

Fall 11-11-1977

# Maine Campus November 11 1977

Maine Campus Staff

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Weekend

# Maine Campus

Vol. 83, No. 19, Friday, November 11, 1977

## Petition leader expects drinking drive success

by Dan Warren

Maine young people will collect enough petition signatures the day of Dec. 5 referendum to request an 18-20 drinking age split from the state legislature this winter, the leader of the statewide petition drive predicted Monday.

Peter Brann, head of Citizens for a Sensible Alternative, said student volunteers would be placed outside polling booths across the state to solicit some 30,000 signatures from among the 300,000 persons expected to vote on the referendum issues.

The petitioners need 37,000 signatures by "around March 1" to request an "18-20 split" from the legislature. That would allow 18-year-olds to purchase alcohol in bars or restaurants, but not at take-out places. One reason legislators raised the drinking age last winter was because they were concerned about 18-year-olds buying beer for minors.

Speaker of the Maine House of Representatives John L. Martin (D-Eagle Lake) told a group of Democrats at UMO Saturday that the legislature would look "favorably" upon legislation calling for an 18-20 split this winter. If the legislature refuses to act on the request, said Brann, it will go to a statewide referendum in November, 1978.

Brann's group failed to get the 37,000 signatures it needed by Oct. 25 to get on the February referendum ballot that 18-year-olds be allowed to drink in all places.

But Brann said the group also circulated the "18-20 split" petition this fall and gained 7,000 signatures that will go toward the March 1 goal of 37,000.

"Our success hinges simply on whether we get the student volunteers to collect signatures on referendum day," Brann said. "We've got 7,000 left over from this fall's drive, but need more."

"We're going to put people at polling booths in the 52 biggest cities and towns in Maine and we should be able to do it all right."

"This is do-or-die day," Brann continued. "If students don't get to work

this time, they can just take their 20-year-old drinking age and keep it."

These signatures must be turned into the Secretary of State's office 50 days after the legislature convenes, probably March 1 or so," Brann said.

UMO General Student Senator Jay Cromarty (Off-Campus) told student senators at their Tuesday night meeting that Brann's group has "a real good chance" to reach its signature goal on Dec. 5, but that it needs student help.

Cromarty hailed the financial backing of the Maine liquor industry.

"They sat back and did nothing during the last petition drive," Cromarty said. "They realized they can't do that this time around."

About 150 students are needed to help, he said.

## University blamed

by Deborah Strumello

The Orono Town Council was urged at a Monday night meeting to encourage new housing in the area by considering the reduction of the minimum lot size for rental projects, among other things.

The urging came as part of a recommendation by a 12-member housing study committee commissioned by the council. The study dealt with all phases of housing in Orono, an area with a high demand for rental units and an insufficient supply.

The present zoning laws require a minimum of 20 acres (8 hectares) for a housing project, but Marc Schnur, town manager, said the problem with a reduction would be aesthetic.

"We have a certain amount of open space with housing projects; if we reduce the amount of land required, it doesn't look nice," he said.

The report also urges the council to pass an ordinance requiring the town to check all rental units for potential hazards. The town has been getting a lot of complaints about "substandard housing," Schnur said, but added it has been a difficult thing to track down.

He said he would like the town to conduct ongoing inspections as a reaction to students' complaints.

As far as he is aware, Schnur said, there is not much substandard housing. However, there is older housing in the area, he said.

