

Spring 3-19-1997

Maine Campus March 19 1997

Maine Campus Staff

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• Legislature

Hearings to examine UMS restructuring bills

By Yolanda Sly
Maine Campus staff

Today there will be public hearings regarding eight bills that could affect the University of Maine System. The bills range from reorganizing the system to creating efficient and effective leadership, as well as amending the charter of UMaine.

"A lot of it has to do with significant events that have occurred in the 1990s," Sen. James Libby, R-York, said. "People have come to the conclusion that something needs to be done to put the UMS in the best

possible position to advocate for its own."

Sen. Mary Cathcart, D-Orono, said, "If we create a new system, the Legislature should take more time (to examine the bills. A lot of (the system's) problems are due to not having enough funding. (If we) look at the system, one of the reasons is it hasn't been funded properly for some time."

Libby is proposing a bill that would reorganize the system, turning the Board of Trustees into a board that would have final approval on the system's budget, while allowing the seven campuses to have their own

boards making recommendations to their own budgets.

He said the proposal would not eliminate the chancellor's office. However, it would put the position into one which would serve as a go between for the boards.

Cathcart said she supported the bill, but she fears that individual campuses having individual boards could present the possibility of giving some of the system's campuses more clout than they currently have.

"I want to keep UMaine and University of Southern Maine the main

See BILLS on page 7



Chancellor Terrence MacTaggart. (Page File Photo.)



State Rep. Kathleen Stevens. (Page File Photo.)



Recently elected Orono Town councilors (l. to r.) Lee-Ann Harris, Philip Brown and Elizabeth Schneider are sworn in Monday. (Dave Gagne Photo.)

• Local government

Orono School Board asks for additional funding

By Kathryn Ritchie
Maine Campus staff

The Orono Town Council approved a bond from the Maine Municipal Bond Bank Monday to pay back \$1.3 million spent on the repairs of Orono schools. An additional \$25,000 was bonded as an interest payment. The council also listened to

Orono School Board members reasons for more money.

To begin construction this summer, a decision must be reached shortly by the council because Maine Municipal releases bonds only in the spring and fall. Although the town doesn't have to borrow money through

See ORONO on page 6

• Safety

Alert whistles to be distributed by ROC

By Yolanda Sly
Maine Campus staff

Students now have the opportunity to obtain a blue and white safety whistle with Public Safety's phone number on it, with hopes of providing an additional safety mechanism for students to use, the president of Residents On Campus said.

"The whistles are available in the ROC office," ROC President Ryan Eslinger said. "(ROC is) going to all of the hall governing boards with the whistles and we're going to sit in the dining commons to distribute them."

Eslinger said that any student interested in a whistle can come to the ROC office to get one.

"The whistles are good for students to have on campus because of concern of students' safety," Kendra Asselin, ROC programming chairwoman, said. Eslinger said the 1,000 whistles cost \$950. ROC paid for the majority of the whistles. The Interfraternity Council paid for a fifth of the cost.

Dean of Student Services Dwight Rideout said using whis-

tles as a safety measure is something that has been discussed for several years.

See WHISTLE on page 4

• Right to know

GSS reconsiders executive session

Maine Campus questions legality; Senators to consult lawyer

By Kristen Dobler
Maine Campus staff

Senators voted to postpone calling an executive session to discuss the compliance of university clubs at last night's General Student Senate meeting. State law states that public bodies can only go into executive session if they meet specific criteria.

After being informed by members of *The Maine Campus* photo staff that they believed the GSS would be in violation of the state's open meetings law and that it may result in a fine of \$500, Vice President Morelli called for a five-minute break so the law could be confirmed.

Jeff Tuttle, editor-in-chief of *The Maine Campus*, presented a copy of the "Tapping Officials' Secrets The Door to Open Government in Maine," a reference book for journalists published

by the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press.

Under Maine law, a public body can't go into executive session without citing one

of the specific examples outlined in the law.

After the meeting Sen. Wendy Latrina said the GSS

See GSS on page 5



Senator Bill Bates and Vice-President Scott Morelli review the allowable exemptions for an executive session. (Dave Gagne Photo.)

INSIDE

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Sly says parents need to educate kids on guns.

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Hardworking DiFranco sells out Bates College.

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Baseball and softball teams return to Orono chill.

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WEATHER



Mostly sunny,
highs 35 to 40.

PAGE 2

World Briefs

• Smoke and mirrors?

Violations plague Mexican credibility

1 MEXICO CITY (AP) — The second Mexican army general in a month is behind bars, underscoring the depth of the country's drug corruption problem as U.S. lawmakers debate whether to certify it as a drug-fighting ally.

Brig. Gen. Alfredo Navarro Lara was accused of offering \$1 million a month to a top federal agent to protect a notorious Tijuana-based drug smuggling family.

Navarro faces charges of drug trafficking, bribery and criminal conspiracy, the Mexican attorney general's office said Tuesday. He was being held at a high-security prison outside Mexico City.

The case underscores the extent of drug corruption in Mexico just as it is being challenged by U.S. lawmakers to prove it should be certified as a drug-fighting ally.

President Clinton has defended Mexico's efforts, but the U.S. House of Representatives voted last week to overturn Clinton's certification of Mexico's anti-drug efforts if it doesn't shape up in 90 days. This week, the Senate is considering what action to take.

American lawmakers opposed to certifying Mexico have cited the Feb. 18 arrest of another top Mexican military man, Gen. Jesus Gutierrez Rebollo, the former head of the National Institute to Combat Drugs.

Gutierrez is charged with protecting Amado Carrillo Fuentes, head of the Juarez drug cartel. Gutierrez denies the charges.

• Royal pain

British merchant scores win in case

2 LONDON (AP) — Go, cat, go, a judge told an elated Elvis memorabilia dealer Tuesday as he stripped the late singer's estate of its trademark on the use of Presley's name in Britain. "Elvis is up there, somewhere, smiling down," said Sid Shaw, who sells Elvis trinkets in an east London shop called Elvisly Yours. "How can you own the image of someone who's dead?"

It was a rare win for Shaw, who has been fighting Elvis Presley Enterprises Inc. for more than a decade in U.S. and British courts.

About a year ago, the Presley estate was given British trademarks for Presley's signature, as well as the names Elvis and Elvis A. Presley, for use on soaps, toothpaste, deodorant and cosmetics.

Shaw struck back with a lawsuit in the High Court, saying the estate should not have received the trademarks it first sought in 1989 — 12 years after Presley died at his Graceland mansion in Memphis, Tenn.

Judge Hugh Laddie sided Tuesday with Shaw, who predicted his foes would be all shook up by the ruling.

The estate had no immediate comment.

"We've still not received official comment from our attorneys there or the court," Presley estate spokesman Todd Morgan said.

World Digest



• Out with the old

Chief of police announces retirement; sergeant fired

3 TOKYO (AP) — Japan's top police chief is retiring, two years after he was shot and seriously wounded while investigating the cult accused in the Tokyo subway gassing.

Takaji Kunimatsu, chief of the National Police Agency, was attacked as he left his Tokyo apartment building on March 30, 1995, 10 days after the nerve gas attack on Tokyo subways that killed 12 people and sickened 5,000.

A Tokyo police sergeant who belonged to the Aum Shinri Kyo cult has confessed to the shooting and said it was at the cult's behest, but police say they have no evidence to back the confession.

The Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department was criticized for not quickly disclosing the police sergeant's confession. The sergeant, whose name has been withheld, was fired on Nov. 28 for allegedly leaking police information to the cult.

Kunimatsu said Tuesday he took symbolic responsibility for his own shooting, but said it had nothing to do with his decision to take early retirement at the end of the month.

"As head of the police, it was a blunder. I keenly feel my responsibility," Kunimatsu, 59, told reporters. Mandatory retirement age is 60.

• Total chaos

Zaire's future uncertain; ailing leader near death

4 KINSHASA, Zaire (AP) — When residents contemplate life after President Mobutu Sese Seko, they see nightmare visions of a military coup, the collapse of the government, or riots to celebrate the end of his dictatorship.

"We Zairians have a saying: 'If you kill a snake, you're still afraid of it,'" said Cleophas Kamitatu, an opposition politician once tortured by Mobutu's men.

Paranoia is sweeping through the capital, fueled by Mobutu being in the hospital in Monaco and the fall of Kisangani, the country's third-largest city, to anti-government rebels who now control much of eastern Zaire.

Topping things off, there are no clear rules on who would take over after Mobutu, who is ailing with prostate cancer.

Tuesday's ouster of Prime Minister Leon Kengo wa Dondo — Mobutu's hand-picked man — was seen as the opening of a power struggle.

"I can't say that it is the end of the Mobutu regime, but it is threatened, the regime is very threatened," said Bemba Saolona, a Mobutu ally and member of the transitional parliament.

Mobutu, 66, has never named a successor, like so many other African despots who believe their rule is eternal. Nor has Parliament done anything to prepare for the void that Mobutu would leave should he die.

Weather

The Local Forecast

Today's Weather

Mostly sunny. High 35 to 40.



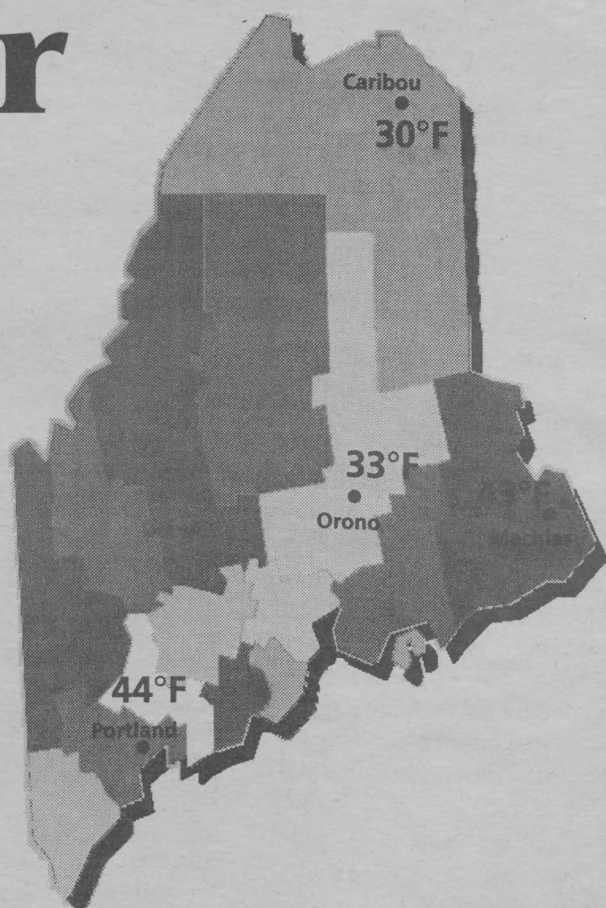
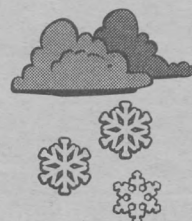
Saturday's Outlook

Mostly cloudy with a chance of light snow or flurries. High in the lower to mid 30s.



Extended Forecast

Friday... Chance of flurries mountains and north. Fair south. Saturday... Chance of snow north. Chance of rain or snow south. Sunday... Chance of snow showers mountains and north. Fair south.



• Expansion

Two union finance plans receive committee scrutiny

By Yolanda Sly
Maine Campus staff

The ad hoc planning group for the Memorial Union expansion met Monday to review what was discussed during the town meetings and to review their recommendations to President Frederick Hutchinson on how to communicate with the university community about what was learned from the meetings.

"We're assisting the president in regards to the outcome of the forums," Dean of Student Services Dwight Rideout said. "We're recommending to the president that he write a letter to the student governments and to the Maine Perspective and *Maine Campus*."

Student Government Vice President Scott Morelli said a large number of the student government surveys supported the new union project rather than a new recreation center.

"This reaffirms that what we're doing is something people believe in," Morelli said.

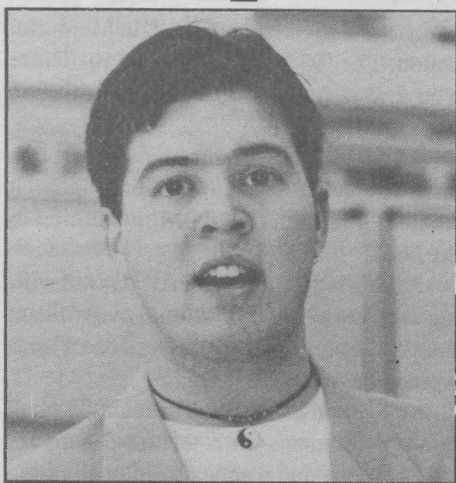
The ad hoc group also discussed the negative responses to the union and how to address issues that were raised. The group decided to have the president do this in his letter.

"People are more vocal about something if they are against it," Morelli said.

Rideout said the students who voiced their opinions on the FirstClass BBS should be addressed to show it was worth its productivity.

"The union is a way of enriching the total atmosphere of the university," Robert Whelan, assistant to the president.

Vice President for Student Affairs John



General Student Senate Vice President Scott Morelli. (File Photo.)

Halstead recapped the town meetings' feedback for the committee. Concerns raised by students were:

- The problem with the flat fee, which does not have all students paying for the union.
- All students should pay something.
- Concerns were raised about lack of funding for the university and the need to ensure the funding for the union does not take away from the funding of professors.
- The union would be positive for recruiting and retaining students.
- The possibility of having the 7 percent interest rate renegotiated to a lower percent.
- The concern the university needs a recreation center more than a union, and why not do both projects at the same time.
- Using creative fund raising, such as an exclusive beverage contract.

The president of the Association for Grad-



Asst. Vice President and Dean of Student Services Dwight Rideout. (File Photo.)

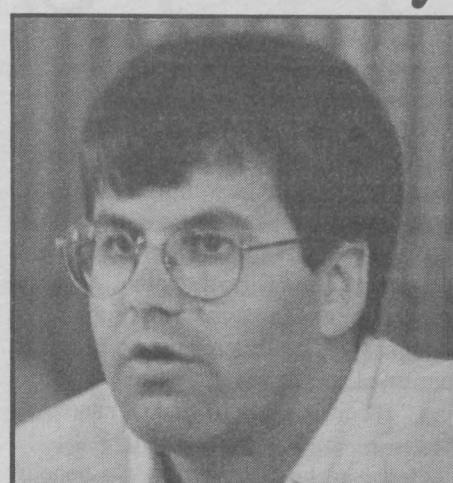
uate Students, Sean Murphy, said he wasn't sure how most people felt regarding the fee structure or what the fee structure would be for expanding the union.

There are two fee structures for the union:

- Per-credit hour fee structure: Students would pay an approximate \$3.55 per credit hour. The "typical" student, who takes between 24 and 30 credit hours each year, would pay between \$85.20 and \$106.50.

- Student Flat Fee: Students would pay based on the number of credits they take. Students taking 12 credits would pay \$59 per semester (12 or more credit hours) and a flat fee of \$29.50 per semester for part-time students (seven to 11 credit hours). Students taking fewer than seven credit hours would not be charged a fee.

Whelan said that as of now there has been no decision of which fee structure will be used to pay for the expansion.



Association of Graduate Students President Sean Murphy. (File Photo.)

Executive Director for Institutional Planning and Facilities Anita Wihry said the makeup of the building committee for the union hasn't been announced. However, there is a possibility of having seven undergraduates, three graduate students, two assistant chairs representing both groups of students, and seven or eight members representing other parts of the university community, such as staff and auxiliary offices.

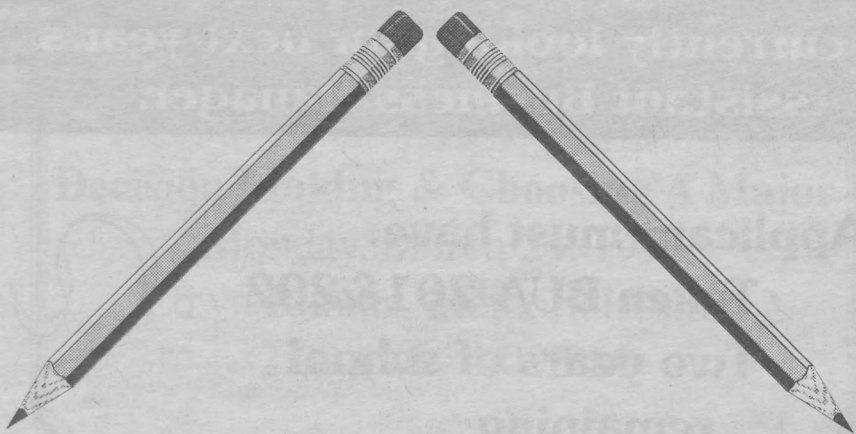
The committee agreed it was important to have students on the committee who were linked to other students, to have a variety of suggestions heard.

Murphy said the town meetings didn't answer the question what programs will go in the expanded union.

"The building committee will be actively doing this (deciding programming for the union)," Wihry said.

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• The Prism

Student group strives to save UM yearbook

By Hollie Gowen
Maine Campus staff

The University of Maine yearbook, "Prism," may stay in publication for another year. There was the possibility of the yearbook ceasing publication.

In early February, H. Maxwell Burry, president of the General Alumni Association and the volunteer adviser of the yearbook, said, "The 'Prism' is, as far as I'm concerned, now defunct and out of business." He cited a lack of student interest as the cause.

However, he also said he was hopeful that a number of students might still come forward to produce a 1997 book.

"Can it be done? Yes, if a group of students would make a commitment to work hard, really hard, it could be done," Burry said.

Joyce Mallery, a representative of Herff

Jones Inc., which published "Prism," recently began meeting with a small group of students to discuss the possibility.

