

Spring 1-22-2009

Maine Campus January 22 2009

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The Maine Campus

Thursday, January 22, 2009 Vol. 127, No. 23

UM observes historic inauguration

By Mary Emmi
For The Maine Campus

Politics

People from all political parties, backgrounds, races and ages were brought together in Washington, D.C. and throughout the University of Maine campus during the inauguration of President Barack Obama on Tuesday.

Student Affairs provided multiple ways to view the inauguration on campus. The Memorial Union was equipped with several TVs and a projection screen. Classrooms, such as Room 100 in the Donald P. Corbett Business Building, also presented showings of the inauguration.

Gustavo Burkett director of campus activities and student engagements, estimated student turnout in the Union between 1,500 to 2,000 — not including passersby.

First-year student Joanna Cumming, a conservative, believed Obama's main challenge will be executing his plans for change. "People took the motto 'a time for change' and created an idealistic view for what change meant to them. The problem with this is what [Obama] does and how this will live up to everyone's view of what change is and should be," Cummings said.

Registered Democrat Justin Ouellette described Obama's political ambitions as a challenge he will face with grace and perseverance.

"He has a lot to do, and everyone has an eye on him. He will make progress, but it's not a flick of a light switch. [Change] will

take time," Ouellette said.

Kristine Hamaty, who voted for Bob Barr, the Libertarian candidate in the election, was amazed with Obama's inaugural speech and the number of people in Washington, D.C.

"I really liked Obama's speech. He is a very charismatic speaker. When you actually listen to what he is saying, it is so moving and impressive." She was also reflective on the historic aspect of his speech and noted the importance of inaugurating the first black president.

Julia Hewes, a conservative third-year student who voted for McCain, felt the public was "swept away" with the Obama campaign.

"People aren't looking at the issues; they're caught up in the movement," she said. "I hope he reforms our economy, but if he doesn't it only reinforces why I didn't vote for him."

Elias Edwards-Jenks attended the inauguration and many of the activities throughout the weekend. He saw Obama speak twice — during a concert at the Lincoln Memorial and during his inauguration.

"The energy is intense; it's a pretty cool place to be," he said, speaking from Washington, D.C. "To see him smile is a wave of energy rushing over. It's inspiring."

Laura Anderson, who considers herself liberal-leaning, did not vote in the election.



Eryk Salvaggio ♦ The Maine Campus

Students observe Barack Obama's inauguration speech Tuesday, Jan. 20.

She watched the inauguration and felt that Obama was a "really good speaker."

"He is more likeable because of his personality, and people have become hyped because of that and not the issues as much," Anderson said.

Brady Frost, a moderate who voted for Obama and saw him when he was on the presidential campaign tour, felt his inaugural address was "really optimistic."

"He addressed important issues and

boosted morale. I was really impressed. I was somewhat skeptical, but now I'm curious for the future. I think he's the best candidate for the job," Frost said.

Registered Republican Ben Millick also voted for Obama in the election and said his inaugural speech was one of the best speeches he has ever heard.

See: "Students Speak" on
Obama inauguration, page 6.

Gov. cuts funding, chancellor stabilizes

By William P. Davis
Web Editor

Budget

Earlier this month, Gov. John Baldacci unveiled a budget proposal aimed at reducing the state's revenue shortfall. The biennial budget, covering fiscal years 2010 and 2011, is \$200 million less than the last biennial budget, and reduces spending for higher education by 2.4 percent.

The budget cuts come on the heels of spending freezes at the university level and reductions in the amount of grant money offered by the Finance Authority of Maine.

The day after the proposed budget was announced, University of Maine System Chancellor Richard Pattenau released a plan to achieve financial stability for the system. The plan calls for the creation of a task force to assess cost-cutting measures and rec-

ommend structural reorganization.

The report, titled "New Challenges, New Directions: Achieving Long-Term Financial Stability," is meant to address what is expected to be a \$42.8 million revenue gap in the next four years — if the UM System proceeds on its present course.

Pattenau said in a press release, "The university system must pursue deeper and broader change that ensures its academic quality and service to Maine, maintains affordability for undergraduate and graduate students, and achieves operating efficiencies and cost-reductions. We have no choice."

In November, the university had to cut \$6.5 million from its 2008-to-2009 budget to help balance the system budget, in addition to \$5.3 million already cut earlier that month by order of Baldacci. On Dec. 1, the Finance Authority of Maine, which distributes grants to students, reduced the State of Maine Grant by \$60 per

See CUTS on page 5

Council supports shuttle

Free UM-to-downtown transportation considered

By Jeff Hake
For The Maine Campus

Orono Council

The Town of Orono Community Development Committee convened the night of Wednesday, Jan. 21 to discuss the possibility of committing funding to a new shuttle-bus route running a loop from Orono's downtown business district to campus. The committee met with Don Cooper, the senior transit planner of the Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation system, and Joe McNeil, Superintendent of the Bangor Area Transportation Community Connector (BAT) system. Together they laid out the proposed framework of the new BAT-administered route.

The route would circle around the block that encompasses Pat's Pizza and the Bear Brew parking lot, then pass through the neighborhood behind Park Street before making two stops on campus: at Memorial Union's

bus circle and the Student Recreation and Fitness Center.

In the current plan, the entire loop will take half an hour, giving university community members a more frequent option for getting from campus to the center of town, and Orono community members a better chance to experience campus life and use the new Rec Center.

All passengers would enjoy fare-free rides on the new shuttle service, unlike the current BAT fees charged to non-university community members.

The buses would also have an expanded schedule. The shuttle would run from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, 7 to 12 a.m. Thursday through Friday, and 12 p.m. to 12 a.m. on Saturday — greatly increasing community members' schedule flexibility. With the new route focusing on students, the shuttle would run only during the academic calendar.

The project is supported by the Department

See SHUTTLE on page 5

Word of mouth

Where were you during Obama's inauguration?



I was in class.

Brandon Nute
First-year
Civil engineering

I was in psych.

Brandi Smith
Second-year
Human nutrition



In calculus.

Kyle Levassey
Second-year
Civil engineering



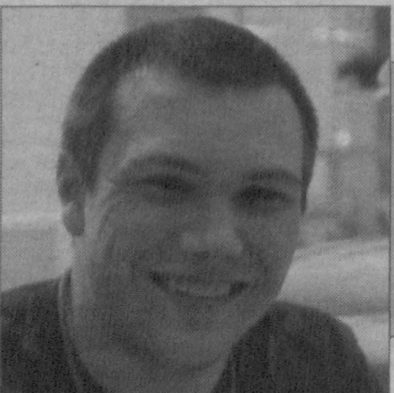
I was in DPC.

Stephanie Palmer
Fourth-year
Marketing



I was in the union watching it.

Sam Adams
Second-year
Athletic training



I was in class.

Allison Jones
First-year
Philosophy



Major may get cut

By Dylan Riley
Assistant News Editor

Budget

The University of Maine is considering eliminating the undergraduate program in information science and engineering because of constrained resources and low enrollment, at a time when Maine is falling behind national averages for these professionals.

Maine ranks 49th in the nation for graduating engineering undergraduates per capita, according to a 2007 report by Engineering Trends Inc., a global e-commerce consulting firm.

Maine would need to double the number of bachelor engineering degrees to meet the national average, according to a 17-page document issued by UMaine's Department of Spatial Information Science and Engineering on the proposed elimination of the program. Despite these

facts, stricter budgets and pressure on Dean of Engineering Dana Humphrey to close down low-enrollment degrees brought about this proposal to eliminate the program.

"Is elimination the best route at this point? ... Once it's eliminated it just feels like — to get it back it's just so much work," said Dianne Hoff, president of the UMaine Faculty Senate, during a meeting to discuss the program's future.

UMaine created the program in 2003 to respond to Maine's information technology needs. The university gave it limited advertising because the faculty decided to wait until after the degree received dual accreditation to promote it. Coupled with a moratorium, or delay of admission for students to the degree, the number of undergraduates enrolled in the program was small for its four-year lifespan. The most enrolled in the program at one time was 20 students, during fiscal year 2007.

"People have heard of mechanical engineering, and they've heard of civil engineering and chemical [engineering]. People haven't heard of this, and that's particularly true in a state like Maine with small, isolated high schools. ... I mean, it's just amazing to me that in our whole state, we aren't going to have this program," Hoff said.

Michael Hennessey, a fourth-year student enrolled in the program, said he "wasn't very happy" about the proposal when he heard his major was up for elimination.

"It's hard to say 'this is my major' when it's not around," Hennessey said about applying for jobs in Maine.

Some of the classes involved in the major concern database building, Hennessey said. A university program called Four Plus One will be the only option left to students pursuing information science as a degree. The program is an early

See **MAJOR** on page 5

Organic venue opens

By Kathleen Dame
For The Maine Campus

Dining

Feta cheese, pita bread and vegetables debuted at the University of Maine union marketplace on Jan. 14 at its new venue, Nature's Palate. Located left of the Black Bear Grill, the eatery offers natural and organic snacks, drinks and meals.

Dining officials hope the new look will revitalize the Marketplace's fast-food image.

"Sometimes we get criticized

for not having healthy products," said Melissa Lewis, manager of the Marketplace. "The anticipation has been huge."

Dining Services entered Nature's Palate into a national competition for best new venue held by the National Association of College and University Food Services.

Danielle Morrow, a first-year ecology and environmental sciences student, used to work at a natural foods co-op and said she liked the new choice for dining.

"It looks fresh. They're focusing on healthy foods," Morrow said. "It's a good option if you

don't want a burger."

While Morrow was undecided about whether she would buy her lunch at the new site, first-year computer science student Matthew Ducharme bought a sample platter with vegetables and pita bread.

"I heard it was the grand opening and came to try it out," Ducharme said. He looked forward to trying a gluten-free, fat-free, Maine-made soda he found.

Along with sushi and vegetable platters, the Nature's Palate menu includes dips and spreads like

See **DINING** on page 5

System SG may disband

A non-functioning student government could fade away

By Alex Leonard
Staff Reporter

Senate

Six new senators were appointed and 12 members of the senate were confirmed to the cabinet in the latest meeting of the General Student Senate.

The meeting included a report by

President Owen McCarthy, which stated that the cabinet voted against an appeal to remove the president of Wilde Stein due to the GPA requirements set forth by the University of Maine Board of Trustees.

As a result of the cabinet meeting and voting against the appeal, McCarthy put forth a resolution to amend the employment policies of Student Government to abolish the appeals process. In the resolution, it

states that by doing this, the senate will be in compliance with the UMaine Board of Trustees.

During the meeting, UM System Student Government president Sean Rankin reported a lack of involvement by other schools.

"And by lack of involvement, I mean no involvement," Rankin said.

He stated that he will seek out the

See **SYSTEM** on page 5



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news section to

Heather Steeves
581-1270

McCarthy takes office

New student body president eager to start

By Rhiannon Sawtelle
Features Editor

Patten, Maine has a population of nearly 1,000. Thirty-eight students graduated from the senior class in 2006. One was Owen McCarthy.

He credits this small-town sensibility for the interpersonal skills he runs his presidency on.

McCarthy, a third-year student majoring in biological engineering, won the vote for student body president in December and is executing his first weeks in office this semester.

"It was relieving," he said about his win.

He credits the connections he has made on campus since his first year and said he has a knack for networking.

Dressed neatly in a button-up shirt and dress pants, McCarthy had a friendly approach to speaking to his peers. Sitting in his office, he made small talk and asked questions.

"Owen has no problem communicating with people," said Ross Wolland, Student Government vice president.

McCarthy is eager to start his work as president.

"The campaigning thing wasn't my style," McCarthy said. "I like to do things rather than promote myself."

With students back from break, McCarthy can begin executing his plans.

"I felt really excited and ready to move forward at my inauguration. I was proud to be surrounded by a key group of competent and motivated executives," he said.

McCarthy may face problems with his campaign promises, for the same reasons the entire country is facing hardships in sponsoring programs — budget cuts.

