

Spring 3-8-1983

# Maine Campus March 08 1983

Maine Campus Staff

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# the daily **Maine Campus**

The University of Maine at Orono  
student newspaper  
since 1875

vol. 92 no. 32

Tuesday, March 8, 1983

## Pot bill downed by Maine House

By Mike Harman  
Staff Writer

The Maine House of Representatives Thursday voted down a bill which would have reinstated criminal penalties for the possession of a small amount of marijuana.

The bill, introduced by Rep. Harriet B. Lewis, R-Auburn, was defeated 23-44.

In the 1970s, as part of its new criminal code, Maine made possession of 1.5 ounces or less of marijuana a civil defense, punishable by a fine. Previously, possession of any amount of marijuana was a criminal offense, punishable by fines, jail terms, or both.

Lewis said the criminal code revision was approved as a package, and no separate vote was taken on marijuana decriminalization. She said drug abuse was a "bi-partisan concern."

"I think the time has come to foster an anti-pot psychology" among youth, she said.

Opponents of the bill, including Rep. Sharon B. Benoit, D-South Portland, said the bill would mean a criminal record for anyone caught with marijuana, including young people who might be experimenting with the drug for the first time.

Benoit said no young person deserves to be "branded as a criminal" for experimenting with the drug once.

(see MARIJUANA page 3)

## Maine host in tourney opener

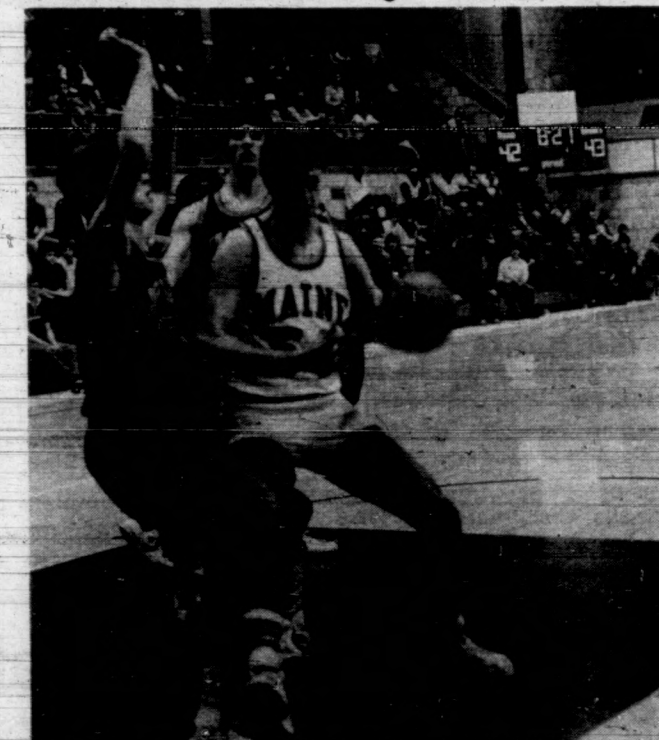
Playoffs begin  
tonight at 7:30

By Steve Bullard  
Staff Writer

The search for the pot of gold at the end of the tournament rainbow begins Tuesday night for the University of Maine men's basketball team as the Black Bears open the North Atlantic Conference tournament against the Niagara Purple Eagles at the Pit. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

For the Black Bears, the ultimate prize would be a trip to the 52 team NCAA National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament that will be awarded to the NAC tournament winner, which will be crowned Saturday in Boston.

For now, however, the most realistic goal will be a win over fifth ranked Niagara to reach the semi-finals Thursday against (see HOOPSTERS page 6)



Center Jeff Cross (above) will be a key if Maine hopes to defeat Niagara tonight at the Pit. (Ferazzi photo)

## Bomb designer to speak on freeze

By Dee Brooks  
Staff Writer

William Shuler, a thermonuclear bomb designer and military systems analyst, will speak at Hauck Auditorium tonight at 8 p.m. The lecture is being sponsored by the Guest Lecture Series.

Shuler, associate director for Military Applications and chief of nuclear weapons at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in Berkeley, Calif., is strongly opposed to the nuclear freeze resolution which would stop the development, production and testing of all nuclear weapons.

He believes the United States could reduce the size of its nuclear weapons force if it updated and modernized its forces so they were better able to endure a Soviet attack.

"There's no way to un-invent nuclear weapons. They're here and what we have to do is focus on controlling them," Shuler told his Lab employees at a special "weapons dialogue" held in September. The "weapons dialogue" was held to discuss future U.S. defense problems and the Lab's role in developing powerful nuclear weapons.

Shuler says preventing nuclear forces from deteriorating to a point where they are open to attack would be one positive step toward avoiding nuclear war.

"What we need is a totally, or almost totally, survivable system. For example, if it were feasible to put about 10 missiles 3000 feet underground, and be sure that we had a way to get them out, it would be an effective deterrent, as long as the Soviets knew we could use the weapons. Or if we had a good defense and antiballistic missile system that really worked," Shuler said in the September 1982 issue of *Discover* magazine.

Shuler attended William and Mary College in Virginia on a football scholarship. He attended graduate school at William and Mary and studied for his doctoral thesis in high energy physics.

(See SPEAKER page 2)



Participants in the Fiji Marathon rest (above), while others take their turn running in the 24 hour event (left). (Ferazzi photos)

## Bay State team tops in Fiji run

Runners collect \$10,600  
for cancer society

By Rich Garven  
Staff Writer

The Bay State Bombers from Massachusetts and the Bowdoin College A Team from Brunswick raised the most money and ran the most miles, respectively, in the fifth annual FIJI 24-hour relay marathon held Saturday and Sunday in the fieldhouse.

The event was sponsored by the members and little sisters of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity to benefit the Maine chapter of the American Cancer Society.

The Bay State Bombers raised the most money for the second year in a row. Of the \$10,600 pledged by the 35 teams running in the marathon, the Bay State Bombers easily garnered the most pledged money with their collection of pledges worth \$1,666. A number of teams were in the \$600-\$700 ranges.

