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The Maine Campus

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SG website deadline missed, pushed back

Carson assailed by designer, senators

By Michael Shepherd
Editor in Chief

The presentation of University of Maine Student Government's website in front of the General Student Senate came and went Tuesday with no content on the page, leading to criticism of Student Body President Nelson Carson on the senate floor.

The site, being developed by second-year political science student and independent contractor Ryan Gavin, who also has criticized Carson's handling of the situation, was originally expected to go live at 12 p.m. on Feb. 22.

When a countdown mechanism on the site expired, nothing on the site changed and at around 6 p.m., it was replaced by another countdown indicating a March 15 launch date.

According to an invoice, Gavin is being paid \$926 to build the website. The contract, provided to The Maine Campus by Gavin, details a series of scheduled dates for the contract depending on Student Government

leadership regarding content generation, uploading and approval.

The contract's timeline calls for the project to be completed between Jan. 31 and Feb. 28.

But Gavin, speaking shortly before Tuesday's noon deadline, said he had not been provided the necessary content from Carson to build the website.

"I think he just fundamentally doesn't understand what I was supposed to do and what he was supposed to do," he said. "I literally have not done anything because he hasn't given me anything to do."

The contract between Gavin and Student Government calls for Gavin to design the site's template and insert Student Government-created content — including the rosters of senators with pictures and biographies, the constitution, material for secondary pages, General Student Senate bylaws and other documents.

At Tuesday's regularly sched-

See Website on A4



Courtesy of Mark Danielson on Flickr

Protesters opposing potential changes in Wisconsin collective bargaining laws for state workers demonstrate in the Capitol rotunda in Madison. State Rep. Diane Russell, D-Portland, traveled there to offer coffee to those on the streets of Madison.

Lawmaker hauls to Wisconsin

Portland representative makes trailer into support mobile at Madison protests

By Michael Shepherd
Editor in Chief

A Maine state representative is returning home from Madison, Wis., where protesters are fighting a possible limitation of collective bargaining rights for state employees through demonstrations that threaten to cripple government and education systems.

Rep. Diane Russell, D-Portland, took three friends and a U-Haul trailer full of supplies halfway across the country, utilizing thousands of dollars in donations to create a mobile coffee and hot chocolate stand for protesters.

The state's governor, Republican Scott Walker, said Feb. 11 that balancing a \$3.6 billion budget deficit in the state will require the slashing of collective bargaining rights, pay and benefits for state employees, including teachers.

"The Republicans are constantly talking about how they feel the unions are probably going to wane, but I don't see that happening. There's just such a

remarkable sense of energy and dedication and determination," Russell said Wednesday.

Russell was on her way back to Portland Wednesday night from Wisconsin's capital, where reported crowds of tens of thousands have gathered in and around the Capitol building for more than a week now.

She said her experience on

small business community really stepped up," she said. "Everybody's so damn nice. I can't begin to tell you how polite everybody is."

After a Sunday Huffington Post article and a Monday afternoon interview with conservative Fox News pundit Sean Hannity, donations poured in. Russell said as of 5 p.m. Wednesday she

to raise the \$140 million needed to fill the budget gap Walker says these labor changes will create.

"Yesterday, I was in the rotunda and people were saying, 'Kill the bill' and 'This is what democracy sounds like.' Now, it's 'Fill the bucket.' It was amazing," she said. "I think the vast majority of people realize that there's a growing wealth gap and they realize that this isn't just about unions. This is about working class people having opportunities."

If this budget proposal passes in Wisconsin, many believe school districts and government agencies will be allowed to draconically cut their respective budgets by axing salaries at will.

Many Democratic legislative leaders have exiled themselves in Illinois to prevent a quorum vote on the bill, as they are outnumbered in both houses.

Russell said Monday that the implications of similar laws in places like Michigan and Ohio

See Protest on A5

"I think the vast majority of people realize that there's a growing wealth gap and they realize that this isn't just about unions."

Rep. Diane Russell
D-Portland

the ground in Wisconsin was "the greatest adventure of my lifetime." Community outreach, she said, was "stunning."

A local Indian restaurant handed out food on the sidewalk, while people with pizza and soup offered food to passers-by, Russell said.

"It was all driven by volunteers and local businesses. The

has received nearly \$3,000 in donations through PayPal on her website, solidaritywisconsin.wordpress.com.

She used \$900 to buy Dunkin' Donuts coffee for protesters and gave away 150 packages of hand warmers. Gas was also paid for with the donations.

The rest of the money, she said, is going to a group looking

Allocation of \$10K overshadowed by ire

Senator presses president on efficacy

By Christopher Crosby
Staff Reporter

Senators at the Feb. 22 meeting of the University of Maine Student Government reprimanded President Nelson Carson for his admitted failure to finish the organization's new website by deadline.

Though Carson acknowledged senators could remove him from office, they eventually agreed to an extension allowing the website to be finished by March 15.

Senators' criticisms came after Carson explained he had not delivered informational content to website designer Ryan Gavin, leaving Gavin incapable of launching the site. Carson

made it clear Gavin had "done his job" and miscommunication had left him culpable.

"Focus all your comments, all your problems with the website towards me. Ultimately it is my fault and ultimately I'm here to accept the responsibility," Carson said.

Carson explained he intended Gavin to produce a website that could be easily updated with content and uploaded online. As Gavin explained, however, the software required initial content to start it up — something Carson admitted he had not known.

"It bothers me that this had to happen this way, but at the same time we can use this aggression

See GSS on A4



Courtesy photo

The brothers of Pi Kappa Alpha held a "Pedaling for a Cure" event at the Student Recreation and Fitness Center on Saturday. They had a 100-person turnout and raised \$2,300 to go toward leukemia and lymphoma research.

GSS denounces poll proposals

State voting rules would be made more stringent if passed

By Beth Kevit
Asst. News Editor

The University of Maine's General Student Senate passed a resolution Feb. 22 condemning two bills circulating in the Maine Legislature that would restrict voting rights statewide, most notably for college students.

The resolution was proposed by Caleb Rosser, a third-year political science student and a former student senator, and was sponsored on the senate floor by Sen. Peter Christopher, a fourth-year secondary education student.

"This is clearly designed to suppress and deter students from voting," Rosser said.

LD 199, "An Act to Strength-

en Maine's Election Laws by Requiring Photograph Identification for the Purpose of Voting," would require a voter to show a form of government-issued identification that listed a residence located within the voting district.

LD 203, "An Act to Assist Municipal Clerks by Providing Adequate time to Register Voters," would require potential voters to register "no later than the Tuesday preceding the election in order to vote in that election."

Current Maine state law permits same-day registration, so unregistered voters can fill out a voter registration card minutes before being handed a ballot.

"This is billed as something that would lessen the burden on town clerks," Rosser said during

his presentation to the senate. "I have looked for various complaints from town clerks saying that they could not complete the work that was put forth to them. I did not find [any]. In 2008, when I went to the caucuses for Hillary and Obama, I saw a town clerk do 600 of these in one day."

"It took a while, but no one said democracy would be fast," he added.

Rosser said the proposed legislation would require the registration of many college students on a yearly basis due to the temporary nature of both on- and off-campus housing.

"I asked the body, student government, 'Who here has up-

See Voting on A5

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Opinion - A6
Snowe storm, a web of incompetence, GSS fitness, protest problems and a little respect



Sports - B6
Men's hockey faces critical match-up with Merrimack



Courtesy photo
The All Maine Women Honor Society continues to stay active in community service since being established in 1925. Members of this exclusive society are expected to be leaders, scholars and role models.

Exclusive society rooted in UM lore

By Chris Chase
For The Maine Campus

Pay attention on campus Wednesdays and you may see a woman with a tree on her cheek.

That tree represents membership in All Maine Women, a prestigious honors society at the University of Maine that historically has contained only around a dozen members each year. To become a member requires exceptional academic prowess, and members are typically heavily involved in the UMaine community.

Formed in 1925 as the female counterpart to the Senior Skulls, All Maine Women has been a fixture in the past at UMaine but its role has become more obscured in past decades as the university experiences change.

"I think it's gotten less exposed, but only because the student population has changed," said Kendra West, the current president of All Maine Women. "I think among faculty we're still recognized but among the student body it's more 'Oh, why are you wearing a tree on your face?'"

When All Maine Women was

founded, the university only had around 1,200 students enrolled each year — today it has over 11,000. The number of members in All Maine Women has remained consistently low and, with more students attending UMaine annually, this obscurity has become an issue among the society's participants.

"Trying to get our name out is difficult," said Jenna Beaulieu, the vice president of All Maine Women.

For Beaulieu, having more events would increase the awareness of the organization on campus.

"From what I've seen this year, a lot of our interaction is through tailgating," she said.

One aspect of the awareness problem has to do with the involvement of the society's members. Each member of All Maine Women was selected for her involvement in the UMaine community, a factor one group alumna said restricts the amount of free time each representative has to contribute to organization-sponsored activities.

"These are busy, busy students," said Valerie Mitchell, an All Maine Women alumna and a giving coordinator for the

UMaine Alumni Association. "It's a catch-22."

Even with these difficulties, the society has managed to remain a force within the community. This past fall the society raised money to donate Thanksgiving baskets to Spruce Run, which helps victims of domestic violence. All Maine Women have also taken part in numerous events on campus, such as Take Back the Night and the tulip planting in front of Fogler Library.

Additionally, each member of the society tends to be heavily involved in a slew of individual pursuits around campus and contributes to UMaine in other ways outside of official functions.

"One of the main reasons we were selected to be in this group is because we are all very involved on campus," said member Lauren Duplin. "So when asked what All Maine Women has done over the past year, I not only think of what we have done as a group but also as individuals on campus and in our community."

According to its members, All Maine Women hopes to begin changing the low awareness

of the society with an alumni interest group.

The group's mission statement sums up the efforts All Maine Women is making toward awareness on campus: "It is our goal to help raise awareness so that the name of the All Maine Women will once again strike a chord with every underclasswoman aspiring to greatness."

For members of the society, the group has been an irreplaceable part of their college experience.

"Being able to work with these women who have accomplished so much at this university has truly been an honor," said member Katherine McLaughlin.

"I have gained the friendship of so many amazing women who I know I will be connected to for a very long time," Duplin echoed.

The connections formed in All Maine Women and the friendships formed are for many the most important part.

"As a class, you get close to the class ahead of you and behind you," West said. "You're a current All Maine Woman for a year but you're an alumni for the rest of your life."

UM pool use limited due to health concerns

Competition attendance capped

By Jamison Cocklin
Staff Reporter

The Maine Principals' Association announced new guidelines last week limiting the number of fans and team members allowed to attend the high school state championship swim meets at the University of Maine and Bowdoin College held over the past weekend.

This move by the MPA was based on safety concerns about air and water quality at the institutions' pools. The association said both the Stanley Wallace Pool at UMaine and the Leroy Greason Pool at Bowdoin have been scrutinized for years now over such problems.

Jeff Sturgis, assistant executive director for the MPA, issued an e-mail last week to high school swim coaches, prior to the meets taking place, that said problems with air and water quality in the UMaine and Bowdoin pool enclosures have resulted in the institutions adopting new policies governing public use of the facilities.

But, at the same time, the claim has rankled UMaine officials who say their facilities are safe. Bowdoin representatives did not respond to the claims late last week.

In 2009, a ventilation failure sickened dozens of swimmers, coaches and spectators at a major competition at UMaine's Stanley Wallace Pool in the Field House, according to the Bangor Daily News.

As a result, the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention was prompted to undertake an investigation, which subsequently found participants were sickened due to overcrowding and one ventila-

tion system having been accidentally shut off.

There have been no problems since that time at the Wallace Pool complex.

According to Wayne Maines, director of safety and environmental management at UMaine, the school fully complied with the CDC recommendations that resulted from the investigation. He also vehemently denied there were currently any problems with air and water quality at the complex and said the facility is capable of accommodating 350 people on the pool deck and 400 in the stands.

Steps have since been taken to make exhaust fans and air intake vents more functional, and Maines said both air and water quality are closely monitored during major events such as the high school state championships.

Sturgis told coaches and others slated to participate in the events to be aware of public health officials from the CDC, who he said would be in attendance at the meets to ensure regulations and attendance rates were followed.

However, those officials never showed up at the meets and Dr. Stephen Sears, the director of the Maine CDC, said his agency was not planning to attend in the first place. Sears agreed with statements made by UMaine officials and said both schools were cooperating in promoting safer meets and better equipment.

As a result, there will be no crackdowns on capacity or other regulations at the facilities according to the CDC.

"I think our message may have gotten a little exaggerated," Sears said.

150,000 Mainers' wells tainted

Dartmouth lecturer, UM alum talks hidden dangers of arsenic in food, water

By Rob Stigile
News Editor

How many people who grew up drinking from a well have bothered to test the level of arsenic in their drinking water?

According to a University of Maine alumnus, that knowledge could be a matter of life and death.

Bruce Stanton, director of the Center for the Environmental Health Sciences at Dartmouth Medical School, sought to bring some of the dangers associated with arsenic to light Feb. 23 with a speech titled "Arsenic: A global public health crisis."

"150,000 Mainers ... drink well water that is contaminated with arsenic," Stanton said to roughly 50 individuals gathered in the McIntire Room of the Buchanan Alumni House.

Stanton's talk was part of the Distinguished Honors Graduate Lecture series, established in 2002 to highlight the accomplishments of Honors College alumni.

The World Health Organization, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Centers for Disease Control all list arsenic as the No. 1 agent of concern to public health, having linked chronic exposure to the toxin to increased chances of contracting several types of cancer, diabetes, childhood learning disabilities, heart disease, reproductive difficulties and other serious medical maladies.

As of 2001, the EPA lists the acceptable level of arsenic in drinking water as 10 parts



Amy Brooks • Photo Editor

Bruce Stanton, director of the Center for Environmental Health and Sciences, spoke to students and faculty Wednesday about his research of the effects of arsenic in the world's water and food supplies.

per billion, or one arsenic molecule for every billion of water.

If evaluated by the standards used to regulate other toxins, the amount of allowable arsenic may still be too high — tests have concluded one in a million individuals will show negative health repercussions from as little as

.045 parts per billion.

"When you expose mice to 10 parts per billion, their ability to reproduce went down by 50 percent," Stanton said.

Stanton explained that when the EPA adjusted the level to 10 parts per billion in 2001 — for the roughly 100 years prior, it had been 50 parts per billion — a cost-benefit analy-

sis played a key role.

"They actually wanted it to be five [parts per billion], but it would be too expensive," Stanton said. "It would have been too expensive to treat public water supplies, so 10 was decided."

For Mainers, the main culprit when it comes to arsenic contamination is private wells, the majority of which go untested by their owners. Stanton referred to a study that found one in 10 of Maine's private wells have levels of arsenic higher than the EPA-accepted level.

"Public water supplies are regulated — private wells are not," Stanton said. "So that's where Mainers are getting the arsenic."

That study also found wells with arsenic levels as high as 5,000 parts per billion, with the highest concentration of contamination in the Machias area. Stanton characterized wells with levels exceeding 100 parts per billion as "not uncommon."

While surface reservoirs like lakes usually carry low levels of the toxin, Maine's reliance on groundwater sources locked up in bedrock formations affects the amount of arsenic in two ways.

First, the water that is eventually drawn by wells comes into direct contact with veins of arsenic in the rock, a problem not usually seen with surface aquifers. Second, since many bedrock aquifers are isolated from surrounding wells, the amount of arsenic can vary



File photo

Stanley Wallace Pool is one of two college pools the Maine Principals' Association implemented new guidelines during the high school state swimming championships. Fewer spectators and team members were allowed to attend in order to avoid inadequate ventilation that left the University of Maine swimmers, coaches and fans ill in 2009.

the Maine Campus

We are hiring the following positions for the 2011-2012 school year:

Production Manager, News Editor, Style Editor, Features Editor, Photo Editor, Staff News Reporters, Staff Style Writers and Staff Sports Writers

For more information on any of the above positions contact Michael Shepherd on FirstClass.

See Arsenic on A4

Students vie for apartment living on campus

Convenience of suite-style dorm life attractive to freedom-seeking upperclassmen looking to stay close to classes

By Jennifer Vincent
Features Editor

A room full of second-, third- and fourth-year students, looking to leave traditional residence halls behind for greater independence, gathered in the Woolley Room of the University of Maine's DTAV Community Center on Monday to learn more about apartments available in the Doris Twitchell Allen Village and Patch Hall.

DTAV and Patch offer apartment-style living with the convenience of living on the UMaine campus. Patch offers only four-person suites while DTAV includes four-, five- and six-person units in various combinations of double or single rooms.

Patch apartments have the advantage of an oven, while DTAV kitchens only have a stovetop. The two buildings are subject to a different, and separate, assignment process from the other residence halls on campus.

Students must apply in groups of four to six and must meet the community's eligibility requirements — 40 completed credit hours by the previous December and prior occupation of a UMaine residence hall. The residency restrictions for Patch and DTAV are in place because this community is a privilege for dedicated students who can handle the responsibility.

"We do a lot less hand-holding around here," said Jennifer Boynton-Allen, the Assistant Director for Residence Life and Community Coordinator for DTAV and Patch. "This is not [First-Year Experience], this is very much upper-class housing."

