

Spring 3-17-2005

Maine Campus March 17 2005

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THURSDAY
March 17, 2005
Vol. 123 No. 38

THE MAINE CAMPUS

THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE NEWSPAPER SINCE 1875

'Fiddler' blows
the roof off the
MCA. Page 11



Four presidential nominees named

Kennedy among final candidates, remaining three set to visit Orono

Four finalists for the University of Maine presidency were announced Tuesday morning in Bangor by University of Maine System Chancellor Joseph Westphal. A search committee, consisting of one University of Maine student, eleven academic and business professionals, selected the four after a five-month, nationwide search. All four candidates will soon arrive in Orono for tours and meetings with various campus members. After the visits, Westphal will select one individual to recommend to the UMS board of trustees, who will have final say over the appointment.

The candidates come from all over the country and all four have extensive backgrounds in science.

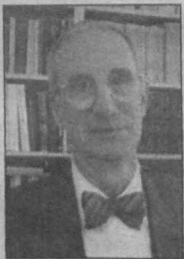
P. Geoffrey Feiss, the current

provost of the College of Williams and Mary and a geologist by training, received his Ph.D. from Princeton University. He is retired from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and in his professional career served as an exploration geologist.

Brian Foster is the provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at the University of New Mexico. He is an anthropologist by training and received his Ph.D. in that discipline from the University of Michigan. He has taught at Arizona State University and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, among others, and is a former insurance salesman.

Robert Kennedy is the current interim president of the

See PRESIDENT on Page 4



Feiss



Foster



Kennedy



Rankin

Legislators seek to make Moxie state soft drink

By Randy Perkins
For The Maine Campus

"Just make it Moxie for Mine" was how the advertisement played at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair, but perhaps for the new millennium we can say, "Just make it Moxie for Maine."

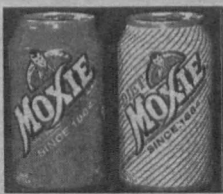
On Monday the Legislature's Committee on State and Local Government unanimously voted for Moxie to become Maine's official soft drink. Originally put forth to be the state's official beverage, the wording was changed to soft drink in order not to offend Poland Spring Water or milk enthusiasts.

Moxie, slang for being able to take on difficulty with courage and spirit, accurately describes anyone who loves its bittersweet taste because that's what it takes to drink it: courage and spirit.

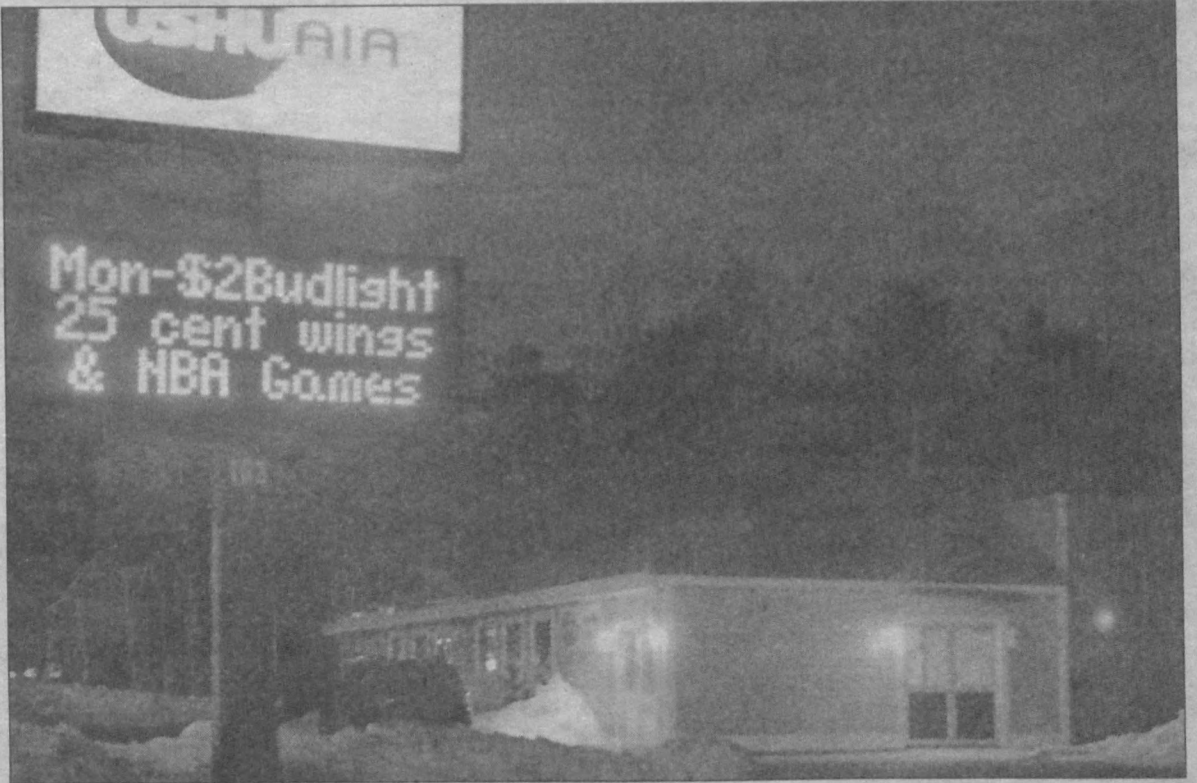
"My dad used to force-feed me

that stuff while I was growing up and I got so that I really liked it," said Tim Croce, a senior new media student. "It is the manliest drink of all drinks."

"The word Moxie represents aspects of character and moral fiber I like to think of as being part of a Mainer's temperament — grit, determination and spirit," said the bill's sponsor, Sen. Peggy Rotundo, D-Lewiston. The pure definition of Moxie seemed reason enough to support the bill. Rotundo added that you never hear of people having enough "pepsi" to accomplish something difficult. But when someone has moxie,



See MOXIE on Page 4



CAMPUS PHOTO BY MELISSA ARMES

DANCE —Ushuaia's night club on Park Street in Orono was the sight of an alleged stabbing March 5 involving a minor and a Glenburn man.

Ushuaia stabbing disputed Man arrested for allegedly injuring Brewer juvenile

By Kyle Webster
Staff Reporter

A man was arrested following an altercation that led to a possible stabbing at Ushuaia dance club Saturday, March 5, according to the Orono Police Department. Jonathan Gardiner, 18, of Glenburn, allegedly approached a 17-year-old juvenile male from Brewer in the patio area of the club and accused the man of talking to his girlfriend. The juvenile claimed that he had never seen Gardiner prior to this incident. A friend of the juvenile, a 19-year-old, stepped between him and Gardiner in an effort to stop the interaction.

Gardiner and the 19-year-old then began fighting. Both men claimed that they had been stabbed. The juvenile was allegedly stabbed on his left arm and the 19 year-old in the left abdomen area.

At this point, bouncers and others broke up the fight and the police were called. Units from Old Town, Orono and a state trooper responded to the scene, and Gardiner was taken into custody.

After being taken to Eastern Maine Medical Center, Gardiner was arrested and taken to Penobscot County Jail. He faces charges of aggravated assault and aggravated reckless conduct. Gardiner may face further charges

due to bail conditions from prior incidents. He is due in court on April 4 at 9:30 a.m.

Whether or not a stabbing actually occurred is unsure, according to several sources. A six-inch, fixed-blade knife was confiscated from Gardiner following the incident and witnesses at the scene claim that they saw the knife in Gardiner's hand with blood on it. According to police, immediately following the incident, Gardiner stated that he had used the knife to "protect himself." Reports state that he further said, "People won't f*ck with me again." Despite this,

See STABBING on Page 4

Taco Bell agrees to increase farmer pay

By Matt Conyers
Sports Editor

Nearly one month ago, the Progressive Student Alliance set out on a mission to inform the public about Taco Bell's treatment of its workers and collect signatures for a campus-wide boycott. 500 signatures and one Mexican dinner later, the PSA can rest happy.

Last Tuesday, in an unprecedented move, fast-food leader Taco Bell, a division of Yum! Food Brands, agreed to work with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, a Florida-based organization, in hopes of addressing the wages and working conditions of their farm workers. Taco Bell agreed to pay the penny-per-pound surcharge demanded by the workers. The settlement helped to extinguish a four-year national boycott of Taco Bell by CIW and several other widely-recognized groups.

Sarah Bigney, initiator of the boycott on campus and secretary of the PSA, took time Monday to discuss news of the agreement.

"We were thrilled to hear that Taco Bell has decided to agree to the farmer workers conditions," Bigney said. "We are very excited because it's been a four-year boycott, although we just started this year at UMaine."

"The boycott is over," Bigney said. "The penny-a-pound doesn't sound like a lot but it makes a huge difference."

Bigney discussed the boycott's benefits.

"It goes to show that people make a difference and what we do can create change," said Bigney. "It's great because being the largest restaurant chain in the world, it's very groundbreaking and hopefully sets a precedent in the fast-food industry."

Dating back to Feb. 10 the PSA made it their business to inform the UMaine community about what they felt was a considerable injustice towards the farm workers. Stressing the issue of mistreatment on the behalf of Taco Bell, PSA campaigned for the boycott with a table twice a week in Memorial Union. The PSA also held a special Mexican Dinner on Feb. 23 to make students more aware of the situation. At the presentation, groups served Mexican dishes, while a film about the farmer workers plight played. Bigney said the dinner went a long way in helping stress the importance of the boycott.

"I think the Mexican dinner was fabulous," Bigney said. "We got 100 signatures on that night alone and really educated people."

Tracy Allen, another key figure

SeeTACO on Page 4

THE MAINE CAMPUS

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thurs. Mar. 17, 2005

PhotoShop design

Learn Photoshop as part of the library workshop series at 9:30 a.m. at the Fogler Library computer classroom. Registration is required. For more information, contact Gretchen Gfeller at 581-1696.

Bible study

The Wilson Center will sponsor a Bible study at Memorial Union Drummond Chapel at 10 a.m. For more information, contact Rev. Timothy Sylvia at 866-4227 or on FirstClass.

MPAC film

"Salt of the Earth" will be shown at 7 p.m. in 110 Little Hall. The film followed by facilitated discussion is also part of the Women's History Celebration: Drawing from the Past, Feminism for the Future series. For more information, contact Doug Allen on FirstClass.

Marxist lecture

Lecture titled "Should Marxists Support Capital Flight (Under Certain Conditions)?" will be held at 12:30 p.m. in Memorial Union Bangor Room. Part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series, the talk will be given by Michael Howard. For more information, contact Brenda Collamore at 581-3866.

Climbing night

Climb MaineBound's rock wall for \$1.00 from 3 to 10 p.m. For more information, contact Jeff Hunt at 581-1794 or on FirstClass.

Aerobic class

Cardio/Step class will be held from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in Lengyel Gym. For more information contact Thad Dwyer on FirstClass.

Fri. Mar. 18, 2005

Marine Science lecture

Lecture titled "Secondary Contact in the Northwest Atlantic: Hybridization and Introgression in Two Sibling Species of Sea Stars" will be given by Fiona Harper as part of the School of Marine Sciences Seminar Series. It will be held at 11 a.m. in 354 Aubert Hall. For more information contact 581-4381.

Environmental lecture

Jeff Varricchio of Maine Department of Environmental Protection will give lecture titled "Urban Development and Streams" at noon in the Norman Smith Hall conference room. For more information, contact Betty Lee at 581-3244.

Sat. Mar. 19, 2005

Chocolate buffet

Spruce Run will host it's Chocolate Buffet and Silent Auction at University College Center in Bangor at 7 p.m. All proceeds benefit Spruce Run Association. Part of the "Women's History Celebration: Drawing from the Past, Feminism for the Future" series. For more information, contact Angela Olson at 581-1228.

Sun. Mar. 20, 2005

Bible study

A Bible study meeting will be held in Memorial Union COE room at 6 p.m.. For more information, contact Mathias Uvieghara at 581-3481 or on FirstClass.

Kayak rolling

Pool sessions designed to introduce paddles to Eskimo Rolling techniques among other skills will be held in MaineBound-UM Outdoor Education Center from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$20 for students. For more information, contact Jeff Hunt at 581-1794.

Worship service

The Wilson Center will host a Contemporary Nondenominational Worship Service from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information, contact Rev. Timothy Sylvia at 866-4227 or on FirstClass.

Submitting information

Submissions for The Maine Campus Community Calendar are free, and can be sent on FirstClass to Diana McElwain or dropped off in The Maine Campus office located in the basement of Memorial Union. Please include all the important information about your event. Deadlines for submissions are 9 a.m. Sunday for Monday publication and 9 a.m. Wednesday for Thursday publication. First priority will be given to events that directly affect university students.

Man allegedly returns stolen books to University Bookstore

A man was charged following a false police report filed Monday, Feb. 14. Ryan Smith, 23 of Veazie, contacted Public Safety and reported a theft. Smith claimed that his bag and a few of his textbooks were stolen from Fogler Library Thursday, Feb. 3. During their investigation, Public Safety discovered that Smith had returned several of the books he reported stolen to the Bookstore. His roommate had also returned a book that Smith claimed was stolen. Smith was apparently using his parents' credit card to purchase the books and was then returning them for cash. On March 4, Smith was brought back in for another interview. At this point he admitted to falsifying the theft claim. As a result, he was issued a summons for filing a false police report.

Residents refuse officer entry into dorm room

A man was charged following a situation in York Hall 11:16 p.m. Monday, March 14. Officers responded to the fourth floor of the hall following a report of the smell of marijuana. The odor was traced to a room and contact was made with the residents. At first, the residents of the room became



POLICEBEAT

By Kyle Webster
Staff Reporter

defensive and demanded to know why the officers were there. They were uncooperative, and accused the officers of entrapment. They denied entry to the room, so the officers asked all inhabitants to come out to the hallway. Officers asked if they could check the pockets of Daniel Buck, 20, of Orono. He said yes. A glass pipe with marijuana residue was found in his pocket. As a result, he was issued a summons for possession of drug paraphernalia.

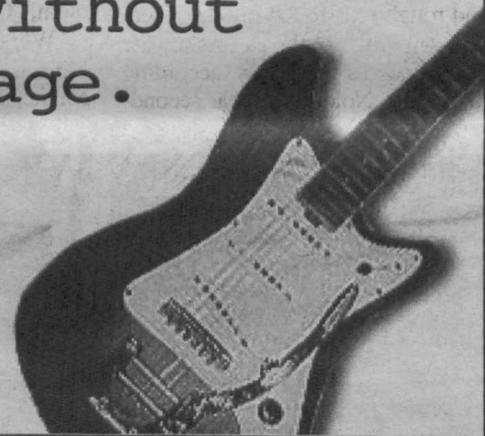
Traffic stop leads to arrest

A man was arrested following a traffic stop on Rangely Road 1:30 a.m. Friday, March 4. An officer monitoring traffic in the area observed a vehicle that appeared to strike the island at the Belgrade spur and then drive the wrong way in the exit area. The vehicle was stopped. Upon initial contact with the driver, the smell of alcohol was detected.

The driver identified himself verbally, stating that he did not have his license on him and that he was unfamiliar with campus. A male passenger in the back seat of the vehicle then began to vomit out the back door. An ambulance was called for the man. Following field sobriety testing, it was determined that the driver should not have been driving. It was also discovered that he had identified himself falsely. He was identified as Jeremy Mountain, 21, of Bangor. He was arrested of operating under the influence and transported to Penobscot County Jail. His blood alcohol level was found to be .14. The vehicle was searched and the corner of a plastic baggy with white powder in it was found in the center console. The powder tested positive for cocaine. Further charges are pending following a review of this case.

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THE MAINE
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REMINDER

ALL STUDENT GOVERNMENT BOARD,
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION,
COMMITTEE & CLUB MEMBERS

Budget packets for the 2005-2006 fiscal year are available now in the Student Government Financial Affairs Office (FAO), Room 152, on the ground floor of Memorial Union during regular office hours. These packets can be obtained on a daily basis through the deadline date of Friday, March 25, 2005. Some organizations have been assigned mailboxes in the Wade Center for Student Leadership. For these organizations, the packets have been placed in there already.

There has been a change that began last year where the only organizations that need an appointment scheduled with the VPFA are Board and Community Association representatives. A list of appointment times will be available in the FAO for these organizations.

REQUIREMENTS: Your club must be considered active, attained final approval status and the president and treasurer must be undergraduate students. To check your clubs status, please come to the FAO as soon as possible.

DEADLINE: Completed forms must be submitted to the FAO by Friday, March 25, 2005

For more information, contact Sue Ash at 1-1778.



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Alternative Spring Breakers help Fla. dolphins

By Angela Flandaca
Staff Reporter

Most college students prefer to spend their spring break lounging on a sandy beach listening to waves crashing on the shore, instead of working 40-plus hours a week. Ten students from the University of Maine's Alternative Spring Break (ASB) program chose to spend 500 hours collectively picking up trash on a Florida beach. These students spent time in freezing cold water while attempting to save the lives of beached dolphins.

While the students' own lives were forever changed by the experience, they admit it was bittersweet.

"It seemed like we were picking up after everyone else all week," said Kaylee Cooper, fourth-year nutrition major, referring to the trash along the beach and the speculation that the dolphins might have been beached due to human influence.

The group of students contributed five days of volunteer service to various projects in Marathon Key, Florida.

