

Spring 4-21-2005

# Maine Campus April 21 2005

Maine Campus Staff

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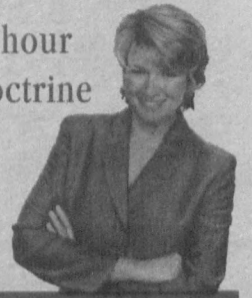


THURSDAY  
April 21, 2005  
Vol. 123 No. 48

# THE MAINE CAMPUS

THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE NEWSPAPER SINCE 1875

See why 24-hour domestic doctrine isn't a good thing. Page 8



## Red Cross defends its policies to senate

By Ernest Scheyder  
News Editor

Following the campus fallout from the General Student Senate's near-unanimous vote against the Red Cross, much is still unknown. Last week, the senate passed a resolution voicing opposition to the Red Cross' support of a Food and Drug Administration ban that prohibits men who have had sex with another man after 1977 from giving blood.

On Tuesday night, representatives of the non-profit agency flew into Bangor for a meeting with the senate. Donna Morrissey, director of corporate affairs for the Red Cross, spoke to senators along with Mary O'Neill, a medical doctor and vice president of the organization's north-east division.

Senators peppered the duo with questions ranging from the technical aspects of the FDA ban to the Red Cross' position on research.

"We must ensure the blood supply we give patients won't harm them," O'Neill said. "Because we don't have tests that detect infection 100 percent, that's why we ask questions."

O'Neill explained that the Red Cross is continually involved in research regarding deferrals of all types.

"We believe enough people don't know about blood... Part of our job is to come up and cure any misinformation," O'Neill said.

She noted that she, as someone originally from Ireland, is prohibited from donating blood due to the mad cow disease outbreak in Europe.

Despite the senate's ruling, Morrissey said the Red Cross blood drive scheduled for Monday and Tuesday was successful. On Monday, 112 people presented themselves to give blood, and 89 were

See BLOOD on Page 2



CAMPUS PHOTO BY LAURA GIORGIO

RAY OF LIGHT— Elizabeth Hardink and Nikki Scott wait for their candles to be lit before walking in the Take Back the Night march around campus in hopes of increasing the community's awareness of violence against women, children, and families.

## Student groups take back the night

Annual event takes a stand against rape with speeches, singing on campus mall

By Diana McElwain  
Assistant News Editor

Women, men, decorated shoes and candles gathered in front of Fogler Library on Tuesday to "Take Back the Night." The annual event is held in efforts to stop rape and domestic violence and provide those affected by these acts with a forum to speak.

Teal Rancourt, an organizer of the event, said it was an important part of life at the University of Maine.

"It's been a tradition here for a while," she said.

She said that one year there was talk of not holding the event, but so many voiced their displeasure that the event went on.

"The reason we do it is because there is a need for it on this campus," she said.

Rancourt said that by hearing others speak of their own experiences, attendants would be able to see that they are not alone in their struggles.

"It gives everyone a chance to support other people," she said. "It gives them a chance to know there are other people out there."

She said that the part of the night

that had the most meaning for many was the open microphone portion, where everyone is free to stand in front of the crowd, share their story and offer support.

"That's what a lot of people come for," she said.

Rancourt said that she was pleased by the number of people who attended the gathering, although she had hoped for a larger crowd.

"It's not as large as I'd hoped, but it's hard for people to get out this time of year," she said.

However, she said that the size of the audience was certainly not the

point of the event.

"Even if we only had a few people here it would still be worth it," she said.

The evening began by a performance of the all-female a cappella group Renaissance, who entertained the crowd before the speaking began.

Carey Nason helped open the event by talking about Rape Response Services and the Safe Campus Project. She congratulated the Student Women's Association,

See NIGHT on Page 2

## ResLife awards each residence hall \$1,000 for programming

By Chelsey Ledue  
For The Maine Campus

Want money? If you're in a residence hall, you're getting your wish.

University of Maine residence halls have recently been awarded \$1,000 for programming or purchases to benefit residents for Residence Life and Programs. The money comes from the unused salary of the Residence Life and Programs associate director position,

which has been vacant since last year.

The search for an associate director started in October of 2004, but since one has not yet been found, there is extra money left in the ResLife budget. ResLife is funded by Student Auxiliary Services, and any unused funds are given back to them at the end of the budget period in July. The room and board residential students pay funds SAS each semester, so ResLife wanted to give some back to the students.

"If you have any [money] this is the time to do it," said Barbara Smith, ResLife and Programs director.

Residence halls usually receive a few hundred dollars each year to do similar activities, but with surplus funds, hall staffs are able to do more for the students.

"It's all about the students," Smith said.

The hall size is also being taken into consideration when distributing the funds. For example, Halls like Oak, Balentine and

Colvin do not hold as many residents as Knox and Oxford. Each hall is spending what they need and the unused money from the smaller halls is given to the larger halls.

Laura Pruyne, Hart Hall resident director, said in an e-mail that the Hart Hall staff and Hall Governing Board would be holding a barbecue for all of the Hart Hall residents. During the barbecue there will be food, games and a raffle. Also, a door prize will be given to all Hart

residents that attend.

"I can't tell you [what the door prize is], it's a surprise. It's just something small, but fun," Pruyne said.

While Hart Hall has chosen to hold a barbecue, all the halls have chosen to do something different. One hall is planning an overnight camping trip with MaineBound for all residents that want to attend, another has purchased t-shirts with the hall

See MONEY on Page 2



## THE MAINE CAMPUS COMMUNITY CALENDAR



CAMPUS PHOTO BY SARAH BIGNEY

**JUST SEW IT** — University of Maine ecology and environmental sciences major Darin Franceschini learns to sew as Pat Wheeler, artist and activist from Deer Isle, helps him make a peace flag at last year's HOPE Festival. This year the 11th annual HOPE Festival will be held on campus, Saturday from 10 to 4 p.m. in the Fieldhouse. The Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine with the Student Environmental Action Coalition and the Maine Peace Action Committee are hosting the event at UMaine for the first time.

Thursday, April 21, 2005

### Socialist meeting

"There will be a public meeting of the Socialist Equality Party at 4 p.m. in the Bangor room in the Memorial Union. For more information, contact Jo or Carl Cooley at 722-3362.

### Aerobic class

A pilates class will be held at 4:30 in Lengyel gym. For more information, contact Thad Dwyer on FirstClass.

### Aerobic class

A cardio kick-step class will be held at 5:30 in Lengyel gym. For more information, contact Thad Dwyer on FirstClass.

### Diversity lecture

Tim Wise, activist and author of "White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son," will speak at 7 p.m. in the Donald P. Corbett Business Building. For more information, contact Ethel Hill at 581-3072.

Friday, April 22, 2005

### Bible study

The Wilson Center will host a Bible study at 11 a.m. For more information, contact Rev. Timothy Sylvia at 866-4227 or on FirstClass.

### Teaching workshop

"Civility in the Classroom Revisited" workshop will be held in the Bumps Room in The Memorial Union at 11:30 a.m. For more information contact the Center for Teaching Excellence at 581-3472.

### Immunity seminar

"A Structure-Activity Study of Alpha-Defensin-Mediated Innate Immunity" will be presented at 2:10 p.m. in 203 Hitchner Hall. For more information, contact Roseann Cochrane at 581-2815.

### Aquacize class

An aquacize class will be held at 5:45 a.m. in Memorial Gymnasium's Wallace Pool. For more information, contact Thad Dwyer on FirstClass.

Saturday, April 23, 2005

### Peace festival

The annual Help Organize Peace Earthwide (HOPE) Festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Memorial Gymnasium's Fieldhouse. For more information, contact Doug Allen on FirstClass.

Sunday, April 24, 2005

### Worship service

The Wilson Center will host a Contemporary Worship Service at 6 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.

## Correction

In the April 14 edition of the Police Beat, Emily Couturier's beer was unopened.

The Maine Campus strives to have an accurate and informative paper. If you notice that we have made an error, please contact the appropriate section editor.

# Police respond to Patch Hall party, summons man for illegal drinking



## POLICEBEAT

By Kyle Webster  
Staff Reporter

A man was issued a summons following a situation in Patch Hall 1:25 a.m. Sunday, April 17. Officers responded to a call of underage drinking on the third floor. Upon arrival, officers heard a male and female arguing in the room in question. The complainant pointed out that one of males drinking in the room was underage. The man, identified as Christopher Lubren, 20, of Orono, produced a 40-ounce container of alcohol and a few empty cans. As a result, Lubren was issued a summons for possession of liquor by a minor.

### 4:20 started a little early in one Hancock Hall dorm room

A woman was issued a summons following a situation in the basement of Hancock Hall 9:45 p.m. Friday, April 15. Officers responded to a call regarding the smell of marijuana. Allegedly, a resident assistant observed a group spraying air freshener into the hallway. The officer knocked on the door of the room in question but there was no answer. A short while later the resident assistant called back stating that the people in the room were back. The officer returned to the room and knocked. The door was answered by Staci

King, 19, of Orono. There were several people inside room. The officer observed that the people exhibited signs of marijuana use. King stated she had been smoking in the room and turned over a small pot pipe with a small amount of marijuana inside it. A small bag with marijuana in it was also seen in plain view on top of desk. As a result, King was issued a two summonses for possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

### Routine traffic stop reveals underage drinking

A woman was issued a summons following a traffic stop 2:45 a.m. Friday, April 15. An officer driving through the Orchard parking lot observed a vehicle with its plate light out. The vehicle was stopped and the driver was identified as Shanna Murphy, 18, of Stockton Springs. The officer saw an open Twisted Tea in the vehicle. A search of the vehicle produced seven more unopened

containers. As a result, Murphy was issued a summons for illegal possession of liquor by a minor.

### Noise complaint leads to summons for illegal drinking

A man was issued a summons following a situation in Knox Hall 12:14 a.m. Friday, April 15. Officers responded to the second floor of the hall due to a noise complaint. They were told by a resident assistant that a resident had been drinking underage in the room in question. An officer knocked and heard someone opening a can inside the room. A man opened the door and was identified as Jason Guerette, 19, of Orono. He appeared intoxicated and admitted to drinking. Additionally, a six-pack of beer was found in the room. As a result, the residents were told to quiet down, and Guerette was issued a summons for possession of liquor by a minor.

— Elizabeth Barry contributed to this article.

## NIGHT

From Page 1

one of the night's sponsors.

"SWA did such an awesome job. There are so many people getting together to support each other," she said.

Nason also read a letter from Gov. John Baldacci, who apologized for missing the event. In the letter, he gave praise to the event, and offered hope to victims of domestic violence.

"There is hope. Victims must know they need not suffer in silence," he wrote. "We need to support all victims tonight

and every night."

Assistant Dean of Students Kenda Scheele also took the stage to talk about her experience of living with a college roommate who was raped.

"I commend everyone here who's supporting folks," she said. "Hats off to all of you for being here today."

One by one, people went in front of the microphone to share their stories of abuse, or to speak on behalf of a loved one.

Another special guest was Carol Ayoob, who had come from Aroostook County to sing at the end of the event. She said that through work at a battered women's shelter, she has learned

how important events such as "Take Back The Night" are to the healing process.

"One of the things I've come to realize is that these are not just stories, they are real events," she said.

Ayoob said more had to be done to prevent these atrocities from taking place.

"Don't just speak here, speak in the form of letters to our leaders," she said.

After the speaking portion, the attendants lit candles and proceeded to march around campus, chanting affirmations of their strength. While the wind made it difficult for the flames to remain lit, it did nothing to lessen the voices of the marchers.

## MONEY

From Page 1

name on it and yet another is

planning a block party.

Smith said she hopes students will take advantage of this rare opportunity to be doted upon at the end of this spring semester, it is not very often that extra money

is given to causes like this on campus.

"I wish we could do this every year ... It's a nice way to end it," said Smith. "It puts some closure on the year."

## BLOOD

From Page 1

able to do so. On Tuesday, 145 people showed up to give blood and 100 were able to do so, Morrissey said.

"It was very successful from our standpoint," she said. "It was really nice to see what a nice warm reception we had. It was one of the most rewarding drives I've been to."

She stressed that the Red Cross' stance on the ban does not reflect her organization's view on diversity.

"[The Red Cross' position] is in no way a social statement on someone's sexual orientation," Morrissey said.

While many senators were swayed by the Red Cross' presentation, many said they felt their questions were not directly answered. Matthew Small, the GLBT coordinator for the Dean of Students office, took the direct approach when addressing this issue to Morrissey.

"I see the resolution ... has definitely alarmed the Red Cross," Small said. "You've definitely packed your

Louis Vuton briefcase, flew up here, and I'm wondering if you could tell me if we still don't agree with the FDA policy and the Red Cross is supporting that policy, why should we use the Red Cross when there are other blood banks that support lifting that ban?"

Morrissey took direct issue with Small's line of questioning.

"If you look at the documents that we gave you ... the Red Cross supports further research before the ban is lifted," Morrissey said to Small. "What you just said is a statement not based on fact ... I don't think [what you just said] is productive to the conversation. I have an item with me, and I think I've earned it."

Student Body President Kate O'Brien, who had previously spoken out in support of the Red Cross' competitor, Eastern Maine Blood, voiced her optimism regarding the meeting.

"I think it went well," O'Brien said. "I think the objective of the meeting was to answer any questions the senators might have had, and I think that was achieved."

According to Robert's Rules of Order, any resolution that was passed

in a previous meeting may be brought up for review by a senator that had voted in the affirmative. No senator made such a move in Tuesday's meeting, but the meeting was interrupted when Sen. James Sulinski motioned to end the meeting. His motion was seconded and could not be debated.

As of press time, representatives of the Senate were still debating as to whether or not the Red Cross resolution could be brought up for review during the next meeting since the meeting was unexpectedly ended. Senate President Brigham McNaughton noted that a second resolution would be easier to pass than a reconsideration of the previous resolution because a reconsideration requires a 2/3 vote and a new resolution requires a simple majority.

Whatever the case, the chance still exists for a second resolution to be submitted that would nullify the resolution condemning the Red Cross, but O'Brien noted the possibility that it is very much up in the air.

"As far as what the senate is going to do, I don't know," she said.



# Campus speaker: 'Let's hear it for female orgasms'

By Angela Flandacca  
Staff Reporter

The infamous 90s tune "Let's Talk About Sex" was the theme at Tuesday night's Guest Lecture Series event, entitled "I Heart Female Orgasm," co-sponsored by Student Government, Inc. and Student Entertainment.

The event was slightly different from simply talking about sexual healing, however. This one was primarily for the ladies on campus, though much was geared toward their partners also.

"Let's hear it for female orgasms!" said speaker and sex educator Dorian Solot.

Participants were advised instead of shutting off their cell phones to turn them to vibrate.

The video clip from the movie "When Harry Met Sally," where actress Meg Ryan fakes an orgasm in a restaurant, was shown to set the mood.

"This is a really fun subject," Solot said.

While a fun subject, it's also a serious one when considering safe sex, detecting sexually transmitted infections and having confidence to say no to unwanted sexual acts, she said.

Sex is also about being comfortable with one's body, and that comfort level can lead to detecting health risks before they get worse. This was Solot's case. She randomly found a lump on her breast because she was comfortable with her body. That lump was diagnosed as breast cancer.

"I was glad I was not one of those women who have internalized that it's bad, dirty and shameful to touch

your own body," Solot said.

Being comfortable with one's body was just one item on the checklist for what women need in order to receive orgasms. When the group of about 100 students was split into two based on sex, with females talking with Solot and males talking with Solot's partner and sex educator Marshal Miller, the females brainstormed other things that help women achieve orgasms. These included time — the average woman takes 20 minutes to orgasm, while the average man takes two to five minutes to orgasm — privacy; being properly lubricated; sex toys; confidence; fantasies; being comfortable with partners and with selves; breast, clitoral and anal stimulation; etc. Each of these does not work for every person, according to Solot.

"It's so personal," she said. "It's different from woman to woman, and man to man."

Miller talked about the lack of adequate and helpful sex education to adolescents.

"It's something that's often missing from some other education we get," Miller said.

Generally, students are taught about the things that can go wrong with sex, like STIs, HIV and AIDS, unwanted pregnancy, etc. If those are all that are taught, an important piece is missing, according to Miller.

"The more comfortable people are talking about sex, the more likely they are to make smart, healthy decisions about it," Miller said.

