

Spring 2-20-1998

Maine Campus February 20 1998

Maine Campus Staff

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• GSS

Marathon meeting resolves FEPC issues

By Kathryn Ritchie
Maine Campus staff

Complaints filed by Ryan Eslinger against the Fair Election Practices Commission were put to rest at 4 a.m. Wednesday, to the relief of those involved.

"I'm really glad that it's done, obviously," said Lyn McLaughlin, Student Government president-elect. "I think the whole proceedings were just crazy. I'm still pretty speechless."

The appeal maintaining that the FEPC accepted an oral complaint on Feb. 11 was withdrawn by Eslinger. However, senate found that the FEPC violated its by-laws by not accepting and investigating a letter of complaint submitted by Eslinger.

In response to the third appeal, that the FEPC failed to follow its guidelines, the GSS struck it down with a vote of 12-11. GSS President Scott Morelli recorded the tie-breaking vote.

The fourth and final complaint claimed that Melissa St. Peter, a member of FEPC, interfered with the election by standing up in a Women's Studies class on election day and urging everyone present not to vote for Eslinger. She later denied the incident occurred.

The GSS ruled 13-5 in favor of the appeal, then removed Sen. Melissa St. Peter from senate.

FEPC Chair Mellisa Williams Paradis said she was not sure of the status of St. Peter on her committee. She said only

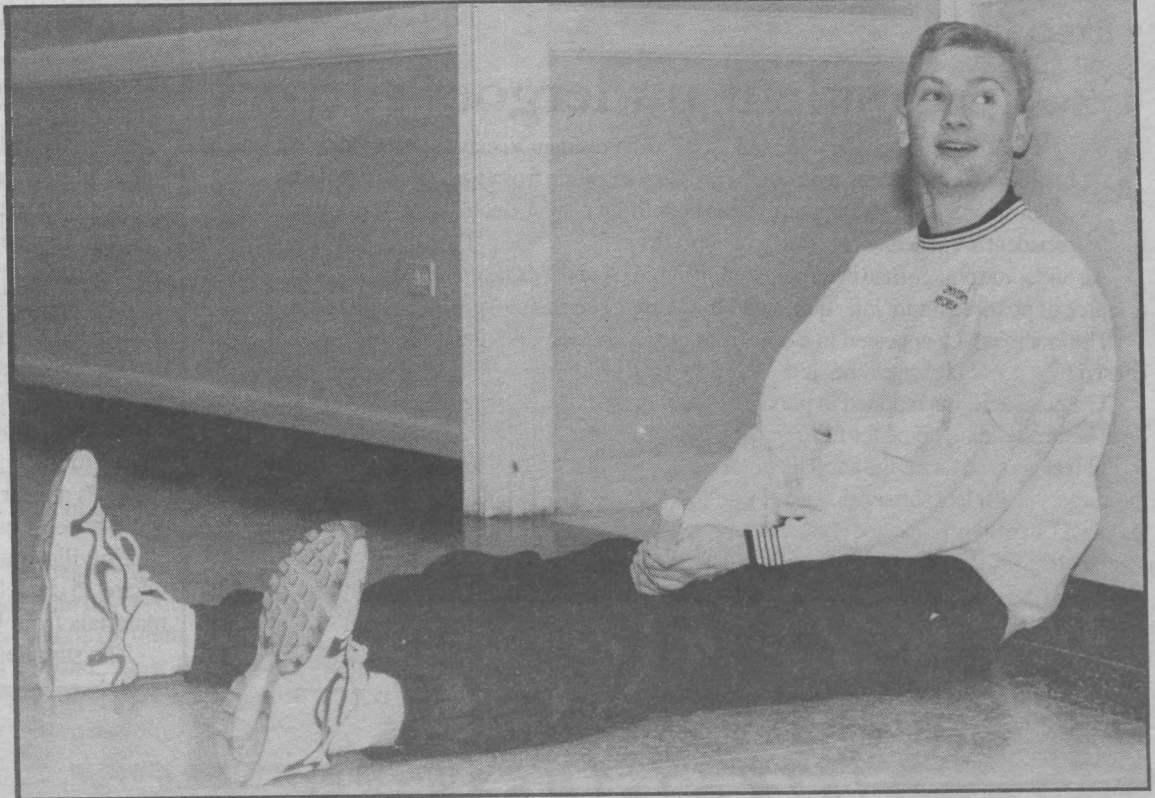
herself and Morelli have the authority to remove someone from the FEPC.

Repeated calls to St. Peter were not returned.

In addition to removing St. Peter, GSS also set up a committee to reevaluate the FEPC guidelines. That suggestion was offered by Eslinger's counsel, Chris Barstow.

Paradis called Eslinger's request to review the FEPC guidelines "bogus." According to Paradis, Eslinger's Governmental Procedures Committee reviewed the guidelines prior to the election and found them to be "fine and dandy." She said he

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Ryan Eslinger, former ROC president, waits outside Damn Yankee during Tuesday's GSS meeting. (Caleb Raynor photo.)

• Lecture

Religion trivialized, says visiting theologian

By Andrea Page
Maine Campus staff

Religion has become marginalized and trivialized in education, a speaker for religion in the public forum said Thursday evening.

"How can you have dialogue without laying out your views on religion?" said Dr. John D. Hannah, senior professor of historical theology at Dallas Theological Seminary. "I don't think schools are adequately representing religion."

Hannah spoke to a large audience Thursday night on the topic of whether religion has a place at

public universities and whether God has a place in the public forum. The talk was held in the Damn Yankee at the Memorial Union and sponsored by Campus Crusade for Christ, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, the Off-Campus Board and Residents On Campus.

Hannah said he believes professors hold back their beliefs in the classroom. He knows some people believe professors who are advocates of religion should not teach it.

"That does not make any sense; feminists teach feminism and political liberals teach political history," he said. "Scholars are taught

to be quiet about their faith in order to be accepted."

Kristin Langellier, a professor in the Department of Communication and Journalism at UMaine, said it is not unusual for religious topics to enter discussions in her classes. Many of her classes look at the role religion has in holidays and in family storytelling.

"For some families, religion is an important part of their identity," Langellier said. "I look at multiple religions, so not just one religion is represented."

Langellier said religion issues are varied by classes and the role religion plays really depends on

what your class is about.

"I think that religion shouldn't stop discussions," she said.

Campus Crusade for Christ has been involved for almost a year in bringing Dr. Hannah to speak at UMaine. Doug Palmetter, advisor for CCC believes people at UMaine have been very open to religion.

"I don't see how you can separate God from education," Palmetter said.

One member of the audience asked Hannah about his views on how he feels abortion plays into this debate.

See RELIGION on page 3

• Dining Services

Student inspiration results in late night breakfast

By Stan Dankowski
Maine Campus staff

A typical Friday night is usually considered a time for students to relax after a long, tiring week. What one might not expect at the toll of midnight, however, is a lounge offering breakfast.

The M&M Lounge, located in the lobby of Stewart Commons, is open from 12:00 to 2:00 a.m. every Friday. The breakfast can include anything from French toast to chocolate chip pancakes, to omelets made to order.

"When you get the munchies late at night, you need some place to go," said Frank Robbins, a collaborator of the Lounge breakfast. "You figure you pay almost twenty bucks if you order a pizza from Pizza Dome, and a sandwich at Christy's cost three dollars and something cents, it's quite expensive."

Robbins, along with Tim Ouellette, thought of the late night breakfast idea earlier this semester, and, as Stewart Commons workers, they approached their Assistant Manager, Claire Lint.

"They came to me one day and said, 'Hey, this could really work,'" Lint said. "So we tried it."

One concern, Lint said, was that there would be no management staff at that time, and they had to find some "responsible" students to handle the job. Those students ended up being the creators of the original idea, Robbins and Ouellette.

The two official students both have had experience in food service at Stewart Commons for at least two years, Ouellette also spent 2 1/2 years during high school working at York Commons.

Engaging in this effort means
See BREAKFAST on page 4



Second year student, Frank Robbins cooks up some french toast at the midnight breakfast at the M&M lounge in Stuart Commons. The midnight breakfast is held every Friday night from 12 a.m. until 2 a.m. (Caleb Raynor photo.)

INSIDE

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WEATHER



Mostly cloudy
with scattered
rain.

PAGE 2

WORLD BRIEFS

• Executive

Czech president undergoes surgery

1 PRAGUE, Czech Republic (AP)—Czech President Vaclav Havel underwent successful throat surgery today to correct a problem resulting from a tracheotomy, doctors said. In an operation lasting just over an hour this morning, doctors closed a tiny crack in the president's trachea.

Air and some phlegm had been penetrating the crack under the skin, causing inflammation and a source of possible future infection, said Dr. Oldrich Tobrman.

The crack, which appeared in a scar from the December 1996 tracheotomy, may have been caused by a coughing attack, he said.

The president was reported in good condition in the hospital, where he will remain for a few days before heading home for further recovery.

"I feel good so far, as the anaesthetics are still working," Havel told Czech radio shortly after the surgery. "I'll feel some pain later, I guess."

Havel, narrowly re-elected president by the Czech parliament on Jan. 20, has been hospitalized since last Thursday for a viral infection.

The 61-year-old president underwent surgery for lung cancer in December 1996. After the operation, which removed one-third of his right lung and a half-inch malignant tumor, doctors had to perform the tracheotomy to help him breathe.

• Earthquake

Rafts carrying food head toward zone

2 DASHT-E-QALI, Afghanistan (AP)—A Hercules cargo plane parachuted food, plastic sheeting and other emergency aid to snowbound residents of quake-ravaged northeastern Afghanistan today — the first airdrop to the isolated region.

Some aid also got in aboard flimsy wooden rafts, which ferried food and tents across the Oxus River from neighboring Tajikistan.

The plane took off from neighboring Pakistan to drop supplies to the remote areas devastated by the Feb. 4 earthquake, which killed at least 5,000 people and left another 30,000 homeless.

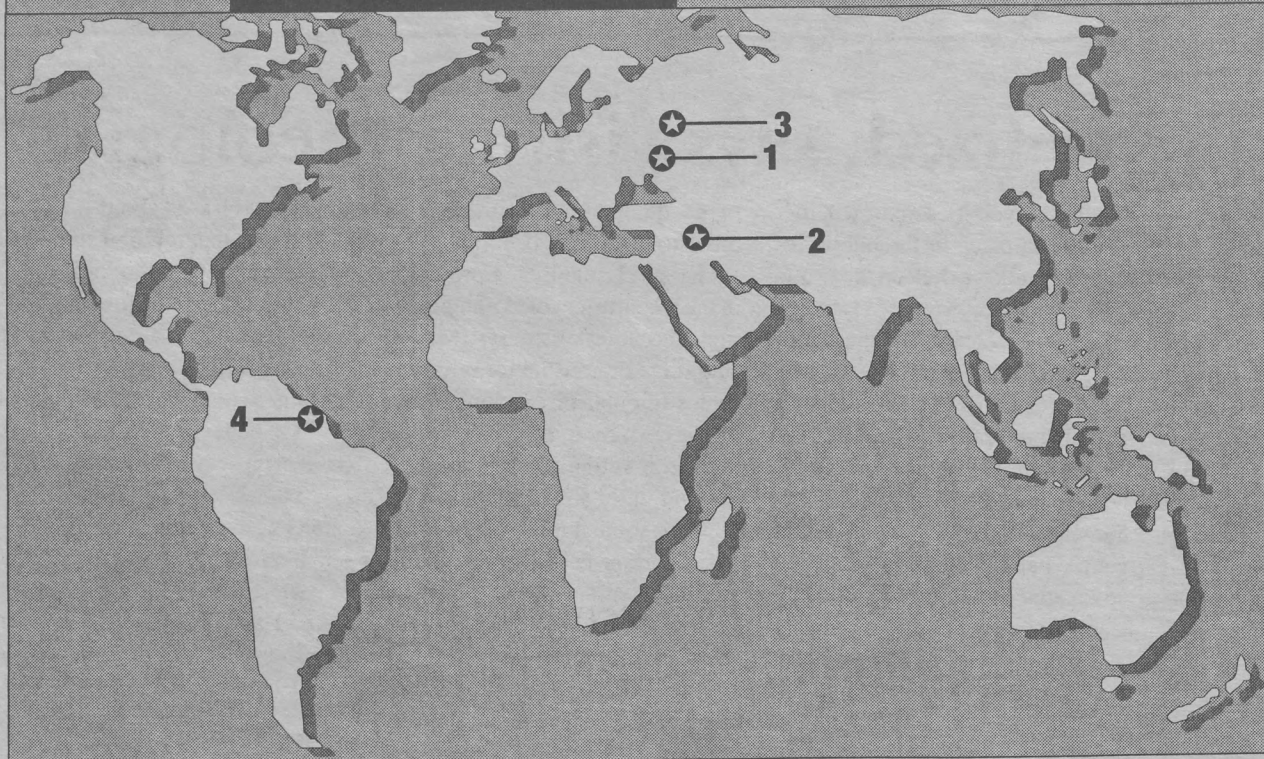
Snow and fog have blocked delivery of aid to many areas devastated by the quake. Conditions improved today, allowing the plane, leased by the United Nations and the Red Cross, to fly supplies to Rustaq, the hardest-hit region.

"It's a clear sunny day . . . which is a miracle," said Rupert Colville, a U.N. official. "We haven't had two good days running since this began."

Colville spoke in the river town of Dasht-e-Qali, 18 miles from the town of Rustaq, where 25 crudely made tire-and-wooden rafts arrived loaded with food, tents and building materials from U.N. warehouses in neighboring Tajikistan.

The supplies were transferred to trucks and shipped to quake victims.

WORLD DIGEST



• Space

Russian cosmonauts, French astronaut return

3 MOSCOW (AP)—Two Russian cosmonauts and a French astronaut left the Mir and touched down in the snow-covered plains of Central Asia today, wrapping up a successful mission on the 12th anniversary of the space station's launch.

Cosmonauts Anatoly Solovyov and Pavel Vinogradov and Frenchman Leopold Eyharts landed shortly after noon in the empty steppe of central Kazakhstan, officials at Mission Control said. It took the crew three hours to descend from the Mir, 250 miles above Earth.

All went well, though space officials were worried beforehand about a blizzard that raged through the former Soviet republic through early today. The weather improved shortly before the landing.

"Guys, don't you worry, the weather is getting better," Mission Control Chief Vladimir Solovyov told the crew.