Matt Smith, FIJI social service chairman

(see FIJI page 2)



## New steps for Fogler estimated at \$100,000

By Bruce Osgood  
Staff Writer

The Fogler Library steps may soon be renovated if plans by the physical plant materialize.

"It's a priority item for this department," Thomas Cole, acting physical plant director, said. "It has gotten to a point where we need to do something for several reasons, including safety."

James Keene, building and trades superintendent, said temporary

concrete patches have been applied in the past to prevent the steps from becoming a hazard.

"It is beyond what just repairing can take care of," Keene said. "The original stone is either soft or deteriorated."

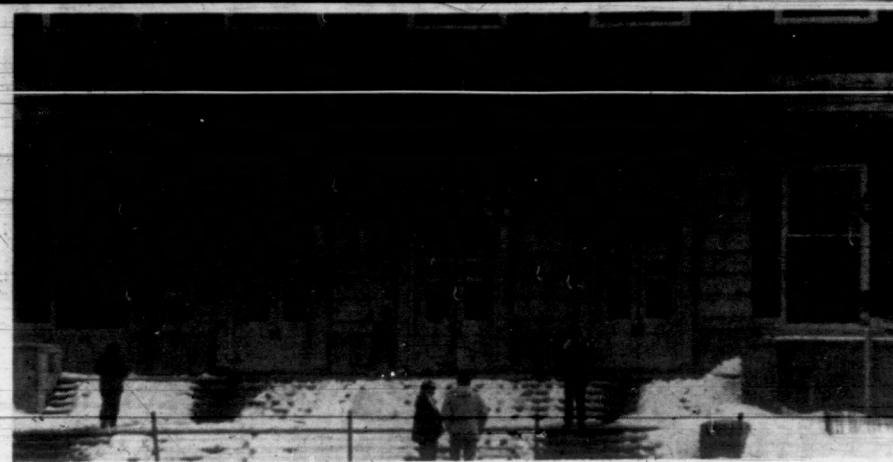
Cole said the cost of the project would be more than \$100,000 and said he is optimistic it will begin within the next 18 months.

"It is a very extensive project," Cole said. "You could put a set of steps up to the doors and people could get in and out but it certainly would not be in keeping with the architecture of the building, particularly one that is pretty much the focus of the campus."

"The preliminary designs were what I would term elaborate and very costly—well out of the scope of any project that the university could afford. What I am trying to do is reduce the scope of that design," Cole said.

Funding for the project would come from System-Wide Services, a wing of the Chancellors Office, Cole said.

Cole said he plans to meet with the architect in the next two weeks to discuss changes to the preliminary design.



New steps for Fogler could cost as much as \$100,000. Construction should begin within the next 18 months. (MacGregor photo)

## Speaker

(continued from page 1)

After many years as a weapons designer, Shuler became more interested in the larger question of national defense. He is now one of the top decision makers and deals closely with the Pentagon.

Currently, Shuler and Military Applications is involved in the MX and Trident programs in an attempt to eliminate the U.S. defense force "vulnerability problem."

Shuler was involved in the development of the Minuteman land-based missile, the Polaris and Trident submarine-based missiles, the neutron bomb and other highly advanced weapons.

## Fiji

(continued from page 1)

and organizer of the event said in the past, only 75 percent of the total pledges were collected. Smith said the Bay State Bombers turned in more than they pledged last year and he said he expected them to turn in all of the pledged money this year.

The Bay State Bombers ran 224 miles to place second to Bowdoin A team for total miles ran. The Bowdoin ran 259.6 miles. The record is 273 miles set by a UMO off-campus team, the Granolas, in 1981.

Of the 35 teams that ran, over half were made up of off-campus. Smith said he felt this was important to the event because it shows the marathon is

a community-type event and not one that applies only to UMO.

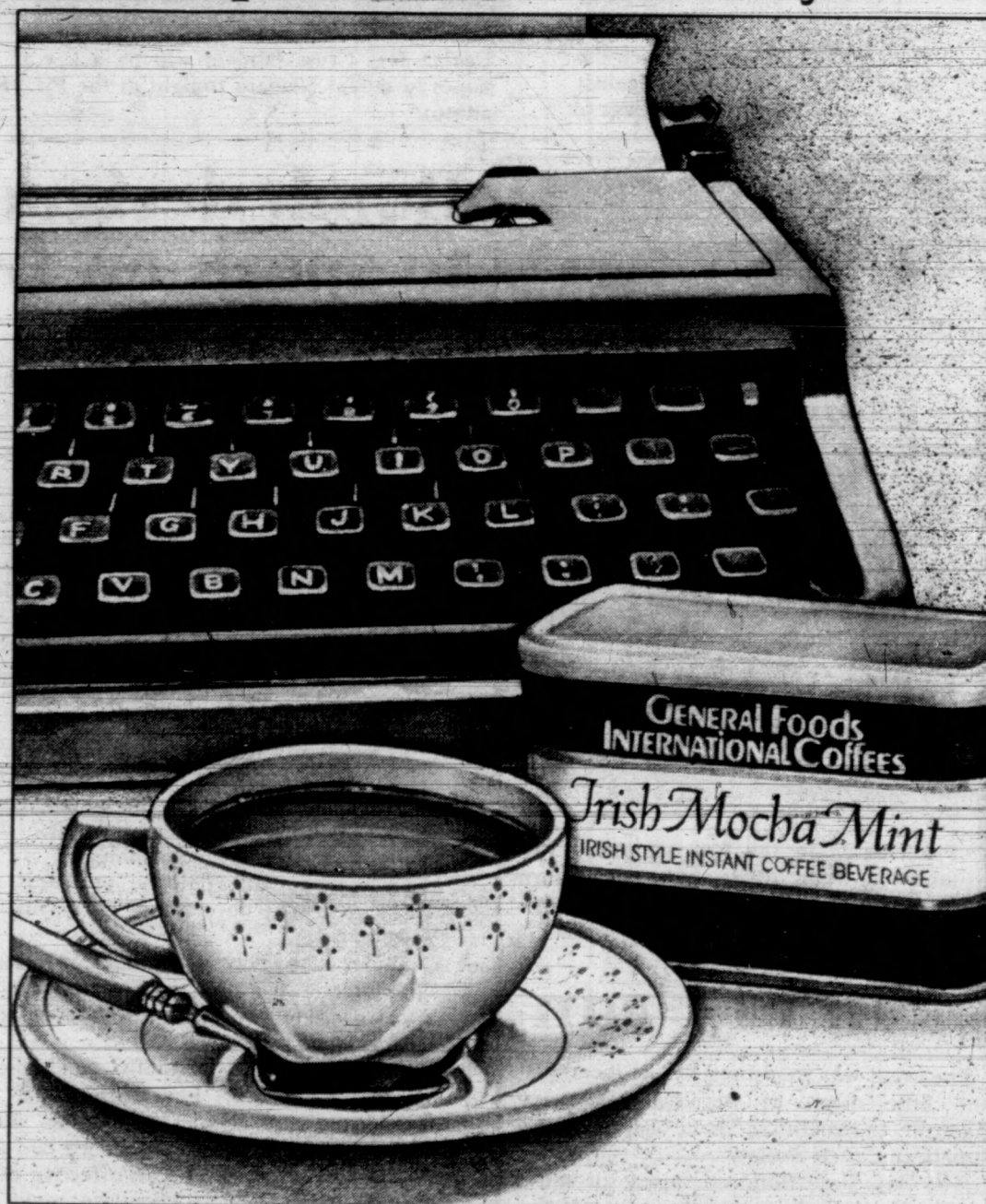
The highest finisher mile wise from UMO off-campus was a team called T.P.W.R.S.C.F. with 224 miles. The highest finisher for an on-campus team from UMO was Nutting's Knights with 222 miles.

