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# Maine Campus February 12 2007

Maine Campus Staff

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MONDAY  
February 12, 2007  
Vol. 125 No. 29

# THE MAINE CAMPUS

THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE NEWSPAPER SINCE 1875

We got the beat.  
Page 10.



## Potential buyer eyes Ushuaia

Opening of 103 Ultra Lounge pending Orono Council approval

By Pattie Barry  
Production Manager

A prospective buyer is anticipated to lease the Ushuaia building and open a new nightclub in its place, pending the approval from the Orono Town Council at its meeting tonight.

Robbie Snow, a Ushuaia DJ and 2005 University of Maine graduate in business administration, will present his application for a liquor license for 103 Ultra Lounge to the town council. If the council approves the license, the application will be forwarded to the state, who will ultimately approve or deny the license.

Ushuaia is still operating on Saturday nights and booking concerts on other nights of the week, but has not served alcohol since Nov. 17, when its provisional license expired.

In January of 2006, the town of Orono denied Ushuaia owner Alex Gray's application to renew the club's liquor license, citing that there had been too many violent incidents reported at the club's premises on

See USHUAIA on Page 7

## On-campus Internet gets \$3M upgrade

By Tony Reaves  
News Editor

The state Legislature approved \$3 million Thursday to bring high-speed fiber-optic Internet access to the University of Maine.

The line will connect the university system to the high-speed network in Cambridge, Mass. that connects universities and research institutions in that area. This will be a boon to the researchers on campus who need to transfer files and databases that sometimes reach several terabits, or a trillion bytes, according to Jake Ward, executive director of UMaine's office of research and economic development.

"Right now, they're saving [databases] to hard drives and mailing them or shipping them across the country," Ward said, causing disconnect between UMaine researchers and those at other institutions with which they share data. The goal for the new connection will be a minimum speed of 10 gigabits per second — 10 times faster than the current maximum transfer rate at UMaine.

See INTERNET on Page 7

## Splash Down



CAMPUS PHOTO BY ROSE COLLINS

ON ICE — The Polar Bear Dip on Saturday, organized by the Panhellenic Council, raised money for the Penobscot Boys and Girls Club. See story Page 3.

## UMaine fan for life

Jeff Harris, 62, has traveled the world but found himself back in Black Bear country

By Nick Dyer  
For The Maine Campus

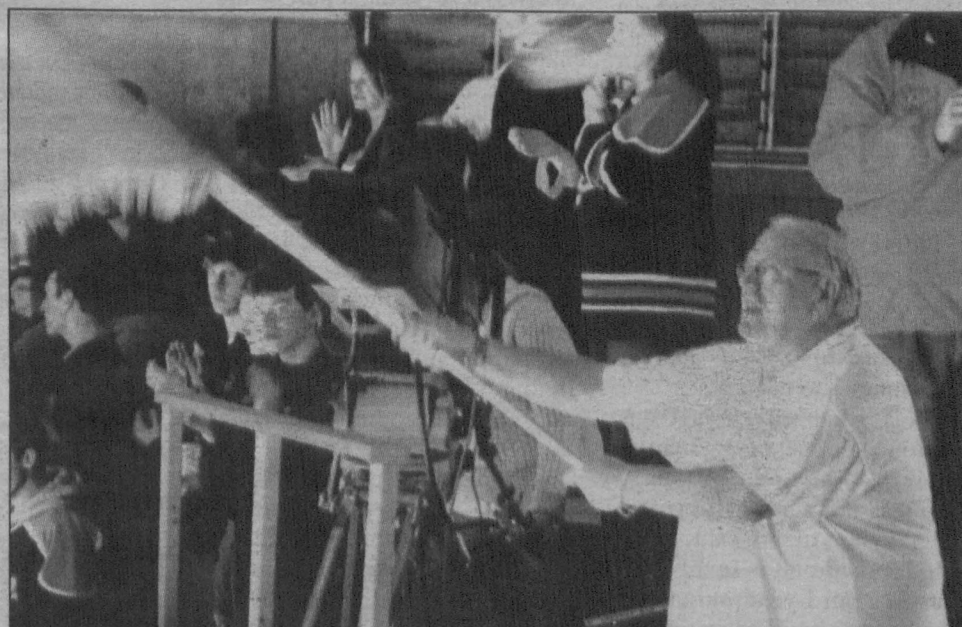
The phrases "Who cares," "So what," "Big deal" and "What a joke" can usually be heard coming from the student section about the opposing team during the starting lineup at home hockey games at the University of Maine.

One may think they come from a rowdy student or Maine-iac. In reality, the phrases are started by 62-year-old Jeff Harris, who stands atop the beloved student section at Alford Arena proudly wearing his University of Maine attire and waving a UMaine flag, screaming and heckling the opposing goalies just as much as the students do.

Although Harris praises sportsmanship, he said it's good to get inside the other team's heads a little.

"I just enjoy it," Harris said. "I enjoy being a part of it, and I enjoy being supportive of them. They are representing the university, the state and their families."

Harris, who works at Eastern Maine Community College as the director of stu-



CAMPUS PHOTO BY KYLE WARREN

FLAG DAY — Jeff Harris, cheering from the student section at Saturday's hockey game, dressed as Bananas the Bear before graduating in 1972.

dent housing, athletics and activities, graduated from UMaine in 1972 with a bachelor's degree in education and a minor in English. While here, Harris showed his love for UMaine athletics by attending games and dressing up as Bananas the Bear at the sporting events.

After graduating, Harris went on to teach for nine years, first at Central High School and then at Washington County Vocational

See HARRIS on Page 6

*"When the Maine hockey team won the 1993 National Championship, I listened to the game live over the telephone and it cost me \$375."*

Jeff Harris  
'72 Alum



# Lecture discusses China's dirty deeds in Africa

Sudan, Zimbabwe demonstrate Chinese government's financial support of oppressive dictatorships

By Amanda MacCabe  
Staff Reporter

China's ongoing links to Africa and what those could mean for the future of the continent were discussed at Thursday's Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series.

"Because of oil and raw materials, as well as other economic interests, China has been more than ready to support authoritarian and despotic regimes that many countries in the world have denounced," said Professor Ngo Vinh Long of the University of Maine Department of History.

He cited the current conflict in Sudan as an example, pointing out that when the United Nations attempted to issue a resolution urging the Sudanese government to stop the genocide in Darfur, China vetoed the bill.

Conversely, "African countries have supported China very strongly in its opposition to resolutions," Long said.

"China, in effect, was aiding and abetting the violence in Darfur and allowing it to spread," he said.

The conflict in Darfur has been ongoing since the summer of 2003, with the Sudanese government supplying financial assistance to a militia group engaged in ethnic cleansing. China has also supplied the Sudanese government with weapons and combat helicopters, which have been used against civilians in the Darfur region.

*"China, in effect, was aiding and abetting the violence in Darfur and allowing it to spread."*

Ngo Vinh Long  
Professor of history  
University of Maine

Long cited another example of the Chinese government supporting a dictatorship in Zimbabwe, funding the regime because it provides China with access to natural resources.

Weapons deals, such as one in 2000 in which Chinese authorities traded a shipment of small arms for eight tons of elephant tusks, are not uncommon.

Cases such as these "have taught African countries the lesson that if European countries and the United States do not want to have economic or diplomatic relations with them for whatever reasons, China is more than ready to do business with them," said Long.

China's relationship with Africa has contributed to the rapid rise of the continent's GDP, especially in sub-Saharan regions, mainly due to China's demands for raw material and oil.

"African countries are very happy that China has pushed up the prices of raw materials and oil and that roads, bridges, dams and other construction works by Chinese companies are cheaper and better in comparison to those built by Western companies," said Long.

Although the demand for natural resources has short-term economic benefits for the continent, it could be disastrous for the long-term.

A recent report by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) showed that the demands from China for raw materials and oil have made African countries less intent on diversifying their economies. Chinese investment of labor on the continent also has not provided substantial employment opportunities to the African workforce.

"In South Africa, there are about 200,000 Chinese working in the wholesale and retail textile business," said Long.

The relationship between Africa and China has been economically beneficial for both.

China has one of the world's fastest growing GDP's and is poised to become a superpower.

"Although China has given aid to many African countries and forgiven unpaid debts to many others, China's main objectives have been to extract African raw materials and oil and to dump Chinese manufactured and consumer goods on African nations," said Long.

## AGR's 'Rec and Restore' brings new life to dorms

By Emily Southwick  
Copy Editor

Just in time for Hilltop and the Stewart quad to turn into freshmen-only areas, the six dorms are receiving a welcome touch by the brothers of Alpha Gamma Rho.

AGR is in the midst of its Recreation & Restore project, which began in the fall of 2005. The goal is to re-design the game rooms in each building, making them more inviting and enjoyable for residents. AGR is known for its philanthropic efforts around Orono, but live-in adviser Keith Gilmore said this project is unique in that it involves students, faculty, residence hall staff and the brothers all working together toward a common goal.

The brothers' most recent work took place in Knox Hall last week. They begin each room by applying a base coat of paint, and the end result is an intricate mural, consisting of the building's name in graffiti-like text with airbrushing and special details unique to each dorm.

"It's a good way to get our name on campus in a positive light, instead of a lot of the negative press that Greek life gets," brother Tyler Adams said. "The whole brotherhood is involved." Adams is a third-year journalism major and vice president of the project.

Ryan Guerrero is the artist behind the creative airbrushing used in each mural. He runs his own business, and as a fourth-year studio art major, has a passion for what he does.

"The best part of this is getting to tag up game rooms with my graffiti and just having fun doing my thing. The importance of this project is all about our service to the community and just giving back," Guerrero said.

Paul Bertschinger,

Philanthropy Chair and third-year marine science major, feels the brothers are making a strong connection with the on-campus residents through their work.

"It's fun to interact with campus; living off campus [in the fraternity house] you kind of become distanced. It's a way for us to be 'on campus.'"

Derek Lucas is the mastermind behind the entire project. He worked with Dean Dana to make the idea a reality, and it has been going strong ever since. Lucas, a third-year wildlife ecology major, has also encouraged sororities with chapters in the residence halls involved to become a part of the project. So far, Phi Mu, whose chapter room is in the basement of Knox, has been the only one to take Lucas up on his offer.

"It's a good project for us to do and it takes two seconds," said Phi Mu sister Jenn Uphon, a third-year nursing student. She said renovating the Knox game room will benefit her sorority by providing a larger area for alumni-related and other special Greek events. "[It] helps the halls and the community," she added.

An integral part of the project has been the collaboration between AGR and the residential staff. The brothers have made an effort to discuss with the Hall Governing Boards and residents to find out what they want for their game rooms, and will settle for nothing less than satisfaction. They passed out response sheets to the halls they have already completed — Cumberland, Gannet, Hancock and Androscoggin — and received a lot of positive response, according to Bertschinger.

"I personally get a sense of joy from helping others and seeing the excitement and joy to those that I help," Lucas said.

## THE MAINE CAMPUS

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Monday

#### Wildlife ecology lecture

Biologist Lindsay Tudor, of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, will present "NRPA and the Shorebird Habitat Protection Rule" at noon in Room 204, Nutting Hall.

#### Dating panel discussion

A panel discussion on "Interracial Dating at a Predominantly White Campus," will be held from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Room 120, Little Hall as part of Black History Month.

### Tuesday

#### Middle East talk

Ambassador Marcelle M. Wahba, the state department's foreign policy adviser to the Air Force Chief of Staff and Ambassador, and Philip C. Wilcox, Jr., president of the Foundation for Middle East Peace, will present a talk titled "The Middle East Conundrum: Diplomacy or Military Solution?" from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Buchanan Alumni House.

### Wednesday

#### Women's Studies Lunch Series

Sarah Bigney, Ashley Miller and Tiffany Warzecha will present "From Chiapas to Orono: Women's Rights as Human Rights" from 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Bangor Room, Memorial Union.

#### WebCT/Blackboard & Tablet PC

A demonstration by Kim McKeage and Andrei Strukov on the uses in teaching of WebCT, Blackboard and Tablet PC will be put on the by Center for Teaching Excellence, starting at 1 p.m. in the Totman Lounge, Memorial Union.

### Thursday

#### Panel discussion

"Immigration Issues and University Students" will be presented by a panel from the Student Heritage Alliance Center, as part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series, at 12:30 p.m. in the Bangor Room, Memorial Union.

### Research Café Series

Dorothy Klimis-Zacas will present "Blueberries and Heart Disease" at 4 p.m. in the University Club in Fogler Library.

### Iraq for Sale: The War Profiteers

The Peace and Justice film series will screen "Iraq for Sale: The War Profiteers" at 7 p.m. in Room 140, Little Hall. Discussion to follow film.

### Submitting information

Submissions for The Maine Campus Community Calendar are free and can be sent on FirstClass to Brian Sylvester or dropped off in The Maine Campus office located in the basement of Memorial Union. Please include all the important information about your event. Deadlines for submissions are 9 a.m. Sunday for Monday publication and 9 a.m. Wednesday for Thursday publication.

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# COLD COMPENSATION

*UMaine Greeks put themselves on ice to raise \$800 for the Penobscot Boys and Girls Club*

By Andrew Norster  
For The Maine Campus

With temperatures in the 20s, snow still on the ground and a crowd of cheering onlookers, University of Maine fraternities and sororities showed up this Saturday to dunk themselves in the name of raising money for the Penobscot Boys and Girls Club.

At 2 p.m., the scene was a chilly one, with some people having come already shirtless and others without towels. Some of the pens the Penobscot nation volunteers were using to help people sign liabilities and pledge sheets even froze up, but the temperature didn't deter anyone's motivation.

As Land Cook, a Sigma Phi Epsilon brother, said, "I can't wait to get in there."

As each fraternity and sorority was called, their members went charging into the thigh-high water, doing flips and submerging themselves completely. After a few seconds they'd come leaping out and head back to the Union or their houses, most running off through the snow without shoes.

UMaine participants had warm weather this weekend, but the event has been going on for years in other places and has already happened once this year in a different location.

The Penobscot Nation's Boys and Girls Club uses fundraisers such as the Polar Bear Dip to provide kids with a gym for games, a learning center, a computer room, arts and crafts and a kitchen-cafeteria where kids can eat while they're there, according to Carla Fearon, unit director of the Boys and Girls Club.

With concerns about the cold causing the fire department to attend just in case, Dean of Students Robert Dana said he never doubted UMaine's Greeks.

"The Greek community is all about serving others, so we had no doubt there would be a good turnout, Dana said."

*"The Greek community is all about serving others, so we had no doubt there would be a good turnout."*

Robert Dana  
Dean of Students

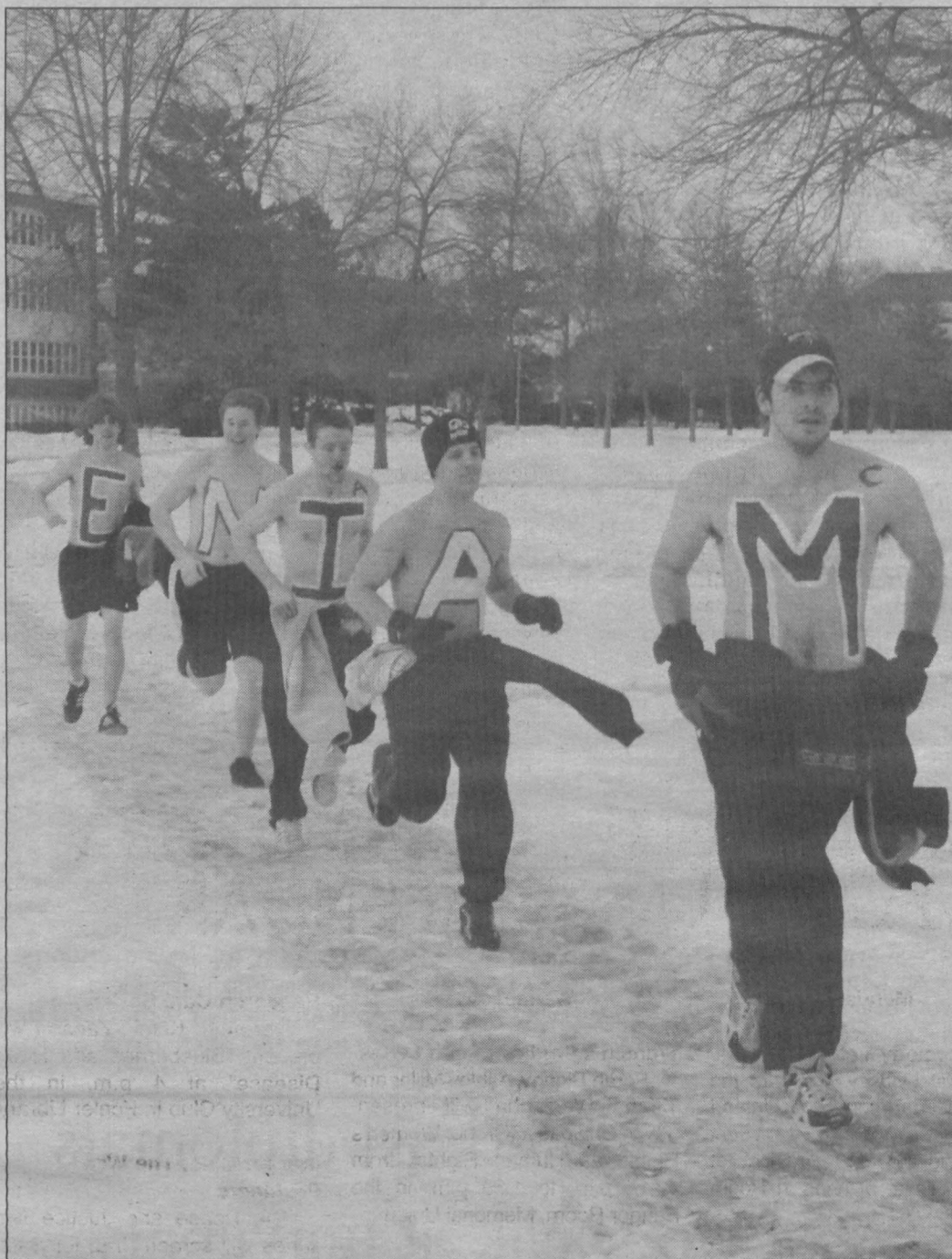
For the first time, the event was cited by all participants as a big success. Between 50 and 75 people showed up and early estimates put the earnings at around \$800—according to Fearon, an excellent result.

