

Spring 4-23-2007

# Maine Campus April 23 2007

Maine Campus Staff

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MONDAY  
April 23, 2007  
Vol. 125 No. 38

# THE MAINE CAMPUS

THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE NEWSPAPER SINCE 1875

Here be  
dragons.  
Page 10



## Recreation center nears completion



\$25 million complex is University of Maine System's biggest project to date

By Mathew Conyers  
Editor in Chief

To get to Campus Recreation's current office, a visitor needs to take two quick rights upon entering the Memorial Gym.

If they follow those directions, they will arrive at the gateway to Jeff Hunt and David Mahan's world in a matter of moments. Inside lies a room devoid of character. There are no fancy computers. No framed pictures. No flat-screen televisions.

Instead, Hunt and Mahan, who hold the titles of director of campus recreation and assistant

director of operations for campus recreation, share an empty office filled with nothing but a few design plans and a flimsy little trophy atop the sole bookshelf in the room. In many ways, the best way to describe the working place is barren — there is no life.

However, for Hunt and Mahan, that's OK. They can live with the empty feeling and blank walls.

After all, in almost exactly four months, they will be moving to the most expensive building in the school's history.

On August 24, Hunt and Mahan will be

taking their act and hopefully that flimsy little trophy to the brand new Student Recreation and Fitness Center behind Hilltop Commons.

The building, which is now nearing its final stages of completion, won't just be home for Hunt and Mahan but — if the university has its way — the entire campus.

As it stands now, the mammoth 86,000-square-foot center is the largest and grandest project the University of Maine has ever set out on. At an impressive \$25 million price tag, the building promises to be the campus' biggest and best admissions tool for future students. Like Memorial Union before it, officials and personnel involved with the future site are placing all bets

on the building. If everything goes right, they are hoping the site takes hold as the centerpiece of an ever-growing campus.

"We are building a gym if you look at it physically, but we're really building a social environment — a place where people can come and groups can come and be there together," said Hunt.

The Student Recreation and Fitness Center which is not only on budget but on target for its fall 2007 opening is set to cap off 24 months of intense work when it takes in its

See REC CENTER on Page 5

*"This side of campus is going to be like a hub."*

*It's really going to come alive."*

David Mahan  
Assistant Director  
Campus Recreation

CAMPUS PHOTOS BY LAURA GIORGIO

FINISHING TOUCHES — ABOVE — A view of the future basketball and volleyball courts, lit with plenty of natural light. LEFT — The copper shingles are one of many unique architectural touches on the new rec center.



## Fest celebrates, encourages peace

Annual HOPE Festival draws groups, entertainers from across state of Maine

By Derek Dobachesky  
Copy Editor

Last Saturday nearly 70 groups from around the state of Maine invited students and members of the surrounding community to join them and give peace a chance.

A wide variety of peace, environmental, multicultural and feminist groups gathered for the 13th annual Help Organize Peace Earthwide (HOPE) Festival from noon to 4 p.m. in the University of Maine Field House. The festival, which was organized by the Eastern Maine Peace and Justice Center, also featured musical performers and other entertainers, local craftsmen selling their wares, arts, crafts and entertainment for children, and locally grown and organic food.

The festival, in its third year held at UMaine, featured groups promoting such diverse causes as the Baha'i faith, demilitarization of space and "fat pride." The groups, of course, all shared at least one common cause — promoting peace.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for us to come and learn from each other, and really shine a light on what's possible," said Lynn Ellis, coordinator for the Maine Department of Peace. The department is working and lobbying for a U.S.

See HOPE on Page 3

## From one university to another

UMaine students line College Avenue to support Virginia Tech

By Heather Steeves  
Staff Reporter

Last Thursday at 8:30 p.m., students from the University of Maine gathered to reflect on the Virginia Tech tragedy at a candlelight vigil sponsored by Student Government and the Interfraternity Council.

Approximately 1,000 people showed at the vigil to honor those who lost their lives in the shootings, according to William Pomerleau, vice president of Student Government.

"I think it is wonderful, everyone's here showing support ... it shows how much UMaine cares for the happenings at Virginia Tech," said Priyanth Chandrasekar, the president of Student Government.

One of the two organizers, Robert Cloutier, said that Bill Labbe, the Catholic priest at the Newman Center, inspired the idea.

"I'm part of that church, so he thought that I would be the easiest way to get this as big as possible, and I agreed. I think it's a good thing to do



CAMPUS PHOTO BY LAURA GIORGIO

REMEMBRANCE — Stephanie Deschaine and Tiffany Mayhew, who both have a high school friend who attends Virginia Tech, show their support.

considering what happened at Virginia Tech, and our hearts go out to them and this is the least we can do for them."


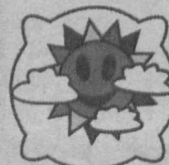
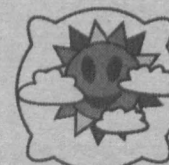
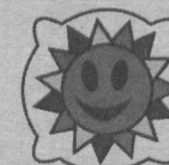






According to Student Senator

Sean O'Mara, "We [the GSS] felt a connection with the VT people." He explained that the GSS decided to co-sponsor the event because, "We felt

See VTECH on Page 7



## THE ORONO 5-DAY FORECAST

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
				
Mostly sunny	Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny
High 44 Low 31	High 46 Low 25	High 48 Low 31	High 48 Low 28	High 48 Low 31

## THE MAINE CAMPUS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Monday

#### Transfer day

Transfer to the University of Maine 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 Donald P. Corbett, Room 105.

### Wednesday

#### Women's studies lunch series

"Investigating the Role of the German Soldiers' Wives

During the American Revolution" will be presented by Anette Ruppel Rodrigues as part of the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program Lunch Series at 12:15 p.m. in the Bangor Room, Memorial Union.

#### Equestrian drill team

The UMaine Equestrian Drill Team will hold a performance on the mall at 1 p.m.

#### Washington, D.C. Internship Program

The Washington D.C. Internship Program will hold an open house-info session from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Bumps Room, Memorial Union.

### Thursday

#### Team building workshop

"Building the Right Team for Business Success!" a workshop on learning the characteristics of building and maintaining effective teams, steps to effective conflict management and the predictable stages of team growth will be held from noon to 2 p.m. at the Target Technology Center in Orono.

#### Home buying seminar

A UCU educational seminar on building or purchasing a home will be held from noon to 1 p.m. in the Bumps Room, Memorial Union. Call 581-1457 to register for this event.

#### Uncomputable Numbers: Turing's 1936 Paper Revisited

Greg Chaitin of the IBM Watson Research Center in New York, author and discoverer of the omega number, will present on uncomputable numbers at 2:10 p.m. in Room 227, Neville Hall.

#### 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.

## Researchers of forest bio-products receive \$1.5 million grant

By Courtney Small  
For The Maine Campus

The Forest Bio-Products Research Initiative has received \$1.5 million from the Department of Energy. The state of Maine will match 50 percent of the funds to this project through the Maine Economic Improvement Fund. The University of Maine received \$6.9 million from the National Science Foundation's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research at the end of March.

The FBRI's current project is to use woody biomass from our forests to create new bio-products, such as transportation fuels, wood-based chemicals, consumer products and electrical energy to replace our reliance on fossil fuels. While the project is using many aspects of research, such as bio-chemical conversions, this grant allows for thermal conversion research.

"The project is trying to discover a sustainable bio-economy," said Sandra Neily, communications coordinator for the FBRI. "We are hoping to reduce the dependence on petroleum."

FBRI uses Life Cycle Analysis, a unique interdisciplinary research tool that works to understand the forest's environmental requirements, as well as to create economic opportunity. LCA works to examine the environmental and economic effects of research, while some FBRI researchers and students are examining forest growing conditions.

Chemists, engineers and wood scientists are working on strategies to separate and use more of the valuable parts that are hidden within wood fiber. LCA allows the research team to consider the challenges of recycling and waste even before products move to bio-refineries or markets.

"There are more than \$6 billion in goods and services, a total economic impact of \$10 billion and total employment for 76,000 people that are involved in Maine forests that are in transition," Neily said.

"Natural resource-dependent industries must develop new knowledge and new techniques to remain competitive," Neily added. "FBRI works to create new knowledge and new techniques. Maine has an opportunity to be part of a vibrant global economy driven by innovation and respect for our natural resources," she said.

One challenge facing the biomass economy is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while gaining products and energy from renewable resources. Rural communities are affected by changes in mill ownership and mill closings. By using biomass, they can provide employment to current and future generations.

Scientists use forest biomass — logging residue such as saw dust or pulp mill residue — to extract penny cellulose. By working with the other companies that use the forest, it can reduce the harmful effects by not over-harvesting or reducing wildlife. FBRI is studying to find a way to extract the valuable penny cellulose from the wood and still leave the wood structure remaining.

FBRI is UMaine's commitment that "Maine will become a

*"The state of Maine has an extraordinary opportunity to contribute to the development of new technologies that reduce a petroleum-based economy with a renewable, sustainable 'carbohydrate economy.'"*

Sandra Neily  
Communications Coordinator  
FBRI

regional, national and world leader in the transformation of forest resources to a valuable bio-economy," Neily said. "The state of Maine has an extraordinary opportunity to contribute to the development of new technologies that reduce a petroleum-based economy with a renewable, sustainable 'carbohydrate economy.'"

Corn is another possible solution to the reliance on fossil fuels. Joshua Parda, Green Campus Initiative coordinator for UMaine, states that "in my own opinion, there are two sides of debate: There are people who seem to think that fuels like ethanol are the answer to the problem, except it's not." Parda believes that, on the other side, people think that the substitution of fossil fuels is just going to make things worse, especially the "corn solution."

"We don't have the adequate supply of corn," he said.

"It is about time that the federal government sponsors things like these," Parda said, referring to the grant. "It seems like these past couple of years, they have had a slightly stronger commitment with putting money into these projects."

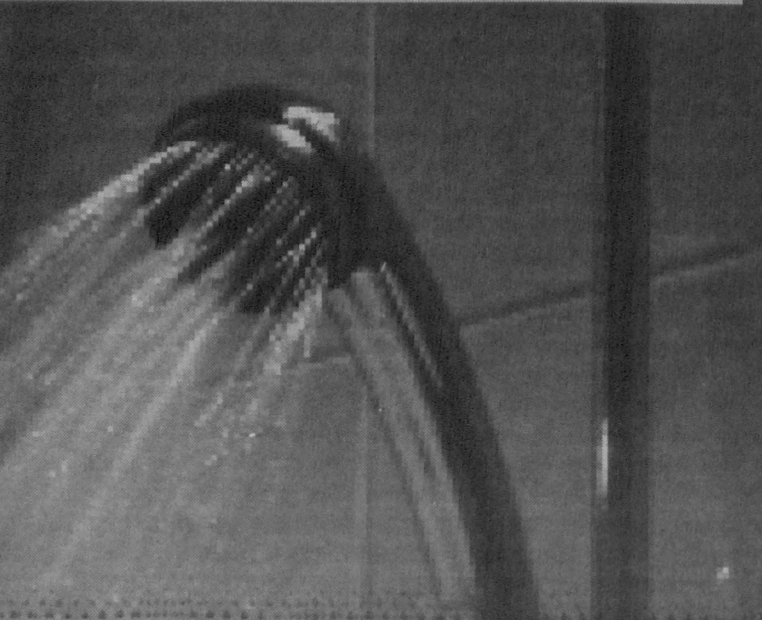
With regard to the project itself, Parda stated, "It is a good idea, there is plenty of wood, there always has been with the processing of paper. Trees are reusable; they will grow back within a human lifetime. Unlike oil, coal, etc."

The FBRI is performing research to come up with a solution to this issue. "It's not 'the' solution, but it's a part of the solution," Parda said.

## TAKE SHORTER SHOWERS

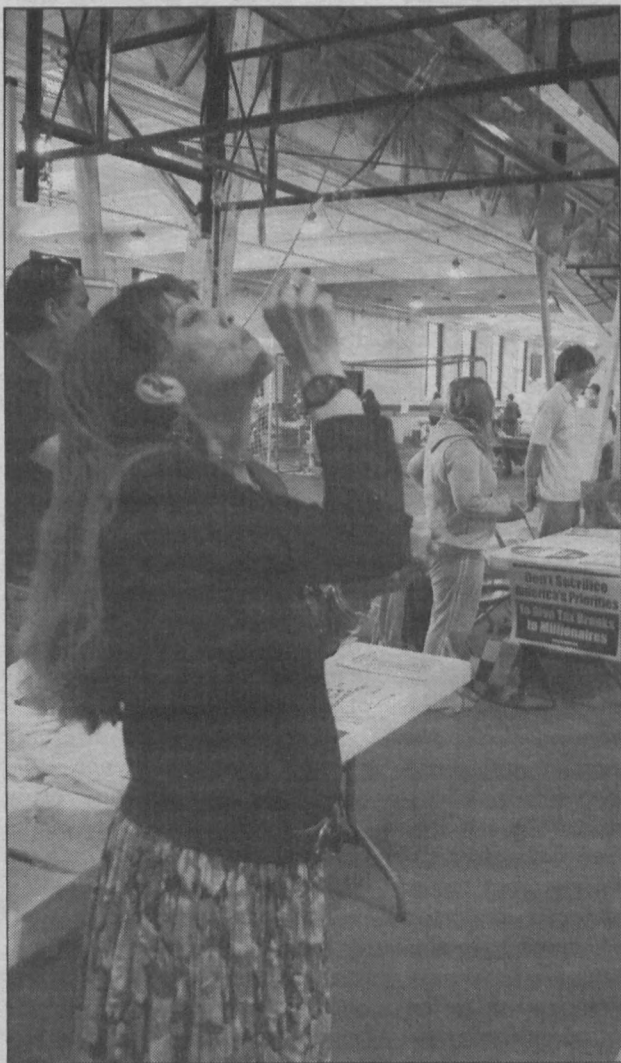
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To learn more about how you can reduce your impact on the environment, go to [www.StopGlobalWarming.org](http://www.StopGlobalWarming.org).





## Diverse groups come together for the common cause of peace



CAMPUS PHOTO BY PATTIE BARRY

**BUBBLES, NOT BOMBS** — Volunteer Vicki Nesin from LincolnPeace.Org, an organization to raise awareness of the violence in Iraq, blows bubbles at the Hope Festival Saturday.



CAMPUS PHOTO BY PATTIE BARRY

**PAX PLAYERS** — Nationally acclaimed gospel performers Kim and Reggie Harris were part of the entertainment lineup at the Hope Festival. The duo recently released a new CD, "Get on Board."

## HOPE

From Page 1

the other departments and look at what solutions there are, what alternatives there are," according to Ellis.

The organizational fair featured 65 groups from eastern Maine, each representing an aspect of peace and social justice. Ilze Petersons, program coordinator of the Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine, put together the organizational fair and publicized the event, and feels that the festi-

Department of Peace to be established as part of the executive branch, with a secretary that would "sit at the policy table with all

larger states that people don't think they can," Petersons commented on the variety of grassroots citizens action groups in attendance.

As Petersons commented, the HOPE Festival certainly bodes well for the future of the peace movement. Ellis is also optimistic about the future of the movement and its potential achievements.

"So much of what we do is about problems, and I feel like we really equally need to look at what possible solutions there are. We do need to give people 'hope,' literally. There's a sense of despair, a lot these days, with the violence that's in our society."

val is indicative of the momentum of the peace movement.

"It's so inspirational and energizing for the coming activism in the year ahead. And seeing all the good people doing so much good work is really heartening." Petersons also cited the March 17 demonstration in Bangor that commemorated the 4th anniversary of the war in Iraq. Media documented the Bangor demonstration across the country, including newspapers in Florida, San Francisco, Connecticut and Boston.

The festival showcased the wide breadth of grassroots democratic activism that Maine residents regularly engage in. There were groups at the festival informing attendees of their self-sustaining, environmentally friendly communities and many others selling handmade crafts and locally grown food.

