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# Fogler Library hosts talk on representation in children's literature



Photo by David Jakacky.

**Maddy Gernhard Contributor**

The University of Maine's Fogler Library hosted a panel discussion on the importance of diversity in children's literature called "Mirrors, Windows, and Sliding Doors" on April 6. The event was live streamed over the Fogler Library YouTube channel and featured a handful of children's authors, illustrators and publishers.

The event began with a brief introduction and welcome from Amber Gray, a subject specialist from Fogler Library. Gray then passed the event to Krista Aronson, a professor from Bates College, who introduced the panelists and explained the origins of the event's title.

"Mirrors, Windows, and Sliding Doors" is the title of a paper by Rudeen Sims Bishop, which describes the uses of literature as a means of seeing and understanding the world in new ways. The panelists included Rajani LaRocca, a children's book author; Heidi Heilig and Lisa Bunker, who are middle grade and young adult authors; Daniel Minter,

a children's book illustrator and Julie Bliven who is an editor for Charlesbridge publishing company.

The first question Aronson posed to the panel was about why they each accepted the invitation to the talk. Many of the panelists responded by speaking to the importance of the conversation of diversity in children's literature, and the ways in which they feel that it is important to be able to identify oneself in the books they read.

"I loved books when I was a young kid. I loved reading all kinds of stuff, everything I could get my hands on. But, as somebody whose parents came from another country and who grew up in this country, I never really saw any books that reflected my experience until I was an adult," LaRocca responded, speaking to her background as the child of Indian immigrants in the U.S. "Diversity is important [so that] people — children especially — see themselves in books. But it's also important for other people to see real people, and learn about them and empa-

thize with them."

Bunker built on LaRocca's sentiments.

"Growing up as an unexpressed trans girl in the seventies and eighties, I just couldn't find any examples to point to and say 'I'm like her,'" Bunker added. "And that was part of the reason that it took me as long as it did to transition. I am trying to write the books that I wish I could have found."

These authors share the idea that it is important to see yourself represented in fiction at a young age, in a way that is authentic and non-damaging to one's image. Minter added to this conversation from his perspective as an illustrator.

"When I was young I did not encounter books that had pictures of black people — well I did, but they were not complimentary," Minter said, stating that he didn't truly feel represented until later on in his life. "In middle school, we came across a book that had collective stories from Harlem Renaissance writers. I particularly remember the diversity of the voices in that book."

There was a resounding sense of duty amongst the panelists, who felt that their work is necessary to create a body of diverse literature that is reflective of the diverse world in which we live. The next question addressed the issue of how these various creators go about accomplishing these goals.

"Most of my stories don't have to do with identity, they have to do with an Indian-American kid who's just doing something," LaRocca explained, discussing how her writing process focuses on providing a diverse cast of young characters her readers can relate to. She gives the example of her debut work, entitled "Midsummer Mayhem," as an example: "In this story [the main character's] Indian heritage is just a part of who she is."

The group also discussed the ways in which these stories are marketed in the industry, and how this work can be continued in broader communities.

"We have these conversations a lot about the metadata and ideally a book that is a diverse title

would go out in the world and be received on a playing field just like any other title that isn't by a marginalized voice or creator," Bliven said, speaking to the issue from a publisher's standpoint. "But, at the same time, books are a product of the world in which we live. I do think it's exciting that a lot of media is trying to right the ship, and make up for the fact that enriching stories by marginalized voices have long been missing from the marketplace."

Bliven also spoke to the importance of continuing the work that has been started. Heilig and Minter joined the conversation on writing about experiences with diverse groups of people.

"A good place to start is with your own life, surrounding yourself with diverse people and including them in your artistic expression," Minter said. "If there is a lack of diverse people in your life what is that saying about the way you are living?"

"I ask myself that very question," Heilig responded to his question. "It is so hard to overcome systemic

boundaries and create meaningful friendships, but one thing that can help is buying the work of diverse groups of peoples."

In supporting each other's voices and reading the works of diverse groups there are boundaries that are overcome.

"Books can help us form those relationships, friendships and understandings. Books can be a way of building community," Aronson summarized.

The panel concluded with a brief Q&A segment, which touched on the issues of having these conversations about diversity with children, and on the importance of quality literature and representation. The panelists continued to speak to the importance of honest and open dialogue, and of providing a vast amount of diverse stories to children of all backgrounds, so they can see themselves as well as others in works of literature.



# News

## UMaine announces class of 2021 valedictorian and salutatorian



Photos from UMaine Marketing.

### Megan Ashe News Editor

Last week, the University of Maine announced the valedictorian and salutatorian for the class of 2021. Bailey West, a biochemistry student from Stockton Springs, Maine, is the valedictorian this year, and Drew Bennet, a mechanical engineering student from Brewer, Maine, is the salutatorian. Both students will be graduating this spring.