Smith said the most important aspect of the marathon is the raising of money for the American Cancer Society. "People like Sandy Cook, who organizes the Bay State Bombers, have a grasp of what the marathon is," Smith said. "They realize that raising money and not winning the marathon is the most important thing."

Michael Xirinachs II, area director for the American Cancer Society, said he was extremely pleased that the marathon met the FIJI goal of \$10,000 in pledges. He said the money would be awarded to the cancer society sometime during the last week of April.

"Richard Upham, an alumnus of UMO and a member of FIJI while in school, will receive the check," Xirinachs said. "Richard is the head of the American Cancer Society in Maine and is extremely pleased with the work done by his fraternity chapter to benefit the American Cancer Society."

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# Lamb births perfect: 100 percent survival rate attributed to strong student support

By Gina Ferazzi  
Staff Writer

Pee-Wee weighed only four pounds at birth and now has to be hand fed every few hours. This orphan lamb is just one of 26 lambs born this semester at the sheep barn in Orono.

Right now, students enrolled in the sheep production course and those in the Maine Animal Club are closely monitoring the birthing process. They spend one night a week from 9 p.m.-7 a.m. on lambing watch. The ewes are also checked every 2-3 hours during the day.

The sheep flock is used primarily for teaching purposes. "We are trying to provide on-hand learning experience for the students," said Barbara Barton, assistant professor of animal and veterinary sciences.

"We've had 100 percent lamb survival," said

Karen Baldwin, assistant shepherd. She attributes this to the heavy student support of the program. "Having no deaths is kind of unusual," Barton said. Lambs tie up so much income that it's very important to get a live one. "Pee-Wee is the closest we've come to losing one," Barton added.

As a teaching flock, the students learn sheep production and management in the marketing of wool and meat. "In this way the flock can be a working flock as well as a teaching one," Baldwin said.

Most of the students have witnessed a birth, and have seen films on the process. "The best way to learn is to go through the process yourself. If a student doesn't feel comfortable in a situation he calls for help," Barton said.

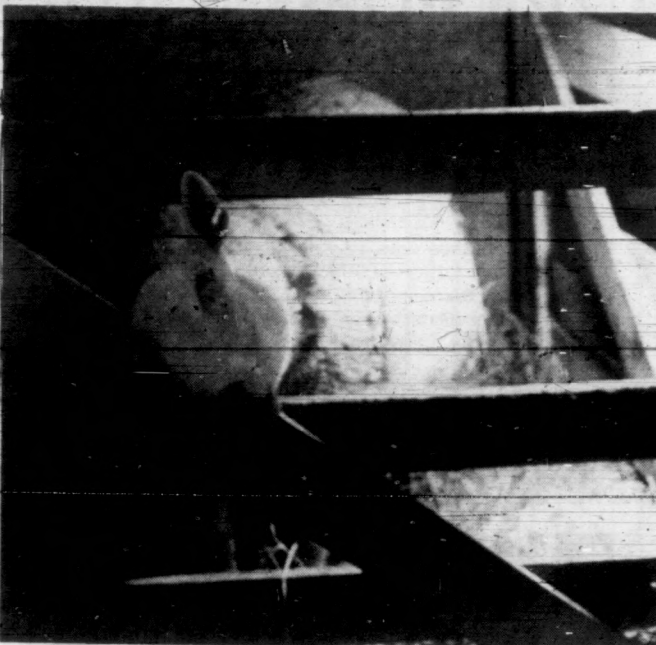
When the ewe shows the first signs of birthing, she is put into a lambing pen to separate her from the others. The water bag breaking is usually the first sign. Within the next 20 minutes, the feet and nose of the lamb should follow.

When the lamb is born, the person on hand clears the membrane away from the nose and mouth. If necessary, the nose is tickled with hay to stimulate breathing.

The ewe will then start licking the lamb to stimulate circulation. In its new hay environment, the lamb will try to stand up immediately. The lamb and its ewe are kept together in the pen for several days. "This helps make a strong bond between the two," Baldwin said.