"We're so lucky because I think we feel like we can really make a difference here. I think in

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## POLICEBEAT

By Alisha Tondro  
Staff Reporter



### Public urination warning

At 1:40 a.m. on April 20, an officer watching the Bear Brew Pub observed two males stop between two vehicles and start urinating. One male was identified as Ryan Kelley, 24. Kelley was issued a warning for urinating in public.

### Washburn vandals

At 9 a.m. on April 21, police were notified of vandalism at the Washburn Apartments. When an officer arrived, two cars had shattered windshields. On the hood of each car was a broken iced tea bottle. The police are still investigating and looking for suspects.

### Fake ID at Margaritas

On April 13, an officer was dispatched to Margaritas for a false ID report. The waitress had taken the ID from a female. The picture on the card didn't match the female who had presented it. The card was flimsy and looked like it had been altered. The subject was identified as Brittany Bowen, 20. Bowen admitted to presenting the card for an alcohol purchase. Bowen stated that a friend had found the card and had given it to her. Bowen was summonsed for possession of a false identification card, and the card was confiscated.

### Alcohol abuse

At 1:47 a.m. on April 14, an officer on routine patrol observed two males walking and drinking. The officer approached the men and one threw his bottle down and stopped. The other man continued walking. The man who had thrown down the bottle was identified as James McCarthy, 20. The officer asked if he had been drinking and McCarthy said no. When the officer said that he had observed him tossing down the bottle, McCarthy retrieved it. The officer made him

dump the remaining alcohol. McCarthy was summonsed for illegal possession of liquor by a minor.

### The police watch Thriftway

At 10:08 p.m. on April 14, an officer was parked across the street from Thriftway. The officer observed a vehicle entering the parking lot with a female driver. The driver had a youthful appearance so the officer watched the vehicle. The passenger got out of the vehicle, went inside Thriftway and made a purchase of what was later identified as beer. The passenger started to get back into the vehicle, then got out and put the alcohol into the trunk. When the vehicle left the parking lot, the officer pulled the vehicle over. The driver was identified as Dayna Somers, 19. Somers identified herself and when asked if she knew that transportation of alcohol by a minor is against the law, she said she was aware of it. Somers was issued a summons for illegal transportation of liquor by a minor and the alcohol was confiscated.

### Don't run from the police

At 9:30 p.m. on April 18, police received a report of people punching holes in the walls at Orchard Trails Building 8. As the officer arrived to investigate, he passed a small group of males. When the officer looked in his rearview mirror, he noticed that the group had started to run away. The officer stopped one young man and identified him as Victor Doyle, 20. As the officer checked for warrants, he determined that Doyle was intoxicated. Doyle denied having had anything to drink and claimed that friends had spilled the beer on him. When the officer asked why Doyle had started to run away, he replied that someone had yelled run, so he did. Doyle was summonsed for

illegal possession of liquor by a minor.

### Orchard Trails residents hit with nine noise complaints

Michael Conrad, 21, was issued a disorderly conduct warning on April 7 at 1:56 a.m. for a noise complaint at Orchard Trails Building 6.

Kari Boffa, 19, was issued a disorderly conduct warning on April 7 at 9:32 p.m. for a noise complaint at Orchard Trails Building 9.

Sean Parker, 20, was issued a disorderly conduct warning on April 8 at 11:30 p.m. for a noise complaint at Orchard Trails Building 6.

Jocelyn Bouffard, 20, Lindsey Lefebvre, 20, and Danielle Ahern, 19, were issued disorderly conduct warnings and were told that if the police had to return they would be arrested. This was for a noise complaint at Orchard Trails Building 11.

Kyle Libby, 20, was issued a disorderly conduct warning on April 13 at 11:30 p.m. for a noise complaint at Orchard Trails Building 3.

Jason Mallet, 22, was issued a disorderly conduct warning on April 18 at 10:07 p.m. for a noise complaint at Orchard Trails Building 8.

David Sacks, 20, Michael Conrad, 21, and Joshua Vile, 21, were issued disorderly conduct warnings on April 19 at 10:23 p.m. for a noise complaint at Orchard Trails Building 3.

Kelly Difrederico, 20, was issued a disorderly conduct warning on April 20 at 10 p.m. for a noise complaint at Orchard Trails Building 3.

Kelly McGuirl, 27, was issued a disorderly conduct warning on April 21, for a noise complaint at Orchard Trails Building 3.

# UM Mock Trial Team successful at Suffolk meet

Group promotes creation of trial course at the university to increase membership

By Joel Crabtree  
Opinion Editor

The University of Maine Mock Trial Team recently made their presence known at a mock trial meet at Boston's Suffolk University. The meet, which was originally scheduled to be against several collegiate teams nationwide, ended up being a showdown between UMaine's team and two Suffolk teams.

UMaine's meet consisted of two mock trials, which were set up exactly like real trials. The fictional case that the UMaine team worked with was a civil suit about an off-duty officer who responded to an armed robbery call at a convenience store. When he pursued the two young men who had robbed the store, one of them was caught on a barbed wire fence. The young man caught on the fence reached for his cell phone, and the officer shot him, thinking he was reaching for his gun.

"Overall, it went very, very well," said James Sheldon, one of the team's members, at the April 7 meet. Sheldon said that the UMaine team won both competitions, the first as the plaintiff and later as the defense.

The team that competed consisted of only three lawyers: Sheldon, Matthew Strout — the president of the team — and Kyle Pfeiffer.

Associate Dean of Students Kenda Scheele, the group's adviser, said that the mock trial team is "an undeniably motivated group of students." Scheele also noted the amount of time and dedication that the team has put into getting ready for the meet. Sheldon said the team had to review 200 pages of notes on the case.

"You have to anticipate arguments and evidence [that the opposing side may bring up] and argue both sides of the case," Sheldon said. "You have to think quick on your feet."

Sheldon did exactly that. "What happened with me, twice, was we went back and forth on examinations until I finally asked a series of questions that stumped the other lawyers," he said.

Sheldon said that the meet wouldn't have been possible without the witnesses, Sean Malone, Anthony Aloisio and Troy Kiernan. Sheldon explained that they came together at the last minute. "They did a great job," he said. Sheldon said that one of the witnesses even drove his car down.

The team is looking to get a mock trial course started at the university that might give people more motivation to join the team. Scheele mentioned that the University of New Hampshire has a similar class where students get credit for being a part of the team.



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- 2 PAIN OR DISCOMFORT IN ONE OR BOTH ARMS, THE BACK, NECK, JAW, OR STOMACH.
- 3 SHORTNESS OF BREATH WITH OR WITHOUT CHEST DISCOMFORT.
- 4 OTHER SIGNS SUCH AS BREAKING OUT IN A COLD SWEAT, NAUSEA, OR LIGHTEADEDNESS.



# CENTER

From Page 1

first set of treadmill enthusiasts.

"This side of campus is going to be like a hub. It's really going to come alive," said Mahan.

Initially what will draw students to the expansive building will be a wide array of fitness components. First off, the building boasts three basketball courts, volleyball courts, a 12,000-square-foot fitness center, an indoor track, an expansive conference room, a multiple-activity court and a leisure pool to end all other leisure pools.

"This isn't just Latti anymore; you're not just going to walk into one 4,500 square-foot room and that's all you got," Mahan said. "You're getting a whole building now."

The list of attributes doesn't stop there. Instead, it goes on like the longest of grocery lists. The building also includes three locker rooms, two racquetball courts, an equipment rental and checkout, three multi-purpose rooms and a first aid training room.

"We are really building another social space on campus that has a fitness and wellness component to it," Hunt said.

If all goes well, Hunt and Mahan, as well as the deans, hope the building attracts not only the fitness mavens but a whole spectrum of students.

"I think it's really going to create some excitement on campus," said Hunt. "I think down the road what will carry that excitement will be the programming and the quality of service people get there."

While all this looks amazing from the outside, the center does arrive with a little bit of controversy. In the past few months, the building has been met with its fair share of complaints from students about an additional fee on their student bill. The construction of the Rec Center has placed an added burden on the wal-



CAMPUS PHOTO BY LAURA GIORGIO

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** — Caution tape sections off an area of the new recreation center, slated to be finished in the fall of 2007.

lets of students, who will be paying \$98 per year toward the building.

For those unhappy students, Hunt and Dean of Students Robert Dana have a simple message to deliver:

"I just think when people walk in for the first time when it opens they are going to be wowed by the place," Hunt said.

Dana agreed. "All I suggest to those students worried about the price is for them to walk right in and see what this place looks like," he said.

According to Dana and Associate Dean of Students Kenda Scheele, they need not look any further than the leisure pool — which will have wireless access on the pool decks and a whirlpool that Dana calls "Dana's vortex."

"The pool is amazing," Dana said.

"Students don't want to hang out here," Mahan said, alluding to

Memorial Gym. "They want to hang out in the leisure pool where it's 80 degrees and you can use your laptop."

Still, Mahan and Hunt are quick to note that they understand students worries about the fees.

"There will be some students who don't agree with the fee. We're ready for that, but it's our job to get them there," Mahan said.

"I respect that," Hunt said. "Fees are a real issue for everybody."

One way the group behind the building — which was designed by Cannon Design out of Boston, hopes to draw those fickle students in is by stressing the fact that this building is not just for fitness.

"If they have something they want to do in the rec center they should just bring it into the building and get their money's worth," Hunt said. "Students should be thinking of the programs and

bringing them in, because we will facilitate those ideas."

As of now Hunt, hopes to have different movie nights or special event nights in the multi-purpose rooms.

Hunt and Mahan are also counting on the building's green standing to have a hand in impressing a few people unwilling to commit to such a giant creation. The center will be the first college recreation center to have obtained the Silver level of LEED certification by the U.S. Green Building Council. LEED certification distinguishes building projects that have demonstrated a commitment to sustainability by meeting the highest performance standards.

"We will be one of the few that will be silver LEED certified," said Hunt. "We may not be the first but we will be in the top three or four in the nation."

On top of that, Mahan and Hunt

claim the building is in the top echelon of rec centers across the country.

"I was just with the architects and they said be ready to go to the award banquets for this building," Hunt said.

Beyond the architects, the building has come to its final form thanks to Pizzagalli Construction out of South Portland.

With most of the building gearing towards the last lap, Hunt and Campus Rec are looking to round up its staff for the new semester. Now Campus Rec has about 125 employees, with this building they are hoping to double that total. On Tuesday, Campus Rec will be holding a student job fair in the Coe Room of Memorial Union from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in hopes of luring some future workers in.

"The building is going to be up, it's going to be ready and it's going to be built," said Hunt. "Now we have to get our staff training and ready to operate this place."

Moving forward campus recreation will have until the first week to establish its staff. As it is now, campus recreation will be moving on August 24 when Pizzagalli hands over the building. From there, they will have a week to get everything ready before the doors open for good.

"The expectation and the expectations we place on us, is when we open that building everything is running smoothly," said Hunt.

"Are we ready for this? I definitely think so," Mahan said.

After operating for more than a month, the building will have its grand opening on the Friday of Homecoming weekend.

Campus Recreation invites students to tour the new recreation center at 5 p.m. for the next two Fridays. The first 20 students who come will be allowed in, with priority given to students who are returning in the fall.

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## "TOGA! TOGA! TOGA!"



CAMPUS PHOTO BY PATTIE BARRY

**NERF OLYMPIANS** — Students enjoy the sunshine on Saturday afternoon at Togapalooza on Hilltop. The Oxford Hall governing board co-sponsored the event to celebrate the current Hilltop and Stewart quads, which will be home to freshman-only dorms next year.

## Alumni Association holding auction

By Emily Southwick  
Copy Editor

The University of Maine Alumni Association recently announced the opening of the second Black Bear Online Auction on April 3. All proceeds will benefit the programs dedicated to the school's 95,000 alumni.

Alumni and business sponsors have donated more than 100 unique items that will be up for bid until 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 3. Diana Richardson, assistant to the president of the Alumni Association, said the association hopes to raise between \$5,000 and \$7,000 through the event.

The auction, in its second year, "came from the association's senior staff and was approved by the board

of directors last year," said Richardson, who has devoted countless hours to pulling the auction together and making it run smoothly. "Most of the staff and some members of the board have been instrumental in getting the donations and sponsors."

The current top 10 items up for auction include a night's lodging in Blue Hill, Maine, a game of golf and lunch at the Penobscot Valley Country Club, a 1993 men's Black Bear Hockey team photo autographed by Shawn Walsh, miscellaneous Black Bear paraphernalia and a Moxie T-shirt.

Richardson is particularly enthusiastic about the various Maine-made items up for auction, saying

that "[local businesses] participating in our auction increase their marketing exposure to alumni across the country who recognize and value the quality of products made in Maine."

No matter what items cause the highest bidding wars, Richardson said people should join in "to have fun, support the alumni association's programming and, in turn, to receive high quality, unique items." She noted that she has been "struck by the generosity of Maine craftsmen and UMaine alumni who support this project."

To join the auction and help raise funds for the UMAA, visit <http://www.mainealumni.com> and click the "Black Bear Auction" link.

## Old News

This week:  
Waitress School

From the archives of  
THE MAINE  
CAMPUS

April 22, 1937

### Training School for Waitresses Started

Emily Elmore, a senior home economics student, is taking charge of the NYA waitress training school which got underway with a registration of 60 girls Monday afternoon in the dining room at Balentine Hall.

Under the direction of Miss Elmore, meetings will be held there at 4 o'clock, every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons. Instruction and practice in principles of efficient waitress work will be offered to those enrolled.

Students interested in this course still have the opportunity to register this week and should see Philip Brockway in 11 Fernald Hall, or Emily Elmore in Balentine Hall.

### Unusual Interest Shown in Tri-State Competition

Twelve essays, eighteen poems, and eleven short stories were contributed by Maine students in the Tri-State Inter-collegiate Writing Contest this year, Prof. Milton Ellis said today. Three of the best contributions in each of these groups will be selected by judges at Maine and placed in competition with essays, poems, and short stories from the Universities of New Hampshire and Vermont. First prize in each group will be \$25; second, \$10; and third, \$5. Winners of the local contests will be announced in about two weeks.

Seven one-act plays were submitted for the Hamlet play-writing contest.

April 25, 1957

### 'Campus' Adds 4 Pages; Change To Be Permanent

Subscribers to the Maine Campus will have four more pages to read in every issue of the University student newspaper beginning this week.

James R. Hambelton, new Editor-in-Chief of the weekly publication, has announced the increase in the size of the newspaper from eight to 12 pages as a permanent change.

After conferring with University officials and Roy W. Libby, superintendent of the University Press, where the paper is printed, Hambelton said "as far as we know, we will be able to put out a 12 page edition of the Campus regularly from now on."

The increase in the newspaper's size will be the first in approximately 20 years, Hambelton reported. In the early 1930s, the Editor said, the Campus went from a large four page edition to its present eight page tabloid size.

"The Campus had eight pages when the student body was less than half its present size," Hambelton explained. "During the past few years with eight pages it has been nearly impossible to ade-

quately cover the news, however," he said. "There has always been more news than there is space."

Dr. Arthur A. Hauck, University president, commenting on the increase in the number of Campus pages said, "it is gratifying to know that with the present large enrollment and the prospect of many more students in the future, the Campus is able to increase its number of pages to better serve the University community."

Assistant professor Brooks W. Hamilton, head of the University's department of Journalism and Campus advisor, said "I think it is quite necessary for the newspaper to expand for the first time in at least 20 years."

"In view of the expansion of the University it is necessary to increase the number of pages in order to serve the community more effectively. I am sure student readers are likely to see a great difference in information they will get in the newspaper. I am very happy with the change."

John A. Littlefield, who preceded Hambelton as Editor of the Campus, complimented the new Editor on the increase in page numbers.

Littlefield, presently an Associate Editor for the Campus, commented that "the increase in the number of pages is indeed a significant step forward for the Campus. The need for 12 pages has been recognized for at least a year, but the work load of the Print Shop until this time has been one factor which has prevented the needed increase."

"I am sure that with the extra four pages the Campus will be better able to serve the University community."

Hambelton explained this week that with the increased number of Campus pages, "we should be able to carry more club and organization news, which for the most part, it has been impossible to get into the newspaper."

The Editor-in-Chief explained that not all of the space would be used for news.

