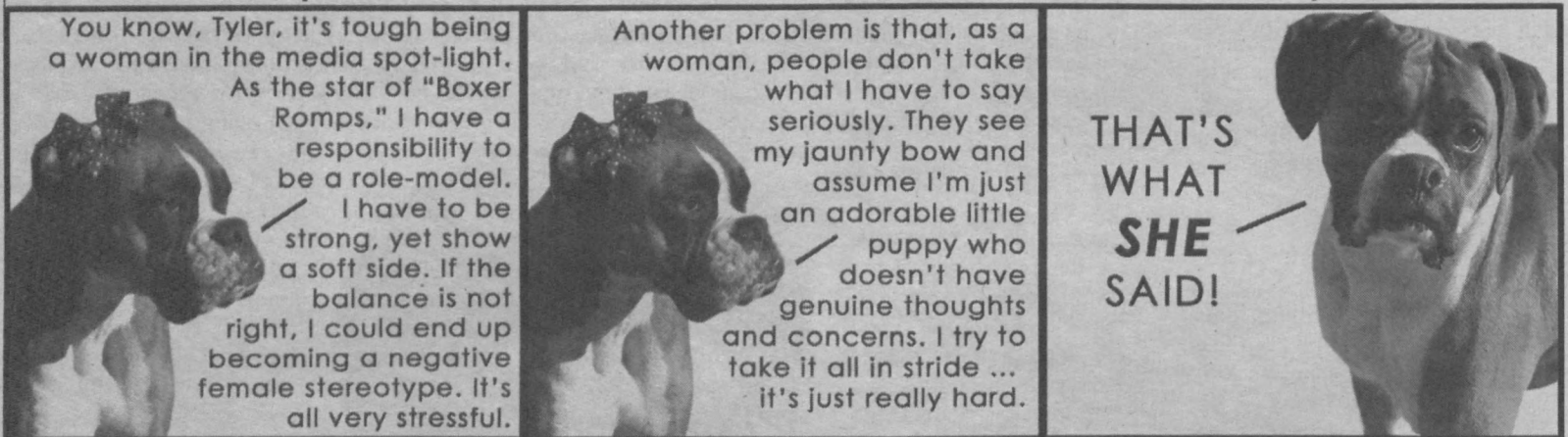
You will tend to be idealistic and feel that you are able to solve just about anything with no effort at all. Be more realistic, or you could be in for nasty surprises!

t h e m a i n e c a m p u s

DISTRACTIONS

Boxer Romps

By Alicia Mullins



Missed an episode of Boxer Romps? Visit boxerromps.blogspot.com

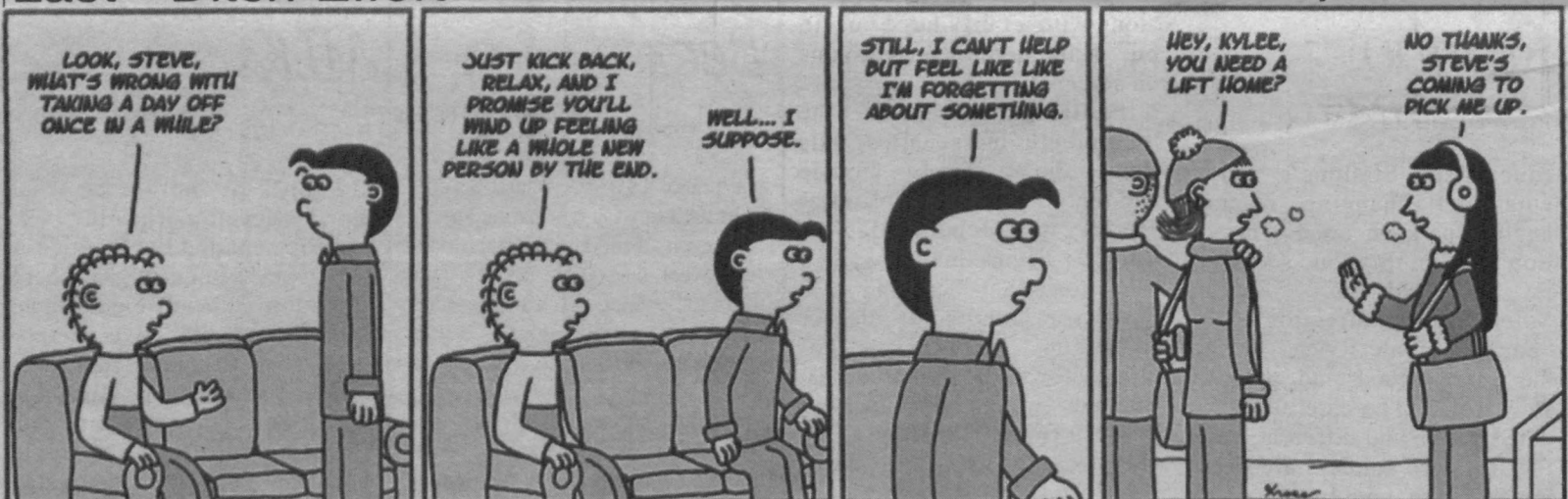
Champ

By Kevin Reid



Last - Ditch Effort

By John Kroes



An Original Comic

By Maybe You

Do you think you're **FUNNY?**
Do you think you're good with a *pencil*, *pen* or *pixel*?
Prove it and you could have your own original comic published in
the maine campus.

Contact David Dauphinee on First Class for more information or to present a sample of your work.

Toy Truck Railroad

By Erik Sansom



Advice Girl

I have a good relationship with my parents. They want me to come home every weekend. I like seeing them, but I also want to stay here at school to hang out with my friends. How do I tell my parents I am not coming home without hurting their feelings?

It's great that you have a good relationship with your parents, and even better that you actually care about their feelings. Explain to your parents that you are having a great time at college, and making some great friends, but schoolwork takes up a lot of your time during the week and that the weekend gives you a good opportunity to hang out with your friends and try some new things. Your parents will most likely understand if you let them know that it is nothing against them and that you still want to be around them. But don't completely abandon your parents and only go home for Christmas, either. Your parents have brought you this far, and you need to do your part to maintain a good relationship with them. It's probably been weird not having you around all the time and it will

take some getting used to for them as well.