West is honored to be named valedictorian and says she has enjoyed her time at UMaine. In high school, she graduated summa cum laude, showing that West has always had a drive to succeed. West says that college has been a

wonderful experience for her and she's happy to be part of the UMaine community.

"My favorite thing about UMaine is the sense of community. I couldn't ask for a more supportive community of peers and mentors. It is amazing how groups feel so tight-knit, and yet there are always new people to meet on campus," West said.

She also attributes some of her success to the fantastic mentors she's met during her studies here, including faculty from the Honors College and professor of her favorite class about phage genomics, also called HON 150/155, Sally Malloy.

"My research mentor, Dr. Julie Gosse,

has supported me immensely ever since I joined her lab during my freshman year. She has pushed me to develop independence and confidence as a scientist and has encouraged me in all of my endeavors. Dr. Sally Molloy, who was my professor for HON 150/155, has also been incredibly supportive of my goals over the past four years, as has Dr. Melissa Maginnis, my academic advisor, who has offered advice on countless occasions," West said. "Dr. Melissa Ladenheim, associate dean of the Honors College, has also been incredibly supportive of me during my college career and has recently served as my advisor for the Honors ambassador program.

The passion, dedication and enthusiasm of each of these professors has very much helped me get to where I am today."

After graduating from UMaine, West plans to attend Jackson Laboratory's Summer Student Program, which is an internship where she will research genomics for 10 weeks. After that, she will pursue a Ph.D. in pathobiology at the John Hopkins School of Medicine.

Bennet did not offer comments to the Maine Campus. In an interview with UMaine News, he said that UMaine was his first choice for school.

"As a local resident whose parents both graduated from UMaine, I've been familiar

with the university for a long time. After attending the Consider Engineering program, I was impressed by how many unique engineering opportunities UMaine had to offer and how affordable the tuition was, making it an easy choice," Bennet shared in the interview.

He also shares that mentors at UMaine have shaped his experience and led him on a path to achieve his own success, saying that the opportunity for student success is abundant.

"The director of the Advanced Manufacturing Center, John Belding, gave me a position at the AMC after I graduated high school. Since then, I've worked on many projects with John and made a great

number of connections to industry professionals who helped me earn my internships. I wouldn't have been able to find this much success without him," Bennet shared with UMaine News.

Bennet will be using his degree to work as an educational services engineer in Boston for the company PTS, where he will work with teachers and STEM organizations to integrate the company's technology into schools.

After a year of challenges, UMaine's valedictorian and salutatorian have enjoyed a number of successes and have had a huge impact on the local community.

## UMaine professors research small grains in a collaborative project

### Maddy Gernhard Contributor

The University of Maine is assisting in research funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to help bolster the small grains industry. Cornell University is leading the research which involves researchers from universities nationwide.

Two researchers from the University of Maine, Ellen Mallory and Jonathan Malacarne, have joined the endeavor alongside researchers from the University of Vermont, the University of Illinois, the University of Wisconsin, South Dakota State Univer-

sity and Oregon State University. Mallory is a professor of sustainable agriculture at UMaine and Malacarne is an assistant professor of agricultural economics.

The point of the research is to exemplify the uses of small grain farming in larger agricultural projects. Because small grains such as barley, oats and rye oftentimes have less value in the agricultural economy, they often go underutilized by farmers. The research seeks to find variants of these small grain crops that will have more value and uses in strengthening supply chains.

USDA's Organic Ag-

riculture Research and Extension Initiative, has allotted around \$2 million in grant money to the research initiative. \$332,967 is being allotted to UMaine for the research.

Mallory, along with Thomas Molloy, a sustainable agriculture research associate, will be researching the ability of farmers in Maine to produce high-caliber grains through organic production in Maine's climate. Some of the varieties of grain they will be assessing include wheat, rye, emme and naked varieties of barley and oats, which they will begin to grow in Rogers Farm in Old Town. From there, they

will select promising varieties to grow on other farms throughout the state. The varieties will be assessed on the basis of factors such as taste and baking characteristics.

The two will also be looking into the reasons some varieties of grain have higher survival rates in the winter.

"Winter grains, which are planted in the fall and harvested the next summer, have many benefits for organic farmers," Mallory told the Daily Bulldog. "They compete aggressively with weeds, protect the soil over the winter, alleviate spring workloads and yield more than spring

types."

Malacarne's research will be centered around the demand for small grains, and how small farmers can reasonably meet those demands in institutions like health care and academic environments.

"[Institutions represent a] stable, high-volume market, and many want to source more local food," Malacarne told the Daily Bulldog. "They also have different preferences than other consumers, requiring a consistent supply of high-quality product at a competitive price."

These research teams will be working to collaborate with partners in the food

industry, as well as farmers around the state of Maine. Among these farmers are Amber Lambke of Skowhegan, the owner of Maine Grains, and a member of the project's advisory board, as well as Matt Williams, the owner of Aurora Mills and Farm in Linneus.