The aim of this event was to at least de-stigmatize acts related to self-pleasure. On that quest, it was stressed that the following are OK and normal: masturbating or not



CAMPUS PHOTO BY MELISSA ARMES

A STANDING O — Sex educators Dorian Solot and Marshall Miller spoke to an audience of men and women Monday night about the female orgasm and how to achieve it in their lecture "I Heart Female Orgasm." Solot exemplified her first exposure to masturbation was through a Dear Abby advice pamphlet.

masturbating; having one's first orgasm early in life or in one's teens or in one's 20s and not always having simultaneous orgasms with a partner, according to Miller and Solot.

Commonly, people don't know where the G-spot of one's self or one's partner is located. For the record, it is inside the vagina about two to three inches along the vaginal canal. One can find it by reaching inside and curving toward the inside of the woman's body, according to Miller.

Solot and Miller provided a comprehensive list, entitled "So you

want to have a female orgasm?" The seven tips included start alone; befriend your body — don't criticize your body and call it "fat" or "ugly," make peace with your body through journaling or counseling; look at your vulva — say hello and be a good neighbor once in a while; touch yourself experimentally — find out what feels good and where; keep touching yourself every day and don't give up; experiment with tensing and relaxing muscles; and use fantasy.

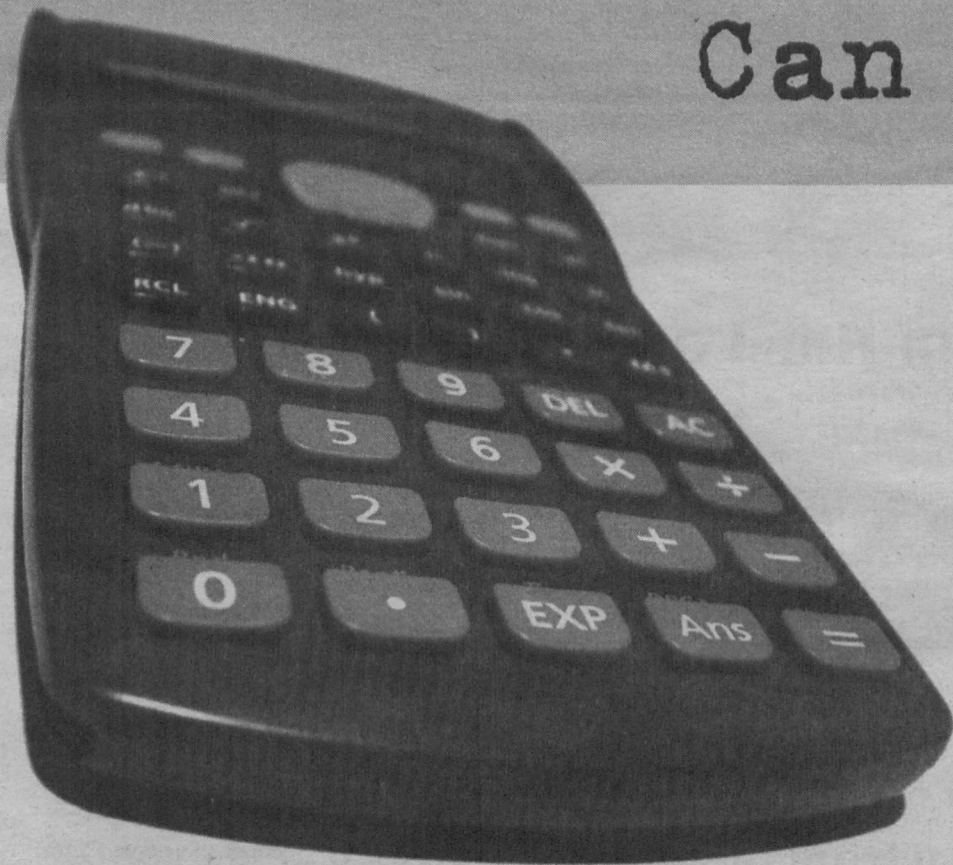
While they are mostly fun and pleasurable, orgasms are also

helpful for reducing stress; burning calories; sleeping better; reducing menstrual cramps; and reducing eating junk food and having headaches, according to Solot.

An insightful night for the students who attended, most left with a smile on their faces and perhaps thinking back to Miller's earlier prediction that maybe some audience members were hoping to use the skills learned at the "I Heart Female Orgasm" talk that night.

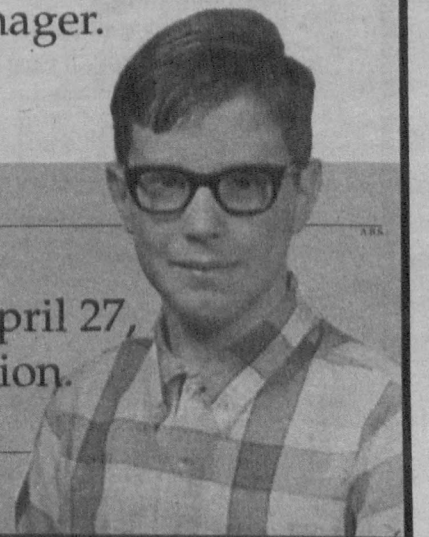
"Wishing you good health and plenty of orgasms," Solot said.

I hear you're good with numbers.  
Can I have yours?



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## STUDENT SENATE NOTES

## Senator moves to end session while in debate

By Samantha White  
Staff Reporter

Tuesday night's meeting of the General Student Senate illustrated that the senate has some heated issues on their hands.

The first guest speaker was University of Maine Provost John Mahon, who came to clear up any questions that the senate may have about the future of the University of Maine. When asked about the tuition hike, he said he is not sure of the exact numbers yet.

"We have needs always, for students as well as faculty," he said.

He also announced that they will be breaking ground on the recreation center on April 29. It will open up in September 2006.

Many senators also wanted to know what the role of the provost actually was. He explained that he deals with a lot of the major problems that the university encounters.

"If you go to see me, generally it's because you have a problem," Mahon said.

He also welcomed anyone who recognizes him around campus to come and say "hi." He said it is surprising how many people don't know who the provost is. He told a story about how a student who ran into him and mistook him for a Wal-Mart greeter.

The next several guests speakers from the American Red Cross were there to urge the senators to rethink their resolution to disaffiliate themselves with that organization and to clear up any misunderstandings. Senators were free to ask questions to gain better knowledge of the resolution.

The first and only resolution that was brought up at the meeting was an act to allocate \$15,000 to Sigma Phi Epsilon for their annual Rock against Rape concert. Vice President of Financial Affairs Jud Ritter said he did not agree with the resolution.

"In no way should we fund this event," Ritter said. "\$15,000 is a ridiculous amount of money to be

spending on five bands."

Ritter went on to say that at Executive Budgetary Committee it was made clear that this event would be competing with Bumstock. Last year, Student Government only funded \$2,500 for this event.

"They don't even have the names of the bands. They're just asking for money, and then if they get the money, they'll say 'we're gonna go after this band,'" Ritter said. "We're basically just handing over \$15,000 to Sigma Phi Epsilon and saying: 'Here, have a great concert.' I'm not saying that Rape Response is unnecessary, because it absolutely is."

Eli Young, who is the programmer for Rock for Rape for the second year in a row, said that they were looking into getting such bands as Switchfoot and Goldfinger to play at this event. With such popular names and plans for an even bigger show — last year 1,000 showed up in the rain, according to Young — they will need much more sound, equipment and public safety.

"You have to know how much money you have going into it," he said.

He also said that Sigma Phi Epsilon will be putting in approximately 400 man-hours as well as raising money.

Just as the senate was about to move into debate on this matter, Sen. James Sulinski moved that the meeting be adjourned. This movement was seconded and passed.

"The demeanor of the meeting was descending. For a legislative body to discuss issues they should be of the absolute clearest mind. Tonight was obviously not that night," Sulinski said.

Kate O'Brien, president of Student Government, said she was displeased with the way in which the Senate meeting ended.

"I'm not happy with the early adjournment of the meeting," she said. "Adjourning the meeting delays our business. It seemed somewhat counter-productive."

## Culture shines at Taste of Asia

By Riley Donovan  
Staff Reporter

There was an Asian food invasion Tuesday night at Wells Commons. Students of all cultures attended the "A Taste of Asia" night, sponsored by the Asian Student Association and the Student Heritage Alliance Center. The groups sought to educate people not only about different types of Asian foods, but about the culture as well.

"The Asian Student Association put more emphasis on the content of the program and less focus was placed on the food," said Shezwae Fleming, the director of Multicultural Programs. "The theme, 'A Taste of Asia,' illuminated the many cultural differences and ethnic traditions of those from Asia or of Asian descent."

Last year the dinner received a large turnout. There were well over 300 people. While this year there were not as many people who attended, the turnout was still more than the groups expected.

"There was a fairly good amount of people that attended," said Jason Ustaris, the president of ASA. "Way more than we had expected because of the short amount of time we had to organize and advertise for it."

Fleming, who was in attendance as a guest, said she enjoyed the evening but she wished more people could have enjoyed it as well.

"You always wish there would have been more people," Fleming said. "Those who did attend had a good time."

While Fleming left the organizing of the event up to the students, there were a great number of students who pitched in. However, some students felt stressed leading up to the event.

"People were very stressed during the day of the event because of whatever outside force there was," Ustaris said. "I had two big exams that day, which I think I might have failed."

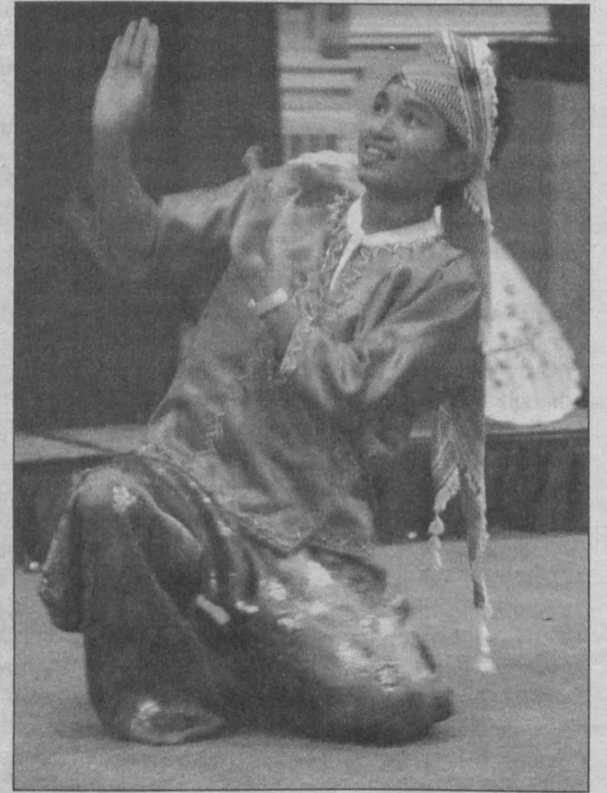
Fleming said the event was about more than good food.

"I thought it was a thought-provoking evening," Fleming said. "I had a good time and I am sure others did as well."

Each organization called the evening a success. Ustaris said the presentations proved to be educational to all.

"The event this year was more oriented around Asian culture through presentations and demonstrations, instead of just food," Ustaris said. "We had a few display tables as well where we had items for sale. There was a modest decor also scattered around the room ranging from flags to posters."

While the evening was educational, it was also filling. "The food was focused around finger foods," Ustaris



CAMPUS PHOTO BY STEVEN KNAPP

DANCE ON — Intejar Julkiram, a foreign exchange student from the Philippines, demonstrates a Filipino dance at "A Taste of Asia" in Wells Commons on Tuesday night.

said. "We had a veggie platter, fruit platter, egg rolls, chicken fingers, sushi, shrimp chips and fruit punch."

Ustaris said every one of his friends who attended found the evening fun.

"Some of my friends that attended said it turned out well," he said, "and they learned some things about Asia they had no idea about."

Hundreds of people from all different cultures who attended enjoyed the evening.

"Some people mentioned it was fun to watch, and weren't bored at all during it," said Ustaris. "I didn't get a chance to talk to everyone, but the general reaction that I gathered was that it was good."

Fleming said she liked how emphasis was placed on a number of different areas. She said she liked the way the groups focused on a number of different ethnicities instead of just one.

"It was also good seeing the student organization leaders have fun—rarely does the organization that sponsor the event have time to actually enjoy the program," Fleming said. "This was refreshing to see."



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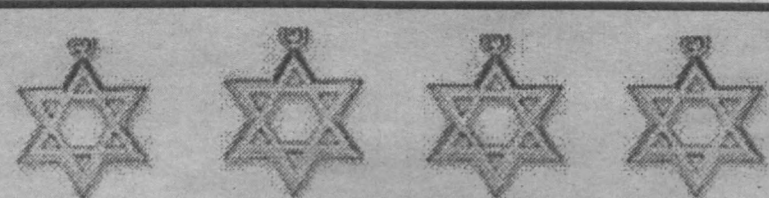
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**PASSOVER SEDER**

**When:** 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.  
**Where:** Wells Commons, Private Dining Room

Students with meal plans may deduct one meal from their MaineCard for this event.  
Community members: \$12 per person  
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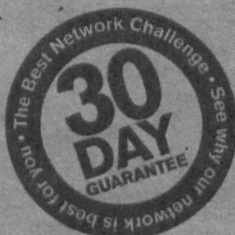
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# Ex-Clinton adviser speaks on cloning

By Matthew Williams  
Staff Reporter

University of Maine students heard first hand about the importance of bioethics from one of the country's foremost experts in the field Monday. Dr. Eric Meslin, who served as executive director of President Clinton's National Bioethics Advisors Commission, spoke about the lessons learned from cloning, stem cell research and bio-banking over the last 10 years.

Meslin began by giving background information on the mapping of the human genome, the project which fostered the science that makes bioethics necessary. Meslin likened having the genome mapped to having a copy of "War and Peace" without chapter headings or punctuation, and said that in the 90s \$80 million in federal funds was devoted to philosophers considering bioethical questions raised by that research.

"Ethics and science are necessary together to form successful public policy," Meslin said.

Meslin continued by describing the process by which Dolly the sheep was cloned, and the impact the event had on the course of science.

"Dolly proved we can clone mammals, and people are mammals, so that's a big deal," Meslin said.

Immediately after Dolly was cloned, President Clinton wrote an executive order banning the use of federal funding for human cloning. President George W. Bush's bioethics policies also ban human cloning, but there are great disagreements about research cloning.

"It becomes about language. Human cloning, therapeutic cloning, and reproductive cloning are different, but they get grouped together and politicized until people are left utterly confused," Meslin said.

Meslin also discussed his experiences in stem cell research. When stem cells were first cultivated in 1998, President Clinton asked Meslin and his commissioners to deliver an ethical report within two weeks, then pre-empted their report

with a statement contradicting their findings. Years later, Bush allowed research on existing stem cells, but prohibiting cultivating new stem cells.

"The moral question is embryo and patients' rights, as well as whether to discard or destroy existing embryos," Meslin said.

He went on to discuss the importance of biobanks, reservoirs of human tissue used in genetic research and the ethical questions that surround privacy and genetic research. People and their families can be identified by genotype and phenotype research, raising privacy concerns.

Meslin said that the constant association with abortion that genetic research receives does not help public perception and understanding of the matter and unnecessarily divides the country on genetic issues.

"We've managed to bring a very divisive topic into a place it doesn't belong. They're all grouped together as a political issue, and it's difficult to unpack them and explain the merits of each," Meslin said.

The lecture was sponsored by the Honors College, and the ethics initiative of the Rezendes family. UMaine President Robert Kennedy said he was pleased that students could learn from an expert in this field.

"Bioethics is such an important topic, not just on this campus, but on a global level," Kennedy said.

While Meslin's lecture was mostly educational, it did produce some varying opinions on bioethics and genetic research from those in attendance. Meslin ended his talk by saying that while bioethics has come into the forefront of our lives, there is still no federal law regarding cloning or stem cells.

"Science policy is not the most important item on our nation's agenda; we don't have a cabinet level office. The attention from the executive branch is encouraging, but the whether we can permit, encourage or prohibit these remains to be seen," Meslin said.

# Take a walk with Dr. Robert Dana

Dean reveals his love for UM in an interview with *The Maine Campus*

By Andrew Knapp  
Staff Reporter

Hundreds of young, energetic girls and boys scamper furiously down the centerline of a paved road. The human wave gushes down a hill while it's members shout words of encouragement to a pair of rose-colored stockings. Suddenly, like a gazelle in the pack of lions, a white-haired man in glasses screams, "Go Red Sox."

