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The Maine Campus

Thursday, January 29, 2009 Vol. 127, No. 25

Faculty Senate criticizes UMS centralization

By Dylan Riley
Assistant News Editor

Faculty Senate

The University of Maine Faculty Senate approved a response to University of Maine System Chancellor Richard Pattenau's restructuring plan — one that is critical of its implementation — during the Jan. 28 senate meeting.

"I believe [the plan] has very significant academic applications for all the campus and little, if any, demonstrated financial savings," said Dianne Hoff, president of Faculty Senate. Hoff said other campuses, faculty members, administrators and students have all contacted her expressing their concerns about the plan.

The response to the chancellor's restructuring plan outlines three problems the faculty has with the plan and four requirements the University of Maine System must adopt before UMaine's faculty will support it. The faculty response states that the UMS charter "calls for 'oversight' of centralized functions," but not that the system office should run these functions on campuses. In the opinion of the faculty, centralization does not save money.

The response's third critique states, "[centralization] adds a level of bureaucracy that slows efficiency and adds costs," and helps to turn away new students. The UMaine faculty is concerned that many aspects of the plan are "proceeding before substantive input can be sought."

"There are a number of issues, as you can imagine," Hoff said.

The four steps demanded by the response say the faculty will only support the chancellor's plan after the individual missions and functions of each campus are reaffirmed and duplication across the system is avoided. The response demands the system office's centralization efforts do not move services to the office, but to a campus suited for the task; that the system office eliminate the "one vote" per campus method of decision making and "dramatically downsize" the system office.

The response states "proposed steps, such as those to centralize services at the system office are unacceptable, fiscally unjustifiable and will be opposed."

Hoff said she heard concerns that people were already

See **FACULTY** on page 4

Fair-weather friends



Amy Brooks ♦ The Maine Campus

The impending snow storm deterred numerous employers from showing up to the career fair. Students still came out to seek employment.

UM professors team up to help build a vibrant Maine economy

By Jeff Hake
For The Maine Campus

Economy

Citing Mainers' poor perception of their state's economy, and the need to discuss and develop a state economic policy, a new public-private partnership is taking a novel approach to address recession woes and, more importantly, to inspire confidence in Maine's economy.

Monday marked the premier video presentation of the "Building a

Vibrant Maine Economy" series which, along with a transcript of the video, was made available starting at 8 a.m. on the series' Web site, umaine.edu/vme.

Todd Gabe, a School of Economics associate professor who also helped organize the series, was interviewed by Jim McConnon, professor of economics, to discuss his views on how to build a vibrant Maine economy. Each presentation begins with a recommendation based on the interviewee's research that they believe could help this goal.

Gabe, who specializes in regional

economic development, said, "I think this state really needs to focus on enhancing and bolstering its knowledge economy." He went on to explain, with the aid of his research and references to the work of other economists, how Maine has to grow its "creative core" by "build[ing] the knowledge and skills that are needed to use the types of technology that can move the state forward."

This sentiment reflects the larger objectives of the entire series. The idea was originally brought to John

See **ECONOMY** on page 4

Will financial aid flourish or flounder next year?

By Macey Hall
For The Maine Campus

Budget

The financial pinch is not exclusive to Wall Street, as students at colleges and universities across the country are discovering. College students may find they are offered less in their financial aid packages as a result of the economy.

Much of the financial aid students receive is generated from endowments, and as the

economic crisis affects these endowments, colleges have no option but to offer students less money. While student loans at the University of Maine are secure for the current semester, availability of loans in coming semesters may be questionable.

"For the spring semester, financial aid and loans are as available as they were for fall for students who already have it. However, what we are finding is we're running out of options, because students may have borrowed as much as they can, and in many cases parents are unable to borrow also," said Peggy Crawford, director of the office of student financial aid.

Students receive financial aid by filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid by March 1, produced by Federal Student Aid, an office of the U.S. Department of Education. Filling out the form guarantees that all eligible students benefit from federally-funded or assisted financial aid for post-secondary education. Once UMaine students submit their forms, they can view the status of them on PeopleSoft, a new function of the Office of Financial Aid.

Many students are offered work study as part of their financial aid package. This is also being affected.

"Specifically with work study, we have more students using more work study dollars faster, so we can't add more, because we don't have the work study funds to increase that. In past years we could have, but minimum wage went up. More offices and departments are relying on using work study as office budgets get whacked," Crawford said.

Michael Montgomery, associate professor of the school of economics, acknowledged the financial pressure felt by college students. "Student funding depends on state monies

See **AID** on page 5

Student organizations team up to get greener

Groups try to help campus and the community by joining forces for health and the environment

By Aislinn Sarnacki
Staff Reporter

Environment

The number of University of Maine student organizations concerned with health and environment continues to climb. By networking, they can tackle projects together — on campus and in the community — and make a more positive impact.

To learn about the benefits of networking, a small group of students and community members met Jan. 25 at the UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum for an introduction to CHEN: Campus Health and Environmental Network.

CHEN is a network of several UMaine student groups with the mission to address health and environmental issues by collaborating on progressive projects. The forum was an opportunity to learn about past efforts, share ideas and hear about their upcoming projects.

"The mission of CHEN is to bring together any student organization and group that are health or environment related to co-lead or collaborate on projects concerning health and the environment," said CHEN member Stephanie Sosinski, a fourth-year sustainable agriculture student.

The Edith Marion Patch Center for Entomology, Environment and Education sponsored the free forum.

"[CHEN is] a really good group and a good thing to be involved in, and it's tied with Edith Patch because she was an environmentalist," said Tiffany Wilson, head of the Edith Patch Center.

The Health Professions Club, Women in Science, Green Team, Green Campus Initiative and Biology Club all attended the forum. The Progressive Student Alliance and Society for Conservative Biology participate in CHEN.

Before a PowerPoint presentation by CHEN and the organizations, speakers and guests exchanged names and visited the snack table.

"That's what I miss so much about

students. I miss having contact with all of the young people who have such wonderful ideas," said retired UMaine entomology professor Cassie Gibbs, member of the Edith Patch Center.

The audience sat in a semicircle of foldout chairs on the second floor of the museum. Antique wagons perched above on rafters and exhibition cases of antique farm equipment lined the walls.

Sosinski talked about last year's big project, Take Back the Tap, a national campaign to support local water systems and tried to reduce bottled water use on campus.

"It was a really great platform. It had health and environmental and social issues," Sosinski said.

At the forum, the five organizations presented past projects and future goals. Many have reached out to the community by teaching in local schools, raising money for special causes and creating ties between students and the community. Among these efforts, The Health

Professions Club plans to raise money to provide an African orphanage with mosquito nets. Women in Science plans to discuss math and science with local middle school girls during spring break.

The organizations also have plans for campus. The Green Team's Project Awareness is a plan to construct a 6-by-6-foot cube in the Memorial Union that will represent how much energy an average student uses in a month. The Green Campus Initiative aims to move pulpers and composting into every dining hall, and they are currently in charge of Blue Bikes — formerly Green Bikes — the campus bike loan system.

"Recycling numbers have continued to climb, which is great," said Green Campus Initiative Coordinator Mike Maberry, a third-year history student.

CHEN began in fall 2007 under Ryan Guillemete, who quickly passed his presidency to resource and agri-business student Jenniffer Plowden. CHEN meetings usually consist of eight to 10 people: the organization presidents and Plowden. CHEN meets at 5 p.m. every other Monday in the FFA room, Memorial Union.

AEWC coating wins award

UM-made blast-resistant wood treatment plans to help military, takes home "most creative" prize

By Sam Cohen
Staff Reporter

Research

Neither bombs nor mortars can quake the award-winning, blast-resistant structures of the University of Maine's Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center (AEWC).

The recently developed fiber-reinforced polymer material won the Most Creative Application award this year by the American Composites Manufacturers Association. UMaine took home two awards last year, Best of Show and People's Choice Award, for its ballistic panels used in military tents.

"Winning at ACMA is great because it shows that the work we are doing here at the lab is recognized by some of the top companies in the composite industry for its relevance and creativity," said William Syron, one of two graduate research assistants working on the project.

The composite building material is a combination of glass fiber and polypropylene resin that compliment each other and make the material stronger, according to Larry Parent, AEWC's senior research and development program manager.

The material, which is coated onto 2-by-4 pieces of wood and wall panels, allows for the absorption of six to seven times more energy from a blast. The coated pieces of wood are used in symphony with the coated panels and unique brackets designed by AEWC to create a building structure that can vary in size, from a mess hall to sleeping quarters.

The material was originally developed as a thermo set polymer with a form that cannot be melted or reshaped once cured. It now can be made as a thermo set and as a thermoplastic. This allows the waste material created in production to be recycled to create other plastic products. The material is recycled with the help of a company called Polystrand, using a patent-pending method developed at UMaine.

A number of students are glad to see the university assisting the armed forces.

"Works like those make me proud to belong to this university," said Mariano Cannone, a fourth-year political science student and senior Army ROTC cadet. "It is simply fantastic that students and faculty are able to contribute their skills to our nation's defense. As a fellow student, it's so satisfying to see technology being applied by other students to save lives as well as be eco-friendly. I look forward to what the AEWC will bring to next year's conference."

Eric Lichtenberg, a first-year Army ROTC cadet, agreed.

"I am proud to belong to a university that is involved with developing technology that can be used to save the lives of American soldiers," Lichtenberg said. "There are a lot of very bright people at UMaine, and it is comforting to have these minds working hard to advance the technology of the United States military."

In 2005 the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers asked UMaine to undertake a project for creating light frame wood building structures

that are able to withstand blasts from threats such as car bombs or mortars.

"The criteria laid out were that the building limit serious injuries if attacked, cannot collapse (walls could have failing components, but the structure must remain standing) and no pieces of the building could fly across the room," Parent said. "If a structure gets hit, it's not necessarily the bomb itself that kills people. The wood splinters and becomes shrapnel."

According to Parent, the military has been using the same design for this type of structure since the Korean War.

To create such a building, the development team had to meet the Unified Facilities Criteria laid out by the Department of Defense to ensure construction standards and consistency. When the new structure was given its first blast test at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida, it

exceeded the criteria, and was deemed a success.

"This will allow the Army to use this well beyond what they originally conceived," Parent said.

The buildings can also compartmentalize interior explosions, is lighter and quicker to setup than concrete, can withstand hurricane conditions and will last indefinitely once coated.

"We not only develop the technology but also the manufacturing process that goes along with it."

Larry Parent
AEWC senior research and development program manager

In addition to Florida, the development team, including seven to eight students, has traveled to Fort Polk in Louisiana for testing. Various mortars and bombs are tested on treated and untreated structures.

Regular wood can break at any imperfection, such as a knot, while UMaine designed the coated wood to break only at the highest stress point. While untreated wood will snap when strong force is applied, the coated wood will break gradually and in a controlled fashion.

Payloads that level the wooden buildings were unable to destroy the coated structures. The original structure sent to Florida to be bombed was brought back to Maine, and it is now standing next-door to the AEWC building.

"It's forcing the wood to behave more like steel. We're making it more ductile. That's what we need," Parent said.

The next step is developing a manufacturing process that makes it economically viable.

"The manufacture of this is so different, we can't just find someone who knows how to do this. We not only develop the technology but also the manufacturing process that goes along with it," Parent said.

Parent wants this to happen within the calendar year so he can begin the commercial process.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers came exclusively to UMaine because the school has "the whole package," according to Parent.

"They wanted someone who could employ composites, had a wood lab and the expertise to analyze structural behavior. We're really unique at AEWC by bringing these three together. We can design, test and model all in one place," Parent said.

Parent hopes that this new material will assist economic development in Maine and create jobs here. "That's the goal, to have this be made in Maine."

STUDENT LEGAL SERVICES
157 MEMORIAL UNION 581-1789

DRUGS & FINANCIAL AID

Federal law suspends federal student aid eligibility upon the conviction of any offense involving the sale or possession of illegal drugs. If you are convicted of possessing or selling drugs, you will lose your federal aid eligibility and be required to pay back all the federal aid received after your conviction.

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

Correction...

In the Jan. 26 edition of The Maine Campus, a photograph on page 4 was incorrectly attributed to Amy Brooks. The photograph was taken by Rebekah Rhodes, and the cutline should have read "The University of Maine's newest Rec Center received an award from Athletic Business Magazine."

A ten-year journey

The evolution of Colvin Hall

By Aislinn Samacki
Staff Reporter

Above the first-floor fireplace of Colvin Hall at the University of Maine is a tree mosaic of silver, gold and green glass. Along the bottom is the phrase, "studium eruditionis ardescens." The Latin translates to "Igniting a passion for learning." The artwork, installed December 2008, signifies the end of a ten-year renovation, a project to turn a small residence hall into a home, for UMaine's Honors College.

The renovation of Colvin Hall began in 1998 and ended in 2008 — \$3 million dollars later and more than eight years past the original deadline. According to students and faculty, it was worth the wait.

"The move was important. A college needs a physical home. It can't just exist in a virtual sense," said Honors College Dean Charlie Slavin.

The original projected cost was \$1.5 million, an amount the college expected to raise in one year. Everything was underestimated, according to Slavin. Building codes changed, some costs were overlooked and prices of construction materials rose after Hurricane Katrina.

Despite the setbacks, Colvin now has four floors: The first-floor Robert Thompson Center, the second and third-floor residence halls and the fourth-floor Oscar Remick Student Forum and Margaret Chase Smith Visiting Scholar Suite.

"It's a really exciting space. I think the rooms came out great," Slavin said.