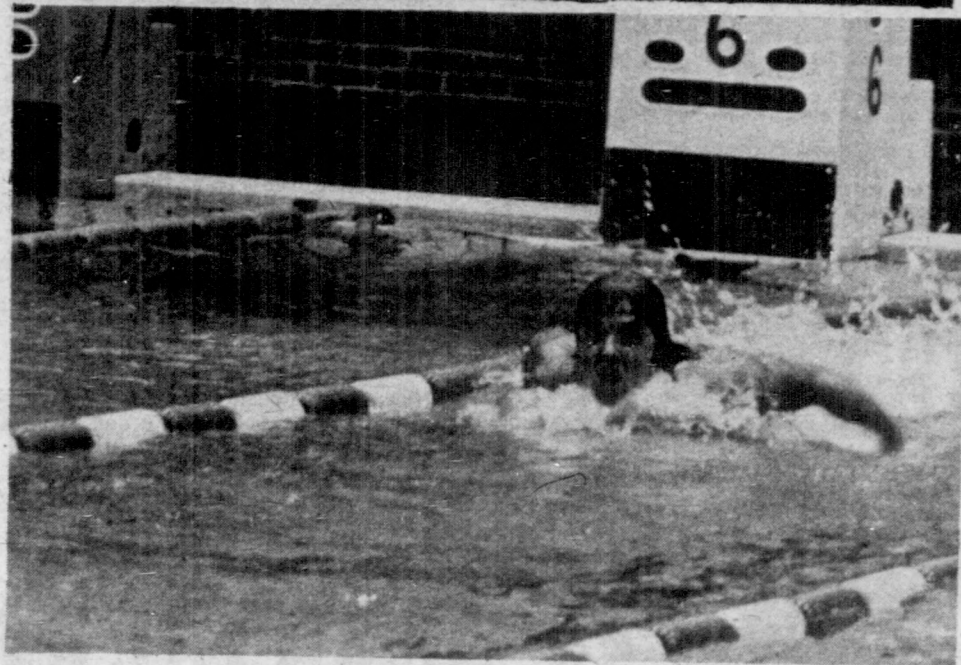
The study recommended that the town encourage new housing in its "residential" zone. This is an area off Park Street, where the town has recently installed sewers to "encourage building," Schnur said.

A private developer, Harold I. Hill of Bangor, has recently submitted a plan for a student housing development to be built in this zone.

As to what the town has actually done to encourage housing in the area, Schnur said a 30-unit elderly housing project is going up on Mill Street. While he admitted this would not do much to ease the student housing shortage, he said the town had to be concerned with the entire housing problem.

The committee places much of the blame for the housing shortage on the university.

"Unfortunately," the study says, "the university has failed to provide sufficient



## Warming up

As pre-season preparation kicks off another winter of sports action, the Maine Campus will tackle a close-up look at swimming, basketball, wrestling and other winter athletics with a special sports section to appear next issue.

## Orono housing found deficient

housing for single as well as married students...We regret that this lack of action has resulted in this most significant housing dilemma in the town."

The study goes on to recommend that the university do more to provide housing for its students. Schnur said that the obvious solution to him seemed to be for the university to build more dormitories.

"Part of the problem," he said, "is triples and overcrowded dormitories are unattractive to students and more want to live off campus."

Schnur said he was not aware that off-campus housing had always been a problem in Orono. "I don't know what the average student is looking for," he said.

James F. Horan, council chairman, said no one from the town has approached the university about its role in easing the housing problem.

Schnur said he would hope that there would be some communication sometime soon.

In a related matter, Schnur said he received a letter from Darrell Cooper of Property Investments, a Bangor firm, requesting that the council write a letter supporting the company's application to construct a subsidized housing project in Orono.

Schnur said he has written a letter to Cooper requesting more information on the firm before he decides to take any action.

## 'Better deal' sparks idea for student-operated bank

by Ken Holmes

The student government has begun work on establishing an on-campus bank for students, it was learned Wednesday.

Student Government President Michael K. McGovern and secretary Phil Spalding confirmed that they will attempt to establish either a student-owned and operated bank or credit union, or an outside bank or credit union on campus.

Both McGovern and Spalding said they would like to have the service located someplace in the Memorial Union. They also said they both prefer establishing the service so that it is student-controlled.

McGovern said banking is "a service that is greatly needed. In the past, students have come in and asked us what the possibilities for this service would be."

Both said the number of student savings and checking accounts in local banks is increasing. And both cited statistics showing that many other universities have student-run credit unions.

"They're happening and they're successful," Spalding said of similar efforts at other universities. "We can solve a lot of student problems by doing this."

Spalding also said that either a bank or credit union, if student-controlled, could have direct benefits for the student government. "I think we can get a better deal if our money is being used by a non-profit organization," he said.

A student-run bank or credit union could also promote investment of money in areas that would better benefit students—such as housing—than do local banks, Spalding said.

Currently, the only on-campus banking service offered to students is the check-cashing service in the University Bookstore, which cashes an estimated \$4 million in checks annually. According to bookstore manager Thomas Cole, the service is located in the bookstore mostly because of tradition.

