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Maine Campus

The University of Maine's Student Newspaper Est. 1875

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UMaine Online Program adds new degree and certification programs



Photo by Olivia Schanck.

Maddy Gernhard Contributor

The University of Maine Online has been working hard to offer new graduate and undergraduate programs to students. UMaine Online offers a variety of mostly graduate programs for students to earn masters or certificates, as well as some undergraduate major and minor courses of study.

Among some of the newer additions to the courses of study for undergraduate students are a minor in legal studies and a new certification program in surveying engineering technology. This certification program provides students with the necessary tools

and foundations for surveying technology, and may also act as a starting point for students looking into pursuing a bachelor's degree in surveying technology. The surveying technology certification program is the first certification course to be offered through UMaine Online to undergraduate students, and requires 15 credit hours. The legal studies minor can be paired with any of the other undergraduate programs offered by UMaine Online, and takes 18 credit hours to complete.

The newest graduate certification program is in the discipline of data science and engineering. Graduate certifica-

tion courses require at least a bachelor's degree for enrollment. The data science and engineering certification program provides students the skills and knowledge necessary to manage complex data and analysis challenges which are prevalent in a rapidly changing technological field. It is a 15 credit program, and has a wide variety of classes and enrollment options for students to select from depending on their interests within the field.

The newest graduate degree UMaine Online is offering is a master's program in data science and engineering. This master's program is a total of 30 credit hours, and is

recommended for students who have undergraduate experience in the fields of computer science, engineering, mathematics or similar fields. The program is designed to teach students a variety of useful skills in the rapidly changing field of data science. Some skills involve data analysis and acquisition, effective data storage and issues facing data processing and storage, leveraging modern computational infrastructures for performing large scale data analysis, effective data presentation and communication skills, strategies for data security and the ethical issues facing modern data analysis and acquisition.

These skills are useful in a variety of fields, as there is a growing demand for those trained in data science and engineering. There is a rapidly changing environment of data and computer science, and as the state becomes increasingly reliant upon advanced technologies, it also becomes increasingly reliant upon those who are capable of understanding complex data and engineering.

The new focus on engineering technology and advanced science studies in the realm of computer and data sciences reflects a rapidly changing technological landscape in Maine and beyond. The UMa-

ine Online programs are designed to meet those new demands and train students in an efficient and affordable way.

UMaine Online is accepting rolling admissions to their undergraduate and graduate certification programs as well as to their master's degree programs. Interested students should visit the UMaine Online website, or contact the admissions office or advisors for more information on any of the available programs.

Bangor to open new Korean restaurant for homestyle cooking

David DiMinno Contributor

Bangor, Maine is host to all kinds of unique cuisine, ranging from Italian to Japanese food, as well as Mexican, Chinese and other cuisines. As of the spring of 2021, a new Korean restaurant, Korean Dad, will be joining the Bangor food lineup. This restaurant, opened by Changsu Kristopher Lee, will be the only Korean restaurant north of Portland. Lee has been cooking for his family for over 30 years, gradually increasing his skills in his home environment. Now, he is ready to

take those skills to a larger audience, giving the people of Bangor authentic Korean tastes with homestyle cooking. Korean Dad will be located at 97 Center Street in Bangor, which is a prime location that is sure to bring in hungry customers.

Korean flavors are typically intense, as well as spicy and pungent. Some classic Korean dishes include kimchi, which is a fermented vegetable dish, hoeddeok, which resemble sweet pancakes, and japchae, which are stir fried noodles, to name a few. These dishes

are staples of Korean cooking, and just some of the options that will be available at Korean Dad when it opens later in the year.

Lee decided to open up this restaurant as a way to have his homestyle cooking reach a larger audience. He is originally from South Korea, and came to the U.S. in 1994. Korean Dad is a family business, as Lee is running it with his daughter, Alex Farron. He has been an active member in the Maine community, teaching mathematics at Eastern Maine Community College, and volunteering at the Bangor

area homeless shelter.

Lee is excited to be taking his food to the Bangor area, in particular because of its location up north. While getting his bachelor's degree at the University of Maine Presque Isle, Lee began to develop his cooking skills by sharing his Korean foods with friends.

"People up there weren't really exposed to a lot of diversity, so they were very curious about us," Lee said in an interview with the Bangor Daily News. "We thought we should try cooking Korean food for them, and people ended up loving it. They wanted us

to cook it all the time."

This is another exciting opportunity for University of Maine students due to the restaurant's location. Being only a 15-minute drive from campus, students will have fairly easy access to the new location.

"I would eat there if there is a decent amount of clearly labeled vegan options" Agenor Duhon, a third-year wildlife ecology student at UMaine said.

Third-year mechanical engineering technology student Tevin Duff is also interested in Korean Dad.

"I would like to eat

there to expand my variety of diet," Duff said.

The growing interest of students is certain to grow even more as Korean Dad prepares for its opening day. Students interested in learning more about the opening can follow the official Korean Dad page on Instagram, where the restaurant is posting updates on its opening, sending pictures and keeping the public informed on any and all news. Given the added variety the restaurant will bring to Bangor, the venture is looking to be a great success.

News

Chemical engineering professor Hermant Pendse wins Distinguished Maine Professor Award



Photo provided by UMaine Marketing.

Megan Ashe
News Editor

Professor of chemical engineering Hermant Pendse has won the 2021 Maine Distinguished Professor Award. This award recognizes a University of Maine professor who is committed to high quality education, research, and public service through their role as a professor. A committee of 17 people consisting of both students and staff gathered to select the professor for this prestigious award. Chemical engineering student Grace Farrington presented the nomination package to the committee and Dean of the College of Engineering Dana Humphry pushed for Pendse to win the award.

Pendse is the chair

of the Biomedical and Chemical Engineering Department at UMaine and also leads the UMaine Pulp and Paper Foundation as the faculty fellow director. Pendse conducts research in colloidal phenomena, paper manufacturing and fluid particle systems. Work on instrument and sensor development in labs is also underway through Pendse's advising. He has 82 publications in his field and has authored 200 technical papers. Because of his involvement with the Forest Bioproducts Research Institute (FBRI) at UMaine, he has been responsible for facilitating economic development in the state.

Pendse helped to establish the FBRI in 2010 and currently serves as the director

of the institute. Its purpose is to create commercial products out of forest based materials while investigating the logistic, scientific and economic factors of such projects.

The UMaine News went into depth on his leadership with the FBRI.

"Under Pendse's leadership, FBRI built the nation's first pilot-scale plant for manufacturing nano-fibrillated cellulose, or nanocellulose. The institute earned \$48 million for various projects, \$17 million of which is attributable to Pendse's efforts," UMaine News reported.

Pendse earned his master's and doctorate degrees at Syracuse University and said that his experience at this university led him

to want to become a professor.

"I had opportunities to tutor several students and work with them in my research lab when I was doing my dissertation work at Syracuse University. The opportunity to explain the same concept in multiple ways to match various learning styles is very satisfying, and the combination of teaching and research activities as a professor is very appealing," Pendse stated.

Being a professor at UMaine has been a very rewarding experience for Pendse, who says that there is always something to be learned from his students.

"I have learned a lot from my students over the years, mainly that if you adjust to differ-

ent communications styles you can reach a larger audience. I am constantly improving both my teaching and technical skills in order to be more responsive to students. Over four decades as a faculty member, I have realized that I derive energy from students both in the classroom setting and working shoulder-to-shoulder in our research labs," Pendse said. I always strive to give the students both operating knowledge and an understanding of the broader context for the underlying concepts, which allows students to view the material beyond the confines of any particular course. Some students will speak up in class and others will talk to you or email you one-on-one. Others benefit from more pro-

active follow up. Overall, it means caring for student learning and showing it."

Pendse is teaching kinetics and reactor design, which is a mandatory course for all third-year chemical engineering students. Students in this course expand upon their knowledge of reaction chemistry and are asked to design reactors and predict their performance patterns.

On Thursday April 29, the UMaine Alumni Association will feature Pendse and his Distinguished Maine Professor Award during the annual Alumni Achievement Awards and Recognition Ceremony. This event will be livestreamed on YouTube.

McGillicuddy Humanities Center continues

'Entangled' reading group for second and third weeks

The second and third seminars in the McGillicuddy Humanities Center's reading group on "Entangled: People and Ecological Change in Alaska's Kachemak Bay" took place on Feb. 25 and March 4. Author Marilyn Sigman led the discussions, and professor Laura Cowan May organized them. These discussions centered around the middle sections of the book, titled "Artifacts" and "Fugitive Resources", which covered a wide range of subject matter.

"Artifacts" focused on the material culture and history of human occupation in the southern coast-

al regions of Alaska. As Sigman informed the audience during the course of the brief supplemental presentation, humans began to inhabit the Kachemak region approximately 8,000 years ago, following the glacial retreat 2,000 years prior. One of the main groups of native peoples, the Dena'ina, arrived in the region approximately 1,000 years ago. Sigman also showed images of various sites of original inhabitants in the region, as well as some of the tools and artifacts important to the Kachemak material tradition. The importance of exploring these artifacts

and archeological sites is to see how they align with data on changes in fishing harvests, and how these can be used to track the changes in the environments in which the natives of the region lived.

As research continued, it became clear that the data reflected depletions and changes during the times in which various groups would move away from certain areas. During the Feb. 25 discussion, readers went into breakout rooms to talk about the understanding of natural shifts in Alaska's southern coastal environments in a way that is helpful to researchers tracking

current climate change patterns. More specifically, readers responded to the question of how traditional values can help to lead the way forward in facing the ongoing crisis of climate change.

The third installment of the series centered around the section of Sigman's book entitled "Fugitive Resources," and the discussion covered the various ways in which the Alaskan fishing industry has been affected by climate change, as well as legislation. Fisheries management and technological advancements have led to a more holistic approach to sustain-

ably-sourced fish.

This section of the book looked at three examples of fish populations in the Kachemak Bay region: the halibut, the salmon and the herring. Sigman noted some of the cultural significance of these fish populations in the art and culture of the area, and how colonialism affected the ecological landscape of the region.

One of the most important moments of this discussion centered around Sigman's discussion of her writing process and inspirations for her work.

"I was kind of trained to write in a very boring way about

science, but in my journal I would go 'oh but I had this lovely walk in the woods, and I love nature' kind of writing, and I had to merge all of that together," Sigman said.

Sigman spoke to the process of learning to write through her creative nonfiction writing seminars and groups.

"It took a lot of drafts, and I did a lot of research, and then I think the real challenge was the form of personal narrative, which requires you to be present," Sigman said.

Sigman also spoke to the importance of

See MHC on A3

Oakhurst Dairy celebrates 100-year anniversary

Megan Ashe
News Editor

Oakhurst Dairy, based in Portland is celebrating its 100-year anniversary this year. Originally founded in 1921 by the Bennett family, Oakhurst Dairy has long since been a staple in the Portland community and Maine as a whole. To celebrate this milestone, President and CEO John Bennett wants to embrace the past but focus on looking forward to the future of Oakhurst Dairy.

When most companies celebrate an anniversary, it's usually just a look back, but Oakhurst wants to celebrate a little bit differently and make it more about who we serve. We have the opportunity during a very trying time, to encourage everyone around us to pour on the kindness, goodness, and Maineness." Bennett said in a press release issued by the company. "Today, more than ever, we need to cele-

brate the act of simply helping our neighbors, because each act of kindness, no matter how small, has a ripple effect that serves to make our state and communities stronger and healthier."