Janet Opredek, a senior French major, is one of the students in the group.

"We know it is a big task, but we've got a core group of dedicated students, and we hope that we can get this out," she said.

Lack of student interest, however, goes beyond that of people willing to work on the book, Burry said. "A chronic problem has been that too few students buy the book."

He said only 170 students had signed up for the book with their fall tuition bill. When senior portraits were taken, more indicated they would purchase "Prism."

Ken Murphy, the official yearbook photographer, said fewer than 300 seniors have been photographed so far. Murphy and Opredek hope to set up more days for portraits to be shot.

Opredek has begun to sell the books,

which are delivered in the fall, in Memorial Union. The '97 book will cost \$50. Those who sent in money for it with their tuition paid \$70.

ASAP, which produced the yearbook last year, had planned to work on it again. It wanted to make a CD-ROM in addition to the book.

According to Burry, ASAP was not willing to create a '97 book without a significant financial commitment from someone. Funds were not available.

Mallery said ASAP will provide the small group of students with technical support, but they are not responsible for anything else.

Those students who paid the higher price will have \$20 refunded to them. There will not be a CD-ROM.

The low numbers of people interested in the book may be due to various causes.

Burry said, "It's puzzling to me why

there hasn't been (more interest). One reason, perhaps, is that students today don't identify with a particular class. Students tend to identify much more strongly with their academic concentration and campus organizations to which they belong."

Mallery said last year's book was done in a different style. There wasn't much in it on campus groups or Greek life. Perhaps some people were alienated by that, she said.

Murphy attributed it to students' priorities. He said students might not be willing to give up all the things that \$50 will buy to purchase a yearbook.

Whatever the reason, it is a problem at places other than UMaine, Burry said. "Around America yearbooks are going out of business. Williams College and Ball State University both recently suspended publication for lack of student interest."

Whistle

from page 1

"The idea (of the whistles) sounds good, but I don't know how many will carry it," Rideout said. "It sounds strange, yet affective."

Rideout said the whistles are a good safety measure. However, students should still practice other safety measures.

"It gives an individual a greater sense of security than warranted," Rideout said. "It's more functionally better than what I had in mind," he added after seeing a whistle.

Eslinger said he heard of the whistle

safety program at a conference two years ago at the University of Vermont. After the first two assaults on campus last semester, he decided to look into the program, he said.

Eslinger said he was concerned that some students wouldn't take the program seriously. However, he was optimistic that students would realize this is another way to increase safety.

ROC Vice President Keith Heselton, said that prior to students obtaining a whistle, they must sign a contract that

states this is a serious program.

"The whistle is to be blown if one feels there is a danger of personal harm exists," Heselton said.

Heselton said this is one service that ROC can provide students.

"It's really important for all students on campus to act maturely with these whistles, so it can be an on going safety project," Eslinger said. "If we take it seriously and Public Safety takes it seriously, we can't see anything but good things for the campus."

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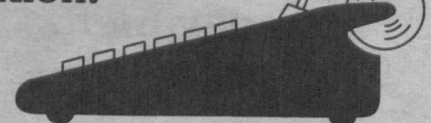
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• Public Safety

UMaine visitor cited for theft, criminal trespassing

By Jeff Tuttle
Maine Campus staff

A former University of Maine student was summoned to Bangor District Court for criminal trespassing and theft of loss or mislaid property in connection with a Feb. 28 incident in Colvin Hall.

Police responded to a report that Parris Avery, 19, of Orono was seen on the first floor of Colvin at 11:40 p.m. Police said Avery had been warned not to enter any dormitories as the result of previous disciplinary actions.

After transporting Avery to Penobscot County Jail, police searched his wallet and found a MaineCard belonging to another student. Possession of the identification card

resulted in the additional theft charge. The card was issued in 1992 but had been canceled when the student discovered it missing.

Charles "Doug" Carpeta, 20, of Knox Hall was summoned to Bangor District Court for criminal trespassing on March 4. Two locksmiths reportedly saw Carpeta leaving 411 Knox Hall and suspected he did not live in that room. Carpeta later told police he did not live in the room but did live on the fourth floor.

Police said the lock on the door of room 411 had been damaged, but, at the time of the call, nothing was missing from the room.

Michael Blanchette, 20, of Hart Hall summoned to Bangor District Court for criminal mischief in relation to the activation of

a smoke detector in that dormitory. On March 13 police responded to a fire alarm, which caused Hart residents to evacuate the building at approximately 11 p.m.

Witnesses said Blanchette was seen punching the smoke detector on the north end of the fourth floor of Hart Hall several times. Blanchette told police he did not strike the smoke detector.

Robert Reposa, 21, was summoned for operating a vehicle under the influence of alcohol after witnesses alerted police that a vehicle was seen "doing donuts" in the Fogler Library parking lot at 11:30 p.m. Witnesses also said the driver drove down the sidewalk and on a nearby lawn, finally throwing beer cans out of the window of his vehicle window near the Roger Clapp Greenhouse on

Grove Street Extension.

Reposa, visiting from Massachusetts, was given a field sobriety test outside Aroostook Hall, where police found the vehicle.

Police responded to a report of the smell of marijuana on the first floor of Hancock Hall on March 13. Police found the smell to be coming from 139 Hancock, where Christina Bean, 21, of Balentine Hall was staying at the time. As a result of a police investigation, Bean was summoned to Bangor District Court for possession of marijuana.

Ryan Peaslee, 19, was also summoned to court for possession of a usable amount of marijuana on March 17 after police responded to a report of the odor of marijuana on the fourth floor of Gannett Hall at 11:30 p.m.

GSS

from page 1

wanted to do club investigations to see if clubs conformed to the bylaws of the university and the GSS's own discrimination policies. She said it was also to see whether the clubs were currently active.

Latrina said the subsequent media interpretation of the unfinished investigations may have damaged the reputations of the clubs, which had yet to be notified of their status.

Sen. William L. Bates II read the exemptions to the full senate and he stressed the fact that the senate needed to take them into consideration before going into executive session.

"If it's a state law, we have a charter and we have things we need to follow,"

Bates said. "It's only fair that this was raised. It is not the exact statutory wording, but it is an accepted interpretation."

The GSS decided to take the advice of Sen. Jason Libby to postpone the meeting and consult with an attorney before senators voted in favor of an executive session.

Sen. Keith Heselton expressed his frustration regarding the inquiry.

"This is all just crap," he said.

Heselton later apologized for his choice of words.

Sen. Ryan Eslinger announced that the original act to support President Frederick Hutchinson in his request to expand the union would be dropped and replaced with a new resolution that was

introduced last night.

Eslinger said the new resolution will support Hutchinson's proposal on a per-credit hour fee for the expansion if he creates a new ad hoc committee for a new recreation center.

Eslinger said that support for a new recreation center has been positive and it is time for senators to decide what they are going to support.

Eslinger said it would not be hard to create an ad hoc group for the recreation center because it had such support from the students. He compared it to the success of the expansion ad hoc committee and its success over the last year.

Morelli said there has been a large

amount of support systemwide for a planned rally in Augusta on March 26, which would support the Legislature's vote to get a 2.5 to 3.5 percent increase in the system's budget.

"We expect a very good showing," he said.

In other business, the Maine Steiners gave a spirited presentation about why the senate should have granted their requests for preliminary, final and funding approval.

To demonstrate the purpose of the group, a portion of the nine-man a cappella group sang for the senate.

The senate granted preliminary approval and voted to move final approval up for next week's meeting.



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1865

• Residence halls

Hancock targeted for summer renovations

By Jodi Sokolowski
Maine Campus staff

Students residing on campus during summer sessions will live in Estabrooke Hall while Hancock Hall undergoes maintenance, according to Rose Sturgeon, an administrative assistant for Campus Living.

Halls are on a rotational system for maintenance and repairs, Campus Living Director Scott Anchors said.

"The residence halls get quite a bit of wear and tear," he said.

The halls receive cosmetic renovations such as painting, carpets and bathroom privacy stalls, Anchors said.

Painting and a new carpet for the second floor are scheduled for Hancock Hall, according to Facilities Management.

"Painting of the halls is a cycle, and Hancock needs to be painted," Facilities Management Manager Ed Hopper said. "The new carpet is just in the hallways."

Hancock Hall has normally been used for housing undergraduates and Estabrooke Hall for graduate students during summer sessions.

Summer session housing in Estabrooke will be available from May 11 to Aug. 9. After Aug. 9 students may be required to move to Hancock Hall if housing is needed.

York Village is also used for summer housing. Families, faculty and two or three

students usually live in York Village during the summer, Anchors said. "It's already booked for the summer."

Students living on-campus are required to have a meal plan beginning June 2. The 19-meal-per-week plan is included in the \$210 per week room and board. York Commons will be open from June 2 to Aug. 22.

Although the summer catalog states that all summer students must have a meal plan, May term students are not required to have one, Anchors said.

The goal for Hancock Hall to be completed is July 31, Hopper said.

Other summer maintenance is scheduled for residence halls, said Hopper, who

is manager of Campus Living maintenance.

New windows will be installed in Gannett Hall this summer. At least half of the windows will be installed this summer and the other half next summer, Hopper said. Hart and Knox halls will be painted inside, although just the student rooms in Knox Hall will be painted, compared to all lounges in Hart Hall due to time restraints, Hopper said.

Lockable doors will be installed in shower stalls in Knox, Colvin, Oxford and Somerset halls for the safety of women, Hopper said.

Locks on shower stalls doors have been a priority of Residents On Campus, Anchors said.

Orono

from page 1

Maine Municipal, Town Manager Gerry Kempen called it the "most cost effective option."

"I want you to have the assurance that the money was well spent," Jeanne Tuell, a School Board member, said. "But we hope you will see that we still have the needs and we will do what we say with the money."

Superintendent of Schools Bob Ziemer said most of the \$1.3 million was spent on "urgently needed repairs" at Asa Adams School. He said for "phase two" of repairs the system needs \$1.7 million for work on windows, exit doors, security systems and the removal of an in-ground oil tank, per Department of Environmental Protection regulations.

"It's only a very recent event that the numerous problems of the town school

have become known to the council, the school committee and everyone else," said Kempen, who repeatedly voiced concern about the lack of public input. He suggested a plan that he said would benefit the school and alleviate other community problems. He said a new elementary school could be built and the current Asa Adams school could house the community and senior centers, as well as the library. Any further repairs done to the school would be beyond what the community would need to use the building.

Recently elected Town Council Chairman Philip Brown suggested forming a committee of two town councilors, two school board members, and residents of Orono to "start a dialogue." He said the schools have been repaired with bandages in the past, but they are now in need of sutures.

"We need to know how much money the citizens of Orono are willing to spend," Brown said.

Councilor Beverly Styra said she thought the mil rate would jump from its current 21.9 to 26.88 if the town had to pay for both the \$500,000 increase in the school budget and the added debt.

"I have a conscience, and I just can't do this to the citizens of Orono," she said.

Councilor Lianne Harris stressed the importance of the School Board in electing a chair and reminded everyone that no official action could be taken on Monday because this was not an official meeting of the board. Councilor Terri Hutchinson said that such a "committee will die in its own confusion."

Ziemer suggested having a public meeting in the middle school, and also having an open house one day so residents could see the state of the school. Though neither plan was confirmed, the council and the board will meet next Monday to talk further about the situation.

School Board members contradicted one another when speaking about funding and sending a joint letter to the Legislature. Earlier in the meeting Ted Cur-

tis urged the council to send a message of "Do not fund us again with fewer money than you did last year." When it came to writing the joint letter, Ziemer asked the council to ask for a 5 percent increase in general student aid - which is less funding than the previous year's.

"I don't believe, in speaking with the legislators, that public schools can get a better deal than that," Ziemer said.

The order to send the letter was passed.

Recent town elections led to the swearing in of Harris, Brown and Elizabeth Schneider onto the Town Council. Ted Curtis and Katherine Sewall were sworn onto the School Board. Brown, Schneider and Curtis were all incumbents.

The council unanimously elected Brown, who has served on the council for six years, which resulted in some seat swapping and a slight delay.

"We as a community will be faced with many challenges," Brown said in his acceptance speech. "We will also have many more needs than money to pay for them." He added that he will spend the town's money with the utmost care, and also noted that this is the first Town Council to have four women serving at once.

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• Curriculum changes

Old Town educator strengthens UMaine, public school ties

By Kathryn Ritchie
Maine Campus staff

There is no "typical" day for the Old Town School Department's curriculum coordinator.

"Every day is different, which I think is one of the most interesting parts of the job," Judith Pusey said from behind her paper-cluttered desk.

She also doesn't get the luxury of instant gratification. With projects taking anywhere from three to five years to implement, knowing that she won't be able to see the results of her numerous projects for quite some time doesn't appear to bother her.

"I don't expect change to happen that fast," she said. "The reward for me is seeing teachers getting excited about what they're learning, and transferring" that to their students.

But sometimes when changes are finally implemented, it's time to retool the curriculum again.

"I don't know that you ever finish. It's cyclical."

The slow process of curriculum change takes place in Pusey's modest, wood-paneled office in the basement of the Helen Hunt Elementary School. She must analyze what changes need to be made to which programs, do some public relations work to see how those changes would be accepted, design the final plans, obtain money for each project and train the teachers.

"I really like working with in-service teachers," the former elementary teacher said. She has also written several grants to

bring money into the district to implement change.

"We never seem to have the resources that we need to solve the problems that we see," Pusey said, adding that she is hopeful for the future. She's in charge of writing one portion of the school's budget summary, titled "Improvement of Instruction," for the coming school year.

Pusey also maintains several University of Maine ties by teaching a curriculum development course each year and by working on joint endeavors. She said she enjoys the course because it's a way to keep up on the theoretical literature.

"Working with university students forces me to read more," Pusey said. "I think the school system and the university need to work very closely together."

Pusey is currently working with the university on creating a professional development school model, which is a partnership with the university and the public schools that will benefit both by providing quality placement for university students and connect university resources that the public schools need.

The professional development model is an idea that tries to tie together the strengths of each school, she said. The project will start on a small scale this fall with students who enroll in the Master of Arts in Teaching course this summer. Undergraduate ties will probably take another year or two to develop, she said.

"This is being done around the country," said Walter Harris, associate dean of in-

struction, adding that collaboration isn't an option anymore, but a necessity. He called Pusey a "point person" for the project.

"She's a very talented individual," Harris said. "She has a good grasp of what's going on in education."

In her own school, Pusey is involved with the Building Bridges program, which links educators, community members and four high school students with eight area businesses.

"The idea is so educators can go back and change the curriculum to better prepare students for the work force," she said. The program is tied to curriculum changes already at the high school level. Fred Woodman, principal of Old Town High School, described the new education opportunities as school-to-work pathways that will broaden students' perspectives. Besides the traditional college-prep courses offered for college bound seniors, the high school will also offer courses in applied technology, communication, math and physics, which are designed to offer students a pathway to two-year technical colleges. Woodman said Pusey has been a promoter of this project.

"She doesn't get the credit she deserves because she's behind the scenes," he said.

Pusey has been involved in education for quite some time. She's worked for Bangor on curriculum change for 13 years before coming to Old Town three years ago.

"I'm a life-long learner myself," she said. Pusey is the school department's first full-time, K-12 coordinator, and said the schools' principals are key in helping her

implement change.

Leonard Middle School Principal Frank Perry said Pusey has been a valuable commodity for the school system. She is currently meeting with the teams of teachers from the middle school to work on a new program of studies description, which will be given to parents and students to look at the benchmarks, and given to teachers so they can connect their curriculum with it.

"I have gained a lot of insight in curriculum work as a result of her efforts," Perry said, adding that Pusey has brought change in a positive way.

"She may not be the most popular person at times, but she is at least evoking change," Perry said, explaining that change makes some people uncomfortable. He said Pusey has also increased the communication between the elementary, middle and high schools. "We are not as isolated," he said.

Ed Brazee, an associate education professor at UMaine, recently worked with Pusey while doing a study on the Leonard Middle School in Old Town. He has known her for 12 years.

"She was able to provide some real assistance," he said, noting that Pusey will use some of his educational recommendations made in his report for further curriculum change. Brazee described her as a "big-picture person," which he admired. He said it was interesting that she has been the curriculum coordinator for two good school districts.

"I think that says a lot about her and her ability," Brazee said.

Bills

from page 1

universities (within the system), and I want to make education more accessible," Cathcart said.

Cathcart said some of the bills call for the addition of more boards, which she disagrees with because adding them would create "more bureaucracy."

One of the bills being discussed today calls for establishing a formula for the UMS to use to fund the seven campuses. Some have expressed concern that this bill would take funding away from UMaine.

"I'm against some of the bills, especially the proposing a new funding formula," Rep. Kathleen Stevens, D-Orono, said. "Fifty cents on the dollar should be going to UMaine."

Stevens said UMaine has the most research performed, the biggest recreation center, library, and computer facility within the system.

"Everything good within the system is best within Orono, and that campus needs to be funded in that way," Stevens said.

Stevens is sponsoring a bill that would form a commission to study the restructuring of the system.

General Student Senate Sen. Chris Barstow said he would be attending the hearings to speak on behalf of the resolution.

"There are variety of bills coming up which deal with the UMS and could drastically change the structure of the UMS," Barstow said. "(Some of the bills) have pros and cons for UMaine."

Student Senate President Scott Morelli is going to the hearings to see how the bills would affect UMaine.

The public hearing gives the community a chance to be heard and eventually the bills will be voted on.

"Well of course it remains to be seen if they'll be passed," University of Maine System Chancellor Terrence MacTaggart said.

MacTaggart said the bills fall into three categories: strong centralization, more local campus autonomy and some of the bills strike a balance in the middle.

