

Spring 4-19-2007

Maine Campus April 19 2007

Maine Campus Staff

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THURSDAY
April 19, 2007
Vol. 125 No. 40

THE MAINE CAMPUS

THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE NEWSPAPER SINCE 1875

A swan
song for
Java Jive.
Page 10



UMaine responds

Campus moves on after bomb threat

By Brian Sylvester
Assistant News Editor

A bomb threat made to University of Maine Public Safety early yesterday morning prompted officials to close down Memorial Union and later Class of 1944 Hall and the Maine Center for the Arts.

Those buildings were closed for searching, so that in the event of an emergency people could safely meet there. The Union was evacuated between 10:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m., and was closed down until almost noon.

Public Safety believes the threat is a hoax, and President Kennedy has authorized a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the perpetrator.

"The building was evacuated so a bomb-sniffing dog could check it, so that after that we would know there was a place that was absolutely safe," said UMaine spokesman Joe Carr. "It wasn't because there was concern that there was actually a device there."

Public Safety Chief Noel March made the ultimate decision to evacuate the building so it could be thoroughly searched. Over the course of the day, all buildings on campus were searched.

"In the interest of due diligence, to be extra cautious, we asked the state police and county sheriff's dept. — each have a bomb-

See THREAT on Page 7

Scare puts emergency response plan to test

By Tony Reaves
News Editor

Since Monday's tragedy at Virginia Tech, the university's ability to handle an emergency has come under scrutiny. Yesterday's bomb scare only exacerbated the worry. On campus, officials are reviewing their emergency plans and gun policies.

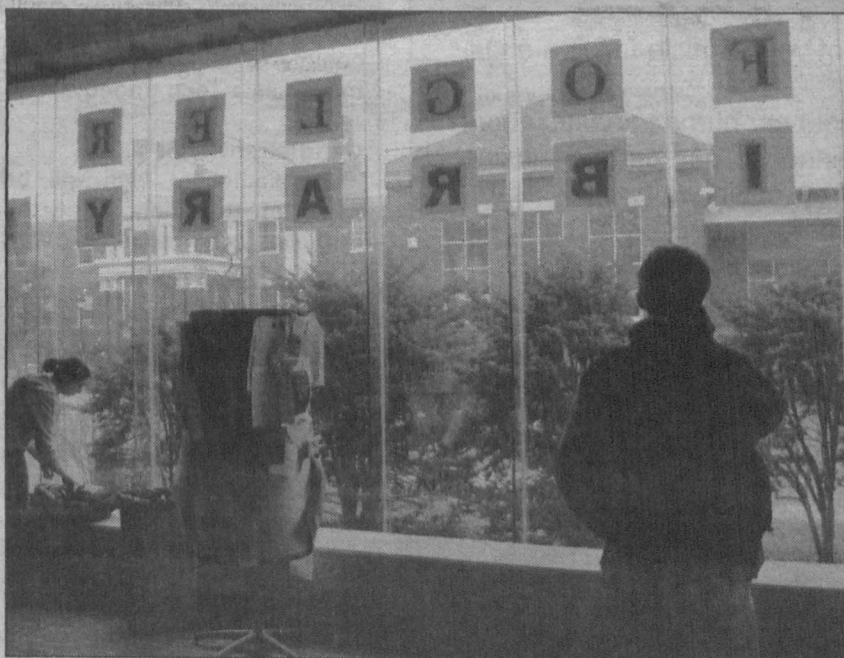
According to Public Safety Chief Noel March, the University of Maine has long been ready for major campus emergencies. UMaine's Emergency Contingency Response

See PREPARED on Page 3



CAMPUS PHOTO BY LAURA GIORGIO

ABOVE: Barbara Smith stands by as Associate Dean Angel Loredo speaks on his cell phone outside the MCA as it is searched for bombs.
BELOW: A student speaks on his phone in the foyer of Fogler Library while the Union is evacuated due to the bomb threat. No bomb was found.



CAMPUS PHOTO BY PATTIE BARRY

Judicial Affairs director falls under scrutiny over records

By Matthew Conyers
Editor in Chief

Publicly available court documents and newspaper articles highlighting University of Maine Director of Judicial Affairs David Fiocco's criminal record have once again managed to attract headlines.

Early this month, Fiocco lost his lawsuit against campus fraternity Sigma Alpha Epsilon that claimed he had suffered serious emotional distress when members of the Illinois-based fraternity distributed

information about his past to reporters and UMaine administrators.

Those same documents, which show Fiocco to have a Driving While Ability Impaired conviction and a restraining order against him, were made public once again when a federal judge ruled that Fiocco was indeed a public figure. The lawsuit initially originated when Fiocco sued SAE in 2005 in the U.S. District Court in Bangor.

"Fiocco may not desire to be a public figure, [but] he voluntarily

accepted the position of director of judicial affairs," U.S. District Judge George Singal wrote in his summary judgment order issued April 6. "Fiocco injected himself into the public controversy by accepting a position at the center of the controversy."

Since Fiocco and his lawyer never proved that the information was false and that the fraternity had acted with malice, the judge granted summary judgment to the fraternity.

See FIACCO on Page 6

Students safe after Stillwater canoe flip

By Emily Southwick
Copy Editor

Two University of Maine students are safe after their canoe overturned in the Stillwater River last night. Orono and Old Town Police and Fire Departments responded to the University Steam Plant parking lot after a call was made to 911, according to Orono Police Sergeant Hashey.

Game Warden Jim Fayhe confirmed the two canoeists, to be Evan Hutchins, 19, and Trevor Langley, 18, both UMaine stu-

dents, were already out of the water and had been given a ride back to Hutchins' room in Knox Hall.

Fayhe reported that the two men had finished class at 5 p.m. and decided to take Hutchins' Old Town Discovery canoe out on the water. The two were planning on participating in the Kenduskeag Stream Canoe Race this Saturday.

They had parked Langley's truck near the dam on Stillwater Avenue and launched the canoe into the water across from the

See CANOE on Page 7

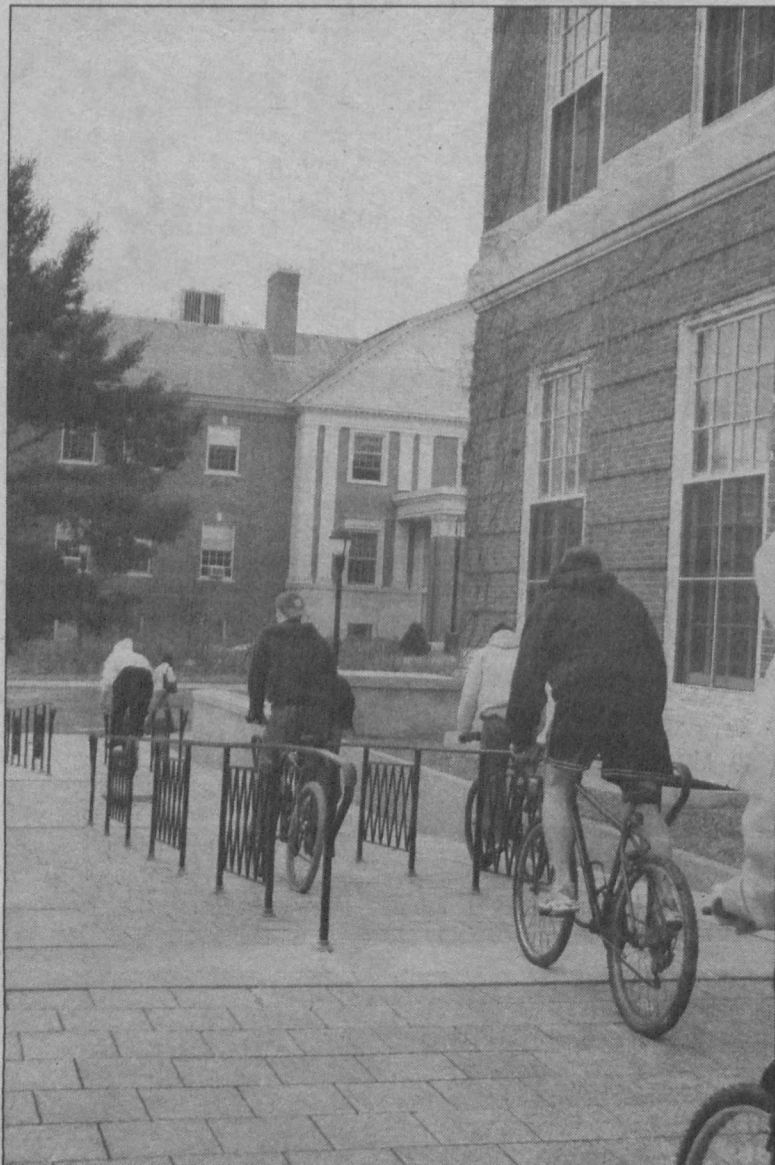


PHOTO BY JENNA LAVALLEE

BAND OF BIKERS — Members of Pi Kappa Alpha promote alternative modes of transportation by donating green bikes and distributing them around campus.

GREENTIPS

By Nicole Mercier

Become conscious of your vehicle tailpipe emissions this Earth Day!

Each gallon of gas your car burns releases about 20 pounds of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. You could walk, bike, skateboard, rollerblade or scooter, especially on campus. Using your feet to do local errands adds up.

Use public transportation! Individuals using public transport contribute four to 10 times less emissions than automobile drivers. Check out the BAT bus — it's free with a MaineCard and comes right to campus at the circle behind Memorial Union.

Carpool! Make transportation plans in advance and find out who else is going. If every automobile carried just one more passenger on its daily commute, 32 million gallons of gasoline and 640 million pounds of carbon dioxide would be saved each day.

Turn off your engine! It is less gas efficient while idling and you can reduce local air and heat pollution. Buying a car? Look for a fuel-efficient, less-polluting car. A vehicle that gets 20 miles to the gallon will emit about 50 tons of carbon dioxide over its lifetime. Double the gas mileage, and you've cut the emissions in half!

Check out <http://www.afdc.doe.gov> or <http://www.greencars.org>. Don't forget that condition counts when it comes to efficiency; proper maintenance — tune-ups, oil changes and properly inflated tires — can increase your car's fuel efficiency by 10 percent.

WWW.MAINECAMPUS.COM

THE ORONO 5-DAY FORECAST

THURSDAY



Partly cloudy

51/29

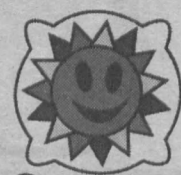
FRIDAY



Mostly sunny

56/31

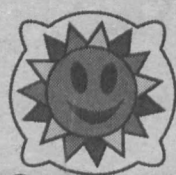
SATURDAY



Mostly sunny,
partly cloudy
later in the day

59/31

SUNDAY



Mostly sunny

58/33

MONDAY



Mostly sunny,
chance of night-
time showers

58/40

THE MAINE CAMPUS

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday

Memorial Gathering

At 3 p.m. in the Bangor Room, Memorial Union, a brief memorial service will be held for the victims of the Virginia Tech tragedy.

Moment of Silence

At 3:05 p.m., all students and community members are asked to participate in a campus-wide moment of silence, commemorating the victims of the Virginia Tech tragedy.

Candlelight vigil

A candlelight vigil will be held for the victims of the Virginia Tech tragedy starting at 9 p.m. along College Avenue.

Know Your Status Dinner

The second annual Know Your Status dinner will be held at 6 p.m. in the Buchanan Alumni House as part of the Pride Week Celebration.

Out of Balance

The film "Out of Balance" will be presented by independent filmmaker Tom Jackson as part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Series, at 7 p.m. in Room 140, Little Hall.

Friday

Marine Science Seminar

Charles Tilburg, assistant professor from the University of New England will present "The Physics and Biology of Blue Crab Transport in Delaware Bay" at 11 a.m. in Room 354, Aubert Hall, as part of the School of Marine Sciences Seminar Series.

Biology Seminar

The Department of Biological Sciences Seminar Series will present "Inferring Population Structure from Molecular Data: Applications in

Conservation of Rare Species" by Judith Rhymer, at 3:10 p.m. in Room 102, Murray Hall.

Aging Lecture

"Minorities, Aging and Health: An Overview of the Field" by Kyriakos Markides, the Annie and John Gritzinger Distinguished Professor of Aging and director of the Division of Sociomedical Sciences, Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health, University of Texas Medical Center — Galveston will be presented from 3:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. in the Bangor Room, Memorial Union.

Drag Workshop

A workshop titled "How To Do Drag" led by Northern Maine Pride will be held as part of Pride Week at 7 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose room, Memorial Union.

Saturday

Togapalooza

A toga carnival, sponsored by ROC, will be held from noon to 6 p.m. in Oxford Hall.

International Graduation Banquet

The annual ISA dinner in honor of the graduating international and departing exchange students will begin at 6 p.m. in the Buchanan Alumni House. Call 689-6483 to register.

Drag Show

A UMaine drag show will be held as part of Pride Week at 7 p.m. in Memorial Union.

Sunday

Edith Patch Earth Day Dinner

A buffet dinner and recep-

tion will be held at Fogler Library from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Wall of Care

A "Wall of Care" will be available throughout the week for members of the community to express their care and concern for those at Virginia Tech University. The Wall of Care will be mailed to Virginia Tech at the end of the week. The wall will be located in Memorial Union.

Monday

Transfer Day

Transfer to UMaine day will be held to give information to potential transfer students.

Wildlife Ecology Seminar

"The Perils of PowerPoint and Other Advice on Attending Scientific Conferences" will be presented by Malcolm Hunter as part of the Department of Wildlife Ecology Seminar Series at noon in Room 204, Nutting Hall.

Trade Policy Lecture

Alan Tonelson, trade analyst and author on global labor policy, a research fellow with the U.S. Business and Industry Council's Educational Foundation will present "Trade Policy — A Race to the Bottom for U.S. Industry?" at 7:30 p.m. in the Donald P. Corbett building, Room 105.

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.

Grief turns to reflection at UMaine

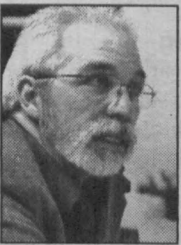
Campus commemorates Virginia Tech tragedy

By Tony Reaves
News Editor



JIM HAIN
GRADUATE
STUDENT
ENGLISH

"It just really makes you think about how we are never as safe as we think we are."



BILL
HOCKENSMITH
BOOKSTORE
DIRECTOR

"Since Monday, we live in a new world. My hunch is that a lot of universities are going to be seeing this."



WILFRED LABBE
PASTOR
NEWMANN CENTER

"If we aren't kind, if we aren't loving, if we aren't looking to that person who we think is the loser or the loner ... then it can happen here."



ROBERT DANA
DEAN OF STUDENTS

"Almost preponderantly, the students are saying 'we feel really safe here. We don't think it would happen here.'"

The emotional ripple effect from the Virginia Tech University tragedy has touched the University of Maine in myriad ways.

Dean of Students Robert Dana said he heard from worried students on campus. On Monday evening he sent an e-mail to students reminding them of UMaine's support services. "If you, or anyone you know, feel overwhelmed by the stresses associated with being a college student, or by this horrible incident, please let us know," the e-mail stated.

Dana said most of the response has been positive. "Almost preponderantly, the students are saying, 'we felt really safe here. We don't think it would happen here.'"

"There's a number of students who are nervous and afraid," Dana said. "We just try to calm down and just give a sense of safety."

Besides help from Dana, there has been a number of events commemorating the tragedy. At 2 p.m. on Tuesday, there was a short vigil in Memorial Union's non-denominational chapel.

In the union, Campus Activities and Events have posted a "wall of care," where students can post messages for Virginia Tech students. At the end of next week, campus activities will send the messages to Virginia Tech.

Last night, the Newman Center held a Catholic Mass in honor of the victims. Usually, the Newman Center has a supper on Wednesday nights, but this week Father Wilfred

Labbe decided a Mass was more appropriate.