The Cornell-led research began in September of last year, however, Mallory, Molloy and Malacarne will begin their research this coming August. The research will conclude in August of 2023.

# Increased vaccine eligibility in Maine allows more in UMaine community to receive vaccine

**Megan Ashe**  
Culture Editor

The state of Maine has expanded its vaccine requirements so that anyone ages 16 and up is eligible for the vaccine. This new rule went into effect on April 7, allowing many more members of the University of Maine community to begin receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. This is a huge step forward in returning to pre-pandemic campus life at UMaine, possibly allowing for more in-person events and opportunities for the fall 2021 semester.

UMaine is doing its best to get the word out about increased vaccine eligibility and to promote the safety of the Moderna, Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson vaccines. In an

effort to provide accurate information to the UMaine community, President Joan Ferrini-Mundy announced that the university will be sponsoring an event on April 15.

“A vaccination educational webinar at noon [on] April 15, offered by the UMaine Institute of Medicine, UMaine’s Innovative Media Research and Commercialization Center and Northern Light Health, is open to students, employees and the public. Panelists include Dr. Jim Jarvis, Northern Light Health; Dr. Lisa Letourneau, Maine Department of Health and Human Services; and Dr. Laura Blaisdell, MaineHealth. Moderating will be Dr. Kelley Strout, director of the UMaine School of

Nursing. Come learn more about why we should all get vaccinated. Registration for the webinar is online,” wrote Ferrini-Mundy in her April 9 Friday Futurecast.

Additionally, many members of the UMaine administration have received their vaccine and encourage others to do so when they are able to. Vice President for Student Life and Inclusive Excellence and Dean of Students Robert Dana, Chancellor Dannel Malloy and President Ferrini-Mundy have all announced that they received the vaccine. Ferrini-Mundy got her vaccine in early March at the Cross Insurance Center in Bangor where she received the vaccine from a UMaine nursing student Step-

hanie Nichols. Under the photo of her and Nichols on Ferrini-Mundy’s Instagram page, she wrote that the vaccine was “an easy, painless process” and she was honored to have a UMaine nursing student distribute the vaccine to her. By publicly sharing that she has received the vaccine and promoting its efficacy, Ferrini-Mundy can guide the UMaine community into making educated decisions regarding receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.

Additionally in an email sent out to students, Malloy shared his reasoning behind receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.

“I got my shot to protect my family and coworkers and help end the pandemic. All of our presidents and

the Dean of the Law School are getting vaccinated too,” Malloy said.

Both UMaine and the University of Maine at Machias are participating in a campaign organized by their school’s administration, called “This is Our Shot, Maine.” This campaign is designed to encourage students, faculty and staff to get vaccinated and to assist them in finding correct information on where to get the vaccine. In the April 9 Friday Futurecast, Ferrini-Mundy shared a list of vaccine sites in the area which can be found here and encouraged community members to consider using the Community Connector bus to get to their vaccine appointments, as it is free

with a MaineCard.

Additionally in an email sent out to all students, Malloy announced that a MaineCard would be accepted as a valid form of ID. This will make vaccines more accessible to people without a driver’s license or passport, which is the typical form of ID required.

Overall, increased vaccine eligibility for members of the UMaine community is a step toward resuming normalcy in Orono. It is important that everyone considers the possibility of getting vaccinated against COVID-19 and seeks out the proper information.

## UMaine announces 2021’s new tenures

**Stella Tirone**  
Contributor

On March 22, the University of Maine System board of trustees approved tenure for 17 faculty members.

Several of the faculty members of the board of trustees recognized are Aaron Putnam, professor of earth sciences and C. Matt Graham, assistant professor of management information systems.

“My tenure is not just my accomplishment,” Graham said. “The faculty of the Maine Business School

[have] supported me and mentored me. And my wife Rosie has always encouraged me to keep writing, [playing] an important role in this achievement.”

Graham completed his Ph.D. in information systems at Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, and has been teaching at UMaine since 2008. He says that during his tenure he will continue to improve the Maine Business School’s (MBS) information systems course offerings. “Additionally, my colleagues [and I] at

the MBS are currently working to make our business information systems concentration a major,” Graham said.

From new research to adding more class options, it seems UMaine is going to see many positive changes in the next few years from their 2021 tenures.

As a tenured professor, Putnam hopes to keep up the momentum by expanding the school of earth and climate sciences’ research and teaching programs to address important problems in earth and climate sci-

ence. Many students, whether they are earning a degree in earth science or not, have the opportunity to learn under Putnam in ERS 152, an introductory climate change course offered as a general education credit.

“It is important to me that every citizen is equipped with scientific knowledge that forms the foundation for our understanding of climate change,” Putnam said.