In 1930, Colvin opened as a women's dormitory, housing 48 students and a matron. The first floor included the matron's suite,

sunroom, dining room and bedrooms with walnut-finished furniture. The basement was divided into a kitchen, storage room, servants' restroom and a laundry room with tubs. At that time, the building had a "modern touch," and "homelike atmosphere" according to Jenny R. Hutchinson in the October 1930 issue of *The Maine Alumnus*.

From 1935 to 2001, Honors was only offered as a program at UMaine. It became an official college in 2002.

"The move was important. A college needs a physical home. It can't just exist in a virtual sense."

Charlie Slavin
Honors College Dean

In the mid-to-late '90s, typically 12 to 18 students graduated from the program each year. Now around 75 to 85 students graduate each year, according to Slavin.

In 1998, the program was looking for a new home and formed a planning committee to start laying out renovations of Colvin. By spring of 1999, honors students inhabited the second and third floors for the first time.

The original Robert Thomson Honors Center was a wooden modular design with three to four rooms built by students in 1975. In 2000 it was torn down, and the program officially moved into Colvin. From 2001 to 2003, the final touches to the first floor included lighting, ceramic tile floors and new cherry-stained furniture.

"I like the first floor with the piano. We use that a lot," said first-year nursing student

Alexandra Drummond, a Colvin resident.

In the first-floor library, students slept on dark leather couches or chatted in rocking chairs. Through a doorway, the thesis reading room has a full-wall bookcase that holds all of the college's bound theses dating back to 1937.

In 2003, renovation of the basement included an all-purpose recreation room, television lounge, kitchen and an upgraded laundry room.

It wasn't until September 2007 that UMaine President Robert Kennedy announced the Honors College received the last \$2 million of funding through energy conservation measures, bonds and loans.

On the second and third floors, the bathrooms were completely renovated.

"They were old and 1930s-like," Slavin said.

The quads were repainted; wood floors were installed, and the ceilings were lowered for the new wiring and lights. Throughout the construction, 98 percent of the building's windows were replaced.

The fourth floor, formerly the attic, is the Oscar Remick Student Forum — a room for student use, small events and faculty meetings. The white walls reach up to an arched ceiling, punctuated by wooden beams and cross-ties.

White boards, tan leather couches, 50 chairs and a fold up conference table complete the room.

"It's just pretty. It's clean and nice looking," said first-year nursing student Abigail Bergeron, a resident of Colvin.

In the afternoon, four students sat at raised tables, situated in front of six large windows that look out toward the Memorial Union. Two students pored over nursing textbooks while the other two surfed the Internet on laptops.

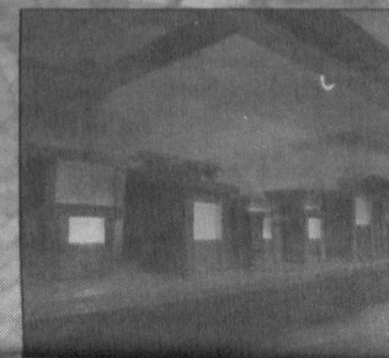
"It's given me an awesome place to work on my thesis," said senior international affairs and French language student in the Honors Program Genevieve Poppe commutes three times a week to study in the Oscar Remick Student Forum.

On Inauguration day, the fourth floor was packed with people for the first celebration in the room.

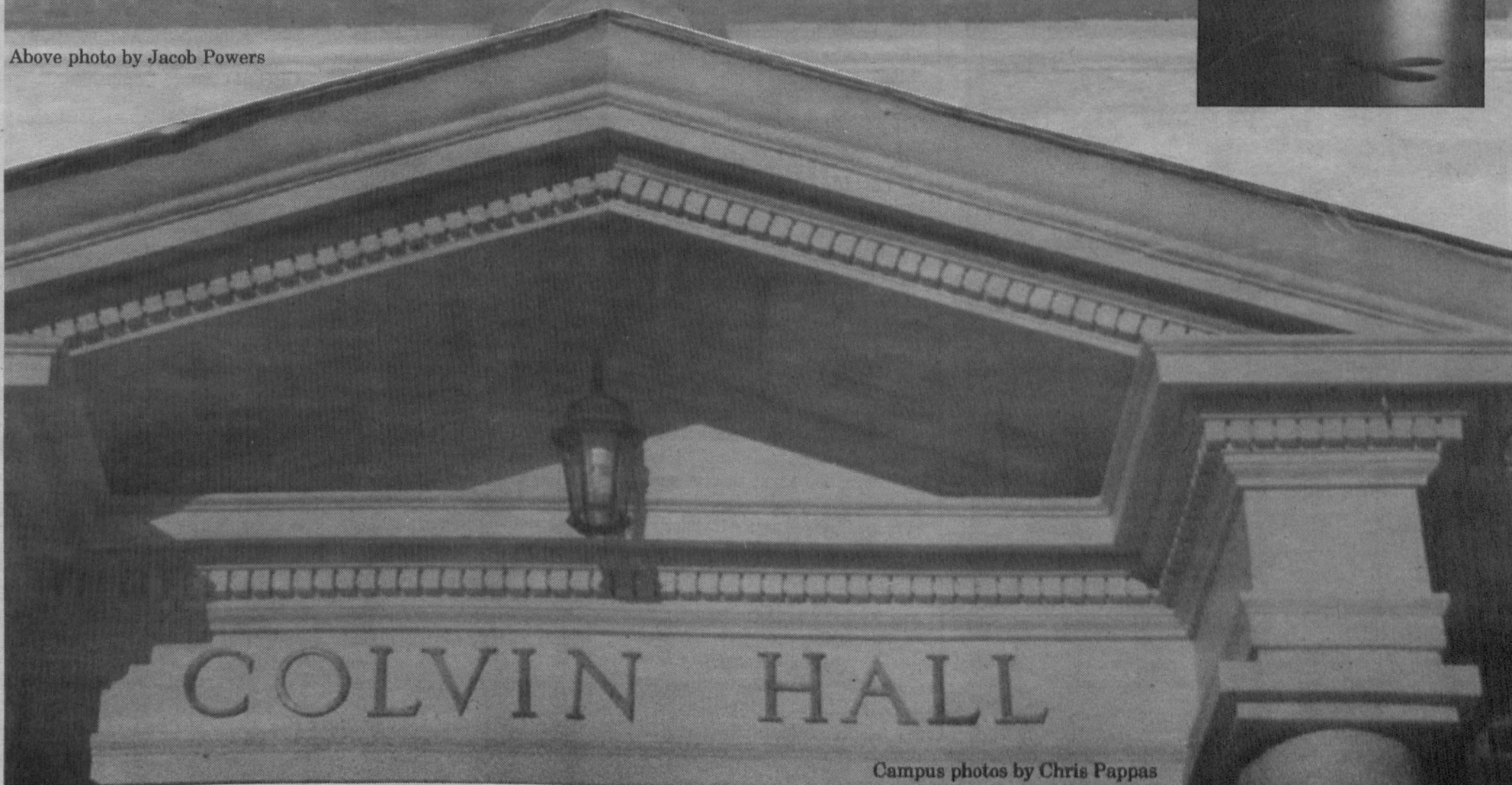
The Margaret Chase Smith Visiting Scholar Suite is for visiting lecturers, available for the entire campus as long as the visitor agrees to meet with honors students during their stay, according to Slavin.

Thirty-five honors students live on the second and third floors, and members of the honors community are welcome to use the hall. Slavin calls Colvin the "physical hub of the college." He said the inviting space contributes to building a community and he wishes to see more people using the hall.

Another renovation project is already on the horizon. The Honors College would like to renovate the basement and the fourth floor of Balentine Hall, according to Slavin. The project would take a considerable amount of money, and the idea is still in its infancy.



Above photo by Jacob Powers



Campus photos by Chris Pappas

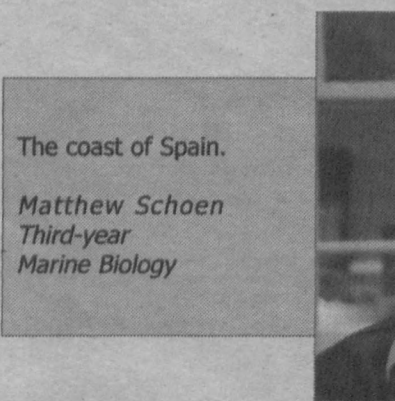
Word of mouth

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go?



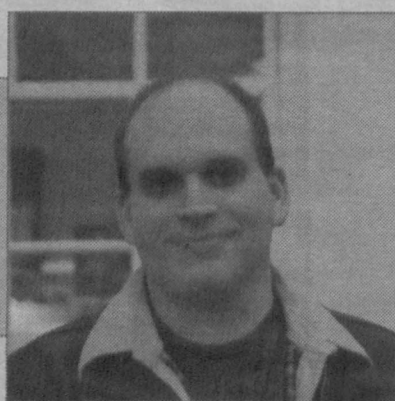
Ireland.

Ashley Janotta
Third-year
Political Science



The coast of Spain.

Matthew Schoen
Third-year
Marine Biology



London.

Shauna Bouchard
Second-year
Psychology



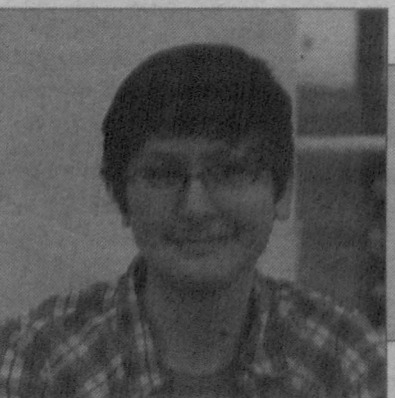
Mannheim, Germany.

Josh Burnell
Fifth-year
Electrical engineering
technology



Some place warm.

Libby Shepard
First-year
Studio art



Belize.

Jonathon Nason
Second-year
Studio art



Sigma Alpha Epsilon re-recognized by UM

By Mary Emmi
For The Maine Campus

Greek Life

The brothers of Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) were welcomed back to campus on Monday evening as a university-recognized fraternity. SAE lost its charter more than three years ago due to alcohol-related violations and other actions that conflicted with police and views of Greek Life and the University of Maine.

Beta Theta Pi brother Joel Martin, along with 35 other Beta brothers, expressed his happiness for SAE.

"It's great for them to be seen as a fraternity. I hope the brotherhood will grow and be stronger," Martin said.

SAE President Tim Schriver spoke about the process of

reinstatement and shared the story of the phoenix, which is told to pledging brothers. The process began through a series of meetings with Director of Campus Activities and Events Gustavo Burkett and Robert Dana, vice president of student affairs. Both brothers and alumni of the chapter were in communication with the dean's office and compiled a document that was more than 100 pages long, which outlined the logistics of the chapter.

Dana commented on the potential SAE has for UMaine. He said Greek Life is a "commitment to somebody other than yourself," and SAE is in a unique situation where recognizing and using this new potential can benefit itself and UMaine as a whole. He ended by stating that it is their commitment to "restore SAE to pre-eminence."

Owen Foss, a brother of SAE, is enthusiastic about the recognition.

"When I joined, we were not a part of the Greek system. We were always unrecognized, but now it's completely different," he said.

Foss and his brothers have high hopes for philanthropic activities and other Greek Life events.

Former Student Body President Bill Pomerleau is the vice president of SAE and helped bring the fraternity back to recognition.

"The burden has been substantial but everyone has added something to it," he said.

Burkett also commented on the reinstatement of SAE. "I'm happy to see them back," he said. "We've been working for a few months, and it's been a process."

Pomerleau commented on the experience that brought them to the point of reinstatement. "At long last, after all the roads had been crossed, the bridges burned and rebuilt, we're back. It's good to be home."

Economy

from page 1

Mahon, Dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health, by three local businessmen who were "saddened about how often we speak about how poor things are going with the Maine economy," according to Mahon.

In light of this, Mahon began assembling other professors on campus who could collaborate on the project. A standard conference was proposed, but with many similar conferences occurring around the state on a regular basis, the organizers saw an opportunity to take their own advice and "use some technology."

This way, according to Gabe, "anyone with a computer and Internet access can be a part of a virtual conference ... and this meets the goals of a land grant university, to get information out. The audience becomes everyone."

Even with the reduced costs of hosting a virtual conference, funding was still needed. It was then that George Criner, the then-director of the School of Economics, proposed asking Bangor Savings Bank to be a funding partner in the project.

According to Mahon, the executives of Bangor Savings Bank have "a genuine interest in economic revitalization, a genuine interest in community" and agreed to participate in and fund the endeavor. The idea continued to grow, and eventually came to be co-sponsored by Bangor Savings Bank, the School of Economics, the Maine Business School, the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture and Cooperative Extension.

With this multi-faceted support, the organizers were able to expand their plans beyond simply delivering online presentations and to move to other forms of media. The presenters are interviewed on 103.9 FM WVOM out

of Howland, Maine on the day their video is posted online, and an editorial related to their presentation will appear in the Bangor Daily News. The series' Web site also features a blog so the presenters can answer questions and interact with viewers. According to Mahon, "the term 'media blitz' would maybe apply here."

The organizers hope for a large audience for the Vibrant Maine Economy series, and they aim to influence policy on the state level per the recommendations laid out in the presentations. DVD copies of the series will be sent to a variety of policymakers all over the state, and the series "may lead to more virtual presentations and maybe eventually an actual conference" if there is interest, according to Mahon.

On Monday, Feb. 2 Gary Hunt will present "Maine's Brain Gain," and video commentary will again be provided by Maine state economist Catherine Reilly and Peter Vigue, president and CEO of Cianbro Companies.

Faculty

from page 1

Student Government Rep. Nathaniel Wildes said links of communication between the administration and the students are missing.

"[There is] a lot of concern from students that there's been really no connection between the student opinion or even letting students know about it," Wildes said.