"The one thing we have that a memorial on campus won't offer, that a gathering of students won't offer, is that we have Christ," Labbe said.

Labbe said the tragedy is a chance for people to think about how they treat one another.

"We can look at people in Virginia and think, 'this can never happen' and reality is ... if we aren't kind, if we aren't loving, if we aren't looking to that person who we think is the loser or the loner ... and seeing that they're being nurtured and fed, then it can happen here," Labbe said.

Today at 3 p.m., a memorial gathering is scheduled in the Bangor Lounge of Memorial

Union. Speakers from Peace Studies, Public Safety and Student Government will speak along side Dean Dana on the tragedy.

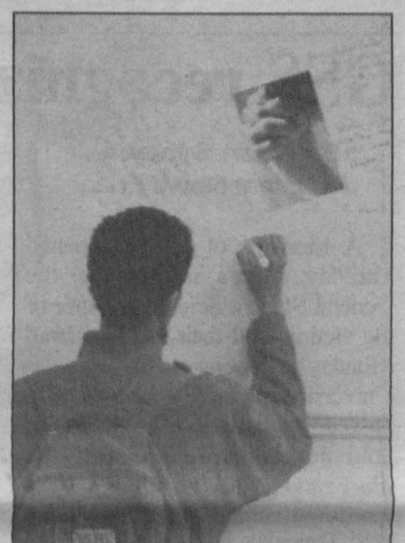
Later at 9 p.m., Student Government and the Interfraternity Council have arranged a candlelight vigil. SG Vice President Bill Pomerleau said the plan is to line College Avenue with candles until 9:30 p.m.

"The vigil is not only a remembrance and a commemoration, but a realization that it could've been any of us in that situation," Pomerleau said. "Their students, just like us, woke up early on Tuesday and went to class not knowing that that afternoon, they'd face the most life altering event of their lifetime."

Production manager Pattie Barry contributed to this report.



CAMPUS PHOTO BY PATTIE BARRY



CAMPUS PHOTO BY JENNA LAVALLEE

LEFT: The campus community celebrates a memorial Mass for the victims of the Virginia Tech tragedy at the Newman Center. RIGHT: Ismail Warsame writes a prayer to the VT community at the prayer wall hung in the Drummond Chapel in Memorial Union.

PREPARED

From Page 1

Plan, which was updated last June, is what is called an "all hazards plan."

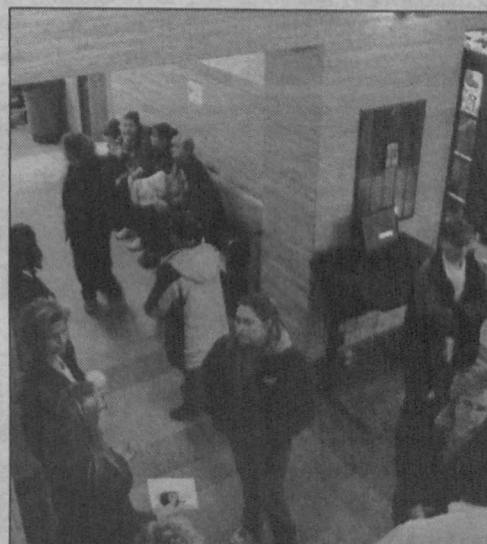
"This plan can be used to guide the university's response in a crisis," March said. "Anything from a bomb threat to a plane crash to a pandemic flu outbreak." The crisis plan involves not only campus organizations but police and fire departments from surrounding communities.

Dean of Students Robert Dana said that in any emergency, he and March are in constant contact to simultaneously keep abreast of both the students and the emergency.

"We have a policy of immediate response," Dana said. "In a crisis like that, we would respond to students immediately by electronic mail, by staff going into residence halls and notifying people."

March explained that the delayed response to the bomb threat happened because no one believed the threat to be credible. Officials searched every building on campus just in case, March said, but Public Safety didn't expect to find anything. In the past two days, there have been numerous bomb threat hoaxes at universities nationwide.

Dana said that in the case of a tragedy like Virginia Tech, Student Affairs and the



CAMPUS PHOTO BY PATTIE BARRY

Counseling Center would spring into action to help students. In the meantime, Dana said those same services work to prevent such an incident.

He characterized UMaine as a close-knit community that stays vigilant for troubled students. "Students here have a sense of community and they say 'hey, this person looks like they're worried,'" Dana said. "We have a lot of eyes out there."

In addition to UMaine's emergency plan, President Kennedy has asked for a review of school's weapon policy, where students are not allowed to have weapons on campus but

LEFT: Memorial Union employees congregate near the Oakes Room in Fogler Library after the Union was evacuated while a bomb search squad searches the building.

may store weapons with Public Safety. Vice President for Administration and Finance Janet Waldron is in charge of the review, which will begin when she returns from a trip.

March said the current weapons policy, which was last updated in 1984, is superior to the policies of schools without a weapons lock-up. Maine is a hunting state, he said, and some students here enjoy the hobby.

"I believe that, human nature being what it is, we'd see people hiding their hunting rifle in their car, or even worse, under their mattress in their dorm room," March said.

"If you do have a lawfully-owned weapon, whether it's a slingshot or a rifle, you have a safe, secure place for us to check it, make sure it's unloaded, safe, unlocked and secure."

Still, March said, it makes sense to review a policy that hasn't been updated in more than 20 years. He said that in his five years at UMaine, there had never been a gun incident. Nor has there been a bomb threat until now.

"It is my opinion that people — students, faculty and staff — can feel very safe but also should be realists about the age that we live in," March said.

The Maine Campus will be sending a letter to Virginia Tech expressing our sympathies. We wish to include a list of other students who have kept those affected by this tragedy in their thoughts or prayers. If you would like to be included in this letter, e-mail Matthew.Conyers@umit.maine.edu by Monday, April 23.



The Great Indoors



CAMPUS PHOTO BY JENNA LAVALLEE

FIELD TENTS — Teams walk and camp the night away during Relay for Life in the Field House last Friday night.

GSS recognizes Virginia Tech incident

By Brian Sylvester
Assistant News Editor

A moment of silence opened Tuesday night's meeting of the General Student Senate, in honor of the victims and their families from Monday's shooting at Virginia Tech University. A resolution was later passed by unanimous consent to hold a campus-wide moment of silence today at 3:05 p.m. A senate-sponsored candlelight vigil will be held Thursday night along College Avenue. Students are invited to attend to show their support for the victims of the VT shootings.

"Our supporting of these two events should not even require debate," states the conclusion of the resolution, sponsored by GSS President William Pomerleau.

During their executive reports, both Student Government President Priyanth Chandrasekar and Pomerleau commented on the tragedy.

"I'm really deeply saddened," Chandrasekar said. "It's something that we need to be aware of."

"It could have happened at any campus," Pomerleau said. "It could have happened here."

Also during the meeting, a resolution was discussed to support the University of Maine System Student Government, a body comprised of members from five campuses across Maine. The resolution calls for UMaine Student Government to support the UMSSG in its bid for funding. The request would not go before the Board of Trustees until after it has sought support from indi-

vidual campus' student governments, said Sean Rankin, UMSSG president and UMaine senator.

"We cannot be strong as a system if we're not unified," Rankin said. "It's really reached a point where we can't move forward without funding." The request would call for the addition of a \$2 charge to each undergraduate student in the participating campuses, which would go toward funding the UMSSG. The increase, which would probably be added to activity fees, would raise about \$136,000 to pay travel stipends, allowing the group to meet more frequently, pay a full time staff person and create a fund to hire lobbyists to speak for student interests.

The resolution to support the request was eventually passed by voice vote without objections.



POLICEBEAT

By Randy Perkins
Staff Reporter

Pee complaint

At 1:39 a.m. on April 13, police received a report from the third floor of Oxford Hall complaining of urination. The resident stated he was asleep when his neighbor entered the room. He awoke to the sound of what seemed to be liquid being poured on the floor.

Unfortunately it was his neighbor, Andrew Kunkel, 21, urinating in a desk drawer. The resident grabbed Kunkel and took him into the hall. Once in the hall Kunkel apologized and stated that he didn't know what he was doing. It was determined that he was intoxicated. Kunkel was issued a summons for criminal mischief.

Armed robbery

At 4:20 a.m. on April 15, Public Safety received a call from Old Town Police Department asking to assist in a search for a suspect involved in

an armed robbery. The suspect entered the Irving Mainway on South Main Street and brandished a gun. He was described as 6 feet tall and wearing a hooded sweatshirt. This matter is still under investigation.

Library purse snatching

At 10:30 a.m. on April 16, a female student on the second floor of Fogler Library reported that she had left her backpack and pocketbook over the chair for approximately 20 minutes. When she came back her pocketbook was gone. She lost her cell phone and prescription medication, which were inside.

Vehicle vandalism

On April 15 at 3:15 p.m., Dining Services staff reported that one of the vehicles parked in the Deering parking lot had a slashed tire on the passenger side. This matter is still under investigation.

Book tax repeal makes positive steps in Augusta

Few students attend Friday afternoon hearing

By Michael Dabrieo
Staff Reporter

AUGUSTA — Student attendance was sparse in Augusta last Friday at a public hearing for a bill that would cut the cost of textbooks for Maine students.

"It would have been good to have more students there," said Rep. Marilyn Canavan, D-Waterville, who introduced the bill to the Committee on Taxation. "But we understand there are classes and students are busy."

The bill, which received no vocal opposition at the hearing, would exclude from sales tax textbooks associated with a course of study at an accredited college. They are currently subject to the 5.5 percent Maine sales tax.

Despite the empty seats, Canavan was optimistic about the bill.

"[The Committee] received us well and I think they understood what it was this bill is trying to do," Canavan said.

Rep. Emily Cain, D-Orono, spoke in support of the bill.

"This is a little thing that could go a long way in helping students," said Cain, who attributed the low attendance to the delay of the hearing from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. "This bill would send a strong signal from Maine. It shows we are doing something for the hard-working students."

The Committee questioned the loss of tax revenue that the bill would create.

The Maine Revenue Service found in 2001 that \$1.5 million of tax revenue was from college textbooks, Canavan said. She estimates that now the figure is upward of \$2 million.

Cain suggested the proposal as part of the comprehensive tax reform that the committee is currently working on.

"When you line this up with the other more expensive tax credits we have, this is worth it," she said.

The Committee also asked if programs such as Opportunity Maine, which is up to referendum in November, were already doing enough to help students financially.

"They are completely different bills," Canavan said. "Opportunity Maine is primarily to keep students in the state. Every student needs to buy textbooks. This is a different kind of tax relief."

Maine is one of the highest-taxed states, especially regarding property taxes, according to Canavan.

"As far as where the tax revenue would come from, I think the tax committee is in a better position to make that decision than I am," she said. "But we can't afford not to [pass this bill]."

According to University of Maine Bookstore manager Bill Hockensmith, the average student spends more than \$700 annually on textbooks.

Maine and Vermont are the only states in New England to not have a tax exemption policy for college textbooks. There are 26 states across the nation that already have such a policy in place.

The bill will be under work session today.

"What we need is for every student to e-mail their hometown legislator and tell them that this is a bill that they support and want passed," Canavan said.

Student Government, Inc. is seeking to fill the paid position of:

Director of External Affairs

Job duties include:

- Work to improve the visibility of Student Government
- Advertise Concerts/Activities
- Govern all advertising of UMSG, Inc.
- Serve as Public Relations Advisor to all Executives
- *10 office hours a week required

Great Work Experience!

Please stop by the
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(Wade Center - Memorial Union)
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Applications are due
to the office
by April 27th at 3pm

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British Lord lectures on Marx

By Amanda MacCabe
Staff Reporter

Renowned political philosopher and member of British Parliament's House of Lords Bhikhu Parekh spoke on campus about the relationship between Karl Marx and Mahatma Gandhi on Thursday at the Socialist and Marxist Lecture Series.

He also touched upon the war in Iraq and how checks and balances could ensure executives have representatives' approval in government before a decision is made to go to war. "War affects the lives of everyone. It makes the country vulnerable. Now if something as devastating as a war is going to happen ... the country must overwhelmingly be in support of it."

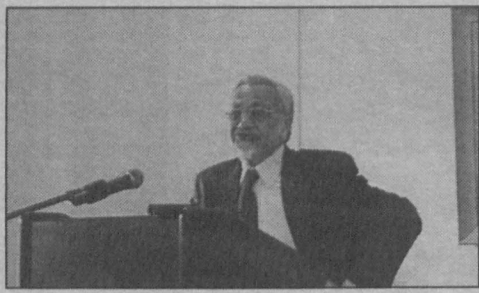
He suggested, in the context of the British Parliament, that the executive consult both Houses of Parliament to get approval before committing a country to a conflict and went on to say that a similar process could also be implemented in the United States.

"If intelligence is so critically important, why not devise ways where the interpretation of intelligence is taken away from the executive?" Parekh said, explaining that an independent body of ex-military and government officials should be asked to interpret and certify critical information, such as the flawed intelligence prior to the invasion of Iraq.

"It might be a good thing to explore whether something like this may enrich, strengthen and deepen American democracy and prevent the country from being bounced into another war."

When talking about Marx and Gandhi and the points at which they converged and differed, he emphasized "the basic core of their ideas."

"Both writers had very well thought-out philosophies of man and a well thought-out



CAMPUS PHOTO BY AMANDA MACCABE

BE OUR GUEST – Bhikhu Parekh addresses a crowd on Thursday.

model vision of what it is to be a human being, and what a good society should be," he said.

"Both of them articulate their critique of capitalism and their vision of an ideal society in terms of the concept of freedom ... although the two writers understand freedom somewhat differently, the idea of freedom is central to their visions of what it is to be human."

He said both Gandhi and Marx recognized that economic life under capitalism becomes autonomous and that the economy should be subject to larger moral considerations. They both tried to make sense of how economic domination happens and how does it continue. They were concerned with the nature of power.

According to Parekh, both made the distinction that when one individual or group holds power over another, the dominant power may be better off materially, but is much worse off morally. They surround themselves with defense mechanisms and are dependent on the subordination of the other. "Both have a common enemy ... not in each other, but in the system," he said of the dominant and subordinate figures.

"It is amazing how two people who started so differently can converge in this way."

FIACCO

From Page 1

Documents that have found their way into the spotlight include two newspaper articles that reveal Fiacco's dismissal from his previous employment as director of public safety at Fort Lewis College in Colorado. Beyond the dismissal, the documents released also state that Kelly Weaver, Fiacco's former girlfriend, sought and obtained a temporary and then permanent restraining order against Fiacco pursuant to the Colorado Domestic Abuse Act; and that he had a blood alcohol content of .089 percent when he was charged with his DWAI.

In the spring of 2002, SAE retained a private investigator, Victor Kraft, to look into Fiacco's background after being prosecuted for violations of the student code of conduct at the university. Fiacco was in charge of investigating and processing the violations on the behalf of the school that centered on investigators finding \$10,000 worth of stolen signs inside the SAE house after a fire. The house closed shortly after and the university proceeded to suspend the chapter.

Attorney N. Laurence Willey, Jr. and Kraft were retained by then SAE members Jay Sexton, James Dill, Gregory Jamison and Anthony Nowak in order to aid the defense of Maine Alpha during Fiacco's investigation of SAE.

When the fraternity learned of Fiacco's 1998 conviction for DWAI and restraining order in 2002, they sent copies of Colorado court documents to members of the university board of trustees, UMaine's then-President Peter Hoff, deans on the Orono campus, a campus police representative, The Maine Campus and the Bangor Daily News. At the time, neither newspaper pub-

lished the information. As well, Fiacco did not undergo any action from the university.

Although Fiacco's legal troubles are in the press again and attracting the attention of students and parents, the university still believes he's the right man for the job.

"David [Fiacco] is a valuable member of our staff, and his good work is valuable in promoting the kind of community life that is important to UMaine," UMaine President Robert Kennedy said.

Dean of Students Robert Dana reiterated that Fiacco has always been truthful with UMaine when his legal record was concerned.

