

Fall 12-15-2005

Maine Campus December 15 2005

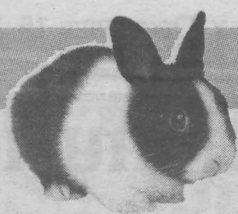
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DON'T LET YOUR ILLEGAL DORM PET DIE THIS WINTER. PAGE 9

THURSDAY
December 15, 2005
Vol. 124 No. 23

THE MAINE CAMPUS

THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE NEWSPAPER SINCE 1875

A Beatles
twist to a
Christmas
classic.
Page 10



Clark, Hamilton talk about Orono incident

By Matthew Conyers
Editor in Chief

Wednesday, University of Maine men's ice hockey players Mike Hamilton and Wes Clark told their side of the story.

There were no TV cameras. No crowded arena. No hectic press conference.

For once, Alford Arena was empty. The only sound that could be heard was the soft rumble of the zamboni combing the ice.

For Hamilton and Clark, that noise was music to their ears.



Hamilton



Clark

"I made a mistake, and I realize what I have done. I am so sorry for what I have put everyone through."

Mike Hamilton
UMaine hockey player

After nearly a month away from the ice, the pair rejoined the Black Bears on Monday after being cleared to practice by inter-

im athletic director Blake James. It marked their first skate with the team since Nov. 16.

Monday also brought the news

of their future with UMaine ice hockey. Addressing both players individually, James suspended Hamilton for an additional four

games for initiating the brawl that occurred last month at Washburn Place apartments, involving Hamilton and a UMaine baseball player.

Clark, who attempted to break up the fight, did not receive an additional suspension and was cleared to play immediately.

According to James, the decision was based on the university's student athlete code of conduct.

The announcement came four days after the original charges of

See TALK on Page 6

Students advocate accessibility alterations at UM



CAMPUS PHOTOS BY ANDREW GORDON

UPHILL BATTLE — Fourth-year economics major Tom Bennett makes his way up the ramp in the Marketplace of Memorial Union on Wednesday.

WHEELING for CHANGE

By Joel Crabtree
Copy Editor

Handicap accessibility is an issue everywhere people go and the University of Maine is no exception. Although about half of the buildings on campus are handicap accessible, there are still obstacles for students and visitors in wheelchairs.

Thomas Bennett, a fourth-year economics major who is in a wheel-

chair, said that getting around campus is not so bad until the winter weather starts. Bennett has also gained a knack for trying to find shortcuts throughout campus that could make his day easier.

"You'll find that the shortest distance between two points is never the most direct route," he said. "You can't cut across the grass and things like that."

See CHANGE on Page 3



Funding shortfall may close Old Town pantry Crossroads

By Khela Kupiec
Staff Writer

With snow on the ground and temperatures dropping into the 20s, December hardly seems the time of year to go camping. This week, Alternative Spring Break members are ignoring the wintry weather reports and setting up tents in Memorial Union for a good cause. They hope to raise \$10,000 for Crossroads Ministries, an Old Town-based food pantry. Crossroads may be forced to close by the end of the month or cut back on its services if their overhead bills cannot be paid.

Crossroads Ministries was established in 1991 by Brenda Davis, a local woman who saw a need for hunger awareness in her community. She responded by creating the only food pantry and resource center to service the Old Town, Orono, Alton, Greenbush and Bradley areas.

"We need to get the word out that Crossroads is here to help but also that Crossroads needs our help."

Timoth Sylvia
Campus minister

Crossroads currently serves some 1,200 area families, with more families asking for help every day. Normally, it takes more than \$3,000 a month to provide minimum services for clients, but this winter is promising to be a

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OCB elections delayed after FirstClass glitch

By Ernest Scheyder
Assistant News Editor

Standby: Election times have been changed. After a flaw in the FirstClass e-mail intranet system was detected last weekend, voting for the Off-Campus Board presidential elections as well as two referendum questions were put on hold so that kinks could be worked out.

The problem arose when Jesse Wertheim, chairman of Student

Government's Fair Elections Practice Commission, received word from FC administrators that the network could not differentiate between off- and on-campus students on one voting day. The OCB elections are for off-campus students only; the referendum questions are open to all undergraduate students.

"That kinda threw a monkey wrench into the whole thing,"

See OCB on Page 5



CAMPUS PHOTO BY LAURA GIORGIO

CAMPFIRE IN THE UNION — Kristen Sheppard and Mariah Marks camp in to raise money for Alternative Spring Break in the Union on Tuesday night. The group will be camping in the Union from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. all week.

PANTRY

From Page 1

difficult one, according to Jim Russ, who runs most of the business portion of the pantry.

"The reality is that we have members of the University of Maine community that are in need of resources such as those provided by Crossroads, and agencies in other towns are not going to help them," said the Rev. Timothy Sylvia, campus minister at the Wilson Center. "Therefore, we need to get the word out that Crossroads is here to help but also that Crossroads needs our help."

This month, the bills have piled up, and Crossroads needs at least \$10,000-\$12,000 to pay for basic utilities, building insurance, dumpster fees and the minimal salaries the current four employees receive, according to Lynette Dexter, member of the Crossroads board of directors and assistant director of the UMaine Office of Student Employment and Volunteer Programs. Crossroads' overhead cost is one of the lowest for any nonprofit organization. At least 90 cents for every \$1 donated goes directly to those in need, according to Russ.

ASB's two tents will be hard to miss in the Atrium of the Union outside of the Bookstore. ASB members will be stationed there from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. every day this week until Saturday. Because of restrictions, they are not allowed to sleep in the Union while it is closed.

"Events such as these are an easy way to bring attention to a good cause while having a good time as well," said Christine Nold, an ASB member.

With more than 10,000 students at UMaine, if everyone could donate just \$1, ASB's goal could be met easily and Crossroads could be saved, according to Ashley Adams, an ASB member and the event's organizer. Donors are welcome to sign the large sheet hanging by the tents that is marking the donation progress.

"What would happen if Crossroads closed down?" asked Mike Mlodzianoski, an ASB member. "People in need wouldn't get the help they need to make ends meet, and that wouldn't be good for anyone. Why not volunteer for a good cause when all it

takes is a little bit of time and effort on my part?"

This year has been one of the most difficult years in the history of running Crossroads because of a serious drop in donations, according to Davis.

"I think a lot of money went to national and international efforts this year, which is important, but it has left out a lot of local food pantries," said Dexter.

In addition, Crossroads is in need of the means to update its current facility. Such necessary changes include new refrigerators in order to store the fresh produce that is not refrigerated now and spoils more quickly as a result. Ceiling tiles need to be replaced, and the entire facility needs to be made more handicap accessible. Clothing donations often come in dirty, and it would be beneficial to have washers and dryers for those occasions. The plumbing and electrical work also needs to be redone.

Part of the plan for Crossroads is to have the adjoining thrift shop eventually support the overhead costs of the food pantry, similar to Goodwill or Salvation Army. Unfortunately, because of the dim lighting and current available resources, the store is not inviting.

All these needs are aimed at Davis' original goal when she first started Crossroads out of the back of her car 14 years ago.

"Brenda Davis, director of Crossroads, has a dream of ending hunger, essentially putting herself out of a job," said Sylvia. "Though it is a lofty goal, it is not an impossible one. If we all come together, recognize the need and find ways to help, her goal could be accomplished."

Although donations have been seriously lower this year, many groups like ASB have still been working hard to help out the only food pantry that people in this area can use.

"We [Crossroads] thank everyone for everything they've been doing from the bottom of our hearts," said Russ. "We wouldn't be able to help those in need in our community if it wasn't for others putting in their own hard work and efforts and getting the word out."

By Monday afternoon, the CampIn had managed to raise approximately \$270 toward its goal, according to Adams.

UM helping to open art, music, theater center for Bangor teens

By Danielle K. Smith
and Derek M. Mitchell
For The Maine Campus

Teens in the Bangor area will have a safe place to explore art, music, theater and recreation when the Powerhouse Teen Center opens its doors next year.

The teen center is currently housed in the Salvation Army building on South Park Street in Bangor. Space concerns and funding limitations make it accessible only from 6 to 9 p.m. every Friday.

With the new program, there will be very few limitations in terms of participation, according to Kathryn Hunt of the University of Maine Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center.

"They are going to charge a very small membership fee that they are going to waive for people who can't pay it," said Hunt.

Powerhouse will be partially funded by the new UMaine-Bangor Community Outreach Partnership Center, which is being established with a \$400,000 grant from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. The center will include people and programs striving to foster a positive environment for all in Bangor's downtown neighborhoods.

"We're very fortunate. This is one of the bigger grant programs in HUD, and one of the most competitive," said Hunt. She said this money will fund a broad range of projects in downtown Bangor, including the Powerhouse and a study of housing issues concerning elderly and special needs residents.

The project will provide hands-on, experimental learning for dozens of UMaine students, who will work with 27 faculty members representing all six of the university's colleges. Engineering students will conduct building assessments, and fine arts programs will be led by student instructors — all in an effort to strengthen the university's connection to Bangor.

According to Powerhouse director Li Liu Cheng, the center will provide teens an outlet for their physical and creative energy, which will help to build self-esteem, confidence, ethics and morality.

"I believe that the Bangor area is lacking a positive place for the teenage population to spend free time," said Liu. "The teenage years are the most crucial time for identity, ethical and moral development."

In addition, with the Bangor Daily News and the UMaine Department of Communication and

Journalism, the Powerhouse Teen Center will begin a community newsletter to be created by young adults for and about Bangor's downtown.

Shannon Martin, associate professor of journalism and director of the Maine Center for Student Journalism, will head this endeavor. This program will kick off soon at the Bangor Public Library until a more permanent space is available.

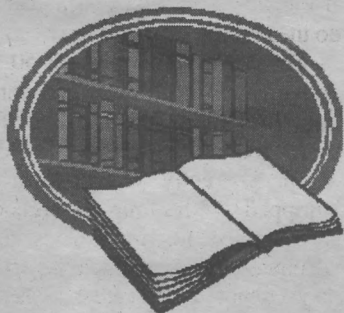
"[The newsletter has] been something I've been hoping to get off the ground in Bangor for several years," said Martin. "I'm enthusiastic about the idea."

UMaine students can become involved in the UMaine-Bangor partnership by enrolling in certain classes, which will be developed during the coming semester.

"By fall, some [faculty] will have our classes up and running," said Linda Lindenfeld, faculty member of the communication and journalism department. These courses will be outlined on a Web site to be launched at the end of the spring semester.

Donations of equipment or money for the Powerhouse Teen Center can be made to the Salvation Army, 65 South Park St., Bangor, Maine 04401. Please note that the donation is for the center.

Adopt-A-School Library Program



We need your help!



The College of Education and the Bookstore have been asked to help two local schools, Orrington and Orland, in their attempts to enhance and expand their library.

Come to the Bookstore to pick up Orrington and Orland's book wishlist. Though we encourage and appreciate your business, wishlist books do not have to be purchased at the Bookstore.

The holidays are right around the corner! Don't miss this easy and wonderful opportunity to help our local schools!

For more information, contact 581-1700.



Save 25% on books purchased for Orrington & Orland Schools!

STUDENT SENATE NOTES

GSS approves \$4,000 for 'a trip to Quebec' for OCB

By Angelica Dolbow
and Elizabeth Welton
For The Maine Campus

During its Tuesday night meeting, the General Student Senate approved a \$4,000 resolution to allocate money to create a Quebec trip for off-campus students through the Off-Campus Board, rather than Residents on Campus. The ROC trip sold out on the first day, preventing off-campus students from signing up.

The weekly ROC report, made by ROC President and senator Adam Kirkland, focused briefly on the group's recent Boston trip and then moved on to new issues.

"The Quebec trip signup was very successful," said Kirkland. "This year and last year's Quebec are the highest price per student ever in the Quebec trip."

"There has been talk about bringing a passport next year, but for this year, students will need a driver's license," said Kirkland. Starting next year, the new federal regulation will go into effect requiring passports.

Kirkland said ROC is planning to meet with the Off-Campus Board regarding the Quebec trip.

"It has been suggested that the direction of the Quebec trip be changed," said Kirkland. "[This has] never been done before, but it sounds like a fantastic idea."

"We wanted to reduce the cost that ROC asked Student Government for," said Kirkland. "ROC did not foresee the sellout happening."

Currently, the Quebec trip is offered separately by the OCB and ROC. There was a proposal to unite the trips into one to "give new unity between the Off-Campus Board and ROC," said Kirkland.

This year, because of the sellout during the first night of the Quebec trip, there are now two trips that will simultaneously take place. One is funded by ROC and the other by OCB.

There was also a heated debate on changing the correct usage of grammar for the amendment and resolution. Sen. Morgan Pottle explained the overview of the situation.

"There was a semantics argument over whether to call the Off-Campus Boards' Quebec trip 'a Quebec trip' or a part of 'the Quebec trip' because the money was being allocated to the Off-Campus Board to send off-campus

students to Quebec," said Pottle. "It was suggested to call it 'a Quebec trip' rather than 'the Quebec trip,' which has become an institution in Residents on Campus. Now what is in the works is we are going to try to make it a joint venture between the Off-Campus Board and ROC. This will alleviate the concern about the student activity fee going to a trip on which on-campus students get preference. In the future, both on-campus and off-campus students will have the same opportunity to go on the Quebec trip."

Finally, Vice President and President-elect Brigham McNaughton called a rule of order, and the resolution to allocate \$4,000 to the OCB was amended.

Associate Dean of Students Kenda Scheele delivered a speech on Tuesday night to the General Student Senate. Scheele gave several proposals to the senate on the current state of student housing and proposed changes that may be made within the upcoming fall semester 2006.

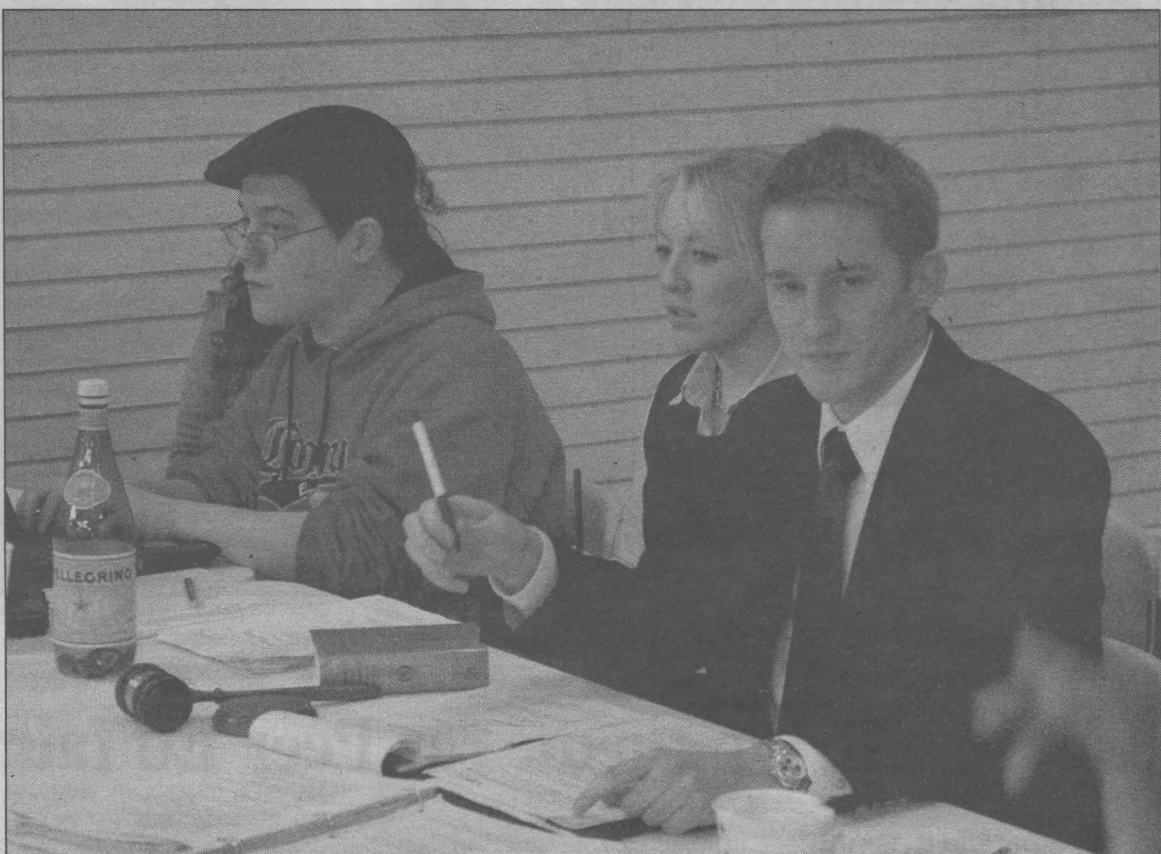
First, Scheele brought up the notion of the new MaineCard system, in which students only have access to their own dormitory. Housing received negative feedback on the system that was implemented early this year.

"Students are more willing to forego their safety and security for convenience," said Scheele. It may be eliminated as early as next semester, she said.

Second, Scheele proposed an alteration on how students are assigned to rooms in order to foster "a better hall community." The assignment change would mean that instead of having dorms coed by wings and floors, the rooms would alternate between male and female. Housing would still offer single-sex floors or wings to accommodate students and parents who may not feel comfortable with the mixed environments.

Scheele added that the University of Maine at Farmington adopted this idea several years ago and found that there was a decrease in dorm damage and a better community life. The proposed change would go into effect as early as fall 2006.

Third, Scheele proposed to limit the number of halls open during lengthy breaks such as Christmas and the summer season for cost and staff reasons. Currently, there are 19



CAMPUS PHOTO BY ANDREW GORDON

PRESIDENT OF SG PRESENT, FUTURE — Current Student Government President Kate O'Brien, center, and President-elect Brigham McNaughton, right, look on during the GSS meeting.

halls on campus, 10 of which remain open during break. All dorms remain open during shorter respites such as spring break and Thanksgiving. Scheele proposed to reduce the number of dorms open over these lengthy breaks to five. This leaves more opportunity to make the much-needed repairs to the dorms that are now almost 15 years behind. By allowing for these closures, there would be five extra weeks added each year to do the proper repairs.

There are approximately 50 to 100 students who remain on campus throughout breaks, and for them, emergency spaces could be given. Currently, every dorm is equipped with four emergency spaces used for roommates that encounter issues in which they find they cannot live together, Scheele said.

There are also several suites, complete with a bathroom, on campus allotted for this. Two professors from Tulane University displaced during Hurricane Katrina were allotted a suite during their stay here. If this proposal is enacted, students would be informed whether the dorm that they wish to live in offers contin-

uous living or not. Scheele said that in this way, housing services can work around the students' needs.

Kirkland to receive pay

On Tuesday night, the executive budgetary committee overturned President Kate O'Brien's decision to withhold ROC President Adam Kirkland's pay until he can prove job worthiness. Kirkland was impeached for failing to request funding in a timely manner for a hall governing board event. O'Brien proposed the punishment as a compromise.

Two resolutions were passed to help Bumstock be more efficient than it has in the previous years. The first act created the paid position of a Bumstock business manager, and the second was an act to allocate funding for the new position.

"The General Student Senate

already pays the director of Bumstock, but, he couldn't tackle all of the jobs efficiently because there are just too many," said Sen. William Pomerleau.

The Bumstock director's pay rate is \$1,195.38 per year.

"Senator [and incoming Vice President of Student Entertainment] Derek Mitchell decided to create a Bumstock business manager who will make half of the director's yearly pay annually and who will take care of some of what the Bumstock director used to have to do," he said. "It's simply making it easier, so Bumstock can be more efficient."

"I think that Student Government should bring a solution that will present some finality to the Bumstock resolution," said Sen. Nathanael Saint-Cyr.

McNaughton and Sterling will both be inaugurated as the new president and vice president of Student Government at 5 p.m. Friday in the Bumps Room of Memorial Union.

Assistant News Editor Ernest Scheyder and News Editor Andrew Knapp contributed to this report.

CHANGE

From Page 1

Ian Czupryna-Ersek, a fourth-year new media major and student Web developer, has noticed the problem with handicap accessibility for a long time, but was recently reminded of it.