They spent time clearing trash from a beach so that sea turtles will have a place to lay their eggs in May. If the beach does not appear clean and an adequate place for laying eggs, the turtles will not stay there. If they do not lay eggs this May, they will not lay eggs at all this year. The beach had not been cleaned in two years, and after recent hurricanes and rough seas following the recent tsunami in Southeast Asia, the trashload was enormous, according to Christie Nold, third-year second-

ary education major.

"It's one thing to say you care about the environment, but it's another thing to get out there and actually do something about it," Cooper said.

Lindsay Landroche, fourth-year elementary education major said that caring was in the 10 students' nature on this trip when on their one free day off to enjoy the hot weather and beautiful scenery they all decided to drive two hours away at 1:30 a.m. to where about 70 dolphins were stranded in shallow water.

"Right away it was like, 'let's do it!'" she said.

Without hesitation, the 10 students slipped into already damp wetsuits and headed into the dark, cold water during the "graveyard shift" 4 a.m. to 8 a.m. on March 2 to help save animals, which most of the students feared.

"It was such a moving experience for all of us that we didn't even think about ourselves. We thought about what a wonderful experience it was," Landroche said.

"Everyone in the group was just so willing to help these dolphins," Nold said.

For volunteer Rachel Zawacki, second-year international affairs major, it was a dream come true.

"It was one of my life's dreams fulfilled that day," she said "You can pay to swim with dolphins, but you can't pay to hold them and help them," Cooper said.

While it was described as a humbling experience for students from Maine, it was also an emergency sit-

uation requiring dedicated volunteers. Out of the 28 people who signed up to volunteer, only 14 volunteers showed up to get into the water with the dolphins. 10 of those 14 were from UMaine.

"If the 10 of us hadn't shown up, I don't know what they would've done," Landroche said.

The dehydrated, shivering cold and exhausted rough-tooth dolphins appeared more than thankful to be held up in the water, according to Nold.

"I felt they knew we were helping. You didn't feel a resistance. They were really relying on us," Landroche said.

The volunteers held the dolphins by their dorsal fins and underneath their bodies to ensure their blow holes were kept above water so the dolphins could breathe. The animals were so weak that when the volunteers let go even slightly, they could feel the dolphins going under water.

"They placed so much trust in us," Landroche said. "It was a big responsibility."

"We gave the dolphins a group of 10 people who really loved them," Nold said. "We made that time comfortable for those dolphins. I can't imagine how uncomfortable it would've been without us there."

Despite hours spent in the water with these dolphins, not all could be saved. Many of the dolphins died or were euthanized after the UMaine students left.

"I was in denial about that," said Vanessa Morin, second-year secondary education major.

"Learning that some of them



COURTESY PHOTO KAYLEE COOPER

LET'S SWIM — Marathon Key, Fla. offered students on the Alternative Spring Break trip an opportunity to work hands-on with dolphins.

died was probably the hardest thing about the trip," Nold said. "However, I was glad that even if we couldn't save their lives, we were with these dolphins for the last hours they were alive."

"Even if every single one of them was euthanized or died, we'd never feel that [it was not worth helping]," Cooper said.

Although every part of the five-day service trip made an impact on the students' lives, the unexpected two-hour trip to help stranded dolphins was overwhelmingly the most rewarding part about volunteering.

"Trash is something that can be picked up any week, but the dolphins were sick then [at that moment]," Morin said.

"It's unbelievable what 10 people can accomplish in a week,"

Landroche said.

Zawacki referred to it as a really surreal experience.

"That's one of the defining moments in life that you have," Zawacki said. "It was just precious and wonderful."

Some might consider the work of the volunteers came at too high of a price as spring break only comes once a year. Those who participated in this year's ASB program have a different perspective.

"It was more rewarding for us to make a difference in the time that we had a break than to just sit on a beach," Cooper said.

Others who participated in this project included Rachel Maloney-Hawkins, Ashley Adams, Matt Sullivan, Caroline Seastrom and Jason Saucier.

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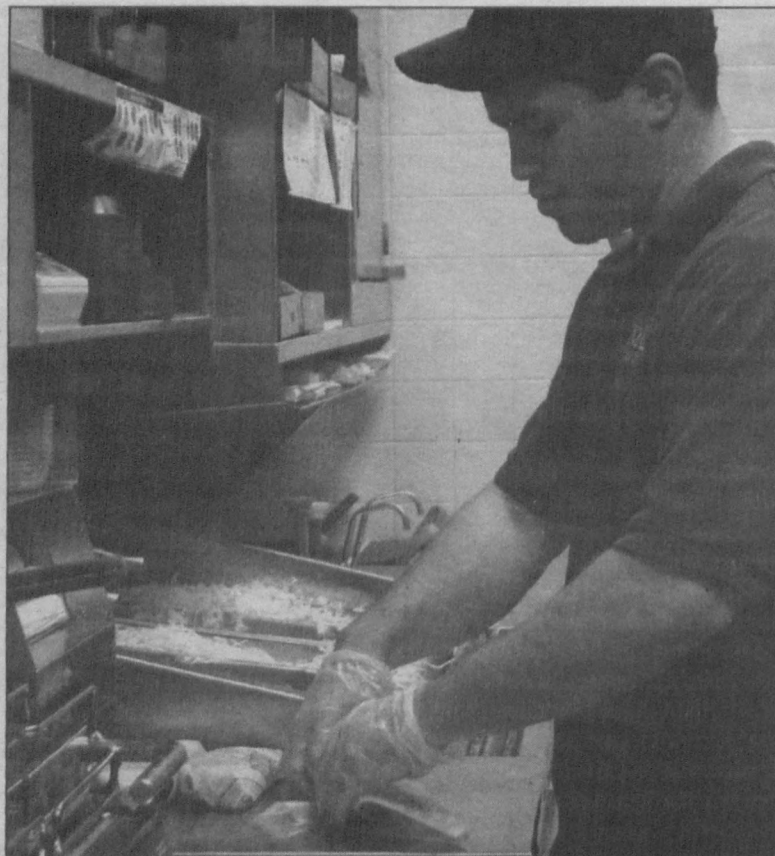
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LAST CALL FOR APPLICANTS





CAMPUS PHOTO BY MELISSA ARMES

WRAP — Nick Karahalios, a sophomore, wraps a freshly-made taco at Memorial Union's Taco Bell Wednesday night.

TACO

From Page 1

in the PSA's Orono boycott, commented on the successful dinner.

"I think that the dinner was really successful, free food always works," Allen said.

During the dinner, PSA also directed its attention towards parent company Yum! Food brands.

"We sent around 40 postcards to the CEO of Yum! Food brands," Bigney said. "So knowing that only two weeks later the boycott ended was exciting."

Wertheim touched upon the negative feedback and how he dealt with it.

"I tried to explain the effects and that enough people can band together to get something done," Wertheim said. "A big part of what our group is about is that often low numbers and grass roots stuff can cause change."

"I found word of mouth was a big component when getting the message across," Allen said. "It seemed to be a little controversial for some people, so they would

talk about it."

Allen said the group could have made more of an impact if the boycott lasted longer on campus.

"I think we have made a dent," she said. "But if the campaign had continued I would like to think that we would have gotten to reach to more to people."

However, Allen said she was pleased with how things ended with the campaign.

"I am happy with how it ended," she said. "The point wasn't to kick Taco Bell off campus for the sake of kicking it off campus. The point was to get Taco Bell to work with us."

Bigney said the resolution with Taco Bell will lead the group to various endeavors in the future.

"There is a lot more that goes way beyond Taco Bell," Bigney said. "I think the Progressive Student Alliance is going to take a look at coffee next, there is a lot of coffee that is consumed on this campus."

"We are just stepping back and celebrating this victory and saluting Taco Bell for making this change," she said. "Everyone should now go and have a chalupa."

MOXIE

From Page 1

they can do anything.

Founded in Lowell, Mass. by Union, Maine native Dr. Augustin Thompson, Moxie was the first mass-marketed soft drink, long before Pepsi-Cola and Coca-Cola came on the scene. It was closely associated with amusement parks, resorts, and dance halls.

As time progressed and Coke and Pepsi gained popularity, Moxie regressed to its roots in New England where it is still hard to find at times. But fortunately, there are still those who come out of the woodwork to support something they hold dear to their hearts.

The town of Lisbon Falls holds its Moxie Festival that attracts more than 20,000 lovers of the beverage. People come to see the parade and "Moxie Chugging Contest," among other events.

In the Maine Senate, where the proposed budget and bond package had been creating a lot of fric-



Schneider

tion, Moxie had a way of bringing both Democrats and Republicans together. Sen. Elizabeth Schneider, D-Orono, enjoyed the effect that Moxie had on the Senate floor after the bill was put on the table.

"Both sides of the aisle got talking about Moxie and many people have connections to Moxie one way or another," Schneider said. "It created an interesting dialog that brought people together." She said that it was nice to have something that they could all agree upon and take a break from the daily grind of the usual legislative business.

As the bill passes through the Legislature in the next two weeks, supporters hope a new era for Moxie lovers will be reigned in, especially for those Mainers who have the moxie to drink it.

"Perhaps it will help ensure Moxie's survival into and throughout this new millennium," said UMaine alumna Jennifer Adams. "It's just with the more popular brands of soda like Pepsi and Coke, it's kind of nice to see an older soda brand continue on."

So the next time you are in the soda isle and you see the oh-so-familiar orange label with the Moxie Man pointing at you and telling you to "Drink Moxie," remember to "Just make it Moxie for Maine."

PRESIDENT

From Page 1

University of Maine. Prior to his current position, he was the provost for the university. He received his Ph.D. in botany from the University of California-Berkeley.

He has taught or served on the administration at the University of Maryland, Ohio State University, Washington State University, Texas A&M University and the University of Iowa.

A former member of the U.S. military, Kennedy served as a

program director for the National Science Foundation.

Mary Ann Rankin is the dean of the College of Natural Sciences at the University of Texas-Austin. She received her Ph.D. in physiology and behavior from the University of Iowa and is a biologist by training.

The former chair of UT-Austin's Division of Biological Sciences, Rankin spent time in New England at the Marine Biological Laboratories in Woods Hole, Mass.

The UMaine president is responsible for overseeing the universities six colleges, 508 full-time faculty, 11,300 students and numerous buildings.

STABBING

From Page 1

Gardiner claims that he never actually used the knife, according to Ushuaia club owner, Alex Gray.

"The guy involved said he didn't stab anyone, and at this point, I'd tend to believe him," Gray said.

Gray was restraining Gardiner on the ground when police arrived, he thought initially that a stabbing had occurred, but is unsure that it actually happened after more information has been released. "This really has been sensationalized," Gray said.

Gray explained that the wounds were all minor, pointing out that the abdomen puncture was cared for with two band-aids. Regardless of these claims, Orono police are taking the incident extremely seriously, according to detective Andrew Whitehouse.

"We're investigating this as an incident involving a stabbing," Whitehouse said. "We have the medical records to go from."

Several attendants of the club reported pat-downs being conducted by club bouncers. According to Gray, this is standard procedure and occurs every weekend.

"We started doing pat-downs several weekends before this incident," Gray said.

According to Whitehouse, heightened security would assist in preventing incidents like this, but is not necessarily realistic in an area like Orono.

"This isn't something occurring every weekend here," Whitehouse said. "Do I think it could happen again? Sure, and metal detectors and pat-downs would help."

Whitehouse said that no change in policy has yet been brought out because of this incident, but encouraged club-goers to be safe.

"Obviously we don't always know what is going to happen next," Whitehouse said. "I think we're living in a day and age when you can't be too cautious."

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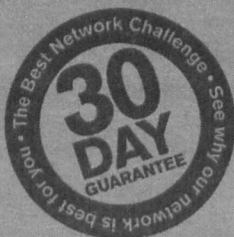
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STUDENT SENATE NOTES

GSS hears ROC appeal, demands FEPC chair apologize

By Samantha White
For The Maine Campus

The General Student Senate held a special meeting Tuesday night to discuss the three violations that the Fair Election Practice Commission made during the Residents On Campus elections during the period of February 21-22.

The first alleged violation was that the election time was changed with no notification to the voters. Due to technical problems, the elections, which were scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. and end at 5 p.m., started at approximately 12 p.m. and ended at 8 p.m. FEPC chair Eric DeGrass admitted that this violation was committed, but at no one's fault. He explained that voting online will always pose a problem with timing. Even in a normal election, the voting icon that appears on the FirstClass desktop usually cannot be opened until a half an hour after the elections begin. DeGrass said it was still very easy for students to vote despite the problem.

"Voters always have the option to fill out of paper ballot. I was in the office all day, not one person came to vote," he said.

He said he answered every e-mail that came to him regarding the election, although he received only a handful of e-mails. The current vice president of ROC, Brian Brown, said he felt that this violation could have had an impact on the election results. DeGrass said he disagreed.

"I think that every voter that wanted to vote got that chance," he said.

The senate voted on a movement to not recognize this violation, and it passed.

The second alleged violation was that graduate students were not allowed to participate in the election. According to the ROC Constitution, all students in good standing can vote. But, according to past elections, graduate students were never eligible to vote in ROC. Not only that, DeGrass was informed that there were 10 graduate students living on campus.

He said that not one of these graduate students e-mailed him, nor came in to try and fill out a paper ballot.

Unofficially, the difference between first and second place was in the vicinity of 108 votes. Even if every graduate student on campus voted, it would have in no way affected the outcome of the election. The senate also voted to not recognize this second violation, and it passed.

The third alleged violation was that the three candidates did not witness the drawing of the order that the names for vice president on the ballot. Senator Heidi Warphol said it was unclear how this would have an affect on the outcome of the election.

"It doesn't really matter who was there, it's not going to change the outcome of the order," she said.

Candidate Christine Mullen said that was not the point.

"This is about protocol. If this was broken, what else could have been broken?" she said.

The three candidates all said that

the elections should be redone. Senator Elizabeth Anderson disagreed.

"Is this worthy enough to redo a whole election? The order didn't have anything to do with it. These people are not bad or malicious, just new. There should be some sort of training involved instead of just handing them the guidelines," she said.

A movement was put forth for DeGrass to write a formal, professional letter of apology to all of the candidates. He said he is also not going to accept any money for doing this election. President Kate O'Brien disagreed with the movement.

"I personally do not feel comfortable having senators vote to tell them they have to apologize, I don't feel they need to be humiliated. I'll do it, that's my job," she said.

The senate still decided to vote on this movement and it passed.

Several things were also discussed at the regular meeting. The board of trustees report given by Brandon Libby had several things

on the agenda. The Alford Arena expansion will continue with the extension of the Bear Necessities store complete with new memorabilia, costing a total of \$720,000. There will also be the addition of six more sky boxes in the Alford, which will cost a total of \$600,000. These projects are being financed through internal borrowing.

Several dorms on campus are also going to be renovated. In 2005, Gannet, Hart and York construction will begin.

"Fire code is not up to date. They will work on sprinklers, fire alarms, and asbestos removal," Libby said.

The last, order of business was an act to allocate \$6,052 to the Sophomore Owls for the Battle of the Bands Event. The Sophomore Owls plan to make this battle bigger and better than before, complete with a half pipe show with an extreme skate team. The Owls have also been fundraising on their own, as this event will cost somewhere in the vicinity of \$12,000. This resolution passed.

For Rep. Emily Cain, Orono is a priority

Freshman legislator, UMaine alumna 'excited' about representing district

By Andrew Knapp
For The Maine Campus

Augusta is shrouded in droopy, dark clouds as Emily Cain rounds the bend on Capitol Street at 9 a.m., headed for her new job. Her 80-mile commute through the rain and fog is all but forgotten when the green dome of the Maine State House comes into view.

"Every day, I come around the corner and see the capitol dome and get so excited," said the freshman representative from Orono.

For Cain, 24, the state capitol building has been her destination almost every day since being sworn into office Dec. 1, 2004 as the youngest member of the 122nd Legislature. She was joined that day by the oldest, Walt Wheeler, 79, of Kittery.

While the first session of the House is usually reserved for initiating freshman, Cain's group had to address the pressing property tax issue. For Cain, there was so much to learn and so little.

But being employed as the youngest legislator for only two months hasn't prevented Cain from branding her mark on state government already. To date, she has sponsored or cosponsored 27 bills to the House, many of those pertaining to higher education.

Cain graduated summa cum laude from the University of Maine with highest honors in 2002, majoring in music education. She cofounded the Renaissance Singers, the UMaine female a cappella group, and still uses her talents to periodically perform the national anthem before session.

She's currently employed part-time as the coordinator of advancement in the Honors College. As an alumna, she supports her alma mater and the town in which it's located by displaying the Black Bear license plate rather than a legislative tag on her car.

"I love my district," she said. "I feel very lucky. I cannot be a representative from a lot of places, but I can be the representative from Orono."

Cain likens a freshman legislator to a freshman college student.

"Just as in college, there are many new avenues to explore," she said. "But you have to get involved. Things aren't just going to show up in front of you."

Cain was granted a seat on the Joint Standing Committee of Education and Cultural Affairs. Speaker John Richardson also appointed her to the New England Board of Higher Education. With an undergraduate degree in music education and master's degree in higher education from Harvard, Cain is a voice for post-secondary education on both committees. As she arrives at her desk, she explained the clutter. "One of the funniest things about being a representative is, when you come in every morning, there is stuff on your desk like you wouldn't believe," she said.