The event, while crowded with fraternity and sorority members, was open to all. Students took pledges from other people in the community or pledged their own money to take the dive.

Plans are underway to make this an annual event according to Amanda Mullen, a sister of Pi Beta Phi. She'll be taking charge as the new vice president of programming for the Panhellenic Council, the group that organized the dip. Mullen seemed excited about the prospects of getting even more people on board for next time.

The only complaints from participants were about the lack of something to stand on after they jumped out of the cold water into the colder snow—something sure to be remedied as the event evolves. With free food and hot drinks, however, it's enough to at least draw a crowd as awareness grows.

Some of the other fundraisers for the Boys and Girls Club include a dinner dance, wine and cheese tasting for some of their regular contributors and possibly an upcoming golf game.

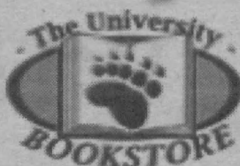


CAMPUS PHOTO BY ERYK SALVAGGIO

ENIAM — Members of Sigma Phi Epsilon run a lap around the mall during Saturday's Polar Bear Dip.

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## POLICEBEAT

By Alisha Tondro  
Staff Reporter



### A, B, C, DUI

On Feb. 3 at 1:30 a.m., an officer observed a car leaving the municipal lot on Pine Street after telling another officer that she would not be driving after purchasing alcohol. The officer pulled the driver over for not clearing snow off the car's windows. When the officer spoke with the driver, he could smell alcohol on her breath. He identified her as Brittany Saisselin, 21. The officer had Saisselin do a couple field sobriety tests, including reciting the alphabet. When Saisselin made a few mistakes, the officer deemed that she should not be driving. Saisselin was arrested and taken to the police station where she admitted to having at least two drinks. Saisselin was summonsed for operating under the influence of an intoxicating beverage.

### Staggering men draw police

On Feb. 4 at 1:25 a.m., the police were notified of two men walking in the middle of the road staggering from side to side. When the officer arrived, he found the men walking along the side of the road. The officer stopped them and identified them as Taylor Massey, 18, and Riza Dekidjev, 19. Massey was carrying a backpack and was holding up Dekidjev while they were walking. Dekidjev was covered in snow and was visibly intoxicated. Massey appeared not to be as intoxicated. He admitted to having a beer and offered that his backpack was empty. Dekidjev also admitted to drinking. Both Massey and Dekidjev were summonsed for illegal consumption of alcohol by a minor.

### Kicked out of party

On Feb. 3 at 2:40 a.m., an officer was called to Orchard Trails for a noise complaint. Upon arrival at Building 8, he found a group of people standing outside. One person said that they were having a party inside and someone had been causing problems. Raymond Vallee, 22, was upset about being thrown out of the party. Vallee pushed the door open while he was being kicked out of the party and managed to damage a door hinge. Vallee admitted to pushing on the door and said that he would pay for the damage. Vallee was issued a disorderly conduct warning and told not to return to the party.

### Fundraisers resort to theft

On Feb. 5 at 10:15 a.m., an officer was called to investigate stolen returnables. A resident from Stillwater Village called the police stating that he had been robbed. When the officer arrived at the residence, he was informed that three men had come to the door asking for a donation to a bottle drive for UMaine. The resident informed the men that he was not interested in participating in the drive and watched the men leave his property. Less than five minutes later, he heard something and witnessed the same three men walking away with bags of bottles and cans that he been on his patio. The officer located the three men and identified them as Zachary Collin, 27, Lee Wilson, 20, and Brian St. Pierre, 22. All three were summonsed for theft of private property.

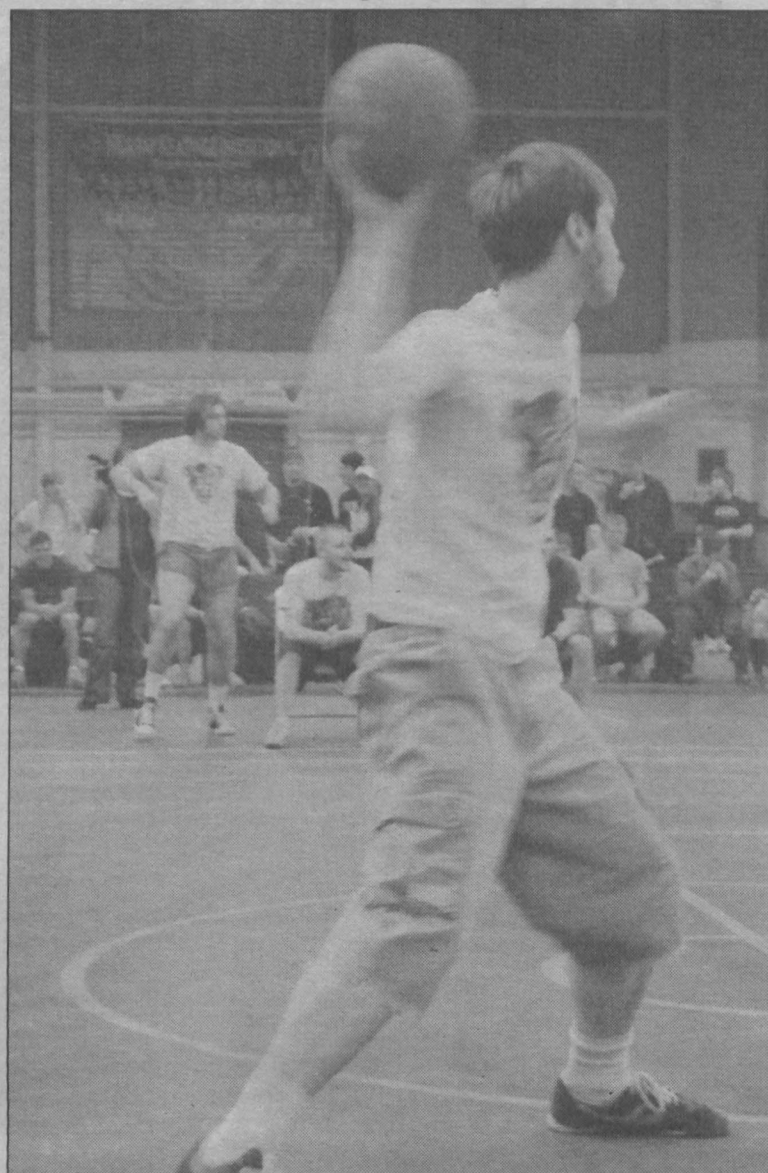
### Drugs, alcohol and minors

On Feb. 7 at 12:30 p.m., officers were advised of a noise complaint at Orchard Trails. When the officers arrived at Building 6, they went to the third floor and knocked on a door. While they were waiting, a female subject attempted to exit the apartment. When the door opened, one of the officers saw a man holding a large green bottle. The officer also saw people running to the back of the apartment attempting to hide. The officers located Maxwell Poe, 20, Tyler Watkinson, 21, and Ibrahim Altowaijri, 20, and informed them of the situation. The officers also identified the female who had tried to exit earlier as Anna Smith, 20. While investigating the scene, the officers found alcohol and other drug paraphernalia. Smith was summonsed for possession of liquor by a minor. She also admitted to smoking along with drinking. Poe was summonsed for use of drug paraphernalia. Watkinson and Altowaijri were summonsed for furnishing a place for minors to consume alcohol.

### A politely worded argument

On Feb. 9 at 1:15 a.m., an officer observing Bear Brew Pub witnessed a fight between a man and a woman. The officer approached the two and identified them as Christopher Lunn, 24, and Morgan MacDonald, 21. When asked why they were fighting, Lunn said that MacDonald had disrespected his friend. MacDonald then stated that Lunn had called her a derogatory name and she had slapped him. MacDonald and Lunn were both issued disorderly conduct warnings.

## Dodge This



CAMPUS PHOTO BY JENNA LAVALLEE

I GOT YOU IN MY SIGHT — Members of the Maine Channel Team put their dodgeball skills to the test in the Field House yesterday. The dodgeball tournament, organized by Sigma Phi Epsilon, drew more than 150 participants and raised more than \$600 for Alternative Spring Break.

## Middle East diplomats to speak at university

Lecture explores military solution vs. diplomacy

By Adrienne Hess  
For The Maine Campus

Two experienced U.S. diplomats specializing in Middle East Relations will give a conference at the Buchanan Alumni House Tuesday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Their presentation, titled "The Middle East Conundrum: Diplomacy or Military Solution?" is sponsored by the University of Maine's new School of Policy and International Affairs.

With more than five decades of combined diplomatic experience, the two ambassadors will address their views on the problems facing one of the most politically volatile regions in the world as well as their possible solutions.

Ambassador Marcelle M. Whamba is currently the State Department's Foreign Policy Adviser to the Air Force Chief. Before that, she served as an ambassador to the United Arab Emirates. She has also served in Cairo, Egypt; Nicosia, Cyprus and Amman, Jordan.

"Serving overseas has always been challenging and rewarding but after Sept. 11, I think many of us feel that the work we do has a direct impact on our most vital interests," Whamba said. "For that reason, I feel very fortunate to be serving as an ambassador at this critical time. All relationships are complex to manage, and those between nations all the more so."

Ambassador Philip C. Wilcox is the president of the Foundation for Middle East Peace, an organization that hopes to alleviate the strain between Israelis and Palestinians. He entered the Foreign Service in 1966 and retired after 31 years of service, during which he held many positions, including Director for Israeli and Arab-Israeli Affairs and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Middle Eastern Affairs.

Professor Bahman Baktari, director of research and academic programming at the Cohen Center, will moderate discussions, after a brief address by UMaine President Robert Kennedy.

## Campus groups band together to teach students the meaning of hunger

By J. Astra Brinkmann  
Staff Reporter

If you leave the Coe Room Tuesday evening with an empty stomach, yours won't be the only hunger unfulfilled. As part of Human Rights Awareness week, Pi Beta Phi, Catholic Campus Ministry and Intervarsity Christian Fellowship have collaborated to address the issue of famine through a role-playing technique called a hunger banquet.

Human Rights Awareness Week Committee member Tiffany

Warzecha explained that participants would engage in a simulation showing the discrepancies between the most and the least privileged people around the world. Each person will be randomly assigned a global class situation and their quantity and variety of food will vary depending upon the role designated to them.

Warzecha and Vice President of Philanthropy of Pi Beta Phi Jen Pickering agree that the most important result of this project will be to raise awareness on the campus.

"We're hoping to start dialogue with people afterwards — to let them know that it's okay to talk about it," said Warzecha, who added that multiple speakers will be present to propose ideas for how best to take action.

"It's so shocking that there are 850 million people that go without food and how little money it would take to give more to poor countries," Pickering said.

While Warzecha said that there have been hunger banquets on the University of Maine campus before, this one is unique in that it fuses the passionate concerns held by multiple community members.

Jen Pickering said that the inspiration came from one of her sisters discussing the possibility of holding a hunger banquet in class, only to find that other people were thinking the

same thing — thus the agreement to collaborate.

Pickering said that the process for much of the simulation procedure can be found on Web sites like <http://www.oxfam.org.uk> or <http://www.unicef.org>, which are global organizations catering to the issue of world hunger. The focus of information to be given at the UMaine hunger banquet, however, will be tailored to more local needs, but the overarching global aspect will be acknowledged as well.

"There will be empty seats showing that the world doesn't make enough food for everyone. Some people just don't get any," Pickering said.

The Human Rights Awareness Week hunger banquet will be held at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13 in the Coe Room.

5 p.m.  
Tuesday  
Coe Room

HAPPY  
VALENTINES  
DAY!



## Hero of film 'Hotel Rwanda' to speak at Maine Center for the Arts for Black History Month

By Joel Crabtree  
Opinion Editor

On Friday morning, James Varner, president emeritus for the Greater Bangor Area NAACP, along with University of Maine Human Rights Coalition adviser Emily Albee, presented a list of events that are taking place on campus during Black History Month.

Varner, along with Jose Cordero, interim director of the Multicultural Center and ALANA Center at UMaine, and Gimbala Sankare, president of the Black Student Union on campus, helped coordinate the activities for this year's Black History Month.

One of the highlights of these events, Varner said, is a speech by Paul Rusesabagina — the hero who was portrayed by Don Cheadle in the film "Hotel Rwanda" — at 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 19 at the Maine Center for the Arts.

"We're very honored to have Paul Rusesabagina come and speak," Albee said. The event will be free with an opportunity to make donations toward campus sponsors.

Varner said that he is pleased that Student Government is providing some of the funds to bring certain individuals and events to campus.

The events will begin at 2 p.m. Monday with a panel discussion on the topic, "Interracial Dating on a Predominantly White Campus," in 120 Little Hall, and end with a solidarity jazz and R&B concert featuring Jimmy "Fingers" Varner, at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 28 at Hauck Auditorium.

"One of the highlights, I think — I'm a little prejudiced because it's my son — Jimmy 'Fingers' is going to be coming with his band from Los Angeles, Calif., and he's going to provide what we call the Solidarity Concert," Varner said.

This will mark the fourth Solidarity Concert at the University of Maine, and the event will be free, although donations for survivors of Hurricane Katrina will be accepted.

"We're hoping to get as many participants as possible," Varner said. Varner added that he wants to reach people outside of the University of Maine as well.

"We want this to be a family affair. Not just the students on campus and the faculty, but we want you folks out there in the community to bring your youngsters and to visit the University of Maine campus during the month of February to find out why we have Black History Month."

Varner said that Black History Month provides an outlet for people to see the contributions that the black community has made to the United States over the centuries.

"We still continue to be abused," Varner said. "As recently as last week, an African American who was interracially married in Bangor was beaten unmercifully. I cried when I looked at him. We're working on that case right now."

Varner also cited an incident from September 2006 when Robert A. Dow, 59, kicked a pregnant black woman in the stomach.

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### Monday, Feb. 12

A panel discussion, "Interracial Dating on a Predominantly White Campus." 2 p.m., 120 Little Hall. Sponsored by Multicultural Programs, Black Student Union and the College of Education & Human Development.

### Sunday, Feb. 18

African Artifacts display and Black History Month discussion by James Varner and Professor Forrest Pritchett of Seton Hall University. Noon to 3 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union. Sponsored by Black Student Union, UM Human Rights Coalition and Multicultural Programs.

### Sunday, Feb. 18

"Hotel Rwanda," followed by discussion. Time to be announced, DPC 100. Part of Human Rights Awareness Week 2007.

### Monday, Feb. 19

Speaker Paul Rusesabagina. 7:30 p.m., Maine Center for the Arts. Sponsored by Amnesty International and part of Human Rights Awareness Week 2007.

### Wednesday, Feb. 21

"Why is Black History Month Important and Who Benefits?" a

Discussion with Dr. Bernice M. Brown & James Varner. 7 – 8:30 p.m., 101 Neville Hall. Sponsored by Black Student Union and UMaine Human Rights Coalition.

### Wednesday, Feb. 21

"OM! A Street Corner Griot's Comedy," Black Theatre company. 3 p.m., 101 Neville Hall. Sponsored by Black Student Union and Multicultural Programs.

### Sunday, Feb. 25

"On the Road to Glory," Princely Players. 3 p.m. at the Maine Center for the Arts. For tickets call 581-1755. Students get in free with MaineCard.

### Sunday, Feb. 25

African Themed Dinner. 6 p.m., Bodwell Lounge, Maine Center for the Arts. Tickets \$50. For more information, call 581-1755.

### Wednesday, Feb. 28

Solidarity jazz and R&B concert featuring Jimmy "Fingers" Varner from Los Angeles, Calif. 7 p.m., Hauck Auditorium, Memorial Union. Sponsored by UM Human Rights Coalition, and WMEB. Donations will be accepted for Hurricane Katrina Relief Efforts.

"As long as we have those kinds of individuals in our community, it is necessary and it is important that we embrace Black History Month and we understand it — the total community, the black and white community — understand the importance of looking

at us and other individuals as human beings."

For more information on the Black History Month events at the University of Maine, visit [www.umaine.edu/multicultural/BHM.asp](http://www.umaine.edu/multicultural/BHM.asp).