Oakhurst Dairy wishes to focus on the following core values of their company in the years to come: transparency, sustainability and a community focused outlook. Oakhurst claims that they will always stand up for what they believe is right, and the company did just that by asking its milk producers to stop using an artificial growth hormone in the company's milk. However, the Food and Drug Administration has made statements clarifying that there is no substantial difference between milk with growth hormones and milk without.

Oakhurst Dairy came from humble beginnings. When it was founded in 1921, it was known for delivering

milk to Portland homes in glass bottles, while the delivery driver rode in on a horse and buggy. Now, Oakhurst Dairy has succeeded in placing their products in grocery stores and schools all across the state. Additionally, it has even expanded its inventory to include more than just dairy products and now carry juices as well.

Bennett shared how far Oakhurst has come in a statement released by the company.

"My family started this company with a vision that was much more than just bottling and distributing milk—Oakhurst has always been about standing up for and doing what's right. I am proud to say that this fundamental truth is still alive and well at our company. We are committed to addressing key issues in our community, doing right by our farmers, creating and providing the very best products on the market, and being mindful of sustainability and



Photos provided by Oakhurst Dairy.

the next generation every step of the way. I'm so proud of what the Oakhurst team has accomplished—cheers to 100 years and, hopefully, another 100 to come," Bennett said.

Oakhurst Dairy is celebrating this iconic year by hosting some celebratory events. There will be internal celebrations rewarding employees at their company, an unveiling of retro packaging to come in the summer months and an effort

to partner with local Maine companies to co-host events and programs throughout the year.

Bennett is grateful for the support Oakhurst Dairy has received over the years from Mainers. Many Maine-based businesses such as Hannaford have carried Oakhurst Dairy products for years and have contributed to the company's astounding success. Also important has been

Oakhurst's loyal customer base throughout the state.

"To Mainers and beyond, thank you for coming along for this 100-year ride. If you grew up around here chances are you grew up on Oakhurst milk. The Oakhurst team is so proud to be your local dairy company, and we look forward to another century by your sides and in your fridges," Bennett said in the press release.

UMaine Department of Horticulture hosts edible plants winter gardening webinar

David DiMinno
Contributor

On Feb. 24, the University of Maine continued its winter gardening series with "Nibbling on Natives in Your Backyard and Beyond," a free webinar for students and staff. The UMaine Department of Horticulture hosted the talk, and Kate Garland, a horticulture professional for UMaine Extension, moderated it. Russ Cohen, author of "Wild Plants I have Known... and Eaten," who also is an expert forager, was the main speaker of the webinar. He gave a presentation on over two dozen common backyard and houseplants that are edible.

Cohen is a natural food enthusiast and naturalist that grew up in Weston, Massachusetts. He grew up spending a lot of his time in the woods. After taking a mini course in edible botany in his

second year of high school, he grew fond of the subject, and turned it into his passion. He discovered that over two dozen varieties of edible plants surrounded Weston High School. Currently, Cohen resides in Arlington, Massachusetts, where he continues to lead nature talks and walks. Normally, he leads over three dozen walks a year, where he shows people edible plants that they can find all around them.

Cohen has been awarded dozens of awards for his service to natural sciences, including the Environmental Achievement Award from Save the Bay (Rhode Island) in 1993, the Environmental Service Award from the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions in 1997 and the "River Hero" award from the Massachusetts Rivers Alliance in 2015, as well as several others.

He has since set up a nursery near his childhood home in Weston, growing over 1,000 species of plants representing over one-third of the 170 New England native edible species.

During the talk, Cohen went over several New England edible plants that are common in backyards. He spoke about basswood, which is a common street tree. Basswood is commonly found on countryside roads, and has edible leaves that are best eaten after being cooked. The leaves are asymmetrical, and are shinty when emerging in the spring. They can then be eaten raw or cooked and have a bland flavor and slightly mucilaginous texture. Other, and arguably more highly-regarded edible parts of the plant, are the flower blossoms, which arrive at the onset of summer



Photo by Olivia Schanck.

and make a tasty tea with multiple medicinal values. Each flower cluster consists of about six to 10 yellowish-white flowers that give off a pleasant, lemon-honey fragrance.

Cohen also discussed wild lettuce. Wild lettuce produces leaves all the way up the stalk. Wild lettuce is typically used

to make medicine, and has pain relieving properties.

"Wild lettuce with fat terminal lobes are more bitter from the get go," Cohen stated.

Cohen's work has been incredibly beneficial to people looking for what plants are safe to eat naturally. Students looking for more information on Cohen can find information of

his travels in the article, "Russ Cohen's Wild Edible Adventures," by Cathy Walters. The webinar provided lots of helpful information to students, and Cohen hopes to continue these talks in the future.

MHC from A2

bringing life and personality to her work in order to make the project more interesting for a wider audience.

"Natural history has a kind of history where

it is directed towards fairly literate people with some degree of science literacy, so I assume some level of interest in science," she said, and then cited the words of advice of David Quammen, a famed travel writer. "I just imagine I'm hav-

ing a conversation with someone. Just think of it more conversationally, and discuss not just the science, but what the science means to humans, and the humanities aspect of it."

Sigman spoke to the usefulness of language and storytelling in ef-

fectively communicating science in a human way, which would inspire and inform an audience of the changes and ecology in a region of Alaska many readers would have otherwise not taken interest in. Works of literature such as "Entangled"

help to emphasize the cultural importance of communicating the past traditions of the native inhabitants of the Kachemak Bay, and the holistic relationships between researchers and the region in which they conduct their research.

The final reading group discussion takes place on March 11. For more information on this series, visit the McGillicuddy Humanities Center website.

Weekly Updates

This Week in Student Government

Weekly recap of decisions made by the UMaine Student Government General Student Senate

David DiMinno
Contributor

GSS Feb. 23

The General Student Senate meeting began with roll call, and the approval of the previous meeting minutes by Senate Clerk John Cyr.

General Good and Welfare:

Vice President Zachary Wyles gave his Roberts Rule of the week, which was a point of privilege. This is used when a senator is making a complaint, but is also used for more information. This however, is not the traditional use.

New Senators, Officer Appointments, and Resignations:

Austin Westfield was sworn in as a senator this week.

President Harrison Ransley used \$526.34 to help cover expenses for the Maine Peace Action Committee, and will be meeting with Vice President for Student Life and Inclusive Excellence and Dean of Students Robert Dana tomorrow. President Ransley and Vice President Wyles will be meeting with the Provost Council next week to discuss the changes to the pass/fail policy. Vice President of Financial Affairs Jake Tauke is trying to get updated physical addresses for all senators, so that gift cards can be mailed out for senate meals. The annual budget will be taking place soon, meaning the vice president will be receiving budgets for all organizations on campus. Vice President of Student Organizations Emmeline Willey said that Student Orga-

nization Committee elections will be happening soon, and anyone looking to run should contact her. Vice President of Student Entertainment Chase Flaherty has spoken to Ben Evans, and will be scheduling a MasterChef cook along event. Students will be able to sign up for it on the Student Government Instagram page. New events for next month will be announced after the MasterChef event. Free movies are still available at Spotlight Cinemas with a MaineCard. Advisor to Student Government Lauri Sidelko announced that Heather Hogan will be filling in for a couple of weeks due to medical reasons. Weekly surveillance testing shows that more people have been attending testing. Often, positive tests will result in a great number of close contacts, and she urged students to be careful moving forward.

Periodic Reports:

Student Legal Services Liaison Camryn Hammil announced that there are six pending cases on campus. University of Maine ROTC senate representative Austin Westfield said that they have enabled five new scholarships for ROTC students. Director of Communications Danielle Jarosz posted the video promotion for the MasterChef event, which has been met with positive reception.

Standing Committees:

Marketing and Public Relations Committee had a great meeting last week. They decided to use a shorter video for Instagram and a longer video for Facebook. The Policy



and Procedure Committee came up with new resolutions for the Student Conduct Code.

Representative Board Reports:

The Commuter and Non-Traditional Students Board thanked everyone who helped with the first shopping trip for the Black Bear Exchange. The trip normally takes an hour, but because of all the help, it only took 15 minutes. The Honors College Student Advisory Board had their first Meal Pack-Out meeting. They are looking to set aside the month of April for food security. They also held elections for the executive board. The Interfraternity Council had an effective joint meeting with the Panhellenic Council to discuss revisions to their code of conduct. Most fraternities have finished recruitment. The Sustainability and Environmental Action Committee is looking to start a compost project in Orono.

New Business:

Several resolution and funding requests were proposed this week:

Funding for the Pre-Law society to create an ESports team on campus. An act to add funds to

student government for various campus works.

An act to modify and update the Student Conduct Code.

All of these requests were passed.

GSS March 2

The General Student Senate meeting began with roll call, and approval of the previous senate minutes by Senate Clerk John Cyr.

General Good and Welfare:

Her Campus, a magazine run by women on campus, received final recognition by the senate.

Vice President Wyles gave his Roberts Rule Item of the week, which was a point of information. This is used for a senator to ask about clarification regarding a report or resolution.

Executive Reports:

President Ransley has had several students reach out to him about the pass/fail changes, as well as the uncertainty of graduation. Both him and Vice President Wyles will be meeting with the faculty senate to try and address these concerns from the student body. They have also been in-

cluded in a student sustainability summit, where they hope to bring more ideas back to campus. Wyles is trying to come up with ideas for how to carry out Maine Day this year, and has been very grateful that himself and Ransley have been working so well together, despite the fact that they are running against each other. The Vice President of Financial Affairs Jake Tauke spoke on unallocated funds and funding requests that will be talked about later in the meeting. Vice President of Student Organizations Emmeline Willey says a new club will be coming to the next meeting seeking preliminary recognition. Vice President of Student Entertainment Chase Flaherty announced that Dean Dana will be hosting a virtual Q and A with Terry Crews. Students can submit questions online. Heather Hogan, trending in place as advisor to student government, is now accepting nominations for leadership awards, which will be distributed in the coming months. Food requests can now be made for campus events, but a planning form needs to be submitted.

Periodic Reports:

University of Maine Security Representative Blaize Vail is looking into police behavior in the dorm, ensuring nobody violates the student constitution.

Reports of Standing Committees:

Membership Committee will be sending out gift cards for food at the meetings, to replace having food in person. They will be meeting this Thursday. The Policy and Procedure

Committee is working on new resolutions for job descriptions. The Political Activism Committee will start meeting on a bi-weekly schedule for the rest of the semester.

Reports of Special Committees:

The Student Mental Health Committee is starting a mentor program to combat loneliness and isolation on campus.

Representative Board Reports:

The Commuter and Non-Traditional Student Board is planning a pizza event in the coming weeks. Honors College Student Advisory Board finalized events for the rest of the semester. These events include Forum Fridays and guest speakers. The Interfraternity Council held a virtual leadership conference to learn more about handling student mental health, as well as diversity in the Greek community. Panhellenic Council held a round table summit for all chapter leaders. The Senior Class Council will be holding senior week the last week of April.

Community Association Reports:

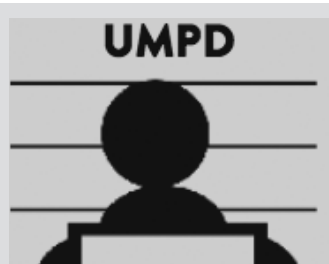
Wilde Stein has modified its constitution and allows for more E-Board members.

Tune Into This!