"I'm looking forward to tomorrow and the upcoming weeks," MacTaggart said. "It will be a fruitful and enjoyable debate."

Representative Douglas Ahearn, D-Madawaska, is proposing two bills. One would eliminate the chancellor's office and replace campus presidents with vice presidents. A university system president would replace the chancellor.

"The UMS has been cutting costs while raising tuition, cutting courses and eliminating faculty," Ahearn said. "(We have to) realize education is becoming more out of reach to the people of our state and is turning into a private collage."

Cathcart said she felt the chancellor's office should not be eliminated and that the office does serve a purpose. However, education should be

made more accessible to students.

"The UMS should take cuts before taking the cost to students. Costs rise and it's put on the back of students," Ahearn said. "Administrators should take cuts, not students or student services."

A second bill introduced by Ahearn calls for the UMS not to raise tuition or eliminate courses or faculty, but to take a 20 percent cut in administrative costs. If cuts need to be made they must be done at the administrative level first, he said.

"If there needs to be cuts, they can't raise tuition or cut faculty while passing along the cost to students," Ahearn said.

He called his bills "policy setting," and doesn't foresee a problem in obtaining support for either bill. "Rising administrative costs and pushing it off on students is not a way to set policy," he said.

While some have called for the elimination of some campuses, Ahearn said, "I'm not in favor of closing any campus. It's a priority for the state to have campuses."

A bill sponsored by Rep. Carol Kontos, D-Windham, resolves to change the name of the University of Maine at Augusta to Maine State University.

The bill says the university would have two campuses, one in Augusta and another in Bangor. It would also not be part of the university system.

"It's a resolution that asks the trustees to consider that (bill)," MacTaggart said. "If the Legislature asks the Board of Trustees to do something, they'll take it into consideration."

When asked if there was a bill he felt strongly for or against, MacTaggart replied, "At this point I'm looking forward to the discussion."

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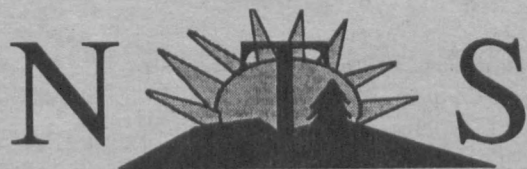
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State News

• Simple-majority approach

Democrats push for quick budget resolution

AUGUSTA (AP) — The Maine House of Representatives formally opened debate Tuesday on a \$3.8 billion state budget, with the Republican minority complaining of heavy-handedness by majority Democrats who threatened to enact a two-year spending package on their own.

House officials said there had been 66 amendment requests, with more than 40 expected to reach the floor.

"It's our intention to stay here until we complete our work," said Speaker Elizabeth Mitchell, D-Vassalboro, as House members settled in for a long night. But shortly before 9 p.m., with numerous proposals still being drafted, the House adjourned until Wednesday morning.

Before the House let out, the Democratic majority beat back the first eight amendments proposed.

Proposals dealt with issues ranging from state reimbursements to municipalities to a complete closing of state liquor stores. Amendment opponents, led by Democratic lawmakers on the Appropriations Committee, argued that some had merit, but that to tinker with the committee majority's budget package could cause it to unravel.

The majority budget, which has been endorsed by independent Gov. Angus King, would meet "not all the needs but

generally most of the needs" revealed by the committee's public hearings, said Rep. George Kerr, D-Old Orchard Beach, the panel's House chairman.

Despite Democratic hints through the day that the two parties were still exploring ways to bridge their differences, there were few signs of a Republican willingness to make further concessions.

Kerr claimed not to have given up hope.

"Never too late to cut a deal. You know my motto," he said.

But on the GOP side, the sounds were not conciliatory.

First, House Minority Leader James Donnelly issued a statement berating the Democratic legislative majorities for heavy-handed tactics.

Then, Senate Minority Leader Jane Amero followed suit, declaring that she would push for legislation to authorize adoption of piecemeal spending measures to allow more time for building consensus around a full two-year budget package.

Mitchell shrugged off the GOP press releases and said House and Senate majorities were prepared to go ahead with King and enact their own budget plan.

Dismissing Amero's proposal, Mitchell said: "A continuing resolution just postpones difficult decisions. And we

don't want to pattern ourselves on Washington."

The statements by Donnelly, R-Prisque Isle, and Amero, R-Cape Elizabeth, appeared to demonstrate that the partisan dispute over the budget — which centers on Republican insistence on and Democratic rejection of a \$100-million-plus income tax revenue cap — had not eased and was perhaps becoming even sharper.

Donnelly, reiterating recent GOP complaints and saying "the unthinkable has become the thinkable," suggested that Democrats had unfairly accelerated the pace of budget-drafting.

The purpose, he suggested, was to put Democrats in a position from which they can enact a spending plan by simple majorities in the House and Senate — without substantial Republican support.

If that indeed is the strategy adopted by the Democrats, they have only until April 1 to pull it off — due to constitutional provisions that affect the timing of when enacted measures become law.

Having already won a key ally in King, Democrats are now vying with their Republican adversaries in a public relations war. Each party has been seeking to justify its stance.

For Democrats, that has meant casting the simple-majority budget approach as a way to avoid gridlock and the potential for a government shutdown like the one that occurred in 1991.

For Republicans, the effort has been to portray a push for a simple majority as essentially undemocratic.

"Republicans have carried forward the spirit of consensus in negotiating a state budget for the next two years," asserted Donnelly.

"Yet, since the beginning of this year, before decisions were made on the make-up of the Legislature's joint standing committees, Democrat leaders were speaking (of) crafting and passing a state budget by themselves."

The Republican statements were distributed around the time of King's weekly breakfast session with legislative leaders at the Blaine House. At Tuesday's gathering, the only Republican to attend was Assistant House Minority Leader Richard Campbell, R-Holden.

House majority Leader Carol Kontos, D-Windham, told her caucus afterwards the absence of other Republican leaders at the Blaine House session was "an indication of the difficulty we face in trying to negotiate."

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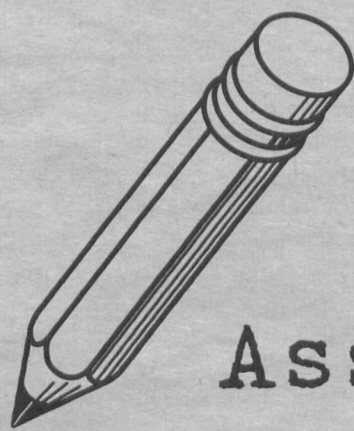
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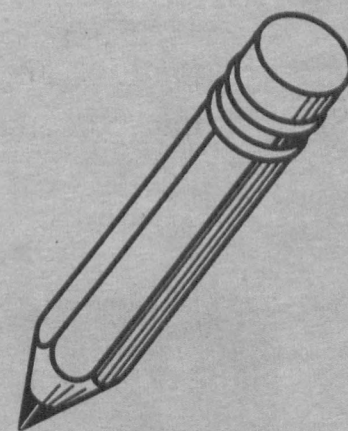
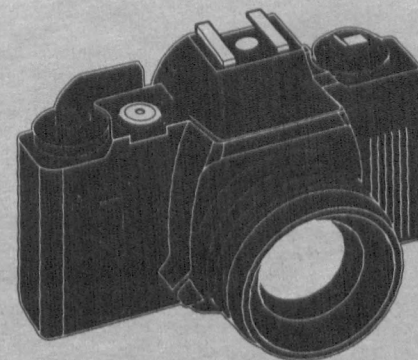
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• Medical malpractice

Maine supreme court retains screening process

PORTLAND (AP) — Maine's highest court Tuesday upheld mandatory screening of medical malpractice claims prior to litigation but set new ground rules on how a screening panel's unanimous findings are presented at trial.

The screening process was established 11 years ago to speed up the resolution of medical liability claims. A panel made up of a lawyer, a health care provider and someone with judicial experience reviews such

claims before they are litigated to determine if there was negligence.

The system has come under mounting criticism from plaintiffs' lawyers who say it has failed to live up to the expectation that it would weed out meritless claims and expedite settlements in strong cases.

Lawyers representing both plaintiffs and defendants found something to cheer about in the Supreme Judicial Court's decision.

In concluding that a screening panel's

unanimous findings should no longer be admitted "without explanation," the court said trial judges must make it clear that such determinations are only a preliminary procedural step which juries are not bound to accept.

The ruling came as the high court examined the screening process in a case stemming from a malpractice claim against a Brunswick obstetrician.

In its unanimous ruling, the high court

threw out a jury verdict in favor of Dr. Gregory Gimbel, who was named in a lawsuit by Russell and Laurie Irish. The couple alleged that Gimbel's negligence during the delivery of their son Shane in 1987 was the cause of brain damage that showed up years after his birth.

At issue was a screening panel's unanimous determination that Gimbel did not deviate from acceptable standards of care in regard to an earlier claim arising from a brachial plexus palsy of Shane's right upper arm.

The arm injury and the brain injury were both alleged to have been caused by negligence during delivery, but the brain injury claim was allowed to go to trial based on a new theory of negligence that was not presented to the screening panel.

The high court found that acceptance of the screening panel's findings "without explanation" violated the Irishes' constitutional right to a jury trial.

Gerald Petruccelli, a Portland lawyer who argued the case on behalf of the Irishes, said the ruling was a partial victory that failed to go far enough.

"The court tried to rewrite the statute in order to save it, and now it remains to be seen whether that can be done," he said.

Gimbel's attorney, Christopher Nyhan of Portland, characterized the ruling as "basically an incremental modification of the existing law" and said it struck down virtually all the challenges raised by trial lawyers.

"The system is going to stay in place. The system is fine. They don't have any problem with the system," Nyhan said.

He expressed disappointment that the lawsuit against Gimbel would have to be retried but predicted that his client would again be vindicated.

• Acquitted

Assault victim angered by verdict

ALFRED (AP) — An East Corinth man accused of attacking a Kezar Falls woman after a night of drinking has been acquitted of rape and attempted murder and found guilty of aggravated assault.

Frank Cunningham, 35, remained in jail Tuesday while awaiting sentencing March 28 in York County Superior Court. He could face up to 10 years in prison on the Class B felony.

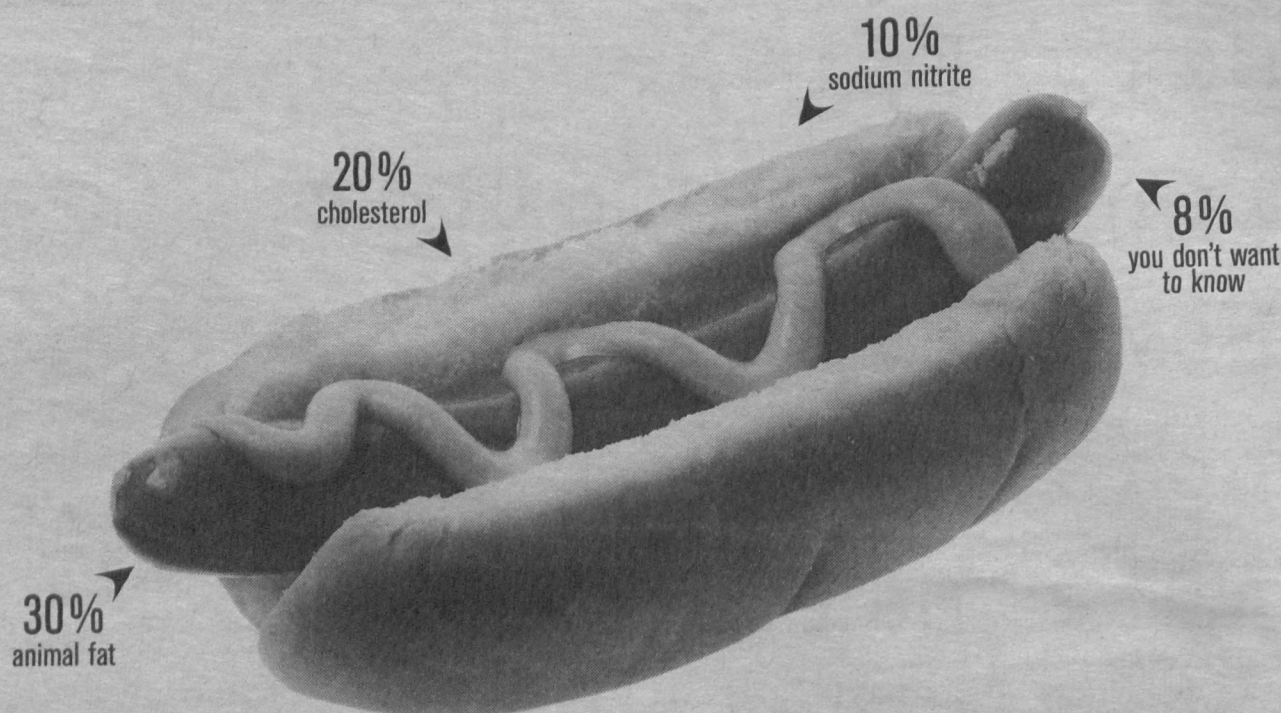
The 25-year-old victim and her family expressed anger and disappointment that jurors Monday found Cunningham innocent of gross sexual assault and attempted murder, both Class A crimes.

Defense counsel Joseph Wroblewski said he was pleased at the acquittal on the two more serious charges and said no decision has been made on whether Cunningham will appeal the aggravated assault conviction.

"The attempted murder charge was a real stretch for the state, and in terms of the gross sexual assault charge, it came down to whether the jury believed her story or whether they believed him," the lawyer said.

The woman testified that she was raped and beaten in May 1995 in Newfield as she and the men were returning from a night of drinking at a restaurant in New Hampshire.

Assistant District Attorney Kathy McKechnie characterized the victim as "a very credible witness" and said she was uncertain why the more serious charges didn't stick.



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National News

• CIA director

Possible substitute nominee meets initial GOP approval

WASHINGTON (AP) — Reeling from Anthony Lake's sudden withdrawal, the White House considered moving quickly Tuesday to name acting CIA Director George Tenet as a substitute nominee but wrestled with fears that any candidate to head the spy agency will meet stiff GOP resistance.

Senior White House officials, Republican senators and even Lake himself advanced Tenet's name as a non-controversial way to fill the long-vacant CIA post. Late into the night, White House lawyers were conducting a final review of his record for potential snags.

Despite all the signs pointing to Tenet, senior White House officials said they fear Lake's withdrawal ushered in a more raucous, partisan atmosphere for Senate confirmation. One senior aide said Clinton must make sure any candidate is "pure as the driven snow," and cautioned that it was unclear whether Tenet — or any potential nominee — could pass muster.

The officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said they were not impugning Tenet or his chances, only cautioning that Clinton is gun shy.

Still, reports of Tenet's front-running status were well received in GOP circles.

"I have a lot of respect for him. We believe he's capable," said Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee and the man who orchestrated much of the criticism of Lake that led to his withdrawing his name Monday night. Shelby indicated the committee could move quickly on a Tenet nomination — in sharp contrast to the drawn-out consideration of Lake's nomination.

White House press secretary Mike McCurry said Clinton wanted to move quickly but was not ready Tuesday to fill the vacancy left by the departure in last year's post-election shuffle of John Deutch. Senior White House officials who spoke anonymously said Clinton's staff was pushing Tenet's candidacy in private meet-

ings with the president.

In an unsolicited appraisal, McCurry told reporters that the front-running Tenet "does a spectacular job and has a great reputation inside the agency. I think he's very well liked on the Hill."

Without mentioning Tenet by name, Clinton suggested his list was down to one name.

"I would ask you to respect the fact that we have to do some review of our own before we send a name up there," Clinton told reporters. "It's really not fair to put someone out on the line on this until we know that the president is in fact determined to nominate him or her."

Other Republicans echoed Shelby's favorable comments toward Tenet. And after the ordeal experienced by Lake, White House officials were listening carefully.

"Barring something I don't know about, he looks like he'd be a good choice," said Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss.

Tenet, unlike Lake, has been previously confirmed by the Senate. In 1995 the Senate confirmed him as deputy CIA director, the agency's No. 2 post, after Tenet got a unanimous endorsement from the Intelligence Committee.

If Clinton chose Tenet, it would not be the first time he had selected a well-liked deputy after the failure of a controversial national security nomination. In 1994 after Adm. Bobby Inman dropped out of the running for defense secretary, Clinton chose Deputy Defense Secretary William Perry and the Senate quickly confirmed him.

Tenet started out in Washington on the staff of the late Sen. John Heinz, R-Pa., and moved from there to the staff of the Intelligence Committee where he served as staff director for four years. During Clinton's first term, Tenet served on Lake's National Security Council staff as principal intelligence adviser.

Lake, a close friend of Tenet, recommended him for the job in a Monday

night conversation with Clinton, a senior official said.

Other possible candidates were Morton Abramowitz, the outgoing head of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and longtime Clinton friend Strobe Talbott, the No. 2 State Department official. But neither was in the same tier as Tenet, aides said.

Colleagues of outgoing Deputy Attorney General Jamie Gorelick, once considered for the CIA job, said she was not interested in the job. Former Sen. Sam Nunn, D-Ga., said he wasn't either.

As the scramble to find a CIA director unfolded, the White House and Senate Republicans exchanged barbs on the handling of Lake's confirmation.

"The president feels that the process that Tony went through was inexcusably flawed," McCurry said.

Clinton called the episode "an example of what's wrong with Washington," but avoided making the fight worse as he tried to lure Republicans toward a balanced budget agreement. Recovering from knee surgery, Clinton summoned reporters to the Red Room near his private residence to defend Lake's integrity. "If it had been up to me, I'd be here a year from now still fighting for him," the president said.