A shuttle system, extended library options and leadership development are all on hold until a school budget is decided.

"These are things I should follow through with," McCarthy said.

McCarthy met with several deans, executives and other officials during break to work these issues out. McCarthy plans to keep the student body updated with the progress. He plans to communicate with the student body through campus media sources and a possible Student Government newsletter.

"If people are informed, they're much more accepting," he said.

For now, he will concentrate his efforts on these plans and has stepped back from several activities to focus on his presidency.

In his time at UMaine, McCarthy held the offices of class agent for the Class of 2010, president of the Sophomore Owls, president of Sigma Epsilon, student ambassador and student senator.

"It's a combination of coffee and a lack of sleep," McCarthy joked about his busy schedule.

He explained that he is used to a busy agenda. In high school, McCarthy was the captain of three sports teams, earned 970 points in basketball and was president of his regional National Honors Society. He credits his home life for his motivation as well.

"My biggest influence would most certainly be my father for an unmatched work ethic," McCarthy said.

Student senators have noticed his work ethic as well.

"Although I have not gotten a chance to get to know Owen personally, he comes across as a good kid," said Peter

Christopher, a new senator.

"I met him at his inauguration and he seemed very enthusiastic to work with me and the rest of the senate," he added.

Former presidential candidate Rob Goodwin sees potential in McCarthy as well, but has some reservations.

"There is no doubt that Owen is committed to serving the students and the university, and he will continue to do so as president of Student Government. The question that I am asking to myself is what exactly is going to change," said Sen. Rob Goodwin in an e-mail.

"Owen's largest strength is his ability to foster great working relationships with the administration," Goodwin said.

McCarthy agrees.

"I just want to make sure it's a cohesive group," he said of Student Government and the administration.

"I like to do things rather than promote myself."

Owen McCarthy
Student body president



Alicia Mullins ♦ The Maine Campus
Student Body President Owen McCarthy chats with Director of External Affairs Rose Collins in front of Memorial Union.

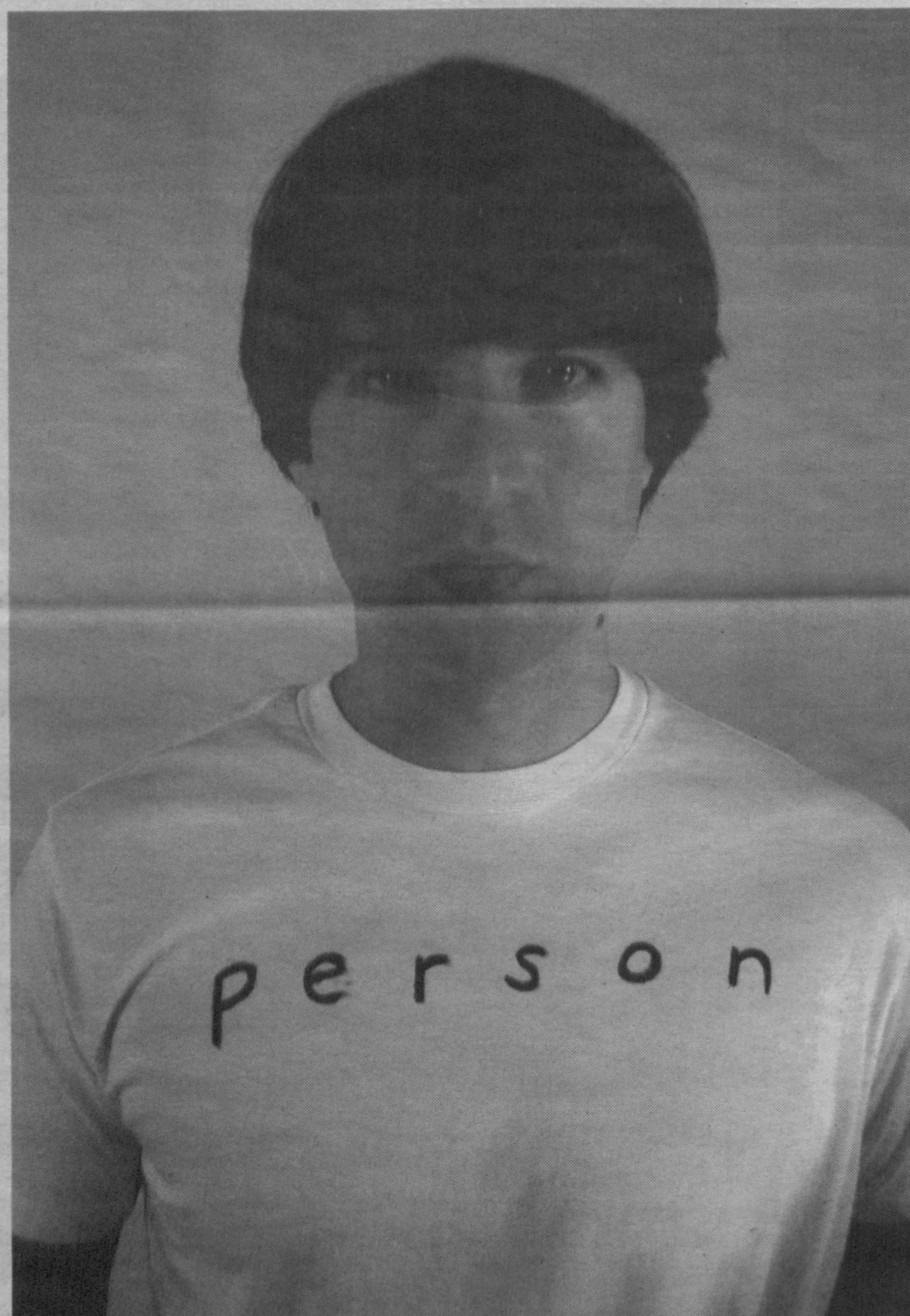
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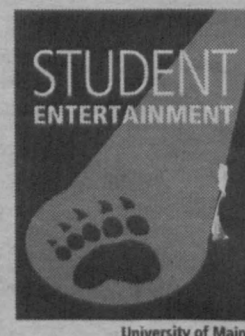
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Student On-Sale: Jan. 16th

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Police Beat



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Kicking cops

During the snowstorm on Jan. 19, a University of Maine plowman radioed police to report a Dodge pickup stuck on the sidewalk in front of Lord Hall at 2:44 a.m. The driver approached the plowman on unsteady feet, asking him to dig his truck out of the heavy snow.

The officer asked him if he realized he wasn't on a roadway, and the driver said he thought it was a road. His speech was slurred, and he smelled heavily of intoxicants. The officer asked if getting stuck had anything to do with the alcohol he drank that night. The driver replied, "Probably."

He said he had no license and attempted to conceal his wallet, giving the name John Watson. The name wasn't on file. He said he lived in Hancock Hall, but the room number he gave police housed two female occupants. He then failed a field sobriety test and resisted being placed under arrest for OUI. The officer handcuffed the man's left hand, but the man pulled away before the officer could secure his right hand. He continued to resist and was taken to the ground where he kicked at the officer.

A second officer arrived. The officers secured him and found a driver's license that identified him as Paul McClay, 19, Orono. He tested .18 BAC on a breathalyzer, and was charged with OUI and refusing to submit to arrest or detention, and was transported to Penobscot County Jail. His truck was towed.

Snack snatch

A resident assistant called police to the basement of Oak Hall to investigate a broken vending machine at 11:46 p.m. on Jan. 15. The machine's front had been smashed, and glass littered the floor. Officers secured the remaining snacks, and Athearn Vending said they would arrive in the morning to pick up the machine and determine what had been stolen. Anyone with information about the crime may contact Public Safety.

Court crackdown

Two people were located on campus and arrested for failure to appear for a Bangor District Court warrant on Jan. 17 and 18. Matthew Berube, 19, Orono, was located at Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity at 8:57 p.m. Shaniqua Burgess, 18, Orono, was located at Gannett Hall at 1:43 a.m. on Jan. 18.

Lock up

An iPhone and a wallet were stolen from an unlocked locker in the Student Recreation and Fitness Center men's locker room while a student was working out from 7:30 to 8:45 p.m. on Jan. 18. The phone's value is estimated at \$250, and the wallet was estimated at \$25 with several credit cards and forms of identification.

During the same time, another male student reported \$100 in cash had been removed from his wallet in an unlocked locker in the same room.

A female student's US Cellular Blackberry was taken from a bench in the women's locker room at 4:45 p.m. on Jan. 13. She turned her attention away for a few minutes and returned to find it missing. The phone's value is estimated at \$500. The cases are under investigation.

Runaway shoes

Two male Hart Hall residents reported stolen shoes at 2:18 a.m. on Jan. 19. They left a pair of \$100 Timberland boots and \$100 Nike Highlighter sneakers in the hall outside their fourth-floor room at 11 p.m. and noticed they were missing three hours later. The case is under investigation.

Compiled by
Aislinn Sarnacki
Staff Reporter

Cuts

from page 1

energy costs and many departments have instituted hiring freezes. The UM System recently failed an affordability review by the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education.

The proposed budget, which has yet to pass into legislation, would provide \$536 million to fund higher education, which includes the University of Maine System, the Community College System and Maine Maritime Academy. The University of Maine System funding would be cut \$5,028,700 from the last biennial budget.

The budget also suggests combining more purchases with the state of Maine in order to further reduce costs. While the biennial budget has not yet made it into committee, the Education and Cultural Affairs committee "reluctantly" approved the proposed education cuts in the supplemental budget.

"During these incredibly difficult economic times, the governor worked very hard to limit reductions to higher education," said a

student. On campus, Faculty Senate has discussed moving to a four-day workweek to reduce

spokesperson for the governor. If the budget becomes law, it will be the first biennial budget in at least 35 years that is smaller than the one before it.

John Diamond, a spokesperson for the university system, said the system is dedicated to providing an affordable education and that "one of the primary goals of the chancellor is to minimize the impact [of any restructuring] on the students."

According to Diamond, the system may save money by centralizing departments, but no campuses will be closed. The number of campuses in the University of Maine System is dictated in state law, and so far neither the governor's office nor the legislature has made any indication they want to close any campus.

"The plan is to maintain seven universities and seven presidents," Diamond said.

A cost-saving measure that may be investigated is online courses, which Diamond described as "high quality" alternatives "to some face-to-face classes." A four-day workweek has not, as of yet, been discussed at the system level.

Shuttle

from page 1

able to the Town of Orono and the University of Maine to partially fund the project. The remaining annual costs, currently projected at \$88,326, would be split equally between those entities, and the buses, which would run on biodiesel like the rest of the BAT fleet, would be paid for and owned by the state. The buses would be smaller than the BAT's normal vehicles, and would have a capacity of 24 passengers.

The discussion was brought to the attention of the town a year ago when downtown Orono

of Transportation, and a federal subsidy of \$90,797 in the course of three years is also avail-

business district owners cited a need for more students to be able to access the center of town, and the idea of a shuttle bus took hold. Old Town was originally to be included in the new route, but had to pull out due to a tight fiscal year. If the bus route is successful, Orchard Trails may become included in the plan. The possibility of the route reaching other less-central Orono neighborhoods was entertained, pending the popularity of the route and future budgetary flexibility.

An open meeting will take place Thursday, Jan. 22 at 1 p.m. in the Senior Skulls Room in Memorial Union to discuss the university's willingness to commit funding for the project.

Major

from page 2

only one additional year of school.

Hennessey said he hopes the university will restart the degree in the future, but is doubtful it will.

"They'd also have to reapply for accreditation and all that stuff," he said.

When asked about concern students may have that other programs will be considered for elimination, Hoff said, "people at all levels of the university administration — and also members of the faculty — are all trying to find creative solutions to the impending budget challenges that we're facing, and so, certainly, program elimination is not going to be the first line of 'oh, we need to save money, how many programs can we eliminate.'"

Professor James Warhola, director of the Program Creation Review and Reorganization Committee, agreed.