Piled around seat number 46 are various handouts "from about a million people," 10 phone messages, a package of free handgun locks and a sprawl of papers.

"I keep Tylenol and Advil in my desk for a good reason," she said.

Every piece of literature Cain doesn't keep, she will donate to the Orono Public Library. She said it's an easy way to help her constituents informed.

After opening her mail and grabbing breakfast, Cain sits down at the calendar caucus, a meeting of freshman legislators meant to prompt the bunch through legislative procedure.

"It's a learning environment," Cain said. "When that parliamentary procedure you've heard about becomes reality, it helps to have people teach you as you go along."

Soon, the bell rings, signaling the House is ready to convene.

Just before the speaker approach-



FILE PHOTO

LET'S TALK — Orono Representative Emily Cain chats with student Peter Hagopian last November, during election season. Cain won the election and now represents Orono in Augusta.

es the podium, Rep. Dick Blanchard of Old Town asked the freshman legislators to sign a framed photo.

"When you become governor, I'll have proof that I knew you," Blanchard said.

According to Cain, she and three other representatives under 30, belong to the "Kiddy Caucus."

One member, Jeremy Fischer of Presque Isle, only two months older than Cain, said youth is a powerful tool.

"She's a necessary voice for the Orono population," Fisher said. "Since she's the only young person on the education committee, she really takes it to us on education issues to ensure funding."

But that's not the only thing Cain helped with.

"She took my place as the youngest person here," Fisher said. "That's not the mantle you want to carry in Augusta, so I bought her dinner after she was elected to thank her. She's very intelligent, very charismatic. That's a good thing to be around here."

Others agreed.

"She's the brightest girl here," said Rep. Stan Gerzofsky of Brunswick. "She's very mature, too."

Throughout the next eight hours of committee meetings, Cain listened to more than 50 people testify on education issues. She heard testimonies of crying mothers and laughing children.

Despite the tedious work that takes place in a sweltering room, Cain said she isn't frustrated.

"It can be challenging at times," she said. "I'm dying to help people, but sometimes there just isn't enough money. That's why it's important to ask the right questions and get the right answers."

By the time Cain exits the committee room, it's past 9 p.m., more than 12 hours since she began her day in Augusta. She won't make it back to Orono and her husband because it's so late. Instead, she stays in a hotel just to go back to the House early in the morning.

"At the end of the day, it's worth all the hard work," she said. "The best thing about being a representative is meeting new people. I love to serve my constituents in Orono. They elected me. Now I have to satisfy their needs."

During her campaign, Cain knocked on every door in town and stood outside dining commons on campus for 15 nights in the cold. It

paid off. Cain ended up capturing 62 percent of the vote in Orono.

Mary Cathcart, a former legislator from Orono who recruited Cain to run, said the freshman legislator can go nowhere but up.

"She's attractive, talented and serious about her goals in life," Cathcart said. "She has a bright future because of her ability to work with different kinds of people."

In less than two years, Cain will decide whether to run for re-election. If she does, a re-election campaign will take the same effort it took initially. With thousands of residents graduating each year, new voters come in, and she'll plead for their votes all over again.

For now, Cain is making the best of it.

Seven years ago, after moving from New Jersey and attending UMaine, she never imagined she would be a representative.

"I tell my friends from New Jersey what I do, and they don't believe me," she said.

And she still can't imagine what she'll be doing years from now.

"I've learned that you can't plan too far ahead," Cain said. "Things happen for a reason, and I just go with the flow."

UM professors explore term limits in book

By Riley Donovan
For The Maine Campus

Richard Powell, a professor of political science at the University of Maine, recently coauthored a book on the effects of term limits on the Maine Legislature. Kenneth Palmer and Matthew Moen, two former UMaine professors, joined Powell in his study.

In their book, "Changing Members: The Maine Legislature in the Era of Term Limits," the authors make no argument for or against term limits. They do present a detailed look at the effects that term limits have had on the state of Maine, as well as other states that have implemented some sort of limits on their elected representatives.

In 1993 Maine voters approved term limits. Nearly 70 percent of Maine voters voted in favor of term limits. In 1996 the state became the first to enforce term limits on its leaders in the state legislature. That year 26 members of the Maine State House and four members of the State Senate were ineligible to run. Other states have followed Maine's lead. There are currently 15 states that have term limit laws. Six other states had term limits at one point, but have repealed them.

Voters hoped that term limits would help prevent legislators from

becoming professional politicians. Powell said that while term limits have made it impossible to make a career out of legislative service, they have also had unintended consequences.

"You have a lot less experience," he said. "You can only serve eight years before you have to leave."

Powell said that the inexperience of legislators leads to problems that have to be solved elsewhere.

"Staff members who work for the Legislature become much more important," Powell said.

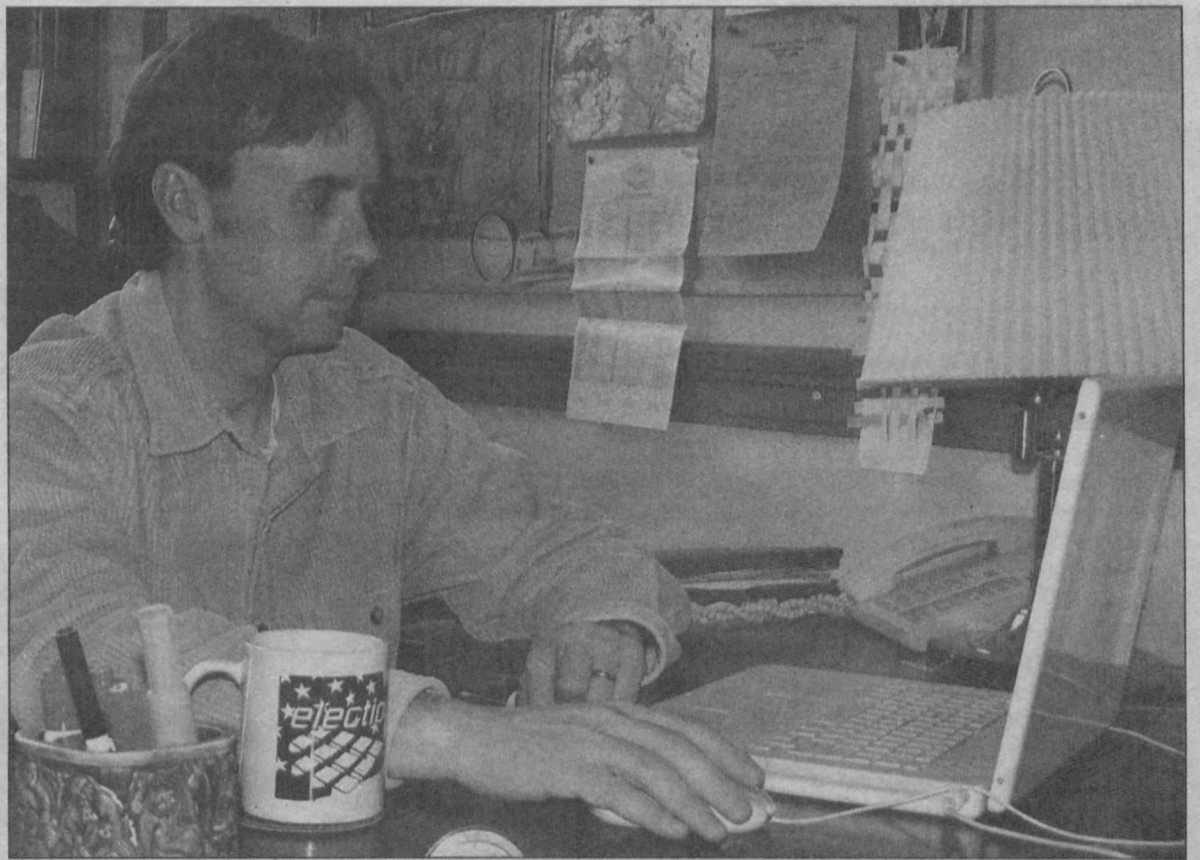
He said that term limits have made the legislative branch less powerful as a whole.

"The governor and the executive branch have become much more powerful," Powell said. "Because they have a lot more experience than the legislators themselves."

The authors point out both the positive and the negative points of term limits. They preface their book by saying they will not attempt to resolve the issue of term limits, but rather inform and chronicle a discussion that they say has taken place in Maine for more than a decade.

In the book, the authors point out that the book also offers lessons for states "that are not as far down the term limits path."

Powell said he is unsure of what the future of term limits will be.



CAMPUS PHOTO BY STACY ALEXANDER

THE TERMINATOR — UMaine professor Richard Powell works in his office. Powell recently finished a book with colleagues on legislative term limits.

"The effort to impose [term limits] in places where they don't already exist has basically disappeared," he said.

Powell said there are also current members of the state Legislature who would like to see changes to the current system in Maine. He said there are bills to both repeal term limits and extend them to as much as 12 years, which would give members

six terms before they would be forced out. Currently no member of the legislature can serve more than four consecutive elected terms in the same house.

Powell said he is hesitant to take sides on the issue, but he realizes potential problems with extending term limits.

"Extending probably means that term limits don't have very much of

an affect at all," he said. "Among the legislators there is a consensus that term limits are a bad thing."

He said that legislators are hesitant to repeal term limits because it was the voters of Maine who put term limits in place.

"Polls right now suggest most Maine people support term limits," Powell said. "Mainers have shown the ability to change their mind also."

Pissed off? Tell us about it.

Mike Melochick
Opinion Editor
581-3061



Attention Future Teachers!

The Mathematics and Science Future Teachers Club Welcomes

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with her keynote address

Preparing to Teach in the 21st Century

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March 26, 2005

8:30 am – 3:00 pm

Donald P. Corbett Hall



featuring workshop presentations by educators and administrators
on topics in Math, Science and Technology.

The keynote address is free and open to the public!

A continental breakfast will be served at 8:30 am, and the keynote address will begin at 9:00 am.

Register for the remainder of the conference March 14th – 18th in the Wade Leadership Center.

Registration is \$10. Space is limited.

Breakfast, lunch, and certificate of attendance will be provided.

Contact Laura Bolstridge at Laura.Bolstridge@umit.maine.edu for more information.

Chalupas, victory taste sweet for PSA

It is refreshing to see that the initiative by University of Maine students resulted in actual change on a corporate level. For over four years there has been a national boycott of Taco Bell. In an unprecedented move this past Tuesday, Yum! Food Brands agreed to work the Coalition of Immokalee Workers. In the agreement they will pay the Taco Bell workers a penny-per-pound and plans to address working conditions.

Nearly one month ago the boycott at UMaine was started by students in the Progressive Student Alliance. They collected hundreds of signatures and held events educating the campus on the subject.

"It goes to show that people make a difference and what we do can create change," said Sarah Bigney, initiator of the boycott on campus and secretary of PSA. "It's great because being the largest restaurant chain in the world it's very groundbreaking and hopefully sets a precedent in the fast-food industry."

Proposed bill lacks 'Moxie' to become law

While Maine may currently have a state insect and state bird the recent legislative bill proposing Moxie as the official state soft drink is frivolity at its best. With so many problems plaguing this state such as health care, layoffs and over-taxation, the state Legislature should be focusing on more pertinent issues than such an insignificant issue as the state drink.

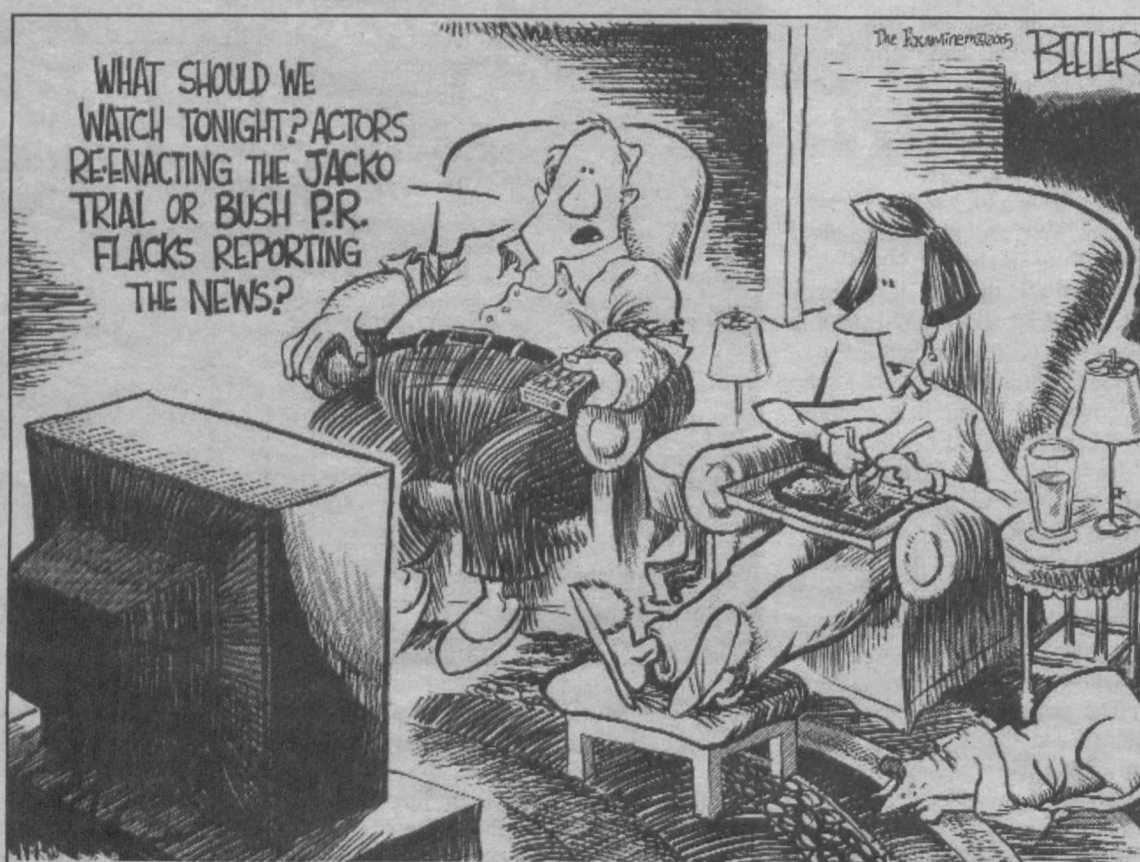
That being said, Moxie may have been popular with an older generation but it has lost its literal moxie. Most young people today do not even know what Moxie is and those who do don't enjoy its taste. While adding Moxie as the state soft drink may please the older generation, factors like its limited availability and its virtual non-existence in the commercial market raise concerns.

If Maine really needs to have a state beverage, Moxie is certainly not it. Perhaps it was 30 years ago, but today a drink like Poland Springs would be a more viable choice.

SOAP BOX

THE MAINE
CAMPUS
Opinion-Editorial

THURSDAY



Execute the death penalty

Capital punishment not the answer to deterring crime

Remember the wild teenage weekends spent camping and sharing bottles of coffee brandy stolen from Grandma's liquor cabinet? How about cutting class in high school to head to the quarry for an impromptu cliff-jumping session? Or what about the time you and some friends hid behind the hedge on Main Street and pegged passing traffic with rocks? OK, so these are my memories I'm projecting as the universal stereotype of adolescence, but they all fall under the same heading: youthful indiscretions. No doubt, you can add your own hilarious hijinks to the list. So, too, can the Supreme Court of the United States; two weeks ago, the Court voted 5-to-4 to add murder to the list of youthful indiscretions by nullifying the death penalty

AARON
BARNES



HEAD COPY EDITOR

for underage killers.

The Court ruled that executing minor murderers violates the Eight Amendment's ban on "cruel and unusual punishment." My question is this: When is executing any human being not "cruel and unusual?" The decision has the Supreme Court split, with Justice Antonin Scalia lambasting his fellow justices for implying that "American law should conform to the laws of the rest of the world." What should be an issue

of the basest of human rights — the right to life — has been cemented as a political volleyball. This isn't an issue of religious beliefs or politics. Instead, it is a reflection of the absurdity with which we govern ourselves as a society. We accept that humans are fallible beings who frequently make mistakes and improper decisions, even when confronted with evidence that directly refutes our position. We are a biased and highly subjective species. With this in mind, why do we think that we have the authority to make the ultimate decision with regards to a person's life?

Condemning a person to death is an irreversible decision. I've yet to run into someone

See DEATH on Page 9

Letters to the Editor

• IT's side of the story

As a reader of The Maine Campus and an employee of the IT Help Center, I found your recent article regarding our service to be slanderous and non-objective. It seems almost as if the reporter wrote the article with the intent to slam IT and that there was nothing that

would change his mind about this. His lack of objectivity is seen right from the start where he starts off with "Unanswered calls, no e-mail replies and slow service." This could not be further from the truth.

The IT Help center has an average service percentage — percentage of calls answered

before the customer hangs up — of 78.3 percent over the past few weeks. This is above the average for most IT businesses and is among the highest on campus.

E-mails are low in terms of priority and most people are aware of this. Thus, we only

See LETTERS on Page 9

Skirting the issue

Females look into Oval Office

DUSTY
LAVOIE



FOR THE MAINE CAMPUS

Regardless of their denial of presidential intentions, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Sen. Hilary Clinton have been frequently talking around the possibility of running for president in 2008 as of late.