Czupryna-Ersek saw a woman in a wheelchair trying to get into Memorial Union for an event after the Marketplace had closed. The Marketplace ramp is one of the few ways that handicapped students and visitors can get into the dining area at the Union. He recognized this and realized that things have to change.

Czupryna-Ersek knows what it is like to be in that situation. He was once on crutches after injuring his leg, and he noted that it was significantly more difficult to get around campus.

"It's a pain to get around, even if you're not handicapped — if you're just injured," he said.

Bennett complimented a lot of the university's programs, like the helping-hand van, which is to help permanently or temporarily handicapped students get to class. His only problem with the program is that the van runs from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

"We all know that everyone's in bed by 4:30," he said regarding the van's hours.

Bennett chose to go to UMaine fully aware that the winter conditions were rough for the handicapped. Although he was accepted at places in the South where he would not have to put up with winter conditions, he said he chose UMaine because the people were generally nicer.

"Of the 10,000 students that go here, only two of them have outright refused to give me any help whatsoever," Bennett said.

During the winter, Bennett activates the "Tom Relay Team," which he described as "basically hitchhiking around campus." People will help Bennett until his aides are no longer going in his direction, then he finds someone else who is willing to help him. Bennett also noticed that many students, who are walking in the opposite direction, will stop, turn around and help him out just the same.

"That's the kind of spirit of helpfulness and generosity that I find very attractive on this campus," he said.

Bennett is currently trying to work on an estimate of budgeting to make all residence halls on campus accessible. He believes that it's crucial for all residence halls to be handicap accessible to maintain friendships with people and to strengthen the university's sense of community.

"Once we know how much

money it will take to make all the dorms accessible, then we can raise that amount of money, and then if we give the university that money, then there's no way they can say that they don't have the money to do it," Bennett said.

Czupryna-Ersek has the same thoughts as Bennett.

"When you look at the list of buildings that are handicap accessible, it's amazing how many aren't on there," Czupryna-Ersek said.

He believes that every building needs to be handicap accessible and that they need to have elevators and grant easy wheelchair access to the first floor.

Along with Bennett's project, he is also working on designing and creating a map that will not only show the main route, but also ulterior paths for handicapped people.

"The main route will get you certain places, but there are always those detours ... and the route that I

took to class in the fall, if I'm going to the same classroom, will be different in the spring than it was in the fall," he said.

Czupryna-Ersek summed his beliefs up.

"I think it's a problem. There are budget issues, but it's something that has to be done. It's a catch-22," he said.

Bennett stressed that he believes the university is doing all that it can, but it just so happens that the weather is as big of a factor as anything else, and it cannot be prevented.

Bennett remains in high spirits, even though the buildings and facilities often present a challenge for him.

"It's the people that make the difference, and as long as the people are willing to make the difference in helping you out, then any place can be made accessible," Bennett said.



CAMPUS PHOTO BY ADRIANNE HESS

BREATHE DEEP — Patty Spearing tests the lung capacity of Amanda Mullen at Tuesday's health fair by Peer Education.

Healthy living theme for Peer Ed fair

By Danielle K. Smith
For The Maine Campus

Christmas music resonated into the halls, setting the mood at the "Healthy Living" health fair sponsored by Peer Education on Tuesday in the Totman Lounge in Memorial Union.

"This [health fair] focused around illnesses that may be common but not well known," said Aaron Sterling, a peer educator and the new vice president of Student Government.

The health fair offered pamphlets of information to students on five different diseases, including melanomas, or skin cancer, cystic fibrosis, Crone's disease, epilepsy and diabetes.

Also offered were samples of both male and female condoms, diabetic vitamins and an assortment of carbohydrate- and sugar-free baked goods for sale. All proceeds from the desserts will be donated to Eastern Maine Medical Center's diabetes research center.

The Peer Ed event went from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., and though the turnout during this time was less

than expected, members were nevertheless enthusiastic about the service they provided.

"I don't think people realized that these health concerns could affect them at any point in their lives by inflicting them personally or through their families or friends," said Angela Fiandaca, the graduate assistant for Peer Ed. "Learning information about topics you may not know much about is what college is all about. I wish more people had come to get the information we were providing."

Other than the informational packets about the diseases mentioned above, Peer Ed procured the knowledge of the University of Maine's department dietitian Laura Honeycutt, who was available to provide any information on basic nutrition as well as discuss the debilitating effects of Crone's disease.

"Crone's disease is an inflammatory disease in the smaller intestines," said Honeycutt. "If it's in an active stage, it's really debilitating and can cause significant weight loss. Onset usually affects ages 15 to 30, so this is the age group."

For those with adventurous tendencies, Cutler Health Center's Patti Spearing was on hand to test students' pulmonary function, which serves as a test for cystic fibrosis.

"It's a measurement of the volume of air you have in your lungs," said Spearing.

Students were instructed to take a deep breath and exhale as long and fast as they could. After several attempts, readings were delivered to the lightheaded, but high-spirited participants.

Peer Ed does more than just provide information on campus about diseases during a health fair.

"We go to the dorms, fraternities, sororities and do workshops and conferences," said peer educator Amanda Mullen, "not in just the Orono and Bangor areas, but down in Bar Harbor and Portland to spread the word about eating disorders, safe sex, cultural diversity, etc."

Fiandaca commented on the event's low turnout.

"It's another case of people being hesitant to get involved with something they don't know much about in the first place," she said.

Toys needed for local charity cause



CAMPUS PHOTO BY ANDREW GORDON

GOOD CAUSE — William Blair, left, and Jason Willoughby man the Association of General Contractors toy drive in Memorial Union. It's one of the many efforts this holiday season.

Helping Hands

By Khela Kupiec
Staff Writer

What's a holiday season without toys?

This month, the University of Maine Black Bear Volunteers are working to avoid that possibility for greater Old Town-Orono area families with an innovative gift-giving program.

While many gift-giving programs like "adopt-a-family or child" give the recipients no choice in the gifts they receive, the Black Bear Volunteers' program is designed to personalize a family's holiday.

Lynnette Dexter, assistant director of the UMaine Office of Student Employment and Volunteer Programs, came up with the idea when she realized it was important to give parents the dignity of selecting gifts they thought their children would enjoy.

The gift-giving program is open to all faiths in order that everyone will feel free to participate and benefit from the event. Needy families come from every religion, and the holiday season is often the only time they have a chance to get gifts for their children, according to Dexter.

Co-sponsored by Crossroads food pantry in Old Town, the program expects to take care of about 125 families. That means they need to receive at least 400 gifts of substance.

Overall, toy and monetary donations have been down this year by at least 50 percent. Low donations seem to be a theme for assistance organizations across the state this season, said Dexter.

While the number of groups and individuals making donations this year has been low, a few university groups such as the University Credit Union, the University Bookstore and the student group Golden Key International Honor Society have helped extensively in donation contributions.

This year, the Bookstore donated more than \$2,600 worth of merchandise by holding a 50 percent off sale to benefit the Black Bear Volunteers' toy drive.

"Our primary mission is to support our students' education, and most traditionally, this is done

through being a source for course materials," said Bill Hockensmith, Bookstore director. "However, supporting our students in developing an appreciation for altruistic community service is also an important part of their education."

For the third consecutive year, the program is set up in a way that all toy donations are collected and distributed confidentially to protect the families. The toys are organized and displayed in a way that provides an atmosphere akin to shopping, but more relaxed and welcoming. This year's event is being held in the Wilson Center on College Avenue.

The idea is to avoid making families feel the common stigma of charity and to give them the best possible experience. It works in a way that families who apply for assistance are given an appointment at which time they can come and pick out more personalized gifts at leisure. Before they leave, they can wrap their gifts with donated paper and bows as well.

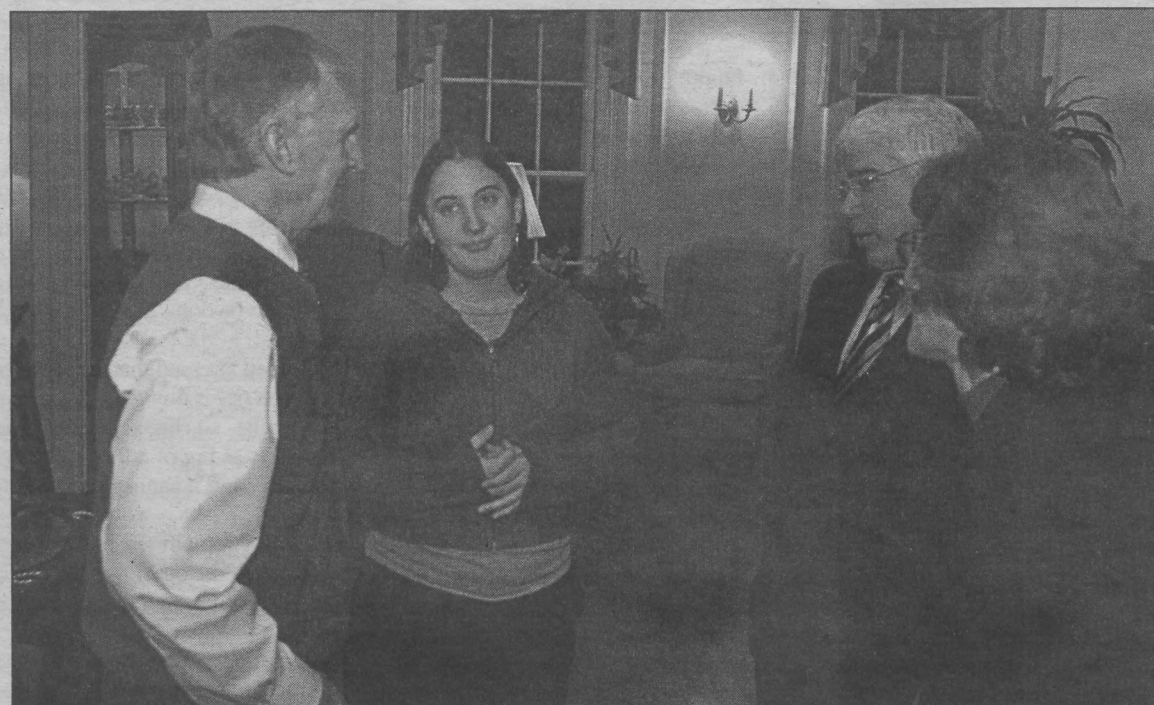
As a result of the design of the program, Dexter said a lot of donors do not like the program because they cannot target their gifts to a specific child or family. She believes that may be why there was a slight drop in donor participation since beginning the new program. The main idea is that this should be more about the recipients than the donors.

Donors are asked to buy and give unwrapped gifts to the Black Bear Volunteers. There is a special need for gifts appropriate for adolescent-age boys. People tend to enjoy buying gifts for babies and girls, while they often have no idea what to get their own sons and nephews, let alone someone they do not know. Dexter suggested such ideas as shaving kits, which may seem simple, but for families in need, hygiene products are often the hardest to buy.

The Black Bear Volunteers are also participating in a holiday party, open to the entire community on Dec. 17. Santa will make an appearance at the turkey dinner, provided by donations from area restaurants and churches.

"For some families, this is the only Christmas they'll have," said Dexter.

Holiday Happenings



CAMPUS PHOTO BY ANDREW GORDON

OPEN HOUSE — President Robert Kennedy, left, and Dean of Students Robert Dana, center right, chat during the president's buffet for university employees.

VP-elect Sterling: Students should run evaluations

By Joseph Bishop
For The Maine Campus

Aaron Sterling, current president of the Off-Campus Board, former chairman and vice chairman of College Republicans, member of Rotaract, Sigma Phi Epsilon brother and chair of the Macintosh Users' Group is now vice president-elect for Student Government after capturing 44 percent of the vote during last week's election.

"He can also bake really good brownies," one of Sterling's friends said.

Sterling mobilized the vote by distributing flyers, hanging posters, placing advertisements on Facebook.com and creating a Web site. He partially attributed his victory to name recognition.

"I've been here for quite a while — quite a bit with SG and quite a bit with other areas of the university," Sterling said.

Starting Friday, Sterling will officially assume the role of vice president after defeating opponents fellow senators Will Beaudoin and Nathanael Saint-Cyr. He will be working alongside Brigham McNaughton, current vice president and president-elect.

A total of 1,925 students voted in the Student Government executive election on Dec. 5, which also included a referendum proposing a raise for the student activity fee, currently at \$35, to \$50. The measure was rejected by 54 percent of voters. Of the totals, 1,810

votes were placed for vice president, and 1,800 votes were placed for president. The majority of the voting took place online, although absentee ballots were provided by the Student Government office for students without Internet access.

"My primary platform plank was to try to place the evaluation process for professors in the hands of Student Government and take it out of the hands of the university," he said.

"All candidates that ran had the student body's best interest in mind. [We] want to try to make all of our campaign promises come true."

Aaron Sterling
Vice-president elect

The information would be available in Fogler Library and possibly online for students to research when choosing professors. The provost's office currently has access to such information, which is not easily available to students. Under Sterling's plan,

evaluations signed by individual students would still go on a professor's personal record, but the copies distributed to Student Government and made available to students would have signatures erased, leaving the evaluators anonymous. Sterling doesn't feel the university would be opposed to such a proposal.

"The provost came to a student senate meeting and said other state schools put professor evaluations in the hands of SG," Sterling said. "He looked at the senate for five or six seconds, which gave the impression that would be something he would not be opposed to."

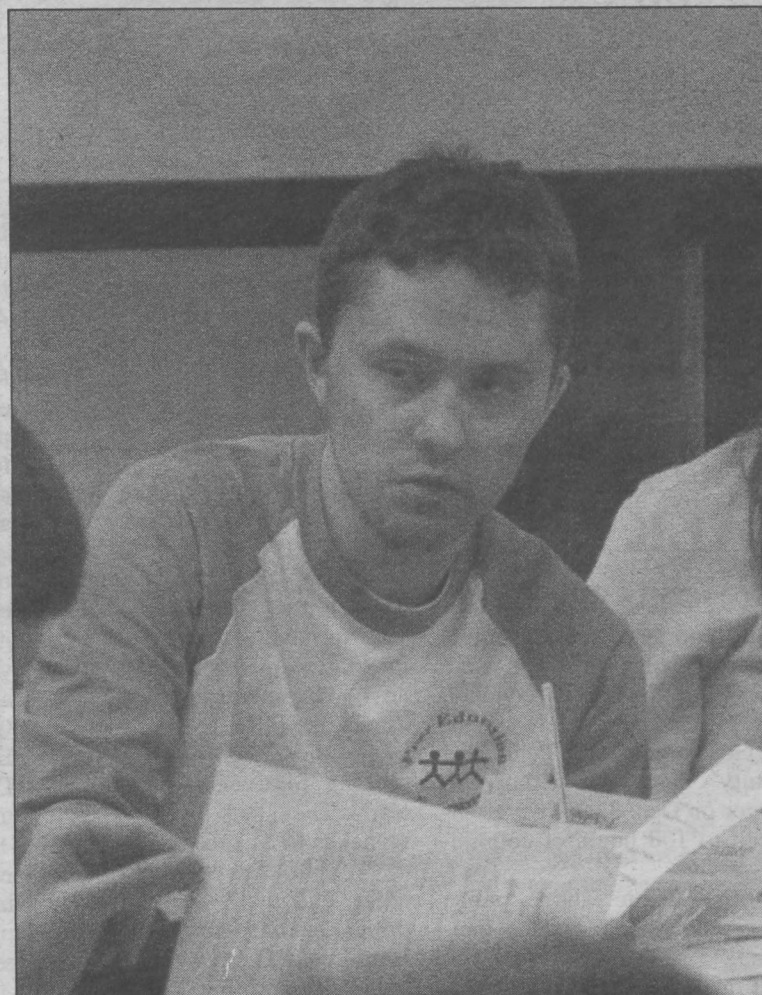
Other possible goals for Sterling as vice president would be to incorporate the platforms of other candidates who didn't win.

"All candidates that ran had the student body's best interest in mind," he said. "[We] want to try to make all of our campaign promises come true."

Sterling mentioned a proposal by a vice presidential candidate to create student affairs committees that would be on the level of presidential advising committees. Their responsibility would be to advise the administration on dining services, parking, lighting and a number of other issues.

The authority of Student Government, Sterling believed, ultimately traces back to the student body itself.

"We only have as much power as students want us to. ... We're the mouthpiece, not the



CAMPUS PHOTO BY ANDREW GORDON

DO THE PAPER SHUFFLE — Vice President-elect Aaron Sterling plans to enact a Student Government-run professor evaluation as part of his administration.

voice for the students," he said.

Sterling was wary about setting out a definitive platform for Student Government because he

wanted to give the appearance that the group was truly representative of the student body and always open to suggestions.

OCB

From Page 1

Wertheim said. "The conflict basically meant you couldn't do both. By the time we found that out, it takes a few days to get everything set and do it right."

When Wertheim discovered the flaw, he quickly publicized the change in the date so that students knew of the postponement, he said.

"Other than the fact that they couldn't [vote], I sent out e-mails letting people know," Wertheim said.

Currently, elections for Off-Campus Board president are set to be held today. Students should be able to vote on their FC desktops, but paper balloting is available in SG offices in the basement of Memorial Union.

Wertheim said he anticipates a smaller turnout than last week's student body executive elections given the small nature of the referendum questions and the new day for the OCB elections.

"It's not as vital that we have a maximum turnout. In this case, there are just clerical issues [to be voted on]. ... It's kind of like office-related things," he said. "Essentially, there will be less problems."

The referendum questions will ask whether students wish to add the vice president of student entertainment to SG's executive budgetary committee and if the date for the vice president of financial affairs to submit the finalized budget should be pushed back to March from February.

Kate O'Brien, outgoing president of SG, spoke in favor of both resolutions in a recent interview.

Pushing the budget's approval

back a month will make for a smoother financial transition into the next fiscal year for the vice president of financial affairs, she said.

Benjamin Benwell, a junior business administration major and the incoming vice president of financial affairs for Student Government, sees pros and cons on both sides of the issue.

"Having an extra month could have its advantages to be able to look into things more accurately," he said, "but I think at the same time having [the budget] done sooner will give us more time to discuss it in senate."

Derek Mitchell, a sophomore political science major and the incoming vice president for student entertainment for Student Government could not be reached for comment.

"Having the VPSE on the [executive budgetary] committee makes it easier when we are considering funding requests that have to do with entertainment events," O'Brien said.

Last week's referendum question, which sought approval for a \$15 increase in student fees, was rejected by the student body. O'Brien said that while she thinks these next two referendums won't befall a similar fate, she hopes that students will approach SG with any questions or concerns they have about the organization as a whole.

"I think people say 'Oh they want 15 more of my dollars, what are they going to do with it?'" she said. "Ultimately, if we're going to serve the students in an entertainment capacity, we're going to need more financial support."

Voting on the referendum questions is tentatively set for Friday. Wertheim said he advises students to routinely check folders on FirstClass for election updates.



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The best part is that ALL proceeds go to Alpha Phi Omega and Gamma Sigma Sigma, two service sororities and fraternities at UMaine!




THE MAINE CAMPUS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Friday, Dec. 16

Go Blue!

UMaine community members are encouraged to wear blue as part of the official Go Blue! campaign to showcase university spirit and pride. For information contact Heidi Carlow at 581-1512.

Inauguration

Student Government, Inc. will

hold an inauguration ceremony for President-elect Brigham McNaughton and Vice President-elect Aaron Sterling at 5 p.m. in the Bangor Room of Memorial Union. For information, contact Amy Grant at 581-1775.

End of classes

All university classes end today at 5 p.m. Finals start Monday at 8 a.m.

TALK

From Page 1

assault and aggravated criminal trespass against the pair were reduced to disorderly conduct. Both pleaded no contest as part of a plea agreement in Penobscot County Superior Court in Bangor on Dec. 8, and were sentenced to 100 hours of community service.

Both players have since expressed remorse for the incident.

"I made a mistake, and I realize what I have done," said Hamilton. "I am so sorry for what I have put everyone through."

"It's just an unfortunate event where bad decisions occurred," said Clark. "It's something we have to live with."

Along with community service, Hamilton was fined \$500. The charges against Clark will be dropped if he completes his service hours.