Applications for DTAV and Patch are due to Housing Services by March 21 and room selection will take place on the evening of March 28. Groups of potential roommates will select apartments in order based on their point totals.

Point totals are determined by multiplying each student's credit hours by the number of semesters they have spent in UMaine housing and adding those numbers together.

Not every eligible group will receive

an assignment in DTAV or Patch. This is partly due to how quickly the limited number of four-person suites are chosen. Apartments in Patch are regarded as more desirable than those in DTAV, and smaller suites are more popular than those that house six people.

"I think there are several reasons for that. Patch is newer — and looks newer when you walk through — and has a full kitchen," Boynton-Allen said. "It's also easier to consider four people sharing a space than five or six."

DTAV has recently undergone some minor renovations to convert four units from six-person suites to the more popular four-person configuration, and to replace carpeting with tile floors in all the apartments.

"I would definitely prefer Patch over DTAV because I have four people living with me, but I know it fills up quickly with seniors," said Elyse Doyle, a second-year economics student. "It will depend on my chances."

Doyle is also considering off-campus housing in local complexes like Stillwater Village and Talmor Wood Apartments, calling Orchard Trails "just too far and a little too expensive."

Boynton-Allen stressed during the information session that on-campus village living is a different experience from living in an off-campus apartment. She discouraged students interested in partying from applying.

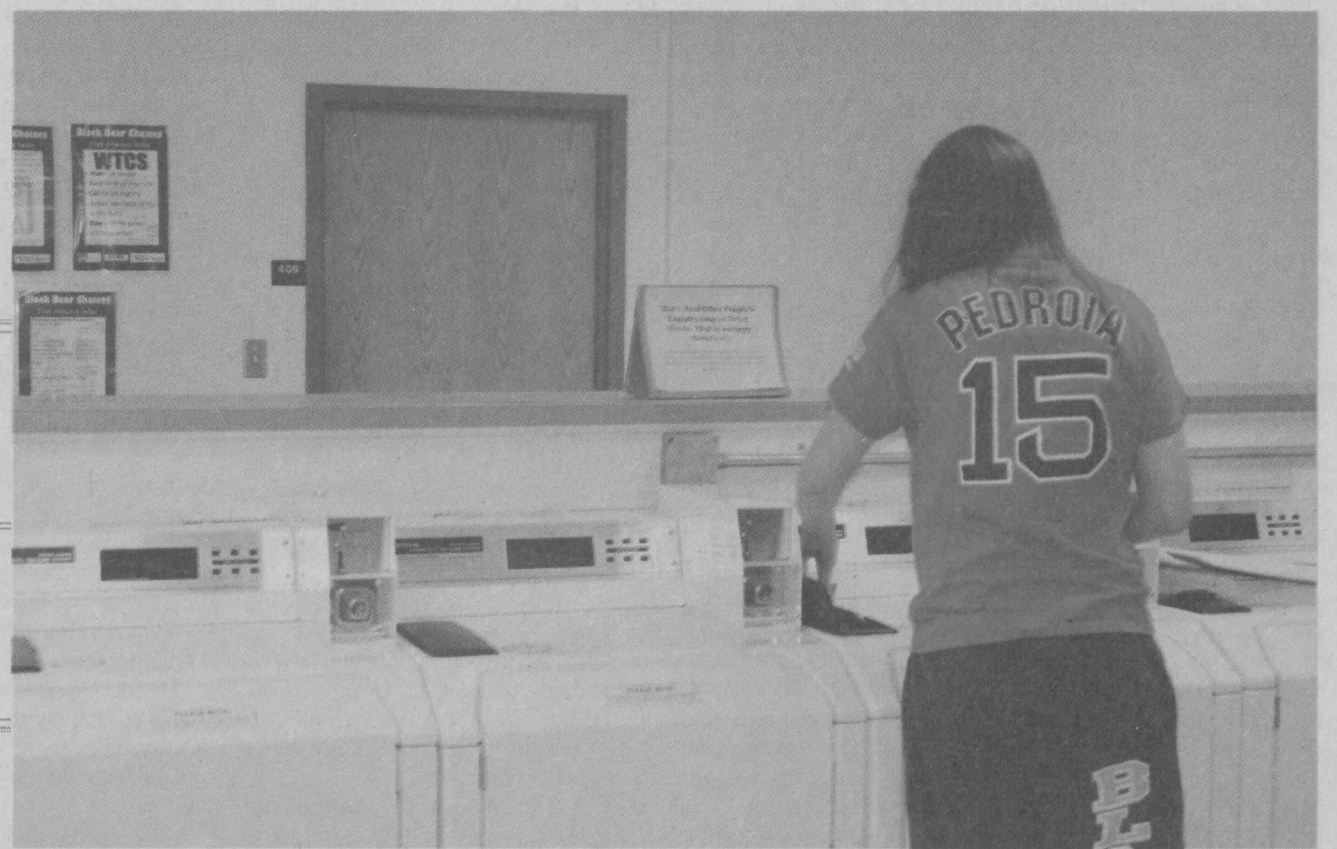
"This is so not Orchard Trails on campus," Boynton-Allen said.

She explained that village residents are expected to act as responsible members of the community, respecting the calm and quiet environment.

"I get annoyed with loud people next door, late at night, in the dorms," said Megan Strout, a second-year new media student. "I want it quiet when I am just chilling, trying to do homework or sleep."

Many Patch and DTAV residents are enrolled in challenging degree programs like nursing or engineering and are seeking an environment that is more conducive to studying than their current dorm room.

"Our students govern themselves in



a lot of ways," Boynton-Allen. "We put it on them to hold each other accountable and resolve conflicts amongst themselves."

This does not mean that Patch and DTAV residents are immune to roommate disagreements and Boynton-Allen strongly encourages all suite residents to sign and uphold roommate agreements.

"You wouldn't think so with juniors and seniors living here, but I have seen some epic conflicts," she said.

Boynton-Allen said the most common issues between residents involve cleaning of shared rooms, use of food and noise issues — conflicts that are shared by all roommates, on campus and off.

"It builds up and becomes a huge issue in November or February and suddenly people can't live together anymore," Boynton-Allen said.

Patch and DTAV apartments are co-ed and this often results in significant

others living together, a situation that Boynton-Allen said should not be entered into lightly.

"I want people to go in with eyes wide open and about what happens should a break-up occur," she said. "Some years we don't have an open bed here and it becomes a challenge. I want people to consider these things when they sign up."

Because village living offers some of the challenges and opportunities of off-campus living without the hassle of commuter parking and paying rent and insurance, Boynton-Allen calls DTAV and Patch a stepping stone for older students.

"We're sick of the dorms and I personally didn't feel I was ready for an apartment," said Strout of her roommate group.

Boynton-Allen said that village living can be a good deal financially when one considers additional expenses of living off campus like paying utilities

and cost of commuting, especially for those students who may not be prepared to pay bills or stick to a budget.

"It's hard to budget for off-campus living whereas here you

know how much it will cost you each semester and you can save over the summer," Boynton-Allen said.

The proposed rates, subject to approval by the Board of Trustees, for living in DTAV or Patch during the 2011-2012 academic year are \$4,814 for a double room, \$6,538 for a single room and \$7,222 for a double room converted to a single room.

She encourages interested students to make an appointment with the Office of Financial Aid to discuss their options and how their aid eligibility might change if they move off campus.

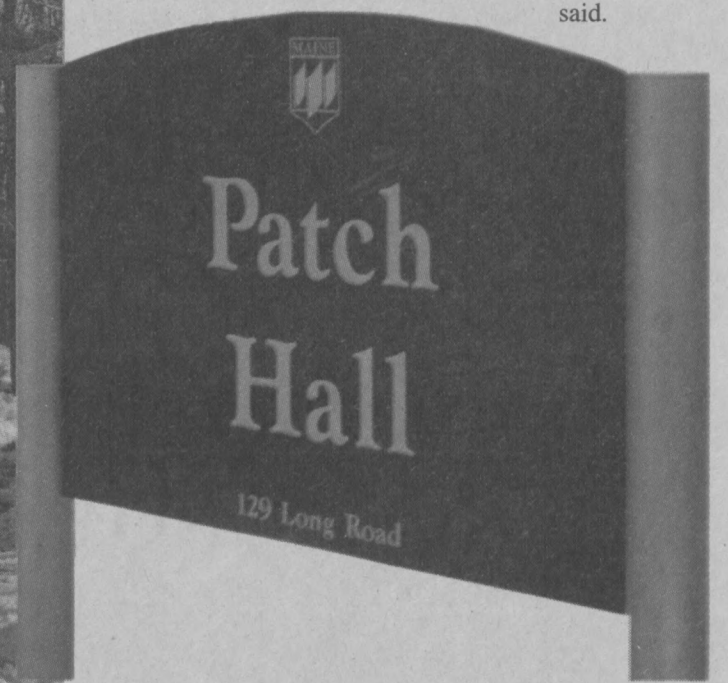
"It always depends on the student and their unique financial aid package," Boynton-Allen said.

Resident assistants and staff in DTAV and Patch focus their programming on rewarding older students for their accomplishments thus far and preparing them for the future. Past programs have included instruction on signing a lease, purchasing a car and writing a résumé.

"We still do some social and fun programming, but our challenge is that our residents have been living in dorms for several years. We can't just show them everything they've seen already," Boynton-Allen said.

Boynton-Allen also organizes monthly spaghetti dinners in the community center and winery trips for residents over the age of 21.

"We treat them as adults because, at this stage, they are," she said.



Top right: Patch and DTAV residents share the Doris Twitchell Allen Community Center where they do laundry and attend residence life programs. Above: Patch, Lown, Chandler, Baumann-Nelson and Smith halls share a community center and courtyard and make up the Doris Twitchell Allen Village.

Jennifer Vincent • Features Editor

Police Beat

The best from UMaine's finest

An imperfect union

An altercation between a male and a female student outside the Memorial Union at approximately 2 a.m. Feb. 19 resulted in two summonses. University of Maine Police Department Detective Bill Flagg said the male student, Nicholas Jones, 19, of Orono, shoved the female student, 18, to the ground. "There were minor injuries, but she was not transported to a hospital," Flagg said. According to Flagg, the female reported the assault later in the day. Jones was issued one summons for domestic violence assault and another for criminal mischief.

Wreck center

A 1997 Toyota truck left in the Student Recreation and Fitness Center parking lot was vandalized at some point between 7:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. on Feb. 18. "It looks like somebody took an instrument and scratched it" along the driver's side door, according to Flagg. The damage is estimated at \$100.

Purloined parking pass

A theft that occurred during the first week of the 2010 fall semester was reported to UMPD at 9:07 a.m. Feb. 18. According to Flagg, a commuter parking pass was stolen from an unlocked car in the Collins Center for the Arts

parking lot in August. The owner of the pass assumed it was lost and replaced it; however, \$75 in parking tickets associated with the pass were noticed on Feb. 18. According to Flagg, the person in possession of the pass is now studying abroad and was not aware it was stolen property. Flagg said a deal has been suggested whereby the person in possession of the pass will pay for the parking tickets but will not face charges for the theft.

Weed racer

An officer on patrol in the south area of campus saw an unconscious male individual in the driver's seat of a parked vehicle at 1:43 a.m. Feb. 20. According to Flagg, the officer detected the smell of marijuana coming from the vehicle and roused the male in order to check on him. Four other individuals were in the car. Three of the vehicle's occupants were UMaine students and were referred to Judicial Affairs. The other two individuals were not students. The male in the driver's seat, Ryan Bolduc, 21, of Waterville, was not a student; he took responsibility for the drugs and was issued a summons for possession

of drug paraphernalia.

Canna-berc Hall

UMPD received a report of the smell of marijuana on the fourth floor of Kennebec Hall at 9:03 p.m. Feb. 20. An officer was able to determine which room the smell was coming from and spoke with the resident, who was cooperative. Jeremy Hyde, 20, turned over marijuana, a marijuana pipe and a grinder to the officer. Hyde was issued a summons for possession of a useable amount of marijuana and was referred to Judicial Affairs.

Frothy fracas

An officer on patrol on College Avenue was accosted by an intoxicated male at 11:42 p.m. Feb. 18. The male, who was walking along the road as part of a large group, began to yell at the officer, who was driving a UMPD cruiser. The officer pulled over to speak with the male, who continued to yell and act in a disorderly manner. Husson University student Craig Anton, 18, was issued a summons for possession of alcohol by a minor after the officer seized three cans of Natural Ice beer from him.

Brash hash

An officer on foot patrol in Androscoggin Hall smelled marijuana coming from a room on the first floor at 10:08 p.m. Feb. 20. The officer attempted to speak with a male resident of the room, who was uncooperative. The student was referred to Judicial Affairs.

Faux bro

A 27-year-old man attempting to pass himself off as an alumnus and brother was removed from the Sigma Nu fraternity house at 7:14 p.m. Feb. 20. According to Flagg, the man was not a brother of Sigma Nu and it was not immediately apparent if he was a UMaine alumnus. He cooperated with the officers and was issued a written criminal trespass warrant.

Snow skirmish

UMPD received a report of people throwing snowballs at passing cars on College Avenue at 10:37 p.m. Feb. 18; however, officers were unable to locate the individuals.

Compiled from staff reports

Website from A1

uled GSS meeting, Gavin's pre-planned presentation of the site's progress was met with criticism from multiple senators, mostly directed toward Carson, who took accountability before senate debate.

"At what point did the light bulb go on that he needed content?" Sen. Allison Conners asked about Carson.

"It seems like basic common sense that you would need content to launch a website," Sen. Alex Ortiz said. "Not having content on a website is like eating dinner without food."

Carson said there was a "miscommunication" between he and Gavin over the full launch of the site and the responsibility placed on him to create content for the website.

"I should have sat down with him and said 'Why do you need this content?'" Carson said. "I'm holding myself accountable. March 15 is the full launch."

"This seems to be a case of absolute and total procrastination with zero discipline and zero pride. Period. End of story," Ortiz said later. "All you're saying is just words on a paper. It means nothing."

After other criticisms, one from Sen. Mark Brunton and another from Ortiz, Carson offered the bringing of impeachment charges on multiple occasions as a remedy for any perceived incompetence.

He said because he has not become acclimated to the presidency yet, he did not feel com-

fortable mandating content from other executives.

"I was too worried about delegating jobs to my friends and doing work I didn't mind doing myself," Carson said. "I was worried about losing my friends by making them work."

At the meeting, Gavin also announced that he would not be honoring the March 1 end date on his contract to finish the website.

"I know more than half of the people in this room personally," Gavin said after questioning from a student. "I'm not running away with student money."

In an interview with The Maine Campus Tuesday, Carson

We have this full launch before spring break and we have two weeks over spring break — I can work with the senators and the executives, I can work with the powers that be to say, 'What content do we need?'"

"All content now is behind my drive. It's in my mind. I can't do that," Carson said. "It's going to be so simple. All we need to do is what we planned on doing — we just need to add more content."

Carson reiterated the discrepancy between his understanding of the website-construction process and Gavin's understanding many times throughout the meeting.

"This seems to be a case of absolute and total procrastination with zero discipline and zero pride. Period."

Alex Ortiz
Student senator

"What I foresaw was — yes, I did plan on having the content in there today and launching it in a full campaign by now," Carson said. "Time didn't allow it. Whatever happened, the content wasn't there."

Carson also placed the blame for the website's delay on himself multiple times Tuesday, emphasizing that Gavin had not been expected to create something from nothing.

"In my mind, all the content was supposed to be on there," Carson said. "We're paying Ryan Gavin to build the website. While he builds it, we distribute him the content and he needs to put content on. It's not his fault."

He gave a personal guaran-

tee in senate that the website would be finished with content by March 15, which Gavin, on Wednesday, said would be a reasonable goal if he receives all content this week.

"Like I said, the responsibility lies with myself," Carson said at the meeting. "Don't put your anger towards Ryan."

Gavin is contractually obligated to receive content directly from Carson. An e-mail from Carson to Gavin, provided to The Maine Campus late Wednesday night, said all content will be delivered to Gavin by Feb. 25.

"I am eager to work with you and look forward to a final project upon our return," Carson wrote.

Speaking Wednesday, Student Body Vice President Anthony Ortiz said he and other executives have started to create content to submit to Carson for approval.

"The execs, we kind of decided that we're going to generate the content that we would like to see representing our divisions," Anthony Ortiz said.

The vice president also said from talking with Carson, it was apparent there was a patent misunderstanding of the website process.

"He didn't understand, 100 percent, the process. I think some of the arguments people were saying were definitely justified in senate. I think they were not done appropriately," Anthony Ortiz said. "I think the senators understood more what Ryan was trying to say and not what Nelson was understanding, so there was just a super mishap."

Christopher Crosby contributed to this report.

GSS from A1

for progression. Let's turn this all into progress and forward focus," Carson said. "The project hasn't failed — we can still move on."

Sen. Mark Brunton was concerned there were no checks in place to ensure the website would reach completion. Carson said the senate always has options dealing with the executive — including impeaching him.

"You guys have your options. I am president, I am going to work as such and that everything that I do reflects great upon you. If you guys feel that I'm doing the job poorly or wrongly, that's where you need to step in," Carson said. "There's no excuse to not getting the work done. Period."