During the senate session, some professors expressed worry about the system office's plans for UMaine.

"They have a very low opinion of FirstClass ... that would be one of the first things to go," Sen. James McClymer said.

FirstClass is among several services the UMaine Faculty Senate is concerned about being affected by centralization.

"We're not necessarily concerned that some of the services can't be

being laid off because of the system office's restructuring.

The response was passed unanimously.

Also during the meeting, a resolution was passed to write to local and state politicians to suggest creating a new federally-funded university system designed to be economically green.

"We have letters ready to go out to other land grants and to other politicians in the area and in our state who might be able to help move this forward with the current administration," Hoff said. "By working together, we might really put the brainpower of the country into stopping some of our energy issues."

The motion passed unanimously.

The Faculty Senate also approved a resolution to "reluctantly" recommend the elimination of the undergraduate information science engineering program.

"Just about everyone on the committee believes this is a valuable program ... and also very valuable to the state of Maine and the country," said Sen. James Warhola, director of the Program Creation Review and Reorganization Committee.

The degree has suffered from low enrollment during the last four years, partly because its department decided to wait until after it received dual accreditation to promote it among students.

"Let's say some hypothetical case where the administration starved a program and then assessed it as failing to strive ... I hope that a future Faculty Senate would be very good watchdogs," Sen. Daniel Belknap said.

The motion passed with one abstention and none against. The UMaine administration now has final say over the program's future.

The rest of the Faculty Senate's agenda was dismissed on account of heavy snowfall.

Police Beat



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

Break it up

Report of a fight outside Androscoggin Hall brought officers to the front of the building at 10:25 p.m. on Jan. 25. A small crowd surrounded two intoxicated males who were yelling at each other. The officers separated the two and gave them disorderly conduct warnings. One lived off campus and was given a ride home by police. They told him if he returned, he would be arrested for trespassing.

Snow fight!

Officers responded to a report of a fight on Rangeley Road in front of the Public Safety Building at 1:58 a.m. on Jan. 25. Upon arrival, officers found several people wrestling and jumping in the snow bank. They were all friends. There was no apparent fight.

Runaway fighters

Police received a report of a fight in progress outside the Phi Eta Kappa fraternity at 10:59 p.m. on Jan. 23. Officers responded, but found no evidence of a fight.

Galling guest

Police responded to the fourth floor of Cumberland Hall to confront an intoxicated male who was yelling and trying to start fights at 12:52 a.m. on Jan. 24. The male was visiting a resident in the building. Police reunited him with his friend and allowed him to stay the night. Nevertheless, he was given a disorderly conduct warning and was warned that if he continued to disturb the residents, he would be arrested.

Lock it up!

Theft continues to be a problem at the Student Recreation Center. A student left a \$110 dark blue Samsung Glyde cell phone in clothing in an unlocked locker from 4:30 to 6 p.m. on Jan. 26, and returned to find it missing.

At 7:45 p.m. on Jan. 25, a student returned from working out and his and found \$30 and his LG Voyager cell phone had been taken from an unlocked locker. The cases are under investigation.

Gas in the Union

Police responded to a fire alarm at the Memorial Union at 6:13 a.m. on Jan. 26. An employee pulled the alarm after smelling propane in the building. Orono Fire Department conducted an air quality check and was unable to find anything unusual.

Well-done

An alarm activation in Patch Hall brought police to a first-floor apartment at 7:35 p.m. on Jan. 25. Burnt food was the cause.

Pointless prank

A fire alarm was pulled on the fourth floor of Oxford Hall at 1:03 a.m. on Jan. 25. Public Safety and Orono Fire Department determined that there was no reason for the pull-station to be activated and labeled the act "malicious." The case is under investigation.

Carsick

An officer patrolling Munson Road noticed several subjects gathered around a car parked on the south side of Beta Theta Pi fraternity at 12:10 a.m. on Jan. 25. The passenger-side door was open and a female sitting in the seat appeared to be falling out of the vehicle. The officer found the 19-year-old female to be intoxicated and incoherent. She was transported to the hospital for alcohol poisoning.

Stealing permits in the cold

A student reported a stolen resident parking decal at 2:57 p.m. on Jan. 24. The decal was taken from his unlocked vehicle parked in the Hilltop Lot sometime during the previous week. The case is under investigation.

Compiled by
Aislinn Sarnacki
Staff Reporter

GSS disallows GPA requirement rebuttals

Senate picks new members, clarifies employment rules

By Alex Leonard
Staff Reporter

Student Senate

In the third meeting of the General Student Senate, a resolution was passed that abolished the appeals procedure for employment termination within Student Government. A Fair Elections and Practices commissioner and a president pro tempore were announced.

On a night where little debate took place, senate voted on an act that changed the Employment Policies of Student Government. The act amended the previous policy so students employed must have a 2.0 GPA cumulatively and in the semester immediately prior to employment.

Sen. Nicholas DeHaas voiced his concern that this would hinder first-year students or those who have taken a semester off. Vice President of Financial Affairs Justin Labonte alleviated his concerns by explaining the senate would use the most recent GPA in the event an employee was away for a semester.

The resolution also included a provision that abolished appeals of GPA based dismissal by Student Government employees. The resolution stated there was no proper or

justified appeals process to do so, and that the President's Cabinet did not have the authority to conduct such a procedure.

Two monetary allocations were discussed, the first for \$1,400 to go to the College Republicans for a trip to Washington, D.C. The resolution passed with little discussion, but Sen. Nate Wildes encouraged the actions of the senate.

"I hope Student Government continues on its track of funding club development activities, such as what the College Republicans are doing," Wildes said. "It's a great benefit to the members of the club, and a great benefit to the UMaine community."

The meeting saw four nominees for the Fair Elections Practices Commission chair present themselves before the senate. In the end, Sky Landry was voted in. There were two nominees for president pro tempore, Sen. Christina Soyden and Sen. Ben Goodman. Soyden, who led the meeting last week in Vice President Ross Wolland's absence, was voted to the position.

In addition to the allocation to the College Republicans, an allocation for \$1,390 passed and was given to the UMaine Forensics Society. Another allocation by the Executive Budgetary Committee included \$250 to the Nontraditional Students Association.

Aid

from page 1

and federal monies allocated to the states, both of which are negatively affected by the downturn," Montgomery said. "There will therefore be increased financial pressures on colleges, universities and their many students who rely on funding from state and federal sources, likely lasting for one to three years, at least," he said.

Students may be affected by the financial crisis for a few more years.

According to Montgomery, the bailout package likely to become law in the next month could help, if sufficient funds are allocated for education.

"Still, students are far from the front of the line in this pork-stricken bill, and it is doubtful that enough funding will be made available to compensate for the large amount of funding available a couple years ago in credit-easy times," Montgomery said. "Students and the universities that serve them should prepare themselves for a bumpy ride financially."

The demand for financial aid is likely to increase. How much is not yet known. In coming weeks, the Department of Student Financial Aid will be planning for the next semesters in the coming weeks.

"As far as financial aid for next year, we're meeting during the first part of February with the folks in Alumni Hall to see what the projected costs and fees will be for next year, and then at the end of February another meeting will be held to figure out what funds will be available to students for financial aid," Crawford said. "I'm

a little worried about what's to come."

According to Philip Trostel, processor of the School of Economics, "In an economic downturn, almost every sector is hurt to some extent, including financial aid for students. But the pinch felt on financial aid is probably about average — maybe even less than average. The weak performance in the stock market has hit university endowments, and much of the fall in state government revenues is being passed on to higher education," he said. "Thus, there will be somewhat less funding for higher education, including that used for need-based aid. But most financial aid comes from federal programs, and to my knowledge these will not be affected."

UMaine students have options that could save them money. Crawford advises creativity in planning class selections.

"One thing that could be considered is to take courses at another campus, such as Augusta, where the tuition is cheaper, and have them transferred back here. This is a way students could get financial aid from this campus, but use it toward a class that it is cheaper at another campus, as long as it transfers," Crawford said.

While students may be worried about their financial aid packages, work is being done to find solutions.

"On the positive side, the institution is looking at these situations, not just the Office of Financial Aid. The institution is trying to help students because they recognize it's a problem too," Crawford said.



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Centralization of UMS would not help UMaine

The Issue: University of Maine System chancellor's proposal to centralize UMS.

What We Think: Centralization's effectiveness for Orono is dubious.

In the face of mounting statewide budget shortfalls, the restructuring of the University of Maine System is no longer in question. Now is the time to make hard decisions about the restructuring process.

The most recent meeting of the UMaine Faculty Senate raised valid concerns about the transparency of this process. Furthermore, Faculty Senate is justified in questioning the premise of the UMS chancellor's proposal for centralization altogether.

As the flagship university of UMS, the Orono campus is underrepresented in the current one-"vote"-per-school system. In times of financial crisis, this is all the more apparent: It is simply nonsensical for our school, the largest in UMS with 12,000 enrolled students, to be representationally outnumbered by Fort Kent and Presque Isle campuses, which each serve less than a tenth of Orono's student population.

There is no evidence to suggest that fiscal solutions that work for those campuses would benefit our campus, which is distinct in its research leadership.

The 2003 proposal for a rural consortium of Fort Kent, Presque Isle and Machias might shed insight into options for centralization of services for universities with similar missions and goals. UMaine has very little overlap with these institutions, and its sovereignty should be respected.

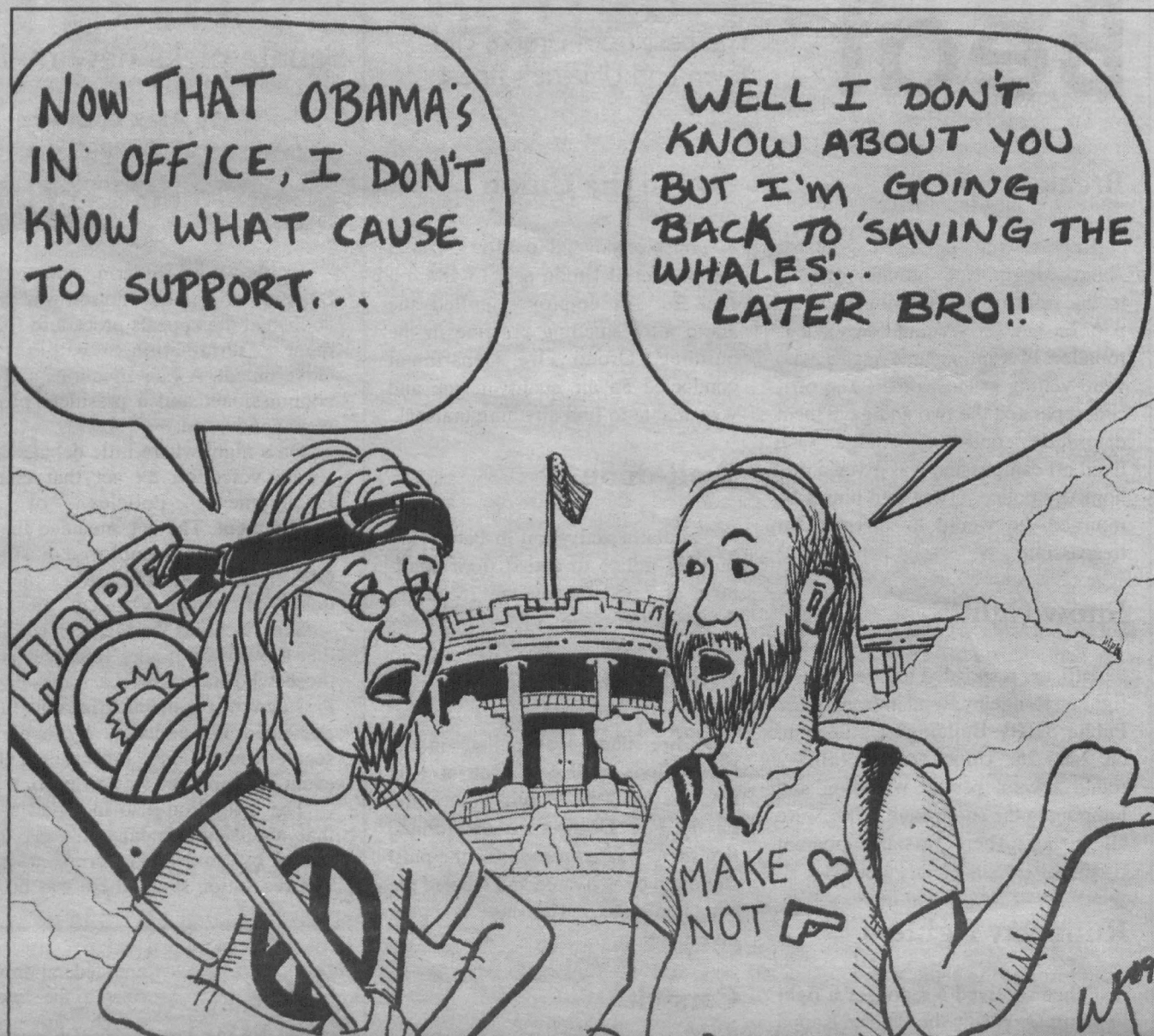
The final point of the Faculty Senate recommendations is most prescient: The size and oversight powers of the system office does not attract research grants, quality faculty or top-notch students. The lifeblood of the state educational system flows through the heart of its flagship campus.

We urge the chancellor and the consolidation panel to take the recommendations of the Orono faculty and to engage in a contentious process openly and transparently.

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

Opinion

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2009



Readers Speak

Best of Web comments

Facebook Snooping

"Athletes at this university are held at a higher standard, and their behavior needs to be held to a higher standard as well. Student athletes receive a tremendous amount of money, grants and scholarships to attend this university. They receive special treatment from professors, are assigned special tutors, take exams later and excuse themselves from mandatory classes. If these students accept all of these benefits, then they need to make sure their behavior is above par. If these athletes feel they are above the rules and regulations, then the university needs to make sure their out-of-control behavior does not tarnish the University of Maine."