The next step of the lambing process is to dip the lamb's navel in iodine solution to prevent infection. Since Maine is a selenium deficient area, new lambs are given a shot of BO-SE.

The student must also make sure the lamb gets colostrum, the first milk which is rich in antibodies and fats. The lambs absorb these antibodies from the ewe's milk and this strengthens their immunities.



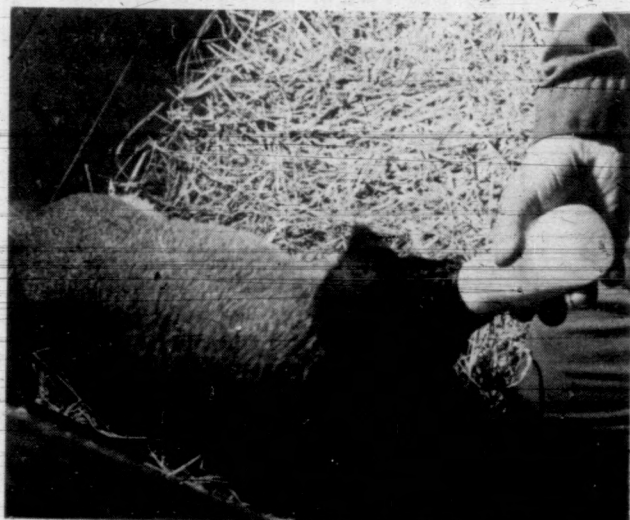
Expectant ewe waits for birthing in lambing pen.

(Ferazzi photo)

As with humans, the mother's (ewe's) general health is checked after the birth. The monitor makes sure the milk is normal and that the afterbirth is delivered within the hour.

"Lambing can be a surprisingly short event or a long process too," Baldwin said. Multiple births are not uncommon either. The student has to stick around and observe the ewe for further births (or just make sure she's had them all).

The lambs are tagged and their weights recorded after birth. The barn holds one ram and 42 ewes, 23 of which are left to lamb. The breeds are Hampshire, Suffolk, Cheviot and other various mixtures.



Pee-Wee weighing only four pounds at birth, is now at a healthy 12 pounds thanks to daily hand feedings. (Ferazzi photo)

## ● Marijuana (Continued from page 1)

Rep. John Bott, R-Orono, said, "I'm opposed to it (criminalization) because I think the current laws are just fine. I strongly feel state government should not get into the business of legislating morality."

Bott said legalization of marijuana, "should be considered down the road, but I think it's premature to talk about that now."

The bill will now go on to the Senate.

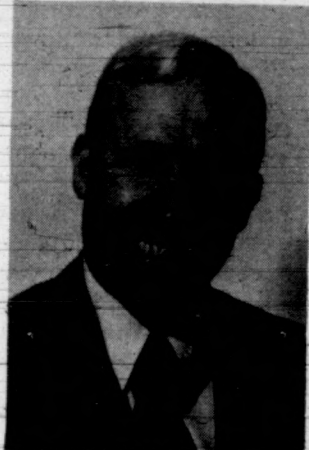
Sen. Ken Hayes, D-Veazie, said, "That bill came out of the committee with a recommendation of 'ought not to pass'. When it got into the House, it became more or less a party issue, with Republican support and Democratic opposition."

"My hunch is there will be very little debate on the issue in the Senate, and we'll probably accept the 'ought not to pass'," Hayes said.

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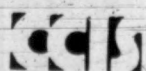
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## Column as I Seeum

VICTOR R. HATHAWAY

### Good news!!!

Last week, President Reagan, in a moment of exasperation, slammed the press for not publishing enough good news. Dan Rather reported the story for the CBS Evening News, and with a sophomoric twinkle in his eye, replied that CBS had no comment on Reagan's remarks.

Maybe, to a point, Rather was justified in being flippant. Perhaps Reagan was a bit naive in his criticism. But his point remains untarnished despite its somewhat goofy packaging. There is a lot of good news out there, and it takes a little digging to find it.

Take the economy, for instance.

Night after night, the network news reminds us that the unemployment rate is near 10 percent. But subtract that figure from 100, and we find the employment rate is near 90 percent. While that fact in no way diminishes the suffering of those who are out of work, it's darn good news for nine out of every 10 workers. And for all of us, there's been a lot of good economic news lately.

Inflation has held steady and even shows signs of weakening. The price of oil is dropping which means the price of just about everything else should at least hold if not drop along with it. The stock market broke new records almost every afternoon last week, and venture capital investments skyrocketed in 1982. Interest rates have been deteriorating over the past few months, and last month the leading economic indicators rose the fastest in 32 years.

Economic analysts have pronounced several times in the past year that the recession is "bottoming out," and it may be a bit early this time to start crowing. But by watching nightly the plight of 10 percent of the population, one could come away with the impression that the economy is going to hell in a handcart. It's just not so.

Here are a couple other items of good news, perhaps not earthshattering, but good news doesn't always have to be big news.

In El Salvador last Sunday, a bloody civil war came to a virtual halt for the day as both sides nobly strived to observe an unofficial truce in honor of the Pope's visit. If one man can be the reason for only one day's peace on the battlefield, that's good news.

And last Wednesday in Orono, a conservative student group and a progressive student group dropped ideological differences and sat down at a table together in the Union to help a religious student group collect signatures for human rights, thereby setting a precedent some doubted possible.

All of these items received news coverage, of course. But, still, there is no secret to selling news in general. And though Rather couldn't say so on national television, he knew it. Good news doesn't sell, dirty laundry does. That's what listeners want to hear. A little death and destruction here and there is good for the soul, something akin to watching someone else slip on the ice: good thing it didn't happen to me.

Victor R. Hathaway is a senior journalism major from Bryant Pond, Maine.

## Time out for praise

The Maine Masque Theatre wrapped up a week of performances Sunday and demonstrated once again that although this theater group is made up of students, the players have the ability and determination to put on a professional show.

Members of the Masque Theater, now in its 77th season, performed Arthur Miller's play, *All My Sons*, March 1-6 in the Pavilion Theater. It was the group's performance at the tiny Pavilion that proved the high quality of its acting.