"In the short-term, it's no remedy at all," Warhola said.

If the administration tosses the program, the resources it takes up will go to other priorities such as research and graduate education, according to the document outlining the program.

planning system that helps students to get into the masters program in information science with

"I feel that elimination is the right avenue. When I look at the tea leaves of the resources that we're going to have to work with in the years ahead, it looks challenging, and I think it would be useful to make a clear direction and pursue that direction," Humphrey said during the meeting.

The committee will meet Jan. 22 to finalize its recommendation to the Faculty Senate, which will then provide a recommendation to the university's administration. A final decision on the future of the program will come sometime within the next two months, Warhola said.

"We probably will end up reluctantly concurring with the proposal to close," Warhola said.

It is unclear whether the Faculty Senate will share that opinion.

"The senators, including members of the PCRRC committee, are somewhat conflicted over this. They understand — on the one hand — that there do not seem to be adequate resources to support the program, but — on the other hand — feel that it's not in the best interest of the state to cancel a program that could contribute to our state's economic development," Hoff said.

The Information Science and Engineering program has slowly increased in enrollment since its creation.

System

from page 2

Currently, Rankin is the lone elected member of the system student government.

"If they don't send me my representatives, then I am going to derecognize each of the institutions," Rankin said.

Rankin added that if this occurs, he will put forth a resolution that will completely disband the UM System Student Government.

At the meeting Alexander Ortiz, Christine

other leaders of the system student government to determine the level of interest in the group.

McGivney, Justin Labonte, Samantha Shulman, Ross Wolland, Abtin Mehdizadegan, Krystal Earle, Tavian MacKinnon, Rebecca Davison, Anthony Feldpausch, Joseph Moran and Emily Fortin. Also, Nicholas DeHaas, Alexander Heathco, Ryan Merchant, Nathan Oakes, Andrew Satalich and David Jones were all sworn in as senators.

Vice President of Financial Affairs Labonte reported the following allocations: \$200 to the Panhellenic Council, \$166.15 to the Interfraternity Council and \$800 to Intervarsity Christian Fellowship.

Dining

from page 2

Many menu items are vegetarian or vegan. The whipped feta ingredients, for

whipped feta with sweet and hot peppers, black bean with garlic and tuna dip.

example, include feta cheese, cottage cheese, roasted red peppers, chipotle peppers, paprika, lemon juice and olive oil.

In the attached market, students can find organic yogurt, cheese, chips, crackers and more.

STUDENT LEGAL SERVICES

157 MEMORIAL UNION 581-1789

SEAT BELT LAW

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Failure to do so may result in
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offense, and \$250 for the third
and subsequent offenses. Not
only do you need to buckle up
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to avoid being fined.

Student Legal Services provides free legal services to full-time undergraduates

The temperance of inaugural hope

The Issue: The inauguration of our 44th president, Barack Obama.

What We Think: The challenges facing the nation necessitate a temperance of hope, and a pragmatic approach.

While watching the inauguration of our 44th president, Barack Obama, it was easy to be swept up in emotion and forget the current economic devastation affecting many Mainers, along with people from all over the country.

Statistics for last month are unavailable, but unemployment in our state reached 6.3 percent in Nov. 2008 — the highest in a year — and there are no signs of slowing. The Bangor Daily News reported on Jan. 14 that "One of Maine's chief economic forecasters says the state is in for another 1 1/2 years of pain before the recession bottoms out and the picture brightens." Hope is fine, but people all over the country need more than optimism; they need help.

Most of us believe in Obama's message, but it is important in these tough times to keep that hope tempered, and to not lose sight of the grievous realities of recession. It is in no one's interest to become despondent, but an overdose of optimism can lead to a lack of initiative to enact Obama's other buzzword: change.

Many are optimistic for the new president. Others await his first actions in office before passing judgment. Regardless of the expectations you have, one thing is certain: All politicians make promises to their electorate. The mark of a good president is his ability to turn soaring campaign rhetoric into concrete change for Americans.

The above editorial is written by the editorial board, whose members are Eryk Salvaggio, Mario Moretto, Heather Steeves, Zach Dionne, Alicia Mullins and William P. Davis.

Students Speak

The Obama Inauguration

"I think the inauguration today was a monumental step toward the change Obama was hoping for. He has worked hard to become the president of the United States, and now it's time for Americans to work hard to do something worthwhile. He's an inspiration to most young people. To be a minority and see someone with the most powerful job in the world is amazing: It's actually possible."

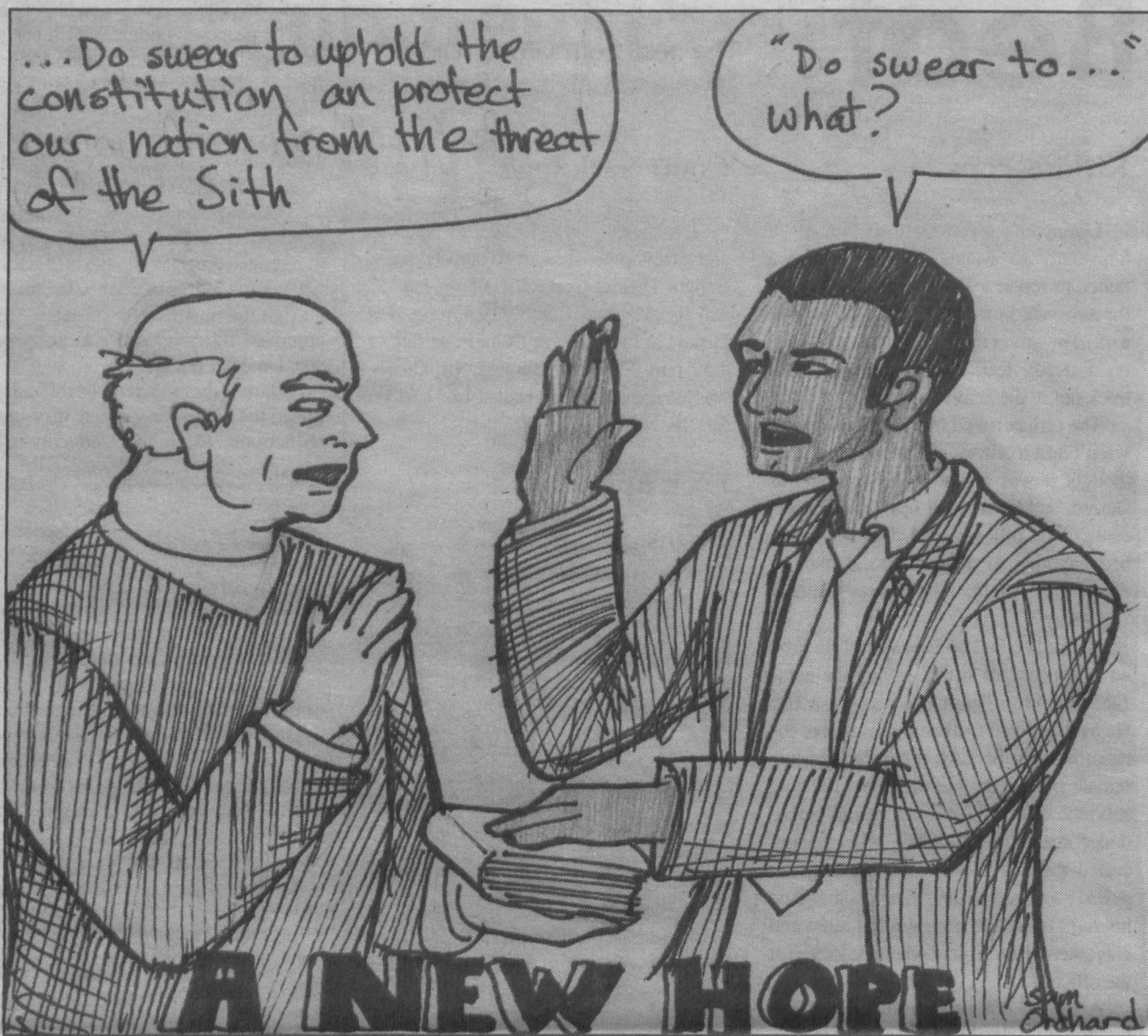
— Makeda Thompson

"I am disappointed that Obama won the election. I am angry with his foreign policy, which is continued warfare and a burden to all taxpayers and soldiers. A neutral foreign policy without entangling alliances is what the founders had in mind for safety. Because we use military might to step all over countries, there is ever-rising anti-Americanism worldwide — as there should be. His plan for economic stimulus spells disaster. It is inflation, which will devalue the dollar. Obama is repeating past mistakes. I don't think it's right for the government to hand out money that we have to pay back with interest in the future if we ever get out of this "recession." It is crucial to note that the people who lost their jobs are joining the military for security: Welcome to the police state."

— Michael W. Gibson

Opinion

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2009



Lessons learned from Circuit City



Eryk Salvaggio

In my wallet, I have two coins. One is a Soviet-era Russian ruble, with Stalin's face staring at a rocket. The other is a cheap plastic trinket with shiny gold paint and a portrait of a clown. Both are symbols of bureaucratic leadership run amok, relics of a dead system.

A Circuit City district manager, desperate to drive up credit card application numbers, handed out the clown coins in 2005. Every employee had five at the start of a shift which we had to hand to customers. When a customer asked what the clown coin was, we had to say, "I can't tell you, but if you tell another associate that you have it, they'll tell you how it can save you money." The customer, already annoyed, would approach another associate, who would reveal unwanted details about the store's credit card. If you didn't hand out five coins by the end of the day, you got a written warning; three written warnings and you could be fired.

It would be enough if the clown coin debacle ended with the manager's realization that the plan was hopelessly flawed. But when the staff suggested that this was the lamest idea in retail history, management didn't listen. We were told we simply weren't making it fun; we were lazy; we didn't know how to sell a great idea. Inevitably, some associates figured out ways to cheat the system. Clown coins ended up hidden under DVD's, stolen, thrown into the trash. The kids who tried to do it right were punished, while the others who cheated were handed prizes.

The clown coin was not an isolated incident. In Circuit City's

long history, district managers must have had many similarly delusional strategies. Follow these schemes, and the result is clear: If you cheated, you probably had a better chance of being promoted.

This was not the only way to move up. At one point, we had 10 "scripts" to launch into with every customer. If we didn't, we would get written up. Customers hated this, but management didn't care. The staff became nothing more than billboards designed to make pitches about every possible service, to the extent that actually communicating information was completely rooted out of training. Naturally, those who mastered this parrot-like ability to mimic the corporate line were also more likely to be promoted.

Put this all together, and what do you have? You have a practice that rewards and promotes the blandest and most cynical, while it punishes the most creative and honest. As that promotion line moved up, the cynicism became entrenched and institutionalized: On the same day that Circuit City posted a \$208 million dollar loss, it awarded its chief executives with \$1 million "retention bonuses."

In March of 2007, that cynicism reached its apex: the company laid off 3,400 of its top sales people in order to hire lower-cost replacements. This came after a similar move in 2003, where it laid off 3,900 of its highest-paid workers. Certainly, it got rid of a good number of slick-talkers. But it also cut out a sales force that understood the needs of customers, a force that could have directed the company toward better decisions had they been asked, or listened to. On Jan. 16, executives announced Circuit City was going out of business.

CLOSED page 7

The Maine Campus

The University of Maine student newspaper since 1875.

The Maine Campus, a non-profit student publication, is printed at Village NetMedia in Rockland, Maine. Our offices are located in Memorial Union at the University of Maine. Contact us by phone at 581-1273 or e-mail: info@mainecampus.com.

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As time goes on, history will be kind to President Bush

Jonathan Zappala

As the 43rd president of the United States, George W. Bush had both the highest and lowest approval ratings in the history of the office. In the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, he had ratings of more than 90 percent. In recent years, his rating fluctuated around a third of that number. Many people think he will be unfavorably remembered after leaving office — but what president in the past 50 years can say he wasn't? History will be the judge of the president's service to America.