The crew's departure from the Mir was delayed for several minutes due to a problem with Vinogradov's spacesuit, which failed to hold air pressure due to a faulty connection. But Vinogradov quickly fixed the problem and the crew left the Mir tucked inside a Soyuz capsule shortly before 9 a.m. Moscow time.

Immediately after the landing, the trio prepared for a flight to Moscow for routine medical checkups.

• Carnival

Samba groups prepare for carnival championships

4 RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP)—Roman emperors and space aliens will party together this weekend. So will sultans and vampires, landless peasants and medieval knights, a few thousand drummers and countless topless dancers.

No, it's not the bar scene from "Star Wars." It's the Rio Carnival parade, the centerpiece of Brazil's annual four-day bash of drinking, dancing and sex that ushers in Lent.

The revelry starts Friday night and lasts through Ash Wednesday. Across the country, workers will put down their tools, businesses and government offices will close and a great many of Brazil's 160 million people will party in the streets, on the beaches, in clubs and on Rio de Janeiro's "sambadrome."

That's the name of the half-mile-long avenue lined with grandstands where 14 of Rio's premier neighborhood clubs, known as "schools," will compete on Sunday and Monday for the title of Carnival Champion.

Each school fields as many as 5,000 dancers and 300 drummers, in lavish costumes or G-strings, who strut down the pavement or aboard mammoth floats, singing the samba lyrics written for each year's Carnival.

Behind the fun, Rio's Carnival is serious business. Each school shells out \$1 million or more to prepare for its 80 minutes in the limelight.

Weather

The Local Forecast

Today's Weather

Mostly cloudy with scattered rain and snow showers. Highs in the upper 30s to low 40s.



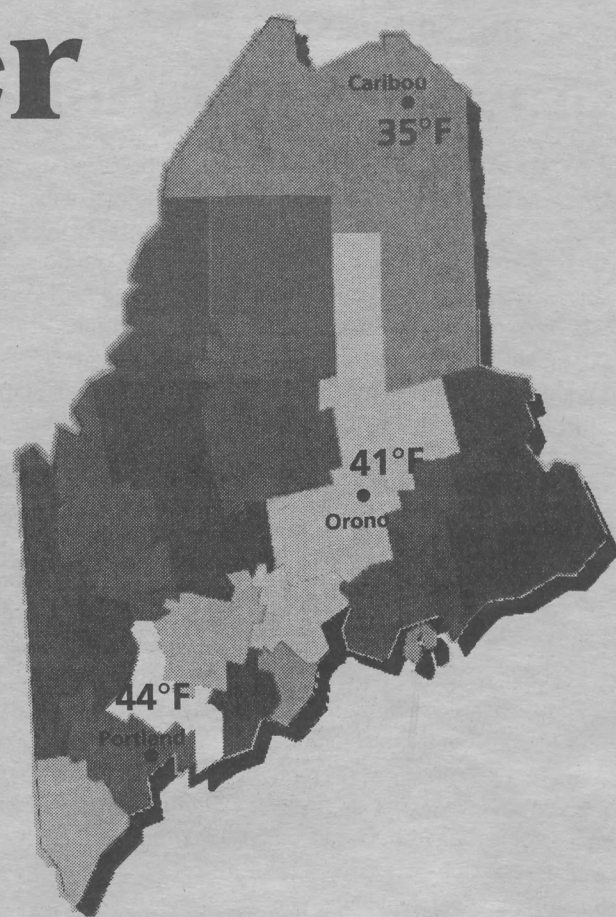
Saturday's Outlook

Becoming partly sunny. Highs in the upper 30s.



Extended Forecast

Sunday...Fair, high near 40. Monday...Fair, high about 40. Tuesday...Chance of mixed precipitation, high near 40.



• Blue Ribbon Panel

Hoff seeks student input

By T.L. Church
Maine Campus staff

For every student at the University of Maine, the college experience is unique, with aspects that are lived for and ones that could have been lived without. People always have things they would like to see changed, or at the very least improved upon, which is the reasoning behind President Peter Hoff's new Blue Ribbon Panel.

The panel was formed to find out what the college experience outside of the classroom is like.

"This is not just a fact-finding mission for President Hoff; it is a way to establish an ideal for the university," Scott Anchors, an executive assistant to the president, said. "The panel has been instituted to go out there and find out what people want to see done, where the students feel things stand."

The Blue Ribbon Panel, which had its first meeting last Thursday, is going by the creed "Less talk, more action" by jumping into the unknown waters of the student community. They had a small dinner for 15 to 20 students Wednesday evening at York Commons to get their first idea of what kind of work they have ahead of them.

Dinner discussions are only one of the ways committee members are trying to reach students.

"The first effort is to understand, to know what they are feeling, saying and what they

think can be done. To do this we need to go to them, the Union, library, dormitories, etc., and then we can start to make things better," panel member Steve Ballard said.

The committee encourages using First-Class if there are things students would like to share with the panel. There are two different icons under campus activities to mail responses to.

"There is the "Blue Ribbon Panel" icon, which is for everyone to see, and there is another icon that is a drop box, "Voice Your View," and that is one that only the panel members see," said Matthew Moen. "We encourage anyone to write, and feel assured that they will be all looked over and shared at the panel meetings."

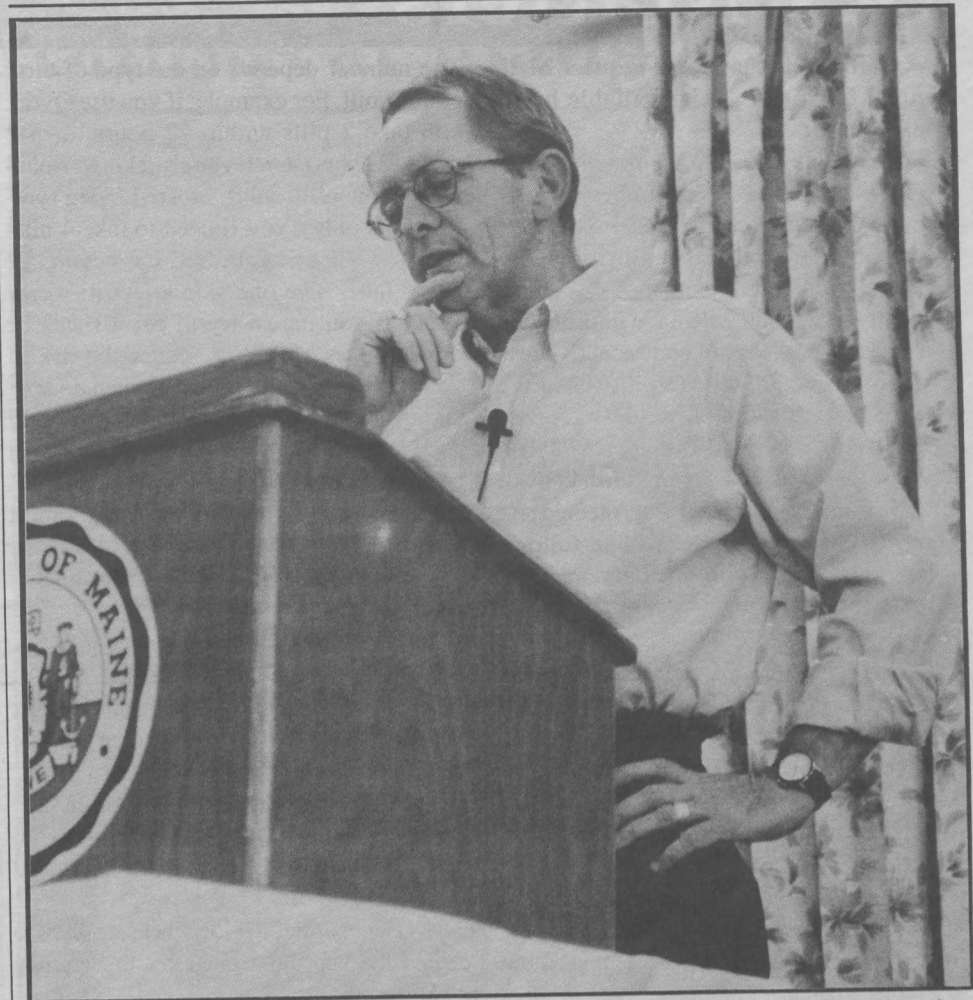
Once the 16-member panel feels it has the overall feelings of the student body, the real work begins.

"This needs to be a student-centered university, but we want the entire university community to feel that this focus is for them. Then with their concerns in hand, we will develop recommendations for improvement and give them to President Hoff in May," Ballard said.

The areas of campus life members hope to learn more about include residential life, off-campus living, food service, student activities, environment for academic success, integration of life and learning, nature and adequacy of cultural opportunities, student services and transportation.

Religion

from page 1



John D. Hannah speaks about the importance of religion at a public university. (Chris Taggart photo.)

"I see abortion as a terrible thing," he said. "I think it should be settled constitutionally, not who has the loudest voice."

Another student asked how Hannah felt about the referendum held recently.

Hannah somewhat evaded the issue by answering, "Majority holds sway. I do what I can as a citizen."

Many students felt the topic of religion's

place at a public university is one that should be addressed.

"I think this is a relevant topic," said Diana Wakeman, a student at UMaine.

Hannah believes that religion can give a valuable contribution to classrooms.

"I'm not arguing for a religion department," he said. "I'm arguing that scholars do not have to hold back their faiths."

GSS

from page 1

wants them reviewed now only because he lost.

"Whatever respect I had for him, I have very little," Paradis said.

Eslinger, however, said he found several things wrong with the guidelines prior to the election.

"I definitely saw some stuff wrong then, but people didn't agree with me," he said. "I don't think looking at them again should be a problem."

During the morning hours of the meet-

ing, the FEPC suggested holding a new election, but the senate decided against it.

"I just can't wait to start all over again," said McLaughlin, who will be sworn in today.

In other business, after nearly eight hours of waiting in the hallway on Tuesday and into Wednesday morning, Terry Norton was sworn in as GSS's newest senator.

"It was worth it," he said of the wait.

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The Maine Campus

UMaine's thrice weekly newspaper

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Your telephone can make the difference between a stroke that may take a few weeks of recovery and one that takes a life. Because the faster you call an ambulance and get to the hospital, the greater your chance of limiting brain damage. To learn more, contact your nearest American Heart Association. You can help prevent heart disease. We can tell you how.

American Heart Association

This space provided as a public service.

Tough test?
Call someone for sympathy.

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Sex Matters

By Sandra L. Caron, Ph.D

Q: What is the morning-after birth control for girls? Is it available here? Male, Junior

A: It's known as "after-sex birth control," "post-coital birth control" or "emergency contraception pills" (ECP's). Yes, it is available here and has been distributed to women in "emergency situations" — most typically to women who have unprotected intercourse, e.g., lack of contraceptive use, condom breakage, missed pills, or in the case of rape. It's one of our best-kept secrets, despite being FDA-approved last year. A woman takes several birth control pills within 72 hours after unprotected sex (not just the morning after). She follows this 12 hours later with several more pills.

The number depends on the type of birth control pill. For example, if you use Ovral, you take 2 pills within 72 hours, then 2 more 12 hours later. If you are taking Triphasil (yellow pills only), or Tri-Levlen (yellow pills only), you'll need to take 4 pills within 72 hours, followed by 4 more 12 hours later. The one side effect to worry about is nausea, so try to eat a snack or drink a glass of milk to reduce the risk of vomiting. If you get sick within an hour of taking a dose, contact Cutler. You may need to repeat a dose. It's very effective in preventing pregnancy — it inhibits ovum transport, ovulation and implantation. It has a 2 percent failure rate.

Q: I know it's important to ask your

sexual partner to wear a condom, but how should I approach the issue? I am not comfortable discussing it.

A: Anyone you know well enough to be sleeping with, you should know well enough to talk about protection with. However, I recognize that talking about sex has never been easy. In fact, some people even think it's wrong or that it ruins the mood. But in this age of "fatal sexuality" — where people can die from unprotected sexual intercourse — it is crucial that you talk about using condoms. Forethought before Foreplay is essential: Talk with your partner before you end up in bed. You might try bringing up the subject by saying "Gee, I keep hearing all this stuff about AIDS and

safer sex. What do you think?" Or, "I'd love to make love with you, but I'm worried about disease." Talk about your need to have sex safely. If he's a former boy scout, he'll understand the concept of being prepared. If he's ever played sports, he'll understand how important it is to wear protective gear before you play the game.

Sandra L. Caron is an associate professor of family relations/human sexuality in the College of Education & Human Development; she teaches CHF 351: Human Sexuality. Questions for Dr. Caron can be sent directly to her at The Maine Campus, Chadbourne Hall. Copyright Sandra L. Caron 1998

Breakfast

from page 1

that there had to be shuffling of staff in order to keep food and labor costs down.

"The best week we had was [the Quebec City] weekend," Robbins said. The campus-wide trip to Quebec City on the weekend of Feb. 6 ironically gave the lounge the best sales to that date. "We lost our regular customers that weekend because of Quebec," said Robbins. "But we had almost twice as much new customers than usual."

That weekend, the third for the lounge, saw 38 customers, following 30 customers the previous weekend, and 18 before that. Last Friday, the lounge defeated the superstitious "Friday the 13th" streak and fed 48 people.

Because of last week's sales, and the general increase over the past month, Lint has appointed two other Stewart Commons workers, Ann-Marie George and Julian Garrett, who will rotate every other weekend.

"It's definitely a good idea," said George. "I can't cook, so that's why I'm going to be the cashier!"

"It's a cool place to hang out," Garrett said. "When all other chores, drinking and auto repair, for example, are done, you can sit and even listen to WTOS."

If sales continue to grow, there are plans to extend the late night breakfast to Saturday night as well.

"It is so much better than commons food, it's not funny," said customer Shawn Demo of Gannett Hall. "The people are friendly, and using my dining funds is a plus."

Given the area of Stewart Commons, Ouellette said, most of the customers come from the Quad, which includes Androscoggin, Cumberland, and Gannett Halls. However, word of mouth has brought students from as far away as Hancock Hall.

"We have not considered this idea," said York Commons manager Sandy Donahue. In fact, Donahue said she had never heard of it. "My only concern is that there would have to be a paid student supervisor. Then there are other policy and budget issues. I am open to the idea."

Lint said that there were probably no other commons that would consider this because they would have to open the whole building, whereas in Stewart, the only place using electricity and other needs would be the M&M Lounge.