"He has always been honest and upfront with us," Dana said. "These are issues that have been resolved and that have been attended to by the court. David is well prepared for the job, and supported by us. He has already paid the consequences and is fully student-focused."

Brandon Weghorst, director of communication for SAE, refused to comment outright on Fiacco's record, but said they were pleased with court's ruling and wished to remain respectful to the proceedings.

Past presidents of SAE at UMaine, Sexton and Jess Ouellette, who were there during the Fiacco fiasco refused to comment.

The court's decision needs to be appealed by May 4 to the 1st Circuit Court of Appeals in Boston. Efforts to reach Fiacco's attorney Bernard Kubetz were unsuccessful Wednesday.

At the moment, SAE is not recognized by the university as a student fraternity although it has kept its position with the national organization. SAE is in the process of regaining recognition from the university. Dana acknowledged the fact that UMaine is willing to work with SAE in getting their recognition back.

UCU

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THREAT

From Page 1

sniffing dog — to just check the building,” March explained. “When they arrived, they said ‘The building’s got to be empty for us to do that.’”

Students and campus community members were first told via electronic updates on the UMaine Web site, which read “those who wish to gather in a place that has been assured as being safe may proceed to Memorial Union.” This was posted about an hour before the Union’s evacuation.

While Memorial Union was closed, university officials and staff posted themselves at doors to prevent students and community members from entering.

Maine Marketplace and Memorial Union employees were told to leave the building so that it could be swept for bombs and other dangerous materials, prompting many of them to take refuge from the cold weather in Fogler Library. Many students who were turned away from the Marketplace ended up at York or Stewart commons.

“We were informed at about quarter to eleven,” said University Bookstore director Bill Hockensmith, referring to the evacuation. Marketplace employees indicated that they were first informed of the bomb threat, then told about 10 to 15 minutes later that they needed to evacuate.

Hockensmith had the bookstore employees perform “basically, a fire drill” to evacuate the bookstore.

“Since Monday, we live in a new world,” Hockensmith said. “My hunch is that a lot of universities are going to be seeing this.”

Student Senator Abtin Mehdizadegan, who was told to evacuate from the Wade Center, was outraged. “I think it’s ridiculous that someone would do this after a national travesty,” Mehdizadegan said.

Many students were unsure whether the threat was real.

“It was kind of scary,” said fourth-year student Erica Stoloff. “It sent chills down my spine.” Another student, Chelsea Cameron, said she “wasn’t even aware that it happened.”

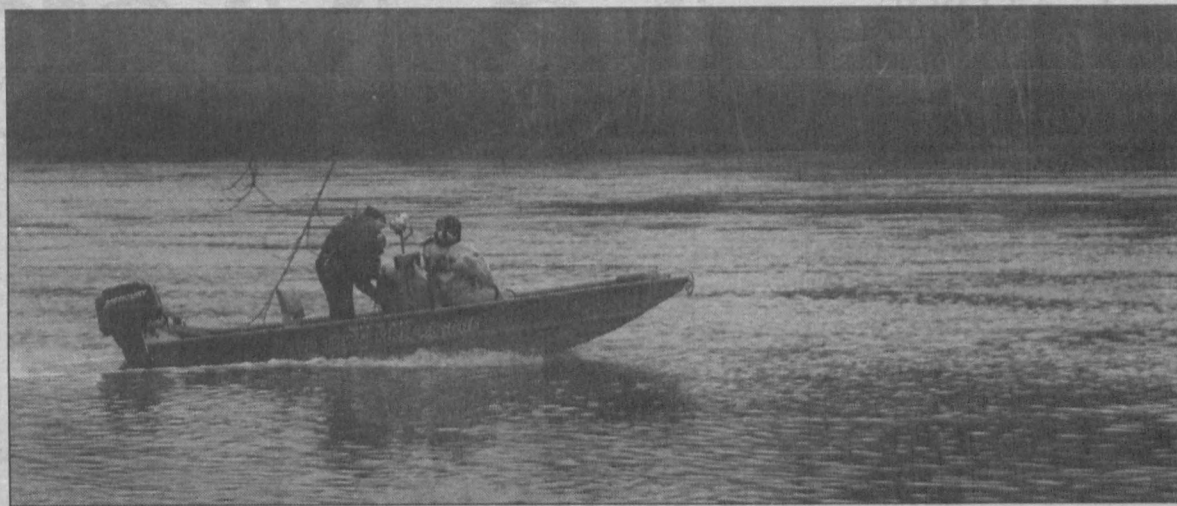
The Union re-opened at noon. Even at that time, Class of 1944 Hall and the Maine Center for the Arts were still being checked by Public Safety and police personnel, prompting the cancellation of some classes that were to be held in the building.

Public Safety received the threat by telephone sometime before 8 a.m. from a phone at an Oxford Hall entrance. “The message was ... not specific in any way,” said Carr.

The message made no direct reference to the recent violence at Virginia Tech and its vagueness led the police to consider it to be a non-serious threat.

“We’re investigating it as a crime, certainly as a crime of a false report,” March said. He encouraged anyone with information on the threat to call Public Safety at 581-4040 or to report anonymously on the Web at <http://www.umaine.edu/publicsafety>.

News editor Tony Reaves contributed to this report.



CAMPUS PHOTO BY PATTIE BARRY

TO THE RESCUE — Old Town Fire and Rescue launches a rescue boat in search of two UMaine students. The students were brought home before emergency personnel arrived.

CANOE

From Page 1

rapids. Within minutes, rapids turned the canoe sideways, then flooded and overturned it. They were able to stay with the canoe the entire time and the current eventually pushed them toward the shore, where they came up directly behind the Stillwater Apartments in Orono.

Two other University students, Matthew Cox and Kaitlin Brothers, were getting out of their car after returning home to the apartments for the evening when Hutchins and Langley stumbled out of the woods.

“There were two guys walking out of the woods, soaking wet with

life jackets on, saying ‘hey, hey, hey, can you give us a ride?’” said Cox, a third-year mechanical engineering student.

Cox said the canoeists told him they had been paddling along with their overturned canoe for about 10 minutes before reaching land and that their hands were “burning so bad [we] couldn’t feel them.” After Cox and Brothers dropped them off at Knox Hall and were assured that they would be all right, they returned to the Steam Plant parking lot to inform emergency rescuers that the missing canoeists were safe. At that point, search and rescue boats were out on the river, as police had initially heard rumors that there were two canoes and more students out. Their search uncovered nothing else and it was confirmed that

Hutchins and Langley were the only ones involved in the incident.

According to university spokesperson Joe Carr, university police and medical personnel then went to Knox Hall where they found Hutchins and Langley, who had both initially refused medical attention, to be in fine condition.

Fayhe praised the various emergency response teams for their efforts and timely response. “We were prepared for the worst, and remained until everyone was accounted for.”

He also asked other boaters to err on the side of caution after the fact, as “the water’s still very cold and very swift [with] lots of debris that can pose hazards” and urged that everyone use caution and wear life jackets if they choose to venture out onto the river.

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Editorial

Bomb threat tests UMaine emergency protocol

In the wake of a national tragedy, the bomb threat at the University of Maine Wednesday was a sad and inappropriate act. Even worse, UMaine was just a small part of a sweep of bomb threats across the country.

For UMaine, it was also a real-world test of emergency preparedness. The response shows where the university is and where it needs to be. The results are mixed.

For one, Memorial Union was identified as a "safe place" on the UMaine Web site before bomb-sniffing dogs searched it. For an hour, worried students were referred to a safety area that was not known to be safe, before the instructions were modified.

Despite a general belief that the threat was a hoax, the university owes more vigilance to the student body than it showed with that mishap. Had the threat been real, this mis-handling could have been catastrophic. In the case of a false alarm, students should have been encouraged to stay in their rooms, rather than referred to one of the most strategic bombing targets possible.

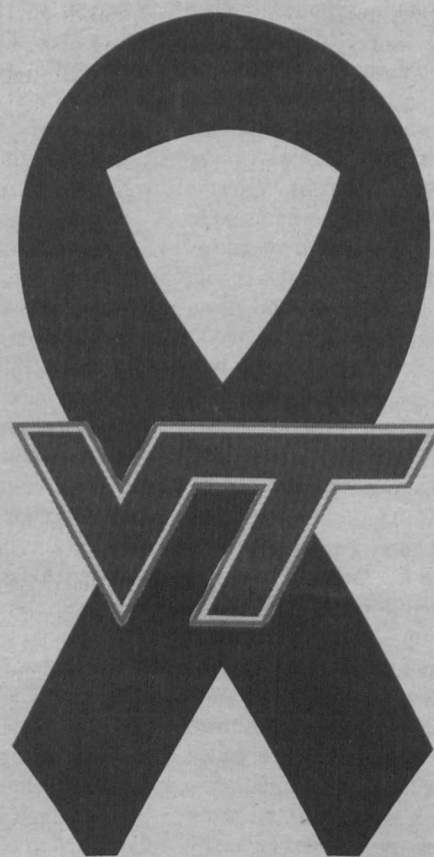
To its credit, the university did manage to spread word of the threat quickly. Bright pink signs were plastered all over buildings, dorms and classes — oddly enough, even some fake signs were posted. This presents an opportunity to explore better options for "official" signs from the university. It would also be useful to send e-mails to individual students on FirstClass initially, rather than burying it on an often-ignored "announcements" folder that few people are aware of.

The university is offering a \$5,000 reward to anyone whose information leads to an arrest and conviction.

Ad Memoriam

Mourning and remembrance for Virginia Tech

April 16, 2007



National tragedy hits home

Amidst the conversation, remember the lives lost at VT

Cycling, music and girls.

More than four years ago, those were Peter Chudzik's primary interests when we talked.

For better or worse, that's what we discussed on a daily basis during our three years together on the Manchester High School cross-country team. As runners on one of the top cross-country programs in Connecticut, Chudzik and I traveled across New England and out West in hopes of pursuing long-distance glory. During those stretches together, we formed not only the bond of teammates but of friends.

Like any high school relationship, though, life changes quickly. Over the past four years, I haven't talked with Pete as much — at best, we chat maybe 20 times a year. When we do meet, it is often in the summer or at a large gathering and the dialogue is minimal.

Still, none of that mattered two days ago. For the first time in a long time, all I wanted to talk about was cycling, music and girls.

On Monday, Chudzik was sound asleep in his bed, while the worst shooting in U.S. history occurred less than 15 minutes away.

As Chudzik slept, his roommate managed to escape one of

MATTHEW
CONYERS



EDITOR IN CHIEF

the classrooms in Norris Hall that shooter Cho Seung Hui opened fire on during his horrific killing spree. Chudzik's roommate, who we will not name here, was one of two class members to walk out of that classroom alive.

While all this went on more than 2,000 miles away, I began receiving instant messages from various teammates from that same cross-country squad. What was being said was short and to the point — had anyone talked to Pete. By the time word had officially spun back to us on AOL Instant Messenger that Pete was fine — as fine as could be expected — more than 15 minutes had passed. While those 15 minutes ticked away, I thought of a lot of things. Nevertheless, the one immovable thought I couldn't rid myself of was Chudzik's family and what they must be going through.

Now, two days since the shooting, it is this thought that remains

constant in my mind.

As debates continue to rage over who is to blame or if the media is overdoing its coverage, I just have to ask, why?

For many this bloody massacre has served as an opportunity to get up on a soapbox and preach their politics. Whether it is about gun control or school safety, several groups and people have and will continue to use this event as a springboard for other discussions. They will attempt to dive into the psyche of the American citizen. They will attempt to blame the university for not acting soon enough. In addition, they will analyze the steps needed to protect students from future attacks. It will still be debated, scrutinized and in the end, overdone.

In this paper, there are columns discussing the event in regards to gun violence and how the media presented the subject. For the next month, this is how it will be, no matter how pointless and wrong it all truly is.

I will not pretend to understand what those involved are going through, nor will I begin to offer advice or wisdom. I cannot begin to fathom the ramifications of what has happened and I would be ignorant and obtuse if I tried. But

See TRAGEDY on Page 9

Questions remain in aftermath

Shootings serve as a wake-up call for U.S. government

POLARIS
GARFIELD



HEAD COPY EDITOR

On Monday morning, the deadliest shooting massacre in the history of the United States occurred when shooter Cho Seung-Hui opened fire on students at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, killing more than 30 people before shooting himself. In the wake of the tragedy, the media descended upon university officials and local law enforcement with a barrage of questions. However, most of the news coverage revolved around the details of this particular crime rather than focusing on the big question: Why is it that the United States has such a high rate of civilian violence, and

See REMAIN on Page 9

Letters to the editor

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

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THE MAINE CAMPUS

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TRAGEDY

From Page 8

is about family and those affected.

In the coming weeks, the families of the lost will begin to bury their loved ones and put the event behind them as best they can. Ultimately, time will have no effect on how quickly those families will be able to recover — if they ever do. Nevertheless, what those families and departed deserve is for the rest of us to shut up. This is not a time for petty debates on media coverage. By involving ourselves in those discussions,

we are only ignoring what we should be doing and that is praying and thinking of those far worse off than us. There will be a time for those questions and breakdowns, just like everything else, but this is not it. Let those thoughts and opinions be paused for just a few days if you can. Rest assured the topic will still be there when you get back, student forum members and talking heads.

After all, this is a time for grief and remembrance. If anything can be understood about all this, it's that the families and those involved deserve that.

Matthew Conyers is a fourth-year journalism major.

REMAIN

From Page 8

more importantly why isn't the government doing anything about it?

Several members of the media as well as students attending Virginia Tech heavily criticized the university for failing to promptly notify the student body and faculty of the situation. Sure, the school did have an outdoor PA system and by all means should have given an immediate warning after the first shot was fired. But they responded to the best of their abilities and after all, what could they possibly have done to prepare for a shooting? No national standard has been established with regard to a concrete plan or system of evacuation for this type of emergency. The lack of such procedural guidelines is not the fault of the school; it is the fault of the government. I honestly do not believe I am exaggerating when I say that the current administration is guilty of criminal negligence when it comes to domestic issues in the United States. Just look at the news. While CNN broadcasted continuous coverage of the incident at Virginia Tech, President Bush appeared on MSNBC to give yet another speech defending his increasingly deteriorating strategy — if you can even call it a strategy — for the continuation of the war in Iraq. When he did finally make a statement in response to the shooting, it seemed trite and ineffective because it only offered general condolences and did not attempt to even address the larger problem this shooting represents.

It is important to keep in mind that the killings at Virginia Tech are not a unique occurrence. This is just one more horrific event to add to the growing list of gun-related tragedies that have happened in this country. Taking into account the fact that we have the highest number of civilian shootings per year in the world, it is clear that this has become a distinctly American problem. I am certainly not the first person to suggest that the development of a "culture of fear" is one of the biggest factors contributing to it. Indeed, we have all been exposed to a great deal of propaganda from both sides of the political spectrum — and to President Bush's credit he is simply taking cues from several administrations in U.S. history that recognized the value of fear as a political tool. Regardless of people's feelings about the various public figures who have proposed this idea of a culture based on fear, no one can deny that there is more than a grain of truth to the concept.

The fact remains that gun violence is a serious and chronic problem that deserves much more attention than the government is willing to give. This is not a partisan issue. Violence in our neighborhoods and in our nation as a whole affects each and every one of us. Shootings have now permeated practically every demographic in our society, in spite of research linking the perpetrators of these crimes to lower class minority communities. Much of this research was based on commonalities between young men — and an increasing number of young women — who had committed violent crimes, and the findings of such studies called attention to other major domestic problems in the United States like urban poverty, the need for restorative justice and of course, gun control. The latter is one of the touchiest subjects in the political arena because of the inherent conflict between the right to bear arms and the interest of public safety.