Posted by Grad
Jan. 26

"This seems like a violation of First Amendment rights. Why just worry about athletes? How about Student Government, band, computer science, whatever ... you could extend the twisted logic to every student. Then again how about alumni getting wild and crazy? Does that not tarnish the school's image? Where does all this Bush-era eavesdropping and privacy invasion stop? It is college, for God's sake, the only time in your life you really get to let your hair down."

Posted by Harry
Jan. 26

Malicious Web site still has place



Heather Steeves

For those of you who don't know what JuicyCampus.com is, it's a Web site that allows students to be completely anonymous and gossip freely. These posts usually discuss who is the hottest in each fraternity, who slept with whom, or which Student Government employee was a douche bag this week. I couldn't believe it either.

Let's put this in a historical perspective. Every communication device, for the most part, was intended to help citizens become informed and engaged in their world. Each of these failed. The TV allows us to watch "True Life" and "Sex and the City;" films are now a vehicle for "Dumb and Dumber." The Internet has — well, we have JuicyCampus.

The University of Maine has its own JuicyCampus page. I'd say ours leads the pack, as it has a "who is the best teacher?" thread ... followed by three different threads, all with the same subject: "Sluts."

It's a revolting site, that's for sure. It is like roadkill — really bloody, still crawling while its tail and hind legs are smushed to the ground by tire treads — you can't not look. It's disgusting and terrible. What's worse is you're probably on it, and your angry ex probably detailed the exact inflammations of your last three herpes outbreaks. But, JuicyCampus has its place.

Is this an issue of free speech? JuicyCampus thinks so. The "About us" section states that its mission is to enable "online anonymous free speech on college campuses." It adds, "today it is a forum where college students discuss the topics that interest them most, and in the manner that they deem most appropriate."

Is it libelous? Of course. People are listed by full name and campus with the juicy gossip attached. Unless every bit of information is true, which is tough to prove in the case of "douche bags," it's absolutely defamatory. I could not find one lawsuit against the site or any of its anonymous posters — though the site could be subpoenaed and forced to give the IP addresses of specific posters. The free speech argument is difficult or impossible to make when the speech is pure libel.

JuicyCampus is not the most useful outlet for desirable information. The information is undesirable. But if people think it is so terrible, and if they do not want the outlet to exist, why do they keep looking?

The real issue is common decency. As the mission states, "in the manner [students] deem most appropriate." It's easy to say that the site is unfair to its victims and encourages pure malice among peers. And of course, it is. The main tab says "gossip" — the purpose isn't hidden. What it comes down to is, people should be acting like humans, and not bashing others to a bloody pulp ... like roadkill.

Heather Steeves is news editor for The Maine Campus.

The Maine Campus

The University of Maine student newspaper since 1875.

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A further defense of President George W. Bush

Jonathan Zappala

Judging by Adam Marletta's response on Monday, it seems that my article about President George W. Bush fell on deaf ears. I have to say, I was entertained by some of the comments online. I knew sticking my head above the crowd would get me shot. The responses seemed to be the usual Bush-bashing platform, the same arguments that motivated me to write something good about the former president in the first place.

I wrote about what Bush will be remembered by, and some of the things Mr. Marletta said certainly are not among them. I am surprised that some believe he was never fairly elected president. I know the facts of the Bush v. Gore case. There were several factors in the recount that made it unconstitutional under the equal protection and due process clauses. If anything, this case showed that the liberal-leaning justices of the Supreme Court vote for their personal beliefs, not what the Constitution says. In 2004, Bush received more votes than anyone

ever had. The event Mr. Marletta was talking about is the vote in Ohio, where Secretary of State Ken Blackwell certified the election results as legitimate before anyone could call for a recount.

Mr. Marletta also mentioned that tax cuts were only for the rich, which is another fallacy. If it was true, my father would have not received a tax refund check. Let me give everyone a crash course in taxes: The reason that the poor did not get tax cuts is because they pay hardly any to begin with. The lowest tax bracket is for those who make less than \$16,000 per year and they pay ten percent to federal income tax. That means they are

paying less than \$1,600. If they had three kids they would have paid nothing.

I said Bush admitted when he was genuinely wrong. I was talking about the fact Bush admitted he was wrong about Weapons of Mass Destruction. I could say a lot about the war in Iraq. Mr. Marletta mentioned Naomi Klein's work as if it were accepted fact. She happens to be a left-wing activist who would never represent both sides. Every time I walk by the MLK plaza and see "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere," I am reminded of why the war in Iraq was necessary.

I can tell my article was misunderstood because Mr. Marletta did not believe that the media criticized Ronald Reagan. Watch political coverage from the 1980s and decide for yourself. All those who opposed Reagan have learned to keep it quiet now because they discovered Americans actually liked him. I was saying once the heat of the moment passes, it will be the same for Bush.

Mr. Marletta also said that Reagan committed crimes that were overlooked. I remember President Clinton committing perjury — an offense that carries a penalty of up to five years in jail, and he served none of that time.

As for the closing lines of Mr. Marletta's response, I challenge anyone to find instances where Bush suppressed free speech and civil liberties of Americans and stepped outside the bounds of the Constitution with his executive power. I think the left will be sad to see Bush go, because now there is nobody to blame but Congress and Obama when they fail.

Jonathan Zappala is a junior psychology student.

I think the left will be sad to see Bush go, because now there is nobody to blame but Congress and Obama when they fail.



PETA's 'sea kittens' site makes me hiss

Andrea Long

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, or PETA, is an organization dedicated to expanding and protecting animal rights. We often picture its members pouring paint on fur coats or doing some other radical action to get their point across. Recently, I stumbled upon their new campaign, "Sea Kittens," which attempts to make the fish we eat seem cuddly as cats. By doing this, children and their parents are supposed to feel awful for eating a fish because they are just like kittens. One can even go on their Web site and read about fish going to college in a "storybook"... a bit far-fetched, I must say.

This is an awful approach to animal protection and conservation. In a time when much of our conservation efforts need to be put toward getting our youth back into the outside world, this is the last thing our kids need to see. So many of our children are disjointed from nature and do not have an appreciation of what we should be protecting and conserving. When I was young, my father took me fishing, hiking, snowshoeing and anything else that got us outdoors. Those are some of the most memorable moments of my life. I am now a wildlife ecology student in my last year of school and intend to take part in conservation efforts when I graduate.

Being of this mindset, nothing saddens me more than the response I get when I ask my two little nieces what they would like to do while we are at my parent's camp on a pond in Southern Maine. With all of these options, they invariably tell me to put in a movie. How does our natural world stand a chance with this type of attitude

from the young?

I believe, as PETA does, that all animals have rights. But how far do we go? Should meat-eating animals not eat other animals because they are stifling their prey's rights? Protecting species, including fish, should be a top priority, but making all creatures into something you could cuddle up with at night or play dress-up with — as you can on PETA's Web site — doesn't do this.

The problem most people see with hunting and fishing is that we have done it unsustainably for so long that many deem it morally indefensible. Now that we have found this to be an issue, the focus should not be on cessation of these activities, but on teaching our kids to do them in a sustainable manner. This will be key to any future conservation efforts. I think that PETA needs to realize conservation today needs to be focused on getting our youth back out there hiking, skiing and even hunting or fishing.

I am not against PETA. I just feel that this campaign is going in the wrong direction. I chose to become a vegetarian nine years ago based on my disgust with how animals were treated on factory farms. At the time, being about 14 years old, this translated into thinking to myself, "I want to work with animals, so why would I eat them?" I sympathize with animals just as much as any PETA member. My question is, how far do we let this sympathy take us, and is PETA really helping at all?

Andrea Long is a senior wildlife ecology student.



Stop shopping and start saving the planet

Russell Clark

"Cherish the wide Earth." This statement is engraved into a stone fireplace in the dining hall at my childhood summer camp. It has stood in front of thousands, if not hundreds of thousands, of Scouts from Connecticut and abroad, imposing its four-word visage on all. It has also been engraved into my being, and I try to live by it as much as I can.

It seems to me that being "environmentally conscious" has become common — everyone is into the act — but rarely does anyone invest time or energy into it. How many people do you know who openly say they don't care about or dislike the environment? I don't know a single one, but I do know people who haven't done squat.

Environmentalism has become the new fad. Now everyone buys recycled coffee cups, uses less paper, turns lights off when they leave their room or walks instead of getting into a car. What am I getting at?

How about doing more for the planet than buying recycled goods or shopping at Urban Outfitters? Stop spending money and start spending time with the Earth — the one you should be cherishing. Pick up trash, fix a trail, volunteer at a nature center to spread awareness. In essence, work with your hands and not with your wallet. Don't just speak about environmental consciousness; act on it.

Those who work at my summer camp, including myself, are reprimanded if we

walk by a piece of trash and don't pick it up. Litter detracts from the surroundings and the quality of the camp. It has become habit to me now, and I will pick up someone else's trash and place it in the garbage can on my way to class.

It reminds me of the story of a father and son who always go hiking in the woods. The father casually brings a garbage bag with them on each hike and picks up any trash he finds. One day, the boy questioned his father as to why they were picking up someone else's trash. "It's not ours," he said. "It's just going to blow away anyway. What is removing one garbage bag full of trash going to do?"

The father replied, "There are three types of people: There are those who are going to do less than their share. They will go as they please, waiting for someone else to pick up their trash. There are those who do equal to what they put out. There are those who do more than their share, attempting to compensate for everyone else's actions. Which do you want to be?"

We seem to take pride in being an environmentally-conscious campus but we can't seem to hit the mark, or even the garbage can sometimes. Our actions create who we will be for the rest of our lives. We all need to do everything we can.

Russell Clark is a junior biology and German student.

soapbox

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

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Style & Culture

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2009

Ramblin' man

David "Tavi" Merrill hopes to win free traveling internship and share his experiences along the way

Zach Dionne ♦ Style Editor

Everyone wants to travel the globe. David "Tavi" Merrill has actually applied for the job. The 25-year-old University of Maine student has his fingers crossed that he'll become one of two STA [Student Travel Australia] World Traveler interns this summer.

"There's one thing I haven't done, but I'm dying to do," Tavi says in his video application on YouTube. The camera pans from a computer screen to his face as he finishes the sentence with a boyish smile: "See the world."

STA, the world's largest student travel organization, according to their Web site, will hire two interns to document their daily travels with video, blogs, podcasts and music. Spanning the summer of 2009, the itinerary, available on worldtravelerintern.com, will take the interns across Europe, Asia, Eastern Africa and Australia.

Other applicants' far-reaching travels intimidated Tavi at first. The sustainable agriculture junior has only ventured as far outside the U.S. as Quebec, Canada.

"I've had some great adventures without ever traveling far," he says in his video. He lists experiences like spending a summer on an island doing seabird conservation, managing a student-run sustainable agriculture community farm called the Black Bear Food Guild, and honing his appetite for global citizenship by being a resident assistant at Estabrooke Hall, largely occupied by international students.

The first stage of the application requires a video less than three minutes long and a written portion. A YouTube search for "STA World Traveler Intern 2009" on Jan. 28 found 43 results.

The "Help Tavi become a 2009 World Travel Intern!" Facebook group has 215 members. His video has more than 900 views.

Tavi aimed for the video to show "not just who I am, but 'this is my place, this is my culture,' and trying to weave the two together," he said in an interview. The clip integrates Tavi's qualifications and lifestyle into a travel narrative format, with the bulk filmed on a visit to Presque Isle, detailing his first snowmobiling trip.

Tavi and his friend Ryan Lockhart, a UMaine graduate who also appears in the video, performed

the video's soundtrack together on guitar and violin.

"He's got a real enthusiasm for trying to tell stories," said Eric Gallandt, associate professor of weed ecology and management at UMaine. Gallandt first met Tavi in a course in the fall of 2007.

Gallandt called Tavi "a gregarious sort" and said he embodies "the local, rural Maine kid with an

grew up in Massachusetts with "a group of Davids," he said. His family moved to Newburgh, Maine in 2000. A fiddler, he jammed with five Davids soon after moving. Yearning for something less popular, he discovered the name Tavi online, a Finnish variation of David, and adopted a title as unique as his character.

"He's just open to anything and

dom stranger, whether it's seeing something that lets you access a space of awe," he said.

When asked what his biggest traveling dreams are, Tavi had a tough time whittling them down. Turkey, Israel and Patagonia are high on his list. Tavi is victim to seeing a gorgeous photo and being unable to rid the destination from his mind's eye.

"There are pictures of places I've seen and they're really..." he drifts off for a moment before speaking of black limestone mountains rising starkly over fields of canola in Southeast Asia, ruminating as if he's seen them in person.

Tavi has a reason for not exploring as much as he'd like. "I've got this really strong responsible streak; I almost bought a house last spring," he said. He worries about cracking into his nest egg before leaving college. Tavi was unable to study abroad due to a demanding academic program, commitment juggling and a lack of time to investigate the available programs.

Tavi ventured west of the Appalachians for the first time on a recent five-day visit to California for an ecological farming conference. He enjoys allowing a journey to guide him, rather than controlling his explorations meticulously, and put this philosophy to the test on a "dry run" during his trip out west.

He also used his trip to delve into travel blogging, a crucial component of the STA position. Tavi's blog — ramblingwejak.blogspot.com — allows readers to walk in his footsteps, facilitated by astute photography and animated writing.

The deadline for World Traveler applications is March 8. Twenty finalists will be selected on March 15. The top 10 will be asked to create a second video. Tavi shot footage during his California journey in hopes of using it to create his follow-up piece.