The brawl resulted in an indefinite suspension of the two from practice and games since Nov. 16. Hamilton arrived at the victim's apartment with Clark hoping to confront the man, who was involved with his ex-girlfriend. After five minutes, an argument between the two escalated and a tussle ensued.

"There definitely have been some punishments, and me and Wes have been so remorseful," said Hamilton. "It was such an unfortunate incident. It was so avoidable."

In addition to the athletic department, the university has addressed the situation by giving both players 60-100 hours of community service. Clark and Hamilton were reinstated as students last Friday.

"I guess everyone was dealt with fairly from the coach, the A.D. and the school," said Clark.

Dean of Students Robert Dana said the university has delivered a substantial response to the incident.

Clark and Hamilton are happy to simply have a second chance.

"Now that is over with, everyone is moving forward and we are just trying to make it a positive thing and try to rebuild the university's name and the hockey team's name," said Hamilton.

Part of that process is repairing relationships with the baseball team.

"Me and Wes weren't allowed to be in contact with some of those guys for awhile," said

Hamilton. "Through the hearings, we apologized and shook hands. Both sides kind of realized that this can't happen. There are no grudges."

"We have some good friends on that team, so the last thing anybody wants is any more situations like this."

Another step for the two is seeking forgiveness from their team. They had to admit their mistakes to do this.

"I think everyone makes mistakes, and there were so many things leading up to it," said Hamilton. "There were so many better things that could have come out of it."

Hamilton cited his teammates' support, as well as his coaches, as being tremendously helpful through the whole ordeal.

"Every guy on the team was so supportive," said Hamilton. "Whether they were calling you to see if you needed anything or bringing you something to eat or whatever. Our team was so close. I think it brought our team together in the end."

With the team on the road for games against Providence and Brown during the initial suspension, Clark and Hamilton had plenty of time to dissect the situation. Now they are prepared to return to ice and display their true selves to not only the media, but the student body.

"I think that I am just going to show everyone what kind of person I am through the next year and a half I am here," said Hamilton.

Clark echoed his teammate's sentiments.

"Don't judge a book by its cover," said Clark. "Like I said, it was unfortunate. We made bad decisions, and we have been punished over the last month pretty harshly."

"That's definitely not Wes Clark. I am a character guy, and I am not that type of person."

While Hamilton refused to address the way the media portrayed the event, Clark did not.

"At the start, the media kind of blew it way out of proportion," said Clark. "A lot of the facts weren't really straight. They really weren't the right facts."

Nonetheless, they are eager to put their troubles behind them.

"I think our team went through a tough time there. The guys were feeling our pain; there was a big cloud over our head and now we have started to move forward," said Hamilton. "It's been such a tough month, and we are just looking to make a positive out of it and try and do the best we can in the situation."

Teacher-coach Abbott candidate for distinguished service award

By Andrew DeFilipp
For The Maine Campus

A long-time University of Maine professor has been nominated for a distinguished service award from the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association.

Walter Abbott, an associate professor of kinesiology and physical education at UMaine, was one of 14 people nationwide — and one of four from outside the field of athletic administration — to receive the award.

"No one has done more advising of both new and experienced coaches in terms of dealing with the strategies of competition, how to help young athletes become better players and better people," said Dean Robert Cobb of the UMaine College of Education and Human Development. "This is a great tribute to a superb coach."

The distinguished service award is presented annually to recognize length of service, special accomplishments and contributions to interscholastic athletics.

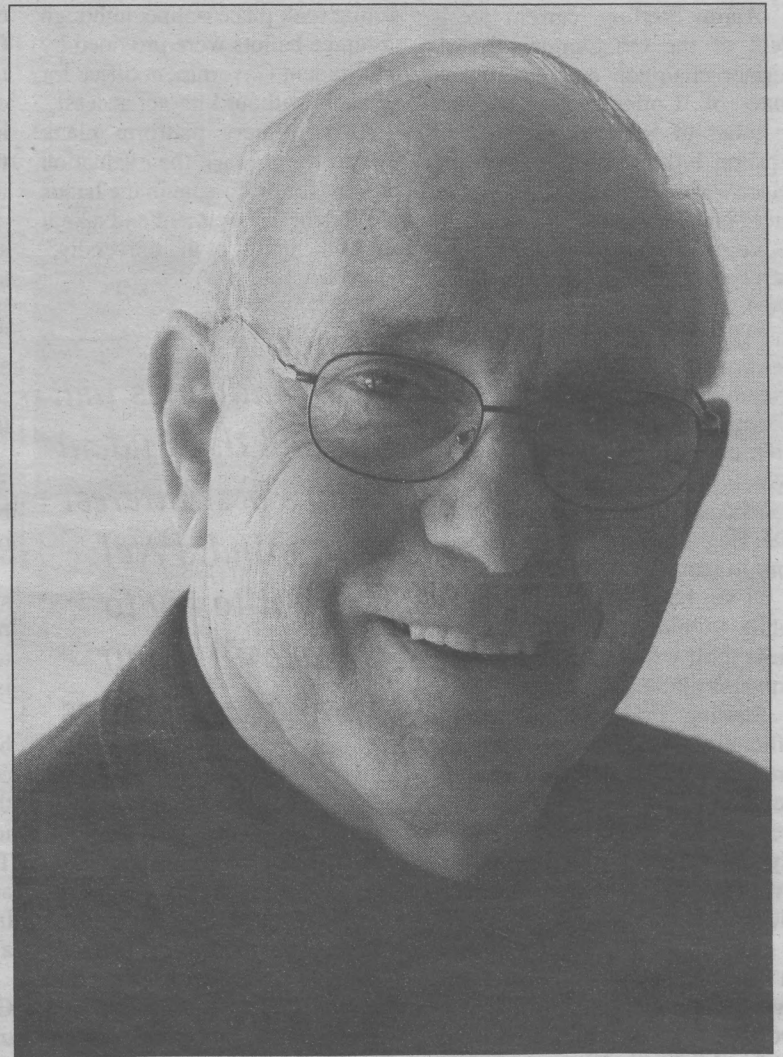
Abbott has been teaching and coaching at UMaine since 1960. He helped to develop the university's online coaching eligibility course for the Maine Center for Sport and Coaching.

He also was part of a statewide select panel that helped draft the Sports Done Right report, which serves as a national model for sustaining a good learning environment for interscholastic and youth sports.

Abbott received an undergraduate degree in resource economics in 1958 and a master's degree in education from UMaine. In 1960, Abbott became an instructor of physical education and was an assistant football coach. He became the Black Bear's head football coach in 1966, a title he held for nine years before moving into full-time teaching and establishing a campus-wide physical fitness program.

"Walt is dedicated to kids in the university and high school students in the state. I've never met someone so passionate [about what he does]," said Karen Brown, who was a student and advisee of Abbott's. Brown now directs the Maine Center for Sport and Coaching.

According to the NIAAA Web site, the National Federation of High School board of directors selects eight athletic administrators



CAMPUS PHOTO BY LAURA GIORGIO

ACCOMPLISHED — Teacher-coach Walter Abbott was nominated for a distinguished service award from the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association.

— one from each of the eight sections — to receive the NFHS citation. Recipients of the NFHS citation are selected from people nominated by their respective state athletic director associations. This award recognizes athletic administrators from across the nation who have excelled in the profession.

The Maine Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association nominated Abbott for the award.

"No single person has impacted as many coaches and teachers in our state as Walter Abbott. Even after 45 years of teaching, he still has the energy and passion to give to any student, athlete or coach in Maine," the nomination stated.

"I've been dedicated to sport my whole life. I was honored to be recommended for this," said Abbott.

"He always makes time for people because it is the right thing to do," said Brown, "not for the recognition."

Abbott hails from Rumford where he played high school football. While playing football for the Black Bears, Abbott had a reputation as a strong offensive guard and defensive linebacker.

Abbott's commitment and service has been recognized with awards such as the UMaine Alumni Association Block M Award, the Maine Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Highest Praise Award and the National Football Foundation State of Maine Chapter Contribution to Amateur Football Award.

"This is a great tribute to a superb coach, a wonderful trainer of coaches and a continuing advocate for doing sports the right way," Cobb said.

The annual National Conference of High School Directors of Athletics will be held on Sunday in Orlando, Fla.

Dancin' the Night Away



CAMPUS PHOTO BY KEVIN REARDON

MOVE TO THE GROOVE — The dance club practices their moves Wednesday night to get ready for today's dance recital.

Let Off Some Steam



CAMPUS LAURA GIORGIO

SKYWARD — Steam billows from pipes at the Steam Plant on Tuesday, when temperatures hit their lowest point of the season.

Engineers break bridges in contest

By Brian Sylvester
For The Maine Campus

Students in professor Karen Horton's freshman civil engineering technology class spent the last few weeks designing and building bridges out of pieces of file folder stock. On Tuesday morning, they destroyed them.

For the last five years, Horton's class has held a competition to see which of these bridges can hold the most weight before they buckle under the pressure.

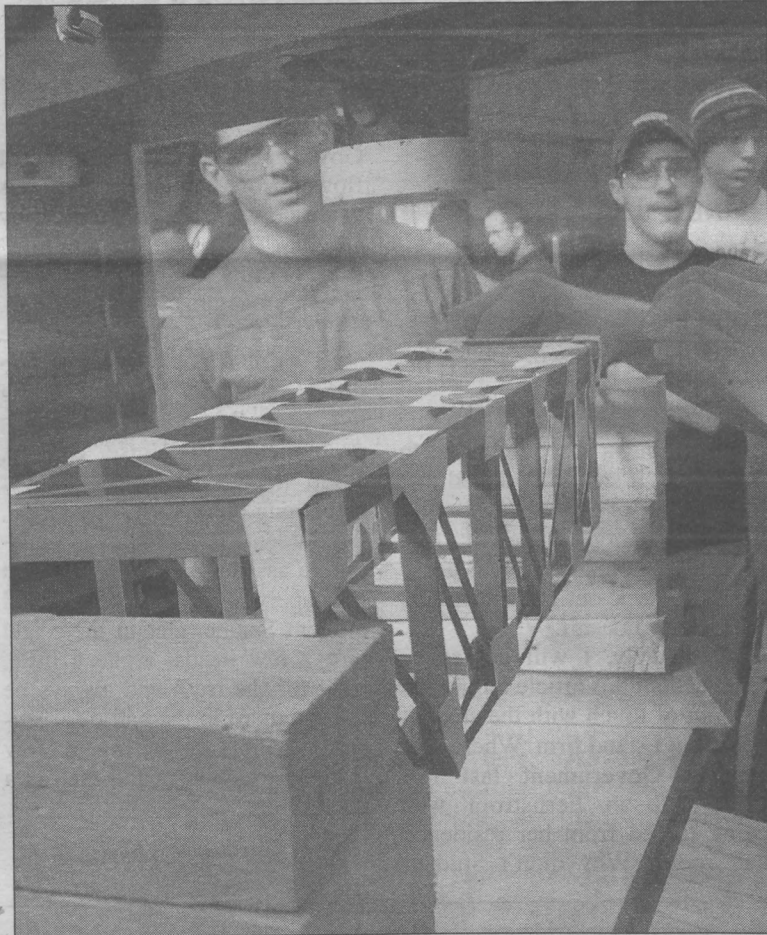
"It fulfills a wide range of the mechanical engineering technology program's objectives for the course," said Horton, who hopes to continue the contest in the future.

Each student in the class was assigned to a group for the project, and they spent time in and outside of class preparing their bridges. The bridges themselves were quite small, variously colored and not much more than 1 foot in length. Each group chose its own design and structure, hoping to build a stronger bridge than their competitor's. One student mentioned that his group spent about 10 hours just in construction.

"The time to build the bridge varied by team, but each team selected the part sizes and built the bridge during a one-week period," said Horton.

The students spent a great deal of time in preparation for the few moments when their bridge was tested, building a wide database of information before choosing which construction designs would provide the greatest amount of strength. The bridges were crushed slowly by pressing down on them with incrementally increasing amounts of force. This allowed the students to find the precise amount of force the bridge could withstand before breaking. After this experiment, most of the groups crushed the bridge outright. One student took his group's bridge and stood on it, flattening it.

The three winning groups out of the six participating were



CAMPUS PHOTO BY CORMAC O'CALLANAIN

BUILD ME UP, BREAK ME DOWN — Civil engineering students learn the value of creative destruction.

awarded extra points on their final project grade, with 15 points going to the winning team of students Chris Atwood and Brandon Markie. The second-place group received 10 extra points, while the third-place group received five.

Groups ranged in size from two to four students each. Some came up with a group name, like "Big Red," which used only red file folders to construct their bridge.

"[The students] wrote team contracts defining their own rules for norm and goals, leadership, communication and decision making, and responsibility," Horton said.

Students also had to agree to a group-based grading. Some of the students enjoyed the project, but "other students expressed less enthusiasm," said Horton.

The students are called upon to

exercise a wide range of skills in this project, said Horton.

"Students applied skills in computer-aided design, spreadsheets, physics, engineering design and engineering testing," she said. "They also applied and demonstrated good teamwork skills, followed written instructions describing how to build the bridges and made PowerPoint presentations describing their design and fabrication techniques to the class."

The competition was held 11 a.m. Tuesday in the basement of Boardman Hall and attracted several spectators from various members of the local press. The winning teams were announced officially later that afternoon, and a display giving information on the winning bridges and teams will be on display in Boardman Hall this week.



POLICEBEAT

By Randy Perkins
For The Maine Campus

Parking employee calls police after threatening

At 9:58 a.m. Dec. 7, Public Safety received a call from Parking Services about a disorderly male in the College Avenue south parking lot. A vehicle pulled up to a Parking Services employee, and the driver started yelling from inside. The driver, who was alone in the vehicle, was later identified as Michael Ferriggi, 22, of Milo. He questioned what the Parking Services employee was doing, and then started calling the employee names out of agitation. The employee felt threatened by the Ferriggi's actions and got a plate number from the vehicle. Ferriggi was contacted and when he came to the police department he was issued a summons for disorderly conduct.

Open door tips officer to underage alcohol possession

At 9:12 p.m. Dec. 3, two officers were on foot patrol on the fourth floor of Hart Hall when a room door opened and a female subject stepped out into the hallway. Behind her were two other males who began to step out into the hallway. When the officers walked by the open door, they noticed a 12-ounce bottle of Twisted Tea. Both the female and two males that exited the room appeared underage, and the officers asked for identification. The female was identified as Tyne Hagerstrom, 20, of Hart Hall. Everyone inside the room was underage, and they were asked by the officers if they had consumed any alcoholic beverage during the evening. The officers asked if they could search the room and after receiving consent, found a bottle of Boone's Farm, a bottle of Bacardi Razz, a bottle of Bacardi Superior, a liter bottle of vodka,

and another 12-ounce bottle of Twisted Tea inside the refrigerator. Hagerstrom admitted the alcohol was hers, and she was charged with possession of alcohol by a minor.

Speeding ticket nets driver and passenger alcohol violation

At 12:30 a.m. Sunday on Long Road, an officer observed a vehicle pass him traveling 37 mph in a 20 mph zone. The officer stopped the vehicle and made contact with the driver, Christopher Bourgoine, 19, of Saco. The officer smelled the odor of alcohol coming from inside the vehicle and determined the passenger had been drinking. The officer asked the passenger, Oliver Markewicz, 18, of Orono, if there was any alcohol in his backpack. Markewicz said that there was one beer, which he then turned over to the officer. Bourgoine was asked if he had any alcohol, and he took out a bottle of Hennessy, which he gave to the officer. Both occupants of the vehicle were summoned for possession of alcohol by a minor, and Bourgoine was issued a warning for speed.

Snow removal frustration leads to consumption charge for man

At 3:55 a.m. Saturday, a call from Parking Services reported that while they were towing vehicles for snow removal, they were accosted by two extremely intoxicated male subjects. Both subjects, one of whom was underage, were identified as non-students and were told to leave campus. The underage subject, Aaron Jankowski, 20, of Bangor, was issued a summons for illegal possession through consumption.

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UMaine Graduate '02

Quebec City or bust

Residents on Campus and the Off-Campus Board have made a great decision by adding space to the Quebec trip reserved for off-campus students. Demand for the trip this year was so high that spots filled up before off-campus students had a chance to register. It's good to know that ROC and OCB can work well together to resolve the space shortage.

Yesterday the Maine Masque announced that its trip to New York this February will be cancelled due to lack of student interest. It's a shame that this opportunity will no longer be available to students. So what does Quebec have that New York doesn't?

Sadly, the reason for the popularity of this trip comes down to one thing — Quebec's drinking age. Quebec is a wonderful cultural destination. There are plenty of great things to do there this time of year, such as Winter Carnival. It's a shame that most students representing our school will be too hung over to take advantage of them.

Give back whatever you can spare

Helping the less fortunate should be part of everyone's celebration of the holiday season, even college students.

Although students aren't able to make as large a monetary donation to charity as those with established careers, we're still better off than the needy children in our community.

Even donating something as inexpensive as a toy for the UMaine Black Bear Volunteers toy drive, happening this week at donation stations in residence halls and in the Union, is helpful. The same organization co-sponsoring the event, Crossroads, also needs assistance for its operations this year, and the crew from Alternative Spring Break will be camping out in the Union this week to round up fiscal support for the project.

If a financial donation is impossible to make, a donation of time is always appreciated. Contact the Black Bear Volunteers or another charitable organization to find out how you can make a difference in the Bangor-Orono community this holiday season.



Be the change you want to see

Have a problem with SG? Go do something about it

Chris J. Allen is mad. If you read his opinion column in Monday's issue of this publication, you know that. He asserts in his piece that members of Student Government have no interest in serving students; rather, he says they seek to advance their own careers.

Maybe he's right; maybe he's wrong.

I had a conversation last week with a recently promoted member of Student Government who told me — without hesitation — that he is hoping his new position will buoy him to the student body presidency next December. I wasn't surprised by this admission; Allen hit the nail on the head when he decried "resume padding." But it was the callous nature in which this goal was relayed to me that prompted an internal red flag. To him, this new

ERNEST J.
SCHEYDER

ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

job was not something to take true pride in, but a stepping stone to the future. It should be noted that this point-of-view is hardly unique in an organization that theoretically should bend over backwards to seek out student needs, but usually doesn't.

Predictably, I will get angry letters about this article telling me I'm out of touch with the student body, but I stand firm. Where was Student Government last fall when Allison Fernstrom was being forced from her residence hall room? Why didn't Student

Government send a bouquet of flowers to Matt Coutu's parents when he was shot in the back by an Iraqi insurgent last summer? Bonus points to any student senator who recognizes these names.

These are serious times and we need serious people to get the job done. And Chris J. Allen, let me tell you: Complaining about a problem won't cause change. Jump in the trenches and get something done. Call Amy Grant, the Student Government administrative assistant, at 581-1775 and get paperwork to join the General Student Senate. Get in there and turn a few heads, argue a little, fight for the truth and always be the vanguard in the battle for students' rights. Ruffling a few feathers every now and then is a good thing.

See POLITICS on page 9

Letters to the Editor

Download this letter

Pattie Barry's article "Sick of slow downloads and incessant searching" from Dec. 8, 2005 seems to suggest that torrents are a safer alternative and "less risky" to tradi-

tional P2P networks. One may dispute the numbers, but it is common knowledge that the majority of file sharing over P2P and torrent networks are illegal and the article implies a higher degree of protection

from the MPAA and RIAA by switching to torrents. In a very recent incident on Dec. 5, the chair of a UMaine department received an

See LETTERS on page 9

Peace on Earth

This holiday, let's work for peace

SARAH
BIGNEY



FOR THE MAINE CAMPUS

Every year during the holiday season, local TV stations and businesses feature lovely public service announcements that usually include several of the following: kittens, candles, soft lighting, holly, ivy, TV personalities in bulky striped sweaters or cookies. They almost always end with something along the lines of.... "Wishing you peace on Earth this holiday season."

Peace on Earth? It's a beautiful idea: We're all together with our hopes and dreams of world peace. Don't forget flowers, sunshine, butterflies and group hugs. Cut to the commercial for plastic crap and then back to the lame sitcom.