Cole indicated that he would support establishment of a bank outside of the bookstore. Many students aren't happy with the long lines they often encounter while trying to cash checks, he said. "My impression from hearing students is that it's one area where they'd like to see something done."

McGovern said the idea for a bank isn't a new one. The idea has been informally considered on numerous occasions, he said, and the current work began when, "we decided it was time to sit and give some serious discussion to the idea."

Spalding said he began work on the proposal this week by contacting other universities that already have student banking services, and by asking the Student Legal Services to look into the legal requirements of establishing a bank. (continued on page 2)

## 'Drug scene' to continue

Much of the large quantity of drugs at UMO is picked up from ships in small harbors along Maine's coast and brought back for sale and consumption on-campus, many students theorize.

And this business is reportedly a lucrative one for UMO student drug dealers.

FBI agents have expressed concern that the small, hidden coves of Maine's coast are "ideal" for drug smuggling. And in Tuesday's issue, Campus staff writer Terry Lombard will take a look at this coastal drug dilemma and how it might affect UMO.

How drugs get to UMO, how much student dealers sell them for and what UMO police are doing to stop it: all this will appear Tuesday in Part II of "The UMO drug scene."



# LOWDOWN

Friday, November 11

7 and 9 p.m., The Many Personalities of David Frye, Hauck Auditorium, sponsored by MUAB.

Saturday, November 12

Bluegrass Dance/Concert featuring Fort Knox Volunteers, 8-12 p.m., at Stodder Cafeteria, admission 50 cents, sponsored by SCAB.

7 and 9:30 p.m., MUAB movie, "All the President's Men," Hauck Auditorium.

Soapbox derby, noon at Hilltop complex

Contradance, Stewart Commons, 8:00 p.m., with the Stairwell String Band, admission 25 cents.

Sunday, November 13

UMO Motor Club auto slalom, 11:00 a.m., steam plant parking lot. All cars eligible.

7 p.m., MUAB science fiction film festival: "Voyage to the End of the Universe" and Flash Gordon serial, 101 English-Math building.

Public Skating at the Alford Arena, 9-10 p.m.

## ● Opposition expected to meet bank

(continued from page 1)

According to Spalding, establishment of a full-service bank would probably require that a substantial amount of money be raised for the bank's initial operating capital.

Establishment of a student controlled and operated credit union, however, wouldn't be as difficult, both McGovern and Spalding said. Spalding said the federal government recently has helped student organizations at other universities to establish credit unions.

Concerning possible difficulties in starting a student-run credit union or bank, Spalding said he anticipates possible opposition from UMO administration. "Starting a bank or credit union adds power and credibility to any organization," he said. "I think that the administration might have a lot of reservations."

However he doesn't expect to encounter and problems from state or federal regulations, Spalding said.

Spalding said his research shows that student-run banks—and especially credit unions—aren't unusual at other universities. He cited a survey of 117 universities

done earlier this year by the University of Massachusetts student government. Of the 117 universities, 27 had student credit unions.

## No Friday afternoon finals

No final examinations will be scheduled for the Friday afternoon of finals week, Dec. 23, UMO Vice president of Academic Affairs James A. Clark said Wednesday.


Clark said UMO President Howard R. Neville "has requested that as few students as possible be scheduled for exams on Friday afternoon, since that day is the day before Christmas Eve."

Last year, tests that had been scheduled for Friday afternoon had to be moved back to the preceding Saturday, Clark noted.

Next week, the registrar's office will begin mailing copies of final examinations to faculty and students living in dormitories and fraternities. Off-campus students will be able to get copies in Wingate Hall.

Finals week will begin Monday, Dec. 19 at 8 a.m. and will end with 10:30 a.m. tests Friday, Dec. 23.

Clark said some students would have conflicting exams due to the great number of student tests the computer must program. But, he said, the registrar's office can alleviate those conflicts.



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by Ken

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# E-M building: needs minor work

by Ken Holmes

A janitor in the English-Math building tells passersby that the facility is slipping into the mud. Someday, if his predictions hold true, the world will have not only the leaning tower of Pisa but the leaning building of Orono.