In a long letter to Clinton delivered Mon-



President Bill Clinton. (Page File Photo.)

day, Lake listed a host of reasons for his withdrawal and said he was the victim of a political process "gone haywire."

Also on Monday, Tenet ordered the CIA to investigate reports that Democratic Party Chairman Don Fowler had pressed the NSC in 1995 to invite a prominent donor to high-level meetings and then asked the CIA to forward the NSC a report on the donor. Lake, who was then national security adviser, said he was never informed of the political pressure.

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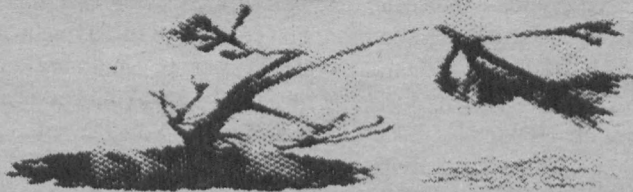
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• Drugs in school

Most anti-drug programs fail to halt abuse, study says

WASHINGTON (AP) — Most children decide on their own whether to use drugs with little concern for strong anti-drug messages they get from health teachers or others at school, a study of California youngsters suggests.

In fact, the programs may breed confusion and mistrust in youngsters who hear the message condemning alcohol, illegal drugs and tobacco yet see their parents or others use those substances, the research says.

The study, published last week in the journal *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, adds to research already critical of programs such as D.A.R.E., or Drug Abuse Resistance Education, that have received billions of dollars in federal help.

Last month, the Education Department released a study showing the failure of most programs to halt the rise in drug use. Still, the department says workable programs can be developed and wants to spend \$620 million next year on drug education, up from \$558 million this year and \$438 million in 1996.

The newly published research dealt with a California program called Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Education, or DATE, that California officials say was abandoned in 1994. But the article said that DATE resembled programs being used across the nation.

"Given the similarity of many U.S. drug education programs, student rejection of DATE programs is significant," the article said.

The study suggests a basic problem in programs that use fear and rewards such as T-shirts to get children to shun alcohol, illegal drugs and tobacco, said lead researcher Joel H. Brown.

Brown said a key problem is the absolute, "no-substance-use" message of federally approved anti-drug programs, when adults can legally use substances like alcohol and tobacco that are banned for children.

Children "resolve that people are either lying to them or not providing them with the whole picture," Brown said by telephone from Berkeley, where he runs Educational Research Consultants, a private firm.

Jane Henderson, a deputy superintendent with the California Department of Education, said the department has made program changes based on the research, much of which has been published in various forms.

She said local districts still may spend some federal money on programs such as D.A.R.E., but the schools must show real results.

Brown's study relied on random surveys and on in-depth interviews conducted in 1993. Some 5,000 students, grades 7-12, were surveyed. Of those students, 43 percent said they were "not at all" affected by drug classes and activities.

Only 15 percent said drug decisions were affected "a lot" or "completely."

Nearly 59 percent said they made their

substance use decisions "a lot" or "completely" on their own.

Brown said the answers cannot be explained away as adolescent rebellion because the focus groups with children showed the responses were well thought out.

Rather than hearing from teachers, police or even parents, students would rather get factual information from drug users and abusers about their experiences. Although some programs include talks by addicts about the harmful consequences of drugs, students want more than that.

"It is reasonable to believe them when they say they want complete drug information without fear appeal, delivered by someone from outside the school who is, or was, a substance user or abuser," the study said.

Henderson agreed in part. "That's probably one strategy that will work." But she said such an approach has not been proven effective.

The U.S. Education Department had no immediate comment on the report.

Henderson denied a contention by Brown publicists that the state had tried to discredit his research. However, Ralph Lochridge, a spokesman for D.A.R.E., based in Los Angeles, argued that the research in fact had been discredited by the state.

"It was an invalid study," he said.

The journal is published by the American Educational Research Association, based in Washington.

• Gulf War

Chemical explosions smaller than CIA originally thought

WASHINGTON (AP) — Fallout from U.S. Army demolition of an open-air Iraqi chemical weapons storage site after the 1991 Gulf War may have been less widespread than previously believed, CIA officials said Tuesday.

The CIA now believes demolition of about 650 Iraqi rockets containing chemical agents in a shallow sand "pit" south of Khamisiyah took place on two days, March 10 and 12, rather than on March 10 alone as previously believed.

CIA spokeswoman Carolyn Osborn said this raises the possibility that the cloud of gases created by the explosions was smaller and covered a narrower area than if all 650 rockets had been demolished at once, as previously believed. There were 1,400 rockets in the pit but 750 of them were later found intact.

These separate demolitions were in addition to a previously reported March 4 destruction of Iraqi chemical weapons at the nearby Khamisiyah ammunition depot.

U.S. investigators are uncertain how many American soldiers were close enough to have been exposed to fallout from the explosions in any of the three instances. The CIA believes the Army unit which conducted the March 10 demolition at the "pit" had left the area by the time of the March 12 demolition.

The CIA is seeking out veterans who may only now realize they were at the Iraqi

rocket pit before or after the demolition. They could help investigators piece together a fuller picture of what happened there and how large an area may have been exposed to fallout from the demolition.

The Pentagon acknowledged for the first time in 1996 that the demolition work could have led to inadvertent exposure of U.S. troops to poison gases. Although there is no proof, some veterans believe these exposures may explain the mysterious Gulf War illnesses suffered by thousands.

Ms. Osborn said the latest information about the demolition work near Khamisiyah was being presented Tuesday at a public meeting in Salt Lake City of the Presidential Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses.

The CIA also was announcing in Salt Lake City that acting CIA Director George Tenet appointed Robert Walpole as special assistant for Persian Gulf War illnesses and has created a special task force to coordinate support for Walpole.

"Mr. Walpole will have at his disposal all of the resources of the intelligence community as we continue our efforts to declassify pertinent intelligence information" and assess new reports on chemical exposures in the Gulf, Tenet said in a statement, a copy of which was released in Washington.

Walpole said the task force will finish its work in 60 days and "will ensure that every conceivable stone has been overturned. There will be no more dripping of information."

Ms. Osborn said the CIA was releasing to the presidential advisory committee a photograph of the pit where the March 10 and 12 demolitions took place. She said the CIA hopes the photograph will jog memories of some U.S. soldiers who were there but had not realized it was the pit in question.

The Iraqis called the pit Tall al Lahm, and U.S. forces referred to it as Objective Gold, she said. It contained 13 stacks of Iraqi 122 mm chemical rockets.

• Ethics fine

Gingrich risks new-found GOP strength on payment strategy

WASHINGTON (AP) — The tumult over his conduct abated, House Speaker Newt Gingrich is not hurrying to make a politically risky choice that could let supporters pay an extraordinary \$300,000 ethics penalty.

Gingrich spokeswoman Christina Martin said Tuesday it may be five months before the speaker resolves the issue, while he sounds out colleagues and formally seeks advice from the House ethics committee and Federal Election Commission.

Working in the speaker's favor is the lack of any pressure to pay up now, even from Democrats who deplored his ethics during a two-year investigation that ended with a reprimand and the unprecedented assessment.

Taking advantage of this diminished intensity, Gingrich is preparing for a trip to Asia that begins Sunday, working on the House Republican agenda and — in private meetings usually convened for other reasons — seeking advice of GOP colleagues on the payment.

"His thoughts are not clouded by this," Martin said, while the speaker gets advice that "seems to be a little bit of everything." One person weighing in is close to home. "Mrs. (Marianne) Gingrich will certainly have a role to play in the decision," said Martin.

There has been some talk of House supporters chipping in, although that runs the risk of violating a gift ban. Other options, beside personal funds, include campaign funds, a legal defense fund and a combination of those options.

One leadership source, commenting only on condition of anonymity, said the speaker might consider obtaining money from the attorney who prepared misleading written statements — which Gingrich signed and submitted to the ethics committee.

The lawyer, Jan Baran, and Gingrich had a falling out during the ethics case. Baran said he had no comment on the subject.

The speaker has to be politically cautious. His reputation suffered so significantly during the ethics case that it took an all-out effort by GOP supporters get him re-elected speaker for a second term. Some Republicans have told reporters that Gingrich may not survive in his post if his actions cause more headaches for GOP lawmakers.

But Rich Galen, spokesman for the House Republican campaign organization, said Democratic fund-raising scandals have "made the environment so different that I don't think it's as troublesome (for Gingrich) as it was 60 days ago."

The ethics committee concluded Gingrich violated House rules by falsely denying, in two written statements, that his political action committee had a role in a tax-exempt college course he taught in Georgia.

The ethics panel did not set a deadline for Gingrich, nor did it specify a method of payment.

"There needs to be contact with the ethics committee, asking for a period of time to make his decision and saying he will clear what he will do (with the committee)," said Rep. Benjamin L. Cardin of Maryland, who was the top Democrat on the panel as the investigation ended in January. "My view is it should all come from his own funds."

But Cardin said he's not upset that Gingrich is taking his time "as long as he's been in contact with the committee."

Gingrich, who gave up a large advance for his book "To Renew America," listed royalties of more than \$1.2 million on his financial disclosure form last May but also had nearly \$753,000 in publication expenses.

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• HMOs

Health procedure denial process reformed by fears

WASHINGTON (AP)—For more than a year, Medicare has promised a better appeals system for elderly patients denied care by their HMOs. Now a federal judge is trying to take the problem out of the government's hands.

In a recent ruling, a federal district judge required Medicare to speed its appeals process when services are "urgently needed." And he ordered, down to the last detail, how Medicare should tell patients why health care services are being denied.

Denial notices shall be in writing, issued within five days and "on a clear, readable form... in at least 12 point type," U.S. District Judge Alfredo C. Marquez ordered in a nationwide class-action suit filed in Tucson, Ariz.

But the government says it is about to release its own regulations to clarify patient rights — leaving confusion over

which rules, the judge's or the government's, managed care must follow.

"It's very messy right now," said Mary Ellen Bliss, who tracks the issue for the American Association of Retired Persons.

About 13 percent of Medicare beneficiaries now choose health maintenance organizations, or HMOs, which usually offer extra benefits but exercise greater control over health services. Auditors say that number is growing, and most plans to save money from Medicare involve moving more people into managed care.

But when those patients are denied care, it often takes months for their complaints to make their way through several levels of appeal — even if the care is needed immediately.

In addition, the denial notices are often incomprehensible.

"I've heard of denials taking the form of: 'Procedure 70471 is not covered.' How do you know why the procedure was denied?" she said.

In urgent cases, the court requires an expedited review process so patients do not have to wait: HMOs must rule on appeals within 13 days, and if the care is still denied, a second, federal review panel

has 10 days to make a decision.

In a typical case, a patient might need rehabilitation therapy after a stroke, said attorney Sally Hart Wilson of Tucson, who represented plaintiffs in the class-action lawsuit.

"If they have to wait six months or a year, it's a catch-22 because it's too late to do any good," she said.

The government has not decided yet whether to appeal the Arizona decision, which affects all Medicare patients, although it recognizes there is a problem with the appeals process. The administration promised action in response to a critical internal report in December.

"We agree with the conclusion of your report that improvements are needed and are working to implement a number of your recommendations," said Bruce Vladeck, administrator of the Health Care Financing Administration, which runs Medicare.

For instance, the report by the Health and Human Services inspector general found that 34 of 41 beneficiaries surveyed said they were never told why a referral to a specialist was denied.

The court ruling aside, Medicare pa-

tients in HMOs already have significantly greater appeal rights than other managed care patients, who usually are stuck with HMO decisions. Medicare patients have two levels of appeal outside the HMO, by a medical-expert panel and by an administrative law judge.

Medicare beneficiaries also can leave HMOs for the traditional fee-for-service plan, where the government pays their health care bills one at a time and imposes fewer restrictions.

But that won't help patients like one woman who was put on a ventilator to breathe and was headed to a nursing home, Bliss said. She wanted to go to a special program that would wean her off the ventilator but the HMO refused to pay the extra cost. Ultimately, the family got a court order forcing the payment, and the patient eventually breathed on her own again.

Stories like that make it difficult to persuade more senior citizens to choose managed care, Bliss said.

"This kind of thing does frighten people when they hear it, and I think some should be legitimately frightened," she said. "There is potential for enormous benefit but there have to be safeguards."

• Taxes

IRS irons out past problems

WASHINGTON (AP)—Despite widely publicized computer problems, tax returns are being processed smoothly this year and the IRS has cut down on the frustrating busy signals encountered by many taxpayers, officials said Tuesday.

The General Accounting Office reported the Internal Revenue Service has answered 11.3 million calls in the first two months of this year, up from 9 million calls in the same period in 1996.

"The perception of enrolled agents around the country is that filing season is going very smoothly," said Beanna J. Whitlock of the National Association of Enrolled Agents, the people licensed to represent taxpayers before the IRS. She spoke at a House Ways and Means oversight subcommittee examining the IRS 1998 budget proposal.

Whitlock said her group, which represents 9,000 accountants and other professionals, has seen "the lowest level of filing season complaints in the last several years."

The GAO, the watchdog arm of Congress, has issued scathing reports about the IRS' poor customer service in past years and mismanagement of its \$3.3 billion computer upgrade since 1987. The computer modernization was supposed to integrate databases and improve handling of paper tax returns, but the IRS scrapped the project last year and is now in the process of developing a revised plan.

Lynda D. Willis, the GAO's tax policy director, said the "IRS' 1997 filing season is going very well in two areas that we have criticized in the past." In addition to the telephone improvements, the IRS is witnessing a 25 percent increase in computerized tax return filing.

In response to widespread complaints about busy signals, the IRS beefed up its customer service staff with an extra 1,000 people, chiefly to handle taxpayer telephone calls.

The agency also cut down on paperwork sent to taxpayers, eliminating 18 million mailings, which reduces potential taxpayer questions.

In addition, callers with complex questions can leave a voice mail with the IRS, and the calls are supposed to be returned within two days by the IRS examination staff.

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Editorial

Majority ruling will expediate

Democrats on the Appropriations Committee agreed to send a \$3.8 billion budget to the full Legislature, angering the Republican minority, which is crying foul. In Maine, unlike 44 other states and the federal government, budgets are traditionally passed by a "super majority," which requires two-thirds of the full Legislature to approve.

Some Democratic leaders, led by Senate President Mark Lawrence, D-Kittery, have expressed the desire to change the Maine Constitution so lawmakers can pass the state budget by a simple majority. However, it is unlikely Lawrence and his followers will cajole the needed two-thirds of the Legislature to change the Maine Constitution, as Republicans have enough numbers to keep them from doing so.

However, state budgets have also traditionally been bogged down by the understood two-thirds requirement. In 1991, the state shut down for three weeks because legislators from the minority party could not agree on the state's workers' compensation system. Senate Republicans refused to pass

the budget and Maine residents suffered.

Requiring a simple majority would speed up a process already too lengthy and too costly to be defeated by an often contentious minority. The Republican outcry is based on the party's wish to keep its 1995 tax cap in the budget. The cap would lower income taxes by \$131 million.

Democrats are sound in their judgment that the tax cap should be repealed. While Republicans may bemoan their loss of power and assert that they have been left out of the process entirely, compromise has been achieved; the budget allowed the University of Maine System is but one example. While members of the Education Committee proposed a 3-percent increase to the system for two fiscal years, the Appropriations Committee, listening to the Republican minority, lowered the numbers to a 2-percent and 3-percent increase.

Speed up the process. Back-room deals and excessive partisan bickering do not constitute a healthy minority voice or an effective and productive government.

Special counsel needed

The time has come for U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno to appoint an independent counsel to explore the complicated and often compromising world of political fund raising.

Conflicting stories offered by the White House and the FBI regarding the release of information that suggested China was to funnel campaign money to targeted members of Congress call into question the ability of the bureau to fairly investigate its ultimate superior. President Clinton denies knowledge of the alleged improper Chinese influence, and has suggested that the two National Security Council staffers who were aware of the Chinese connection were told to keep the information from their superiors at the FBI's request. The FBI denies making such a request.

If White House claims are accurate, there is a glaring conflict of interest for the government's law enforcement arm to investigate a president from whom they have kept pressing information. If the FBI is in the right, a special counsel will need to look into when and if Clinton was advised of the situation.

While the Republican chorus calling for such a counsel started long ago – and pre-

maturely for that matter – prominent Democrats are beginning to line up and call for Reno to appoint a special counsel. Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, D-N.Y., perhaps the most respected and independent Democrat in the halls of the Capitol, was the first to endorse such an investigation, and has since been joined by former Sen. Bill Bradley, D-N.J., another respected and veteran moderate. Even Colorado Gov. Roy Romer, the new and refreshingly candid head of the Democratic National Committee, has implied he would support the appointment if Reno were to see the need for one.

However, Republican claims that Reno has not appointed the independent counsel because of a conflict of interest, as she is appointed by the president, are unfounded. Reno has served fairly as attorney general and can be trusted to act accordingly regarding this issue. To avoid partisan pressure, the statute that details the regulations of appointing an independent investigator still allows Reno some time to come to her decision. With lawmakers on both sides of the aisle backing such a counsel, Reno's decision to appoint one is certain to become clear.



• Letters to the Editor

• Viva vegans!

To the Editor:

This Thursday, March 20, is what is known as the Great American Meatout. Around the United States, vegans, vegetarians, animal rights activists and environmentalists will be protesting the use of animals for human consumption and product testing, as well as encouraging people to "kick the meat habit," if only for a day.