"It's essential for this business to get this website done and that's why I can sit up here with a smile on my face because I know it's going to get done and all this we're talking about right now is ensuring it gets done because you guys are angry it's not done, I'm angry it's not done, the Maine Campus is angry — everyone's angry. Let's get it done," he said.

"If you want me to say that I will resign on March 15 to ensure that this gets done, that's fine. I'll say that. But I don't feel like I need to say that we all want it done as soon as possible," he continued.

Sen. Alex Ortiz, however, remained unconvinced. He said he calculated that Carson had six weeks and roughly 60 office hours to work on the website.

"He's receiving your money right now for doing nothing. He's getting thousands of your dollars, a pay check every two weeks, and he's not getting anything done," Ortiz said.

This led an unnamed student to ask, "Is this usually how you represent the student body — by squabbling over a website?"

The senate then suspended their standing rules to allow allocations to student organizations.

After allocations, Ortiz reiterated that he stood by his words.

"Our entire organization looks like a joke to people on the outside. My professor was the advisor for the plane people [the Black Bearons] who came last week and he e-mailed me after, 'I had high hopes for SG; is it always a bunch of self-serving crybabies?'" Ortiz said. "That is what we are perceived as by somebody who had high hopes for us — and we looked like a bunch of buffoons."

William Dairyko, a prospective senator in attendance, said he felt Ortiz's comments were too personal.

"If someone would have tested my manhood like that — that's not business anymore, that's personal," he said. "I might have said, 'Hey, listen, we can take this to the parking lot if it's that personal.'"

"What more do you want out of him? It is what it is right now, help him fix it," he said.

The senate also approved legislation officially opposing two bills regarding voter registration being considered in the Maine House of Representatives and gave \$10,241 in seven allocations to various student groups.

Engineers Without Borders

was allocated \$2,400 for their spring service trip to Honduras. The funds will cover airfare (\$1,000), transportation (\$700) and housing (\$700) for five members to attend the two-week trip. The group will be building and educating villagers in the upkeep of a sewage piping system.

The Orono Student Nurses Association was allocated \$2,000 to attend the 2011 National Student Nurses Association Annual Convention held in Salt Lake City, Utah, from April 5-10. The funding will cover airfare for eight of their members.

The American Society for Civil Engineers was allocated \$1,700 for their New England Regional Concrete Canoe Competition being held at the University of Rhode Island from April 15-17. The allocation will be used for motor pool (\$400) and lodging (\$1,300).

Women's Lacrosse was allocated \$1,200 for referee fees at upcoming home and away tournaments.

UMaine's Woodsmen's Team was allocated \$1,075 for their home meet to be held on campus March 26. The funding will be used for competition wood (\$1,000) and Porta-Johns (\$75).

Students of the University of Maine In Technical Theater was allocated \$1,280 after its initial allocation of \$1,525 was rescinded. The new allocation was updated to reflect a change in attendance from five of its members attending a convention in Charlotte, N.C., to three.

The Nordic Ski Club was allocated \$586 for student Marybeth Kelson to attend the Nordic Skiing Nationals in Sun Valley, Idaho.

Club Canada was denied an allocation for \$764.34 to send 14 of their members to Montreal, Canada, from March 25-27. Club representative Stefanie Veneziano said the group discovered only recently that the university's motor pool resources were booked for their trip, requiring them to seek transportation from an outside source.

Without the money, students would be forced to spend \$211 instead of \$100 for the trip. Senators Ortiz and Peter Christopher said they would support the legislation — but only if the

"If you want me to say that I will resign on March 15 to ensure that this gets done that's fine. I'll say that."

Nelson Carson
Student body president

Executive Budgetary Committee approved the allocation first. After the meeting, Veneziano said she planned to bring the proposal to EBC.

Students Thomas Conley, Kelly Smith and Randi Mosley were introduced as the newest senators. Also, students Britney McIntyre and Derek Jones were elected to the Fair Election Practices Committee as non-senator members.

Preliminary recognition was granted to the UMaine Figure Skating Club and UMaine For the Cure, an organization dedicated to raising money and awareness for women's breast cancer.

Paul Paradis announced the UMaine Police Department will be undergoing accreditation to become a fully certified law enforcement agency by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement from Feb. 26-27. Interested persons can contact UMPD to express whether accreditation is warranted.

Arsenic from A2

drastically from location to location.

"Just because your neighbor's well is safe does not mean your well is safe," Stanton said.

"The odd thing is, when we move up here to New Hampshire or to Maine, we come here because of the pristine environment," he said.

Outside of the Pine Tree State, a major player in arsenic exposure is found in one of the more widely eaten staple foods worldwide: rice.

"Rice cereals and biscuits have levels of inorganic arsenic which could easily be consumed in doses well above that found in drinking water," Stanton said.

Rice plants utilize environmental silicone to form supporting stems, drawn from the waterlogged fields in which they grow. However, in areas where the water supply contains high levels of arsenic, the plants take up the more abun-

senic.

The problem with rice becomes even more difficult to regulate when one considers the amount of processed foods that use the grain as a base. Stanton held up a container of organic baby food to illustrate

ents.

"Some people on special diets drink rice milk," Stanton said. "Rice milk has been measured at 50 parts per billion."

For those who do find their water sources to be contaminated, the case is not without hope. Stanton briefly discussed both point-of-entry and point-of-use water treatment systems, which filter out arsenic from contaminated well water.

Successes have also been seen in the agricultural sector, where silicone- or iron-enriched soils have been shown to reduce the uptake of arsenic by rice plants.

For Stanton, however, the easiest solution is the best.

"Like they say in toxicology, 'It's the dose that makes the poison,'" he said. "Like everything else, you try to minimize your exposure to toxins."

his point: The pesticide-free claims made on the container lull the consumer into a false sense of security about the product's safety.


Those on restricted diets should be especially aware of their food choices' ingredi-

"Just because your neighbor's well is safe does not mean your well is safe."

Bruce Stanton
Director of the Center for Environmental Health and Sciences
Dartmouth College

dant toxin along with silicone, leaving large amounts in the harvested grain.

This accumulation can leave toxin levels in one cup of rice equivalent to that found in one liter of water contaminated with 10 parts per billion of ar-



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The next issue of
**the
Maine Campus**
will be March 17, 2011.

**Have a safe and
happy spring break.**



Courtesy of Matt Baran on Flickr

One of thousands of protesters opposing potential changes in Wisconsin collective bargaining laws for state workers demonstrates in Madison.

Protest from A1

— where Republicans are also considering laws to tamp down collective bargaining — could spill over into GOP-dominated states such as Maine.

"It's part of a broader pattern [for Republicans] and you'll see in legislatures that have completely turned over, or the Republicans have gotten most of the control of it, they're sort of rushing this stuff through," she said. "My big concern is this could come to Maine."

She said she got a phone call from a Tea Party individual who said they were asked to tell Russell by others in the rising political movement they did not support what she was doing in Wisconsin.

"They said, 'I'm calling to tell you that I do support what you are doing,'" she said. "This is not a partisan issue. It's a workers' rights issue."

Russell also said young people in Maine — especially students — should be watching the proceedings in Wisconsin.

"This is the youths' protest — what's happening in Egypt, what's happening in Tunisia and Iran and Libya now — these are all led by young people," she said Monday. "You have the longest and most vested interest in the economic viability of the state because you're going to live in it the longest."

"My parents' generation left my generation nothing and I'll be damned if I'm going to leave that to you guys," Russell added.

Citing patterns in Maine's GOP-majority leadership in the state Senate, House of Representatives and the executive branch, Russell said her action was done to learn about the situation in Wisconsin and aid protesters.

Maine Gov. Paul LePage's budget, released Feb. 10, suggested the retirement age for newly or recently hired state employees be raised from 62 to 65. State retirees will also be asked to accept lower cost-of-living increases in benefits.

Another key tenet of the governor's budget plan is to repay debts to Maine hospitals — using \$69.5 million of state money to supplement federal funding to bring \$248 million to 36 Maine hospitals.

In a leaked e-mail to Republican allies, published first by Democratic-leaning blog Dirigo Blue on Jan. 28, LePage's Director of Communications Dan Demeritt seemed to use hospital payments as political leverage in a "business plan" to make for election of Republican candi-

dates in future state elections.

"We are probably going to pay the hospital debt through 2009 as part of the supplemental budget — about \$259 million," Demeritt wrote. "And I'll even make sure our members know the exact day, the exact amount of State funding transferred (and the amount) to their local hospitals so our members can show up with a big symbolic check to make it a press event."

"On one hand, he's going to pay back the hospitals and it's going to be a political win for him, and on the other hand, he's going to balance the budget on the backs of our already-retired people," Russell said in response. "We're talking about people who already paid into the system."

Contacted on Tuesday via e-mail, Demeritt responded to Russell's evaluation of the hospital payments.

"If keeping your promises is a political win, I guess that is a fair characterization of the governor's commitment to paying Maine's hospitals the \$400 million owed in unpaid Medicaid claims going back to 2006," Demeritt wrote.

State employees will also be asked to give 2 percent more of their salaries to the state pension system. They currently put in 7.65 percent.

There is a \$4.4 billion unfunded liability in the state employee pension system many Maine GOP leaders say could become uncontrollable without prompt action.

According to Demeritt, LePage does not have any plans to reform labor currently in the works.

"We do not have any union-specific proposals under development," Demeritt wrote. "Ultimately, Governor LePage believes that working people should be free to organize and become members of workplace unions if they choose."

On Wednesday, Russell said LePage's announced support of a "right-to-work" proposal by Rep. Tom Winsor, R-Norway, looks to preclude a foray into union policy. This proposal would make it so those who work at unionized businesses would not be mandated to pay dues and join the union.

Democratic and labor leaders maintain that workers should not benefit from union activity without paying and any law to the contrary would weaken unions entirely.

"You can't have it both ways," Russell said. "You can't say that you're not introducing legislation that is similar to what is happening in Wisconsin ... and say that you are supportive of right-to-work."

Voting from A1

dated their license?' And out of everyone, like, three people out of fifty people" raised their hands, Rosser said.

"My license says Caribou, of course, because that's where I got it, and if I wanted to vote in Orono, I'd need to go change that to my address in Orono," he said. "That costs money to change that stuff. What I see here is a violation of the 26th Amendment, basically, which eliminated poll taxes, which were used back in the day to deter poor people — African Americans, minorities — from voting."

By forcing residents whose addresses have changed to renew their licenses to reflect those changes, Rosser asserted, the state would be charging a sort of poll tax through renewal fees.

"The only way I can see them sort of getting around this is if they were to provide everyone with a voter registration card or something like that free of cost to everyone who needed one, which would just cost the state a lot of money," he said.

Rosser said support spurring the bills on has suggested the two measures would save the state money and would alleviate the issue of fraudulent voting; however, he disagreed.

"One, this wouldn't save the state money. It would cost the state money," he said. "And two, this wouldn't fix the voter fraud problem because we don't have a voter fraud problem."

"Why are seeing a mobilized citizenry and active voting as a liability and not an asset?"

Caleb Rosser
Third-year political science student

Only two substantiated cases of fraudulent voting in Maine have been identified in three decades, according to Rosser, and both occurred when voters cast multiple ballots in the same election.

"That's two cases, neither of them voter impersonation, in the last 30 years, which averages out to be 0.066 votes cast a year," he said.

Rosser said his motivation for proposing the resolution to the student senators was to align col-

lege students' voices in a coherent statement of disapproval.

"Voting is one of the most coveted human rights in the world. A lot of places don't have it, and they want it, and we're trying to restrict it? I don't see the logic there," Rosser said. "Why are seeing a mobilized citizenry and active voting as a liability and not an asset?"

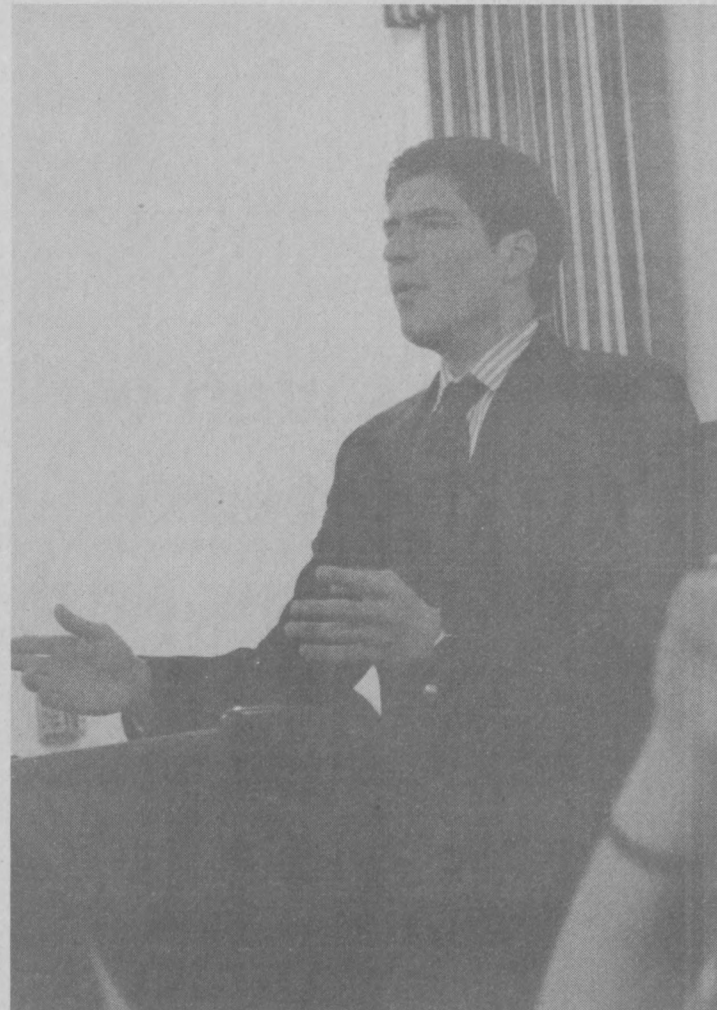
According to Rosser, the proposed legislation would unfairly target college communities such as Orono and Portland, which both host large campuses.

He implied collusion on the part of Republican lawmakers who, he says, are consciously attempting to disenfranchise their opposition in order to remain the majority in Augusta.

"If you just take a look at the numbers from 2008 and 2010 on campus, you know, who did the majority vote for?" Rosser asked, alluding to the generally recognized liberal atmosphere of higher education. "LePage didn't carry this district. [Republican state house candidate Zachary] Jackman didn't carry this district, and [Republican] Traci Gauthier, Elizabeth Schneider's state senate opponent, did not carry this district."

While Christopher did not suggest Republican suppression of voters perceived as being liberal, he said he agreed with Rosser that the voting rights of college students need to be protected.

"I felt it was the right thing to do. I think that students need to know about the types of legislation that have gone through down in Augusta and they need



Amy Brooks • Photo Editor

Third-year political science student Caleb Rosser addresses the General Student Senate Tuesday night to present a resolution in opposition to two proposed bills in the Maine Legislature that would complicate the voting process for college students.

"It is not something we should be taking lightly and it's something I felt we need to speak out about as students," Christopher said.

Rosser cited Maine's proportionally high level of voter turnout and expressed concern that Mainers, especially young Mainers, would start rethinking their decision to find a poll on Election Day. He compared Maine's current voting laws to those of other states, saying a tightening of those laws would squeeze out voters.

"Maine has the third-highest voter turnout rate in the country behind Minnesota and Wisconsin," Rosser said. "Both of those two states ahead of us have very similar legislation on the books as to what we have in regards to voting laws and rules that apply."

Senators received Rosser's resolution well; however, some opposition was voiced to its focus.

Sen. Alison Connors was con-

cerned that the idea of college students losing their ability to vote was being exaggerated.

"I understand this from a fiscal point of view," Connors said after Rosser's presentation Tuesday. "But as far as saying this restricts voting, I think is inaccurate. I think it's saying, 'This, oh my gosh, makes it more inconvenient for where I happen to be,' but that's different from restricting voting. This isn't restricting voting at all. It's making it more organized and saying, 'If you happen to be here for a semester then, yeah, we're going to ask you to show residency,' and if not, heaven forbid you vote absentee."


Despite this concern, the senate voted in favor of the resolution. It will be forwarded to Gov. Paul LePage, Senate President Kevin Raye, the senate majority and minority leaders, and other prominent individuals in state government.

Christopher Crosby contributed to this report.

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Opinion

Thursday, February 24, 2011

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EDITORIAL

Carson's web of incompetence hints at tragic end

In a business where effects hinge on percentage, diplomacy is very much a vocation of numbers. When all of the numbers are heaping up against you on the senate floor, the most important unit becomes one.

Following Tuesday evening's meeting of General Student Senate at the University of Maine, there are few others looking out for No. 1 more right now than Student Body President Nelson Carson.

With what is sure to become an excuse to rival the Twinkie defense, Carson presented himself before his fellow collegiate politicians to defend a horrendous shortcoming on his part in regard to the absence of content — the crux of his promised website for the organization.

Alliances have been severed, student funds have been squandered and progression has been derailed all because someone who committed to the highest standard of leadership couldn't work up the effort to perform the job he pledged to complete.