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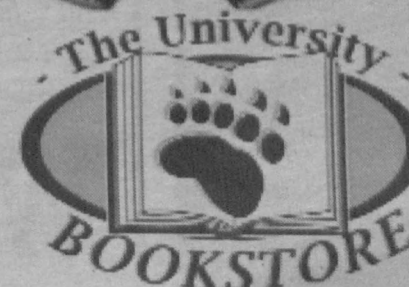
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## This Month





# HARRIS

From Page 1

Technical Institute. "There was more money and more responsibility," Harris said.

The Guilford, Maine native returned to his alma mater in 1985 to complete a master's degree in Education Administration. He worked as a full-time hall director on campus in Gannett Hall for about eight years.

While at UMaine, he also worked part-time for the athletic department as an event coordinator.

Because of budget cuts, the university did away with all the full-time hall director positions. While the athletic department wanted him to continue to work part time, Harris needed a full-time job.

Harris said it was hard for him to say goodbye, but he had to leave Orono once again to try to find a new position to improve his life. His next step would be far from Orono: He accepted a job in Bulgaria as the director of housing at American University.

"The American University in Bulgaria was the first American-style university in the old communist bloc. Several faculty members from that university came from the University of Maine," Harris said. "They were looking for a way to make it the most positive collegiate experience as possible here in the United States and they hired me."

In July 1992, he moved to Bulgaria and stayed for three years. He started out building a residential life program. While he was there he was given a leave of absence so he could come home for six months to a year and return if he wanted to.

"They wanted me to come back," Harris said. "Unfortunately, I was too Americanized."

Harris found that he missed what Americans often take for granted in the States, including American sports and especially UMaine athletics. Harris would call WMEB during the football season and listen to about five or six minutes of the game.

"Friends of mine would tape football games and send them to me," said Harris.

Harris' notorious Maine flag never left his side while he was overseas. Every weekend that Maine had a football or hockey game, he would proudly hang his flag on his balcony.

Although he was thousands of miles away from the Alford Arena and the UMaine campus, the hockey team was always on his mind.

"When the Maine hockey team won the 1993 National Championship, I listened to the game live over the telephone and it cost me \$375," said Harris.

He eventually returned to Maine and was hired as director of housing at Maine Central Institute in Pittsfield. But shortly afterward, bad news came for Harris when his position was eliminated in order to meet budget.

*"I think some [students] wonder 'why is this old guy here' and I can certainly understand that."*

Jeff Harris  
'72 Alum

The summer that Harris returned home, his father had suffered a stroke and passed away. "My parents had been together for 62 years," said Harris. "My son and I moved back to Milo, Maine to be with my mother to get her through the first hunting season, the first anniversary and the first Christmas without my dad being there."

Harris got a break when a position for resident director at Eastern Maine Community College opened up. "I had experience and wanted to get back into the college level," Harris said.

Now a season ticket holder for the Black Bears athletics, Harris became close with former hockey coach Shawn Walsh while he worked here at the university.

"Coach Walsh asked if I would help him in the transition from moving the band and the student section from sections U and V, under what are now the skyboxes, to the balcony," said Harris.

Even after the passing of legendary coach Walsh, Harris contacts Tim Whitehead every year to see if he still wants him to continue his work in the student section. "Every year they come back and ask me to do it," said Harris.

Harris, a fan that any sporting team can only hope for, joins the students in the balcony at every home game. "It's fun for me because it's a different role I play. I'm not a disciplinarian up there. However, we don't want the kids to curse and swear, like some of these other student sections at schools do. We're much more effective without swearing," said Harris.

"A year or so ago I read an article written by a Boston University student for their campus paper who came up to Maine for a weekend to watch the games. While he was up here, he actually had pictures taken in the Maine-iacs section and wrote the article on what an outstanding student section Maine has and how we don't swear. We probably have one of the best student sections in the country, because we don't swear and we don't curse, and I've been told this plenty of times," said Harris. Although Harris tries to teach the UMaine student section to be classy, he does have fun with the different teams that dare to enter the Alford.

"We have several of our opposing mascot's stuffed animals such as the River Hawk, the Boston College Eagle and the New Hampshire Wildcat. These are critters that I have put together with glue, feathers, tape and duct tape — you name it, and I created them to hang from the balcony," Harris said.

Along with the homemade mascots and the random chants, Harris has also started something else. He throws out candy to the students between the periods at every home hockey game. "I spend anywhere from \$30-\$50 a weekend on the packages of candy with everything from blow pops to air heads," said Harris. "It's just money, it's no big deal."

In September of last year, Harris was diagnosed with colon cancer and it was then that he missed his first home hockey game. Harris had surgery and was in the hospital for about five days. He said everything is fine now, and after he got out he was at the home hockey game the following weekend.

"The game I missed was against Boston University a year ago when I was really sick, and people knew I was really sick," Harris said.

Harris' presence in the stands is felt by many of the students in the balcony. Many of them came up to him after his successful surgery during the games and asked him if there was anything they could do to help him out in any way.

"The students in the student section have been very respectful and I'm very appreciative of that," Harris said. "I think some of them wonder 'why is this old guy here' and I can certainly understand that."

For Harris, the most memorable home hockey game was the first held after Shawn Walsh passed away.

"I don't think we won this game, but it was when Coach Shawn Walsh passed away and North Dakota came up to play us. They came onto the ice and every North Dakota player had Walsh on the back of their jerseys and they left those jerseys here at the University of Maine to be auctioned off," said Harris.

Along with everything Harris does, he is the president of Friends of Maine Cheering.

"Each year we raise about \$20,000 to send the cheerleaders down to compete in the Nationals in Daytona Beach, Florida. We fundraise all year long, and I go down for the competition," Harris said.

The university has given Harris the graduate "M" award, and the Pepsi Spirit Award. He was made a Senior Skull for his commitment to the university, and last year the Student Senate gave him a special citation for the work that he does for the university and for the students.

"It's wonderful and I really enjoy it [the awards], but I can never understand why I get them; it's very easy for me to love this institution," said Harris. "I had a wonderful education, and that's why I do what I do."

As far as predictions for this year's hockey team, "I want to see them win the championship. They are a young team, but I think they can do it," he said.

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NO WONDER  
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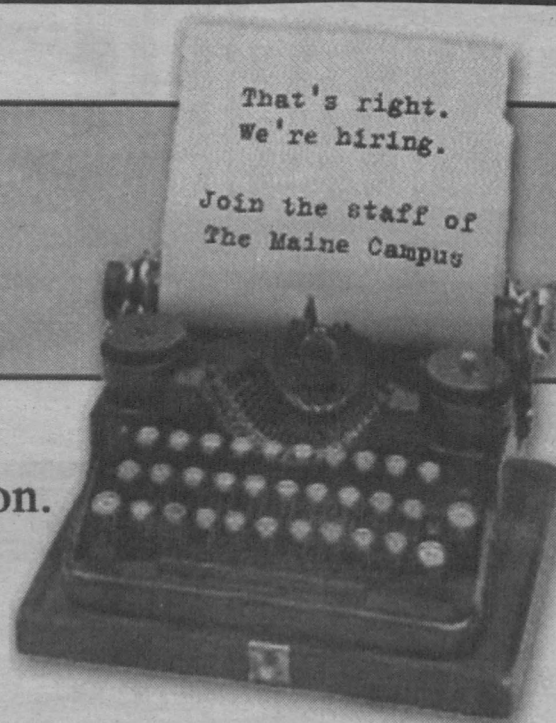
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# Old News

This week: A day  
of infamy

From the archives of  
**THE MAINE  
CAMPUS**

February 11, 1977

## Liquor Age to rise - key legislators say

Maine's drinking age, if it's raised at all, will be raised to 19, four members of the Legislature's Liquor Control Committee said Thursday night. Their assessments came despite a public hearing before their committee in Augusta Wednesday at which some 350 persons appeared, a large majority showing their vocal support of proposals to raise the drinking age to 21 or 20.

One of the two chairmen of the 13-member Liquor Control Committee, Rep. Sidney D. Maxwell (D-Jay) told the Maine Campus the bill to raise the age to 19 "might have the strongest support" of his committee and the legislature. Maxwell said, however, that he personally is opposed to all four bills currently before his committee.

"I don't know how Uncle Sam will let them (18-year-olds) vote and get married, but not go down to the corner store to buy a six-pack of beer," Maxwell said. "I just don't know."

The Liquor Control Committee meets at 10 a.m. next Thursday to decide which bills to recommend for action to the legislature. There is no guarantee any bill will receive full committee approval, committee members said, adding that a "split" proposal might be offered. Legislative vote is expected in early March. Proponents of a rise in drinking age view the bills as solutions to alcoholism among youth while opponents criticize the proposals as "superficial" and "not getting to the root of the problem."

The other committee chairman, Sen. Ralph Lovell (D-Sanford) said his committee and the legislature would "probably" favor the 19-year-old bill sponsored by Rep. Michael Pearson (R-Old Town) because "it's a more gradual way of changing the drinking age."

Lovell said that while his fellow lawmakers seemed to be leaning toward the 19-year-old bill, his constituents aren't.

"My mail seems to be pointing toward 20," Lovell said, "And of course there are always some 'drys' who would like it at 50."

Committee members Sen.

Peter W. Danton (D-Saco) and Rep. Arthur C. Raymond (D-Lewiston) agreed that the "general mood" in Augusta is toward favoring the 19-year-old bill. Raymond said, "Most people I've talked to are in favor of the 19-year-old bill. They view 21 as too drastic a jump and they don't like the 20-year-old proposal because of (Rep. Mike) Lizotte's (D-Biddeford) amendment that would make 20 the voting age, too. The 19-year-old bill, I think, is the most favorable to the committee and legislature," Raymond continued. "I think the people are behind it."

Danton anticipated trouble for Sen. Walter Hichen's (R-Eliot) "drastic" 21-year-old proposal and Rep. John J. Joyce's (D-Portland) 20-year-old bill.

"Right now," Danton said, "the support seems pretty split between the 19 and 20, but I think Lizotte's amendment will have a tough time."

Rep. Wayne C. Gray (R-Rockland) said the 20-year-old bill "looks good right now," but added that "it's really tough to predict what will come out of committee next week."

The Campus was unable to locate the eight other committee members for comment.

Three UMO students who attended Wednesday's hearing, two members of the UMO General Student Senate plus a former member, agreed with the majority of the committee members that the Campus spoke with in saying that the age, if it's raised, will go to 19.

Senator Bob Small (Chadbourne) said, "I think they could muster the support for the 19-year-old bill." But, he added, alcohol education programs would be a better solution, with the programs subsidized by liquor taxes.

Rita D. Laitres, head of the GSS Legislative Liaison Committee, echoed the sentiments of many of those who oppose a raise in the drinking age, calling it "a superficial solution."

"It's not the answer," she said, "but this 19-year-old bill might pass because of party politics. A lot of legislators, I'm afraid, will vote for a raise just to get their constituents off their back."

## USHUAIA

From Page 1

103 Park Street. The club was granted the provisional license during the appeal process to the state.

Orono Town Manager Cathy Conlow said she anticipates Snow's application will be a "relatively easy transaction ... I don't see any problems when he gets there Monday night."

The town council makes a recommendation to the state based on the applicant's prior record. As Snow is completely independent of the prior owner, he has no negative record against him in the evaluation process, Conlow said. The building has already passed code and fire inspections.

"Potentially, he could be serving alcohol by next week," Conlow said, depending on the length of time it takes for the state to approve the liquor license.

Snow said that if the license is approved, he plans on opening the club mid-March, when students are returning from spring break.

Snow has been the head DJ at Ushuaia for the past five years, and has performed at venues across New England and in Canada as well as the local clubs Gemini and Bear Brew. He said he's "been through the process and seen what's happened" in regards to Ushuaia's liquor license denial, and takes the town's concerns seriously. He plans on enforcing a strict 18-plus policy, with occasional all-ages shows and "chem-free" nights.

"Ushuaia has always been 18-plus, but we've never stuck to it. Anybody who came to the door could get in," Snow said.

According to Snow, a characteristic that set Ushuaia apart from other nightclubs in the area is that it was one of the few places in the area where minors could recreate with their of-age friends.

"When you go to college, you have older friends and you can't really go anywhere and recreate with them together ... The only other place [than Ushuaia] you could do that is like, Uno's or something, which isn't really nightlife but a sit-down-pub offering food," Snow said.

*"Ushuaia has always been 18-plus, but we've never stuck to it. Anybody who came to the door could get in."*

Robbie Snow  
Potential Ushuaia buyer

Fans of electronic music can rely on 103 Ultra Lounge to continue to bring DJs to the area, but the venue will not see hardcore acts like Killswitch Engage or Hatebreed.

"I think the town has been very forward on the mosh-pit thing," Snow said. "They've been crucial on Alex about it and I think they will be very crucial towards me as well. I think that I'm going to have to be sensitive of that when looking at acts."

The name 103 Ultra Lounge is intended to reflect a more up-scale environment. Snow said he intends to enforce a loose dress code — "Not to the point where it's dress pants and black shoes, but I do want to keep out the kids that come in with a wife beater on," he said.

"That's the kind of place I want to provide ... where you can go to the front restaurant and drink out of martini glasses instead of plastic cups," he said.

Snow said the staff will also be trained to spot fake IDs, abide by liquor laws and spot over-consumption. The Orono Police Department offers a program to train the bar staff, and he said that he may consider bringing in an outside consultant as well.

"I feel the need to open so that the kids can recreate, but it's going to be a safe, controlled environment," Snow said. "I plan on providing that ... I'm not going to put up with any issues or problems, and I plan on putting a zero-tolerance policy into effect. If you want to fight, don't expect to come back."

The Orono Town Council meets at the town office on Main Street in downtown Orono. The council will vote tonight at its meeting at 7:30 p.m.

## INTERNET

From Page 1

presence, which connects schools in the area to each other as well as digital libraries. A gigapop has a minimum transfer rate of one gigabit per second, and most research institutions have access to one.

"This will put us on parallel to all the other research institutions that are on the gigapop," Ward said.

UMaine students may also notice a speed increase when downloading larger files, Ward said, but most files that average Internet users deal with won't be affected.

The plan involves taking out a 20-year lease on existing dark fiber from telecommunications companies in Maine. Dark fiber is a telecommunications industry term for unused fiber optic cable.

"Preliminary conversations have said that that fiber is

The optic line will lead straight to Cambridge's gigapop, short for gigabit point of

available for lease for 20-year purposes, with some ballpark pricing," Ward said. "But it'll have to go out to a competitive bid." The system will also be building its own optic lines in areas where none exist. Currently, the system is negotiating a bill to allow them to run optic lines across Maine Department of Transportation-owned bridges between Bangor and Orono.

The Jackson Laboratory, a research institution in Bar Harbor, has pledged to pitch in about \$1.9 million for the project to extend optic fiber access from Bangor to their lab.

The bill was part of a \$127 million supplement passed on Thursday. Most of the supplement will fund hospitals and Medicaid.

Rep. Emily Cain said on Thursday that she was excited about the optic fiber funding. "UMaine leads the state in research," Cain said. "This money will ensure the university's ability to remain not only a leader, but a connector of other research institutions in the state."



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## Editorial

### Make Winter Carnival a nor'easter

Winter Carnival 2007 did not resemble a winter carnival so much as a group of unrelated activities. On the University of Maine Web site, the listed events for Winter Carnival 2007 include the weekly games night, Java Jive and Kickin' Flicks.

Although these are enjoyable UMaine activities, they have absolutely nothing to do with winter carnival — they are just weekly UMaine activities provided by the Campus Board of Activities.

These events stand on their own on a regular basis and there is no need to put them alongside the real winter carnival activities like Late Night at the Field House, the Polar Bear Dip or the myriad ski lessons that were offered over the weekend.

One of the main events of the weekend — the ice sculpture contest that was scheduled from Wednesday through Friday — was canceled. It isn't a winter carnival without ice sculptures.

Why not take the opportunity of winter carnival and really make it a fun campuswide event?

### International Dance Fest a success

The International Dance Festival had its highest turnout in the three years since its creation on Saturday night in the Maine Center for the Arts, even though it had to compete with both hockey and Late Night in the Fieldhouse.