In more ways than one, Robert Dana, dean of students at the University of Maine, considers himself one of those students.

Boston beating the New York Yankees in the American League Championship was case in point. Instead of watching the herd of college-aged fans rush from Cumberland Hall toward a bonfire, Dana threw himself into the mix.

Dana said he lives life by the Golden Rule. He thinks treating others how he wants to be treated is the key to success.

"I treat students with dignity and respect," he said. "I demand that of myself, and in the end, I get what I give. The students are remarkably respectful in return."

Last fall, he wasn't driven to the extent of joining the streakers who circled the bonfire, but he was finagled into dressing like a condom on Feb. 14, National Condom Awareness Day. Numerous students passing through the Union that day had their pictures taken with the human contraceptive.

"I'm sure those pictures are all over the web right now," he said.

Memories of his own young adulthood govern Dana's approach to his job. Growing up in Gardner as the son of a physician, Dana was encouraged to walk in this father's footsteps. He had different plans.

"I always questioned authority," Dana said. "So I went into psychology just to spite my father."

After struggling to adjust to col-

lege, Dana improved and graduated from UMaine in 1980 with a degree in psychology. He said meeting Cookie, his wife, was his saving grace.

"She pulled me out of the rut," he said.

That didn't stop Dana from getting into trouble, however.

"I was a prankster," he said.

After UMaine, Dana earned a master's in counseling from Boston University and a doctorate in human development with a specialization in counseling psychology and addictive behaviors from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn. While in Tennessee, Dana worked as a clinical behavior therapist for substance abuse patients.

That interest stemmed from alcohol problems within his own family. It also led him back to UMaine where he took over as program director of Student Health and Prevention Services in 1985. In that capacity, Dana enacted the Late Night Local transportation system for individuals under the influence.

"We admit there's a drunk driving problem in our culture," said Dana. "But if people have free transportation, they're bound to take advantage."

The annual 7,000 to 8,000 riders indicate that it's working. But there's still one thing bothering Dana.

"I've always called it Late Night Local," he said. "Everyone else calls it the drunk bus."

Through numerous promotions, Dana persistently made substance abuse prevention a priority. After being named dean of students and chief student affairs officer in 2002, however, Dana admits he has a problem of his own.

"I'm addicted to my job," he said. "I've been doing this for 20 years, and no two days have been the same."

Dana's habit takes up time, too. He said a typical day lasts 12 to 14 hours.

"At a university like this, I could work 24 hours a day because life is constant," he said. "Students are still operating at 2 a.m."

The worst part of his job, Dana said, is dealing with death and witnessing students' misfortunes.

"It's tremendously defeating, and I really feel for those people," he said.

Dana said most problems that force students out of college can be fixed. He insists students shouldn't get frustrated because he is always willing to lend an ear.

Matthew Gagnon, a current graduate student who earned his degree in political science last year, first met Dana as vice president of Student Government. He said his methods in dealing with problems are unparalleled.

"Students who don't know Dean Dana have no idea the kind of advocate they have within the university hierarchy," Gagnon said. "I found him invaluable in respect to being mindful of students' needs. His communication style and approach in dealing with people make it impossible not to like him."

Dana lives in Bangor with his wife and three kids, and while his 20-year tenure at UMaine feels like moments, he has no plans to move. For Dana, the world revolves around the students. But in the end, it all spun back to the Red Sox celebration.

"I felt huge pride that night," he said. "Our students weren't tipping things over or burning the place down. They were positive and enthusiastic. I felt connected to them. It was like riding a wave. And these students can carry me anywhere."



Dana

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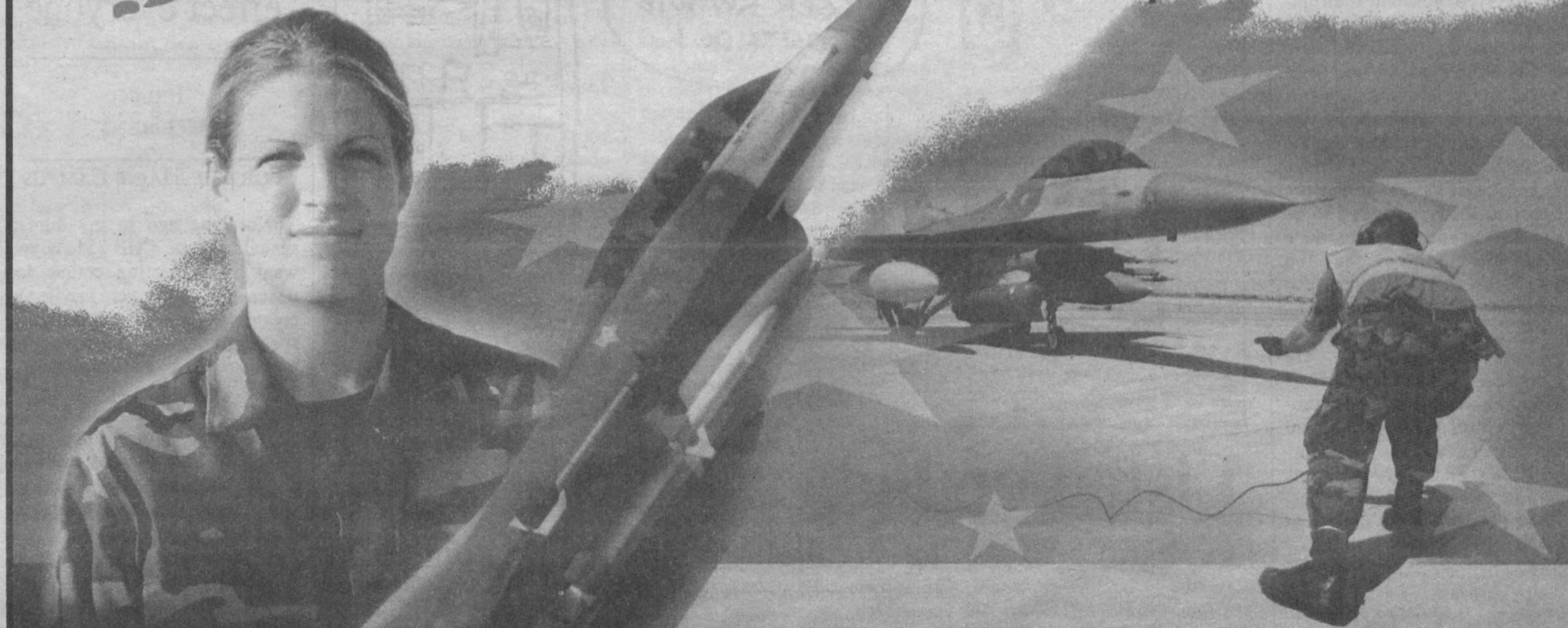
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## Robert's Rules create disorder

Policies and procedures are important for any organization to run smoothly. If set laws are not followed, then chaos ensues. Tuesday night at the General Student Senate meeting, one student senator abruptly called for the meeting to end. His motion was seconded by a peer, and the meeting was over. This is a travesty.

Student Government is run by the General Student Senate and as such, G.S.S. should take its responsibilities seriously. Important matters needed to be discussed at that meeting, such as the final fate of the Red Cross resolution and whether or not to award \$15,000 to Sigma Phi Epsilon.

When meetings are adjourned without serious cause, no work can be accomplished. Student Body President Kate O'Brien is right to be outraged. We encourage students to contact their senators and tell them to fulfill their duties to this campus and live up to their oaths of office.

## Res Life's idea not a grand one

While tuition and room and board prices are on the rise, Residence Life & Programs has somehow found extra money to give to each residence hall.

It's good to see that the money, which comes from the unused salary of a vacant position, is going back to the students. However, the use of the money may be frivolous.

Each residence hall has received \$1,000 dollars. This has gone to plans for barbecues, food, prizes, Nalgene bottles and T-shirts. It seems like the much needed money is just being thrown away.

This money could go to the many other places where it could be put to better use. Just putting it back in the university's budget would be better than 1,000 free hot dogs. The money could also be used to more directly benefit students, with scholarships or even in a refund in the cost of room and board. Extra money doesn't come around every day, and it should be used in the best possible way.

# SOAP BOX

THE MAINE CAMPUS  
Opinion-Editorial

THURSDAY,  
APRIL 21, 2005



## Listen up ladies, Martha's on Domestic goddess to dictate homemaking tips via radio

When does going to jail get your own radio station? Apparently when you're Martha Stewart. The domestic jail bird has just signed an agreement with Sirius Satellite Radio Inc. to create and run a 24-hour channel that will target the female demographic. It will feature lifestyle reports covering such diverse subjects as gardening, decorating, weddings, cooking and entertaining. The station's creative new name? Martha Stewart Living Radio. Aside from the fact that it is a lame spin-off of her television show and magazine, it is also blatantly sexist. The last thing radio needs is another talk show that tries to put women in their place. We already have Dr. Laura.

A chief executive of the radio company said that 20-hours of how-to shows are just what the

DIANA  
MCELWAIN



ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

women of America need. He said that since the demographic is often ignored in radio programming, this creation was intended to appeal to these forgotten women. Thus was born Martha's answer to Howard Stern, and a channel on how to be a better wife is on its way.

Now don't get me wrong, I love cooking shows. However, in the many hours that I may devote to the Food Network, I do not feel like I am being taught how to be a more perfect woman. The target audience of the station is vast, and

I don't think it plays on stereotypical gender roles. There are male and female cooks from a variety of diverse lifestyles and settings. Not to mention that Rachael Ray has a million times more personality than Martha Stewart.

Even if one ignores the sexist nature of Martha's channel, it is difficult to ignore the absurdity of it. Say you're driving down the road and happen to hear the recipe for the perfect chocolate cake. How many people are going to pull aside to write it down? What good does it do to talk to people about cooking on the air? It will either make them hungry or confused, as it seems impossible to describe all the many aspects of cooking with only spoken words. When asked about their favorite

See MARTHA on Page 9

## Letters to the Editor

**• Defending gender dysphoria**  
Mike Hartwell's hastily conceived column concerning transgenderism, "Delving deeper into gender dysphoria" [*The Maine Campus*, April 14], unsuccessfully attempts to discredit rebuttals and twist words. My original reply [*The Maine Campus*, April 11] was intended to refute

his misconceptions, inaccurate definitions and unresearched opinions. He tries to argue that I make contradictory statements. Never once did I contradict myself. Gender is socially constructed, and transgenderism is internally realized once these gender expectations are enforced upon the individual,

therefore it is biological, as I stated.

The conviction that any group can be easily represented as two distinct categories is absurd. Transgenderism is a spectrum of identities ranging from feminine males or mascu-

See LETTERS on Page 9

## Game of tolerance

### Harmful words effect everyone

BRIAN  
CLEMENT

FOR THE MAINE CAMPUS

Not long ago in my human sexuality class, CHF 351, if you want an interesting course for next semester, we were privileged enough to have a guest panel of speakers come to discuss with us homosexuality and bisexuality, which we were studying at the time.

It proved to be an interesting discussion, though when the topic of tolerance came up, I noticed something: These people were no more tolerant than anybody else I've encountered.

Intolerance may apply in many different instances, things about which people are sensitive, to things over which people have no control — and may or may not be sensitive about. Intolerance may be subject to race, creed, sexuality or numerous physical or mental attributes one may possess.

During this class discussion, one of the panel members offered his thoughts on the topic of people using the term "gay" to describe things that they didn't like. He recalled a time when one of his friends referred to something by saying, "That's gay." He responded, "No, that's retarded. I'm gay."

This speaker's method to make people more tolerant was to simply divert the target of their intolerance to a group of people to whom he didn't happen to belong — the mentally handicapped. So, instead of saying, "That's gay," or "What a fag," he would rather we say "That's retarded," or "You're a retard."

This approach is absolutely no better than using terms that refer to homosexuals. Having dated a girl with a mildly-retarded brother some years ago, I have a somewhat more understanding in this issue.

Though I, have never taken great offense to people saying "that's retarded," or "that's gay," I

See SPEECH 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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# MARTHA

From Page 8

aspect of cooking or eating, I'm sure no one would rather hear someone explain ever detail of what they did than smell, see or taste it.

Not that the channel will only focus on cooking. No, it really has its eye on the many focuses of women, such as planning a wedding and planting a garden. While there is nothing wrong with discussing either topic, the station certainly sells women short by

thinking this is all that concerns them, and that such shows will be the answer to all their radio prayers.

While much of the programming on Sirius, a subscription satellite station is free from advertising, Stewart's channel will be different. Looks like countless laundry detergents, cleaning products and grocery stores will finally find their advertising heaven. Martha Stewart Living Radio hopes to get underway later this year, so have your aprons ready, girls.

*Diana McElwain is senior broadcast journalism major.*

# SPEECH

From Page 8

do have a problem with people parading around under the guise of tolerance while being completely intolerant of groups other than their own. This applies to nearly everyone, as everybody has a limit to what they may tolerate. Some people say things that are offensive to gay people and retarded people alike, but strongly disapprove of the use of racial slurs.

This is the exact same kind of contradiction we see time and time again. The tolerance game has become one of complete hypocrisy and, seemingly, self-righteousness. If people stopped to think about who was saying "that's gay," they would probably find that particular person had absolutely nothing

against gay people at all. It is used purely in jest.

People need to step back and realize that every time somebody uses one of these taboo or off-color words that it isn't necessarily an attack on any particular group; it is usually done in a purely teasing, non-threatening, and most importantly, not serious manner.

I'm Irish, and when people call me a "mick," I take absolutely no offense at it. If they had any real problem with my kind, I'm sure I'd have fallen victim to a hate crime by now.

This is just one Paddy's opinion, but I think that people need to get off their high horses and look at their own intolerance before they preach to everyone else about it.

True tolerance may only be achieved through total tolerance.

*Brian Clement is a sophomore new media major.*

# LETTERS

From Page 8

line females to transsexuals. All resources cited in Hartwell's rant dealt only with transsexuality, offering a rather narrow scope to his article.

More false claims can be found the way he labels me. I did not claim that I was transsexual or gender dysphoric, and I certainly didn't disclose my sexual orientation. Once again, he should consult the person being discussed in his column before expressing his inappropriate and inaccurate diagnosis. Hartwell's distorted article of misconstrued research continues to beg for support of his unjustified statements. Is Hartwell able to generate any kind of adequately researched topic? I conclude he cannot.

**Charlie Brickham**  
Senior electrical engineering major

• **Senate's stance ridiculous**  
I read with dismay about the General Student Senate's vote to support a ban on Red Cross

blood drives on campus in Monday's edition of *The Maine Campus*. Meddling with the supply of lifesaving blood for the sake of political correctness is an outrageous and disgusting display of arrogance on the part of all the senators who voted for this resolution.

The current FDA policy, prohibiting blood donations by men who engage in homosexual acts, stands as an effective means of ensuring the safety of blood supplies. Yes, the technology exists to test donated blood for HIV, but the cost to reliably test each unit would be crippling, dramatically curtailing agencies ability to collect donations. The safest, most cost-effective policy is to screen high-risk donors.

Banning the Red Cross from campus will only exacerbate perennial blood shortages, especially as we head into the tourist season with its accompanying increase in motor vehicle accidents. By passing this resolution, the GSS has said that the value of human life takes a back seat to pushing the radical liberal agenda that pervades this campus.

**Jim Chappelow**  
Graduate economics student

# A matter of proportion & distortion

## Men also victims of body dysmorphia, eating disorders

Walk into Abercrombie and Fitch and look around at the oversized photographs of half-naked men on the walls. Then purchase a clothing item and look at the half-naked, bulked up, seemingly "perfect" male specimens that grace the outside of that bag. Sexually idealized male images are popping up every place that images of women have been for years. It's no wonder men are jumping aboard the insecurity train with the rest of us.

These distorted images, as well as eating disorders, are becoming the norm, unfortunately, which is why I commend Rachel Krautkremer, the author of the article "Dancing with Death" [*The Maine Campus*, April 14], for putting such an important topic in the limelight. Eating disorders run rampant on college campuses and beyond, and the University of Maine is no exception. Eating disorders are everywhere.

More and more men and women are suffering from body dissatisfaction and extreme preoccupation with weight and appearance. These disorders are caused by pressures of all sorts — family, society and the media. They can be psychological and genetic also.

The article did a great job depicting two people's struggles with eating disorders, however, those students were both women.

ANGELA FIANDACA



FOR THE MAINE CAMPUS

It's important to point out here that men do suffer from eating disorders. Because we do not hear about or see them as often as we see women suffering does not mean the issue does not exist among men.