However, some people are pushing their constitutional rights too far. Take for instance Larry Pratt, director of Gun Owners of America, who was quoted as saying, "It is irresponsibly dangerous to tell citizens that they cannot have guns at schools" in response to Monday's shootings. Is this some kind of sick joke? I find it completely unbelievable that in the face of a tragedy like this, anyone would have the audacity to display such blatant insensitivity and denial. People like this are in the minority and don't deserve the political sway they appear to possess. The only explanation I can come up with is that these gun-toting extremists are trafficking in the same currency of fear that is propagated by the Bush administration. What is America so afraid of? It seems to me that the rest of the world has much more to fear from the United States and that what we should really be worried about is our own self-destruction.

The incident at Virginia Tech should be a wake-up call for the U.S. government to shift its focus back toward domestic needs. Every American citizen, especially every college student, was touched by this tragedy. My heart goes out to the families and friends of the victims. I only hope that some good can come out of this if it can help show the Bush administration that it is leading America in the wrong direction. If we are ever going to have a peaceful society — both in this country and in the rest of the world — we need to stop policing the globe and take a look around at the atrocities going on right here at home.

Polaris Garfield is a fourth-year English major.

Cable news in a time of crisis

Networks go from coverage to sensationalism

In the aftermath of the Virginia Tech shootings, both news junkies such as myself and the inquisitive public turn to television in order to keep informed and learn as much about what happened as possible. This is nothing new. From Columbine to Sept. 11 and Hurricane Katrina, 24-hour cable news networks in particular kick into overdrive to provide the most comprehensive coverage possible. In doing so, however, they tend to overemphasize and sensationalize much of what they present.

For the last few days I've picked up the habit of leaving my television on all the time, periodically flipping between CNN, MSNBC and Fox News. As a fifth-year senior majoring in journalism, it has left me questioning at what point objectivity went out the window. On each channel, we are greeted by flashy graphics, emotional music and zippy taglines, each one begging "Watch me!" with fervor. Of the many things I have learned about my chosen field, a rule that constantly surfaces and is drilled repeatedly into our heads is to leave editorializing out of hard news. If the story is horrible or tragic it will be obvious; let the facts explain themselves. This seems to be a lost ideal in cable news.

I will be the first one to agree that this incident is appalling and downright scary, but if I was reporting on it I would choose

JESSE
DAVIS



COPY EDITOR

more objective terms. Every time something of this nature happens, the hamster wheels of graphic designers and tagline writers begin spinning out of control. If I ever hear of another situation described as the war on anything, I will vomit. Reporting on disasters has come to include creating an entire commercial package to surround it. Not only is this against journalistic ethics, it is just plain wrong.

This is not to say that cable news networks never do anything right, merely that in the face of such events they lose sight of their own integrity. For example, I understand that Geraldo Rivera has done some amazing field reporting in the distant past, but how does Fox News decide he is a good choice to be one of their "men on the scene?" I would much rather watch a rookie anchor asking nonleading questions with a relatively mediocre level of ability. At least then I know that any opinion injected into what I am watching is coming from those involved in the situation, not the network I choose.

Another piece of this puzzle that confuses the hell out of me

is the wording choices made by reporters. When did "shot" become "gunned down?" When did "he started shooting" become "he launched the attacks?" Did I miss a meeting? These may seem minor, but when we are bombarded by such statements every few seconds, they begin to pile up in quite an obtrusive manner.

I saw a recent example on Tuesday in a graphic consisting of front and side snapshots of Cho Seung-Hui, a large thumbprint, a strip of "police line — do not cross" tape and a targeting reticle. The reticle hung on the upper right corner of one of the photos. I don't need a screen full of innuendos to know I don't like the guy. All that's necessary are the pictures of him. It's hard to believe something of this nature would escape the notice of the editors. The obvious conclusion is of course they know they're doing it, and they probably did it on purpose.

Which brings me back around to my original point. Where the hell did objectivity go in cable news? While they are not so prone to this extreme behavior on a regular basis, the depth to which it arises in times of crisis is unforgivable. If they have a shred of journalistic integrity left they should correct this ethical misdeed and give their viewers the respect they deserve.

Jesse Davis is a fifth-year journalism major.

Other voices from around campus

Like everyone I was deeply saddened by the tragedy on the campus of Virginia Tech University on Monday. My heart goes out to everyone on that campus, especially to the family and friends of the victims. How terrible for them. It is events like these that serve to remind us of the preciousness of life, of the importance of our relationships with those we love, and of the need to be there for each other, to help each other. At the University of Maine, we are blessed because we are a kind, caring and compassionate community that truly looks out for each other. Whether in times of gladness or in times of sadness, there are people on this campus who can help. Reach out to friends, family or resources on campus for support. We have excellent people in the Counseling Center, in Residence Life, at

EAP, in the Religious Life group and in so many other places on campus that can help. My advice is to take care of yourself and take care of each other, especially in these last days of the semester.

Kenda Scheele
Associate Dean of Students

An argument for the preservation of our second amendment rights is needed at this time. While the beauty of the United States Constitution is the ability of the people to change it, it should not be changed in reaction to the recent shootings at Virginia Tech. Neither should the laws of this or any other state. The Constitution is a document preserving the rights and interests of the individual over those of the state. It limits the rights of the government, not the rights of citizens.

Our free will social contract states, "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed" (Amendments to the Constitution of the United States of America. Amendment II). Limiting the right of law-abiding citizens to obtain firearms is completely against the Constitution's intention of forming a more perfect union. When diplomacy fails, and then pen is no longer mightier, Americans will need our second amendment rights. I am not asking people to consider weakening gun laws; I am asking people to realize that we will be stripped of our freedom when the right to use force to protect our interests is taken away.

Adam C. Russell
Nontraditional student

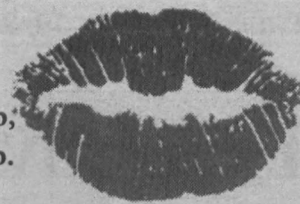
Love us? Hate us?
Write us.

go.

Inside
WMEB Spot • "Breaking
Aromaticity" Page 13

style

Pucker up,
Buttercup.
Page 12



MUSIC

Jazz in the Union
Lidral Duo
4:15 p.m.
Thursday, April 19
Memorial Union

Symphonic and Concert
Bands
7:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 19
MCA

School of Performing Arts
Spring Gala
7:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 21
Hauck Auditorium

Boston Gay Men's Chorus
with Athena Consort and
Black Bear Men's Chorus
2 p.m.
Sunday, April 22
MCA

Rusted Root and Strangefolk
7 p.m.
Monday, April 23
MCA

Java Jive
Finals
8 p.m.
Tuesday, April 24
Memorial Union

EVENTS

Oronoka Dance Party
10 p.m.
Saturday, April 21
Buchanan Alumni House

Chalk Party
Bring Chalk and Draw
No RSVP Necessary
2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 24
University Mall

PRIDE WEEK

How To Do Drag Workshop
7 p.m.
Friday, April 20
Multi-Purpose Room
Memorial Union

UMaine Drag Show
7 p.m.
Saturday, April 21
Memorial Union

ART

Juried Student Art Exhibition
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Weekdays
Lord Hall

"The Innocent"
Photographer Rebecca McCall
8 a.m.
Through May 28
Hudson Museum

"Borrowed Art"
Ongoing Exhibition
Colvin Hall

"Witty, Sexy, Gimmicky"
British Pop Art, more
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
University of Maine Museum
of Art
\$3, Free w/ MaineCard

COMEDY

Maine Attraction
Dan Ahdoot
9 p.m.
Friday, April 20
Memorial Union

FILM

Kickin' Flicks
7:30 p.m., 10 p.m.
"Stomp the Yard"
Friday, April 20
Bangor Room

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.

Final 'Project'

Year-end concert highlights the cream of the Java Jive crop

By Jennifer Bashford
Copy Editor

It's been a long semester for some of the musicians on campus and the finals of Java Jive's The Project are now fast approaching. Back in snow-covered January, 19 acts started out the acoustic competition. The four finalists will battle on Tuesday, April 24 for a \$500 gift certificate to Mark's Music and for the glory of being named 2007's The Project Winner.

Qualifying way back on Feb. 13, solid mellow-rock duo Sons of David is made up of Jonah Bruce, a second-year computer engineering major, and Geoffrey DeBree, a second-year mechanical engineering major. They are a steady, polished act and the boys can't wait for the final next week.

"We're both very pleased and incredibly excited," DeBree said about the competition. However, they aren't getting ahead of themselves.

"At this point, I mean yeah, we want to win, but it's not even so important that we do win. I mean, we've made it this far, so we get the exposure anyway," Bruce said. "It's really just about playing for so many people in the final," DeBree added.

The Campus Activities Board plans to fill Memorial Union to bursting with chairs this coming Tuesday, and after a busy semi-final last week, it should make for a jam-packed show.

Having played together since high school, Sons of David have already bettered last year's Project attempt, where they didn't make it past the first round.

"We didn't have any expectations of ourselves this year, I don't think. Like last year I think I did. We were coming from high school where we were fairly popular, I guess, fairly successful, and then I know I had delusional thoughts about winning," Bruce said.

"I think the biggest difference this year is that we're just a lot better," DeBree said. "And more mature," added Bruce. "We have a lot more stage presence this year instead of just being nervous freshmen."

Jon Bailey, a second-year political science major, is also thrilled to have made it this far in the competition. "I am amped for the finals. I really can't wait, just because I'm just happy to be in the finals," Bailey said. "I know my friends shun this kind of talk but I really won't feel bad if I don't win." His striking voice, musical versatility and warm, effortless presence onstage will make him a strong competitor. He qualified in the most recent round, on March 27.

He also talked about the connection formed between the remaining finalists. "It's nice because it's a tight group," he said. "We've survived the elimination of several others and it's just exciting. We kind of know each other's styles now. I just met all of them, I didn't know any of them before this, so it's a really neat way to meet other musicians. It reinforced the notion that there's a musical community on this campus and for a singer-songwriter, it kind of can be lonely in that field."

There will be three guest judges for the final; Associate Dean of Students Kenda Scheele, Director of Community Standards, Rights, and Responsibilities David Fiocco and Public Safety Officer Deb Mitchell. As

in the qualifying rounds, acts will be rated on their musical sound, stage presence, originality and audience reaction but will receive a more substantial 20-minute slot to impress the judges. The competitors are taking preparations for the finals quite seriously. New songs are in the cards for many. Jon Bailey revealed that he has a few surprises tucked up his sleeve.

"They [the CAB staff] basically said we can do whatever we want with whoever we want so long as it's not really overdone, like I can't bring up a boys choir or something but I'm really looking forward to it," Bailey said.

"I had originally planned to have a couple of guest singers with me at the semi-finals but out of laziness or lack of coordination we were unable to do so. There are two very good friends of mine, both beautiful singers, fantastic voices — I'm going to do something with them. We're all really excited," Bailey explained. "And I also have this idea for an experiment with audience participation beyond the conventional clapping to the beat you know. We're going to have rehearsals and we'll see how it goes. So I'm really looking forward to it. I've got some surprises."

The Choice Professionals also qualified for the competition on March 27. The group is made up of Nicholas Mather on guitar and vocals and Karl Varian on trumpet. Both are music education majors and "we have been playing together since we met freshman year in 2004," Varian explained.

"We have really enjoyed playing in front of larger audiences this competition," Varian said, "and will surely have great fun in the final."

Not only classically trained, these guys like to have fun with their music too. Grounded in rock, they describe themselves as "bringing an edgy new style" difficult to box into a genre. They play all originals and tracks like "The Lindsay Lohan Song," supporting Tenacious D comparisons.

With an impressive 240-strong Facebook fan group and plans for an album release this summer, The Choice Professionals will be a difficult act to challenge in popularity on campus. They have a lot of confidence and experience in performance.

A recent culinary graduate from Atlantic Culinary Academy, Miles Hanson is currently majoring in mass communications at UMaine. He qualified for The Project on Feb. 27 and stirred up success in the semi-final last week with original songs and distinct vocals. He is enjoying the competition and is amazed he has been this successful.

"I have loved the competition so far. It's been a good way to get out there and perform in front of what has been a pretty steady line of warm audiences," Hanson said. "Honestly, I didn't think I'd make it past the qualifying round when I saw all the great talent before me. Even after the semi-finals I thought I was done."

Hanson said he is nervous about the finals. "I pretty much threw all my cards on the table the last rounds so it's going to be interesting to see what I come up with. But [we're] just going to go out and have fun, and do our best to make that sure the crowd does too."

The Project final will kick off at 8 p.m. in Memorial Union and will be two nail-biting hours of musical talent.



FILE PHOTOS

FINAL EXAM — From the top — The Choice Professionals, Miles Hanson, Jon Bailey and Sons of David perform this Tuesday in the final round of Java Jive's student talent show, The Project.



CAMPUS PHOTO BY OLENA TRYMAYLO

SINGING IN THE RAIN – Bisexual poet and songwriter Magdalen Hsu-Li performs Tuesday night in Memorial Union as part of Pride Week festivities.

Hsu-Li comes to Pride 'Jive'

By Jennifer Bashford
Copy Editor

"If you want to change the world, then you've gotta change yourself."

Java Jive brought inspirational bisexual performer Magdalen Hsu-Li to the University of Maine on Tuesday evening as part of Pride Week celebrations on campus. Described in her press release as "an internationally acclaimed singer-songwriter, painter and cultural activist," Hsu-Li's mission is "redefining the female musician and smashing the ceiling in the American music industry."

Magdalen Hsu-Li performed a 10-song hour-long set in which she jumped between her guitar and piano, and was accompanied by drummer Scott Morehouse for most of the tracks. While maintaining a solid grounding in acoustic rock, she flaunted her versatility as an artist, stretching between folk, jazz, pop and classical tones, probably

placing her somewhere between Tori Amos and Joni Mitchell in a lineup of female artists.

She talked of her own personal experiences with discrimination, such as homophobic protesting in Nebraska and the prejudice she faced growing up as part of a distinct Asian minority in Virginia. Her song "Divided States" touched upon these themes and clearly presented her message of tolerance and hopes for acceptance.

"I write completely from the heart," she said, "but also from my cultural heritages and the places I'm from." She also offered some profound reflections on the Virginia Tech tragedy.

For "Spirit of the World" Hsu-Li picked up a bongo drum and, joined by Morehouse, created an impressive percussion-based piece that featured extended drum solos and an ethnic beat. She also played a couple of tracks from her current album "Smashing the Ceiling," which included "No Ordinary Girl"

and "Change the World." An expert in non-conformity, Hsu-Li was also an engaging speaker and filled every gap with an inspiring insight or experience.

Hsu-Li called up some bolder songs, self-described as "freaky," to finish the show. Exhibiting much louder, powerful vocals, a frantic pace and moments of clanging on her piano with both her hands and feet, Hsu-Li was an animated performer not afraid to push her music to the limit. She ended the night on a politically driven protest aimed at the U.S. president. "F*** Bush!" was a big band, show-style romp that had the crowd laughing and cheering.

"I intend to always be defining issues of identity, raising awareness and bringing communities together through my music and art," said Hsu-Li. "My primary goal as an artist is to help break through the glass ceiling in the American music industry so that Asians become

See JIVE on Page 13

Poetry crosses the border into Bangor

By Thomas St. Pierre
Staff Reporter

Last Wednesday, April 11, writers from across Maine gathered in the Bangor Public Library for the fifth annual "Poets/Speak" event, in celebration of National Poetry Month. The three-hour reading was coordinated by Kathleen Ellis, a Maine poet and University of Maine professor, and featured a wide range of poets, many of whom were from international backgrounds.

Ellis started the program five years ago, in the aftermath of Sept. 11. She observed "a sense that people didn't trust each other." She decided, for "Poets/Speak," that she would bring in a variety of different international voices in the hope of "breaking down the spheres of other peoples." In the words of Walt Whitman, who, for Ellis, captures the essence of the program, "Stranger! if you, passing, meet me and desire to speak to me, why / should you not speak to me? / and why should I not speak to you?"