"You want a guy with the eyes of a pro photographer, a poet's fondness for words, an unhealthy addiction for fresh air, who sees the world with new eyes every morning? I'm your man," Tavi says in the video, deftly checking off each of the position's qualifications.

"He's so real and he doesn't put up a front. You can't help but like him," Lackey said. Soon Tavi will know if STA feels the same way.



Courtesy of Tavi Merrill

Tavi is "the local, rural Maine kid with an opportunity to go do some fantastic things," said associate professor Eric Gallandt.

opportunity to go do some fantastic things."

"He really puts everything he's got into any topic he chooses to work on," Gallandt said.

Gallandt's favorite Tavi tale is when he dismissed a computer simulation for weed growth after Gallandt assigned it to his class.

"It was very funny how he immediately took this simple model and immediately just threw it away as such a gross oversimplification of the world," Gallandt said. Tavi came back within a week with his own system — "the most complicated and involved set of boxes and arrows and loops" — and Gallandt could tell Tavi had spent night after night working on his model.

"He's probably one of the most genuine people I've ever met," said Lianne Lackey, a graduate student for higher education and one of Tavi's former residents in Estabrooke Hall. "At first when I heard of Tavi I was like, 'Who is this Tavi character?'"

Tavi, whose given name is David,

doesn't worry about what other people think," Lackey said, reciting a tale of the two wrestling in Estabrooke, where Lackey "kicked his butt." Directly after, Tavi had no difficulty taking down a much larger opponent.

Student Stephanie Sosinski worked with Tavi on the Black Bear Food Guild and thought Tavi's video was characteristic of him. She is confident in his chances at earning the position.

"Something I don't find too often of people in general is the passion for whatever they're doing," Sosinski said.

For Tavi, the opportunity to communicate his adventure with photos and stories is one of the most exciting possibilities of the STA internship.

"The really important thing to me is that traveling is — it's a way to learn both about yourself and about the world around you — taking the time to have the experiences that allow insight of any kind, whether it's talking to a ran-

UM's acoustic contest jams into new season

By Kegan Zema
Staff Reporter

It's easy finding musicians at the University of Maine, but finding outlets for showcasing their music is another story. That's where the Campus Activities Board's acoustic competition "The Project" comes into play. The competition, which kicked off Tuesday, Jan. 27, will span the semester. By offering a place for many artists to perform, The Project spotlights local, campus-grown music culture.

The Project has been around for several years. The Bear's Den offered standing room only for the first qualifying round. According to Melissa Fitta, the CAB member in charge of the program, there are always inquiries about the competition.

The Project allows an array of artists to strut their stuff. Acts on the first night ranged from solo artists such as the barefooted Seth Poplaski to full bands like Angry James playing stripped-down versions of their sets.

"What's great about The Project is the caliber of talent you find here," Poplaski said. "There were six performers who all deserved to be on stage tonight."

For Poplaski, The Project has given him a great opportunity to perform for people. "Music has been a part of my life forever, and I am always looking for a place to play," he said.

Familiar faces from previous years were on stage and in the audience. Members of

Sprinkletown, fan favorites from last year's contest, were in attendance, although they said they would not compete again.

Fans are appreciative of The Project's place on the UMaine campus.

"I like to enjoy a night on the town. I consider myself a cultured person and I am glad to support the arts," said Ian Miller, who attended on Tuesday night. He also feels The Project is a great outlet for offering aspiring musicians a place to debut their music.

Creative songwriting and covers were both on display, including Outkast's "Hey Ya!" and Jason Mraz's "I'm Yours." Indie hipsters could rock out to Take Luck's cover of Vampire Weekend's "A-Punk," while nearly everyone could sing along to James Gilmore's cover of The Steve Miller Band's "The Joker." The audience clapped and hummed along to much of the fare.

Combining elements of American Idol, open mic nights and battle of the bands competitions, The Project's atmosphere is friendly and entertaining.

The contest is also gaining a reputation at UMaine. Poplaski said he'd heard about The Project for three years before finally joining.

According to Fitta, "It is great to see how many talented people there are at UMaine. When we announce the event, all these people seem to just come out of the woodwork."

The next qualifying round will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 3.

Oronoka opens up dance floor to world

By Spencer Morton
Staff Reporter

Feel like boogie-ing down, international style? Head to Bear Brew Pub on Friday, Jan. 30. The dance floors will be packed the International Students Association hosts Oronoka.

Oronoka features an onslaught of international dance tunes mixed in with contemporary American hip-hop hits. DJ Cielo, DJ Q and DJ Havok will lay down beats and take requests.

"Oronoka stands out because of what it brings along with it," said Sangam Lama, ISA president. "It creates this environment of exuberance where you'll see amusing dance moves from these people, even from the ones you didn't have expectations from."

Drinks will be available to the 21-plus crowd, but anyone 18 and older will be admitted. With more than 80 confirmed guests on the event's Facebook page, it's shaping up to be a raucous time.

"This is probably my eighth time [going] to Oronoka," said Ankita Chowdhury, a junior molecular biology student from New Delhi, India, in an e-mail. "I love the music and the fun colorful atmosphere, and it's a comfortable environment."

International and American students are encouraged to attend, mingle with one an-

other and form new relationships. Chowdhury encouraged people to go because students from all over the world will be there.

"The best part is many American students are passionate about this dance party. They're amongst the regulars who never miss out, even after they graduate," Lama said.

"Who wouldn't want to hang out with a bunch of international kids? It just seems like a carefree, very fun place to be," said Oksana Kiyantsa, a second-year political science student from Kazakhstan.

Oronoka has always been an off-campus event, frequently using the 103 Ultra Lounge or Bear Brew Pub as its stomping grounds. At the most recent Oronoka, a van periodically picked up students at the Union and drove them to the party — a useful service, particularly in sub-zero temperatures. To inquire about a shuttle service to Friday's event, contact Sangam Lama on FirstClass.

"It's a great way to let the stresses of class go for a night," said Briana Randall, a psychology student.

The cover charge will be \$5 before 11 p.m., \$6 after. The music will start at 10 p.m. and blast until 2 a.m.

Oronoka is a dance party and a cultural hotbed in a safe atmosphere. So in the words of Glen Geiser, face of Bangor Car Care, "Come join the party!"

ontheweb

StyleCast:

New edition available on mainecampus.com every print issue. The StyleCast will return on Monday, Feb. 2 with an exclusive interview with the unmistakable voice of "Law & Order"'s narrator.

Blogs:

The Movie Knight joins mainecampus.com's growing list of blogs. Style staff reporter Spencer Morton comments on film.

Video:

Watch Tavi Merrill's video application to be an STA World Traveler Intern.

WMEB Spot

'The Big Burrito' with Michael Fournier

By Kegan Zema
Staff Reporter

was like "Alright."

Michael Fournier, a graduate student and English professor at the University of Maine, hosts the weekly radio shows "The Big Burrito," Mondays from 9 to 11 p.m. and "The Living End," Fridays 4 to 5 p.m.

MC: When did you first come to Maine?

Fournier: My girlfriend moved here and it sounded pretty good. I was in Boston for 10 years before this and an undergrad at [The University of New Hampshire] before that. After 10 years of living in Boston and doing the starving-artist thing, I

MC: Did you live right in the city?

Fournier: I lived in Alston. Alston is kind of the [Boston University] neighborhood. You can't swing a bat without hitting hipsters and people in bands, so it was really cool.

MC: How'd you get involved with WMEB?

Fournier: I was involved with WUNH when I was an undergrad but I wasn't as involved with that as I would have liked, so I was like, "I'm sure Maine has a radio station."

See WMEB on page 11

Schedule for Resident Lot Snow Removal 1/29 - 1/30

See map "Parking Map": umaine.edu/parking/

Thursday, Jan. 29 — Vehicles should be out of College Avenue South, Balentine, Colvin, Merrill, Estabrooke and York North by 5 p.m. — Alternate parking in Deering and Libby lots. Vehicles must be back in resident lots by 8 a.m. on Friday.

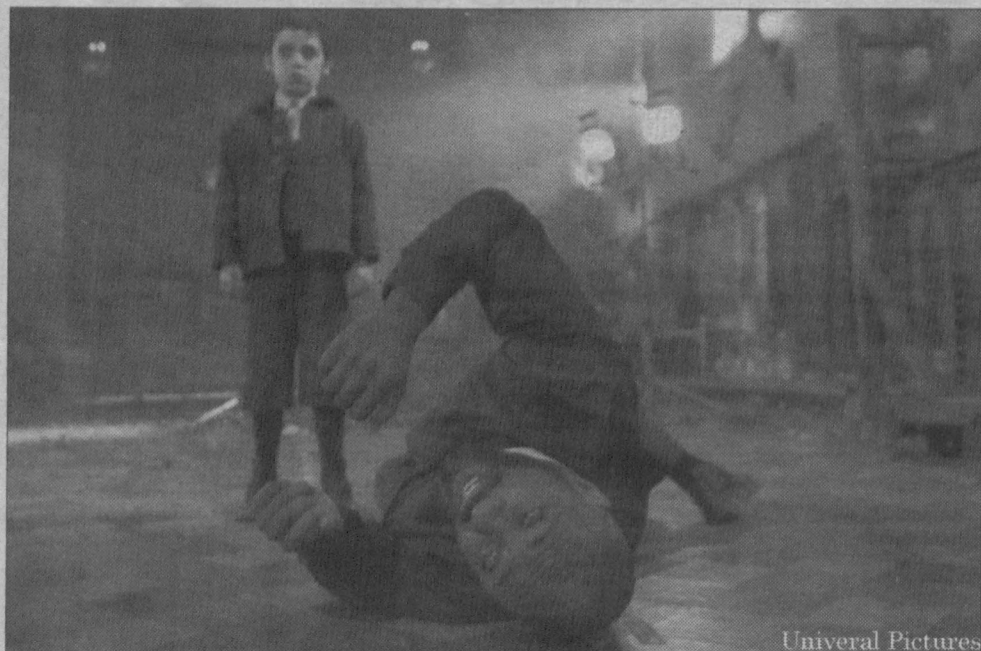
Friday, Jan. 30 — Vehicles should be out of Hilltop by 5 p.m. — Alternate parking in MCA. Vehicles must be back in resident lots by noon on Saturday.

Want to be featured
in the Style section?

Send in your favorite original
short story, photograph, work
of art or poetry. Winners will
be featured in print and on the
Web in an upcoming edition of
The Maine Campus!

E-mail style@mainecampus.com

FILM: The Unborn



Universal Pictures

By Derek Francis
For The Maine Campus

Hollywood has been kind to us lately in terms of its comedic offerings. We've recently been privy to chuckle along with "Zack and Miri Make a Porno" and "Role Models," but Tinsel Town saved its best for Jan. 2009 with the release of "The Unborn."

The gist of the plot is thus: Casey Belton (Odette Yustman) is having a bad day. Absurdly random visions involving termites and mask-wearing dogs haunt this poor-man's version of Megan Fox without rhyme or reason. Casey and her walking stereotype of a black friend, Romy, uncover through a series of illogical plot turns that these hauntings derive from a malevolent demon. This otherworldly baddie has some sort of tie to Casey's twin, who happened to die in utero and is very pissed off. In one act of scene thievery after another — namely "Jacob's Ladder," "The Exorcist" and "The Grudge" ... you know, actual horror movies — Casey is chased around by the evil spirit who may or may not be anti-Semitic. Boom, there you have it: One steaming pile of vomit coming right up.

Amidst any supernatural snooze-fest, there tends to be a burning desire to know the origins of such shenanigans. Don't you worry your pretty little head about it; "The Unborn" manages to splice together an endless string of exposition. The entire movie is back story, and the brave viewer is forced to sift through it all to find any semblance

of a cohesive narrative.

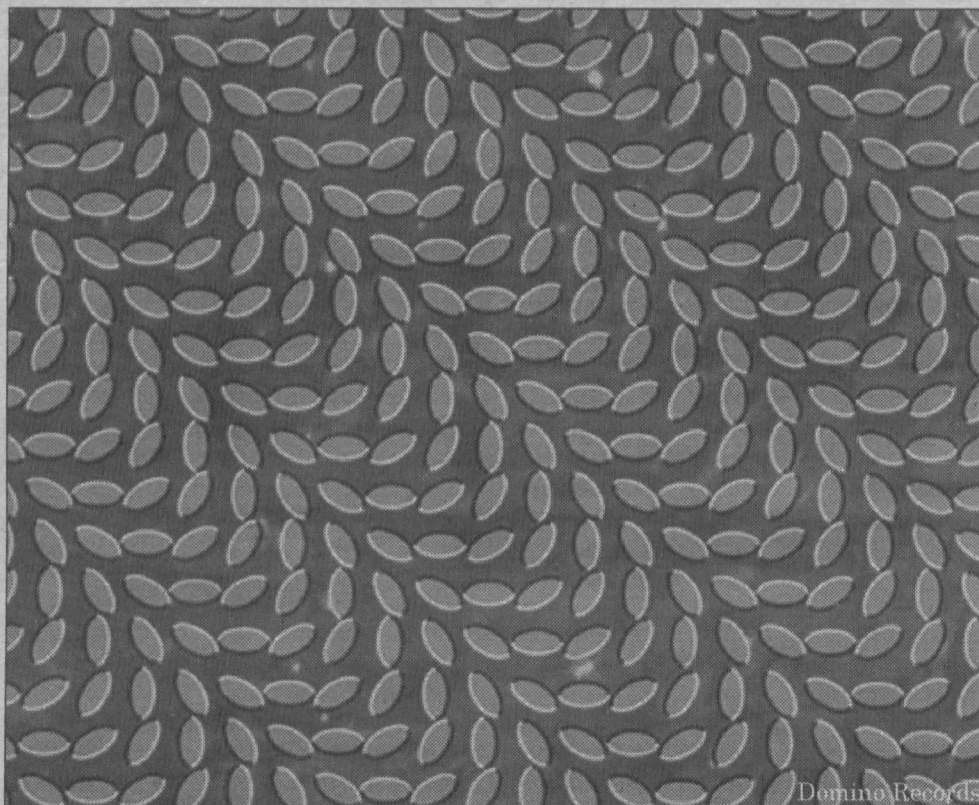
Fear not, there are a few scares to be had at this shindig. If you find any of the following things terrifying, you may want to think twice before plunking down eight bucks. Steer clear if you are morbidly afraid of: the aforementioned termites, large-headed children, ethnic and cultural stereotyping, exploitation of the Holocaust (yeah, it goes there), women who could stand to eat a sandwich or glory holes. I'm pretty sure there is no phobia for any of those things ... except for glory holes. Everyone should be afraid of glory holes.