"Over half of it will be used for advertising, to cover increased expenses. It is the hope of the Campus that we may also receive an increase in student subscription fee," he said.

The increased subscription fee issue was expected to come before the General Student Senate at their Tuesday night meeting.

On occasion during the past 20 years the Campus has published more than eight pages. These issues have generally been reserved for special occasions, such as Homecoming, Maine Day or Winter Carnival.

This past year the Campus staff published a 16 page edition for Homecoming. This and one other 16 page edition published when the library was dedicated in the late 1940s are believed to be the largest number of pages the newspaper has ever carried.

## Student Job Fair

### Want to work here?



Campus Recreation is hiring employees for the New Student Recreation & Fitness Center opening on August 31, 2007.

Do you want excellent work experience?

Do you want to work in a fun, energetic environment?

Check out the awesome job opportunities at our Job Fair.

WHEN: Tuesday, April 24th  
WHERE: COE ROOM, UNION  
TIME: 9:00am - 5:00pm

For more information,  
call us at 581-1082



Campus Recreation  
Division of Student Affairs



## VTECH

From Page 1

that it was important that we take the lead as senators to support this, as a way for the students to bring closure to the whole situation."

"This could have happened anywhere; it's not a special situation. It's something you can never predict," O'Mara added. "All we can do is just do what we can to make our campus safer and make sure people understand that there are services available on campus."

The location of the event, College Avenue, is lined with fraternity and sorority houses, which inspired many Greeks to gather.

As Ben Dixon, a Sigma Chi brother and first-year mechanical engineering technology major, explained, "Tonight, we're trying to get as many people out here as we can with candles to line the street in support-remembrance of the people who tragically lost their lives in the Virginia Tech shooting."

Dixon said, "It shouldn't really be about fraternities. We do it as a group to show our support, but it shouldn't be about one particular sorority or fraternity. It isn't a competition, it's for them [VA Tech students]."

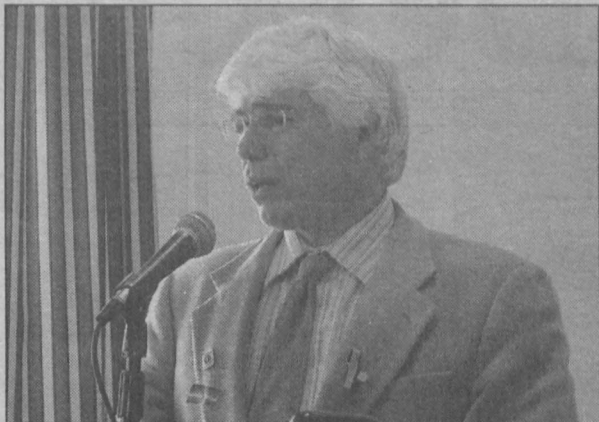
Although the Interfraternity Council co-sponsored the event, all students were welcome.

For other groups, the quiet moments brought closeness between members.

"It's really a good event for us to partake in, so we can show our support for the victims of the Virginia Tech incident. It's more of a group bonding for us to show our closeness in crisis," said Andrew Girouard, a secondary education and math double major and Senior Skulls member.

One student who stopped to reflect on the shootings was Andrey Lopez, who almost attended Virginia Tech. "I was going to go down [to VA Tech] for architecture school of engineering, but then I decided to come up here," said Lopez, a first-year surveying engineering technology major. "It hit me that I could have been there."

"We actually had a brother involved, down in Virginia Tech in the shooting. He was one of the guys who barricaded the door," said Matthew Higgins, a third-year accounting



CAMPUS PHOTO BY JENNA LAVALLEE

Dean of Students Robert Dana speaks at a service Thursday afternoon in memory of the victims of the Virginia Tech tragedy.

major and Sigma Alpha Epsilon brother. "We're out here supporting him and the rest of the guys down at Virginia Tech."

When asked if UMaine would be prepared to handle a situation like the one that occurred in Virginia, Jeffrey Nadeau, a first-year undeclared major and national guard soldier, said, "No. Especially from a military standpoint."

"Honestly, it wouldn't be hard at all [to create this situation at UMaine]," Nadeau said. "It sounds bad, but that's our mindset for training, we plan the way the enemy does just to be ready, and I think they would be able to step up security a lot around here."

Dean of Students Robert Dana was at the event. "I'm overcome by emotion," he said. "This is classic University of Maine. We have huge hearts overflowing here and I'm so very thrilled with these students. They just give and give and give."

The line of students extended along College Avenue. "We started at Buchanan and we're already at SAE and people are still coming," said Gustavo Burkett, interim director of Campus Activities and Events.

"It's fantastic to see that on our campus students show the support that they are shown."

"I think it went really well," Cloutier said after the vigil. "It was a far greater turnout than I ever imagined. I just love to see the kids at this university ... coming together for a sign of peace to remember those who passed away."

*"We have huge hearts overflowing here."*



CAMPUS PHOTO BY LAURA GIORGIO

Members of the Alpha Phi Omega place their candles in the form of the Virginia Tech logo.

**THIS PAGE COULD HAVE  
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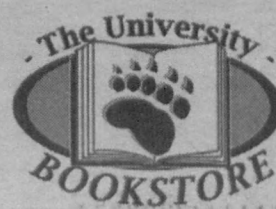
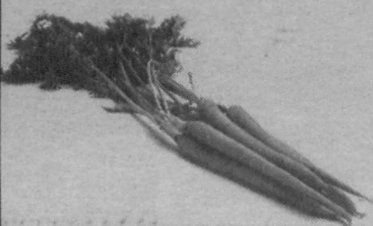
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Team and the Equestrian Team to  
celebrate Lady's birthday in style!  
**Wednesday, April 25th @ 1pm**  
on the Mall outside of  
Fogler Library





## Editorial

### Horses responsible for mall mess

Those of you unlucky enough to step out for a breath of fresh air on the University Mall Sunday night might have found a new odor in the air.

We are talking of course about evidence left on all the sidewalks in the form of a substance horses are famous for. Now, far be it from us to impugn manure in the midst of Earth day celebrations, but it might be asked why did the owners of the horses in question not clean up after them?

A phone call revealed that the horses responsible for this messiness were owned by the UMaine Equestrian Drill Team, who left the unfortunate evidence of their presence after a practice run for their exhibition Wednesday.

The group informs us that they arranged to send a clean-up crew to manage the poo and they will have a clean up crew available during their event on Wednesday.

On behalf of the university, we thank them for clearing that up.

### Bummed by loss of Bumstock

It's springtime again and the snow has finally melted. The semester is coming to a close and you know what that means? It's time for Bumstock. Or is it?

Student Entertainment canceled the weekend-long concert event to theoretically provide students and community members with a wider spectrum of concerts and entertainment throughout the semester. The plan was to use the funds that would have been allocated for Bumstock weekend and bring in "higher caliber" performances throughout the semester. But where are they?

Let's face it: We aren't getting any more concerts this spring than we would have if Bumstock was still here. The last substantial musical group that pit-stopped at UMaine was Dashboard Confessional, in December. Not a lot has happened since.

Student Entertainment has planned for Rusted Root and StrangeFolk to play a show tonight, which is a disappointing substitution for a weekend that many members of the UMaine community look forward to at the conclusion of the spring semester.

# SOAP BOX

THE MAINE CAMPUS  
Opinion-Editorial

MONDAY,  
APRIL 23, 2007



## Both sides lose in gun control

Virginia Tech shooting sadly used by opportunists

In the wake of the tragedy at Virginia Tech University, the debate over gun control has lost its mind. Both sides are dragging out their old arguments and fitting them to the situation and both sound like nasty opportunists taking advantage of a horrible situation.

On the right, you have the people saying we should put a gun in the hands of every college student. This, of course, is so the other students could have shot him before he could kill anyone else.

This is insane for so many

TONY REAVES

NEWS EDITOR

reasons it's hard to know where to begin. Let's start with parties. College campuses become drenched with alcohol from Thursday evening until early Sunday morning. If I knew there was a single gun, let alone 100 at any given party, it

wouldn't matter if I had a gun. I'd rather risk the one-in-a-billion chance of someone marching in to shoot us than endure the two or three accidental shootings I'd no doubt see every week.

Never mind that they're not suggesting giving teachers a tranquilizer gun, which would still stop a school shooting. Why not give every student a canister of knockout gas or a net? Why is it that the gun people always want to jump straight to murdering the bad guy?

See GUN on Page 9

## Letters to the Editor

### Guns are not the problem

The problem we face is society, not guns. Guns have been a part of American culture for a long time, and only recently has this type of shooting emerged. Communities need to come together. Families need to come together. Religious and social groups need to come together and care about each other.

Cho needed help. He needed his sister, father, mother, priest, whatever, but he needed someone to care enough about him to intervene and get him help.

Say politicians ban guns. Great, criminals still have them and continue to rob, rape, kill and assault people like before. What have politicians accomplished? Have they

stopped the problem we have in United States society or have they disarmed people to the point where they can no longer rely on themselves for protection?

Christopher Cote  
State of Maine resident  
First-year Graduate Student in Public Administration

## Proud to graduate?

Little gets accomplished in four years

BRIAN SYLVESTER



ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

As I look back over the last four years of my life, I am struck by how little I feel I have actually accomplished. Here I am, 22 years old, just about to graduate from college, and the two crowning achievements of my collegiate career are 1) growing a beard and 2) drawing cartoons for the newspaper.

Seriously, I'm more proud of those two things than of anything else I've done in college. Dean's List? Pah. I refer you to my previous rant about general education requirements. The dean's list is not that much of an achievement with such scintillating classes as "Introduction to Astronomy" and "Physics for Dummies" and let's not forget "Music 101." My GPA runneth over because of courses that you would have to work really hard to fail.

What about the various honor societies I've joined? Sigma Tau Delta, Phi Kappa Phi, the Golden Key National Honors Society and etc. Well, I thought about qualifying that as an achievement, but the truth is, you have to pay to get into any of those associations. And basically, once you pay your fee, they send you a certificate and a pin and pretend like you've won some kind of award. If I understand it correctly, the only achievement here is being thrifty enough to save up \$70 so you can pay the membership fee.

Well, you may say that even if you did have to pay and your classes weren't hard, it's still an achievement to have graduated, right? Oh yes. I feel a great swelling of pride knowing that I ended up attending the school which I swore up and down all through high

See GRADUATE 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.

The Maine Campus

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or e-mail:

opinion@mainecampus.com

THE MAINE CAMPUS

The University of Maine newspaper since 1875

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## GUN

From Page 8

Besides, by this logic, we'd decrease the risk of nuclear war by handing nuclear weapons to every world leader. If North Korea launches a nuke, everyone else can blow the country up before they can fire another one.

The anti-gun side is no more sane. Every time someone gets shot, it's time to ban guns. This is often from the same people who like to quote Ben Franklin: "Those who would give up Essential Liberty to purchase a little Temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety," is the exact quote, but it apparently doesn't apply to the Second Amendment.

That isn't to say the Second Amendment doesn't need some scrutiny. It guarantees our right to arms, not guns in particular. Apply the nuclear weapon argument again. If we don't allow people, not even our well-regulated militias to own nukes, then

where should we draw the line?

The point is it would be overkill to completely ban guns. Even if you don't have a strong attachment to living in an open society, there are way, way too many guns in America to outlaw them. In Great Britain, not even police officers can carry firearms except in special cases. It makes everyday life safer, but on the rare occasion that someone pulls a gun, all hell breaks loose. Can you imagine the police running for cover and calling armed backup every time a suspect was packing?

The Virginia Tech massacre is a horrible tragedy, and milking it for your pro- or anti-gun cause is at best tacky. Once all the facts are out, it might be useful to think about how current gun laws, university policies and other factors could be changed to increase safety. But we can't do it at the expense of our basic civil liberties.

*Tony Reaves is a fifth-year journalism and political science major.*

## GRADUATE

From Page 8

school that I didn't want to go to. A degree is necessary in today's job market. It's no longer something that puts you above and beyond the competition, or something that makes you seem extraordinarily cultured and intelligent. I know this because I have met fellow students who are, shall we say, not extraordinarily cultured or intelligent. In point of simple fact, a great deal of people at this institution give every appearance of being approximately as intelligent as pieces of burnt toast and roughly as cultured as Larry the Cable Guy.

A college degree is no less necessary and no more of an achievement than a high school degree. You need to have one to get a decent job in today's world. It only seems special to people of previous generations, for whom it wasn't a necessity.

Which brings me to the graduation ceremony itself. Nothing but two hours of pomp and circumstance celebrating my "achievement" in doing some-

thing that I would have to do anyway, at a school I didn't want to do it at, for more money than it should ever possibly cost. You think \$70 for the honor society was bad, the piece of paper they'll be mailing me 17 to 20 weeks after they hand me an empty frame during the graduation ceremony cost me almost \$40,000 in loans.

I'm going to graduate school this fall, for career training in a field that has nothing to do with my job as a reporter or either of my two majors. Seems that the vast majority of what I did during the last four years was a lot of homework for classes, which will be largely irrelevant for my future career as a librarian. Good job, Brian.

So what have I done of value in these four years? I've drawn two comics for The Maine Campus, which I'm immensely proud of even if hardly anyone reads them or understands the jokes. And I grew a beard, which took about two years of hard work and training.

I could have done that at home.

*Brian Sylvester wants those four years of his early 20s back.*

## It's important to learn from tragedies

People tend to point fingers, Band-Aid fix things

JOSHUA  
PARDA

FOR THE MAINE CAMPUS

resolve anything. More importantly, the discussion ends with Imus' ousting. Imus is gone and we never deal with the real issues, which are simply beyond the scope of this commentary.

Band-Aid fixes have become the American way of life. Social security reform, environmental degradation, poverty and other issues are debated ever-so-briefly and set aside for someone else to fix later. We like to marginalize other's ideas without careful consideration. The result is a rapid descent toward the final stupidity of an event like shooting more than 30 people.

And what will become of this event? Every time I hear of some tragedy, I hope that we will learn from it, but my relatively short experience tells me that will not happen. We'll probably blame some miscalculation of Virginia Tech President Charles Steger or the police. Maybe even some rock band, TV show or video game. Or we can blame the media.

How did we get to this

point? This may be the only simple answer to a complex question in the history of humanity: We apparently stopped caring as individuals and as a culture. It became more important to debate trivia than important problems. We worry about supposedly sinful activity like gay marriage and smoking pot while we shirk our greatest moral duties like feeding the hungry. We invade Iraq instead of resolving the conflict in Darfur. And we do it because it is easy. At least easier than taking on the real challenges we face.

The great irony of all this is that people are at their best when faced with extraordinary challenges. Peace is one of those great challenges. Sometimes, you have to fight for peace — we saw that back in the 1940s.

Most of the time, however, peace is achieved through constructive debate and understanding your opponent. It is clear that the way we live is insufficient for addressing our problems. War, violence, fossil fuels and Jack Bauer have not worked yet. Maybe it is time to consider an alternative.

*Joshua Parda is a student coordinator for the Green Campus Initiative.*

## A terrible new trend in writing

It would be easier for people to just spell words out

As modern day educators place more emphasis on technology and computers, the same machines that allow us to edit papers with ease, they condemn many students to the use of improper English. While I may be the last person who really cares about understanding what a direct or an indirect object are, I must say that when people start typing "u" instead of "you," or "b4" instead of "before" in their assigned papers, the line must be drawn.

Even though this new language, dubbed "IM-speak," is generally thought of as quicker and easier to type, there are many instances that don't save any time, such as saying "wurd" instead of word. Furthermore, University of Toronto linguistics professor Derek Denis, who conducted a study on this chat slang phenomenon, said, "In our corpus of over a million words, all the IM forms accounted for only about 2 percent." So why waste time using a slang that will only allow you to type 2 percent of the words differently? We have rules in the English language for a reason and just because one dislikes spelling words correctly doesn't mean that this slang should be accepted or even tolerated in any form of academia.