The Pavilion normally seats 150 people but for *All My Sons*, 30 seats were added. The audience surrounded the small, round stage and was so close to the actors that several members of the audience could whisper something in the ears of the actors.

It is because of this closeness to the audience, that the players were forced to put on a very convincing show. The play's director, James Bost, a professor of theater and chairman of the department of theater and dance, said the players must not appear to the audience that they are faking it. An actor could get away with it at a place like Hauck Auditorium, but not at the Pavilion, he said.

But Bost and his team had the audience of *All My Sons* captivated and the only time the audience seemed to move during the show Sunday afternoon was at the first intermission, when nearly everyone rushed out the doors to gasp for fresh air.

The theater group tries to get at least one show during the year in the Pavilion, because it's good experience for theater majors. Until the late 1970s,

the Pavilion was used as a place for experiments on sheep and later as a stock judging pavilion. Although none of UMO's theater graduates have made it "big" on Broadway, several have become professional performers, Bost said.

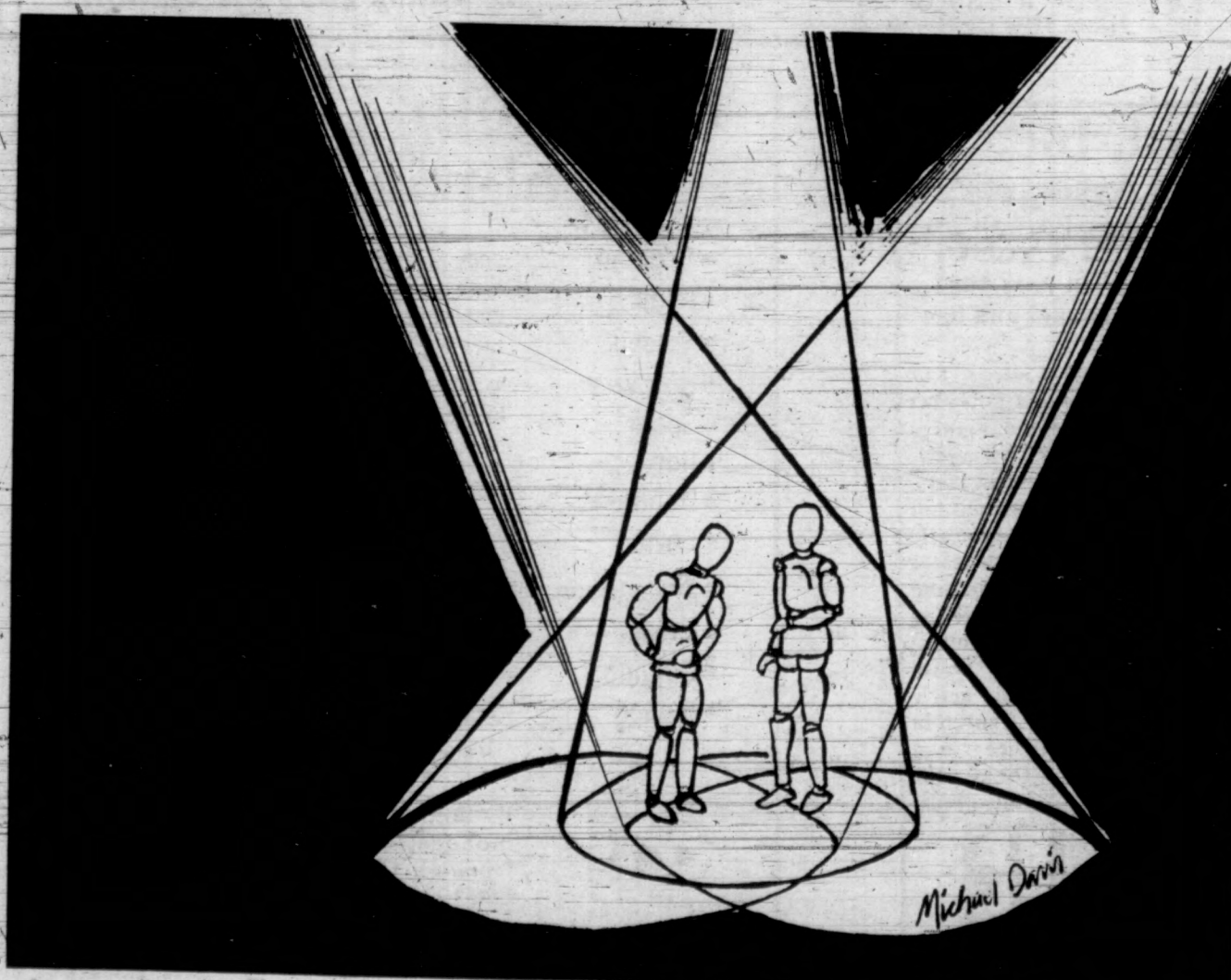
But the more important point is not so much where the group performs, but how they perform. And being able to perform so well does not come magically. These people are giving a lot of themselves. Bost estimates they are each working about 200 hours in a little less than two months' time to put on a play. Like many other students involved in organizations, they are doing this incredible amount of work on top of their class work and often even part-time jobs.

Since the actors receive no money for their work, their motivation must be their love of acting and any fun they have while performing. Ticket money is used for costumes, lights and props. It's a self-supporting organization.

What helps make a university a vibrant and respected place is not the speeches of college officials, but the talented efforts of people in organizations such as the Maine Masque Theatre.

People in such organizations teach us all a lesson on hard work, dedication, purpose and success.

Joe Ludo

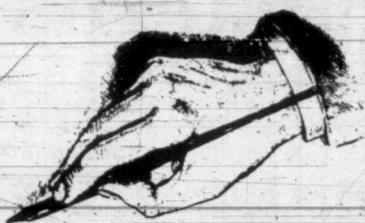


Michael Davis



# Response

when  
writing...