I've actually decided to start a rumor concerning the production of this piece of comedic genius. The rumor is that "The Unborn" was not written by the co-writer of "The Dark Knight" — which it was — but instead by a swarm of eleven-year-old girls. Case in point, not one of these characters talks or acts like an adult, unless those adults had some sort of severe learning disability.

Even after 90 minutes of writer-director David S. Goyer repeatedly kicking us in the junk, the point of highest comedy is unclear. That award could go to the fact that the legendary Gary Oldman pops in during the film's third act, looking embarrassed as ever to be appearing in this abomination. Or it could go to the moment in the end credits where the movie refers to itself as a "film." It really is a tossup.

If you enjoy comedy or simply hate movies then you owe it to yourself to check out "The Unborn." **Grade: D-**

CD: Animal Collective



Domino Records

By Jeff Hake
For The Maine Campus

In getting to know "Merriweather Post Pavilion," I made the mistake of keeping Animal Collective's 2007 release in mind. Expecting to hear the jarring rhythms, deep-thumping dissonance and gripping vocals that had characterized "Strawberry Jam," I was at first disappointed with the new record. It seemed as though Avey Tare, Panda Bear and Geologist were on a Valium low and had lost the edge of their previous work. But as I discovered, it is vital for one to separate "Merriweather Post Pavilion" from the group's early days and enjoy this 2009 groundbreaker in the here and now.

Golden flax melodies weave through every track of "Merriweather." "In The Flowers" opens the album with seeming hesitance, and almost-muffled vocals before it rips into courageous thumping beats while sustaining the richness of the opening. This flows quietly but expectedly into "My Girls," which delivers the narrative of a father's desire to be able to provide for his daughters, combining over-the-fields harmonic vocals with a growing, throbbing electronic backdrop.

At times, the Collective seems to return to some of its ethereal, noise-wash roots, but not necessarily to their benefit. Certain

tracks fail to reach their peaks they seem to build toward, particularly "Daily Routine," "Guys Eyes" and "Taste," which causes the middle of the album to bottom out. However, as the album moves closer to its finish, the excitement builds again. "Lion In A Coma" opens with a didgeridoo pulse that permeates the song and propels it forward, stopping only to allow Tare's pitch-perfect vocals to soar over the top. The complex sounds and driving vocals of "Lion" make it my favorite of the album, and the benign "No More Runnin'" is a tasteful, dreamy choice to follow it up. "Merriweather Post Pavilion" closes out with "Brother Sport," a jaunty ride and a stunning combination of folk sensibilities, electronic thrust and the Collective's standard noise ecstasy.

"Merriweather Post Pavilion" is not like the Collective's previous work, and it is wrong to expect as much. However, it is also unlike just about anything you have probably heard before. While at times Animal Collective could have done more to keep the listener's interest, this small setback does little to diminish the overwhelming sense of invention, musicality and positivity they convey with their new disc.

Overall, this is a wonderful, golden-hued album for the open-minded listener. Plus, the cover is an optical illusion that toys pleasantly with the mind. **Grade: A-**



Beer Police

By Zach Dionne

One morning when I was three or four years old, I was the first in my house to wake up. I spied a cup of apple juice left out from the night before and set to sipping.

It was beer. I spat it out, repulsed and mad as hell.

A few years later, I either snuck or was graciously granted a sip of Sea Dog Blueberry Ale from a relative.

My immediate reaction was, "Wait, beer can be good?"

Beer, coffee and the opposite sex: I'm not sure how we go from hating these things as youngsters to writing columns about them as adults, but I concede that they're each magnetizing forces from youth to maturity.

When Ben Franklin said, "Beer is living proof that God loves us and wants us to be happy," he didn't begin with "beer and wine and spirits" or simply "alcohol." Beer is a culturally permeating force, and I'm going to take a stab at explaining why.

It's the most accessible of alcoholic beverages. There is no way to classify

who drinks Sam Adams or Budweiser, Guinness or Geary's. For every college first-year drinking a Natty Ice on a Friday night, there's a crazy uncle bringing a 30-pack to a family reunion. For every flannel-donning hipster chugging a PBR, there's a tough-as-nails biker couple toasting two tallboys at a diner on Route 66. And for every old Englishman sipping a Samuel Smith Oatmeal Stout at a pub in Yorkshire, there's an American 20-something trying to track down their first bottle.

And there's still room for beer connoisseurs and elitists. There are multi-hundred dollar single bottles to scout out — see Sam Adams' Utopias, the world's most alcoholic beer, hovering around 25 percent alcohol by volume — or brews crafted in small batches just once a year.

Wine and spirits, on the other hand, leave a huge gap in the middle: The partiers pounding shots of cheap liquor and concocting shabby mixes with soda or Kool-Aid versus the classy types sipping scotch or tequila

in a tumbler with a couple ice cubes. With wine, partiers — again — killing \$8 bottles versus extravagant types buying \$500 selections at dinner. Yes, I've seen one singular person, a college kid, sip liquor delicately, and I've met others who defy these stereotypes. Casual cocktail fans do exist, but the disparity between people getting sloshed and snobs nursing their astronomically-priced drinks is huge.

Not so with beer. There's room for snobbery, but it doesn't dominate. The person who plunks down \$5 for a Dogfish Head at a bar can rib the \$1 Bud drinker all they want, but the common denominator remains: They're drinking beer.

All alcohol-imbued beverages have merit, but beer is the master. There's a reason Abraham Lincoln said, "I am a firm believer in the people. If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any national crisis. The great point is to bring them the real facts, and beer."

Smart fella.

WMEB

from page 9

MC: What has drawn you to punk music in particular?

Fournier: I was 14 and I lived in New Hampshire and didn't have any neighbors. It was really rural and I was skateboarding a lot because you could do that without a team or something. So as I started skating, I started reading magazines and my favorite skaters always had T-shirts on, like Sex Pistols shirts or whatever. So I was like, "What is this, why do I keep hearing about these bands?" So I bought a Sex Pistols tape and took it home and I remember that I listened to it right before I had to go to church with my mom. So I listened to "Holidays in the Sun" [the opening track on "Nevermind the Bollocks, Here's the Sex Pistols"] and all throughout church all I could think about was, "Who is this guy that is so pissed?" It was obvious to me that he couldn't sing very well, but he was in a band. It really appealed to me that you could create something yourself without having formal training.

MC: Did you grow up around music?

Fournier: Yeah, I did. My dad was a DJ for a long time. But my parents' progression kind of stopped with like, Judy Collins. My parents were folkies, they were never hippies. There were some Beatles records at the house but that was about as edgy as it ever got. So it made sense that I should learn as much about the Sex Pistols as I could and then sort of spring off from there.

MC: And when was this?

Fournier: That was 1988 ... I guess, so that was like eighth grade.

MC: Can you tell me a little bit about the History of Punk Rock course you taught at Tufts University?

Fournier: That was so much fun. I taught that for five semesters. It just occurred to me, "I think I know enough about this, so I could teach it at a college level." And Tufts has the experimental college so I pitched them the class, and if you can provide evidence that you are an expert on something, they'll hire you at least once. After the first semester I started using it as a calling card to get people interested. Clint Conley from Mission of Burma came by first and that blew my mind. And then last April, Ian MacKaye from Fugazi and Minor Threat came in and that was like hanging out with the Dalai Lama for me. For an entire day we just rode around and I picked his brain about stuff.

MC: With punk music being such a big part of your life, do you feel like you are still an angry kid at heart?

Fournier: I had thick glasses when I was a kid, and really bad acne and braces and all that. Plus, I was going through puberty and riding a skateboard. I think it's really natural to feel angry when you are getting into it. It's a coming of age thing. I didn't really know why I was angry, I just knew I was angry. I had too much energy, is what it was. I don't really think I was angry about the economy or the government or anything. That stuff angers me now, but now I can focus my energy on the radio show, my writing or playing drums. Just letting anger sit inside you is toxic, but doing something with it is way more productive.

MC: Do you think that's why a lot of the artists do what they do?

Fournier: I think so yeah. It's cheaper than therapy.

Michael Fournier is the author of "Double Nickels on the Dime," a work detailing the SoCal band The Minutemen's album of the same name. His shows, as part of the complete WMEB lineup, can be heard on 91.9 FM, online at wmeb.fm and on channel 20 of campus television.



WMEB Top 20

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Various | Verve Remixed: Christmas |
| 2 Of Montreal | Skeletal Lamping |
| 3 Kevin Rudolf | Let It Rock |
| 4 Tobacco | Fucked Up Friends |
| 5 Animal Collective | Merriweather Post Pavilion |
| 6 Boy Eats Drum Machine | Boomboxxx |
| 7 Kanye West | 808's & Heartbreak |
| 8 MGMT | Electric Feel (justice remix) |
| 9 Toxic Holocaust | An Overdose of Death |
| 10 Various | Perfect As Cats |
| 11 Azeem | Air Cartoons |
| 12 Cool Kids | Delivery Man (Single) |
| 13 Glasvegas | S/T |
| 14 Inhale/Exhale | I Swear.. |
| 15 Magnificents | Year of Explorers |
| 16 Maroon 5 | Call and Response |
| 17 Morrissey | I'm Throwing My Arms Around Paris |
| 18 Sara Lov | The Young Eyes EP |
| 19 Super XX Man | There'll Be Diamonds |
| 20 Underoath | Lost in the Sound of Separation |



William P. Davis ♦ The Maine Campus

A worker vacuums seats in the Maine Center for the Arts, soon to be the Collins Center for the Arts, which will be reopened Sunday with a concert by the Bangor Symphony Orchestra.

Enter UCU's "I NEED FREE BOOKS" Sweepstakes!

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calendar

All events free unless stated otherwise

LITERATURE

Friday, Jan. 30

Reading by Magdalena Zurawski and C.A. Conrad
New Writing Series
4:30 p.m.
Soderberg Auditorium,
Jenness Hall

Saturday, Jan. 31

Friends of Orono Public Library Book Sale
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Orono Public Library

MUSIC

Friday, Jan. 30

Punk Show
Featuring USA Waste,
Interrogator, The
Falling Fight, Vails
Gate and Martin
Chartrand
The Worker Center
6 p.m.
20 Ivers Street, Brewer
\$5

LECTURES

Friday, Jan. 30

Judging a Fish by Its Cover: Can MSC Certification and Labeling Improve Marine Conservation?
11:10 a.m.
354 Aubert Hall

ART

"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

COMEDY

The Maine Attraction
presents **Baron Vaughn**

Friday, Jan. 30
9 p.m.
Main dining room,
Memorial Union

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

FILM

Kickin' Flicks:
"Role Models"

Friday, Jan. 30
7:30 and 10 p.m.
Bangor Room,
Memorial Union

SPORTS

Friday, Jan. 30

Men's and Women's Track
Reebok Indoor Games @
Reggie Lewis Center
Boston, Mass.
12 p.m.

Women's Ice Hockey

Northeastern
Alfond Arena
2 p.m.

Men's Ice Hockey

UMass Lowell
Alfond Arena
7 p.m.

Men's and Women's Swimming

Boston
College/URI/Dartmouth
Chestnut Hill, Mass.
All Day

Saturday, Jan. 31**Women's Basketball**

Binghamton
Alfond Arena
12 p.m.

Men's Basketball

Binghamton
Vestal, N.Y.
2 p.m.

Women's Ice Hockey

Northeastern
Alfond Arena
7 p.m.

Men's and Women's Swimming

Boston
College/URI/Dartmouth
Chestnut Hill, Mass.
All Day

Sunday, February 1**Men's Ice Hockey**

Massachusetts
Alfond Arena
4 p.m.

Tuesday, February 3**Men's Basketball**

Stony Brook
Alfond Arena
7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 4**Women's Basketball**

Stony Brook
Stony Brook, N.Y.
7 p.m.