Whether the rumors originated within their respective circles or from some other non-affiliated source remains to be seen. What can be said is that there is a high probability that either Condi or Hilary, or even both, will be at the forefront of the '08 primaries.

The question, then, is not whether or not it will happen, because it seems quite likely at this point. The real crux of the issue is whether or not the American people are ready for a female president.

After over two hundred years of a patriarchal government, one would think that in this age of equal rights, affirmative action, non-discrimination, and supposed cultural tolerance, the issue would be, well, a non-issue. After all, can presidential success really be determined by whether one's genitalia are internal or external?

Of course, it's not that simple. The reasons for that, it seems, are not based on biology: For example, gender and intelligence, ethics, politics or policies. Instead, the reasons why this country is not ready for a female president are inherently social.

They are social because, in 2005, a woman still makes three-quarters what a man makes for doing the same job. They are social because, in 2005, a woman who has pursuits outside the home must still satisfy the traditional expecta-

See 2008 on Page 9

Letters to the editor

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

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THE MAINE
CAMPUS

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DEATH

From Page 8

who's been resurrected, and I'm quite sure medical science won't harness the technology of reanimation in the near future. To have such a sentence handed down by one human to another is simply illogical. If even one innocent man has been the victim of unjust capital punishment, then the death penalty has failed us all. The argument that the death penalty is the ultimate deterrent against murder is certainly solid, until one realizes that this argument is a straw man raised to move attention away from the pertinent issue — that of our fallibility as humans. Imperfect and subjective humans should never be tasked with deciding whether another human has the right to live or die. I'm not sure if some omnipotent god-figure granted each of us life, but I do know that I was never given the right to take another human's life. Even if we exist in an infinite random universe that operates with the imprecision of a craps

table, there exists no rule book that states that I have the ability to remove others from the game as I see fit.

Debating the nuances of the death penalty is akin to debating whether or not it is better to have the right leg amputated over the left. Either way, the handicap is the same. In this same way, we shift the debate from the entire issue of capital punishment to its meaningless details. Rationalizing state-sanctioned murder in exchange for another murder is folly, and it highlights the tragic irony with which we exist as social beings. Until we can be sure — without exception — that convicted killers really are killers, support of capital punishment is support of a mechanism of death that may be applied in error. Incarcerate the convicted killers and let your god sort out their fate at a later date. Supreme Court justices are made of the same imperfect flesh and bone as you and I. Let's hope they keep that in mind they next time they rule on capital punishment.

Aaron Barnes is senior English major.

2008

From Page 8

tions of wife, mother, and household attendant. They are social because, in 2005, the notion of a woman in a position of great power scares many Americans.

I've encountered a few rationales for fearing a woman in power. One, which I've heard many times, is that it is not necessarily us who has the problem, but other countries. They are the ones, the argument goes, who might perceive our country as being weak should a woman hold presidency. For that reason, we cannot put the country in danger by electing a woman solely in the name of equality.

This argument seems fair, but why exactly is it that it's never our fault, and always "theirs"? Is it really our fear of perceived weakness that unnerves us, or is it some other, more personal reason, one that cannot be blamed on the ever-popular "them"?

Perhaps the real reason why Americans aren't ready to say "the President and the First Gentleman" is that it is still not socially acceptable for a woman to exhibit rational control, unwavering confidence, or social domination. When a woman who is firm and sure of herself confronts and attempts to educate, inform, or persuade others, she is often referred to as a bitch. Yet a man who is under control, is sure of himself, and attempts to dominate others is simply "a good leader."

Why the double standard? Will our skewed perceptions of female empowerment ever allow for a woman president? Will this country ever renounce its patriarchal reign over half its population? Will the people of America ever shed their Puritanical heritage?

These are all good questions, I'd say. What is more important, though, is whether or not anyone thinks about them.

Dusty Lavoie is a senior secondary education in English major.

LETTERS

From Page 8

answer e-mails when we are currently not busy with a customer or computer. Even considering that, e-mails generally get answered within a day or less and rarely are any e-mails left unanswered.

While a week, or two on a really bad week, may seem like a while for your computer to get fixed, keep in mind that you will be hard-pressed to find any computer service — even if all they do is fix computers — that will fix your computer, and do it well within a week, considering that we receive about 4-8 computers a day.

Also, Bennett Fellows is not an IT professional and as far as I can tell has no credentials with IT or computer services. As it is,

he is not a credible source and his comments were useless and not factual. E-mail is the most practical system for an automated message.

In addition, if your internet is shut off, it is not that hard to see if your roommate has internet or to call the IT Help Center. Additionally, Paul Nickerson was not entirely factual. We don't have 10,001 things to fix — we have a select few things that could be improved and 10,001 things would be really useful — for example: getting someone to re-make the IT Help Center website.

I could continue with this but feel that any additional comments would be useless. In closing, please make sure that you present both sides of a story and please make sure you have the correct information.

*Ian Riley
Tier II Tech*

A new meaning for March Madness

Spring Break signifies beginning of the end for school

Welcome back. Welcome to the final leg and the precarious balancing act of absolute disregard or maybe disinterest for school with the subtle, ever-so-soft-voice whispering graduation, GPA, grad school, don't give up now, etc. This first week back has been a show of meek moral fortitude, dragging myself to class only to daydream them all away.

A 75-degree day in Fort Meyers Florida. On an absolutely perfect day we sat in the stands watching spring training baseball. 20-oz. beers for five dollars, warm sun and sausage. It's not that it was Spring Break — it was that summer had finally come to relieve us all of dreary winter.

Bases loaded, down by three, Ortiz is up. An inning earlier, the sun started burning my knees and arms so I put on sunscreen. The bases are loaded an inning later and everyone knows what will happen here. We're all waiting for it. When it does — and of course it does — everyone is standing, cheering. I smell summer, beer and sunscreen; I didn't notice it then, but sitting here now, I can see and smell it all.

Sitting in a drafty room in Maine I focus my eyes to the present. I am sitting in a class staring at the professor, really through him, 1,700 miles back to the ballpark. At least it looks as though I'm focusing on him because he's excitedly lecturing to me. Or maybe he knows where I was and while I was lost he was gone himself.

Thursday night is St. Patrick's

NATE
KATZ

FOR THE MAINE CAMPUS

Day. I have all this work to do before. And as soon as I can, I'm going to put on my most Irish outfit; not some Celtics jersey, but dressed to the nines. Whatever Irish nines might be. Last year I remember a sign on our door saying no entrance without Irish

"It's not that it was
Spring Break — it
was that summer
had finally come to
relieve us all of a
dreary winter."

Nate Katz,
for
The Maine Campus

brogue. Lots of loud Irish music, Guinness, whiskey and some attempts at that famous Irish dish. Ham? Corn Beef Hash? That part of the memory slipped away.

I get lost thinking about this St. Patrick's Day. The Napper Tannies at Bear Brew; I'll spill lots of beer on myself and others and have the favor returned. I'll get jostled and we'll pack in tighter, singing as

loud as we can the words that we know to any and all songs that are played. I remember some racy moments from last year and it makes me smile enough to bring me back to the present.

Like a climber digging desperately into a rock face or a swimmer clawing at shifting sand as he is dragged back into a faceless ocean I try to stay in the present unsuccessfully; the here and now of drafty ill-lit classrooms with paint peels hanging from the walls can't hold my attention.

In seven weeks I'll graduate from here. My four-year love affair — stormy, often tepid and frequently ignored — is gone and I didn't even say goodbye.

I want a tandem bicycle. I want to be wearing my robe, or whatever graduation dress is called, and riding happily down a warm sunny street to the amicable split. We'll be happy and careless, drunk and not thinking. Simply enjoying the moment.

It's right upon me now and all I can think of is where a bicycle built for two could be had and where will we all get together afterwards.

Class is over. I've tried to clear my mind of everything but this final push towards the end but failed. Dry topics made more so by recollections of warmth and oceans, drinks and excitement and happily weaving bikes in the full spring heading towards the eventual end have stolen me away from the little time left.

Nate Katz is a senior broadcast journalism major.

Help! My campus is on fire

Recent fire safety campaign on campus a mere false alarm

Well, the campus isn't actually on fire, but it sure seems that way lately. If you live on campus and you have working eyes, you have noticed the firestorm, if you will, of fire safety flyers, posters, and red pens in the dorms. Really, they gave out red pens.

Now, I am not against fire safety, not in the least. Fire is a serious problem and fire safety should be a topic of conversation on campus. However, I don't agree with the way we have been flooded with this low rent, Smokey the Bear campaign.

"Only you can prevent campus fires!" That's the slogan used on the new full-color posters of Bananas, the school mascot, wearing a fire suit and standing in front of a fire truck. Those posters really do catch your eye and I'm sure they're worth every penny spent on them. I am sure the pens and jaw-breakers given out at every residence hall were worth the money as well. However, I feel that there are better uses of this fire safety money.

For one, I think it would be better to spend this money fixing the fire alarm system in Kennebec Hall. Just last week our fire alarm was pulled and half of the third floor did not wake up to the alarm, because

TIM
BISSELL

FOR THE MAINE CAMPUS

they could not hear it. I am no fire marshal, but I think that an alarm is only good if you can hear it.

Also, instead of buying pens and jawbreakers for all of the students, how about buying stickers with the number of Public Safety, and the Orono Fire Department to put on our dorm phones? That seems both practical and cost efficient to me.

Printed on the wonderfully useful red pens given out by Public Safety, is an address for the UMaine fire safety website. This website states that 44 counts of arson were reported on campus in 2004. At first, that number is astonishing. I was pretty surprised to see that number when I checked out this Web page. I was even more surprised when I found out from Mark Phelps, Kennebec Hall Governing Board treasurer, that a small burn mark on the door of room 112 in Kennebec Hall was reported as an attempted arson. The burn mark on the door is about 1 inch in length, and caused no real damage to the door, well, nothing that can't

be painted over.

"I never even noticed that mark, and I couldn't tell you how long it has been there." Resident of room 112, Spencer Powers said. "How it was reported as attempted arson is beyond me."

That arson incident makes me wonder how many of the other 43 cases were just small burn marks, or melted plastic found in a hallway or something of that nature. The number 44 seems a bit like a scare tactic to me. These aren't cases of arson, they are cases of stupidity. I wouldn't mind a pen that just said, "Don't be stupid."

To sum things up, I am not against fire safety at all. It is an important topic, and I believe that there should be an active fire safety program on campus, but can we please downplay the scare tactics, and spend the money a little better? I rarely use a red pen, I don't like fireball jaw-breakers, and I have never seen a sign that says, in case of fire, eat jaw-breaker and consult red pen.

UMaine Fire safety websites: <http://www.umaine.edu/dean-sofstudents/firesafety/> and <http://www.umaine.edu/dean-sofstudents/firesafety/>

Tim Bissell is an undergraduate student at the University of Maine.

go.

MUSIC

Java Jive - Lindsey Bachelder
8 p.m.
Tuesday, March 22
Memorial Union
Free

Gavin DeGraw
7 p.m.
Thursday, March 31
MCA
\$10

ART

"Sam Van Aken: Becoming
Wally Warren: Chaos"
Through Friday, March 18
Carnegie Hall
Free

"Any Lewis: Freezetag"
Through Saturday, April 2
Norumbega Hall
Free

"A Maritime Album: 100
Photographs and their Stories"
Through Saturday, April 2
Norumbega Hall
Free

"Persian Impressions"
Through Friday, June 10
Hudson Museum
Free

"Across the Sands of Time:
Art and Artifacts
from the Middle East"
Through Friday, June 10
Hudson Museum
Free

THEATER

"Romeo and Juliet"
7:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 19
MCA

ENTERTAINMENT

Mars Invasion
7 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 25
Wingate Hall

The Maine Attraction -
The Lawn
9 p.m.
Friday, March 18
Memorial Union
Free

Campus Feud
8 p.m.
Monday, March 21
Memorial Union
Free

Climbing Night
3 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Weekdays
MaineBound Outdoor
Education Center
\$1

MOVIES

"Ocean's 12"
7:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m.
Wednesday, March 23 and
Friday, March 25
100 DPC on Wednesday,
Bangor Room, Union on Friday

BARS

College Night
9 p.m.
Thursdays
Bear Brew Pub
\$1 Bear Brew beers

College Night
10 p.m.
Thursdays
Ushuaia
50-cent drinks

College Night
Thursdays
The Chocolate Grille
Half-price entrees

If you would like an event
posted on the Style Calendar,
contact Matt Kearney on
FirstClass.

Web Monkey •
Buttercup.com offers
something new. Page 12

style

50 Cent tops
the charts yet
again. Page 13



Two of a kind LOOKING FOR A full house

New club
Gemini, a
stary-eyed
endeavour for
UMaine twins

By Matt Kearney
Style Editor

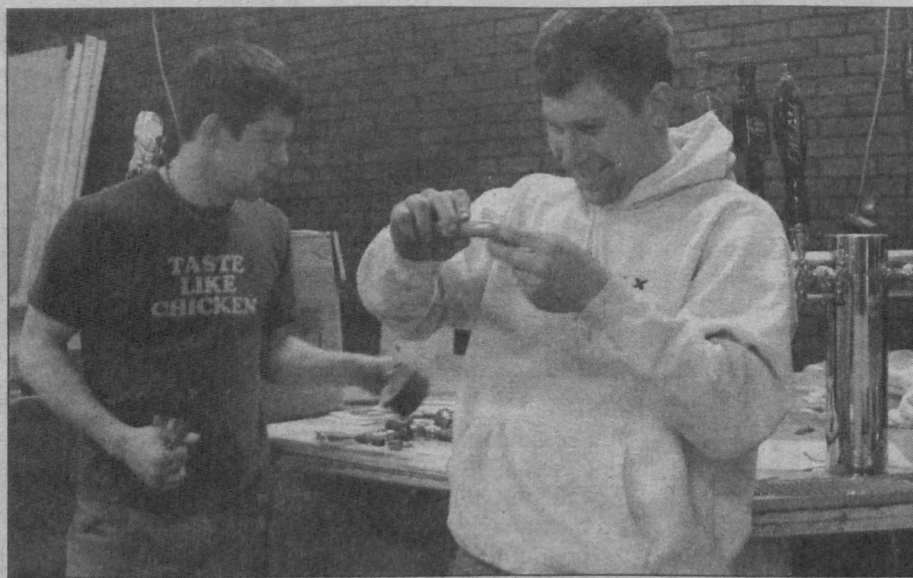
Three years ago, University of Maine students and twin brothers Matt and Pat Brann interned at Disney World. While they admittedly learned little from the actual internship they walked away from the experience with a dream. Their dream becomes a reality Friday night with the grand opening on their new club, Gemini.

"We did a lot of night clubbing in Florida and saw some incredible clubs... We thought the Bangor area could use some improvement," said Pat.

Their dream of owning their own club and creating one unlike any other in the area became a reality last summer, when the twins began negotiations to purchase the building in which the club The Spectrum resided. They had the finances to purchase the building outright 7 months later and began the process of transforming the club to look and feel completely different than its predecessor.

"We've torn down a wall. [The Spectrum] had two bars, as well, but their bars were in two different spots," said Matt, "Our bars are brand new, the floor is brand new. The walls were worn down from wear and tear over the years."

"It looks totally different. The whole



CAMPUS PHOTOS BY ALICIA MCLAUGHLIN

Twin brothers Matt and Pat Brann finish assembling the tap behind their new club Gemini in Bangor, which opens to the public Friday night.

place is just different looking," said Matt Goodman, who was a bouncer at The Spectrum and is now working at Gemini.

The club will feature a large dance floor, a comfortable lounge area and a pool room hosting two pool tables. While they have invested a lot of time into creating a nice dance floor with a professional state-of-the-art sound system, they stress that the club is not just for dancing.

"For people who like to go to dance

clubs but don't like to dance, they've got plenty to do. There's more than just dancing here," said Pat.

They have put a lot of time and money into making the club look entirely different, and one of the elements the twins are employing to help set it apart from other clubs in the area is atmosphere. They said one of the things they learned from their Disney internship was that employees should enjoy where

See GEMINI on Page 13

'Fiddler' a powerful experience

By Kal Dauphinee
For The Maine Campus

I have come to find that nothing is real until it is realized. While that may be a little deep for an opening to a review of "Fiddler on the Roof," for yours truly it is both honest and very, well, real. I remember seeing "The Sound of Music" for the first time at the age of sixteen. I distinctly remember thinking to myself afterwards, "How could this have been around all this time and I haven't known about it until now?" Being so in awe of the music and spectacle, I never stopped to consider that the thought of something not being real until I had realized it was quite an egotistical point of view. However, this did not stop me from asking the same question again this last year, after experiencing "The Phantom of the Opera" for the first time, and again last Saturday night at the Maine Center for the Arts for Troika Entertainment's production of "Fiddler on the Roof."

I don't recall a time where I have felt as much at home in a production as I did this night. The play takes place in the small Russian village of Anatevka is a close-knit community of Jews living under Tsarist rule as well as their own rules of tradition. As the main character, Tevye, explains in the opening prologue, without tradition their lives would be as shaky as a fiddler on the roof. While their traditions are what give them their stability it is also their overconfidence in those traditions that starts trouble for Tevye when his daughters start choosing their own husbands — the nerve of a woman to

think herself capable of such a decision. However, as expected, life eventually wins out and the small wheel of Anatevka is broken on the hard road of progress. Tevye, the good-natured hub of Anatevka's wheel, was portrayed by John Preece with such genuine passion that at times I wanted to give those whiskers a pull just to see if they were real.