My roommate never washes her clothes! She wears the same thing over and over, and now our room is starting to stink! I have plenty of detergent and stuff and would even let her use my MaineCard to do her laundry, and let her know this, but she still won't do it! Its grossing me out, but I don't know what I can do???

If you've talked to your roommate and she still won't wash her clothes, you have a problem. Your room is something you both share, and you have the right to air that is not stinky. Try talking to her one more time, maybe even offer to do it for her once, or go down to the laundry room with her (but don't let her drag you into doing her laundry all the time). If that really doesn't work, go talk to your RA. They are trained for weird things like this and can probably help you and your roommate reach some sort of agreement about laundry and the smell. You may have to refer to the roommate agreement you made at the beginning of the year as well. Good luck with this one.

For the past three months, I have been dating a great guy. But whenever he is with his friends, he acts immature and talks down to me. When we are alone

though, he is really respectful and nice. I like this guy, but I don't understand these two different sides of him. What is going on?

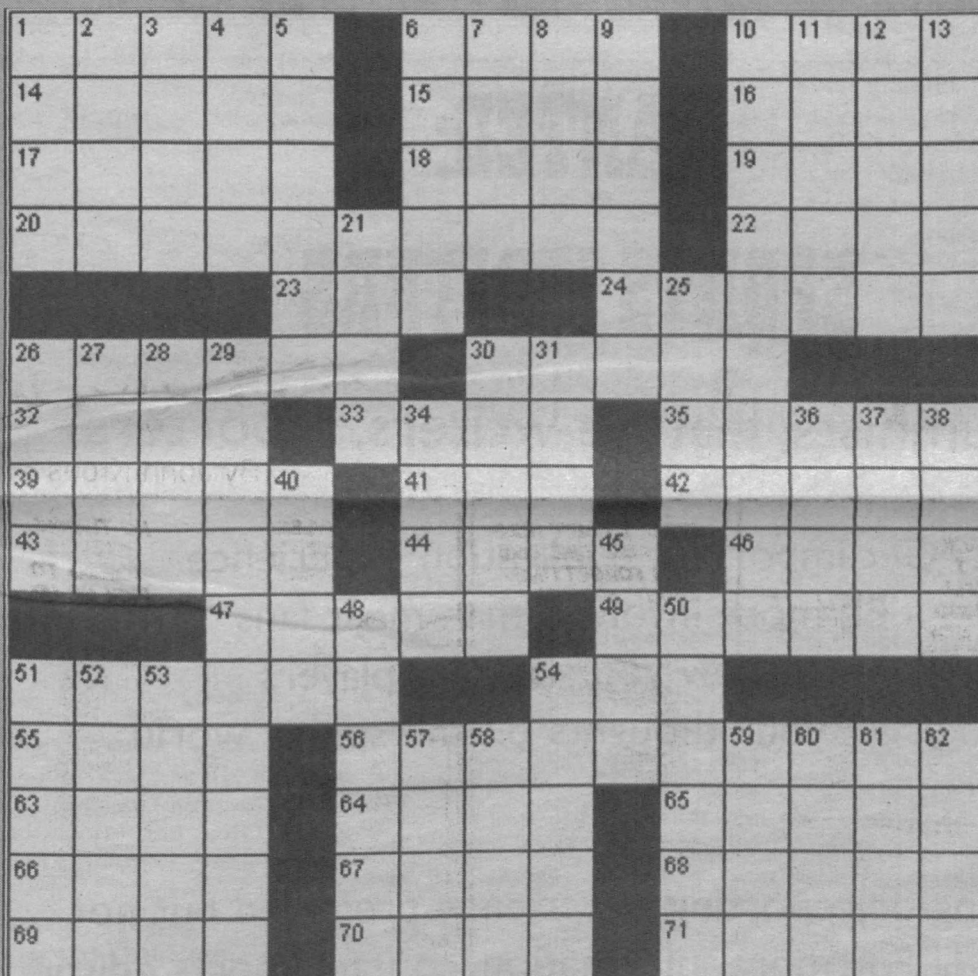
For some reason, guys feel the need to be "cool" around their friends, and no matter what kind of guy he is or how he acts when you're alone, he's probably going to be a little different around his friends. But if he is acting like a completely different person (like someone you wouldn't date if they acted like that all the time, for example), I think you need to examine things and see if he is really such "a great guy". Also, if he acts verbally abusive, or just plain rude, you need to do something about it. Talk to him and let him know how it makes you feel when he speaks to you like that. He may not even be aware that he is acting like such a jerk. Make sure he has times where he can just hang out with his friends without you tagging along. Everyone needs to spend time away from their significant other, no matter how long or short the period of time you have been together is. Hanging around one another all the time does not a great relationship make.

Little brother driving you crazy? Parents on your back? Snooping girlfriend?