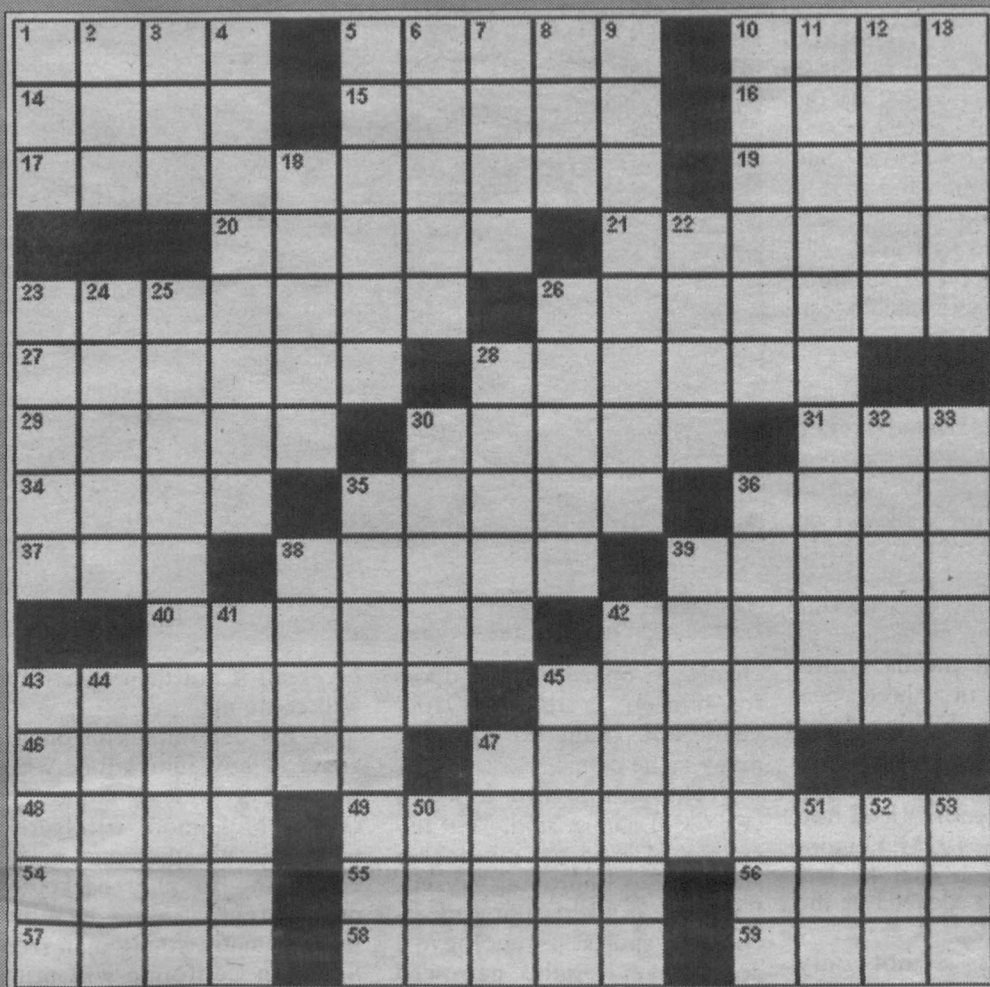


File photo ♦ The Maine Campus

The Maine Campus DISTRACTIONS

The Maine

CROSSWORD



ANSWER KEY FOUND IN SPORTS

DOWN

- 1- Miss Piggy's query
- 2- Human limb
- 3- Yank's foe
- 4- Scoundrel
- 5- Mariner
- 6- Piquant
- 7- Et (and other men)
- 8- Classical beginning
- 9- Connective
- 10- Dude who springs you from the can
- 11- Aimlessness
- 12- Bikini blast
- 13- Chairs
- 18- Made a hole
- 22- Sewing case
- 23- Songs for two
- 24- Convocation of witches
- 25- Partial dislocation
- 26- Bucolic
- 28- Gannet
- 30- Fungal infection of the skin or nails
- 32- Stickum
- 33- Whirling
- 35- Living in the open water
- 36- Farewell
- 38- accompli
- 39- Museum piece
- 41- Likenesses
- 42- Scented ointment
- 43- Headband
- 44- Rich cake
- 45- Walk-on role
- 47- Broad smile
- 50- Actress Gardner
- 51- Black bird
- 52- standstill
- 53- Spring month

ACROSS

- 1- Painter Chagall
- 5- Graceful birds
- 10- Prejudice
- 14- Hydrox rival
- 15- Choreographer Alvin
- 16- Chip in
- 17- Act of imbibing
- 19- It's a thought
- 20- Conductor Georg
- 21- Drop a security from an exchange
- 23- Demolish
- 26- Snappy comebacks
- 27- Unfair lender
- 28- Seam where two bones are fused
- 29- Grew less; 30- Japanese gateway
- 31- Tax pro
- 34- Lofty
- 35- Pale reddish purple
- 36- Celestial body
- 37- Actor Erwin
- 38- Ultimate
- 39- Bluffer's ploy
- 40- Chinese island
- 42- Mescal
- 43- Endurance
- 45- U.S. Army officer
- 46- Write down
- 47- Street urchin
- 48- Not a dup.
- 49- Paving material
- 54- Siouan speaker
- 55- Like Wrigley Field's walls
- 56- Pro follower
- 57- Studies
- 58- Slender boat
- 59- Absent

Crossword puzzles provided by
BestCrosswords.com
Used with permission.

Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 to April 20

Your friends and loved ones will feel upset because you are dedicating too much time to studying. Intellectual rewards will make you ignore what others are saying.

Taurus

April 21 to May 20

This morning you will feel full of energy and be able to stimulate people around you. Today is a favorable time for professional activities.

Gemini

May 21 to June 21

You will manage to implement your original ideas at work, but workmates might become somewhat envious of you. In the afternoon, an older person in your circle may trap you into a controversy.

Cancer

June 22 to July 22

You will be in a good intellectual shape, and relationships will be favored. This is a good day for meeting with friends. You are advised to listen to their opinions.

Leo

July 23 to Aug. 22

Self-confidence and initiative will help you succeed in business. In the afternoon, you will try to solve some of your loved one's problems.

Virgo

Aug. 23 to Sept. 22

In the morning, an older relative will offer you financial assistance, helping you to recover self-confidence. Your plans regarding a long trip may change in the afternoon.

Libra

Sept. 23 to Oct. 23

The unusual ideas you will have today might affect your friendships. You are advised not to impose your views on others. Consider other people's opinions too.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 to Nov. 22

You may have an original initiative which will prove to be successful. You are advised to accept the support offered by a close friend.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 to Dec. 21

You will have original ideas that will bring you financial benefits. An older lady in your circle will offer you the opportunity to join in a new partnership or to change your job. You are advised to seek loved one's opinion.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 to Jan. 20

Today is a favorable time for you to conclude contracts, to establish new partnerships and to make financial investments. You will manage to be convincing, and relationships with people around will be good.

Aquarius

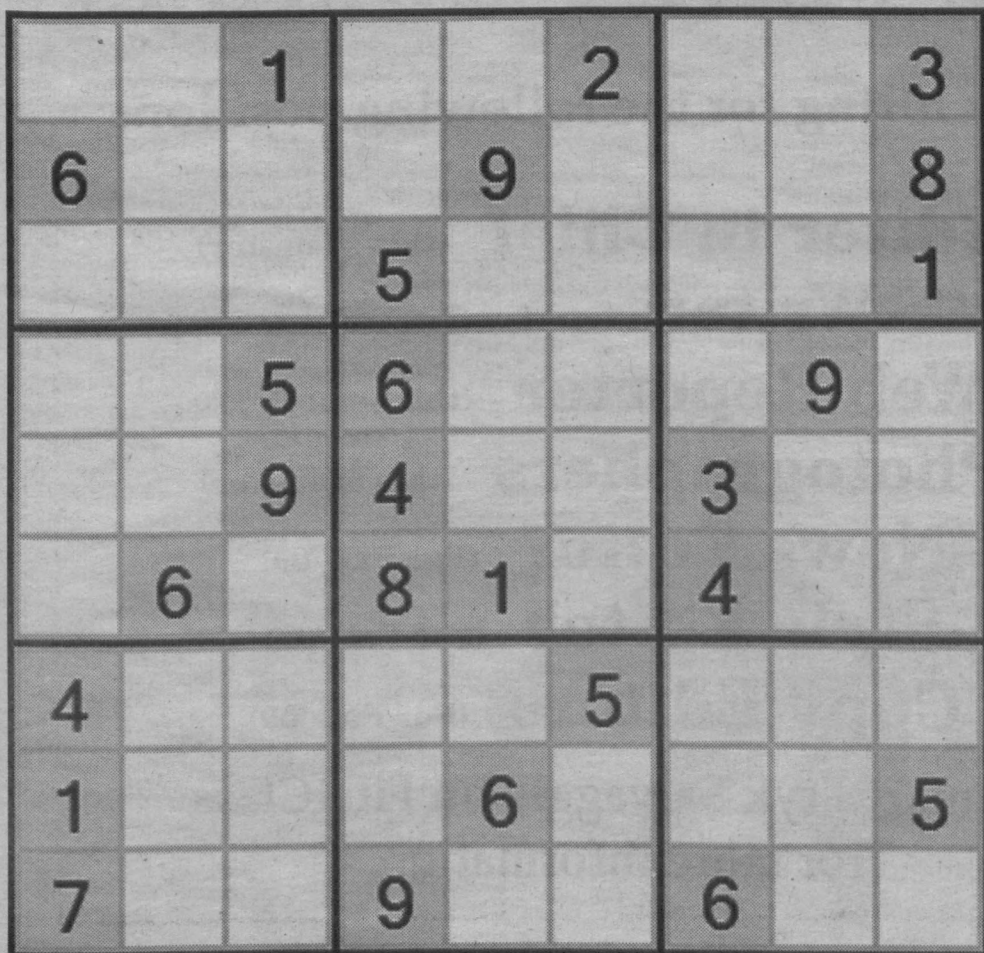
Jan. 21 to Feb. 19

Today you can obtain financial benefits easier than usual. You may want to avoid getting involved in more activities at a time. Avoid speculations as well, and consider your family's advice.

Pisces

Feb. 20 to March 19

Your enthusiasm will stimulate your loved ones. Together, you will make daring long-term plans. You are advised to avoid getting lost in details and wasting your energy.



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: **HARD**

Hockey

from page 16

after allowing a season high five goals and was replaced by junior Dave Wilson for the remainder of the weekend.

"Not playing on Sunday was a little bit of a wake-up call," Darling admitted. "It's not like it's my job. I have to work as hard as anyone else to keep it. That's what I have to do whenever I start again. I'm just going to make the most of it."

Coach Tim Whitehead and Marshall expressed there has been no loss of confidence in their starting goaltender.

"I have a lot of confidence in Scott," Whitehead said. "We just have to remind each

other that he's a freshman, and that he's been thrown in the fire, and there's going to be some highs and lows throughout the season. I'm 100 percent confident though that he'll bounce back and play well. He's just got to fight through a tough stretch, but he'll come on down the end and play well."

"We've said it all year long; we've got two quality goaltenders. They're like everybody else," Marshall said in defense of the struggling netminders. "Things sometimes aren't going to bounce their way, and we've still got all the confidence in the world in [Darling] and [Wilson], and we know they can do the job."

Marshall believes mishaps in protecting the net front have left the goalies vulnerable to scoring chances.

"We have to do a little better job protecting them, not allowing those second and third shots," Marshall said. "We've got to start boxing out better in front of our net, allowing them to see those, and start clearing pucks away."

Marshall also admits to shouldering some personal blame for the team's second half struggles.

"As seniors we've got to start leading the way a little more, myself especially," Marshall said. "I don't feel that my play lately has really been up to par."

"As seniors we've got to start leading the way a little more, myself especially."

Jeff Marshall
Senior co-captain
UMaine men's hockey

So I've got to really start by refocusing my own game and starting to make an impact before I can start pointing fingers at anybody else."

Aside from the disappointing result against BC, sophomore defenseman

Mike Banwell had a breakout weekend for the Black Bears, scoring his first two career goals, one on a power play and the other at even strength.

"I thought [Banwell] bounced back with a real good game the second night," Whitehead said. "He contributed offensively again and was only at fault for one scoring chance defensively. He was very assertive on the weekend and really stepped up and played well."

The remaining schedule does not get any easier for the Black Bears, who finish the season with two game sets against rivals University of New Hampshire and Boston University, along with hosting the University of Vermont and traveling to both UMass schools. UMaine is currently winless on the season against UNH, BU and Vermont.

McLemore

from page 16

senior year.

"It was a great experience for me. My school was never known for basketball," McLemore said. "I feel like I really grew as a person through that senior year."

That growth has served him well so far while playing for the Black Bears.

McLemore came into a lineup that returned five guards—three of them starters—and added four more to the 2008-2009 recruiting class. The prospects of him having a major contribution in what seemed a less-than-ideal situation appeared slim, but those prospects soon changed. By the time tip-off came for UMaine's first game, McLemore had already earned himself a spot in the starting lineup.

He responded by leading the team with 24 points in 30 minutes in a victory, exceeding all expectations—perhaps even his own.

"Our first game, I was just really surprised. I came out and scored 24 points, but I was like, what is going on here?" McLemore recalled. "The first game I was just totally shocked ... but the games now I just go out and I'm playing with the guys."

Whether that means effortlessly dropping in a three coming off a screen, locking down his defender, or finishing on a dazzling drive like the one that sent the game against UNH into overtime on Jan. 19, McLemore has made it clear that he has what it takes to succeed at the Division I level.

But success is not only measured on the court. McLemore knows that he has a



Amy Brooks ♦ The Maine Campus

Opposing teams recognize the threat of Gerald McLemore and do their best to keep him from receiving the ball.

chance to open a lot of doors for himself in the next four years and plans to open as many as he can.

"I haven't signed a major yet," McLemore said, "but my main goal is to get my degree and to keep improving myself. I've always liked sports medicine or sports psychology. I don't have it quite narrowed down yet, but if I could play basketball overseas, that would

be great. If not then something will come up."

If his determination on the court is any indication, when something does come up Gerald McLemore will surely be ready. Whether that means continuing to play basketball or continuing his education, the enigmatic young man from Southern California will brush off defenders, just like he does winter in Maine.



Amy Brooks ♦ The Maine Campus

Simon Denis-Pepin skates along the boards moving the puck from behind the net.

Hey, want a job?