Every two seconds somewhere in the world a child starves to death. Sixty million people will die of starvation this year. Ironically, if Americans reduced their consumption of meat by only 10 percent, 60 million people could be fed on the grain saved. From an environmental standpoint, eliminating animal flesh and byproducts (dairy, eggs) will do wonders to preserve the earth. We all know how popular clear-cutting is on native soil and in tropical rain forests. To date, more than 260 million acres of trees have been cleared in the United States to create cropland to support a meat-centered diet. Providing grazeland and grain for livestock is one of the driving forces behind rain forest destruction. The problem is, these lands are not meant for this kind of production and become infertile after only a few years.

Factory farming is a booming business in the United States. Animals are crammed into pens and cages and pumped full of antibiotics and hormones to counteract the stresses and diseases produced by such overcrowding. Cows, both dairy and beef, are dehorned and castrated, often without anesthesia. Chickens are debeaked shortly after hatching. Because they are so tightly packed, they have no room to establish a "pecking order," and would kill each other if not debeaked. They are often sent to slaughter with oozing

sores and cancerous growths. The government allows a certain amount of pus and a number of sores in an animal's flesh. The excess are removed, as are visible cancerous growths.

Eating flesh is inhumane, selfish and dangerous. Every hour in the United States 500,000 animals are killed for their flesh. Only one in 250,000 has been inspected. Why subject your body to the risks associated with meat and animal products when it is so simple to be a vegan or vegetarian? I urge you to think about the moral, health and environmental aspects of eating meat, dairy and eggs. Try to abstain, or even reduce your consumption of meat this Thursday, for a start. Why make your stomach into a graveyard? A vegan-vegetarian/animal rights group meets every Monday from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the FFA room in the Memorial Union. Anyone is welcome to come or call me at 866-2388.

Wendy Cronkite
Orono

• Right to choose

To the Editor:

In reference to "Hughes unrelenting in battle against abortion" (March 17), an interview with Professor Terence Hughes, I would like to commend anyone who stands for what they believe so passionately. Too many people sail through life without taking a stand or offering an opinion on an issue. So I respect Prof. Hughes for being so diligent with his beliefs, although his expression I disagree with. It is not my place to berate him for his opinions, but I would like to offer a few of my own.

A quote from the article was: "A rapist does his violent deed and then he is out of there. If the woman keeps the baby and raises it, it will still be her baby. It can end up being the most important thing in her life."

Mr. Hughes, the rape of a woman is a heinous and violent crime that violates a woman mentally, physically and emotionally. To deal with those scars would take a long time. Add to that the pure hatred and loathing for the rapist and an unending fear of being assaulted again. A child who is a product of rape does not ask to be conceived, but did the woman ask to be raped? Should she have to carry this burden, a conception from a violent act that no woman would ever ask for? Your response is enough to stop my blood.

Consider me, or your daughter or any other young woman today. Say I was raped, like so many others. I am a 21-year-old senior, with my life and future plans ahead of me. I do not want children, and up to this point have made certain that it will not happen. I am raped by a stranger, a violent act that leaves me shattered. Perhaps I can heal with help, but it will take time. Wait, I find out I am pregnant. What have I done to deserve this? Am I to blame for being a woman? Should my "maternal" side take over and I can love a product of a violation of my rights? NO! With a child, my hopes and aspirations are over. It would only be a legacy of a horrible crime that I did not commit, but will have to pay for forever.

Women have remarkably progressed in the past few decades. Right now, although being fought against relentlessly, we have control and power over our bodies and our futures. I don't believe in abortion as a means of birth control, but will continue to be against any proposed law that would give our patriarchal society the right to control my reproductive freedoms. If the tables were turned, abortion for men would be an unquestionable right.

Cynthia Tayman
Orono

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The Maine Campus, a non-profit student publication, is printed at The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, Maine. Its offices are located on the fourth floor of Chadbourne Hall, UMaine, Orono, ME 04469. Telephone numbers: City Editor, 1270; Sports, 1268; Photo, 3059; Production, 1267; Style Editor, 3061; Opinion Editor, 1269; Editor, 1271; News Editor, 1275; Business Manager (subscriptions/accounts), 1272; Advertising, 1273; Fax, 1274. All materials herein ©1997 The Maine Campus, unless otherwise noted. All rights reserved.

OpEd

In loving memory

A great woman died last week. A wonderful, caring, inspirational lady. Because of the NCAA excitement, and the fact that she died in the southern portion of the state, her death has gone relatively unnoticed in our area. I'm not going to read you her extensive resume and list of accomplishments, nor am I going to tell you the details of her death. But I will tell you what made her great.

As I See It

By Kathryn Ritchie



She was my high school junior varsity basketball coach. Every game day she would show up in a sweater and plaid pants, and maybe some earrings to give her that "dressed up" look. She would squat alongside the bench, her eyes fired with intensity and her sleeves rolled up to her elbow before the end of the first quarter. Her intensity and faith turned our team around. The previous year our record had been 3-15. Her dedication and guidance turned us around to 15-3 the next season. Our team had several jun-

iors on it, and she would often pull us into her office and say with excitement, "See, I told you we could do it!" I can hear the thrill of her voice if I sit still for a minute.

Of course, we had the typical player-coach problems. She took our every complaint seriously, and often came up with compromises

ple polo shirt and year-round tan, she was always up for a quick scrimmage or shooting contest.

It's not our winning season or her coaching ability that made her great. It was her spirit. I can easily say she died too young. But given her youthful energy and enthusiasm, I can't ever picture her growing old.

It's too bad that words of praise don't flow so freely upon someone until they're gone. I'm not even sure if I've spoken to her in the last year-and-a-half, but I can honestly say I've thought of her often. She was the type of person I was going to track down in my mid-20s to tell her how much I've done with my life. And how much I admire her. And how much I learned from being under her tutelage. We've all had people like this pass through our lives at some point or another.

I regret that we'll never be able to have that talk. But I promise I'll never forget her, and I'll try to speak up next time someone important touches my life. Before the opportunity passes.

Kathryn Ritchie is a junior journalism major and the assistant city editor of The Maine Campus.

Ramsay case hot off the press

Josh Nason

Three months into 1997 and already we have our first sensational murder mystery of the year. Almost 12 weeks ago, on Christmas night, 6-year-old JonBenet Ramsay, of Boulder, Colo., was found dead in the basement of her house.

Because she was a pageant queen and an adorable, talented little girl, and the fact there has been no one caught for the crime, the case has turned into a tabloid wonderland, bringing out the very best and worst of people.

Suspects have ranged from the girl's half-brother to an elderly man who played Santa Claus for all the children in town. Both have been cleared from the list of suspects. However, the person or persons responsible for this heinous act may be right in front of everybody's faces — her parents.

While it is unthinkable to most that any parent would murder such a seemingly bright and prosperous child, some things just do not add up. First, the parents have yet to do an official police interview. They have said they will do one, just as long as the Boulder police bow to their conditions, which are being interviewed together, not being interviewed at the police station, and having their attorneys and family doctor present.

The police want the interview

at the station, parents separate, and for the interrogation to be on both video and audio tape for later analysis. There is also talk that under some questions the couple may go the Mark Fuhrman route and take the Fifth Amendment to avoid giving potentially incriminating testimony.

To the parents' credit, though, both have given numerous handwriting samples police have sought in an attempt to match the ransom note's handwriting.

What doesn't fly about this for me is that while the parents haven't talked at length to the police, they did an interview on CNN, as well as with other media outlets. I hope I never have to be put in this position, but if this did happen to me, the first people I would want to speak to and cooperate with would be the cops. That is unless I was guilty and trying to hide something.

Now I realize innocent until proven guilty is supposed to be the way the law works, but get this: the Ramsay parents, John and Patsy, have not only hired five attorneys, but also have two private investigation firms working for them, as well as a publicist, a former FBI profiler, handwriting analysts. They even have a Web site. A story in the University of Colorado-Boulder student newspaper reported on how the parents are trying to dig up dirt on the

Boulder police, similar to the way Fuhrman and other L.A. police officers were made to look incompetent in the O.J. Simpson case. Do those sound like innocent people to you?

No matter what happens, though, the media have already swarmed on the story and on the community just like with the Simpson case. We all know how long that lasted — too long. Geraldo Rivera is covering the subject on almost a nightly basis on his CNBC show. Weekly tabloids are "enlightening" everyone with supposedly confidential photos of the crime scene, speculation on "Ramsay sex secrets," and how the young one had a bad childhood. Even if the tabloids could be held to tell the truth, it shows pretty poor taste to attempt to embarrass and sadden the family further.

In the coming months, I predict the JonBenet Ramsay case will explode. There is already a standoff in Boulder between the family and the police, which can only lead to a war. The parents have rallied their troops, as have the police. We can only hope the game of human chess doesn't take away from what all brought them into this situation in the first place: solving the murder of young JonBenet Ramsay.

Josh Nason is a first-year journalism student.

Arms awareness for children

Many are concerned about the recent news of several students taking guns into the classroom for a "private show-and-tell" for their friends.

As reported in the Bangor Daily News, a Camden sixth-grader was suspended for bringing in two pistols, one of them loaded. The Camden Police Department is still

arm in the house is asking for trouble. The child will obviously touch the gun, play with the gun, or harm himself if they know about it. You can't steal cookies from the cookie jar if you know there are no cookies. Guns aren't cookies, however, and while a



On the Sly

By Yolanda Sly

investigating the incident.

The .22-caliber guns were owned by his parents.

According to the article, school administrators did not know of the guns being present in the classroom until a concerned parent called the school about the incident.

Principal Michael Weatherwax said he was disturbed that students saw the guns in class but neglected to report them to school officials.

Weatherwax said that when meeting with students he told them that "if there are guns in their home, they need to talk to their parents about gun laws, and if they ever become aware of a dangerous situation in school, they must notify me or a teacher immediately."

The U.S. Constitution gives citizens the right to bear arms, but they must do so responsibly and discuss the issue of guns with their children. Owners of guns are responsible for the actions taken with their guns.

While the National Rifle Association advocates the right for all to bear any type of arms, even it should be advocating the safe use of these weapons.

Having students discuss with their parents about complying with Maine law is all good and well, but there is a bigger issue that needs to be addressed: Gun Safety. This is vital for their protection and everyone else's.

While it's endangering the welfare of a child to sell or furnish guns and ammunition to anyone under 16 years of age, children who live at homes with guns need to know gun safety.

Anyone who is living in a house with a gun of any kind should be taught several things. Children should be taught where the gun is and more importantly the dangers of using a gun. However, parents should keep their guns out of children's reach.

While some may say the child having the knowledge of a fire-

child having knowledge of a gun in the house may not be ideal for some, it's better than coming home and finding your kid has shot himself or someone else upon discovering the gun. How many times have you heard about a child finding a gun and shooting himself, parents saying they had no clue that the kid knew about the gun.

While parents might not like the idea of their child knowing about a gun in the house, they should be responsible parents and teach their children the rights and wrongs of having a gun. This could help prevent numerous accidents.

Imagine a children's curious eyes if they were to discover where the gun is. They would obviously play with the gun, or examine it, upon discovering its hiding place. Guns should be locked up, out of a child's reach. So should the ammunition for a gun.

Guns should never be stored while loaded. This presents a danger to everyone, whether they are an adult or a child. The gun could go off while taking it out of storage or while walking around with it.

While a 12-year-old should be old enough to know not to bring a gun to school or to play with guns, unfortunately this is not the case. Children and teen-agers bring guns into school, some intending to harm someone, and others intending to show it off to their friends.

Many children are injured or killed by accidental shootings. People who play with guns mean no harm. Unfortunately, it doesn't turn out that way.

Those who attend or have loved ones attending the Mary E. Taylor Middle School were extremely lucky. No one was hurt or killed by this version of show-and-tell.

Yolanda Sly is a senior journalism student and the city editor of The Maine Campus.

Entertainment

Your Daily Horoscope

By Sally Brompton

For Wednesday, March 19

IF YOUR BIRTHDAY IS TODAY: You may not like aggressive people, but they appear to like you. Maybe they sense you are an easy target? Stand up for yourself this year, even if it means antagonizing those who would prefer it to be the other way round. You will be surprised at how much more they respect you.

ARIES (March 21 - April 19): Planetary activity indicates you are building up to something big. Only you know what that something is, but others have their suspicions and want to know the details. Don't give the game away yet: Secrecy is essential to success.

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): Planetary influences suggest some kind of argument or antagonism, quite possibly with a member of the opposite sex. You don't have to get involved, but you probably will. You may even enjoy it if you make an effort to control your temper.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 20): Don't let others talk you out of implementing a good idea today. Your judgement is better than theirs. Aspects suggest it is only a matter of time before your insights are recognized and rewarded, at least by those who count.

CANCER (June 21 - July 22): News from afar will excite you today, but don't read too much into it. It is easy to believe in something at a distance, but up close it may look rather different. Let your imagination roam but don't lose touch with reality; you may find yourself committed to something you don't enjoy.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22): Just because someone says he/she can make your money grow faster doesn't mean you should immediately hand it over. Perhaps there really are people who want to share their wealth-making secrets with you, but the question remains: If they're so good, how come they need your money?

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22): It isn't like you to wear your heart on your sleeve, but you appear to have fallen for someone in a big way. There is no guarantee that the feelings are mutual, so don't get too emotional. Wait until you have received some unmistakable signals that the person feels the same way.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22): Don't be too independent today. You need assistance to clear up a large backlog of jobs. You won't get it unless you ask, and you won't ask if you think — mistakenly — that you can do it all by yourself. Get organized, get your act together and, more than anything, get some help.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21): There's no point arguing with anyone today, especially if the subject under discussion is something of a creative nature. Like it or not, you will never change another person's point of view, nor will that person change yours. If you can't live and let live, stay out of each other's way.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): There will be a lot to talk about today, but precious little in the way of meaningful agreement. But that's OK. Who says you have to agree on everything? Sagittarians enjoy a spot of verbal competition, and provided it stays on a friendly level it will do you both a lot of good.

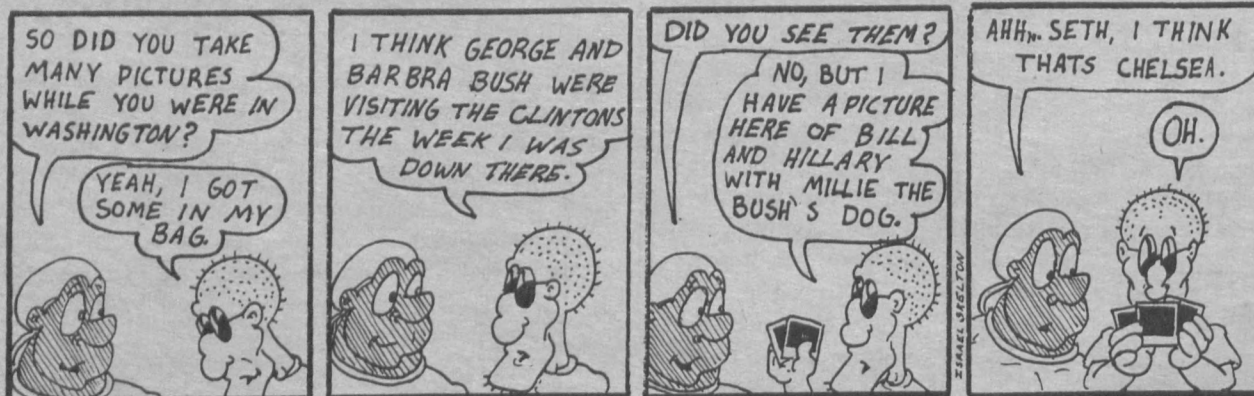
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): If you want to travel in one direction but a partner or colleague insists on traveling in another, should you give in? If you do, it will only encourage that person to demand his/her own way every time there is a difference of opinion. This is one argument you can't afford to lose.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): If others disapprove of what you are doing, that will only inspire you to do it all the more. If someone says "do this," you will almost certainly not do it; if someone says "go this way," you will instantly head in the opposite direction. It's true: Aquarians do have more fun!

PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20): Put your own needs first today, no matter how much others plead with you to sacrifice your time and energy on things that do not interest you in the slightest. You will feel guilty about being selfish, but that's better than allowing yourself to be worn out for no good reason.