advice_gurl@post.com

The Maine

CROSSWORD



Solution found in Sports section

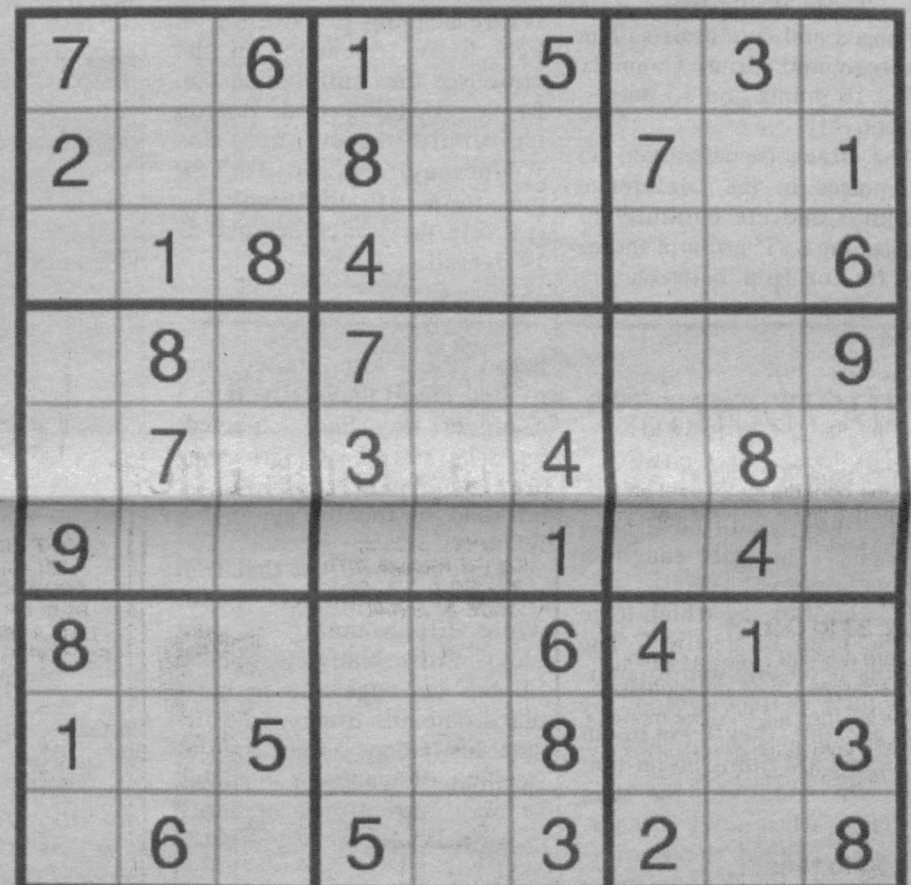
ACROSS

1. Sentry
6. A type of musical notation
10. Go up
14. Beneath
15. Avatar of Vishnu
16. Seed coat
17. Type of vine
18. Anagram of "Sure"
19. City in Italy
20. Ranking above all others
22. Precipitated
24. Gawk
25. Small fatty fish
26. Corrupt morally
29. Having wisdom
30. Corrosive
31. Countrywide
37. Diaphanous
39. Sack
40. Farewell
41. A female equestrian
44. A Freudian stage
45. Chicken noodle, for example
46. Hinder
48. Musical performance
52. Blemish
53. Terminates before completion
54. See-through
58. A beautiful and graceful girl
59. "Backwards pose"
61. Lessen in intensity
62. Nature of being
63. Roman emperor
64. A poem by Homer
65. Anagram of "Deer"
66. Fortune teller
67. 100 in a dollar

DOWN

1. A wide expanse
2. Pearly-shelled mussel
3. A Hebrew month
4. Rebels
5. Not comedies
6. A small jar
7. Final
8. Scottish for "Uncle"
9. Melange or hodgepodge
10. Fanatical
11. Pertaining to modern day Persia
12. Warning sound
13. Strike out vowels
21. Not closed
23. Sporting venue
25. A Eurasian goat-like antelope
26. A quick run
27. Reflected sound
28. A coffin stand
29. Postage
32. Nearby
33. Pilant
34. Connects 2 points
35. Direct from the front
36. Christmas time
38. Adjust again
42. Gets "more bad"
43. Small sharp bites
47. Design made from pieces of colored glass
48. Cavort
49. Fat
50. Pertaining to Scandinavia
51. Wept
52. Latin for "Sleep"
54. Wound by piercing
55. Principal
56. French for "State"
57. Cincinnati's baseball team
60. Perceive visually

SUDOKU PUZZLE



Daily SuDoku: Sun 27-Jan-2008

easy

HOW TO PLAY

- Each row (horizontal line) must have numbers 1-9 in any order but each digit can only appear once.
- Each column (vertical line) 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!



THERE'S NOT ENOUGH ART IN OUR SCHOOLS.

NO WONDER PEOPLE THINK

LOUIS ARMSTRONG

WAS THE FIRST MAN TO

WALK ON THE MOON.

Flicks

from page 20

watches as he gets back into shape for football, study hard, and fail repeatedly to get into Notre Dame each semester. Rudy is about to give up hope when his final chance to get in reveals that he has been accepted into Notre Dame. Viewers fall in love as Rudy tries out for the Notre Dame football team and becomes a practice player. He works so hard that the coach promises to start him once in the next season, in Rudy's senior year. Meanwhile, the coach steps down and Rudy has to convince the new coach to allow

him to play. Rudy checks the game dress list and is disappointed when he is not on it. A boycott by the football team makes viewers tingle. The All-American players bring in their jerseys in order to influence the coach to put Rudy in. He eventually gives in and puts Rudy on the sideline. The game is almost over when the players start to chant "RUDY, RUDY," which echoes throughout the stadium. The film makes many eyes tear up as Rudy runs onto the field, and they become uncontrollable when Rudy sacks the quarterback on the final play. This movie gives hope to anyone who has a dream, because anything is possible if you set your mind to it.

Basketball

from page 20

Brian Lillis lead Albany with 19 points and five assists. Tim Ambrose and Brian Connelly added 16 points and 15 points, respectively.

The Black Bears moved up two places in the conference standings and are currently in fourth place. There is a three-way tie for first between the

University of Maryland Baltimore-County, the University of Vermont and SUNY Binghamton.

UMaine plays Binghamton and Boston University at home before heading to Hartford on Feb. 6 for a rematch of the close loss they suffered on Jan. 21. UMaine and Boston University meet up this Wednesday, Jan. 30 at 7:30 p.m. in the Alford Arena. BU is 2-5 in the conference and 5-14 overall.

Superbowl

from page 20

offense they would have been otherwise. The Pats caught a serious break.

It is hard to say which team is "the team of destiny." The Patriots need this win to complete their perfect season. By most accounts they'll get it, but the Giants are riding an on-the-road win streak longer than Laurence Maroney's dreads. Everyone pegged the Patriots for a Super Bowl appearance

before the season started, and to their credit they delivered in a bigger way than expected, but who saw the Giants coming? You couldn't script a better road to the big game for them.

Some people argue that Tom Brady is legitimately good, while Eli Manning is just lucky. Proverbially, I suppose Eli has the edge, but to hoist that Lombardi trophy, to validate his young career and to step out of whatever shadows he may currently be standing in, he will need to be perfect.

Swimming

from page 20

first in the 500 freestyle in 5:09.52.

"After a long winter training break, it was good to get into the racing mode again," Miller said. "We had some great swims this weekend, and even some season best times."

Caitlin Shelley had an amazing meet as she took first in the 100 breaststroke (1:08.83), second in the 200 IM (2:14.34) and fourth in the 500 freestyle.