Most disordered eating among men occurs in the form of muscle dysmorphia, where one thinks he cannot bulk up his muscles enough and becomes obsessed with doing so. There are also sports, such as wrestling, track and swimming, that focus on weight and thus lead to males suffering from eating disorders.

Although the numbers are nowhere near as alarming as the statistics of how many women suffer from anorexia nervosa and bulimia nervosa, the number of men who suffer from these disorders are increasing rapidly.

We all can do things to combat negative body image. First, we can accept that eating disorders exist. They affect millions of both men and women. Be aware of this. Be cognizant of what you say, how

you say it and to whom. Don't comment on weight, physical appearance, food eaten or not eaten, size, pounds, dieting or anything else that could potentially be damaging to someone's feelings. Refrain from negative self-talk, like saying "I can't eat dessert. It'll only make me fat," or "I definitely look horrible in these clothes today." You are worth more than your appearance, jeans size and number on a scale.

Criticize what you see in the media. Write to editors of magazines and advertisers. Demand that what's portrayed in the photographs be images of real people — not images of one's imagination of perfect bodies that do not exist. Be aware of what messages are trying to reach your brain waves, and stop them before they enter and distort your view of your own body. Simply, be aware.

Redefine beauty for yourself. Reiterate every single day that you are unique and special and beautiful just the way you are. Let others be happy with the body they have by not commenting on their bodies or your own. Most importantly, become comfortable in your own skin. No matter how long it takes, and whether you do that alone or with help, make it a priority.

*Angela Fiandaca is a graduate student.*

# Celebrate Earth Day every day

## Ways to improve your relationship with Mother Nature

I guarantee that if the student body was polled, we would overwhelmingly confirm that the environment is important to us. We're young; we like trees and we go hiking every now and then. Our generation is supposed to be more environmentally conscious than the ones before us.

However, evidence of this eco-awareness is lacking. I have observed my fellow students in my two years here at the University of Maine and I have come up with a list of ways the average Black Bear can help the planet. Obviously, we have a long way to go, and the importance of the environment is tantamount. Even reports from the Pentagon find that global warming is a threat greater than terrorism. Corporate pollution, rainforest destruction and fossil fuel use destroy ecosystems and habitats on a scale that calls out for major change. Here are a few ways to start incorporating environmentally sound practices into your life:

• **Travel mugs:** I, like many of you, spend lots of time in the library. By the library, I mean the Oakes Room. Here at UMaine we like our warm beverages. If everyone used a travel mug instead of a throw-away cup when getting the morning cup of coffee or tea, the waste produced would be cut drastically. Last year, residents on campus received a travel mug when they came to school, and new students will be receiving mugs again next fall.

• **Carpooling:** Think about it: The parking crisis could be solved with this one simple feat. Many neighborhoods off-campus are full of college students. Find a day

SARAH BIGNEY



FOR THE MAINE CAMPUS

when you and a neighbor have a similar schedule and ride together. I don't know what Student Government will talk about after everyone starts carpooling, but hopefully they will come up with something. If you're feeling really motivated, I even suggest walking or biking to campus. It may not work for you French Island inhabitants, but the rest of us can plan ahead an extra half hour and have time for a lovely morning trek. Better yet, you can ride the BAT for free if you flash your MaineCard.

• **Lights:** In the middle of the day, open the blinds and turn off the lights. Natural light is more attractive, and you can save energy by only turning on the lights when you need them at night. Also, it's an old wives' tale that it takes more energy to turn lights on and off than leaving them on when you leave the room. Shut off your lights when you aren't in the room. Once you get in the habit of shutting them off every time you leave the room, it will become second nature.

• **Recycling:** This one goes out to my favorite former co-workers, you know who you are. When there is a returnables bin in the room and you choose to throw your Diet Coke can in the trash, you are not only being wasteful, you are being a jackass. This is the easiest one on the list, and picking through the

trash cans on campus is ultimately detrimental to my health, so help me out. And no, just because they don't recycle where you grew up in suburban Massachusetts is not an excuse. Recycle your returnables.

• **AIM:** Here's the part you knew was coming. Leaving your AIM on all day and night is one of the most frivolous wastes of electricity committed by college students. If it's 4 a.m., I am going to go ahead and assume that you are "sleeping," and if I need to "leave one for the morning," I'll be sure to call tomorrow. At class all day? Don't announce it by leaving your computer on all day, just shut it down and somehow, we'll figure it out.

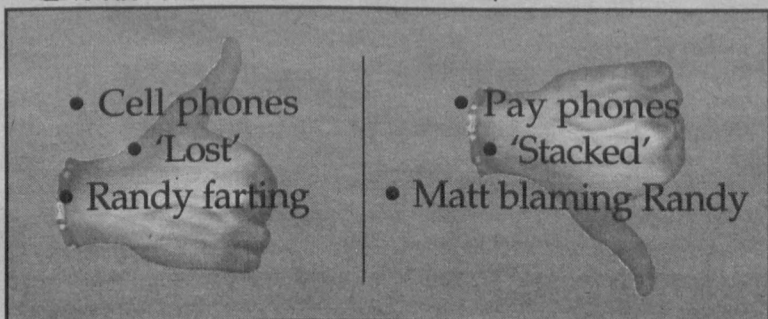
• **Heat:** While dorm dwellers have little control over the heat in their rooms, off-campus students usually do. Your landlord will be psyched if you turn your heat down to 65 degrees when you leave for the day and turn it back up to 70 only when you get home. If you are going to be gone for even a few hours, the money you are saving in heating oil alone is worth it, and maybe your rent won't go up so much next year. Turning your heat down at night is good too, and it's actually healthier to sleep in cooler conditions rather than hot. We live in Maine, you can handle it.

Obviously, these steps are no Kyoto Protocol or reforestation, but they are ways we can become more independently and collectively sustainable in our everyday lives. By continuously incorporating ecologically aware actions in to our habits, together we can help to bring a new way of thinking to our society. Have a happy Earth Day.

*Sarah Bigney is a sophomore international affairs major.*

# THE MAINE CAMPUS

Thumbs Up / Thumbs Down



- Cell phones
- 'Lost'
- Randy farting

- Pay phones
- 'Stacked'
- Matt blaming Randy



Earth Day Concert-ation  
7 p.m.  
Thursday, April 21  
Union  
Free

Jazz Concert  
7:30 p.m.  
Thursday, April 21  
Minsky Recital Hall  
Free

Motor Booty Affair  
Friday, April 22  
Ushuaia

Bumstock  
1 p.m.  
Saturday, April 23  
Bumstock Field  
Free

Plan B  
6 p.m.  
Saturday, April 23  
Bear Brew

ART

"Student Art Exhibition"  
Through Friday, May 6  
Carnegie 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

ENTERTAINMENT

CAB's Cruisin'  
7 p.m.  
Thursday, April 21  
Cumberland Hall  
Free

"Sky Odyssey"  
7 p.m.  
Friday, April 22  
Wingate Hall

Napoleon Dance Contest  
6 p.m.  
Saturday, April 23  
WMEB's DJ Tent, Bumstock  
Field  
Free

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

MOVIES

"The Phantom of the Opera"  
7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.  
Friday, April 22  
Bangor Room, Union  
Free

BARS

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

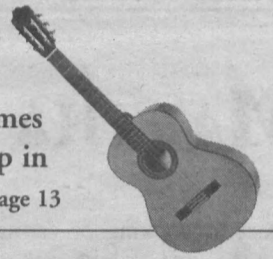
College Night  
10 p.m.  
Thursdays  
Ushuaia  
50-cent drinks

College Night  
Thursdays  
The Chocolate Grille  
Half-price entrees

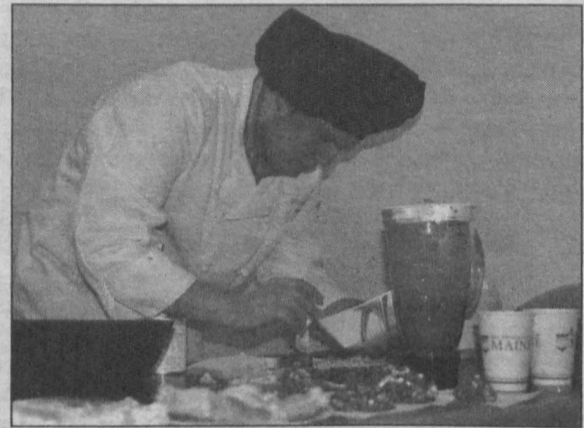
If you would like an event  
posted on the Style Calendar,  
contact Matt Kearney on  
FirstClass.

Movie Review •  
Woody Allen returns to  
form in 'Melinda.' Page 12

Truth comes  
out on top in  
'Project' Page 13



CUT-RATE  
*Culinary*  
CHALLENGE



*'Tin Chef' challenges cooking teams to create  
low-budget cuisines*

By Joel Crabtree  
Staff Writer

The Memorial Union was a cooking bonanza Monday night as the University of Maine Campus Activities Board put on "The Tin Chef," its version of the popular TV series "The Iron Chef."

Unlike the classy dishes served on "The Iron Chef," "The Tin Chef" featured a much more college-student friendly secret ingredient in Ramen noodles.

There were three teams competing in the cook-off, each team consisted of two or three members. The teams were judged on taste, presentation of the food and use of the secret ingredient.

"The Tin Chef" marks CAB's last event of the semester for Games Night.

"There were things that could have been improved," said Noelle O'Clair, chair of CAB's Game Nights.

The attendance for "The Tin Chef" reached around a dozen students. "The crowd's growing, this was multiples of what we've had in the past," said O'Clair.

Despite the decent turnout, "The Tin Chef" still paled in comparison to the excitement the CAB's bingo usually brings.

"Bingo is generally our most popular event," said O'Clair.

Although they came in second place, team one, comprised of Will Emery and Eric Johnson, was the most entertaining team of the night. Emery and Johnson were decked out in a Twinkie costume and a sailor's outfit, and referred to themselves as "Twinkie" and "Seaman Johnson."

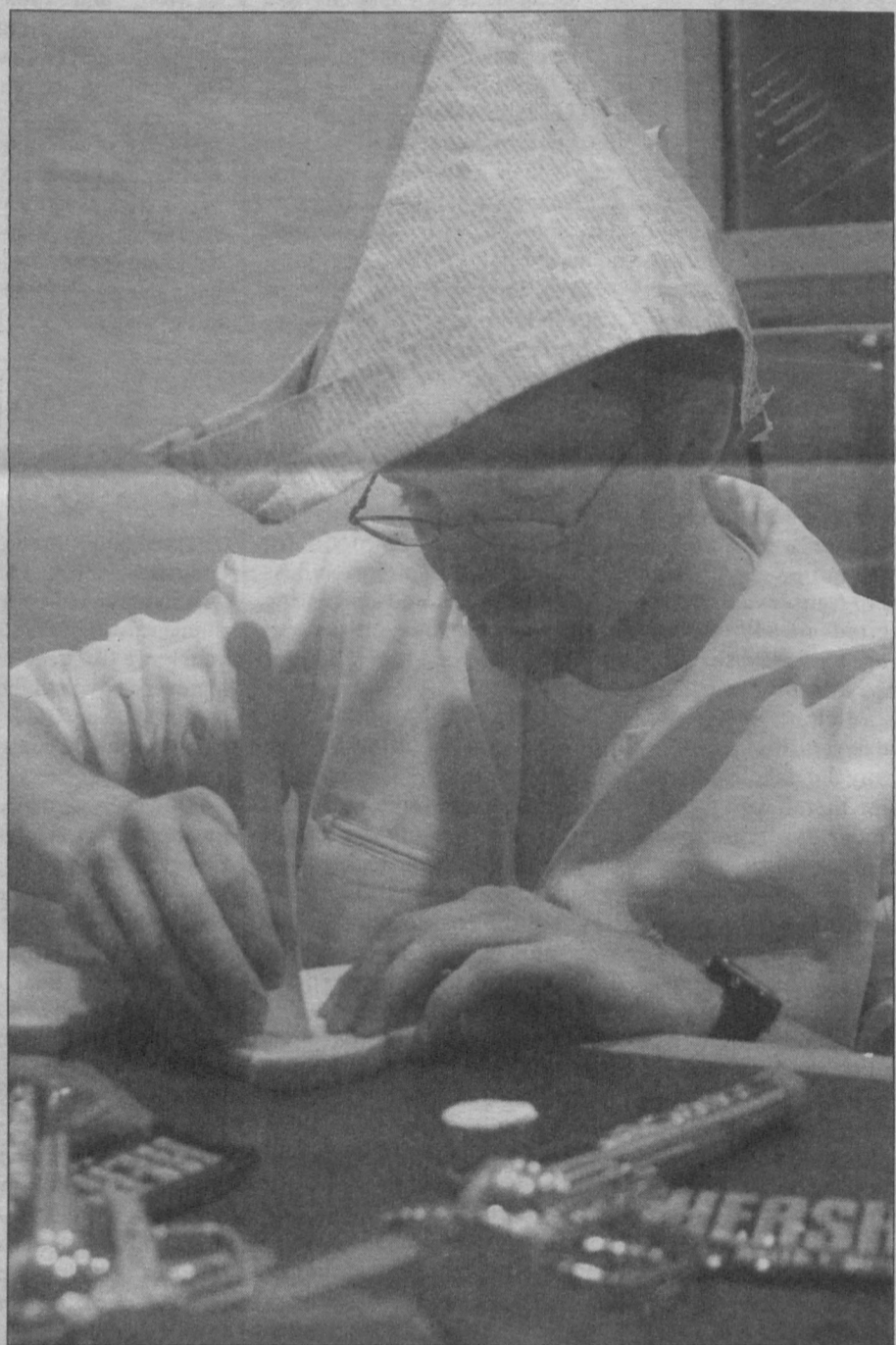
They repeated one-liners throughout the "The Tin Chef" and flexed their muscles more than they cooked. "Just in case you didn't know, the beach is that way," Emery said repeatedly while flexing.

"It went pretty well for being unprepared," Emery said. "The team that we lost to were real chefs."

Emery and Johnson's dishes failed to include the secret ingredient of Ramen noodles, critically hindering their final score. Emery was pleased with his finish, however.

"We brought the gun show," Emery said. "The gun show is bringing the most brawn. It's bringing the balls to the show."

Although they did bring the most brawn, Emery and Johnson did not impress the judges with their cooking ability.



CAMPUS PHOTOS BY STACY ALEXANDER

RED NECK STEW — (Above) Eric Johnson, a member of Team Women's Best Friends, prepares an appetizer as part of the Tin Chef competition sponsored by CAB on Monday night. The team's main course, Redneck Stew, composed of beef Ramen Noodles, diced ham, beans and corn, earned the team second place.

MY MILKSHAKE — (Top) David Bellavance puts the final touches on Team Wasabi's main entree. Team Wasabi claimed first place in the Tin Chef competition by scoring high in such categories as taste, incorporation of Ramen and overall presentation.

"I agree that team three was the winner," said Tyson Quint, one of the judges for "The Tin Chef."

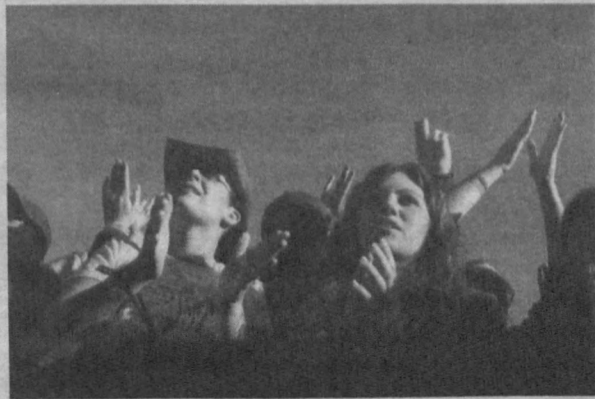
"I wasn't crazy about the food, but how good can a dish be when working with noodles and a Forman Grill? So, I

admire how creative they were," he said.