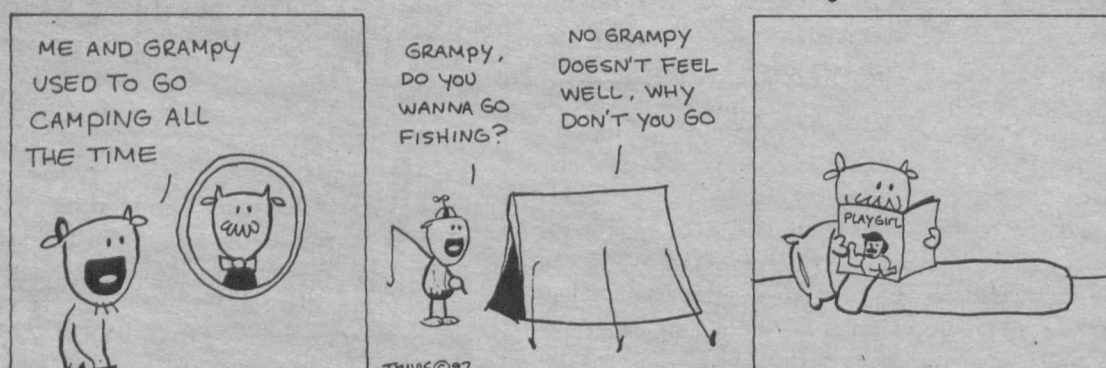
Cranially Constipated

By Israel Skelton

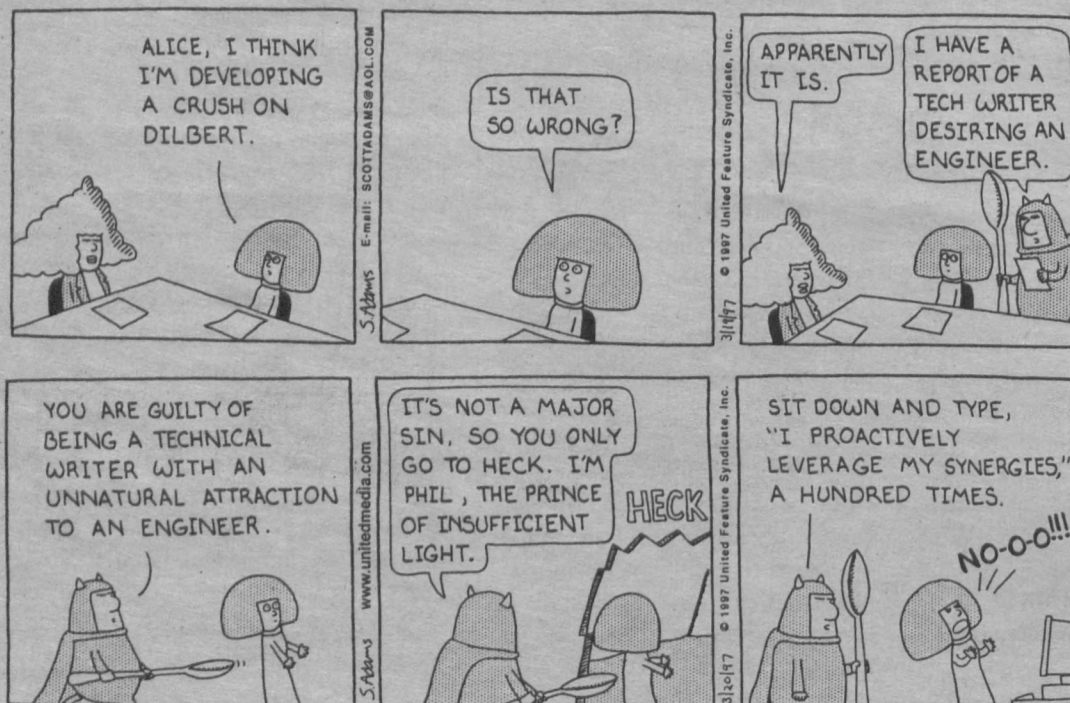


Mr. GNU

By Travis Dandro

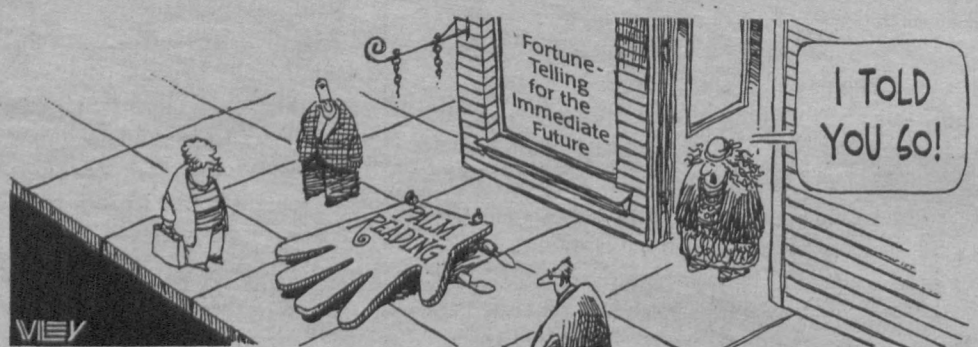


DILBERT ® by Scott Adams



NON SEQUITUR

BY VIEV



Your Daily Horoscope

By Sally Brompton

For Thursday, March 20

IF YOUR BIRTHDAY IS TODAY: Think deeply about what you want to do with your life over the next year. Then, focus all your energies in that direction. Do one thing at a time, and you will do it well and quickly; do half-a-dozen things at once, and none will work out to your complete satisfaction.

ARIES (March 21 - April 19): Aspects indicate this is a day to take things easy, to think rather than act. You will get the chance to make your mark in more ways than one over the next few weeks, so start slow and build up to something big.

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): You can feel things slipping away from you. The longer it goes on, the harder it will be to make up lost ground. Whatever else you do, don't panic. Everything in life has a natural cycle. If you are on the down slope at the moment, it won't be long before you are back on the way up.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 20): It would be easy to believe that the things you believe in no longer matter — easy but wrong. You are in a negative frame of mind at the moment. Wait a day or two, and the world will look a brighter place.

CANCER (June 21 - July 22): This is an important time for you, especially if you are looking to move up in the world. Today is a good day for deciding exactly what it is you want to achieve and how you intend to achieve it. Don't make your move yet, but be ready for when the time is right.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22): Although you may be fascinated by exotic people and faraway places, your current circumstances are such that you can only dream about them. One day you will get the chance to broaden your horizons in a more practical way. Keep dreaming and it may happen sooner than you think.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22): You are about to enter a short but intense phase when it feels as if you have lost the right to think and act for yourself. In practical terms, nothing much has changed, but you are certainly more sensitive than usual; this could drive you to overreact.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22): Want what you have and you will be happy today. Yearn for something — or someone — that is clearly out of reach, and you will make yourself miserable. It is true that opposites attract, but that doesn't mean they will be good for each other. If you must admire, do so from a distance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21): This is the ideal day to put your affairs in order, to catch up on correspondence and to generally do all those little things you have been putting off for weeks. Forget about social activities, this is a time for work. Strangely, the more work you do, the more you enjoy it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): You feel that something in your life is changing. Although you don't yet know what it is, your instincts tell you it is a change for the better. A word of warning: If you have just escaped one restrictive relationship, don't jump into another.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): Forget about work and concentrate on your domestic situation today. What can you do to make your family life more enjoyable? Why have you not done it before? Whatever the reason, you can do it now. All it takes is a genuine desire to make those you love happy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): The tempo of your daily life is about to pick up, but you aren't sure you have the energy or the motivation to get involved. That may be the way you feel today, but by the weekend you will be unbelievably active, so much so that friends and colleagues may want you to slow down.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20): Don't do anything rash today if you find your cash reserves are running low. Wait until Monday before deciding what you are going to sell or what you will have to borrow to tide you over. The chances are you won't have to do either.

Entertainment

Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



New York Times Daily Crossword No. 0930

ACROSS

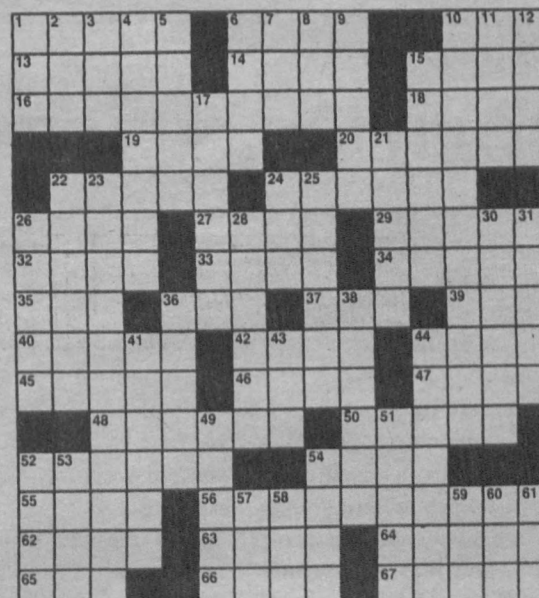
- 1 Puccini opera
- 6 Very much
- 10 A.E.F. conflict
- 13 Bay window
- 14 Rain cats and dogs
- 15 "And — goes"
- 16 Bored with life
- 18 Miseries
- 19 Pb, elementally speaking
- 20 Relative of the wasp
- 22 Ice cream pattern
- 24 Robin Hood, for one
- 26 Sheep cries
- 27 Golf hazard
- 29 " — the Sheriff" (1974 hit)

DOWN

- 32 Landed
- 33 Jimmy Carter's middle name
- 34 Tough fabric used in uniforms
- 35 The "S" in R.S.V.P.
- 36 Slow-pitch pitch
- 37 Card up the sleeve
- 39 Oil treatment
- 40 Patrick Ewing, for one
- 42 Game of chance
- 44 Resting on
- 45 — Wences (frequent Ed Sullivan guest)
- 46 Extremities
- 47 Asset
- 48 Poltergeists
- 50 Gradually decrease, with "off"

DOWN

- 52 Lady of "Ivanhoe"
- 54 Der — (Adenauer)
- 55 Gen. Bradley
- 56 Irresolute
- 62 Yard digger
- 63 "Exodus" novelist
- 64 Propositioned
- 65 Office seeker
- 66 Mexican moolah
- 67 Equestrian's controls



Puzzle by Fred Piscop

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

P	A	P	E	R	S	B	A	S	E	M	A	N
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R	A	S	P	I	E	R	E	V	A	D	E	R
T	R	E	S	S	E	S	R	E	S	A	Y	S

24 Galley propeller	44 Negotiate à la Chamberlain	54 Mr. Moto's reply
25 High elevation area	49 Cut into logs	57 Dander
26 Sunbathes	51 In armed conflict	58 Family girl
28 Bootlegging or extortion	52 Win easily, in the sports pages	59 Do slaloms
30 Traveling, as a band	53 Melville novel	60 Farm cackler
31 Big name in baseball cards		61 Gridiron gains: Abbr.
36 Tire-producing city		
38 Expensive		
41 Stick together		
43 Nav. officer		

Corrections

To bring a correction to our attention, contact the Editor at 581-1271 between the hours of 9 a.m. and noon, or stop by the office on the fourth floor Chadbourne Hall.

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Style & the Arts

• Performance

DiFranco uses eclectic mix to entertain Maine crowd

By Mike Reynolds
Maine campus staff

On Sunday night, Ani DiFranco performed for nearly two hours to a sellout crowd of more than a thousand fans at Bates College in Lewiston.

DiFranco, is an independent artist who has released nine albums on her own label, who has toured constantly across America for the last six years and has grown an ardent fanbase that has led her to sold-out shows throughout the country.

DiFranco has built up her following based on an eclectic mix of folk with strong punk overtones and lyrics that deal with issues such as domestic abuse, gender inequality and child abuse in a brutally honest fashion. Her style has gained her a strong and committed throng of fans who have, to an extent, felt a sense of betrayal since her music has crossed the line of aggressive folk music to full out rock music.

Sunday's show was an impressive set. It showed that she was still in transition from the "dorky little folk singer" to fleshed-out fully rocking singer. DiFranco, who was not afraid to experiment and add touches of hip-hop, rap, spoken word and covers of Woody Guthrie during the set, roared through the nearly two-hour show. One very interesting aspect about this show was that most fans were not familiar with much of the music she played. DiFranco played at least five songs

that have not been officially released. She also went against the grain by playing a select few songs from her latest album, "Dilate," even going so far as to not play "Joyful Girl," which was released as an EP last November.

This show seemed to be a preview of the live album, which was recorded throughout the country during 1996. The Bates show was also reported to be recorded for the BBC.

There was much to be desired in terms of sound quality at this show, which was held in a gymnasium. Much of her performance suffered from a "booming" effect that made many of her lyrics unintelligible. Making things worse were many inconsiderate people who insisted on talking through many of her new songs and spoken-word poems.

DiFranco played many new songs, with titles as confirmed by other fans who have been following her tour, such as "Plastic Castles," "Independence" and "Gravel." The last song is slated to appear on a new double CD titled "Living in Clip" which is going to be released April 22.

DiFranco's wit and humor was very much evident throughout most of the show, as she told stories of how a diehard group of fans follows her around and leaves plastic lizards onstage, including Sunday's show, to how she offended most of the crowd when, at her first show in Maine, when she said "fuck" during the first song and half of the audience left.

DiFranco has changed from just a couple of



Ani DiFranco. (Courtesy Photo.)

years ago when her shows were laid back, folk shows in half-filled theaters, to an exhilarating full-out event, complete with a light show.

DiFranco has changed her show to emphasize her strengths, but to also allow her to grow, and alter her dynamic voice as an artist.

• Notorious R.I.P.

Celebrities, friends pay last respects to rapper

NEW YORK (AP) — Laid out in a double-breasted white suit and matching hat, The Notorious B.I.G. made his last trip Tuesday through the grimy Brooklyn streets where he went from crack dealer to gangsta rap star.

The rapper's massive body was driven from a service on Manhattan's well-to-do Upper East Side to his Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood, where thousands lined the streets to watch the procession of black limousines and salute the man born Christopher Wallace.

Wallace, 24, was killed March 9 in a drive-by shooting in Los Angeles as he left a party celebrating the Soul Train Music Awards.

Wallace, whose 230-pound, 6-foot frame also earned him the nickname Biggie Smalls, had told of selling crack on the streets before releasing his debut album, "Ready to Die."

The crowd cheered wildly as the funeral cortege passed. It was led by a hearse bearing the rapper — a father of two — and two black Cadillacs filled with flowers. "To Daddy," read the yellow ribbon around one arrangement.

Riders following in more than a dozen stretch limousines held pictures of Wallace out the windows.

Once the motorcade passed, there were several skirmishes between police and the crowd, and pepper spray was used to disperse the group. Seven people — including a reporter for The New York Times — were arrested on disorderly

conduct charges, and a half-dozen officers suffered minor injuries, police said.

Some of rap's best-known names attended Wallace's funeral, including Dr. Dre, Flavor Flav of Public Enemy, Treach of Naughty by Nature, Spinderella and Pepa of Salt-N-Pepa, Queen Latifah and R&B diva Mary J. Blige, who left the service weeping and supported by other mourners.

No one has been charged in the slayings. Some reports have suggested it was part of an East Coast-West Coast rapper rivalry, while the Los Angeles Times reported Tuesday that a gang member in a financial dispute with Wallace had emerged as the prime suspect.

The Times also reported there was no connection found to the slaying of rival rapper Tupac Shakur, who was gunned down in a drive-by shooting Sept. 7 in Las Vegas. No one has been arrested in that killing, either.

Wallace's estranged wife, Faith Evans, sang at the funeral service, while Sean "Puffy" Combs — the head of Wallace's record company, Bad Boy Entertainment — delivered a eulogy.

"It was a peaceful event," said mourner Juanita Preudhomme, an old family friend. "It wasn't all sorrow. Everybody was hugging and kissing, just like Biggie would have wanted."

Old friends were among those mourning in Brooklyn as well, as the procession wound past graffiti and boarded-up buildings — including one with posters pro-

moting the rapper's latest album, due out next week.

Fans lined the block where Wallace once lived, leaving candles, pictures, empty malt liquor bottles and a copy of "Ready to Die" at a makeshift shrine.

"He never changed," said neighbor

Cynthia Haynes, whose daughter once dated Wallace. "I saw him a year ago and told him I was so proud of him."

On top of a parked car, three children held a sign. "We love you B.I.G.," it read. "Stop the violence. From future stars of tomorrow."

• Discontinued

Ford clips T-bird's wings

DETROIT (AP) — The fun's over. Ford is taking the T-Bird away.

Forty-three years after its debut, Ford Motor Co. is grounding the Thunderbird, but says it will return again as a smaller, sportier coupe in a few years.

Ford confirmed Monday it will cease production of the T-Bird and its structural sibling, the Mercury Cougar, along with the Ford Probe coupe and Ford Aerostar minivan at the end of the 1997 model year.

Declining sales were blamed for the cuts, which will force about 2,500 people out of work.

"Customer preferences are changing and we must provide the products our customers want and value," said Jac Nasser, president of Ford's automotive operations.

The T-bird was introduced at the 1954 Detroit Auto Show as a competitor with the new Chevrolet Corvette and has been offered every year since.

Unlike the 'Vette, the T-Bird was an immediate hit, immortalized in a 1964 Beach Boys song with the refrain, "fun, fun, fun 'til her daddy takes the T-Bird away." But also unlike the 'Vette, the Ford remained a two-seater for only three years.

It grew ever larger into the 1960s, '70s and '80s — even a sedan version was offered briefly. Sales grew as well until coupes fell out of favor with American motorists in the 1990s.

Last year, Ford sold only 79,721 T-Birds in the United States, down from the its height of 325,153 in 1977.

Word first emerged last month that Ford was planning to clip the T-Bird's wings.

Ford said up to 700 workers at 20 Ford parts plants across the nation may also lose their jobs because of the decision to idle the Lorain car-assembly line. The automaker has not yet determined which plants will be affected, spokesman Bert Serre said.

• In theaters

'Brasco' a blue-collar mob movie

By Derek Rice
Maine Campus staff

From the beginning, "Donnie Brasco" seems like it will follow the same pattern as every other movie about La Cosa Nostra to date. Lefty Ruggiero (Al Pacino) hangs out in a bar with his New York paisano friends and wonders about the stranger (Johnny Depp) at the bar, who seems to know more than he lets on.

But this is no ordinary Mafia movie. Pacino's character isn't the same mobster who's been seen in every movie from "The Godfather" to "Goodfellas": He's a loser, the bottom rung on the mob ladder. Depp's character isn't some young hood who wants to join the mob: He's federal agent Joe Pistone, undercover as Donnie "The Jeweler" Brasco.

The friendship between these two forms after Donnie informs Lefty that a ring he is trying to fence is worth nothing. They then confront the unfortunate soul who sold Lefty the ring for \$8,000 and convince him to give Lefty his Porsche to make amends for the bad deal.

Eventually, Lefty vouches for Donnie, gaining him admission to the secret meetings and clubs where the wiseguys hang out and talk "business."

The great thing about Mafia movies is that they make the viewer forget that every aspect of the mobsters' lives revolves around illegal activity. They aren't good people, but everything they do seems to be justified.