The English language is rich with synonyms and different ways to express oneself. While it may be acceptable to use this lingo in e-mails, keep in mind e-mails are hardly polished forms of work. It's not a problem when

JUSTIN  
CHASE



FOR THE MAINE CAMPUS

someone uses this slang in daily life; however, it should be considered a serious problem when this slang seeps into the classroom. Numerous reports of high schools and yes, even colleges, show more students are using this IM-speak.

Part of the importance of having a common English language is so that anyone will be able to read — and hopefully understand — what one is saying. It is important for us to be able to communicate as a society on common grounds. Many regions have their own ethnic slang and idioms, yet these are generally not used in college papers and points are deducted if they are. The infection seems to be spreading through the English language because some teachers and professors sympathize with and even congratulate students for using this "new" form of language. It is important to note that many forms of slang have been used for centuries, such as "w/" for "with," and while those forms are likely to remain a part of the English language, they are generally used in shorthand notes, not in a formal setting.

Educators need to send a clear

and decisive message to students who are using this form of slang. The real question that remains is: What type of damage does this slang do to society? While many students are able to cut the lingo out of their papers, some students seem too apathetic toward the issue. Rutgers University lecturer Alex Lewis, who teaches freshmen basic writing, addressed the slang problem by saying, "These kids spend an enormous amount of time writing, but their formal understanding of writing is limited." Students should be taught to explore the depths of the English language, and not cut corners in their work.

One may argue that the English currently spoken and written is nothing more than a perverted slang of old English. One may ask, what's wrong with typing words in a way which allows one to type even faster than before? The problem that exists isn't so much the lingo itself but the understanding of the English language, which many seem to lack. While I don't pretend to be a brilliant writer, I understand that in a formal setting, specifically academia, this slang has no place. The bottom line is that the words you pick are the words by which you are judged, and sadly this slang makes one sound as intelligent as a 5-year-old, which may be what some of the people who use it are going for.

*Justin Chase h8s ppl hu tak lik dis.*

THE MAINE  
CAMPUS

Thumbs Up / Thumbs Down

- "Hot Fuzz"
- Writing papers on Shakespeare
- Eli Roth
- BBC's "Robin Hood"
- "The Scorpion King"

- "Hot Fuzz" not playing north of Portland
- Shakespeare being poked by pen
- Horse poop
- Kevin Costner's "Robin Hood"
- April 2007

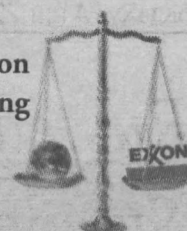


# go.

Inside  
Oronoka • Oh, what a  
night. Page 13

# THE MAINE CAMPUS style

Weighing in on  
global warming  
Page 13



## MUSIC

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

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

Percussion Ensemble  
7 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 24  
Minsky Recital Hall

Man of La Mancha  
Broadway National Tour  
7 p.m.  
Thursday, April 26  
MCA

Jazz Ensemble Concert  
7:30 p.m.  
Thursday, April 26  
Minsky Recital Hall

Orchestra Concert  
7:30 p.m.  
Saturday, April 28  
Minsky Recital Hall

## EVENTS

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

Late Night at the Union  
8 p.m. to midnight  
Friday, April 27  
Memorial Union

## FILM

Kickin' Flicks  
One night only  
"Pan's Labyrinth"  
7:30 p.m., 10 p.m.  
Wednesday, April 25  
100 DPC

## POETRY

New Writing Series  
Allison Cobb and Brenda  
Coultas  
4:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 24  
Jenness Hall

## ART

Juried Student Art Exhibition  
Friday, April 13  
Open 8 a.m. weekdays  
Lord Hall

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

"Borrowed Art"  
Ongoing Exhibition  
Colvin Hall

If you would like your event  
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Style calendar, please send the  
time, day, date, place and fee  
information for your event to Eryk  
Salvaggio on FirstClass.



ILLUSTRATION BY ALANA BROWN

# DRAGONSHIRTS, roar!

By Eryk Salvaggio  
Style Editor

It's a story that draws from hair metal, The Lord of the Rings, Power Rangers and most of all, lessons about trust and friendship torn from after school specials. These quality threads combine to weave "Dragonshirts," a series written and produced at the University of Maine. "Dragonshirts" has earned a cult following at UMaine and abroad. It took home a People's Choice Award at the Maine Channel Film Festival and has over 4,000 views at <http://www.vimeo.com>.

As its creators explain, it all started with the name.

"It happened in front of the union," creator and director Patrick Gill said. "Me, James..."

"We saw a dragon shirt," finished co-creator James Marcel.

"A really epic dragon shirt," Gill continues. "With the dragon curled around the gold."

That led to the main plot device of the series, four shirts that transport four Beverly Hills High School students into "The Nether Regions," a land ripe with enemies and scatological humor. There, they are led by the wizard Perineum, played by Marcel, to do battle against the evil Lord Guiche, played by Jimmy Stevens. The show is a send up of tween-age television, including childhood attention-span exterminators such as "Pokemon" and "The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers."

"I wasn't allowed to watch it as a kid," Gill said of the Power Rangers. "My mom thought I would break my sister's arms."

"I was into the Power Rangers," Marcel said. "I was a Power Ranger."

The premise of the show might sound absurd, and some of the jokes are less serious jokes than outright deliberately bad jokes, but that's the intention of the show's creators.

"When we watch an episode of Power Rangers, we realize we probably can't write better comedy," Gill said. "I think over the last few years, the growing trend has been that good entertainment is to be laughed at, not with. Something like Power Rangers is so laughable in its nature, that the focus of writing ['Dragonshirts'] is less on writing funny jokes, and more on making sure the dialogue is accurately awkward, which is probably just as hard."

Since taping the pilot, the cast of the show has undergone changes. Marcel plays Jesse, the cool-kid leader of the group, as well as the wizard Perineum. Craig, a Japanophile and anime fan, was played by Bobby Daggett, but was replaced by Scott Batson for one episode, in which Batson's head was simply superimposed on

STUDENT

FILMMAKERS

CREATE A

CULT HIT

ON CAMPUS

AND THE

INTERNET

See DRAGON on Page 13



## Rusted Root and Strangefolk kick out the jams

By Zach Dionne  
Copy Editor

The Maine Center for the Arts will showcase a jam band dream show tonight as Rusted Root and Strangefolk take the stage at 7 p.m. Student Entertainment has deviated from the standard show lineup for one of the final concerts of the semester, booking two renowned groups, both with rabid fan bases drawn to their style of jam and bluegrass-based rock.

7 p.m.  
Tonight  
MCA

"We wanted to bring something a little different from the past couple concerts to give more variety to what we have seen this year," said Amanda Brown, vice president of Student Entertainment.

Rusted Root formed in 1990 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. They have released seven albums since their 1992 debut, "Cruel Sun," including a live double-album and a greatest hits disc. Their sophomore effort, "When I Woke," went platinum and is arguably their most well-known release, featuring the popular song, "Send Me On My Way." That song and others were featured in films like "Matilda," "Twister" and the television program "Ally McBeal." Rusted Root fuse a bluegrass-style rock with a distinctive, powerful percussion section that radiates tribal sounds ranging from African to Latin American and Middle Eastern influences.

"We hit campuses whenever we can because we love the energy there," said Patrick Norman of Rusted Root via e-mail. "Those shows often rock a lot harder than at a stuffy theater."

Strangefolk, a five-piece from Burlington, Vt., frequently plays shows at Sugarloaf and elsewhere in Maine. They have released five studio albums, two live discs and a live DVD. "At the heart of Strangefolk's songwriting is a seamless blend of narrative lyrical content and inventive melody. Rock, folk, blues and bluegrass influences converge to create an instantly recognizable sound, which keeps Strangefolk's listeners moving from start to finish," reads the group's MySpace bio at <http://www.myspace.com/strangefolkmusic>. Strangefolk has hosted an annual festival known as Strangefolk's Garden of Eden for the past nine years.

"I am very excited for this show," Brown said. "I think that we appealed to a slightly different audience by bringing both these bands, and I think that bringing a variety of events is something Student Entertainment should be able to pride itself on."

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the show is slated to begin at 7. "Both Strangefolk and Rusted Root are known for playing longer sets, so hopefully it will go until at least 10 p.m.," Brown said.

Tickets will be available at the door at a rate of \$15 for students with a MaineCard and \$24 for non-students.

Never sounded fresher



CAMPUS PHOTO LAURA GIORGIO

## Mr. Lif brings underground hip-hop to Soma 36

East Coast favorite raises the bar for Orono scene

By Tony Reaves  
News Editor

**Fact one:** Orono's been starving for a show like this.

Mr. Lif blew up Soma 36 Saturday night with help from The Foundation Movement, Paul Bosse the Beat Mechanic, DJ Calibur and 200-plus rap-deprived fans.

WMEB proved that if you get someone great up to Orono, people will come. And they'll come from all over; dreadlocks bobbed next to shaved heads next to Red Sox caps next to faux hawks. No one looked out of place.

The focal point was a rapper at the top of his game, both in creativity and popularity. Even when Talib Kweli came to Orono a few years ago, it was around the release of his disappointing "The Beautiful Struggle" album. Mr. Lif, on the other hand has never sounded fresher.

The openers didn't hurt. Local act Paul Bosse the Beat Mechanic played live drums over samples to great effect, and Soma's underrated in-house spinner DJ Calibur was in fine form.

**Fact two:** The show hit a new level when Boston's The Foundation Movement picked up the mics. "Y'all believe in people power? Y'all believe the Red Sox just put a smack down on the Yankees today?" shouted Eroc, one of the group's two MCs. The Foundation owned the Soma crowd before their DJ could even put a beat down.

Hip-hop openers are often something to be tolerated on the way to the main event, but 10 minutes in, there wasn't an occupied seat in Soma 36 and everyone from the frat boys to the hippies were dancing.

Eroc and Optimus spent a lot of time talking, which would have been obnoxious if they weren't just as captivating when explaining, say, the history of Liberia as when they were rapping.

Eroc and Optimus come from Puerto Rico and Liberia, respectively. DJ El, who wasn't around Saturday, is from Guatemala. The group formed in Boston but in the course of their career they've performed in Israel, Palestine, Cuba and South Africa. And now Orono.

See LIF on Page 12

## Pride Week drag show sign-off is fit for a queen

"How to do Drag" workshop extended to  
the curious and the fashionable alike

By J. Astra Brinkmann  
Staff Reporter

Dressed in jeans and T-shirts, three drag queens fielded questions about cleavage, makeup and personal experiences during Friday night's "How to do Drag" workshop in the Multi-Purpose Room of Memorial Union.

While only 10 people attended, the intimate setting provided more opportunities for the three queens to share their stories. No drag kings were there to offer their words of wisdom, but A. Jacquith Porter, known as AmanDa Fondle, told the audience, "It's easier to make hair than to hide it."

Richie Grant, who performed as Lady Emma for Saturday night's drag show, was the first to provide insight into a routine that used to take him six hours of preparation. Grant recommended shaving the day before the grand event, avoiding liquid foundation, wearing two pairs of nylons and



CAMPUS PHOTO BY J. ASTRA BRINKMANN

ON THE CATWALK — The anonymous "Trixie" delights the crowd at UMaine's Drag Show.

Maine Marketplace decked out in an  
intimidating display of fabulousness

By Eryk Salvaggio  
Style Editor

RuPaul, the famous musician and drag queen, once declared — "I do not impersonate females! How many women do you know who wear seven-inch heels, four-foot wigs and skintight dresses?" At Saturday night's drag show at the University of Maine Marketplace, you would know exactly what RuPaul meant.

The event was hosted by Mizz Kitty Pryde, a.k.a. Chris Whitcomb, a host of several UMaine drag shows in the past. Andrew Johnson and Amanda Babbitt also hosted the event, but did not perform. For Pryde's performances, audience members were pulled on stage for risqué dance duets. In between sets, Pryde struck up jokes with a decidedly "mature" slant.

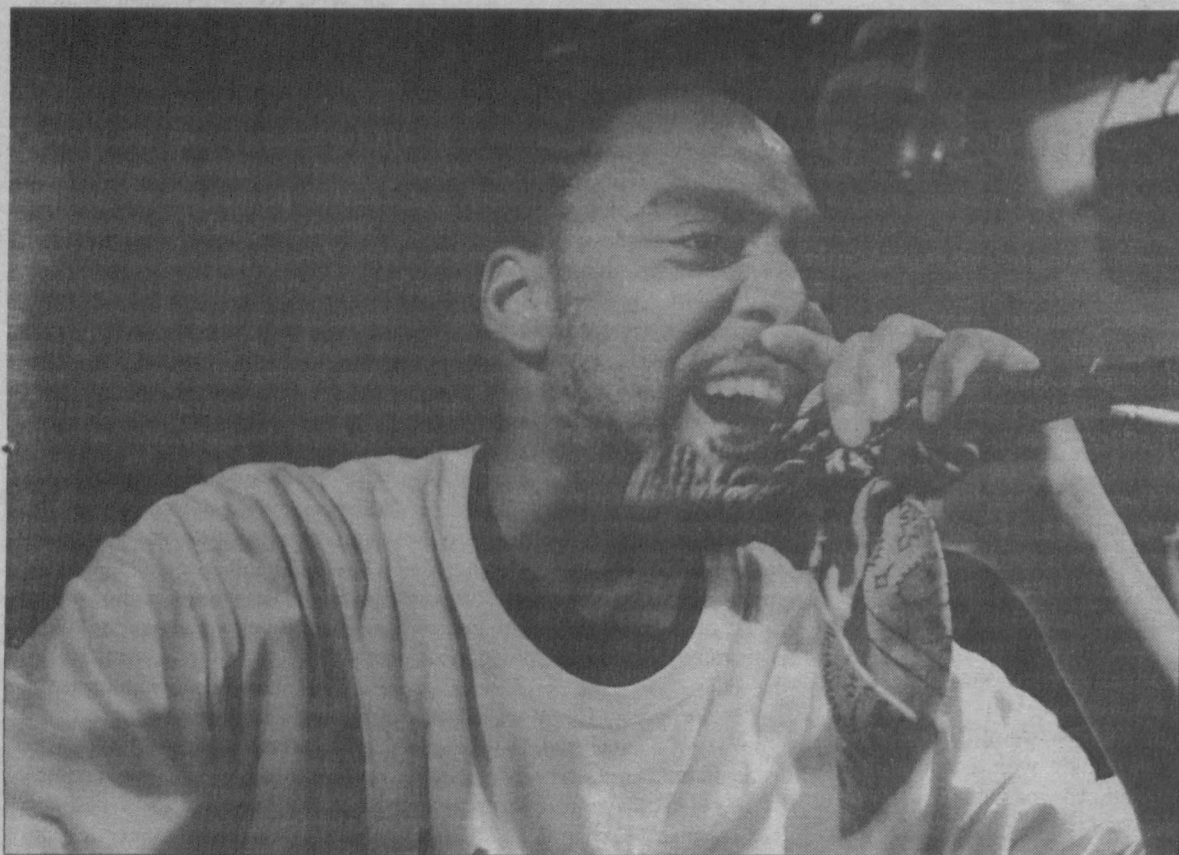
Audience participation was a key element of the evening.

See SHOP on Page 12

See SHOW on Page 12



## 'Y'all believe in people power?'



CAMPUS PHOTO BY LAURA GIORGIO

FOUND SOUND — Optimus of the Foundation Movement, who opened for Mr. Lif at Soma 36 on Saturday night, raps to the crowd.

## LIF

From Page 11

Another thing about the Foundation: They aren't afraid to go a capella. A lot of rappers will do it once in a set, if they're good enough to stay on beat. Eroc and Optimus did it at some point during every single song, always to cheers from the audience.

Far from the anger of most political rappers — think Dead Prez — The Foundation radiate charisma. Mr. Lif had a lot to live up to.

**Fact three:** Lif delivered. With the help of surprise guest and fellow Boston rapper Akrobatic, Lif rode high on crowd energy and beats by DJ Therapy.

The set took tracks from Mr. Lif's back catalog as well as the latest album, and he finished with his breakout hit, "Brothaz." Once Akrobatic appeared, the two performed songs they'd written together as The Perceptionists and

Akrobatic got in a solo song.