Luckily, Ryan Gavin, a former senator, is building the website and has no plans to run away with over \$900, which he could contractually do.

When you hold the title of president, oversights like this are just plain intolerable. If Carson were paying a professional a market rate, students could have tossed over \$4,000 into a black hole of incompetence.

On the senate floor Tuesday night, Carson referenced The Maine Campus numerous times, even saying we would be "angry" with him regarding the website.

We're not angry — we report news.

The headlines could not be clearer. They are impossible to sensationalize. Content is needed for any website to launch.

Prior to yesterday, Carson didn't communicate to Gavin or any senators any sort of coherent plan to fully launch the website, contradicting his intentions for the site's launch prior to the meeting and on the senate floor.

The full launch of the website, expected Tuesday afternoon, has been moved back to March 15 per Carson's orders. When senators questioned him critically, he further contradicted himself in roundabout answers to simple, pointed questions.

To make matters worse, he even brought up the availability of an impeachment trial on multiple occasions, effectively showing the senate and the student body that he is incapable of shouldering leadership under fire.

The president is known campus-wide as a congenial man genuinely concerned about student input. Yet, on the senate floor, he also referenced the fact that he didn't want to ask "his friends" to do work he didn't mind doing himself.

His sensitivity and desire to be liked are reminiscent of the tragic Willy Loman from Arthur Miller's classic play "Death of a Salesman."

The play revolves around the last days in the life of Loman, a man obsessed with greatness and doomed by his bizarre belief that greatness comes from being popular.

Loman's demise was exacerbated by these beliefs. We predict the same for Carson in office.

Using terms like "my friends" can only go so far in office if not backed up by concrete action. We haven't seen any such thing from Carson.

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Snowe could potentially get plowed in 2012

Olympia Snowe is arguably the most popular politician north of the Piscataqua River Bridge, but there are a handful of Mainers who think they may be her successor.

Despite her popularity and a storied trail of defeated opponents going dating to 1974, some Republicans are chomping at the bit to oust Snowe in 2012. She does have a real problem on her hands. In a poll taken this September, 63 percent of Republicans said they would support a more conservative alternative to Snowe, while only 29 percent said they would support her.

She also lost a hypothetical poll to 2006 Republican gubernatorial candidate Chandler Woodcock, 39 percent to 33 percent.

Scott D'Amboise of Lisbon Falls looks to be the most credible conservative alternative to Snowe right now. D'Amboise works in the health care industry and operates a small business; it is still unclear how he will appeal to the Tea Party crowd, but they have spent a lot of money ousting people much more conservative than Snowe.

Bob Bennett of Utah had an 18-year career as a conservative and did not receive the Republican nomination this past fall. Mike Castle, a statesman's statesman from Delaware, lost the Republican nomination to someone who admittedly "dabbled in witchcraft."

Snowe has been a target of conservatives for much longer than the Tea Party has existed. For many on the far right, she is public enemy No. 1 and has been for a while.

If defeated, I believe Snowe will bow out and not pursue an independent run. In fact, I'm surprised she's even running with the way she has been treated by Republicans in Washington these past few years. In a general election, I'm skeptical at best of D'Amboise's chances.



PETE CHRISTOPHER
POLITICAL COLUMNIST

He lost by more than 2 to 1 in Maine's more conservative second Congressional District to Mike Michaud in 2006.

Since Michaud and Chellie Pingree are likely to stay in the comfort of their House seats and not risk the possibility of a runoff with Snowe, there would be room for a lesser-known Democrat to become the face of the Democratic Party in Maine.

Someone like Steve Rowe, a 2010 candidate for governor who ran an im-

a Capitol Hill newspaper, that she was interested in running. Scarcelli is a businesswoman from Portland who ran for governor in 2010. She ran a polished campaign by all accounts and gained a lot of respect among the mainstream Democratic Party.

Ethan Strimling and Adam Cote are also two people to keep an eye on. They are both dynamic candidates who could make a splash in a primary. Both ran for congress in the first congressional district in 2008 and ended up losing to Chellie Pingree.

The mayoral race in Portland this upcoming November could also produce names of people who may be interested in running for Senate afterwards. The mayor of Portland is going to be one of the most recognizable people in the state.

There is no doubt in an off-year election like this one that the race is going to be given an unprecedented amount of attention from the media. Although it will officially be nonpartisan, the liber-

Snowe has been a target of conservatives for much longer than the Tea Party has existed. For many on the far right, she is public enemy No. 1 and has been for a while.

pressive campaign which attracted a lot of younger support, would make an attractive candidate.

Another name that has been popping up recently is Rep. Diane Russell of Portland. Russell hit the road to Madison, Wis. this past week to stand with the workers who are protesting at the statehouse. She made an appearance on Fox News' "The Sean Hannity Show," and looks ready to step into the spotlight.

Former gubernatorial candidate Rosa Scarcelli declared in "Roll Call,"

al-leaning Portland will, under all normal circumstances, vote Democratic.

Primaries are tough business, especially for moderate voters. Snowe will spend the next year or so trying to quell the concerns of the far right. If she is not successful, that would give the partisans on both sides of the isle an opportunity to further the interests of their party.

Pete Christopher is a fourth-year secondary education student. His political columns will appear every Thursday.

Have an opinion?

Email it to

opinion@mainecampus.com.

The attitudes and views expressed in the opinion section are those of their authors only and do not necessarily represent the views of The Maine Campus or its staff.

Columnist: Insensitivity disavows respect where due



Being in a classroom where I expected people to be more tolerant made me realize what a huge issue disrespect is. We need to see in most cases of handing out blame, there is more than one person at fault.

RYANNE NASON

Treat others the way you want to be treated — not a difficult concept, but one some people find difficult to grasp. While these folks might seek the respect of others, they are either unwilling or unable to return the gesture.

Sitting in class a few weeks ago, I was astounded when a group of individuals tried to justify the actions of a particular character in a film clip. Although there was a lack of respect shown by both parties involved during the interaction in the film, I couldn't believe my peers sided with what I believed to be the more evil of the two characters.

Since my classmates shared the political views of the character they empathized with, they justified the character's actions solely using their political ideals. Humanity be damned if it doesn't fall correctly on party lines.

We must realize that regardless of gender, sexual orientation, race or age, we all deserve respect. While it's hard to put aside the more nasty biases we all hold, it's the only way we're going to progress.

Take the current political climate in the United States. Due to the heavy partisanship occurring on all levels of government, we are in a deadlock where elected representatives fulfilling the needs of their constituents simply doesn't happen.

Instead of being persuaded by lobbyists and making a career out of public service, politicians have no respect for the people they have pledged to serve. This shows disrespect is not just limited to a few closed-minded individuals within the classroom.

This disregard of other human beings is prevalent

everywhere. Whether it be such a simple act as littering, cutting in line or showing general intolerance of the viewpoints of others, it's impossible to avoid the impudence of some of the people we are forced to deal with.

It seems hypocritical that some of the people we look upon as role models and leaders are some of the biggest offenders in the realm of disrespectful actions.

While there are some people you can always rely on to be rude, it seems even educated, otherwise compassionate audiences are becoming increasingly more ignorant in a time when it is important to remain open in the political and social spheres.

Obviously, the easiest option is to remain oblivious to the thoughts and opinions of others, to continue to stomp on toes and demand respect from those we openly disagree with in a malicious manner.

However, this is clearly not working. We need to see in most cases of handing out blame, there is more than one person at fault.

Being in a classroom where I expected people to be more tolerant made me realize what a huge issue disrespect is. Usually we associate the act of stubborn intolerance with older people, as frequently heard in stories about grandparents who have voted along party lines their whole lives.

It's sad to think the generation growing up now might be doing the same thing they condemn their parents and grandparents for.

We need to take control of the situation before it's too late. Identifying the problem within ourselves is the most critical step and one we must proceed with before we become so overly biased that our own personal lives become ensconced in a political deadlock.

There might be individuals who are able to remain open-minded and show a general sense of respect toward humankind, and those are the people we should look to as role models. The majority of us could learn a thing or two from such people.

Ryanne Nason is a fourth-year communications student. Her columns will appear every Thursday.

US responses to popular uprisings mired in old alliances, not humanity



MICHAEL SHEPHERD

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Developments over the past two months seem to suggest that citizens — from Egypt to a state most famous for cheese — have discovered the true effects of the protest: the simplest, most subversive act one can participate in.

Many Americans, just before the recent fighting over Republican governors' attempts to tamp down collective bargaining rights for state workers in Wisconsin, Michigan and Ohio, failed to recognize the true effect of banding together in a crowd to fight government action.

Libya, dominated for more than four decades by brutal dictator Muammar Gaddafi, is burning, as it has been said that rebels who have gained arms control the eastern half of the country.

Gaddafi has threatened those who rebel against the totalitarian government with death, taunting them with complaints. He says he will die in Libya. German Chancellor Angela Merkel said he was "declaring war on his own people."

Egypt has fallen after 30 years of colorblind rule by former president Hosni Mubarak, a man who used authority and a loyal state police force to target Egyptian citizens.

His move to shut down the Internet in the midst of protests that began Jan. 25 and culminated in him fleeing to his coastal mansion Feb. 16 showed he, along with many other leaders, has no way to respond to today's modern problems of democracy — or lack thereof.

Before Egypt, even, the government of the North African country of Tunisia capitulated. It took 28 days for demonstrators to pressure former President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali out of office and into exile in Saudi Arabia. Bahrain, another Middle Eastern country rich with oil on the Arabian Peninsula, is enveloped in popular protest.

Much of the political debate in American international affairs stems from how we respond to developments in the Middle East. We like to think we set the precedent for many movements — both technological, political and cultural.

Students at universities such as ours study globalization, political science and international affairs,

all disciplines that tend to function as rallying cries for American political influence.

But when democratic movements happen spontaneously — literally handed out for U.S. support on a platter — we do nothing to really respond until all is said and done. The Obama administration treaded softly into Egyptian matters, watching the situation closely before providing the real side they supported.

Some call it disciplined. I call it gutless. That's why I won't make it in politics. I report on it.

We are always hesitant to dive head first into the real problems of the region for one reason — our united and often blind support of Israel in virtually all situations. We look to maintain what is left

I don't mind supporting Israel. I mind American politicians suggesting to overlook human rights in favor of maybe maintaining an antisocial relationship between Egypt and Israel.

of peaceful borders in the Middle East.

Should our foreign policy be so tightly tied to any country?

In late January, former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, a staunch Republican and Baptist minister, said Obama's meek urging of Mubarak to cede his presidency showed "deafening silence toward not even acknowledging any role that he may have played in a peaceful border between Egypt and Israel is what's of great concern."

If a tyrant like Mubarak helped keep a peaceful border while violating human rights, why should we be so scared to oppose him?

I don't mind supporting Israel. I mind American politicians suggesting to overlook human rights in favor of maybe maintaining an antisocial relationship between Egypt and Israel.

If there were ever a time for democratic outreach instead of the cookie-cutter approach we have tried in Iraq and Afghanistan over the past decade — two countries with long popular histories of not taking well to decentralized rule — it is now.

These days, we can't tie our response to democratic movement to maintaining other democracies. Popular protest movements are not our enemy and any democracy in the Arab world is a good one.

It is time to offer America's full support.

Michael Shepherd is a third-year journalism student.

Maturity and professionalism finally take the gavel for UM Student Government

CALEB ROSSER

It's no secret that the University of Maine's Student Government has its problems.

It feels like in every Thursday edition of The Maine Campus we read about elections being contested, senators storming out of chambers — or in some cases, resigning on the spot.

The inner struggles of SG seem to separate the body from its constituents and ultimately delegitimizes itself. However, last night the General Student Senate showed such great leadership and maturity that I hope they will continue to build upon.

Tuesday night some were there sporting for funds for trips, others because they had sporting events over spring break. The room was crowded, hot and anxious. After attendance was taken, GSS began to discuss their website and its shortcomings.

The discussion quickly became fierce and tensions began to rise. I thought to myself, "Just another night in senate."

However, I was taken aback and pleasantly surprised when, after a time, a senator motioned the body suspend its standing rules to allow students in the gallery to conduct the business they came for. This motion was promptly seconded, and unanimously affirmed.

This motion did several things. Firstly, it effectively diffused a hostile situation that seemed to be nowhere near a natural conclusion. Secondly, it put the student body ahead of its staunch politics, as is appropriate.

GSS moved into "new business" and began to allocate student money to groups in need of it — then passed a resolution showing its opposition to two proposals in the Maine Legislature it decided would unacceptably abridge students' ability to vote.

As per the stipulations in the resolution, Student Body Vice President Anthony Ortiz will now send the resolution to the governor and leaders of the Maine House and Senate.

After all new business was conducted, the Senate decided on a 10-minute recess before continuing with the agenda. This decision showed further maturity on the body's behalf giving the senators the opportunity to leave chambers, converse with each other and mend relationships.

The feeling I had leaving the gallery was one I don't often have with respect to Student Government. The feeling was pride. I was proud our student leaders put the interests of the students ahead of its own politics.

I was proud our student leaders stood up to the Maine Legislature and gave students a voice. Furthermore, I was

proud to be represented by the leaders in Student Government.

Tuesday night was a night of maturity and leadership, but the Tuesday after break is another. I would like to think some lessons were learned and some mistakes realized. I would also like to think the leadership showed by a few senators will be a continuing theme as we approach the end of the semester.

I would like to think that the pride I felt on Tuesday night can and will carry on for the organization in the future.

I will be in attendance at the next time GSS meets. I hope when I leave I don't feel like a fool for writing this.

Caleb Rosser is a third year political science student.

The feeling I had leaving the gallery was one I don't often have with respect to Student Government. The feeling was pride.



Thumbs up / Thumbs down

Smart Water

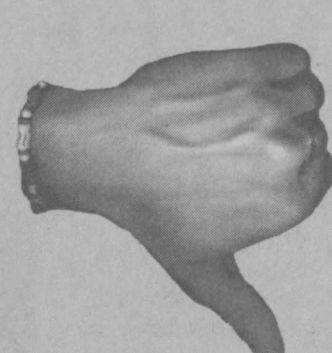
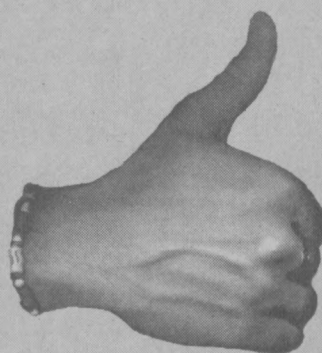
Well water

Being done exams

Being in Dunn Hall

Grapefruit

Grape nuts



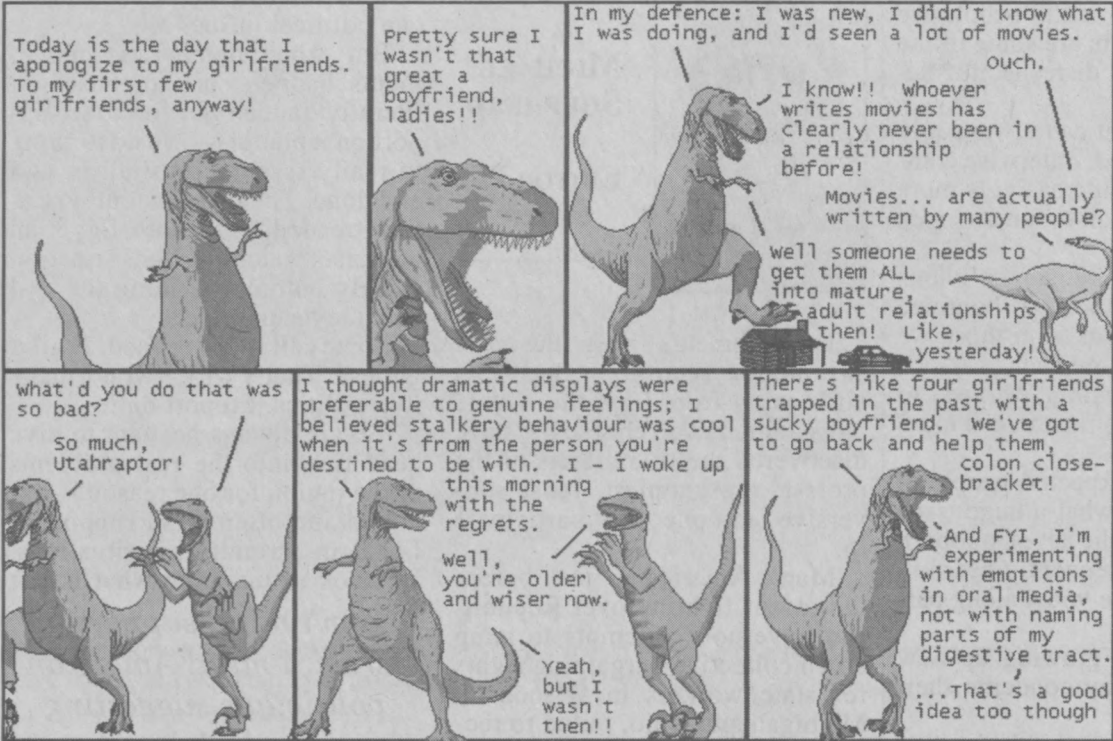
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Letters to the editor should be 300 words, concise and clearly written. If applicable, include your academic year. Send all submissions to opinion@mainecampus.com. Submissions may be edited for length, clarity and style. Anonymous letters will not be published.