The same janitor alleges shoddy construction has resulted in a building that leaks more often than not.

But as the English-Math building nears its second full year of use, the janitor's report is in the minority. Physical Plant Director Alan Lewis, whose department is responsible for maintenance and upkeep of UMO buildings, terms English-Math "a fine facility."

"We're happy with the design, construction and operation of the building," says Lewis, whose views are echoed by those who work in the building.

English department secretary Marilyn Emerick says feedback she receives from people in her department indicates that "they like the building very much."

According to Emerick, few reports have filtered her way of leaks, drafts or the like in the building. And in her overall assessment of the building she concludes "I know I like it."

A math department secretary reports similar contentment with the English-Math building. "I haven't seen any leaks or anything like that," she says, adding that she's heard no complaints from math department personnel either.

But while employees in the English-Math building express their contentment, watermarks which evidence leaks can be seen in several locations in the building. The most visible are in the facility's main lobby, just outside its two lecture halls.

Lewis admits the roof over the lobby has leaked, but says the leaks weren't caused by any major problems in the roof. And he says that the contractors who built the

facility have fixed the leaks at their own expense.

According to Lewis, "we haven't had any major problems with the building." He terms such incidences as the roof leaks as "routine break-in problems," which he says are common to all new facilities.

In addition to the roof repairs, workmen were also seen earlier this fall working on the English-Math building's windows.

According to Lewis, the workers were physical plant employees doing the final calking and waterproofing of the facility's windows.

Lewis says the building's contractors advised that "sealing of the building should be done after a year of weather." The delay, he says, allows the weather to wash off construction smears from the building's masonry surface.

The repairs were paid for out of English-Math's original capital construction budget, according to Lewis.

The favorable assessment of the English-Math building to date comes less than a month before Maine voters decide whether to approve a bond that would raise money for use in completing the facility's fourth floor.

Voters Dec. 5 will decide on the question in referendum balloting. Completion of the building, according to Lewis, will cost \$150,000. The referendum question affecting the building also asks Maine voters to approve bonds totaling almost \$6 million for several other construction projects at UMaine campuses.

The \$150,000 would allow for the construction of another 22 offices, four seminar rooms and three classrooms on English-Math's fourth floor.

Already housed in the building are nine classrooms, several labs, offices for both the English and math departments, 46 faculty offices, a 350-seat auditorium and a 100-seat lecture hall.

Original funding for the building came in 1972 from a \$1.9 million bond. The Maine Legislature later appropriated \$560,000 for construction of the adjacent computer center.

Should Maine voters approve the current bond issue, the English-Math facility will not only be completed, but might get a name as well. According to UMO Vice President John Blake, the holdup in naming the facility has been the university's policy against naming unfinished buildings.

## CINEMETTE THEATRES

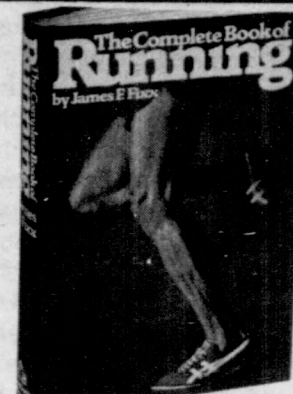
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# Quiet obstinance

editorial

Times change. Where once violent political action was the likely recourse for students faced with social challenges and stifling cultural standards, American college communities nowadays are often labeled apathetic, even though standards still shift and challenges are still made. Illegal wars and immoral drafts have been replaced with the equally important social issues such as inflation, corporate elitism and the contamination of the world's natural resources; and prevailing moral concerns with things like abortion, poverty and unholy DNA research. A political perspective shift from left towards right, a shift that is exposed by campus voting habits in past elections, and the new calm that surfaced after the elimination of the draft and the end of the Vietnam war, do not allow an apathetic label, however. Certain people like Peter Brann, the head of Citizens for a Sensible Alternative, a group organizing an effort to get the legal drinking age in this state lowered, and Jay Cromarty, a UMO student who has organized that effort on this campus, won't allow that to happen.

The absurdity of a capricious war in Vietnam fertilized the radical reactions of the 1960s. The rest followed with psychological inevitability; from the generation gap and rebellious youthful mentalities to various drug cultures and seeking out the pure goodness of the land, the intellectual activity and the academic life of a college campus was hindered. Little thought or analysis was required of those who yelled "facist pig" or "right on."