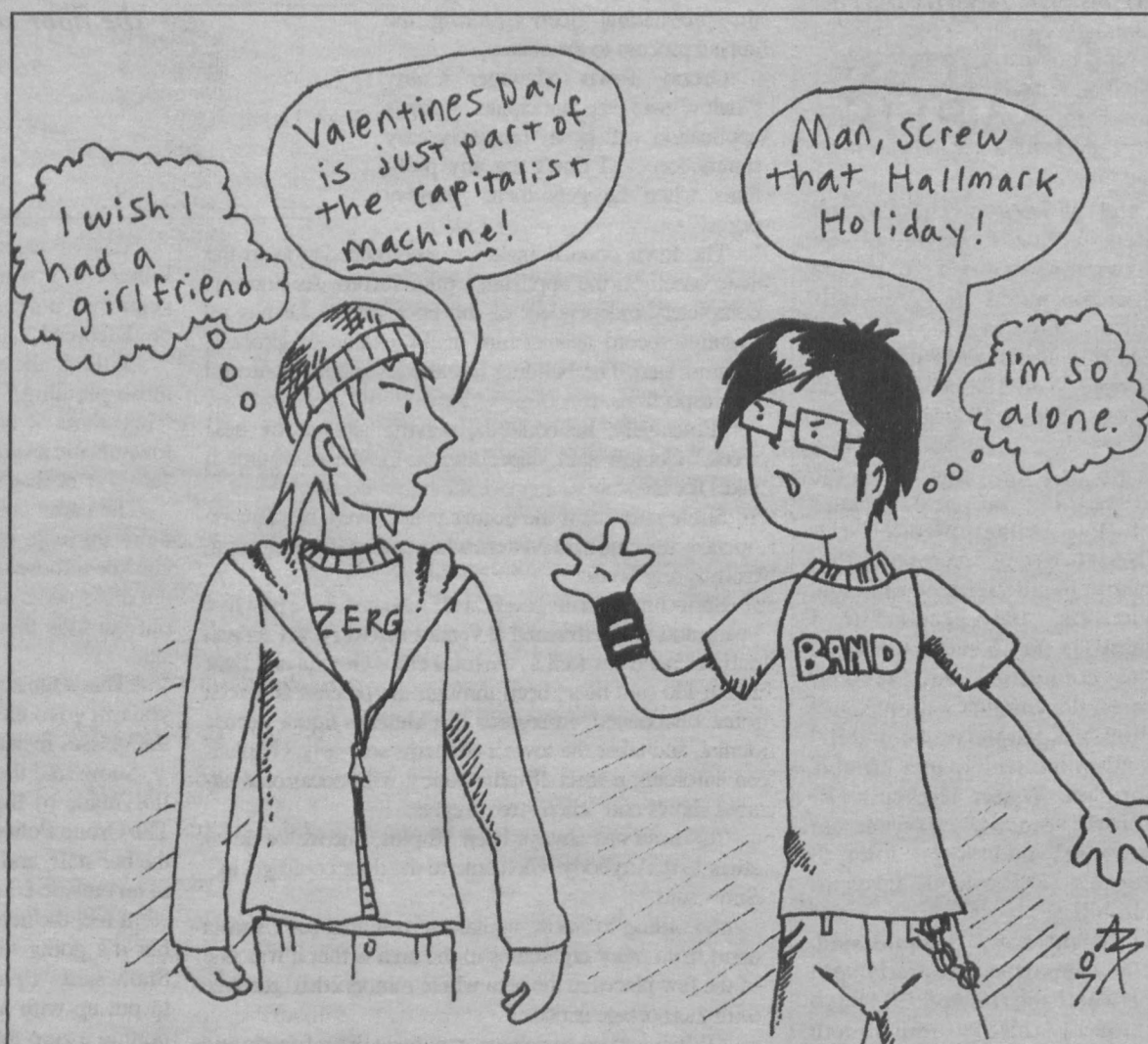
Attendance at the event has grown exponentially each year it has been held, proving that despite the University of Maine's lack of diversity, there is a great deal of interest in cultural events among students. The festival provided an excellent opportunity for students to experience a variety of performances from countries around the world, and was a welcome change of pace from the usual list of campus activities.

It also gives students a great opportunity to share their cultures in an enthusiastic environment. Perhaps if other organizations can take a cue from the sponsors of the International Dance Festival, the university can hold more fun and interesting events that students will be happy and willing to attend.

# SOAP BOX

THE MAINE CAMPUS  
Opinion-Editorial

MONDAY,  
FEBRUARY 12, 2007



## Like any other day

Valentine's Day meaning is up to the individual

JUSTIN  
CHASE



FOR THE MAINE CAMPUS

That day of impending doom, which is seemingly responsible for more couples calling it quits than any other worldly event, is just around the corner. Of course, I am talking about the dreaded Valentine's Day. It's that extra-special day of the year when couples have nervous breakdowns and huge fights over who was supposed to make the reservations and I am thrilled to live in a society that has no problem adding pressure to the already "overworried," "overhormoned" and the downright overwhelmed relationships today's youth face, just to make a couple of bucks.

So what was the point of this illustrious holiday? Valentine's Day grew in popularity during the High Middle Ages, which just goes to show that even a society that doesn't understand the complex concept of washing themselves would set aside time for romance.

Though it wouldn't grow into a commercialist tradition for years, many believe that the day itself grew from a period between mid-January and mid-February, which was the month of Gamelion, dedicated to the sacred marriage of Zeus and Hera. This was a much simpler time when all the men didn't work extra-hard, but they probably let an idea come from their hearts. They would wine and dine, romance and serenade that special young boy they loved.

Whoever you're interested in winning and dining — and it's a safe bet not to do as the Greeks did unless you want to get arrested — one can look at simple concepts of romance and courtship and what they actually mean to a society. Feb. 14 is a day like any other and outlining a day in which someone has to be romantic seems to damage the very essence of

See DAY on page 9

## The 28 worst days of the year

February takes the cake as the nastiest of the 12 months

BRIAN  
SYLVESTER



ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

On Feb. 3, 1959, Buddy Holly, Richy Valens and the Big Bopper all died tragically in a plane crash. The rest of us had to suffer through all eight and a half minutes of "American Pie" by Don McLean because of it.

In February of 1998, an earthquake in Afghanistan killed nearly 4,000 people and left hundreds of thousands homeless.

On Feb. 29, 1960, another earthquake in Morocco killed thousands more, cementing the fact that Mother Earth hates February just as much as I do.

On Feb. 9, 1950, Sen. Joseph McCarthy began his infamous witch hunt, naming nearly 200 members of the state department as communists. Maybe the weather got to him.

In 1945, the United States and

Great Britain commenced the fire-bombing of the German city of Dresden, now thought to be one of the most devastating uses of military force in human history. And you guessed it; the bombing started on Feb. 14. Happy Valentine's Day, Germany.

February was the month when the Gulf war began in 1991. In February of 1969, Fidel Castro was sworn in as the new Cuban Prime Minister and a decade later, in February of '79, China invaded Vietnam.

The first bombing of the World Trade Center in New York City took place on Feb. 26, 1993 and one of the earliest terrorist attacks to hit London took place on Feb. 18, three years later, when a bus explosion killed three people.

And lest we forget a Black History Month fact, on Feb. 21, 1965, influential civil rights leader Malcolm X was assassinated.

Still not convinced? Malcolm X wasn't the only person to get it in the merry month of February; all of the following people also died during this month from Hell: Russian See FEBRUARY 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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## FEBRUARY

From Page 8

novelist Fyodor Dostoevsky; Mary Stuart (Queen of Scots); Peter 'the Great' (first Czar of Russia); French philosopher Rene Descartes; author of "Frankenstein" Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley; actor Buster Keaton; both James G. Macdonald, the voice of Mickey Mouse, and Clarence Nash, the voice of Donald Duck; actor Boris Karloff; British philosopher Bertrand Russell; Leo I, the first Byzantine emperor; President Woodrow Wilson; director John Cassavetes; artist Gustav Klimt; Saint Benedict; poet Sylvia Plath; author Frank Herbert; German philosopher Immanuel

Kant; composer Richard Wagner; crooner Nat King Cole; author Moliere; pianist Thelonius Monk; church reformist Martin Luther; renaissance painter Michelangelo; philosopher Baruch Spinoza; premier German poet and author Johann Wolfgang von Goethe; Swiss linguist Ferdinand de Saussure; artist Andy Warhol; John Gutenberg, inventor of the printing press; poet John Keats; President John Quincy Adams; Lou Costello, of Abbot and Costello; philosopher-psychologist Carl Jaspers; poet Phillis Wheatly and author Henry James.

Even Mr. Ed, television's most famous talking horse, died in February. Need I say more?

*Brian Sylvester really hates leap years.*

## DAY

From Page 8

what romance stands for. It's companies like NECCO that pervert this day by pawing off terrible-tasting candy hearts. For 2007, NECCO has released new sayings such as, "URA Tiger" and "Go Fish," which are exactly the type of lines you would expect to find in a bar or kinky sex joint. We shouldn't be looking to little pieces of candy or generic cards to tell someone how we feel, so why do we let this tradition dictate our day?

Many people seem to have a problem with Valentine's Day because of its cheesiness. Others are disgruntled because they were scorned on the one day of the year in which romance was magically supposed to mean something extra special. If this is how you feel, don't let this day make you hide in shame or feel guilty because the good people at <http://www.poisonpen.com> are here to help you! This site, which advertises the motto, "When you care enough to send the very worst," will submit an anonymous poison pen card or letter to a former lover.

If you can't find love on Feb. 14, why not find some revenge? It's estimated by the National Retail Federation that people spend upwards of \$13.7 billion a year on Valentine's Day gifts, so it's only fair to even the consumer playing field and let those who were rejected send a card with a middle finger to that ex-special someone. If a card doesn't say exactly what you want, why not go over to <http://www.deadroses.com> and send dead roses, or even <http://www.thepayback.com>, which offers to send smelly dead fish to that lover who made you so jilted.

Yahoo! Personals, which have named the period between the December holidays and Valentine's Day as national break-up season, surveyed 2,583 of its users, and found out couples were more than twice as likely to think about separating during this period than at any other time of the year.

Valentine's Day is just a day, and it is up to you to make what you want out of it. There are plenty of fun things to do, so before you decide to make a big deal of it, ask yourself: Is hurting a relationship or an ex-lover really what you want to spend your day doing?

*Justin Chase is a second-year psychology major.*

## An age-old classic is challenged

### Does boxing have a chance against mixed martial arts?

On Saturday, Showtime aired the first mixed martial arts event on a pay cable channel in the United States, called "EliteXC." As you can tell, it was a groundbreaking and truly historic event. Yet, I just cannot warm up to mixed martial arts fighting like I can to the classic sport known as boxing.

Boxing has such a rich history surrounding it. America used to love boxing, and boxing used to love America. Recently, however, there has been a decrease in the popularity of the sport. Even the new "Rocky" movie, which received fair to mediocre reviews and held its own at the box office, could not bring the sport back to its former glory.

What is the cause of this decline in popularity, though? Judging from the popularity of mixed martial arts fighting, it is not the fact that America wants less violent sports. On the contrary, it could be that mixed martial arts contains more action, quicker fights and a different type of strategy in order to succeed. How often do these fights ever go to the judges? Now, compare that to how often boxing matches go to the scorecards. If people can see what they really want to see with mixed martial arts fighting, which are knockouts or even chokeouts, then why bother watching two guys punch each other for 12 rounds and not get

ANTHONY  
CRABTREE



STAFF REPORTER

that glorious payoff of seeing one get knocked down?

Maybe I am not giving America enough credit. Maybe it's not the speed of the fights, the amount of action in the fights

*Even the new "Rocky" movie, which received fair to mediocre reviews and held its own at the box office, could not bring the sport back to its former glory.*

or the amount of early endings that occur, but something else. Could it just be that people have to subscribe to Showtime or HBO for quality boxing, while every so often the American public can watch a quality UFC fight on Spike TV for free? I know that I even began to turn to Spike to watch "The Ultimate Fighter," and I have to admit that

I was entertained. I just watched and enjoyed, until I heard someone on the program say "This is why UFC will be bigger than boxing in a few years." Then it hit me, and I thought, is this a competition?

Have the two sports been competing for the hearts of Americans since mixed martial arts fighting made its way over here and became popular? With my love for boxing, I immediately packed up shop and stopped watching my occasional UFC event. I began watching my Saturday Night Fights the first Saturday of every month on Showtime religiously. But why, oh why, do the two have to compete? Why would someone have to say that on national television? Can't the two just live in peace, alongside one another?

Both sports take a great deal to compete in and I admit that I watched "EliteXC" fighting last night on Showtime, not because it will eventually take over boxing, but because these athletes deserve a great deal of respect. As do boxers. By having someone on Spike degrade the classic 12-round sport and say that in a few years UFC will be bigger is taking away from the great feats that athletes perform in mixed martial arts events as well as boxing events.

*Anthony Crabtree often wonders if he could go 12 rounds with Dana White.*

## Welcome to the future ladies and gents

### Talking urinals, James Cameron signify a new age

Jasper, the old man from "The Simpsons," once said: "MoonPies. What a time to be alive." Jasper clearly saw something in this modern day that many people don't see — the astonishing nature of technology.

Many believe that just because we don't have flying cars readily available, the present has let us down. According to "The Jetsons" and other science fiction shows or movies, we were supposed to have flying cars by now. Thanks for the false hopes Ridley Scott, with your portrayal of the year 2019 in "Blade Runner."

The closest thing that we have to a futuristic form of transportation is the Segway Human Transporter — which isn't quite a flying car.

Sure, we have robots, but again, it's not quite like we had imagined. Honda's ASIMO, though it's a nice little invention, is not even close to what Fritz Lang had imagined in "Metropolis." We don't want sleek, cute little bubble-headed robots, we want wrecking machines: Huge, skyscraper-sized robots that can protect the world — or turn against it — if Earth is ever invaded by aliens. We definitely don't have these "wrecking machines" — yet.

It may seem that if we had the ability to time travel and brought back a person from the 1950s or earlier, they would be

JOEL  
CRABTREE



OPINION EDITOR

disappointed with the advancements that civilization has made. They would look at our ASIMOs and Segways and laugh at them. Even people who lived and grew up in a more modern setting are disappointed with the way technology has progressed.

I tend to side with Jasper on

*According to "The Jetsons" and other science fiction shows or movies, we were supposed to have flying cars by now. Thanks for the false hopes Ridley Scott, with your portrayal of the year 2019 in "Blade Runner."*

this one, and I say, "What a time to be alive." Not only do we still have MoonPies, we have talking urinal cakes. The Wizmark Urinal Communicator

was created to give alerts, messages or advertisements to its users. Now, I'm not a scientist, but this seems strikingly similar to Stanley Kubrick's "2001: A Space Odyssey." The future is here ladies and gentlemen, be wary of it.

We live in a world with IMAX movies that could blow away any audience from any generation before. With dimensions and picture quality so grand, people from the past would find our modern day technology simply irresistible.

Above all else, we've got James Cameron. That's right, filmmaker James Cameron is bringing the future to the present. James Cameron is on the cutting edge of not only filmmaking, but technology in general. He has single-handedly created a rise of the machines in his Terminator franchise and sunk the Titanic 85 years after the actual incident. On top of all of that, Cameron stays on top of technological advances.

Between James Cameron, talking urinals and IMAX movies, it seems as though we are presently in the future. Let's follow James Cameron and others into the future and maybe, just maybe, we might discover time travel — or not.

*Joel Crabtree's favorite science fiction movie is "Mac and Me."*

THE MAINE  
CAMPUS

Thumbs Up / Thumbs Down

- "Dog the Bounty Hunter"
- Peter O'Toole
- NBA All-Star Weekend
- Balki Bartokomous imitations
- Jimmy "Fingers" Varner

- "House of Carters"
- John Heder
- The Pro Bowl
- Borat imitations
- Hipster scouts

Love us? Hate us?  
**Write us.**



# go.

## MUSIC

The Pink Floyd Experience  
Thursday, Feb. 15  
7 p.m.  
Maine Center for the Arts  
\$35

Java Jive: The Project  
Tuesday, Feb. 13  
8 p.m.  
Memorial Union

Jazz in the Union  
Lidral Duo  
Thursday, Feb. 15  
4:15 p.m.  
Bear's Den

## THEATER

"The Vagina Monologues"  
Thursday, Feb. 15 to  
Saturday, Feb. 17  
7:30 p.m.  
Devino Auditorium  
\$6 with Maine Card  
\$8 general public

"Bat Boy: The Musical"  
7:30 p.m.  
Feb. 16-17, 22-24  
2 p.m.  
Feb. 18 & 25  
Hauck Auditorium  
\$12, free with Maine Card

Penobscot Theatre  
"Communicating Doors"  
Feb. 7 to Feb. 18  
Bangor Opera House

## MOVIES

Kickin' Flicks  
"Happy Feet"  
Wednesday, Feb. 14  
7:30 p.m., 10 p.m.  
Bangor Room  
Free

Peace and Justice Film Series  
"Iraq for Sale: The War  
Profiteers"  
Thursday, Feb. 15  
7 p.m.  
140 Little Hall  
Free

## ART

"Art by Engineers"  
Awards Ceremony  
Thursday, Feb. 15  
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Barrows Hall  
Free

"Photography as Witness"  
8 a.m.  
Lord Hall Gallery

"Witty, Sexy, Gimmicky"  
British Pop Art, more  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
University of Maine Museum  
of Art  
\$3, free with Maine Card

If you would like your event  
posted in The Maine Campus  
Style calendar, send time, day,  
date, place and fee information to  
Eryk Salvaggio on FirstClass.

Inside  
Music • Battle of the  
Bands lays waste to  
Union. Page 12

# style

Sometimes love  
just ain't enough.  
Page 13



## globe trotters

By Adrienne Hess  
For The Maine Campus

The house was packed, pumping and everyone was having a good time. No, Ushuaia is not serving alcohol again — the International Dance Festival rocked, popped and locked at the Maine Center for the Arts Saturday night.

The festival, in its third year, had its highest turnout yet. Even the balcony section opened up, filling with enthusiastic spectators cheering the dancers on. Thanks to the sponsorship and cooperation of Residents on Campus, Student Heritage Alliance Coalition, the Office of International Programs, the Maine Center for the Arts and others, admission was free. All were welcome who wished to see some beautiful choreography and to applaud UMaine students in celebration of their various cultural heritages.