This year, in light of the political unrest in Zimbabwe, Ellis invited Zimbabwean poet Patricia Sithole. Her voice resounded in the room as she spoke in her native language for all Zimbabwean women, giving them a voice in a society largely dominated by men. Aleisha Newby, a UMaine student, echoed Sithole's words in a translation of poet Chenjerai Hove's "A Poem for Zimbabwe," stating, "in the dark clouds of my soul / you will hear a voice / that tells the story of your forgotten voices."

Other international voices included Middle Eastern and Eastern poetry read by UMaine students Dave Attean, Evan Capps and Julie Cole. Kathleen March, a UMaine professor, read a number of Spanish and Galician poems. Near the end of the program, Suz Hong Tian, Candice Stover, John Rosenwald and Sandra Hutchison spoke of their experiences in the Far East, sharing several translated poems as well as poems of their own.

Two featured poets, Carl Little and Gary Lawless, read from their latest released works, "Ocean Drinker" and "Cuban Heart," respectively. Little began with a remembrance of the late UMaine English professor Constance Hunting and her extraordinary contributions to poetry, punning that she was "Constance Hunting" for rising poetic talent. In his own reading, as in one poem, Little wittily satirized Internet spam, in particular male enhancement advertisements, commenting that they "with thanks remind me of my shortcomings." He finally proposed to "hang for a while and see what the next e-mail brings."

Lawless, in his "Cuban Heart," explored the sentiments, challenges and lives of Cuban citizens. In one of his most poignant passages, Lawless explained, "This is not / the island of heaven, this / island where spirits dance where / the sky comes down, / enters your body and / lives in your heart."

Other poets at the ceremony included Tony Brinkley, Linda Buckmaster, Annaliese Jakimides, Elizabeth Garber,

See POETS on Page 13

WMEBTop20

- 1 **MODEST MOUSE** • We Were Dead Before the Ship Even Sank
- 2 **GRINDERMAN** • Grinderman
- 3 **KLAXONS** • Myths of the Near Future
- 4 **ARCADE FIRE** • Neon Bible
- 5 **!!!** • Myth Takes
- 6 **NINE INCH NAILS** • Year Zero
- 7 **GOLDEN BEAR** • To the Farthest Star
- 8 **KAISER CHEIFS** • Yours Truly, Angry Mob
- 9 **LCD SOUNDSYSTEM** • Sound of Silver
- 10 **KINGS OF LEON** • Because of the Times
- 11 **BJORK** • Earth Intruders (Single)
- 12 **CIBO MATTO** • Pom Pom: The Essential Cibo Matto
- 13 **JARVIS COCKER** • The Jarvis Cocker Record
- 14 **THE FRATELLIS** • Costello Music
- 15 **PANDA BEAR** • Person Pitch
- 16 **RINGO SHIINA** • Heisei Fuuzoku
- 17 **TED LEO AND THE PHARMACISTS** • Living with the Living
- 18 **TEDDY BEARS** • Soft Machine
- 19 **MUSIC FOR ANIMALS** • Music For Animals
- 20 **ARCTIC MONKEYS** • Brainstorm

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CD REVIEW

Timbaland
"Timbaland Presents: Shock Value"
Interscope Records
April 3, 2007

I'll admit it: I'm a big fan of a lot of the tracks Timbaland has produced lately, especially Justin Timberlake's and Nelly Furtado's.

The overall grandiosity of tracks like JT's "What Goes Around" and Furtado's "Say It Right," in my opinion, is where Tim's production is at its best. I don't even have to call his work on these tracks a guilty pleasure; it's just a straightforward pleasure. In addition, Timbaland has done some interesting stuff with Missy Elliot in the past.

Timbaland's former work, however, stands in stark contrast with tracks like "Release" and "Fantasy" from his latest solo outing, "Timbaland Presents: Shock Value." "Release" is Tim adapting his work on "Sexyback" with quick shots of synth, and "yeah's" at the end of every measure. The synth is more constant than it is on "Sexyback," making this more of a bouncy party track. Tim's vocals and the lyrics are abysmal. Most of the track features Tim in a quavering voice talking about how he needs to "Release! / I'm out of control." The innuendo is thinly veiled, but the creepiness — the song lacks a back-and-forth with a seductive female vocalist — is not. The tune just conjures up images of a big, depraved, amorous Timbaland on a mission to find any way he can to "release," which is not a good image.

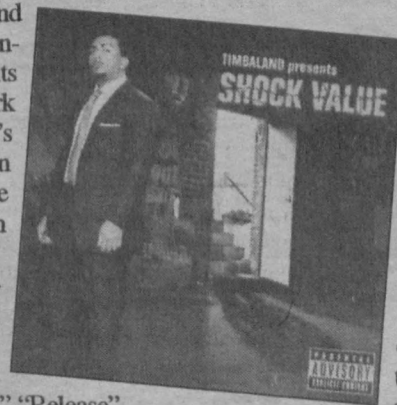
"Fantasy," with female guest vocalist Money, is a midtempo, poor-man's version of "Say It Right," and is representative of a good portion of the album. It's not that the tracks are bad, they're just staggeringly mediocre and are certainly nothing to spend your money on or call home about. In addition, the vocals contributed by Money and Keri Hilson are nowhere near as distinctive as Furtado's. Hilson, in particular, sounds like a wannabe Beyonce.

The high point is the second track on the album and the first single, "Give it to Me." The track features Furtado, Timberlake and some excellent beats and synths by Timbaland. The verses feature slinky, descending lines by Furtado, Tim and Timberlake and the chorus is big and spacious, like those on "What Goes Around" and "Say It Right." This is on par with Tim's other excellent work of late and, more than anything else on this album, is deserving of his stamp of approval.

The album ends with several collaborations, which have been garnering quite a bit of attention. Garage rock band The Hives make a guest appearance on "Throw It On Me," an upbeat club track featuring chopped-up samples of the band's guitars and some raucous vocals also courtesy of the group. It's certainly an interesting experiment, which is more than can be said for most of this album.

"One & Only" features Fall Out Boy and is extremely annoying, with a typical FOB chorus except that the instruments are sampled and cut up, and the synths are more emphasized than the guitars.

See SHOCK on Page 12



When a kiss is not just a kiss, Richard Gere and parasites panic

Say what you want about Richard Gere, he has a kiss that could burn down a city. Particularly if that city is in India. This week, Gere's effigy has been set aflame in several Indian cities after he made the culturally taboo move of kissing Bollywood starlet Shilpa Shetty.

India is not alone in its kissing taboos — 10 percent of the world's population doesn't do it. Japan and India are both freaked out by it. Irony, then, that the first reference to kissing appears in Indian Sanskrit literature, dating back to 1500 B.C. Prior to that, the closest equivalent is nose cuddling; the schnozz-to-schnozz sideways rub.

Gere's international incident of love asks some deeper questions about our own views on displays of affection. What is it that we judge when we judge someone's sexual proclivities? If a kiss truly is just a kiss in our own culture, while still enough to inspire burning images of "Chicago"'s dapper male lead in India, it shows that culture has as much to do with our "value judgments" about sexuality as anything else.

When the flappers of the '20s started kissing

**This
week in
sex**



Eryk Salvaggio

with tongues in the streets of New York, the older generation was appalled. They gave it a name stripped straight from the most sexually barbarous culture they knew, and French kissing was born.

Today, the kiss is hardly shocking on its own. The kiss is no longer a destination. Instead, it's the dusty ghost town passed by en route to the

scandalous acts of the modern day. The rushed, sloppy and awkward mouth-lock is no way to treat a set of lips. While it has its place, pure numbers tell you: you will kiss more people than you sleep with, so you may as well make the most of kissing. The first kiss, though, is a different story.

"The decision to kiss for the first time is the most crucial in any love story," wrote the German writer Emil Ludwig. "It changes the relationship of two people much more strongly than even the final surrender; because this kiss already has within it that surrender."

The impulse to kiss for the first time is real, immediate and unexplainable. At best, it is the

See KISS on Page 13

Crouching Tiger



CAMPUS PHOTO BY ROSE COLLINS

GO NINJA GO — Apollo Clark makes an appearance at Memorial Union last Friday as a performance art project.

Asian Heritage Month gets spicy at 'Taste of Asia'

By Thomas St. Pierre
Staff Reporter

In recognition of Asian Heritage Month, the Asian Student Association at the University of Maine sponsored its biggest event of the year, Taste of Asia, on Friday, April 13. It featured a variety of Asian art, music and performances, all accompanied by a three-course Asian meal. The two-hour event, held in the Stodder Catering Center, provided a comfortable and inexpensive environment to leisurely sit, eat, socialize

and most importantly, experience Asian culture.

The evening commenced when Jing Ling, president of the ASA, welcomed all of the guests and expressed his organization's interest in "spreading Asian cultural awareness through audio and visual performances." He introduced the keynote speaker for the evening, Dean of Students Angel Loredo, who applauded the UMaine Asian community for its strong commitment to Asian culture and history.

"I am very impressed with their

contributions," Loredo stated, also referencing their "strong commitment to diversity." For him, the wonderful impact the Asian community has on campus cannot be overstated, and it is important for students to understand the culture.

Following Loredo's speech, egg rolls and chicken wings were served, accompanied by live entertainment including a short film, "A Journey to Asia," compiled by Isaac White, original guitar music by Pemba Lama and a Chinese folk dance by Jiaojiao Gu.

At this point, the main dish was

brought out — white rice, lo mein and a delectable assortment of specialty Asian chicken. While the attendees focused on this Chinese cuisine, Beiyun Liu provided some classical piano music in the background.

Next, in the most provocative performance of the evening, Calvin Do emerged fully cloaked in a ninja costume and began perhaps the most captivating hip-hop ninja dance in the history of the university.

A vocal performance by Izumi Watanabe succeeded the ninja per-

formance, followed by a traditional Vietnamese dance by the group White Lotus featuring members Jenny Huynh, Yen Jiang, Bingxin Shen and Van Tran. The evening concluded with dessert, a satisfying mixture of wontons, fruit and rice pudding.

"Each year a different dimension of culture is presented," Loredo commented after the performance, marking his fifth year of attendance since the program began. It is so important, he continued, that the "contributions of students be more noticed."

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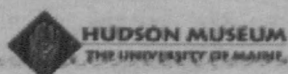
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SHOCK

From Page 11

"Apologize," featuring One Republic, is your average ballad that a fan of The Fray would enjoy, except that the beats are kind of hip-hop — not all that out-of-the-ordinary for pop music nowadays — and Tim is shouting out the same "heys" found on "Say It Right" throughout the track.

"2-Man Show," the final track on the album featuring Elton John, is worthless. It's nothing more than Tim rambling things like "uh-huh" and "I like that," with some uninteresting piano from Elton John and some choral vocals.

In addition to his pop moments, there are plenty of uninteresting rap

tracks, with Tim throwing down such threatening lines as "Kill yourself / Go on, kill yourself / If I was you I wouldn't feel myself." None of these tracks are particularly distinctive or noteworthy, and Tim is at his least impressive when trying to pull off this sort of bragadocious drivel. He's much more impressive when producing unique pop and hip-hop tracks like those he's done for Timberlake, Furtado, Elliot or Aaliyah.

Overall, I would not recommend this album. Most of it is incredibly mediocre. I would say that if you hear "Give It To Me" enough on the radio, then you'll certainly get your fill of this album. If you really want a good Timberlake fix, I'd suggest checking out "FutureSex/LoveSounds" by Timberlake or "Loose" by Furtado.

—Derek Dobachesky



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Breaking new ground with 'Breaking Aromaticity'

By Sophia Tam
Staff Reporter

WMEBSpot



CAMPUS PHOTO BY TSZYAN TAM

YOU'RE PUSHING MY BUTTONS -
Dylan Montgomery at WMEB.

After visiting the radio show "The New Hotness" in the summer of 2005, Dylan Montgomery decided to start a college radio show with his friend, Christine Guerette, which they called "Breaking Aromaticity."

Montgomery is a fifth-year chemistry student at the University of Maine. He met his partner, Guerette, a couple summers ago through work. Montgomery and Guerette decided to name their show "Breaking Aromaticity" because they are both science students and they like the word aromaticity, which means to make something less stable. "We just thought it was a cool name," Montgomery said, laughing.

When asked about the content of the show, Montgomery said they do not plan out any themes or topics in advance and don't write scripts too often. He tries not to write scripts for every show because he loves to say whatever comes to his mind.

"Saying funny things is what we do," Montgomery said, acknowledging that some-

times he surprises himself with the things that come out of his mouth. Montgomery described the show as "verbal abuse," because he and Guerette make fun of each other and seem to enjoy their mutual annoyance as it plays out on the air.

Apart from making jokes and chatting, Montgomery also plays a variety of music during the show. His musical taste revolves around his favorite bands, Two Ton Boa and Depeche Mode. Montgomery and Guerette usually split the two-hour show in half, with one playing the music for the first hour and the other spinning for the second. He thinks it broadens the range of the playlist, exposing people to different kinds of music. When asked what kind of music he usually plays, Montgomery said, "I will play almost anything, but no emo." Then, he broke into singing some emo music for emphasis.

Besides playing a wide range of music Montgomery also invites guests to the show. He said that his favorite guest was writer Ernest

Hemingway, who died in 1961. After a moment of confusion, Montgomery smiled and explained he and Guerette would sometimes make fake guests. These include people who passed away long ago or celebrities that they could never get on the program. The topic on the night of this interview was "the spirit of dead writers."

Montgomery has been running the show with Guerette for two years. He said that his fondest memory of the show was what he called "Christine's bible." The project was an expression of their disagreement over WMEB's new slogan, "Redefining the alternative." Guerette had filled about 100 sheets of paper with different ideas for slogans. They posted their ideas in the hallway of the studio and got many responses from students and the WMEB officers. Montgomery thought it was a special experience for him and Guerette.

Montgomery would like to keep the show going while he works toward his master's degree. When asked if he would want to work in a radio station after graduation, he shook his head and said "No," adding, "My main purpose is to entertain myself."

KISS

From Page 12

payoff to the days, weeks, or months of hormonal angst coursing through your brain. At worst, it is the kind of awkward mistake you make with your friend.

When something as strange and awkward as a kiss becomes so loaded, we might ask why we even bother? Swiss research is shedding a vehemently unromantic light on this question.

Science's answer to every love poem? Parasitical infection. Swiss scientists have found that women are attracted to men whose genetic immunity varies from their own, because mixing up opposite ends of the spectrum makes babies healthier in fighting off pesky parasites. The theory is, you can figure this out — subconsciously — by smelling body odor. In the era of 24-hour protection from armpit stink, the next best thing is the face-to-face contact that we get from kissing.

Another evolutionary suggestion gives insight to what makes a kiss good in the first place. Most experts on the matter suggest that the key to good kissing is creativity and a spirit of playfulness. If you're a good flirt, then you already have that much. Artists, poets and musicians have earned reputations as romantics through this virtue alone. The signal sent by creativity suggests that you have the resourcefulness to make due in times of struggle. However, even if you would freeze to death in a snowstorm, you can fake otherwise: Put a few styles in your repertoire and mix them up, and even if you're the stiffest kisser on Earth, you'll get some bluff time.

None of this, of course, makes any sense if you've ever actually kissed someone. The first kiss of any couple rarely involves parasites, frostbite or Richard Gere. Maybe the best part about kissing is its mystery. Locking lips under the cold hard light of the examination table is no fun at all.

JIVE

From Page 11

accepted as artistic and commercial forces in popular music."

Currently signed to the independent label Chickpop Records, Magdalen Hsu-Li has sold more than 12,000 records and her current album is available online and in larger music stores. More informa-

tion can be found on her Web site at <http://www.magdalenhsuli.com>.

The event took place as part of her spring semester tour spanning over 40 campuses in the United States. Unfortunately, it was sparsely attended as students avoided the relentless rain. However, Magdalen Hsu-Li received an enthusiastic reaction from the audience that had braved the elements and it was an inspired evening of rebellious music.