But the easily discernible change in the approach students now use to confront the important issues which affect them demonstrates the sophisticated and methodical mentality that

has replaced once violent reactions. The new approach is efficient and it's being used effectively in this state today.

The issue here is the unjustified raise of the legal drinking age. Ten years ago, the reaction to such an unjustified measure probably would have been impetuous and most likely turbulent. Today however, the new drinking standard is being challenged without disorder; the operative approach being used by Peter Brann, Jay Cromarty and many others is a smoothly-running and quietly effective one. Their simple plan is likely to force a revised 18-20 split drinking age bill to be presented to the state legislature this winter.

The practical mechanics of the plan should not

imply that the chore of collecting signatures to rescind an improper law is one without powerful and adamant inspiration. Instead, the calm persistence of people like Brann and Cromarty demonstrates that every effort, however bounded by law that effort may be, is made, is a delightful model of the new intellectual approach to change for which our generation is rapidly gaining a reputation.

The needed 30,000 signatures are now virtually assured and even speculation of such is a credit to the obstinance that has not disappeared from impetuous youth, but has only materialized in a more effective and admirable form. "Apathetic" is hardly a way to describe this obstinance.



Mogensen / Living in between



## ...doctor, lawyer, Indian chief

We're all romantics.

At least that's the conclusion I've come to, particularly when consideration is given to statements college students make about their lives and their futures. From my four years here, a number of those forecasts stick in my mind. First, those statements explaining the reason for attending college:

"I just came here to find myself a husband and get married," one girl remarked to me when I was a freshman. (Determined but romantic.)

"I came here so I can get a steady job. Then I'll buy a Jaguar XKE with a cooler of beer built into it," a friend told me. (Wishful and romantic.)

Another friend also used college to get a steady job so "I can make some money. Then I'll get married. When I'm 60, then I'll retire and travel. Then I'll really live." (No lie!) (Crazy, then romantic.)

"I'll use my diploma to start my own engineering firm," I overheard one young man say. (A techy and romantic.)

The list goes on. I'm sure you could add a colorful and illuminating few of your own. And how about the lines explaining what

life will be like outside the padded walls of UMO? Pure romanticism... "I'll just sit and dream," one ex-roommate admitted. ("Nuf sed!")

"I can see myself as if in a reflection of a glass ball, an ancient priest in the highest order, expounding on the Vedas from my perch high in the Andes," someone droned late one Saturday night. (Stoned, romantic and probably an InterVarsity reject.)

"A nice house, on a hill or on the ocean, a wife, a couple kids, maybe a dog, that's all I want," an acquaintance said. (Aww, come on, that's my line.) (Safe and romantic.)

"I'll probably dance all my life," came from John "Woody" Kilby. (Alternate lifestyle and romantic.)

"I can see myself as a father. And my son will want to join Boy Scouts. I can see myself being his scoutmaster, and hating it," a close friend once confided. (Very normal and not so romantic.)

And this list continues. You soon find out from watching these friends and acquaintances that plans, like clouds, appear, change shape and dissipate with uncontrolled frequency, proving their romantic

foundation.

Except for those hard-asses who are molded rather than born, and who have life's plan in their heads since conception, determined to manipulate their destiny in front of everyone, the majority will take what comes. Their heredity and experience may push them in a direction, but generally small stones on the path cause large changes in direction.

More likely than not, marriage will transform my friend's Jaguar and beer into a country squire station wagon full of baby

carseats. With any luck, the crazy 60-year-old traveler won't gain hardened arteries and extreme varicose veins first. And even the pessimistic future as a scoutmaster may fall to the prospect of having four daughters and no sons. And, of course, we all know that house on the hill has silverfish. But they'll be nice silverfish, won't they?

And me? Well, I'm really a hard-ass. I plan on writing a book and I'm going to do it. What? Well, unless I can get that job with Rolling Stone, of course.