"We were aiming for people to just relax," Robbins said. "You eat, you get back home with a full stomach. There's less dorm damage."

"We're the only place that's open at that time," Ouellette said. "Plus we take dining funds."

In addition to dining funds, the lounge takes cash and campus funds.

"What I think really makes this work," Robbins said, "is that Tim and I are friends, and there's no stress. We are a tight-knit family, and we appreciate our customers."



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The Maine Campus

UMaine's thrice weekly newspaper

Deadline

All approved Student Government Boards, Clubs, Committees must submit their completed budgets to the UMSG, Inc.

Financial Affairs Office, 3rd Floor
Memorial Union, by 3:00 pm

March 24, 1998

If you missed our previous advertisements
Please contact us immediately @ x1778

Requirements:

Your club must have funding approval and the president must be an undergraduate student. Each president or treasurer of the club/board/committee must meet with the VPFA to go over your budget.

Appointments are being scheduled through
March 27, 1998



Off Campus Board

In accordance with FEPC Guidelines,
will be holding a Special Election on
the following question:

"Are you in favor of approving the new Constitution and By-Laws of the Off Campus Board, which were approved by the Off Campus Board on Monday, February 9, 1998?" (The proposed Constitution and By-Laws will be on hand at the polling place.)

The date of the Special Election will be Tuesday,
February 18, 1998.

The Official polling place will be the
**Memorial Union and will be open from
11 am - 2 pm.**

All off campus, activity fee paying student will be eligible to vote in this election.

For more information, or copy of the proposed Constitution and By-Laws, call the Off Campus Board office at 581-1840.

Sponsored by the Off Campus Board and the Fair Election Practices Commission.

• ROC

Duke and Burke offer promises at inauguration

By Kristen Dobler
Maine Campus staff

According to its former president in his farewell address, Residents on Campus will be well-led by its new executive board.

"If there was a time to leave ROC, now is the time and it will be left in capable hands," Ryan Eslinger said.

Both the president, Jonathan Duke and vice president, Kathleen Burke were sworn in at their meeting Wednesday night.

In his inaugural address, Duke said he was influenced by the three past presidents of ROC and will work to incorporate what each of them brought to the group: campus issues, student involvement and programming.

Duke promised to keep students entertained and active and requested that students interact with ROC as much as possible.

"We'll do our best to help you if you'll

do your best to help us," he said.

He promised to keep student life active and work with hall governing boards.

After being sworn in, Burke refrained from repeating her plans for her term in office and chose to acknowledge those who helped her become vice president.

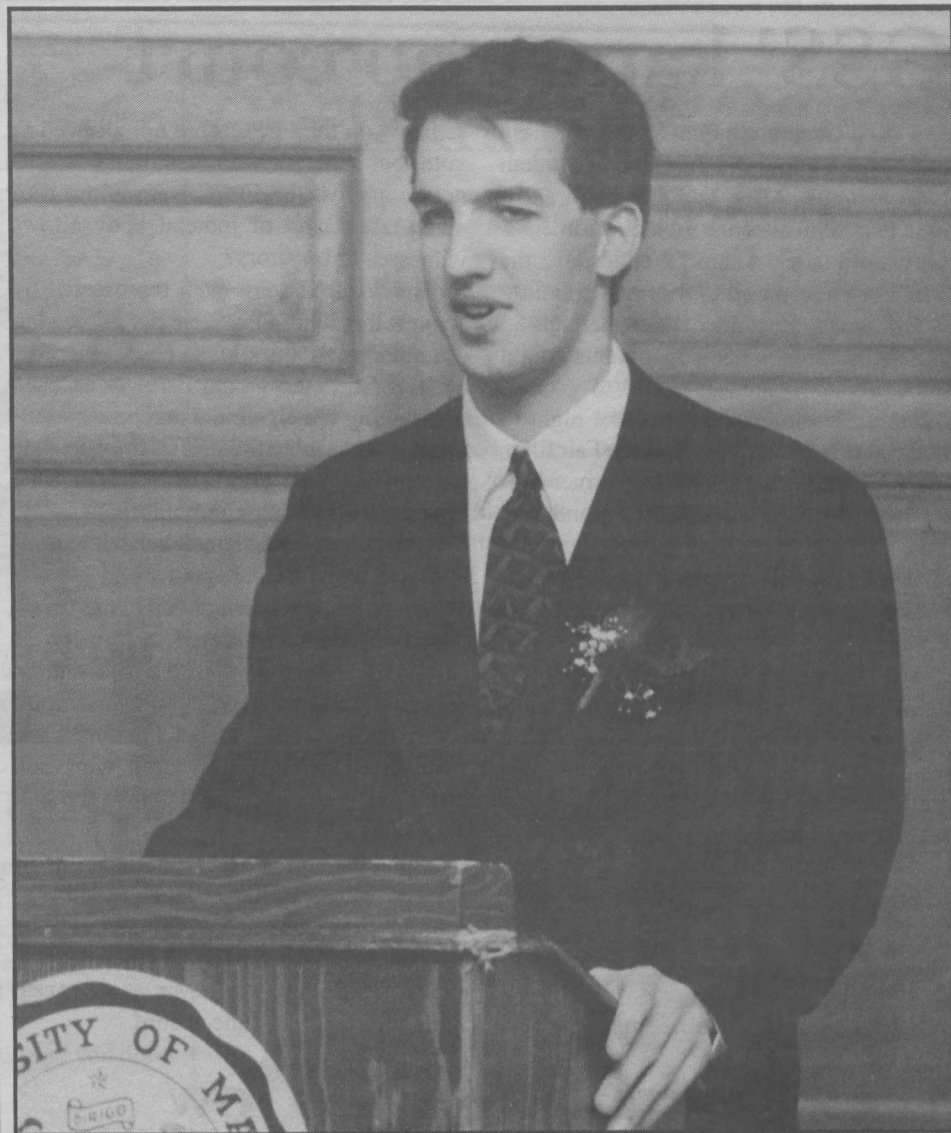
"I'm here for one reason only," she said. "I'm here to say thank you."

Burke said she looks forward to working with ROC, students and the administration.

Eslinger said he enjoyed his time at ROC and the different boards he worked with.

Duke presented Eslinger with a gift from ROC for his duty and service to the group for three years.

The swearing-in of the Student Government president and vice president, and the Off-Campus Board president and vice president, will be held today at 5 p.m. in Wells Commons. All are welcome to attend.



Residents on Campus President Jon Duke. (Caleb Raynor photo.)

• Police

Officers identify Gannett Hall trespassing suspect

By Kathryn Ritchie
Maine Campus staff

Police summoned a campus man this week who they believe walked into several unlocked dorm rooms in Gannett Hall on the night of Feb. 6. Bryan L. White, 22, was summoned for criminal trespassing when someone was able to identify him. Police are still looking to charge a second man who they believe to be a non-student.

In other police business:

• On Thursday, Feb. 12 at 11:02 p.m., Officer Chris Hashey was on foot patrol in the Hilltop quad when he spotted a group of men yelling. Jeffrey Hanning, 19, was summoned for possession of marijuana. A 17-year-old male was turned over to his parents for possession of alcohol.

• On Friday, Feb. 13 at 11:25 p.m., Hashey was walking through Oxford Hall when he happened to see a beer bottle on a table inside one of the rooms. He found everyone in the room was under the age of 21. Christopher Wakely, 19, was summoned for possession of drug paraphernalia and given a warning for possession of alcohol.

• On Saturday, Feb. 14 at 6:02 a.m., the

ground shop reported someone stole gas from a campus truck parked overnight by the Latti Fitness Center.

• On Sunday, Feb. 15 at 1:45 a.m., Officer Jennifer Arey stopped a vehicle with a plate light out. After an investigation, Ahmed S. Alotaibi, 23, was arrested and charged with OUI.

• Three cases of criminal mischief were reported across campus this week. A window was broken in the Roger Clapp Greenhouse, a fire extinguisher was discharged in Knox Hall and a window in Cumberland appeared to have 10 BB-sized holes in it.

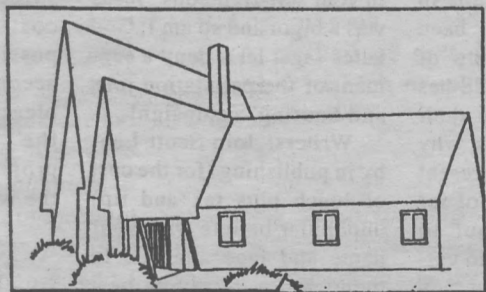
• Two cars in the North York and Stodder parking lots were involved in hit-and-run accidents this week.

• Two people were stopped for traffic violations this week. Robert Foss, 43, was summoned for failure to stop for a stop sign. Richard Bill, 25, was summoned for speeding 16-25 mph over the limit.

Public Safety Tip of the Week:

Police are encouraging students, faculty and staff to report any lights that are out around campus. If police are notified, they can replace the bulbs in a timely manner.

Worship this Sunday at the



Wilson Protestant Student Center
67 College Avenue, Orono
11 a.m.

Come and worship with us this Sunday in the warmth and beauty of the cathedral room at the Wilson Protestant Student Center. Arrive any time after 10 a.m. and you will be served a delicious brunch! Make time for the God who calls us to give praise.

T O D A Y ' S
THE DAY

Stop Smoking.

American Heart Association



Western New England College School of Law

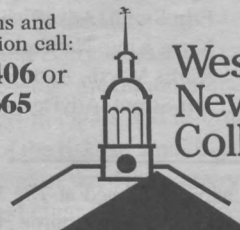
Challenging Intellectuals Changing Perspectives

The decision to pursue a law degree is a major commitment. The school you choose must offer a philosophy, an environment, and a faculty that will ensure success throughout your education and beyond. That's why we invite you to attend our next Open House. Meet with the faculty. Ask the hard questions. Check out the library. Find out about career services. We have the accessible faculty and the resources you need for a successful legal education.

**OPEN HOUSE FOR
PROSPECTIVE LAW STUDENTS**
Saturday, February 28, 1:00-4:15pm
S. Prestley Blake Law Center
1215 Wilbraham Road,
Springfield, MA

For reservations and more information call:
413-782-1406 or
800-782-6665

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EDITORIAL

GSS' kangaroo court

The General Student Senate has long been known as the General Student Circus. After Tuesday night's 10-hour marathon meeting, which didn't adjourn until after 4 a.m. Wednesday, the GSS has a new moniker: Kangaroo Court.

Following misguided rules perhaps in apprehension of what constituents might think of them, senators voted to go into executive session for most of the night to investigate complaints against the Fair Election Practices Commission by former Student Government presidential candidate Ryan Eslinger. Details are sketchy, but from what senators are reporting on FirstClass, Tuesday night's events were nothing short of a farce.

The senate substantiated Eslinger's claim that the FEPC accepted his complaint before the filing deadline, voting 17-6. However, the senate rejected his claim that the FEPC violated its bylaws by not investigating the complaint, voting 12-11. Senate President Scott Morelli cast the tie-breaker when Thomas Paradis — husband of FEPC Chairwoman Mellisa Williams Paradis — voted, surprisingly, in favor of the FEPC.

If that conflict of interest weren't enough,

senators on the FEPC were not allowed to vote, but senators who "testified" as witnesses against the FEPC were allowed to vote. What kind of judicial body allows witnesses to be jurors?

The accused were even represented by "counselors," but they were not allowed to ask their own questions. FEPC member Melissa St. Peter, whom Eslinger accused of affecting the election's outcome by telling her women's studies class not to vote for him, had no witnesses testify against her and no smoking gun pointing her way. Yet the senate "convicted" her without allowing her to defend herself.

Senators were so caught up in the "trial" that they declared verdicts "guilty as charged" or "not guilty" instead of the more accurate — and appropriate — "substantiated" and "unsubstantiated." It's surprising senators didn't don powdered wigs and black robes and order St. Peter to the gallows at the crack of dawn.

Students should be appalled at this week's circus, and the senators at fault for shutting their constituents out and making a mockery of democracy should publicly apologize and vow to never again repeat Tuesday's theater of the absurd.

Teachers standards too low

A teacher has more power to affect the future of the nation than all the lawyers in Washington. Yet this week, Virginia Gov. James S. Gilmore announced that one-third of potential educators in Virginia failed a basic skills test in reading and mathematics.

Adding to the embarrassment, Virginia's standards for the respected Praxis I are quite high. Data from the 20 states using Praxis I suggest that nearly half of the graduates from America's colleges are not qualified to teach.

Surprisingly, the University of Maine's College of Education has a record of high performance on standardized professional exams. Last year, an overwhelming majority of UMaine education graduates passed the three-part National Teacher Exam, scoring an average 663 on the general knowledge portion of the test.

The general knowledge portion of the NTE, comparable to the Praxis I, showed a national mean score of 637. Reasonably high scores on the NTE are not unusual in Maine,

because Maine's general knowledge test cut-off score is among the highest in the nation, at 649.

Sadly, Maine is the exception, and teachers unable to meet Maine's standards after multiple examinations often become certified to teach nationwide by meeting the less stringent requirements in New Hampshire or Vermont, and then return to Maine to work.

Teachers are desperately needed — these inferior candidates are able to find jobs. Many intelligent students are discouraged from studying education because of low salaries and lack of respect for the profession.

The only way to raise national standards on professional exams and improve our educational system is to elevate the teaching profession to the level of prestige it deserves. Schools must attract truly qualified students to the profession, then high national teaching standards can be implemented to guarantee an exceptional education for all American students.



• Letters

• GSS hides behind secret ballots

To the Editor:
Tuesday night, the General Student Senate came to order not for the normal reasons, but to have put the Fair Election Practices Commission on trial.

Yes the meeting was called to order to discuss all Student Government issues, but I don't feel that any senator was thinking about the regular agenda. Besides announcing the Winthrop C. Libby Memorial Award for Outstanding Student Government involvement, which was awarded to Scott Morelli, the meeting did not help its constituents. We were there to represent them, and I feel that did not happen.

Yes there were four complaints against FEPC that needed to be dealt with, however, the process had more holes than Swiss cheese. Because most of the meeting was held in executive session, I cannot speak of much of the debate, but I can say that the Senate's decisions to go into executive session was only to save face.

Furthermore, when the meeting did become public, the voting members overturned the GSS [bylaws] in favor of a secret ballot. In my opinion, that has been the most spineless show of democracy that the GSS has ever shown. Yes it is their right to do so; that's why they are there. To represent their constituency. Not for personal reasons, but to prove to the people who voted them into office that they

are representing them.