Putnam received his undergraduate degree from Bates College and later came to UMaine for graduate

school, receiving both his M.S. and Ph.D. from the earth sciences program here in Orono.

“I feel humbled and privileged to serve students at the University of Maine and the people of Maine,” Putnam said on why he teaches at UMaine. “Students here come from all different backgrounds, and each person carries a unique perspective. I probably learn more from UMaine students than they learn from me... I couldn’t imagine another place I’d rather be.”

Take a moment to

thank the faculty members of UMaine, whether tenured or not, for their endless support and dedication to our academic community and amazing state.

“The strengths of UMaine’s faculty contribute to the life transformative experiences for our students and to the overall success of the university as it fulfills its mission statewide and beyond,” Provost John Volin said in a UMaine News article.

## UMaine reveals winners of student government elections

**David DiMinno**  
Contributor

Starting in the fall semester of 2021, the student government at the University of Maine will have a new president and vice president. On Monday, March 22, UMaine elected Zack Wyles as their new president and Elizabeth Davis as their vice president of the student body. Both have been impactful forces in the campus community, doing exceptional work within the student government. Given these new roles, the two hope to accomplish even more.

The candidates in this election

cycle ran in pairs. Wyles ran for the presidency, choosing Peter Alexander as his running mate. In the other corner, Harrison Ransley ran as the incumbent for the president position seat, with Davis as his vice president pick. While the results aren’t exactly what the two winners may have expected, they are both determined that they will work well together this fall.

“While I felt bad that the original plan wasn’t working out, I do think that working with Zack will be very exciting,” Davis said.

“I can’t wait to work with Elizabeth, I think

we are gonna make a great team,” Wyles said.

Wyles is currently the vice president of the student government. He is charged with running the weekly student senate meetings while pursuing projects to help the student body. He ran on the platform of lowering textbook pricing and trying to get Mainstreet to give a preview of the class syllabus so students can have a better idea of what classes entail, rather than going in blind at the beginning of the semester. The current senate administration helped re-establish last semester’s

pass/fail protocol for classes, which has been greatly appreciated by students since its reintroduction.

Davis is a member of the student senate and is the current vice president of the UMaine Pre-Law Society, where she has made great strides in the campus community. She ran on a platform advocating for better mental health services and student rights on campus. She also wants to try and expand the menu options for dining halls around campus. She is hoping that these efforts will lead to an overall more sustainable and healthy cam-

pus environment.

While the two ran on different platforms, they both have agreed that all the issues they brought up during the campaign are important. Since the election, both have already come up with plans for how to implement policy ideas next semester, with a big issue being student mental health.

“We 100% want to make sure that student mental health is in a sound place. We should be coming back in full next semester, and we want students to be ready for that change,” Wyles said.

“We want to be supporting mental health

at all times. We will be supporting 24/7 call lines, and having student voices heard in planning committees. We want to establish a strong connection between faculty, senate and the student body,” Davis said.

The fall semester is looking to have some fresh faces and new leadership. After this week, the student senate will also have its various committee officer positions filled, meaning that the full student government team will be assembled.



Love us? Hate us?  
Write us.

Letters to the editor should be 300 words, concise and clearly written. If applicable, include your academic year. Send all submissions to Nate Poole at [opinion@mainecampus.com](mailto:opinion@mainecampus.com).

Submissions may be edited for length, clarity and style. Anonymous letters will not be published. Opinion pieces should be roughly 650 words and clearly written. Include your name, year and major. Submissions should be in .doc format.

Send all opinion pieces to Nate Poole.

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



# Weekly Updates

## This Week in Student Government

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

**David DiMinno**  
Contributor

The General Student Senate meeting on April 6 began with roll call and the approval of the previous meeting's minutes by Senate Clerk John Cyr.

General Good and Welfare:

Vice President Zachary Wyles gave his Robert's Rule item of the week, which was moving to the previous. This is used when a senator wants to conclude a debate on an item and move to a vote. The Maine Power Builders Club was reactivated.

Executive Reports:

President Harrison Ransley has started running interviews for elected paid positions in the senate. He has also continued his work on renovation projects. Vice President of Financial Affairs Jake Tauke spoke on unallocated funds and has had to table some funding requests, for various reasons. Vice Pres-

ident of Student Organizations Emmeline Willey said that outdoor seating is available around campus for those who request it. She also announced that club advisor appreciation day is coming up. Vice President of Student Entertainment Chase Flaherty, has been working towards creating Maine Day plans for April 28. The theme this year is going to be the Amazing Race. He is working on getting food trucks as well as fireworks. There are also possibilities for creating an outdoor rec center.

Periodic Reports:

Representative to the University of Maine ROTC Austin Westfield said that Navy personnel with scholarships will be receiving their second vaccine soon. The UMaine Army ROTC has been tested for COVID-19 and all tests have been negative.