Opinion pieces should be roughly 650 words and clearly written. Include your name, year and major. Submissions should be in .doc format. Send all opinion pieces to opinion@mainecampus.com.

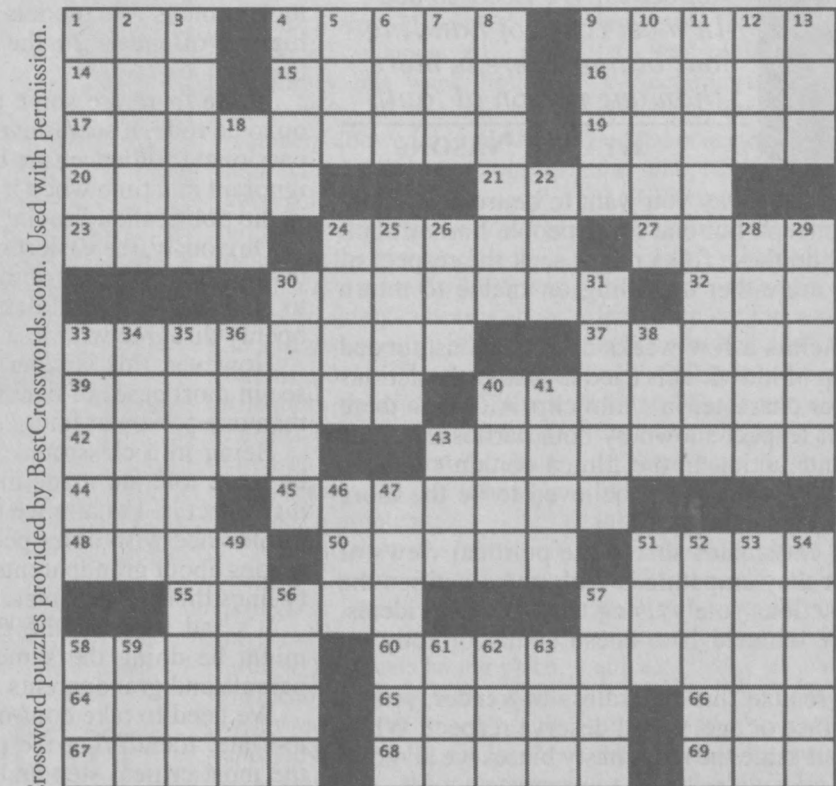
Diversions

Dinosaur Comics



By Ryan North

Crossword Puzzle



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com. Used with permission.

Answer key in sports

Sudoku Puzzle



Sudoku puzzles provided by sudoku.name. Used with permission.

- Each row must have numbers 1 - 9 in any order but each digit can only appear once.
 - Each column 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.

Difficulty level: Hard

Across

- 1- Express
- 4- Scruffs
- 9- Autocratic Russian rulers
- 14- Song syllable
- 15- Rica
- 16- Up
- 17- Trapeze artist
- 19- Check endorser
- 20- Chief of the Vedic gods
- 21- Consumers
- 23- Tabula
- 24- Large wave caused by tidal flow
- 27- General chicken
- 30- Uninterrupted space
- 32- Publicity
- 33- Visionary
- 37- Sleep disorder
- 39- Abundantly supplied
- 40- To disgrace
- 42- Extra-terrestrial

Down

- 1- Flight of steps
- 2- Concert venue
- 3- Fenced areas
- 43- Sing for
- 44- Bit
- 45- Pain and fever tablet
- 48- Baby blues
- 50- Author of fables
- 51- Yellow metallic element
- 55- Irritable
- 57- Underwater worker
- 58- Pardon
- 60- Something obscene
- 64- Digression
- 65- Layers
- 66- Actress Peeples
- 67- Attacks
- 68- Affectation of sophisticates
- 69- Break off

- 4- Final Four org.
- 5- "You've got mail" co.
- 6- Trident-shaped letter
- 7- Aliens, for short
- 8- Sixth planet
- 9- Record with a VCR
- 10- Begin
- 11- Ethiopia
- 12- Actress Charlotte
- 13- Sault
- 18- 401(k) alternative
- 22- Paris possessive
- 24- Egress
- 25- Church recess
- 26- Gangster's gun
- 28- Continuously
- 29- Glide along smoothly
- 30- Actress Verdugo
- 31- Consumed
- 33- Angry

- 34- Postpone
- 35- Cuticle
- 36- Bass, e.g.
- 38- Bad review
- 40- Dynamic beginning
- 41- Journey
- 43- Bro's counter-part
- 46- Dupe
- 47- Mescal
- 49- You mouthful!
- 51- Martini liquor
- 52- Sheeplike
- 53- Admit
- 54- Wood nymph
- 56- Editor's mark
- 57- He loved Lucy
- 58- Encouraging word
- 59- Conductor
- 61- Coal container
- 62- DC bigwig
- 63- French vineyard

Computer Jargon

- APPLICATION
- BACKUP
- BINARY
- BLUETOOTH
- BOOT
- BYTE
- CHAT
- CLICK
- COOKIE
- CURSOR
- DATA
- DEFRAGMENT
- DIRECTORY
- DISK DRIVE
- DOS
- DRAW
- EMAIL
- ENCRYPTION
- FILE
- FIREWALL
- FOLDER
- GIF
- GOOGLE
- HTML
- ICON
- INTERNET
- JAVASCRIPT
- KERNAL
- LCD
- LOGIN
- MEMORY
- MONITOR
- MOUSE
- NANOSECOND
- NETWORK
- PARTITION
- PASTE
- PDF
- PIXEL
- POWER SUPPLY
- PROGRAMMER
- ROUTER
- SAVE AS
- SCANNER
- SECURITY
- SHAREWARE
- SOFTWARE
- SPAM
- TASKBAR
- THUMBNAIL
- UNIX
- WALLPAPER
- WIRELESS

Find and circle all of the computer words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell an additional word.

Word Search

T P I R C S A V A J L E X I P I G E
L I A M E M O R Y M M O U S E N I L
C R A B K S A T X I N U Y H S T F G
D N D I R E C T O R Y E T A O E O O
P O W E R S U P P L Y N I R F R L O
U C O A S A E V A S S C R E T N D G
K I R O P K T Y P S H R U W W E E L
C D E C P R E E A H Y C A A T R M
A N R I M A L L T D R P E R E A T
B O L E N M E I E K E T S E E P H H
R C K I P R A F C V R I I R S U L M
E E B E I A R R I A B O O T M B O R
N S T W R A P R G R T N W B I N G O
N O O S G N D L O O D I N T I O I S
A N G M A K A U L A R A O T E A N R
C A E A S P T L T A I P O N R N D U
S N F I R E W A L L W R E I K O O C
T F D P R D H T O O T E U L B Y T E

Word search courtesy of puzzles.ca

Aries - March 21 to April 20 - Problems with your partner could be reaching a level of concern. Your communication skills are very effective. Take matters in hand when it comes to dealing with clients or colleagues.

Taurus - April 21 to May 21 - Be prepared to lose friends or alienate loved ones due to your stubborn nature lately. Your energy will be abundant; however, if not channeled suitably, temper tantrums may erupt. Contracts may not be as lucrative as you think.

Gemini - May 22 to June 21 - Don't place limitations on yourself. Realize that you don't have to do everything alone. Do your work at home, if possible. Someone may be trying to make you look bad.

Cancer - June 22 to July 22 - Resistance leading to conflict will only make it more difficult to alienate the situation. You can make financial gains through your unique and creative approach to business. Think before you act.

Leo - July 23 to Aug. 22 - Direct your energy wisely today. Anger will prevail if you expect help from others. You will find that valuable knowledge can be gained if you are willing to listen.

Virgo - Aug. 23 to Sept. 23 - You can visit clients and make a big impression just by giving them some hands-on help. Don't let minor misunderstandings get in the way. Look into intellectual and physical games that will test your abilities.

Libra - Sept. 24 to Oct. 23 - Do the necessary chores and then do activities that please you. Mingle with individuals who are established and can give you some serious insight into business and future trends.

Scorpio - Oct. 24 to Nov. 22 - Control your emotions and everything will fall into place. You may be sensitive concerning friends and their situations. Family may not want to get involved but an entrepreneur will.


Sagittarius - Nov. 23 to Dec. 21 - Enjoyable ventures should be on your agenda. You've been hurt before and could be again if you don't play hard to get.

Capricorn - Dec 22. to Jan. 20 - Try not to argue about trivial matters. You will have excellent ideas for changing or renovating your home. Think about your priorities.

Aquarius - Jan. 21 to Feb. 19 - Don't allow someone to do a job that was designated specifically for you. Travel and communication will not run as smoothly as you had hoped.

Pisces - Feb. 20 to March 20 - You may find that extra cash will come in handy when an opportunity to invest comes along. Sudden romantic infatuations could lead to a significant and lasting connection.

Horoscopes courtesy of astrology-online.com



the Student Portfolio Investment Fund of the University of Maine Foundation

Comp Spotlight

Top 3 Ranking in SPIFFY Investment Game:

releaf7: 69.2% total return
Make it Rain: 16.93% total return
Daniel.Sipe: 13.38% total return

releaf7 still in the lead, however, he has changed position from the initial "Homerun stock." He has invested in XOM (Exxon Mobile.) along with two technology companies.

Make it Rain now stands at second. Investing in XOM and a Gold Trust SPDR.

Daniel.Sipe has stayed in the top three but also has changed around his holdings. he now has SWKS, an application manufacture. INTU, a financial managment firm, and WCRX, a Bermuda-based pharmaceutical firm.

The Weekly Bulls & Bears		
The Weekly 'Bulls' & 'Bears' describe how investors react to certain markets in a week's time. Bulls are when the Market is showing Confidence. One indicator of a Bull market is an increase in a company's stock price. Bear markets are the opposite. Bear Markets show a lack of confidence when a company's stock price is in a decline.		
▲ ACE (Ace Limited)	2.46	(3.94%)
▲ PM (Philip Morris)	1.65	(2.76%)
▼ SCCO (Southern Copper)	-2.98	(-6.77%)
▼ YARIY (Yara Intl.)	-4.45	(-7.97%)

Meeting Recap

SPIFFY's philanthropy is its flagship Middle School Outreach program. Last Thursday, three members participated, helping to provide some financial guidance and education to Katahdin Middle School students. The students were excited to ask investment related questions and receive a Reese's reward for anyone who participated.

SPIFFY? It stands for Student Portfolio Investment Fund, and we are exactly that. A Student organized portfolio that manages over \$1.5 Million of University of Maine's Endowment Fund. We meet weekly at 6:00 on Tuesday night in DPC 117, and we are open to any undergraduate student interested in learning about the world of investing. For more information check out our folder on your First Class.



Thursday, February 24, 2011

A JOURNEY OF SELF Discovery go!



Courtesy photo

Michael Merchant shows fellow cast member Melissa Mahoney a boa constrictor he caught within the first 24 hours of his journey in Venezuela.

By Betsy Caron
Design Assistant

With enough determination and knowledge, even a fear of heights isn't enough to pass up an adventure beginning on top of a 9,200-foot mountain in Venezuela.

Michael Merchant, a 47-year-old University of Maine graduate from Hampden, is not one for heights, but is one of nine volunteers starring in the Discovery Channel series "Out of the Wild: Venezuela," which premiered Feb. 17. The show was filmed this past fall.

The six men and three women on the team were dropped off on the top of Mt. Roraima, and, armed with only basic supplies, left to find their way 70 miles back to civilization. They did not compete for a prize and could leave the show at any time.

Merchant, who has his bachelor's degree in biology, works as a wildlife technician for the Maine Department of Conservation. He has a knack for identifying critters and insects, among other essential skills needed for surviving the treacherous South American wilderness. He

was one of thousands of applicants who applied to be on the show.

"They went through the process with a couple agendas in mind," Merchant said of the rigorous casting process

"Survival is 90 percent mental. But if you slip off the cliff, you die. There are a lot of real dangers there. It's the closest you'll get to a real survival experience."

Michael Merchant
Out of the Wild: Venezuela volunteer cast member

involving psychological evaluations and IQ tests. "They wanted interesting people to watch and they wanted to pick people that would make it."

The casted volunteers, accompanied by a camera

crew, were left at the "tepui" of Mt. Roraima, a tabletop plateau that constitutes the highest part of the mountain. Merchant said it took three days just for the crew to find their way down, putting his fear of heights to the test.

"Even though the tepui is flat, it's perpetually wet. There's a lot of slippery rocks and sand up there. You're way up high, but it reminded me of the peat bogs around here," Merchant said. "There's these huge crevices where water is always eroding."

Once they were no longer standing on the edge of cliffs, Merchant said he was much more relaxed.

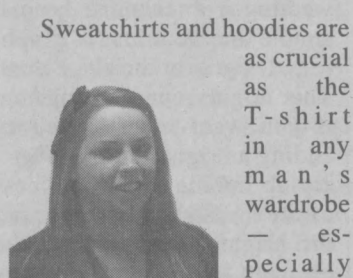
"Once into the Savanna and swamp, I was in absolute heaven, even though I was suffering," he said. "The jungle is just awesome. Every day I would find a new species of frogs. The place is magical."

The team was left with backpacks that had basic supplies, a map, spare pairs of shoes and a change of clothes. Merchant said he originally wanted to go barefoot for the entire journey, and only had sandals as backup footwear.

See Merchant on B2

Looking good in your hood is easy if you are careful

Column



Trend Watch
By Macey Hall

Sweatshirts and hoodies are as crucial as the T-shirt in any man's wardrobe — especially to those of college age. Hooded sweatshirts can look sloppy and tired, but there are ways to wear them that look grown-up and presentable. In a recent GQ article, style columnist Glenn O'Brien commented on the industrial, working-class origin of the sweatshirt.

"When America still made stuff, Champion and other sportswear manufacturers turned these out in massive numbers for the working-class heroes who needed warmth while laboring in the meat lockers, icy sewers, train yards, and sandhog caissons of America. Boxers did roadwork in them, shell crews pulled oars against the tides of mighty rivers in them, daring highwaymen knocked over 7-Elevens with their added anonymity" he wrote.

As he points out, the sweatshirt is ingrained in the soul of the American man. It's a trend that's not going anywhere. Here are some tips on ways to rock the hoodie while still looking grown-up:

Stick to neutral colors

Sweatshirts work best in gray, black, dark brown and charcoal. Bright colors look juvenile — straight out of seventh grade. Your sweatshirt should be free of graphics and decoration. This means that "So-and-So High School Basketball" is out. Stop trying to relive your superstar high school days, and save those sweatshirts for the gym.

Plain, neutral sweatshirts without gaudy logos appear less sloppy. If it's impossible to find one sans store logo, make sure the logo is small and not in the middle of the chest. If you absolutely must wear colors, keep them dark: navy blue, forest green and cranberry.

Keep it clean

The key to integrating a hoodie into your wardrobe in a mature way is keeping them presentable. This means ripped, dirty, baggy and sloppy sweatshirts are out. You can still be comfortable in a clean, appropriate-fitting sweatshirt.

Wear it in style

There are three main styles of sweatshirts: zip-ups, hoodies and hoodless crewnecks. Zip-ups are the most versatile of the three because they can be worn open or zipped. Wearing them open looks a little more mature and cool. I love the American Apparel men's zip-up hoodies in black and gray. Wear one with a v-neck or basic crew neck, dark denim and

See Hoodies on B2



Courtesy photo

Cam Groves will perform at Curva Ultra Lounge on Friday with Educated Advocates and Colby Stiltz.

What to do over break if you're still in Orono

No big plans? Low-brow and high-brow options abound

By Kegan Zema
Style Editor

So, you're stuck in Orono for spring break. The good news is that not all is lost. Your peers may be back home or partying at destinations across the country, but there will still be plenty to do in the Greater Bangor area during these two weeks off.

Down at the regular hangouts, it's mostly business as usual but there is also plenty going on if you're looking to expand your artistic horizons beyond a bar band. Between plays, concerts, film screen-

ings and even bowling, there should be enough to do during the much-needed recess from schoolwork.

The Nightlife

Downtown Orono won't look much different over break — in fact, most are going to be a little quieter than usual, according to staff members at the various establishments — but there will still be plenty of ways to have fun, especially during the first weekend when students are sent away with a bang.

At the Bear Brew, there will be an 18+ dubstep night

with DJ Les Rhoda on Feb. 25. Things are going to be relatively quiet after that for the rest of break, but if you are willing to travel down to Auburn, you can catch jam band Bootiddy and Rhoda under his Alien Journalism moniker March 4 at Club Texas.

Across the street at Woodman's Bar and Grill, the Wednesday night Extravajamza open-mic nights are expected to return. This will probably be the best bet for catching live music over break.

Frank and the Red Hots are

See Break on B3

Thursday, Feb. 24

Gregory Howard Fiction Reading

Arthur Hill Auditorium, Barrows Hall
4:30 to 6 p.m.