We will never know how these senators voted. We know the outcome, but would it not be fair to be able to know how each senator voted? I've been a member of GSS for two years now, and for the same time, I've been a member of the FEPC. I have always been proud to tell you how I have voted. Shouldn't everybody else?

Jerome Graffam
Off-Campus Senator
FEPC member

• Wanted...

To the Editor:
Fraternities! Throw off your cheap beer, suburbanite programming and record of sexual assault and join Scott Labby in full-time, non-profit work this summer! Get your hands dirty 40-plus hours a week while making less money than you could for corporate America!

Christians! Join Scott Labby in defending Jesus' teachings of love and compassion! Throw off your fear and hatred of homosexuality and admit that Jesus never would have participated in your self-righteous "Jesus was a bigot and so am I; God hates fags; let's deny a segment of the population jobs and housing" campaign!

Writers! Join Scott Labby in publishing (for the cost of lunch plus tax and tip) unpopular beliefs with your name and face attached to them! Enjoy receiving per-

sonal attacks for taking a stand for things you believe in!

Sarah Kydd
Orono

• Bookstore pricing explained

To the Editor:

In response to a Feb. 16 letter to the editor, I would like to clarify the bookstore's textbook pricing policy.

When books are received with a suggested retail price, usually imprinted on the cover, the bookstore will use that suggested retail price. However, most major publishers sell textbooks to college stores at a "net" cost. The bookstore then applies a 25 percent margin to the cost of the book. This covers expenses including freight charges, the cost of personnel needed to collect and research faculty textbook requests, ordering, receiving, pricing, shelving, selling and returning unsold textbooks — plus the cost of facilities, insurance, utilities, equipment and other items.

A reserve account becomes available whenever the bookstore is able to successfully use as many cost-saving measures as possible. With its reserve account, the bookstore is pleased to be able to assist the university with projects that will benefit the whole community.

Wendy Gavett
University Bookstore

The Maine Campus

THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE NEWSPAPER SINCE 1875

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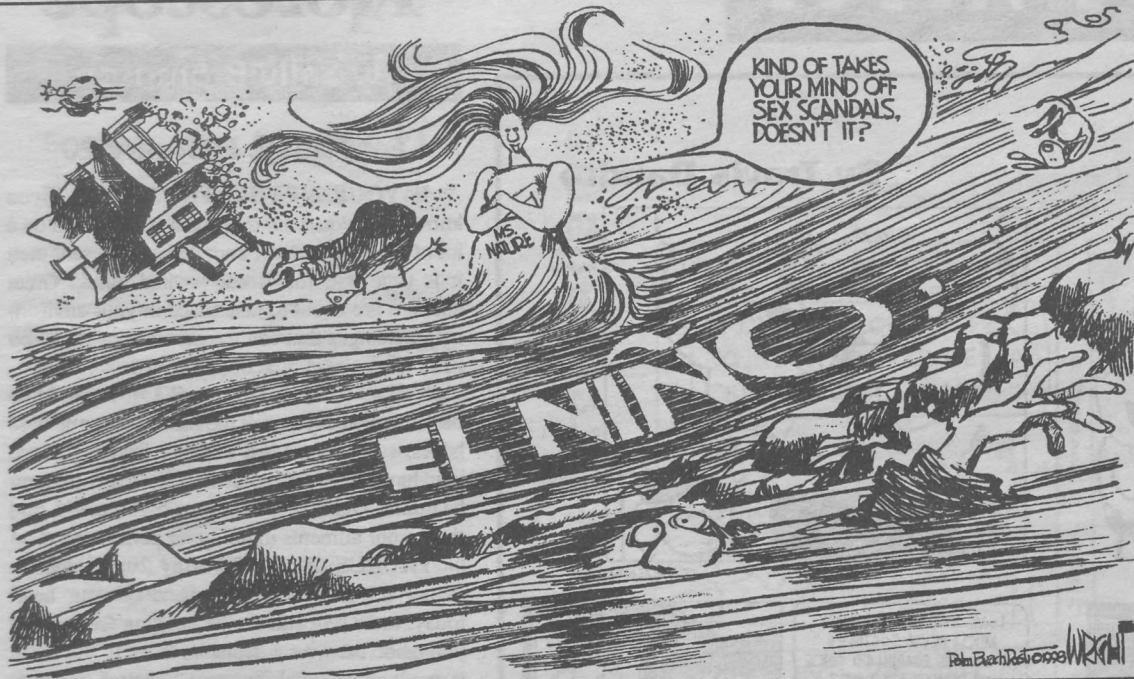
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Letters to the editor can be sent to The Maine Campus, 4th Floor, Chadbourne Hall, University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469; via e-mail: to_the_editor@umit.maine.edu; or by fax: 581-1274. Letters must be fewer than 250 words in length. Guest columns must be between 600-700 words in length. The Maine Campus reserves the right to edit letters for length, taste, style, grammar, libel. Letters must include full name, address and telephone number.

OP/ED



• Column

Midterm tests readers' sense of humor

What a week! I hate to write a column about a column, but...

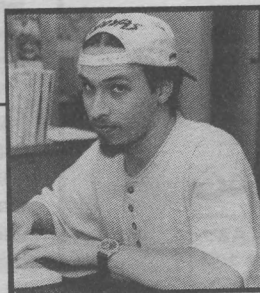
Anyway, for the uninitiated, it went like this: I wrote this piece, see. And in this piece I discussed the intersection of politics and theology, and how misguided religious beliefs can make hypocrites of one group while oppressing another.

Anyway, some people hated it, some people loved it. That's fair. But, shucks, did people (you

most anyone else.

However, religious cranks and violent, stupid people may find this puzzling, which I'm sure will coincide with much of your academic experience here.

Now then, a little pre-break exam, just to get us ready for the stretch run. Pencils ready? Begin.



By Scott Labby

know who you are) have to send vague threats to me via e-mail? Or question my right to use the imagery that I chose?

Just a little silly, guys. My two favorite examples of people who lower the verbal SAT average at this wonderful institution are the guy who sent me mail suggesting (seriously) that I am somehow connected to the anti-Christ (and maybe I am... Boo!) and the bottom-feeder who suggested I write about important issues "like gay rights." (The column was about gay rights, to some degree, anyway).

Poor reading comprehension skills notwithstanding, these were more humorous than anything, in sharp contrast to some of the more violent responses. But you reap what you sow, I suppose, and I can't say I was completely surprised.

I should offer a sincere thanks to those who defended the column (and as importantly, the right to print it), as well as those who disagreed with me calmly and rationally.

I got nothin' but love fo' you folks. None of you will have any problems completing the following quiz, I'm sure. Neither will

1. Which of the following is the best way to write a political commentary, an op/ed column or a dissenting opinion?

A: With your tongue in your cheek

B: With your finger in your nose

C: With your foot in your mouth

D: With your head in your ass

2. Satire is:

A: A band from Seattle

B: Lost on many

C: A method of reasoning and analysis which people often enjoy

D: B and C

3. Using critical thinking skills one should derive from higher education, decide which of the following *most likely* describes the author's opinion regarding the existence of a higher power. (See Question 2, if needed.)

A: Jesus controls the world from an ice-fishing shack on one of the outer rings of Jupiter.

B: A prophet has been reincarnated as a plumber from Brooklyn who likes to dress up in women's underwear. He will unveil himself (so to speak) and

bring judgment upon the world at the end of the final "Seinfeld" episode.

C: Small tree-elves dictate the fate of the world through games of strip poker.

D: I don't know, and you don't either.

4. People who say things you don't like should be:

A: Debated

B: Harassed

C: Threatened

D: Killed

5. In a room you have six cranky fraternity brothers, 12 religious fundamentalists, any three people from our Student Government administration, Kenneth Starr and Monica Lewinsky's mom. You have:

A: The raw material needed to construct the worst foreign policy decisions in recorded history.

B: A resolution to the Iraq crisis. Equip them with megaphones, drop them in-country and let them talk. How long could anyone take such a torture, even a madman?

C: A combined sense of humor equivalent to a room full of house plants.

D: A gold-medal Olympic team in the "irrelevancy" competition.

E: I pass! This one is way too tough!

6. "...shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion... or abridging the freedom of speech..." These words are:

A: Meant to apply only when everyone is happy and no one is offended, in a pleasant utopia that does not exist.

B: Repeated often in conservative religious doctrine.

C: Among the best ideals produced by free society.

Scott Labby is a senior history major and is a columnist for The Maine Campus.

Cigar manufacturers blowing smoke

What was once a social taboo, cigar smoking has become a popular pastime for much of American society.

Cigar sales have boomed in the last few years. According to a recent Wall Street Journal article, cigar sales in the United States have jumped 53 percent after a 20-year decline. While marketers say the rise has taken them by surprise, it's apparent they have more to do with it than they'll admit.

Cigar bars, a not-so-distant cousin of the coffee shop, are popping up in almost every town or city, including Bangor, and changing the social stereotypes of the typical cigar smoker. The Internet

companies are already required to provide.

The American Lung Association recently reported that of 133 movies surveyed, 40 percent featured a character smoking a cigar.

If federal regulators get their way, cigar companies will also have to provide information about their ties with movie producers and product-placement brokers. Regulators say this information will reveal whether the cigar industry is trying to appeal to teen-agers – an ideal group because they are highly prone to addiction.

Proof that federal regulators



By Kristen Dobler

is abundant with Web sites for cigar aficionados, offering everything from tips on choosing the best cigar to cigar accessories.

The presence of cigar smoking is apparent and no longer unusual on television, and women are now puffing on stogies and enjoying themselves just as much as the stereotypical chap of high society who enjoys a cigar with fellow aficionados. David Letterman is famous for chatting with stars puffing on a cigar, such as Drew Barrymore; Star Jones, of the morning talk show "The View," boasts of the many times she has enjoyed a cigar over conversation with friends. Even supermodel Cindy Crawford has graced the cover of a cigar magazine.

The cigar boom is also spurring the interest of a new market – teenagers. This interest has caused federal regulators to reconsider the leniency they have shown toward the cigar industry. The Wall Street Journal said cigar companies claim smoking cigars is an adult pastime pursued by 35- to 65-year-old men. The companies don't believe their advertising has an affect on teenagers. On the other hand, a 1996 survey by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that 6 million (27 percent) U.S. teenagers had smoked at least one cigar in the last year.

Federal regulators are hoping to change the nation's budding interest in cigars and inform the public of the risks of smoking cigars. Regulators want the country's five largest cigar companies to provide the government with detailed reports on their annual sales and advertising expenditures – information that cigarette and smokeless tobacco

need to step in lies in the misconceptions Americans have about cigar smoking.

Many boast of their enjoyment of a cigar, but scorn the cigarette smoker who smokes a pack a day. Pierce Brosnan won't smoke cigarettes in James Bond films because it would be a bad influence on adolescents, yet he has no apparent qualms with smoking a stogie on the "Tonight Show."

According to a 1997 Newsweek article, one cigar has more tobacco than a pack of cigarettes. One premium-brand cigar has 444 mg of nicotine – 40 times more than most cigarettes. Yet 4.6 billion cigars and 470 billion cigarettes are sold annually in the United States.

It seems that a lot of people erroneously believe that cigars cause few or no health hazards. Cigar packages and advertisements fail to have surgeon general warnings on them, which may belie consumers to believe that smoking cigars is safer than smoking cigarettes. Although a warning label won't prevent all cigar purchases, it would give consumers knowledge of what they are purchasing and give some type of dissuasion.

Federal regulators have focused too much of their attention on cigarette smoking and have been lax in informing the public of the consequences of cigar smoking. Regulations must be made promptly so the public is adequately informed and can make a more informed decision when it comes to lighting up a cigar.

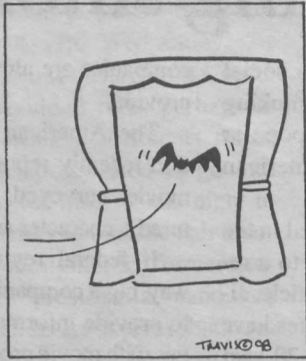
Kristen Dobler is a sophomore English major and is the assistant city editor for The Maine Campus.

ENTERTAINMENT

Your Daily Horoscope

By Sally Brompton

Mr. GNU



By Travis Dandro

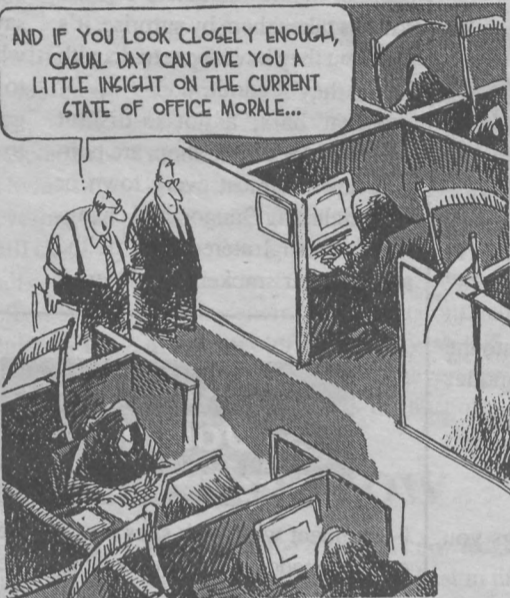


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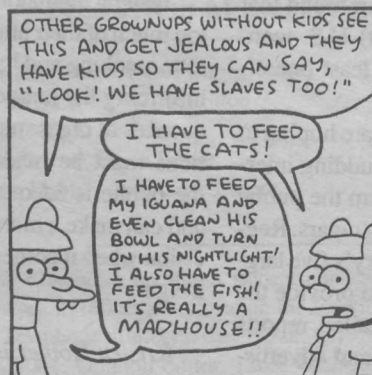
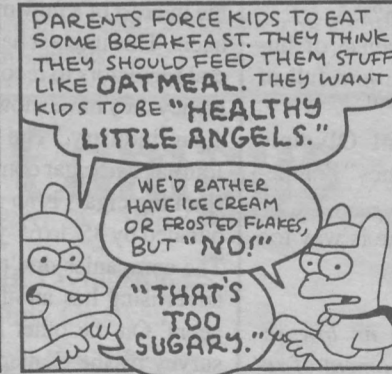
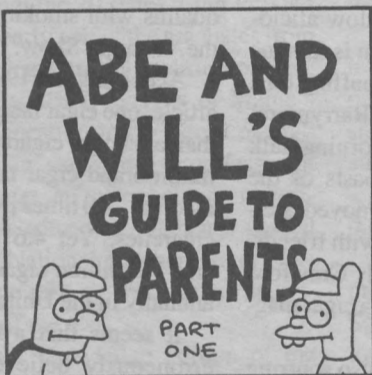


BY VIEY



LIFE IN HELL

©1998 BY MATT GROENING



For Friday, February 20

IF YOUR BIRTHDAY IS TODAY: If you know what you want then the next year will be a lot of fun. If you don't know what you want then it is time you found out — and quick. Great changes are about to take place in your environment, changes that can transform your life. You must have a plan of action.