The Maine Campus welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be 300 words or less and include a name and telephone number. Anonymous and open letters are welcome, but names will be withheld from publication only under special circumstances. The Maine Campus reserves the right to edit letters for length, taste and libel.

## Unacceptable behavior at Den's restaurant

To the Editor:

I am writing on the issue of people's manners or the lack thereof in some cases. Feb. 23 I went to dine at the Bear's Den with three friends of

mine. I had already placed my order when the waitress came over to our table and told me my meal ticket would not work. I asked to speak to the manager to see what alternatives could be arranged—instead was insulted. First he accused me of abusing my meal ticket, and then he accused me of having caused him trouble before about the same thing.

I can accept my meal ticket's failure to work, but I cannot accept being rudely accused of abusing my meal ticket or of previously causing trouble when I have not. I have never had any problems

before when I ate there, and had never before spoken to the manager.

The manager's rudeness insulted me very much and also caused me embarrassment in front of my friends and all the other people there. The manager's behavior was quite unacceptable for a man in his position and was also quite bad for publicity. How can this man be allowed to hold a responsible position when he has such a lack of consideration for people's feelings and rights?

I am sending this to the Campus because I believe people should be aware of such inconsiderate behavior and should fight against it. If I had been his boss, he would definitely be fired.

Anne Hornberger  
Androscoggin



## BLOOM COUNTY

by Berke Breathed



## Commentary

John Anthony Olore

## The eyes of inexperience

It is hard to believe my first year of college is now three-quarters complete, but it is. It feels as though only yesterday I was moving into this dormitory, thinking: "Wow. Can you imagine this? Me, a poor immigrant's son from Presque Isle at college?" It was too good to be true at the time.

But that was August and things grew all too true too quickly. I found myself not among interesting, intelligent, worldly scholars, nor among poets, painters, or musicians, but surrounded by incompetent, beer-guzzling barbarians. Something told me immediately that my freshman year was going to be a struggle.

Not that I am any great prize myself, but the lot of individuals with whom I was forced to coexist deftly made "Animal House" look like "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood." However, despite all of Residential Life's wicked machinations, I slowly managed to meet interesting and mature people. Where they go at night is anyone's guess but they certainly don't live at Gannett Hall.

The going has been far from easy. What does one to whom alcohol is tantamount to kryptonite do in a land of perpetual Miller Time? How should one behave when he finds two drunken soldiers on maneuvers in his room? How does one get everything done which needs to be done when there are only 24 hours in a day? Is it safe to wash my shorts with my towels? And most important of all what does a 5-foot-5 flautist do in a section full of football players and wrestlers? The answers to these questions have had to be learned the hard way, but they have been learned.

Many changes have taken place in my life in the last six months. In September, I became engaged and in December, she dumped me in favor of an aspiring Maytag repairman. The fine cafeteria cuisine has contributed to my substantial weight loss and pallid, leathery skin. I have met many wonderful people and have had some great times with them. I have learned the art of washing and ironing clothes. I have expanded my musical horizons to include styles which, before, I had only read about. I have begun to look more

objectively and maturely at things in general. And most of all, I am slowly coming to appreciate that household of maniacs in Presque Isle that I call my family.

I was right when I said this year would be a struggle. There have been days when I have considered washing my hands of academia entirely, but I have survived—a little torn around the edges, but none the worse for wear. I speak now only for myself, but I am sure there are others in my situation who feel very much the same.

Many people have told me the first year of college life is the worst. Maybe it is. On the surface, this year has been sheer hell, but that has been overshadowed by the intrinsic benefits of six months experience on my own. With the help of some beautiful people, the grace of God and a lot of luck, I may even make it to May.

John Anthony Olore is a poor immigrant's son and an occasional English major from Presque Isle.



# Sports

Wright places second on both boards

## Swimmers place 12th at Easterns



Diver Kevin Wright ended his diving career with two second place finishes at the Eastern Seaboard Championships. (Ferazzi photo)

By Tom Burrall  
Staff Writer

The University of Maine men's swim team capped off a 12-3 season by placing 12th out of 28 teams in the Eastern Seaboard Swimming and

Diving Championships held March 3-5 at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. For the second consecutive year, Harvard won the championship. Maine placed 11th a year ago.

Senior Kevin Wright from Bangor

highlighted the championship for Maine, placing second in both the 1- and 3-meter diving events. Sophomore Rob Mazen, who placed 15th in the 1-meter last year, dove 46 points better this year, and placed 16th out of a field of 38 divers.

Diving coach Rich Miller said the diving at the Easterns this year was the best in 15 years which helps to explain why Mazen placed a step lower while diving better.

Seniors Steve Ferenczy and Jerry Traub scored in the finals for the second year in a row. Ferenczy placed 15th in the 100-meter freestyle while Traub placed eighth in the 100-meter breaststroke.

In the relay events, Rick DesJardins, Traub, Bruce Johansson and Ferenczy placed 11th in the 400-meter medley relay; John Giglio, Joby Merrill, Ferenczy and Jay Morissette placed 10th in the 800-meter freestyle relay; and Brian Dolan, Morissette, Merrill and Ferenczy scored 12th in the 400-meter

freestyle relay.

Junior freestyler Pete Zeiger, who qualified to swim in the 200- and 500-free as well as in the freestyle relays, became sick the day of the trip (Wednesday) and was unable to swim in any of the three-day championship.

Freshman freestyler Giglio was seeded 25th out of 28 in the 1650-free and finished 20th.

"For a small team," coach Alan Switzer said, "we were very good and were a very big success this year."

Switzer said the loss of Zeiger hurt the team especially in the relay events, but even though, the team wouldn't have been able to score enough points to move up in the standings.

"We needed to be more representative in more events to do better," Switzer said. "Overall, we did a good job in the championships."

To plug the gaps of the graduating seniors and to gain depth which the team lacked all year, Switzer said he will "need numbers" from the freshman class next year for Maine to continue its successful ways.