What's happening this week at UMaine & Beyond

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
The University of Maine Bookstore has released a new T-shirt for St. Patrick's Day. The white shirt has a shamrock on the front encompassing the letter "M" logo. The back features a Black Bear on it with the phrase "Are You as LUCKY as BLACK BEAR". The T-shirts are on sale for \$9.99 through March 17.	Applications and proposals for the McGillicuddy Humanities Center Undergraduate Fellowship are due March 17. Students can earn \$8,000 over the course of two semesters by conducting independent research or creative projects within the humanities.	The UMaine School of Performing Arts is offering a virtual on-demand performance of "The Wolves," which is its first spring performance of the year. Tickets are \$12 and provide 48-hour access to the play between March 5 and March 14. Those interested can gain access at this link: https://www.showtix4u.com/event-details/46822	Gal Gadot, famous for playing Wonder Woman in the DC Entertainment comics universe, has announced that she is pregnant with her third child. The actress already has two daughters with her husband who are 9 and 3 years old.	Valerie Ann Johnston of Thornton, New Hampshire just became the state's first female Eagle Scout. Johnston joined the Boy Scouts in 2019 when it became open to girls as well, and she has just completed the program. Currently, she is a first-year student at St. Michael's College in Vermont and hopes to inspire other women to achieve their dreams.	Dunkin' has released a slew of new menu items for the month of March. They are now serving cold foam to top their cold brew coffees, which is made with sweetened whipped milk and spices. Additionally, avocado toast and grilled cheese have been added to the menu as new vegetarian friendly options.

Police Beat



Leela Stockley
News Editor

Opinion

Editorial: Commencement could work if the graduating class wants it to.



Graphic by Nate Poole.

Nate Poole
Opinion Editor

Editorial: Commencement could work if the graduating class wants it to.

On March 3, President Joan Ferrini-Mundy and members of the University of Maine's Commencement Committee held a virtual town hall on YouTube to present a revised hybrid plan for the class of 2021's commencement ceremony, in response to a Change.org petition rebuking the initial virtual plan that has now garnered over 1,700 signatures. This sort of response from students is impressive, but the town hall currently sits at just under 300 views. If the class of 2021 truly wants to have a hand in creating a memorable commencement, then their engagement needs to extend beyond typing their name into a petition.

The events leading up to Wednesday's town hall were something of a saga, but one that the average student could be for-

given for missing. It began with a memo sent to the UMaine and Machias campus communities announcing that this year's commencement would be entirely virtual in light of COVID-19 continuing to ravage the country. This in turn inspired Brody Osborne, a fourth-year mechanical engineering technology student at UMaine, to post a petition calling for an in-person ceremony to the UMaine Class of 2021 Facebook page, eventually attracting the attention of news sources like the Portland Press Herald and News Center Maine.

"So I guess it's disappointment in the university administration, it feels like nothing was really done to even attempt to make this happen in person," Osborne said to News Center Maine. "There's certainly enough space and opportunity in this campus that some kind of in-person even can be held."

Osborne's frustrations, the frustrations of many soon-to-be

graduates, are absolutely valid. The classes of 2020 and 2021 were not dealt a fair hand, and the university's administrators arguably should have expected the president's sudden and brief memo to become an immediate target for students' ire.

However, the total views of the town hall represent less than 17% of those that signed the petition (if we assume that every viewer was a signer). Even accounting for the fact that town halls, as a general rule, are often boring and token opportunities for communities to air their grievances, this turnout is immensely disappointing considering how important the issue seemed for so many people.

The commencement committee not only introduced a new, audience-less hybrid plan that would allow students to process across the stage in the Collins Center for the Arts and film each of them for their families, but it also clarified a

number of the barriers limiting the university's ability to host a larger event, such as Gov. Janet Mills' executive orders imposing limits on indoor and outdoor gatherings.

This is not to say that the town hall was not lacking in some ways. For one, there was no mention of the stream on either the class of 2021's Facebook, where the petition gained its initial traction, or the class council's Instagram pages. Additionally, while UMaine's commencement webpage states that the committee includes student representatives, there were none given the floor during the stream, a significant missed opportunity to not only talk about student participation but show it as well.

However, this isn't to say the members of the committee were insincere with their sympathies.

"I should've walked with my master's degree May 2020, and so I truly understand what it means to not have

that piece," Benjamin Evans, coordinator for campus activities, said during his closing remarks at the virtual town hall. "What's a little tough is that what's best for our students is also making sure they don't get COVID and making sure that they don't take COVID home to their parents and their grandparents."

There are nine weeks left until commencement, and there are a variety of ways for students to make their voices heard before decisions are finalized. The class of 2021 council holds open Zoom meetings every Tuesday from 5:30-6 p.m. to discuss commencement and senior week, there is a suggestion form on the university's dedicated commencement page and the committee will be sending out a survey in the coming weeks to get student's feedback and assess their interest in the hybrid event.

To use these opportunities for communication with university

decision-makers effectively, students will need to make their peace with the realities of the COVID-19 crisis. Administrators will not plan for an outdoor event, there will be no large gathering of even a fraction of the 1,600 students that typically graduate each year, and friends and family will not be allowed to attend in-person. The fact of the matter is that people, students and administrators, are more likely to take an argument seriously if they feel heard. This goes both ways.

Many graduates could probably care less. If the petition was just a bit of organized fist-shaking, well that's just fine. But if the class of 2021 is willing to toss out some ideas at a meeting, or participate in a survey or two, commencement might not be an entirely awkward affair. Which, after the last two semesters, would be really nice.

Conversations about sexual assault need to happen as early as possible

Leah Savage
Contributor

Trigger Warning:
SA and r*pe

Last week I found myself in one of the most frustrating and painful conversations that a woman can find herself in: I was begging someone to take a sexual assault seriously. It wasn't that this person didn't believe that the assault happened, or that someone they knew was capable of raping someone. It was just that they didn't care enough to do anything besides avoid eye contact, and muster out an "oh wow," or the ever-so-meaningless "yeah," all coded lan-

guage for, "please stop talking about this I feel uncomfortable." Later, after the shame of not caring had turned into defensiveness, I heard one of my listeners bragging about how funny their rapist friend had been the night before.

The conversation left me feeling defeated and hopeless; how on earth are we meant to change rape culture if people don't care? Of course everyone is going to say that rape is bad, but that does not mean anything if we aren't able to uphold that value in our own lives. It was with these frustrations swirling in my mind that I decided to front the \$20 to watch Em-

erald Fennell's 2020 film, "Promising Young Woman."

A brief disclaimer: this is not a movie review, but an examination of Fennell's brilliant example of how misplaced most people's feelings about sexual assault really are. The film is a thriller-comedy and follows Cassie, played by Carey Mulligan, as she seeks revenge on rapists and rapist-enablers alike. Some critics seem to only seek out flaws in this masterpiece of feminist commentary, like The New York Times' Jeannette Catsoulis, who wrote that the film, "too often backs away from its potentially searing set up." I say they are

missing the point.

This film perfectly illustrates the most maddening aspect of rape-culture: the priority of protecting the rapist, in most cases the man, at all costs. This typically emerges in the form of blaming the survivor of the assault referring to the way they dressed, their sexual reputation, how much they had to drink, their mental stability, and various other excuses.

Perhaps the most meaningful moment of the film is when one of the victims of Carrie's vengeance the very rapist that set her vendetta into motion, tells her that a man's worst fear is to be accused of rape, to which she

responds, "do you know what a woman's worst fear is?" To put it simply, if one does not want to be called a rapist, don't rape people.

This film left me wondering: if the people who I was having a conversation with earlier that day had been exposed to this perspective on sexual assault earlier in life, perhaps they would have more sympathy for the person that their friend assaulted. Perhaps they would recognize their own complicity in a culture that consistently fails to hold men accountable for their actions.

Research suggests that it would, and the earlier that parents,

teachers and other role-models start have tough conversations about sexual assault with young men, the better. Teaching students about sexuality, and what consent really means is essential in reducing practices like slut-shaming and will help put an end to the cultural norms that perpetuate rape-culture. While the content of "Promising Young Woman" might be too mature to be shown to young students, its content should be taken seriously and used to inform others.

Staying optimistic on the anniversary of the shut down

Devin Daigneault
Contributor

Remember when this was all supposed to be a two-week shut down? Everyone seemed so optimistic at the beginning. People took time to indulge in their hobbies, making sourdough starter kits, writing music, catching up on all the shows they never had time to watch. All of this under the assumption that they only had a couple of weeks until everything returned to normal, then those weeks

turned into a couple of months, those turned into half a dozen, and now, in a few days, it will be the anniversary of the initial shutdown. However, there are increasing indications that we're near the end of it all, that the pandemic is slowly coming to an end.

Along the way, everyone lost their initial optimism. People are even questioning if things will ever go back to normal and not without good reason. This virus is unlike anything most people have seen in their lifetime. As a

country, we've lost over 500,000 citizens, and many of us have lost too many friends and family members. But we can and will get through this.

As of today, new cases are a third of what they were two months ago. Death rates have also decreased. If that isn't enough to instill a little optimism, take a look at the progress made with vaccines. At the beginning of President Joe Biden's administration, he set the goal to vaccinate 100 million Americans within

his first 100 days in office. He then changed the vaccination goal from 100 to 150 million Americans. As of right now, from estimations from the CDC, 77 million or 10% of Americans have been vaccinated. If kept on the same path, the administration will surpass its goal.

It seems ages away, but things could be back to feeling normal as soon as the fall or, according to Dr. Anthony Fauci, as late as the beginning of 2022. All of this isn't just speculation. There

is an attainable end to the pandemic within sight.

2020 taught us not to get too ahead of ourselves. Any time I suggest that the end of all this isn't far out of reach, someone reminds me that I shouldn't get too excited because things could always get worse. Things can and will get derailed. Or, worst of all, life may never really go back to normal. Just because it can get worse doesn't mean we should assume it will. We can hope for the best and

prepare for the worst, so let's do it. For now, to make sure we reach the end, we must all do our part to help move things along as we have been. We got to where we are for a reason. After all, you wouldn't stop running right before you finish the race. Wear your masks, practice social distancing, wash your hands frequently, use hand sanitizer, and most of all, stay optimistic. We're almost out of this.

Help yourself and others: Participate in student research projects

Leah Savage
Contributor

We all know the drill: everyday we open our university email to find an abundance of irrelevant requests and notices. Maybe there's some noteworthy anxiety-inducing or serotonin-boosting message from a professor about grades, rescheduling, or the all-hailed cancellation. My inbox remains clouded by a mess of announcements that I don't even bother to open before I hit delete (mostly credited to an online shopping addiction, but that's besides

the point). However, there might be a diamond in the rough that you're missing: student research.

Referring to student research as a "diamond" might seem like a bit of a stretch, but one must consider that while it only takes one second to archive a request for student participants in a research study, somebody has devoted hours of their time and energy to developing, designing, and carrying out their project. To them, it's a diamond, or at least a really pretty rock that they are still quite proud of.

On top of the satisfaction of giving a fellow University of Maine student a little bit of relief, you have the opportunity to become involved with interesting and innovative projects. For example, the discovery of a connection between social equity and gut health, innovative environmental proposals, or the link between selfies and national park deaths.

UMaine supports a diverse range of projects across many disciplines, and the university's research center continues to grow — this year, research and

development funding reached an all-time high of \$125.2 million. The growth and development of UMaine's research funding, and the projects that it produces, does nothing but improve its educational reputation, which is then reflected back on everyone at the university.

If supporting your peers and university isn't your thing, that's okay! But you should know that participating in research is also a good way to make some money. The majority of research projects at UMaine offer monetary incentives.