ARIES (March 21 - April 19): It would be best not to push yourself too hard over the next 48 hours, especially when tackling jobs for which you have little enthusiasm. Take care of your health. If you take on too much you could find that minor ailments inhibit your performance.

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): It doesn't matter if you follow your head or your heart today, there will still be the nagging feeling that you made the wrong decision. Even if you have, it won't make any difference: Although you may not realize it, your head and your heart are working as a team.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 20): Planetary activity is sure to bring domestic chaos. Don't over-react; at the most it is a minor setback. If a loved one gets critical today you would be wise to listen to what that person has to say: There could be more than a grain of truth in the complaint.

CANCER (June 21 - July 22): You would benefit from getting out and about more, certainly on a personal level and maybe on a professional level too. You won't be noticed if you can't be seen, so put aside your fears. A short trip could bring unusual opportunities today.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22): Aim for perfection by all means but don't set your heart on achieving it. However much you improve, there will always be something more you can do, some new way to make yourself that little bit better. Life is a process not a destination — the fun is in the journey rather than the arrival.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22): The approaching Full Moon indicates that you aren't entirely happy with the direction a relationship is taking. You may not enjoy getting emotional, but that may be the only way to attract your partner's attention. Shout if you want to be heard.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22): If you feel you owe someone a favor you should see a way to pay off the debt today. Don't make a big thing of it, just do the one thing you know that person will appreciate. He/she may not get the chance to thank you, but you know you have done the right thing, and that's what matters.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21): You may find it expedient to agree with what others have to say today, even though on a deeper level you don't believe a word of it. You would, of course, prefer to be honest, but your sixth sense tells you this is not the time to make waves.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): It is vital that you have a clear idea of what your aims in life are going to be. The approaching Full Moon will make it difficult to decide between two or more possibilities, but decide if you must if you are going to make progress. If you don't know what you want, find out.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): This could be an uncomfortable day for you in that you can't make up your mind whether to stick with what you know or try something new. Do the former and you may be disappointed you weren't more adventurous. Do the latter and — well, why don't you find out?

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): Don't make any rash decisions concerning your finances over the next 48 hours. Planetary activity cuts across the money angles of your chart, a sure sign you aren't thinking clearly. What now seems so urgent will, by the weekend, be seen in a far less dramatic light.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20): It is decision day for many Pisceans, especially those who feel they are being held back from fulfilling their true potential. There is no point asking friends and family what they think you should do — only you can make the right decision. It's all a question of how much you want to change.

Your Daily Horoscope

By Sally Brompton

For Saturday, February 21

IF YOUR BIRTHDAY IS TODAY: No effort is ever wasted. Even if you don't appear to be making much progress over the next few months, you will one day realize just how important your efforts were. You are laying the foundations of a much more profitable and stable way of life.

ARIES (March 21 - April 19): Why rush around trying to do everything yourself when you can easily persuade others to do it for you? You've already done more than your share of the chores. Let friends and family tidy up behind you. When your mind is working overtime, your body should be relaxed.

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): You should have at least one really good idea today — the kind of idea that comes, at most, about once every six months. Whether or not you make anything of it is up to you. If you don't you may spend the next six months kicking yourself for wasting such a golden opportunity.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 20): It's a waste of time complaining about others' behavior. You might as well just take off and go somewhere more inspiring. It won't improve matters, but a change of scenery will have a revitalizing effect on you and how you view the world.

CANCER (June 21 - July 22): It will be easy to get angry with family and friends — especially if you suspect they are being controversial for the sake of it. If you must rise to the bait at least treat it as a bit of a game. It doesn't matter who wins the argument as long as you all enjoy yourselves.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22): Put your worries aside today. Tell yourself that you are going to have a good time. Family and financial problems aren't as bad as you think they are, and a fun-filled weekend really is the best way to put them in perspective. Living well tends to be its own reward.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22): Be careful with money since the planets are urging you to be a little too generous for your own good. Everywhere you look there are needy causes. If you give to one you may end up giving to them all. The truth is you can't afford it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22): You are eager to get moving, but the planets make progress slow and painful. Perhaps it would be best if you concentrated on thinking about what you intend to do rather than actually trying to do it. There's no rush. You have a lifetime to get it right.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21): This is a creative time for you, a time when your most halfhearted efforts yield amazing results. Ideally, you should limit yourself to those two or three things that mean a lot to you. However much energy you have at your disposal, it is still a crime to waste it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): Partners and loved ones may be demanding this weekend but you can please them all — and still have time to please yourself — if you arrange your timetable carefully. If, however, you take things as they come you could find that nothing gets done and no one is happy.

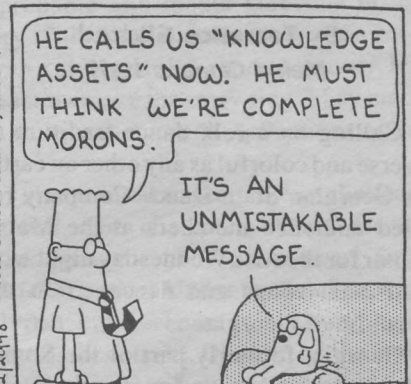
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): You have good friends, but you don't number all your acquaintances among them. For the time being, at least, the latter outrank the former. The tide will turn in your favor before the month is out. For now, it might would be wise to keep your thoughts and feeling to yourself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): You aren't the sort to take kindly to criticism — you prefer to dish it out. What you hear today will annoy you, because you secretly know it to be true. No one expects you to stand on a stool and say you got it wrong, but you must make some sign that the message has got across.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20): If you fear you are falling behind in your commitments to those around you, don't panic. This is merely a passing celestial influence which is stirring up Piscean insecurities. Reassure yourself that you are doing your best and stop worrying. You will be back in control next week.

ENTERTAINMENT

DILBERT® by Scott Adams



New York Times Daily Crossword

No. 1217

ACROSS

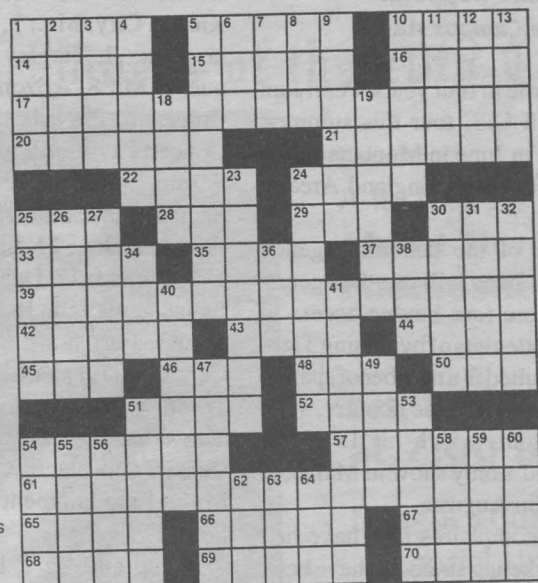
- 1 Obsessive whaler
- 5 Zeno follower
- 10 N.F.C. division
- 14 Fraternity party wear
- 15 Follow
- 16 Tell it to the judge
- 17 Quip, part 1
- 20 Slangy turndown
- 21 City on the Puyallup River
- 22 Energy provider, in slang
- 24 Islets
- 25 Third degree?
- 28 Moody's best
- 29 Bear, in Madrid

- 30 Noisy trains
- 33 War party's act
- 35 Put some teeth into
- 37 "Oliver Twist" villain
- 39 Quip, part 2
- 42 Ring-tailed animal
- 43 Submarine, on sonar
- 44 Impressionist
- 45 Reunion attendees
- 46 For
- 48 Put down, modern-style
- 50 Uno, due, —
- 51 Top
- 52 Cigar ending
- 54 Vituperated
- 57 — corpus

- 61 Quip, part 3
- 65 Stretched (out)
- 66 Be in store for
- 67 Louis Jolliet discovery of 1669
- 68 Relinquish
- 69 Yards
- 70 Clears

DOWN

- 1 Memo starter: Abbr.
- 2 Christmas exclamation
- 3 Old-timers, with "the"
- 4 Kind of training
- 5 Not exactly first cabin
- 6 —la-la
- 7 Kind of finish
- 8 Treacherous, as roads
- 9 Fronton equipment
- 10 Heroic tales
- 11 Ray of Hollywood
- 12 Appear
- 13 O'Hara spread
- 18 Final Four org.
- 19 Joke's punchline, e.g.
- 23 Smallish ballpark
- 24 Sturdy leather
- 25 Puncture
- 26 Capital NE of Vientiane
- 27 Sofa



Puzzle by Michael S. Maurer

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

M	A	T	S		O	L	G	A		R	E	A	T	A	
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N	E	R	D	S		L	E	N	D		E	S	T	E	

- 30 Land called "Mizraim" in the Bible
- 31 Bottle size
- 32 Zzzz
- 34 E, in Morse
- 36 It borders Fla.
- 38 It borders Fla.
- 40 Fur scarf
- 41 Insults
- 47 Modern phone feature
- 49 Puncture
- 51 In reserve
- 53 "The Beverly Hillbillies" actor
- 54 — plaisir
- 55 Pedal
- 56 Not mint
- 58 Cork's locale
- 59 Busy
- 60 Dates
- 62 Northwest competitor
- 63 Adage
- 64 Carry the day

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (75c per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.

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 and the Arts

• Performance

Dance troupe reflects Georgia's diversity

By Terrence Gildred
Maine Campus staff

Calling on a folk dance tradition as diverse and colorful as any other on earth, the Georgian State Dance Company regaled audience members at the Maine Center for the Arts Wednesday night with traditional songs and dances from the Republic of Georgia.

Georgia, formerly part of the Soviet Union, is best known for its ethnic and geographic diversity.

As a Christian country surrounded by Muslim neighbors, Georgia grew up in relative isolation, developing a rich folk history of stories, songs and dances. This colorful history is reflected lovingly by the ensemble in a show that was founded over 50 years ago. To many, these dancers are Georgia's ambassadors to the world, a responsibility the dancers take with great pride judging by the energy, the perfection, and the pure joy they exhibit in their performance.

The troupe of about 75 dancers and musicians is regarded as nothing less than a group of national heroes in their home country. It seems a shame that more students here at the university didn't take the opportunity to experience the awe-inspiring show; most of the audience comprised older couples. Those who did spring for the \$25 tickets were treated to a performance they are not likely to soon forget.

The company performed 19 individual dances, each originating from different regions of Georgia. The dances recalled stories of weddings, great deeds and battles, and of simple traditions passed down from generation to generation in the form of song and dance.

The tempo of the performance was kept up all night, seeming only to increase as the show progressed. Ranging from festive, enthusiastic folk music to the occasional slower, haunting melodies, the group of musicians beautifully performed the role of the foundation upon

which the complex dances were built. The dancers moved with almost complete perfection to the accompanying music. Despite the obviously strenuous and well-organized choreography, every dancer seemed to exhibit a kind of spontaneity and freedom in their movements. Every dance seemed meticulously crafted to the abilities of each dancer.

Probably the most stunning dance of the evening was the Shejibri, or the competition. This final dance of the two-hour show consisted of solo performances and ensemble work. The men were required to dance and leap en pointe — or on their toes, without the hard-toed shoes used in ballet. This is an extremely dangerous skill to master, and is unprecedented in the world of dance. Accompanied by furious music, the men all took turns showing off their own individual dances, including one man who performed an entire dance balancing a bottle on his head. The show's finale saw the entire male portion of the company on stage, a few in

the center spinning madly on their knees, accordions or drums clutched in their hands. When the music stopped, the audience jumped to its feet with applause.

Other stunning performances were seen during dances called the Khevsuri and the Mkhedruli, during which the men took part in mock battles. The swordplay that ensued was amazing, requiring precise movements and agility as swords and knives clashed, raining sparks down on the stage. At one point during the performance, the dance became so intense that a prop knife was accidentally thrown offstage. Luckily, it didn't quite make it to the audience. Still, it was a quick lesson in just how precise and careful each dancer had to be in the furious, sometimes violent, routines.

Throughout the night there was a clear, beautifully drawn line between the motions of the men and their female counterparts. Traditional Georgian dancing is

See BALLET from page 11

• On the road

Band modifies ticket strategy for '98 tour

By Mike Reynolds
Maine Campus staff

For the first time in four years, Pearl Jam will launch a full U.S. tour this summer, which will begin in June in Montana and is scheduled to hit the New England Area in September.

Often critical of the ticketing agency TicketMaster, the band will use the agency with hopes of more fans having access to tickets. Previous attempts of bypassing TicketMaster have resulted in a number of sparsely-attended shows across the country, such as 1996's U.S. tour, which hit 13 cities, including the band's only show in Maine, at the Civic Center in Augusta.

Many of the complaints fans have had about previous ticketing strategies have been corrected. FT&T, the ticketing firm that handled the 1996 tour, will not be handling the tour this year. Instead, the band will be dealing with regional ticket distributors, such as NEXT, based in Boston, or ProTix, which handles tickets for many Connecticut venues. This should allay the fears many fans in New England have as a result of the phone system set up for the last show in Augusta, where 8,000 tickets were sold out in three minutes, leaving many Mainers shut out. The ticketing agency was based in Philadelphia and people in Massachusetts were primarily the ones who got through.

The band's announced tour dates are as follows:

• **June:** 20, Missoula, Mont.; 21, the Delta Center in Salt Lake City, Utah; 23, Fiddlers Green Amphitheater, Denver, Colo.; 24, Rushmore Plaza Civic Center, Rapid City, S.D.; 26, Alpine Valley Music Theater, East Troy, Wisc.; 29, United Center, Chicago, Ill.; 30, Target Center, Minneapolis, Minn.

• **July:** 2, Riverport Amphitheater, St.