Reports of Standing Committees:



The Membership Committee is making an order for apparel very soon. The Policy and Procedure Committee voted on new resolutions to update job descriptions. The Political Activism Committee had to cancel their town hall because of the availability of government officials.

Reports of Special Committees:

The Student Mental Health committee is working on getting stu-

dent mentors for next semester. The Multicultural Affairs Advisory committee began revising their constitution, as well as creating an executive board by the end of the semester.

Representative Board Reports:

The commuter and non-traditional student board will be having another shopping trip for the Black Bear Exchange next Tuesday. The Honors College student advisory board held their first

meeting for the Maine Day meal packout. The Interfraternity Council added a new position for diversity and inclusion, and are seeking candidates for that position. They will be planning philanthropy events next week. The PanHellenic council will be creating a new position for equality and inclusion. The Senior Class Council will be finalizing their senior week schedule soon.

Community Association Reports:

The Feminist Collective will be holding meetings for Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Wilde Stein is finalizing information for the drag show. Next week, for Pride week, they will be playing Jackbox games which are open to everyone. The week after, they will be voting on new board members. The International Student Association held an Easter-themed coffee hour last week.

New Business:

An act to allocate \$3,059 dollars to UMaine Figure Skating.

Allocate \$2,450 dollars to UMaine Renaissance for the spring showcase.

Correction of various job descriptions.

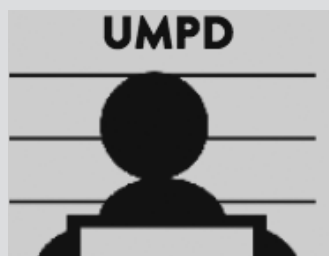
All of these acts were passed.

## Tune Into This!

What's happening this week at UMaine & Beyond

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Taylor Swift has released a re-recorded version of her 2008 album "Fearless" which she has called "Fearless (Taylor's Version)." After a dispute with her record label, Swift lost the rights to her original music and is re-recording the music to have full ownership. The album features some new tracks from the "vault" such as "Mr. Perfectly Fine," which fans speculate is about her breakup with singer Joe Jonas. The album is available on music streaming platforms.	Bangor Public Library will be re-opening gradually on Monday, April 12, after being closed for about a year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.	Jeremy Swayman, a former University of Maine student athlete who played on the men's ice hockey team, made his NHL debut as goaltender for the Boston Bruins last week when they played against the Washington Capitals in D.C. Swayman was filling in, as the usual goalies were either injured or sick, but he received plaudits for executing difficult plays and his many saves — the third-most by a debutant in Bruins' history.	Thursday, April 15 is a university-scheduled Reading Day. No new assignments will be assigned on that day and students will have no classes. This year, Reading Days are scheduled in lieu of traditional spring break UMaine due to the COVID-19 pandemic.	The UMaine student government is looking to hire a clerk for the general student senate. This is a paid position for the 2021-2022 school year and the job requires the student to take notes on every general student senate meeting, usually held on Tuesday evenings. Those interested in this position can send a resume, unofficial transcript and a completed application form to jeffery.dyer@maine.edu.	The UMaine bookstore is selling class of 2021 merchandise as well as alumni gear for graduating seniors. They have a wide assortment of hats, mugs, t-shirts and sweatshirts to choose from. Grab them before they sell out at graduation!

## Police Beat



**Megan Ashe**  
News Editor

March 24  
At approximately 10:25 p.m. Marcus Bailey, 22, from Otis, Maine was issued a summons for operating under the influ-

ence. He has a court date in May.

March 27  
At approximately 12:58 a.m. Thomas Mark, 19, and John Ross, 21, were both

issued summons for theft. Both have court dates in May.

March 30  
At approximately 5:55 p.m. Jordi Ruiz-Manzano, Wil-

liam Garofolid, 20, Lucas Mitchell, 20 and Ian Haines, also 20, were all issued summons for criminal trespassing. All involved have a court date in May to answer the charges.

April 5  
At approximately 1:30 p.m. Denise Cavaltera, 21, was issued a summons for theft. She has a court date in May.



# Opinion

## Editorial: Addressing sexual assault isn't just about awareness, and it can't happen in a month



Graphic by Nate Poole.

### Nate Poole Opinion Editor

**Content Warning:** The following article contains language that discusses sexual assault, harassment and rape that may offend some readers. To speak in confidence about experiences of sexual assault, you can contact the Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault at 1-800-871-774.

Among the undergraduate student population, 26.4% of females and 6.8% of males experience rape or sexual assault in their time as students. That is according to one 2020 study by the Association of American Universities, cited by the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN). For many, this is an unsurprising data point, but too often it is one that is ignored or quietly kept from those who would rather not think about it.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and the University of Maine's Title IX Student Services office is working with campus and community partners to put together a variety of programs and other online events, such as weekly Teal Tuesdays, a we-

binar on navigating casual hookups and a virtual 5k to promote awareness for sexual assault. However, the average student could be forgiven for not knowing about these opportunities, seeing as the information is mostly located on either the university's Title IX webpage or buried in a Friday Futurecast.