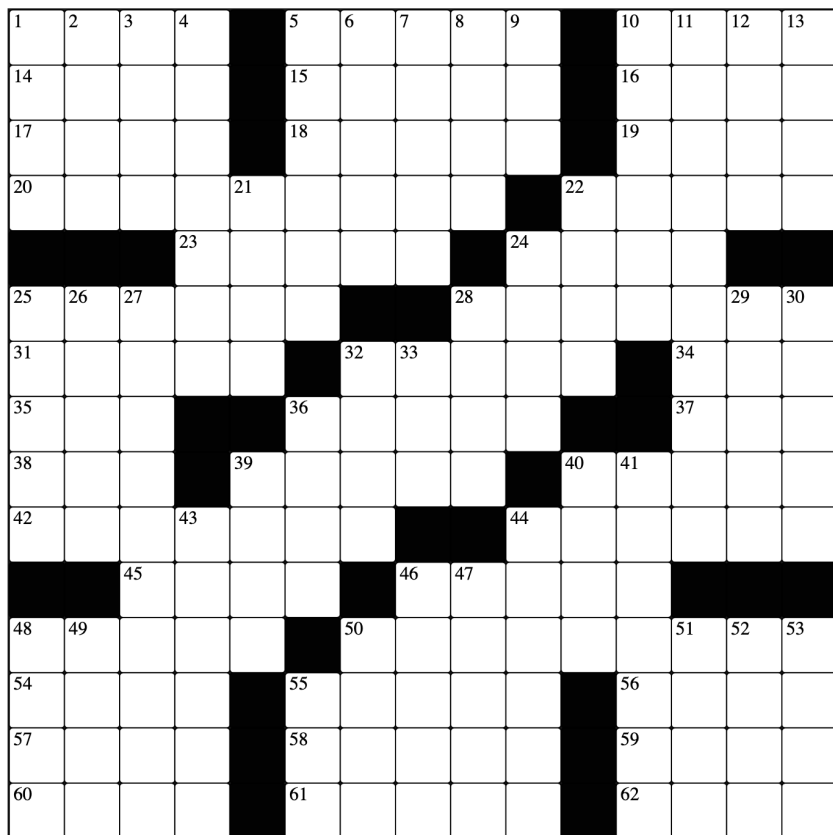
Getting people to participate is not an easy task. Researchers lure participants in with the possibility of receiving a reward for their time, usually in the form of gift cards to Amazon or local businesses. I can tell you from personal experience that it's not hard to get drawn to receive one of these bad boys. Sometimes researchers are desperate enough to give participants' money just for showing up; a project that I saw recently paid each participant \$10 for an hour of their time.

Research is a crucial part of the devel-

opment of new ways of thinking, it produces medical advancements, methods of climate control, therapy techniques; it uncovers some of the great mysteries and wrong-doings of our society. By devoting a small chunk of your time to filling out a survey or, if you're feeling ambitious, even participating in an experiment, you are not only cutting your fellow students a break, but bettering your community.

Diversions

Crossword



onlinecrosswords.net. Answer key located on A13

ACROSS

- 1 Prepare, as potatoes
- 5 Sharpshooter's mag-

nifier

- 10 Cole __ (side dish)
- 14 Skin-cream ingre-

dient

- 15 Santa's helpers
- 16 Underground coal

source

- 17 Impolite
- 18 Pulls apart, as paper
- 19 Suffix for luncheon
- 20 Casual conversation
- 22 Evaluated
- 23 Verse writers
- 24 Hair ringlet
- 25 Kindhearted
- 28 Hold the deed to
- 31 "All kidding __ . . ."
- 32 Book's backbone
- 34 Fictional Van Winkle
- 35 Jogged
- 36 United Nations goal
- 37 An hour after noon
- 38 Self-esteem
- 39 After-dinner candies
- 40 Major tourist draw
- 42 Snake
- 44 Loan officer, for example
- 45 Toward sunrise
- 46 Steam bath
- 48 Robins and wrens
- 50 Office fund for odds and ends
- 54 "Little __ Fauntleroy"
- 55 Gemstone weight
- 56 __ fish sandwich
- 57 Military no-show, for short
- 58 Viewpoint

- 59 Make revisions to
- 60 Undecorated
- 61 Fishing-rod attachments
- 62 Quick swims

DOWN

- 1 Scratches up
- 2 Grad
- 3 Any carbonated soft drink
- 4 Comfy shoe insert
- 5 Small sofa
- 6 Sports shoe attachment
- 7 Racetrack shapes
- 8 Fringe benefit
- 9 Letter before tee
- 10 Mascara mishaps
- 11 Capital of Arkansas
- 12 Start a poker pot
- 13 Unwanted garden plant
- 21 __ Star State (Texas)
- 22 Deceptive plan
- 24 Edible ice-cream holder
- 25 Rabbit relatives
- 26 Common practice
- 27 Misstep
- 28 Snapshots, for short
- 29 From that time

- 30 Asparagus piece
- 32 Placed in the mailbox
- 33 Portion of butter
- 36 Half a quart
- 39 Untidiness
- 40 Quite a few
- 41 Passed, as legislation
- 43 Table-tennis implement
- 44 Flat-topped hills
- 46 Twilled suit material
- 47 In any way
- 48 Spill the beans
- 49 Where Des Moines is
- 50 Sheet of glass
- 51 German auto
- 52 Scissors sound
- 53 Berets and bonnets
- 55 Coupe or sedan

Word Search: Cookies

- ALMOND
- BRAN
- BUTTERSCOTCH
- CHOCOLATE
- CINNAMON
- COCONUT
- GINGERBREAD
- MACAROONS
- MERINGUE
- MOLASSES
- OATMEAL
- PEANUT
- PECAN
- PEPPERMINT
- PUMPKIN
- RAISIN
- SHORTBREAD
- SUGAR

S I M A R C C E E T D N L T A
 P A E A K O C U O N A E P E R
 N U G A C A G M O P E C A N P
 G U M O T N I M R E P P E P B
 S I N P I A L C T S L U T O I
 R U N R K A U U C H E N A A S
 T S E G G I N G E O L O L T E
 H M N N E A N O D R A A O M S
 B U T T E R S C O T C H C E S
 K U G P T N B A B B T S O A A
 U S S S E U N R N R S M H L L
 C I N N A M O N E E A C C A O
 O M S N O O R A C A M N A S M
 R A N I S I A R E D D U A R R

puzzles.ca. Answer key located on A13

THUMBS UP DOWN

- Spring Weather
- TikTok
- OHOP
- Longer Days

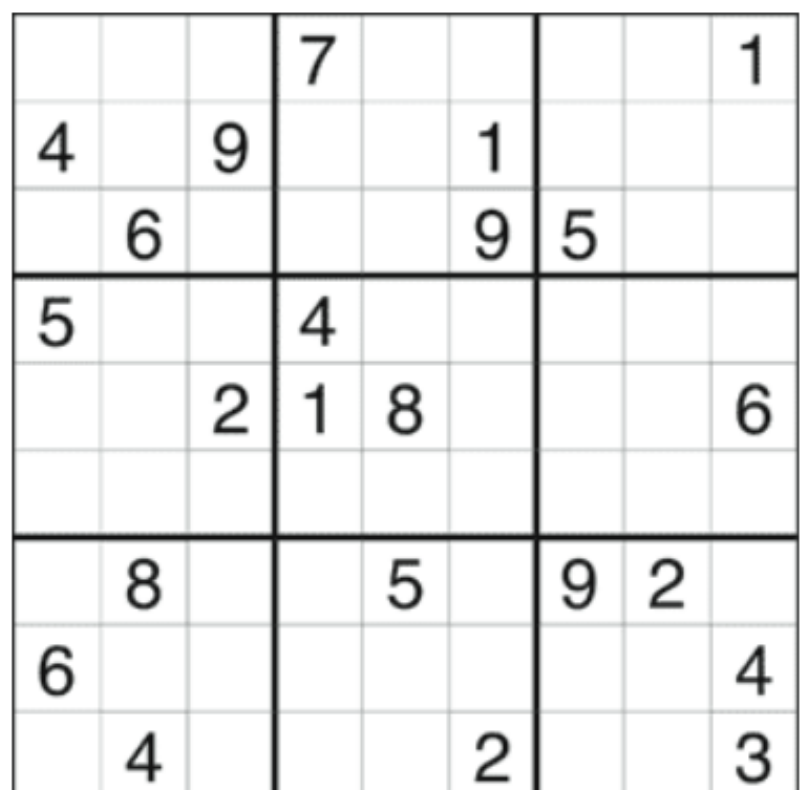
- Cold Nights
- Facebook
- Dominoes
- Losing an Hour



Sudoku

Each row, column and 3x3 square must have numbers 1 - 9 in any order, but each digit can only appear once. There is only one correct answer.

Difficulty level: Medium



puzzles.ca. Answer key located on A13

Culture

Two Honors College student ambassadors 'Keep It Personal' by launching Black Bear Exchange campaign

Rebekah Sands
Culture Editor

Beginning March 1, students Bailey West a fourth-year Honors biochemistry student and Katie Tims, a fourth-year Honors biology student, are launching their "It's Personal" campaign in partnership with the University of Maine's Black Bear Exchange (BBE), challenging UMaine's professional and student groups and organizations to donate as many personal care items as possible before Maine Day on April 28.

This campaign aims to foster healthy competition within the UMaine community as a March-Madness style, basketball bracket event where teams who raised more personal care goods such as toothpaste, soap and bandaids, are moved along, and those who fall short, are knocked out. As of Thursday, March 4, the campaign had 17 different student and administrative UMaine groups signed up and ready to compete and donate starting March

8. Expanding on an Honors College initiative last semester, West and Tims noted that the current fundraiser is a culmination of both curiosity and hard work toward raising awareness about personal care item insecurity and building a campus community willing to support that need.

"We wanted to hone in on what food insecurity looks like on our campus. COVID-19 has really exacerbated that for a lot of people and we wanted to build community in a time when everybody is struggling," Tims said.

At the beginning stages, West's and Tims' aim was focused more toward food security as a broad issue affecting the UMaine campus, however, they determined food items were not the only products necessary to get by when funds are low.

"We were originally pretty oriented on food insecurity, but when you're insecure in terms of food, you likely are also insecure in terms of personal care products which

also contribute to your quality of life. We didn't realize that it was such a big gap that needs to be filled, initially," West said.

During their "Giving Tuesday" event around Thanksgiving last semester, the pair sought to give back in a smaller capacity before their current "It's Personal" campaign this spring. In a single day, West noted how much support came from the surrounding UMaine community.

With the current "It's Personal" Campaign, West and Tims are already seeing donations coming through which will be making their way to UMaine's BBE in addition to the \$500 Maine Hunger Dialogue grant awarded to the initiative in December which will be used primarily for donations directly to the BBE and for means of spreading the word.

Lisa Morin, coordinator of the Bodwell Center, which runs the BBE, UMaine's campus food pantry, commented on this tremendous campus support and the need for it while the financial stressors



Photo by David Jakacky.

of COVID-19 are still affecting the campus community, especially students who relied on on-campus work study opportunities or jobs in the surrounding area.

"We had been serving 60 or so people in a week's time, and now we're seeing over 100. [COVID-19 has] increased both the number and type of people coming in," Morin said.

Morin emphasized that there is "not one type of student" who can take advantage of the BBE, recognizing the stigma around using the term "food cupboard" and expressing that the BBE remains an "exchange" to make those who may feel un-

comfortable welcome. Students may use the BBE once a week or even once a month depending on their own personal need.