SkyLase Laser Show

Pink Floyd Night
Jordan Planetarium, Wingate Hall
7 p.m. "Dark Side of the Moon"; 8 p.m. "The Wall"
\$4 per show

Penobscot Theatre Presents "Dirty Blonde"

Bangor Opera House, 131 Main St., Bangor
7 p.m.
\$20 - \$35

Frank and the Red Hots

The Roost
10 p.m.
21+

College Night feat. DJ Pandemic

Curva Ultra Lounge
10 p.m.
21+, free; 18+, \$3

College Night w/ DJ Caliber

Bear Brew Pub
10 p.m.
21+

Friday, Feb. 25

Penobscot Theatre Presents "Dirty Blonde"

Bangor Opera House, 131 Main St., Bangor
8 p.m.
\$20 - \$35

SkyLase Laser Show

The Beatles
Jordan Planetarium, Wingate Hall
8:15 p.m.
\$4 per show

Cam Groves w/ Educated Advocates and Colby Stiltz

Curva Ultra Lounge
9 p.m.
\$12
18+

Dubstep Night

Bear Brew Pub
10 p.m.
18+

Saturday, Feb. 26

Live at the MET: Gluck's Iphigenie en Tauride

Collins Center for the Arts
1 p.m.
\$24

SkyLase Laser Show

Sky Lore
Jordan Planetarium, Wingate Hall
3:15 p.m.
\$4 per show

Penobscot Theatre Presents "Dirty Blonde"

Bangor Opera House, 131 Main St., Bangor
8 p.m.
\$20 - \$35

Sunday, Feb. 27

The Magic of Ireland

Collins Center for the Arts
3 p.m.
\$42

WORD OF MOUTH STYLE EDITION

What are you doing over spring break?

"Touring with the University Singers." - Emma Atherton, psychology



"I am going to a missionary trip." - Kimberley Pszeny, biochemistry/pre-med



"I am going to California." - Ian Brakey, construction management



"Working. I wish I lived closer to my friends." - Jessica Welch, chemistry



"Sleep and study for bio." - Jennifer Chapman, chemistry



"Nothing exciting and working on my internship." - Nick Francoeur, exercise science



"I am going to New Orleans for Katrina Relief." - Joshua Harvell, chemical engineering



"Car shopping, sleeping and UMaine hockey." - Chris Knoblock, communications



Merchant from B1

"I like to go barefoot. I walked the whole day on top of the tepui," he said, but explained it would have been impossible to continue without shoes. "Realistically the terrain was so rugged and I was worried that I'd injure myself or I'd have to leave."

According to Merchant, the oldest on the team by 17 years, working with eight other intelligent individuals while trying to find your way through the South American jungle is anything but easy.

"We kind of became like animals," Merchant said. "We ate bugs and mud and rotten fruit."

He said that although "it wasn't the Brady Bunch," the group was able to work together and help each other through life-threatening situations.

"We fought like cats and dogs," Merchant said. "All these people have their own idea on how to do something. Even though we were fighting, we wanted to get everybody to the end, which may have been a little unrealistic."

But Merchant said it was important not to hold any grudges and to keep the morale high, because they never knew when they would need each other's

help.

"You might be fighting with someone one day, and the next day that person might be the reason you can go on," he said.

If a volunteer reached the point where they felt they couldn't continue anymore, they could use a GPS to call for help — ending their adventure and their time on the show.

Merchant said it mentally wore him down to have the GPS, knowing that with the push of a button he could be rescued.

"Survival is 90 percent mental," he said. "But if you slip off the cliff, you die. There are a lot of real dangers there. It's the closest you'll get to a real survival experience. You could get saved, but having that GPS really messes with your head."

Although average temperatures in Venezuela remain around 70 to 90 degrees Fahrenheit, Merchant said the journey was no tropical vacation.

"I froze my ass off down there," he said. "It was terrible. The top of the tepui is 40 degrees."

He said the cold temperatures made it extremely hard to sleep. For much of the time, the team was soaking wet, trying to rest in 40 to 50-degree weather.

"In the jungle at night, it was very uncomfortable. Water just sucks the heart right out of you,"



Courtesy photo
Five of the nine volunteers trekking through the wilderness for the Discovery Channel's "Out of the Wild: Venezuela" admire the South American landscape that leads to their next camp.

Merchant said. "Everything is completely different there than it is in a temperate forest."

Since Merchant was young it has been his dream to travel somewhere like Venezuela and "just go wild." He said that if the opportunity were presented to

him again, he'd fly back to the tepui in a heartbeat.

But surviving in any climate takes something Merchant said is more than just black and white.

"Being stubborn and having some humor can go a long way," he said. "Surviving, really sur-

living, in the wild takes something else other than what you're going to learn from a book."

"I came back with a whole appreciation for things I took for granted," he said. "I feel permanently changed by the experience."

Hoodies from B1

some Converse and you've got yourself a downtown hipster look. Classic hoodies are the most manly and rugged of the different styles. They're also the least fashion-forward. If you want to look mature and comfortable, but aren't necessarily concerned with fashion, I would suggest a classic hoodie. To avoid falling into a sweatshirt rut, buy ones that are slub cotton, which has that worn-in look. American Eagle makes a simple one for only \$30.

Crewneck sweatshirts are the preppiest of the three, and look the most dressed-up. I love crew necks in club cotton or waffled thermals.

The trick is to avoid looking like you just finished working out — or just got off the middle school bus. When wearing a sweatshirt, keep it simple and neutral. No graphics, designs or bright colors. This might sound boring, but if you want more color, try adding a bright T-shirt under a zip-up hoodie. The manliness of the sweatshirt balances out the bright color, creating the ultimate look for a laid-back day.

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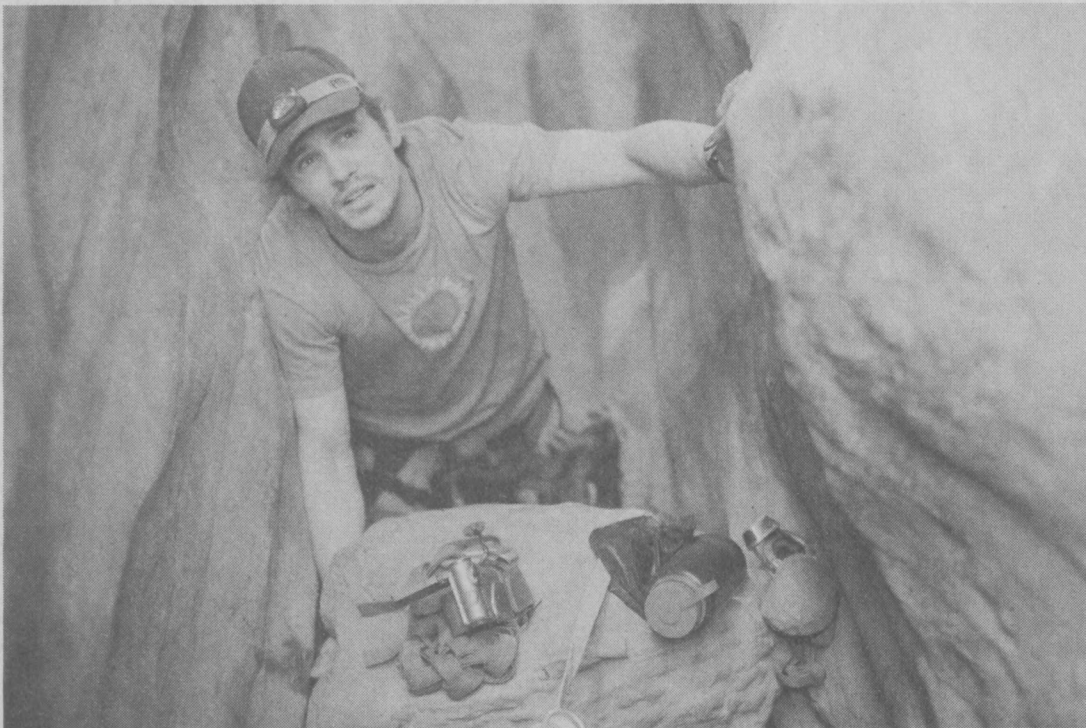
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DVD REVIEW:

'127 Hours'

James Franco shines in Danny Boyle's intense bio-pic



Fox Searchlight Pictures

By John Shannon
Film Critic

January and February have often been seen as dumping grounds for film distributors, a time to release products that actively embarrass movie studios.

In the past few weeks, we've seen the eye-scalding atrocities "Just Go With It" and "The Eagle," and audiences have been hard-up for quality entertainment.

The silver lining comes in the form of DVD releases of the small films that get plenty of awards attention but don't often come to our secluded neck of the woods. The first of these endeavors is Danny Boyle's "127 Hours," his follow up to the universally beloved "Slumdog Millionaire."

After "Slumdog," Boyle was given the golden ticket that so many auteurs crave, a free pass to make anything you want. Boyle chose to work with the true story of Aron Ralston, the adventurer who spent five days with his arm pinned under a giant boulder after a mountain climbing mishap.

The story was so ubiquitous

that everyone knows how it ends: Ralston, desperate to survive, uses a pocket knife and sheer will to amputate his arm, freeing him from certain death.

The smartest move the film version makes is putting the choice to sever one's arm into proper context. A weaker filmmaker would make it into a bold statement, something we admire the character for, and wonder if we ourselves would be capable of doing the same thing. Boyle frames it differently.

The film acts as a love letter to human spirit and tenacity.

When Ralston begins the painful process of freeing himself, viewers can only nod in agreement.

The film rests squarely on James Franco's shoulders. He performs most of the film in one location, playing off only himself. There are a few hallucinatory moments toward the end, providing other actors to help balance him out, but Franco is electrifying all on his own.

It's a huge gamble for any actor to play by himself for over an hour — for every brilliant "Castaway" there's an equally misguided "Buried." "127 Hours" is, thankfully, more akin to the

former.

Shot with Boyle's near trademark frenetic style, the movie goes by much quicker than the running time suggests. Boyle is a chameleon of a filmmaker, jumping genres between films and leaving an individual fingerprint on each outing. This ranks highly in his oeuvre, somewhere above "Sunshine" and "28 Days Later," but just under "Trainspotting" and "Slumdog."

As a visceral experience, "127 Hours" is an adrenaline rush like no other. There have been several reports of audience members fainting or retching during the film's climax; so many that pundits began to wonder if marketers staged these incidents. The studio even capitalized on this fact, crafting "I Survived 127 Hours" T-shirts.

After finishing the film, I felt as though I deserved one too. Boyle doesn't amble around the inevitable: It's a story about a man severing his own arm, and we see it in shocking detail. Those with weak constitutions may want to skip this one, or at least cover their eyes.

Grade: A

LOCAL
MUSIC

CD REVIEW:

Grand Hotel - 'In Color'

Rockers deliver high-energy pop among silly moments

By Kegan Zema
Style Editor

One of the best parts of Grand Hotel's "In Color" comes at the very end during the song "Thanks!" As the band plays out, lead singer Kyle Gervais repeatedly spits out "thanks to you's of varying sincerity, while others saying "thank you" can be heard in the background.

It's a warm and fuzzy moment where the band seems to be having a party in the studio — there's even the faint sound of a cigarette being lit.

But as it fades out, there's the distinct sound of a fart, most likely from some sort of horn. It makes for a fitting end to an album filled with some wonderful musical moments tarnished by some downright silliness and extravagance.

On the follow-up to their self-titled debut, Portland's Grand Hotel are able to bridge the gaps between pop styles spanning '80s new wave, '90s rock and 2000s indie. Their music is a splattering of hooks and grooves hand-picked from the charts over the last few decades, yet still uniquely all their own.

However, such an eclectic mix of influences makes for a rather disjointed album experience. There are ambient sound collages ("Tenderloin") next to falsetto-laced disco ballads that channel Electric Six ("Denise"). The album inexplicably opens with an eight-minute indie pop jam, though this type of sound never returns.

Song by song, Grand Hotel excel. The production — done by the band and recorded by their drummer Aaron Lachance — is magnificent. Crisp and professional only touches the surface of these songs, which are full of intricate layers and parts. This is a marked improvement from their first album.

These production techniques really shine on songs like "I Gotta New Message"



Courtesy photo

and lead single "Walken," arguably the best tracks.

"Message" is an upbeat ode to '80s synth pop and it couldn't be more fun. The slight reverb on Gervais' voice as he sings, "You used to talk like you were famous," makes for just the right amount of old and new. There's a definite similarity in his voice to fellow Portland popster Kurt Baker, with whom Grand Hotel shared a bill on Tuesday for the album's release party.

"Walken" is a hard-edged dose of the kind of artistic sincerity close-knit scenes breed. The lyrics drive this standard small-town guitar rock anthem as Gervais sings, "What would happen if we actually ditched this city?"

The heart of this album spans tracks two through six, which by themselves would make a wonderful EP. Grand Hotel hit their stride on the cerebral instrumental interlude "Go Go Gadget Gorgeous." The angular "Boomboomboom" and slinky "Body Touch" are the first to capture the band's sexual undertones, but they aren't disgustingly overt and

the metaphors work.

It's on the second half of the album where Grand Hotel retreat into a single bag of tricks. Musically the effort is still obvious, but songs about girls grow tiresome fast. "Learn-2Dance" comes off as more of a joke, especially when compared to "Boomboomboom," where they do a decent job at the "take-you-home-tonight" song. The bedroom tracks are further marginalized by Gervais' tendency to slip into a gritty rock star voice, like on "Denise."

If Grand Hotel are simply about having fun and making danceable music, they have certainly succeeded on "In Color." But their dissonant instrumental tracks and ability to use such complex instrumentation make me think they've got a higher purpose. They're great musicians and Gervais is a convincing vocalist when he's singing about more than the vixen at the bar.

I'd like to say "thanks" in advance for leaving the fart sounds off the next album.

Grade: B-

Break
from B1

playing at The Roost tonight, but there isn't expected to be much more live music over break. There will still be Karaoke with Marissa on Wednesdays, though.

Also, if you're down near the Waterville area, The Roost is planning to open a branch there in early March, according to the restaurant's Facebook page.

Curva Ultra Lounge won't stray too far from the usual affairs while many students are

gone, but there will be a hip-hop concert Feb. 25 with Cam Groves of Spose's Preposterously Dank label headlining. Educated Advocates, who opened for Spose during his visit to Old Town in the fall, will open for Groves alongside aspiring MC Colby Stiltz. Tickets to this 18+ event are \$12.

Spring break is a great time to check out some hidden gems around the area as well. With The Dime closed, Old Town is becoming less of a destination. However, if you want the cheapest beer around — most are only a dollar or two — head

to the Old Town Bowling Center. This candlepin bowling alley is tucked away right near downtown. What it lacks in flash, it makes up for in charm. You can't go wrong with cheap bowling and cheap beer. You can reach them at 827-2874.

Arts and Culture

During the first weekend of break, the Penobscot Theatre Company will be wrapping up its run of "Dirty Blonde" at the Bangor Opera House. There are performances Thursday through Sunday, so don't miss out on your chance to see the University of Maine's own A.J.

Mooney as sensuous '30s and '40s starlet Mae West. Call 942-3333 for more information.

Right on campus at the Collins Center for the Arts, audiences will have the opportunity to travel to Ireland and South Africa in the same week. "The Magic of Ireland," a night of Irish song and dance, will take place on the Feb. 27 and the renowned Ladysmith Black Mambazo will bring the rhythms and sounds of South Africa to Orono March 5. Other events include the Popovich Comedy Pet Theater on March 6 and an orchestral showcase

on the 13th. Call 1-800-662-TIXX for more information.

Independent movie collective River City Cinema will be screening movies, Feb. 25 and March 11 for just \$5 at the Union Street Brick Church in Bangor. The first film, "Bhutto," is a documentary on the first female leader of the Muslim nation of Pakistan. Two weeks later, there will be a showing of the Korean film "Secret Sunshine," starring Jeon Do-yeon, who took home the award for Best Actress at Cannes. Visit rivercitycinema.com to read more about the films and watch the trailers.

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UMaine's Flynn quietly joins 100-point club

Junior forward for men's hockey team is having stellar year for the Black Bears up top

By Jesse Scardina
Sports Editor

When University of Maine men's hockey coach Tim Whitehead was asked who has stepped up during this slew of injuries, he said, "Our best players over the last two weeks have been our juniors and seniors. They've really elevated their level of play."

Perhaps the largest contributor of those juniors and seniors Whitehead was referring to has been junior Brian Flynn. The forward out of Lynnfield, Mass., has been spectacular when the Black Bears need it most.

While playing teams ranked in the top three, Flynn has scored five times, including three against then No. 2 University of North Dakota, one against then-No. 3 University of New Hampshire and one against No. 3 Boston College.

It hasn't been just against top teams that Flynn has stepped up; it's been in tough moments. After the heartbreaking home loss to UNH, it was Flynn's hat trick that was the difference in the victory over the University of Massachusetts two days later. Flynn also scored the overtime winner against Providence College in addition to a goal in regulation.

"As the season goes on, you get a little more comfortable," Flynn said. "You get some more confidence and feel like you have that extra split second on the ice to make plays, which makes it a lot easier."

This weekend, Flynn joined a prestigious fraternity when he won the 100-point club for UMaine. After scoring two goals at the University of Massachusetts Lowell Friday night, Flynn set up junior forward Gustav Nyquist to capture his 100th point. Minutes later, fellow line-mate,

senior center Tanner House joined him in the club, making it a perfect three-for-three in the 100-point club for UMaine's top line.