Lif's newer tracks showcase the huge growth he's made as an artist. In "Brothaz," he smashed Bill Clinton's cred in a bar and a half: "You ain't really down because you live uptown, bitch," he said, referencing Clinton's highly-publicized Harlem digs before dropping his one-word finishing move: "Rwanda."

Lif has had a huge underground fan base for at least five years, so to see him on a ground-level stage in an Orono bar is a major event around here.

WMEB deserves massive credit for putting this together. At about 10 p.m., with more than 200 tickets sold, they stopped charging for entry. WMEB station manager Tom Gucza said the free entry was to get the club as full as possible.

"Y'all in the f---- boon-docks," Eroc commented early in The Foundation Movement's set. He's right, but that doesn't mean Orono doesn't know how to party.

## SHOP

From Page 11

putting the outer layer of clothing on after caking on the makeup. He said that he had spent approximately \$3,000 on his costume materials during his three years of experience.

"Finding women's shoes for a size 12 is very hard and very expensive," Grant said.

Matthew Briggs, a.k.a. Ms. Stacy, stressed the importance of "playing and working with three shades of eye shadow color from different palettes." He has been performing for a little more than a year, but said that after the first try he knew it was for him. "I loved it. I pushed myself and it was hard at first because I didn't ask for help."

Starting out was hard for Grant as

well. His anxiety stemmed from being "the new girl in town" and the fear that the other queens wouldn't like him — or that they would be jealous.

The queens briefly touched on the differences between drag queens, transsexuals and transvestites. During the queens' clarification of how to create or enhance cleavage — which involves a slew of makeup products, body cinchers and strategically placed duct tape — the issue of getting breast implants arose. Grant said that it was a severe move, although some queens have done so.

When a drag queen begins to undergo operations to become a female, it is at that point when they could be referred to as a transsexual. Assigning the terms transgender, transvestite, female-male impersonator are trickier, as it depends on the wishes of the individual. Typically, being a drag king or queen, which transvestite can also refer to, is

for entertainment purposes, while a female or a male impersonator can extend beyond the stage.

Besides the aesthetic necessities of being a queen, they discussed their experiences as performers, how they got their stage names and the differences between venues. Grant, who has traveled as far as Vermont for a show, found the differences between performing at Rupununi's in Bar Harbor and the Orono area to be the crowd, but said that people of all ages tended to be enthusiastic and supportive.

While Briggs and Grant said that they never really had any negative reactions from friends or strangers from coming out or performing, Porter described an encounter with a man who had insulted him while he was in drag.

"Basically, he didn't expect me to chase him in six-inch heels, but I did," Porter said.

## SHOW

From Page 11

with members coming up to insert dollar bills, strip-club style, into the clothing of performers. "Lady Emma," a.k.a. Richie Grant, was a frequent performer for the evening, performing several disco numbers. "AmanDa Fondle," a.k.a. A. Jacquith Porter, donned a blonde wig, fishnets and a problematic push-up bra on the runway. Unique for the evening was Bobby Johnson, a.k.a. Sarah Potvin, decked out in country-western garb and a cowboy hat.

A highlight of the night was the anonymous "Trixie," who sported a black wig in a bob style, at one point coming out to the Catherine Zeta-Jones rendition of "All That Jazz" from the musical "Chicago." The spot-on performance thrilled the audience, and Jones' finishing crescendo seemed to emerge from Trixie's lungs. Trixie received a standing ovation, one of many over the course of the evening.

"It's something that everyone needs to see," said UMaine student Bridgette Holmes. "In some schools, people could never get away with this — where people can come out, be themselves and wear drag."

## HUDSON MUSEUM SHOP

MAINE CENTER FOR THE ARTS • THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

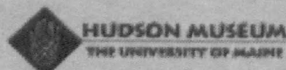
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# Oronoka saves the last dance for UM international students

By Zach Dionne  
Copy Editor

Students represented nations from around the globe on the dance floor Saturday night at the final Oronoka international dance party. Two Oronokas were held each semester this year and Saturday's event was the first to take place at the Buchanan Alumni House.

Oronoka is a dance party targeted at the international student community at the University of Maine. Saturday's event was free and open to all students.

York Hall resident assistant Senthil Sockalingam—who goes by the MC alias of DJ Havok—spun tunes from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m., seamlessly blending one jam into the next alongside DJ NorthChild, a.k.a.

Corey Pelletier. "We are newcomers to the field, but since we got together this past fall, it's been a blast and people have been welcoming us really well," Sockalingam said.

More than 200 people were in attendance, with "a steady flow of 150 people on the dance floor at all times," according to Sockalingam.

Oronoka, which is usually held at the Bear Brew Pub, took place directly after a going-away dinner for international students, also in the Buchanan Alumni House and the venue change served a nostalgic purpose. "The reason we went [to the Alumni House] was because we wanted to revive how Oronoka used to be," Sockalingam said. "In those days, it was held at the restaurant Oronoka, and it was a semi-formal event. As we had already booked the

Buchanan Alumni House for our international graduation dinner, we decided to open it up for a dance party right after that."

The turnout was noteworthy and students took varying approaches to the semi-formal dress code, some in jeans and T-shirts, some dressed to the nines in suits and ties. "There were many advantages doing it at Buchanan as well; it was on campus so people had no problem with transportation, there was more room for dancing and as for the acoustics, I've always loved it as I played for the Winter Ball there as well," Sockalingam said. "Personally I like the ambience of that hall and to end the night with a dance for the international graduating class and everyone on campus was awesome."

## 'Out of Balance' targets oil industry

MPAC film and presentation address the global warming controversy

By Thomas St. Pierre  
Staff Reporter

For the final film in their annual film series, the Maine Peace Action Committee presented the film "Out of Balance" in recognition of Earth Day. After the film, Ph.D. students Leigh Stearns and Erich Osterberg of the Climate Change Institute facilitated a discussion about the impending environmental problem.

Directed by Tom Jackson, "Out of Balance" presented an extremely critical stance on ExxonMobil's efforts to resist change in regards to the problem of global warming. ExxonMobil, according to the film, only focuses on what has worked in the past and continues

to imply that global warming is a weak theory still under debate.

According to the film, however, almost the entire scientific community confirms the present danger of global warming. A study done by a United Nations organization, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which is considered the greatest scientific collaboration in history, firmly established the trend of steady climate growth. The results of the study were accepted by a majority of the cooperating countries.

Most people discussed concerns about how to initiate environmental changes in the United States. As one audience member problematically put it, "How do we [scientists] get the word out if

we're supposed to be objective and not political?" Douglas Allen, the MPAC advisee, reiterated her question more broadly, asking, "How can we mobilize to change policy?"

For Stearns and Osterberg, films such as "Out of Balance" are the first step. They "raise awareness about issues outside of the university," said Stearns.

Osterberg suggested, "we need to do a better job of informing people where to focus their energy." Others advocated writing to congressional leaders. Whatever the case, a consensus in the audience emerged — something must be done to motivate apathetic people who see environmental policy change as an impossible task.

## DRAGON

From Page 10

Daggett's body for the opening credits. Daggett will make a return appearance to the role in future episodes. Gill played Boomer, the token but nondescript "ethnic Dragonshirt," but handed the role over to Chris Heretakis to focus on directing. There is one constant, however, and that is the role of Crunchibald VonSlashen, or Crunch.

"He gets the most of the laughs when people watch the show," Gill said. "He's irreplaceable."

Crunch, played by Benjamin Faunce, is "The Metal Dragonshirt," a man whose guitar can shoot laser beams at enemies and whose mullet is literally dictating the duration of the series.

"We're going for at least one more year," Marcel said. "Crunch is really intimidating and he wants to do more. We have at least until he cuts his hair." Crunch is cutting his hair for ROTC, at which point the filming of "Dragonshirts" will stop.

"We told him we were going to exploit him for the mullet and he was down with that," Marcel explained.

Faunce would only respond to interview questions in character, most of which is unsuitable for print.

"I just want Crunch to survive," Faunce said.

Music is an essential part of the series. Aside from its score, which includes snippets of songs by Dio, Dragonforce and others, Gill and Marcel joined up with Derek Wheelden to form "Murdervore," the band that wrote the absurd and catchy power-metal anthem for the show.

The music plays over what is nothing short of a testosterone-fueled twelve-year-old's idea of awesome: Marcel, constantly changing sizes while superimposed over mountain ranges and castles, plays guitar while fireballs erupt around him.

Gill said recording the theme "automatically puts you on a differ-

ent level for a TV show—these guys might be hacks, but they're dedicated hacks."

The theme song was recorded into different genres and formats, from black metal to acoustic to hip-hop. Marcel approached current Java Jive finalist Jon Bailey to create an acoustic rendition of the song that plays over the end credits of the second episode.

Gill and Marcel co-wrote the series, with Gill also taking on the task of directing. The sophomores began working together with a final project Gill directed for a new media class. The team shot "Dragonshirts" independently of any classes, but the duo hopes to get the show onto the Maine Channel next semester. Currently, the pilot is airing on The Maine Channel alongside every other submission to the Film Festival. "Dragonshirts" took home the People's Choice Award.

"It was nice to know it was funny to people other than me and my dad," Gill said. The show was also picked up by <http://www.collegehumor.com>, a Web site for college students, which brought over 6,000 hits to the show in just a day. Nevertheless, Internet celebrity is not going to their heads.

"It's not really as big a deal as we hoped it to be," Gill said.

"But 6,000 hits," Marcel said, "That was kind of exciting."

Production of "Dragonshirts" runs mostly on weekends. Gill said the pilot took almost 50 hours to finish, with 15 hours of actual shooting time. The second and third episodes were filmed at a slower pace over the course of the school year.

In addition to "Dragonshirts," Gill said he was working on a script for "Puncher," which he described as "a tribute to every kickboxing movie from 1985-1993. Pretty much every movie from 1985-1993."

"Dragonshirts" is online at <http://www.vimeo.com/user:dragonshirts>. There is also a Facebook group called Dragonshirts, Roar!

"If 100,000 people join our group," said Marcel, "we're going to get tramp stamps."

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## Horoscopes

### Aries

March 21 to April 20

You seem to be moving two steps forward and three steps backward lately. Your approach is not helping you. Start behaving as if your dreams are coming true.

### Taurus

April 21 to May 20

Something is causing you mental anguish because you can't stop yourself from desiring it. Know that you are being pulled in a certain direction for a reason. Keep an open mind. Examine all the possibilities.

### Gemini

May 21 to June 21

You come to realize today that you have been running around in circles. If you work too hard you will burn out, having no time to yourself. Make time for your own needs by scheduling a part of your day just for you.

### Cancer

June 22 to July 22

This is a time to prioritize as you will tend to take on too much. You are spreading yourself thin and despite the need to meet deadlines, you will be better off if you discuss your priorities with those who matter.

### Leo

July 23 to August 22

You feel that something is missing in your life today. Research different spiritual avenues without too much regard for what others say about it.

### Virgo

Aug. 23 to Sept. 22

It would be nice to be able to switch our feelings on or off. This mechanism, unfortunately, does not discriminate and may show up even when the event is constructive and enjoyable.

### Libra

Sept. 23 to Oct. 23

You have been venting your frustrations lately and today is no exception. While it is good to get things out into the open, balance this with lots of positive comments as well.

### Scorpio

Oct. 24 to Nov. 22

An emotional relationship could come about today with the potential to turn into something that you have been waiting for. Don't force it to conform to your standards.

### Sagittarius

Nov. 23 to Dec. 21

Your charitable side will be highlighted today. Unfortunately, you have become disillusioned with what seems like a constant barrage of requests for assistance. Oh well.

### Capricorn

Dec. 22 to Jan. 20

The dreams that you put in place a while back show signs of fruition today. You hear some good news which will move you forward in your plans.

### Aquarius

Jan. 21 to Feb. 18

There may be difficulty in getting things done today. You could experience difficulties keeping your mind focused at the workplace.

### Pisces

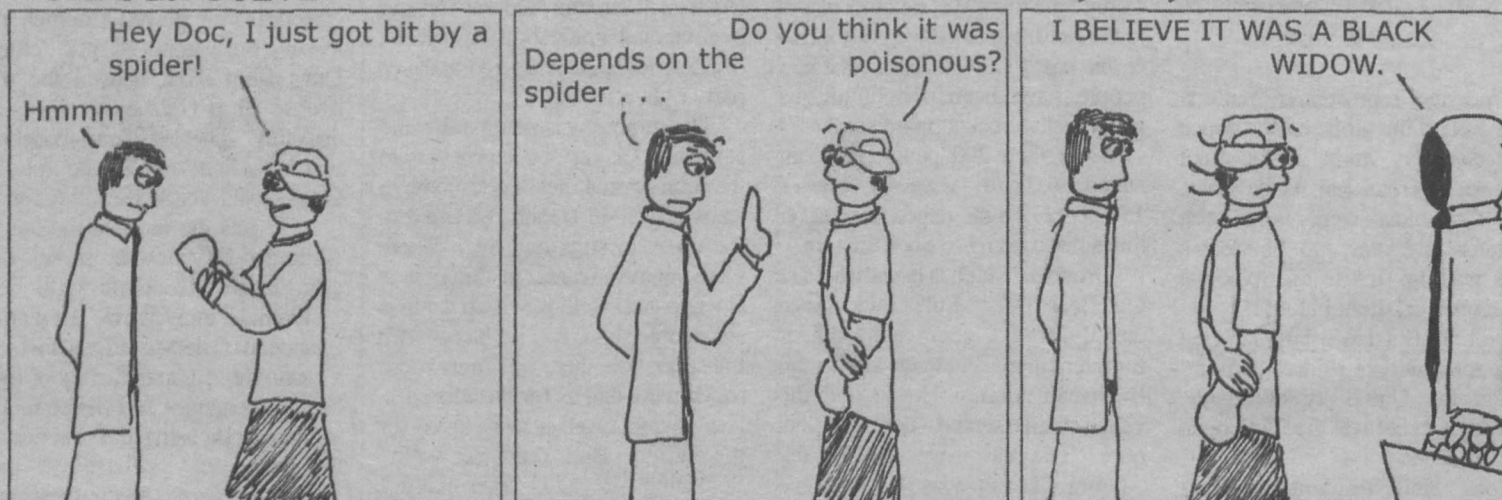
Feb. 19 to March 20

Most people you run into today will know that you are in an overly sensitive state but will not be able to resist pushing you to the limit.