As the fundraiser wraps up on Maine Day, both Morin, West and Tims hope for this campaign to first aid the UMaine community, but most importantly spread awareness that personal care item insecurity goes hand-in-hand with food insecurity.

"I think this is the ideal scenario where we get a lot of stuff that would carry us for a while [so we can] help people [for longer], but also that people would realize this need and

be able to pitch in to help keep the shelves full on a more regular basis [on top of what has already been done]," Morin said.

To get involved in this fundraiser, check out the "It's Personal" campaign page to discover which groups are currently in the running beginning on March 8 and support your favorite team, or keep up to date on the Honors College and BBE social media platforms.

To access and learn more about the BBE, please visit their website for more information on their current Black Bears To Go program.

Summer to winter in two days: Graduate student Tasmin Ikra adjusts to life in Orono

Caleigh Charlebois
Guest Author

A tall pair of winter boots, fleece leggings, bed linens with two pillows, a bottle of Windex, a bag of dry milk and a box of cereal; these were the only things waiting for Tasmin Ikra when she arrived at her new apartment in Orono, Maine on Feb. 12 after sending the items ahead to her new roommate via an Amazon order only a few days before. She arrived past midnight after a 40-hour journey from Dhaka, Bangladesh, where the highest temperature the day of her departure had been 81 F, to Bangor, Maine, where it was now 8 F.

Tasmin Ikra is a graduate student researching electrical engineering under Mohamad Musavi, the associate dean of the College of Engineering at the University of Maine. She began the semester in Bangladesh before traveling to join the in-person campus community in early February.

In doing so, she left behind her parents, her boyfriend and the country she has called home for all 26 years of her life. Coming to the United States amid the COVID-19 pandemic also posed

logistical challenges that wouldn't have been present in previous years. The United States embassy in Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh, was closed beginning March 19, 2020, delaying Ikra's student visa application for months.

Despite these hardships, Ikra is one of 23 international graduate students who have made similar decisions to travel to UMaine this year, according to Orliana Boteva, director of the Office of International Programs. What has led them to leave their homes so far behind in order to pursue higher education in the United States?

In Ikra's case, it is all about her desire to find an adviser that suits her professional goals. Working with Musavi will allow her to pursue research in her desired field: sustainable power systems.

"Climate change is felt very sharply in India, Bangladesh and the surrounding countries," Ikra said. Her desire to travel to the U.S. for her Ph.D. is partially driven by her desire to make a real difference in a crisis threatening her home in Bangladesh.

While Ikra is confident that her time at UMaine will further her academic goals, the

move has been disconcerting. She has lived in Dhaka, a busy, hot city whose winter weather is like Maine's summer weather, for nearly her entire life.

She hadn't heard the name "Orono" until she had already decided to enroll at UMaine. When she did, she had the impression that it was a small city such as Edinburgh, Scotland, which Ikra had visited once on a family trip.

"Here, something is different... I'm not saying it's bad, but it is different," she explained. "I was thinking that things will be much more available here."

By "things," she meant almost everything. There is very little within easy walking distance in Orono, especially for someone unaccustomed to the winter weather.

But in particular, Ikra worries about finding ingredients she used to cook with at home, such as cracked dried pulses she adds to rice. She hopes to find somewhere to buy them before she runs out of the supplies her mother packed for her.

It seems that her parents are what she will miss most about being away from Bangladesh. "I can cook because in my home,

generally, I used to cook, but it's difficult for me mentally to live alone, because I didn't live at all without my family until now," she shared.

"Maybe it's weird here, but this is the tradition, that kids will live with their parents up to their marriage at least," she paused before continuing. "I am emotionally attached to them so that's how I am facing problems living alone. I think I will be okay with some time."

This sentiment will be familiar to domestic students who have also struggled with leaving their families for the first time, but the distance between Ikra and her family, along with the cultural expectation that she should live with them into adulthood, has made it especially difficult.

Living in a new country also amplifies another common worry for Ikra; immersed in an unfamiliar culture, she worries about fitting in.

"The society, the people and the way people treat and greet each other... All things are different here," Ikra says.

She laughed as she described her friends' reaction to being invited inside her

apartment after they brought her to the grocery store.

"In our country, if you have come to drop someone off, they will definitely let you into the house and offer you some food," she said. "So I was just asking them if they want to come in, but they were telling me, 'No, no, this is not Bangladesh so I won't come in.' So maybe I'm afraid that I'm doing something that is ill-mannered here in the U.S."

Ikra elaborated on her concerns, also recognizing small cultural differences between regions of her own country.

"In my home region in Bangladesh, the custom is to give something in return when someone gives you a gift. But in the neighboring region close by, giving something back would not be the custom and someone would be upset. Neither person is wrong, it is just a matter of custom. But things are so different between even small regions there and now I am in a completely new country," Ikra says.

Though Ikra has faced many surprises since her arrival in Orono, not all have been unwelcome. Among them was an unex-

pected sense of community.

"I had no idea that there would be so many Bangladeshi people here," she remarks.

When Ikra decided to attend UMaine, she found a Facebook group for Bangladeshi students in Maine. Since arriving, she says she has met roughly three to four couples and single students from Bangladesh who know each other through the Facebook group. Most astonishingly, she did not know that one of her friends from her time in her undergraduate program in Bangladesh was also attending UMaine until she arrived here.

She described this coincidence in a pleasant tone that doesn't convey as much surprise as one might expect. "When I arrived, I saw she was here as well and texted her, and she came over and took me to the store," she said. "I hadn't seen her since 2015."

Reviews

🎵 MUSIC

Throw it back with the Black Eyed Peas' 'Where Is The Love' 2016 revamp

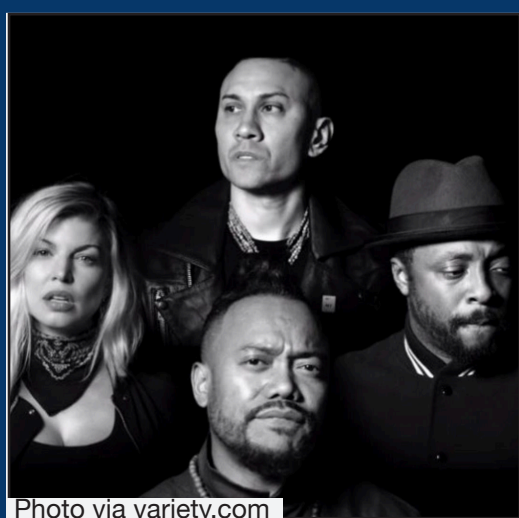


Photo via variety.com

RATING ★★★★★

Abigail Martin
Staff Writer

In 2003, the Black Eyed Peas collaborated with Justin Timberlake on the single “Where Is The Love?” after years of drafting portions of the song independently. The lead single from the group’s third studio album “Elephunk,” the song is a response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The release ultimately peaked at No. 8 on the Billboard Top 100.

Over a decade later, the Black Eyed Peas released a second version of “Where Is The Love?” The song was revamped in 2016, this time addressing terrorist attacks happening worldwide, as well as the Syrian crisis, the ambush killings of police officers in Texas and the deaths of Philando Castile and Alton Sterling. Additionally, the revamp also reunited the members of the Black Eyed Peas, mirroring the unity the song came to be known for.

Lead member will.i.am. said in an NPR interview that he and the rest of the band members felt as though the world needed this song to arise again, as there were crises springing up throughout society that needed to be addressed.

True to the original, Justin Timberlake contributed vocals. However, this time many others offered guest vocals, including Mary J. Blige, Nicole Scherzinger, Audra Day, Jessie J, The Game, A\$AP Rocky and Usher. Although the arrangement and melody differ between versions, there are still some familiar aspects such as Justin Timberlake’s chorus during the song’s outro.

Similar to the original, the revamp release addresses a wide variety of worldly issues. From terrorism, racism, gang crime and pollution to war, intolerance and violence toward the LGBTQ community, the Black Eyed Peas cover a wide range of political topics. The group was ahead of their time, as it was uncommon for mainstream artists to shed light on world issues in their music.

Musically, “Where Is The Love?” is an upbeat anthem reflective of the group’s hope and optimism for the future. More specifically, the song shows us that the world needs to look forward toward our future with hope in mind, and that to reach a peaceful state we need to both trust and enforce systemic change.

The accompanying music video for the 2016 “Where Is The Love?” is a masterpiece in itself. Aside from the band members from the Black Eyed Peas, a host of celebrities make cameos, such as DJ Khaled, Quincy Jones, Snoop Dogg, Randy Jackson, Jamie Foxx, Vanessa Hudgens and Wiz Khalifa, among others.

Proceeds from the release of the 2016 “Where Is The Love?” go towards the i.am. angel Foundation. The i.am.angel Foundation is a nonprofit founded by will.i.am which works to improve the lives of people around the world through education, inspiration and opportunity.

🎬 MOVIE

‘Eat Pray Love’ gives the drama and romance you need to rethink what’s most important

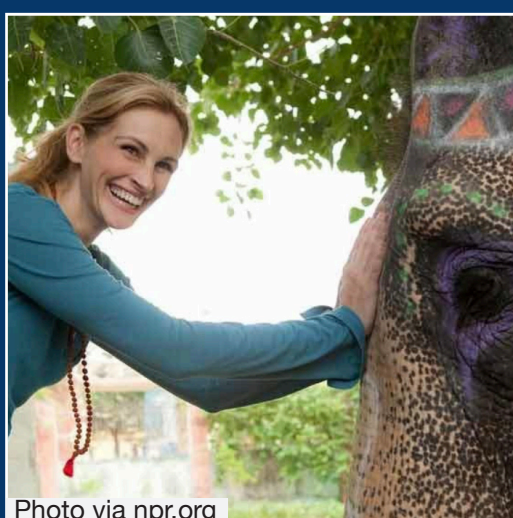


Photo via npr.org

RATING ★★★★★

Meaghan Bellavance
Contributor

Recently made available to stream on Netflix, the 2010 American biographical romance drama “Eat Pray Love” has the ability to inspire thousands. Based on Elizabeth Gilbert’s 2006 memoir of the same title, and with a run time of 2 hours and 20 minutes, the film is a lengthy but valuable story about the most important things in life: self-discovery, love and happiness.

Starring Julia Roberts as Liz Gilbert and Javier Bardem as Felipe, the film’s leads could not have had better chemistry. Their performances effortlessly bring about feelings of inspiration and self-love. Roberts is well-known for her roles in “Pretty Women” (1990) and “Erin Brockovich” (2000), while Bardem is best-known for his role in “No Country for Old Men” (2007).

Additional cast members include James Franco as David Piccolo, Richard Jenkins as Richard, Billy Crudup as Steven, Viola Davis as Delia, Hadi Subiyanto as Ketut Liyer and Tuva Novotny as Sofi.

The film follows Gilbert’s journey as she finds her successful career derailed by a devastating divorce. Having lost everything, Gilbert travels around the world in a journey of self-discovery. Stepping out of her comfort zone, she takes a year off from work to explore Italy, India and Bali, Indonesia. Gilbert does exactly what the title of the film states; she eats, she prays and she loves. Along the way, she rediscovers herself and learns what is truly important in her life and what she really wants.

“Eat Pray Love” was directed by Ryan Murphy and produced by Dede Gardner. The screenplay was also written by Ryan Murphy, alongside Jennifer Salt. The film received nominations for the People’s Choice Award for Favorite Movie Actress, as well as the Satellite Award for Best Costume Design.