"As you come down the home stretch you kind of solidify your lines," Flynn said. "You get comfortable with some guys. They're all good players and it's easy to play with all of them."

It appears the game does slow down a bit for Flynn, as he currently leads the Black Bears with 16 goals.

Flynn is a product of Lynnfield, just outside of Boston. He gained interest in hockey at a young age.

"It started when I was 3," Flynn said. "I had a lot of older cousins that were into it, so that's what got me into it."

Traditionally, Flynn grew up a Boston Bruins fan, frequently visiting the city to watch the black and yellow play.

"I used to go to them, watch them on TV every night with my dad; it was nice," he said.

Growing up in such a dense area of college hockey, Flynn decided to see what else New England had to offer.

"I wanted to come to a winning school with a tradition," Flynn said. "A place where you could compete for some trophies every year and play in this rink in front of the fans."

When asked why he didn't stay in the rich Beanpot hockey tradition of Boston, Flynn downplayed it.

"There were some others, but as far as BU or BC schools were concerned, they weren't

interested," Flynn said. "Out of all the schools, Maine was the top choice."

It wouldn't be surprising if BU or BC were cursing themselves now.

It's hard to see Flynn doing anything other than skating around in front of the Alford fans, but according to the junior, he would be down south with a different type of stick.

"I'd probably be somewhere down south, playing some golf," he

said. "I played a lot growing up in the summer."

Not only has Flynn been contributing on the scoreboard, he's been the most durable Black Bear in recent memory, playing in a Favre-esque 98 consecutive games.

"I missed my second game my freshman year," Flynn said. "That's all I've missed."

When asked why he's been so imperishable, Flynn laughed it off.

"Maybe I'm not that physical, I'm not sure," Flynn said. "I've been pretty fortunate I haven't really had a serious injury. I'm in pretty good shape I think, I try to take care of myself off the ice. Getting to bed at a reasonable time, eating right, things like that."

Although Flynn may try to hit the hay early, he has opposing coaches losing sleep trying to figure out how to slow him down.

Amy Brooks • Photo Editor

"I missed my second game my freshman year. That's all I've missed."

Brian Flynn
UMaine men's hockey junior forward

The great migration to the East Coast

Two blockbuster trades headline NBA as trade deadline approaches

It's finally over.

The season-long "Melo-drama" involving the next big free agent, Denver Nuggets star forward Carmelo Anthony, was finally resolved



By Jesse Scardina

with a three-team trade involving 12 players.

The New York Knicks received the grand prize with Anthony, along with former All-Star point guard Chauncey Billups, point guard Anthony Carter, forward Renaldo Balkman, center Shelden Williams and guard Corey Brewer from the Minnesota Timberwolves.

The Knicks gutted their team to make this happen, sending to Denver emerging scoring threat forward Wilson Chandler, sharp-shooting forward Danilo Gallinari, point guard Raymond Felton and 7-foot-1-inch center Timofey Mozgov, as well as center Eddy Curry and forward Anthony Randolph to the T-wolves and some picks and cash were thrown towards the Nuggets to make logistics work, as well as T-wolves center Kosta Koufos.

The Knicks have now compiled two very capable parts of their own big three — but have little left to work with afterward.

This is what the Knicks are left with post-Melo trade: A

useful, yet aging point guard in Billups, an over-hyped rookie guard in Landry Fields — the one asset that wasn't traded away — Balkman, who has played in five games this season, 35-year-old journeyman Carter, former Duke lottery pick and bust Williams, end-of-the-bench guard Bill Walker, so-so shooting guard Brewer and energy-guy-off-the-bench center Ronny Turiaf penciled in at starting center.

You thought the Miami Heat's supporting cast was bad — but at least they managed to form a big three.

As for the Knicks? I'm not saying they got hosed, but moving forward they put themselves behind the eight ball in forming their own Big Three.

If there were a winner in this deal it would have to be the Nuggets, but even that's a backhanded compliment. They didn't get nearly the value in return for someone like Anthony, nor did they even get the best deal out there — New Jersey Nets' young forward Derrick Favors and four first-round picks — but when compared to other recent teams who had a superstar bail, they hit the jackpot.

While the Toronto Raptors and Cleveland Cavaliers are still choking on the dust left behind by stars Chris Bosh and LeBron James as they split for South Beach, the Nuggets compiled a hefty load of young assets and substantial cap relief, saving the organization over

\$15 million this season.

There have been early talks that the Nuggets aren't done, with Gallinari drawing interest from the Los Angeles Clippers, and rumors of still working a trade with the Nets, possibly for Mozgov and others.

With reports floating around that Felton could be on the move again, the Nuggets are now looking at extending the contract of their monster in the middle, the Brazilian seven-footer, Nene.

If they're able to do so, while re-signing Chandler — a restricted free agent this sum-

mer — the Nuggets have a solid, young nucleus to work with going forward.

Not to get carried away — it's not a nucleus that will win any championships anytime soon like that of the Oklahoma City Thunder or Chicago Bulls, but they have plenty of flexibility moving forward.

Gallinari has the ability to be a Dirk Nowitzki-type player if he blossoms to his full potential. Chandler can pass as a poor man's Melo, and young point guard Ty Lawson is one of the quickest guards in the league with plenty of room to improve.

In a Western Conference that is growing old quickly, it was smart for the Nuggets to basically give up on the rest of

this season where there were no hopes of an NBA championship, and to look toward the future and see how things break down after the next Collective Bargaining Agreement.

As for the Knicks? I'm not saying they got hosed. If I'm an Eastern Conference team, the Knickerbockers is not a squad I want to see in the first round.

But moving forward, they once again put themselves behind the eight ball. The new rules under a redesigned CBA are expected to be much tighter, and their pipe dream of adding a third superstar in 2012 seems unlikely unless someone wants to take a pay cut.

With main target Chris Paul up for grabs, it seems farfetched to think the Knicks could grab the franchise point guard.

Another potential 2012 Knicks target, point guard Deron Williams, followed 'Melo to the East Coast, but is joining the other potential Anthony suitor, the New Jersey Nets.

The Nets reverted to a private plan B when they failed to land Anthony and sent Favors, point guard Devin Harris and two first round picks to the Utah Jazz for the star guard.

If they happen to accomplish the impossible and acquire a star point guard such as Paul, while not doing more considerable damage to their future, then they form as formidable a threesome as you can in today's NBA.

If not? Then the Knicks remain where they have been virtually my entire life: NBA irrelevancy.



File photo

Junior running back Jared Turcotte compiled over 900 yards in 2008, the last season he was fully healthy. Turcotte will not be returning to the Black Bears' squad in 2011.

Turcotte from B6

After four extremely successful years at Lewiston High School, Turcotte came to UMaine to continue a football career.

After his red shirt season, Turcotte exploded with 625 yards, seven touchdowns and added 25 catches for an additional 285 yards and another touchdown. His play led to an All-American Second Team selection by the Sports Network and a preseason All-American First Team selection by the Sports Network.

However, Turcotte was not able to build off his successful season as he missed the entire 2009 campaign due to a knee injury.

Looking to come back at full strength this past season, Turcotte played in just six games.

"It was both exciting and disappointing," Cosgrove wrote about Turcotte's time on the field. "He was a key contributor to our great success in 2008. We are guilty of thinking that would

continue, but this game can be cruel, especially when injuries crop up."

This past December, Turcotte had his third knee surgery and fifth operation overall since becoming a Black Bear, and in the following months made the decision to transfer.

"It took a while to come up with the decision," Turcotte said. "There was no exact date, but it was early February when I decided."

While considering the decision, Turcotte consulted the people that mattered to him most.

"I talked to friends, my mom, my wife and my grandfather," he said.

Turcotte's new goal is to get his medical degree, hopefully at Bates College in his hometown of Lewiston, Maine. He wants to become an orthopedic surgeon and help prevent athletes who may be injured from losing out on their dreams.

"That's an accurate statement," Turcotte said of finding solace in surgery. "I'll always be around athletics."

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UMaine drops Vermont

Black Bears wrap up the home season with a win, 65-56

By Jesse Scardina
Sports Editor

In their last home game of the season, the University of Maine women's basketball team found the perfect way to say thanks to their lone senior, guard Tanna Ross.

With a win. The Black Bears halted their 10-game losing streak Sunday, defeating the University of Vermont 65-56 at Alfond Arena.

Despite being down double-digits early in the second half, the Black Bears fought back to gain the victory.

The Catamounts were up early, but the Black Bears brought the game and gained the lead on a layup by junior guard Brittany Williams, 17-16.

The Catamounts went up six after a bucket by junior forward Samantha Baranowski, but back-to-back three pointers by the Catamounts tied things up. Vermont stayed hot, ending the half on a 16-4 run to take a 35-29 lead into the break.

Freshman guard Ashleigh Roberts led the Black Bears at the break with 10 points, while Baranowski chimed in with nine.

As the lead grew to 10, the Black Bears countered with a 9-0 run that was capped with a three by Williams. The Catamounts followed that up with a jumper, but sophomore guard Katelyn Vanderhoff drained a three to tie things up.

With the game tied and just under 3 minutes remaining, the Black Bears produced another



Amy Brooks • Photo Editor

Sophomore guard Katelyn Vanderhoff finished with a game-high 17 points in the win over the University of New Hampshire on Sunday.

substantial run, outscoring the Catamounts 10-1 down the

eight points for the Black Bears, finishing with a game-high 17 points, nine rebounds and six steals. Ross finished with 10 points in her final home game.

After losing to the University of New Hampshire Wednesday night, the Black Bears wrap their season up at the University of Albany Feb. 26 at 2 p.m.



UMaine vs. UVM
65-56
Alfond Arena



stretch to secure the 65-56 victory. Vanderhoff scored the final

neyman Javier Vazquez back in early December, which completes a sound 1-2-3 combo that should have no problem producing an adequate amount of wins for this team to finish behind the Phillies and the Braves.

4. Washington Nationals — Last Year: 5th Place, 28 GB, (69-93)

Most say the Nationals will be at the bottom once again this year, but Washington aren't as bad as they look, and certainly not after a few moves from this offseason. First baseman Adam Dunn will be missed in D.C. after accepting a pricey contract from the Chicago White Sox — the All-Star led the Nats' 2010

rently more focused on ownership, managerial positions and payroll to stay focused on the team's present success.

This is undoubtedly a transitional year — as each since has been for New York since 2006. The club hired their third manager in four years, Terry Collins, for 2011, replacing Jerry "The Sage" Manuel, who held a 204-212 record over the past three seasons.

The bulk of the offense will be produced by the Mets core that has been playing in New York for at least the past five years: five-time All-Stars outfielder Carlos Beltran and third baseman David Wright and three-time All Star shortstop

1. Philadelphia Phillies, 99-63

2. Atlanta Braves, 95-67

3. Florida Marlins, 81-81

4. Washington Nationals, 71-91

5. New York Mets, 70-92

season in home runs and RBIs.

Third baseman Ryan Zimmerman returns as last year's leader in batting average, on-base-percentage and hits. Zimmerman will be joined by former Phillies phenom Werth, 14-time All-Star catcher Ivan Rodriguez and journeyman first baseman Adam LaRoche — which gives the Nats' lineup a reputable stature.

On the mound, the Nats aren't in good hands, but overall, the rotation could be worse. Livan Hernandez is a two-time All-Star and a complete workhorse — the 36-year-old is a two-time league leader in completed games and a three-time league leader in innings pitched.

5. New York Mets — Last Year: 4th Place, 18 GB, (79-83)

The Mets accomplished close to nothing this offseason, which is one reason why they'll be finishing dead last. The other reason: The organization is cur-

However, the two recent victories make it three-in-a-row for the Black Bears who, if they are in fact peaking, are doing so at the right time.

"It was great to get some consistent results both nights," Whitehead said. "We played well on the weekend."

The one place where the Black Bears have been relatively consistent is on the offense side of the puck. In the last game against the River Hawks, senior center Tanner House and junior forward Brian Flynn each joined fellow line-mate, junior forward Gustav Nyquist in the prestigious 100-point club.

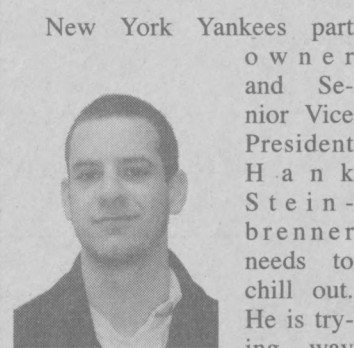
Nyquist has been the focal point of the offense lately, as the former Hobey Baker nominee had trouble finding the net early in the season, but the Swede has scored nine goals in his last six games — the best scoring stretch of his career.

The Black Bears certainly have a tough test with the No. 4 Warriors this weekend, but Whitehead believes that all his team needs to do is focus on them.

"In the game we need to focus on playing one period at a time and bringing our very best to the table. If we do that, good things will happen for us."

New Steinbrenner not like the old

Second generation of Yankees owners falter with players



By Lucas Thomas

It's obvious by the way his players have responded to his recent comments that there's not much respect going around the Yankee clubhouse for their co-owner.

That has been the case since Hank and his brother Hal took over for their late father in 2007. Recently, Hank Steinbrenner came out in the media and said that some of his players were "too busy building mansions" to focus on last year's ALCS — presumably in response to shortstop Derek Jeter's new home in Tampa Bay, Fla.

Steinbrenner would continue to spew by implying that the Yankees suffered a 2010 hangover by focusing too much on

their 2009 title. It is ironic how his comments about last year's team come on the eve of a fresh 2011 season.

Forced to respond, Jeter took the high road — although his comments carried plenty of annoyance — saying that he didn't feel Steinbrenner was singling him out personally. This isn't necessarily as true as it is politically correct. Actually, Jeter didn't want to validate Steinbrenner's idiocy with any legitimate response, instead worrying about a Boston Red Sox team that has reloaded in a big way this off-season. At least the people who matter for New York have their minds right.

George Steinbrenner was a man who built the Yankees into the modern dynasty they have become. It wasn't necessarily in high favor all the time, but hard work eventually yielded a string of enduring success. This all came at the time Jeter entered the league, and he realized what Steinbrenner meant to the game and to the most storied franchise in sports. The two men had a deep mutual respect, and after the 2009 championship, Jeter's first shout-out was dedicating the trophy to

The Boss. Steinbrenner always did it his way and it worked.

Now, one half of Steinbrenner's spawned-off co-owner duo seems to not quite grasp what that means. He surely is doing it like no other owner in the game, but that's just because the other 29 guys choose not to criticize their own players weeks before the season starts. He doesn't really do much heavy lifting behind the scenes. If the Yanks lure a free agent or make a savvy move, it's because of his brother Hal and General Manager Brian Cashman.

Hank just provides the press clippings that give people like me something to write about. I actually can't believe I fell into the trap.

Reports like this show just how desperate we all are for the season to finally begin. That way, people like Hank Steinbrenner can reluctantly be shoved back into their offices.

Maybe while he's there he can stroll into his brother's office to see how business is handled, so he can get over the square footage of his players' homes and find a fifth starter for his pitching staff.

The chase for Lord Stanley's Cup

Flyers flying in the East; Canucks and Red Wings top West

It has been a long winter for folks in the Northeast, but the end of February — and the start of spring break — is almost here to rescue the masses from the grasp of Maine winter.



By Matthew Soucy

It might be pertinent to point out there is some fine print to the above statement, as I am basing it off of the "Science" of Groundhog Day.

I don't normally put a whole lot of faith in the actions of a groundhog, but after a Nor'easter of a winter, I have jumped ship and put my faith in Punxsutawney Phil.

The town of Punxsutawney will have to clean roadkill off of Main Street if Phil lets me down after he predicted only two more weeks of winter on Feb. 2, but I am digressing and threatening the life of a groundhog. My point: The NHL season is now approximately 60 games deep, which means it is that time of year to pick Stanley Cup Finals favorites.

I have yet to stick my neck out on the Stanley Cup and make any type of a prediction, so how better to start than picking the team that has to be the Cup Final favorite for their conference right now?

The Eastern Conference is the easier of the two to pick the favorite for the cup at the moment.

The Philadelphia Flyers. It's so simple, I gave the Flyers their own sentence, much to the dismay of my computer's grammar check.

The Flyers' 84 points are second only to the Vancouver Canucks' 85, and their 39 wins are the most in the NHL — yes, Philadelphia has won more games than Vancouver and the Detroit Red Wings. That says something this season, as both Detroit and Vancouver are powerhouses, but we'll get to them later.

There is more to this pick than just wins, as that would be far too simple-minded. The Flyers' plus-46 goal differential leads the East, and their offense is deadly, tallying the most goals in the conference. The Flyers don't rely on one

or two players to provide their offense, making them a defensive coach's nightmare.

Including the addition of Kris Versteeg, a huge addition of a proven winner, the Flyers now have seven players with 37 points or higher. Four of these players — Claude Giroux, Jeff Carter, Danny Briere and Mike Richards — have 50-plus points on the season. Another six players on the Philadelphia roster have chipped in 20 points or more, making them an incredibly balanced team.

The Flyers' defense should not be overlooked in the shadow of their offensive power casts. All six members of the Flyers' plus-minus — something that will surely not change with veteran Chris Pronger anchoring them.