"As we begin to rest over the next couple of weeks, we will begin to see our times drop even more dramatically," Miller said.

The UMaine women divers took third in both events; Laura Williamson placed third in the 1 meter, and Samantha Graham in the 3 meter.

This Thursday, Jan. 31, UMaine will host The University of New Hampshire at 5:00 p.m. at Wallace Pool.

Crossword Solution

S	I	N	E	C	E	R	E	E	S	E	E	D	E	E	R
D	V	I	L	I	A	D	O	R	N	E	S	S	E	S	E
E	A	B	A	T	E	A	P	O	P	E	S	I	P	E	R
R	A	M	E	R	A	S	S	O	S	G	O	S	T	R	O
					T	P	O	T	S	P	E	R	T	C	O
E	D	E	E	D	E	I	M	P	E	S	O	U	P	S	
L	A	N	A	L		N	A	N	A	W	O	M	E	S	E
U	E	I	A	D	I	E	A	G	B	A	R	E	E	S	H
L	L	A	L	L		N	O	I	A	T	N	A	C	I	D
					E	A	G	E	S	A	S	E	D	E	B
E	N	E	I	D	I	N	E	S	A	R	D	I	N	E	
D	E	N	E	D		R	A	I	N	E	D		S	T	O
I	R	I	L			R	E	S	U	S		A	N	A	L
L	R	I	L			A	M	A	R	A		R	E	R	U
E	R	I	S	E		C	L	E	F			R	D	A	G

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UMaine student-athletes score

By Nick McCrea

Student-athletes at the University of Maine hold the heavy burden of representing their school through their performances at sporting events and in the classroom. This is no small undertaking as games, matches, meets and practices frequently force the students to jump from focusing on studies to focusing on the upcoming game that everyone in the state expects them to win.

Yet again, UMaine student-athletes have lived up to this challenge.

For the fifth consecutive year, more than half of all UMaine student-athletes have been honored for achieving a 3.0 or better grade point average for the 2007 year or have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better.

An awards ceremony on Sunday, Jan. 27, honored 231 athletes for their academic accomplishments. First-year student-athletes who had a 3.0 GPA in their first semester received the "Rising Stars" award.

"University of Maine athletics prides itself on academic and athletic success," Athletic Director Blake James said in a press release. "This group exemplifies what it means to be student-athletes. They have excelled academically while competing at the highest level athletically. Everyone involved

with UMaine athletics recognizes and truly appreciates the accomplishments of these individuals."

This is the 19th year that these awards have been presented – over the years 2,118 awards have been handed out.

Winners received a medalion, each a different color depending on how many times they have earned the designation in the past.

Each of the 19 teams at the

"This group exemplifies what it means to be student-athletes"

Blake James
Athletic Director
UMaine

university had representatives at the ceremony. Women's track and field and cross country teams had the most honorees with 31, followed by the football team with 24, men's track and field and cross country with 21, while the men's ice hockey team had 17 student-athletes honored.

Three University of Maine athletes also received the M Club Dean Smith Award at the ceremony. The M Club award is presented to the male and female student-athlete who

most display excellence across academics, athletics, civics and community service. This year's recipients were field hockey captain Erin Reusch, women's soccer tri-captain Laura Harper and men's ice hockey captain Travis Ramsey.

Reusch is the proud earner of a 4.0 GPA in her past six consecutive semesters and a 3.98 overall. This past season she was on the America East Second Team and America East All-Academic team, to name a few. Reusch is a kinesiology and physical education major.

Harper is second on Maine's all-time scoring list. She was named to the America East First Team and America East All-Academic Team in 2006 and 2007. She was also named a 2006 NSCAA/Adidas NCAA Division I Women's Northeast All-Region Second Team. Harper is a biochemistry major.

Ramsey is one of just 20 national candidates for the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award, which honors senior student-athletes for their commitment to the classroom, community, character and competition. He has been named to the Hockey East All-Academic Team and is a three-time UMaine Scholar-Athlete Award winner. Ramsey is a communications major with a double minor in public relations and business administration.

built, it was one of the better surfaces around and was attractive to football recruits and other students involved in intramurals. However, 10 years later the surface is outdated and is only used by a few collegiate programs. Fewer injuries and the opportunity to play on a new surface will help on the recruiting front and hopefully on performance.

The upgrade to the baseball field is equally important. Every year a number of home games are cancelled due to poor field conditions. With the

new synthetic surface, which has a much more effective drainage system, the field will be easier to maintain and the long, wet winters will not be a factor.

While the projects will not be completed until the end of 2008 – the football field should be completed prior to the beginning of the 2008 season – national signing day is coming up for college football. The new field gives Coach Cosgrove another pitch to throw at interested student-athletes.

third period, Simon Danis-Pepin scored a power play goal for UMaine and tied the game at three goals apiece. Neither team would score a goal in the last 10 minutes of the third period, and the game was decided in overtime. The Black Bears needed two points against their Hockey East foe.

In Saturday's game, the Eagles drew first blood. A little more than halfway into the first period, Joe Whiney beat Bishop, and BC took a 1-0 lead. Maine quickly answered back, and Danis-Pepin got the Black Bears on the scoreboard, tying the game at one.

The game remained tied at the end of the first period, but BC would quickly tally a goal just 37 seconds into the second period. The Eagles came flying out of the gates with a power play advantage and broke the tie, and the game was now 2-1. Just like the first game on Friday night, Maine would

again tie the game at two goals apiece. This time it would take Andrew Sweetland to beat Muse with a shot from the face off circle.

Ten minutes would pass without seeing another goal. The Eagles scored when Nathan Gerbe beat Bishop on a breakaway goal to get his 19th goal of the season, and it would turn out to be the game winner for the Eagles. After the Black Bears pulled Bishop to gain an extra skater for UMaine, Matt Greene added an empty-net goal for B.C.

Even though the Black Bears lost, Bishop again had a solid performance as he blocked away 27 shots. Each team was successful on the power play, as both BC and UMaine got a goal.

The Black Bears travel down to UMass Lowell to try and garner a win in Hockey East play this upcoming weekend on Friday, Feb. 1.