## Lukacs, England perform their best at National Qualifier

By Chuck Morris  
Staff Writer

Women tracksters Barb Lukacs and Ann England competed in the Division One Eastern National Qualifier at Harvard University this weekend.

England had only 40 minutes to prepare to race Friday night, the 1000 yard run trial, as the drive from Orono took longer than they expected. She made it count, however. England was

timed in 2:42.8 which placed her fourth in her heat, one place shy from qualifying for the finals Saturday afternoon but, fast enough for a personal best.

Lukacs also set a personal best. She threw the shot 42'10" which placed her eighth.

"There was a lot of good competition," said Lukacs, "but I'm very happy with my performance. It was a good experience."

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# Women hoopsters State Champs

## Cormier, Nason show the hot hand

By Gina Ferazzi  
Staff Writer

Waterville, Me.—“We got it back!” Maine coach Eilene Fox cheered after her basketball team upset first-seeded USM 74-59 Saturday to reign as the 1983 MAIAW State Champion.

The Bears trampled Nason 80-58 Friday to advance to the finals.

The traveling plaque will return to Lengyel's trophy case for the fourth time in five years. The win gave Fox her



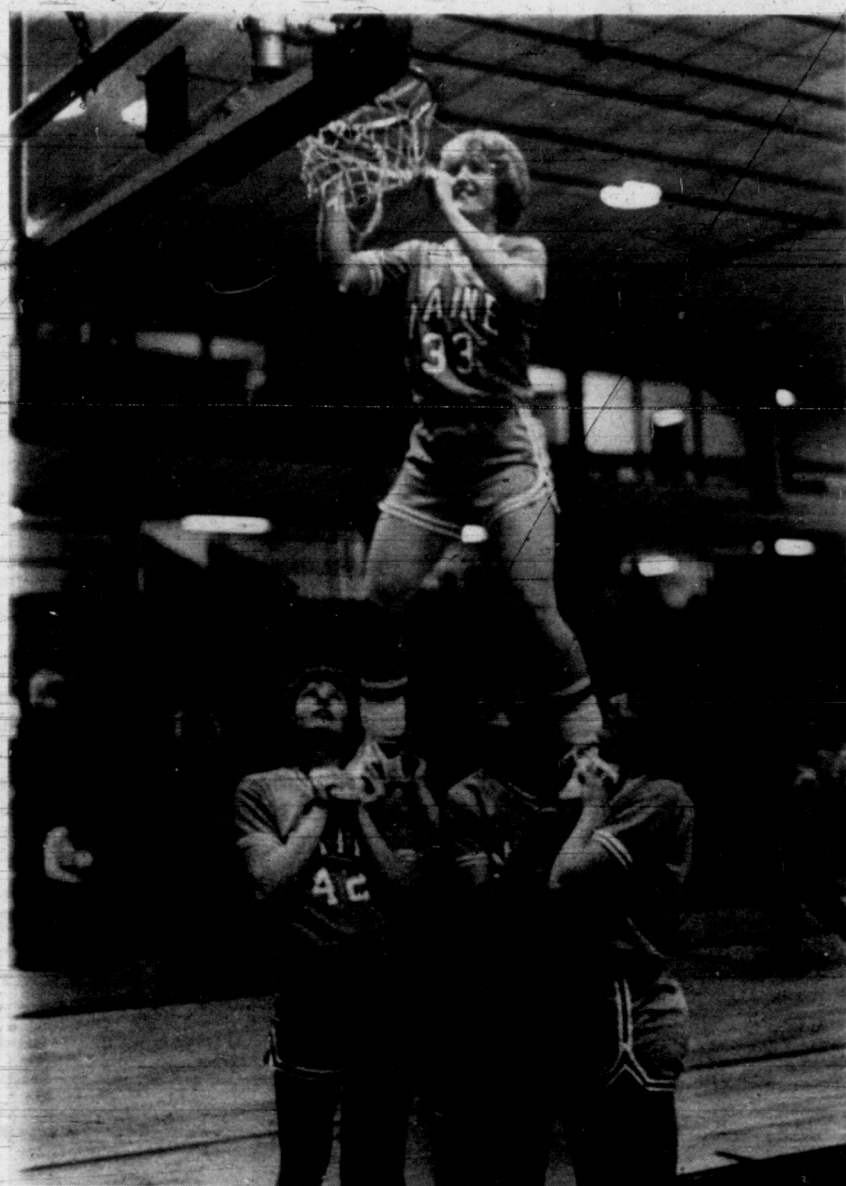
Senior Cathy Nason waves the trophy symbolic of the MAIAW championship. (Ferazzi photo)

seventh title in her ninth championship game.

“We didn't make many mistakes, had balance scoring inside and out, and played a good helping D,” Fox said.

Lisa Cormier shooting a could n't miss 50 percent from the floor, swished in 20 points. “She hit some pretty hard shots and her percentage was terrific,” USM coach Dick Costello said.

For Cathy Nason, playing her last game in blue and white, the outcome couldn't of ended on a



Julie Treadwell is supported by her teammates as she cuts down the net—customarily property of a championship team. (Ferazzi photo)

finer note. Number 44 held the trophy high in the closing ceremonies and her 16 points was a fitting last entry to her career total.

The combination of Nason and Julie Treadwell, perfected the Bear's fastbreak and lead the team on defense. Treadwell, Tammy Gardner, and Lauree Gott added 10 points apiece to the winning effort.

The Bears pulled off a 10 point lead three minutes before the half and then headed to the locker room with a 27-33 lead.

Emily Ellis started the Bear's drive in the second half as she went to the hoop for two. The fouls and deflected balls the start of the second half was the turning point,” Costello said.

With six minutes left to play Maine lead 58-53. Five points was the closest USM had come to the Bear's lead.

In the final minutes, USM stole the ball and brought it down court only to counteract their slight jump and foul Gott on a rebound. The Bears then lead 60-53.