Popular opinion is against the outgoing president largely because of the war in Iraq. The Congress that authorized him to start the war, and then turned against him as popular opinion wavered, caused him to lose

more support. Once the heat of the moment passes, and the positive outcome of the war in Iraq — a nation freer now than before the war — is realized, he will be remembered as one of this nation's better presidents.

Many will disagree, but they need only to think of the good things he did for our country. Cutting taxes, fighting for morality and American values and leading the nation through its darkest hour are a few of his achievements that should be mentioned. The economy was also booming under his watch, until the downturn in 2008 due to problems that began in the

1990s. Aside from all of his achievements and perceived failures, he is going to be remembered for possessing a rare quality in a president: the ability to be himself at all times.

President Bush was always honest with Americans and admitted when he was genuinely wrong. His farewell address exemplified his true character. As far as I could tell, he was not using a teleprompter, and it showed in the substance of his speech. He was speaking from his heart, and that is when he speaks best. It is hard to argue that he was not an honest man.

**History was kind to
Ronald Reagan, and his
legacy lives on in politics
today ... time will bring
the same for President
George W. Bush**

During the administration of Ronald Reagan 20 years ago, the media hounded the president as much as they attacked Bush during his two terms. Now liberals and conservatives alike accept him as one of our greatest presidents. He was even praised by President Obama in the primaries. Reagan took the strength out of communism much as President Bush has done to terrorism. Our enemies feared what makes us great: our liberties. Thanks to George W. Bush, they do once again.

History was kind to Ronald Reagan, and his legacy lives on in politics today. I have a feeling that time will bring the same for President George W. Bush.

Jonathan Zappala is a third-year psychology student.

Closed

from page 6

So what is the moral to the collapse of Circuit City Inc.? It's the recognition that closed corporate hierarchies will fail. A system needs wide-open channels of communication and collaboration, between all levels of "power," to

understand what its challenges are and to discern realistic, intelligent ways to solve them.

Future middle management workers of the world, please remember the lessons of this lost city. I'd hate to think these 34,000 jobs were lost for nothing.

Eryk Salvaggio is interim editor in chief for The Maine Campus.

soapbox

The new blog for The Maine Campus opinion section,
featuring the ruminations of the opinion editor,
Mario Moretto.

blogs.mainecampus.com

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

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Submit electronically at: opinion@mainecampus.com



'Obama babies' and the change they need

Jennifer Fortier

You may be asking, "Just what is an Obama Baby?" Well, on that chilly night that Barack Obama was elected our president, it can be safely assumed thousands of American couples decided to celebrate in typical American fashion — baby making. Next August, the United States may experience a politically oriented baby boom that could push Barack, Michelle, even Sasha and Malia, to the top of every baby name list.

As proud as I am of our new president and his goals, I wonder how this new age will affect those citizens who have yet to make their mark on this world. It also leads me to wonder what sort of expectations the parents of these children will have for their offspring. I can understand being expected to succeed in school or master a particular musical instrument, but is it possible that these parents will push too hard? Will they become so swept up in the camaraderie of the Obama White House that they will be unable to contain their parental neuroticism to the usual choice between Baby Mozart and Baby Einstein? Next year we may have to welcome a new contender — Baby Congress.

With our new president, we start out on a bumpy road to reinvention. As Mainers, we know you have to fill in the pot-holes before you can go more than ten miles an hour. So many things are broken in this country that as much as we hunger for change, we must be patient. The issues we think require the

most change may not make it to the top of Obama's list for a while, but we've got to grit our teeth and trust that the president will get to them eventually. We elected him because we trusted his judgment, so I won't tolerate any whining from the peanut gallery because his agenda isn't exactly what we want it to be.

It's impossible to know what the next eight years will bring us — and I do mean eight — but consider this: In six years when these Obama babies are wobbly five-year-olds, just learning to read and starting to understand the world around them, what kind of world will we have created for them? President Obama's goals and plans for our country are all attainable but, in the words of every sports coach in America, we have to want it. If we are going to change this country into what it deserves to be — a responsible and moral world leader instead of the controlling and lazy mess of capitalists we have become — we are all going to have to work harder than we ever thought possible.

Some point out that President Obama himself was born about nine months after the election that put John F. Kennedy into the White House. Have we really made the transition from Kennedy babies to Obama babies in less than 50 years? Some people would call that warp speed. I call it progress.

Jennifer Fortier is a fourth-year marine science and microbiology major.



Disproportionate force is being used in Gaza

William P. Davis

The recent outbreak of violence in Gaza has done nothing to further a peaceful resolution in the Middle East and has only resulted in devastating casualties. However, Israel succeeded in once again proving itself to be a clear aggressor, and the case for peace has become urgent. As if President Obama doesn't have enough on his plate, he will be charged with the near-impossible task of mediating a long-lasting agreement between the two parties.

The numbers are astounding. In 23 days, more than 1,300 Palestinians and 13 Israelis were killed. Nearly 60,000 residents of Gaza lost their homes, and more than 400,000 have no running water.

None of this should insinuate that Hamas is without fault. They have been party to countless numbers of deplorable acts. Neither are the Israelis blameless, and they shown with their latest offensive just how harmful they can be. Of the 1,300 Palestinian casualties, 900 were civilians and 400 of those were children. The disproportionate numbers show a willingness on the part of the Israelis to terrorize the Palestinians by killing civilians.

Hamas provides a wide range of support services to the Palestinians. While they clearly aren't your grandmother's government, they also aren't simply the blood-thirsty terrorists they are often portrayed as. I'll draw heat for saying this, but a large part of the negative stigma the American media

and state department puts on Palestine has to do with its Muslim faith. America and its citizens have never been too cozy with Muslims, but since Sept. 11, favor has dropped even more. As much as I hate to admit it, President Obama probably won't be able to do much to correct the stereotype that all Muslims are terrorists, and he may not even try. Thirty-five percent of Texas already thinks he's a Muslim-loving, Jew-hating heretic.

Back to the issue at hand, Israel is also a nuclear power, and — as we all learned from Spiderman's uncle — with great power comes great responsibility. When Israel developed nuclear weapons, it effectively lost its ability to act as a whining child. Not only did the Israelis prove they possess greater technological ability than the Palestinians, they also accepted a moral responsibility to act with an air of decency. Again, not to diminish the deplorable acts by Hamas, but when the body count is a ratio of 100-to-1 there is obviously no contest between the two parties.

I am by no means an expert on this topic. The Israel-Palestine conflict is complex should not be over-simplified — which I am certainly doing here. But the same tired line we always hear from Israel about defending their sovereignty does not justify the disproportionate force they use to do so.

William P. Davis is Web editor for The Maine Campus.

Style & Culture

Thursday, January 22, 2009



Shane Leonard ♦ The Maine Campus



Shane Leonard ♦ The Maine Campus



Shane Leonard ♦ The Maine Campus

Gamer Profile



Zach Dionne ♦ The Maine Campus

Lilliana Griswold

Child, 2, Bangor, Maine

Gaming for two-and-a-half years

Favorite game type: [Her father, Glen Griswold]:

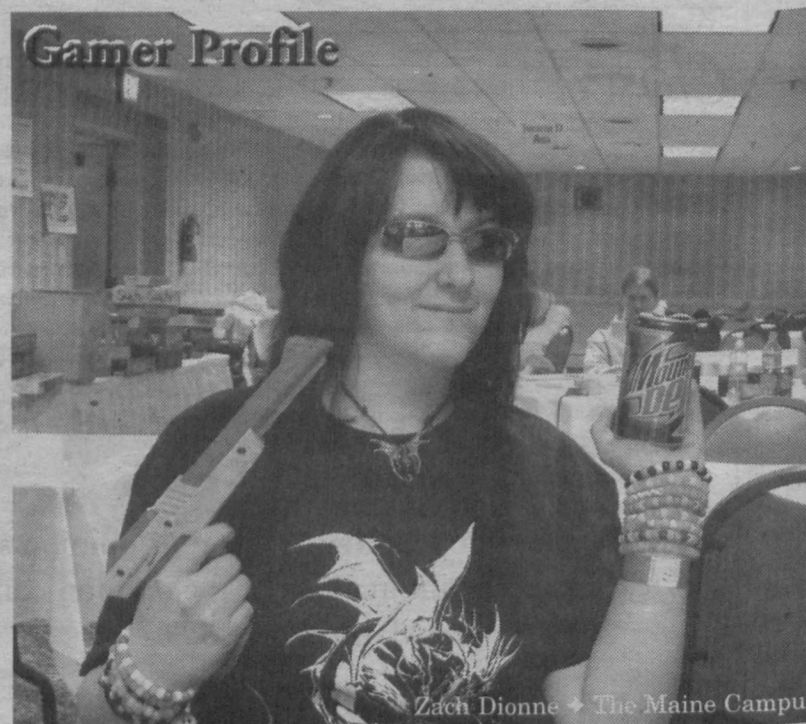
"She hasn't really made a decision yet."

Best aspect of gaming: "Dice."

Coolest gaming spot: "Con."

Gaming is "awesome."

Gamer Profile



Zach Dionne ♦ The Maine Campus

Sarah Daniel

Student, 16, Lee, Maine

Gaming for 14 years

Favorite game type: "Light, fast-paced role-playing."

Favorite games: "Apples to Apples."

Worst aspect of gaming: "They have to end eventually."

Coolest gaming spot: [Points to a table at SnowCon] "That table."

Proudest gamer moment: Owning a Nintendo Zapper.

Gaming is "super effective."

Not just a game

Hardcore gamers embrace a social, imaginative hobby that borders on a lifestyle

By Travis Bourassa for The Maine Campus

"Some people have no imagination. They're mundane; they're bored. They look around Bangor and see a movie theater, and that's it. Then there are people who go out and make their own damn fun," said Griffith Kelog, a substitute teacher at Orono High School.

Kelog is talking about gamers, a title he wears proudly while making his own damn fun.

On Jan. 17 and 18, Kelog, along with dozens of other gamers, fantasy fans and self-proclaimed "geeks" trekked to the Black Bear Inn and Conference Center in Orono for SnowCon, a gaming convention. SnowCon featured 17 tables for gamers to congregate and play their favorite tabletop games.

What is a gamer? Simply put, a gamer is someone who plays games — role-playing, card, tabletop, board, live-action or video games. Gamers can be casual or hard-core.

A Mountain Dew-fueled night with friends isn't rare for hard-core gamers, joining together to play "Dungeons and Dragons," "Magic: The Gathering" or even "World of Warcraft."

To some, the thought of playing these games evokes visions of socially awkward McLovins or "Revenge of the Nerds" types in dusty basements.

"Gamers are nothing like most people would expect. They're not the nerdy, pimple-faced stereotype," said Jeff Spaulding, a first-year new media student at the University of Maine and volunteer at Initiative 17, a gaming store in Old Town. "A lot of them are creative. A lot of them are adults."

Valerie Griswold-Ford is both. She turned her love of role-playing games into a writing career.

"My family was very much into role-playing. My dad is interested in games where you act as a character and tell a story," Griswold-Ford said.

The storytelling skills Griswold-Ford learned through role-playing games led her to a career as a fantasy author.

In a role-playing game, players take on the role of fictional characters. The "game master" describes the situations their characters encounter. During a session, the players and game master weave a story. The story may take place in a fantasy world, such as "Dungeons and Dragons," or in the universe of a popular television show or film such as "Star Wars."

Russel Jarvis, owner of Initiative 17, describes role-playing as "the integration of acting and imagination." He relates gaming sessions to movies.

"Your scriptwriter is the GM [game master], and you [the player] play a part in the movie," Jarvis said.

Role-playing games feature an open-ended format. Some stories that players create last through many gaming sessions.

"It isn't about winning; it's about how you play the game," Griswold-Ford said.

For some gamers, storytelling takes a backseat to victory.