Wednesday, Jan. 30

Men's Basketball
vs. Boston University
7:30 p.m. in Orono

Women's Basketball
vs. New Hampshire
7 p.m. in Durham, NH

Thursday, Jan. 31

Women's Swimming
vs. New Hampshire
5 p.m. in Orono

Friday, Feb. 1

Men's Ice Hockey
vs. UMass - Lowell
7 p.m. in Lowell, MA

Saturday, Feb. 2

Women's Basketball
vs. Binghamton
Noon in Orono

Men and Women's Track
UMaine Open
11 a.m. in Orono

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

Men's Ice Hockey
vs. UMass
7 p.m. in Amherst, MA

Men's and Women's Swimming
vs. Dartmouth
TBA in Orono

Morse

from page 20

needs at once," said James through a press release. "These enhancements will have an instant, positive impact on several sports and will provide some important momentum as we move forward on plans to upgrade Memorial Gym and other sports facilities."

Ever since the artificial surface was applied at Morse Field in 1998, when the stadium was

Hockey

from page 20

Eagles snapped UMaine's penalty killing streak of 34 consecutive periods, and broke the tie, taking a 3-2 lead heading into the third period.

Fans at the Alfond were in for an intense, nail-biting third period. The Eagles' offense had been floating around the crease in front of "Big" Ben Bishop all game, and in the third period Bishop got fed up. About five or six minutes into the third, a BC forward got too close and personal for Bishop, and UMaine's goalie responded. Bishop pushed back, Black Bears hurried over to back up their goalie and tussles ensued. Penalties were assessed to each team, but the fight gave UMaine a boost of momentum.

About halfway through the

Three and Out

By Sean Hladick, Jonathon Madore and Steven Moran

From the minds of WMEB's newest sports talk show, "Three and Out." We will be bringing you three hot topics from the world of sports. It's your weekly pill for instant sports relief.

First Down: Driving Mr. Davis

Someone needs to take the keys away from Oakland Raiders' owner Al Davis. According to ESPN.com reports surfacing this weekend, Davis, 78, drafted a letter of resignation for his head coach Lane Kiffin nearly two weeks ago. Kiffin has refused to sign the letter, which would force him to forfeit the estimated \$4 million owed to him for the remaining two years of his contract.

Oddly enough, Kiffin has dared his boss to fire him. This action would force the Raiders' organization to pay him the remaining sum of his contract. This is likely a statement to the Raiders that he will not leave empty handed.

If Kiffin is fired or chooses to resign, the Raiders will start the 2008 season with a new coach, which has happened in four of the past five seasons. Owner Al Davis has created a revolving door in the head coaching office, making the job one of the most dreaded in the coaching world. One of the keys to a winning program is stability, something the silver and black have dearly lacked.

Davis' actions will most likely come back to bite him in the end. Rumors are swirling already that he is eyeing Dennis Green as Kiffin's replacement. The best way to turn any struggling team is to hire a coach whose defining moment is a post-game meltdown and the subsequent beer commercial made using the footage. That's the kind of resume that commands respect in the locker room.

- Sean

Second Down: Streaking through our minds

It seems as if the sporting world is obsessed with perfection these days. We follow the 18-0 New England Patriots quest or the remarkable run of the 19-0 Memphis Tigers, who are torching some of the best collegiate basketball programs in the nation, with near obsession. However, the quest for "reverse perfection" is equally enticing — to watch the beauty of a team or individual being so inherently flawed that they cannot seem to defeat anyone.

The 2007 Miami Dolphins broke our hearts when they defeated the Baltimore Ravens 22-16 in overtime on Dec. 16 to end their streak of 13 straight losses. The NBA had its own impressive losing run when the Miami Heat dropped their 15th straight game on Thursday, 90-89 to San Antonio and fell to 8-33. Despite being plagued with injuries to star players, burdened with an aging roster and poor team chemistry, the Heat managed to rally to a 98-96 victory over the Indiana Pacers Saturday afternoon. Even with a nagging shoulder injury Dwayne Wade managed to drop 35 points in their first win since Dec. 22.

Had the losing continued there would have no doubt be a serious following as the stretch of losses approached the record of 23 held by the 95-96 Vancouver (now Memphis) Grizzlies and the 97-98 Denver Nuggets. For as sporting history has shown us, just like winning the pursuit of perfection will keep us drawn to our television screens.

- Steve

Third Down: Finding the Franchise

It was only three and a half years ago that the Houston Rockets shipped Stevie "Franchise" Francis to Orlando in seven-player mega-deal that brought Tracy McGrady to Houston. Less we forget, at the time Francis was one of the premier players in the association. In his first five years in the league, the former number two pick out of Maryland co-won Rookie of the Year, was the runner up to Vince Carter in the Slam Dunk Contest that same season, made three All-Star teams, and led the Rockets to the playoffs in 2003-04.

What happened? In the four years since he was traded to the Magic, "The Franchise" has completely disappeared (meaning he went to the New York Knicks). Francis excelled in his first season with the Magic, but his playing time has fallen from 78 games and 38.2 minutes per game to 46 and 37, 24, and 27, and 44 and 28, respectfully from 2005 to 2007. His scoring has steadily declined from over 21 PPG in 2004 to only 11 PPG last season.

Maybe all Francis needed was some home cooking. In July, he signed a two-year \$6 million contract with the Rockets. How good do they look for making that trade? The honeymoon hasn't exactly gone as scheduled. Francis was left off the roster following the preseason, and the Rockets announced Jan. 14 that "The Franchise" was out indefinitely with bi-lateral quadriceps tendonitis — another tough blow for what was once a promising career.

- John

Out:

You can catch us each Tuesday from 7 to 9 a.m. and Sunday from 8 to 10 a.m. on 91.9 FM, WMEB or read us each week right here in the Maine Campus. From Sean, John and Steve, we are three and we are out.

Greatest sports films to cry for

By Daniel Bartlett

Society has taught us that a real man does not cry; a real man holds his emotions inside because he is like a rock. I think it takes a real man to cry. You've got to be secure in your manliness to know that you can cry. I'm not saying a man should cry all the time but only in three instances: death of a loved one, heartache, and when he watches a tearjerker sports film.

Every so often someone will produce a film that just grabs you by the gut and takes you on an emotional rollercoaster. Any movie that has a storyline strong enough to pull you into feeling what the actors are feeling is a great movie. Men do not often cry while watching movies, but when it comes to sports, it is a whole other story. That is why I have compiled a list of my own top five choices for best sports films of all-time that will bring a tear to a grown man's eye.