Louis, Mo.; 3, Sandstone Amphitheater, Kansas City, Mo.; 5, Reunion Arena, Dallas, Tex.; 7, Tingley Coliseum, Albuquerque, N.M.; 8, Arizona Veterans Memorial Coliseum, Phoenix, Ariz.; 10, San Diego Concert Pavilion, San Diego, Calif.; 13, The Forum, Los Angeles, Calif.; 16, Arco Arena Sacramento, Calif.; 18, Rose Garden Arena, Portland, Ore.; 21, Seattle, Wash.;

• **August:** 17, Deer Creek Music Center, Indianapolis, Ind.; 18, Breslin Student Events Center, East Lansing, Mich.; 20, Molson Centre Montreal, Quebec; 22, Molson Park, Toronto, Ontario; 25, Starlake Amphitheater, Pittsburgh, Penn.; 26, Blossom Music Center, Cleveland, Ohio; 28, Blockbuster Music Entertainment Center, Philadelphia, Penn.

• **September:** 1, Lakewood Amphitheater, Atlanta, Ga.; 3, Birmingham-Jefferson Coliseum, Birmingham, Ala.; 4, Bi-Lo Center, Greenville, S.C.; 6, Thompson-Boiling Arena, Knoxville, Tenn.; 8, Continental Arena, East Rutherford, N.J.; 10, Madison Square Garden, New York, N.Y.; 13, Meadows Music Theater, Hartford, Conn.; 15, Great Woods Center, Mansfield, Mass.; 18, Merriweather Post Pavilion, Washington, D.C.

Many people are also speculating more multiple shows; a second date in Boston, New York, or other cities are possible. Tickets go on sale for most of the shows sometime in April. However, if you are a member of Pearl Jam's fan club, you will be sent a ticket order form in a matter of days, and people who join the fan club now will not be given the order form. Tickets for the tour will have a base value around \$23 and any additional service charges or other fees. The Great Woods shows will be sold through NEXT Ticketing, who can be reached at (207) 775-NEXT, and the Hartford show will be available through ProTix.



This summer's Pearl Jam tour will be the band's return to large venues and larger crowds like this one at a Pearl Jam show in Seattle six years ago. (Courtesy photo.)

From the home office at Beta Theta Pi

Top Ten things overheard at the Norm MacDonald comedy show:

- 10) "Oh, I really hope I get a cramp to make this a more enjoyable experience."
- 9) "What is this, an AA meeting?"
- 8) "If there's an encore, someone is going to get hurt."
- 7) "If nothing else, this evening has really shed some light on crack whores."
- 6) "His boss had the right idea."
- 5) "I can't believe, with all the Americans out of work, they'd go and hire an unfunny Canadian — damn you NAFTA."
- 4) "I missed C-SPAN for this?"
- 3) "Hide the chairs — that Barstow guy seems pissed." (Actually No. 7 on "Top Ten things overheard at the GSS meeting.")
- 2) "You know, that Mr. Gnu isn't that bad after all."
- 1) "Old Norm MacDonald had a show, e-i-e-i-it sucked."

By Eric Simonds

• In theaters

'Sphere' takes chances, doesn't follow through

By Greg Dowling
Maine Campus staff

"Sphere" is a classic example of the "tin can" sci-fi thriller, wherein characters are locked in a metal can (spaceship, sewer, prison, etc.) with no means of escape while they combat some kind of monster or equivalent terror. All of the "Alien" films fall into this category, as well as recent pictures like "Species," "The Relic," "Mimic" and "Event Horizon." The tin can of "Sphere" is a crashed spaceship underwater (something like the rig in "The Abyss"), but what makes "Sphere" work is the acting and taut direction by Barry Levinson ("Wag the Dog").

Based on the popular best-seller by Michael Crichton, "Sphere" is about a group of scientists that are assembled as the first contact team with whatever life may be in this recovered spacecraft, which is more than 300 years old. There's a psychologist (Dustin Hoffman), a mathematician (Samuel L. Jackson), a

biochemist (Sharon Stone) and an astrophysicist (Liev Schreiber, "Scream 2"). Without revealing too many twists in the story, I will say that they come in contact with what's at the center of this spacecraft, a giant pulsing sphere, which seems to make their worst childhood fears become real. There are a few other technicians running around (including Queen Latifah), but they serve as expendable victims rather than dramatic weight.

They do make contact with whatever intelligence is on the ship through their computer system, which the entity can take over at will. He tells them his name is Jerry and that he's happy. Hoffman expresses the audience's sentiments when he asks, "What happens if Jerry gets angry?" We know it's a matter of time before Jerry becomes agitated and exclaims alarmingly across the computer screen, "I will kill you all."

"Sphere" is familiar territory, and it's filled with replicated images from films we've already seen, everything from "The

Thing" to last summer's "Event Horizon." The special effects are all very impressive, but they're perfunctory, not dazzling, which actually benefits the movie because the script by Stephan Hauser and Paul Attanasio ("Quiz Show") is actually quite good. Special effects are often used to mask a film's bad writing, but the dialogue in "Sphere" is crisp and witty, and characterizations are strong and convincing.

Levinson, certainly a gifted director, builds almost unbearable suspense in the first two-thirds of "Sphere," but things get confusing and uneven in the final act, which should have revealed all the story's secrets. Instead I was left feeling confused and uncertain as to what the last discussion between the characters meant. There are some fascinating ideas about human thought and consciousness that get shorted in the end, which should have been an emotional tour de force. Considering the ending deals with the question as to whether we are sophisticated enough and intelligent enough to take on the burden of knowing the secrets of our universe, this conclusion needed far more punch.

Of course, the special effects-riddled action is often exciting. There's a frighteningly real jellyfish attack, which ends up being the first of many assaults by different creepy crawlies. The final escape is also pulse-pounding, although I'm not sure I'm quite convinced as to the physics involved. The entire underwater set is gloomy and ominous, which cer-

tainly sets the audience into a state of claustrophobic queasiness.

It helps in a fiction machine like "Sphere" to have first-rate actors, and Hoffman, Stone and Jackson are all superb. They all work well with each other, and they lend credibility to even the most improbable and manic moments in the story. This is thick material that has been given a glossy Hollywood once-over, but the actors make the story sing. They made me believe the grand implications of the story.

I also wanted to see more of the fears realized. The characters' fears are all rather domestic: The giant squid from "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea," snakes, jellyfish, etc. I wanted to see more ingenuity on these fears. Obviously, the more blunt terrors play better in terms of special effects, but I was surprised that the characters didn't have deeper fears, like an abusive parent, being alone, and so on. Stone's is the only character whose fear is more psychological, but it's not really developed. This could have led to some dazzling suspense scenes, but the focus stayed on the squids and snakes.

"Sphere" is not a great movie, but it is a good one. It serves well as a popcorn-munching thriller, but I still wish the ideas had been handled with more depth. I hope "Sphere" gives way to fresher thrillers that aren't afraid to take chances because there's potential here, but playing it safe doesn't get the job done.

Grade: B-

Ballet

from page 10

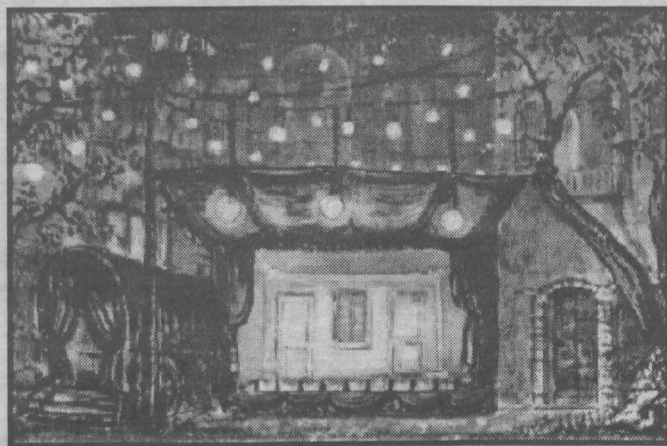
heavily based on concepts of chivalry. Many of the dances involve strict rules on how men and women were to relate with one another. Always, the woman is portrayed and treated with the greatest respect. In many cases, such as a dance called the Simd, romantic ideals of honor and chivalry formed the basis of the routines. Dressed in brightly colored uniforms and robes, the men danced and capered about the stage with an energy and speed that sometimes seemed super-

human. Individuals would unexpectedly leap up to the fore to show off their own dancing prowess or to engage in mock battles in pairs. The women would appear, floating across the stage in almost ethereal grace in long, flowing gowns, their arms and bodies moving in elegant, precise motions. The stylized movements of both men and women complemented each other in a way that left one feeling as though he or she were literally watching poetry in motion.

Open your mind You may learn something about yourself.
The Maine Campus
UMaine's thrice-weekly newspaper

MAINE CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Italian National Opera



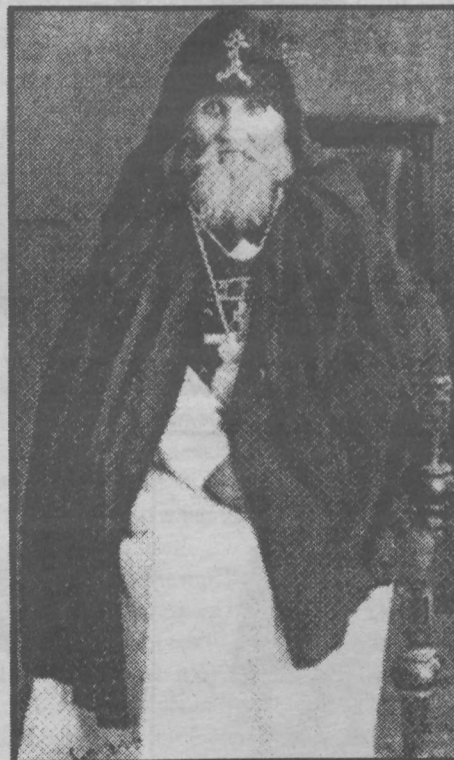
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• On TV

'Seinfeld' finale commanding record ad prices

NEW YORK (AP)—NBC is shattering the record it established only a month ago for the most expensive commercial time on television.

The network has sold two 30-second commercials on the final original episode of "Seinfeld" for \$2 million each, people familiar with the sales said Wednesday.

That is 54 percent higher than the previous high for a TV ad of \$1.3 million, which NBC set in January for a half-minute of commercial time on the Super Bowl telecast Jan. 25.

Some media buyers said they doubt that NBC will command as much for the remaining nine minutes of national advertising time that is being sold on the May 14 "Seinfeld" show. NBC declined to comment on the

matter, but a person familiar with the sales said the first two ads were sold to film studios.

The comedy series dealing with life in New York appeals to a young, urban audience coveted by such advertisers as movie studios, brewers and car companies.

"Seinfeld" has been one of television's highest-rated shows for the past few years and NBC expects that the final show will attract a huge audience.

Media buyer Paul Schulman said NBC will likely get record prices for the show because the evening will probably be TV's top draw of the spring. The hour-long finale will be preceded by a one-hour show on the series and will be followed by the season

finale of the hospital drama "ER."

"NBC's feeling is that this will be the biggest event in the past five years. Anybody who has anything to say that's important knows this is the time to say it," he said.

Schulman said the final show could draw a 40 rating, which would nearly double what the show has been averaging for original episodes this season.

A ratings point represents 980,000 households. The Super Bowl telecast, which saw Denver upset Green Bay for the National Football League title, had an average rating of 44.5.

Steve Grubbs, a top network media buy-

er for the ad agency BBDO, said the final "Seinfeld" will probably draw a younger and possibly more upscale audience than normally watches. He also expects NBC to promote it heavily.

The combination makes it a natural for movie studios who may have films opening anytime up to the Memorial Day weekend as well as for brewers, carmakers and other advertisers who like to be in on big events, Grubbs said.

But he said he doesn't think the entire inventory of commercials would command the \$2 million price that NBC is seeking.

• Nielsens

Olympic ratings below par

NEW YORK (AP) — The Winter Olympics aren't quite the hit that CBS expected, but the network still buried its competitors last week in Nielsen Media Research's prime-time television ratings.

CBS had a 16.9 rating and a 27 share last week, with more than twice the number of average viewers of second-place NBC.

Normally that would be reason for wild celebration during a "sweeps" month when ratings are watched closely to set local advertising rates. But CBS's Olympic ratings are below past Games and the network has been harshly criticized for its coverage.

The 16.2 rating and 26 share for Olym-

pic coverage through Tuesday is 37 percent below the Lillehammer Olympics of 1994 and 14 percent below the Albertville Games of 1992.

For the week of Feb. 9-15, the top 10 shows, their networks and ratings were:

"Winter Olympics" (Thursday), CBS, 19.3; "Winter Olympics" (Tuesday), CBS, 18.2; "Winter Olympics" (Sunday), CBS, 18.0; "60 Minutes," CBS, 17.1; "Winter Olympics" (Saturday), CBS, 15.4; "Winter Olympics" (Wednesday), CBS, 15.3; "Winter Olympics" (Monday), CBS, 14.8; "Winter Olympics" (Friday), CBS, 14.8; "ER" special, NBC, 13.3; "Seinfeld," NBC, 13.2.

• Frugal Gourmet

Suit against chef dropped

TACOMA, Wash. (AP) — One sexual abuse suit against "Frugal Gourmet" chef Jeff Smith has been dismissed, while two other suits involving eight plaintiffs remain pending.

The suit by Clinton Smith, the man whose case triggered the other claims, was dismissed for unstated reasons Friday. Smith, who is unrelated to the chef, said Tuesday he would appeal.

The other two lawsuits have been consolidated and are scheduled for trial April 28.

Edward S. Winskill, Jeff Smith's lawyer, has denied all the plaintiffs' accusations.

The 59-year-old Methodist minister, married with two grown sons, is host of the popular public television cooking show "The Frugal Gourmet." At one time, he appeared on 300 public television stations and his 10 cookbooks have sold an estimated 7 million copies.

Clinton Smith, 37, of Eatonville, began going on radio talk shows in mid-1995 with his claims that when he was 16, Jeff Smith

forced him to have sex and to participate in "sexually oriented parties with other adult pedophiles and other minor boys." He worked for Jeff Smith at the time.

Clinton Smith also claims Jeff Smith agreed in 1991 to pay him \$1 million to keep silent, but the chef's attorney denies such a deal ever existed.

Smith's other accusers also say they were assaulted when they were teen-age employees of his more than 20 years ago, except one, who says he was picked up as a hitchhiker and assaulted in 1992.