The Maine Campus

is now hiring for the following positions:

-Editor in Chief (this semester)

-Writers (this semester)

-Web Reporter (this semester)

-Photographers (this semester)

-News Editor (For Fall '09)

-Style Editor (For Fall '09)

-Copy Editors (For Fall '09)

Contact Eryk Salvaggio on FirstClass
for more information.



Amy Brooks ♦ The Maine Campus

Each sport has its own section of the equipment room for UMaine Student Athletes.

Behind the scenes: Life in the equipment room

By Dayna Margarita
For The Maine Campus

My work-study job on campus is to do laundry for all the student athletes. There is a system in which each team puts all their laundry in a bin in their locker room. The other workers and I get the laundry from the locker rooms, and we wash it, dry it and go hang all of their clothes back up in their locker.

We do other things, such as washing and folding their uniforms and putting them back in their "cubbies." We also put their uniforms in their travel bags before they travel and hand out their bags when they come to get them. There are always pants to be sewn, a new shirt to be given out because it is too small or a different shoe to give out because the shoes they ordered were too large. There is much to do in the equipment room, and it is all done for the student athletes — to make sure they have what they need to succeed. The

equipment room workers do so much for the athletes.

The two equipment managers are Steven Jones, usually referred to as "Jonesy," and Kelly Clifford. They work relentlessly to make sure the

It is a process that takes up most of their day. Their entire job is to satisfy the student athletes.

athletes are satisfied. They make all the orders, do the laundry, make phone calls and go to all the sporting events to make sure each team gets what they need. It is a process that takes up most of their day.

There are some student athletes who stop by the equip-

ment room just to say "Hi Kelly, hope you're having a good day," or "Hi Jonesy, just wanted to pop in to say hello." Some of these athletes keep in touch with the equipment managers, which I can see makes them happy. They feel appreciated when an athlete takes the time just to say hello.

During the time between 2 and 5 p.m., there is much to be done because this is the time most teams practice. There is always a student athlete coming to us looking for practice clothes, which we hand out to them after they hand us their dirty ones. There are other questions, such as "Where is Jonesy at? I need to speak with him." Sometimes I cannot answer that question, because Jonesy is making sure every athlete is given the satisfaction of knowing they are going to have the equipment they need in order to achieve success. That is something that should not be taken for granted.

All-Star games need change

By Alex Leonard
For The Maine Campus

The time of year is upon us once again. Now that the holidays and New Year's celebrations have come and gone, professional sports fans have little to look forward to until June when the NBA and NHL conclude their marathon playoffs. However, late January and early February do offer something other than the Super Bowl. It is around this time that the NHL, NBA and NFL recognize their best players by hosting events that give them a chance to shine. Or at least that is the intent. Quick poll question: Who watched the NHL skills competition on Saturday?

With the threat of injury and baffling competitions taking place, fewer "stars" are actually showing up to these events — which were supposedly created for them. Start first with the NHL, which was the most recent to host an All-Star weekend. Although the event itself was successful because it helped showcase the 100th anniversary of the Montreal Canadiens, the skills competition was a joke. Take the breakaway challenge: Shooters go one-on-one with a goalie and attempt moves they haven't practiced since playing on the ponds. Needless to say, it was a disaster. The NHL, instead of focusing on these mindless circus acts, needs to incorporate more of the passion the game entails. With the Winter Classic being such a tremendous hit on Jan. 1, why not leave well enough alone? Whatever buzz was created from the ice on Wrigley dissipated after last weekend.

For the NHL, it is time to take a page out of the European soccer books. Hockey is the only sport in America, sans soccer of course, that includes participants from all over Europe. Instead of taking a break, two days if you participate, why not take the best NHL players and have them compete in a tournament after the Stanley Cup. Similar to the Euro Championships held every four years in soccer, the NHL could capitalize by encouraging its players to play for their country. As is evidenced by baseball and the World Baseball Classic, players are more apt to play hard when they have something on the line other than conference bragging rights.

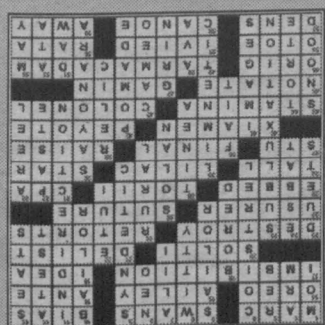
The NBA is not much better off in terms of their All-Star festivities. While they do have the dunk contest on their side, the game itself is essentially pointless. It would be nice for the NBA to try to shake up their all-star showcase. Instead of playing an official game, why not do a weekend of three-on-three tournaments? Keeping the conferences intact, take the best 12 from both conferences and essentially have an elite eight. You could then make the main attraction the dunk contest at the end, and no one would have to labor for three hours watching Kobe and LeBron trade dunks.

At last we have reached the NFL. Or as myself and others like to call it, the No Fun League. If the Super Bowl can be argued as the greatest sports spectacle, can the Pro Bowl be argued as the worst? After this year, this wonderful event will be moved from a truly deserving place, Honolulu, to the site of next year's Super Bowl, Miami. For all the discipline Roger Goodell has instilled in the league, his plan to move the Pro Bowl is downright moronic. While it may be time to make changes regarding the event, moving it to the continental U.S. just does not make sense. Miami gets a Super Bowl almost every other year it seems, and to play the Pro Bowl there is just as illogical. The NFL ought to forgo any All-Star event and do a fan week where the "stars" can interact with fans on the field. It only makes sense, given the uncompetitive nature of the Pro Bowl.

All three sports have given way to the media and money. While the NHL is undoubtedly the worst and the NFL the best, neither has a perfect system. Until the respective commissioners realize that fans want to be entertained and not bored, the All-Star festivities will remain nothing more than a scam to take fans money. In politics change comes about through voting. In sports change comes about through low ratings and poor ticket sales. Exercise your democratic right, fans.

I want your opinion. Check out my blog at <http://rumblin-mumblin.blogspot.com>

Crossword Solution



Please drink
responsibly

When taking care of business
means taking care of athletes.

THE MAINE CAMPUS sports

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2009

15



McLemore shines

Southern Cal freshman makes transition

By Michael Pare
For The Maine Campus

On a basketball team comprised almost entirely of players with a Maine connection, Gerald McLemore is something of an enigma. Rather than attend a university on his native West Coast, the 6-foot-3-inch freshman travelled east to the University of Maine.

McLemore comes to us all the way from San Diego, Cal., a place he accurately describes as "the polar opposite" of Maine.

"I always wanted to go to school on the East coast," McLemore said. "I'm from the city in San Diego so I wanted something rural. All of a sudden Maine popped up and I thought, what better place?"

His logic may be hard to follow for someone who has had their pipes freeze one too many times in harsh Maine winters, but for him, it's just a change of scenery: "You know, I border Mexico and Maine borders Canada," McLemore said, "so I just thought it would be a great experience to come here for four years."

This experience is lost on many potential students and student-athletes who wouldn't consider coming to Maine for fear that they will be sent home for winter break on a Popsicle stick.

McLemore's dismissiveness of the winter is refreshing to hear in a place where threats by friends and relatives pack up and

move to Florida are as pervasive as the cold.

"It's just something you get used to," he said "As long as you have the right material — clothes, coats and boots, you're good." A smile crossed his face as he added, "but I did learn the hard way. I only had sneakers and shorts for the first month when I got here."

That kind of get-up could make walking through the mall in a blizzard a veritable nightmare, but when he steps on the basket-

ball court those sneakers are all he needs to pursue his dream.

McLemore's basketball aspirations began when he was four years old and his father, his biggest basketball influence, put a ball into his hands. From there he climbed from one level of competition to another, until it became clear that basketball could be more than just a game for him.

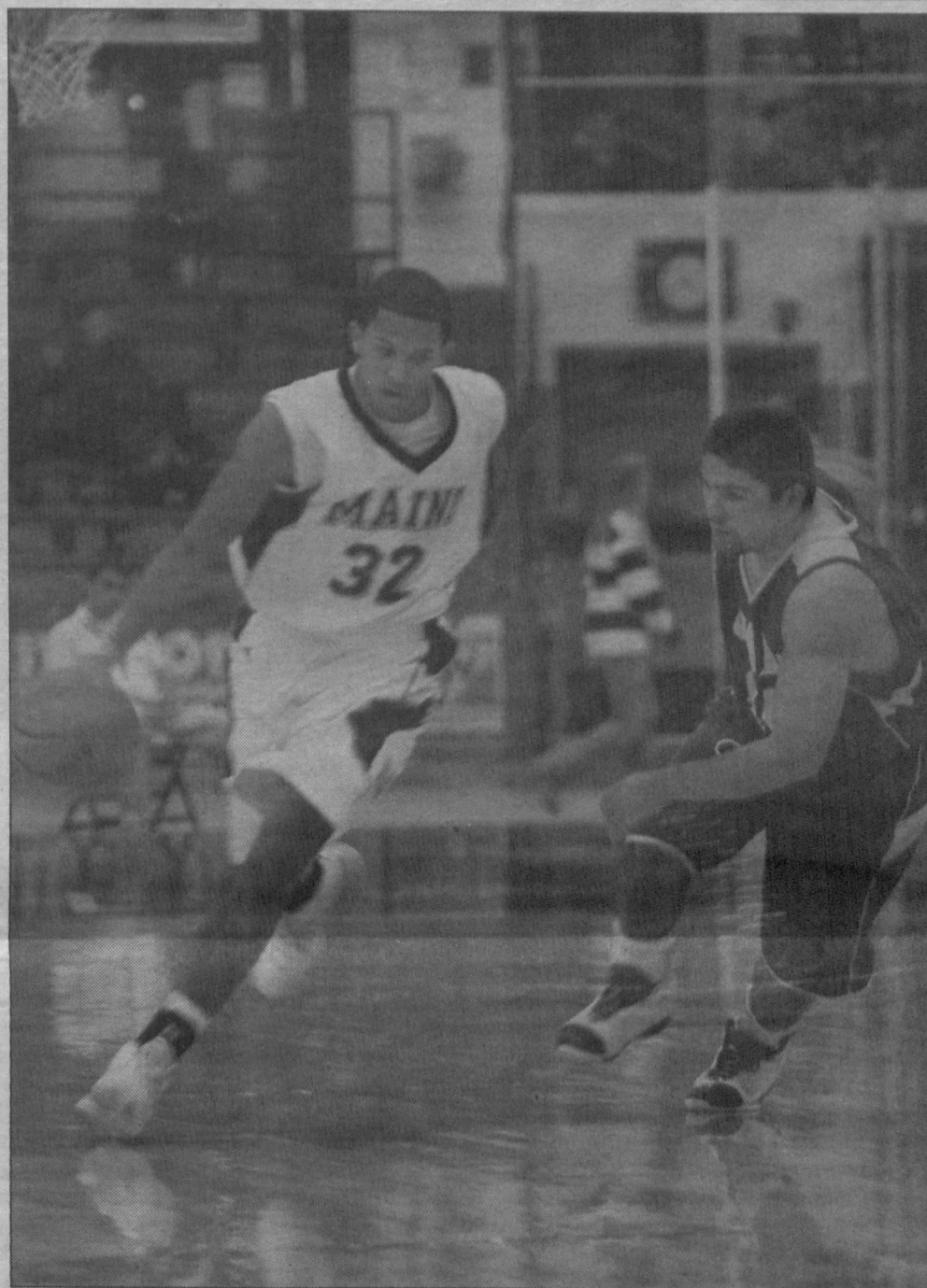
"I first knew when I hit eighth grade and went into high school," McLemore recalls. "I started playing varsity as a freshman and I realized that talents can take you further than just playing in the back yard ... you can go play college ball and get a free education so I really honed in and focused up."

His hard work rewarded him both on and off the court. His skills earned him national recognition by scouts and a leading role in Scripps Ranch High Schools first-ever Division II championship in his

"I'm from San Diego so I wanted something rural. All of a sudden Maine popped up and I thought, what better place?"

Gerald McLemore
Freshman Guard
UMaine men's basketball

See **McLEMORE** on page 14



Amy Brooks ♦ The Maine Campus

Gerald McLemore makes his way down court in his 16 point game against UMPI.

UM hopes to rebound after tough stretch

Men's hockey clashes with UMass teams, attempt to snap eight-game winless streak

By Steven McCarthy
Staff Writer

With just more than a month remaining in the regular season, it is a desperate time for the University of Maine men's hockey team.

UMaine hasn't recorded a victory in eight games since a sweep of Union College during the last weekend before winter break. They have surrendered three or more goals in all but one of those contests.

After showing signs of improvement by tying Providence College 2-2 on Jan. 18, the Black Bears were dismantled by 14th-ranked Boston College last weekend in Chestnut Hill, Mass., losing 6-3 and 4-1.

The Black Bears now look to their first win of the month on Friday night at Alford Arena when they host the University of Massachusetts at Lowell at 7 p.m. The February schedule will start fresh Sunday afternoon with a 4 p.m. matchup against UMass.

"We haven't had a very good start to the second half, but we're still right there in a playoff spot, so we can't afford to be dropping these games, and we're starting to run out of time," said senior co-captain Jeff Marshall. "We've got to start making a move here right away."

Sunday's game is the first meeting of the season between the three teams in contention for the final spots in the Hockey East playoff.

The pair of losses to Boston College dropped UMaine into the eighth spot in the Hockey East Standings. UMass, Lowell built a four-point margin over the Black Bears by taking two games against Merrimack College, and is one point ahead in the seventh spot after earning a point with a tie against Vermont.

Freshman goaltender Scott Darling was benched midway through Saturday's game at Boston College



Amy Brooks ♦ The Maine Campus

Scott Darling repositions himself after making a save.

See **HOCKEY** on page 14