POET

From Page 11

Jackie Michaud, Burt Hatlen, Lee Sharkey, Shirley Glubka, Autumn Ward, Leonore Hildebrandt and Ellis herself.

For Ellis, "Poets/Speak" is a unique opportunity to escape the sometimes banal reading of books. "You're actually coming and seeing it," she said. "When you hear poetry, it will excite you to read it."

In addition, Ellis looks to "bring together the university community and the community at large," as well as "increase their awareness of the arts in general." Most importantly, "Poets/Speak" represents the coming together of many voices and the bridging of large cultural gaps under the celebration of language.

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THE NICE ONES GO EARLY!

Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 to April 20

You will be in a good mood and able to relate perfectly with everybody around. Be careful and avoid jokes that might hurt other people's feelings!

Taurus

April 21 to May 20

Creativity will allow you to succeed. Pay due attention to your loved one's needs! Making money doesn't mean having no personal life.

Gemini

May 21 to June 21

Charisma will help you to be successful today. You can be extremely efficient in business and domestic activities. Avoid controversies with an older person in the family.

Cancer

June 22 to July 22

The opportunity will arise for you to get involved in a new activity which will bring you significant benefits. You have been working hard, but your colleagues may not be too pleased about this.

Leo

July 23 to August 22

Chances are you will be facing a series of obstacles, but you will manage just fine. Your sentimental relationship may become somewhat tense. You are advised to talk everything over calmly with your loved one.

Virgo

Aug. 23 to Sept. 22

You will feel full of energy and your ideas will be appreciated. Seize any opportunity to relax! Thinking about expenses? Money is no issue and you deserve to relax.

Libra

Sept. 23 to Oct. 23

An older relative trying to interfere with your plans might upset you. Some of the advice, though, might prove useful. In the evening, when things will slow down, you will pay a visit to friends. You need to catch up with some sleep, you know.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 to Nov. 22

It's a good time for you to make plans for the future and meet with friends. You are advised to pay due attention to the needs of the younger members of the family.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 to Dec. 21

Your sentimental relationship may not unfold smoothly in the afternoon. Don't worry! A close friend will help you overcome the situation.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 to Jan. 20

After a less than favourable period in your love life, your luck is back. You will meet a person who may win your heart at first sight.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 to Feb. 18

You will be in excellent intellectual shape. You are advised to take advantage of it and dedicate your time to education and future projects. Intuition is your ally today.

Pisces

Feb. 19 to March 20

You will have a really busy time with a lot of problems to deal with. Although you can be rather efficient, you may want to accept your friends' support.

THE MAINE
CAMPUS

DIVERSIONS

Into the Fire — Turning Tables

By Rick LaPlante and Diego Alves



REAPER STEVE

By Brian Sylvester



LOGIC MAN!

By Brian Sylvester



Momentary Dementia - It's not that I don't care, I'm just lazy.

By - Steven Lindquist



Momentary Dementia - Hyaku nin Gir... I wish...

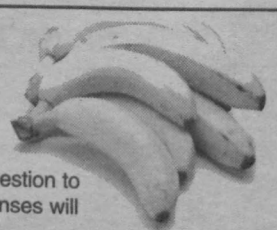
By - Steven Lindquist



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SUDOKUPUZZLE

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

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hard

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!

NURIKABEPUZZLE

			2					
						2		7
		2					1	
						2		
	6							
1					5			
6		5						
				4				

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easy

HOW TO PLAY

Like Sudoku, each puzzle has only one solution, and that solution can be reached without resorting to trial and error.

Each square must be black or white. Use dots to mark the squares you know are white. Nurikabe has four additional rules:

- Each group of white cells ("islands") must contain only one number.
- The number of white squares in a group must equal that number.
- All black squares must be linked together to form a continuous block (the "wall" or "stream").
- 2x2 blocks of black squares are disallowed.
- Remember: If a square cannot be white, it must be black!

EXAMPLE

5	2			3	
					1
		1			
			4		
	2				
	4			2	3

EXAMPLE SOLUTION

5	2			3	
.	1
.
.	.	1	.	.	.
.	.	.	4	.	.
.	2
.	4	.	.	2	3

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Your world: A glimpse 20 years into future events

In the past, I've written spoofs on current events in a "real news" style. Usually, these are a reaction on my part to some recent happening or a personality that seems ludicrous or inane to me and worthy of ridicule, at least for a little while. Recently, however, there have been a series of events that have made me wonder what the world will be like 20 years from now, when these are looked back on in much the same way we remember events from the late '80s. So, here for you today is "The Rambling Fool," brought to you by The Maine Campus in 2027.

Rambling Fool

By Benjamin Jarvela



comments led to his dismissal and eventual execution when, in 2011, the Rainbow Push Coalition led a successful, if short-lived, coup on

the government of New Jersey. "This is the best idea I've seen yet," said Jonnella Junaid. "Not that anyone watches women's ball anymore anyways, since Frisbee golf became an NCAA sport."

This is not the first time in recent years that a college sports team has chosen to shake things up by remaking its image. In 2012, Texas A&M went ahead with the highly contested decision to rename themselves the Texas A&M Running Mexicans. Officials stated that the decision was made to reflect local conditions and was no more offensive than team names like the Fighting Irish or the Atlanta Braves.

Iraq still sucks

Former president Bush refuses to come out of bathroom

As sectarian violence in Iraq enters its 23rd year, officials in the Olsen administration are hard-pressed to figure out a way to bring the troops home, many of whom have been on extended deployments since 2009.

"America must remember that by fighting them there, we don't have to fight them here," said President Mary Kate Olsen. "Although, it can sometimes be tough to determine who 'they' are."

After the disastrous attempts by several presidential administrations to remove U.S. ground troops from the region in 2008, 2010, 2016, and 2023, the Olsen administration is readily admitting that it is running out of ideas. Defense Secretary Ashley Olsen announced Monday the creation of a new Web site, <http://www.outofIraq.gov>, dedicated to taking ideas from the American public as how to best dislodge the nation's military from the Middle East.

"After the 'benchmarks' disaster back in '08 and '10, we're definitely not going to try to make the Iraqis do anything. We know that just trying to pull out and leave over the weekend won't work after that bit in 2016. And who could possibly forget the 'give them all a dollar to stop fighting' debacle in '23," said Secretary Olsen during a White House press conference. "This administration has no choice but to ask the American people, directly, what they think should be done."

In related news, former president George W. Bush, who initiated the conflict in Iraq in 2003, is now refusing to come out of the bathroom of his ranch in Crawford, Texas.

"My father deeply appreciates the concern of the American people, but he has decided at this time to not come out of the bathroom until everyone stops talking about Iraq and we get him some ice cream," said Jenna Bush, the former president's daughter, who was just recently released from her fourth stay in a drug rehabilitation clinic.

Heiress found dead in bathtub

Dannielynn Hope Marshall Stern, the child of deceased former Playboy model Anna Nicole Smith and all-around white-trash Larry Birkhead, was found dead in her bathtub in Tulsa, OK early yesterday morning, having apparently choked to death on a floating collection of scratch tickets.

Officials announced this morning that Stern will likely be cremated at the expense of the public treasury, her notable fortune having been primarily squandered by her biological father in the years before his own death. Birkhead was crushed to death by a 450-pound exotic dancer in 2019.

"It's no secret that her dad blew most of her money back in the teens," said family friend Howard K. Stern, for whom Dannielynn was partially named. "He had a real thing for big women and, well, big women don't come cheap."

What remained of the family fortune after Birkhead's death, according to public tax records, was spent mostly by Stern on malt liquor and scratch lottery tickets. Stern had publicly stated that after completing a line of three "O's" in Oklahoma's Tic-Tac-Toe scratch lottery game in 2021, thus winning the \$10,000 top prize, she felt that this would be the fastest way to recoup her lost fortune.

Joel Levenstein, the mayor of Tulsa, said that Stern's ashes would be laid to rest in a public ceremony next Monday.

Rutgers basketball team re-named

In a controversial move, the administration of Rutgers University has announced that it has renamed its female basketball team the "Rutgers Nappy-Headed Hos." Players and fans alike were shocked, but quickly pacified by a press conference late yesterday afternoon.

"It's been 20 years or so since the Rutgers women's basketball team did anything worth noting," said Rutgers head coach Michael Richards. "After the Imus incident of '07, we had a very difficult time attracting new recruits to the team. This is our attempt to make amends with the past and lure in next season's potential freshmen players."

The Rutgers female basketball team was first referred to as "nappy-headed hos" by radio personality Don Imus in 2007. The

WIN, LOSE OR



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PUBLICATION SUBJECT TO EDITOR'S DISCRETION.



By Sean Hladick
For The Maine Campus

Hope and despair, love and hate. These words describe the sensations felt during a Shakespearian play, or following the Boston Celtics.

Three die-hard basketball fans at UMaine, Max Ludwig, A.J. Carter and Steve Moran have seen and felt the season's highs and lows. Ludwig and Carter are Celtics fans through and through; they bleed green. Their counterpart Moran is a life-long Chicago Bulls fan. These three have been to five Celtics games this season and when they aren't in Boston they don't stray far from a television. Carter notes, "I've missed all of like eight games on TV."

Five games in the course of an 82-game season may seem measly, but it must be put into perspective. The crew had to leave Orono right after class at 2 p.m. and drive about four hours south. After they screamed until their lungs gave out, they hopped back on the road for four more hours, hoping to make it back by 3 a.m. for a few hours of sleep before class the next day. Each game is a 13-hour event for them. It alters their week.

The Boston Celtics currently stand at 23-55, last in their division, the worst team in the entire Eastern Conference. It wasn't supposed to be like this, not for this team and not this year. After exciting wins versus contending teams, like the recent double-overtime thriller against the Orlando Magic, some fans are asking: How did this happen?

The Celtics' season can be told through those five games.

Before the season began, tragedy had already struck. Arnold Jacob "Red" Auerbach, the architect of the Celtics dynasty, died at the age of 89.

His death struck deeply and many thought it would propel this year's team to greater heights.

November 3: The Celtics (0-1) hosted the Detroit Pistons (0-1), a showdown between the up-and-coming Celtics and the perennial powerhouse Pistons. Both teams suffered letdowns on opening night and were looking to get even. Detroit was the favorite, so a win would show the great strides the Celtics had made. Ludwig's game plan for victory is simple: "We'll win this game if [Brian Scalabrine] gets under 10 minutes of playing time."

Two hours and 10 minutes later, the boys were trudging back to their car, dejected. The Pistons won 101-88. Boston was winning early on, but Ludwig called the loss at half-time when Piston shooting guard Richard Hamilton ran the length of the court and sank an uncontested three-pointer at the buzzer. "That's the game."

The professionalism and maturity of a seasoned Detroit team lead to an anemic fourth quarter and a deflated car ride home.

Scalabrine's total playing time was 00.00 minutes, registering as a DNP, coach's decision.

November 10: The Celtics fell out of the gates to a 1-3 record, barely stealing a win from the Charlotte Bobcats. This night, they hosted the Utah Jazz (4-1), who shocked everyone with their dominant play thus far. Already, pessimism was taking over. "I don't really expect to win since we haven't proved anything yet. Beating the Bobcats is like beating Ray Charles at a round of golf. Sure you can line him up and tell him to swing, but eventually he's going to chop a shot into the woods," said Carter.

What does Ludwig think is needed for a win? "A miracle."

No miracle was in store for Boston, losing 107-100, the score kinder on the eyes than the actual game. "That was painful," Ludwig said bluntly. Spirits were down, but they weren't ready to give up on the team yet. "I see so much potential with our bench and our rookies. [Rajon] Rondo's future looks brighter with every game," said Carter. "I'm really hoping for a big trade before the deadline, and that would really make my hopes turn around."

November 29: During the time elapsed from the boys' last visit to Boston, the Celtics strung together a few wins and improved to 5-8. Tonight's game is important since their opposition, the New Jersey Nets (5-9), are considered the best contender in the Celtics' division. "We need this one, got to keep things rolling and start moving up in the division," said Carter.

The Ludwig game plan is less divine this time around: "Kendrick Perkins needs to score more than like five points since their big man looks like a skeleton in a Nets jersey."

Perkins scored one point, four short of Ludwig's suggestion, and the Celtics lost by three, 106-103. The game ended on a turnover by Boston's best three-point shooter, Wally Szczerbiak, who stepped out of bounds. The boys were speechless, the ride home quiet, the optimism dwindled. "Are we ever going to see a win?" uttered Ludwig.

Before they could scrounge together more money for another game, things took a turn for the worse. The injury bug began to run through the team, claiming its star player Paul Pierce for roughly 20 games. The team went into a tailspin, losing a franchise-record 18 games in a row during this span and falling to

the bottom of the standings.

"The despair was contagious," said Moran. "I really felt for my Celtic-loving friends, while at the same time being glad I wasn't one of them."

The word "playoffs" was now replaced by the word "draft." "It completely demolished my hopes of this season and shifted them to next year and the loaded draft," said Ludwig. Fans began to dream about college phenoms Greg Oden and Kevin Durant.

March 8: The Celtics hosted the Seattle Supersonics. The crushed fans decided that even though the season felt like a wash, they could still enjoy the games — even if they had ulterior motives.

"I might just be the world's biggest Ray Allen fan. I was yelling 'Jesus!' every time he dropped a bomb," said Ludwig, explaining how he had to call the Sonics star by his famous character's name so that he didn't feel as bad for cheering against his own team. Allen played top high school basketball prospect Jesus Shuttlesworth in the movie "He Got Game."

The patented Ludwig game plan: "Chalk this up as a win if Al Jefferson has a big game."

Although Allen scored 22 points, Jefferson had 31 and 16 rebounds as the Celtics managed to win handily, 118-103. It was the happiest the crew had been during the four-hour return trip this season.

As the season went on, the boys turned their attention to the young guns. "It's been a complete roller coaster with the only rock of the group being Al Jefferson, who's been talked about as the most improved player in the NBA," said Ludwig. "Rondo's only 19 and has been incredibly fun to watch, aside

from the constant rookie mistakes. Gerald Green has been the wildest of the group, and at the same time captured the entire league's eye with his win in the dunk contest. Next year, if Green can show any signs of consistency, it could make for an exciting season."

March 11: Just as before, this final trip for the group had a hidden motivation, a treat for Moran. The Celtics were hosting his beloved Bulls. "This is the first time I've ever gotten to see them in person. I grew up idolizing the championship teams, so this has been a long time coming," said Moran.

"Hopefully we get lucky, maybe Ben Wallace will slip on something during the pre-game warm-ups," said Ludwig, on how the Celtics should approach the game.

Despite Ludwig's wishes, Wallace managed to stay upright as he scored 10 points and grabbed 14 rebounds en route to a 94-78 Chicago victory. "We didn't talk much about the game on the ride home. I caught enough dirty looks in the Fleet Center," said Moran.

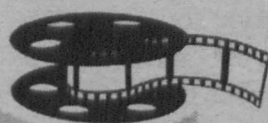
And so went the season. They moved from optimistic to pessimistic, from the playoffs to the draft. The Fleet Center went from sold out to spaced out, and the fans went from cheering for Pierce to cheering for Oden. The Boston Celtics' fans shifted from confident to humble in 73 games. Yet with all of that, the draft does a funny thing: it starts the whole process over again. Next year's team will consist of a top collegiate player, their star Paul Pierce and all of the young talent they've watched develop this season. So where does that position them next season? Ludwig and Carter think they know the answer: "Playoffs!"



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THE **DIVISION OF**
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HAWKINS

From Page 20

getting into tee-ball. She says she has always been into sports. One of her biggest inspirations is the US Olympic softball team. She loves spending time with her best friends — her teammates — both on and off the field. Her favorite part of the game is just the college athlete experience. As a walk-on, she says she "never expected to be a starter on a team of 20 in such a big school."

Hawkins says that she is pretty superstitious and has a number of pre-game rituals she faithfully performs. Her breakfast meal is usually cereal or a bagel.