Quint was impressed with the cooking ability of team three. "My favorite food was the milkshake that team three made. Top to bottom, they made the best dishes," he said.



it's the beat  
it's the dancing  
it's the experience  
**it's the music**



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# New flick returns Allen to glory

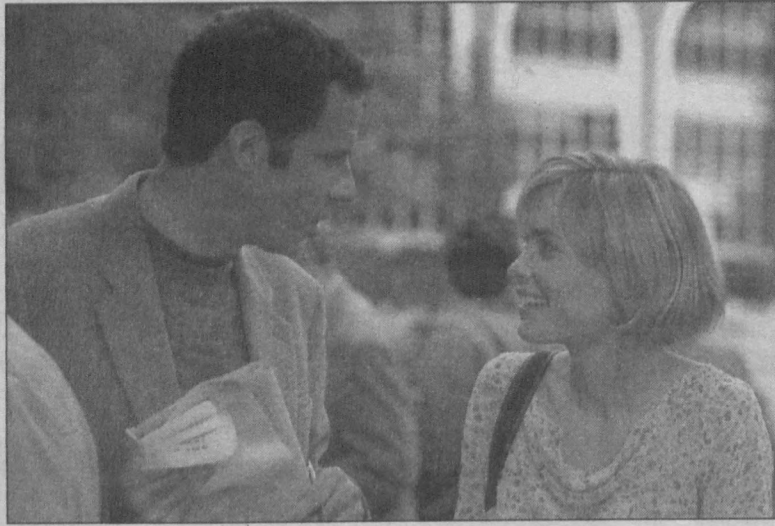
By Kal Dauphinee  
Staff Writer

Having lived in Maine for almost two years now, I am amazed by the amount of culture that I continually find here. By the way people talk you'd think the only thing Mainers had to do was survive the winter. For this reason, I find the amount of outlets and opportunities available to experience alternative cultures to be rather ironic. The other night, I was presented with yet another gem of northern Maine diversity. In my frustration to find a theater playing the new Woody Allen movie, "Melinda and Melinda," a friend of mine introduced me to the Railroad Square Cinema in Waterville, a quaint movie house that mainly runs smaller independent films.

Now we still had to have dinner at Burger King; there is only so much culture a person can stand in one night. I was determined to enjoy an evening free of playing beer die. Not to say that Burger King — the king of grilled kangaroo meat — didn't offer its share of cultural mores. I mean, four cute high school girls dressed in polyester wearing hair nets belting out "Since You Been Gone" is not something you get to see everyday.

While Allen's newer material is not bad, it hasn't offered anything visionary that might set it apart from his earlier work. In Allen's more recent films like "Anything Else" and "Hollywood Ending," the Woody wit has definitely been there but the substance of character has really been missing. With "Melinda and Melinda," however, Allen not only redefines his game and characters, but gives us something to really think about.

"Melinda and Melinda" begins in a small New York City cafe. A group of friends are having dinner while participating in a friendly debate over whether or not life



COURTESY PHOTO IGN.COM

FRANK THE TANK — Will Ferrell does a great job expanding his comedic abilities in "Melinda and Melinda."

could be described as a comedy or tragedy. One of the men gives an example of a couple that he knows and how their estranged friend Melinda reentered their lives causing them more bad luck than a bored Hugh Grant cruising Hollywood Boulevard. Two of the men at the table, both playwrights, then proceed to illustrate how they each see the same story from different perspectives, one from comedy and the other tragedy. From here on out the movie converges between the two versions quite seamlessly. Allen blends the two opposing genres so well that it allows the viewer the opportunity to see the same choices, and the consequences that follow them from differing perspectives.

The story lines are so divergent that I won't go into to much detail here, except to say that the majority of the story follows Melinda, diversely played by Radha Mitchell (Finding Neverland) in both versions, on her self destructive journey toward love. Melinda is one of those people that cannot help but be overwhelming. Her presence overshadows anyone she happens to be around to the point that the people feel emotionally smothered by her all while being

oddly drawn in by her energy.

Will Ferrell does an amazing acting job as a straight everyman in the comic version, practically stealing every scene he's in. Ferrell shows talent in this film that almost goes farther than anything I've seen him do before. Ferrell is by no means the only star that the film has to offer. The ensemble cast includes top notch performances from Amanda Peet, Chloe Sevigny, Jonny Lee Miller and Josh Brolin, just to name a few. Allen chose some of the best "stars on the way up" that Hollywood has to offer and blends them all together smoother than a margarita in Tijuana on Two-Dollar Tuesday.

All in all, the film sheds new light and varying perspectives on common Americans such as love, marriage, infidelity, and the pursuit of happiness. That night I was even able to apply the lessons Woody was trying to get across. Dividing my night I found: Girls working the counter of Burger King doing Kelly Clarkson Karaoke — comic; Girls working the counter of Burger King all under 18 — tragic; Girls working the counter of Burger King shouting "Nice buns baby!" at me over the drive-through intercom as I walked back to my car — priceless.

# Thursday's gone wild

## Night out offers break for busy students



By Derek Francis

I love the nightlife and, yes, I indeed love to boogie. Unfortunately, as a college student, I'm usually too broke to enjoy these sinful delights. Luckily for us UMaine students, there is the blessing known as the Thursday night. It is a ploy to fill up clubs that would otherwise be empty on a weeknight and lure in poor college students with the phenomena of drink specials and no cover charges. As a student body, we have bitten and now Thursday night is the new Saturday night.

You know how it begins, the pre-game back in the dorm room or apartment and then it's off to Soma/Bear Brew. But for many, the old skool Hip Hop and lack of cheap drink offerings — other than beer — eventually gets old — typically by midnight — and the party moves to Ushuaia. This is where the party truly heats up. I mean that literally. Have you ever noticed how it could be 20-below-zero outside, but the body heat indoors makes Ushi's an indoor sauna? By this point, everyone is ready to dance — and by "ready" I mean drunk enough. How could they not be? With well drinks costing next to nothing, I'm surprised that I can still

remember my name when I leave.

Thursday nights are truly a wonder to behold. There are two things in seemingly endless supply: popped collars and fine ladies shakin' it with everything they've got. There are also sights that never cease to amaze me. At the top of this list is none other than the bookworm who lets loose. You know the girl. She sits at the front of every class and the professors love her to death. However, on Thursday night the glasses come off and that same girl is in a mini-skirt and a halter top shakin' that ass in a way that would make 50 Cent proud. My, what a difference a few gin and tonics can make in one's inhibitions.

Then 2 a.m. arrives and the lights come up. That girl you were dancing with suddenly goes from looking like Adriana Lima to the wrestler formally known as Chyna. Then the real entertaining part of the evening begins, the mob in the parking lot. No one wants to go home and most people are too drunk to drive. So, let the drunken cell phone calls begin. It's a mad scramble for a piece of ass, either by the art of drunken pick-up skills or via booty calls. God, I love college.

No matter how bad my week goes, I know that if I go out with friends on a Thursday night it will improve at least a smidge. With all the booze, laughs and dancing, how could it not? Who knows, Thursday nights in Orono are so crazy you might even see your professor drop some vinyl in the DJ booth.

# Revolutionizing the art of the music

By Tony Reaves  
For The Maine Campus

Musicians who want to record don't necessarily need expensive recording equipment or money from recording companies anymore. People all over the world are creating music on their home computers using pirated software, instruments and microphones. In Brazil, the phenomenon has led to Baile Funk: A noisy, energetic form of electronic music from the ghettos of Rio de Janeiro. "Laptop" is the name of a genre of music using mostly software. Computers have ushered in a revolution in home recording and created a world where any music fan can make and record their own music.

Jason Unterreiner, 22, joined the home production revolution and made what he calls "the best album ever" in just 24 hours. The University of Maine student and self-taught musician decided around midnight one Friday night that he would finish an album by the following midnight. The product, "+/-4," is a test of listener endurance that shreds eardrums and causes genuine anger in most people who hear it.

"My goal going into it was to

reshape conventional notions of beauty," Unterreiner said of the finished product. Unterreiner has a mixer and several keyboards hooked to his computer in the bedroom of his off-campus apartment in Orono, and he already spends many hours writing music. The 24-hour album was a departure from the pop music he usually writes.

"There's a lot of pretentious music that's basically difficult to listen to. I'm giving them all a run for their money," Unterreiner said with a smile during recording on Saturday. At around 3 p.m., he placed a microphone next to his alarm clock and recorded the sound. "It's a Shure 57 microphone," Unterreiner boasted. "Had I used a cheaper mic, I wouldn't pick up the real crispness of the alarm sound." He played back the audio from his computer to demonstrate the sound quality.

Unterreiner is tall and surprisingly thin, given that the floor of his closet is stacked high with junk food. Boxes and bags of Doritos, Twinkies and Ho-Hos spill out onto the floor. He has towels around his window to keep out the cold air at night. "I hate this old house," he said bitterly, then changed the name of an unfinished

track to "Cold Day."

This is the first time Unterreiner has made music using only electronic means. He has played bass for local bands including Lowfive, Penny for Lucy and This Car Climbed Mount Washington, but left every band dissatisfied with his lack of creative control. His guitar rack holds two acoustic guitars, two electric guitars and three basses, but none were used on his album. Instead, he relied on two keyboards: His Korg Mircokorg and his Casiotone CT-607, both relatively inexpensive.

Unterreiner began playing a three-note piano line once he had saved the alarm clock sound onto his computer. By dinner time, the piano and alarm clock coexist on a song he names "Mourning of the Sleepless Night." "Get it? Because of the alarm clock?" he says, smirking. He isn't taking this seriously.

One song made particularly heavy use of the alien sounds produced by Unterreiner's Microkorg. The notes wail like a siren over a hammering beat, making for a frantic song that would be listenable if not for frequent occurrences of the

See MUSIC on Page 13

THE MAINE  
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# Truth Be Told takes top honors

Band wins second-annual 'Project,' defeats Well Endowed, others

By Joel Crabtree  
Staff Writer

In the finale of Java Jive's "The Project," the band Truth Be Told took home first place with a perfect score of 40 from the judges.

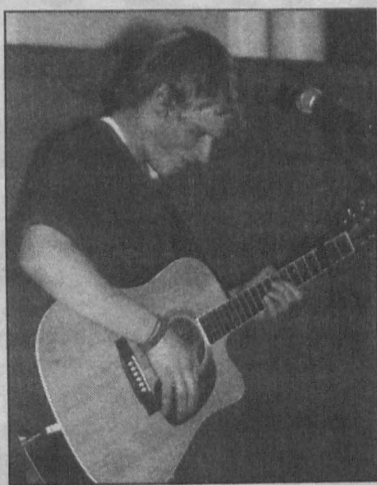
"We just happened to get the crowd going and the hard work paid off," said Rob Snow, percussionist for Truth Be Told. "It was kind of task driven, like we have to win this, this is what we're going to do. We practiced twice this week, twice before the semifinals, and twice before the first round."

Truth Be Told is a three-piece band equipped with two guitarists and a percussionist playing a djembe. "We're all musicians coming from different backgrounds, but we've only been together formally for three weeks," Snow said.

The event took place Tuesday at 8 p.m. in Memorial Union. The other acts that competed were Well Endowed, who were the runners up, Rob Roy, Belmondo and Kate Roy and Mande Nadeau.

Sean Walsh, the event's coordinator, was pleased with how the show turned out.

"The crowd stayed for the



CAMPUS PHOTO MEGAN MIRSANSKIS  
FINALE — Java Jive's "The Project" wrapped up Tuesday evening

whole time, there was roughly 130 people or so there, so I thought it was a very successful event," said Walsh.

The judging of the acts consisted of music, vocals, style and crowd participation. Walsh noted the importance of the crowd's participation in the event.

"That's why the judging incorporates style and crowd into it. It gives the crowd a little participa-

tion, to involve themselves," said Walsh.

Walsh believes that the judges were successful in choosing the best acts to make it to the finals.

"I think my two favorite acts did move on to the finals, so I was pretty happy with it," he said.

Snow enjoyed all of the acts that made it to the finals.

"The other groups were great," said Snow. "The other band with the mandolin and the violin [Belmondo], they were really good and the girls who sang before us [Roy and Nadeau] have beautiful voices and the crowd seemed to love Rob Roy."

Java Jive programming is set to return in the fall semester.

"Next fall will be the regular Java Jive programming with an acoustic act every Tuesday," Walsh said.

Snow believes that the first place finish of Truth Be Told shatters the theory of bored, fed up college students.

"While we were jamming, with something to do, people were sitting in their dorm rooms thinking that there's nothing to do in Maine."

make them sound like robots. Instead of vocoding a voice or a note as its intended purpose, Jason distorted the feedback so it became multitone, grating on the ears like the scraping metal sound of a train stopping suddenly. His friend and housemate John Enkosky was not impressed.

"I hate you!" Enkosky yelled from across the apartment. "This is so awful!" It was the only time Enkosky described the album without profanity, although not all reviews have been so negative.

Jason gave a copy to the campus radio station, WMEB, and at least two DJs there have played it.

"I like it," said Emily Burnham,

WMEB's program director and host of the radio show "Life on Mars." "It's experimental, it's interesting; I've played a few of the songs on the air."

Tracks 8-19 are each a single note, and each is named "Copyright 2005." Jason explained that the tracks are a parody of record companies suing musicians for sampling music.

"It's a complete scale. If anyone uses any note from that scale now, they owe me money."

The "Copyright" tracks provide another hint that the whole album is a joke, but Jason won't go that far. "Most people could never make music this unlistenable."

# STAFFPICKS

John Evans  
Copy Editor

Where did you purchase your last article of clothing?

Goodwill

Who's your favorite Steiner?

Ryan Gould

What was the last song you karaoked to?

"Black Velvet" by Alannah Myles



Oka Hutchins  
Copy Editor

Where did you purchase your last article of clothing?

Victoria's Secret

Who's your favorite Steiner?  
Wayne D. Clark, just kidding.  
Kevin Child.

What was the last song you karaoked to?  
"500 Miles" by The Proclaimers



Ernest Scheyder  
News Editor

Where did you purchase your last article of clothing?

Niman's Big and Tall

Who's your favorite Steiner?  
Lee Pidacks

What was the last song you karaoked to?  
"You've Lost that Loving Feeling" by The Righteous Brothers



## MUSIC

From Page 12

music dropping out and being replaced by a low rumble. When I commented that I liked this track, he said, "Alright, I'll name it after you." There was a song called "The Death of Tony Reaves (The Life of Tony Reaves)."

At one point, while Unterreiner was making a particularly horrible noise emit from the speakers, he asked "Is this unlistenable enough?" He was using a feature on the Microkorg called a "vocoder," which distorts voices to

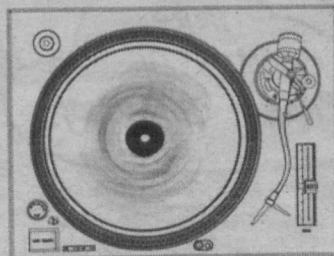
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# Horoscopes

By Linda C. Black

## Aries

March 21 to April 19

The temptation to splurge is strong, but must be resisted again. Be practical, even if it's no fun, or you'll hate yourself in the morning.

## Taurus

April 20 to May 20

You're the charmer of the group, which is a very important role. Don't be upset if they refuse to compromise for a while. Be a stabilizing influence.

## Gemini

May 21 to June 21

A fanciful fling could turn into a rather exhausting adventure, unless you do the homework first. Be prepared, and minimize risk.

## Cancer

June 22 to July 22

Don't deplete your savings to impress someone you admire. Offer understanding instead, it'll be greatly appreciated.

## Leo

July 23 to Aug. 22

A discussion about household matters or real estate could turn ugly, simply because nobody wants to bend an inch. Leave it alone for a while, and the matter may resolve itself.

## Virgo

Aug. 23 to Sept. 22

Don't let your studies interfere with the work that must get done. You'd rather spend all day with your nose in a book, but that could cause problems.

## Libra

Sept. 23 to Oct. 22

There's a time for planning, and a time for taking action. Actually, you may have to do both simultaneously. Pay attention to where you're going.

## Scorpio

Oct. 23 to Nov. 21

It's not a good idea to throw away things that belong to other people. Save yourself a huge hassle, and simply don't do it.

## Sagittarius

Nov. 22 to Dec. 21

You're not any good at keeping secrets, even when you should. Take a word of advice, and don't go hollering about something you uncover.

## Capricorn

Dec. 22 to Jan. 19

You may wake up with a touch of buyers' remorse. You're also filled with love for your fellow human beings. Generosity can hurt sometimes, but it's a good pain.

## Aquarius

Jan. 20 to Feb. 18

It may seem that everywhere you turn, you meet with resistance. This is good, because it gives you something to think about.