It's hypocritical to wish for world peace while bombing other nations, committing acts of torture against individuals, building nuclear technology and continuing the structural violence and inequalities in our everyday lives that lead to violence. These television advertisements make me want to puke.

Instead of talking the talk while continuing to perpetuate the cycle of violence, some representatives led by Dennis Kucinich (D-OH) are trying to walk the walk. Believing that we must make the structural space to promote peace and conflict resolution, they have submitted legislation to create the U.S. Department of Peace.

House Bill #H.R. 3760 and Senate Bill # S.1756 were submitted in September of 2005. According to the Peace Alliance Web site, a group supporting the legislation, the primary function of a Department of Peace will be to research, articulate and facilitate non-violent solutions to domestic and international conflict. The Department will focus on peaceful conflict resolutions, preventing violence and promoting justice and democratic principles to expand human rights.

We have a Department of War. It was cleverly renamed the

See PEACE on page 9

Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 300 words in length 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 University of Maine newspaper since 1875

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Editorials are the opinions of and written by the editorial board, whose members are Pattie Barry, Matt Conyers, Michael Hartwell, Andrew Knapp, Matt Williams, Ernest Scheyder, Randy Cummings, Laura Giorgio and Andrew Gordon.

The Maine Campus, a nonprofit student publication, is printed at Central Maine Newspapers in Augusta. Our offices are located in Memorial Union at the University of Maine. Telephone numbers: Business (subscriptions-accounts): 581.1272; Advertising: 581.1276; Fax: 581.1274; E-mail: info@mainecampus.com. All content herein © 2005 The Maine Campus, unless otherwise noted. All rights reserved.

POLITICS

From Page 8

Yes, Student Government has its problems, recent headlines in *The Maine Campus* will prove that true. No, that doesn't mean you should give up on it.

Mahatma Gandhi once said: "Be the change you want to see in the world." Applying that concept on a smaller scale, I say to my peers: "Be the change you want to see on this campus." The duplicitous nature and incompetence of some Student Government members is a reflection of the current state of the student body.

If you think Student

Government spends too much money, start by drafting a petition to have them sell their plush leather couch and donate the proceeds to Alternative Spring Break's fundraiser for Crossroads Ministries. Merely venting frustration about a problem isn't going to change anything; you have to want something so bad it oozes out of your pores. If all you do is complain, that's all you're doing.

You need to believe in yourselves and the original goal of Student Government: "to expand the scope of the educational experience" at the University of Maine.

Ernest J. Scheyder is a senior English major.

PEACE

From Page 8

Department of Defense in 1949. We have a forum for institutional violence. It's time to reserve space, resources and time for non-violence. It is not enough to wish for peace and talk about how nice it would be if we could all get along as we spend billions of dollars on weapons and military bases.

The DoP would provide many different services to help address the issues of domestic and international violence. By working on all levels, from teaching mediation and violence prevention to children to controlling nuclear proliferation, a DoP would be a proactive step towards our collective desire for a more peaceful society.

Internationally, the DoP would work with the military to develop and teach conflict resolution models and skills, and to administer the training and support of civilian peace keepers to participate in multinational non-violent peace forces.

In addition to the DoP, the legislation would create a cabinet-level position for a Secretary of Peace, and a U.S. Peace Academy to sister the U.S. Military Academy. By providing training in conflict resolution, mediation and many other peace building strategies and techniques, the U.S. Peace Academy would be ensuring a new generation of citizens is ready and trained to go out into the world and work to prevent violence.

The possibilities go on and on. With 60 co-sponsors in the House, this legislation is gaining support and has the chance to become a reality. A widespread grassroots effort has been launched to support the DOP and is present in 48 states. I call on Maine's delegation, Senators Olympia Snow and Susan Collins and Representatives Mike Michaud and Tom Allen to support the legislation by becoming co-sponsors and by publicly endorsing the DOP.

It's time to stop talking and start acting. Peace is not something we can wish for, it is something we must create. The legislation's proposed budget is only two percent of the budget of the Department of Defense. Do we wish badly enough for a safe world for our children and grandchildren that we are willing to spend two percent of that which we spend on war on building a better future? Can we spare it to hope to build a world where a "peacemaker" is not a bomb-dropping jet but a teacher, a student, an international non-violent peacekeeper, or a trained conflict mediator?

Turn off the TV and ignore the ads to spend more money this holiday season on plastic crap you don't need. If it's peace we want, then the time to act is now. Visit www.thepeacealliance.org or call your local representatives today. Rep. Michaud: (207) 942-6935. Rep. Allen (207) 774-5019. Sen. Collins: (207) 945-0417. Sen. Snowe: (800) 432-1599.

Sarah Bigney is a senior international affairs major with a minor in peace studies.

LETTERS

From Page 8

e-mail from the MPAA regarding an illegal torrent download from a machine in the department threatening legal action if the incident repeated. The e-mail contained an incredible level of detail including the name of the file, the Web site where the original torrent was downloaded, IP address, DNS records, times of download and file sizes. The student was called up, given a day to completely clean the machine and asked to submit a signed letter promising not to download illegal files in the future. If anyone thinks they can beat the system, think again. It is simply not worth the risk.

Vijay Venkataraman
Old Town

Protect your pets

Since most of you students will be leaving campus during all or part of the break, it is a great time to

check your things for items that are better left at home. Some of the items that should be taken and then left at home are paintball, air soft, or bb guns; cooking appliances with an open coil; candles or incense. In addition, a resident hall room is not conducive to raising and maintaining a pet. If you have hamsters, rabbits, dogs, snakes, well actually anything that is not a fish, be sure to take them home with you. Unfortunately, every year we find dead pets in our halls as they can't live for two weeks without food and water. Please be kind and take them home.

On behalf of the Department of Residence Life and Programs, I would like to wish you a safe and wonderful break. Please be sure to secure your room, close your windows so that pipes don't freeze and turn off the lights to your room before you leave. I look forward to seeing everyone again as the new semester begins.

AnneMarie Reed
Associate Director
Residence Life and Programs

ROC wants you to help your dorm

Residence on Campus members defend their actions

With the outpouring of negativity regarding ROC in recent editions of *The Maine Campus* a few of the ROC representatives decided that the on campus student body deserved to hear exactly what we do and try to show all of you that we are not wasting your money. We are a group of individuals who care about this campus and the students who live here. The HGBs and the ROC executive board work hard to provide programs to this campus and address the concerns of students, and we feel that the negative press we have received recently is not indicative of the things that we strive for.

HGBs have proven themselves time and time again to provide great services for all on campus students. Balentine has successfully put on a Haunted Hall for two years in a row. Penobscot, Stodder, Aroostook and Balentine Hall recently joined together this holiday season to collect toys for needy children in the area. Both Hancock and Stodder Hall have recently held successful ping pong tournaments, and several halls also regularly put on Midnight Breakfasts, or Grocery Bag Bingo, so that their residents may continually come together as a community.

If you have concerns about your hall, then attend your HGB meetings. You have the right to attend these meetings and speak up for changes that you want to see. Residence halls elect ROC representatives, who then represent the students' concerns in the General Assembly. The people who run are stepping up because

JUSTIN
LABONTE

ROC REPRESENTATIVE

they care about life on campus. We all know what our jobs entail, and we do them well. We will certainly not be ashamed of ourselves for trying to help students.

"We didn't want to have all of our personal opinions printed..."

To say that we are involved in ROC to gain a sense of importance is simply ridiculous. ROC has not received good press from *The Maine Campus* this year and ROC representatives are certainly not in this for the glory of saying that we were ROC representatives. We are in this for the general good of the student body, many of whom didn't even know ROC existed until biased media reports started dominating *The Maine Campus*.

The entire ROC constitution is public and has been voted on by the student population. If any student would like to view a copy of our constitution they may find it via FirstClass in the general ROC folder. Also, any student is welcome to view the minutes from each weekly ROC meeting via that same folder.

Furthermore, ROC has been criticized for hiding our proceedings from the public by entering into Executive Session. The truth is that no business goes on during Executive Session; it is solely discussion. We moved to Executive Session because the impeachment of our ROC president was a very delicate matter. We didn't want to have all of our personal opinions printed in *The Maine Campus* and have the issue blown totally out of proportion. We were not withholding information. The public knows what the charges were and they know the outcome of the vote.

Part of the responsibility of being a journalist, or therefore even a contributor to a paper, is knowing the facts before you write an article or even form an opinion. So, to answer your question, yes, we are serious. We are serious about representing all halls on campus well in the General Assembly. We are serious about passing resolutions that benefit the student body. We are serious about speaking with the heads of several different departments to make sure that services for students are improving. And we are certainly serious when our ROC President is threatened to be removed from office. We suggest that you, and all other critics of ROC, be serious about representing us fairly and honestly.

This defense was written by ROC representatives Justin Labonte, Emily Harris, Christina Soyden and Christine Clark.

Time to bring FOX News to UMaine

UMaine says that it's always in favor of 'diversity'

Fox News strikes fear into the heart of Student Auxiliary Services, SAS, the entity that controls television programming at the University of Maine.

I've noticed since day one that crappy food wasn't the only problem on campus. The news networks that we receive are fairly biased; CNN, CBS, NBC and MSNBC all qualify as fairly liberal stations. Now, ideologies aside, wouldn't anyone appreciate the full spectrum of newscasts? For example, if all this campus received was conservative newscasts, this article would probably be asking 'why aren't there any liberal biased newscasts?' I enjoy "fair and balanced" news. As much as it sounds like a slogan for healthy cereal, it's true.

Now don't get me wrong, I enjoy watching the sessions of the British parliament late night on C-SPAN as much as the next chap, but our television lineup could use some "diversification." I personally know that the UMaine College Republicans are mounting an offense on this front, although

LUKE
DENATALE



FOR THE MAINE CAMPUS

still on the hush-hush, I can tell you that there is a fair amount of strong support behind getting Fox News on campus.

SAS has been especially hostile to the establishment of Fox News. To those of you who didn't know, there was a campus e-mail survey sent to every resident on how the television lineup could be improved. Unfortunately, the SAS refused to release such information. So far any attempt to make a change in the television lineup the SAS has stonewalled by not returning e-mail and phone messages. The official message received was foggy to say the least, as far as details go. The basic idea was that you have to wait till spring '06 to request a change in the television stations.

Their argument is basically this: "Fox News does not come

with our current cable package." Sounds like a ducking statement; everyone knows that Fox News is pretty much standard in every cable package. I wouldn't be surprised to learn that the cable company provides the Fox News Channel but SAS removed it from the lineup. It would be interesting to see what the results of the survey were, but alas, bureaucracy rears its ugly head once again, or perhaps this is considered "confidential" information. Most of my liberal friends enjoy watching Fox News for the humor of it, or just to watch O'Reilly "make a fool of himself." As much as some people hate Fox News, one cannot deny that it has a really good format and is fairly easy and fun to watch. I want to ask SAS personally to do this, not just for everyone who likes to watch Fox News on campus, but because Christmas is right around the corner, and all I want for Christmas is a Fair and Balanced news cast.

Luke Denatale is third-year political science major and a member of the UMaine College Republicans.

go.

MUSIC

Dance Showcase
School of Performing Arts
7:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 13
Class of 1944 Hall

Local Hip Hop Show with L7
and Esoteric
9 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 16
Ushuaia
\$10

ENTERTAINMENT

"The Full Monty"
Musical Comedy
7 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 18
Maine Center for the Arts
Tickets starting at \$26

"Season of Light"
Planetarium show
7 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 16
2 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 18
Maynard F. Jordan
Planetarium
Free to UMaine students

ARTS

"In the Road"
Exhibition by UMaine senior
capstone art class
Through Feb. 3
Opening Reception
5 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 16
Carnegie Hall

"No Two Alike: African-
American Improvisations on a
Traditional Patchwork Pattern"
Quilt Collection
Through Jan. 14
University of Maine Museum
of Art

An exhibition of photographs
by Melonie Bennett
Through Jan. 14
University of Maine Museum
of Art

MOVIES

"Love Hina: Christmas Movie"
6:30 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 16
DPC 100

BARS

35 cent wings & \$2 Bud Light
Pints
Mondays
Finger Rock at Ushuaia

Open Mic Night
9 p.m. - 11 p.m.
Wednesdays
Soma 36

Karaoke
4 p.m. - midnight
Thursdays
Staar Club

If you would like an event
posted on the go! calendar,
please contact Pattie Barry on
FirstClass.

• Christmas gift ideas.

Page 13

style

The Maine Channel's
feisty new show.
Page 12

*Penobscot Theatre opens this week with
a new twist on an old favorite*



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BILL KUYKENDALL

A different kind of 'Carol'

By Anthony Crabtree
Staff Writer

When one thinks about traditional performances of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," the idea of scary Jacob Marley wrapped in chains or the ominous and grim ghost of Christmas to come may come to mind.

Generally, one would not think of the Fab Four acting as narrators to Ebenezer Scrooge's story of self-discovery and change. However, in this adaptation of Dickens' novel by Leslie Bramm, the crew at the Penobscot Theatre Company is aiming to deliver just that, and add a more comedic tone to the play than most of the somber film and theatrical adaptations people are accustomed to.

It has been a tradition for the Penobscot Theatre Company to perform a version of "A Christmas Carol." This year, art director Scott Levy is hoping to change things a bit and create a new and fun experience for the regular theater goers, as well as those who do not go on a regular basis.

"It makes it a little more fun, and a little more palatable for people who have seen it before," Levy said about this new adaptation.

Ken Stack will be returning in

the role of Scrooge, which he has played a number of times with the Penobscot Theatre Company, topping off a cast that includes a total of 15 actors, 12 of whom are local actors and three from New York. Allen Adams, Lacey Martin and Rebecca Bailey, who are all actors in the show, are also students at the University of Maine.

What separates this adaptation from all the other performances of "A Christmas Carol" is the fact that the narrators of this tale bear a remarkable resemblance to the Beatles. This may sound different to people at first, but the Beatles-Charles Dickens team-up was likely to occur at some point.

"Since a Christmas Carol takes place in London, it seemed a natural fit," Levy said. If you are still having a problem wrapping your brain around the idea, Levy can give you a better visual of what you can expect. "Imagine the Beatles in 'A Hard Day's Night.' It is these four individuals who don't work individually unless they are a group. They keep stepping on each others lines and they finish each others sentences."

With the idea of the Beatles as narrators, of course, comes more music than most productions of this play. "We also added more music into this production than in years past," Levy said. It was decided

that the play would contain more modern Christmas music as opposed to the traditional 19th century Christmas carols that many adaptations would use. "The music that we have added in are standard Christmas carols from the past 30 years," he added.

The idea of the Beatles-like narrators and the addition of modern music also make this a play that is suitable for families. It is a light take on the classic, so it will not scare the children and will not give Grandpa flashbacks from Vietnam. When comparing it with other plays, Levy said "It is potentially more entertaining for the kids."

Levy wants it to be known, that while they have made some changes to the story and characters, the play still remains true to the source material. "We're keeping Dickens story, we're keeping his actual words, and the message that he wanted to give."

The story of "A Christmas Carol" was a novel originally, so Levy wants viewers to realize that a definitive play version does not exist. "It didn't exist as a play, so I'm not sure there is a pure 'A Christmas Carol' play out there."

The play runs from Dec. 14-23 with afternoon and nighttime showings. In addition, they are putting on four student matinees, all of

See CAROL Page 12

Counter-clockwise from top right: Bob Cratchit (Christopher Yeatts) and Ebenezer Scrooge (Ken Stack) share a moment. Next, Tiny Tim (Conor Kenney) and Scrooge celebrate the meaning of Christmas with other characters, played by Roberta Barclay and John Greenman. Last, Richard (Rich Kimball), Milli-Mag (Mikki Jordan), George (Allen Adams) and John (Dennis Price) in a scene.

Are we ever truly 'single'?

Girls, Guys and Games

By Kailee Bradstreet

I need a serious lesson when it comes to being single.

Well, I can't say I'm all that surprised. After being off the market for the last three years, I guess I've just fallen out of practice.

But I had no idea I'd be in such a state of confusion, getting caught up in a whirlwind of mixed drinks, skimpy outfits and late-night phone calls. I started to seriously question what motivated people to become and remain single.

It took one night out with the girls to make me realize that I needed a change. For once in my life, I felt like doing something that just didn't make sense. I craved spontaneity; unpredictability.

So I took the plunge, ended a long relationship, and traded in security and comfort for, well, I wasn't really sure.

While my heart told me I was looking for something new — a new way of life, perhaps — I wondered if I was subconsciously looking for someone new.

Because the fact of the matter was, I'd gone from the occasional bar hopper to a Thursday night regular at all the local hotspots. I guess I was trying to get the full college experience.

Most people get it out of their systems early on. You know, freshman, maybe sophomore year. Flirting with that certain someone they've had a crush on. Giving them their number. Stumbling back to their place in a drunken haze in the early morning hours, arm in arm.

But I couldn't help but think that these actions completely contradicted what the single lifestyle was supposed to be all about.

The whole concept of singledom means being able to do what you want, and not becoming emotionally attached to another person. So why is it that most singles often get caught up in pursuing someone new?

"Saying you are single is a code word for saying 'I'm available. Let's couple up,'" said Sasha Cagen, author of "Quirkylone: A Manifesto for Uncompromising Romantics."

Some of my friends were recently reliving the days when they weren't tied down, and suddenly Cagen's theory began to make sense. There was a recurring theme to their stories: Playing a round of strip poker and waking up naked in a pile of cards; telling the cabbie there'd only be one stop that night; somehow winding up in a tent; and — wow — what was his name again?

Every memory revolved around a random hookup. At the end of the night, was it crucial to take someone home in order to say you belonged to the single culture? And why was it so hard to be on our own?

See SINGLE on Page 13

CAB offers stress relief during finals week

By Tony Reaves
Copy Editor

At the end of each semester, University of Maine students can count on three things: snow on the ground, hell week and finals. Fortunately, Campus Activities Board has added Stress Free Finals to the semester-end routine, and for years has been holding events on finals week to dull the semester-end pain.

This year, CAB will serve peanut butter and jelly sandwiches Sunday night at Union Central, hold "Build-a-Bear" Monday in the hallway next to the information desk, and have a massage therapist on-hand in the FFA room Tuesday.

Christie Buchanan, massage therapist for Cutler Health Center, will be giving the massages to stressed students from noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday.

Michelle Morneault, co-chair of CAB's special events committee, said there may be another therapist as well. "This has been a big hit in the past," said Morneault, so it may be a good idea to show up early. There will be snacks in the FFA room for students waiting for a massage.

For "Build-a-Bear," CAB has ordered 200 plush bears with stuffing separate so students can make their own stuffed animals. The activity comes with UMaine logo shirts and birth certificates, according to Morneault. There will be two different bear designs available, as well as a moose. "This is the first time we have done this, so we are anxious to see the student response," Morneault said. Students wishing to build a bear can do so Monday from noon to 2 p.m.

Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches will be available Sunday in Union Central, just a stone's

throw from those library study sessions, from 8 to 10 p.m.

Thrifty students looking for a free haircut, as in past Stress Free Finals, will have to wait until another finals week. "Every semester, we like to switch things up a bit, try out different things so the students won't get bored," Morneault said. "If there is an overwhelming request for haircuts, then that is something that we can surely consider for next semester."

Sunday
PB&J sandwiches, 8-10 p.m.
Monday
Build-a-Bear, Noon-2 p.m.
Tuesday
Massage Therapist, Noon-3 p.m.

It only lasts five minutes



CAMPUS PHOTO BY LAURA GIORGIO

NEW DANCE REVOLUTION — Astra Brinkmann, Chandra Cooper and Mike Puleo dance to a techno remix at a dance party, organized by Brinkmann, in the basement of Somerset Hall on Wednesday night.

Soma 36 set to bring in the Christmas cheer Friday

By Hillary Dugas
For The Maine Campus

Soma 36 is putting on its first annual Christmas Benefit Party called "Deck the Hallz" on Friday Dec. 16. As the semester draws to a close, this last event is the perfect way to celebrate the holidays with friends before break.