5) Million Dollar Baby (2005)

Hillary Swank plays a woman who is barely skating by with a waitress job and wants to become a boxer. Clint Eastwood plays the aging trainer and eventually gives in and trains Swank. This movie has a slow start to it, but you begin to feel the bond forming between fighter and trainer. As Swank defeats opponent after opponent, you know something big is going to happen. Swank fights for the title, but a cheap shot sends her toppling to the floor where she hits her head on her stool, and breaks her neck. Now the audience watches as Eastwood struggles to watch his fighter lie paralyzed in a hospital with rapidly diminishing health. The audience feels for Swank, and keeps a sense of hope, but Eastwood's and their hearts sink as he helps her die. This

- Steve

movie won four Oscars and is a must see.

4) Pistol Pete: Birth of a Legend (1991)

This movie is a biography of the basketball beginnings of the former NBA player, Pete Maravich. He got the nickname "Pistol" because he shot quick from the hips like a gun fighter. The movie shows Pete's struggles as he becomes a star varsity basketball player at Daniel High School as an eighth grader. The motivational talks, the music and the events just makes viewers want to go play basketball. The tears begin to flow as Pete's father talks to him about "driving himself to be something better," and viewers fall silent when Pete loses the ultimate state championship.

Every so often someone will produce a film that just grabs you by the gut and takes you on an emotional rollercoaster.

3) Friday Night Lights (2004)

This movie won an ESPY for Best Sports Movie. The audience takes a wild ride through the trials and tribulations of a football team favored to win the state championship as they lose their star player Bobby Miles to a knee injury. It is a story about hope for the young man playing for an athletic scholarship because his grades are not good enough to get him into college and out of town. Viewers want these guys to win, and as the final game is played, they are caught up in the movie. The final play: we need to score; we need to win. The quarter back runs for the

endzone, breaking tackle after tackle, men on his back as hearts are trying to will him to score. But he comes up just inches short. Right at this time, I jumped out of my seat in disbelief and starting tearing up. I felt like I had just come up short on the state championship too.

2) Rocky (1976)

Rocky is dubbed as the greatest underdog story of all time, voted as #4 on the list of America's 100 Most Inspiring Movies and #2 on the list for Top 20 Sports Movies. Sylvester Stallone plays Rocky, the Italian Stallion, the punk who thinks he can beat the heavy weight champion Apollo Creed. Viewers love Rocky because of his determination and raw emotion to win. They watch as he trains, and they pull for him. The fight scene between him and Creed when he goes the distance and does not get knocked out makes your eyes well up. Creed is declared the winner, but you know that Rocky is the real winner because he proved he could fight the best. The famous line "Yo Adrian, I did it!" sends a feeling of elation throughout your body. The movie won three Oscars and should be seen by everyone.

1) Rudy (1993)

So what if it does not make the Top 20 Sports Movies list? So what if it is #54 on the America's 100 Most Inspiring Films list? Rudy is without a doubt the greatest, most underrated, inspiring sports movie of all time. Rudy has always been told that he is too little to play football and too dumb to go to college. Four years after high school, Rudy decides to go after his dream to go to Notre Dame. Rudy has to get his grades up so he attends Holy Cross, which is not far from Notre Dame. The audience

See FLICKS on page 16

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Pats face the lesser Manning

By Derek McKinley

Tom Brady and Eli Manning do not have much in common. Brady was a sixth-round pick in the 2000 draft, given a shot only after the Patriots lost Drew Bledsoe to an injury. Manning was the first overall pick in 2004, tossed into the starting role almost immediately. Brady, a California boy, is constantly compared to NFL legend Joe Montana, while Eli, from Louisiana, is compared to his older — and admittedly more successful — older brother.

Despite their differences, they share matching tickets to Arizona on Feb. 3 for Super Bowl XLII. Eli and the New York Giants come in as obvious two-touchdown underdogs, even after knocking off three of the best teams the NFC had to offer and cementing their road warrior status.

The game, which will be debated ad nauseam by far more qualified reporters in the coming week, will certainly not lack for drama. The tension is already building.

Photos have surfaced showing that the crown prince of New England is only a mere mortal after all. They show Brady limping with a cast on his right foot bringing flowers to his supermodel girlfriend in New York. He says it's no big deal, but to Patriots fans it is a very big deal. If, for some unlikely reason he can't go, I

doubt sincerely that Matt Cassel is capable of leading the Patriots to victory against the vaunted and suddenly super-motivated Giants defense. Osi Umeniyora and Michael Strahan will eat him for lunch.

Even if he doesn't play, Brady doesn't have anything to prove; he's been there and thrice done that. He has led the New England Patriots to their fourth Super Bowl appearance in the past seven years, picking up every conceivable award and smashing multiple records

All that is left for [Tom Brady] to add is a fourth Lombardi trophy as the cherry on top of the most perfect season in NFL history.

in the process. All that is left for him to add is a fourth Lombardi trophy as the cherry on top of the most perfect season in NFL history.

Eli Manning, on the other hand, has everything to prove. When everyone had the G-Men counted out in the Wild Card round following their pulse-raising Week 17 loss against the very same Patriots, the Giants team tore through their opponents for another shot at ending history, and Eli led the

historic charge. Manning's 99.3 passer rating in the last three games is only slightly less than Brady's 101.6 in the last two.

The respective running games are intriguing as well. Laurence Maroney has been out of his mind the past two games, especially against the Chargers, when he rushed 106 of his 122 yards in the second half. With Kevin Faulk catching eight passes out of the backfield, the Patriots' runningbacks are as dangerous as the receivers. Their counterparts, Brandon Jacobs and Ahmad Bradshaw turned in respectable performances while being used interchangeably in the backfield. Jacobs' bruising downhill running style and linebacker size are intimidating to many, even the Patriots, who couldn't stop him in Week 17. New England hasn't even experienced all that Ahmad Bradshaw brings to the table.