The costumes and settings in this film were spot-on. Each scene will make viewers feel immersed in the cultures

that Gilbert was experiencing. Gilbert learned the Italian language hands-on in the center of Italy, wore outfits that one would really see in India and experienced the culture one would find in Bali.

Back when “Eat Pray Love” was released on Aug. 13, 2010, it earned nearly \$204.6 million worldwide in the box office compared to the film’s \$60 million budget.

Simply put, this film is a must-watch. Whether you are struggling with finding your path in life or you just need a little inspiration, “Eat Pray Love” is the perfect solution. Curl up on the weekend and binge away on the adventure of a lifetime in Italy, India and Bali. Grab your friends, a bowl of popcorn and always remember to make the best out of this life we are all given. If there is one takeaway “Eat Pray Love” can give you, it is to appreciate all the little things in life and to follow your heart. You know yourself better than anyone, and only you can decide what is best for you.

National Holidays

Abigail Martin
Contributor

Monday: National Women’s Day & National Proofreading Day

March 8 is International Women’s Day and National Proofreading Day, among others. Celebrating women and their social, economic and political achievements allows women to feel empowered in the journey towards gender equality. In years prior, people celebrated women on this day by attending women’s rights marches. In addition, this day celebrates mistake-free documents and writing. For those who have the time or reason to make edits on writing, today is the day to take action.

Tuesday: National Get Over It Day & National Meatball Day

March 9 is National Get Over It Day and National Meatball Day. “Get over it” is exactly how it sounds. Today, try not to hold onto things. Or you can work through things that are on your mind by talking with a friend or writing things down in a journal. While you’re at it, some restaurants may give out free meatballs as a part of their menu for National Meatball Day. Celebrate this day by safely going out and eating your favorite dish that involves meatballs.

Wednesday: National Pack Your Lunch Day & National Registered Dietitian Nutritionist Day

March 10 is National Pack Your Lunch Day and National Registered Dietitian Nutritionist Day. National Registered Dietitian Nutritionist day falls on the second Wednesday in March of every year. The best way to celebrate this day is just as it sounds — pack your favorite cold lunch such as a classic peanut butter and jelly sandwich and grapes or something funky like a taco salad before work. Along the same vein, registered Dietitian Nutritionists play a vital role in the healthcare of those who have nutrition diseases and diet-related concerns. The best way to appreciate these professionals is to learn more about their role in health promotion and research how you might cater to your own nutritional needs.

Thursday: National 311 Day & National Proposal Day

March 11 is National 311 Day and National Proposal Day. National 311 Day aims to draw attention to the nonemergency help line when you’re unsure who to call in a noncrisis situation. To celebrate National 311

Day, spread awareness of this nonurgent public help line and use the hashtag, #National311. Today is also National Proposal Day. Celebrate today by either reflecting on your prom experiences or create your own socially-distanced or roommate-version of prom. Grab some Dollar Store streamers and do up your living room big for some COVID-19 safe fun.

Friday: National Girl Scout Day & National Plant a Flower Day

March 12 is National Girl Scout Day and National Plant a Flower Day. This day honors the history and legacy of Girl Scouts in the country. The best way to observe this day is to donate to a local troop or to volunteer. You could even combine both holidays by getting outside and exercising your green thumb by starting some seeds for the spring thaw.

Stockley identifies 'The Double Standard' in social justice coverage during McGillicuddy Humanities Center talk

Rebekah Sands
Culture Editor

On Feb. 24, McGillicuddy Humanities Center (MHC) Undergraduate Fellow Leela Stockley presented "The Double Standard: Protest Coverage and Racial Bias," which covered her research on racial bias in relation to the recent Black Lives Matter Protests. Stockley is a fourth-year journalism and anthropology student and a prospective graduate student at the University of Maine.

After an introduction by Karen Sieber, Stockley's presentation detailed a culmination of over a year's worth of research into media and journalist behavior in the mediascape within the context of the current Black Lives Matter protest coverage. The presentation noted the opportunity the McGillicuddy Humanities Center provided by allowing an avenue for in-depth intersectional research.

Stockley combined her interests in journalism and anthropology by focusing her research on determining the context and framing of mass media with relation to diversity and

inclusion within the newsroom. This was exemplified by a discussion of news headlines, both in smaller community press and in larger publications, as reactions to events during the Black Lives Matter movement.

"It is an important aspect of research as an academic. By going through all of my undergraduate work, I have learned a lot about the value of bringing in various perspectives and being able to talk about why they are important to how we are approaching what we're studying," Stockley said.

Stockley said she was drawn to focus on the Black Lives Matter movement as it has existed since 2010, serving as a long-standing basis for conversation surrounding racial bias and conceptualizing the protest paradigm. She noted the importance of learning how journalists may use delegitimizing language when framing both protest and general racial coverage as a whole, which helps to contextualize recent social justice issues and in shedding light on holes created by biased coverage.

"Journalism is con-

stantly trying to provide context. Any good journalism is able to present a [variety] of information and viewpoints, and I was curious to see if there were any patterns in journalism that show the way journalists can provide context," Stockley said.

During her presentation, Stockley brought forth recommendations for approaching apparent news bias, discussing strategies on how to consciously engage when consuming media involving social justice issues by providing a checklist framework that aims to combat media bias and understand charged headlines by dissecting framed narratives. Stockley noted that this awareness is especially relevant when the diversity of newsroom populations do not proportionately match the communities they serve.

"In order to combat media bias, it is important for people to consider how your media is produced and who is producing it. It is interesting to consider how news outlets are trying to curate news that is relevant and impactful to their communities, while not

The Double Standard: Protest Coverage and Racial Bias



Leela Stockley

McGillicuddy Humanities Center Fellow
Editor-in-chief, Maine Campus

Graphic provided by Leela Stockley.

necessarily serving the needs of their communities," Stockley said.

Stockley's talk ended with a brief Q&A session reiterating varied frames between the local and larger news with an emphasis on local news being a more reliable source of information as well as using local op-ed sections to build a general framework of what some community voices may look like among the general front-page content.

The MHC will be putting on a number of series of events throughout the rest of the spring semester, as they continue to fund

student research and promote events centered around humanities on campus. The next event will take place on March 10 at 7:30 p.m. called "The Art of Climate Change" featuring Maine-based artists Jill Pelto, Deirdre Murphy and Laura Helmuth, editor-in-chief of Scientific American, who will discuss ways art transcends scientific incorporation in public engagement.

As posted on their Facebook and Instagram pages, the MHC is looking for applicants for both the upcoming spring/fall and fall/spring semesters.

When selected, MHC fellows are awarded \$8,000 across two semesters to research a topic of their choice, as a part of furthering student interdisciplinary skills and supporting meaningful dialogue between a broad landscape of humanities platforms and resources both at UMaine and beyond.

For more information on the application process as well as general information, please visit their website or social media pages to stay up to date on current events and opportunities.

President's Council on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion welcomes guest speaker and former employee JoAnn Fritsche

Meaghan Bellavance
Contributor

On Feb. 25 from 6 to 7 p.m., the President's Council on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion hosted its inaugural session for the Nine Pillars of Diversity Lectures Series, featuring guest speaker JoAnn Fritsche. Fritsche is the former director of equal opportunity and women's development at the University of Maine.

The lecture series began with a welcoming introduction by UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy, followed by Laura Cowan, the director of UMaine's women's gender and sexuality program, introducing the notable works of Fritsche as a past employee and member of the UMaine community.

Back in 1973, Fritsche was hired as the first officer for equal opportunity at UMaine.

"It is not an exag-

geration to say Dr. Fritsche transformed the college of our hearts always," Cowan said. "She understood that advancing equity and diversity required important changes in practice, such as equal salary, more diverse job candidates, accessible buildings and classrooms, but also a change in culture."

As Fritsche began to speak of her time at UMaine, including how the world around her was so different at that time, it is clear that she made a tremendous difference for many people in the Maine community.

"At that time, married women couldn't get a credit card without their husband's permission," Fritsche said. "And married women job applicants were asked 'When do you expect to start a family?' so they could knock them out of a promotion if they were going to have a child."

Fritsche went on to

discuss how the position for the officer for equal opportunity at UMaine came about. The position was advertised by former UMaine President Winthrop C. Libby after a woman faculty member in 1972 had filed a lawsuit against the Portland campus and its administrators for violating Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, which forbids sex discrimination in employment.

"Since women faculty and staff at the University of Maine had been bringing complaints of sex discrimination to attention internally, [former] President Libby decided to advertise for an equal opportunity director to help the university investigate and resolve complaints internally, thus to prevent expensive and embarrassing lawsuits," Fritsche said.

After being given the position of officer for equal opportunity, Fritsche noticed

that even though the Equal Pay Act had been passed by Congress a few years prior, nothing had changed. To her, changes in the law do not bring about changes in attitudes or behavior, until and unless there are protests and effective advocacy.

Fritsche began her first case of intervention advocacy for a woman employee of UMaine who had relatively the same credentials as a male employee but was being paid almost \$2,500 less.

"With no embarrassment whatsoever, the department chair said that the man, Dr. F., had six children and a wife to support, but Dr. D. had a husband who was a department chairman making plenty of money and they had only one child, so of course it seemed only fair to give a higher salary to this male faculty member, even though his credentials were similar to hers,"

Fritsche said. "At that point, I told the chairman that there were now two laws, the Equal Pay Act of 1963 and also Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, and both require that a woman and a man doing equal work must be paid equally."

Moving on to 1974, Fritsche advocated for getting rid of homophobic interview questions for classified employment at UMaine. She urged the president and the director of personnel to remove the questions to avoid bad publicity, and ultimately, her advocacy worked. The questions were removed from the form.

After attending disability training workshops, Fritsche is an advocate of the philosophy to spell disability like 'disAbility,' a change she is still advocating for to this day.

"The purpose is to focus on your own and other people's abilities

and find ways to compensate for your own or for others 'dis,' or impairments," Fritsche said. "The other thing is to learn how to be a self-advocate, or an advocate to yourself, to request for yourself or to grant others reasonable accommodations for the 'dis' if or when needed."

Throughout the years in her position at UMaine as the officer for equal opportunity, Fritsche addressed many other equity and diversity issues.

"Dr. Fritsche created a committee before she left Maine, and she called it Preparing Ourselves for a Changing World," Cowan said.

Fritsche left UMaine in 1986 for a career fundraising for non-profit and as director of the Tacoma Washington Area Commission on Disability.

As a whole, Fritsche made a huge impact on the UMaine community and culture, one that is still felt today.

‘Using Technology to Document Racial Violence’ talk urges us to piece together cultural history online

Abigail Martin
Contributor

On Feb. 25, Wendy Kasten, the chair of Aging Well in Waldo County sponsored a talk regarding violence in education as part of the Waldo Reads Together Project. “Using Technology to Document Racial Violence: On Finding History We Don’t Want To Remember” featured guest speaker Karen Sieber, digital humanities expert at the McGillicuddy Humanities Center. Sieber attempted to answer the question, “How can we better connect the public given history and context?” Sieber took the audience on her personal journey to place

an emphasis on how important this question truly is.

Sieber began by explaining her interest in the intersection between travel and education as her primary motivator for her interest in her career. Sieber gave reference to Maurice Mayes’ Knoxville, Tennessee murder, the Red Summer and the Tulsa Massacre, Race Riots and the St. Louis Race Wars as significant historical events in the United States concerning violence and recognized as a cause for study.