Just like previous events held at Soma 36, there will be the hottest local DJs, live MCs and the SpecialBlendz holiday dancers, said event organizer Ben MacDonald, event organizer. Artists such as MC EMC, Benny Blendz and 2 Toes, among others, will be performing and spinning "the best club music around," MacDonald said. From live hip-hop to funky house music, there will be a wide variety of music, he said.

Legal Blendz, consisting of Benny Blendz and Legal Limit, will be putting on a live performance of

See SOMA on Page 12

Regional hip-hop acts to visit Ushuaia

By Ryan Clark
Staff Writer

Their sound may not be digital, but it is definitely underground.

Since 1992, the groups have traveled the East Coast as well as Europe, but hip-hop duo 7L and Esoteric will be playing at Ushuaia on Friday night.

"They are the top of the line in the Boston acts," said Sean Smith, CEO of Queen City Entertainment. "These are the kinds of shows that I do want to bring here, and we want to bring solid acts like this so we have kids coming to our shows."

The duo first formed in the outskirts of Boston in 1992 when the group emcee Esoteric deejayed at a college radio station. At the time 7L was a DJ and producer who heard the show, and from there the two started working together. In 1996, they released their first piece of work, which was well received in places such as Los Angeles, New York and parts of Europe.

Besides garnering respect across the pond, they have also been commended in America by people such as Eminem and

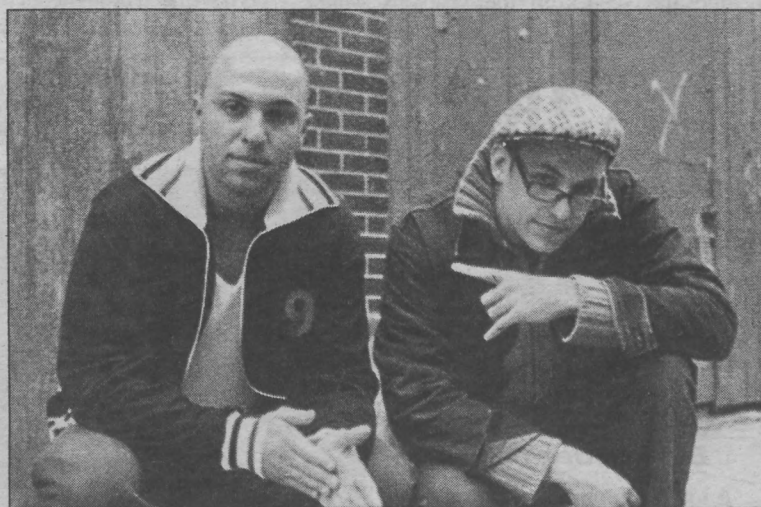


PHOTO COURTESY OF 7L-ESOTERIC.COM

Jay-Z. In 1998, after they had released the single "Def Rhymes." The song received so much praise that the duo was mentioned in Source Magazine. It was then on a hip-hop radio show where Slim Shady and Shawn Carter came up with lyrics while hearing the actual track.

In addition to being praised by some of the industry's best known names, they have worked with a couple as well. In 2001, they collaborated with the Wu-Tang Clan's Inspectah Deck on their debut LP "The Soul Purpose." The album won the Boston Music Award for "Best Hip-Hop Album."

Smith and Ushuaia owner

Alexander Gray have collaborated over the past few years to bring hip-hop acts to the Orono area. Some of these acts included headliners such as Talib Kweli, Juelz Santana and the Pharcyde. According to Smith, some of these acts have sold out while others have received crowds around 50 people.

Outside of the duo, others that will be there, including Bangor native Cojazz. After a six-year stint in Pensacola, Florida, the emcee moved back to Maine. Cojazz has toured with names like Digital Underground and Slick Rick.

For those interested, the show will start at 9 p.m. Friday.

Put up or Shut up

The Maine Channel production 'Mouthguard' offers a debate show of a different variety

By Damon Griffin
Staff Writer

Camera operator and floor director Alana Brown counts down from four. John Enkosky, the host, takes over:

"And we're back..."

This is how the unremarkable opening of the UMaine TV phenomenon "Mouthguard" segment is executed.

The Maine Channel's show "Mouthguard" has quite a simple premise: Four wise-cracking college guys, sitting in a row at a talk-show-style table, going at it for a half-hour on camera.

Shooting each segment is an exercise in traditional television production: Three cameras are set up in the basic positions required for a show. However, the show has proved itself to be far from an ordinary debate show.

A typical segment of dialogue among the show's four wisecrackers — John Enkosky, Mike Hartwell and two guests of the day — runs something like this:

Enkosky: "Our next topic is HBO: Is it worth all the goddamn money?"

Guest Kiernan McMorro: "I don't have HBO."

Guest Kevin Paul: "I think you're wrong, let's fight!"

On "Mouthguard," topics both cultural and political are introduced by host Enkosky and debated among the four of them. At any point during the "debate," an individual can issue another individual an "unrefusable" challenge which is resolved through a boxing match. Although the topics often cover popular subjects such as Google and HBO, the discussions range from "Roots," to an incarcerated actor on "The Sopranos," to Anne Frank.

The crew has shot about one episode per week, and this Monday the crew was shooting episode number seven. Several spectators sat behind the scenes in the spacious Maine Channel room in Alumni Hall to watch their

friends in front of the camera go at it. Show director and Maine Channel President Andrew Eldridge comes in and out to check on the progress of the show. Otherwise, he is in the adjacent room, deciding which cameras will be recording and which will not at any given time.

After about 20 minutes of footage is captured, there is a water break in which the four anchors have a drink and joke about the things that were just said. They tell each other their honest opinions, but still maintain the jovial atmosphere. Of course, the show is a comedy and the opinions expressed are meant to be taken lightly, such as when it is concluded that Kiernan is a jerk, or that killing people is OK because of "The Sopranos."

Matters became more serious, however, during the second and final boxing match. The cameras start rolling, Enkosky shouts, "Ready, set, debate!" and the two guys who strongly disagree on something — Hartwell and Paul, in this case — go at each other for exactly two minutes with boxing gloves. Hartwell has already been in one match this episode, and had some trouble holding his own in this fight. Still, it seems that all is well until the last ten seconds on one of Paul's final blows, when Hartwell's nose is hit so hard that blood spills out on to the floor.

Within the next several minutes, paper towels have been brought out to clean up the blood, Hartwell has had a picture taken of himself

grinning with blood all over his mouth and a camera is still rolling — not that this footage will be used in the actual episode. Hartwell takes the incident with a sense of humor and is able to stop the bleeding with several paper towels, but there is still a genuine feeling of shock that runs beneath the virile glee.

"I take it there's not gonna be a third round," Enkosky said. He said that this incident is unusual; normally, anchors or contestants who fight will suffer a small cut at most.

But these particular anchors are televised troopers: they carry on the final segment of the



CAMPUS PHOTOS BY ANDREW GORDON
POINT CONCEDED — (Top, from left to right) Tony Reaves, John Enkosky, Ian Crowley and Derek Dobachesky prepare for another shooting of "Mouthguard" Friday. (Left) Tony Reaves catches a right hook from Ian Crowley.

show, albeit hurriedly. From where he sits, it is not apparent that any damage was done to Hartwell's nose by now. The four have a brief discussion about raisins and conclude that nobody likes them. Shooting wraps.

The way Andrew Eldridge tells it, "Mouthguard" came to fruition by way of a

See DEBATE Page 13

'NBA 2K6' will delight basketball fans



Gamers
Corner

By Matt Desmond

A lot of people think that playing sports games is a waste of time. "Why play it on your console when you can play it outside?" That's a good question, and here is the answer: It's pretty hard to play basketball outside in the middle of the winter, and it's even harder to find a spot on campus to play indoors with everyone and their brother trying to get in a pickup game of hoops at Memorial Gym. This winter, you can get your hoops in with "NBA 2K6" on the Xbox 360, and what a tremendous game it is.

From the opening of each game, it's like you are watching the NBA on TNT or ESPN. There is an overhead fly-by of the arena on the screen, the players are introduced, and the game is then underway. Now, compared to last year's version, the game



PHOTO COURTESY OF 2KSPORTS

A SLAM DUNK — 2K Sports' NBA2K for the Xbox 360 is out in stores now.

play is still roughly the same. But what shines this year are the graphics and presentation.

The 2K Sports engine for "NBA 2K6" is just incredible. It is literally like watching a game on television. You can see all of the on-court details, right down to the stitching on the jerseys and the player's sweat. As the game goes on, you can see the sweat start to soak through the jerseys, making it a truly incredible experience for the casual gamer. The obvious goal that 2K Sports had in mind was to simulate the entire

NBA experience. Even the sports arenas are done correctly, you look over the BankNorth Garden as they do a fly-in for a Celtics game and say to yourself, "Wow...that really is the BankNorth Garden." It used to be that in a sports game, except for baseball and some football games, the arena would be nothing more than a randomly generated arena, with the floor and fans in the style of each individual team. This time around, each

See NBA2K on Page 13

SOMA 36

From Page 11

visual and laser technology. According to the SpecialBlendz Web site, "Together they will bring you a performance that includes a combination of live audience feed, mixed with stunning visuals and 3-D animation on multiple projection screens and flat screen TVs throughout the club."

The Web site describes that the air will be filled with green and red laser beams to match the Christmas theme of the event. This production has been getting booked at some of the largest clubs and events all around New England, according to MacDonald.

There will also be a Sexy Ms. Claus Dance Contest, with a first-place prize of \$200 for the best dressed lady in the club.

The third floor is the VIP room, which VIP members can drink Top Shelf liqueurs for a penny per

drink. VIP passes can be bought at the third-floor entrance; ladies are \$15 and guys are \$20.

This Christmas event is about having a good time and giving back to the less fortunate this holiday season, MacDonald said. Soma 36 will be accepting donations for Manna Ministries and Toys for Tots.

MacDonald said, "I chose Manna Ministries and Toys for Tots because they're great local charities right here in Bangor that do a lot for the community. I'm hoping to raise 500 - 800 food items and a large amount of toys."

"Anyone who donates two non-perishable food items or a new child's toy will pay a reduced admission price of \$5. This also applies to anyone who dressed up in Santa or Mrs. Claus gear. If you don't donate or dress up then the cover charge will be \$10."

The event starts this Friday at 9 p.m. For more details on the Christmas Benefit Party check out the Web site (www.specialblendz.net).

before the performance at the price of a \$5. Seats, of course, cannot be guaranteed at that point, as the show may be sold out.

For tickets and showtime information, call the Penobscot Theatre Company box office at 942-3333 during normal business hours.

CAROL

From Page 10

which are already sold out. Rush tickets for students are available with a student ID a half hour

A gift for everyone

Living Large on a Little



By Erin McNamara

It's the week before Christmas, and you still don't have a gift for your mother. This is crunch time, kids, when everybody's busy, running around studying and working and sleeping and trying to fit Christmas shopping in and around all that. Long story short: You still haven't gone shopping and you still don't know what to get. While I can't go shopping for you, I can supply some gift suggestions.

Since we're getting really close to Christmas, it's best not to try ordering gifts online unless they can guarantee delivery by Dec. 24, or you're going to have the gift shipped to the out-of-state recipient's home. That means you're going to be beating concrete in the mall and around Bangor for a couple hours, but trust me, it's worth it.

GUYS: Men are ridiculously hard to buy for. While it's easy to go with standard "guy gifts," like aftershave, cologne, an mp3 player or some other boring idea, think about the guy you're buying for, just for a minute. Does he like late-night Cartoon Network? Buy him the latest season of Aqua-Teen Hunger Force on DVD. Does he like Bob Dylan and Johnny Cash? Buy him Dylan's "Chronicles," or a Cash greatest hits album that he might not have. Is he a technology freak? Instead of trying to pick out something he would use but probably has already, get creative and buy him one of those iPods for his iPod, or a snazzy new cell phone holder or case, so he can go a month without breaking his phone. Because we all have at least one guy in our life who habitually drops his phone in the toilet.

LADIES: Women, contrary to popular belief, are not overly diffi-

cult to buy for. It pretty much boils down to this — jewelry, candles, clothing or music. These are practically fool-proof options, especially if you keep the receipt. If you're buying for your girlfriend, though, gentlemen had best not get things wrong. Therefore, I suggest you drag your sweetie into Kay or Zales in the mall, "just for fun," once before you get her a necklace or earrings, or that you paw through her CDs or DVDs to get a better idea of what she listens to and enjoys in general. Maybe she's really into the Muppets. The first season of "The Muppet Show" is out on DVD, and I can tell you from experience that this is a fabulous investment for the die-hard Jim Hensen fan.

MOM: Mothers fall under the general "ladies" category, but there are other options for them, as well. If mom spends a lot of time in the kitchen, she might like a sexy new set of pots and pans, or a hot little apron to keep her clothes clean while she whips up Christmas dinner. If your mother is more business-oriented and professional, cute office supplies are always good little gifts, like heart-shaped sticky notes you can pick up at Staples. She might also like a new, black leather purse to match the shoes she bought for Christmas, so she can wear them to the office, too.

DAD: Again, the general "guy" advice applies to dad, but he can also benefit from things like office-themed gifts — think "golf club-shaped desktop clock" — or from more outdoorsy stuff, say boots or hunting gear, if that's his thing. My father owns an independent wood-working business, which he runs out of our garage, so he really appreciated it when we bought him an industrial-power Shop-Vac to vacuum all the sawdust out of the shop.

There you have it. Go out now and tackle Christmas with a new intensity, new ideas, and a new credit card. Or at least a wad of cash the size of your fist, because if you've waited this long, you've missed the sales, and you're going to need half that money to pay for gas.

their emotions, knowing that seriously involving themselves would put their single status at risk and cause them to get hurt if the other person didn't feel the same.

Honestly though, who are we kidding? Developing bonds with others is inevitable. It's human nature.

With that said, is anyone ever truly single? It's so easy to get lost in one big cycle of feeling lonely, finding someone and then pushing them away. Is the theory of being alone, without a love interest or even a mild attraction, really attainable?

Cagen would say "yes," even though her book points out that only about 5 percent of the population ever gets to that point.

What about the rest of us? Are we destined to continuously lapse into patterns of one-night stands and awkward periods of "sort-of seeing" someone?

Probably.

But I have a hard time accepting that. While I've been enjoying the spontaneity and unpredictability of single life, when it comes right down to it, I'd be lying to myself if I said I didn't care what happened.

Then again, I guess I still have a lot to learn.

CDREVIEW

"Careless Love"
Madeleine Peyroux
Rounder Records

The title may have the word "careless" in it, but the album itself is anything but.

After returning from a nine-year hiatus while traveling across the globe, jazz vocalist Madeleine Peyroux recently released her second album entitled "Careless Love." Despite her long removal, Peyroux has made some noticeable differences compared to her debut effort, "Dreamland."

With this album, the Georgia native has more of a jazz sound as she provides a voice that eerily sounds like Billie Holiday. Unlike Holiday, Peyroux plays acoustic guitar on most of the tracks.

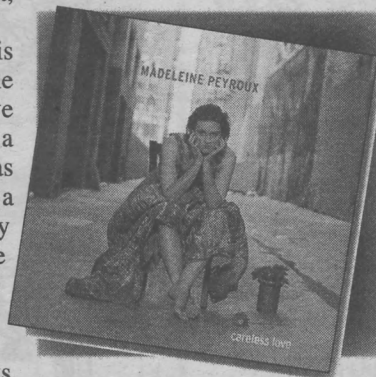
Even though the album has not gotten much airplay one of her songs has already had some success. The second track is "Don't Wait Too Long," was used in the Dockers "San Francisco" advertising campaign. Not only has the clothing company used her sound but for those who saw the summer flop "Monster-In-Law," the track was also used.

The track itself has steady beat that mixes Peyroux's voice and guitar with an organ and snare drum. With the consistent beat that only changes when the chorus comes, the lyrics stick to the title about how certain things can last for a while before time changes everything. One thing that does not change is the influence of the guitar on this song. Although her voice is prevalent, there is a point where for 20 seconds, the sounds give it a blues-like feel. The track was produced by Grammy-award winner Jesse Harris. Harris also worked with another jazz vocalist, Norah Jones, on her breakout album, "Come Away With Me."

On "Careless Love," she brings a remake of "J'ai Deux Amours" translated in English to "I Have Two Loves," a song that Josephine Baker performed to French troops during World War II. When asked about why she chose to cover the song, Peyroux stated that Baker embodied the song because she represented an alliance between the U.S. and France during the war.

This album is a must-buy for anyone wanting to see how good vocal jazz can be.

—Ryan Clark



"Curtain Call"
Eminem
2005 Aftermath Records

Eminem's new CD "Curtain Call" hit the shelves on Dec. 6. This CD is a collection of Eminem's greatest songs, including nearly every single he has ever released.

If you own his previous CDs there is really no reason to snatch this one up, even though it does contain three new releases — "Fack," "Shake That," featuring Nate Dogg and "When I'm Gone," all of which are sad representations of Eminem's career.

"Fack" is a tacky, disgusting song about, well, by the name you can just guess. It lacks Eminem's hilarity and the skillful obscenity that has become one of his main trademarks. It seems as if he's trying too hard to push the limits.

"Shake That" has a catchy beat, but it sounds just like any other song you'd hear at the club. This song is missing the flow and edginess that Eminem has incorporated in his earlier work.

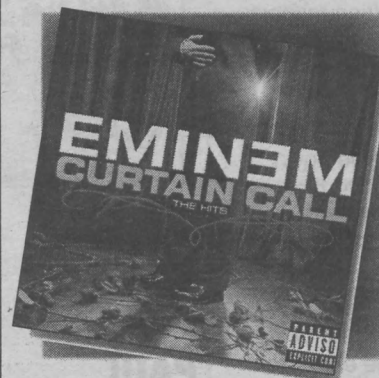
The third, "When I'm Gone," is the one new release that has earned praise. This song demonstrates Eminem's flawless flow and masterful beat that rocketed his rap career in the first place.

You can't please everyone, and this rings especially true for the most controversial artists of the past decade. His following is divided between those who love the hits and those who feel the true artist can be found only on more obscure album tracks. Allan Wigney, journalist for Ottawa Sun, said, "For those who want a handy one-stop-shopping overview of the career of one of the most important artists of the past decade, 'Curtain Call' holds the answers to all your questions."

This CD is mainly for people who have yet to witness Eminem's legendary career, with classics such as "My Name Is," "Lose Yourself" and "Stan."

It's still uncertain as to whether this larger-than-life artist is really putting down the mic, but if he is, this CD is the perfect representation of the highlights of Eminem's career. He's sold over 65 million albums worldwide and, from the looks of it, "Curtain Call" promises to add to his overwhelming album sales.

—Hillary Dugas



DEBATE

From Page 12

simple progression of ideas.

"I was friends with Mike [Hartwell] and I wanted to do a political debate show," he said. "Mike wanted to do a boxing show and so we combined the two ideas." He and Hartwell thus created the show, but Eldridge likes multi-tasking himself. He not only serves as the director of the show but the executive producer as well.

John Enkosky, on the other

hand, is the host of the show and serves just that purpose, as he admits with a keen hint of self-deprecation:

"It was Mike's idea, and I am a giant coward and don't wanna box ... so they made me the host."

They may seem to be in on one joke shared between themselves and their friends. They may seem to be doing nothing more than tickling each other's egos throughout each episode. But "Mouthguard" intends to be open to and appreciated by the public.

"Everyone I've shown the DVD to so far has liked it,"

Enkosky said — the DVD he refers to being a compilation of each episode before it was broadcast on television. It is not available to the public.

But the Maine Channel hopes to have a DVD that will be for sale at the end of the first season. The station presently receives very limited funding, but because of the positive reception so far, the creators are optimistic about its future.

If the boxing sounds tough and the humor dry, then being a guest on the show is the most accessible element of "Mouthguard." You just have to ask.

where the announcers were painfully making each call, as if the game of hockey was the most boring thing a man could watch. Adding some spice to the game is the Toyota Key Matches Up sponsored by Toyota Tundra, and the Toyota Player of the Game. There is real signage from various companies advertising their products as well.