"I've been playing 'Magic: The Gathering' seriously for about four years," said Tony Spero, a second-year electrical engineering technologies student. "By seriously, I mean that I play in tournaments."

"Magic" is a collectible-card game that allows players to build customizable decks. Players use cards to weaken their opponent's deck. A strategically built deck will give the player an advantage over his opponents.

"It's a game that's simple enough for anyone to play, but it's complex enough for intricate strategy," Jarvis said.

Initiative 17 holds "Magic: the Gathering" tournaments. Winners proceed to compete on a national level. The tournaments, local and national, are sanctioned by Wizards of the Coast, the publisher of "Magic."

For the gamers at SnowCon, the convention was more than storytelling and strategy; it was about being with other gamers.

"You get to be with a bunch of people who understand you. They get the geeky jokes that I get and laugh at the same stupid things that I laugh at. I have great social interactions here," Kelog said.

"I've met at least three people here who I'll get into contact with on campus," Spero said.

SnowCon was sponsored by BangPop!, an organization which prides itself as promoting events from the "pop culture fringe" in the Bangor area.

Last September, the group organized a comic book and pop culture convention at the Spectacular Events Center in Bangor. Gibran Graham, a founding member of BangPop!, said the success of the convention led him to believe a gaming convention would be just as profitable.

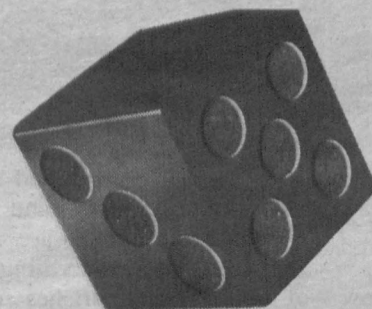
"The gaming community has been hungry for something like this," Graham said.

Though the organizers of SnowCon may describe gamers as "fringe," Jarvis said the number of gamers in the Bangor area is growing. He claims his store attracts repeat and new customers alike.

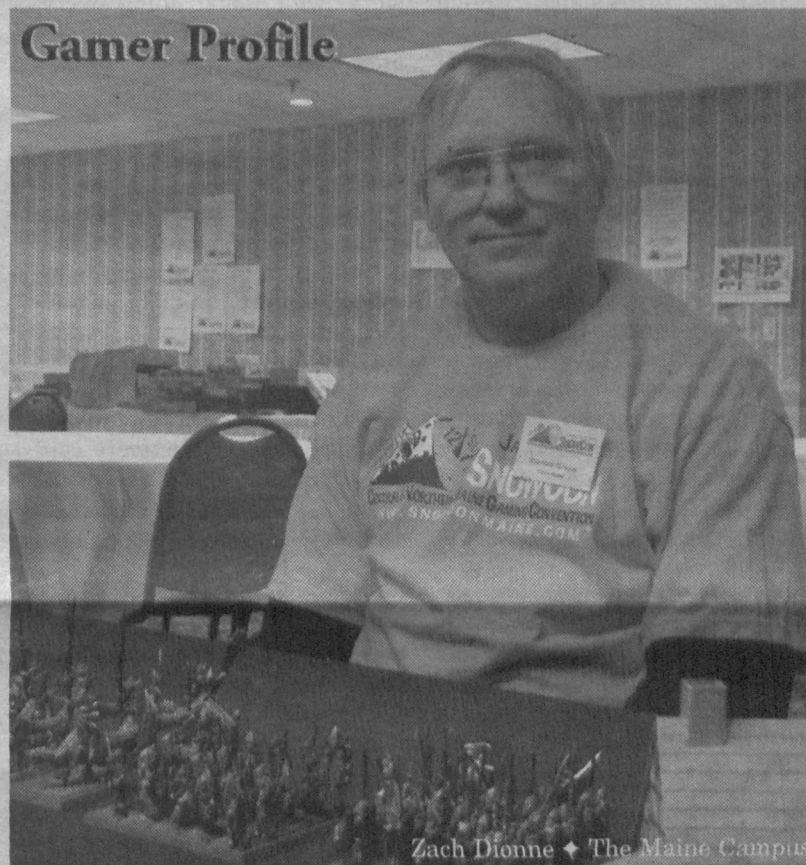
"A lot of the same kids come to hang out and play, but we get a new customer at least every other day," Jarvis said.

If Kelog is right, these kids were meant to be gamers from birth.

"You're either a gamer, or you're not," he said.



Gamer Profile



Zach Dionne ♦ The Maine Campus

Raymond Sprague

Student, 49, Bangor, Maine

Gaming for "about 30 years."

Favorite game: "Warhammer Fantasy Battle."

Best aspect of gaming: "You get together with friends and you get to kibitz and BS."

Worst aspect of gaming: "I hate rules lawyers."

Proudest gamer moment: Winning a multi-figure painting contest at DefCon in New Jersey in the 1990s with his Dwarven Throne of Power model.

Gaming is "really social to me."

ontheweb

StyleCast:

New edition available on mainecampus.com with every print issue.

This week: Style editor Zach Dionne gives a rundown of today's issue and a preview of Style's spring semester.

Blogs:

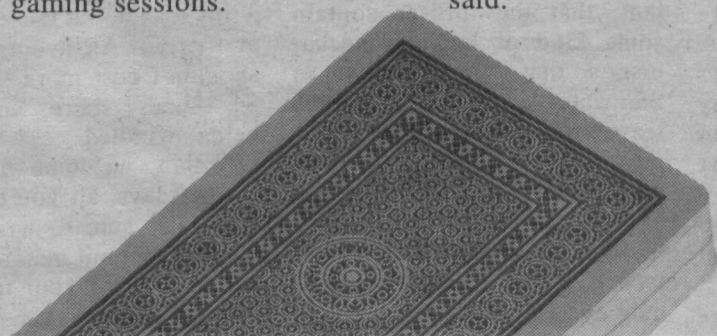
Daley Dose of Fashion and other blogs now available at blogs.maine-campus.com.

Video:

Videos of SnowCon: Gamers playing "Star Wars Roleplaying Game" and "Warhammer Fantasy Battle."

Interactive:

View more gamer profiles and other flash features.



FILM: Slumdog Millionaire



Fox Searchlight Pictures

By Spencer Morton
Staff Reporter

"Jai Ho!"

The cast and crew of "Slumdog Millionaire" yelled this Hindi phrase every time their film took home an award at the Golden Globes on Jan. 11. "Jai Ho" is also the title to one of the movie's main songs. The phrase means "may you be victorious" — fitting considering "Slumdog" is nothing short of triumphant.

The plot follows Jamal Malik on his journey through the Indian version of "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" Jamal grew up in the slums, and detractors think he won't succeed on the show. When he reaches the final question, the show stops for the night and Jamal is arrested for allegedly cheating.

"Slumdog" takes the audience on a remarkable journey, recounting Jamal's hectic life and why he knows the answer to each particular question. His history is full of laughs, tears,

betrayal, horror and death. His brother, Salim, and his love-interest, Latika, are motivating factors in everything he does. The film flourishes into a love story, with Jamal doing everything he can to get Latika back after losing her.

The performances in "Slumdog" are superb. All the main characters are newcomers to film, with Dev Patel playing Jamal and the beautiful Frieda Pinto playing Latika. Child actors, from the slums themselves, portray the main characters at earlier ages. Danny Boyle's direction is what makes it all possible.

The film was shot entirely in Mumbai. Boyle effectively captures the dreary backdrop of the slums but still manages to create a stunning story of hope, love and commitment.

The film deserves all of the accolades it's receiving this awards season. "Slumdog Millionaire" is the best movie of 2008.

Grade: A

Demetri Martin coming to UM

By Zach Dionne
Style Editor

The University community's funny bone is about to take a double punch with deadpan funnyman Demetri Martin performing at the Collins Center for the Arts on Feb. 21 and Maine-bred jokester Bob Marley returning on April 11.

Martin is an Emmy award-nominated comedian known for his work on "The Daily Show," "Flight of the Conchords" and his 2007 comedy special, "Demetri Martin. Person." His performance will be the first of its kind in the CCA.

Martin will join a long tradition of world-class comedians who have graced the stage of Hutchins Concert Hall, including Jerry Seinfeld, Bill Cosby and multiple performances by the late George Carlin.

"I think Demetri pans out; I think he's up there," Vice President of Student Entertainment Abtin Mehdizadegan said. "He made sense." Student Entertainment conducted a survey of 300 to 400 stu-

dents and detected a strong interest in comedic performers. Mehdizadegan feels Martin is "leading the market for comedy."

"I've watched his stuff on Comedy Central when he started coming out ... he's a genius," said Nick Dyer, a senior student. Dyer enjoys Martin's dry, thought-provoking sense of humor and multitasking act — Martin plays piano and guitar and employs ambidextrous drawing on stage.

Dyer purchased three tickets on Jan. 20; two friends from Saco will join him for the show. John Asdourian, a friend of Dyer's and a senior student, purchased two tickets. Martin will be the first stand-up comedy show at UMaine for Asdourian.

"I'd never even heard of Demetri Martin, so we'll see," Asdourian said. He took Dyer's recommendation on Martin's comedic caliber.

First-year student Dan Frappier also had not heard of Martin, but said word of mouth is good enough for him to consider comedians. "I'd go to anything, really. I missed Bob

Marley last semester."

Katrina Vaughan, a sophomore student, expressed dissatisfaction with the fall entertainment agenda at UMaine. "A lot of them were kind of awful recently. I hate O.A.R."

Zoe Lindsay, who purchased tickets with Vaughan on Jan. 20, said "nothing memorable" has come to the university lately.

The tide has turned in their favor — both Vaughan and Lindsay purchased Martin tickets, and Vaughan called him "hilarious." Neither Vaughan nor Lindsay have seen a nationally established comedian live.

Roughly 20 percent of Demetri Martin tickets have sold since the \$20 student sales began on Jan. 16. Public tickets will cost \$30 and will be available beginning Jan. 23.

Bob Marley sold out back-to-back shows in Hauck Auditorium within 24 hours last year. His April performance will put him on the stage of the CCA and be limited to UMaine students, faculty and staff for a ticket price of \$5. The for-sale date is not set.

UMMA: Free art for all

By Spencer Morton
Staff Reporter

Art hounds and casual gallery grazers alike will enjoy unique art forms, lectures from renowned national talents and a diverse sense of artistic expression as the University of Maine Museum of Art opens its doors for the spring semester.

The museum remains relatively unknown to some students due to its location in downtown Bangor on Harlow Street. Within its walls, a soothing atmosphere hosts exhibits for free. A sizable donation from Machias Savings Bank facilitated free admission. University of Maine student status was a former requirement for free entry.

"The UMMA exposes the university community to new art forms," said George Kinghorn, the museum's director. "Culture is such an important part of community, and we need to immerse ourselves in new things."

See UMMA on page 4

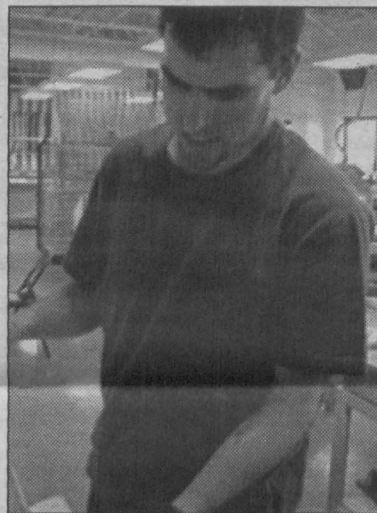


Photo courtesy JohnBailly.com
John Bailly will show work at UMMA

The Tea-Totaler

By Jeff Hake

Sipping and steeping with tea infusers

A happy new year to all of you tea enthusiasts! The Tea-Totaler had a wonderful break, and I hope you all did as well. In tea-related news, I received some wonderful gifts from "Santa" in which I've been happily indulging.

One was a gift package from Tealuxe, which included a steel mesh tea infuser and a 50-gram tin of Brattle Street Blend. This particular blend is named for the street where the original Tealuxe is located in Harvard Square. It is a medium-dark blend, evenly-flavored. It disappeared in about a week, even while I tried to use it sparingly.