## Maine Campus

The University of Maine at Orono's student newspaper since 1875

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The Maine Campus is a twice-weekly newspaper published at the University of Maine at Orono. Editorial and business offices are located in 108 Lord Hall, Orono, Maine, 04473. Tel. (207) 581-7531 or 581-7532. Advertising and subscription rates available on request. Printed at the Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, Maine, 04805.

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## reader's opinion

*The Campus encourages letters from readers. To be published, letters must be signed and include an address, but names will be withheld upon request. Brief letters are advised, and all are subject to editing for grammar, good taste and available space.*

### Concert delays only part of show biz

To the Editor:

Re: the letter in Tuesday's Campus concerning late opening of the doors of the Pousette-Dart Band concert.

There are many reasons which may cause delay in the opening of doors to a concert. Due to the fact that the only place to hold a concert of any magnitude on this campus is Memorial Gymnasium, the concert committee is subject to scheduling around other activities; primarily basketball practice, which runs until 5:00 p.m. or 5:30 p.m.

One-and-a-half hours is not a great deal of time considering that the stage and equipment brought in from trucks must be set up, sound and lighting equipment put together and up, backdrop to stage put up and bleachers put in and pulled out.

These things take time and manpower; the concert committee cordially extends an invitation to all skeptics to attend such a session.

After the necessary equipment is set up, the band performs a

lengthy sound check at which time everyone, concert committee included, is requested to vacate the gym.

When the band is satisfied that the best possible sound has been achieved, we are given the okay to open the doors.

Contrary to Richard Simpson's criticism of the committee's handling of the concert, the Pousette-Dart concert was said by many knowledgeable observers to be the most smoothly run concert in UMO's recent history.

Unfortunately, due to a mixup in the police department, the officers requested for 7 p.m. didn't arrive until 7:30.

Due to the size of the crowd, for security and safety reasons, we didn't want to open the doors without police present. This, after all, is one reason that they are employed.

Had the police arrived at 7 p.m. as anticipated, the doors would have opened shortly thereafter.

The concert committee has no reason for wanting to keep patrons waiting outside. We're painfully aware that it's not good for business. But that's show biz.

Sincerely,  
Sue Leonard

Concert committee chairman

### Rethinking canine doublethink

To the Editor:

Re: Canine doublethink. I too am concerned about the problem of dogs on campus, but my concern is for the trees to which to

dogs are being tied.

Trees can be damaged in two ways by such a practice: 1. A tree can be partially or completely girdled by a rope or chain rubbing off the bark; this injures the life support system of the tree. 2. Dogs digging near the base of trees can injure root systems; this can be severely damaging to

### An idea not proven bad

To the Editor:

All right Dan Warren. For the first time there seems to be another person on this campus besides myself that believes big-name concerts on the football field would not only sell out but make mucho bucks for the campus. The complexities of this idea are staggering but not impossible.

A couple of years ago the concert committee was actively looking into the idea but the committee fell apart and that was the last time we heard of this idea. One major problem would be the school allowing us to use the football field. In this case perhaps

the administration should be reminded that this request would not be necessary if the multi-purpose arena was a multi-purpose arena.

The cost of tickets for a concert such as this would not be any higher if not a little less in price. We would have to contend with Motown Nature but all in all I do believe it could work. I am all for this type of concert and if students would like to see big-name concert bands here in Orono they should let the concert committee know their feelings. All I can say is that it has never been tried and for that reason it has yet to be proven a bad idea.

Charley Juris

### Center offers flu shots

To the Editor:

At this time of year we must talk about flu shots even at the risk of being accused of using dirty words.

This is an area in which the medical staff of the Cutler Health Center is not in complete agreement. However, we all agree students with certain conditions are at special risk and should be immunized. These conditions include severe asthma, cystic fibrosis, heart diseases, emphysema and being elderly.

We also agree that it makes sense to offer flu shots to the police and fire departments, health workers, and athletic teams.

We disagree on the effectiveness of the vaccine and the importance of immunizing healthy young people against a disease their own body defenses should be able to handle.

The only students we can give clear-cut guidance to are those with chronic medical problems. If in doubt as to whether you have a condition by reason of which you should have a flu shot, consult one of the Health Center physicians or your personal physician.

Anyone who wishes a flu shot may have one at the Health Center for the asking (those who have not paid the health fee will be charged \$2.00).