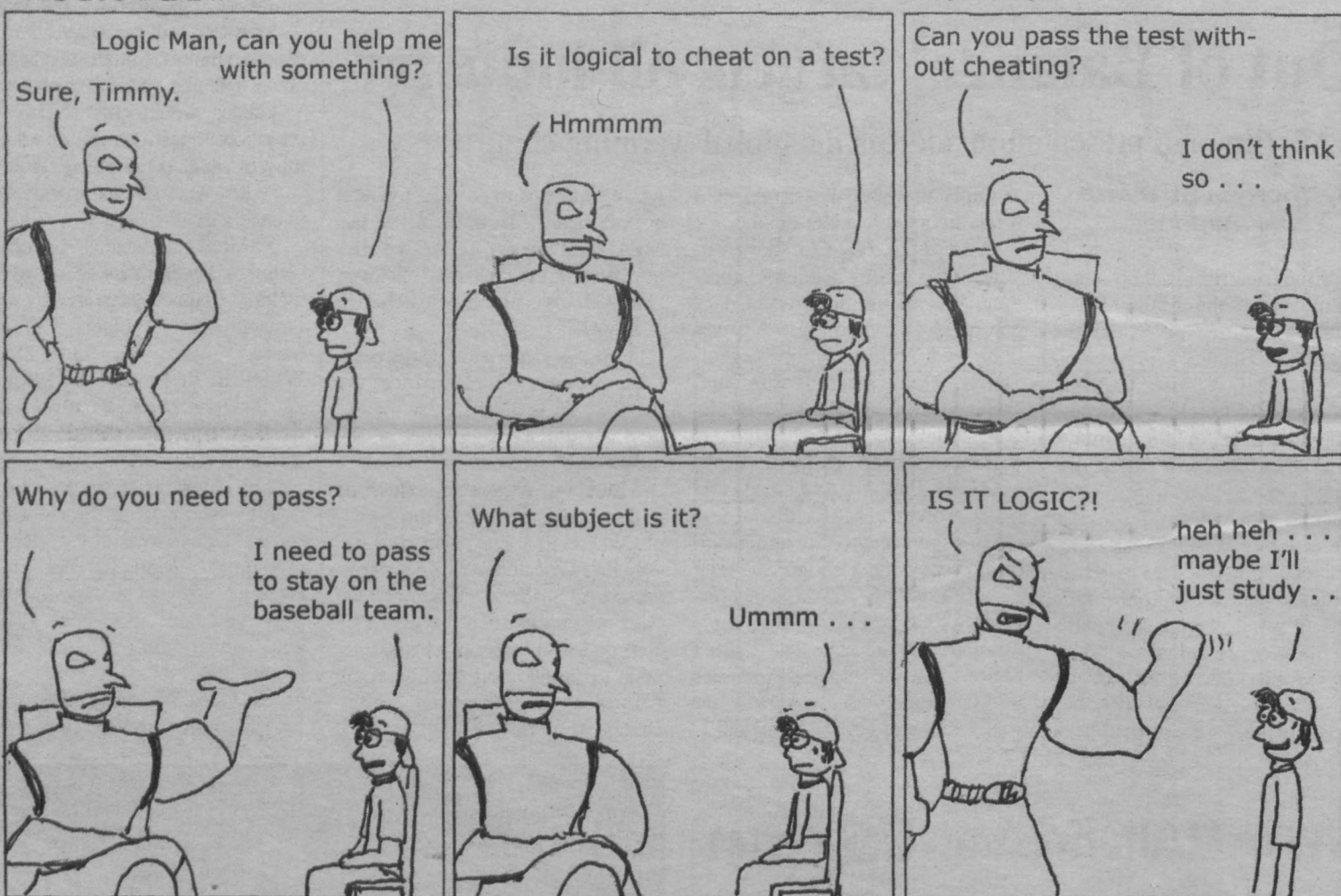
THE MAINE  
CAMPUS

# DIVERSIONS

## REAPER STEVE



## LOGIC MAN!



## Momentary Dementia - Differing Opinions = Wrong



## Momentary Dementia - Fire him, or us Silver Bullets...





## HOW TO PLAY

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

- 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!

## 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

# WIN, LOSE OR



GET PAID FOR YOUR COMIC STRIPS.  
PUBLICATION SUBJECT TO EDITOR'S DISCRETION.



**Dear Bananas,**

I dated this guy last year. We had a pretty rough breakup but he really pushed for being friends. We tried the friends thing, but whenever we would go and hang out I would just continue to miss him. I recently told him how I felt and he didn't really feel the same but still wanted to keep the being friends. He is a really great guy, and I don't want him out of my life but I really feel since it's been a year since we broke up I really need to move on and get over him. Can I do this while still being his friend?

**Sincerely,  
A Confused Friend**

Dear Confused Friend,  
I personally don't think the friends thing after a breakup works. Maybe if you were friends before

and had a mutual breakup, both realizing you make better friends than boyfriend or girlfriend. I think you need to realize that it's more important at this point to take care of you and how you feel. Let the guy know you think he is a great guy and you would like to be friends someday, but you need your space. Hopefully, if he is as good of a guy as you make him out to be, he will understand. Take this time to do other things. Get involved, find something you enjoy, hang out with your friends, do something on campus, to make a difference (hey... Maine Day is coming up!). These things will help you feel good about yourself and also consume your time so you aren't thinking about him. When you are ready for his friendship, gradually make your way back into his life. I'm sure he will be accepting of it.

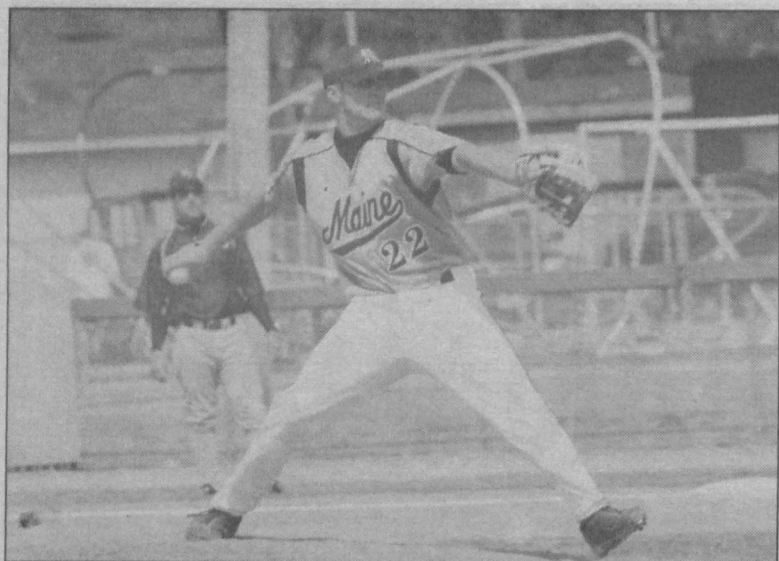
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Young Fop  
PAPERDOLL



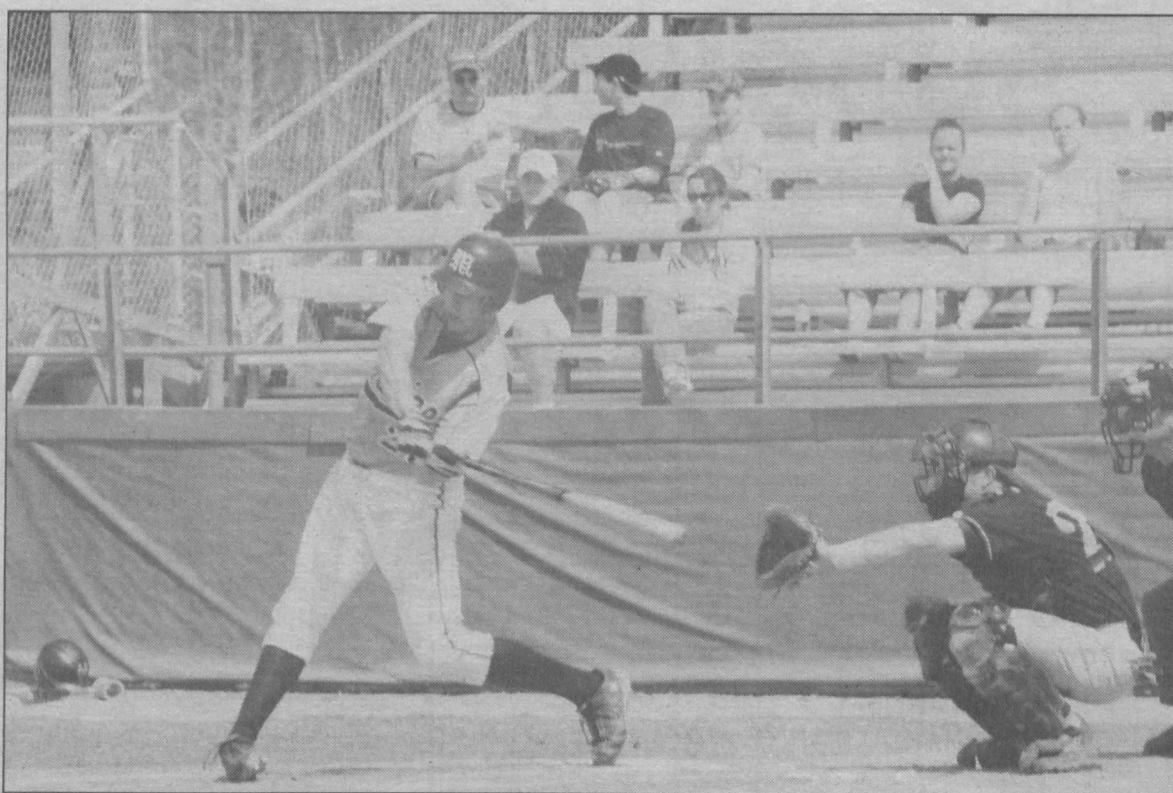
A MAINE CAMPUS ILLUSTRATION





CAMPUS PHOTOS BY JENNA LAVALLEE

**SLUGGER ON THE HILL** — ABOVE — Kevin McAvoy, one of UMaine's top hitters, has also been pitching as of late. RIGHT — Myckie Lugbauer hits during the first game of yesterday's doubleheader against NYIT.



## NORTON

From Page 20

Norton was mobbed in the infield as he launched his helmet into the air.

"Nortie said it was his best college experience and I think it was also my best college experience to see Nortie get that double," said senior tri-captain Joel Barrett, who was on first base for the hit after garnering a walk.

For the Black Bears, what they had just experienced was almost too surreal to put into words.

"I really don't think I can put this into words," said Barrett. "Greg Norton getting the winning double? What is going on?"

According to Norton, the game-winning hit was his first since his high school days in South Portland.

"Apparently he hit all summer," said McGraw. "He always claims that he's this stud from high school that used to hit. I guess he just shoved it to the offense today."

Despite the at-bat being his first in nearly five years, Trimper said Norton approached like it was his fifth on that day.

"I said, 'Nortie he's up a little bit, he's all over the place — look for a ball, he's going to be all over,' and he looks at me and says 'Coach I'm fine, I hit

all summer,'" said Trimper. "That's what he said to me in the calmest voice in the world. I go 'This kid might get a hit cause he doesn't care.'"

Ahead 2-0 in the count, Norton dug in on pitcher Steve Faulkner and shredded one off the Hammond Lumber sign.

"Dreams come true for a college pitcher apparently," said Norton. "I don't know what I said after it, I'm still trying to take it in to be honest."

As friend and fellow captain Joel Barrett put it, this type of perfection is typical of the easygoing Norton.

"Greg is the type of kid that succeeds in everything. He can draw a picture of me and I know its me, he can do a 360-degree dunk and he can get straight A's in engineering," said Barrett. "To get a double off the fence I guess is the last thing he needed to put on his belt."

While the game couldn't have ended better for the Black Bears, there were undoubtedly some rough spots. Most obviously, UMaine trailed 4-1 headed into the bottom of the seventh and final inning.

Yet they were not to be denied on this evening. The Black Bears kicked off the seventh with back-to-back singles by Barrett and Myckie Lugbauer. UMaine then proceeded to watch pinch hitter and first-game loser Kevin McAvoy tack one to right field. Only moments later, a pinch-running Norton came home

with McAvoy when young and feisty Kevin Jackson sent a hard grounder up the middle to tie the game at 4-4.

"I came up and the kid had thrown two first-pitch fastballs to the two kids before me so I figure a first-pitch fastball is coming," said Jackson. "It came and I just drove it up the middle. I stayed inside of it and it was a great feeling."

*"I really don't think I can put this into words. Greg Norton getting the winning double? What is going on?"*

Joel Barrett  
UMaine baseball

However, NYIT responded quickly in the top half of the first extra inning when Mike LaLuna reached on a Barrett throwing error and scored off a Joe Esposito single. Before the inning, the Black Bears had to completely retool their entire depth chart when second baseman Danny Mendez was tossed for swearing on the field.

"I don't condone language or anything like that but it was a play where he's way out in the outfield and he said something

to himself and the ump was right there without a warning or nothing," said Trimper. "I've never seen a guy throw someone out in the middle outfield talking to himself."

With Mendez out, shortstop Brian Hackett moved to second, third basemen Curt Smith switched to short and Barrett went to third for Bobby Brown. Pitcher Mike Powers also came in and played left field.

"Nortie to DH didn't bother me; it was getting who was going to play second, who was going to play third, moving [Mike] Powers to left that did," said Trimper.

Still, despite the sudden move back into the losing column, the Black Bears felt the tide on their side.

"I think it was about the sixth inning when we started to feel something," said McGraw. "If this was a nine inning game everyone knew we were going to come back and get these guys. If you have that much bad luck it's going to come around at some point."

"Everything is starting to click," said Jackson. "You walk around campus and everyone says 'Maine baseball, you guys are good and then you walk around with an 11-19 record and people are like 'who the hell are you guys?' It's just nice to get on a little roll here so people can see who we are."

As the momentum began picking up the Black Bears started to reward pitcher A.J. Balsinde, who had strung together seven gritty innings of pitching. During that span, he allowed only three earned runs and seven hits, while fanning a pair.

"A.J. has done a great job converting from our closer to our starter," said Jackson. "I mean we were in Connecticut and he was called upon to get a start and he throws a complete game. You can't ask for anything more than that."

"We've been fighting and staying in games," said Trimper. "I'll tell you with our pitching and I've said this

before: Just keep us in the game where we are, within three or four runs. That's striking distance for UMaine."

The game was exactly the type that the Black Bears wanted to add to their resume. "It's not like we are going out and hammering the ball or having ace performances on the mound every game, so we have to learn how to win these games," said McGraw.

In the first game, the Black Bears saw McAvoy take the mound in his first career start. After surviving a rough first, he allowed five runs in 5 1/3 innings, including three earned runs. He also surrendered seven hits.

"We couldn't really piece things together in the first game and it seemed like that in the second game too," said Jackson. "We finally pieced it together in the final three innings and it felt good."

The Black Bears lost to NYIT ace Joe Esposito, who pitched the complete game, despite giving up a two-run homer to McGraw.

"[Sunday] was one of those rare occasions where you almost get a ground ball, they're ready to turn the double play, then there is a bad bounce or you get that routine ground ball and a guy takes a bad route," said McGraw. "It was just an accumulation of all these things."

On Saturday, the Black Bears swept the first doubleheader against NYIT by scores of 9-0 and 4-3. Brad Hertzler got the win in the first, while Ryan Forrest earned the second win of the day.

In other Black Bear news, it was acknowledged that pitching coach Cory Domel has left the team for the season.

"He just took some time off right now and we are going to re-evaluate at the end of the season," said Trimper. "He needed to clear his head."

UMaine returns to action when it hosts in-state rival Colby College this Tuesday at Mahaney Diamond at 6 p.m.



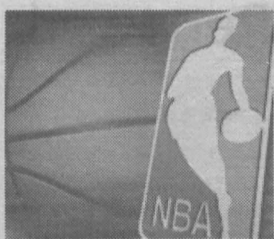
CAMPUS PHOTO BY JENNA LAVALLEE

**FIRST TIME AT HOME** — Freshman Kevin Jackson, who made his Mahaney Diamond debut this weekend, prepares to enter the batter's box yesterday.

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## Playoff Predictions

By Danielle Young  
For The Maine Campus

All right, so it's not March Madness, but it will have to do for now. The NBA playoffs are upon us and this season, the matchups are intriguing. In a season where the Dallas Mavericks were the most dominant team in the league, anything is possible. Both the Eastern and Western conferences have teams that could go all the way. Will LeBron finally be able to break out in the playoffs? Will Dwayne Wade and the Miami Heat repeat? Will the Mavericks' magical regular season turn into a world championship? We have more than a month to find answers to these questions.

The Eastern Conference has had a bad rep. They are known for their mediocre teams and lack of competitive edge. Detroit, the No. 1 seed, will take on the No. 8 seed Orlando Magic in the first round. I wouldn't give the Magic much of a chance in this one. The Pistons have all the veteran playoff experience and are simply the more dominant team. Magic center Dwight Howard will put up a good fight in his debut playoff, but it won't be enough to hold back Rasheed Wallace, Chauncey Billups and Richard Hamilton. Look for the Magic to be swept.

The Cleveland Cavaliers may have their hands full with the No. 7 seed Washington Wizards. The Wizards have the potential to be a really dangerous low seed, but without Gilbert Arenas and Caron Butler in the opening round, it's going to be tough. Cleveland's LeBron James and Larry Hughes could potentially carry this team all the way to the championship game. Although the injury-ridden Wizards may seem like an easy pass, don't let them hear you say that. It may just motivate them. But look for the Cavaliers to win in five.