The tea's pleasing demise was facilitated by another gift: a teal "Beehouse"-style teapot that holds about three to four cups worth of your choice and has a built-in large steel mesh strainer. Due to budgetary and aesthetic reasons, I only own teapots by way of gifting, but if I could, this is the one I would buy. It's perfect for an evening of homework or sharing with friends. A good teapot is something any tea enthusiast should possess and cherish.

Rounding off my tea bliss was another item that was always

beyond my budgetary means: "The Empire of Tea," a book about the history of tea by Alan and Iris MacFarlane. Written by the wife and the son of an Assam, India tea plantation owner, it's a wonderful book I've seen often but have been simply unable to afford. I'm very excited to delve further into it.

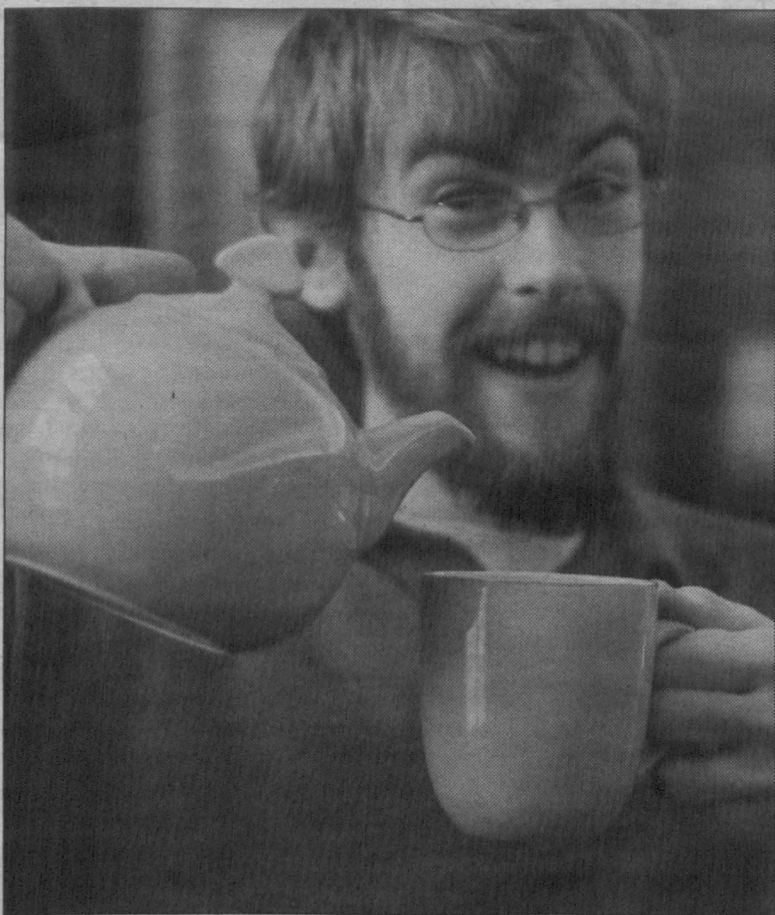
I've been advised that I should discuss tea infusers in my column, and in fact, it is a subject I've been remiss in discussing. I myself own eight infusers, and I appreciate them for different reasons. However, I believe there is one rule most important when buying an infuser: make sure it can hold enough tea leaves to make a proper cup with ample space for expansion. Different teas require more or less leaves than others, but all loose teas require enough room to expand when hot water is poured upon them without becoming cramped.

For instance, my friend received an infuser from his parents a few years ago. It was a novel invention, composed of a spring-loaded plunger button on one end of a stainless steel cylinder that, when pushed, revealed a pocket in which to

place loose tea. The spring mechanism retracted back into a part of the cylinder that was perforated. What is the problem here? As he discovered, the pocket had to be filled completely with the amount of leaves proper for a cup, but when they were inundated with water, they could not expand. Thus, the leaves in the center were never steeped, and the ensuing brew was weak, a problem which could not be remedied. One of my favorite infusers, which I found at the Natural Living Center in Bangor, has a similar problem. It is nice in that you can squeeze the handle, opening like a mouth so you can scoop up what leaves you need, but it is still a bit small for proper steeping.

I find the best infusers are the common ball-shaped ones. If you fill them slightly less than halfway with leaves, they fill the rest of the ball fully but not excessively, and the water can steep through completely.

These infusers are easy to find, existing either on the end of a chain or attached to a spring mechanism. It is impor-



tant, that the infuser contain some kind of locking mechanism so that it does not open in the water and release the tea leaves, thus defeating the purpose of having it in the first place.

Other useful infusing devices include strainers that hang loosely from the rim of a cup or mug and essentially treat it like

a tiny teapot, but these are harder to find. An average infuser shouldn't cost more than \$2 to \$4 — any more, and you're being swindled.

Again, welcome back from the holidays, all you tea enthusiasts. Be sure to write to jeffrey.hake@umit.maine.edu with any and all of your tea-related questions. Cheers!

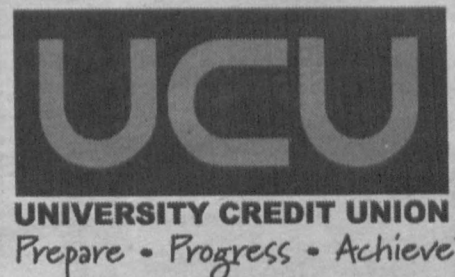
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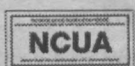
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UMMA

from page 10

Three new exhibitions will be showcased this semester.

"A Bit of Colored Ribbon" is a collection of work from John Bailly, employing subdued imagery and historical documents in paintings to express the chaotic nature of today's world.

"Metaphysics of Landscape," paintings by Timothy McDowell, will offer a

contemporary look at classic landscape painting. Using transparent layering of colors and bits of tapestries, McDowell offers a modern, stylish look at the world.

Both Bailly's and McDowell's exhibitions will run until April 1.

The third exhibition gives the UMaine community a foreign art form with "Gyotaku Prints" by Boshu Nagase. Gyotaku is a Japanese art form that emphasizes the beauty and colors of fish. Nagase creates his work by laying a thin

strip of fabric over a fish. He then applies layers of ink upon the fabric resulting in a textured, vibrant rendering of the fish. This exhibition runs through March 20.

"These new exhibitions are truly unique. If you come and devote time to discovering this art, it will be truly rewarding," Kinghorn said.

The museum also has an ongoing Leonard Lecture Series, allowing visiting artists and scholars to educate an audience. It's a way to interact, learn and

be awarded with the rare opportunity to further enhance the artistic experience for attendants.

"The free admission was a plus, and the temporary exhibits were great," said UMaine student Vincent Martin in an e-mail. "I went during the day, and not many people were there, so it made for a nice, quiet environment."

More information about the current exhibits, upcoming lectures and on-campus workshops can be found at the museum's Web site, umma.umaine.edu.



This Week In Maine Athletics



Swimming & Diving vs. Bowdoin

Saturday, January 24th at 12pm

Women's Basketball vs. Boston University

Saturday, January 24th at 7pm

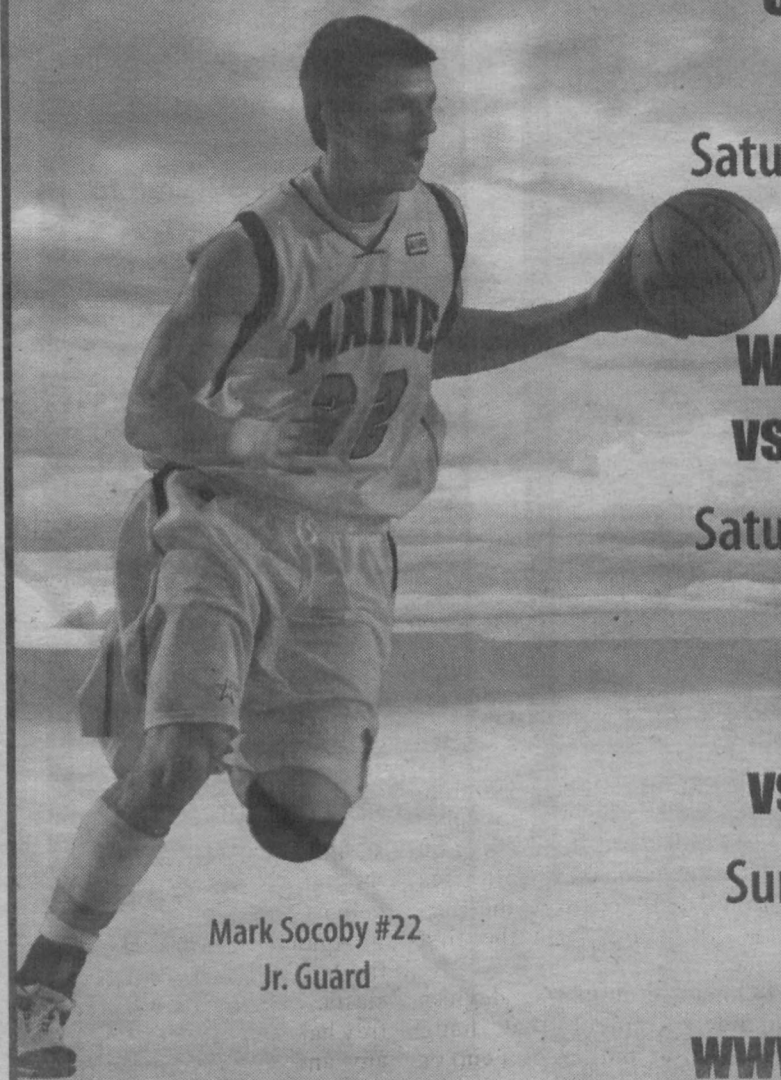
Men's Basketball vs. Boston University

Sunday, January 25th at 1pm

Mark Socoby #22
Jr. Guard

Kristin Baker #4
Jr. Guard

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calendar

All events free unless stated otherwise

MUSIC

Friday, Jan. 23**Raw Chicken**

9:30 p.m. – 12:30 a.m.
Whig & Courier Pub
& Restaurant
Bangor

Back 2 Skool Jump Off '09

Feat. Yune Berg,
Jeremy Green,
O.A.C.E.
103 Ultra Lounge
Doors 9 p.m., ages
18+
\$20 advance, \$25 at
door

Saturday, Jan. 24**Funk Thrust**

10:15 p.m.
Woodman's Bar &
Grill
No cover, ages 21+

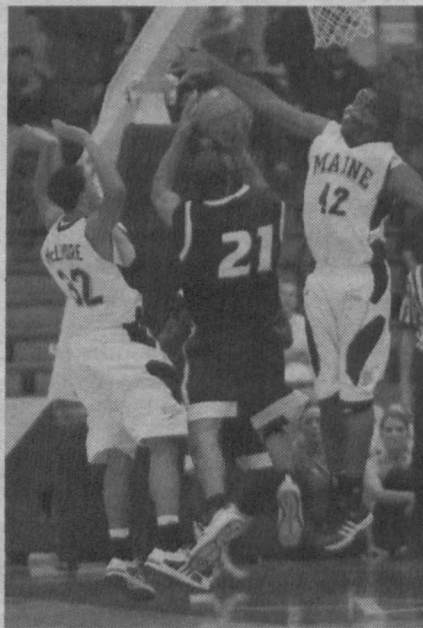
Cadenzato

7:30 p.m.
Minsky Recital Hall,
Class of 1944 Hall
Free with MaineCard,
\$6 public

STAR SHOWS

**Star Shows at
Jordan Planetarium**

Explore the wonder of
the universe
Jan. 3 - 31,
7 p.m.
Planetarium at
Wingate Hall
Students free, public
\$3 fee



Amy Brooks ♦ The Maine Campus

ART

"Thought Box"

2008 Senior
Exhibition feat. work
by 10 student artists
Through Friday, Jan.
23
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Lord Hall

**"A Bit of Colored
Ribbon"**

Works by John Bailly
Through April 1
9:10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
University of Maine
Museum of Art
Bangor

"Gyotaku Prints"

works by Boshu
Nagase
Through March 20
9:10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
University of Maine
Museum of Art
Bangor

**"Metaphysics of
Landscape"**

Paintings by Timothy
McDowell
Through April 1
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
University of Maine
Museum of Art
Bangor

SPORTS

Friday, Jan. 23**Women's Track**

Terrier Classic at Boston
University
Boston, Mass.
3 p.m.