This is the case with "Donnie Brasco" as well. Lefty takes Donnie under his wing, but at the same time constantly borrowing hundreds of dollars from him to cover his own ass with the bosses. Lefty laments having had to sell his boat because business hasn't been good enough for



Joe Pistone, aka Donnie Brosco (Johnny Depp, l), and Lefty Ruggiero (Al Pacino) discuss mob do's and don'ts. (Courtesy Photo.)

him to even make his vig (weekly payment to his superiors).

While Joe/Donnie has been undercover, his wife Maggie (Anne Heche), has been raising their three daughters alone, with no help but checks from the bureau. Unable to escape from his cover, Joe can't even make it home before late evening on Christmas. The tension between the two mounts throughout the film and includes a bitter session in a marriage counselor's office.

As the people with whom Joe has been associating rise in the Mafia and Joe gets more and more involved in the family, the FBI wants to pull Joe out of his cover, but Joe knows that if he comes out, Lefty will be killed. There has been a genuine building of friendship between the two, as Joe has gotten to know Lefty as a

See BROSCO on page 20

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Wednesday, March 19

- "A Woman Called Mankiller," keynote address by Rayna Green, director of the American Indian Program at the Smithsonian Museum, as part of the Women's History Celebration. Wells conference center, 7:30 p.m.
- Comedy Cafe special Wednesday edition, Damn Yankee, 8 p.m. Admission \$1 with UMaine ID, \$3 all others.

Thursday, March 20

- "Native American Women and Music," by Rayna Green, Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union, 9:30 a.m.
- "American Indian Religious and Cultural Expropriation," by Rayna Green, Bangor Lounge, 12:30 p.m.
- "Women in War: Voices from the Front Line," part of the Peace and Justice Film Series, 100 Donald P. Corbett Business Building, 7 p.m.
- Performance by musical group Hit Me, Bear's Den, 9 p.m. Free.

Friday, March 21

- "The Mesoamerican Ballgame: Ritual Sport of the Americas," by Jane Day, curator of Latin American archaeology at the Denver Museum of Natural History, Bodwell Area, Maine Center for the Arts, 3:30 p.m.
- "In the Garden of Diana: Negotiating the Biography of a 16th Century Italian Abbess," by Maureen Pelta, as-

sociate professor of art history, Moore College of Art and Design, 100 Nutting Hall, 7 p.m.

- Closing reception for Museum of Art exhibits "Wake Up Little Susie: Pregnancy and Power Before Roe v. Wade" and "Warnings," Carnegie Hall, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 22

- "A Night in Nashville," part of the Maine Center for the Arts performance season, 8 p.m. Admission fee.
- "Michael Collins," presented by the Union Board, 6:30 and 9:15, Hauck Auditorium. Admission fee.

Sunday, March 23

- University Singers Spring Concert, part of the School of Performing Arts Music Series, Minsky Recital Hall, 3 p.m. Admission fee.

Monday, March 24

- "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicided - When the Rainbow is Enuf," video and discussion, facilitated by Mike Scott and Josephine Bright, Totman Lounge, Memorial Union, 4 p.m.
- "Harpisichord Music by Women Composers of the 18th Century," by Marina Minkin, Minsky Recital Hall, 7 p.m.
- "In Danku the Soupis Sweetener: Woman and Development in Ghana," film and discussion by UMaine graduate Heather Whittaker, Totman Lounge, 4 p.m.

MID-WEEK PLEASURE!

Wednesday! Wednesday! Wednesday!

Comedy Café

(special Wednesday edition)

8pm Damn Yankee

\$1 w/UMaine Student ID

\$3 All Others

cash bar with ID

Thursday the 20th

9pm

The Bear's Den

FREE! FREE!

FREE!

hit me

(70s Funk with a 90s Twist)



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RUSTIC OVERTONES



RUSTIC OVERTONES
AT BABE'S IN BREWER

(Behind KFC/Taco Bell on Wilson Street / Bar Harbor Rd)

March 28, 1997

2 Shows

6 p.m., All Ages, \$8

9 p.m., 21+, \$6

Tickets available at:

- Babe's-Brewer 989-1755
- Mark's Music-Brewer 989-6658
- Dr. Records-Orono 866-7874
- All Strawberries Locations

• Meet, Greet, Autograph Session at Mark's Music in Brewer from 4:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. Day of Show

Brosco

from page 19

person, not just a mobster. He tells his wife he couldn't live with Lefty's murder on his conscience, saying it would be "just like if I pulled the trigger myself."

The film's conclusion may leave you guessing throughout what will happen to each of these characters, but don't expect a Hollywood-style happy ending. It comes rather abruptly and the viewers must decide for themselves what happened to Lefty.

As far as the content of the film goes, it is a little graphic in places, as mobsters use large knives and saws to cut up their victims, dispelling the myth that the Mafia employs people to take care of the dirty work. This is the "blue-collar" Mafia, people who have to answer to other people, not the heads of crime families.

There are some terribly graphic scenes, lots

of tension, as Joe must constantly watch his back, and a brutal scene involving the beating of a waiter in a Japanese restaurant, who insists that Donnie take his shoes off. Of course, he can't or he'll expose the wire he's wearing in his cowboy boots.

For those who love a good Mafia movie, this is a must-see, as it is one of the best of its genre. For those who don't, go see "Jungle 2 Jungle" or "Return of the Jedi."

Like most films of the genre, it glorifies the lifestyle, but with a more human feeling. These are real people, hardly untouchable. In all, this is a good film, worthy of seeing, especially if you go on a Monday night and have the whole theater to yourself.

Grade: A-

• One more channel

CBS to enter cable realm

NEW YORK (AP) — CBS is moving ahead with the March 31 launch of its "Eye on People" cable channel, announcing a programming schedule Tuesday heavy on archival news footage for such shows as "60 Minutes More."

CBS follows NBC and Fox as major networks to launch cable affiliates. ABC scrapped plans for its own news channel after being beaten to the air by MSNBC and the Fox News Channel.

"Eye on People" will distinguish itself with a "diverse, compelling, often whimsical lineup" of shows focusing on people and personalities, network presi-

dent Geoffrey Darby said.

"This is an entertainment channel," Darby said. "It's not a news channel or a stalking horse for a news channel."

Its first program at 6 p.m. on March 31 will be "The Best of Us," with Marc McEwen as host. The show profiles everyday heroes.

"60 Minutes" creator Don Hewitt is host of the nightly show, "60 Minutes More," which repeats old stories from the CBS newsmagazine and briefly updates them.

Other "Eye on People" fare:

• "Against the Law," a nightly series with behind-the-scenes stories from the criminal justice system, with Jose Diaz-Balart as host.

• "Fast Forward," a weekly Paula Zahn-anchored program that catches up on people once in the public eye. Early profile subjects are former talk show host Morton Downey Jr. and George McGovern.

• "CBS Classics," repeats of old CBS News programs, including some featuring Edward R. Murrow.

• "Off Tenth," a live, nightly program with Thalia Assuras and Richard Schlesinger about "fascinating people who were recently in the headlines." The title is a reference to the CBS studios off 10th Avenue in New York City.

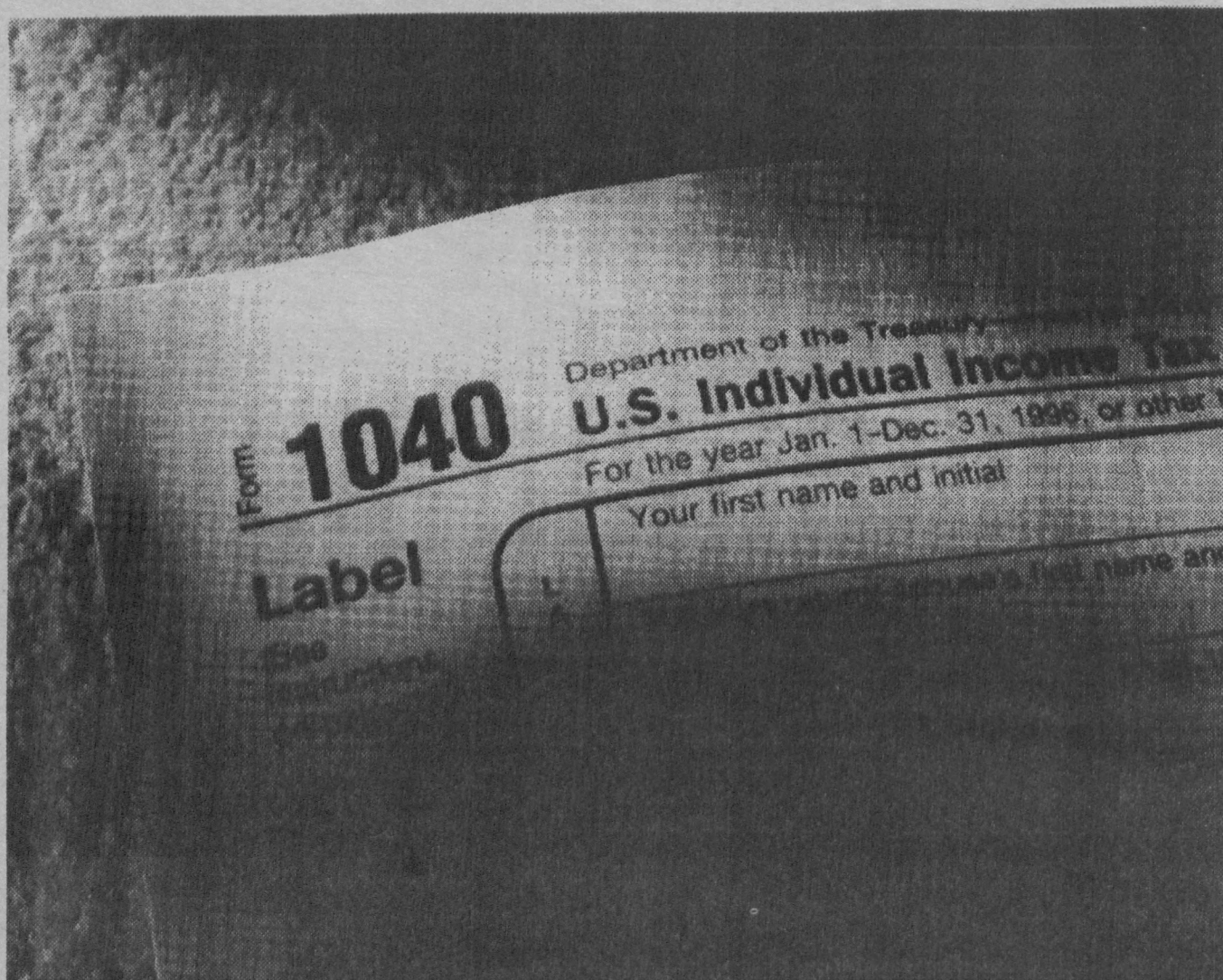
Darby and other executives said they are determined to see "Eye on People" through, although there were reports last month that some CBS employees believed the network commitment was wavering.

They have yet to announce a promise by any cable operators to place "Eye on People" on any systems. Cable operators have limited channel space and some fledgling networks have been offering to pay for access.

One cable analyst said "Eye on People's" timing was off and that he wasn't sure whether people had a clear idea of the network's concept.

"CBS is about 10 years too late to this party," said Larry Gerbrandt, media analyst for Paul Kagan Associates.

EXCLUSIVELY for FACULTY and STAFF



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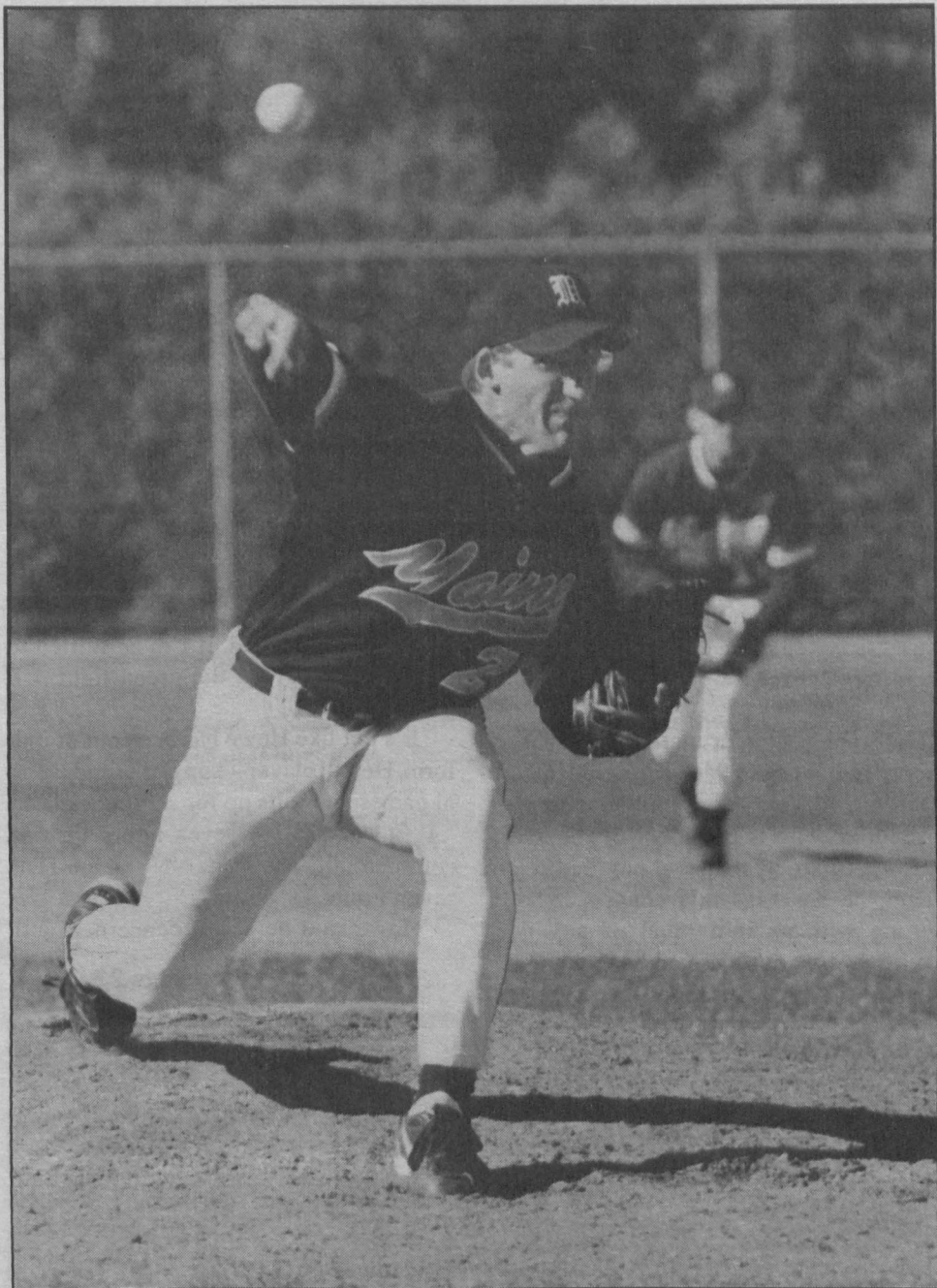


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Sports Page

• Baseball

Black Bears return with wins, hot hitters



Freshman pitcher Jon Dickinson (shown here pitching in the fall of 1996) and the Maine baseball team returned from Florida with 5 wins. (Joel Page Photo.)

By Scott Martin
Maine Campus staff

After two weeks in sunny Florida, the University of Maine baseball team returned to a foot of snow and the dark, cold field house at Memorial Gymnasium.

The Black Bears enjoyed one of their most successful spring trips in recent years, going 5-11. Last season, Maine returned to Orono with an 0-22 record after a treacherous schedule that included games against nationally ranked Clemson, Texas A&M, Rice, Oklahoma State, Florida State, Texas and Miami.

Maine's biggest boost came from converted starter Garrett Quinn. As a closer last season, Quinn had nine saves for the Black Bears. In three seasons with Maine Quinn had saved 16 games.

As a starter, Quinn is 3-0 this season. He has a team-low 2.39 ERA. In 26-1/3 innings, Quinn has struck out 25 batters and held opponents to a .229 batting average. Maybe most impressive is Quinn's control. He has walked just nine batters.

The senior played a major role for the Black Bears, especially in their 11-inning 7-6 victory over Central Florida. Quinn pitched 10 innings to get the win. Quinn's

ability to eat innings will be a key to Maine's starting rotation, but he may also see time out of the bullpen; he already has a save in two relief appearances.

While Quinn has prospered, the rest of Maine's staff has struggled. The Black Bears have a 7.79 combined ERA this season, which is almost two points lower than when they returned from Florida last season. Maine's No. 1 starter, Dave Foran, went 0-2 on the trip with a 7.86 ERA. Foran did pick up a save in the 11-inning win.

Andy Estabrook was another bright spot for the Maine pitching staff. Estabrook was 0-1 but gave up just six earned runs in 16 innings. Estabrook was slow in recovering last season, after missing most of his freshman year after being hit by a line drive in the face. Estabrook suffered from a tired arm for much of last season.

Other Maine pitchers haven't fared well. Freshman Jon Dickinson is 0-3 in three starts and has a 16.36 ERA.

Rex Turner and Nick Caiazza have provided power in the Maine lineup, and T.J. Sheedy has been a spark, hitting .417 and scoring 17 runs. Caiazza has a .636

See BASEBALL on page 24

• Softball

Freshmen led Maine

By Josh Nason
Maine Campus staff

While the Maine softball team did enjoy the sun of Ocoee, Fla., over spring break, it wasn't on the beach, but rather on the diamond. The Black Bears set off to Florida for their annual southern trip, recording a 12-9 record, going 7-2 in their last nine games.

Head coach Janet Anderson said she is happy with the way that the team competed on the trip, especially with its .294 batting average.