Sieber noted that these occurrences are widely not discussed and when searched online, she found that there were only frag-

ments of information rather than whole perspectives. Additionally, she found that most of the information available to people about these events isn’t digital, which emphasizes issues of accessibility and drove Sieber to attempt to document all of the information available in something known as a digital archive.

The digital archive that is now available uses an interactive timeline format which makes it a great resource for teachers across all grade levels to better utilize primary resources in the classroom. Similarly, this interactive timeline format makes learning about these instances

in history more engaging and worthwhile for students.

To accurately compile a digital archive, Sieber took a year-long road trip in 2015, travelling 7,500 miles, visiting 25 institutions and collecting over 700 documents in a variety of forms, including: court reports, photos, news clips, telegrams, cartoons, coroner’s reports, souvenirs and even meeting minutes relevant to the instances of violence she was interested in learning more about and about those she was interested in bringing attention towards.

Sieber learned an immense amount from analyzing these documents by using an

interactive geographical map to pinpoint similarities, differences and trends while analyzing the riots and was able to gain an understanding of the similarities and differences that had taken place throughout the country.

From her information, Sieber noticed certain social trends which carried through multiple historical events. She thought it was important to note that the police and other enforcement authorities either tended to oppose riots or weren’t involved in any capacity. Additionally, she noted that the rioting crowds were overall “insensitive,” meaning that the people partic-

ipating in these riots were of varying socioeconomic class, race and gender.

Given the recent protests over police brutality throughout the country, this talk was especially relevant and meaningful. If people are interested in learning more about Sieber or her work, she may be found at www.ksieber.com. To access her digital archive, please visit

www.visualizingth-eredsummer.com. For more information on The Waldo Reads Together Project speaker series, visit <https://agingwellinwaldocounty.org/waldo-reads-together/events/>.

Study Abroad: Torino Brewery looks ahead to ride out second wave of COVID-19

Gustav Anderson
Contributor

Amidst all of the noise and popularity of Italy’s world-famous wine scene exists an often-overlooked industry that’s quietly on the rise. While craft beer has been all the rage stateside for many years now, Italy is now beginning to experience its own renaissance in the brewing world.

While I was abroad last spring semester in Torino, Italy, I had the wonderful opportunity to intern with a small craft brewery making a big splash in their local community. In operation since 2006, Birrificio San Paolo has a strong reputation in Torino as a producer of high-quality American IPAs, German Pilsners and so much more. Even though I only

spent a brief two weeks working at the brewery before the pandemic canceled my program, I learned an incredible amount about the craft beer industry in Italy and developed a strong friendship with the owners.

Currently, Italy is in lockdown due to a second wave of COVID-19. While the first wave started in February of last year and lasted until about early August, the second wave struck mid-September and is still holding fast. I reached out to Graziano who owns Birrificio San Paolo to ask about how his business is coping with the lockdown. All quotes are roughly translated from Italian, as Graziano feels the most comfortable speaking his native language.

“We [Torino] are in a light lockdown. We

were open for about four months before the second lockdown,” Graziano said. When asked about a timeframe for reopening, Graziano stated, “Hard to say ... hopefully next month.”

For three months now, the brewery’s taproom and restaurant have been closed. Their brewing and distribution operations were also halted. However, recently this changed, as Graziano has now begun brewing again in preparation for an anticipated reopening in the coming weeks.

All businesses in Italy are facing the same lockdown restrictions as Birrificio San Paolo, which has sadly resulted in several less fortunate Torino breweries shutting down forever.

“The government mishandled the brew-

ing [industry] and consequently damaged the craft beer production as well. It was enough, with the rules of spacing and the masks, to keep everyone open,” Graziano pointed out.

The harsh restrictions imposed by the Italian government are quite different from the regulations on American craft breweries and bars. While circumstances like higher confirmed case numbers may point to the legitimacy of the restrictions in Italy, brewery owners like Graziano nonetheless see the approach taken by the Italian government as damaging and unnecessary.

Here in Orono, breweries have the option to remain open to the public or not. Orono Brewing Company decided to close but

continues to brew and distribute beer. Marsh Island Brewing, on the other hand, is keeping its taproom safely open by enforcing mask-wearing, social distancing and capacity limitation.

While never completely afraid that his brewery would permanently shut down due to the lockdown, times have still been very difficult for Graziano and Birrificio San Paolo.

“From the state, a very small amount of money, and from the customers almost nothing,” Graziano said about the kind of support he has received during the crisis.

Even within the Italian craft beer scene, there is limited help to be found. According to Graziano, there is very little collaboration between neigh-

boring breweries in Torino, even in light of the lockdown. He suggests that Italian breweries need to team up in the future and perhaps create a sort-of “consortium sales system.”

As the coming weeks unfold, it will be interesting to see how the Italian government handles its current lockdown situation. Breweries like Graziano’s can only survive without sales for so long; things need to change soon if the Italian craft beer industry is to continue its inspirational growth.

Perhaps the lockdown will cause brewery owners to realize the importance of internal collaboration and unity — values that are currently embraced by craft breweries in the United States.

Study Abroad: Breaking the language barrier

Gustav Anderson
Contributor

There are few tasks more challenging than laying siege to the near-impenetrable language barrier. Sure, you can take introductory language courses, and yes, Google Translate exists, but these alone do not properly equip a person with the necessary tools to scale the foreign language blockade. For me, there were two mentalities I embraced while abroad in Torino, Italy last spring that helped me fruitfully engage with the community. Let me explain to you how putting myself in uncomfortable situations and engaging in complicated conversation topics helped me break the language barrier.

Unfortunately, avoiding the use of a foreign language is very easy in a European country like Italy

due to the prevalence of English. Unless you go out of your way to use the local language, comfortably getting by with English for a few months is very doable. During my first few weeks in Torino, I did exactly this. Admittedly, I did give Italian the old college try at first. Every time I went to a cafe I would use rehearsed phrases when ordering my coffee. However, the baristas always noticed my incompetence and would switch to English to save time and energy. It was embarrassing to know that nearly every Italian knew more English than I knew Italian. Eventually, I became too comfortable with simply asking if people spoke English, which they usually did, leading into every encounter.

It was not until I put myself into uncomfortable situations that forced me to use

small amounts of Italian that I began to chip away at the language barrier. One such situation happened on a weekend when I visited my relatives in a small village about an hour from Torino. While driving down the road with my cousin, a man doing yard work signaled to us. My cousin, who spoke no English, pulled the car over and motioned for me to get out and follow him. Together, we walked into an old barn that belonged to the man who signaled to us.

After offering us some wine he had made himself, he and my cousin began chatting. At first, I was very intimidated and felt extremely out of place. However, my brain began to rewire itself; bits and pieces of the conversation started to make sense. While my brain hurt from the strain of listening to and formulating Italian

words, the time I spent in that barn provided me with the exact kind of linguistic discomfort I needed to break the language barrier. All I used were a few simple words, some elaborate hand gestures and many universally understood facial expressions.

Disposing of the crutch that is the English language and forcing myself to use Italian was only the first major step in breaking the language barrier. Once I became comfortable with placing myself in uncomfortable situations, I started to engage people in complicated and meaningful topics. While it was easy enough to talk to locals about weather and food, it was a completely different experience to discuss subjects like politics or sociological perspectives.

One night in a bar,

my friend and I ran into a young man who was fascinated by the fact that we were from the United States. He wanted to practice English and we wanted to practice Italian, so we engaged with him in a mutually beneficial dialogue. After some introductions, the conversation turned to a discussion on personal liberty. The man did his best to give his opinions about how he was dissatisfied with the politics in Italy and how he wished to experience life in the United States. Similarly, we tried to communicate to him how life was nowhere near perfect in our own country. While a lot of information was undoubtedly lost in translation, the interaction was still incredible. I exchanged phone numbers with the man and we made plans to meet again. This kind of conversation yielded a much more powerful

result than if I had to converse with the man about simple topics for which I knew the most words.

Becoming comfortable with a foreign language is not an accomplishment that happens passively — especially if English is your first language. It is an exercise in patience and determination. If you are to ever go abroad, try and push yourself to talk with people who do not speak your language; there is much knowledge and growth to be found in discomfort.

Sports

UMaine women's hockey team eliminated by Providence in semifinals



Photo from MEC Archives.

Patrick Sylvia
Contributor

The University of Maine women's ice hockey season came to an end on Wednesday night. The road warrior mentality of the Black Bears was strong, but sometimes a hard nosed team just comes up a bit short. That's what happened in the semifinals game vs. Providence College.

After the Black Bears won 3-1 over a tough University of Vermont team in the quarterfinals, UMaine had the opportunity to reach their first ever finals with a win at Providence. This was the fifth time

that the UMaine women's hockey team had made a semifinal in the program's history. No team has ever made it to the finals.

After a whole 60 minutes of regulation play, the scoresheet was blank, 0-0. Neither team faltered defensively. Both teams knew this was going to be a tight game, and one mistake could end their season. UMaine fourth-year goalie Loryn Porter was superb, as we've come to expect. She was named to the Hockey East Second Team All Stars prior to the playoffs, and she displayed why in this game, stopping all 22 Providence shots in regulation.

Providence fourth-year goalie Sandra Abstreiter was the busier of the two goalies, stopping all 31 shots she faced in regulation, plus two in overtime on her way to earning a shutout.

Going into overtime, it felt as if this was one of those games that would take multiple overtimes to find a winner, but that was not the case. Maine got caught in a line change early and Providence fourth-year forward Gina Savastano created a two-on-one opportunity for Providence with her speed. First-year Maine defender Elise Morphy got back to try and stop Savastano, but Savastano dove on her stomach

to reach the puck and slide it past Morphy to linemate third-year forward Hunter Barnett. Barnett got the puck point blank in front of Porter. She made a nifty forehand to backhand move to beat Porter and send Providence to the finals.

This was a heart-breaking ending to the season, but Savastano's big effort play was a fitting end to this game. It felt like it was going to take something special to win this game, and that play was special. Sadly, it did not go in UMaine's favor, but this team should hold its head high for going as far as any UMaine women's hockey team

before them has. They were one goal away from the finals, and that stings, but they gave it their all, and as a fan, that is all you can ask for.

Looking back on this season we will remember everything that made it strange. The empty stands, the schedules not being announced until the week of the games and all of UMaine's games being on the road due to COVID-19. But we should also look back on some of the bright spots, like Porter starting for the first time as a fourth-year and getting named to the Hockey East Second Team All Star honors. Second-year forward

Ida Kuoppala also got an All Star team honors for her fantastic season, with 15 points in 16 games. The game-winning goal she had vs. the University of Vermont in the quarterfinals was a special moment for her and the team.

At the end of the day, it was a great season and one that we should look back on in a positive light. Hopefully next season we can get back to normal and there will be people to cheer on our women's hockey team.

UMaine baseball team hopes to kick off season after 9 canceled games

Brian Sundstrom
Contributor

The University of Maine's baseball team is coming off a shortened season in 2020, where they were only able to collect one victory in 13 games. Sports teams around the world have had to overcome many obstacles just to be able to suit up and play the game they love in a safe fashion. The team is already off to a rough start this season as they have had a total of nine games cancelled. Their most recent cancellation was due to weather

and not COVID-19 conflicts, which is a bit encouraging. The Black Bears will hope to kick off their season this weekend as they face off against Merrimack College in a doubleheader series.