Women's Swimming

at New Hampshire
Durham, N.H.
5 p.m.

Women's Ice Hockey

at New Hampshire
Durham, N.H.
7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 24**Men's Track**

Terrier Classic at Boston
University
Boston, Mass.
11 a.m.

**Women's and Men's
Swimming vs. Bowdoin**

Wallace Pool
12 p.m.

Women's Ice Hockey

at New Hampshire
Durham, N.H.
2 p.m.

Women's Basketball

vs. Boston University
Alfond Arena
7 p.m.

Men's Ice Hockey

at Boston College
Chestnut Hill, Mass.
8 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 25**Men's Basketball**

vs. Boston University
Alfond Arena
1 p.m.

Men's Ice Hockey

at Boston College
Chestnut Hill, Mass.
4 p.m.

LECTURES

Thursday, Jan. 22**New Writing Series**

poetry reading by
Richard Blanco
4:30 p.m.
Soderberg Auditorium,
Jeness Hall

**Site-Specific
Installation
multimedia lecture**

by Liz Nofziger
part of the Intermedia
Visiting Artist Program
7 p.m.
Room 100, Lord Hall

Friday, Jan. 23**Aspect: The Chronicle
of New Media Art**

a multimedia lecture by
artist Liz Nofziger
part of the Intermedia
Visiting Artist Program
10 a.m.
Room 100, Lord Hall

**Strategic Research in
the Gulf of Maine**

Through Cooperation
and Competition
by Don Perkins, Gulf of
Maine Research
Institute
11:10 a.m.
Room 354, Aubert Hall

**Should You Survive to
105?**

A Population-Based
Perspective on Extreme
Longevity in the
Georgia Centenarian
Study
by Adam Davey
1:30 p.m.
Room 115, Donald P.
Corbett Business
Building

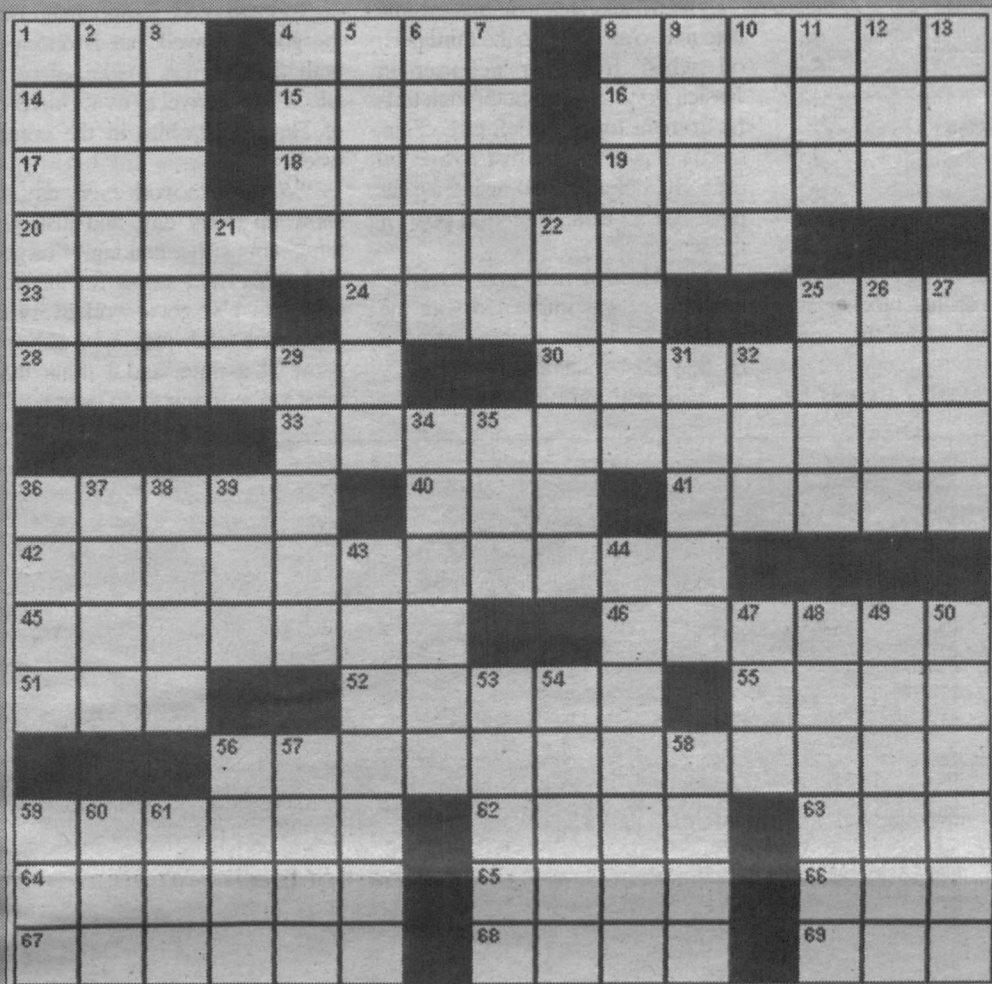
Sunday, Jan. 25**Introduction to CHEN**

(Campus Health and
Environmental Network)
Sunday, Jan. 25, 2 p.m.
Page Farm and Home
Museum

The Maine Campus DISTRACTIONS

The Maine

CROSSWORD



ANSWER KEY FOUND IN SPORTS

ACROSS

- 1- Dernier _____
- 4- Hats
- 8- Out, in bed
- 14- Spearheaded
- 15- Take _____ from me
- 16- Teaching of the Buddha
- 17- Copy
- 18- Old-fashioned pronoun
- 19- Its symbol is μ
- 20- Capable of being measured
- 23- Unattractive
- 24- Less common or less cooked

- 25- Jamaican popular music
- 28- Follows
- 30- Joke teller
- 33- Condition
- 36- Neighborhoods
- 40- Gal of song
- 41- Suckle
- 42- Celebrate
- 45- So-called
- 46- Filled with fear
- 51- Sorority letter
- 52- Icons

DOWN

- 1- Group of sycophants
- 2- Refute
- 3- Standards of perfection
- 4- Suffragist Carrie
- 5- Eager
- 6- Michelangelo work
- 7- Chucked weapon
- 8- Commander in chief of a fleet
- 9- Switchblade
- 10- Ornamental fabric
- 11- Stumble
- 12- Comic Philips
- 13- Metal container used for frying
- 21- Big Apple school
- 22- Flat roofing tile
- 25- Agitate
- 26- Greek island in the Aegean
- 27- "Rule Britannia" composer
- 29- Ruhr city
- 31- Swindler, slangily
- 32- Actor Erwin
- 34- Wagner heroine
- 35- Hole goal
- 36- Skin eruption
- 37- Underground part of a plant
- 38- Austen novel
- 39- Where _____?
- 43- One-piece bathing suit for women
- 44- Sampling
- 47- Grog ingredient
- 48- Old call to arms
- 49- Chant
- 50- Labyrinthine
- 53- Pointed arch
- 54- Covered on the inside
- 56- Actress Skye
- 57- A great deal
- 58- _____bitty
- 59- Mineral spring
- 60- PC monitor
- 61- Like Phoenix in summer

Crossword puzzles provided by
BestCrosswords.com
Used with permission.

Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 to April 20

You will have the opportunity to solve a financial issue that you have been postponing for several days. Today is a favorable time for you to strengthen friendships and meet with important people.

Taurus

April 21 to May 20

This morning you will have to run several errands of a personal interest. Be very careful about your money and papers, for you may lose or misplace them.

Gemini

May 21 to June 21

You could be in a bad mood caused by the failure of a business project. You might feel like nothing is going well and everybody is against you. Think positive. Everything will soon change for the better.

Cancer

June 22 to July 22

Nervousness caused by financial difficulties could get you into trouble at work. You are advised to keep calm at home, for a quarrel with your loved one would only make things worse.

Leo

July 23 to Aug. 22

In the morning, a relative from out of town could bring you a piece of bad news. You might have to make unexpected expenses stretching your budget.

Virgo

Aug. 23 to Sept. 22

You might get angry with a friend who is unable to return a loan. Don't take it so hard. Chances are the delay is caused by objective reasons. You are advised to be more understanding.

Libra

Sept. 23 to Oct. 23

Controversies might bring tensions to your sentimental relationship. Choose your words very carefully. You might hurt the feelings of people you care about.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 to Nov. 22

You'd better solve the most important issues before noon, when you will have more energy. In the afternoon you might be disappointed by a friend you used to trust.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 to Dec. 21

You might experience a sentimental disappointment that would affect your social life. Don't avoid communication, and try to express yourself clearly in order to avoid misunderstandings.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 to Jan. 20

You will have the tendency to criticize everybody around. Watch your words, or you may hurt the feelings of an elder relative.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 to Feb. 19

Everything will seem perfect, and you will have the feeling that nothing could upset you. You will feel eager to express yourself and take action.

Pisces

Feb. 20 to March 19

You will feel determined to make radical changes in your sentimental life. Arm yourself with patience.

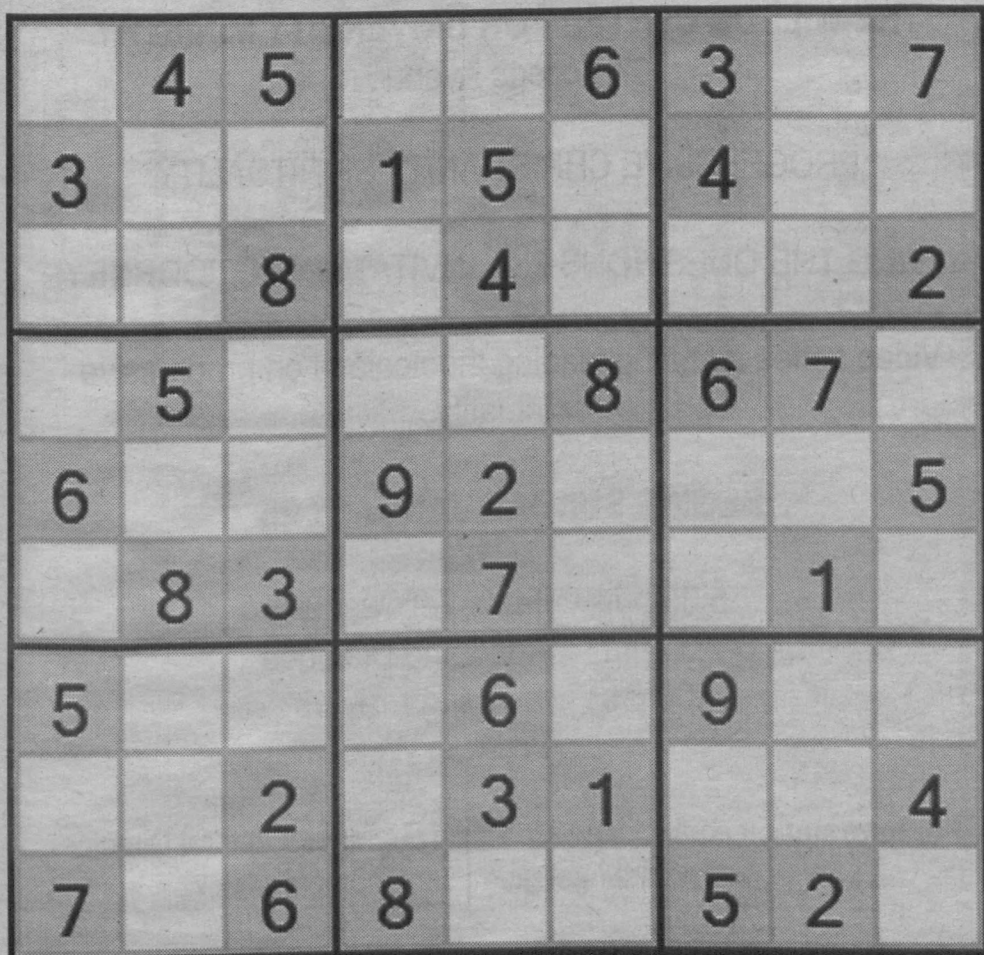
SUDOKU PUZZLE

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.