The set design by James Noone lent a cozy mood to the Jewish hamlet, and with its simplistic but fluidly mobile functions it was almost a character in itself. Noone combined traditional art directions with that of the Epic Theater style of the early 20th century, where scene changes were completed without the intent of hiding them so as to create an alert view of the production. What made this unique, however is that these tasks were done by the actors themselves without ever breaking character. It was almost as if this were simply another task of the day to be done.

The production offered a striking balance of conflict and love. Even the smallest of storylines held any joy it found alongside some sorrow. Tevye's continual dialogue with God, while giving much comic relief, also provided moments of profound introspection. During the wedding of Tevye's daughter, Tzeitel, it is only after the destruction of the celebration, at the constable's hands, that we learn how dear the wedding truly was. Just as light is brighter in darkness, life's joys are made more precious when viewed side-by-side heartbreak. In the song "Do You Love Me?" Tevye beseeches Golde, his arranged wife of twenty-five

years, if she truly does love him. After thinking on the things she has done for him through the years, the cooking, the cleaning, the childbearing and homemaking — she replies, "If that's not love, I don't know what is."

It was here it occurred to me that my definition of love must be slightly askew, but it was not until later that it occurred to me fully. Any production worth its salt, when allowed to stew in the psyche for a few days generally holds new revelations. That is, considering the viewer is at least an inch or two deeper than the average mud puddle on this campus. It was the day following that this puddle received his. Love for these people was not a feeling — it was an action, a characteristic. They loved by doing what need to be done. While they surely did feel attraction and passion, they never confused it with love. The implication of this revelation continues churning in my thoughts as I have yet to fully understand how I feel about such a notion. I only know that it's there demanding to be addressed at a later date.

During the poignant finale I felt discouraged for these people and the consequences that had befallen them in the name of someone else's progress. With everything gone all they had left was their beliefs and each other, but for them that was enough. Because they believed that if they had their tradition and each other to love then they had hope. After all, isn't hope the one thing that everything begins with anyway?

See FIDDLER on Page 13

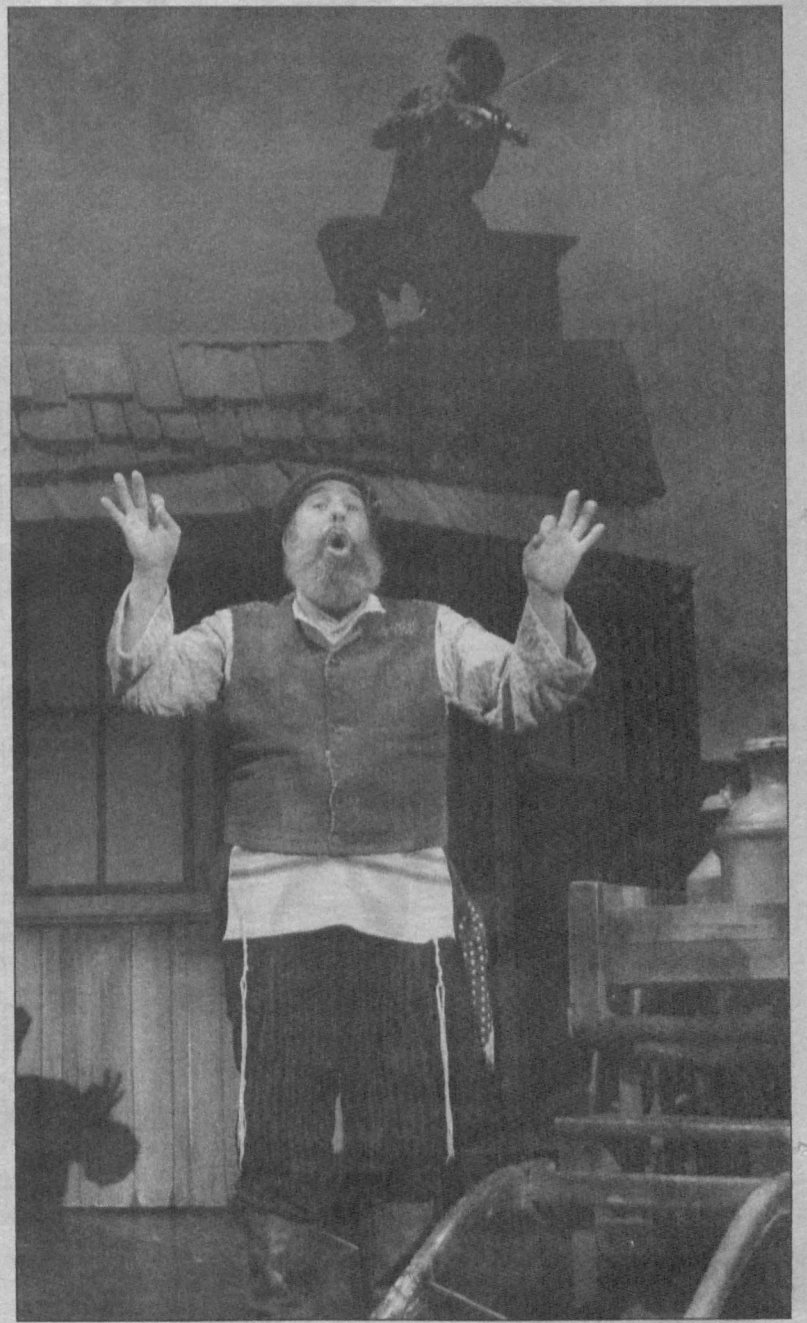


PHOTO COURTESY TROIKA.COM

SING IT LOUD — Troika Entertainment put on a production of "Fiddler on the Roof" at the MCA Saturday night. The cast did an amazing job of bringing the small Russian village to life.

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MUSICNEWS

Compiled by
Matt Kearney
Style Editor

The Backstreet Boys promised that the first single from their forthcoming new album would be a shocker — and for some, it will be. Though usually songs marking a return are fast-paced, this lead-off song is — brace yourself — a power ballad.

Called "Incomplete," the first Backstreet single will go to radio in two weeks, though some stations have already played leaked versions. The midtempo track begins with a haunting piano melody and uses dark chords to underline a theme of regret and longing. One such verse goes: "I try to go on like I never knew you — I'm awake but my world is half asleep — I pray for this heart to be unbroken — But without you all I'm going to be is incomplete."

While not a drastic change from their past material, the single does exhibit some changes vocally and musically, especially in the bridge, where Nick Carter's solo rock forays are most evident. Detractors might say the sound is a bit dated, but fans will likely applaud the more mature direction.

Excerpted from MTV.com

After taking more than a year off from performing, Coldplay returned to the stage over the weekend, headlining influential public radio station KCRW-FM's annual "A Sounds Eclectic Evening" concert on Saturday at the Universal Amphitheatre. The band warmed up the night before at the Troubadour in West Hollywood.

And while Martin stumbled through the opening of "Politik" during the encore of the KCRW show, the singer more than made up for it by treating fans to five new tracks from "X&Y," due June 7, and six old favorites.

Coldplay showed confidence in their new material, opening

the set with an ambitious, Radiohead-ish tune, and later boasting that a different new number is "f*cking good."

Excerpted from MTV.com

Pearl Jam are almost finished with their follow-up to 2002's Riot Act. The band plans to spend the next three weeks in the studio recording vocals and mixing. If all goes according to plan, the yet-to-be-titled disc could be released as early as May.

"There's a lot more up-tempo stuff," says drummer Matt Cameron. "It's a lot more rockin' than our last one." Song titles like "Severed Hand," "Worldwide Suicide" and "2x4" seem to reflect that harder edge. Though the track listing has not been finalized, other candidates include "Marker" and "Cold Concession."

Cameron, who teamed with guitarist Mike McCready on the track "Unemployable," characterizes the sessions as more collaborative. "We reworked everything together in the studio," he says. "It's a really healthy environment. Everyone really just wants to dig in and make the songs as good as they can be."

Pearl Jam hope to support the new record with a summer tour.

Excerpted from RollingStone.com

50 Cent's "The Massacre" slaughtered the competition this week, selling another 771,000 copies and maintaining its spot at No. 1, according to Nielsen SoundScan. Despite a dip in sales from last week, 50's record still outsold the competition by over 500,000 copies, marking yet another blockbuster week for the Queens rapper.

50's chart competitors include crooner Jack Johnson and Latin diva Jennifer Lopez, both of whom released albums last week. Johnson's breezy "In Between Dreams" blew into the No. 2 slot, up one from last

See MUSIC on Page 13

A new spin on an old idea

Web
Monkey

By Mike Hartwell

It's been a little over two years since the fad website HotOrNot.com became popular, eons in internet chronology, and a little less than two years since it and its copycats died out. Now Buttercouple.com slithers onto the scene. This new fad site uses a few Hot-or-Not elements with an addicting twist on the concept. Users upload a JPEG file and other users rate them. The button that rates automatically triggers a new, random page to rate. Just like Hot or Not, this website it extremely addictive.

The difference in Buttercouple.com is that users are now comparing two uploaded pictures instead of rating a single one. Users are presented with a boy's photograph on the left of the page and a girl's on the right. Instead of rating people on a scale of one to ten, you are asked "Are we a match?" with the

option of "yes" or "no." For those of you on an athletic scholarship, it means that you are only rating if you think the two people are compatible.

However, it's important to note that when you click "no," you are not saying why. You are not saying if he is too ugly for her, or if she dresses too lousy to be seen with him. You are simply saying if they are on the same level or not. With Hot-or-Not you had a definite answer of what level people thought you were on. With Buttercouple.com your results are in terms of other people. A user with disappointing results could argue that people find them too good for everyone, while ignoring the fact that in their photo they're adorned in full Klingon garb.

Is this little denial-based flaw the only thing keeping Buttercouple.com from being a reliable way of judging how attractive one is? Aren't people only being paired with their physical equals? Buttercouple.com enthusiast and Sociology major Jason Unterreiner doesn't think so. "I'll put two people together if they have things in common, for example, they like to be photographed standing on boats."

Buttercouple.com is still in the

beta stage so there are some ways to cheat the system. There are no cookies or codes to keep your IP address from rating the same pairing over and over again. Users can stuff the ballot box by clicking the back button on their browser and voting again. Websurfers can easily Manipulate the URL to rate non-random pairings. Each picture has a corresponding four-digit number. Users can record this number and type it into the web address with ease. These two tricks can be combined if you want to give your roommate a 100 percent compatibility rating with a girl ugly as sin.

After you submit a photo you have a few options you can play with. When you're rating pairings you can click the little "Is (s)he in your league?" button under a photo to track the compatibility rating of you and this mysterious stranger when you log in. While logged in you can also see your pairings rated most compatible.

Buttercouple.com has all the elements of a great fad site. Its interactive, short-attention-span friendly, addicting and free. Its best to try it now before it joins the rank of Hot-or-Not, All Your Base, and Friendster.

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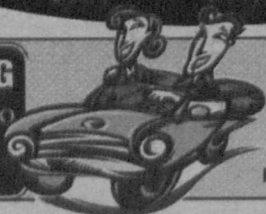
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'Hitch,' 'Robots' overcome downfalls to deliver laughs

By Derek Francis
Staff Writer

In "Hitch," Alex Hitchens, known as Hitch (Will Smith), is the ultimate date doctor. Albert (Kevin James) is a guy in need of all the help he can get when it comes to the ladies. Albert is an investment advisor with a wealthy client, Allegra Cole (Amber Valletta), whom he falls head over heels for. He gets a hold of Hitch, date doctor extraordinaire who has reached mythic proportions. Hitch coaches Albert step by side-splitting step towards reaching the goal of dating this seemingly unattainable woman. Meanwhile, Hitch is caught off guard by a sexy tabloid writer, Sara (Eva Mendes). The smoothest player in the dating game can't seem to get a break as he bumbles his way through a horrific first date. Does Hitch have enough in his bag of tricks to win Sara over?

"Hitch" is the zenith of the cliched romantic comedy. Sure, it's oozing corn like a used salesman slathered in cheap cologne, but it has mucho heart. Will Smith turns on the charm to an 11 and

Kevin James is at his top form. The stand out moments of the movie certainly go to those scenes with both Smith and James. They foil each other well and make for great comedy. Director Andy Tennant scores big with "Hitch" just as he has done many times before. If there ever is an award given for chick-flick director of all-time it would go to Tennant. His list of films plays out like a highlight reel in modern Hollywood cinema.

"Hitch" lacks consistency, but that doesn't negate that certain unmistakable charm that both male leads bring to their roles.

In the imaginative technological world of "Robots," Rodney Copperbottom (voiced by Ewan McGregor) is a robot with big dreams. Rodney's aspirations of being an inventor lead him on a quest to meet his idol, inventor extraordinaire, Bigweld (Mel Brooks). Unfortunately for Rodney, Bigweld is MIA and has been replaced with an evil corporate sleezebag, Ratchet (Greg Kinnear). Ratchet wants to outlaw repair parts sold to robots and only wants ultra-expensive

upgrades to be made available. If he's allowed to follow through with his plans then all older models of robots will be reduced to scrap. With the help of his friends Fender (Robin Williams), Piper (Amanda Bynes), and other run-down robots, Rodney puts his metal mind to work as he attempts to save all of machine kind.

While it is a tad forgettable, "Robots" does pack just enough spunk to make this the perfect flick to go see with the fam. That being said, for a family movie there are quite a few adult jokes that even surprised me. My favorite of these questionable jokes was when a female robot made a comment over the phone about how with a "Brazilian wax" every day is a fiesta. Explain that one to the inquiring kiddies.

"Robots" utilizes its all-star voice cast extremely well. Williams never becomes too much as he has a tendency to do, and everyone is just right for their respective parts. This movie is a wonderfully entertaining 90 minutes that will satisfy anyone who's into the rapidly growing genre of computer animated films.

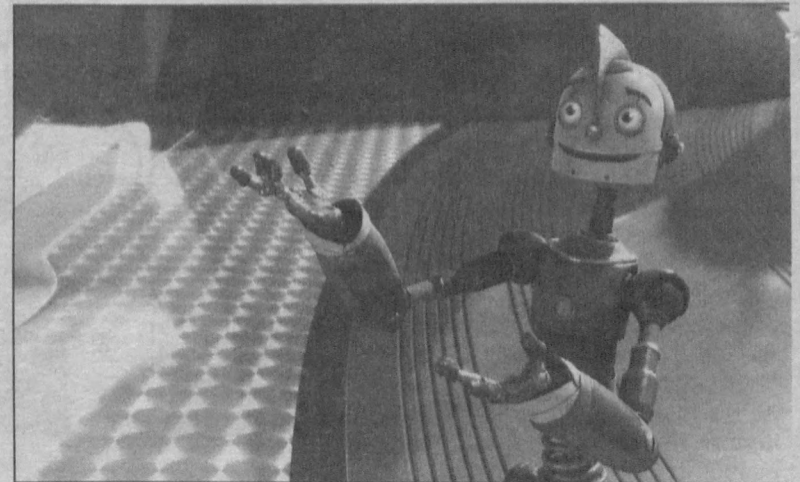


PHOTO COURTESY MOVIES.COM

NEW FLICKS — "Hitch" (top) and "Robots" both have a few shortcomings but are able to deliver some good comedy. While "Robots" is geared more towards families, it has plenty of adult humor to keep adult viewers entertained. Will Smith and Kevin James hold "Hitch" together.

MUSIC

From Page 12

week, selling 118,000 copies. He knocked Lopez down two notches to No. 4. Lopez's album, "Rebirth" sold 86,000 copies. This continues a sales slump for Lopez whose debut last week charted higher but sold about 50,000 fewer copies than her

2002 disc "This Is Me . . . Then."

Besting Lopez, novice rapper the Game's album "The Documentary" rose two places to No. 3 this week, selling 87,000 copies. And Green Day gained momentum with their concept album, "American Idiot," selling 77,000 copies to round out the Top Five.

Excerpted from
RollingStone.com

GEMINI

From Page 10

they work and help make the atmosphere fun.

"The atmosphere we've been pushing on our employees is we're going to be very energetic . . . We tell our employees that when they're working they're onstage," said Matt.

Another aspect of the club is theme nights. Whether it be toga night, pajamas night or a foam party, the twins hope that the vari-

ety will help attract customers.

Investing so much money and time into the club is both a nerve racking and exciting time, but the two said that they are very optimistic. The only hurdle the brothers worry about overcoming is getting people to the club because The Spectrum had been a well-known gay bar.

"Our biggest question is: Is the straight community going to be open-minded?" said Matt. "It was formerly a different kind of club, but there are new owners, completely new look, new club. But hopefully people can be open mind-

ed enough to check it out."

The brothers and staff will be finishing the renovations shortly before Friday, admitting that the finishing touches might happen just hours before opening.

"We've got to finish up the bar real quick, and there's a bunch of minor things that will really pull it together all at once," said Pat.

Gemini will be open Wednesday through Saturday, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. There is a cover charge of \$3 after 10:30 p.m. Drink specials will be announced on the radio, and there will also be surprise drink specials throughout every night.