The biggest surprise for

ferent story, and coach Mike Babcock has the experience to get the Red Wings through the grind of the playoffs. Babcock has a Stanley Cup ring and crushed American hockey fans by leading Team Canada to the Olympic Gold Medal. Helping Detroit's case, the team is loaded with talent.

Just like the Flyers, the Red Wings possess balance throughout their line-up. Henrik Zetterberg is having a dominant season; his 48 assists are third in the league and his 66 points are tied for fifth in the NHL. The Red Wings compliment Zetterberg with three 40-point scorers you may have heard about in Pavel Datsyuk, Nicklas Lidstrom and Johan Franzen. Detroit has seven more players who have added at least 24 points this season. In reality, Detroit may be more balanced than the Flyers, but

Vancouver's numbers are sexy — Megan Fox in "Transformers" sexy — but an injury riddled defensive unit and the Canucks traditional playoff woes worry me.

the Flyers is the goaltending of Sergei Bobrovsky and Brian Boucher. Bobrovsky's 2.45 goals against average and 91 percent save percentage combined with Boucher's 2.26 GAA and 92 percent save percentage has provided the Flyers with solid goaltending on their way to becoming my pick as the Eastern Conference favorite.

I hate being the writer who plucks teams from the top of the standing board and calls them the favorite, but that's the way this season has played. This season has provided three teams that are a notch above the rest; I talked about Philly, but inconveniently for me Detroit and Vancouver are first and second in the West. What a dilemma this is to pick a favorite to represent the Western Conference in the Stanley Cup Finals.

It would be easy to pick Vancouver as the favorite in the West but I have to pick Detroit to punch the ticket to the cup.

Vancouver's numbers are sexy — Megan Fox in "Transformers" sexy — but an injury-riddled defensive unit and the Canucks' traditional playoff woes worry me they have lost back-to-back semi-final series after solid seasons.

Detroit is a completely dif-

this doesn't matter right now.

In the playoffs, experience especially on defense is crucial. A defensive core that revolves around Lidstrom and Brian Rafalski provides a combined 28 seasons, seven Stanley Cup Rings and Olympic Gold and Silver medals. That's the type of leadership that can carry a team defensively to the Stanley Cup.

Adding to it, Jimmy Howard just seems to keep finding ways to win games for the Red Wings and leads the NHL in wins this season. With a consistent 90 percent save percentage, and 2.79 goals against average, this big-game goalie can back the solid defense to the promised land.

The main reason I picked the Red Wings goes back to the coaching of Babcock. It seems the brighter the spotlight on the game, the better his game plan is and the better he makes on-the-fly changes. A big-game coach combined with a solid goalie who enjoys the spotlight, and a high octane offense make the Red Wings my Western Conference favorite.

There it is on the record — my crystal ball says Philadelphia vs. Detroit in the Stanley Cup Finals. I can only hope these two teams live up to all the hype.

MLB from B6

Closer Billy Wagner, who was fifth in the NL last year with 37 saves, retired at the end of the season, leaving the Braves in need of a new replacement. The 39-year-old's expected successor: promising strikeout-whiz rookie Craig Kimbrel, who posted a ratio of 17.4 K's per nine innings in his short time last season.

Former Marlins manager Fredi Gonzalez will be a fit replacement for the now-retired Bobby Cox because of his previous relations with newcomer Uggla. Expect the Braves to stay in good contention with the Phillies and lock up the NL Wild Card spot.

3. Florida Marlins — Last Year: 3rd Place, 17 GB, (80-82)

The Marlins are young — the second youngest team in the MLB to be exact — but there is hope for a team on the rise. The loss of Uggla, who led the team in home runs, RBIs and hits last season, is a giant blow and will surely hurt the team's offense, but a beneficial offseason, which mainly went under the radar, could be the key to the Fish's success in 2011.

The Marlins added Infante from Atlanta and filled a hole at catcher by signing former Blue Jay All-Star John Buck to a three-year contract worth \$18 million last November. Three-time All-Star shortstop Hanley Ramirez, who led Florida in batting average and on-base percentage last season, will become the team's new leader and first baseman Gaby Sanchez will continue to construct his hopeful career.

As for pitching, the Marlins return two-time All-Star ace Josh Johnson, who was last year's NL ERA leader with 2.30, and 2010 14-game winning pitcher Ricky Nolasco. Florida also inked a one-year deal with All-Star jour-

Hockey from B6

fore," Whitehead said. "It was wishful thinking on my part. He had a great week of practice and was very prepared [vs. UMass Lowell]."

The two wins helped right a ship that was heading in the wrong direction. The Black Bears had been inconsistent since beating top-five mainstay Boston College Jan. 16. Following that victory, the Black Bears went an underwhelming 1-4-2, and fell all the way to the high teens in the national rankings.

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Sports

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TEASER

Women's basketball wins

Victory halts 10-game losing streak

B5



SCOREBOARD

Men's b-ball (Tues.) 70 53 UNH
Celtics (Tues.) 115 93 Warriors

Bruins (Tues.) 3 1 Flames
Womens's b-ball (Wed.) 40 57 UNH

"I wanted to come to a winning school with a tradition."

UMaine men's hockey junior forward Brian Flynn

COLUMN

NBA shaken prior to trade deadline

Two top stars switch teams, conferences

B4



Men's hockey hosts Merrimack in last home series

Black Bears middling in Hockey East standings, doubtful for home playoff

By Jesse Scardina
Sports Editor

With only two weekends remaining in the University of Maine men's hockey regular season, the Black Bears look secure in the Hockey East playoff hunt. Unless they win out, they will travel in the first round of the conference tournament.

One team they could meet in that first round is the same team visiting Alford Arena this weekend — Merrimack College.

The Warriors are 21-5-4 overall and 15-5-3 in HEC, and have been on fire since the new year. The Warriors have gone 13-1 since 2011, including a 7-2 drubbing of the Black Bears on Jan. 8.

The Warriors have scored at least five goals in six of their 14 games in 2011, including an 11-2 pounding of the University of Massachusetts.

That offense has been spread around, with five players in double digit goal totals. Leading the way is junior forward Jesse Todd with 16 visits to the Red Light District

thus far.

Senior forward Chris Barton and sophomore forward Stephane Da Costa each have 13 goals, along with 21 and 23 assists respectively.

"We can't focus on results [right now]," UMaine head coach Tim Whitehead said. "We need to focus on effort and execution leading up to the games."

It's that effort and execution that helped lead freshman goalie Dan Sullivan back between the pipes. After a rocky return from injury against the University of Vermont where he let up three quick goals and was scrapped for fellow freshman Martin Ouellette, Sullivan turned things around to shut out the University of Massachusetts Lowell two nights in a row, 4-0 and 3-0.

The two victories earned Sullivan Hockey East Player of the Week, his second weekly award of the season after he won HEC Rookie of the Week on Nov. 1.

"I probably rushed [Sullivan] back too quickly the weekend be-

See Hockey on B5



Amy Brooks • Photo Editor

Junior forward Gustav Nyquist looks to continue his scoring tear against the Merrimack College Warriors this weekend in the final home series of the season.

Black Bears turn it around at UNH

Men's basketball halt 6-game losing streak with 70-53 drubbing of Wildcats

By Jesse Scardina
Sports Editor

The University of Maine men's basketball team were finally able to stop the bleeding, halting their losing streak at six with a victory at the University of New Hampshire, 70-53.

Senior center Sean McNally continued his superb play, finishing with 14 points and nine rebounds, while junior guard Gerald McLemore managed to score a season-high 26 points without hitting a three.

The Black Bears improve to 15-13 overall and 9-6 in America East play, comfortably in third place. The Black Bears could move to second if they win against the University of Albany and Boston University lose their final two games. The Wildcats drop to 12-16 and 6-9 in AEC.

Senior forward Troy Barnies put the Black Bears up early with two quick baskets and a nice dish to McNally.

With six minutes remaining in the half, the Black Bears started to pull away, stretching a six-point lead to double-digits at the break, 35-25.

McLemore had 12 of his 26 at halftime, while Barnies chimed in with six points and four rebounds.

The Black Bears went back to their defensive ways in the first half, confusing the Wildcats with a blend of man-to-man, full-court pressure and a 2-3 zone. The Wildcats shot just 41.7 percent in the first half, while the Black Bears connected on over half of their shots.

Midway through the second half, senior forward Malachi Peay caught the Wildcats off guard with a beautiful over-the-shoulder pass to a wide-open Barnies to stretch the lead to 18 at 54-36.

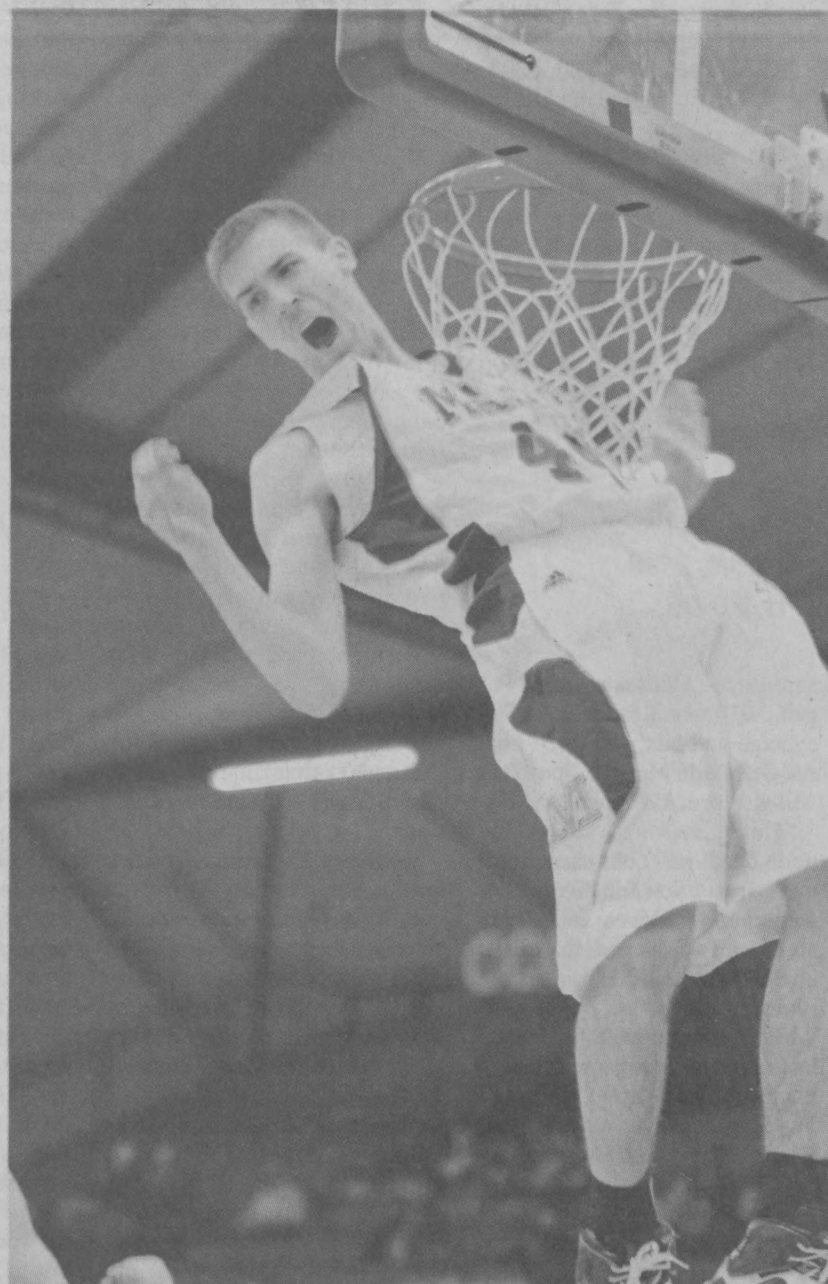
Freshman center Alasdair Fraser brought the lead to 21 with an up-and-under layup with 7 minutes remaining. The Scottish native finished with eight points off the bench.

The teams would exchange baskets toward the end, as the buzzer sounded on a 70-53 UMaine victory.

McLemore finished 7-16 from the floor and a perfect 12-12 from the line, yet missed all five of his three-pointers he attempted.

Wildcats' senior guard Tyrone Conley led UNH with 16 points, while senior center Dane DiLiegro posted the only double-double with 14 points and 11 rebounds.

The Black Bears cap off their regular season against the Great Danes on Feb. 27 at 2 p.m.



Amy Brooks • Photo Editor

Sophomore center Mike Allison and the Black Bears broke their losing streak at the University of New Hampshire, 70-53.

MLB preview 2011: National League East

To wrap up the National League's coverage inside the 2011 MLB season preview series, we look at the NL East division.



By Liam Nee

1. Philadelphia

Phillies — Last Year: 1st Place, (97-65)

Last season's "Year of the Pitcher" really showed just how dominating hurlers on the mound have become recently. The freakish 2010 season saw five different pitchers complete no-hit performances — two of which qualified as perfect games.

Phillies ace and two-time Cy Young award-winning pitcher Roy Halladay, who was one of the two who pitched perfect games during last year's regular season, continued his dominance into the postseason by throwing the league's second no-hitter in playoff history against the Cincinnati Reds in Game 1 of the 2010 NL Divisional Series. Halladay is already considered baseball's best pitcher, and this offseason, Philadelphia decided to add the league's second best in former-Phillie and 2008 AL Cy Young award winning pitcher Cliff Lee.

All-Star pitchers Roy Oswalt and Cole Hamels will join Halladay and Lee for arguably the greatest starting rotation baseball has ever seen — even better than the '98 Atlanta Braves quintet of Greg Maddux, Tom Glavine, Denny Neagle, Kevin Millwood and John Smoltz.

The ace-stacked Phillies tandem had a combined total of 58 wins and 808 strikeouts last season, with an earned run average of 2.86. And just when opponents think they may have a chance at taking a game in the late innings, Philadelphia struts out closer Brad Lidge, baseball's all-time leader in strikeouts per nine innings.

As for offense this offseason, Philadelphia unfortunately took a major hit when 31-year-old All-Star Jayson Werth departed to division-rival Washington for \$126 million — leaving the team without a right fielder and a line-up punch behind three-time All-Star first baseman Ryan Howard.

Regardless of the loss, the Phillies still have an above average lineup highlighted by Howard, five-time All-Star second baseman Chase Utley, former NL MVP shortstop Jimmy Rollins and All-Star infielder Placido Polanco.

Expect there to be a close race for the top spot between Philadelphia and Atlanta but as long as the Phillies can keep this rotation healthy and consistent, there's no telling how far they will go — certainly an early favorite for the NL World Series spot.

2. Atlanta Braves — Last Year: 2nd Place, 6 GB, (91-71)

This talented team will be nothing but trouble for the Phillies — all season long and potentially deep into the playoffs. The Braves possess a solid batting lineup that features two-time All-Star second baseman Dan Uggla, who was welcomed into Atlanta after a trade with the Florida Marlins last December. He will likely replace recently released journeyman Troy Glaus, who has decided to sit out the start of the 2011 year.

Last June, the Braves organization was approached by 18-year franchise-face third baseman Chipper Jones, who was contemplating retirement at the time after suffering a season-ending ACL tear in his left knee. Luckily for Atlanta, roughly nine months later, the six-time All-Star is back at spring training and only expected to miss the first week or so.

Jones, Uggla and five-time All-Star catcher Brian McCann will lead this team's offense along with up-and-coming star outfielder Jason Heyward. Perhaps the most significant loss for Atlanta was the exiting of outfielder Omar Infante, who produced the third best batting average in the NL last season with a .321. The Venezuelan took his talents to South Beach after being involved with the Uggla trade.

The rotation is far Philadelphia's, but it's certainly respectable. Fourteen-year veteran righty Derek Lowe will be the team's ace, followed by 2010 17-game winner and three-time All-Star Tim Lincecum, second-year pitcher Tommy Hanson and 25-year-old hurler Jair Jurrjens.

See MLB on B5

Star UM tailback done with football

Junior Jared Turcotte sites injuries, family as reasons to transfer schools

By Jesse Scardina
Sports Editor

It's an aspiring athlete's worst fear. It's something you never bring up while throwing around a Nerf football and diving on your bed to catch it, impersonating your favorite football player.

It's not something you consciously think about, but it's an alarming concern every time you step onto the field, court or diamond: injury.

Not the occasional bump and

bruise — that's just playing hurt. An injury is worse. With an injury comes the thought of losing that burst, cut or athleticism. It

Black Bear junior running back Jared Turcotte recently decided to transfer schools and stop chasing the NFL dream.

"Obviously my family comes before anything and it's more important than football. There's no question it was the right thing to do."

Jared Turcotte
Former running back UMaine football

happens at all levels of competition, even here at the University of Maine.

"It wasn't easy," Turcotte said of making his decision. "Obviously, my family comes

before anything and it's more important than football. There's no question it was the right thing to do."

"Jared and I spoke only about the football part of the decision," UMaine football head coach Jack Cosgrove wrote in an e-mail. "After his postseason knee surgery, he came to the conclusion that it may be time to stop playing."

Turcotte started at UMaine in 2007 as a red shirt freshman.

See Turcotte on B4