Clinton Smith was sentenced to four years in prison in 1981, partly for stealing money from the Chaplain's Pantry, Jeff Smith's restaurant. He said he took the money in retaliation for being sexually assaulted. Police investigated the claim and did not arrest Jeff Smith.


Since the lawsuits were filed last year, Jeff Smith has not recorded any more television shows. Two books he was under contract for have also not appeared.

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SPORTS PAGE

• Women's hoops

Black Bears pound Dragons

By Josh Nason
Maine Campus staff

ORONO - Cindy Blodgett may have summed up what has been ailing the women's team as of late.

"You can tell when our defense isn't up, because we are a lot slower team, more methodical," Blodgett explained. "When our defensive intensity is up, we become a little more reckless and that is good for us."

That reckless style was employed Thursday night, as Maine swatted, dove and stole its way to an 86-66 win over Drexel at the Alford Arena.

The 17-7, 12-4 conference, Black Bears forced 32 Lady Dragon turnovers, and recorded 15 steals and four blocks.

They will meet 4-11 Hofstra on Saturday in the team's final regular season home game.

"I felt the bench gave us a great lift of intensity, and our first five did an excellent job of executing the defense, and at the same time, attacking offensively and finding the seams," head coach Joanne Palombo-McCallie said.

Cindy Blodgett pumped in a quiet 24 points for Maine, a game-high. Klara Danes continued her impressive play, picking up 13 points and five rebounds.

Jamie Cassidy scored 13 points on the game, but was held to just three in the second half.

Maine's defensive effort came primarily in the second half. After hitting on all five of her shots for 10 points, forward Mikki Miller was just two-of-three in the second for five points.

The same can be said for guard Laura Lyons. After connecting for 13 first-half points, she was shut down for six in the second and 19 for the game.

"The overall defensive level, they just came as a team. They were really coming with waves of defenders off the ball, and they never let the next pass go easy," Murphy said.

The coach also revealed that Miller is playing with a torn ligament in her hand, and was playing an extended role, thanks in part to standout Jen MacNeill's

knee injury.

One member of the bench who came up big was freshman Kizzie Lopez. The 5'10" swingman had four points and two rebounds in 11 minutes, but registered three steals and displayed a physical style that got a standing ovation from the crowd of 4,686.

"She's an individual that has great instincts, and that helps a lot with rebounding. Obviously, she has great strength," Palombo said.

"It's very important when an individual can really be physical against the opponents, and Kizzie has those attributes."

The Bears got outrebounded 43 to 25.

Lyons led the 11-13, 7-9 conference, Lady Dragons with 19 points and five assists, as Miller followed with 15 points to go with six rebounds.

The clubs played an even 12 minutes of basketball to start the game, as Drexel grabbed a 22-18 lead.

Following a 20-second timeout, Maine reeled off a 20-7 run to grab a 38-29 lead. Amy Vachon started the run with a drive to the hoop and layup under three defenders.

After a Sandi Carver jumper and four points from Andrea Clark, Blodgett scored six of the team's next 10 points to cap the streak. Maine had a 43-33 lead going into the locker room.

"We unraveled in the later parts of the first half, and the unraveling continued. You got to see how young we are tonight," Drexel coach Kevin Murphy said.

"That's why I am going gray, and losing a lot of my hair along the way."

The second period began similar to how the first ended, but with a more defensive-minded Black Bears as Blodgett stole the in-bounds pass to start the half.

Drexel did not have an answer for Maine's hot shooting (58 percent in the first half, 52 percent in the second), while trying to solve their own. The Dragons could muster just 32 percent shooting from the floor in the second half.

• Men's hoops

Bears to close out regular season

By Jim Davis
Maine Campus staff

After wrapping up its home schedule last week, the University of Maine men's basketball team closes out its regular season schedule on the road this weekend with a pair of important America East games.

Tonight, Maine (7-17, 4-12 America East) faces the Drexel Dragons, who handed the Black Bears a 78-63 defeat in Alford Arena on January 22.

Drexel (9-14, 7-8) has struggled within the conference since that victory, posting a 2-4 record, which includes a 65-61 loss at Hartford and a 70-67 debacle at Vermont. The Dragons have dropped four straight games.

In the first meeting between the two

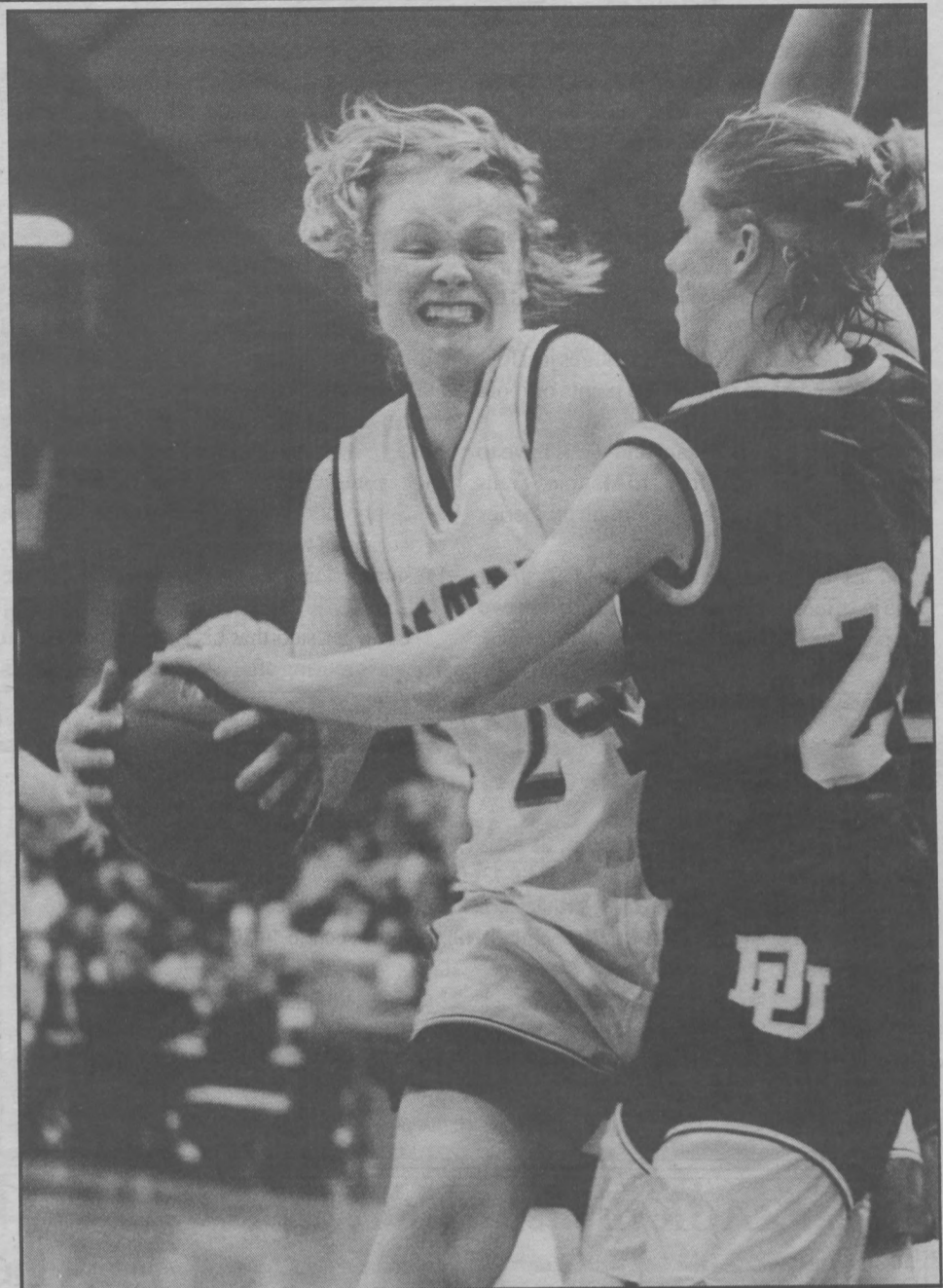
teams, the Black Bears were victims of the hot hands of shooting guard Mike DeRocckis, who poured in 22 points while draining four three-pointers.

Maine cut the Drexel lead to 64-60 with just 4:24 to go in the game, but DeRocckis caught fire, hitting key three-point missiles down the stretch as the Dragons took the wind out of the Black Bears' sails and cruised to a fifteen-point victory.

Offensively, Drexel ranks eighth in America East in scoring at 66.4 points per game. Drexel has posted a 4-3 record at home.

Sophomore forward Joe Linderman paces the Dragons at 18 ppg and pulls down a team-high 8.4 rebounds per con-

See HOOPS on page 15



Maine center Jamie Cassidy fights to keep the ball away from Drexel's Jenna Vebrosky during last night's win over the Dragons. (Caleb Raynor photo.)

• Men's hockey

The rematch in Boston

By Bill Stewart
Maine Campus staff

When the Northeastern Huskies ventured up to Orono last week, they caught the University of Maine men's hockey team in a mental breakdown and outworked the Bears 5-2.

So, when Maine heads to Boston for a rematch with the Huskies this weekend, Maine coach Shawn Walsh wants to make sure history does not repeat itself.

"We need to have a much clearer attitude," Walsh said. "From the very first period of play we have to come out ready."

"It's always frustrating to get outworked, and we just weren't mentally prepared for that game," freshman defenseman Adam Tate said. "It's embarrassing, but we won't let it happen again."

The series with Northeastern will directly

affect whom Maine will play in the Hockey East quarterfinals, but where as well.

Should the Black Bears lose either Friday or Saturday night, they will be mathematically eliminated from finishing in the top four, which would put them on the road to begin the playoffs.

"We're going down to get the job done and get a little revenge," Tate said.

The Huskies are coached by one of the league's better teachers of the game in Bruce Crowder. Crowder, a former assistant under Walsh, has turned Northeastern into a contender in Hockey East.

Crowder acknowledged the significance of the two-game set.

"If Maine sweeps us, they'll take advantage of a home-ice situation," he said. "If we

See MEN'S HOCKEY on page 14

FROM THE DEN

Five University of Maine men's basketball players have been named NAC/America East first-team selections since the conference's inception in 1979: Rufus Harris (1979-80), Jeff Cross (1982-83), Dean Smith (1983-84), Jim Boylan (1986-87), and John Gordon (1996-97).



Men's hockey

from page 13

win one or two we'll sort of eliminate Maine."

Although Northeastern is not overflowing with raw talent, they work especially hard, which Crowder emphasized will be key for some weekend success.

"We're not going to go out and be something we're not," Crowder said. "We're not going to change the formula and we'll go with what we have."

Northeastern's leading scorer is Todd Barclay, who scored a hat trick against Maine on Feb. 5 and has amassed just 22 points this season. But the Huskies will look to spread the wealth.

Northeastern, like Maine, features just four players who have piled up 20 points or more this season.

"They are a good team and we'll have to be intense," freshman forward Matthias Tratt-nig said. "We know how important this series is."

Last weekend Maine breathed fresh air into its offense by pounding out 18 goals in two games over UMass-Amherst to pull them back

into the home-ice contention.

Leading the way for Maine is tri-captain Steve Kariya, who is sixth in Hockey East scoring with 40 points and has registered at least a point in the last six games.

Maine goalie Alfie Michaud is coming off an impressive weekend where he played just four periods, but raised his record to 10-10-3 and lowered his goals against average to 3.48.

Paw Prints

Northeastern leads the all-time series 29-25-8.

Of the current players, Kariya has racked up the most points against the Huskies in a career with seven.

Maine is ranked No. 3 in the nation on the power play (.256) and No. 8 in scoring offense (3.96 goals a game.)

Sophomore forward Ben Guite will be out of action this weekend with a shoulder injury. Freshman Tuomo Jaaskelainen will get the nod.

Crowder said that his defenseman Aaron Toews is retiring after a spinal injury prevents

PREVIEW

What: Maine @ Northeastern, Hockey East

Where: Matthews Arena, Boston

Who: **Maine:** F Steve Kariya (19 goals, 21 assists, 40 points), F Corey Larose (8-19-27), F Shawn Wansborough (13-11-24), F Bobby Stewart (4-9-13), D David Cullen (10-21-31), D Brian White (0-10-10), G Alfie Michaud (10-10-3, 3.48 GAA) **Northeastern:** F Todd Barclay (16-6-22), F Brian Cummings (8-13-21), F Bobby Davis (10-10-20), F Billy Newson (8-11-19), D David Dupont (6-10-16), G Marc Robitaille (17-11-2, 2.92 GAA)

Season Series: Northeastern defeated Maine 5-3 back on February 5.

Outlook: Again, Maine is faced with a pivotal weekend in Hockey East play. For the Bears to capture the final home ice playoff spot, they either have to sweep or win and tie. Anything less and Maine will be on the road for the HE quarterfinals. Although Maine matches up well with Northeastern, they will have to step up their intensity level so as to avoid a letdown, which has plagued them at times this season.

• Around the rinks

Where are the fans?

By Deron Treadwell
Maine Campus staff

The University of Maine men's hockey team returned to its winning ways at home this weekend, and it is time to set the stage for what is in store for the Black Bears, in three points.

First Period

Can you say fair weather fans?

Despite the fact the Black Bears had only played three home games this year coming into the weekend series with UMass, less than 5,000 fans showed up both nights.

Among the missing is the "Naked 5." In fact, they have been in a hibernation of their own lately.

But this weekend saw a new group of fans rise to the occasion. Eight or nine students stood in the balcony all weekend and screamed their heads off.

They showed the rest of the arena that a hockey game is about having fun, not about sitting around complaining why the team doesn't play better.

Maine needs more fans like this and less fair weather fans like the Naked 5.

Second Period

It's time for the stretch drive in Hockey East. Who is going to finish where?

1. New Hampshire — best all-around team in the league; only BU will challenge.
2. Boston University — will be close to UNH down the stretch, but not as balanced.
3. Boston College — they'll have to

collapse to fall out of the top three.

4. Northeastern — it won't be easy, and they'll have to beat Maine twice this weekend to do it, but they have three games in hand on the Black Bears.

5. Maine — may be starting to turn season around; need to win rest of their games to stay in top five.

6. Lowell — tough finish, but proved they can play with top teams by beating BU this weekend.

7. Providence — another tough schedule, but no one else can catch them.

8. Merrimack — they still may drop out of the playoffs, but with some of the best scorers in the country, they should hold on.

9. UMass — the games are too tough and this team is too bad to make a move. They'll miss the playoffs.

Third Period

Where is Victor?