The acts were diverse, with each piece skillfully executed. Acts paid special attention to cultural sensitivity and accuracy. Between each performance, the audience was treated to informative banter

between masters of ceremonies Jose L. Cordero and Gimballa Sankare.

Though the masters of ceremonies were decked out quite nicely, as Cordero and Gimballa said in the beginning, the stars of the show were the dancers. Close to 70 dancers represented nearly the 400 international students from 70 different countries that infuse our chilly, isolated campus with worldly flavor.

Every performer is a full time student at the University of Maine with a busy schedule. Yet the dancers committed enough to successfully execute a high-quality performance; no small undertaking when considering how many students constantly rush around, thankful to find the time to eat, sleep and shower, let alone learn, practice and perform unique acts of choreographed beauty. The hard work of each student performer paid off.

To describe every act with the detail it deserves would be a booklet in and of itself. Instead, I present each act in 25 words or less:



The UMaine Bellydancers perform in "Tribal Trance."

## dance festival spotlights international talent at home

### Freeze Frame

(Swing Dance) by the Swing Club  
— Gravity-defying swings, no visible injuries, lots of energy, chairs and pretty dresses. Awesome.

### The White Lotus

(Vietnamese Traditional Dance) — Simple, elegant and traditional with a great sense of formation. Graceful.

### African Connection

(African Dance) — High-power isolated body movements.

### Little Red Riding Hood

(Appalachian Clogging) by Eileen O'Donnel — One girl owned the stage. Skillful footwork to a fun electro-pop song. One word: Adorable!

### Xtra Large

(Turkish Dance) — Possible lyrical innuendo, girls dancing for the pleasure of a mannequin. Interesting and provocative.



TWO TO TANGO — Ion Iepure and Yana Kim strut their stuff in the Wild Rose.

### The Wild Rose

(Tango) by Double Step — Dynamic and sexy, one mysterious woman in red commands the affection of two suave men. Quite seductive.

### Man Eater

(Girls Hip-Hop) by Paparazzi — Have they eaten all the men and merely left themselves with Mr. Roboto? This piece was an updated celebration of glitzy '80s choreography.

### Tribal Trance

(Belly Dance) by the UMaine Belly Dancers — These women can do things that you can't imagine, with swords. Snakelike and graceful, UMaine Belly Dancers are fabulous.

### Scintilla

(South East Asian Hip Hop/Traditional Dance) by the Euphorians — Is this piece a statement on the Westernization of Asian culture? Anyhow, break dance is alive and well, and fun as heck!

### Sweet

(Chinese Traditional Dance) by Jiao — One woman, a fan, a miraculous amount of balance, all built on thousands of years of tradition.

### Latino Mix

(Salsa and Reggaeton) — Nobody's hips were lying, but they were making exaggerated exclamations. What could be more fun?

### Touch Freestyle

(American Hip-Hop Dance) by Three 7 Mafia — UMaine football players, with both game and moves. These boys can dance.

### The Ending Story

(South East Asian Dance Fusion) by The Basements — This act finished the show with a celebration of life and dance in a well-executed Bollywood theme.



(Top left) Three 7 Mafia freestyle dance in "Touch." (Bottom left) The Basements perform the third chapter of their South Asian Dance Fusion saga. (Right) Co-Master of Ceremony Gimballa Sankare shows off his dance skills in the African Connection. Campus photos by Laura Giorgio.



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(for life's little mistakes)
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# Friends and family see best of UMaine

Plenty of activities for every generation

By Zach Dionne  
Copy Editor

With a huge amount of events and entertainment spread across Friday and Saturday, the switch for Family and Friends Weekend to a second-semester affair seems to have been the right choice for the University of Maine.

Friday night featured the UMaine men's hockey game versus the University of Vermont — which resulted in a triumphant 5-1 win — as well as the Winter Carnival Late Night in the Field House.

"We planned [Family and Friends Weekend] on a weekend that there's a hockey game so that right after the game, rather than Late Night in the Union, it's at the Field House, so people that leave the hockey game may be attracted to come," said Gustavo Burkett, director of Campus Activities Board and a key organizer for the event.

Saturday was host to a plethora of Family and Friends-oriented events. A craft fair was held in Memorial Union — the first of its kind and a great success with over 30 vendors, according to Barbara Smith, a staff associate for Campus Activities and Events. Also included in the itinerary for students and families to enjoy were the Polar Bear Dip on the mall, the International Dance Festival, round two of hockey against UVM and multiple musical performances.

Roger Feeley, professor and Ph.D. student in physics, was among the crowd for Renaissance's afternoon performance in the University Bookstore. After his first experience seeing UMaine's premiere ladies capella group, Feeley said he planned to attend another Renaissance concert later Saturday evening. In addition to the bookstore gig, Renaissance sang at the Delta Tau Delta family and friends dinner, the Student Showcase in

Minsky Recital Hall and the night concert in the Union with the Maine Steiners.

"It was really fun, I enjoyed it," Katie Lauze said after their four-song set in the bookstore. The group debuted Lauze's own arrangement of K.T. Tunstall's "Black Horse and the Cherry Tree" for the audience of students, family and friends in the bookstore.

At the Student Showcase in Minsky, the School of Performing Arts presented a flute duet and quartet, a percussion quartet, a woodwind quartet and the women of Renaissance.

The Polar Bear Dip, a benefit for the Penobscot Nation Boys and Girls Club, featured brave members of 14 fraternities and sororities hopping into a pool of frigid water set up on the university mall.

"I've been doing things like this for a long time now," said Sigma Phi Epsilon member Land Cook of the event. "So mentally, I was totally prepared. But let me tell you, it was freezing!"

"We also raised a lot of money for the local Boys and Girls Club, with Sig Ep donating 200 themselves."

"The Polar Bear Dip was fun," said Ashley Hoskins, a sister and vice president of membership for Delta Zeta. "It's always nice to see all the Greek Organizations getting together to support one cause, even if there is competition involved."

"In December, we sent a 'save the date' card to the family address of every undergraduate student," Barbara Smith said. "With my name as the contact, I received quite a few calls."

The entire Family and Friends Weekend was a fantastic testament to the University of Maine's incredible involvement as a campus, one that offers a multitude of enjoyable, entertaining events for all types of students as well as their friends and families.

## MPAC film explores Chavez and the media

By Thomas St. Pierre  
Staff Reporter

Is Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez the extreme, fanatical leftist that the mass media portray him as? In an alternative perspective, the Maine Peace Action Committee's third presentation in their annual film series last Thursday featured the documentary, "The Revolution Will Not Be Televised," which took a more sympathetic stance towards the Chavez administration. The following discussion, moderated by UMaine graduate student Stefano Tijerina, addressed extremely important issues introduced by the film, most notably the current role of the media and imperial America in the world.

"The Revolution Will Not Be Televised," filmed and directed by Donnacha O'Briain and Kim Bartley, originally began as a biogra-

phical documentary about the leftist-leaning democratic president Chavez. However, in April of 2002, many upper-class critics, who considered Chavez's changing policies as severely socialist, incited a coup d'etat that plunged the country into several days of political tumult. The documentarians, deeply entrenched in the heart of the anarchy, obtained exclusive footage of the momentous events.

After the original revolution, as the documentary shows, the interim government captured Chavez and replaced him with rightist Pedro Carmona, who proceeded to violate numerous constitutional sanctions such as dismissing the Supreme Court and other governing bodies. Within no time, Venezuelan civilians took to the streets in an inspirational march against the coup d'etat that reestablished Chavez's presidency

See CHAVEZ on Page 13

## Struggle of the Strummers



CAMPUS PHOTO BY OLENA TRYMYLO

SEE YOU LAETUS — Hard rockers Laetus perform at the Battle of the Bands in Memorial Union last weekend.

## Local musicians rock to the finish in Battle of the Bands

By Laura Bouchard  
For The Maine Campus

The Battle of the Bands took place Thursday, Feb. 8 in Memorial Union. There was a turnout of about 100 to 150 people, much less than the expected 500. However, those in attendance enjoyed free pizza, hot dogs and soda while jamming out to the music. The five local bands — Pushing Zero, Duck and Cover, Jacks Wild, Lateus and ROOST — played for 25 minutes each, with raffles and giveaways between the sets.

Pushing Zero, a hard rock band, were first up. The next act was the punk band Duck and Cover, who played a few original songs and some cover songs such as Smashmouth's "All Star." The third group was Jack's Wild, a jam band with a touch of blues and rock, who performed some of their energetic originals. They were followed by the alternative band Laetus. Closing the night was ROOST, a jam-rock band who played a few original tracks and a Strangefolk cover.

There were seven judges — five Sophomore Owls and two outside judges. According to

judge John Brainard, the outside judges "acted mostly as the crowd's input" which the Owls considered when making their final decision. The elements they were looking for when choosing the winning band were musicianship, how the members of the band fed off of each other, stage presence and whether or not the band incorporated the audience and pulled them into the performance.

The judges said that it was a close vote, because all the bands were very talented and put on a good show. However, the biggest factor was that the band had to "play for the people." If a band didn't seem to accomplish that, it knocked them down a notch.

The winner that fulfilled the judges' and audience's standards was the four-man band Pushing Zero. The members of the band are George Skala on guitar and lead vocals, Adam Hauk on lead guitar, Jason Loeb behind the drums and Andrew Pelczar on the bass. They all hail from coastal Maine and have been together for nearly four years. Hauk takes classes from UMaine online through the Hutchinson Center, and Pelczar attends the University of Maine at

See BANDS on Page 13

## Party all night at the Field House

Winter carnival traditions of bungee jumping, wax hands return to UMaine

By Rose Collins  
Photo Editor

Friday night's Late Night in the Field House — a twist on the traditional Union location — was decked out with a Winter Carnival theme. Unfortunately, the carnival was a sparse one as the event suffered from low attendance.

Perhaps the dwindling attendance was a result of the majority of activities charging a fee to play.

Yes, this is correct: the student organizations in booths around the Field House charged money to participate in various games and activities. Exceptions to the rule were the extreme bungee jumping, the giant blow-up maze, the "American Gladiators"-style knock'em-off-their-socks thingy-ma-bobber, the "old time photos" and the caricatures.

Many clubs used the event as a

fundraising activity. Tickets were given to students who won the smaller games and they were later able to choose from various carnival prizes, like blow-up guitars and Mardi Gras beads.

A new Late Night addition was the "old time photos." They set up shop in the Field House and provided colorful costumes. Photos were free and placed in unique frames.

An ever-popular activity was the extreme bungee jump. Many students experienced the wonders of this radical event and appreciated it greatly.

Kristopher Anctil, a student who indulged in the experience, called it a "sobering UMaine weekend."

"[It was] something that helps people do things other than drink," Anctil said. "[It shows people] the fun that UMaine has to offer."

When asked about the most popular activities, Elizabeth Hansen, the CAB graduate assistant, responded, "The bungee extreme is always really popular. I don't know why, but people go nuts for waxed hands."

Hansen dismissed the possibility that low attendance was a result of the event being scheduled at the same time as a hockey game. "We've done them OK the same nights as hockey games in the past, it always picks up," Hansen said.

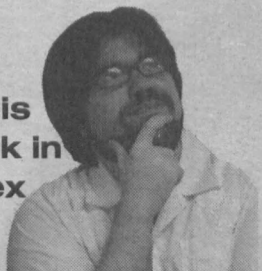
At the midpoint of the night, the Field House did indeed garner increased attendance from the satisfied UMaine hockey fans leaving Alfond after the win over Vermont.

As a whole, the Winter Carnival Late Night in the Field House was a positive experience.



## Celebrate Valentine's Day with a cyborg — or potato

This  
week in  
sex



By Eryk Salvaggio

Valentine's Day is crawling its bloodstained, chocolate-covered little hands out of the sewer to haunt single folks worldwide once again. If ever there was a Santa Claus of self-loathing, Feb. 14 would be his day.

I have always sided with the single, whether I'm in a relationship or not. Assigning a special day to romance is like assigning a date and time to spontaneity. It also seems wrong, on principle, to demand that passion and romance fall on a Wednesday.

Valentine's Day is a nice opportunity to explore the industry that this impulse has spawned. Not quite content with saying, "I love you" in an earnest and authentic manner, someone decided that couples should pay someone else to say it for them. Preferably, the result is as tacky as humanly possible. A French Web site, <http://www.apoteosurprise.com>, promises to say, "I love you" to your loved one, just in case saying it yourself isn't enough.

For just 1,990 Euros, the Web site offers a service that could only be the result of bitter French sarcasm towards American culture. Picked up from your hotel in an 83 Chevy Camaro, you and your partner take a tour of the French countryside. Soon, you are approached by the car from the original Starsky & Hutch. Assuming you are capable of recognizing a vehicle used in a 30-year-old film, you'll be awash in cultural obscurity when the two of you are somehow expected to realize that it is being driven by Matt Damon's stunt double from "The Bourne Identity." Long story short, at some point the car pops up on two wheels, exposing a giant sign that says something about getting married or whatever.

I know what you are all thinking: Why pay 1,990 Euros when I could pay 2,990 Euros for pre-packaged romance? Well good question, because the extra cash will take you on a sci-fi inspired voyage of pure class that only non-native English

speakers would dare to name "2069: An Odyssey of Love." What could simply be a fancy setting for fine dining and time alone with your loved one is transformed into the most unromantic scenario ever conceived.

You are approached by a man dressed entirely in rubber, with a flat panel television mounted to the top of his head. "Say I love you with the help of a cyborg," the Web site helpfully explains. The slideshow on the man's head ends with the screen asking for your partner's hand in marriage. Assuming they know the request is yours and not the cyborg's, the entire restaurant will be left staring at the two of you, secretly hoping your partner says no. You will leave the whole crowd ecstatic as they realize they can now tell a story about the idiot who was dumped after proposing through a French cyborg.

If you're on a budget, there are other bad date ideas available within the United States. White Castle, a fast food chain world-famous for not knowing the proper shape of hamburgers, is taking reservations for

lovebirds who want to chow down on trans fatty acids by candlelight in a fast food restaurant. For those who want to stay at home, White Castle is also providing a "Cupid Crave Kit" which is a to-go box fea-

turing no less than eight hamburgers. Can't you smell the romance? Oh, wait — that's just grease.

Speaking of starch-fueled romance, you could also search eBay for a heart-shaped potato. Typically ranging from about \$1 to \$5, most of these are coming from Idaho and suggested for "people who love potatoes." My guess is that even if someone loves potatoes, they will usually love something else slightly more. I recommend you find out what that is.

Single people take heart. Not only are we free from purchasing such extravagant and absurd gifts for Valentine's Day, we don't have to worry about pretending we're excited about receiving them. You do not have to open up a box and feign excitement about that heart-and-teddy-bear covered shirt as you desperately hope you're never expected to wear it. Pile the garlic on that pizza this Wednesday. Wash it down with a beer and celebrate the freedoms that come from being single.

the media, "I always feel like I'm missing something."

Other students, siding with Chavez, commented on the corruption of the United States and its antagonistic relationship to Chavez because of the leader's resistance to the American political agenda. Indeed, after the film, most saw Chavez as a humanitarian proponent of the Venezuelan masses.

Tijerina, who is also a Columbian citizen, considered the film a fantastic opportunity, saying, "The truth is there, and you see it for yourself," unlike the media which frequently

reports or sifts information.

This Thursday at 7 pm in 140 Little Hall, the MPAC film series will continue with its fourth film, "Iraq for Sale: The War Profiteers." Produced by acclaimed director Robert Greenwald ("Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price," "Outfoxed," "Uncovered"), the film explores the lives of people affected by the war on Iraq because of the profiteering corporations involved. Interspersed throughout, the film will identify the role political decision-makers play in relation to exploitative corporations.

## CDREVIEW

Corinne Bailey Rae  
Self-Titled  
June 30, 2006  
Capitol Records

Corinne Bailey Rae is a singer-songwriter who made her "hometown" debut in the UK in February. She is only the fourth female act to have her album debut at No. 1 on the British charts.

In the United States, Corinne's album debuted at No. 17 on the Billboard music charts — the highest debut in America for any UK artist.

This successful chart-topper brings her self-titled CD to the United States music scene with great critical acclaim.

Her album is reminiscent of a Joss-Stone-meets-Norah-Jones sound. Corinne's lyrics are inspired

by rhythm and soul.

You'd expect to hear these soothing and mellow sounds in a coffee house nestled within New York City while watching the traffic hustle by in a blur. You would have nothing else to concentrate on besides the music performed in the background and the cup of steaming coffee that you're slowly sipping.

"Like A Star" is one of the songs you've probably heard off the self-titled album. The lyrics for this song let you use your imagination to dream. If you're in a very seductive and fanciful mood — perhaps even for this Valentine's Day — you will greatly appreciate this album.

The age of young jazz singers is coming back. Harmony, romantic lyrics and soul bring this album to life. I've listened to the modern Jazz generation for a while now and Miss Rae beats the competition with force.

— Rose Collins



## New Writing Series brings attention to environmentally conscious poetry

Ecology, natural disasters are focus for politically aware writers

By Rebecca Soucy  
For The Maine Campus

More than 20 attended the New Writing Series Thursday at the Soderberg Auditorium, in Jenness Hall, where poets Jonathan Skinner and Annie Finch created a new poetic atmosphere.