"I don't like to eat anything heavy on game days," she explained. She says that she always showers the night before and straightens her hair in the morning. She wears eye black and puts her hair in a ponytail for every game. She also always listens to music on the bus ride to the game: "Anything but heavy metal," she says with a laugh. "The song that I usually want to hear to get me pumped up is 'Candy Shop' by 50 Cent," she says. "It's also my at-bat song."

Her favorite game from her career playing for UMaine is the

doubleheader they played against Albany to advance to the NCAA regional tournament during her freshman year. They lost both games, but she said it was an honor to even be there. As a senior, she says she is really going to miss being a part of the softball team when she graduates.

*"It's my senior year —
I'm trying not to think
too much and just do the
things I do."*

Kristie Hawkins
First baseman
UMaine softball

"I'm going to miss being around the team," she says. "I'm actually going to miss being so busy with practices and workouts and meetings. That stuff is tough on your schedule sometimes, but it's also nice to be busy. It's going to be a huge change [after graduation]." She won't offer any predictions for the rest of the season, but her hope is that they will come out hard in their next 10 games in an effort to make the America East Tournament.

LAX

From Page 20

has had a number of close games, most being within five goals of a win.

"We only had one really bad loss," said Roberts, referring to their 22-7 loss to Salem State. "Our team wasn't clicking that day." Roberts added that they were missing a few key players.

The team has also managed to raise enough money to purchase a total of 60 jerseys for both away and home games — 30 white and 30 blue.

With the numbers expected to swell next year, Roberts hopes to increase the total number of jerseys to outfit a team of 40.

With 33 men currently on the roster — an improvement from last year's 21 — the team overcame the loss of a few players by snagging 12 freshmen.

"We're a lot younger this year," said Roberts. "The chemistry of the team has changed a little."

Freshman Joe Mango, who was captain of Fryeburg Academy's lacrosse team his junior year, is one of the outstanding players on the team this year.

"I am very excited for playoffs," said Mango. "I honestly believe we will do well."

This year, Roberts said that Mike Capen is the team's lead attackman, while Hoyt, Roberts and Jason Porter lead the defense. Josh Delcourt leads the midfield.

"There are many returned play-

ers from last year that provide great leadership," said Roberts.

These players include Derek Pike, Andrew Coughlin, Brett Ferry, Alex Legassey and Seth Fournier.

The team will only graduate two or three players this year, leaving next season a promising one.

With growing numbers usually comes growing talent and more capability. Since the better teams are in Division A of the PCLL, the club hopes to leave their current division and join a more cutthroat and competitive playing field.

"When we organized this team by joining [the PCLL] we viewed it as the first step in developing a varsity lacrosse program for the University of Maine," said Ken Hoyt, president of the lacrosse club.

Roberts, who was voted by the team in January to be the club president next year, hopes to soon join class A of the PCLL, as soon as the club has enough funding. This year, the team had a budget of around \$8,000; in order to fund the traveling that joining class A would entail, the team needs to increase their budget by around \$2,000. Class A of the PCLL consists of 10 teams including BC, BU, Northeastern and URI.

A new addition to Student Government, the Sport Club Council, is aimed at helping sports clubs like the lacrosse team to accomplish fundraising goals.

"I hope the Council takes this opportunity and organizes collective fundraising, uniting clubs with smaller numbers to help them fundraise together," said Guerette.

Guerette, who has been work-



CAMPUS PHOTO BY JENNA LAVALLÉE

SCOOP 'EM UP — A UMaine lacrosse player grabs a ball off the turf during practice last weekend on Morse Field.

ing with sports clubs officers to form this new council, said that not only will there be better fundraising opportunities, but more overall support from the university.

"Having better relationships between clubs could positively affect the amount of spectators at competitions much like the varsity teams support each other here," said Guerette.

This Saturday, the lacrosse club

is hosting a round-robin with teams from Unity College, St. Joe's and Bowdoin. There will be one game every hour with 20-minute halves.

"I had a chance to stop by their last match at home, and they had a very good turnout considering the terrible weather," said Guerette.

The PCLL Division B playoffs, which gather the top four teams in the league, will be held on April 27 and 28 at UNH. Although

UMaine's not-so-stellar record of 1-4 leaves them ranked last, Roberts is confident that the team is capable of winning.

Salem State, which has more organized coaching and more turf time available, poses the biggest threat so far for the team.

"I think we have the talent to win the whole thing," said Roberts, adding, "Our record doesn't show how good of a team we are."

WOMEN

From Page 20

"Our season really starts after spring break, and it's hard sometimes because fields aren't clear," Lockhart said.

Players pay \$40 per year in team dues while the rest of the squad's funding — including league dues — is covered by a combination of fundraising and Campus Rec.

Students of all skill levels are welcome to join the team, which is always looking for new faces regardless of previous lacrosse experience.

"Mostly, people have picked up a stick before, but anyone can play," said Lisa Carpenter, a freshman. "A lot of girls played in high school, some have taken a couple of years off, some are new to the game — we have a mix of different stories."

As the sport has grown across the country, participation in high schools across Maine has risen as well. Many of the club's members played lacrosse in high school: Burrows at Brunswick, Carpenter at Kents Hill and Lockhart at Greely.

"In the private school league it's not really huge, but a lot of girls pick it up because they're there and there's nothing else to

do," Carpenter explained.

Lockhart — who played at the varsity level at Allegheny College in Pennsylvania before transferring to UMaine — had a stronger high school experience.

"Southern Maine is different, there are more teams and more competition," she said. "Further south in Massachusetts and New Jersey they've been playing since elementary school, so the game has been

developing and moving north."

Positive high school experiences help develop interest in the sport and lead many players to seek more opportunities to play once they arrive on campus in Orono.

"I loved it in high school," Carpenter said. "It's always a challenge and there's always something new to learn."

As the club looks to expand membership, the hope is that those

experiences will translate to a lot of fun that keeps members sticking around.

"I had a really good time playing freshman year, and I wanted to get more involved and keep the team alive," said Burrows.

The squad is always looking for new members and anyone interested in trying lacrosse or joining can contact Kelly Burrows or visit the team's folder on FirstClass.

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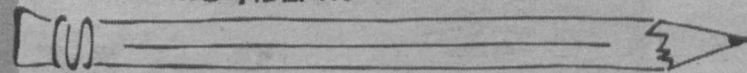
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RED SOX CORNER

By Seth Poplaski
For The Maine Campus

So here we are, 12 games into the Red Sox season and things seem to be shaping up as Red Sox fans have been hoping. The Red Sox are winning, the Yankees are sucking and all is well in Beantown. For the second year, Josh Beckett has started his season off at an impressive 3-0. He is taking over the role of the Red Sox ace. With Shilling and Wakefield also off to good starts, it seems as if not much could be going better. The main issue concerning the Red Sox is Japanese pitcher, Daisuke Matsuzaka, and his 1-2 start. After all, the Sox spent \$100 million on this guy, so he should be pitching lights-out ball. Is it an issue at all? I don't think so. The issue here is not his pitching, it's the lack of run support for the new guy.

In Matsuzaka's first start against the Royals, he picked up the win while striking out 10 batters. In fact, no Red Sox rookie had ever struck out that many batters in their first appearance.

I know I thought to myself, "This guy is good." I bet the Royals thought that too. During the past two games, however, it seems as if he has not been as lights-out as he was the first game. He was given losses against Seattle and Toronto, giving up three runs in the first game and two runs in his last. All of the runs were earned.

How many runs did the Red Sox score? A whopping one run for both of the games. There's

the problem right there. Last time I checked, runs win a game. You can argue that defense wins a game and I agree it does, but if you have no runs to back up your pitchers you won't win any games. Having the lowest score is good in track and field and in Hearts — the card game — but in baseball you need all the run support you can get. Yes, Matsuzaka has a 1-2 record, but he has a solid 2.70 ERA and 24 strikeouts on the early season. That's more than any other Red Sox pitcher has right now.

Run support is what we need and what Matsuzaka has not had his past two starts.

Red Sox batters need to start heating up. Manny hasn't hit a homerun yet, but that is not a big deal right now. My prediction is that Mike Lowell will have to step it up. He is generally the No. 6 batter and let's face it, with him behind Ortiz, Ramirez and Drew he will have plenty of chances to knock in some RBIs. Lowell could be the unsung hero of 2007 with a golden opportunity to give the Red Sox the run support that they need when Matsuzaka or any other pitcher is pitching.

Thankfully it's still early in the season and there are still more than 140 games that are going to be played. Let's just hope that as the season rolls on, the Sox will buckle down and score some more runs, and the Yankees will continue to be plagued with injuries and blowouts.

STEAM

From Page 20

ing back, holding on to a tight lead and by scoring runs late in the game; three types of games we hadn't been able to win up until this point."

The sweep couldn't have come at a better time for the Black Bears, who had previously lost 16 of their last 17 and eight in a row. As the team continued to flounder, UMaine took to the series — moved to Mansfield, Conn. due to bad weather in Orono — with a desire to refocus itself before the season slipped away.

"This weekend really was a springboard for us," said leadoff man Billy Cather. "We knew we needed to regain our confidence and now we're feeling great. We're going into this series on a high."

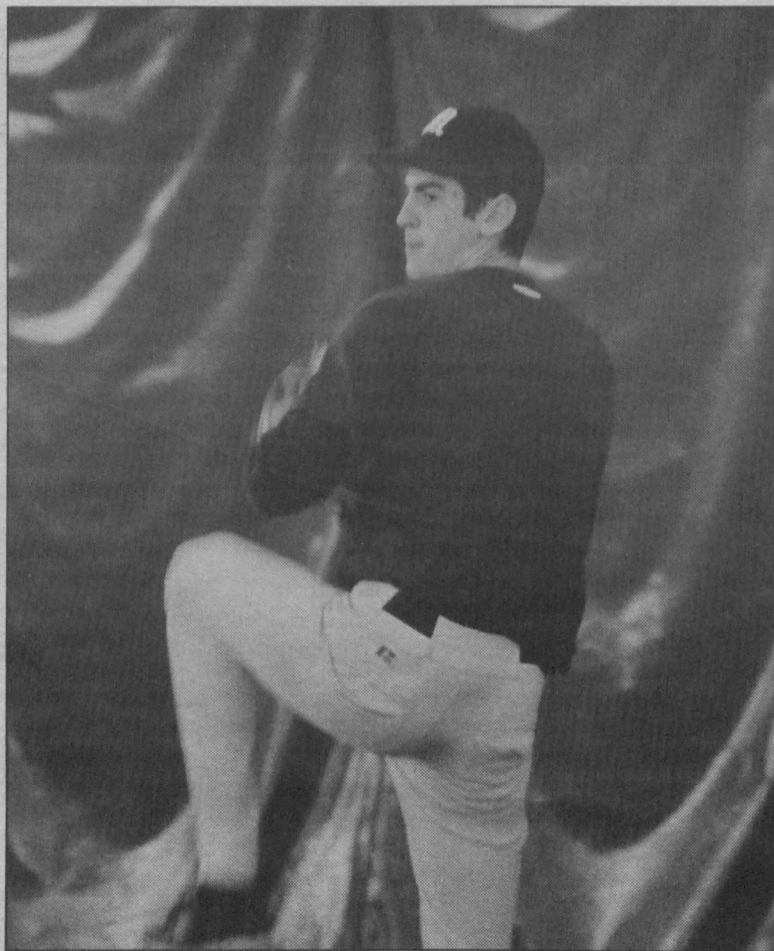
At the same time, it's hard for the Black Bears not to admit to the changes in atmosphere.

"There's no question that we needed this sweep; we've needed something to build on for some time," said UMaine manager Stephen Trimper. "We've been looking at finding some consistency and getting back into a groove."

"This is certainly an air of confidence we haven't had for a few weekends, but more importantly it showed us we could win again," said McGraw.

Throughout the four games, which saw the Black Bears post victories of 8-1, 3-1, 7-6 and 12-1, a much-improved pitching staff managed to make several strides in the right direction after a horrid previous weekend against typically cellar-dwelling Stony Brook.

"The pitching staff controlled the walks in this weekend, which in my opinion is the most important thing they needed to do," said McGraw. "As a pitcher you don't necessarily improve week to week. That's why the most important factor is controlling your pitches and cutting down walks."



CAMPUS PHOTO BY LAURA GIORGIO

FROM THE STRETCH — A UMaine pitcher winds up during practice yesterday at Mahaney Dome.

To keep those noticeable improvements going, the Black Bears are eager to take the NYIT decisions day-by-day no matter how cliché it sounds.

If this past weekend proved anything, it's that the defense is starting to steel itself.

"I think it's a sign that after a few weeks of a lot of defensive changes, our team is starting to feel comfortable with our newly defined roles," said McGraw.

Currently anchoring the now-moving Black Bear engine are sophomore second baseman Danny Menendez and Myckie Lugauber who each received America East Player of the Week accolades. Menendez was named Player of the Week, while Lugauber earned Rookie of the Week honors for the

third time this year. Over the weekend, Menendez hit .727 — 8-for-11 from the plate — while crossing the plate five times and smacking in four RBIs. Raising his batting average 66 points, Menendez was one of the main bright spots on the trip. As for Lugauber, he hit .455 and brought home three RBI. Lugauber was moved from his usual position of catcher to DH on Saturday due to a limiting injury.

The four-game series against NYIT kicks off on Friday at 7 p.m.

"It's a great chance to control their top hitters, score runs on a good staff and beat down a team who compares well with our conference quality," said McGraw.

Saturday's doubleheader begins at 1 p.m. and the series caper goes off on Sunday at 4 p.m.

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Looking for a few good men

Openings at skill positions highlight start of spring football

By Matt Williams
Sports Editor

Change is the operative word around the University of Maine football locker room this spring. It's been four years since the Black Bears had a starting quarterback not named Ron Whitcomb and the squad's 18-month-old spread offense has never run through anyone but Arel Gordon. It's also been nearly 20 years since Bobby Wilder — longtime offensive coordinator and former UMaine signal caller — hasn't been patrolling the sidelines in Orono.

Even the name of the conference has changed, as the vaunted Atlantic 10 folded into the Colonial Athletic Association. The Black Bears aren't afraid of the myriad of changes, though, and are embracing this year's spring practice as a bridge from last year's past to the future of the 2007 season.

UMaine kicked off spring practice last week and had its first full scrimmage this morning. Offensively, the Black Bears are looking for impact players because out of their 28 touchdowns in 2006, 17 were scored by players who will be on the field in 2007.

"There is a tremendous opportunity at our impact skills positions because those are the guys who put the points on the board and get in the end zone," said UMaine coach Jack Cosgrove. "Everybody dreams about

25 touches and 200 yards, or 15 catches and 150 yards, but there are only so many touches out there and that's what we have to determine in the spring."

It's too early to tell who has the lead for the starting quarterback spot, with sophomore Mike Brusko and freshman Adam Farkes each bringing considerable skills to the table.

The running back spot, on the other hand, is coming together with junior-to-be Jhamal Fluellen emerging as the Black Bears' go-to-guy. A transfer from Syracuse, Fluellen averaged more than eight yards per touch in his first season at UMaine.

"I think he stands out as the first guy you would think gives us a chance to make up the ground we lost," Cosgrove said. "He's a guy who's played a lot of football and a high level, but missed an entire year. He'll be a better player next fall."

At 5-9, 175 pounds, Fluellen possesses a natural elusiveness and the instincts to avoid contact and break tackles. He's a step slower than Gordon, but still has game-breaking speed and showed a knack for big plays in a limited role last year.

A native of the Buffalo area, Fluellen played cornerback at Syracuse as a freshman. But the situation didn't mesh, and a call to high school teammate and UMaine safety Daren Stone led him to Orono and back on the offensive side of the ball.

"When coach Cosgrove gave me

the opportunity to play football again, I told him I'd play wherever, it didn't matter," said Fluellen, who immediately fit in with his new teammates.