Count Victor Rodriguez among the missing as well. The man who has wowed Alford crowds with his impressive dancing hasn't made an appearance lately.

Since his departure, the band has kept the number and the dance part as well.

Victor and his ability to dance is what made this number work, and through no fault of their own, his replacements seriously pale by comparison.

Until Victor returns, the band should rethink using this song and dance because it isn't exciting to watch, it is painful.

EXERCISE

Does Your Heart Good.

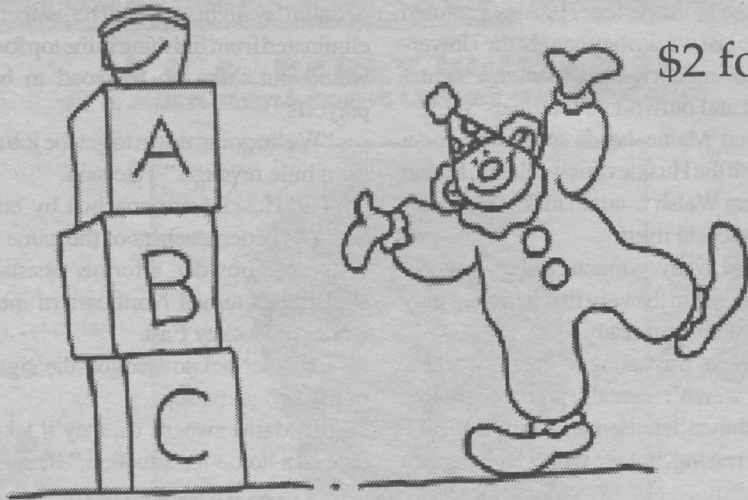
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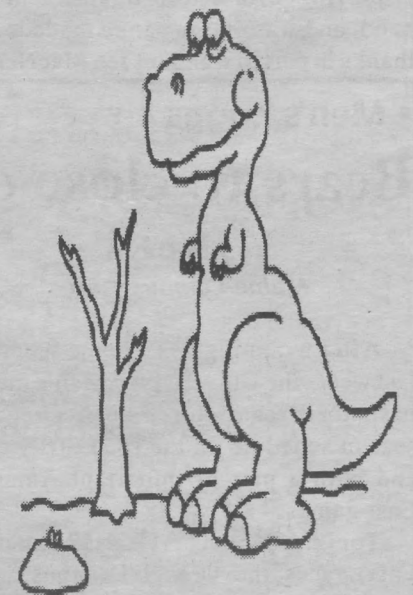
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• Women's hockey

Aiming for playoffs, Maine heads to New York

By Dave Bailey
Maine Campus staff

The University of Maine women's hockey team will try to keep its playoff chances alive when it travels to upstate New York to face Colgate and Hamilton.

The two games will close out Maine's ECAC Alliance schedule.

While the Black Bears, who are in third place in the Alliance East division, have been mathematically eliminated from division title contention, they are still in the bidding for one of the two available wild-card spots.

Maine head coach Rick Filighera said his team will take things one game at a time before thinking about the playoff picture.

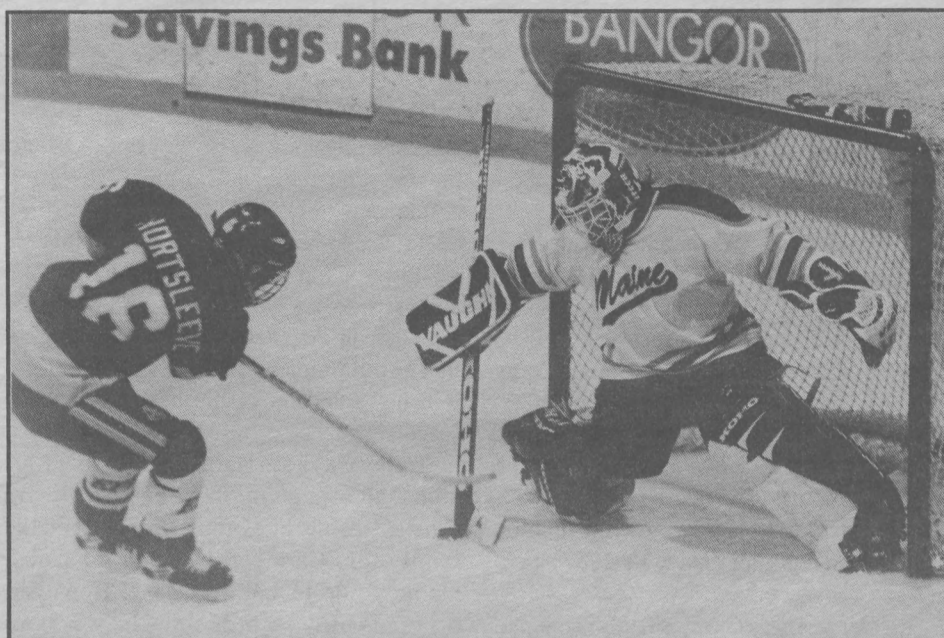
"We got to concentrate on Colgate and Hamilton," Filighera said. "If we can take care of our own yard, hopefully we'll get in."

But Maine will need some help if it plans on playing hockey over spring break.

Four teams reach the Alliance playoffs: two division winners and two wild cards. Assuming that Wesleyan and Middlebury have the division titles wrapped up (each team can clinch with a win this weekend), that leaves five teams battling for the last two spots.

Bowdoin leads the way with 17 points, followed by RPI (16), RIT (15), Maine (15), and Vermont (14).

For Maine to reach the playoffs, the



Maine goalie Amy Oliver and the Black Bears are in a heated race for a playoff spot. (Caleb Raynor photo.)

Bears would have to win both games this weekend and hope that everyone else loses over the next two weeks.

As far as tiebreakers are concerned, a plethora of criteria is taken into account, including overall records versus Alliance teams, the ciszek formula, records versus schools at .500 or better, records versus schools below .500 and head-to-head play.

The playoffs will be held the weekend of March 7 at a site to be determined.

Breaking In

Forward Karen Hebert scored her first goal of the season last Saturday against Amherst. Hebert joined the team in January and cracked the regular lineup a few weeks later.

Even though she has only been with the team for a month, the one-time ice hockey novice felt that things are starting to fall in place for her.

"I think my stickwork and skating are all coming together," Hebert said. "I'm pleased with myself actually getting there. I didn't think I would be at that level, but everything

is just coming together."

Filighera pointed out the smooth transition the field hockey standout has made to the ice.

"The woman is an athlete," he said. "She's used her stickhandling skills [from field hockey] and transferred it into ice hockey."

Hebert noted the huge difference between skating on the ice and romping on the grass.

"The stickhandling is a lot different," Hebert said. "With the puck moving faster, you have to get your feet around with the skates and everything."

"That's much faster compared to field hockey, where you can stop quicker and get to the ball easier."

Filighera pointed out how dedication has been a key element to Hebert's success.

"She has worked very hard in improving her skating by meeting us twice a week," he said. "Once her skating skills got better, we were able to give her more ice time, and by giving her more ice time, her athleticism has shown."

"She's very physical along the boards, [and] she gets the puck out of the zone. We're grateful to have her."

The Envelope, Please

Maine forward Alison Lorenz earned her second ECAC Alliance Player of the Week honor of the season last week. The sophomore racked up 13 points in three games, highlighted by a four-goal performance versus Bowdoin Feb. 11.

Hoops

from page 13

test, good for fifth in the conference. Linderman is seventh in the conference in field goal percentage at 51 percent.

Linderman also leads all America East players in conference scoring average at 20.7 ppg in 15 games.

Sunday: The Black Bears head to Hofstra to wrap up the regular season in a rematch of the buzzer-beater that was back on January 24.

The Flying Dutchmen (15-11, 9-7) beat the Black Bears in Alford when Craig "Speedy" Claxton made two free throws with just ten seconds remaining that gave Hofstra the two-point edge.

Maine guard Marcus Wills, who led all players with 24 points, got a wide-open look at the hoop on the Black Bears' next possession, but failed to stick the game-winning shot as the final buzzer sounded.

Hofstra enters the game as the fourth highest offense in the conference, just ahead of Maine at 74.6 ppg.

The Flying Dutchmen have struggled a bit defensively, allowing 72.3 ppg, eighth in America East. The Black Bears are ninth, giving up 77 ppg.

Claxton leads Hofstra in scoring (16.5 ppg), steals (2.15 pg), field goal percentage (48 percent), and leads the conference in assists, dishing out 6.92 per contest.

Roberto Gittens lit up Maine's defense with 18 points in the first meeting and swatted two Black Bear shots.

Gittens is currently second in America East in blocked shots behind Vermont's Erik Nelson, stopping two shots per game.

The Flying Dutchmen suffered a couple of setbacks last week, dropping two conference games to Hartford, 65-61 to the Hawks last Friday and an 85-72 drubbing again on Sunday.

• **Broadcaster**

A broadcasting legend passes away

RANCHO MIRAGE, Calif. (AP) — Nobody sang "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" with the same enthusiasm. When he bellowed "Holy Cow," there was no mistaking his raspy voice. Harry Caray personified baseball to countless fans.

A failed ballplayer who was a huge success in the broadcast booth, he projected his zest for the game across the airwaves for more than a half-century.

Caray died Wednesday, four days after a heart attack. He was 83.

His death was mourned across the country by those in baseball as well as by first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Caray, who always considered himself just one of the guys in the bleachers, would say, "You can't beat fun at the old ballpark." And he seemed to live that line.

"It's really been a heck of a run for Harry — just an amazing human being. He squeezed every drop out of about four lifetimes. He really lived life to the fullest,"

Cubs general manager Ed Lynch said.

Hall of Famer Stan Musial said: "We're going to miss old Harry. He was always the life of the party, the life of baseball."

Mrs. Clinton said Caray helped her celebrate her 50th birthday.

"Harry was one of a kind and nobody could sing 'Take Me Out to the Ball Game' like he could. And I hope he's doing a seventh-inning rendition in heaven," Mrs. Clinton said.

David MacAskill, a bartender at Harry Caray's restaurant in Chicago, said: "He wasn't a big shot and he made you feel at home. He was a big part of baseball. Part of the Cubs' spirit died today."

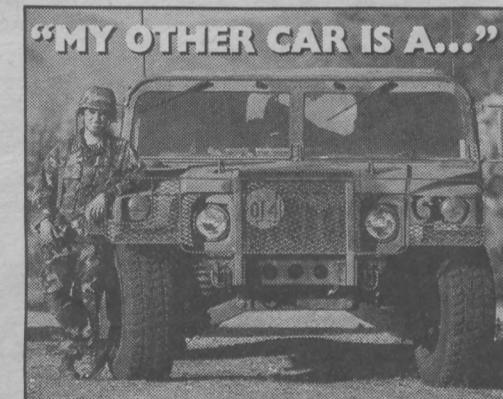
An orphan from a rough St. Louis neighborhood, Caray dreamed of playing major league baseball. But as a teenager, he attended a tryout with the Cardinals and was rejected.

So he decided that he should break into the game as a broadcaster. Caray brashly

wrote a letter to KMOX, claiming he could do a better job calling Cardinals games than the station's announcer were doing. Impressed by his determination, the station manager helped Caray get a job at WCLS in Joliet, Ill. By 1946, Caray was back in St. Louis and the "Voice of the Cardinals" for KMOX.

After 25 years behind the mike in St. Louis, Caray was fired in 1969 after a dis-

See CARAY on page 16

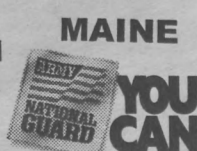


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Caray

from page 15

pute with the Busch family. He spent the next season broadcasting Oakland Athletics games, then signed on with the White Sox in 1971 and quickly built a following.

After Jerry Reinsdorf and Eddie Einhorn bought the White Sox, Caray jumped to the Cubs in 1982 and onto cable superstation WGN-TV.

With his thick, oversized glasses and colorful style, Caray became familiar to a nationwide audience.

During his 15 years with the hapless Cubs, he was fond of spelling names backward and mentioning fans, including his favorite bartenders, who were visiting the ballpark.

"Happy Birthday to So-and-So. ... Happy Anniversary to So-and-So. That's always been my way of acknowledging the fans," he wrote in his 1989 autobiography, "Holy Cow."

Another favorite Caray exclamation was "It might be, it could be, it is — a home

run!" and he'd shout "Cubs win! Cubs win! Cubs win!" after each Chicago victory. He said he developed his trademark phrases during a semipro baseball tourney at Battle Creek, Mich.

Caray died four days after having a heart attack during a Valentine's Day dinner with his wife at a nightclub restaurant near their winter home.

Scheduled services included a visitation on Friday at St. Theresa's Roman Catholic Church in Palm Springs and on Feb. 26 at Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago, followed by a Feb. 27 funeral at Holy Name. Caray will be buried at All Saints Cemetery in Des Plaines, Ill.

Fond of beer, Caray was known as the "Mayor of Rush Street," a popular nightclub district, and his downtown restaurant has remained popular since its 1987 opening.

In later years as Caray's health began to fail, his broadcasts were full of scrambled

names and other mistakes. He often complained that criticism of his broadcasting skills began only after he was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1989.

Caray had recently reduced his broadcasting on WGN. He cut out road trips in 1997, saying they were "a grind for ballplayers, and they can be pretty tough on announcers, too."

In December, it was announced that his grandson, Chip Caray, would join him and analyst sidekick Steve Stone in broadcasting Cubs home games. Harry said recently that he didn't intend to retire and planned to join his grandson in the booth again this season.

Caray was born Harry Christopher Carabina, an orphan in St. Louis. He always brushed aside questions of his age; the family said Caray was 78 and the Cubs' media guide listed him as 77. However, St. Louis birth records show he was born March 1, 1914.

Caray was the patriarch of a three-generation broadcast family. In addition to grandson Chip, there is Caray's son, Skip, who announces Atlanta Braves games.

Caray won the Ford C. Frick Award in 1989 to put him in the broadcast wing of the baseball Hall of Fame, and he was elected to the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Hall of Fame in 1988.

Caray once said Cardinals star Musial was the best baseball player he ever saw, although he said a case could be made for Willie Mays, Ted Williams, Joe DiMaggio, Hank Aaron and others of their era.

In addition to his wife, Caray is survived by five children, five stepchildren, 14 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

The family asked that, in lieu of flowers, donations could be made to his two favorite charities: the Maryville Academy in Des Plaines, Ill., or the Misericordia Home in Chicago.

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