Skinner read from his book, "Political Cactus Poems," made from 100 percent recycled paper and soy-based ink. As he read, he tapped his foot to stay in the steady rhythm of his words. Skinner's form of poetry is ecopoetics, which combines literary practice and nature. He also portrayed a sense of politics in his works, due to the government's role in the environment. Skinner asked, "Is the president from Mars?" Some of the audience members laughed over this. Skinner explained that he used to laugh every time he read it, but now he doesn't.

Reading from "Entropic Liberties," a work for which he collaborated with Jane Sprague, Skinner mentioned the places he went to create such works. He spent time at Bartram's Garden in Philadelphia, PA, as well as the wetland areas in upstate New York.

Skinner read some poems from his current manuscript, "Wetlands." His poem, titled "A Natural History of Levees," took

Skinner asked, "Is the president from Mars?" Some of the audience members laughed over this. Skinner explained that he used to laugh every time he read it, but now he doesn't.

the audience back to the Hurricane Katrina tragedy. Within Skinner's three line stanzas, he discussed the history of the levees that couldn't hold back the many storms that have plagued New Orleans over the decades. Skinner's line, "The war on misery has not yet been declared," really defines the root of the problem.

When Finch took the spot behind the podium, the audience was still stuck on tragedy. However, as soon as she smiled and spoke, she opened the audience to her magical world of poetry. She started from memory, reciting "Muses" from her first book, "Encyclopedia of Scotland." She not only spoke her words but also added the youthful quality of the 22-year-old self that had written the poem.

Between readings, Finch discussed her position as a modern poet and feminist who included her pagan ideals in her work. In her book "Eve," she separated her works into nine themes based on nine goddesses. Finch also read from "Calendars," which captured her pagan beliefs. From this

book, she shared "Insomniac Poem," "Pregnancy Poem," "Baby Poem" and "Sex Poem."

At the end of her reading, she included a piece that she translated from Louise Labé titled, "Kiss Me Again" and work from her current manuscript.

After the reading, both Skinner and Finch took a seat in front of the audience and answered questions. Silvaria, an audience member who preferred not to give her last name, asked Finch to talk more about her work "Eve," which turned into a discussion on her religion. Finch said, "It has its limits." She continued that paganism is the thread of her work. Finch said that she used to feel shame in telling people she was part of the pagan religion because people don't understand and assume "witchcraft."

The reading ended with a discussion of the very essence of language brought up by David Kress, an English professor. Skinner concluded that like many ideas of conformity, he debates form and language in his works all the time, but most importantly feels that language is the portal.

## CHAVEZ

From Page 12

and demonstrated the overwhelming power of democracy.

Perhaps the most controversial part of the film lay in the numerous insinuations of CIA involvement in the rightist revolution. While the United States government continues to deny involvement, the film nonetheless built a case that persuasively touched the audience of approximately 15 people. As one student stated, when referring to

## BANDS

From Page 12

Machias.

The members said they played at Ushuaia before the liquor license was taken away, but the lack of venues in the Orono area has prevented them from playing locally. "We try to get out of the state as much as possible to perform," said lead singer George Skala. For example, at the end of last year they were invited to an event called MEANYfest in New

York City, which was a gathering of about 300 bands, and managed to rock their way into the top seven. They have also opened for numerous bands such as Foghat, Badfish and Paranoid Social Club.

Pushing Zero has a MySpace page where people can listen to music, buy MP3s and keep in touch with the band. Although the band often performs outside the grand state of Maine, Skala said they'd love to come back and play at the university again, so we'll likely be hearing from them again soon.



# LOVE LETTERS

VALENTINE'S DAY MESSAGES FROM OUR READERS, FOR OUR READERS

PRB: Sorry I keep passing out drunk instead of hanging out with you. I'll stop.  
Love, TFR

Lots of Love to the Oak Hall Ladies (& David!) plus Sweet Melissa. Love, The H.C.

Josh- I want to show you that I love you, not just say it. Let's see where life takes us together. Love, Aubrey

Victoria, I wanted to shout this from up top a mountain, but I didn't have a mountain, I had a campus newspaper. I love you and Happy Valentine's Day.  
Love, Tony

To Ethan, my skateboarding dreadlock. That was the most fervidly aqueous sex i've ever had. From, yo one.

Pookie - To my everything, Happy Valentine's Day from the proud father to bel I.L.U.!

Evelyn,  
To a genuine hero in my life.  
Love, Muffin

Happy Valentine's Day, Kate :) I love you! We've got our work cut out for us if we're going to top last year's celebration of Brokeback Mountain movie night!

Maris,  
From Laughs to Flames, and everywhere in between...without you, everything is a held breath.  
-Walker

"Love is the condition in which the happiness of another person is essential to your own."  
— Robert A. Heinlein

If this quote describes love accurately, then I am so in love with you Amanda, Happy Valentine's Day <3

To Starbuck:  
Wishing you a very happy Valentine's Day!  
Love, Apollo

Since the zombies came I haven't been able to write a love haiku  
I love you, Alana

I love you more every day; more today than yesterday, but far less than tomorrow.  
Love, Lee Lee

To my monkey,  
You're divine  
From your kitten

Scuttlebutt Loves Sniggley

Mon chéri,  
Christopher, I love you.  
-Holly-

To Mike, my love and my coach:  
You are my everything and I know that we are meant to be together forever. Thank you for all you have done for me.  
I love you honey!  
Alisha

Eryk,  
Girls are pooppy. But we love you anyway.  
<3, everyone who is reading this

Tony,  
Our Deathstalker IV/Sleepover marathon made me realize how the worst movies can make for the best times, as long as you're watching them with the right person.  
Love, Kate

Ofofreaky,  
I know you'd rather this be from Michael Rosenbaum, but I'm the next best thing, baby.  
From your lover,  
Gangsta K

"The thing about falling in love, is that if you do it right, you never have to hit the ground." - and I haven't yet.  
I love you, Tater! ~ Ash

To: My Sunflowers  
From: AeAM  
I close my eyes at night  
Wondering where would I be without you in my life  
Everything I did was just a bore  
Everywhere I went it seems I'd been there before  
But you brighten up for me all of my days  
With a love so sweet in so many ways  
I want to stop and thank you baby  
I just want to stop and thank you baby  
J.T.

I'm the guy for you Jennifer Noel, you'll see...  
LOVE,  
CMM

Tiffany,  
Today's forecast is calling for a blizzard of love from me to you!  
LOVE,  
Chris L.

Joe,  
Happy 2-to-the-power-of-6 month-iversary, babe!  
I love you so much, and i always will.  
Alicia

From: a pregnant woman  
To: an self absorbed jerk  
I would rather fight with you for the rest of my life than make love to anyone else.

Fletch,  
I wouldn't trade you for the cutest Tibetan kitten in the world. <3, -p-

Alicia,  
There is not much I can say that you don't already know, but because it's so true, I will say this: I love you, forever and always.  
Joe

MG,  
Do you know what we did?!  
Happy Commercialized Holiday. Woot! Woot!  
Love always,  
Your TK

Maeghan lots of love to you and Roxanna/Aidan from Heather

You're a schmoopy! Love, your Seinfeld watching dodey partner. xoxo <3

Sweetpea,  
I love you like whoa on a Sunday. 1 year already!  
Love, Your Silly Goose

Dear Muffin, Breakfast in bed never tasted so good. Love, Scuffin

Mikey- I can't wait to snuggly down in Africa. Kiyahurata!  
xoxo -Katie

Casey Rae, here are a dozen roses. Jack Johnson truly said it best, we really are better together!  
Love always,  
Your secret admirer!

Joey Donilon: If I could rearrange the alphabet, I would put U and I together.

Kristina Queen: Your daddy must have been a baker, because you've got a nice set of buns.

Kristen Regan: Baby, if you were words on a page, you'd be what they call FINE PRINT!

Bill Gagnon: You must be a magnet, because it looks like you are attracted to my buns of steel.

Laura Cooper: Is there a rainbow today? I just found the treasure I've been searching for!

Annie VanWinkle: I'm a Love Pirate, and I'm here for your booty! AARRGGGHHH!!!

Suzanne Bracco: You be the biscuits and I'll be the gravy, let's do breakfast sometime.

Hey sweetheart, i love you aNd maybe ill let you steal soMe kisses toNight. love lin

I love you B. Mccrum...  
Happy Valentine's Day!  
xoxoxo -Molly

Zak,  
You're the splenda to my instant coffee. I <3 you.  
Alana

Chrisine G —  
You rub me the right way, baby. Let's get cozy over a cracker. — R.R.

Dear 1034,  
Please stop. YOU ARE LOUD!  
Love, 1024

Vicky + Smudge  
You ladies rock my socks!  
Thanks for adopting me into your world of coolness!  
LOVE  
Icky

"If you're reading this, I'd probably date you." - Eryk Salvaggio, Style Editor

Ashley: cheers to the fourth, and sure to be the best, Valentine's Day yet. Sean

Helly, The rest are only oysters without pearls. Love you, Tyler



# SUDOKU

9			8					
4				3		1		
8	2				5	6		
				7		5		
3	6		5		2		9	1
		1		9				
		9	7				2	5
		8		5				3
					8			6

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medium

## HOW TO PLAY

Each row (horizontal line) must have numbers 1-9 in any order but each digit can only appear once.

Each column (vertical line) must have numbers 1-9 in any order but each digit can only appear once.

Each 3x3 box must have numbers 1-9 in any order but each digit can only appear once.

There is only one correct answer!

# Ask BANANAS



Dear Bananas,  
I'm very active in the equine community. I love horses, riding, training, everything. I have to be at the barn at least once a day, sometimes more like three. I live on campus with a new roommate. We get along really well but when I get home from the barn I reek. I know I'm stenching up the room, I can smell it, but I can't afford to do my laundry every day and Febreeze and the like are not even starting to tame the nasty odor. Any Ideas?

Wow. This is kinda a tough question. I have a few options for you that you can try. First, they apparently sell diaper hampers. I know this seems a little weird but the diaper ham-

pers contain the smell of the diapers so why wouldn't they work for you? I also asked a friend who played hockey all throughout high school and she told me its very important to make sure all your clothing is dry before entering the room. She also said that they apparently make Ziplock bags which might fit your clothing and in the Ziplock bag put a dryer sheet (one that smells ok!) and then seal the bag. By putting them in these bags and sealing them it will contain the smell inside the bag. If none of these suggestions work you might want to approach a friend or someone you know who plays sports (especially hockey) because they probably have a similar problem.



PROOF THAT A TAN NEVER FADES

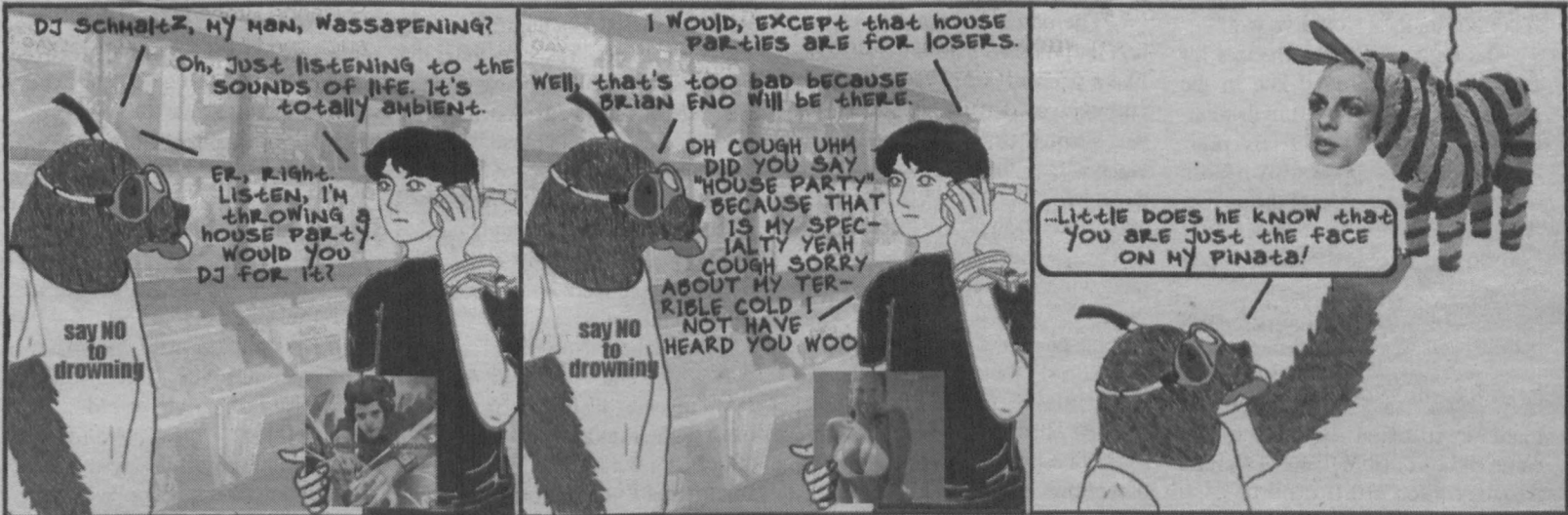
A special ultraviolet camera makes it possible to see the underlying skin damage done by the sun. And since 1 in 5 Americans will develop skin cancer in their lifetime, what better reason to always use sunscreen, wear protective clothing and use common sense.



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## PIGEONCAT DOESN'T TALK TO NON-BRIAN ENO FANS

by J. Astra Brinkmann



## Into the Fire - Hypnosis

By: Rick LaPlante & Diego Alves



Eats flies. Dates a pig. Hollywood star.

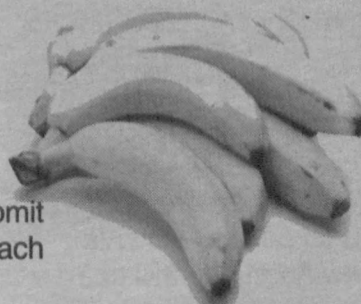
LIVE YOUR DREAMS  
Pass It On.



# ARE YOUR PROBLEMS DRIVING YOU BANANAS?

We've got answers.

Send an e-mail to [blkbearadvice1865@gmail.com](mailto:blkbearadvice1865@gmail.com) to submit a question to our own campus advice column, running each Monday. All responses will remain anonymous.

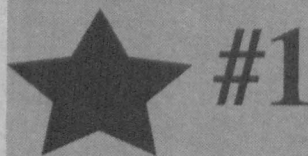




# THE MAINE CAMPUS

## Three Stars

After each UMaine hockey series, The Maine Campus selects three outstanding players from the weekend's action.



# #1

## Dave Wilson UMaine

Stopped 63 of 64 shots and recorded wins in his first two career starts, including a shutout



# #2

## Travis Ramsey UMaine

Made the play of the weekend in clearing a rebound Saturday night and also broke a long scoreless streak with an assist in each contest.



# #3

## Mike Lundin UMaine

Scored two goals Friday night & played what Tim Whitehead called the best defensive game in a long time Saturday despite suffering from the flu all week.

## Scoring Summaries

UVM 0 0 0 0

UM 1 0 0 1

First period — 1, UM, Wes Clark (Travis Ramsey, Mike Lundin) 12:22.

Second period — None

Third period — None

UVM 0 0 1 1

UM 1 4 0 5

First period — 1, UM, Josh Soares (Billy Ryan, Ramsey) 16:41.

Second period — 2, UM, Keenan Hopson (Keith Johnson, Soares) 3:47 (pp).

3, UM, Lundin (Michel Leveille, Mike Hamilton) 7:57 (pp).

4, UM, Lundin (Hamilton, Teddy Purcell) 9:40 (pp).

5, UM, Hamilton (Purcell, Leveille) 11:56 (pp).

Third period — 6, UVM, Jay Ancia, 11:03.

# WILSON

From Page 20

weekend, he was outstanding," said UMaine head coach Tim Whitehead. "This was another good experience for him and he proved he was up to the task. That wasn't an imposter. That was David. I'm just very pleased with how he's practiced and how he's played this second half of the season. He is what it is all about — improvement in all areas of life."

Behind Wilson, who has now saved 84 of 87 shots in Bishop's absence, the Black Bears were able to complete a much-needed sweep of the feisty Catamounts this weekend. On Saturday in his second career start for UMaine, Wilson remained spot-on with his angles and shut down the Catamounts for 31 saves, completing the sweep after an opening 5-1 victory. The achievement is even more impressive when considering the fact that Wilson learned he would be starting only seven hours before Friday's game.

"As soon as I got out there I just felt absolutely incredible," said Wilson on Saturday. "The fans were behind us and about halfway through the second period I really settled in. I just felt pretty much unbeatable tonight and the defense proved that."

Unbeatable he was with the Black Bears' defense locking down on Vermont's vaunted first line of Peter Lenes, Dean Strong and Torrey Mitchell. Sparked by the tremendous defensive play of Mike Lundin and Travis Ramsey, the Black Bears successfully boxed out the Catamounts and moved into a tie for third place in Hockey East with Boston College.

"Travis [Ramsey] and Mike Lundin both cleared a bunch of opportunities on rebounds and that was the game changing right there," said Wilson. "If they tapped those rebounds in, they would've won."