"All these players, we get along like a really big family. That's what I wanted because I'm a family guy and they accepted me with open arms."

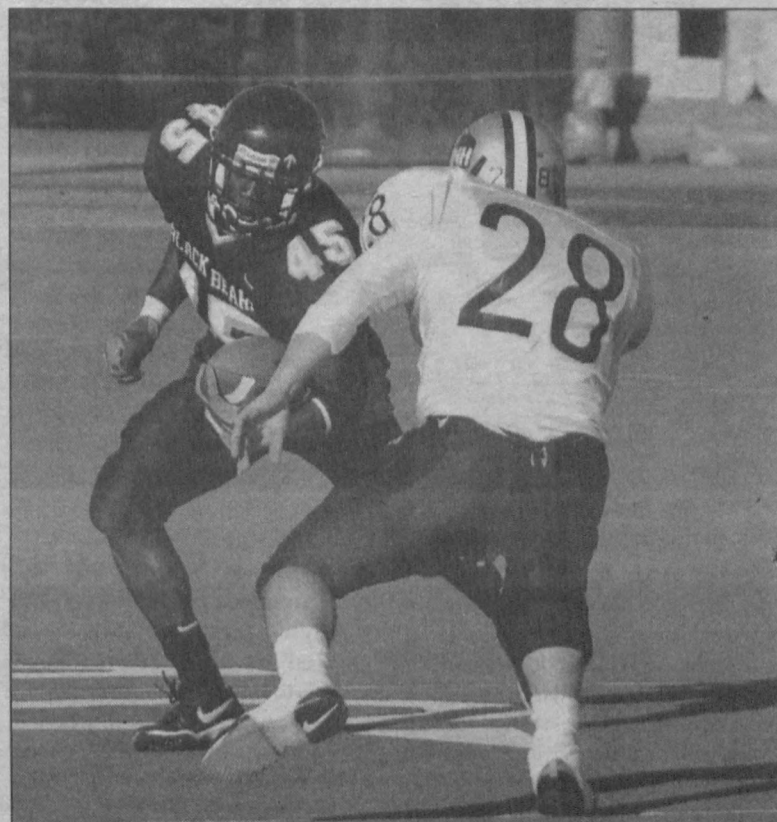
Fluellen will be joined in the backfield by Jerron Pearson, who was hampered by injuries throughout his sophomore season. Junior Teron Allen is also in the mix as a downhill runner that gives the Black Bears a strong change-of-pace option and is intriguing in short yardage situations.

"I don't consider myself the lead running back because the way our offense runs there will be a lot of us coming in and out. It's more of a running back committee," Fluellen said.

At the wide receiver spot, leading pass catcher Manzi Pierre returns with another year of experience under his belt. But UMaine's spread formation requires three to five receivers and new faces will fill the other slots.

"That group is as green as any group we have," Cosgrove said. "They have tremendous upside and we're hoping they develop through the spring and the preseason."

Sophomores Landis Williams — three touchdowns in 2006 — and Des Randall are in the mix after productive freshman seasons. The Black Bears are also looking for big things



CAMPUS FILE PHOTO

NEW KID ON THE BLOCK — Jhamal Fluellen begins the spring season atop UMaine's running back depth chart.

from redshirt freshmen Jeremy Kelley and Tyrell Jones, a pair of tall, physical players.

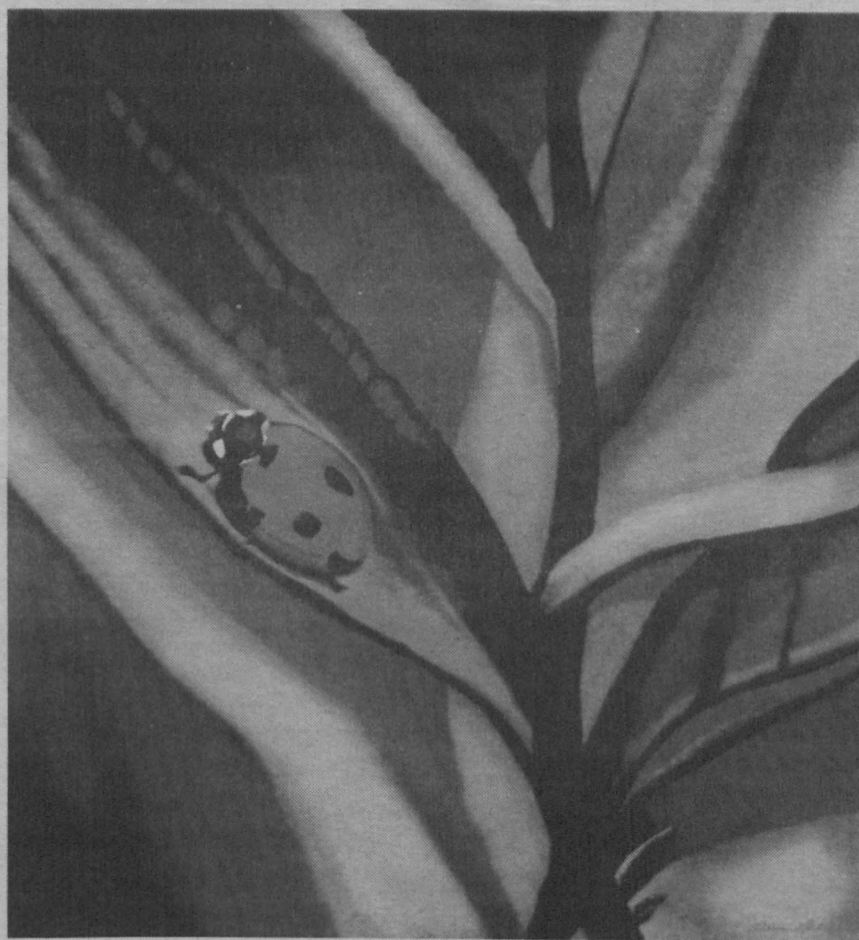
"They're a little bit bigger than the other guys. They will add something in terms of size and toughness," said Cosgrove.

The biggest positive for the Black Bears is the continuity on the offensive line. Only stalwart Justin Roberts graduated and the squad returns three players who started all 11 games — Shawn Demaray, Ryan Canary and Chris Amao.

The Black Bears will practice every day this weekend as they try to make up ground lost to the constant rain last week. That is a welcome change for players who feel a little claustrophobic in the cozy, but cramped, confines of Mahaney Dome.

"We're pretty big human beings," Demaray quipped. "It's tough when you don't have shoulder pads because you're not passive, you want to hit people. We don't want to be stuck in the bubble."

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The Fastest Game on Two Feet

Fledgling men's lacrosse club to host weekend round-robin action

By Dana Bulba
For The Maine Campus

The University of Maine men's lacrosse team joined Division B of the Pioneer Collegiate Lacrosse League (PCLL) last year. After losing only one game in the regular season and fully having the potential to win the league's playoffs, the team was notified three days before that they were ineligible in the playoffs because players lacked uniform jerseys and a non-playing coach.

This year, the team is more organized.

"There's more consistent leadership," said Tim Roberts,

vice president of UMaine's lacrosse club.

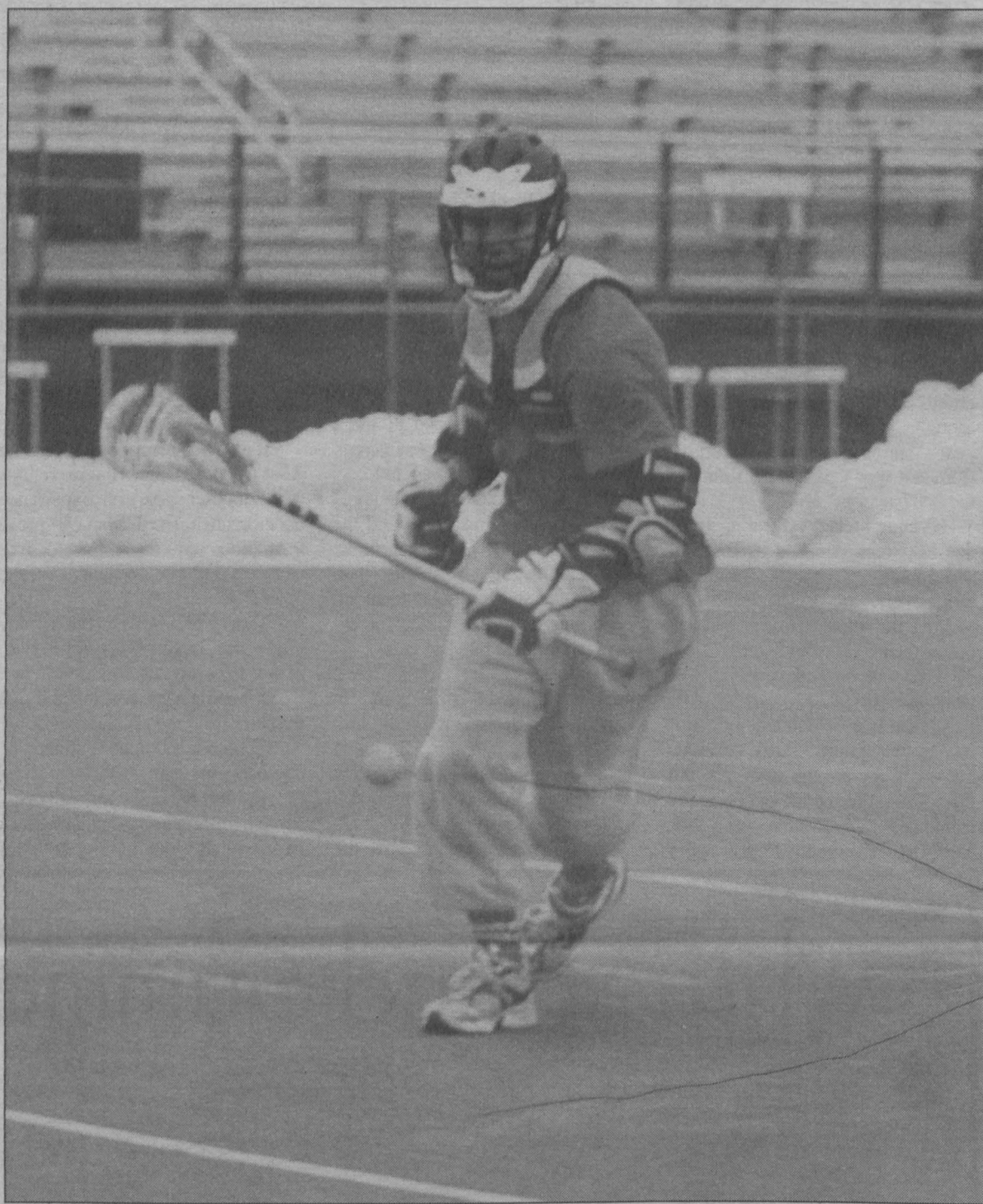
"Ken Hoyt and Tim Roberts have done an excellent job getting the team organized and excited to play," said Patrick Guerette, graduate assistant for sports clubs and intramurals.

Upon graduating from UMaine last year, Tim Taylor, who was named Division B goalie of the year, defensive player of the year and first team all conference, took on the coaching responsibilities.

"[Taylor] has helped the team a lot by doing coaching and teaching," said Roberts.

This year the team is 1-4, but

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CAMPUS PHOTO BY JENNA LAVALLEE

TAKING CHARGE — A UMaine men's lacrosse club member practices despite adverse conditions last Saturday. The Black Bears play this weekend at Alford Stadium.

Women's squad wraps up 2007 campaign, looking for new members

By Matt Williams
Sports Editor

Lacrosse is one of the fastest growing sports in America for both men and women and the University of Maine is no exception. At the forefront in Orono is the UMaine women's lacrosse club, a competitive squad that is run through Campus Recreation.

"It's a fast game and it's really competitive," said junior Kelly Burrows, a three-year UMaine lacrosse veteran. "We're the only [women's lacrosse] team here, so it's refreshing to know there's somewhere competitive where you can play."

UMaine's team has 25 players

listed on their roster, with approximately 15 as regular participants. They typically play a five-or-six game schedule after Spring Break, practicing twice a week and getting together to run almost every night.

"It's a little hard to schedule sometimes because we're at the low end of the totem pole," said Jenn Lockhart, the team's lone senior.

New England's unpredictable spring weather is one of the squad's biggest obstacles, as finding decent conditions for practices and games has proven to be a challenge. UMaine's 2007 season was cut short when a game against Boston University was cancelled because of bad weather.

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Black Bears gathering steam

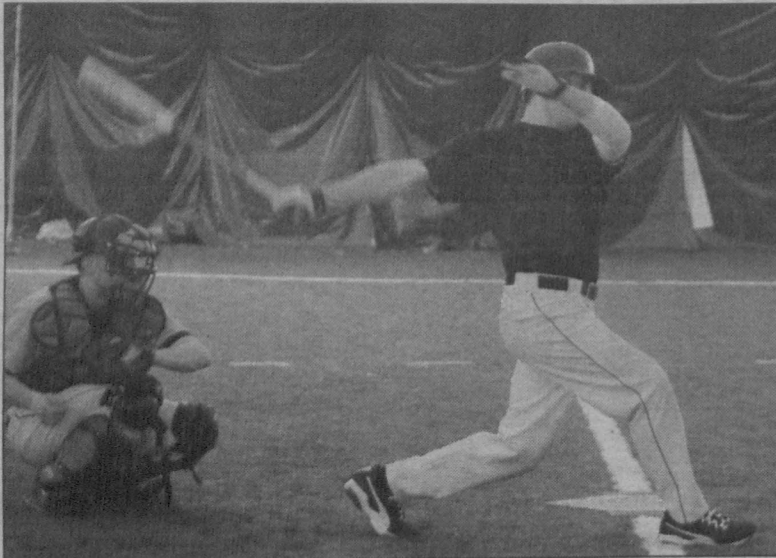
Baseball relishing momentum of sweep

By Matthew Conyers
Editor in Chief

Although there are more than 20 games remaining on the University of Maine baseball schedule, it appears the squad has regained some of its early season promise and all it took was a date with a bunch of Golden Retrievers.

This past weekend, using textbook situational hitting and gritty pitching, UMaine swept away the University of Maryland Baltimore-County, as well as some of their recent struggles from both the mound and plate.

Friday the Black Bears will hope to continue to ride the sudden wave of momentum when they take on familiar foe New York Institute of Technology in a four game slate at the squad's home away from home Husson College. With headliners Mike Powers,



CAMPUS PHOTO BY LAURA GIORGIO

SWING FOR THE FENCES — The baseball team works on hitting yesterday at Mahaney Dome.

Greg Norton, Brad Hertzler and A.J. Balsinde prepared to take the mound, the Black Bears are hoping to apply some of the new found baseball confidence they gained from the four-game win on the diamond.

"Most importantly, the weekend against UMBC taught us how to win a few different types of games," said co-captain Matt McGraw. "We had to win by com-

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Hawkins hopes to guide softball team to tourney

By Tyler Francke
Staff Reporter

Kristie Hawkins, a Portland native, has stepped into her role as full-time starter and leader for the UMaine softball team this season and has thrived. The senior first baseman went to Deering High

on the technicalities of the game and just going out and having fun.

"It's my senior year," she said. "I'm trying to not think too much, and just do the things I do."

In her junior year, she appeared in 52 games, starting 43, and posted a .218 batting average with one home run, eight RBIs and 13 runs scored. This season, she has started all 40 of the team's games and is tied for the team lead in RBIs with 18. She is batting .295 with one homer and has already eclipsed last season by scoring 14 runs so far.

Hawkins first started playing when she was six years old, to compete with her brother who was

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Hawkins

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School and was a standout for their team, helping lead them to the Western Maine semifinal game and earning an Honorable mention All-SMAA selection. She was named the team's best offensive player her junior year and was a team captain in her junior and senior seasons.

Hawkins' stats have exploded this season, a change that she attributes to not focusing so much