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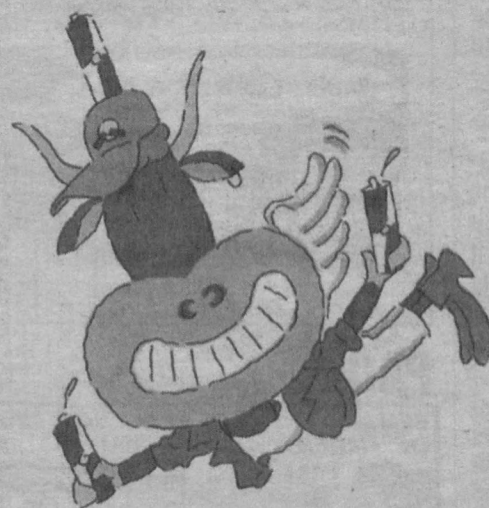
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Horoscopes

By Linda C. Black

Aries

March 21 to April 19

Don't try to fix the problems you're facing at home by yourself. That's never going to work. Get help from everybody involved. It's your only chance.

Taurus

April 20 to May 20

If you keep your nose to the grindstone, by later today you'll be ready to frolic. And, better yet, you'll have both the time and the money. That's just the way you like it.

Gemini

May 21 to June 21

If you've handled the situation wisely over the last few days, great wealth can be yours today and tomorrow. If not, well, it's proportionate.

Cancer

June 22 to July 22

At last, the path ahead is clear. Your success seems assured. All you have to do is go from here to there, but watch out for bumps.

Leo

July 23 to Aug. 22

Stand back and let the others argue. Let yourself be educated. By the time you make your decision, the answer will be obvious.

Virgo

Aug. 23 to Sept. 22

A rather hectic couple of days will ease into a celebration. Make a date to get together with friends in a place where you can let off steam.

Libra

Sept. 23 to Oct. 22

Production has trouble keeping up with sales, as previously warned. Don't let shortages take the client by surprise. Call and tell the truth.

Scorpio

Oct. 23 to Nov. 21

Look at your life from a different perspective, and you'll be able to see the wonderful things you have accomplished. Just see how far you've come.

Sagittarius

Nov. 22 to Dec. 21

An item you thought was out of reach may be affordable now. The trick is to get someone else, like a bank, to go into the deal with you. Get the best rate you can find.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 to Jan. 19

You're getting smarter, and you realize you don't have to go it alone. Use what you've recently learned to help you choose a perfect assistant.

Aquarius

Jan. 20 to Feb. 18

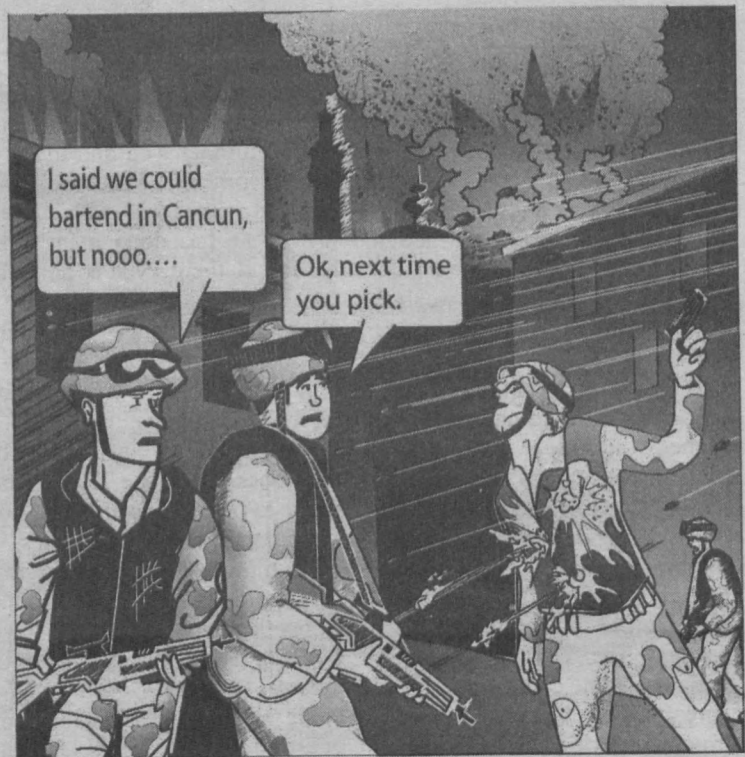
You might choose to go back to work to find some peace and quiet. It's not a bad scheme, since the money you can earn looks pretty generous now.

Pisces

Feb. 19 to March 20

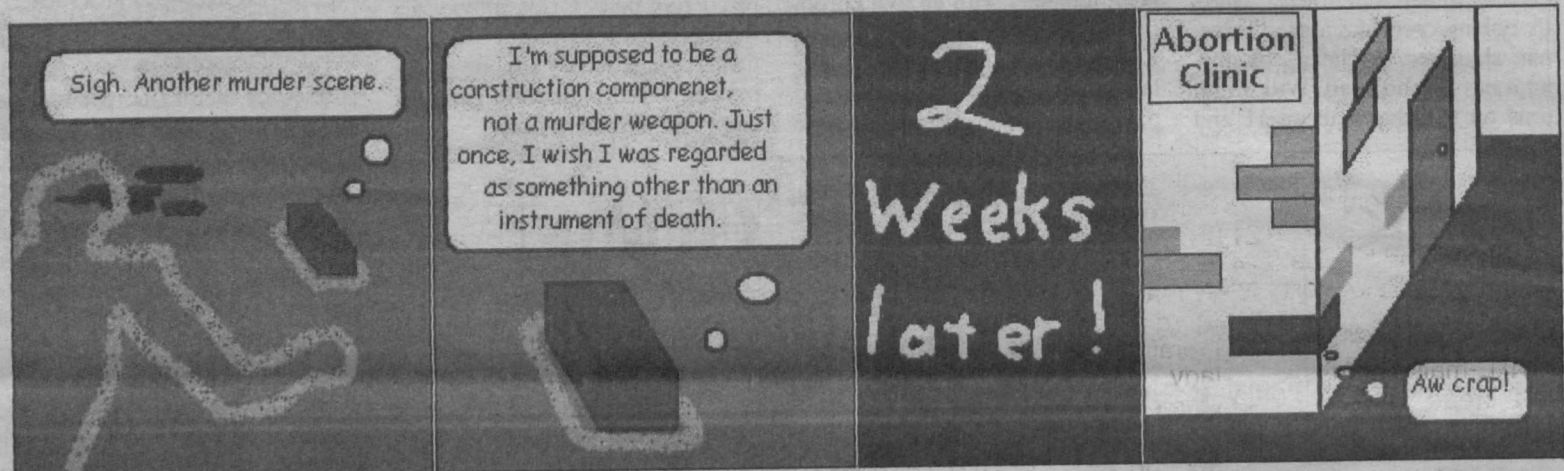
A recent conflict is forgotten, well almost, anyway. Let it go and sooner or later the others will do the same.

THE MAINE CAMPUS DIVERSIONS



The Adventures of Timmy the Brick

by Michael Hartwell



Kip: By Ryan Shihara



PAUL

BY BILLY O'KEEFE WWW.MRBILLY.COM



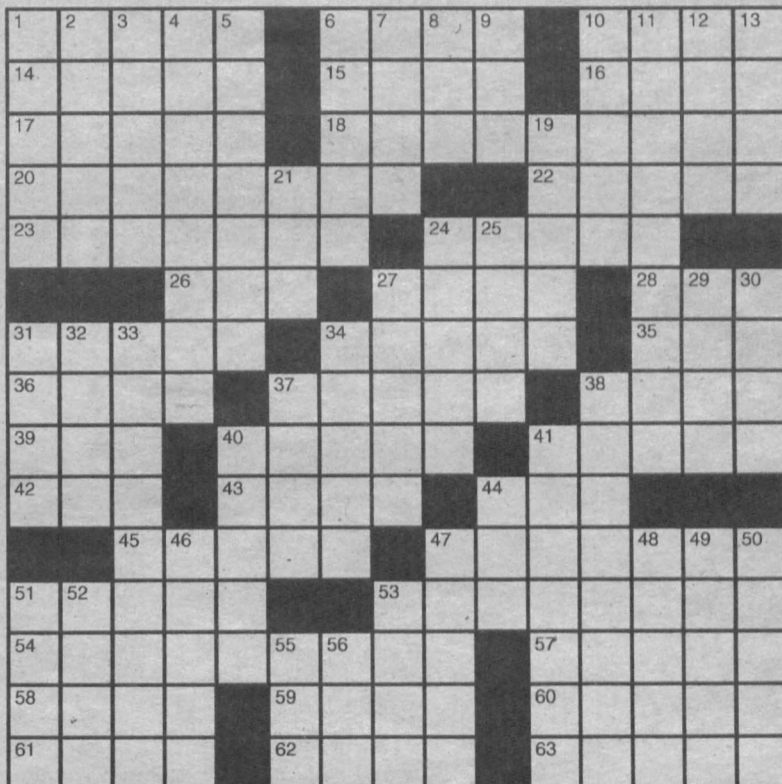
Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 American buffalo
- 6 Ken or Lena
- 10 Castro's island
- 14 Hersey's bell town
- 15 Three squared
- 16 Numbered work
- 17 Cheerful tunes
- 18 Make one's mouth water
- 20 World of films
- 22 "Who's the Boss?" star
- 23 Temporary expedient
- 24 Gather together
- 26 Tartan topper
- 27 Male affair
- 28 Crooner Torme
- 31 Hatfield's foe
- 34 Actress Angelina
- 35 Lennon's Yoko
- 36 Lotion additive
- 37 Erin of "Happy Days"
- 38 Roof-rack tote
- 39 Totality
- 40 Highway components
- 41 Nappy leather
- 42 Links peg
- 43 Water pitcher
- 44 Brooch
- 45 Burns slightly
- 47 Davenport of tennis
- 51 Leers at
- 53 Clever comeback
- 54 Display again
- 57 Coronet
- 58 Highland hillside
- 59 "Swan Lake" skirt
- 60 Go back to committee
- 61 E-mail button
- 62 Tread
- 63 Fire residue

DOWN

- 1 Aromatic salves
- 2 Dunce
- 3 Military salute
- 4 Extending one's height
- 5 Small bouquet
- 6 In the better position

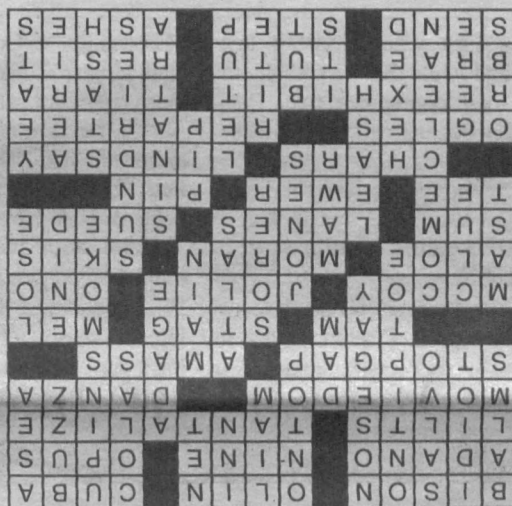


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03/21/05

Solutions

- 7 Actor Neeson
- 8 Quaint quarters
- 9 Final profit
- 10 Soft drinks
- 11 Cheech and Chong movie
- 12 Astronaut Aldrin
- 13 On the Aegean
- 19 Pithy saying
- 21 TVA creation
- 24 Book of maps
- 25 Primary
- 27 More achy
- 29 Geraint's loyal lady
- 30 Come in last
- 31 Crow's-nest support
- 32 Hint
- 33 Confess
- 34 Part of DJIA
- 37 Bryn College
- 38 This and that
- 40 Chow chow controller
- 41 "From Here to Eternity" star



- 44 Domino dot
- 46 Jinxed
- 47 Slacken
- 48 Secret store
- 49 Eagle's abode
- 50 Abbey Theatre founder
- 51 Spheres
- 52 Richard of "Pretty Woman"
- 53 Ritual practice
- 55 "My Party"
- 56 Except

Worshipping the guilty

Today, boys and girls, we're going to talk about extremes. More precisely, we're going to talk about extreme stupidity and the one event in recent times that's highlighted stupidity from every possibly angle more clearly — and laughably than any other that comes to memory. I'm speaking of the recent — and repetitive — trial of Michael Jackson on the charges of child molestation.

Now, I'm well aware that this is a serious subject. This is hardly something to ridicule whenever it rears its ugly head. It is definitely not my intent to do so. There are a number of surrounding circumstances that should be examined.

For starters, let's take a look at a short list of who's who concerning stupidity on this particular topic.

- Michael Jackson.
- That poor kid's parents
- Mass media (I'm looking at you, E!).
- The American public

Simply because he's the easiest target, I'm going to start off with perennial headliner Michael Jackson and I'm going to lead this off with something that should have been said publicly years ago:

Michael Jackson is bat-sh*t crazy.

I'm not going to get into the why — there have been plenty of television specials lately explaining that it's his father's fault, the result of childhood celebrity status, his being basically brainwashed by a particular brand of extreme "Christianity," etc. Really, none of this changes the final result of his being out of his gourd. He's been like this for decades now, so it should come as no surprise to anyone. My particular favorite was his claim that his record label wasn't doing enough to promote him because, of all things, he's black. Ignoring the fact that his record label has made him richer than God, this is especially humorous coming from someone roughly the same shade of white as a hotel bed sheet.

That Mr. Jackson is crazy is almost unarguable. In another world, he'd be allowed to shrink into his crazy little world, alone on his humongous estate and quietly fade from existence in a Howard Hughes sort of way. Unfortunately, this isn't the case. It appears that Jackson has a bit of a fondness for small boys, the sexual nature of which being the center issue of his current trial, and a habit of inviting them to his home and engaging in activities that, even if they are of a non-sexual nature as he insists, would still be deemed as inappropriate by 99 percent of the people in the country. It's a fact — three out of four dentists say you shouldn't get in bed with someone else's preteen child.

So, we find ourselves in the midst of a scandalous trial in which Jackson is accused of molesting a teenage boy — AGAIN. Ignoring the fact that he seems to be taking this trial extremely lightly — wouldn't show up in court in pajamas to contest a traffic ticket, much less felony molestation charges), I pose this question: How many times does an individual have to

Rambling Fool



By Benjamin Jarvela

be accused of something of this nature before we start to believe the charges?

Next, we have the alleged victim's parents. Here's a quick lesson, folks. Grab a pen and write it down.

Michael Jackson has been accused of molesting children on several occasions.

DO NOT let him near your kids! DUH!

If Jackson is convicted, the parents should be the next ones charged.

The shining hallmark of stupidity in all of this has been the E! network's coverage of the trial. For those of you that don't know, the judge closed the courtroom off to cameras almost immediately in order to avoid an O.J.-esque circus from taking over this trial. With door's shut in their faces, the good folks at E! have taken to dramatically reenacting each days segment of the trial and they let we, the viewers, watch the day's events unfold with the help of paid actors who bear a disturbing resemblance to the people they're portraying. Stop for a second and let it sink in. If you or anyone you know is watching this bastion of jackassity, please do the world a favor and never have children. Based on this, I'm pretty sure the people at E! have already been lobotomized, so that end of the problem should take care of itself in time.

Last but not least, we come to ourselves. John and Jane Q. Public. A little piece of me dies every time I happened to see footage of the small army of Jackson supporters standing outside the courthouse. The most common argument one hears in defense of this alleged habitual child molester amounts to little more than "Yeah, but he's a great entertainer!" Just for the record — Michael Jackson was a "great" entertainer in the 70s and mid-80s. Go back and look at anything from that era and tell me how great you think the public's taste in ANYTHING was at that point — although I'm sure the same thing will be said about now in 20 years. The fact that a man with a seemingly decade-spanning habit of unforgivable felony crimes could still garner support from anyone based almost solely on a career that justifiably died 15 years ago is intensely disturbing. It speaks volumes about the depth of America's celebrity worship culture. Even if your not one of Jackson's supporter but find yourself strangely drawn into this trail or — God forbid watching the E! coverage, think about what you're doing. The attention this trial is getting is doing little more than paying homage to a man I have no doubt will be found guilty of molesting young children. Do something better with your time.

Win, lose or

THE MAINE CAMPUS
Katherine Moreau
Diversions
581-1267



Tag & Shammy by Eric Silvia ©2005



Softball squad bounces back after stumbling out of the gates

By Riley Donovan
Staff Writer

The University of Maine softball team spent Spring Break in Florida this year. While they enjoyed the warm weather, they were certainly not on vacation. They were hard at work. While scheduled to play 19 games in 13 days, four of those games were canceled. The 15 games they did play were a grueling test against some of the country's best competition.

The team brought home, to snowy Orono, a 4-11 record. Their trip was highlighted by a March 7 double-header against LaSalle and Yale. The Black Bears beat LaSalle with four runs in the top of the seventh and then defeated Yale 6-4 later that afternoon.

In the season opener against the University of South Florida, UMaine pitcher Sarah Bennis pitched a complete game. She gave up eight hits and allowed just one run. The Black Bears got five hits but left eight runners on base and were unable to score, falling to the Bulls 1-0.