Both teams play lights-out defense, but the Giants have had to play defense against two of the best scoring offenses in the league and they've done well against them. The Patriots looked decent in the AFC title game holding the Chargers to field goals only, but how impressive is that knowing what we know about LaDainian Tomlinson's and Philip Rivers' knees? They were not the

See SUPERBOWL on page 16

Bears compete in BU's Terrier Classic

By Laila Sholtz-Ames

This past weekend, the University of Maine men's and women's indoor track and field team competed at the Terrier Classic hosted by Boston University and had strong finishes in the meet. The Terrier Classic was the third event for the Black Bears, but this meet marks the first real competition that UMaine has participated in this season.

Results of the meet were not available before production time, but prior to the meet, coaches and athletes were amped up for the competition to start.

"We were all very excited because it was the first meet all season where we will have a lot of strong competition," said Erin Lawler, senior captain for the women's team. "Our meets haven't been all that competitive so I think our team will get to shine and actually show off its talents."

Several Black Bears finished with competitive scores. UMaine, after falling to New Hampshire in their first track meet, had a strong performance in Vert et Or (Green and Gold) Invitational at the University of Sherbrooke (Quebec) this past Saturday. The track coaches were

equally excited about this opportunity.

"The Terrier is a big meet with a lot of good competitors so it will give people a chance to really push themselves to do their best," said Mark Lech, the head coach for both teams. "We are still early in the season and our goals are to do well in the championship meets at the end of February. I am really looking forward to them improving week by week."

Both the coaches and teams have high expectations for the upcoming meets, as the Black Bears look to have a strong presence in America East.

Assistant Coach Rolland Rason agrees. "This is a test of their skill, and of their training and hard conditioning up to this point in the season; and gives us a gauge from which to go back to practice and work on improving the areas of the skill and conditioning we need to improve further," he said. "With our primary goal of actually being at the highest levels later in the season at the America East Conference Championships, when we need to be at our best levels of performance."

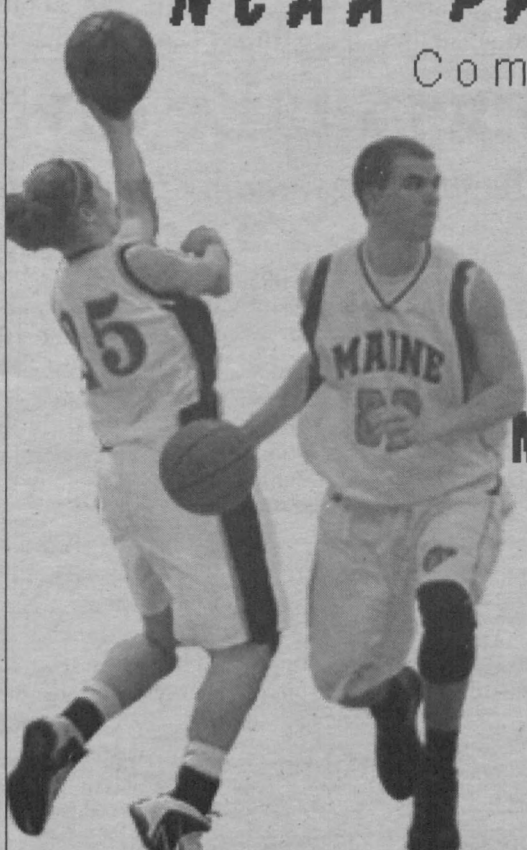
The next meet for both the men and women will be the Valentine's Invitational, hosted in Boston on Feb. 8.

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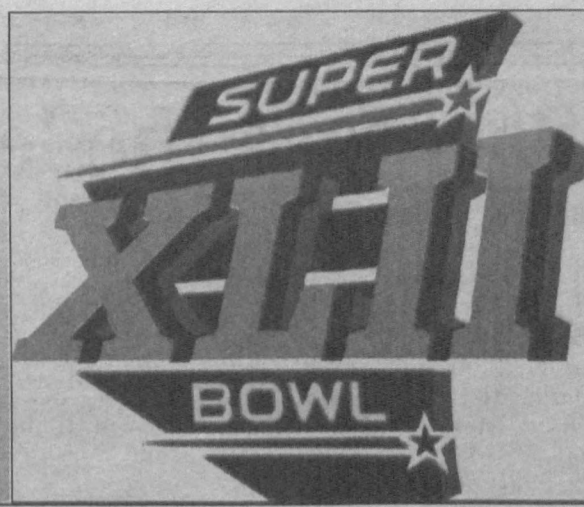
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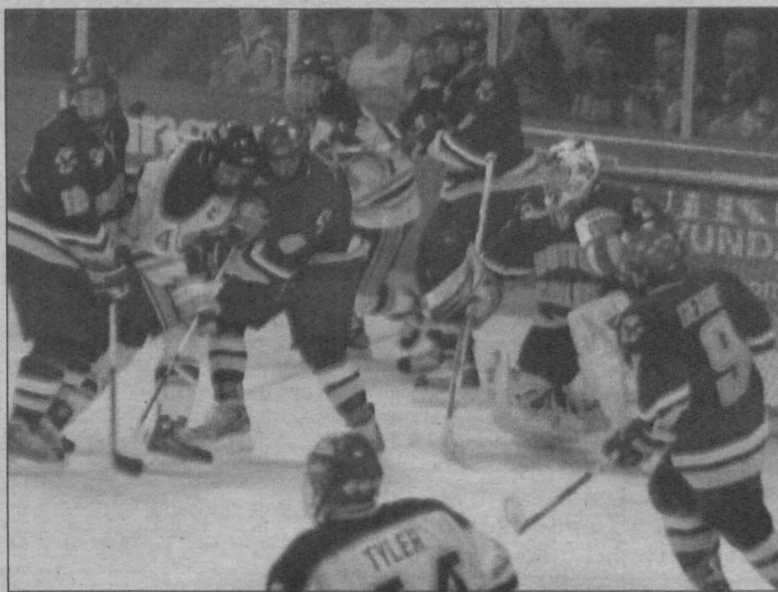
Black Bears struggle to pick up points partway through season

By Caleb Savage

It was a bitterly cold weekend, the essential climate for a Hockey East showdown at Alford Arena. On Friday night, the Black Bears hosted the Boston College Eagles for the first of two games. It proved to be a hard-hitting matchup between Hockey East rivals.