Difficulty level: EASY



Track teams place second in Green-Gold contests

By Derek McKinley
Staff Reporter

The University of Maine men's and women's track teams, coming off a winter hiatus, traveled to Sherbrooke University, Quebec for the Green and Gold Invitational this weekend.

The last Black Bears competition came more than a month ago at the University of New Hampshire. The break was of concern to some runners, while others used the time to recover and prepare for the late season meets.

"The break seemed like a little too long for us not to be racing. I don't think it slowed me down too much. It just set me up to run faster later on in the season," said 3,000-meter winner Riley Masters.

"I had trouble over break with my calf hurting, but I think now that we're back from break and the team is training together again it's really helped everyone," said freshman distance runner Hilary Maxim.

The Black Bears were anchored by solid performances from regular contributors, but the men's team was aided by the addition of two of UMaine's football players, standout wide receiver Landis Williams and tailback Jhamal Fluellen to the sprint contingent. Williams nabbed

fourth place in the 60-meter dash with a time of 7.02 seconds, while Fluellen crossed the line in 7.29 seconds, good for 13th place.

"It's great to have [Landis] out there right alongside me," Fluellen said. "We have been workout partners ever since we walked on campus."

Most of the Black Bear sprinters credit coach Dave Cusano for the improvement in their performance, and Williams was quick to do the same.



Williams



Fluellen

"Dave is a great guy. He really knows what he is talking about and talks about running with a lot of knowledge and passion," Williams said. "He breaks things down so they make sense to us. [He's a] true track nerd."

The men's team garnered first place finishes from freshman Riley Masters (3K, 8:31.68), junior Jeff Ramos (high jump, 2.00 meters) and freshman Trevor England (triple jump, 13.58 meters) that led to a second place finish behind Sherbrooke.

For the women, junior Tanya Simard pulled in two second place finishes in the long and triple jumps, leaping 5.25 and 10.80 meters respectively. Strong finishes in the sprints from junior Allyson Howatt and freshman Shaniqua Burgess, who finished second and third in the 60-meter dash bolstered the women.

Senior Vicki Tolton teamed up again with Lindsay Burlock. Although Burlock has no remaining indoor eligibility, she did compete for Maine Track Club, not to be confused with Invictus, the university's club team. Tolton won the 300-meter dash in 39.98 seconds, while Burlock followed in third place.

"I feel like the jersey is the only thing that isn't the same as my past indoor seasons. I still warm up with the team and train with them every day," Burlock said. "I'm definitely looking forward to my final season outdoor with the team, and this meet helped prove that our training this year is working and I will be faster."

Performances by freshmen Corey Conner, Katherine McGoeghan and Hilary Maxim gave the women a second place overall finish behind Sherbrooke.

The Black Bears will compete next at the Terrier Classic at Boston University on Saturday, Jan. 24.

Year of the underdog

By Alex Leonard
For The Maine Campus

At this time last year we had perhaps the greatest offense in NFL history on the verge of an undefeated season. Their opponent? A Cinderella team which won three consecutive road games to earn a chance to call themselves world champions. We all know how that unfolded, and for some, including myself, that wound will never heal.

Fast forward to now. We are 22 days into a new year, and history could repeat itself. While it is debatable that the Arizona Cardinals had an easy road to Tampa, there is little doubt any one saw this coming. After a less-than-stellar 8-8 record in 2007, the Cardinals wrapped up the division early and seemed disinterested in the final three games. Since then, they've won two close games at home and drubbed the heavily-favored Panthers on the road where they seemingly couldn't win all year. The Cardinals have done all this just to earn a chance to knock off another giant in the Pittsburgh Steelers. Only time will tell if they are up for the challenge, but judging by the past year it would be hard to root against them.

While Arizona is busy preparing for its first Super Bowl, the Tampa Bay Rays will end their shortened vacation to begin their own preparation. For the first time, they will be defending American League Champions. Another unlikely story from 2008 few could have predicted, or believed possible until it actually happened. As long as the Rays have existed they have been the creature in the basement. Only once in their 11-year history had they finished closer than last in the American League East. Then they won the division. After a quick four game ousting of the White Sox, the Rays readied themselves for a date with the defending-champion Red Sox. After going up 3-1 in the series, Boston rallied to force a game seven. Seemingly everyone thought the Rays would choke and the Sox would go to the World Series for the third time in five years, but not so fast. The Rays' pitching held Boston in check and although they lost to the Phillies in five games in the October Classic, they showed the country they were cellar dwellers no more.

Although these stories are just a few examples of perennial losers finally turning the corner, there are still the Florida Gators of the sports world who remind us that dominance can prevail. The Steelers, who have won five Super Bowls, could cement their legacy by winning on Feb. 1 and put the Cardinals alongside the Rays and Happy Gilmore in the "better luck next year" category. If that does happen, we underdog fans can take solace in the fact that the month of upsets is only four weeks away.

The Right Place To Meet

100 Employers Attending

**CAREER
FAIR**
2009

The Right People

Wednesday, January 28, 2009
10am - 3pm

Student Recreation & Fitness Center

For details, check the Career Center website at

<http://www.umaine.edu/career>
or call 581-1359.

Come check
it out!!



Careercenter
THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

THE DIVISION OF
Student Affairs

Son, I don't think that's
what the counselor meant
when she said your resume
could use some polish.



Does your
resume
need some
work?

Come to the Career Center for a
15 minute Resume Review!

No Appointment Necessary

Friday, January 23rd

12:30-4:00pm

3rd Floor of Memorial Union

Take advantage of this opportunity and learn the tips
and tricks you'll need to stand out from the crowd!

Careercenter
THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

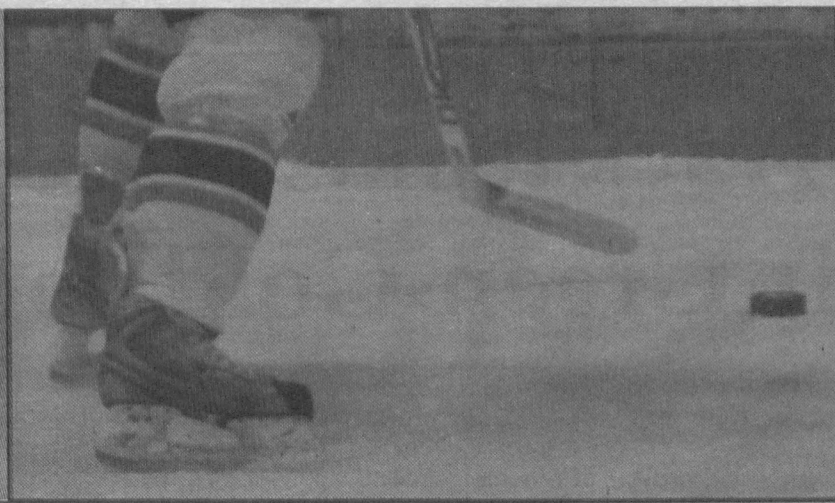
THE DIVISION OF
Student Affairs

Terriers fetch two wins at UMaine.

14

THE MAINE CAMPUS sports

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2009



UMaine wins wild one over Wildcats

Five Black Bears record double figures in double overtime thriller over UNH

By Michael Pare
For The Maine Campus

University of Maine men's basketball coach Ted Woodward always preaches that the most he can expect from his players is to go out and play hard for 40 minutes. On Monday, a raucous crowd at the Alford Arena witnessed the Black Bears exceed those expectations, as they emerged victorious, 78-75, in a 50-minute double overtime win over the University of New Hampshire.

After beating Albany in their previous game, the win marked the second game in a row in which UMaine has knocked off the America East Conference leader.

But this win didn't come easy.

UNH (7-9, 2-2 America East) came out of the gates with a lot of defensive energy. They played allowing only 51.8 points per game during their last five games, and it took a while for the Black Bear offense to get their bearings. While they adjusted, the Wildcats wasted no time raining a barrage of threes over the zone to take an 18-10 lead, but the Black Bears fought back.

With outside shots not falling, guards Junior Bernal



Troy Barnes sacrifices his body going after a loose ball in the double-overtime win against rival UNH.

and Kaimondre Owes began to penetrate to the basket and set up teammates for easy looks. Bernal, a 6-foot-5 junior, finished the game with six of the team's 19 assists on the night.

Sophomore forwards Sean

McNally and Malachi Peay were the prime benefactors of the unselfish guard play. Both players were among the five Black Bears that scored in double figures, and McNally recorded his second straight

double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

"Our depth has a chance to make us strong," Woodward said. "We have six or seven guys that can get double figures every night."

As the game progressed, neither team could pull away. Woodward's club continued to attack the basket relentlessly, but the opposing Wildcats' guards remained hot from beyond the arc finishing the game 12 for 36 from three-point range.

With five minutes remaining in regulation and the game tied at 54, things took a desperate turn. UNH scored on three straight possessions, and the UMaine offense was unable to respond. They converted on only one of three free-throw attempts before turning the ball over, down by six with only 54 seconds remaining on the clock.

Enter Mark Socoby.

The star junior guard, an All-America East Third Team selection last season, had struggled on both ends of the floor all night, but came up big when it counted, stripping the ball from a UNH player and gliding to the rim for an easy lay-in. With the Black Bears down by four, Woodward instituted a full-court press that yielded a quick steal and easy basket for Bernal.

With its lead shrunk to two, a clearly rattled UNH offense turned to its best scorer, senior Terrence Gibbs, to

See **HOOPS** on page 14

Struggling Bears hope to find winning ways

Men's hockey heads to BC for weekend series, looks to snap six-game winless streak

By Steven McCarthy
Staff Reporter

For the University of Maine men's hockey team now is the time to make a move.

After battling to a 2-2 tie with an improved Providence team itching to advance out of the dreaded ninth spot in the Hockey East standings - 8 teams qualify for the playoffs - the Black Bears

are looking to sever a three-way tie for the sixth spot with the University of Massachusetts and the University of Massachusetts at Lowell.

Boston College (9-8-3, 5-7-3 Hockey East) is in sole possession of the fifth spot, one point ahead of UMaine.

The Black Bears (10-9-3, 5-6-2 Hockey East) are poised to steal the season series from the Eagles this weekend when they travel to Chestnut Hill, Mass. for a rematch with the defending national champions.

"It's a great opportunity for us to

make some progress up the standings and continue to build off Sunday's game," acknowledged UMaine coach Tim Whitehead.

Following an embarrassing home loss to Bentley University in the first meeting between the teams last Friday, the Black Bears rebounded by posting two second period power-play goals in Sunday's matinee and recorded a season high 42 shots on goal.

"We've been very consistent with our power play," Whitehead said. "We're really producing quite well in that area, but five-on-five we're not generating much offense, so that's a key focal point for us right now."

In the first meeting of the season with Boston College on Nov. 9, UMaine upset the then second-ranked team in the nation 2-1 at Alford Arena with the late-game heroics of freshman left wing Brian Flynn, and a brilliant performance by rookie netminder Scott Darling.

See **HOCKEY** on page 14



Amy Brooks ♦ The Maine Campus

Matt Duffy keeps his eye on the puck against in Sunday afternoon's 2-2 tie against the Friars.