Finally, in a major boost to player customization, this year just about everything on a created character can be customized to your liking, right down to the fasteners on their shoes. In all, there are at least a thousand

different combinations that you can set to a created player, and really breathe life in to them. Speaking of players, each NBA player is painstakingly modeled after their relief counterpart. Shaq looks like Shaq, Kobe looks like Kobe. Not only are the players accurately modeled, but so are the coaches. Doc Rivers looks like Doc Rivers, and Larry Brown looks like Larry Brown.

If you are looking for a quality basketball game that takes the presentation and other aspects to the next level and doesn't skimp on the gameplay, NBA 2K6 is the game that you are looking for.

NBA2K

From Page 12

arena has been recreated in painstaking detail, so you can say, "Yes, that's the home of the Lakers," or, "That's the home of the Celtics."

As far as presentation goes, 2K Sports has done well since ESPN was gobbled up by EA Sports. Instead of being the NBA on ESPN as it was last year, it's the NBA on 2K Sports. The announcers are very engaging, unlike the NHL title this year

Horoscopes

By Linda C. Black

Today's Birthday (12-15-05)

It's getting easier this year to understand how and why. Keep studying. You're building up your own security. To get the advantage, check the day's rating: ten is the easiest day, zero the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Today is an eight. Your popularity is on the rise, and you'll be feeling more social for the next few weeks. Enjoy!

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Today is a five. For the next few weeks, your status goes up effortlessly. Take on more responsibility, just for the fun of it.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

Today is an eight. For the next few weeks, it's easier to set long-range objectives. That includes travel plans, and getting reservations.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

Today is a six. There's still controversy, but that will settle down very soon. The chaff will blow away and you'll still have the substantial stuff.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Today is an eight. For the next several weeks, it'll be easier to reach a compromise. Explain what you want and others will come around to your way of thinking, mostly.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Today is a five. Just when you think you've made up your mind, you encounter another option. You don't have room them all; you're going to have to choose.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Today is a nine. For the next several weeks, you'll be in the mood to make long-range plans and commitments. Take a few moments from your busy day and start a list.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Today is a five. Your best investment is household items, or even real estate. Make a dream tangible, but take care and make sure to get the best deal.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Today is an eight. Great patience is required. It certainly wouldn't hurt if you had a good sense of humor, too. It'll get a workout.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Today is a five. Over the next few weeks, it's easier to make money. Become more efficient. Stop doing things twice.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Today is a nine. You're going to be even luckier in love for the next few weeks. There'll be plenty of time for activities you've had to postpone.

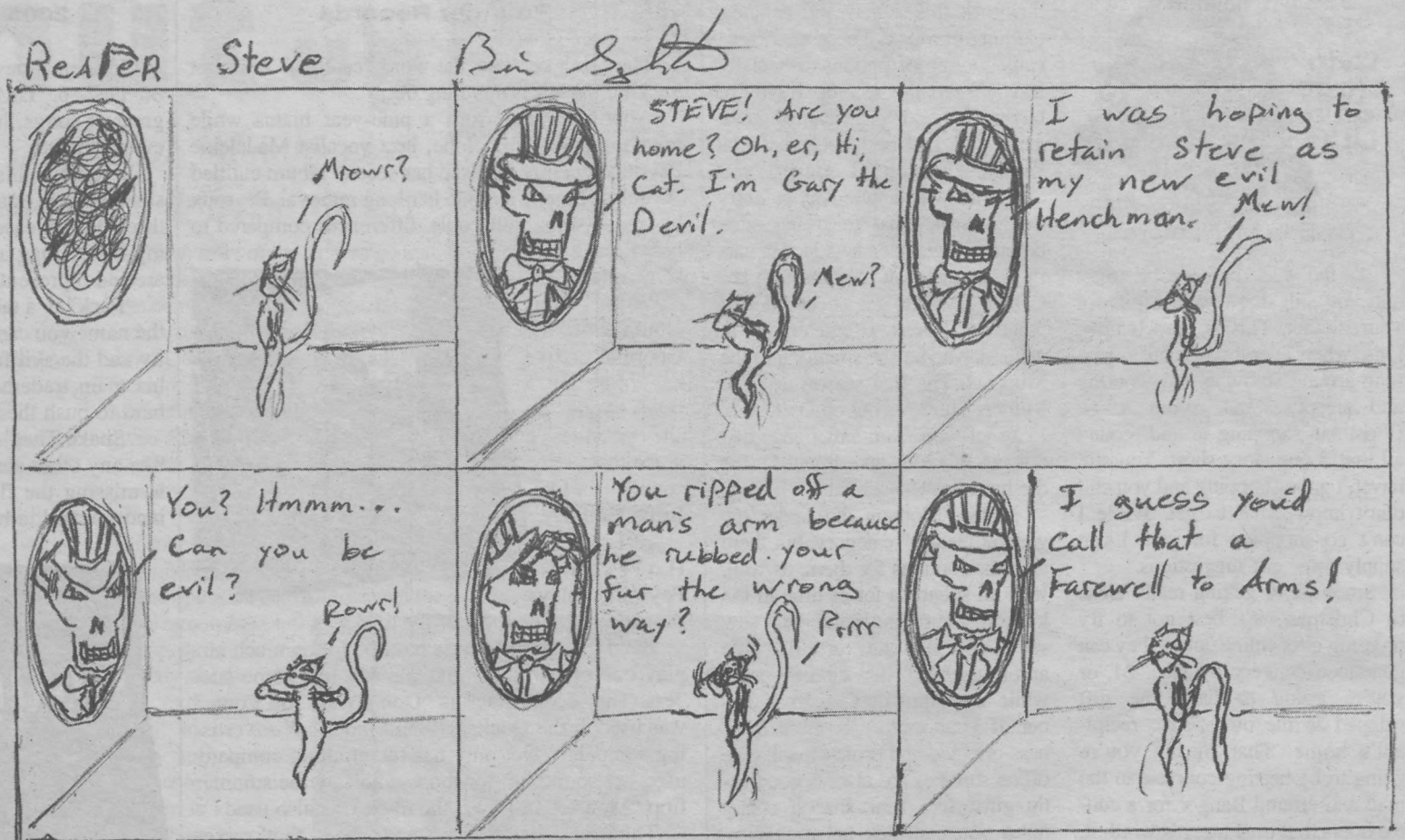
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Today is a five. By now, you should have things rearranged to just the way you like. Whether you do or not, you're about to lose interest in that project.

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THE MAINE CAMPUS

DIVERSIONS

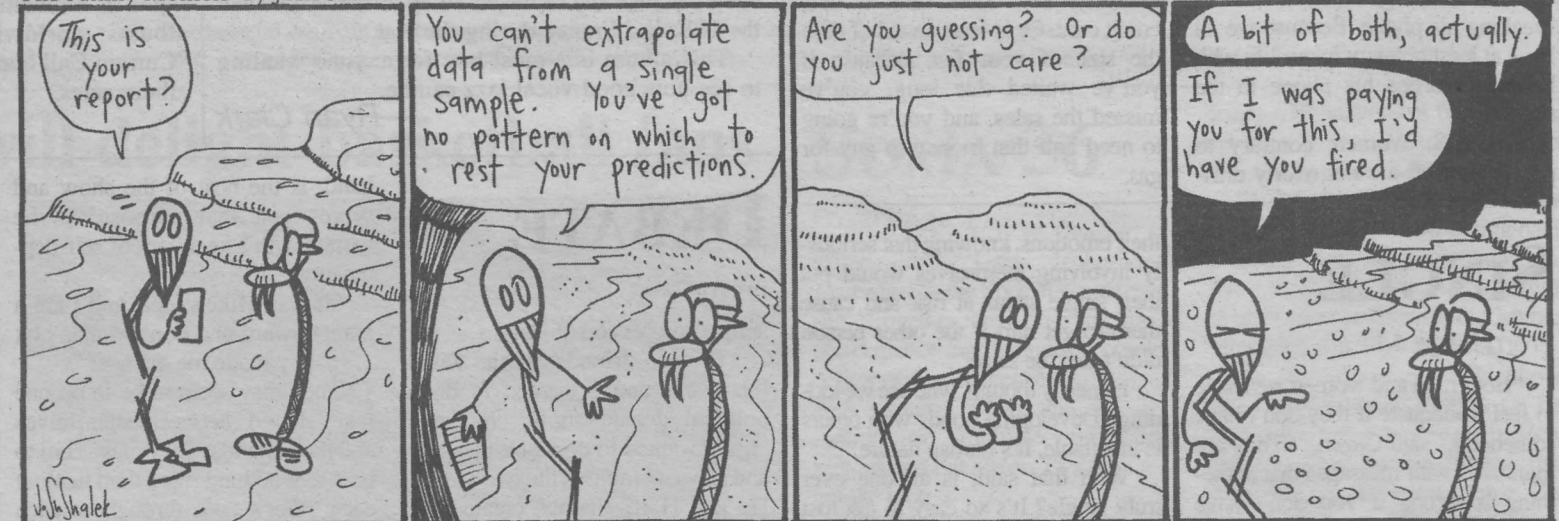


PAUL

BY BILLY O'KEEFE WWW.MRBILLY.COM



The Family Monster by Josh Shalek

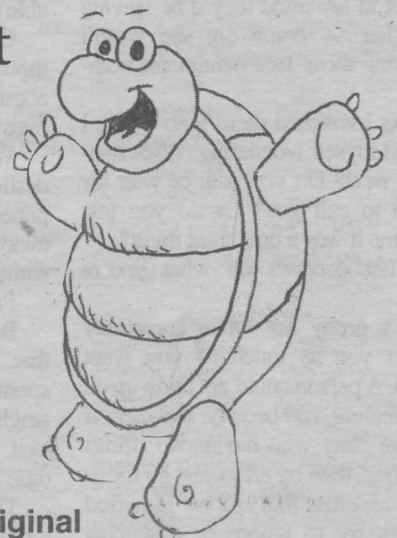


This cannot be used as a floatation device: www.joshshalek.com kid_shay@joshshalek.com

Puppies are a very popular Christmas gift.

The Maine Campus would like to remind you not to shake your Christmas presents.

This Christmas I hope I get a shellular telephone

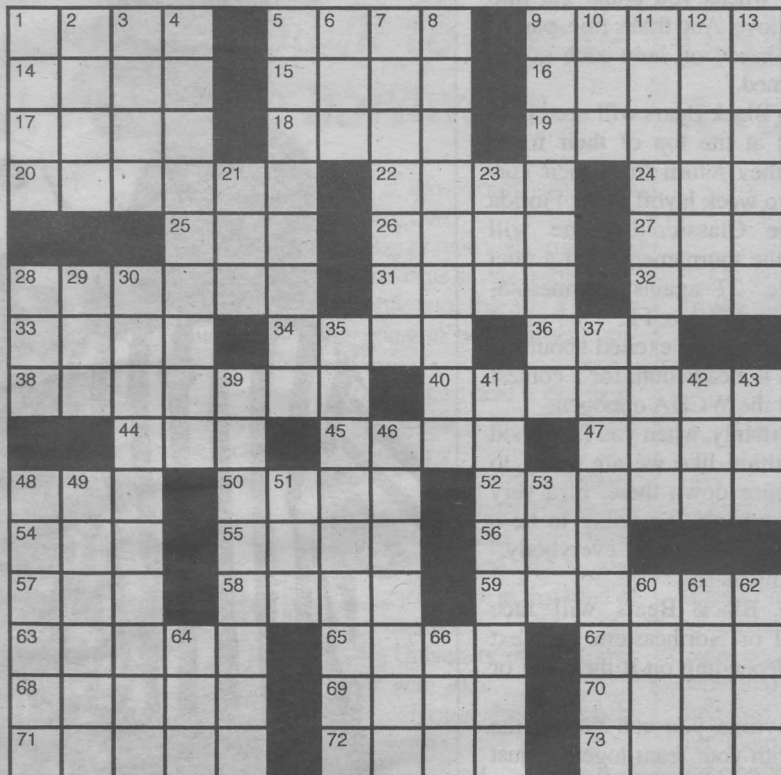


An Alana Brown Original

Crossword

- ACROSS**
- Joule fractions
 - Puts in stitches
 - Orderly arrangement
 - Hawaiian fete
 - Type of school
 - German river
 - Ice mass
 - Cougar's den
 - Ridicules
 - List of corrections
 - Picks up on
 - Hog haunch
 - Poppycock!
 - '60s musical
 - Exist
 - Team animal
 - Writer Ferber
 - Fled
 - Concerning
 - "Jane _"
 - Cow's chew
 - London stage
 - Rare metallic element
 - Sch. org.
 - Church recess
 - Tower site
 - Cleo's snake
 - Actress Deborah
 - Depended
 - Spike or Peggy
 - Isle of exile
 - One Gabor
 - Inc. in Islington
 - Open position
 - Good-natured
 - Summer ermine
 - Bologna eight
 - Inoperative, to NASA
 - Sidestep
 - Swiss artist
 - Actor McGregor
 - Rockies range
 - Bounding mains
 - Challenge

- DOWN**
- River of Hamburg
 - Contrite one
 - Teri of "Young Frankenstein"
 - Make palatable
 - Splash of liquid



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12/15/05

Solutions

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- Period
- Scale user
- Butter knives and spatulas
- Weapons buildup
- Greek letter
- King who died at Bosworth Field
- Capital of Turkey
- Toadies
- Besides
- Sardine container
- Wrestling surface
- Light gray
- Left for a short time
- School annuals
- Spontaneous
- Relaxes for a time
- Nothing ventured, nothing gained!

- Function
- Frenzied
- Chatter
- In readiness
- Take up residence
- Building wing
- Eden's lady
- Davenport's location
- Lab gel
- Wolf modifier
- Fuss
- Oolong or hyson



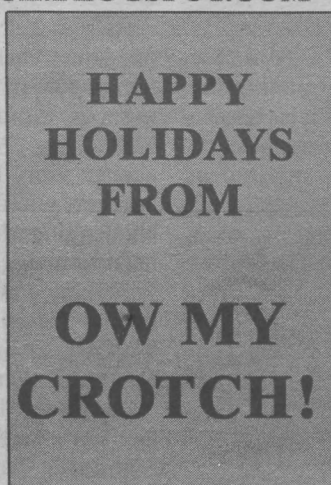
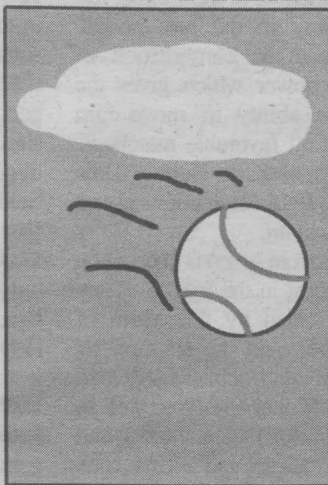
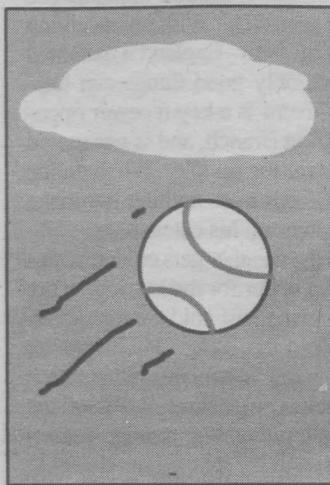
"Darn it! What happened to me? According to all the comic books, exposure to nuclear refuse fills you with super powers."



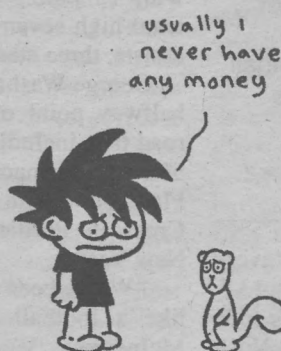
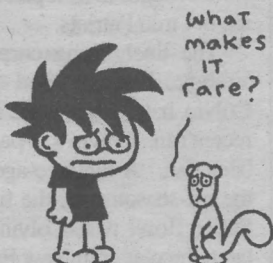
"I used to be a model myself ... I was the 'before' guy."

OW MY CROTCH! BY TONY REAVES

OWMYCROTCH.BLOGSPOT.COM



read IT and weep
by Travis Dandro



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Draw
your own
conclusions

THE MAINE
CAMPUS
Randy Cummings
Diversions
581-1267

HOCKEY

From Page 20

er's apartment and proceeded to grapple with the man.

"Overall, we've learned a lot about our team in the fall semester, both on and off the ice," said Whitehead.

Brent Shephard, Rob Bellamy, Bret Tyler and Travis Wight also entered the apartment and recieved criminal trespassing charges.

Hamilton and Clark have since been sentenced to 100 hours of community service. Along the way, Whitehead learned a lot about his team and its character.

"They really have stuck by each other," said Whitehead. "I really like this team."

The Black Bears will need that unity to survive the second half of a season that includes series against Providence, Boston College, Vermont and New Hampshire.

"I think the second half is going to be a great challenge for us and I mean that in a good way," said Whitehead. "It's going to be a lot of fun, there's a lot of potential there for us to do something special."

The Black Bears will enter the second half with a record of 11-5-0 after going 8-1-0 in October. However, the focal point of the Black Bears' last 20 matches will be their Hockey East record of 5-4-0. The Black Bears will need to improve that record if they wish to garner a home-ice advantage in the quarterfinals of the Hockey East playoffs. Right now, the Black Bears stand at fifth in the league and ranked ninth in both the USA Today-USA Hockey Magazine poll and USCHO-CSTV poll.

"I think we're a much better team and a much more intelligent team than we were at the start of the season," said Whitehead. "I think we know what type of game we have to play on the ice."

One of the key factors for UMaine in the second half of the season will be what happens in the goalie season. So far this year, the Black Bears have switched between Ben Bishop and Matt Lundin in net. At times, though, Whitehead stuck with Bishop for consecutive contests.

This happened when Whitehead started Bishop for four straight regular season decisions against UMass-Lowell, UNH, Vermont and Providence. During this period, Bishop's goal against average dropped from 1.49 to 2.17, while his record skidded from 5-1-0 to 6-4-0. Although still good enough for 11th in the country, the decrease in production is curious.

"I would like to go, as I wanted to do at the start of the year, but it just didn't work out that way, with alternating goalies," said Whitehead. "Especially since we have two game sets every weekend."

"I am not going to 100 percent commit to that," said Whitehead. "If it is not in the team's best interest I won't do that."

"I think we're a much better team and a much more intelligent team than we were at the start of the season."

Tim Whitehead
UMaine men's hockey coach

Man of the moment, Lundin, who has collected two straight wins in the last two Black Bear efforts, will likely see his game total increase in the coming months. Lundin has registered a 1.96 goals average and a .957 save percentage for a 5-1-0 record. Lundin has also recorded two shutouts on the year.

"We always want to play the goalie that is going to help us win that particular game," said Whitehead. "But we have to consider the best interest of the team in the long run."

Whitehead believes that playing one-game sets so often eliminated the chance to start two goalies in a weekend.

"It put us in a difficult situation because when you get into those single game scenarios, it just changes the urgency of each game and just where the team was at,"

said Whitehead. "We didn't have the luxury of two back-to-back games where you could get into that groove. And that's fine, part of it was based on how each goalie performed."

The Black Bears will need both goalies at the top of their form, when they return from their current two week layoff at the Florida College Classic. UMaine will begin the tournament with a duel on Dec. 27 against Minnesota-Duluth in Estereo, FL.

Whitehead is excited about the chance to head south for a contest against the WCHA opponent.

"Certainly, when you face good competition like we are going to experience down there, in a very unique setting, it's going to be a great experience for everybody," said Whitehead.

The Black Bears will face Cornell or Northeastern the next night depending on if they win or lose.

"Anytime you can get on the road with your team together, just a team, I think it's going to be a great experience," said Whitehead.

Whitehead feels the break between Saturday's 5-2 victory over Northeastern and the Dec. 28th match with Minnesota-Duluth will be good for his squad.

"The team needs a break now," said Whitehead. "We need to recharge our batteries and do well academically over the next 10 days. We are a team that takes a lot of pride in our academic results."

The time off may also assist the Black Bear offense in rediscovering themselves. Before Saturday's pummeling of Northeastern, UMaine had failed to score more than two goals in six straight games. To continue to run up the score, the Black Bears will look to Billy Ryan, who has four goals and 12 assists. Hoping to aid Ryan will be Greg Moore, with a team-leading 10 goals and four assists, and Josh Soares, who has hauled in six goals and eight assists.