After starting their season 0-6, including two close losses to no. 20 Florida State, the Black Bears picked up their first win against St. Bonaventure 8-1. They beat the Bonnies again a day later 5-4.

"Obviously we didn't come back with the record that we hoped for," said UMaine head coach Michelle Puls. "The level of competition that we played this year was at a much higher level than it's been in years past."

Puls says the four games that were canceled hurt her team. She said that last year's team was 9-11



CAMPUS PHOTO BY MELISSA ARMES

CATCHING DOUBLE — Maggie Soule and Beth Foltz, seen here in September, are now gearing up for a promising softball season. The team returns home from a two-week trip in Florida with a 4-11 record.

when they came back from Florida, and did not have any games canceled.

"I'd love to have those games back because if we get those four games back and we win, we're doing a lot better, we're 8-11 instead of 4-11," said Puls, who was an assistant last year and is in her first year as head coach this season. "You never know. We could have lost all four of them too."

The Black Bears won the

America East Championship last season, and while they would like to defend their conference title, Puls admits that her team got off to a slow start.

"We're moving in the right direction to be successful, but it was a hard first 15 games out of the gate," she said.

While her team faced tough competition in Florida, Puls knows that it is not going to get any easier. Her team will take on Hofstra,

Massachusetts, Cornell, and Seton Hall, all teams that made the NCAA tournament last season.

"As far as competition level it's definitely not dropping off," said Puls. "It's actually getting more competitive."

After seven more games against tough non-conference opponents, the Black Bears will dive into their conference season. The first America East game for the Black Bears is April 2 at Binghamton.

The Black Bears are the returning champions, they were predicted to finish second this year to Boston University. Puls believes that is a fairly accurate prediction.

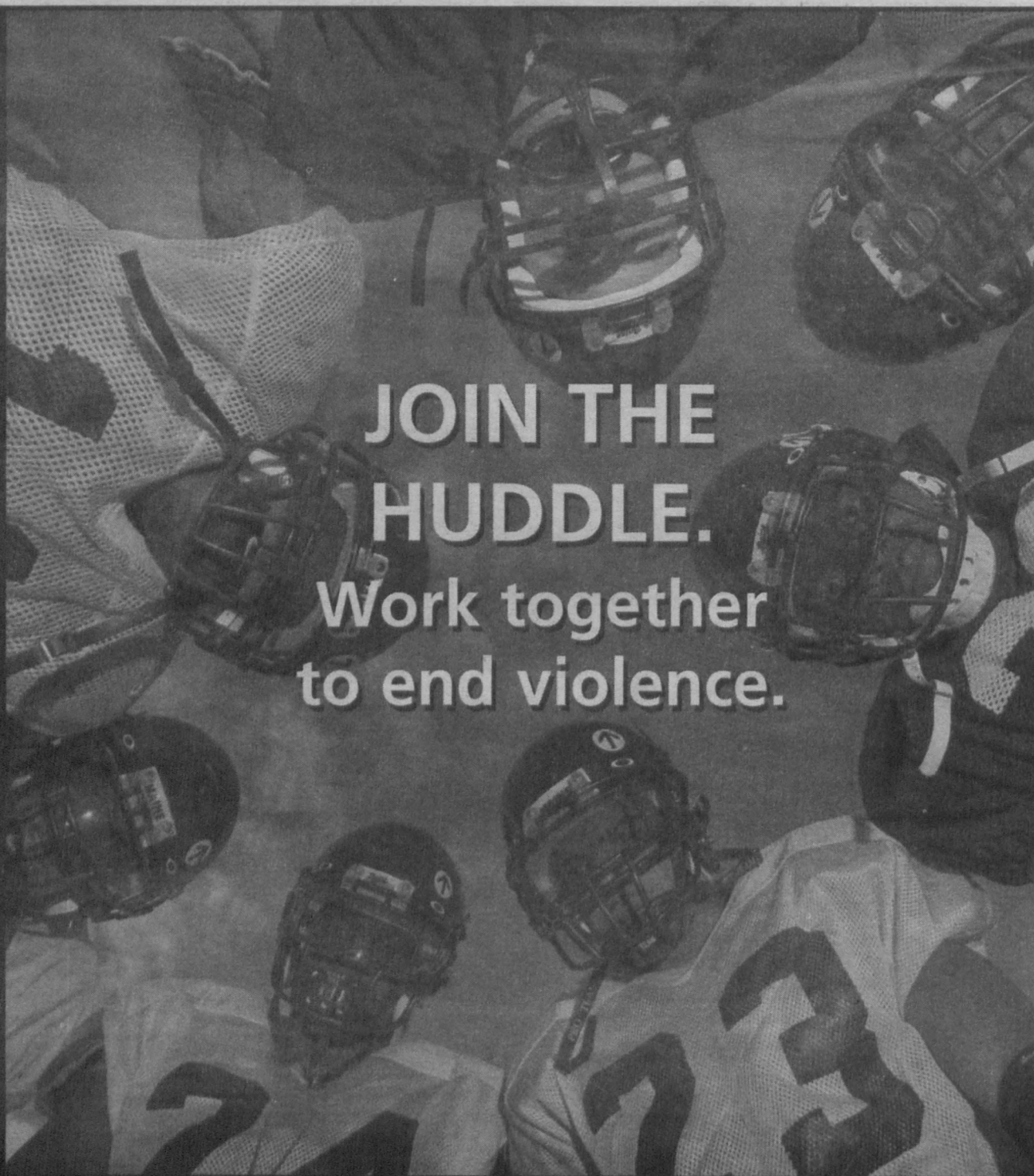
"You never know who's going to win it," she said. "Hopefully playing against good teams will be able to prepare us and we'll be able to take America East again."

The Black Bears first home game is scheduled for April 9 against Hartford.

Male Athletes Against Violence (MAAV)

Violence is a way of asserting power, privilege, and control. Men perpetrate the majority of violence, and yet this issue is usually framed as a "woman's issue." Change will come when we challenge the social norms and institutions that actively or implicitly condone and promote violence. MAAV is an effort to involve men so that we can begin to understand that violence is very much a "man's issue." This project was founded in the Fall of 2004 by University of Maine football player, Marcus Walton.

To contact Male Athletes Against Violence:
Visit our Website at www.umaine.edu/maav
or call 207-581-3138



UConn serves final blow to UMaine

By Ryan Clark
For The Maine Campus

For the seniors on the University of Maine women's hockey team, fighting for their

Women's Hockey

playoff lives is nothing new.

They got used to watching the scoreboard to see how other teams were doing. They got used to the practices that could either make or break their season. Two weekends ago, they faced something they weren't used to: Not making the playoffs.

Heading into the last weekend of the season, UMaine suffered two losses at home to the University of Connecticut. The losses helped to push the team out of contention for the Hockey East playoffs. UMaine's opening game against the Huskies, which they lost 3-2, was the game that allowed Boston College playoff birth despite losing both games to the University of New Hampshire.

In their first game against the Huskies, the Black Bears pulled

within one goal after facing a 3-1 deficit heading into the last period. After seeing UConn add a third goal to start the period, UMaine attempted to rally when forward Sonia Corriveau scored her ninth goal of the season. The tally cut the lead to 3-2. With about two minutes left, UMaine called a time out, pulling goalie Rachel Gettings for a 6-on-5 advantage.

Before succumbing to UConn, UMaine took an early lead in the first period thanks to a barrage of shots that saw them outshoot the Huskies 12-4. The Black Bear goal came with less than eight minutes left when freshman forward Sheri Wauters, scored her second career goal. UMaine's first intermission lead was short-lived, with the Huskies scoring two goals just 53 seconds into the second period to take a 2-1 lead.

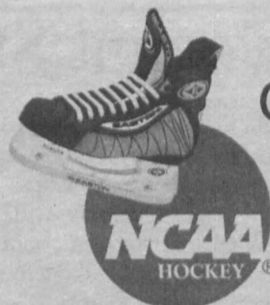
With the team officially out of the playoffs, one objective left for the Saturday afternoon season finale was to see the team finish the season with a record at or above .500 for the third time in the program's history. Like making the

playoffs, finishing the season with a winning record was not meant to be. UConn ended UMaine's season with a 4-1 loss.

Much like the first period in the opening game against the Huskies, UMaine was able to outshoot them. UConn tallied the opening mark when Leslie Hurlburt was able to garner a one-on-one with netminder Rachel Gettings.

After coming out of the locker room, Tristan Desmet scored her team-leading 17th goal of the season just 16 seconds into the period to tie the game at 1-1. A few minutes later, UConn was able to take the lead and never looked back as Jaclyn Hawkins scored for a 2-1 lead. Her teammate Natalie Vilbert increased the lead to 3-1 later in the period. The final UConn goal came in the third period with the Huskies scoring on the power play.

With the loss the Black Bears not only finished their season with a record of 14-15-2, but also said goodbye to seniors Laura Maddin, Emily Stevens, Andrea Steranko and Desmet.



COLLEGE HOCKEY CORNER

By Eric Gullickson
For The Maine Campus

With the conference tournaments under way, the road to Columbus is getting shorter, and so is the list of teams that will compete to get theirs. With one team already headed to the big dance, there are only fifteen spots remaining for the big guns of college hockey.

The College Hockey America conference was the first to complete its tournament, and it's no surprise the top two seeds faced off for the title and an automatic bid to the NCAAs. Bemidji State of Minnesota had home ice as the top seed and used it to their advantage, knocking off second-seeded Alabama-Huntsville 3-0 on Sunday. The win will likely make them a fourth seed, however, with the stellar season they had they may sneak into a division close to home, like Minneapolis.

In the Atlantic Hockey conference, the equality of teams continued to show. With the tournament underway, the seeds didn't really matter. Number-one seeded Quinnipiac took down Army to advance, while the No. 3 and No. 4 seeds, Holy Cross and Mercyhurst advanced to play each other in the Semifinals Friday. Second seeded Canisius was ousted by seventh seed Bentley College on Saturday. Bentley will face Quinnipiac in the Semifinals Friday.

The Central Collegiate Hockey Association had a near-scare when No. 2 Ohio State lost to eleventh-seeded Ferris State on Saturday. However, OSU ended up winning the three-game series to stay alive in the CCHA playoffs. Michigan devoured Notre Dame 10-1 on Friday night but held on to its bootstraps on Saturday, winning 1-0 in overtime. It took No. 3 seed Northern Michigan three games, but they ousted Western Michigan from the tournament and will face off against eighth-seeded Alaska-Fairbanks.

UAF defeated the fifth-seeded

Bowling Green to advance. In the other quarterfinal, Michigan State faces off against Nebraska Omaha. The games will be played Thursday and the winners will face off against either Michigan or Ohio State in the semifinals on Friday.

In the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference, the rankings held true with the top four seeds advancing to the semifinals. No. 1-seeded Cornell continued its hot streak and is set to face the fourth-seeded University of Vermont Catamounts on Friday. Vermont escaped from Dartmouth after losing Friday night. The Catamounts went on to win Saturday and Sunday to face the Big Red Machine. In the other semifinal, the second-seeded Harvard Crimson will take on the stumbling Colgate Raiders. Colgate finished the season poorly, but with two big wins over Brown they look to advance to the finals.

In the Western Collegiate Athletic Conference, the state of Colorado is gleaming. Two of the state's college hockey teams are one and two in the national polls this week. Colorado College is at No. 1, while Denver — the defending national champions — is No. 2. Both teams cleaned house with their opponents this weekend and advanced to the Final Five of the WCHA tournament. Number-four seeded Wisconsin stumbled against upset-minded Alaska Anchorage but finished them off Sunday with a 2-1 victory in Badgerland. Wisconsin will have to play a play-in game with North Dakota on Thursday. The winner will move on to face No. 1-seeded Denver. Colorado College The University of Minnesota are set to face off in what is billed to be the slobberknocker of the tournament.

After this weekend we will see who has their dancing shoes and whose date left them on the front steps with their shoes in hand.

Baseball goes to Washington

By Matthew Williams
Staff Writer

Just when you thought the steroid mess in baseball was at its most bizarre, the United States

Commentary

Congress throws its hat in the ring. The House Committee on Government Reform will conduct a hearing today involving several key figures in the steroid scandal including major league commissioner Bud Selig and players' union head Donald Fehr. Among the subpoenaed players are Sammy Sosa, Frank Thomas, Curt Schilling, Rafael Palmeiro, Mark McGwire and the infamous Jose Canseco.

Conspicuous in their absence are central figures in the BALCO investigation that spurred the steroid scandal, Jason Giambi, Gary Sheffield, and the biggest target of all: home run king Barry Bonds. The trio was likely excluded because their testimony would be legally hindered by the ongoing BALCO probes.

Congress says it's holding these hearings so that millions of kids see their muscle-bound heroes denouncing steroids in an official setting, hoping to curb what they say is rampant abuse among young athletes in America.

I say it's a dog-and-pony show.

Baseball's fan base is ticked off that their idols of the '90s were cheating and popular opinion has already convicted Bonds and wondered about the legitimacy of power hitting records set in recent years. The public is outraged that baseball's drug policy had no teeth in the '80s and '90s, and here's Congress to say, "Hey, we tried to clean up sports, vote for us!"

Nothing will come of these hearings; it's not as if McGwire's going to stand up and say, "You've got me guys, I admit it," just because he's in Washington. Besides, these allegations are backed by no hard evidence and are brought on only by broke, washed-up Canseco's book of heresy. Most of the players he has accused haven't had the suspicious injuries and career declines that he and others who've admitted using steroids went through. Last season, the first year MLB tested for the juice, power numbers in every category rose. These are coincidences?

In America, we're innocent until proven guilty and there's no proof here. All of a sudden everyone who was a janitor at a stadium in the '90s saw steroids, and conveniently none of them came forward until last week. The US House of Representatives lending some legitimacy to this un-American public skewering is disturbing.

If Congress wants to send a message to young athletes, why are they picking on baseball players alone? Why aren't they bringing in the high profile track and field athletes who've tested for steroids? Doesn't not bringing in Bonds send a different message? The NFL is the most popular league in the country, but they're not bringing in Bill Romanowski. Hell, kids watch the WWE, so why not bring in balding steroid users Hulk Hogan and Randy "Macho Man" Savage?

They won't do it because the money and the media are in baseball. The public isn't interested in how much harder a middle linebacker can hit, they're interested in home runs. Congress is playing off that interest in a blatant PR move designed to show the public they tried to do something about baseball's deep dark secret. They're trying to get some ink and some ratings for C-SPAN.

All of this comes at the expense of men who may or may not be innocent. Hall of Famers are losing their legacies with no proof and no due process. I would expect Congress, above all, to respect their right to a fair trial.

But the steroid scandal is a gigantic money and attention pie and everybody, even Congress, wants a piece.

There's nothing to do in
this town.

go.

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The Clairvoyant Stripper

By Kyle Fortinsky
For The Maine Campus

Sitting in the private section of Pleasures – the finest gentleman's club in Las Vegas – with a Corona

Commentary

and wad of one-dollar bills, I wondered what the hell was wrong with me. Was it the fact that I had been up for three days straight? The fact that I had no clue – honestly – if it was six in the morning or six at night? The fact that I hadn't had my hotel key for 40 hours? Surprisingly, no. I thought something was awry because I was thinking about college basketball.

Before you let that confused look on your face get any worse, let me tell you why I was thinking about college basketball. It wasn't that the dancers weren't good or that I just realized I spent 200 bucks in 3 hours in this low-lit satin cave – which was all craps winnings anyway, so I didn't care. No, March Madness was swimming in my head because Jenna, the fine companion directly in front of me at the time, had just whispered into my ear that she could predict 60 of the 64 teams that would make up the 2005 Men's Basketball Championship bracket, and correctly guess at least 25 of the seedings.

Now people: You have no idea what it's like to hear that statement in the state I was in and in the place I was in. It's like your grandmother calling you up at three in the morning and saying she bought two tickets to a Jay-Z show and she was taking you. Or like a guy saying he can predict the new spring line of Dutch Boy paints before they're released on the market. These things have no credibility or reason whatsoever.

My reaction was natural: I spilled my beer slightly, dropped my cash, shouted "yeah right!" and went into a much more expletive-driven tirade. I asked Jenna – if that's even her real name – why she

had brought that up, and was it just a gimmick she told everyone she entertained to get more, ahem, tips – which I was being generous with. She responded that she had heard me and my friends talking about the tournament a couple hours earlier and then told me "the ACC is definitely the best conference, and the Big East is a distant second." Then she proceeded with this zinger: "Washington and Arizona are underrated because you never see them play, being from the East coast, and ESPN is biased towards east coast teams."

A couple hours earlier? I was still on that part. Must have been! I didn't even remember going to the ATM a half-hour ago.

I bring this story up because over break I was trying to think of something new and fresh to write about concerning March Madness. The problem is everything's been done before. It's tough to be creative with simple tournament picks, and no one really wants to read about what someone else thinks anyway. I detect nodding heads of agreement. OK, so then we all agree I should proceed with the story?

By this time I figured she knew at least something about college ball; those statements weren't memorized and I detected a bit of sincerity in her voice. It could have just been how distorted she sounded over the thumping bass, either way I was convinced.

I told Jenna that if she was so sure about this she would have to prove it to me. Perfect – she got off at nine in the morning and she would write it all out for me. So, twenty minutes later we were off to set this straight.