Pandemic-hampered communications aside, it is also arguable whether promoting awareness is really the most productive avenue for the university to promote a safer, healthier campus climate.

A 2019 study by University of North Carolina researchers, published in the journal *Violence Against Women*, investigated university students' usage of formal campus sexual assault resources like counseling, Title IX services and campus police, which researchers suggest that only 10% of survivors seek out. The study reports that some sociocultural barriers to students using these formal resources include stigma, feelings of shame or embarrassment, fear of reprisal from the accused and thinking that nothing would come of reporting.

The study clarifies

that in some cases the best course of action for a survivor's well-being is not to pursue formal avenues, but rather informal support systems like family and friends. However, college administrations can also contribute to the mitigation, or inflammation, of the barrier factors described by the researchers through their actions, communications and the ways in which they nurture a larger campus culture.

In 2019, the Bangor Daily News published a troubling article detailing the stories of two students at the University of Maine at Farmington who both sought help from the university's Title IX office after being sexually assaulted. In both cases, committees came to the conclusion that the women's allegations were accurate before the decisions were bizarrely overturned after the fact. These students walked away from their college experiences feeling utterly betrayed by the institutions that they allowed themselves to be vulnerable to. Regardless of verdict, that is something that can and should be avoided.

Despite the dismal picture that these stories painted, for-

mer-UMF interim President Eric Brown's response was about the best that could have been expected from an administrator in his position.

"I was personally moved and saddened by this article. Nothing is more important to our well-being as an institution than the safety and trust of our students. I look forward to open conversations in the days ahead about how to ensure UMF is the best possible guardian of both," Brown wrote in an email to the UMF community which was republished by the Bangor Daily News.

Title IX is a sweeping civil rights law, passed in 1972 as part of a collection of other education legislations, which prohibits sex discrimination in education programs. College policies for responding to accusations of sexual assault, which fall under Title IX, have been intensely politicized since the civil rights law was passed. Under the Trump presidency, Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos instituted controversial rules which had administrators investigate allegations through courtlike tribunals that allowed accusers to be cross-examined by the

defense's representation.

Many survivor advocates have argued that the rules enabled colleges to dissuade accusers from coming forward with convoluted rules and intimidating processes.

"We're really seeing it used as a way for schools to confuse and manipulate survivors, which is really what we've seen for decades," Sage Carson, the manager of Know Your IX, a survivor advocacy group, told *The New York Times*. "Now it's this really scary process on the books, and it gives the schools a way to say, 'Do you really want to go through this?'"

In March, President Joe Biden issued an executive order to the new Secretary of Education, Miguel Cardona, and during his campaign he promised to deconstruct the Trump-era rules. However, neither the president nor the secretary have been specific about how the rules will change, and any changes can be expected to take more than a year, according to NBC News.

While the president's reforms may help a year or so down the line, colleges and other educational institutions at all levels

can start advocating for changes right now regarding the ways in which they fail to address sexual assault and sexuality.

In her own article published in *The Maine Campus*, contributor Leah Savage argued that discussions about sexuality and sexual assault need to start early with young men and women in order to combat the culture of shame and stigma that prevents survivors from coming forward.

Research by the National Sexual Violence Resource Center suggests that Comprehensive Sexuality Education, a K-12 style of sex education that develops and builds as individuals themselves develop behaviorally and physically, addresses the majority of the risk factors typically associated with sexual violence.

This is to say, sexual assault cannot be solely or even mostly addressed with policy or formal supports, and it certainly cannot be addressed in a month. Perhaps it should be treated like a lifelong, ongoing process of open communication, free of stigma — like a relationship.



# An investment in support of Bangor's homeless population is an investment in the city's future



Photo by David Jakacky.

## Leah Savage Contributor

COVID-19 has wreaked havoc on our modern world. On top of a public health crisis, the virus has clearly illustrated that many of our public systems are in need of reform. The area of concern which has proven especially relevant in Bangor is the growing rates of homelessness without the adequate shelter and housing capacity to accommodate for this population.

While the exact increase in Bangor's homeless population is unknown, the Bangor Daily News reported that the city counted 140 unsheltered homeless people in the fall of 2020. At this same time a year prior, the city counted only 25-30 unsheltered homeless people. Rates of homelessness within

the community are rising, and far fewer are getting access to affordable housing.

While a large amount of money, including the CARES Act, has been devoted to safely housing our homeless population during the pandemic, this money has been focused on finding short term solutions for housing. Bangor started housing people in the Ramada Inn to address overwhelming numbers of unhoused individuals. These "quick fixes" were certainly needed earlier on in the pandemic, especially during winter months. However, it is time to start using these incoming funds to create permanent housing opportunities.