"We were very pleased with the way our freshmen played for us," Anderson said. "We spent a lot of time in the spring getting ready for this, in terms of practicing and having hitting labs and that type of thing. So, we saw this pay off for us in a big way."

On the mound, Maine has been led by Jen Burton. The sophomore has a 6-2 record with a 1.17 ERA in 53-2/3 innings pitched, tops on the club. Already this year she has pitched in five one-run games, winning all of them.

Mary Persson is the other workhorse on the staff, having thrown 43 innings this spring. Although her record is only 3-4, Persson has a 1.47 ERA and 17 strikeouts, both second on the club. She is also tied for complete games (six), games started (six), and saves (one). She has also not gotten much run support, getting an average of just over two runs a game in the club's first 12 contests.

"This is what we got to have," Ander-



Sara Jewett.
(File Photo.)

son said. "Those kids have to work very hard in the circle, and they've got to give us the ground ball outs. They've spent many, many hours in preparing, and it is showing off for them."

Vicki Brenner has also been an effective starter, with a 2-1 record. She has started five games and has an ERA of 3.57 in 17-2/3 innings. Freshman Nicole Sawyer will have to improve, as she has allowed 22 runs in only 15 innings, for an ERA of 7.00.

Offensively, Maine has seven hitters batting over .310, with first baseman Shelly Lefevre leading the club at a .365 clip with a minimum of 31 at-bats. The senior is third on the team in RBIs (11), slugging percentage (.404), and tied for first in on-base percentage (.411). She is coming off a season where she hit only .208 and was reported to have a knee injury, but Anderson believes that had nothing to do with it.

"I think she just got herself into a bit of a slump and worked her way out of it. Now, she's back in there feeling much more comfortable at the plate, and it's beginning to pay off for her," Anderson said.

Shortstop Michelle Puis is hitting .355 (2nd), with 10 RBIs, good for a .532 slugging percentage. Second baseman Melissa Creegan leads the club in runs, with 15, nine stolen bases, and is batting .333.

One of the more pleasant developments of the spring has been the play of catcher Sara Jewett. A freshman, Jewett is hitting .328 with 14 runs scored, 14 RBIs, a team-leading .578 slugging percentage, as well as the lone power source thus far, with the only three home runs the Bears have.

See SOFTBALL on page 22

• NCAA Tournament

Bruins have championship feel

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Kris Johnson wakes up in the morning and strolls the UCLA campus with the same belief he had during the Bruins' run to the NCAA championship two years ago.

"I have that feeling, like we're going to go all the way," he said. "I knew it then, there was no doubt in my mind."

He says it quietly, calmly. Not in the cocky way that defined UCLA's performances last season or its selfish start to this season.

Johnson, relegated to sixth man on a team loaded with talent, points to UCLA's 11-game winning streak and the senior leadership of Charles O'Bannon and Cameron Dollar as proof.

It was the same way in 1995. The Bruins came into the tournament having won 13 straight behind the senior trio of Ed O'Bannon, George Zidek and Tyus Edney. Six victories later, they claimed the school's 11th NCAA title.

"Our confidence level is very similar to '95. It seems as if we can't do wrong," forward Charles O'Bannon said. "We're winning the close games, we're beating people by 20 and 30. We're beating fast teams, we're beating slow teams. We're playing at

a high."

Iowa State (22-8) will try to slow the Bruins (23-7) in their Midwest Regional semifinal Thursday night at San Antonio.

Part of UCLA's confidence stems from having six players from that championship season. Coach Steve Lavin likes to remind them of their background when the pressure seems to close in.

"He lets us know that we have game experience that other teams wish they had," O'Bannon said. "We've played in big games and we've won big games. We definitely fall back on that experience during the course of a game."

So if the Cyclones come roaring out of the gate, panic will be the last thing the Bruins feel.

They've been behind plenty this season, including 28 points down against Kansas and 16 points behind Oregon.

"For the simple fact that we're UCLA, teams will come out fired up and will go on an early run," O'Bannon said. "We know that it's a long game and we'll just inch back at their lead."

Early this season, the Bruins were 3-3

See BRUINS on page 22

Softball

from page 21

"We knew she was going to be an impact player when we recruited her. We knew she was one of the young ladies we wanted to get up here to this program," Anderson said. "We were very fortunate to do that, and Sara has been playing very well for us."

In the preseason America East coaches' poll, Maine was picked fourth out of eight teams, behind Hofstra, Boston University and Vermont. Coming off of a 17-23-1 year, Anderson is already looking to aim higher.

"I see us at least third. I want to get in that top three. Of course, we all want to go for the win," Anderson said. "In 1994, we went to the NCAAs, and we want to do that again. That was a fantastic trip for everybody, and everyone should have that experience, and we want it for our kids, too."

The Black Bears head into action this weekend in the Winthrop University Invitational at Rock Hill, S.C. Teams involved play in pools of four, and the top two teams in each pool move on to a single elimina-

tion tournament. Maine plays Coastal Carolina, the University of Akron and two games against Virginia Tech in its pool.

One of the things Anderson would like her team to improve on is the first and sixth innings, where the club gets outscored 26-17 and 13-8, respectively.

"We had some trouble in Florida where we would get two outs (right away), and then fight to get that third out," Anderson said. "We'd get some errors, might walk somebody, a hit, that type of thing. We've got to have the consistency to get that third out, either by the pitchers or just good defensive plays behind those pitchers."

The Bears have a lot of good singles hitters, but not much power or run production. But their run total through 21 games is up from last year, and is something Anderson is not worried about. She cited freshman Nicole Gamblin's seven RBIs so far that, when added to the players in double digits, is something the team did not have last year.

Bruins

from page 21

and then lost to Illinois on the road. Players were still concerned about their individual minutes and shots and ignored Lavin's pleas to trust their teammates.

"In the beginning of the season we just didn't have the hunger that we have now," guard Toby Bailey said.

Dollar called a players-only meeting after the loss in Chicago, and faith in each other began to take hold. A 64-57 win at St. Louis two days later confirmed it.

"If one guy steps his game up, it seems like everybody else is just stepping up their game so they won't get left behind or they won't disappoint the other

teammates by playing a bad game," Bailey said. "That's what we had in '95. Nobody wanted to disappoint anybody else."

Their confidence would be tested several more times before getting into the NCAA tournament. There was a school-worst 48-point loss at Stanford, and a 74-71 defeat at Louisville, a game the players thought they should have won.

"After that we just decided we could either be underachievers or we could live up to everybody's expectations and our expectations," Bailey said. "That's when it was really changed."

Hockey

Howe to make cameo

(AP) - Gordie Howe needs only one shift, maybe 90 seconds of ice time. That would make him an active hockey player in six decades and, as Babe Ruth exclaimed after hitting his 60th home run, let somebody break that record.

Eventually, of course, somebody did. Howe plans to work out for two weeks in Florida and then make a cameo appearance for the AHL Syracuse Crunch on April 1, one day after his 69th birthday.

He insists this is not some kind of April Fool's joke.

"One shift would be my goal," Howe said on Tuesday from his home in Traverse City, Mich. "The sixth decade. That's what this is all about. It would be nice to take that shift."

This idea began to take shape in 1990 when Wayne Gretzky was pursuing Howe's NHL record of 1,850 points, on the way to his mark of 801 goals. "I thought one record could stay intact," Howe said. "If I could play in the 90s, a sixth decade, nobody could touch that."

When he floated the idea, the Syracuse team embraced it. "The Crunch leaned over backwards to fulfill a wish," Howe said.

"To present a forum for a dream is an honor to our organization," said Howard Dolgon, a New York public relations executive who is president of the team. "If he's up to it, at a level not to hurt our team, he deserves this chance. What's wrong with an individual of any age, trying to live out a dream?"

Howe knows all about the criticism.

He points out that when he played in the NHL at age 52 in 1980, he scored 15 goals and could have had more.

"Some people think I'm crazy," he said. "I'm not."

Maurice "Rocket" Richard, Howe's longtime adversary, isn't so sure. Richard trashed the comeback idea.

"It's completely ridiculous. He must be crazy," he said. "In my mind, it was his wife, Colleen's idea. She leads him by the nose and he listens to her. I don't see how he can risk being injured for money."

Howe bristled at Richard's remarks.

"It took me 40 years to like the guy and he ruined it in one sentence," Howe said. "You know how feisty he is."

Howe denied that his wife had hatched this scheme.

"It got a little blown out of proportion," he said. "If there's a record to break, Rocket would get out there in front of the crowd. I wanted a sixth decade. Somebody plants an idea, it takes a while."

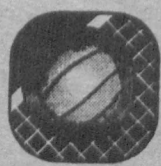
"I want it so bad, if I'm permitted to do so, if I'm given the green light, I'll go."

It's not like Howe has been out of uniform. He still plays pickup games and alumni games and suits up for commercials.

"I was skating seven hours for one commercial," he said. "No game lasts seven hours."

Howe said he is not concerned with

See HOWE on page 23



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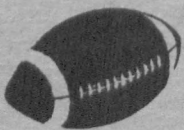
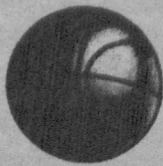
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•For more information, Contact the Student Employment office at 581-1349•

• NIT

Florida State upends Spartans to advance

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — LaMarr Greer is used to taking big shots for Florida State.

"It seems like every time it gets close, I get the big shot. I miss some and I make some," said Greer, whose 3-pointer with 64 seconds left helped the Seminoles beat Michigan State 68-63 Monday night in the second round of the NIT.

Michigan State scored eight straight points to close to 60-59 on a 3-pointer by Ray Weathers, but Greer's jumper from the top of the circle as the shot clock expired gave Florida State a 63-59 lead with 1:04 left.

"Greer's 3-pointer was really the backbreaker," Michigan State coach Tom Izzo said. "It came down to experience at the end. Half of the time we had three freshmen in the game, and they made some mistakes."

In other second-round NIT games Monday night, West Virginia beat North Carolina State 76-73, Arkansas defeated Pittsburgh 76-71 and UNLV downed Hawaii 89-80 in overtime.

The second round concludes tonight with Texas Christian at Notre Dame, Bradley at Connecticut, Oklahoma State at Michigan, and Nebraska at Nevada.

Randell Jackson had 16 points and 11 rebounds for Florida State, including two clinching free throws in the final 11 seconds. Jackson had 20 points and 11 re-

bounds in Florida State's opening-round victory at Syracuse.

"He's playing smart basketball and staying within himself," Greer said. "When he stands in the box, he's almost unstoppable because his moves are so fast."

Greer and Kirk Luchman scored 11 points apiece for the Seminoles (18-11).

Weathers scored 15 points for the Spartans, who led 39-38 at the half but shot just 28 percent in the second half. Mateen Cleaves, a freshman who was heavily recruited last year by Florida State, added 14 points for Michigan State (17-12).

The Spartans took their first lead at 26-24 on Antonio Smith's only basket of the first half, and led 39-38 at halftime on Thomas Kelley's 3-pointer with three seconds left.

"I was upset with everybody at half-time," Florida State coach Pat Kennedy said. "I told them that this is a Big 10 team and that they play hard."

West Virginia 76, N.C. St. 73

At Raleigh, West Virginia confused North Carolina State with a variety of zones and got clutch foul shooting down the stretch. Seldon Jefferson scored 19 points for West Virginia (21-9), which went 13-for-15 from the foul line in the final 1:33. C.C. Harrison led the Wolfpack (17-15) with 23 points.

Arkansas 76, Pittsburgh 71

At Fayetteville, Kareem Reid had 15 points and 10 assists, and Pat Bradley's 3-pointer put Arkansas ahead for good. Less than a minute after Pitt took only its second lead of the half, Reid stole the ball from Gerald Jordan and passed it to Bradley, whose long-range shot gave Arkansas (17-12) a 64-62 lead with 4:53 left. Jason Maile led Pitt (18-15) with 18 points.

UNLV 89, Hawaii 80

At Las Vegas, Tyrone Nesby scored 26 points, including six in overtime, as UNLV reversed two regular-season losses to Hawaii. Keon Clark had 22 points and 14 rebounds for the Rebels (22-9), while Eric Ambrozich led Hawaii (21-8) with 22 points. UNLV had a chance to win at the end of regulation, but Jermaine Smith's 3-pointer hit the back of the rim and bounced away.

• Basketball

Seton Hall hires former Duke star

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J. (AP) — Tommy Amaker, the star playmaker for Duke who became an assistant coach with the Blue Devils, was hired today as Seton Hall's basketball coach, succeeding George Blaney.

Seton Hall president Robert Sheeran had said he was seeking a coach "committed to academic integrity and who has experienced success at the Division I level."

Seton Hall said Amaker's appointment is to be announced Wednesday at a news conference.

Blaney was ousted after a 38-48 record in three seasons. He had losing records in his final two, finishing with a 10-18 mark this season.

Amaker was an assistant coach at Duke for seven years before being promoted to associate coach two years ago.

He played at Duke 1983-1987, going to the NCAA tournament all four years. He was an honorable mention All-American his senior year and received the Henry Iba Corinthian award for the nation's best defensive player in 1987.

Howe

from page 22

getting hurt.

"I'll get three inches extra on my stick and they'll have to go through that to get Gordie," he said. "I just need a sense of where my feet are going. I want to be treated like one of the guys. Whoever attacks Gordie Howe from the back, gets lumber. If they want to meet me, meet me head on. I'm not afraid."

The ultimate green light belongs to Crunch coach Jack McIlhargey, who must decide if it pays him to give a slot on the roster, even for just one game, to Grandpa Gordie.

"He says if I'm not fast enough, I can't play," Howe said. "I saw him play. On a breakaway, he got two minutes for delay of game."

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Baseball

from page 21

slugging percentage and has knocked in a team-high 15 runs. Turner is hitting .317 with four homers and 14 RBIs.

Maine's lineup has been shuffled a number of times, with 12 players starting

games. Sheedy has played three positions: third base, center field and right field. Kregg Jarvais and Caiazzo have split catching duties, and seven different batters have been Maine's DH.

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Orono apts for Fall 97, Eff, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, house. Walking distance to campus 866-2516/941-9113

Orono apts showing + leasing eff, 1,2,3,4 bed apts heat + hot water eff start at 200 also summer rentals great rates 827-7231

Old Town 1,2,3,4 bedroom apts heat+ hot water included also 3 bedroom house 827-7231

3 bed apartment all util greenhouse and dishwasher. 5 bed house all utilities call 947-4072 evenings

2 SM BEDROOMS IN MODERN APT. 4-RENT AVAIL NOW \$150 MO. EVERYTHING INCL. EVEN LAUNDRY ACCESS. QUIET 827-6212

1 LARGE BEDROOM FOR RENT IN A CLEAN MODERN APARTMENT. NOW UNTIL JUNE 1 \$200. MO EVERYTHING INCL....827-6212

Townhouse walking to UMO Washer/dryer w/w taking dep for May/Sept 4 per unit 235.00 Call 8437943 pager 823 9968

For Rent in June 3+4 Bedroom Apts., 1/2 mile from campus, Chem-free, no pets. Call 866-3785.

Summer Sublet \$475/mo. 2 BR, LG LR + Kit Avail. mid-May-end of Aug. Call 827-7674 or 827-2573.

Orono. Washburn Place Apts. 149 Park St. Luxury 2BR Townhome. 1 bath, heat, water, sewer incl. NO Pets. Sec Dep, Lease req. \$600. Call 945-6955. TAKING APPLICATION NOW.

5 bedroom 2 full bathroom townhouse close to UMO. Modern, clean tri-level newly renovated. Decks Ft. & Rear. River access + great views. Canoe or kayak to school. SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD. 1 block to tennis courts, ballfield, +P.O. Privacy assured. Laundry in basement. **RENT is \$875.-mo. HEAT, WATER, Sewer, Trash + snow removal incl. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL .827-6212**

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College Financial Aid- student financial services profiles over 200,000+ individual scholarships, grant, loans, and fellowships from private government funding source. A must for anyone seeking **free money for college!** 1-800-263-6495 ext. F50676 (We are a research & publishing company)

ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS!!! GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FROM SPONSORED!!! NO REPAYMENTS, EVER!!! \$\$\$ CASH FOR COLLEGE \$\$\$ FOR INFO. 1-800-243-2435

Anxious? Unintended pregnancy? We'll help. Free Pregnancy Test 942-1611

Wed: Comedy Cafe 8pm Damn Yankee \$1 w/UMaine Student ID cash bar with ID **Thurs:** Hit Me (fink band) 9pm Bears Den FREE! Sponsored by Union Board.

Support Am. Cancer Society. Buy daffodils 2nd Floor Union on March 21 from 9-4

Volunteer face painters needed for YMCA fair March 21. Call VOICE for more info. 1-1796

Join **STUDENT ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COALITION!** We meet Thursdays at 4pm in the Hamm Room in the Union.

The **University of Maine Green Party** welcomes all people. We meet Thursday in the Hamm Room at 4:30pm. We are kind.

Money for College We can help you obtain funding. Thousands of awards available to all students. Immediate qualification 1-800-651-3393

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89 VW Golf GL, 85K STD, A/C, new sticker, new tires, muffler, brakes, excel cond. \$3500 Call Drew 942-1884

Top of the line Brother Ink-Jet Word Processor. Only 1-year old in a perfect condition. \$350 obo. Call 1-7613

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Lost: Women's multicolored rim prescription glasses needs them to SEE! Also a gold watch that displays the date. If found please call Sylvia at 990-0845

FOUND: Sunglasses, car keys, video remote control, and contact lenses. Contact Margaret at 581-1820 at The Information Desk in Union at 581-1820

3 days • 3 lines • 3 bucks