"We really feel we have good depth on our team," said Whitehead. "Every player in our arsenal is a big plus for us. We've had lots of guys step up throughout the season and allow us to get off to a good start."

UMaine will play the Bulldogs Dec. 28 at 7 p.m. in Estereo.

Beck, last season's A-10 rookie of the year, will be running the offense for the Colonials. Jessica Simmonds, senior forward and an A-10 second team all-confer-

on our transition defense and taking care of the ball and keeping our turnovers down," said McInerney. "We are playing against more athletic teams and quicker guards so that's been challenging defensively but we need to make sure we do a good job taking care of the ball."

"The Colonials were ahead for the first 10 minutes against the Lady Vols, longer than any other team has led Tennessee and held them to a season-low 59 points. Simmonds led all GW scorers with 13 points while getting a team-high seven rebounds, three assists, three steals, and a block.

George Washington marks the halfway point of a month long road trip, including an upcoming holiday tournament in Miami, Fla. and a game against Holy Cross in Portland to open the New Year.

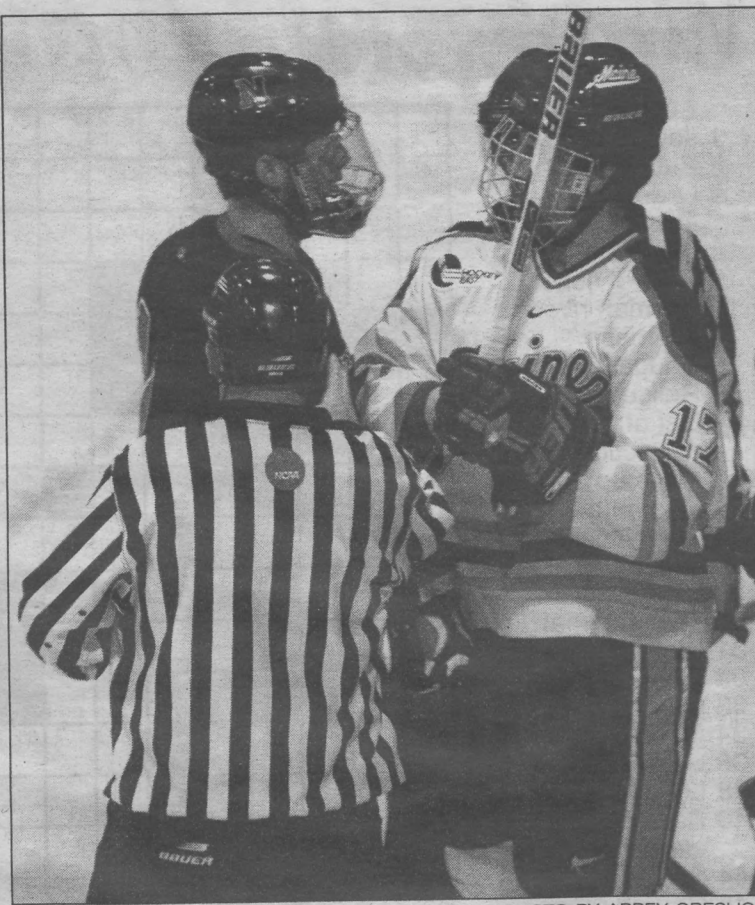
"We've been saying it's more like a football schedule," said McInerney. "We travel and play on the weekend, and then we come back, go to class, prepare and take off again."

"We've been saying it's more like a football schedule."

Ann McInerney
UMaine women's basketball coach, on her team's weekend schedule

ence selection last season, averaged a double-double of 13.5 points and 10.0 rebounds per game in a loss over the No.1 Tennessee Lady Volunteers and a 77-55 win over Stony Brook.

"We are really going to focus



CAMPUS PHOTO BY ABBEY GRESLICK

HARSH WORDS — John Hopson and a Northeastern player exchange pleasantries during Saturday's game.



PATRIOTS CORNER

By James MacKay
For The Maine Campus

Could the New England Patriots be on the verge of making another run in the playoffs? Although the last two games they played have been against sub-par teams, the Pats have still looked good. As the temperature drops, the chances of Patriots victories rise.

A defense which once looked like a bad college team's has gotten some key players back and is starting to look like the team we all remember. The secondary is still present as key injuries are still a problem, but when you can put pressure on the quarterback, it makes the job of a defensive back much easier, and that is exactly what New England has been doing.

The return of Richard Seymour, who is arguably the best interior defensive lineman in the league, has been the key in the turn-around. Seymour has the combination of speed and power which gives the Patriots the ability to move him around to find favorable matchups. His delayed blitz on Buffalo Bills quarterback JP Losman last weekend was a work of art.

The Pats front seven is once again one of the best in the league. They have been aided by the return of Tedy Bruschi, and the addition by subtraction of linebackers Chad Brown and Monty Biesel, as well as defensive backs Duane Starks and Guss Scott. Biesel and Brown each played three plays last Sunday, each missing one tackle in their lone opportunities. These are players who were brought in as replacements, but are not true Patriots.

The linebacking corps of Mike Vrabel, Bruschi and Roosevelt Colvin have been huge in the Pats recent run. Colvin's in particular has been felt. A big free-agent signing the off-season after the first Patriots Super Bowl win, Colvin has never been the player in New England that he was in Chicago, until now. He has been applying extreme pressure on opposing quarterback, something

made possible by the Pats linebackers' familiarity with each other and Bill Belichick's defensive schemes. Their knowledge allows Belichick to call more complex blitz packages that confuse opposing offenses and has been giving Pats defenders clear paths for sacks.

With all of this talk about the defense, the offense deserves just as much credit. With the return of Corey Dillon, Kevin Faulk and David Givens, there are more weapons in Tom Brady's arsenal. Dillon, at this point in the season, has had few carries and is fresh going into the playoffs, something that will be key in the Patriots' attempts to control the clock and keep opposing offenses off the field. Faulk is one of the best in the league in the open field. With his receiving some of New England's patented screens, only good things can happen. Givens is a key receiver opposite Deion Branch, and is not scared to go over the middle. When on the field Givens does nothing but make first downs on his catches.

As the weather gets colder, things only get better for the Patriots. Tom Brady is the best cold weather quarterback in the game. He has never lost a game when the temperature was below 40 degrees. All of the Patriots' remaining regular season games will be played in the cold with two at home, and one in New York. Winning the division guarantees a home playoff game in which the Pats will most likely host Jacksonville; keep your fingers crossed for snow.

If all goes well in those games, the Patriots will find themselves matched up against Indianapolis in the later rounds, and if that is the case all bets are off because you know it's in the back of the Colts' minds what the Pats have done to them in the past. New England could be in a perfect position to put a stop to this perfect season.

WOMEN

From Page 20

rebounds in 18 minutes.

Ameshia Bryant has proved to be a consistent presence off the bench for the Black Bears. Against Mississippi State, she contributed six points and eight rebounds in 24 minutes and has emerged as one of the Bear's most tenacious defenders.

"She has been steadily getting better each day. Her work ethic has improved and her minutes have improved because of it," said McInerney. "She has been a great spark off the bench."

UMaine will tip-off against George Washington University in Washington, D.C. at noon on Saturday. The Colonials, ranked 23rd in the nation at the beginning of the season, have the third toughest strength of schedule in the country.

Sophomore guard Kimberly

Who's winning it all at the Rose Bowl?

Longhorns' defense enough to stymie Southern Cal, hook the hardware

By Ryan Clark
Staff Writer

They have the last two Heisman Trophy winners, tons of fans and their logo on my door. However, they do not have my support for the national championship.

PREDICTION:
TEXAS 38 USC 35

Now that may come as a surprise, but when it comes down to it, the University of Southern California will not win a third consecutive national title.

Saying that USC has not been the dominant team in the last few years would be stupid, but looking at the way they played some games this year, betting against USC is not that bad of a choice. The Trojans had to come back for a few consecutive weeks to keep their national title chances intact, whereas Texas did not.

One could make the argument that Texas is just a team that drops 70 on schools that recruit off the farms of the Great Plains, but let's be honest: This is probably the most focused Texas team anyone has seen in a very, very long time. The past few years, it's been the same story with the Longhorns — great team, just one bad game against Oklahoma.

This year there were no bad games against Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Colorado or anyone else you can think of. Granted there were times the team looked shaky, but what team doesn't?

When you have a team in Texas, who in their second game, is playing a top-five team in Ohio State at the Horseshoe and beats them, then that is saying something. Although USC had great competition in Notre Dame, Oregon and UCLA, the fact remains that outside of

Notre Dame, none of those teams can really compete for a national title.

Looking at the Big 12, you could make the same argument, but here is the difference: Texas plays in a conference that has a higher number of teams going to bowl games compared to the Pac-10.

Even with all of the stats, here is one more before I lead to the real reason why Texas will be victorious.

Texas is fourth in team defense as they have given up only 14.6 points per game. The only team USC has seen that comes remotely close to that kind of number was the University of California with 20.6.

That is almost a touchdown.

That can decide a game.

Although the Trojans have the kind of

offense that can outscore anyone, so does Texas. Just ask every team they have played this year. Also, the Longhorns lead the nation in points and are a few teams above USC in time of possession category.

Finally, the reason why Texas will win is simple.

It has been the reason they have won all year — no one really knows about players outside of Vince Young. It has been guys like Rodrigue Wright, the Griffin Twins and Michael Huff, the best defensive back in the game, that have made Texas so dominant. Young does provide the flash and dash that makes Texas fun to watch but in the end, it's guys like Wright and Huff that do the job. Outside of Darnell Bing, who else can you say that about on the Trojans' defense?

Exactly, you can't.

So although the interlocked SC logo does look good on my door, here is something else that may almost be a better read than this column — 'University of Texas, 2005 National Champions.'

KRT CAMPUS PHOTOS

Trojans' balanced attack will beat Texas, claim third-straight title

By James MacKay
For The Maine Campus

On Jan. 4, 2006 we will watch the USC Trojans secure their spot as one of the greatest collegiate dynasties of all time. The Trojans are

PREDICTION:
USC 49 TEXAS 35

looking to win their third straight National Championship at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California against the Texas Longhorns. USC has dominated college football since their reign began in 2003. They come into this game winning their past 34 games, outscoring their opponents 600-256 this season, and are carrying the 2004 and 2005 Heisman Trophy winners in Matt Leinart and Reggie Bush.

The National Championship in college football is very different than any other college sport. In hockey and basketball, who will be in the championship is somewhat spontaneous because of a lengthy single-elimination playoff that eventually leads to a national title game. In football, however, the national title game is decided almost a month in advance.

As for USC, they have dealt with this burden for the past two years and have dominated at game time. This year is no different; they have arguably one of the best running backs college football has ever seen in Reggie Bush. And they carry the best pocket quarterback in all of college football, Matt Leinart. There are so many weapons to this Trojan team; it is hard to calculate all of them.

USC head coach and former New England Patriots head coach Pete Carroll has led this team to glory. Carroll is in his fifth year coaching USC with a 42-9 record and only one of his losses has been by more than a touchdown. There are so many weapons to this Trojan team;

it is hard to calculate all of them.

Leinart is currently carrying an incredible 158.3 quarterback rating with 65.0 percent completions and a 27-7 touchdown/interception ratio. His ability to stay in the pocket with USC's overpowering offensive line makes opposing defenses cringe.

USC's running game is probably more impressive than their passing game. Running backs Reggie Bush and LenDale White have combined for over 2,800 yards rushing and have totaled 36 touchdowns. Bush averages 138.2 yards per game while White averages 98.2 per game.

Leinart's great statistics can only be made possible with great receivers.

Sophomore wide receiver Dwayne Jarrett leads USC in receiving with 81 receptions for 1,153 yards and has recorded 15 touchdowns.

Junior Steve Smith isn't far behind with 57 receptions for 928 yards and five touchdowns.

USC is all about offense, this is how they win games. Their defense is ranked 27th in all of Division I-A while their offense is ranked second.

USC has an overwhelming home field advantage for this game. Obviously, the Rose Bowl will have plenty of Longhorn faithful at the game but USC definitely has the advantage. Pasadena is just a short drive from the USC so you can be assured that you'll be seeing plenty of maroon and yellow on Jan. 4.

In the end, USC's dominant offense will overpower Texas's great defense. I haven't seen one team that has even come close to stopping Reggie Bush.

There are so many reliable options for their offensive attack, I can't see Texas beating the two-time defending champs in their home state. I think Texas quarterback Vince Young will have a brilliant game, but USC will be too much.

LAW

From Page 20
then."

"When I found she was going I was excited, but not surprised because she is not only a great player on our team but in the Hockey East conference as well."

Law, who was the only player from the University of Maine chosen for the team, scored her goal late in the first period. After the Hockey East had taken a 1-0 lead, it was Law who increased the lead to 2-0 after the first power-play opportunity of the game. The goal came when Boston College's Deb Spillane played a pass back to the point from the left circle. Once Law had possession, she fired a slap shot through a screen into the goal.

However, it would be the last time that the team could celebrate as the U.S. National Team stormed with five unanswered goals for a 5-2 score.

"I was a little nervous but I played against some of these players when I was younger," said Law, who was one of 40 players

selected for the final cut for the Team Canada U-22 squad. "I just had to go in with confidence and tell myself that I was picked for a reason, and once the game started, my nerves calmed down."

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Once the game
started, my nerves
calmed down."*

Kelly Law
UMaine women's hockey

Before she teamed up with some of the same players who could make or break her season, the Ontario native had something else to take care of — Quinnipiac. Similar to many of the players on the all-star team, Law had a series before the Sunday matinee. Friday's game against the Bobcats saw the

Black Bears come up with a last-second goal for a 2-2 tie.

Saturday was a different story as the Black Bears won 4-3. The high point of the game came from an assist from Law on a goal in the midst of a 3-0 run. Once the Black Bears won the game, Law had a three-hour car ride to New Hampshire and missed the practice. Afterwards, she was able to get some rest, and after having her parents make the trek from across the border, she played in the game. In addition to her own goal, Law also allowed no goals on her shift.

"We kind of made the selection as a group who would be best to compete against the national team, and we felt that she would fit for that particular game," said head coach Guy Perron. "We are going to have her for another year and a half and that will give her another opportunity for her to perform like she has for the last three months."

According to Perron, when it came time to select players that he felt would represent the program well, he submitted a short list of names, which included Law. One of the reasons he chose her was because she can



CAMPUS FILE PHOTO

LAW-FUL ASSAULT — UMaine defenseman Kelly Law pulverizes an opponent during a game last season.

be an offensive-minded defenseman, all while being a physical presence.

Even though she surpassed her career-high in points in the first month of the season, it's her physicality that most people notice, especially other teams, as she has accounted for 45 penalty minutes, which is 25 more than Cheryl White,

who is second on the team in the category.

"It's nice to get points, but when you look at the stat sheet, it shows that all of us, as a team, are improving as scorers," Law said. "I feel like it was a big honor and it's a good feeling to know that the hard work we do here at Maine would be acknowledged."

TURNERS

From Page 20

he was 10-of-10 from the free-throw line, and the Black Bears held a lopsided 28-4 advantage in free-throw attempts.

"I think we forced that by driving to the basket, forcing the ball inside, and getting offensive rebounds," Woodward said. "We'd been doing things to get ourselves to the line and that'll pay off."

The Black Bears improve to 3-6 on the season, while Dartmouth fell to 1-3. It was UMaine's second-straight win over the Big Green, and their second in three years in Portland.

Rashard also had a gamehigh six assists and tied for the team lead with four rebounds. He shot 3-of-4 from the field in addition to his 10-of-10 from the line, and hit four free throws in the final minute to help UMaine preserve the victory.

"I haven't been shooting well, so defenses are playing off of me," he explained. "I just try to take what the defenses give me; I try to play aggressive, get to the basket, and create."

It wasn't an easy night for the Black Bears though, especially early.

The Big Green jumped out to a 9-2 lead in the first five minutes, mostly because they were able to control the offensive boards.

"We started out missing some rebound opportunities, they got second shots, and when we started stopping that we got back in it," said Woodward.

UMaine responded with a 7-0 run to tie the game and then ended the half with an 8-2 run that sent them into halftime leading 30-27.

"We had a slow start, but we got focused," Ernest Turner said.

The Black Bears started the second half with a 4-0 run, but allowed the Big Green to climb

back into the game, taking the lead 42-40 on a Jason Meyer three-pointer. Mike Lang was the only Dartmouth player to hit double-digits with 12 points.

The teams traded leads until UMaine was able to pull away in the final five minutes.

Woodward had high praise for his team's defensive efforts. The Black Bears forced 16 turnovers in the game, many of which resulted in easy baskets, and Dartmouth had difficulty finding open looks throughout the second half.

"I haven't been shooting well, so defenses are playing off of me. I just try to take what they give me. I try to play aggressive, get to the basket and create."

Rashard Turner
UMaine men's basketball

"We really locked down when we had to," said Woodward, who also noted the importance of the defensive effort leading to results.

"We've been telling them that the defense would carry them, and they've been very resilient with that and they were finally able to get a result they wanted."

The Black Bears' forwards balanced out the team's scoring, with juniors Olli Ahvenniemi and Chris Bruff, and sophomore Philippe Tchekane Bofia all chipping in nine points.

Ahvenniemi played his usual stout defense and recorded three blocks, including a crucial one with 1:30 to play in the game. He also shot well, collecting his nine points on 3-3 field goal shooting and 3-4 from the line.

Despite the early struggles on the boards, Woodward was pleased with the energy and tenacity his young team showed throughout the night, noting that their intangibles were helping their defensive game grow faster than their offense.

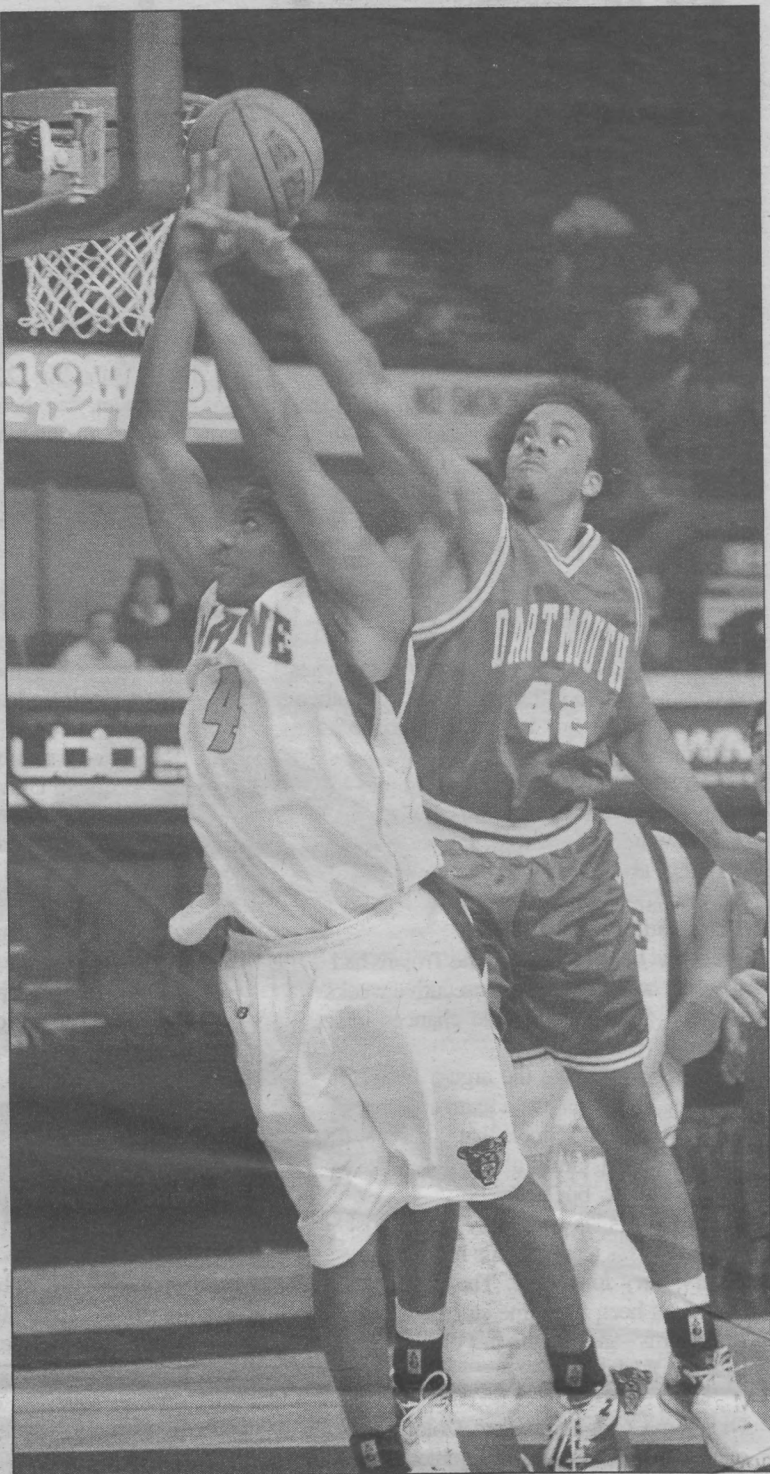
"Defense is all about effort, character, and toughness, and we have those things," Woodward said. "Offensively, we're still trying to find each other a little bit, but we know if we continue to play very good defense, the offense and the balance in our offense will come."