Makayla White, a behavioral health coordinator (MHRT/C credentials) at Acadia Hospital in Bangor,

shared her experiences working with homeless patients. White says that about one-third of her cases are transient (the term the hospital uses instead of "homeless"), and of those cases, many are chronically transient, meaning that they have been unhoused for several months and often return to homelessness after brief stays in other settings. White also says that, of her caseload that frequently reaches well over 30 individuals, the majority are "experiencing chronic housing difficulties."

One of White's biggest frustrations working with people without housing is that there is a serious disconnect surrounding what some individuals and organizations think that a case manager can do for a homeless individual versus the

resources that are actually available. Unsurprisingly, much of this has to do with matters of finding housing. Many people will come to her saying that they think a case manager will help them get into Bridging Rental Assistance Program (BRAP) or Shelter Plus Care (programs that offer rental assistance to those with mental health difficulties or who are homeless), but transient individuals aren't typically aware that these programs have very strict criteria.

"Oftentimes even when they do qualify, there aren't any immediate solutions or availability for apartments," White said.

The waiting list for section 8 housing is currently 6-8 years, and these unfeasible waitlists are common across all affordable

housing options in the area, White says.

As for the future, White hopes to see more landlords accepting rental vouchers from the state, and more buildings being constructed or used for income-based housing.

"In a dream world I would love to see funding for a new, large development so that we can shorten the very long waitlist for federal housing," she said.

But this might not only have to exist in a dream world; WABI-5 reported that the city of Bangor has received \$1 million to help the homeless population. Hopefully some of these funds will be put toward building long-term solutions for the city's most vulnerable people.

In an editorial, the Portland Press Herald reported that perma-

nent housing opportunities save taxpayer money due to the correlational decrease in police intervention, ambulance rides and emergency room visits. Affordable housing also encourages more local spending, an overall healthier population, and a better future.

Housed individuals are more likely to have access to mental health and substance use services, be better equipped to find work, and have an overall improved standard of living. Affordable public housing would not just benefit individuals in need either; this would be something that could help strengthen our entire community.

## Self-help might not help

### Devin Daignault Contributor

Self-help is a form of content most of us see every day in one way or another. Maybe you stumbled upon a video late at night promising that you could fix all of your negative habits in 30 days. Perhaps a friend or family member gave you "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People" by Stephen Covey. Either way, we're familiar with self-help as a positive, but we forget we can have too much of a good thing. We should acknowledge that self-help can't help everyone, and it may even

hurt some.

Self-help is hugely popular and useful for many, but it is a business. According to MarketResearch.com estimations suggest that by 2022 the self-help industry could be worth \$13 billion. Publishers and writers package self-help as a "one size fits all" product, but that doesn't always work. Since authors write self-help books and guides with this standard, the information that they provide is often generic. Many books offer the same advice and information as others, such as mindfulness, patience, gratitude, posi-

itive thinking. These decidedly un-revolutionary ideas are repackaged over and over to extract money from a vulnerable population. Sometimes the common methods can even be harmful when used by the wrong people.

One method used commonly among self-help sects is positive affirmations. This is a practice wherein a person tells themselves positive phrases to help build confidence and motivation. A 2009 study in the journal Psychological Science suggests that this method may only work if the person utilizing

it already has healthy self-esteem. Otherwise, it could make the individual feel even worse about themselves because they do not already believe what they are saying. Repetition of the phrases only reminds them of that fact. This can even cause a person to create a feeling of inferiority within themselves because they feel like they aren't living up to what they keep saying.

Self-help also regularly promises more than it can deliver. These books and videos and podcasts all promise that they will change your life, but

the truth is none of them can. Rather, self-help can perpetuate the procrastination of problems. They create a side-stepping option where people read and think about them for a little while and then immediately fall back into old habits. It creates a cycle; people believe that if they buy a book that it will change their life. When their life doesn't change, they move on to another book.