The vaccine we have is a combination of A/Victoria/75 and B/Hong Kong/72 antigen components manufactured by Parke-Davis Company. It does not contain A/New Jersey/75, the "swine flu." This is the only combination of antigens available this year.

C. Edwardson  
Nutting Hall

Sincerely,  
Dave Ives  
Rita D. Laitres

Sincerely,  
R.A. Graves, MD, director  
Cutler Health Center

### Foreign students thankful

To the Editor:

I would like to use this opportunity to express my deep feelings of gratitude caused by the constructive accomplishments of Jenny Brown in behalf of foreign students on this campus. While in her former capacity as foreign students' advisor, she always not only related and received each and every student (as far as I know) with a very warm-welcome type disposition but also attended very conscientiously to her duties and representation in behalf of these students. A noteworthy gesture!

Also, I wish to express my thanks to Phyllis and hope that she will continue...the good work she has helped Jenny do.

...Enough cannot be said about the importance of mutual acts of good will with understanding in the relationship of foreign students and their host contacts. The million-even billions--desperately being spent in the unpredictable pursuit of the elusive but important world peace could be drastically cut (and what a relief in tax rebate!) if these possible catalytic potentials in our midst are wisely tapped. Well done, Jenny and lots of good luck to you in your new professional environment!

Chinedum Ezebuio  
451 Estabrooke Hall

### Cromarty's work cited

To the Editor:

We feel more often than not, diligent and hard work often goes unnoticed here at the University of Maine. We like to take this time to express our gratitude to Jay Cromarty.

Jay gave endless time and effort for the benefit of the university community. He directed the petition drive, trying to reverse the drinking age legislation which is now in effect.

Unfortunately the petition drive did not receive enough support. It is a reality that one individual's effort can often fall short of one's expectations without popular support.

Jay was a victim of this social dilemma. Special thanks again to Jay for his efforts and for never giving up when the going got tough.

### The fear behind guns

To the Editor:

I have read some intelligent statements during this debate over whether or not UMO policemen should carry guns. And, I have seen some not so intelligent statements. One of the better ones was: Without guns, UMO policemen don't feel like real policemen. One of the lesser statements went: Crooks will start carrying guns if policemen do.

There are two kinds of crooks, those who carry guns and those who do not. So too, there must be two kinds of policemen. All that is certain is that men need to carry guns because they are little. In

either case, whether or not someone, anyone, carries a gun depends on how small that person is.

But there is another reason why UMO policemen want to carry guns and this reason is valid for it is the same reason why so many people don't want them to carry guns: Fear. We are all afraid, aren't we. One time when I was home for vacation in Brunswick I realized that my father had left for police duty without his .38. I was afraid.

Sincerely,  
Evariste Bernier

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# Student group overspends allotment

by Deborah Strumello

The Student Activities Corps (SAC) was allotted \$6,400 last year, but unexpected repairs to the three cars it operates and money spent without prior permission caused the organization to run at a \$900 loss, said Rolf Olsen, SAC treasurer.

SAC is a student organization which coordinates volunteer community-oriented programs, such as the big brother/big sister program and volunteer hospital work. It is funded by the UMO student government.

Olsen blamed part of the truant bills on too small a budget in past years for projects SAC does. He said that people involved in SAC projects had always been allowed to spend without prior permission from the treasurer, but said last year the budget was overspent and people continued to spend more.

Rita Laitres, chairman of Student Services Board, which supervises SAC,

said all the money was spent halfway through the semester. When she assumed her office this fall, she said she found a stack of truant bills and notes from the business office saying it was cutting off her credit.

"Inexperienced and poor communication within the group," are partly responsible for the problem, Laitres said, adding Olsen was thrown into SAC as a new person with no guidance on how to manage the money. No guidelines existed for spending money, people overspent and things just got worse, she said.

Phil Spalding, student government secretary, said the problem was compounded when SAC failed to inform student government it was running at a loss.

The \$900 will be financed by student government, but will be paid back by SAC through money it hopes to save this year. Although less funds have been allocated to the organization, Olsen said he hopes to

save enough to pay off the debt by tightening the budget and closely supervising spending especially on cars.

Both Olsen and Laitres agree that SAC cars have been a large part of the overspending problem. The cars are used by people doing SAC projects but in the past have been "abused and poorly managed," Laitres said.