Earlier this season, the two teams skated to a 1-1 tie in Boston, and Friday's game ended the same way. The Eagles and the Black Bears fought the entire game and through overtime but the result was a 3-3 tie. Saturday's game, the third matchup between the two squads this season, began with both teams without a win to show. On Saturday night, however, the Eagles' offense was too much for Ben Bishop and UMaine's defense as Boston College won the rubber game by a score of 4-2.

At the end of the weekend, the Black Bears dropped to 8-11-3 on the season and 4-8-3 in Hockey East, while the Eagles — ranked 8th in the nation coming into the weekend — improved to 12-5-7 overall and



Andrew Prindle ♦ The Maine Campus

UMaine scrambles in front of BC's goal fighting for a chance to score.

8-3-6 in Hockey East matches.

The Black Bears got on the scoreboard about halfway into the first period when Rob Bellamy shoved a rebound past BC goaltender John Muse, making the score 1-0. The Eagles answered right back when Matt Greene beat Bishop to tie up the game at one apiece. UMaine came out of

the locker room fired up at the beginning of the second period and Brett Tyler found the back of the net just 13 seconds in, giving the Black Bears back the lead.

Once again, the Eagles tied up the game, this time taking just under two minutes. Later on in the second period, the

See HOCKEY on page 16

Men standing tall

UMaine upsets conference champions

By Danny Bartlett

The men's basketball team snapped a three-game losing streak Wednesday night with an 81-70 victory over two-time defending conference champion Albany. UMaine improved to 2-4 in America East play and 6-13 overall, while Albany dropped to 4-3 in the conference and 9-10 overall.

The first half of play was an even battle between the two teams. The score was close going into half-time with UMaine leading 35-30. The second half began fairly even with Albany taking a 37-36 lead. With fewer than 18 minutes to play, Albany began to play like the defending conference champions are supposed to and used a 15-2 run to go up 51-39 with 10:58 to play.

The young Black Bears responded immediately with a scoring surge of their own and took a 54-52 lead off a 15-1 run in just over two minutes. Albany tied the game up on the

next possession with 7:43 left in regulation.

Maine has been in some close games this season, and they proved that they have matured from those situations by outscoring Albany 27-16 the rest of the way in route to the 81-70 win.

Maine provided a strong performance as a team by shooting a whopping 64.7 percent from the floor and going

6-9 from the three-point line. Albany could only manage 42.3 percent from the floor and was 3-13 from beyond the arc. The Black Bears, who went 19-36 from the free throw line against Hartford earlier in the week, went 31-36 from the line including 22-22 in the second half.

UMaine was lead by Mark Socoby with 20 points, eight rebounds and three assists. Junior Bernal had a strong showing with 16 points and four assists. Kaimandre Owes pitched in with 17 points. See BASKETBALL on page 16

Men's Basketball

UMaine
Albany

81
70

Morse Field set to get facelift

Private donation leads to upgrades of university athletic fields

By Adam Clark

After 15 years as head coach of the University of Maine Black Bear football team, Jack Cosgrove needed some change if he was going to remain in Orono, where he has spent time as a player, assistant coach and now head coach. One of those changes involved a new playing surface on Morse Field at Harold Alford Stadium.

Thanks to a donation from UMaine benefactors Phillip H. and Susan K. Morse, after whom the field was originally named for their initial contributions, Cosgrove's wish came true last month.

This spring, the \$1 million gift from the Morse family will be used as a catalyst to replace the artificial turf with a new form of synthetic turf specifically designed for football.

While the gift from the Morse family will be used for the football surface, it has also kick-started other significant projects involving UMaine athletic field upgrades. On the field hockey and baseball fields, a new synthetic surface will also be laid down. The total price tag for the projects



Chris Pappas ♦ The Maine Campus

Morse Field is expecting a revamp before the 2008 football season. New turf will be laid down to improve its quality.

will be around \$2.2 million, with the latter two projects being paid for with internal loans, paid back through athletic revenues and future gifts.

"In addition to providing a boost for Black Bear varsity sports, these enhancements will also provide important facility upgrades for UMaine's popular and growing recreational sports programs," said University of Maine president Robert Kennedy in a press release. "Phil and Susan have once again humbled us with their

generosity, and this wonderful, meaningful gift will have a positive impact on a tremendous number of current and future UMaine students."

UMaine Athletic Director Blake James is excited about the upgrades to the athletic facilities and is hopeful it will lead to more.

"Facility upgrades represent a significant priority for the UMaine athletics department and this plan will allow us to take care of three important

See MORSE on page 16

Swimmers take dive

Despite strong showings, teams fall short

By Dana Bulba

The University of Maine men's and women's swimming and diving teams fell to the Boston College Eagles Saturday afternoon in Orono. The women lost 207-127, while the men fell 229.5-102.5.

Despite the loss, team members were impressed by their individual and team improvements.

"I thought that everyone had a good meet in the sense that lots of people posted fast times," said Kevin Staples. "Surely [it's] an encouraging sign as championships approach."

For the men, the UMaine divers stepped up and swept both the 1 and 3 meter competitions. Keith Burgie took first in both events, while Issac Forbes garnered significant points in both events as well.

Jeremy Bender and Cully Wakelin swam for a number of first and second place finishes, leading the men's team. Bender took first in the 100 butterfly (2:01.90) and second in both the 1650 freestyle (16:45.56) and the 400 IM (4:19.55). Wakelin

swam the breaststroke against the Eagles and won the 100 yard event in 1:01.87. Wakelin also finished second in both the 100 free (48.61) and 200 IM (2:03.06).

John Quinn fared well in the freestyle events taking second in the 500 (5:03.73) and tied for third in the 50 (22.99).

On the women's side, the team of Courtney Healey, Megan McLean, Meag Fisher and Kerstin Fenton kicked off the meet by placing first in the 200-medley relay with a time of

1:52.79. The medley roster continued to rack individual wins for the team.

Healey's stellar performance continued as she took first in the 100 backstroke (1:01.03) and second in the 200 backstroke (2:10.99).

McLean won the 200-yard breaststroke in 2:28.19, and Fisher won the 200 fly in 2:12.72.

Colleen Miller and Kiki O'Donnell took first and second in the 1650 freestyle with times of 17:41.38 and 18:10.32, respectively. Miller also took

See SWIMMING on page 16

Swimming