## Pisces

Feb. 19 to March 20

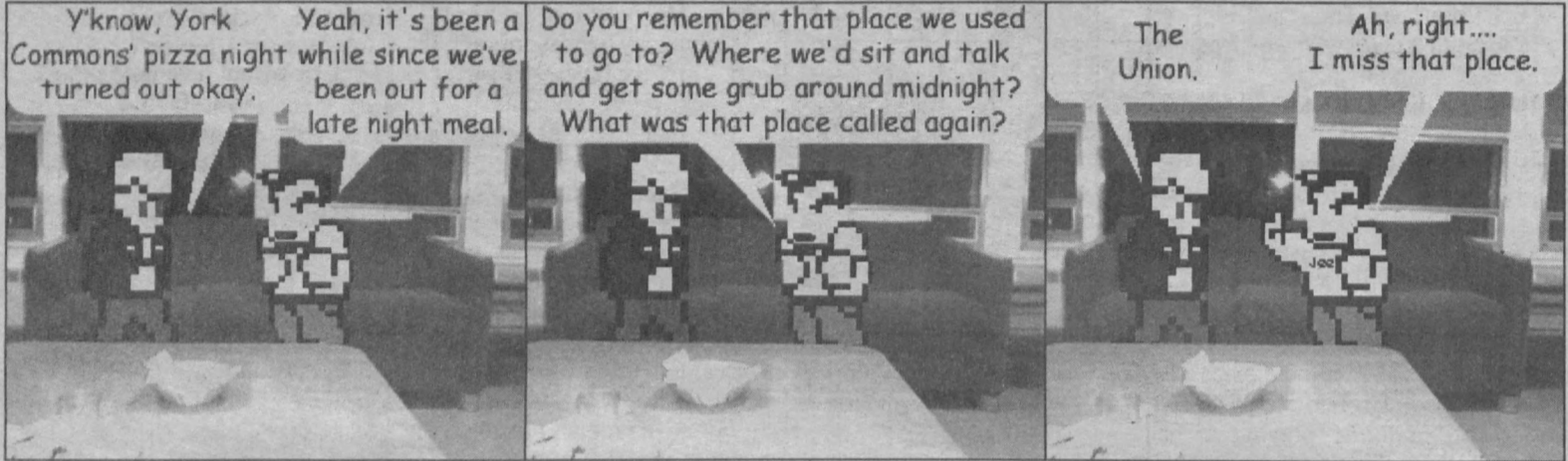
Your curiosity keeps pushing you farther and farther from your comfort zone. This is exciting, but also dangerous. Something you fear is out there, but don't let it stop you.

THE MAINE CAMPUS

# DIVERSIONS

## Sprite 'Drw

By Andrew Young



## The Family Monster by Josh Shalek



A monster darkly: www.joshshalek.com kid\_shay@joshshalek.com

## PAUL

BY BILLY O'KEEFE WWW.MRBILLY.COM



"Recoiling in abject horror was not the response I was hoping for."



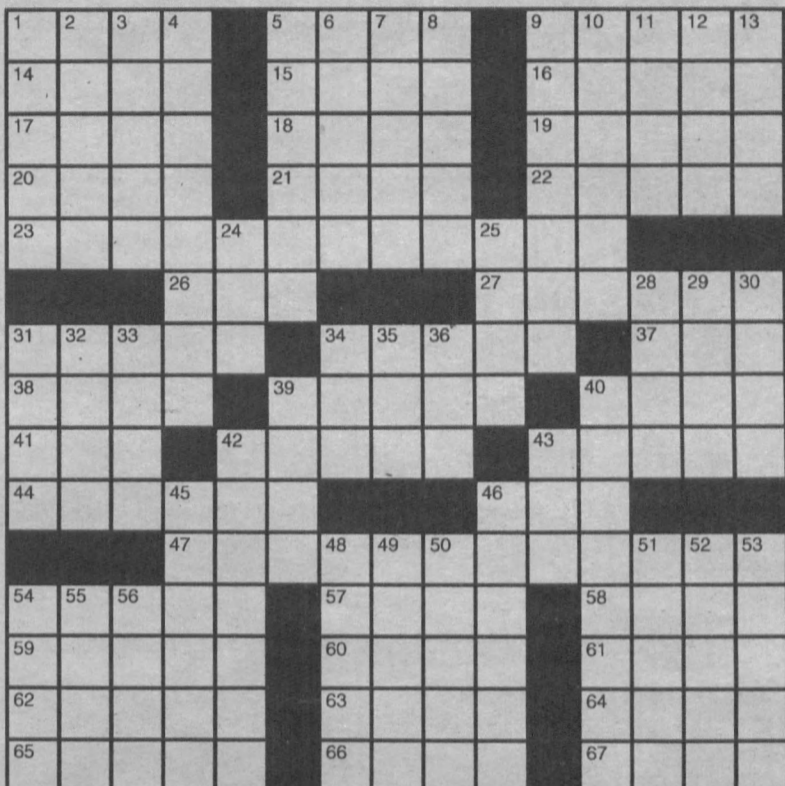
Seymour found he could get especially good distance with his unpaid bills.



# Crossword

- ACROSS**  
 1 Woeful word  
 5 Leather piercers  
 9 \_\_\_ Ababa, Eth.  
 14 Concluded  
 15 Oxford, e.g.  
 16 Pulverize  
 17 Jekyll's alter ego  
 18 Actor Connery  
 19 Crab-walk  
 20 Galley gear  
 21 Beanery sign  
 22 Perplexed  
 23 Dispers differences  
 26 Used to be  
 27 Worn-out words  
 31 "The Ballad of \_\_\_ Jones"  
 34 Painful spots  
 37 In what way?  
 38 Saharan  
 39 Bombay wraps  
 40 Sheet of glass  
 41 At the ready  
 42 Lassoed  
 43 Fills to capacity  
 44 Dangling frill  
 46 Animal gullet  
 47 Uncontrolled individuals  
 54 Razor sharpener  
 57 Is not well  
 58 Fraud  
 59 Hamlet, to Horatio  
 60 Tolstoy and Gorcey  
 61 Possess  
 62 Word with renewal or sprawl  
 63 Duration  
 64 Of the mouth  
 65 Signifies  
 66 Bribes  
 67 Animal hide

- DOWN**  
 1 Kind of committee  
 2 Staunch  
 3 Agassi or Citroen  
 4 Teetered  
 5 Appraise  
 6 Cereal grain

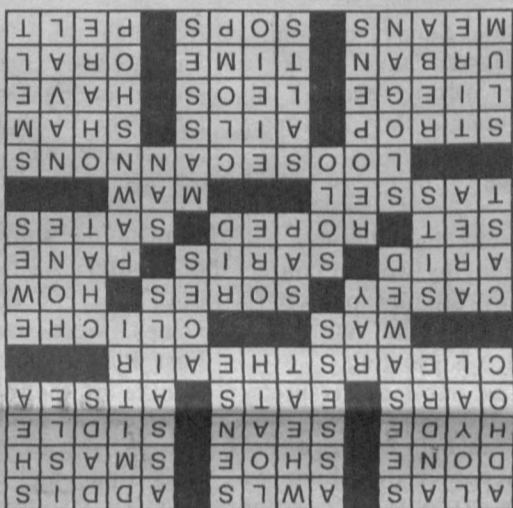


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04/25/05

- 7 Unwilling  
 8 Feel  
 9 Besets  
 10 Composer Shostakovich  
 11 Pops  
 12 Anglesey or Wight  
 13 Queens ballpark  
 24 Charles or Bradbury  
 25 Suit toppers  
 28 Confab  
 29 Use a whetstone  
 30 Flock mothers  
 31 Playbill listing  
 32 Surface measure  
 33 Makes a lap  
 34 Sucker  
 35 Mining product  
 36 Divest  
 39 Fly alone  
 40 Hock spot  
 42 Resumes business  
 43 \_\_\_ Miguel, CA

## Solutions



- 45 Catchphrase  
 46 Large groups  
 48 Old sailors  
 49 MacDonald's refrain  
 50 Heavy tread  
 51 Midwest airport  
 52 Involving warships  
 53 Small silvery food fish  
 54 Urban blight  
 55 Michelin product  
 56 Ms. McEntire

## COLLEGE SEX TALK by Dr. Sandy Caron

# There's time to wait

A student from UC Santa Cruz wants to know:  
 I am a 20-year-old college student and what sets me apart from the rest of the college students is that I haven't had sex yet. I feel that it is my choice, and I should only do it at a right time with the right person. I have had many female friends that wanted to have sex with me when they drank, but I refused their requests because I think they are being irresponsible in their attitudes. Now I know that especially in today's college and high school atmosphere, being a virgin makes you a loser. But I totally disagree with that, and believe that sex isn't a childish game; it is a choice, and you should only do it when you think you are ready and responsible for it. What do you think?

Male, Junior

Dr. Caron's Answer: I couldn't agree with you more! Sex is

something that should be engaged in when one feels it is right for them. If intimacy equals sex, as some believe, than people who don't engage in sexual intercourse are defined as leading very dull lives. With this argument, virginity is a state we want to leave. This view is too simplistic, only serving to pressure people like yourself to have sexual intercourse.

It is important to remember that virginity, like sexual activity, is a matter of choice. Some men and women choose to wait until they are in what they consider to be a long-term relationship before they become sexually involved and some do not. Being a virgin does not mean you are not sexual, or that you do not have an intimate relationship — virginity is an acceptable alternative to sexual intercourse. What is best for you is for you alone to decide.

## You Are Here

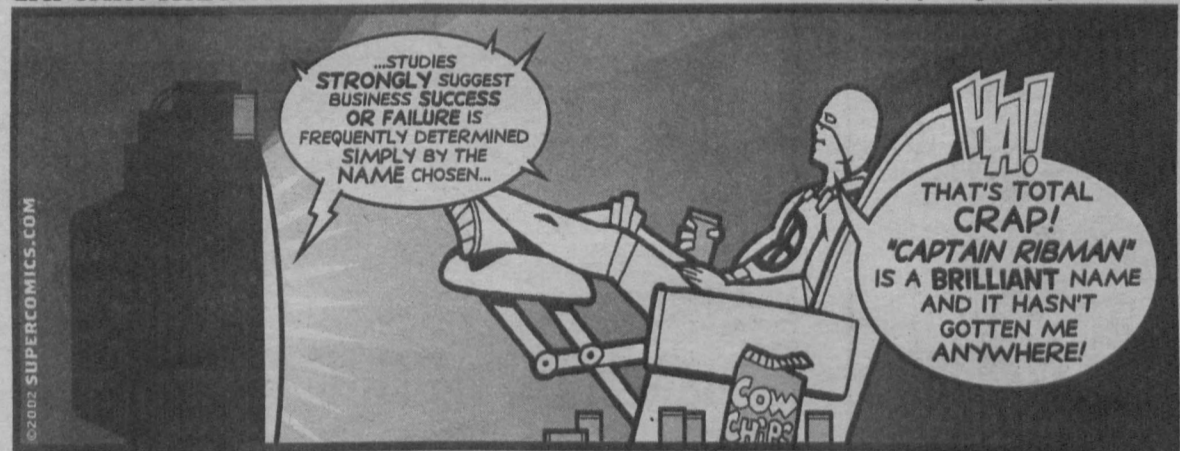
By Aaron Warner



Tree Mobsters.

## CAPTAIN RIBMAN in Name Blame Game

by Sprengelmeyer & Davis



## 2 Dudes

By Aaron Warner



## DITHERED TWITS

by Stan Waling





# SETBACK

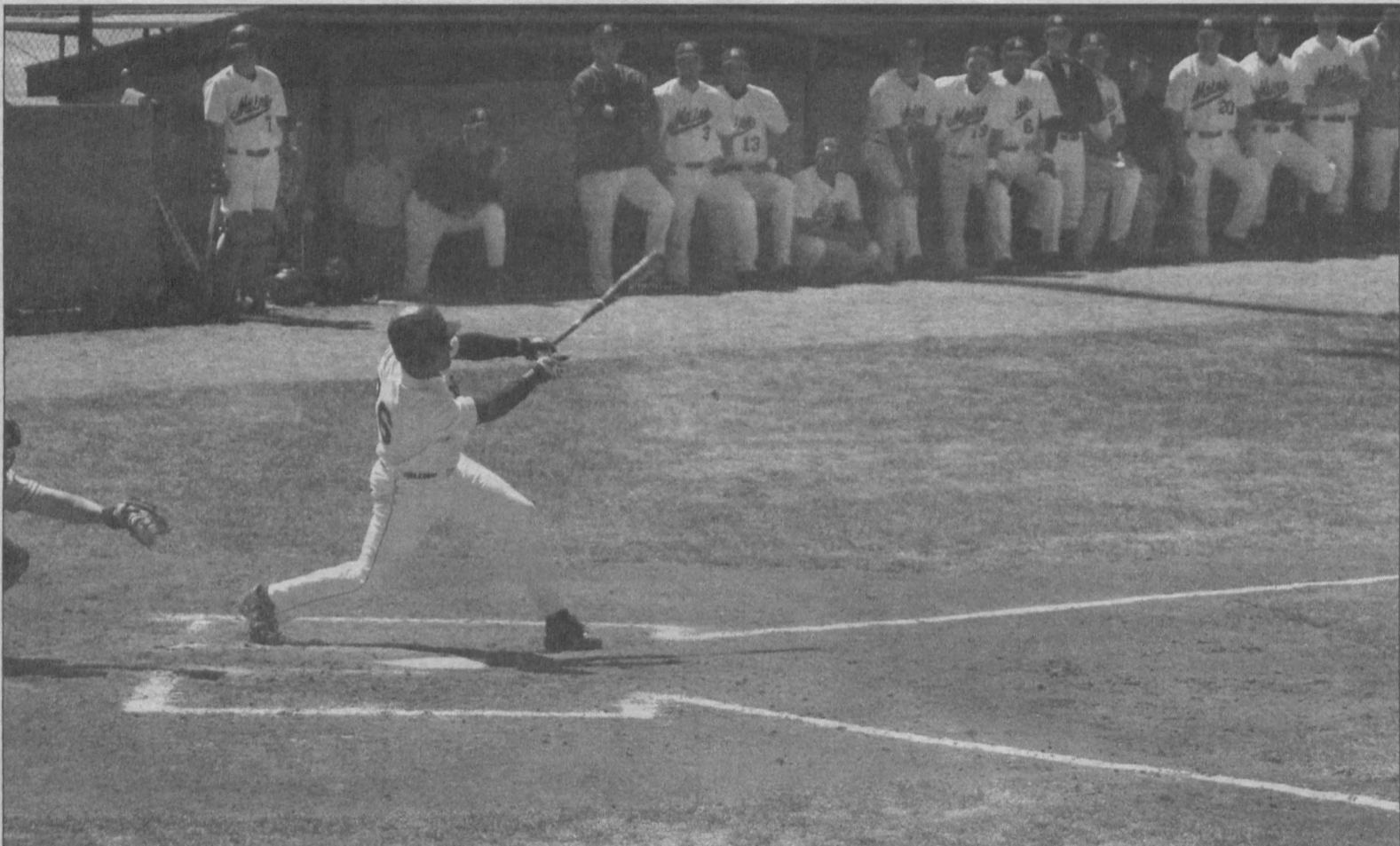
From Page 20

Friday's tilt was not available. The four game series this weekend will undoubtedly put pressure on the back end of UMaine's starting rotation. At the top is a pair of aces: sophomore Steve Richard and junior Greg Norton, who have a combined 11-1 record and 2.45 ERA. After that, the Black Bears have used several players with mixed results.

"Our third starter is a question. Maybe we use Troy Martin if he doesn't have to close for us early in the weekend. But we need to make sure we get a good effort, and a starters' effort, meaning 5-6 innings," said Kostacopoulos.

Martin is second on the team in appearances with 13, and is tied for the team lead in saves with three. If he does start some games, junior Scott Robinson can carry the load from the bullpen, as he also has three saves this year, and nine in his career, which ties him for fourth in the career list at UMaine.

Awaiting UMaine in the second series of the weekend will be the Hartford Hawks, and their 4-14 record. The Hawks sit in last place in America East, sporting a 1-5 record. The Black



CAMPUS PHOTO BY STEVEN KNAPP

SATURDAY SLUGGER — UMaine first basemen Joel Barrett swings at a pitch during game one of Saturday's doubleheader against UMBC. The Retrievers avoided the weekend sweep on Sunday with a 14-1 victory.

Bears are 19-10 on the season, and their 4-2 record in conference play is good for second place. UMaine and Hartford will play a doubleheader starting at noon Saturday, and finish their

season series Sunday at noon. The Hawks have posted a .222 team batting average this season, along with a 7.55 team ERA.