"People who never should have had access to the cars were using them," Olsen said.

The cars claim the biggest part of SAC's budget, nearly \$4,500 last year. They suffered damage last year when they had to be moved from behind the police station, where they had always been kept to the parking lot behind Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. Olsen said there was no supervision of the cars and two had their windows broken during the year.

This year the cars are being kept at the university garage with the other cars from

the university motor pool, where there is constant supervision.

Roscoe Clifford, superintendent of grounds and services, said he will be keeping a closer watch on the use of the cars in order to "help out the organization."

He said that the \$4,500 spent last year may sound like a lot of money, but the biggest part of it was involved in paying a "capital cost" fee. This is an \$85-a-month charge which is put into an account and is used to purchase another car when the present one no longer is usable.

This prevents members in one year from "running the cars into the ground" and leaving next year's with none, he said.

SAC has been beset by problems in the past few years, Laitres said. Membership has been dwindling. While only a few years ago, it was not uncommon for 200 people to come to meetings, this year, there are only about 10 core people in the organization, she said.

"I don't want to shrug the problem off to someone next year," she said.



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## Bicknell likes team effort despite frustrating season

by Bob Granger

Frustration and disappointment can probably best sum up this year's football season for the UMO Black Bears. What many sports followers thought to be a promising year for Maine has turned into one of heartache and utter hardship for both coaches and players.

The Bears, who last year claimed their first winning season since 1969 with a 6-5 record, have managed only three victories so far this season in nine attempts. Maine will try and up their record one more notch Saturday as they host Boston University for their final game of the season.

Despite the Bears' losing record, head coach Jack Bicknell says he is extremely pleased with the players' efforts, dedication and overall attitude.

"This year as a whole has been a frustrating one from a win-loss point of view," Bicknell said earlier this week. "But as hard as it may seem to believe, it's probably been the best year as any team I've ever been associated with."

Bicknell says the team has been practicing well and doing everything he asks but they can't seem to "get it together" in game situations.

The team's major problem, he says, is not individual performances, it's a problem of getting the offense and defense to play well in the same game together.

"We're inconsistent," Bicknell says. "We just can't seem to put a great game together."

Senior quarterback Jack Cosgrove reiterated his coach's thoughts, saying that the offense has to make up for the defense when it isn't doing well.

"There's a lot of pressure when you

know you have to score every time you have the ball," Cosgrove said. "Things haven't been together."

Despite the team's performance in games, Bicknell has much admiration for his players. "If you work as hard as they do, you're something special in my imagination," he said.

But Bicknell doesn't want to make excuses about this season's performance.

"We're not good enough and that's the truth of the matter," he said. "We're working our butts off but we're getting beat."

Not only will the Bears have to get themselves organized if they wish to improve, but they will have to find more confidence in themselves, according to Bicknell.

"I guess I haven't done a good job in that way," he said.

With both the lack of confidence and the inconsistency problem, the Bears have found this season an "uphill battle." Maine has posted wins over Lafayette, Central Connecticut and the University of Connecticut, while losing to the University of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New Hampshire, as well as Western Carolina, Albany State and Northeastern.

In the process, the Bears' secondary has given up 277 points while the offense has scored only 15 touchdowns.

"It's fair to say that we're a losing football team but we're not embarrassed or discouraged," Bicknell said. "What bothers me is that people don't know what we're going through and just give up on us."

Bicknell says he feels sorry for the players that the team isn't winning.

"I can coach 15 or 20 more years but the

## Maine Campus SPORTS



Head football coach Jack Bicknell hopes "things will be together" this weekend against Boston University [Tim Grant photo].

seniors only have one shot at it."

Because Saturday's game will be the last game for 15 seniors on the team, Bicknell expects a hard effort against Boston. "The game takes on a real significance when it's your last one," Bicknell said. "They'll get themselves up for it."

Among those players leaving this year are offensive standouts Rudy DiPietro, Jed Palmacci, Cosgrove, Dave Secino and Peter Keenan, as well as defensive back Jeff Smaha.

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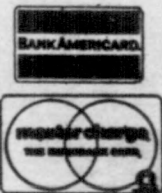
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