The team will have its hands full this season as they are a rather inexperienced baseball club. Having a team that consists of 15 first-years can be looked at from two different perspectives. One perspective is that they can all grow and build in the next few years and the team will then be really good. The other perspective

is that they have little experience with each other, and the immediate future looks like it might be a rocky road. Not to mention, the team only consists of six seniors, who will need to expand their leadership roles.

Just a season ago, the Black Bears struggled on both sides of the ball, as they had a team that earned a run average of 9.00, while their opponents sat at a low 2.69. These numbers will have to be turned around if they hope to come out of this season with a winning record. Talks about this spring season

must begin with highlighting the fact that the MLB was able to push through the entire season last year, when COVID-19 was still a "rookie." With the vaccines being distributed to people all around the United States, there are some who wonder where athletes, and specifically professional athletes, should sit on the list, in terms of priority.

First and foremost, comes the health of every member of each team in any sport that is trying to take the field and compete. UMaine will have to follow numerous pro-

ocols in order to ensure that the team will be safe as well as others around them. For professional athletes, they will soon have access to the vaccine but the question is whether the majority of them will agree to receive it. The Wall Street Journal suggests that there is a significant percentage of players across the NFL, NBA and MLB who are hesitant to take the vaccine. Agreements between the league and the Player's Association will be key in driving the process of vaccinating every player. Once the professional

athletes are vaccinated, there is some hope that collegiate athletes will be able to gain access to the vaccine as well. One could argue that if it wasn't for money, college student-athletes should have the ability to get the vaccine before pro-athletes due to sharing a campus with an entire student body.

Delaware crushes UMaine in season opener



Photo from MEC Archives.

Patrick Sylvia
Contributor

Football is finally back. The University of Maine traveled to the University of Delaware for their season opener on Saturday. The Black Bears took to the field for the first time since November of 2019, and the season could not have gotten off to a worse start.

Fifth-year Delaware running back Dejour Lee returned the opening kickoff 87 yards to give the Fightin' Blue Hens a 7-0 lead right off the bat. This would end up being the only score of the first quar-

ter. Both offenses felt rusty, which was no surprise considering both teams had not played a game in well over a year. Fourth-year UMaine defensive back Jordan Swann would create a turnover, picking off Delaware fourth-year quarterback Nolan Henderson in the red zone late in the first quarter. It was the lone highlight of the day for Maine.

In the second quarter, Delaware started to separate from Maine. A 38-yard field goal from second-year kicker Ryan Coe pushed Delaware's lead to 10-0.

Delaware would score another touchdown before halftime, as fourth-year wide receiver Gene Coleman slipped coverage and was left wide open in the end zone for an easy catch to raise Delaware's lead to 17-0 at the half.

Like the first half, the second was all Delaware. The Fightin' Blue Hens would outscore the Black Bears 20 to 0 in the second half. Delaware scored two rushing touchdowns. The first would come from star running back Lee, for his second touchdown of the game. The second

would be on a quarterback sneak by Henderson. Kicker Coe would add two more field goals as well to make the final score 37-0 Delaware.

This was far from the start that the Black Bears were looking for. Maine only got six first downs the entire game, as their offense never found its rhythm. Maine totaled 112 yards offensively the whole game; 51 from rushing yards and 61 passing yards. Maine's second-year quarterback Joe Fagnano completed only 10 passes on 23 attempts. The run game

only averaged 2.4 yards per carry on 24 carries.

Delaware, on the other hand, looked to be in midseason form, carving Maine's defense for 370 yards. The run game was very effective for Delaware, as a committee they combined for 146 yards on the ground.

At the end of the day, it was good to watch a UMaine football game after such a long period of time since their last game. Hopefully, it was just a matter of shaking the rust off and the team can bounce back next week. The spring sea-

son is strange, but it is better than no football season at all.

With five games left in the regular season, the Black Bears' next game will be on Saturday, March 13 at noon in Orono. Sadly, fans will not be allowed to attend the home games this season. Maine will host two more home games this season, the first on April 3 vs. Villanova and the second on April 17 vs. the University of New Hampshire.

This week in sports history: Wilt Chamberlain set single-game scoring record of 100

Brian Sundstrom
Contributor

March 3, 1962, was the day that Wilt Chamberlain played the game of his life and set a record that may never be broken in the future of the NBA. Chamberlain and his Warriors defeated the Knicks by a score of 169 to 147. Chamberlain, known as the Big Dipper, did not sub out of the game once and he dropped a casual 100 points in the evening. He also snatched 25 rebounds to go along with his 100-point achievement. It does not come as a surprise that he played every second

of the game, because that seems like a must for anyone aiming to try and surpass 100 points in today's game.

There are rumors related to whether or not he was targeting the mark in the specific game. Regardless, you cannot argue with the greatness he displayed as a dominant individual on one of the most historic nights in basketball history. Chamberlain was often known as Wilt the Stilt because he stood at a remarkable 7 feet, 1 inch tall and was a force to be reckoned with on the court.

Some would argue that competition was weaker when he was

in his prime than what the competition is like in today's era. The conditioning it takes to play a full 48 minutes is without question impressive, though. Players in the league today rarely play every minute in games that do not go into overtime. The game has obviously evolved over decades, and now the 3-point shot is arguably the most valued skill in the game. Chamberlain scored his record total without the benefit of a 3-point line, scoring only via 2-point baskets and the free-throw line.

When considering which active players have the best chance

to eclipse the record for most points in a singular game, or at least come close to the mark set by Chamberlain, the "Splash Brothers" comes to mind. Stephen Curry and Klay Thompson are the two most lethal perimeter shooters the league has ever seen and have racked up several records pertaining to the 3-point shot. All NBA players have the ability to get hot, but Thompson being "hot" is something that is must-see TV. Thompson currently holds the record for most points scored in a quarter, a record he set when he dropped 37 points in the third

quarter against the Kings back in 2015.

The competition is extremely high today, making it hard for an individual to go ballistic in a single night. But, with how many 3-pointers are being thrown up by teams on a nightly basis, it would not be surprising to see someone come close to Chamberlain's record over the next few years. The circumstances would have to be perfect, likely meaning the game would have to be close throughout and eventually go to overtime so that the players can maximize their minutes. The concept of "load management"

has become a viral process around the league now where teams will limit minutes and the number of games that their best players play to help avoid potential injury. Once Thompson returns from injury, expect him to be on a mission and that mission just might include one for the record books.

Diversions Answer Key

Puzzles, comics and more on A7

1	M	A	S	H	2	S	C	O	P	E	3	S	L	A	W
4	A	L	O	E	5	E	L	V	E	S	6	M	I	N	E
7	R	U	D	E	8	T	E	A	R	S	9	E	T	T	E
10	S	M	A	L	11	T	A	L	K	12	R	A	T	E	D
13	P	O	E	T	S	14	C	U	R	L	15				
16	H	U	M	A	N	E	17	P	O	S	S	E	S	S	
18	A	S	I	D	E	19	S	P	I	N	E	20	R	I	P
21	R	A	N	22	P	E	A	C	E	23	O	N	E		
24	E	G	O	25	M	I	N	T	S	26	M	E	C	C	A
27	S	E	R	P	E	N	T	28	B	A	N	K	E	R	
29	E	A	S	T	30	S	A	U	N	A	31				
32	B	I	R	D	S	33	P	E	T	T	34	C	A	S	H
35	L	O	R	D	36	C	A	R	A	T	37	T	U	N	A
38	A	W	O	L	39	A	N	G	L	E	40	E	D	I	T
41	B	A	R	E	42	R	E	E	L	S	43	D	I	P	S

Crossword

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

Sudoku

S	I	M	A	R	C	C	E	E	T	O	N	L	T	A
P	A	E	K	O	C	U	O	N	A	E	P	E	R	
N	U	G	A	C	A	G	M	O	P	E	C	A	N	P
G	U	M	O	T	N	I	M	R	E	P	P	E		
S	I	N	P	I	A	L	C	T	S	L	U	T	O	I
R	U	N	R	K	A	U	C	H	E	N	A	A	S	
T	S	E	G	G	A	N	G	E	O	L	O	L	T	E
H	M	N	E	A	N	O	D	R	A	A	O	M	S	
B	U	T	T	E	R	S	C	O	T	C	H	C	E	S
K	U	G	P	T	N	B	A	B	B	T	S	O	A	A
U	S	S	E	U	N	R	N	R	S	M	H	L	L	
C	T	I	N	N	A	M	O	N	E	E	A	C	C	A
O	M	S	N	O	O	R	A	C	A	M	N	A	S	M
R	A	N	T	I	S	T	A	R	E	D	D	U	A	R

Word Search

Horoscopes

Antyna Gould Contributor

Aries (March 21 - April 20)

March will affect your work and projects, so try and vision board or / plan it all out on paper. Go out into the world and turn your dreams into a reality. If things don't go exactly as planned on paper, that's okay, it's just nice to have something planned out to make more room in your brain for other things.

Taurus (April 21 - May 20)

Feelings of love and passion will be high in the month of March. Lean into these feelings and don't back down from future situations. Stick up for yourself and let others work to earn your attention. Give yourself the love and attention you deserve.

Gemini (May 21 - June 22)

Look towards your home and family during the month of March. Returning to your roots will be beneficial for your future growth. Surrounding yourself with familiar faces will also help build the courage to face new horizons. Where there is family, there is always support. Remember that family is not limited to blood, you can choose your own family.

Cancer (June 23 - July 21)

Communication is the key to healthy partnerships. This month, challenge yourself to speak up and discuss issues with your partners. Do not be discouraged if you find it difficult to get the words right. Keep trying, and start with small problems. Creating healthy ways of

communication will earn you respect from your partners.

Leo (July 22 - Aug. 23)

Turn your attention towards the important relationships in your life, both new and old ones. When it comes to caring for someone there are many opportunities for fear to take over. Work on releasing those fears. Facing fears together as partners will help to strengthen your relationship.

Virgo (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)

Life is better with the right dance partner. Look for the people who see life the way you do. That person could already be in your life, as often we take those people for granted. However, if this person has not arrived yet, they will soon.

Libra (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)

Work on improving your productivity levels. Start small. Break big projects into smaller parts then work towards those goals. This will make it seem like a lot is being accomplished. Don't forget to take care of your health too. A healthy mind makes for a healthy body.

Scorpio (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

Challenge yourself this month to open yourself up to meaningful connections. Be patient during this endeavor. Transformations don't happen overnight. Forming meaningful connections will create better, long-lasting relationships in the future

Sagittarius (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)

When the world feels scary, it's time to

find a safe space. Turn your home or bedroom into your own sanctuary. It's okay to hide in a safe space to recharge for a little while. Recharge then go back into the world to tackle those problems.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)

It's time to be loud and proud about who you are this month! Tell the world what is on your mind. The insight and drive you possess are worth sharing with everyone. Inspire others to work hard like you do.

Aquarius (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

Hop on the grind to earn some serious coin. Good fortune is coming your way, but not without some hard work first. Get into action and start checking items off your list. Completing projects will bring better oppor-

tunities into your life.

Pisces (Feb. 20 - March 20)

Time to release emotional baggage from past relationships. Releasing the memories that haunt you will leave space in your life for your current partner to replace them with better memories. Healing is not linear, especially when facing dark times of the past. Be patient with yourself and know that you are strong enough to make it through.



The Maine Campus is an independent student publication. It is completely produced by undergraduate students of the University of Maine. Student subscriptions are provided for free through the communications fee.

The Maine Campus is published online at mainecampus.com. Our offices are located at 131 Memorial Union. Contact us by e-mail at info@mainecampus.com or by phone at 207.581.1273.

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