UMaine's offense is led by freshman third baseman, Curt Smith, whose .396 average ranks second among America East hitters. The Black Bears lead the conference with a .310 team average, and place three other

players in the top ten in batting average: Quintal at .376, sophomore Joel Barrett at .367, and Creek at .360. Junior Joe Hough leads the conference in triples and steals.

# COLBY

From Page 20

well, and it's just a good mix," said UMaine head coach Michelle Puls. "We're blessed with a compliment of four pitchers that have a variety of styles."

Candace Jaegge pitched the last three innings and gave up just one hit. She struck out two. The Black Bears will return

home this weekend for a three game series with first place Albany. Albany is 9-1 in conference play and has swept Hartford, Stony Brook, and Vermont. Their one loss came against Boston University 2-1. However, they also beat the Terriers 13-7.

UMaine will bring to the series a 6-2 second place record.

Saturday's doubleheader will be at noon and Sunday's game will begin at 11 a.m. on Kessock Field.

Puls said that although her team is playing well in conference, they are not overconfident. She feels that her team's confidence is growing.

"I think our team is pretty even keeled right now," said Puls, "if we had a great out of conference record I think we would have confidence going into it, but because we struggled out of conference and we are doing well in conference, I think the kids are realizing that everything is starting to come together."

Infielder Kelly Ogdon and outfielder Amber Maisonet, both players for the Great Danes, were named America East Player of the Week and Rookie of the Week. Ogden's eight career homeruns ties an Albany record. Maisonet hit three times and drove in three runs her last time out against the Terriers.

UMaine has not won any America East weekly awards this season. Albany has won six, including three pitcher of the week awards for Amanda

Morin. She will pitch against UMaine during the series.

A strong series for the Great Danes would help solidify them as the team to beat in the America East going into the conference tournament next month. With BU struggling at 4-4 a strong series for the Black Bears could bolster their bid for the regular season title.

UMBC and BU are both .500 and round out the top four. Stony Brook is in fifth at 5-5. The top four teams make the conference tournament.

# SUNSET

From Page 20

five isn't very enticing for May to return for his senior season. Bad decision because Felton will be the only legitimate pro and McCants will disappear from the league faster than Khalid El-Amin.

The Chicago Bulls will win their first round playoff matchup against the Wizards. Not a very bold prediction, I know, but the experience is necessary because these guys will be a force in three years, should management decide to be smart for once and keep their players. Why will I be right? The Bulls are made up of college studs — Ben Gordon, Kirk Heinrich, Chirs Duhon, Luol Deng — who all had Final Four or National Championship experience, and two high schoolers — Tyson Chandler and Eddie Curry — who have been in the league long enough to understand the NBA game. The most important piece, though, is head coach Scott Skiles. Predicting he'd contribute something to the league after being a player is like predicting Pamela Anderson would have a career in the porn business after the Tommy Lee video. Chicago has adopted Skiles' defensive teachings and has promising offensive talent. The third attempt at rebuilding

the franchise post-Jordan is finally working.

I guess I've got a small amount of space for some parting thoughts; then it's up to the next random student to dish out his or her knowledge on the sports world for the 'Campus.

First, I'm sticking with my Tiger Woods prediction that he'll win the PGA Championship, and do it convincingly.

I think the Celtics can make a good run in the Eastern Conference playoffs, but then will get trounced by Miami, who's going to win the NBA championship by the way.

Is UMaine Hockey going to return to the National Championship game? Yup. They're one prolific scorer away from it. The defense will be even more solid than this year, and they were pretty good.

Finally, in relation to my slap and tickle reference last week, I'm on the first floor of the library right now about three feet away from this dude and his girlfriend sucking face. They have been here for the past half-hour and I've never been so close to throwing my laptop at someone. How do I get in these situations? I could ask the other guy at the same table, who looks way too uncomfortable, but he's already staring off into space twirling his pen around — obviously plotting something worse than I am.

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## No Kobe, no problem

By Ryan Clark  
For The Maine Campus

No Kobe and the Lakers. No Kevin Garnett and no LeBron James.

### Commentary

So, what's the problem?

Actually, there isn't a problem at all. Every time you turn on SportsCenter, pardon the interruption, or visit your average barber-shop, all you hear is how the NBA might be missing three of its biggest stars. Even though all three guys are some of the most talented and popular players the league may have to offer there are still other players out there who could still provide audiences with excitement.

Speaking of people who care, I never thought I'd ever say this but it's actually a good thing the NBA does not have either the Lakers or Knicks in the playoffs. Before you start attacking, think about it. There are more rumors about David Stern wanting an NY-LA final than there are Tupac sightings. Besides, ever since the Knicks lackluster performance in the 1999 Finals and since there is no more soap opera drama about giving women hush money or hunting wives, its time for the NBA to move on.

Didn't everyone in America believe that after Michael Jordan left the league its popularity would drop? Yeah, they did and look what happened. The NBA has grown all over the world and one of the great things about Jordan leaving the game for the second time was trying to find out who would come up with the last second shot or better yet, who could

the league rely on to get the average fan to watch. Whether or not Kobe, The Kid or 'Bron will be there I will tell you two guys who will be: Tim Duncan and Shaq.

Think about it, two of the most dominant players that have been in the league over the past ten years are going to finally go at it in the finals? First of all, who wouldn't want to watch that because, lets be honest, until Larry Brown was smart enough to take over a good team instead of building from the bottom up, the NBA finals were basically the Lakers vs. Spurs. Whoever won would just play the Eastern Conference to make them feel important.

On one hand, you have got Miami, who's got this mountain of a man who when healthy can take over a game. When he does not feel like shooting, he can give the ball to a guy who cannot only make miraculous shots but is the second fastest man in the league. Maybe its just me, but why does that sound so familiar?

Then you have Tim Duncan. Okay, he has the most boring game to watch because it's said to be fundamentally-based. Then again, last I checked, it was not about flash and dash but getting the job done. After all, if the NBA was about shaking the hell out of someone then Rafer Alston and the Raptors would be there.

In the end, things worked out for the NBA once again. Instead of the Western Conference Finals being the only series people care about, the east now has a formidable foe. We can finally see if the best one-two punch in the league can take on the most consistent ball-player in the league. It's not Jordan v. Bird but hey, it will be soon enough.

## Where have you gone Lord Stanley?

By Ernest Scheyder  
News Editor

As much as I hate to admit it, I miss the National Hockey League. I don't miss the constant squabbling

### Commentary

about money, and I definitely don't cry myself to sleep because greedy team owners and players are engaged in a war of words on SportsCenter. Nearly a month ago, the League announced that the 2005 Draft will be canceled because there's no collective bargaining agreement in place. Both sides still can't agree. Where's Dr. Phil when you need him?

What I really miss is the camaraderie, the skill and the sheer joy that comes from watching a professional sports team skate it out on the ice. That's slowly slipped away the past few years. With that said, this strike can't last forever, so it's time to focus on October and see what's coming for our league.

Long ago I decided the Bruins were my favorite hockey team in the NHL. I didn't choose them solely based on geography, I chose them because they're good, and because I hate cars from Detroit, ignore people from Montreal and despise anything associated with the Maple tree. So when I heard recently that the Bruins' farm team, the Providence Bruins, is grooming Kevin Dallman and Milan Jurcina for an eventual promotion to the Big Dig City, I thought I smelled a smart move. Dallman is small by NHL standards, standing only 5'11", but he's led the P-Bruins to become a force to be

reckoned with in the American Hockey League. Dallman uses his strength and speed on the ice to get the job done. Jurcina is the exact opposite. The man is a mammoth beast, weighing in at 245 pounds and standing 6'4" above the ice.

What motivates these players to keep on playing knowing that what they're trying to reach might not ever

checked, Atlanta can use all the talent they can get.

I bring up these player examples to prove one thing: strikes suck. The current players in the NHL don't seem to realize that while their bickering over \$100,000, they're hurting the chances of their athletic progeny to share in the same joy they share by skating on League ice and making a go for the Stanley Cup. Team owners are hurting their chances of ever again fielding good players if they don't stop moaning about minute things that no one cares about but their accountant.

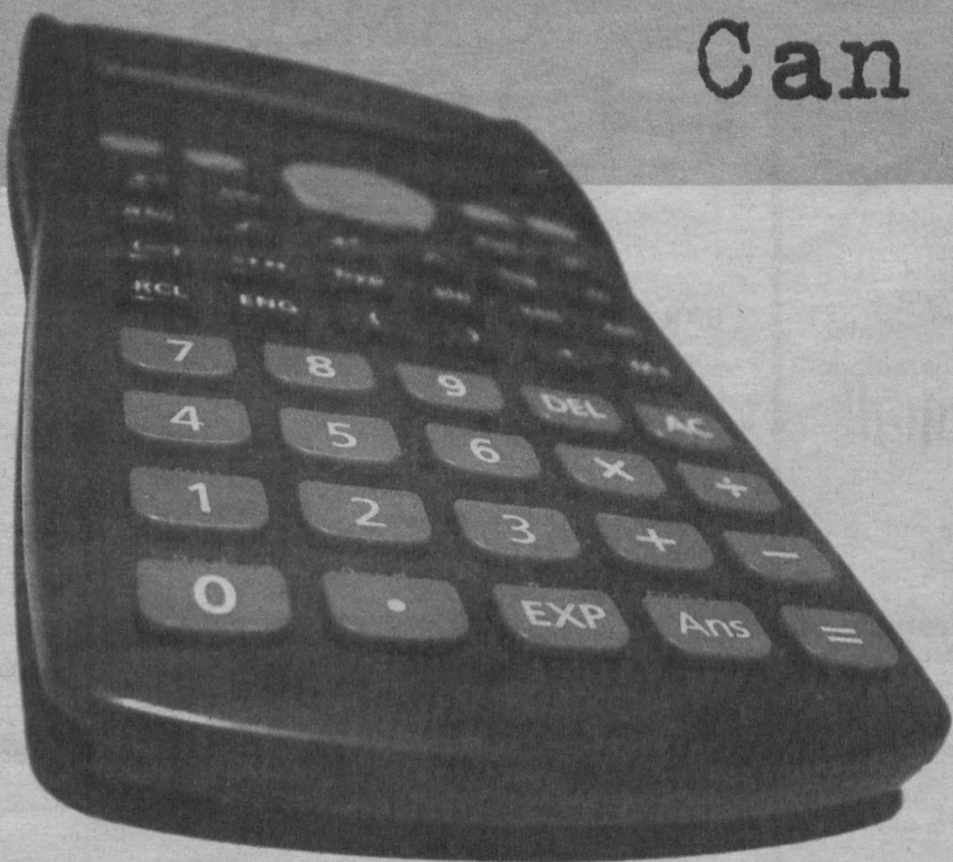
I still remember my first hockey game like it was yesterday. I was 10, and ironically, it was a Providence-Bruins game at the then-FleetCenter. You can't ignore the wave of euphoria that comes over you as you enter that arena and see that ice for the first time. It's something Alford Arena can't match, not even close. I sat down and watched the Bruins get pummeled by some team from Tennessee, but it didn't matter. I was in the moment and enjoying the game, and the players looked like they were having fun. They wanted to be on that ice and didn't care about anything else but that puck for three hours. When I look back, I think that kind of drive and determination among the NHL family is something that we've lost in the past decade. Instead of playing for winning, hockey stars play for money, fame and after-shave commercial deals.

So come June, I won't have an NHL draft to watch. That's OK, there's still time. But in October, if there's no pre-season to watch, I won't be happy. And something tells me I won't be alone.

*The current players in the NHL don't seem to realize that while their bickering over \$100,000, they're hurting the chances of their athletic progeny.*

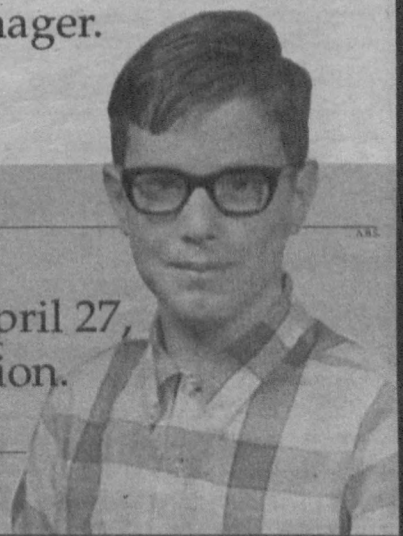
exist again is something I'll never know. But what I do know is that if both sides of this strike don't get their butts in gear, Dallman and Jurcina will never don a Boston Bruins jerseys on BankNorth ice, ever. And this issue isn't restricted to the Bruins either. Atlanta is grooming a future All-Star on its Chicago farm team. Steve Maltis is a left wing for the Wolves who consistently outperforms the competition and leads his team to victory. Now let me know if I'm wrong, but the last time I

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## Nero helps to shape Athletic Department

By Sarah Bennis  
For The Maine Campus

In the two years that Patrick Nero has been athletic director at the University of Maine, 16 of UMaine's 19 varsity teams have finished either first or second in their respective conferences. In addition, UMaine received the 2004 Academic Cup for having 226 of its more than 400 student-athletes earn a 3.0 GPA or better.

The leadership that Nero has shown in the past two years could explain many of the recent successes at UMaine.

"I have discussed with our student-athletes, coaches and administration that I want Black Bear athletics to prioritize our mission in this order: provide academic opportunity for student-athletes; represent our university and state with great pride; and achieve athletic success," said Nero. "If we are able to follow this simple path, we will have the kind of athletic program we all strive for."

Nero came to the University of Maine from the sports powerhouse University of Miami, where he was the senior associate for seven years. He oversaw the external areas of the Miami athletic department, including fund-raising, public relations, marketing, ticket sales, corporate sales and the school's athletic Web site.

Part of Nero's philosophy about athletics includes concern that too many high-profile athletes were creating a bad name for the student-athletic population as a whole. When he came to UMaine, he instituted a code of conduct so all the athletes were held to the same standards. The athletes are on a point system; for each violation points are received to a varying degree, too many points leads to a suspension.

"This shows the athletes that a walk-on to the field hockey team is held just as accountable as the quar-

terback to the football team," said Nero.

Attendance and drug policies were also implemented. If a student-athlete has too many unexcused absences, he or she will be suspended from participating in athletics. Under the drug policy, student-athletes can be tested at any point, without notice. Also, 20 percent of each team is randomly tested each semester.

The hardest challenges that Nero has had to deal with are the financial issues the athletic department faces. With the eight percent tuition increase, the department has had to come up with that money for the scholarships. The money for the athletic scholarships and improvements within the department comes from fund raising by the department and donations, not from other students' tuition.

With many of the athletes coming from out of state, their scholarships are almost twice as those for in-state students.

"In-state athletes are great for the programs, but not at the cost of being competitive," stated Nero.

The only program, men or women, to return a profit is men's ice hockey. Annually they bring in roughly \$2 million in revenues for the athletic department. This does not, however, make up for the money spent on numerous scholarships and facility upgrades by the athletic department. With Title IX, women's programs must receive an equal amount of scholarships as the men's programs. This works well for the women's department because scholarships can be spread out more evenly among all the teams. The men's department, however, are not so fortunate. The football team alone gives away 62 scholarships. This means other programs such as indoor and outdoor track, swimming, and cross country share very few remaining scholarships between them all.

"This is why the men's cross

country winning a championship was so surprising, because the team for the most part is walk-ons," Nero said.

Title IX has also contributed to the women's success in recent years. The soccer, field hockey, volleyball, basketball, and softball have all reached the America East championship game in the past two years.

Coaching changes have also been a factor in the athletic department. In the last year, five coaches have moved on. With the success of the basketball programs the men's and women's coaches have gone to bigger programs, and it is hard for UMaine to compete with the salaries that are offered nationwide. The three other coaching losses were due to lifestyle changes.

According to Nero, "It is normal in the business to have a quick turnover rate. We have been fortunate to find quality coaches to fill the positions."

Nero said his ultimate goal is to continue the success here at UMaine, and to raise the bar for student-athletes to feel that they can make gains on the field or court and in life.

Nero is most proud of the balance between the campus and community. This has been reflected in the attendance in events in the last two years. According to the athletic department budget, ticket sales in all sports have increased of numbers. This could be explained by the student-athlete's community involvement. Each team has a policy of community service, mostly working with youths in the surrounding towns.

"The University of Maine has chosen wisely in selecting Patrick Nero as its director of athletics," said University of Miami athletic director Paul Dee when Nero was hired two years ago. "In his time here at Miami, his leadership was key to all of our successes." His skill's will continue contribute to the success here at UMaine.