The All-Atlantic divisional matchup between the Raptors and the Nets should be a pretty good series. The Nets have so much talent, but constantly fail to meet expectations. Jason Kidd, Richard Jefferson and Vince Carter should be able to tear up the courts and leave the Raptors wondering what happened, but it never quite happens that way. The Raptors surprised many with their regular season Atlantic division crown. Can Chris Bosh and T.J. Ford carry this Raptors squad? The answer is no. The No. 6 Nets will take the series from the No. 3 Raptors in six games.

My favorite matchup is the defending champion Miami Heat taking on the Chicago Bulls. The Bulls took the first game of this series, but look for wins to teeter-totter the rest of the way. There is no doubt that the Heat are not in the same form as they were last year. The Chicago Bulls have a young team led by Kirk Hinrich, Luol Deng and Ben Gordon. There is so much potential within this team, it's unbelievable. But can the youthful Bulls overcome the aged, experienced Heat? This one is tough to choose. I'd love to see the Bulls win, but it's too close to call — I'll end it at that.

Now we come to the Western conference: the darling of the NBA.

The Dallas Mavericks owned the conference — and the league for that matter — this season. But their opening round matchup against the Golden State Warriors could prove to be a challenge. The Warriors have a lot motivating them at this time. They are back in the playoffs after a 12-year drought and they swept the Mavs during the regular season. What more could you ask for? Well, a better team, maybe. The Warriors' roster just does not stack up to the incredible lineup Dallas sends to the floor: Dirk Nowitzki, Jerry Stackhouse, Jason Terry and Devin Harris. Dallas will win in four.

The No. 2 Phoenix Suns take on Kobe Bryant and the No. 7 L.A. Lakers beginning Sunday afternoon. The Suns have the obvious advantage in almost every category, but who can count out a Kobe Bryant team? No one should dare. Kobe's scoring spree gave the Lakers the extra burst they needed heading into the home stretch. Will it carry over into the opening round? Two-time league MVP Steve Nash may have something to say about that. His team played consistent ball this season and with a healthy Stoudemire, things are looking up. If they can play some defense for a change, they can own this Lakers team. But let's take a trip down memory lane. Destination: the 2006 NBA playoffs. The Lakers were down three games to one. The Suns only needed to win one more game. Somehow, the Lakers fought back and took the last three games of the series and slapped the Suns in the face. Will we see a repeat of this? I don't think so. The Suns win in six.

Houston and Utah clash in this awkward matchup. I mean, the Jazz? Who saw that coming? And Houston, after last year's miserable season, they made a comeback and grabbed the No. 5 seed in the West. Regardless of past events, this is here and now. Rockets vs. Jazz, take it for what it is. The Rockets have Yao and T-Mac while the Jazz counter with Boozer and Okur. Who will be the last team standing? I'll take the Rockets in seven. Yes, I said seven.

Finally, the Denver Nuggets look to upset the always dominant San Antonio Spurs. With Allen Iverson and Carmelo Anthony teaming up in Denver, who knows what they can accomplish in the playoffs together. But the Spurs, led by Tim Duncan and Tony Parker, are aiming to crush any hopes that the Nuggets have. Can Iverson and Anthony carry their team to victory? Will Duncan and the Spurs continue their dominance of the western conference? No and no. But I'll still take the Spurs in six.

So the NBA playoffs are off and running. It's like a marathon, a month and a half of playoff basketball until we crown a new champion in the middle of June. Only time will tell who carries home the golden ball. Which players will create a name for themselves: this playoff season? You know what they say: Playoffs are where legends are born. Let's hope it all lives up to the hype.

## HOLE

From Page 20

"We felt coming in that they clearly had an edge [over the offense]," said coach Jack Cosgrove.

After establishing an identity as one of the stingiest defenses in America last year, the Black Bears are approaching this spring with a start-from-scratch mentality.

"Last year is over. As far as we're concerned, we're the worst defense in the country right now. It's a whole new thing," said linebacker John Wormuth, wearing the No. 4 jersey passed on to him by Stone — traditionally worn by the Black Hole's best player.

With respect to Wormuth's point, there are many teams around the country that would love to have UMaine's talent on the defensive side of the ball. It starts up front with All-Atlantic 10 tackle Bruno Dorismond, versatile end Pat McCrossan and Jovan Belcher — a starting linebacker who will play end next season.

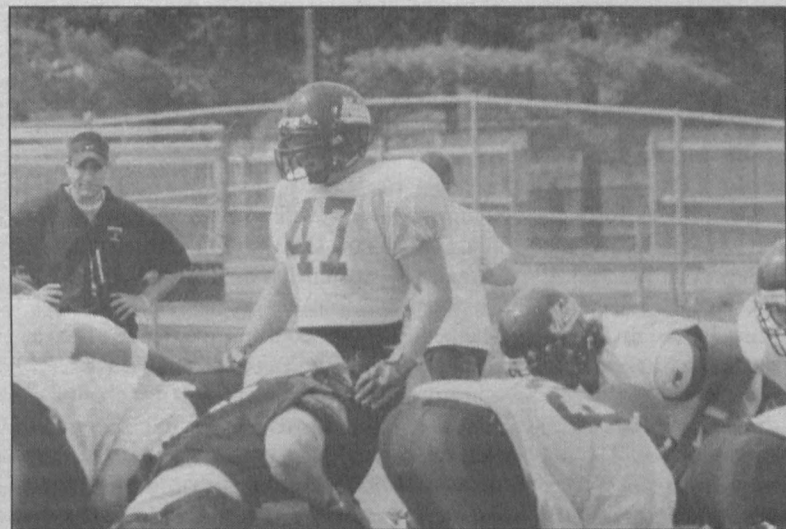
After playing alongside headliners in King and DeVito for the past two seasons, McCrossan looks poised to break out next fall.

"Pat is going to be a huge part of our defense," said Cosgrove. "Sometimes you take him for granted, with all the little things he does without recognition. He is a very good football player."

Belcher — who will give opposing offensive coordinators nightmares wearing King's No. 9 next fall — was even more impressive, and looked nearly unblockable at times. He was a force off the edge, recording a pair of sacks and rushing throws.

"I think it's pretty obvious to everybody that Belch can step in and play King's spot," Cosgrove said. "We need a dominating inside guy where DeVito was. Obviously the answer could be Dorismond, but then the question becomes who will step up and do what Bruno did?"

UMaine's strength extends to the



CAMPUS PHOTO BY JENNA LAVALLEE

STARING THEM DOWN — All-Atlantic 10 linebacker Andrew Downey (47) returns for the Black Bears.

entire front seven, as the linebacking corps may be the strongest and deepest of any position on the team. All-Atlantic 10 selections Wormuth and Andrew Downey lead the way as a pair of agile, mobile and hostile tackling machines.

"I don't know if we're the strongest," Wormuth said. "We have a lot of guys back across the board."

Wormuth and Downey both give defensive coordinator Robb Smith a number of options for creating pressure and changing coverage schemes. They should be joined by either Sean Wasson — a special teams stud who would likely be starting at many other schools — or Jordan Stevens — a sophomore who laid a pair of blistering hits on UMaine receivers yesterday.

"There's certainly no lack of ability there," Cosgrove said. "Coach Smith created a lot of opportunity for Stone off the rush last year, and he'll look at that for other players. Right now, we're looking to find out who those players are."

The Black Hole looks to take the hardest hit in the secondary, as UMaine loses three of four starters — Stone, Manauris Arias and Alex Goyins. But the Bears return starting corner Lamir Whetstone and Jonathan Caleron, who started a few games at safety last fall.

"We're more improved in the secondary than people are going to realize," Cosgrove said.

Whetstone is joined at cornerback by Lionel Nixon, who gave him a run for his money for the spot opposite Arias last season. Cosgrove has also been impressed by Troy Harris, who looks ready to assume strong safety duties although Brandon McLaughlin is also in the mix. Corner Steve Barker is also expected to get serious consideration.

"They have all made big strides," Cosgrove said, noting that depth in the secondary is a great luxury. "Football is a game of personnel matchups now. If they spread the field, you need those fast, quick guys to cover them. We have a lot of those, and they're veteran players now."

With no shortage of talent available at every position, the Black Hole is looking to come together and be every bit as dominant as they were last season.

"We're trying to improve every day," Downey said. "That's a standard we set last year and we're trying to do the same thing, if not better."

Wormuth's goals, on the other hand, are a bit loftier.

"If they don't score they don't win," he said. "If they get even one point, that's our fault and it's too much."

~The Steiners in the Bookstore~

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## View From the Bronx

By Derek McKinley  
For The Maine Campus

With Alex Rodriguez sitting at or near the top of every offensive category in baseball, it's a wonder the Yankees are off to such a poor start. It has always been assumed that if the Yankees' bats were alive, everything would go smoothly in the Bronx. Thus far, that has not been the case. This past weekend, the season officially got underway in the minds of Yankees and Red Sox fans alike, with the teams renewing their rivalry for the first time in the 2007 season.

All the talk coming in has been about Alex Rodriguez and how he's straight up annihilating pitchers all over the major leagues by taking them long with every opportunity. He is currently on pace to hit 130 home runs and while that is clearly impossible, I wouldn't exactly be heartbroken if he somehow managed to whack 74 of them by season's end. In Red Sox Nation, "Dice-K Mania" has grown at a rate that never could have been predicted, as has the number in the L column for Mr. Matsuzaka, who continues to be outpitched by guys making pennies in comparison. As impressive as his arsenal of pitches and his increasing strikeout total is, he's just not getting it done where it counts. At the time of this writing, Dice-K is scheduled to pitch against rookie Chase Wright. It seems like the perfect setting for the Red Sox to complete the sweep and begin the season series with a commanding lead. Don't hold your breath.

I don't want to jinx it, but I'm pretty sure that when underachieving Dice-K meets the most dominant A-Rod ever seen before, there are going to be some fireworks at the plate and probably a few Japanese curse words from the mound. When the irresistible force meets the immovable object, the

results will likely be unfavorable for poor Dice-K, who will have to explain, through a translator, why the Yankees are his "chichigimi."

Of course I'm biased. I'm a hardcore Yankees fan, so it's as hard for me to say nice things about the Red Sox as it is for me to say bad things about the Yankees. The fact of the matter is that the Red Sox rotation scares the crap out of me. It's solid most of the way through. With an ERA under three and one of the scariest closers in the league, the Red Sox are hard to beat if they jump out in front early, and as the last two games have proved, they're hard to beat if you let them hang around for too long, lead or no lead. The only thing I envy about the Red Sox is their rotation.

The Yankees, on the other hand, leave something to be desired in regards to their pitching, which has not caught a break at all this year. I mean, let's face it, when one of your starting pitchers dies before the season even starts, then both of your aces fall to hamstring injuries, it's not really a good way to start off. The Yankees live and die with their offense to save face for their poor rotation, and it's not going to hold up much longer. Give them credit, though. They're even after 16 games. With Mussina and Wang out of the lineup, they could easily have fallen to 5-11, but they managed to hold it together as best they could until both of them made their way back from the DL.

So the season has started poorly for the Yankees. It's happened before. They will come out of it as always and their rotation will rebuild itself. Next weekend, when they stay home in the Bronx for round two, they'll be ready to show the Red Sox and the rest of the teams in the majors why this is the year that No. 27 comes home.



## Red Sox Corner: Rivalry Renewed

By Robert Morlarty  
For The Maine Campus

*Impressions from Friday night — Sox 7, Yankees 6*

### Sox on the Hill:

Oh yeah, how quickly we forget Curt Schilling's struggles. When you look at his line — 7.0 innings, five earned runs, two homers and a 3.81 ERA — it looks like the line of a pitcher who should have taken a loss. It also doesn't look like a Curt Schilling line.

Either way, anyone could see after the second inning that Schill was battling the zone the whole game. Out of his first six outs, four took him to the warning track and on a windier night they're gone. However, we all know Curt is a warrior and he proved it by going seven strong and looking sharp in five of those seven. The bullpen, for a while, looked like the 2006 bullpen. However, Hideki Okajima did what he does best, getting a groundball out before doing the unthinkable and walking a man in front of A-Rod. Thankfully, A-Rod put the ball in play and it wasn't a HR, then Thompson struck out on a ball in the dirt and somehow the Red Sox pulled off a really unlikely comeback.

### Sox at the Plate:

You know, it's almost enough to make a man forget about Jason Varitek's struggles all season. Unfortunately, it was only one game, and that does not define a season. But hey, let's give Tek his due. He was hitting the ball the best he has since last June. He was the catalyst Friday, and for that I tip my cap to him. But let us not forget that there were other guys with clutch hits. David Ortiz, Manny, J.D. Drew and Mike Lowell all set the stage for Varitek, who is almost upstaged by the most unlikely hero of all — Coco Crisp. Crisp's triple scored two and Alex Cora continued to be solid off the bench. And of course, this all happens against Mariano Rivera, who — granted — is not the Mo of three years ago, but is still dominant.

This was the first time in two years he blew back-to-back saves, to give you an idea of how good he still is.

### Overall Impression: A

How can you not be happy with this? Other than Schilling's lack of control — which he battled as best he could — and Romero's issues, the Sox played pretty well. Look at it this way: If A-Rod was playing like he had in 2004, 2005 and 2006, the Sox would have won this one 7-1. They got hits off Pettitte, even though they couldn't put too many across, and they unloaded on the most revered closer in baseball. They were clutch and didn't give up — what more can you ask of them?

*Impressions from Saturday's game — Sox 7, Yankees 5*

The Red Sox continue to make Theo Epstein look like the genius he is. The lineup did exactly what he crafted it to do, which is to keep pace with the Yankees' lineup. He gave up some defensive prowess to add a bat in Julio Lugo and took a huge chance in adding Drew to play a right field that isn't kind to many outfielders, and it's paying off now more than ever during this series.

### Sox on the Hill:

Once again, thanks to the offense, we forget about the pitching. Beckett's first two innings reminded me of last year's Josh Beckett, even though the first inning runs were cheesy. Still, the walks and line drives were reminiscent of 2006. Lucky for us, the home run ball was nowhere to be found and he did some good damage control, especially getting Jeter to hit into that double play in the second. Beckett settled down and pitched like a Cy Young candidate — serious prediction. The bullpen was solid, including another gorgeous outing from Okajima, a shut-down performance by Timlin and a for-one-brief-moment-I-was-scared outing by Papelbon. Nothing

was sweeter than watching him blow away Jeter.

### Sox at the Plate:

I think everyone knew the Sox would have success against Karstens, but I know I didn't expect the immediate results they had. Usually, when the Sox see a pitcher they haven't seen before, they have trouble making solid contact their first time through the lineup. Saturday — clearly — was not like that, and I've never been happier to be wrong. Papi started it off right by putting two across with a double over Abreu's head.

After a scoreless third, the Sox put two across via a base hit, steal, sac bunt and a single — once again, NL ball, and once again, Coco and Cora are the catalyst — lots of "C" words. And, let us not forget — Big Papi provides what turns out to be the game-winning HR on a bomb down the line. Ortiz + Yankees series = clutch. "Nuff said.

I really like this combo of Coco and Cora in the eight and nine holes. They seem to feed off of each other and produce for the top of the lineup to knock them in. Don't get me wrong, I do like Pedroia, but he's not producing like Cora seems to be every time he plays. Also, Varitek had another solid day, going 2-4.

### Overall Impression: A

Like Friday night, the hitting was solid. The only difference was that tonight, the Sox didn't need an amazing comeback to win. They were consistent against every pitcher, at least notching a hit against each reliever. The pitching was good enough and the defense was solid. Any day we beat the Yankees is a good day.