The biggest of those chances for the Catamounts arrived late in the third period with 2:04 left in the contest. On the play, a perfectly positioned Ramsey slapped away a loose rebound right at the top of the crease. If not for Ramsey, Vermont's Corey Carlson had a clear shot at the open left side of the net.

"Grant [Standbrook] always says get the heels to the net, so there were two guys bearing down and I got my heels down," said Ramsey. "Wilson made a great first save and it just came right to my stick and I shoved it to the corner."

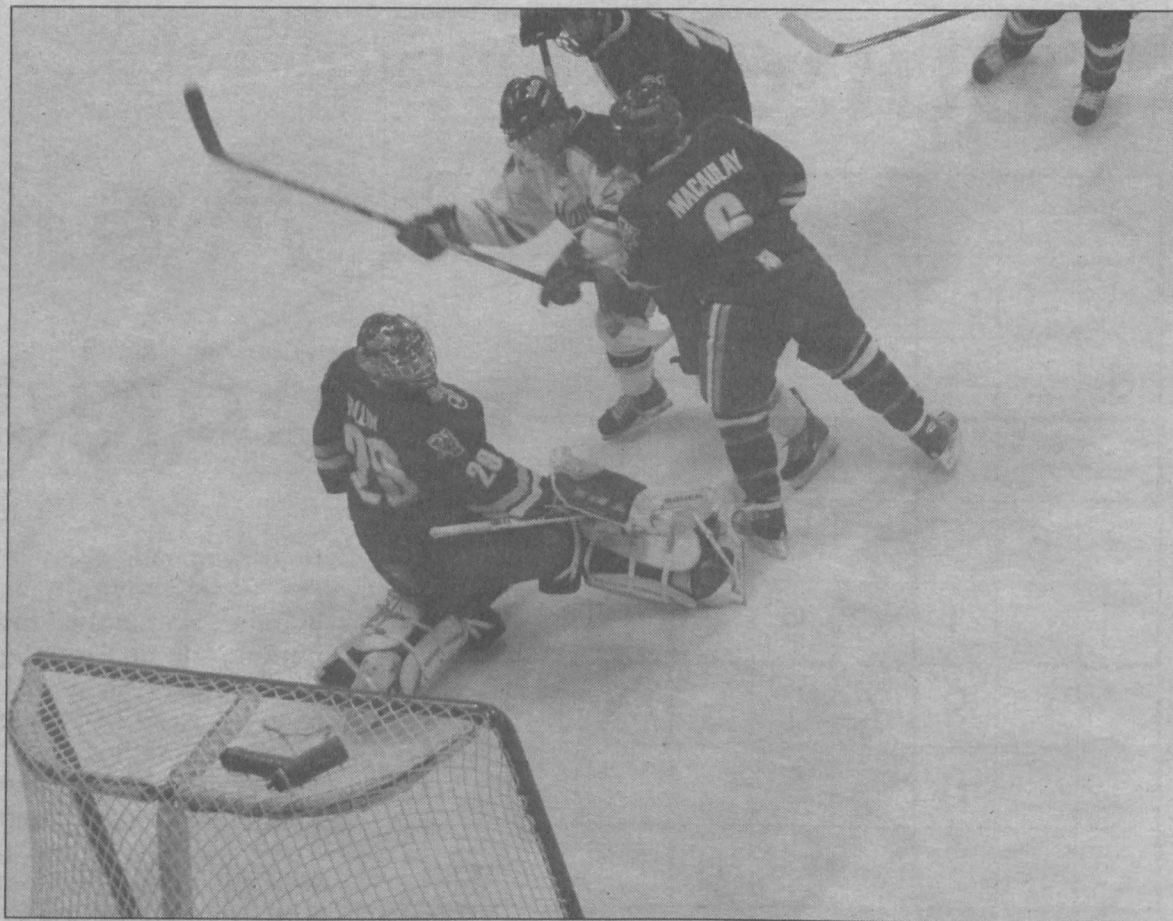
The Catamounts continued to press for the remainder of the match pulling freshman Mike Spillane at 1:36 only after Wilson had made a breathtaking glove save on Evan Stoflet from the top of the point.

"I had to prove to myself that in tight games I could play well," said Wilson.

With Spillane out, the Catamounts got two more quality chances at the 30-second mark. Wilson, however, once again proved up to the task. After senior Josh Soares managed to break the puck out and into the Vermont zone, a huge scuffle unfolded after a late hit on Soares. It was clear emotions were high — both teams wanted this one.

"Things build up — anytime you play teams back-to-back in tight games like that, emotions run high," said Soares. "They are down one nothing and they want to win; they are going to let their emotions out and we're not going to back down. It's part of the game."

In the end the difference proved



PEEK-A-BOO — Vermont goalie Joe Fallon looks over his shoulder to find the puck hitting the twine during UMaine's power play onslaught Friday night.

CAMPUS PHOTO BY LAURA GIORGIO

to be not only Wilson and the defense's play, but a garbage goal 12:12 into the first by Wes Clark. The eventual game-winner saw a perfect pass from Lundin at the point one-timed by Ramsey. With Clark waiting patiently in front, Ramsey's shot clanked off Spillane's left leg pad and right onto the stick of Clark.

"I just went to the net and found the rebound," said Clark. "It was a tight defensive game and we knew that coming in. We needed this."

The entire UMaine squad was quick to acknowledge the change on defense this weekend as a major step in the team's return to glory.

"The defense wanted to step up and let [Wilson] gain his confidence like a pitcher," said Ramsey. "In the end, he was playing so well that he was giving us confidence. We've always had the offense this year; that's less typical of a UMaine team, and now down the stretch the defense is really coming around. It's nice winning games with just one goal."

One particular effort stood out for Whitehead: that of Mike Lundin, who missed practice all week because of a virus and high fever.

"Honestly that was one of the best performances I've seen from a defenseman in a long, long time," said Whitehead. "I'm very proud of Michael, he's as good as they get. I'm very impressed."

While pleased with the tallies and assist, Lundin didn't think the performances were even his best.

"I started getting a fever last weekend against UNH and those were two hard games, so it kind of killed my body," said Lundin. "I got a bad virus that started Saturday and Sunday through [Thursday] I was barely out of bed — I had a terrible throat and fever."

"[Friday] I woke up and could actually get some stuff done. I lost about 10 pounds this week."

On Friday after nearly six days of speculation, Whitehead delivered the news to Wilson that he would be playing both weekend decisions. Aided by two power play tallies from Lundin, Wilson collected his first collegiate victory in a decisive 5-1 whipping of the Catamounts. In a performance that saw him register 32 saves, while the offense recorded four power play scores against the

best penalty kill in the nation, Wilson gave the squad the kick they desired.

While most freshmen would appear nervous and shaky in their first home start in the thick of the Hockey East schedule, Wilson appeared confident and relaxed. The confidence shined throughout with the Toronto native carrying a shutout 51 minutes into the decision before another freshman Jay Ancia netted his first collegiate goal to botch the potential goose egg.

All week, Wilson dealt with the added stress of guessing whether he would be between the pipes or not. Still, the task of replacing Bishop, who had started 41 straight games for the Black Bears, was something that didn't worry the easygoing netminder — he just wanted to be prepared.

"I had to focus [Thursday]," said Wilson. "I had to get to bed early which was kind of tough because I couldn't sleep. All through classes [Friday] all I thought about was hockey. There were butterflies in my stomach all day."

Although Wilson's performance was remarkable, it wasn't the only story of note on the night. On any other night, Lundin's two-tally match after being out of practice the whole week would've stolen the limelight. Or how about the four-time decimation of the best penalty kill in the nation?

At 7:57 of the second period it appeared Lundin had fully shaken his virus when he smacked home his fifth goal of the year on the power play. However, he wasn't done. Only two minutes later at 9:40, he sent another shot past Vermont goalie Joe Fallon.

"Unbelievable," said Whitehead. "Hopefully the other guys don't get the idea that they can miss practice all week and expect to score two goals."

The goals sparked a five-minute stretch where the squad pilfered the Catamounts' net three times on the power play. The last two goals arrived after a hitting from behind penalty by future NHLer Viktor Stalberg.

"We had good movement on the power play so that helped us a lot," said Whitehead. "We kept switching lanes and opening up some shots. They are so good at blocking shots, so we were very

determined to find ways to get the puck through."

Mike Hamilton officially capped off the Black Bears' red-hot offensive attack with a deflection off a Teddy Purcell shot. The goal, coming at 11:56, was the team's fourth special teams mark.

The outburst of power play goals, which also included Keenan Hopson's eventual game-winning tally at 3:47 of the second, was clearly an aspect of the decision that caught Vermont head coach Kevin Sneddon off-guard.

"We played some pretty good hockey five-on-five tonight. Unfortunately we just picked a bad night to stink the joint up on our special teams," said Sneddon. "You can't give a player like Lundin or Leveille — or any of them on the power play — a shooting lane."

Soares found the board first for the Black Bears at 16:41 of the first period after he broke in from center ice and roofed a puck by Fallon glove-side.

UMaine now heads to Chestnut Hill, Mass. with a new-found mojo, having won their fourth game in five attempts. The team also saw their seniors earn their 100th win.

"This is a great feeling. We've had some real ups and downs this year," said Soares. "To play a team like Vermont, up there in the standings, up there nationally — they have great team defense — and for us to come out the way we did this weekend with the sweep was just a great confidence booster for us at home."

And what about next weekend's goalie outlook? Wilson has an easy answer that quickly brushes aside the whole Bledsoe-Brady storyline.

"I'll be fine with whatever we do," said Wilson. "Hopefully Bish will be better. He has been the backbone of our team the whole year and he will be through the playoffs."

One thing can be said for Wilson: He sure knows how to make it interesting.



# Hoops powers sport inflated rankings

By Danielle Young  
For The Maine Campus

There is nothing quite like college basketball. The players are intense, the fans are incredible and the games are like no other. March Madness is the greatest time of year and underdogs are beloved by all. It's amazing, though, to see the inconsistencies of top-25 teams continuing throughout the season. College basketball is truly a game where each night, both competing teams have a chance to win. Any night, any game.

## College Basketball

At the beginning of each season, the Associated Press releases its list of the top-25 teams in the nation. Taking a look at the top-10 teams this year, the list went a little something like this: Florida, Kansas, North Carolina, LSU, Arizona, Pittsburgh, Georgetown, Wisconsin, UCLA, and Ohio State. Now, let's skip ahead to early February. All right, so you have seven of those original top-10 teams in the top 10 today, but don't let that fool you.

Some experts predict that Florida will repeat its national title this year, while most others are predicting that Roy Williams' Tar Heel squad will get the job done this April. But, honestly, who can predict the craziness that is college basketball? Let's take the Atlantic

Coast Conference for example. The ACC is probably one of the most competitive conferences in the land. North Carolina and my Duke boys are always leading the way, but upsets occur all too often in the conference. Earlier this season, Duke dropped two straight ACC games to unranked Virginia Tech and Virginia. North Carolina was stunned earlier this season by both NC State and Virginia Tech, but then surprised Duke at Cameron Indoor Stadium. Up and down, up and down. That is the game of college hoops.

Last season, LSU made their magical run through the NCAA tournament, and as a result were ranked as high as fourth in the nation prior to the start of the season. Look at LSU today. Big Baby Davis ain't so big anymore and LSU has fallen out of the top 25 and into last place in the SEC West. What a difference a year can make.

*...honestly, who can predict the craziness that is college basketball?*

Can anyone answer me this: Why was Syracuse even ranked this season? I mean honestly people, didn't we learn anything

from their two-straight first-round losses in the tourney? The moment Carmelo left, it all changed. So let's not kid ourselves, Syracuse is one of the most overrated teams in the nation. Sorry Jim Boeheim, stop clinging to your national championship from four years past.

OK kids, let's not get me started on my one and only Duke Blue Devils. Alright, so no JJ, no Williams, no problem? Wrong. Posting an 18-6 record at this point, some may say that Duke has met expectations. Greg Paulus is developing into a good point guard, while Josh McRoberts is attempting to fill All-American Shelden Williams' big shoes. I'm all about developing the young guys — and let's face it, this year's Duke squad is very young — but I have to believe that they can be much better than they are right at this moment. I can't believe I'm saying this, but does Duke deserve to be as highly ranked as it is today? Think about it.

With only about a month to go until March Madness, throw out all your logic when filling out your magical brackets. The tourney is all about 'what have you done for me lately' and what happens during the regular season is often pushed aside. So go ahead, take a chance, try to predict this wild game. I can only hope my crazy predictions help me to repeat in my Facebook March Madness pool. College basketball, please don't be cruel.

## ROLLED

From Page 20

with post-concussion syndrome, Duane James also suffering from a concussion and Marvin Lee at home tending to a family illness.

But the undermanned squad had no trouble with the Black Bears, using a balanced attack that featured 18 points each from Richard Forbes and Mike Gordon and another 15 from Lazar Trifunovic.

Binghamton never trailed and the closest UMaine came was 6-5 early in the first half after a three-pointer from Kevin Reed and a layup from Philippe Tchekane Bofia. But the Bearcats scored 10 unanswered and ran their lead to 24-9 before the Black Bears could blink.

Center Brian Andre played for the first time in several games and missed his first three shots as the Bearcats saw their advantage balloon to 38-17 at the half.

The second half was more of the same as the Bearcats cruised to the finish line. For much of the half, UMaine was flirting with historic futility, trailing by as many as 35 — which would've been the program's worst-ever America East defeat.

But the Black Bears ended the game on a 9-2 run that regained at least some measure of respect.

Senior Kevin Reed was the only Black Bear to reach double figures with 13 points. For

the second straight night, UMaine was dominated on the glass and trailed 46-28 in the rebounding department. The Bearcats had 17 offensive boards that led to 11 second chance points.

The Black Bears have now lost three of their last four and the problems in the post that plagued them during their 0-4 start to America East action have reared their heads again. Andre, Bofia and starting center Olli Ahvenniemi combined to shoot just 4-of-12 and had only eight rebounds. Bofia was limited to 20 minutes and fouled out.

The road doesn't get any easier for the Black Bears, who face conference frontrunner Vermont at Alford Arena Wednesday night. UMaine downed the Catamounts at Gutterson Fieldhouse earlier this season, dealing Vermont its only conference loss this year. The Cats beat Albany yesterday to take a commanding two game lead for first place at 11-1 and 19-6 overall.

The Valentine's Day tilt will feature a pregame ceremony to retire the No. 20 of Rufus Harris, one of the leading scorers in UMaine history. Harris was the first Black Bear to pass the 2,000-point mark and holds a total of 10 school records including single season scoring and career free throws.

Tip-off for the pivotal contest is set for 8 p.m. The game will be aired on NESN, marking the fifth time the Black Bears have appeared on the network. UMaine is 2-2 in the previous four.

## Thinking about Study Abroad or National Student Exchange?

The Office of International Programs and National Student Exchange presents a series of "mini-fairs" to provide information about options for studying throughout the U.S. and Canada as well as around the world. These fairs are being held by college, but general material will be available at all of them, so students should feel free to visit a fair other than the one at their college.

LAS: Wednesday, February 14, Little Hall Lobby  
EDHD: Thursday, February 15, Shibbes Hall First-Floor Lobby  
NSFA: Monday, February 19, Nutting Hall Atrium  
EGR: Tuesday, February 20, AMC Building Lobby  
BPPH: Wednesday, February 21, D P Corbett Atrium  
All above, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Honors: Friday, February 16, 1-3:30 p.m., Colvin Hall  
followed by the  
Honors College Study Abroad Symposium, 3:30-5 p.m.

Jessica Lukas  
UMaine Psychology  
and Sociology Major  
Griffith University,  
Australia

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# Mascot Mania: High schoolers upstage MIA Bananas

By Matt Williams  
Sports Editor

My mind wandered a bit in the midst of the carnival that was the University of Maine women's basketball game Saturday afternoon. There were a lot of distractions: a full blown moon-walk slide for the kiddies and four — yes four — pep bands from around the state packing the left side of Alford Arena.

What did the bands bring with them from the far reaches of Madawaska, among other places? Mascots, that's what. There was an owl — who was a hoot in his own right — but the highlight of the day was a tiger from Dexter.

This tiger delighted the crowd with classic mascot antics. He danced in a ridiculous fashion not seen since Samuel Powers donned the Bayside Tiger suit in

"Saved by the Bell." He mocked the court sweepers, telling them they'd missed a spot. He stole water bottles from press row and snatched WZON's microphone to start an interview with an unsuspecting Clem Lebreer.

In short, he looked thrilled to be there. A mascot who's happy with his job? What a novelty — and something we haven't seen here at UMaine in a couple of years.

Seriously, what the heck is up with Bananas? Inspired by the Dexter Tiger, I looked for UMaine's bear at Saturday night's hockey game and he was nowhere to be found. A nationally-televised game with no mascot would be heresy anywhere besides Orono.

The Alpha Phi Omega fraternity handles the mascot duties for UMaine and has for quite some time. But lately they've dropped the ball. It seems like Bananas hasn't been the same since his makeover three years ago. I remember when he knocked out an Eagle mascot during a hockey game, his hilarious stripper routine and the night he wound up in jail at the Alford. All that stuff was classic, but there hasn't been a decent Bananas moment since Frank Doyle manned the net.