## Black Bears continue to cruise

By Riley Donovan  
Staff Writer

The University of Maine women's rugby team continued its impressive play over the

### Women's Rugby

weekend. The Black Bears competed in the 22nd annual Beast of the East rugby tournament in Providence, Rhode Island. The team won its first three matches and advanced to the semifinals, where they lost to the eventual champion, Northeastern.

Led by Chantrelle Cousens, who had seven tries on the weekend, the Black Bears put up 94 points in their four matches combined. The Black Bears allowed just 32 points.

After defeating SUNY Albany 24-5 in their first game on Saturday, the Black Bears beat Smith College 41-0. The two wins advanced UMaine to the winner's bracket on Sunday.

The Black Bears beat RPI 17-0 in the quarterfinals, and came up short against a tough Northeastern team 27-12. The Huskies went home with the tournament championship.

"We went down there with 17 players," said UMaine head coach Tim Guillerault, "which for a two day tournament is not a lot."

The team played four matches in 24 hours, which Guillerault said was a lot to ask of his players.

"Northeastern had 35 players," he said. "All the matches, we were strong. Towards the

end of the third match and into the last one, people started getting tired. They kept going, which is what I asked for."

While UMaine only had 17 players, the team got scores from a lot of different people. Carolyn Kelly and Kylie Newman each scored twice. Jodi Wyman, Rose Itzcovitz, and Meagan Kelly each scored a try as well. Janna Malich scored one try and Sue Harsche scored seven conversion kicks on the weekend.

"Our forward play got even better this weekend," said Guillerault.

During the week, UMaine collected several injuries.

"They all threw their bodies out there," said Guillerault. "That's a lot of contact."

Guillerault and his team are looking forward to this weekend in Cumberland, where they will take part in the Maine Cup, which they feel they can win.

"If we get the injuries healed than we'll be good to go," said Guillerault.

UMaine is now 5-1 on their spring season. They will face Bowdoin, Bates, Colby, and UMaine-Farmington this weekend to decide the best team in Maine.

No matter how well the Black Bears do on Saturday, they already have proven themselves. Guillerault feels his team brought back a proud tradition of UMaine women's rugby that has been missing in past semesters.

"We went down there and put Maine women's rugby back on the map," he said.

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# Howard's Picks

**Other Schools that Howard looked at:** Clarkson, Ohio State University, Boston College and Boston University.

**Favorite Television Show:** Friends

**Favorite Movie:** The Last Samurai or Gladiator

**Favorite Book:** "Not about the Bike" by Lance Armstrong.

**Favorite Food:** Barbecue Chicken

**Favorite place to visit or go to in the United States:** St. Lawrence River

**Favorite Sports team:** Buffalo Bills

**Favorite thing to do in spare time:** Play video games

**Favorite video game:** NHL 2005 or NCAA Football 2005

**Two current UMaine players you would want to be stuck with on a island:** Not Greg Moore. Jon Jankus or Rob Bellamy.

**UMaine player who makes you laugh the most in the locker room:** Rob Bellamy

**Funny coach Whitehead moment:** When every he does his handshake.

**UMaine hockey Alumni that impacted you the most:** Mike Morrison

**Favorite place to play other than the Alford:** Whittemore Center

**Least favorite place to play:** Providence

**If you could play any team you wanted which team would it be:** Michigan

**Team you most want to play on the road in their arena:** North Dakota

**If you could play against any college hockey goaltender past or present who would it be:** Mike Ayers of the University of New Hampshire

**What's your favorite thing about going to school at UMaine:** The Spring time

**Favorite Professor at UMaine:** Walt Abbot

# HOWARD

From Page 20

cuss hockey, life and those damn Gophers. Here in full is the interview between myself and the All-American goalie.

**C:** My first question is the obvious one, you know everyone wants to know, where do you stand right now, are you coming back or not?

**Howard:** "I mean there has been a lot of talk going on with everyone. But right now I am still right down the middle. I am not really sure, its such a huge decision. I am still not sure what I want to do."

**C:** Is there anything coming in the near future that could sway your decision either way?

**H:** "Most definitely. There is a tournament going on in Europe right now for the world under 18 championships and my advisor has some clients over there that he went over to watch. The Red Wings are over there to see who they can pick up if there is a draft. Once they get back I should know a lot more."

**C:** Isn't it the Red Wings stance that they have wanted you to go all four years since they drafted you? Also, isn't that something you and your family have felt strongly about?

**H:** "Yeah its something that's important with both my parents being educators. They definitely want me to get my degree. However, they also know that anything can happen, like if I were to get injured or something. There are still a lot of options that have to be weighed."

**C:** Do you ever have those doubts or worries about getting an injury when you're on the ice, knowing that you have the contract?

**H:** "No. When I am out there I am just concentrating on winning and giving it the best for the guys."

**C:** Talk about the Red Wings too, pretty good organization to go with right?

**H:** "[Chuckling] Oh man, yeah. I am really blessed that they got to pick me in the 2002-2003 draft."

**C:** They like their goalies there, too ...

**H:** "They definitely do. They are not afraid to make the changes they need to to win. With the Red Wings you associate the Stanley Cup. It's nice to be going to a team that actually gives you a chance to win one."

**C:** It's a little ways in the future but are there any guys with that organization that you really look forward to meeting?

**H:** "[Laughing] I look forward to meeting half the team. I can't believe some the guys that will be shooting against me. Guys like Chris Chelios, Darien Hatcher, I could run through the list. These are guys you grow up idolizing."

**C:** On to a different topic, how about that little announcement that came a week ago? Being named assistant captain and all ...

**H:** "Its definitely a great honor. I didn't see it coming at all."

**C:** I have to ask this question. Jim, do you think that the guys selected you as captain to kind of say 'hey we need you to come back next year, you're the back stop of this team.'

**H:** "I already talked to coach about that but it had nothing to do with the whole situation. Coach has told me he would do anything to get me back here next year and its nice to know a lot of people have faith in



CAMPUS PHOTOS BY MELISSA ARMES

me up here."

**C:** Talk about the guys you are captaining with next year. I thought the selection was great ...

**H:** "They all have different aspects that they can bring to the table. Steve is really quiet but he is really affective on the ice, doing the little things right. Off the ice he does his work and gets good grades. It shows the younger guys how to take care of business. Greg's a leader. He has always been a leader. With his on ice dedication and off ice dedication, he is a leader by example. Michel is our go to guy up front. Look how much he has brought to the table this year and all that he has gone through. He deserves it."

**C:** How much is the way the season ended in Minnesota lingering on your mind?

**H:** "I finally watched the game again the other day to see if it could help any aspects of my game. I still think if we scored one we would have been to going to Ohio."

**C:** You had that one too, when Jankus pinged it off the crossbar or Soares flipped it over the net. I mean you guys outplayed them.

**H:** "We definitely had our chances to win it. It just wasn't meant to be this year."

**C:** Is there any feeling that after you lose to Minnesota you want them to keep winning so that you can say you lost to the best team or is it more like they beat us, I want them out.

**H:** "I was actually pulling for North Dakota. Just because they were in the same boat as us. They went from not making the tournament to making it. I was definitely pulling for them because they were playing the best hockey of the tourney. Denver though, whoa."

**C:** You guys were there in Boston last year for the Frozen Four, now your watching it on ESPN what's the feeling going through your head as you sit there and its unfolding without you?

**H:** "It's definitely bitter because you know you could be out there playing and you feel like you should be out there playing. But were back getting ready to make that push for next year."

**C:** How much does the way you guys went down last year in the title game and now this year, make you want to go back out there and put the third title up for UMaine.

**H:** "It makes you want to show so much more because you feel you not only let your teammates down but also the whole state. You want to get back out there as soon as possible to show them we are still worthy



MR. POST-SEASON — Howard (above) stops a puck in the Hockey East tourney. (Below) He took time Monday to discuss this year's playoff run.

of wearing the UMaine jersey."

**C:** Do you like the patterns for next year: Back at the Bradley Center were you won the National title the first time and then Coach Whitehead has been to the title games the last two even years. Not bad ...

**H:** "[Laughing] Yeah those are two nice patterns. Its crazy how fate works sometimes and if that is how it is going to work I am all for it. It would be a lot of fun putting the third national title up at the Alford."

**C:** How about opening the home schedule against Denver? That's not to bad ...

**H:** "That's going to be awesome, I am looking forward to it. Not only do we get the two time defending champion but also we are going to be playing for what they did to us at the FleetCenter."

**C:** What does it say about the program when you can open the season in Colorado College and then host the defending champion?

**H:** "Our strength of schedule is great. It's probably because of Hockey East."

**C:** Any games you highlight? Fans are obviously going to be highlighting February with the series against the University of New Hampshire, Boston College and Vermont.

**H:** "That is going to be a fun month of hockey because every game is going to be up and down the ice. Anytime you play Boston University, BC, or UNH it's going to be a fun time."

**C:** BU too in that new arena ...

**H:** "Oh yeah, that will be our first time going down there, that will be a lot of fun."

**C:** Any predictions for Hockey East this year?

**H:** "Anything can happen. However, I do think Vermont is going to be the sleeper."

**C:** What about non-conference opponents like Alabama-Huntsville?  
**H:** "We can't take them for grant-

ed, if we get a chance to bury them, we have to bury them."

**C:** What does the training regiment look like now?

**H:** "Well we are working out now, five days a week and that is the way it is going to continue for the summer. I am going home from the month of May 'til June, when I come back up for the hockey schools."

**C:** You're already looking ahead to next year, but how about a favorite moment from this past season?

**H:** "Beating UNH that Friday night in early February because so many people were writing us off and thought that the season was in the bag. It's really what turned the season around for us."

**C:** Toughest point of the season?

**H:** "The whole first half of the season. It was almost unbearable. We were all just staring at each wondering what we were doing."

**C:** Everyone knows your name at this campus. You are the big sports figure here. Is that something you revel in? Knowing that when people mention who their favorite player at UMaine it's probably Jimmy Howard.

**H:** "Its definitely really flattering. I mean coming in here, I never expected to accomplish what I have accomplished here but I have put in a lot of hard work and effort. Its nice to see it pay off. It's fun in a way but it could also have its down falls."

**C:** Like hearing Darren Pang say Jimmy Howard is the difference-maker in the NCAA tournament? How do you respond to that? Do you cover your ears or do you use it as motivation?

**H:** "I use it as motivation but you also have to take it in stride. My dad always told me you're only as good as your last outing. So every time I am out there on the ice, I think of that quote. My parents taught me to be humble."





# Black Bears set to respond to Sunday setback

By Matthew Williams  
Staff Writer

The first pitch of Friday night's game can't come soon enough for the University of

## Baseball

Maine baseball team, which will be looking to bounce back from a 14-1 pummeling at the hands of the University of Maryland Baltimore-County on Sunday.

"The margin for error is so

small, and they exploited some weaknesses in our starting pitching. It was an old fashioned butt-kicking," said UMaine head coach Paul Kostacopoulos of Sunday's game, which saw his Black Bears avoid being no-hit and shutout with 9th inning hits by sophomore Ross Cantara and senior Greg Creek, and a sacrifice fly by junior Ryan Quintal.

UMaine swept UMBC in a double header on Saturday to take the weekend series 2-1.

"We didn't play that well, but

we still got a couple wins, so we know if we work and stick with it we'll be fine," said Cantara.

The Black Bears saw their four game winning streak snapped and will look to return to their winning ways this weekend against Boston College and Hartford. UMaine will play at BC in a single game Friday afternoon, and then go south to face the Hartford Hawks in a double-header Saturday. The Black Bears and Hawks will finish their series with a single game Sunday.

"BC's a good team, I think we won a couple from them last year, and it's always a good rivalry, and it should be a good game this year," said Kostacopoulos.

Friday's showdown at the Heights will feature the top two teams in New England, according to the New England College Baseball Coaches' poll released Tuesday. BC received all six first place votes to top the poll, just nine points ahead of the second place Black Bears.

"We'll have one of our starters

going, so we'll be ready to go; it's a rivalry, the game should be awesome," said Cantara.

The Eagles boast a 23-11 record pending their competition in the baseball Beanpot tournament, the results of which were not available at press time. The Eagles offense is led by freshman shortstop Jared McGuire's .431 average and 26 RBIs. As a team, BC hits .296 to go with a 3.09 earned run average from the hill. A probable starting pitcher for

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## Softball team knocks off Colby to start road trip

By Riley Donovan  
Staff Writer

The University of Maine softball team won its third straight road game on Tuesday, and it did have to travel far to do it. The Black Bears beat Colby 5-2 in Waterville for their 12th win of the season.

UM	5
COL	2

The Black Bears got off to a good start, taking a 2-0 lead in the first inning. Third baseman Lauren Dulkis and first baseman Amy Kuhl each hit singles to reach base. Dana Grimm brought them both home with a hit of her own.

Colby scored a run in the second, as they tried to keep pace with the Black Bears. Brittany Cheney hit a single in the top of the third and then Kuhl reached base on a walk. Cheney scored on a passed ball and Kuhl scored her second run of the game when Kristie Hawkins singled.

Colby again tried to fight back in the bottom of the third, but mustered just one run. Miki Starr hit a single and Essie Widlanski drove her home. Jess Brady hit a single in the top of the fourth inning for the Black Bears and then stole another base, adding to her record. She now has 18 stolen bases on the season. Dulkis' second hit of the game was a single that scored Brady giving UMaine the 5-2 lead.

Alexis Pullen took the circle for the Black Bears and pitched the first four innings. She gave up just two hits and picked up the win, her first of the season. The game was her fourth start, and her record now stands at 1-3. Pullen, a sophomore, had not started a game since the Black Bears conference season began.

"Alexis Pullen is pitching

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CAMPUS PHOTO BY MELISSA ARMES

MAN OF THE MOMENT — Jimmy Howard is put under the microscope at the Whittemore Center. Howard believes the Feb. 6 game against UNH was the most important of the year.

## ALL EYES ON HOWARD

All American netminder sits down to discuss UMaine hockey

By Matthew Conyers  
Sports Editor

It has been nearly a month since University of Maine goaltender Jimmy Howard last touched the ice.

Within that time period, Denver has won a second straight national title, Northeastern has hired a new hockey coach and UMaine has named its captains for the upcoming season.

It's been quite the three and half weeks since Minnesota narrowly escaped the Black Bears 1-0 in overtime in the NCAA Tournament West Regional semifinal.

However, one question still remains. Will he or won't he?

This epic question, of course surrounds Howard's impending future with the Black Bears. Coming off a season that saw the phenomenal netminder record a 1.92 goals against average and six shutouts, the UMaine faithful is waiting with baited breath to see if he makes the jump to the big leagues. Drafted by the Detroit Red Wings in the second round of the 2003 entry draft, Howard could at anytime sign with Detroit and forgo his senior season. The decision is one of many for Howard, who sat down on Monday to dis-

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## UM's resident sports guy rides into the sunset his way

By Kyle Fortinsky  
For The Maine Campus

When I found out this was going to be my last column ever for The Maine Campus. I took a second to

### Commentary

think of a serious topic to write about, something that would sort of mark an end to the couple years I was able to write for the publication. But then, in my true fashion, I woke up in the middle of my 10 a.m. class for the fifth day in a row, was an hour from deadline, and needed to bang something out legitimately coherent. OK, one more grab bag, one more cauldron of semi-credible thoughts. Here's my feeble attempt at a last word.

I'm not gonna dwell on it, but Manny Rameriz hit a homerun all the way to the Mass Pike the other night. That's just pure strength. He's too dumb to even know how to take steroids and too lazy to practice hard all the time, but it's got to come from somewhere. He may be a cyborg.

Sticking with baseball, the NL East is by far the most exciting and competitive division in baseball this year. The Marlins, Braves, Mets, Phillies and Nationals — who by the way are tied for the division lead at 8-6 — make up this power group. Last place right now is one game behind the division leading Marlins, and it will be fun watching them beat up on each other all season. The surprise won't be who ultimately wins — I'm going with the Braves to squeak it out in the final week of the season — but who finishes in last, and it's going to be the Mets. Beltran and Pedro are excellent additions, but the Nationals aren't going to be the basement team everyone expects them to be; leaving another team to fill that void.

So now UNC guard Raymond Felton is following Rashad McCants' premature footsteps into the NBA draft. Let the dominos start falling because sensational center Sean May isn't far behind. A national championship and derailment of the starting

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