Just as I was getting over the initial shock of walking out of a Las Vegas gentleman's club at 9 a.m. with a dancer to watch her accurately write down nearly all the teams that would be in this year's men's tournament, we stumbled into the Caesar's Palace breakfast buffet. It was conveniently located near the

Sports Book, so we both snagged a blank bracket sheet to mull over during the meal. This is the beauty of Vegas – you can actually bet on who will make the tournament before it happens.

There was a method to her madness, I have to admit. To each selection she had an explanation and evidence to back it up. I rarely disagreed and became immersed in her predictions as if she were Dick Vitale. This was an adult dancer, telling me what was going to happen with the NCAA tournament! The way my mind was spinning this should have been a dream. When she finished, my sheet and breakfast plate were both empty. I had managed to eat a heaping mound of food and apparently used my brackets as a placemat, all the while marveling at her southern accent and seeing my incredulous attitude completely change. An hour later we parted ways and I joked that she better not have wasted my time. All I got was a smile and a wave, and the basketball wiz was gone.

Selection Sunday couldn't have come sooner. Despite my initial quelling of Jenna's predictions, I wanted to see if the old gal was right: and I swear the shock was double what I felt when she had initially told me about the proposition. It was 7 p.m., the Selection Special had just ended, and I was staring at 59 correct teams in the field of 64 and 25 correct seeds.

I felt like I'd been had. She had to have known something I didn't. Who guesses that many teams and seeds right, and predicts it first? All the validity I needed was on the bracket sheet she had filled out to an eerily accurate "T". It turns out she did know more than me: how much money was in my jacket pocket during breakfast, because it was empty when I looked later that day. I was robbed of my pride in sports knowledge and 100 more bucks. It's ok, though, like I said, it was only craps money.

UM opens season in Florida

By Matthew Conyers
Sports Editor

On Monday, the University of Maine baseball team completed a two week exodus to

Baseball

Florida to open the season. The squad returned home to Orono with a defiant 6-6 record against all non-conference opponents.

Head coach Paul Kostacopoulos took time on Monday to discuss the trip.

"We are certainly not happy with 6-6, but at the same time we recognize the things we need to correct to become a better team," said Kostacopoulos.

"6-6 is probably what we expected," said Kostacopoulos. "Its one of those things where you can have a little success so you don't get emotional down but yet still make a few mistakes so you can learn a few new things."

Kostacopoulos believes his squads need to look at the trip as chance to retool fundamentals early on in the year.

"We have to keep some of it in perspective," said Kostacopoulos. "I think we need to build from here, this is a great week for practice."

The Black Bears were lead in the sunshine state by freshman Curt Smith, who exploded for a .409 average in his 12 games of collegiate ball.

Smith was named the America East Rookie of the week on Monday, scoring seven runs and registering four RBI's. Smith has three doubles on the season. The extremely skilled Smith was among four players that started all 12 of the teams.

As contributing greatly to the Black Bears offensive

assault is Joel Barrett and Ryan Quintal, who are hitting .396 and .358, respectively. Quintal and Barrett each have one home run. Also posting a strong performance at the plate thus far the season is Aaron Izaryk, who is batting .351 with six doubles.

"Defensively we definitely need to improve, which I somewhat expected being this early, going from the gym to playing outside," said Kostacopoulos. "Offensively we swung the bat pretty good; we hit .310 as a team. I think there's more potential to be a better hitting team though."

"I think this team is going to hit for a high average," said Kostacopoulos.

Kostacopoulos also feels the trip helped develop chemistry among the squad.

"This is one of the biggest experiences that we have as team, as far as building the understanding of each other," said Kostacopoulos. "I think that is one of those things that doesn't show up on the stat sheets."

Off the mound, Greg Norton is leading the way with a 2-1 record with a 1.56 earn run average. Troy Martin has picked up two saves on the year.

"Our pitching was pretty strong in the sense that our starting pitching did a real good job," said Kostacopoulos.

The Black Bears return to action this weekend against Monmouth on Saturday. UMaine will play a double header starting at noon and then wrap up the series Sunday with a single game at noon.

"I feel we have Monmouth coming up who is a solid team and played a pretty tough schedule," said Kostacopoulos. "Right now though I stay focus on our guys and how we are going to improve."

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TITLE

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Sophomore Josh Soares commented on the feeling after the thorough pummeling of the River Hawks.

"It's an upbeat feeling right now; we've known every game for the last few weekends that it's been do or die," said Soares. "We really turned it around this week and beat a good hockey team."

UMass-Lowell head coach Blaise MacDonald feels UMaine is playing their best hockey of the season.

"It seems like they are playing their best hockey at the most important part of the season and that is a trademark of UMaine hockey," said MacDonald. "I think of a lot of it stems from having exceptional goaltending. When you have goalies like Jimmy Howard your confidence is exemplified."

Talented forward Michael Leveille discussed the boost UMaine will have going into the game.

"We definitely feel we have a little momentum going down there," said Leveille. "We've had some ups and downs all year, but we played a good team this weekend, it will give us a boost going to the FleetCenter."

"We won it last year, so we have to defend our title," said Leveille.

All-American netminder Howard will need to remain on top of his game against a lethal Eagle squad. In net, Howard has a 1.97 goals against average and a .921 save percentage. For Howard and the Black Bears the game also marks their first game at the FleetCenter since last year's National title game defeat against Denver. Howard briefly addressed this fact.

"That was last year," said Howard. "It's way behind us now."



CAMPUS PHOTO BY STEVE KNAPP

HANGING WITH HOWARD — Jimmy Howard and a fellow teammate relax momentarily at Wednesday's practice at Alford Arena. The Black Bears are coming off a quarterfinal sweep of UMass-Lowell last weekend.

It's a new year."

The Black Bears have played in 14 games at the FleetCenter, 12 of which have been Hockey East Tournament games. UMaine is 7-5 in those games, with three of the losses coming in the title game. The Black Bears and Eagles have met nine times in the Hockey East post-season, five of those times in the title game — the most meetings between two teams in the title games. BC holds the advantage in the championship 3-2. UMaine's

last win in the title game against BC came in 2000 with a 2-1 victory.

Boston College emerges in the game after defeating UMass-Amherst 3-2 in overtime on Friday and 5-1 on Saturday to close out the series. The Eagles enter the game with UMaine possibly without their top player Patrick Eaves, who has a team-high 19 goals and 29 assists. Eaves has a bad bruise on his back and is having trouble with his lungs and is considered

doubtful for the weekend. The Eagles won't have to look too far for an extra kick. Boston College, boasting one of the most talented first lines in the country, will look to seniors Ryan Shannon and Dave Spina for production. Shannon and Spina have 14 and 12 goals. Sophomore Brian Boyle rounds out the Eagles sensational offense with 15 goals.

In net, the Eagles may split time between Matti Kaltiainen and freshman Cory Schneider.

Kaltiainen has a 1.81 goals against average and a .921 save percentage, while Schneider has played in 14 games posting a 1.64 goals against average and a .925 save percentage.

The Black Bears are 0-2-1 against the Eagles this season and only two weeks removed from a two-game slate in Chestnut Hill. UMaine tied Boston College 2-2 in the second game of the series after losing the opening match 4-3.

WNIT

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Thursday in the America East quarterfinal round to eighth-seeded Boston University, the Black Bears knew they would not get an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament. They were, hopeful of an NIT bid and sure enough it came.

"How we lost and how we went out in America East is just a very empty feeling," said Versyp. "If we weren't hurt our hopes for the NCAA would have been better, but we have a second opportunity to show what we're about."

Against the Terriers, senior point guard Kim Corbitt aggravated a shoulder injury late in the first half and had to sit out the second half. Corbitt was named Conference Player of the Year and Conference Defensive Player of the Year less than 24 hours earlier. She is the first player to receive both honors in the same season.

Along with Corbitt, senior co-captain Missy Traversi was named to the all-conference first team, Versyp was named America East Coach of the Year for the second time in three seasons, and sophomore Bracey Barker was named to the All-Conference third team.

Versyp said the award for Corbitt was well-deserved but also surprising.

"I think it surprised everybody. We feel that her or Missy could have

been MVP of our team," said Versyp. "I didn't know if either of them would receive it, because everybody looks at statistics."

While Corbitt led the team in steals and assists it was her defensive prowess and pure leadership presence on the court that helped UMaine to four straight winning seasons, three straight 20-win seasons, and three post-season appearances.

"You take her or Missy out of our team, they've been the engine of our team for four years," said Versyp, "so that obviously would hurt us."

Corbitt was not the only injured Lady Black Bear. Traversi played the game with an injured wrist.

While the Black Bears were able to pull close to BU several times the Terriers outlasted the Black Bears 63-51 to advance to the semi-finals.

The Black Bears had won the conference regular season championship for the third consecutive season, and were highly favored to repeat as America East tournament champions, an honor that ended up going to Jennifer Rizzotti's Hartford Hawks.

"It's just a shame that you play and you put so many hours in and it comes down to one game," said Versyp, who would like to see the automatic conference bid to the NCAA tournament go to the regular season champion. "You look at the bracket in the WNIT, half of those teams probably could have made the NCAA tournament easily if they could have just won one more game," said Versyp.

BEARS

From Page 20

The semi-final defeat was one game further than most spectators anticipated. The Black Bears advanced to the America East Semifinals after Chris Markwood hit a thrilling three-pointer with 2.2 seconds left to knock off top team Boston University 47-45.

For UMaine, a team plagued with injury and bad luck all year, the trip to Binghamton was not all disappointment.

Head coach Ted Woodward took time to discuss the season on Monday.

"We felt all year that when we had our full compliment of players we could be amongst the best teams in the league," said Woodward. "We had a tremendous amount of confidence going into the tournament."

Although UMaine finished the postseason among the top four in the league, Woodward felt it all came too late.

"I feel we were playing well," said Woodward, "but I also feel it was really the first time up until the last two weeks of the season that we had our starting backcourt in place."

Woodward touched upon Markwood's shot, the biggest play of the season for the squad.

"Unbelievable, it certainly makes it all worthwhile for him," said Woodward. "He has some tough luck during the course of the season."

He has worked so hard, so he deserves to make that shot. He will be remembered for it."

With nine seconds remaining, UMaine rebounded the ball and went the length of court. Markwood hit the three point from the top of the arc as time ticked away. The play would not have been possible if it was not for a Kevin Reed jumper with 17 seconds left to give the Black Bears a 44-43. Chaz Carr of BU hit a pair of free throws with nine seconds left to regain a 45-44 edge.

Forward Joe Campbell was elated for Markwood.

"I am excited for him," said Campbell. "That is a big shot, I know I will always remember it. He is the leader of our team and that is what leaders do."

Woodward commented on the Black Bears ability to beat a tough opponent like the Terriers.

"I thought we played great defense on them throughout the whole game," said Woodward. "We had a slow shooting start."

Mark Flavin and Campbell finished the game with a team-high 11 points. Flavin also hauled in 10 rebounds.

"I think our defense held firm all the way through and gave us opportunities," said Woodward.

In the second game in Binghamton, the Black Bears went down 52-31 with 16:25 left in the second half. However, still had one amazing run left in them. Only nine minutes later the Black Bears had

pulled within one point after Reed put the squad on his back.

"I think Kevin is the absolute heart and soul of what we are," said Woodward. "There are so many things he does more than shoot the basketball. He had the opportunity in the last couple weeks to put his team on his back and he has been able to take his game to the next level."

In an unrivaled and heroic performance, Reed sunk six of his seven three pointers to pull UMaine back to 63-62 with 7:30 remaining. Jon Hight also nailed a three during the 26-8 run.

After a brief timeout, Northeastern rallied right back with an 11-0 run, holding the Black Bears to one hoop, until the final minute.

Reed finished the game with 28 points, while shooting 7-for-13 from behind the arc. Campbell had 15 points and 10 rebounds and Ernest Turner hauled in 10.

The Black Bears shot 13-for-30 from behind the arc.

Although the squad is graduating a tremendous senior class in Markwood, Campbell, Flavin and David Dubois. There is already eyes to the future.

"Obviously we are going to miss all four of our seniors," said Woodward. "They all have left a stamp on the program."

"This team next year year has a great foundation," said Campbell. "They are going to be able to build on that."

UMaine finished Woodward's first season as head coach 14-15.

UMaine prepares for WNIT after upset

By Riley Donovan
Staff Writer

University of Maine women's basketball head coach Sharon Versyp sat in her office Monday afternoon, preparing for her team's

Women's Basketball

next game, with a smile on her face.

She had just learned a few hours earlier that her team received a bid to the Women's National Invitational Tournament. While her administrative assistant Marian Dressler worked the phones to finalize the team's travel plans to West Virginia, Versyp began preparing for the Lady Black Bear's first-round contest against the Mountaineers.

The 17-12 Mountaineers made it to the Big East quarterfinals last weekend.

"They're from the Big East so you know they play a very competitive schedule day in and day out," said Versyp.

After a devastating loss last

See WNIT on Page 19

Black Bears conclude season with semifinal loss

By Matthew Conyers
Sports Editor

For the University of Maine men's basketball team, this was not the finish they had envisioned. There

Men's Basketball

were no ESPN cameras, no trip to Austin, Texas, and most importantly no conference championship. Instead, it ended just like it had the past four years, with UMaine looking at the rafters wondering what if.

What if that bounce went our way? What if that pass was just a little higher? What if luck was on our side?

On March 7, those questions once again reared their ugly little heads, when the Black Bears fell 86-73 to Northeastern in Binghamton, NY, one game shy of the America East Tournament Championship game. The no. 2 seeded Huskies halted a valiant attempt by the no. 6 seeded Black Bears to return to the championship in the America East tournament semifinal game, one year removed from last season's loss to the University of Vermont.

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CAMPUS PHOTO BY STEVEN KNAPP

HOCKEY HUDDLE—UMaine head coach Tim Whitehead speaks to his squad during Wednesday's practice. The Black Bears are preparing to face Boston College this Friday at the FleetCenter in Boston.

Unfinished Business

Men's ice hockey team set to defend Hockey East title over the weekend

By Matthew Conyers
Sports Editor

They weren't supposed to be here.

It was simple enough. All season, the critics and analysts kept saying it wasn't their year. They were down. They had dug themselves into too big a hole. They were supposed to roll over. So long, NCAA tournament; sayonara return trip to Boston for the Hockey East Championship.

However, the University of Maine men's hockey team knew better than to believe any of it. They held the final card. They had mystique and aura in their corner. And most importantly, they had a little place called Alford Arena on their side.

The Black Bears knew full well that their was nothing a little home-cooking couldn't solve. Over the weekend they proved it.

After an exhilarating two-game sweep over the University of Massachusetts-Lowell, the Black Bears have punched a return trip to Boston for a date with top dog Boston College in the Hockey East semi-finals and have also played themselves back into contention for an NCAA tournament bid. The two foes are set to meet Friday in the evening for the first of two semi-finals. The winner will move on to a Saturday night date in the Hockey East Championship game. The contest marks the 16th time UMaine has played in the semifinals, the most in Hockey East.

UMaine head coach Tim

HOCKEY EAST CHAMPIONSHIP



#1

Boston College vs.
UMaine
FleetCenter
Friday 5 p.m.



#2

Boston University vs.
UNH
FleetCenter
Friday 8 p.m.



#4



#3

Whitehead took time during the week to discuss his excitement over the trip back to Boston.

"I am just really happy for our players because it's been a long hard road this year," said Whitehead. "I am real happy for these guys, they have worked for it."

"I am certainly happy to get back there and have this opportunity," said Whitehead.

Whitehead is hoping the fact that his team is still the reigning Hockey East Tournament Champions bodes well for the trip.

"We are the defending Hockey East champions, so our guys have some good memories," said

Whitehead. "Our guys have had a lot of success at the Fleet, last year in particular, so I think it will be a positive going down there."

UMaine won the 2004 title last season by conquering UMass in a epic triple overtime win.

The match marks the two squad's fourth engagement of the year and the first at the FleetCenter since their harrowing Frozen Four battle last season. The Black Bears and Eagles will play the first semifinal, while Boston University has the nightcap with the University of New Hampshire.

"Once you get into that arena, everyone is playing well," said

Whitehead when discussing the Fleetcenter. "It's going to be exciting. The key is we've got to focus on ourselves and sticking to our own game plan."

UMaine, currently ranked 12th in the country in both the USCHO-CSTV and USA Today-USA Hockey Magazine polls, enters the season 20-11-7. The Black Bears are 13-6-5 in Hockey East. Boston College resides at fourth in both polls with a record of 23-6-7 on the year. The Eagles are 14-3-7 in conference competition.

"Sometimes it's gotten frustrating this year, but our guys have persevered," said Whitehead. "People thought we were down and out and these guys found a way to crawl back in it, but we aren't there yet. We still have two more games to win if we are going to qualify for the NCAA's."

"We are certainly aren't counting on anything less," said Whitehead. "That is what we feel we have to do. If we get in without winning it, hey that is a bonus. We are assuming that we are going to have to win that tournament."

The Black Bears will enter Beantown still reeling from two explosive victories against the River Hawks in last weekend's Hockey East quarterfinal series. UMaine defeated UMass-Lowell 7-2 and 5-1 on Saturday to complete a season sweep. The Black Bears two-game undefeated streak against UMass-Lowell.

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