*My deadline for this story was 4 p.m. Sunday, so by the time you read this, the Sox will have already played game three. My prediction: Red Sox win 9-2, Daisuke throws a complete game and the Sox break out the brooms.*

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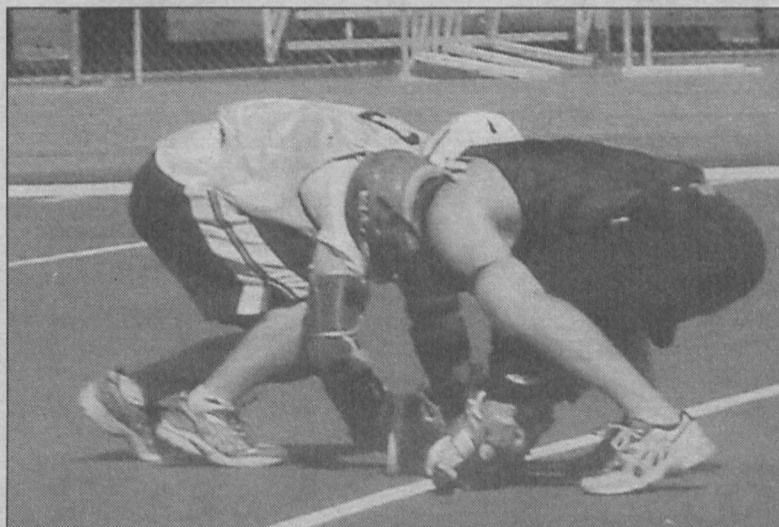
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## Bowdoin gets the better of UMaine lacrosse club as Capen wins hardest shot contest



CAMPUS PHOTOS BY JULIA CARON

**BUMPING HEADS** — ABOVE — Two players collide during UMaine and Bowdoin's lacrosse showdown Saturday. RIGHT — Players get tangled up in the midst of the action.

The University of Maine men's lacrosse club fell to Bowdoin, 7-5, on Morse Field Saturday. Mike Capen won the hardest

shot competition at 94 miles per hour after the game, while Black bear Eric Payne finished second with an 84 m.p.h. blast.



## GORDON

From Page 20

Aquinas Institute in Rochester, Gordon was offered full scholarships for his running abilities from multiple colleges, including Baylor University in Texas. Gordon turned them down to come to UMaine and catch the pigskin.

"He really carried the load for us," said UMaine head football coach Jack Cosgrove. "Over the years, he became our number one offensive weapon."

Attracted by his speed, Cosgrove first incorporated Gordon into his special teams as a kick returner. As Gordon began to prove himself as a teammate and player, he was moved into the wide receiver position. Eventually, the UMaine offense devised plays specifically targeting his abilities.

"It took a lot of time and hard work. It didn't happen overnight," said Gordon.

Gordon spent hours practicing footwork, running patterns and memorizing the playbook.

"He is a pretty damn impressive athlete," said Cosgrove. "Losing him is going to leave a big void. He had the ability to change the outcome of a game with one play."

Cosgrove recalled a game in Richmond, VA in the 2006 season where Gordon got a touchdown in the final seconds, winning the game.

"I worked hard over the years on the perimeter," said Gordon, "when I came in I was taking a lot of hits, now I give them or just bounce off. It makes a big difference."

It also helps to be the strongest athlete pound for pound on campus, which Gordon is, according to Cosgrove.

These attributes make it understandable why Gordon is fielding questions and sending e-mails to scouts from National Football teams such as the Philadelphia Eagles and the New York Jets.

"I'm never quite sure what the NFL looks for because they know what they want," said Cosgrove. "But I think Gordon's got a shot because of his speed and mental toughness."

### Pulling Hammys

Back at the starting line, clad in a UMaine speed suit and sleek sprinting spikes instead of his No. 2 foot-

ball jersey, Gordon just finished setting up his blocks. He stretched his hamstring again, which was still sore from pulling it weeks before at the America East Indoor Track Championships in Boston.

He had been racing the 200-meter dash when he pulled it and had to step out of the race.

"I was really upset. I wanted to get the first-place points for the team, but we ended up getting none," said Gordon.

He proceeded to spend the next few weeks in rehab, nursing himself back to health. When the tightness returned on the day of the big race, Gordon never thought twice about racing.

"Any other day I wouldn't have even attempted to run," said Gordon. "But it was Nationals, and I knew I couldn't turn back now."

Although Gordon was seeded last in the race, an intimidating notion at any race, he remained positive.

"He has pride in being able to stand up to challenges," said Cosgrove.

"I knew everyone was watching the race not only at the stadium, but around the country," he said. "I had been watching future Olympians compete and break records like it was a regular occasion and knew that I had a special opportunity. I was excited to go to Nationals, but I didn't want to embarrass myself either. I just threw the seed times out of my head. You don't run track on paper."

Cameras from ESPN and other news networks could be seen floating amidst the large crowds of parents and fans. All of these things faded away for Gordon as he set into position in his blocks.

"Runners on your mark," barked the starter, standing a few meters away.

Gordon took a deep breath and lined his thumb and forefinger with the starting line. His head remained down, lost in focus and pent up fury. He awaited the next command.

"Get set," the starter bellowed.

Gordon and his competitors raised into their racing positions uniformly. They crouched, waiting for the gun.

### Coming out of nowhere

College athletics has become more specialized in recent years, according to Cosgrove.

"Most athletes are looking to do one sport," said Cosgrove. "College

sports have become very specific with year-round training regimes."

The focus of a single sport on the college scene has forced athletes like as Gordon, to choose between two sports with potentially equal rewards

"I enjoyed doing both in high school," said Gordon. "Football emphasizes more energy, attitude and toughness. But track as a mental game has its own forces that can work just as hard when it is time to compete. I actually get more nervous for track races than football games."

According to Cosgrove there is no mandate saying that members of the football team cannot compete in other sports.

"If someone talks to us while we are recruiting them and tells us 'I want to do track' or 'I want to do baseball' then we take that into account," he said. "We just don't get that very often anymore, in part because it is so time consuming."

The benefits of playing both sports, especially track and football, are worth the time, according to Gordon.

"Track has changed my whole approach to football," he said. "It's made me faster. There are definitely ways to have guys running indoor track. It would be good for both the football team because it would make guys faster and the track team because they need sprinters."

From a track perspective, Gordon came out of nowhere and was a welcomed help to the sprints.

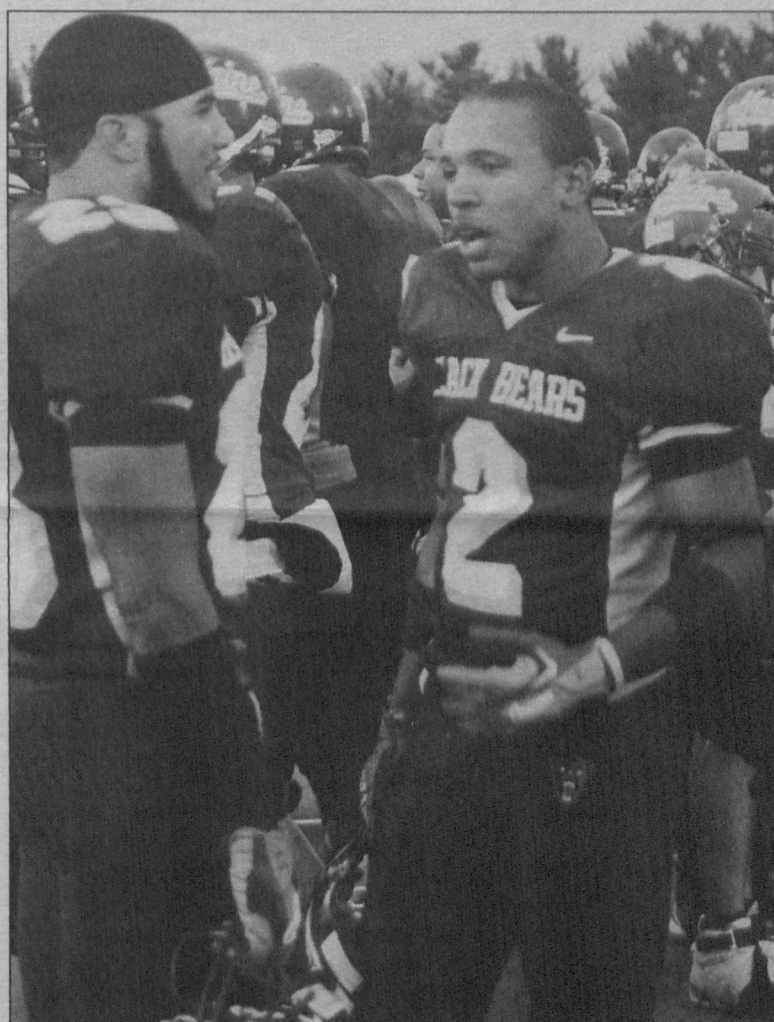
"He's a great sprinter," said University of Maine Track head coach Mark Lech. "It was a mystery because he hadn't raced in a while, but his general ability really pulled him through."

As to why Gordon was not recruited earlier to run, Lech said, "I don't go to athletes on other teams and try to entice them away."

### Victory

The crack of the pistol echoed throughout the facility and all eyes were on the runners, exploding out of the blocks.

Unlike the movies, there was no slow motion or epic music to accompany the race. There were only the runners, the finish line



CAMPUS FILE PHOTO

**JACK OF ALL TRADES** — Arel Gordon, seen here after a football game last fall, led that team in total offense before setting school and conference sprinting records in track.

and time itself.

Gordon's stride and pace were, to say the least, professional. Before most fans could grab for another handful of popcorn, Gordon crossed the line.

Hunched over he looks at his time: 6.71 seconds.

That's good enough for seventh place, All American Honors and the prestige of being the highest scorer in the NCAA championships for Indoor Track that the University of Maine has ever had.

### It isn't all about sports

Despite the hours of working out every day and being a Maine Athletic Scholar, Gordon does find time to be a 22-year-old college student.

"I play a lot of Xbox," said Gordon, smiling. "A lot. I love playing Halo online."

He also finds time to customize his car, a 2000 Mitsubishi Gallant.

"It's kind of an expensive hobby, and it can be frustrating," he laughed. "But I enjoy it."

This All-American, NFL hopeful always takes the time to read poetry, specifically Langston Hughes. Hughes' poetical style draws Gordon in.

"He can write about things in eye-opening ways," he said.

Amid the video games, the music, the car and the poetry, Gordon's dream is still to play in the NFL.

Sorting through e-mails and fielding phone calls from the Eagles and the Jets, Gordon's future looks promising.

"I had a workout session with a scout from the Eagles that went pretty well, although we both knew that my hamstring wasn't 100 percent and my 40-yard dash time suffered due to that. I also sent them film with my time conversions and am waiting to hear back from them," he said.





## Norton's dramatic walk-off lifts UM



GETTING IN A PICKLE — Billy Cather avoids the tag of NYIT pitcher Joe Esposito (right) during a rundown yesterday at Mahaney Diamond. The Black Bears took three of four in their home-opening series.

CAMPUS PHOTO BY JENNA LAVALLEE

## Senior captain's first-ever at-bat yields bases-loaded double as Black Bears win

By Matthew Conyers  
Editor in Chief

ORONO — Disney movies are more realistic than this stuff.

Sunday, with the bases loaded and the University of Maine baseball team trailing by one in extra innings, senior pitching ace Greg Norton sent an inside fastball off the left-field fence for a walk-off dou-

UM 6  
NYIT 5

NYIT 5  
UM 3

ble. The smash, which nearly left the park, not only concluded a ridiculously up-and-down affair at Mahaney Diamond that saw the Black Bears win 6-5, but also came in Norton's first at-bat in a UMaine uniform after five years with the team.

"That was the highlight of my career; I don't ever want to hit again," said a clearly elated and shocked Norton. "I want to bat a 1,000 for my college career."

The moment was a dramatic signoff for the Black Bears' Sunday doubleheader — they

lost 6-4 in the first game — that featured a few too many errors, plenty of funky bounces and an assortment of one-of-a-kind occurrences. UMaine now moves to 12-20 on the year.

"I rolled out of bed this morning and I had this intuition that Greg Norton would have a walk-off double, that's what I thought ... Yeah, no way," said UMaine manager Steve Trimper. "We're just thin and once we got into the situation we went with it."

With UMaine's No. 2 and No. 3 hitters, Matt McGraw and

Curt Smith manufacturing ways to get on base — McGraw on an error and Smith a sharp single — the stage was set for Norton with one out.

"In all seriousness I hit it pretty well and I saw it disappear in the white signs and I was like 'wow,'" said Norton.

What followed could easily be called the greatest Black Bear celebration in the history of April. Moments after touching second base and watching McGraw and Smith cross the plate to win the decision,

See NORTON on Page 16

## Making the leap

Gordon's transition to two-sport star

By Michael Dabrieo  
Staff Reporter

It was 10 minutes until race time. A small group of runners crowded around the 60-meter dash starting line on the indoor track, their mouths silent but their faces speaking volumes.



Gordon

Focus, determination and an innate desire to win brought these athletes to the NCAA Indoor Track Championships in Alabama. It was those three traits that the athletes would depend on to succeed.

Arel Gordon, a senior communications major at the University of Maine, stretched apart from the crowd of runners. He was the lone representative from his school. Standing slowly, he began taking off his sweats and snapping his legs up and down quickly on the indoor track. Judging by his smooth movements and calm demeanor, it seemed like he'd done this a thousand times.

But Gordon would probably have felt more comfortable if he had a football under his arm.

### The Beginning

It had been a long road to this starting line for Gordon, a Rochester, N.Y. native. Recruited by UMaine with a full scholarship for football, Gordon had not completed a track season since high school.

"I was real focused on football [when I came to college]," said Gordon, removing his headphones and putting them in the front pockets of his varsity jacket. "But the first thing that came to me naturally was that I could run fast."

A high school standout from the

See GORDON on Page 19

## Sweep puts softball in hunt for tourney

The University of Maine softball team got a dramatic come-from-behind victory yesterday against Vermont, rallying from a 2-1 final inning deficit to win 3-2 and sweep the season series against the Catamounts.

UM 3  
UVM 2

UM 11  
UVM 3

UM 6  
UVM 1

Alexis Souhlaris was the hero for UMaine, belting home the winning run in the top of the seventh. The

freshman outfielder also had a homer earlier in the game that spotted the Black Bears a 1-0 edge.

Her heroics were made possible by Kristen Calvetti's game-tying hit and Ashley Waters' double earlier in the inning. Tara Vilardo started the inning with a walk and scored the tying run.

With three wins over Vermont on the weekend, UMaine moves to 6-7 in America East action and 21-22 overall.

The Black Bears play their home opener Tuesday against Boston University.

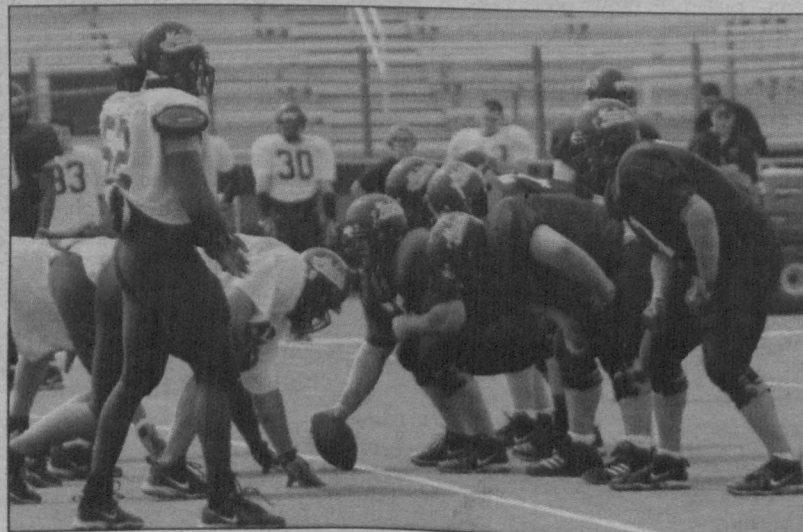
— Staff reports

## Black Hole 'D' shines in scrimmage

By Matt Williams  
Sports Editor

The untrained eye might expect the University of Maine football team's defense to lose a step next season without the services of a trio of All-America talents in Mike DeVito, Matt King and Daren Stone.

You wouldn't have known that yesterday, though, as the defense didn't miss a beat in the squad's first full scrimmage of the spring. The Black Hole, which returns seven starters from the nation's best defense in 2006, conceded just one score to the offense and sacked both Mike Brusko and Adam Farkes several times.



CAMPUS PHOTO BY JENNA LAVALLEE

EXCUSE HIM — Jovan Belcher (52) lines up opposite UMaine's offensive line during live scrimmage drills.

See HOLE on Page 17