Lisa Cormier found her touch in the late season and ultimately led her team to the championship with 20 points and a strong defensive game. (Ferazzi photo)



Coach Eilene Fox holds the championship plaque. (Ferazzi photo)

The Bears' up down season turned great, and the supportive fans were greatly appreciated. Fox added, “I think we have more fans than any other team, they really get us fired up!”



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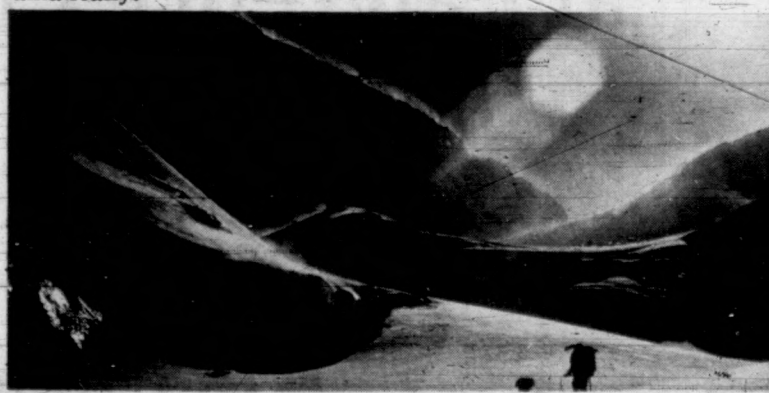
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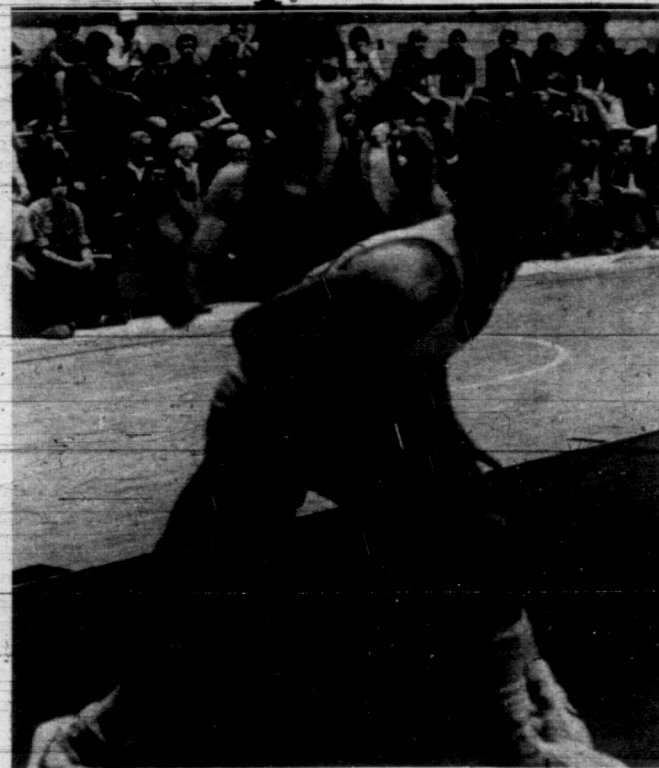
Place: Hauck Auditorium Admission: \$2 UMO Students

Co-sponsored by SEA and Recreational Sports. Tickets Available Union Lobby. \$3 General



Take on Niagara at 7:30

## Hoopsters hosting playoff game tonight



Senior forward Clay Pickering looks for daylight in action earlier this season. He'll play his last game at the Pit tonight in an NAC playoff opener. (Ferazzi photo)

(Continued from page 1)  
Boston University in Boston. The Purple Eagles, 10-17 overall and 5-4 in the NAC, will take on a Black Bear team sporting a 12-13 record, 6-4 in the NAC.

The teams met at the Pit on Jan. 5 with Maine coming out on top, 79-73, before only 850 fans in the Pit as John Sims scored 22 points and Jeff Cross grabbed 17

rebounds. Both teams have come a long way since that game as the Black Bears rebounded from a 2-5 record to go 10-8 over the remainder of the season while Niagara, 1-10 after the loss to Maine, has won nine of its last 16 games.

"We're looking forward to getting into Boston, but we aren't

looking past Niagara," Maine coach Skip Chappelle said. "Our team has got to understand that they're (Niagara) better than the first time we played them."

Cross agreed the Black Bears would not be looking past Niagara to the possible game against top-ranked BU. "The last time we played them they were struggling, but this time they will be loose and psyched to play us. They're a talented team which doesn't rely on any one player. We've got to shut down their whole squad."

The Purple Eagles are led by Mike Curran, who averages 15.0 points per game on 51.4 percent shooting. Other top scorers include Rick Townsend (13.5), Joe Alexander (10.2) and Mike House (9.3) while House is the leading rebounder with 6.7 per game, followed by Townsend (5.4) and Alexander (5.3).

Unlike the Purple Eagles, the Black Bears have a legitimate star in Cross, a 6-10 junior center who is averaging 19.4 points and 11.9 rebounds. Jeff Wheeler is scoring at 9.6 clip while Clay Pickering averages 8.4 and Jeff Sturgeon 8.1.

"Gaining a home court berth for the first round was probably our most realistic goal of the season," Chappelle said. "We realize that it's a great plus for us, now all we have to do is

guard against an upset. Any team in this tournament, with the possible exception of eighth place Vermont, has beaten at least one good team this year and could possibly win this thing."



"What a difference a crowd makes," commented forward Paul Cook after the men's basketball team nearly upset Iona last Wednesday. Iona is one of the top teams in the East and with the support of a near capacity crowd in the Pit, the Black Bears nearly pulled off a win.

Back in the days when fans were turned away at the door and standing room only crowds were a common occurrence, the Pit was rated one of the top five home court advantages in the country. Teams hated to come here. The players couldn't hear themselves think.

What a difference a crowd makes. MASH is finally over with. Studying can wait.

Blow off those T.V. shows for this week and catch the re-runs. This is your last chance to see Maine play in the Pit this year and your support tonight could help send Skip Chappelle's Black Bears to Boston for the semi-finals of the NAC.

By Paul Tukey

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