After letting a lead slip away against Boston University last Saturday, Woodward's young team bore down and held on Tuesday night, a sure sign they are gaining valuable experience and continuing to grow as a team.

"No matter how many times I tell them something, as frustrating as it can be, sometimes you have to learn it in the game," Woodward said. "It might be grabbing a rebound or not taking an offensive foul late, that's all part of it."

The Black Bears were again without senior co-captain Kevin Reed. He did not make the trip to Portland, and has yet to play a game this season after suffering a foot injury in the preseason. He was a preseason First-Team All America East selection.

After going 1-1 on this home stand, UMaine hits the road again tonight, traveling to Piscataway, New Jersey, to face the Rutgers. The Scarlet Knights are 7-2 on the year and will mark the second Big East opponent UMaine has visited this season, as they fell to Pittsburgh in late Nov. Tip-off is set for 7:30 p.m.



CAMPUS PHOTO BY KEVIN REARDON

BALL-ED OVER — Dartmouth's Jonathan Ball blocks a shot from junior forward Chriis Bruff during Tuesday's game in Portland.

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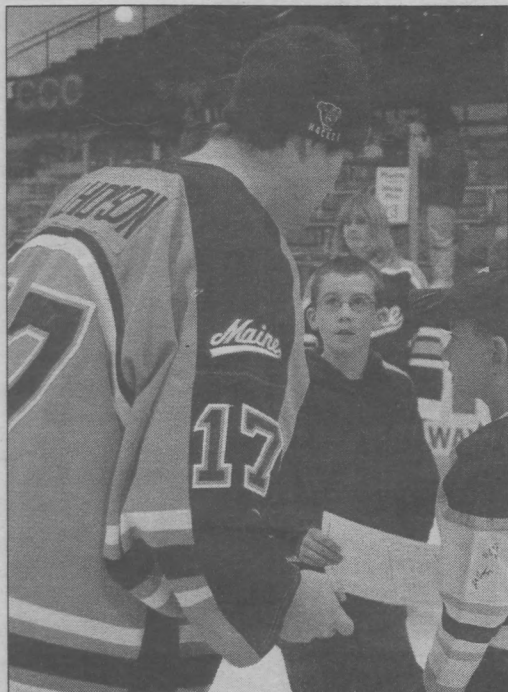
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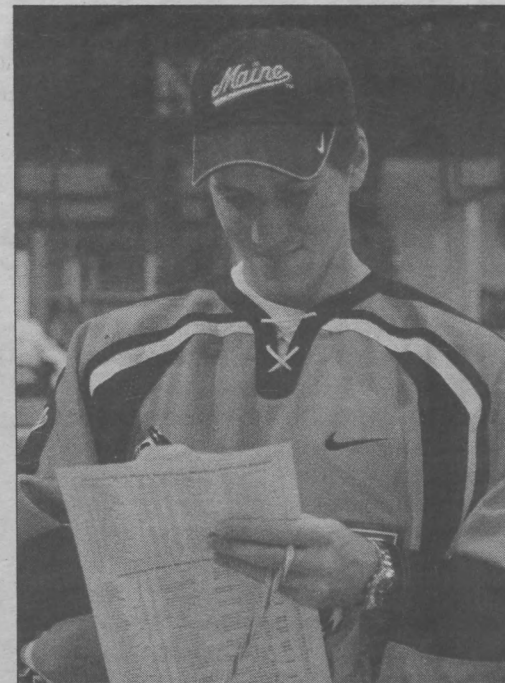
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CAMPUS PHOTO BY LAURA GIORGIO

Hopson Brothers relishing the chance to play together

Separated for years, Keenan and John are the latest in a long line of Black Bear brother combinations



CAMPUS PHOTO BY LAURA GIORGIO

By Matthew Conyers
Editor in Chief

On October 7, it finally happened: Brothers John and Keenan Hopson played a game together.

Big deal, right? Who cares anyway? Well, Brett Hopson did.

In fact, he had been waiting 22 years for the event.

For Brett Hopson, the father of the pair, it had been a long time coming. Over the past two decades, Hopson yearned for just one chance to see his two boys touch the ice together. It was his dream.

"My dad had always wanted us to go together ever since we were little," said UMaine sophomore forward Keenan Hopson.

However, it was a dream that seemed destined to always fall short of the desired ending.

With the tandem separated by two years, they weren't allowed to play together during their youth hockey days. It got worse: Whenever John was set to leave a certain age category, Keenan was on his way up. It was a cycle that had no end.

Or so it seemed.

Around the time John was headed into his sophomore year at Alaska-Anchorage, things changed. Renowned recruiter and Black Bears' assistant coach Grant Standbrook spotted

Keenan. Upon their meeting, Keenan expressed to Grant and the rest of the Black Bears coaching staff that the brothers would like to play together.

"We were going to go play Canadian college but it turned out Grant saw Keenan and we ended up coming here," said senior forward John Hopson.

With the Black Bears agreeing to take on John, the pair made the move; Keenan enrolled at UMaine for his first year and John filed for a transfer from Alaska-Anchorage.

"The whole process... there wasn't much to it," said John Hopson. "If college hockey was going to be the last of my hockey, I wanted to make sure I got at least one year with my brother. When I told him I was coming home it was more of just keep your nose clean, don't be goofing up or anything."

Forced to sit out last season, his junior year, because of the NCAA's transfer policy, John watched his brother lead the Black Bears' freshman in scoring. Tallying an impressive 16 assists with 3 goals during the 2004-2005 campaign, Keenan was simply biding his time until his brother was able to return. For John, the year off

was nothing he couldn't deal with.

"I had already sat out a semester in the summer, so to sit out another seemed only to be an extension of what I had already done," said John Hopson. "It wasn't as hard as I thought it would be, time seemed to fly by pretty quick."

Fast-forward six months and no longer did John or Keenan or Brett have to worry about waiting. Instead, the trio was about to see the unthinkable, the brothers were going to play together.

The only formality left was whether or not the duo would be paired together on the same line.

"Obviously we had to try the combo to see if there was chemistry on the ice too and there was," said UMaine head coach Tim Whitehead. "They really

"If college hockey was going to be the last of my hockey, I wanted to make sure I got at least one year with my brother."

John Hopson
Senior forward, UMaine men's hockey

have a sense where each other is going to be and they communicate very well; they have been a fun combo to watch."

"They are a very good complement to each other."

With that question answered, the soft-spoken duo from Prince George, British Columbia needed a winger to round out the line. For that answer they looked to sophomore Billy Ryan.

"I think Billy Ryan has been a great addition to the combo," said Whitehead.

And so the season began.

The brothers quickly took a liking to playing with each other. In the tandem's first home series, each registered a goal in a victory against two-time defending champion Denver. For the two, the Saturday night game, which saw each brother score, was especially sweet for another reason: Their father was in attendance.

"That was actually our dad's first time seeing us play together,"

said Keenan Hopson. "I was more happy for my dad, for him to be able to come over this far and see that."

For John, the fact that he's playing with his brother on the same line has yet to sink in.

"I think it will probably hit a little later," said John Hopson. "Right now it just kind of seems natural. I didn't really have any intentions of it ever happening."

So far, the move from British Columbia has paid off on the stat sheet. The line of Hopson-Ryan-Hopson has been one of the more productive groups on the team.

"I think it helps that growing up, we were both taught to play hockey the same way," said John Hopson.

At the same time, they both possess traits the other would like to obtain.

"I like the way he can attack and keep the puck," said Keenan Hopson. "He always helps everyone else out."

Older brother John wishes for the same composure Keenan possesses.

"I wish I had more patience with the puck like he does," said John Hopson. "When I have the opportunity I probably don't hang on to it as long as I should."

Nonetheless, both players are eager for the long-awaited opportunity. And neither is about to let it go to waste.

ABOVE- JOHN HOPSON, PHOTO BY ANDREW GORDON
LEFT- KEENAN HOPSON, PHOTO BY MELISSA ARMES.

NAGY

From Page 20

UMaine to the I-AA playoffs in 2001 and 2002, was named Murray State head coach.

Murray State also declined comment pending an official announcement of Griffin's staff. The football coaches page on the Racers Web site lists assistant coaches as "TBA," however, the school's staff directory page lists "Defensive Coordinator: Rich Nagy" under its football staff list.

Murray State, located in Kentucky, was 2-9 last season

and competes in the Ohio Valley Conference of I-AA. The Racers were 0-7 in conference competition in the fall.

In most circles, the OVC would be considered a step down from the A-10, which is widely considered the best conference in the nation in I-AA.

It is unclear whether Nagy was actively seeking a position outside UMaine, but Nagy was offered a higher salary and he and Griffin are said to have a close relationship, opening the door for a reunion at Murray State. Griffin had previously been the head coach at the University of Tennessee at Martin, also an OVC school.

Nagy's departure comes on

the heels of the Black Bears' second straight 5-6 season, and the third-straight year they have missed the I-AA play-offs. His defense improved from 11th in 2004 to 3rd in the Atlantic-10 last year and was ranked in the top 20 nationally most of the season. He also serves as defensive backs coach, and tutored senior safety Jarrod Gomes to the New England Football Writers All-Star team and junior Darren Stone to an All-Atlantic-10 selection.

Throughout his tenure, Nagy's "Black Hole" defense has been among the best in the conference and has been stellar in big games. He engineered the third-lowest point total

allowed by an A-10 team in playoff history in a 14-10 win at McNeese State, and defeated I-A Mississippi State 9-7 in 2004.

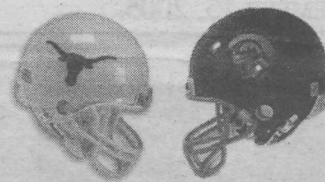
Nagy was named American Football Monthly I-AA Coordinator of the Year in 2002 and has coached three players to the National Football League. 2002 UMaine graduate Stephen Cooper is with the San Diego Chargers and 2004 grad Brandon McGowan is with the Chicago Bears.

In addition, Nagy coached Seattle Seahawks rookie Lofa Tatupu in 2002, before Tatupu transferred to USC where he won the national championship and was a I-A First Team All-American.

UMaine head coach Jack Cosgrove was unavailable for comment while on a recruiting trip, and no time table has been set for naming Nagy's replacement.

The Black Bears will likely begin the search for a new defensive coordinator after the official announcement of Griffin's staff by Murray State, though it is unclear whether they will seek an outside candidate, promote from within their staff, or entertain both options.

The Black Hole returns eight starters next season, including six of their front seven, the entire defensive line, three of four defensive backs and two of four linebackers.



Turner tandem paces Black Bears Nagy will leave

Duo combines for
37 versus Dartmouth

By Matt Williams
Sports Editor

PORTLAND — The University of Maine men's basketball team got titanic efforts from both its Turners in defeating Dartmouth 64-55 Tuesday night at the Cumberland County Civic Center in Portland.

The tandem, senior Ernest and junior Rashard, aren't related but were brothers in arms as they dismantled the Big Green's defense. Ernest led all scorers with 21 points, 15 in the first half, while Rashard took over in the second, finishing with 12 points in the half and 16 overall.

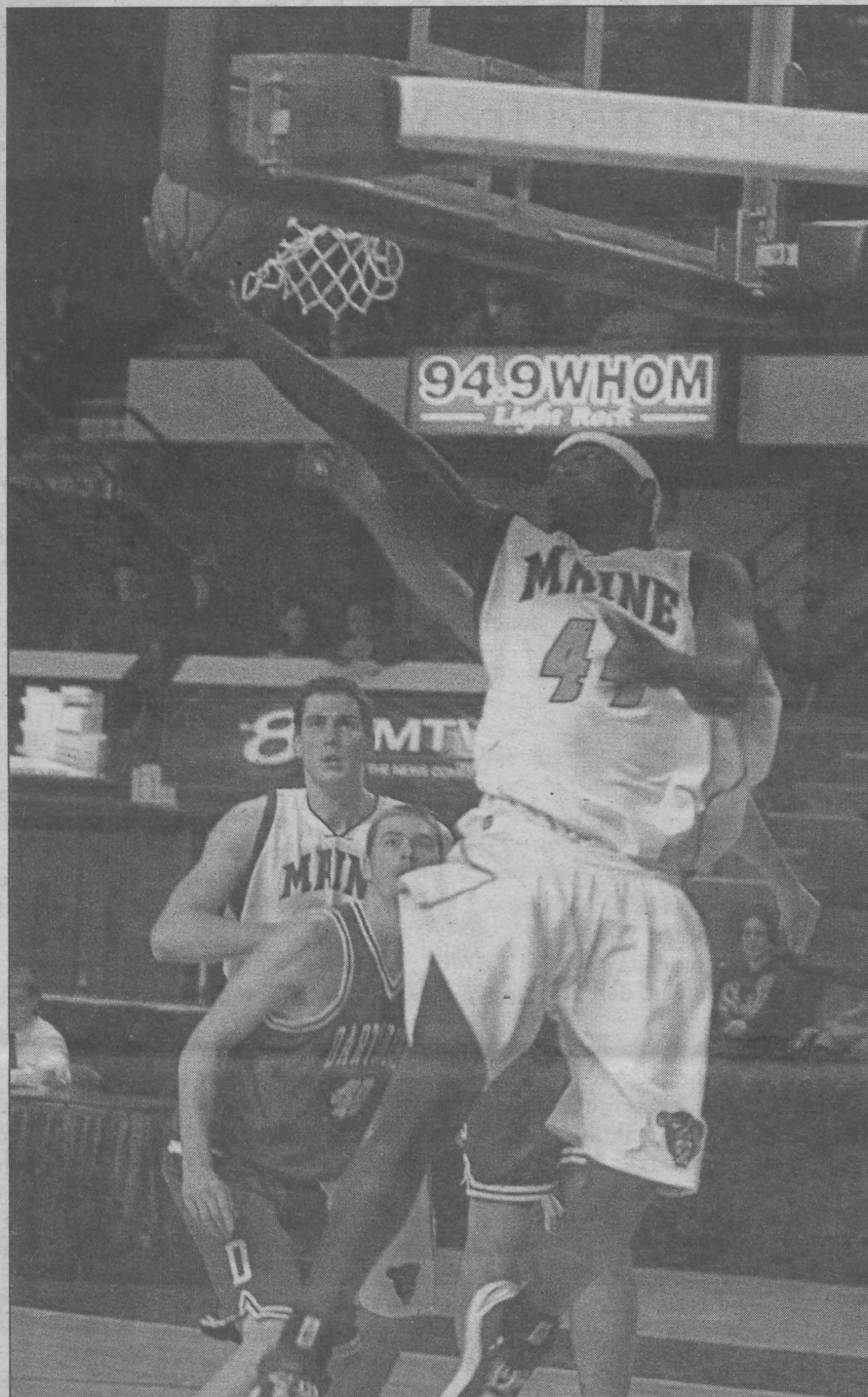
"They had a difficult time trying to stop our shooters," said UMaine head coach Ted Woodward. "Right now we have two great shooters in Ernest Turner and Jon Sheets, so naturally defenses are extending and leaving more room inside."

Wary of the three-point shooting ability the Black Bears have shown this season, Dartmouth concentrated on defending the perimeter. That opened up the lanes for the Turners, who knifed inside and made layups regularly.

"Coach stressed getting in and out, and I was trying to go to the hole aggressively," Ernest said.

Rashard was especially effective in drawing contact, as

See TURNERS on Page 18



FLYING FRESHMAN — Philippe Tchekane Bofia makes an uncontested layup Tuesday night at the Cumberland County Civic Center in Portland. UM beat Dartmouth 64-55.

CAMPUS PHOTO BY KEVIN REARDON

UM for Murray

Football's defensive coordinator to
accept job under former assistant

By Matt Williams
Sports Editor

Rich Nagy, the defensive coordinator for the University of Maine football team for the last five seasons, will resign in order to take the same position at Murray State University, according to sources close to the team and MSU's staff directory Web page.

UMaine's athletic department declined comment and couldn't confirm or deny Nagy's departure or whether a resignation has yet been tendered, but on Monday former UMaine assistant Matt Griffin, who worked with Nagy in leading



Nagy

See NAGY on Page 19

Lay down the Law

Defenseman scores in Hockey
East vs. Team USA All-Star game

By Ryan Clark
Staff Writer

Maybe Kelly Law should miss practice more often.

Women's Hockey

Despite being late for the Hockey East All-Star Team's practice on Saturday night, the junior defenseman made amends as she scored in the team's 5-2 loss against the U.S.

Women's National Team on Sunday at the Whittemore Center at the University of New Hampshire.

"I think Kelly is one of our strongest defenseman and there is no one else I'd rather play behind," said junior netminder Rachel Gettings. "We all came in together in the same class and she has made an impact since

See LAW on Page 17

UMaine women focuses on better fundamentals

By Meghann Burnett
Staff Writer

The light at the end of this tunnel isn't getting brighter anytime soon.

Women's Basketball

After their worst loss this season and the fourth in as many games, the University of Maine women's basketball team has gone back to the fundamentals to find answers.

"As the girls have heard me say often in the last couple of days, 28 turnovers against any team is not going to get wins," said head coach Ann McInerney. "We need to have them understand the difference between when we have a fast break situation and when we need to be more patient and let

the offense flow."

The Black Bears dropped an 80-55 decision against Mississippi State Sunday, committing 28 turnovers that were converted in large part to 32 Lady Bulldog points. MSU's starting lineup of five freshmen out scored the Bear's entire team by four points, 59-55.

Junior forward Bracey Barker and junior guard Ashley Underwood provided the only offense for UMaine. Barker recorded her first double-double of the season with 19 points and 11 rebounds and Underwood chipped in with 16 points. Senior Abby Schrader's four game streak of double-doubles was snapped as well. Schrader got into foul trouble and finished with two points and five

See WOMEN on Page 16

Men's hockey reflects on first half

By Matthew Conyers
Editor in Chief

Forget suspensions, injuries and three-game losing streaks. That was the easy part.

For the University of Maine men's ice hockey team, the fun has only begun.

In less than three weeks, the Black Bears will travel south to kick off the second half of the season. And with it, an attempt at a record eighth consecutive NCAA tournament appearance.

"I am really excited for the second half," said UMaine head coach Tim Whitehead. "I am excited about this team, I think it's a very close knit team, a very tight team. I think they have stuck together admirably through a lot of adversity recently."

That adversit, which Whitehead speaks of finally looks like it has subsided. On Monday, interim athletic director Blake James handed down the last of his suspensions to junior Mike Hamilton for a brawl that



CAMPUS PHOTO BY LAURA GIORGIO

SIGNATURE MOMENT — Senior forward Derek Damon signs for a pair of fans at Skate with the Bears on Sunday.

occurred last month at Washburn Place apartments. Along with delivering Hamilton a four-game suspension, James reinstated Wes Clark after a month away from the team. Both players were suspended from

the team indefinitely on Nov. 16 and summoned to Penobscot County Superior Court in Bangor, when the pair entered a UMaine baseball play-

See HOCKEY on Page 16