What gives? Maybe the best and most dedicated of the Bananas players graduated, or maybe the new, meaner-looking suit ruined the mystique. It doesn't matter. The bottom line is that when Bananas does show up he's boring and he needs to get his mojo back.

The best advice I have is to engage in mischief. It's amazing what you can get away with when you're wearing a giant animal suit. Boston University's Rhett is the best with this stuff. He and I have a love-hate relationship that started two years ago when UMaine was trailing the Terriers during a hockey game. I was sporting my white home jersey and he was giving me the business as any good mascot would.

Greg Moore made my day when he scored to tie it up while Rhett was still nearby. I tapped him on the shoulder and asked him what he thought about that. His response? The oversized pooch snatched the hat off my head and tossed it 15 rows back into the balcony.

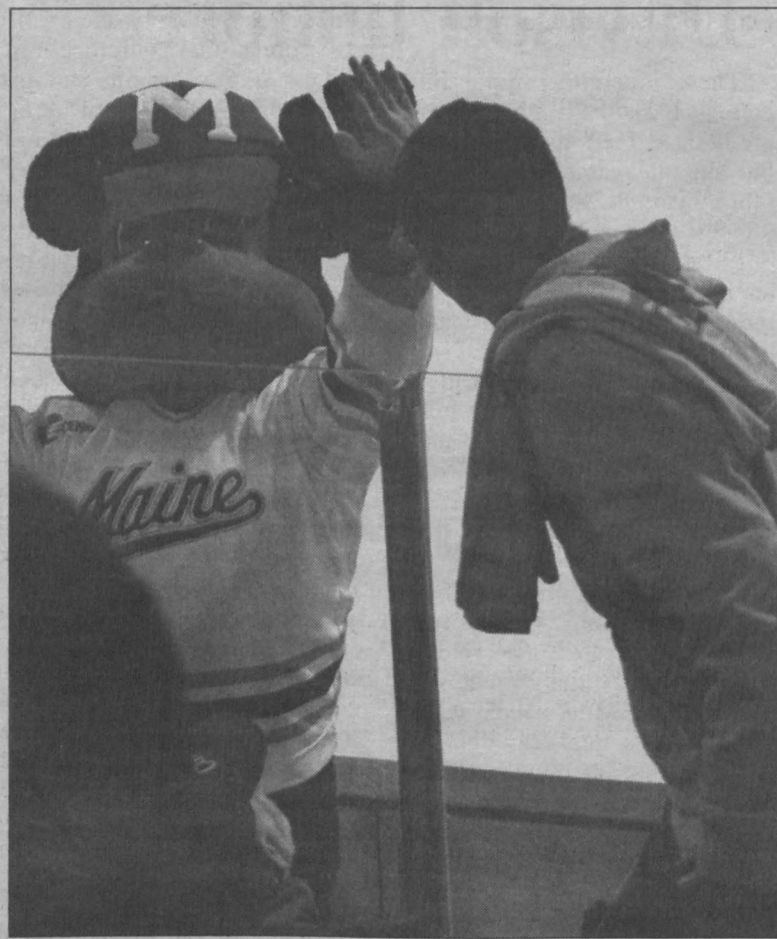
Everyone had a good laugh and I've been told the scene played out on the Jumbotron. When I visited BU for a basketball game in January, Rhett snatched the hat again. I felt a little less special since that must just be part of his routine, but it was still a riot. He also tortured the folks at the concession stand by handing out free cotton candy and soda to the patrons waiting in line.

Antics like this are what mascots are made of, and they were Bananas' trademark years ago. Nowadays, everyone's favorite Black Bear isn't getting it done.

So Bananas, if you're reading, it's high time you found your smile, my friend. I'm sure I speak for many fans when I say that we miss you. If you need to bust out the old-school suit to make it happen, so be it. Whatever it takes, you have to get back to your mischievous, entertaining ways.

I'm sure APO has enough quality guys that someone can step up and bring Bananas back to the elites among mascots. But if they can't, it's time to step aside and find someone who can.

Anyone know if that tiger from Dexter has college plans?



CAMPUS FILE PHOTO

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS MASCOT? — Bananas high fives a lucky fan back in the good old days, before the makeover.



CAMPUS PHOTO BY JENNA LAVALLÉE

THAT'S A HOOT — Madawaska's Owl does a jig during Saturday's women's hoops game.

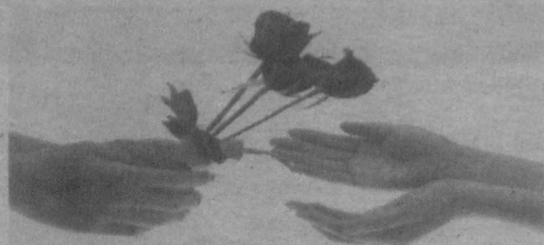


CAMPUS PHOTO BY JENNA LAVALLÉE

ON THE GROWL — The mischievous Dexter Tiger plots his next mascot antic Saturday at Alford Arena.

## Valentines Day Rose Sale

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## UMaine women sweep Catamounts

The University of Maine women's hockey team put an end to a five-game losing skid with a pair of wins against the Vermont Catamounts this weekend.

It was the Black Bears' first weekend sweep of 2007, and just their third win of the calendar year with all three coming at the expense of the Cats.

### Women's Hockey

Yesterday's series finale was a thriller that saw UMaine score four unanswered goals to win 4-2 after falling behind early.

UM 4  
UVM 2

UM 3  
UVM 1

The Black Bears scored twice in the final two minutes, getting the game winner from Taryn Peacock with 2:00 remaining on the clock and an insurance goal from Sonia Corriveau with 41 seconds left in the game.

The goals capped a comeback that started with Vanessa Vani's power play goal midway through the first. Trailing 2-1 after two periods, UMaine's Kelly Law tied the game 2:22 into the third on the man-advantage before Peacock's heroics.

Sophomore goalie Genevieve Turgeon settled down after spotting Vermont a 2-0 lead and finished the afternoon with 19 saves and was awarded the game's first star.

Saturday, UMaine won 3-1

on the strength of two power play goals from Kate Sunstrum. She opened the scoring 7:36 into the first period on the man advantage. Robyn Law's ninth of the year midway through the second period made it 2-0 UMaine, and Sunstrum added her second of the night just 52 seconds into the third.

Vermont finally beat Turgeon 16:24 into the third period, scoring their only goal, courtesy of Jackie Rhode. Turgeon made 19 saves in the winning effort.

The Black Bears return home next weekend for their final Alford Arena series of 2006-07, hosting Boston University on Saturday and Sunday. Both games begin at noon.

— Staff reports

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# Second chance: QB Davison honored

By Adam Clark  
For The Maine Campus

Whether you are from Texas, California, Florida or Maine, those who played high school football have fond memories of it. When Friday night comes, everyone does it the same way. They drive to the stadium, put on the pads, walk out onto the field, play under the lights and give it their all. In the four years spent in high school, those who play high school football all experience the thrills, satisfaction and glory. When the lights go out following that last game during senior year of high school, for most, football is over. At least that's what Brett Davison thought.

## Tackle Football Club

Hailing from Wrentham, Mass., Davison has been in football for over a decade now. Like most high school football players, however, playing football at the division one level was not an option. Playing under Mosi Tatupu at King Philip Regional High School, the same school that current Seattle Seahawk and former University of Maine and USC standout Lofa Tatupu attended, Brett played both quarterback and free safety while serving as team captain. When his senior year ended, he came to the conclusion that football was over for him, but that was until he stepped foot on the UMaine campus in the fall of 2005.

"After I graduated, I came to the realization that I would probably never play football again," said Davison. "Putting on those pads again was a feeling I will never forget."

In the fall of 2005, under the direction of Eric Whitman, the UMaine tackle football club was formed. Joining the Northeast Independent Football League, a semi-pro circuit, UMaine is believed to be the first college in the nation to field a club football team. While no one knew what to expect, just the opportunity to play again thrilled Davison and the rest of the UMaine students who signed up to play. Davison went on to become captain of the team, but it wasn't until that first game, less than a year after the club was formed, that he believed he was going to play football again.

"I went into the first game figuring someone would be in my ear telling me what plays to call," said Davison, who played quarterback for the Black Bears. "When we called the huddle together for the first time, I kind of froze. I eventually got the hang of the play calling though and it is one of the things I take great pride in."

Davison proved to be a pretty good play caller as the team exceeded expectations. While they went through ups and downs, they captured the East division title, and advanced to the championship game, although they lost. Guiding the efficient Black Bear offense, with UMaine racking up the wins, Davison began to collect some honors. An East All-Star and two-time NIFL Offensive Player of the week, Davison eventually captured the Offensive Player of the Year award for the league.

"It's an honor, but there are a lot of guys that deserve recognition," said the UMaine quarterback. "We had a good offensive line this year, a very talented receiving corps and a solid running game. These guys deserve just as much credit for our offense's success this season."

While the season was very successful, it was not just the accomplishments on the field that made it that way. While games were won and hardware was brought home, to be able to field, run and maintain a team is where it all starts. In addition, with the success of the Black Bears, two colleges have followed in their footsteps. Both the University of Vermont and St. Joseph's College of Maine will field club football teams this upcoming fall and join the NIFL.

*"Putting on those pads again was a feeling I'll never forget."*

Brett Davison  
Quarterback  
UMaine Tackle Football Club

"Eric did a really good job of getting the program up and running," said Davison. "There is a lot of behind-the-scenes work that I am not sure he gets enough credit for."

While the success came in the first year for Davison and the UMaine squad, egos will never get in the way as they have already started preparing for next season.

"I have a gold chain with a cross and the number nine that I never take off," said Davison. "It reminds me to be thankful for every second that God allows me to play football."

No egos, just a love for the game. That attitude exemplified by the UMaine captain and his teammates will have them striving for more as they enter their second season.



CAMPUS PHOTO BY JENNA LAVALLEE  
CHARITY STRIPER — Ashley Underwood gets set for one of her 13 free throws.

## DRIVES

From Page 20

hot shooting and I'm not sure our defense was ready to go."

UMaine switched to a zone defense midway through the half, and the swap threw a monkey wrench into the Bearcats' offense.

"They were getting transition points early on and we weren't getting back on defense. By going to a zone we were able to get back, get them packed in the paint and force them to shoot the outside shot," explained senior Bracey Barker, who chipped in 13 points and a game-high nine rebounds.

Freshman Sandra Vaitkute was a force off the bench. Initially brought in to help defensively against Binghamton's tough post game, the 6-6 Lithuania native scored a career-high 10 points, grabbed five rebounds, blocked two shots and was instrumental in UMaine's come-from-behind win.

"We say she's an understudy to the three seniors in the post positions and she's been vying for her chance to get out there," McNerney said. "She stepped up, distorted some shots and was a rebounding presence out there. She's ready now — our coaching staff has done a tremendous job working with her."

Vaitkute had six points in the opening half, including a pair of free throws that knotted the score 23-23 and an off-glass bucket that gave the Black Bears their first lead of the night, 28-27, just before the break.

"Coach has been working with me, helping me use my left hand more and post-up. I tried to do that," Vaitkute said. "As soon as I made my first shot I felt more comfortable and my teammates were really supportive."

Though the Bearcats led 29-28 at the half, the Black Bears weren't discouraged since they had just rallied from a nine-point deficit.

"We didn't settle for being down [by nine]. We were down at halftime and we don't have a good record when we're down at halftime and that shows a lot about our team," said Underwood.

"I don't know that anyone in our locker room felt we were down at halftime," said McNerney. "We'd been down and had come back so we had the momentum."

Riding that momentum, UMaine stormed out of the gates in the second half, pouring in 19 points, while Binghamton struggled to solve the Black Bears' zone.

"Their zone stopped us in our tracks," said Conover.

The Black Bears played a much more aggressive style in the second half that netted them a 28-8 edge

in free throw attempts on the afternoon. More than half of those were courtesy of Underwood — 10-13 from the stripe — who was fearless in drawing contact off the dribble throughout the game.

"They were playing me for the three, so I had to take it inside and go to the basket," said Underwood, who has made more trips to the charity stripe than any other player in America East this season.

"They were closing on her and forcing her to put the ball on the floor," McNerney said. "She did a great job [drawing fouls]. It's always good when Ashley's getting to the free throw line."

The Bearcats didn't go away quietly, eventually knocking down outside shots to crack UMaine's defense. Laura Sario — who led Binghamton with 18 points

— scored eight straight during the 11-0 run that put Binghamton ahead late in the second half.

"We had some tired bodies," McNerney said. "We were running into a media timeout and we were trying to see where it would come or if we should take a timeout. We had some key turnovers and they made shots [in that stretch]."

After catching their breath, the Black Bears seized control with Underwood's trey and Barker sunk a pair of foul shots to help ice the win in the closing seconds. The Bearcats needed a three-pointer to tie it with under 10 seconds to play, but Green stripped Sario and dribbled up court to run out the clock.

The Black Bears return to action Tuesday night when they host Vermont at Alford Arena. Tip-off is set for 7:30 p.m.

## America East Standings

1. Hartford	10-1	17-7
2. Stony Brook	9-2	13-10
3. UMaine	6-5	12-10
4. Vermont	5-5	15-8
5. Binghamton	4-6	8-15
6. Boston U.	4-7	12-12
7. UMBC	4-7	11-13
8. UNH	3-7	8-14
9. Albany	3-8	7-17



CAMPUS PHOTO BY JENNA LAVALLEE  
BOX OUT — Bracey Barker anticipates a rebound during Saturday's win at Alford.

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Questions? Comments?  
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# Wilson backstops UMaine to crucial sweep

Freshman makes  
63 saves, brooms  
No. 14 Vermont

By Matthew Conyers  
Editor in Chief

ORONO — They like you Dave Wilson. They really, really like you.

If the University of Maine freshman netminder needed any more proof Saturday night beyond the customary chants of appreciation, it was delivered in the form of a volleyball — a volleyball even Tom Hanks would be jealous of.

Moments after registering his first collegiate shutout in a 1-0 victory over No. 14 Vermont, Wilson was greeted with a new gift: a replica of Hanks' friend Wilson in the film "Castaway."

The gift, a surprising and clever honor, couldn't have been better deserved. After all, only two weeks ago Wilson was simply the guy who opened the door for Ben Bishop when he rushed to the bench on a late penalty call. Now, however, he is the man.

"From start to finish this  
See WILSON on Page 16



CAMPUS PHOTO BY LAURA GIORGIO

SAVE THE DAY — Freshman goalie Dave Wilson holds the post during Saturday's shutout win over Vermont. It was the first career goose egg for Wilson, who has stopped 84 of 87 shots since Ben Bishop was injured two weeks ago.

## Underwood drives Black Bears in win Steamrolled: UM rocked by Bearcats

By Matt Williams  
Sports Editor

ORONO — When it mattered most, the University of Maine women's basketball team made plays. That's what it boiled down to for the Black Bears in a 59-56 win over Binghamton University Saturday at Alford Arena.

Thanks to Ashley Underwood's go-ahead three pointer with 1:28 left to play and Abby Greene's steal with under 10 seconds to go, UMaine held on to snag a game that was at times thrilling, at times ugly and never easy for either squad.

"It's like a broken record up here in Maine," said Binghamton coach Rich Conover. "We were fortunate to win [at Alford] last year, but we lost the last five before that by a combined 10 or 12 points, so it's always a great game up here."

"That's a big win. They're all big right now," said Black Bears' coach

Anne McInerney, who saw her squad improve to 12-10 and grab sole possession of fourth place in America East at 6-5.

The Black Bears had a comfortable lead late in the second half before an 11-0 Bearcats run put the visitors ahead 52-49. Kris Younan's layup pulled UMaine within one and the final two minutes were all Black Bears, with Binghamton failing to score on its next four possessions as UMaine reeled off seven straight points.

Underwood had a game-high 19 points and buried the go-ahead trey on just her third shot from beyond the arc.

"I know she's hit some big ones over her career and that one shows you the ice water that kid has in her veins," McInerney said.

Binghamton was on fire at the start of the game, jumping ahead 18-9 in the opening six minutes on nearly perfect shooting.

"Everything they threw up seemed to go in," said McInerney. "They came out  
See DRIVES on Page 19



CAMPUS PHOTO BY JENNA LAVALLEE

RISE ABOVE — Laura Sario jumps over a pack including Bracey Barker for a rebound Saturday.

By Matt Williams  
Sports Editor

On the heels of their worst setback of the 2007 America East campaign, the University of Maine men's basketball team reached a new level of futility at Binghamton yesterday, losing 67-40.

The Black Bears shot just 24 percent in the first half and 29 percent for the game — by far their worst offensive performance of the season. By totaling just 40 points, UMaine matched the program's lowest output ever in an America East game. Things went so poorly for the Black Bears that freshman guard Mark Socoby even tipped an errant Binghamton shot into his own basket late in the first half.

### Men's Basketball

With the loss, the Black Bears dip to 11-14 on the season and 6-7 in conference action. The setback was particularly tough given that UMaine dropped below .500 in America East play for the first time in a month and only leads the University of Maryland Baltimore-County by a half-game for the fifth spot in the standings.

The Bearcats improved to 11-14 and won for just the fourth time in conference action this season. Binghamton only dressed nine players, with starter Ian Milne out for the eighth straight game

See ROLLED on Page 17