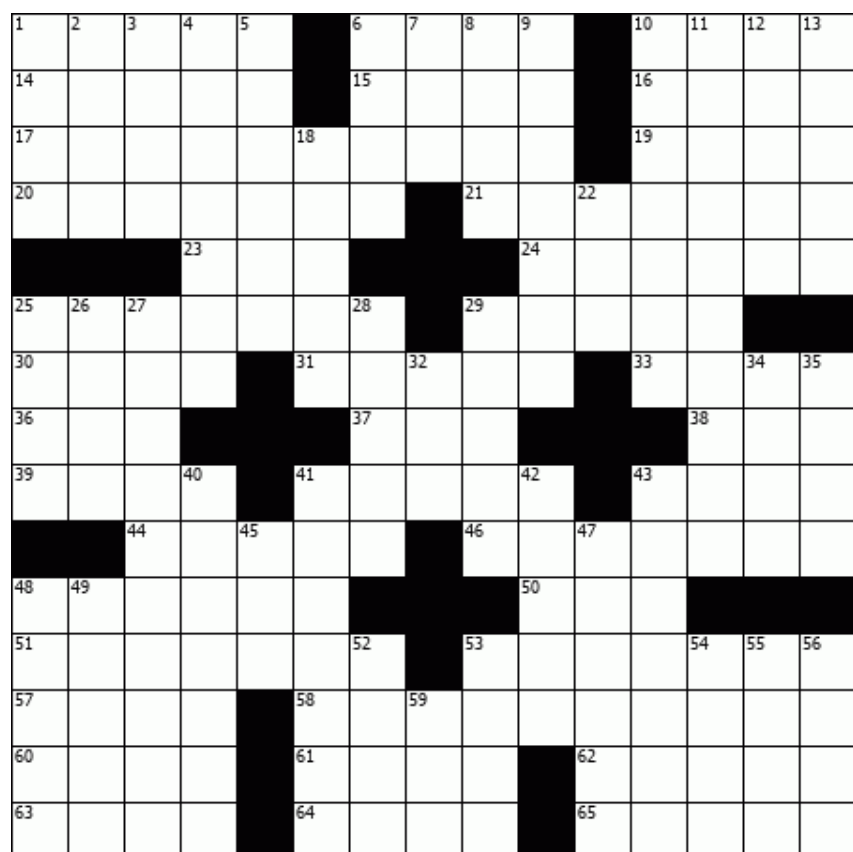
Does this mean all hope is lost? Absolutely not. People don't need a book, article or motivational speaker to tell them to get their life in order. One

of those things may help or even become a catalyst in the situation. People who want to improve their lives will do so not because someone told them how to but because they want to. It is fantastic if self-help material helps you, but if it doesn't, don't feel bad. There is no solution that will work for everyone.



# Diversions

## Crossword



onlinecrosswords.net. Answer key located on A11

**Across**

- 1. Provides free of charge, briefly
- 6. Serb or Czech
- 10. Med. plan options
- 14. Verdi work
- 15. "Look what I did!"
- 16. Per person
- 17. Non-adult at an

- estate?
- 19. Westernmost of the Aleutians
- 20. Power hitter
- 21. "Sweet" age
- 23. Legal thing
- 24. Puts forth, as pressure
- 25. How tour groups move
- 29. Lightning and thunder event
- 30. Skelton's Kadiddlehopper
- 31. "This tastes great!"
- 33. Lily of Utah
- 36. Cut down
- 37. French king
- 38. Boy king
- 39. Central Utah city
- 41. Main artery
- 43. "Sink" or "swim"
- 44. Rapids transits
- 46. Shoulder-to-elbow bone
- 48. Shakespeare's Prince of Denmark
- 50. Berlin's country: Abbr.
- 51. Bit of self-indulgence
- 53. Relevant
- 57. Actor Rob
- 58. Polyester tooth?
- 60. Singles
- 61. Legendary archer
- 62. Baker or Bryant
- 63. Rugby radial
- 64. Adam's third son
- 65. Bikini blast, briefly
- Down**
- 1. Dot-\_: e-businesses
- 2. Fall birthstone
- 3. Waiter's handout
- 4. TV offering
- 5. Military nicknames
- 6. Use a swizzle stick
- 7. PC hookup
- 8. Hullabaloo
- 9. The spice of life, so it's said
- 10. Baseboard apparatuses
- 11. Device that measures British moms?
- 12. Septet plus one
- 13. Avoids
- 18. Unkempt
- 22. Tic-tac-toe loser
- 25. Sound rebound
- 26. Met or Card
- 27. Kitten's lawn cutter?
- 28. Continental cash
- 29. Metal worker
- 32. Casablanca's country: Abbr.
- 34. Spiritual adviser
- 35. Touts' hangouts, for short
- 40. Hammett's "The \_\_\_ Falcon"
- 41. Once in a while
- 42. Carpentry bit
- 43. Green Mountain State
- 45. Not agin
- 47. Broadway's Ethel
- 48. Laconian serf
- 49. Torment
- 52. Combustible heap
- 53. Nasty cut
- 54. "I cannot tell \_\_\_"
- 55. Cole and Turner
- 56. Part of QED
- 59. Building site

## Word Search: Vegetables

- BEET
- BROCCOLI
- CABBAGE
- CARROT
- CAULIFLOWER
- CELERY
- CORN
- CUCUMBER
- EGGPLANT
- KOHLRABI
- LETTUCE
- ONION
- PARSNIP
- PEAS
- POTATO
- RADISH
- RUTABAGA
- SPINACH
- SQUASH



puzzles.ca. Answer key located on A11

## THUMBS UP DOWN

- Sunshine
- Spring
- Long Walks
- Reading Days

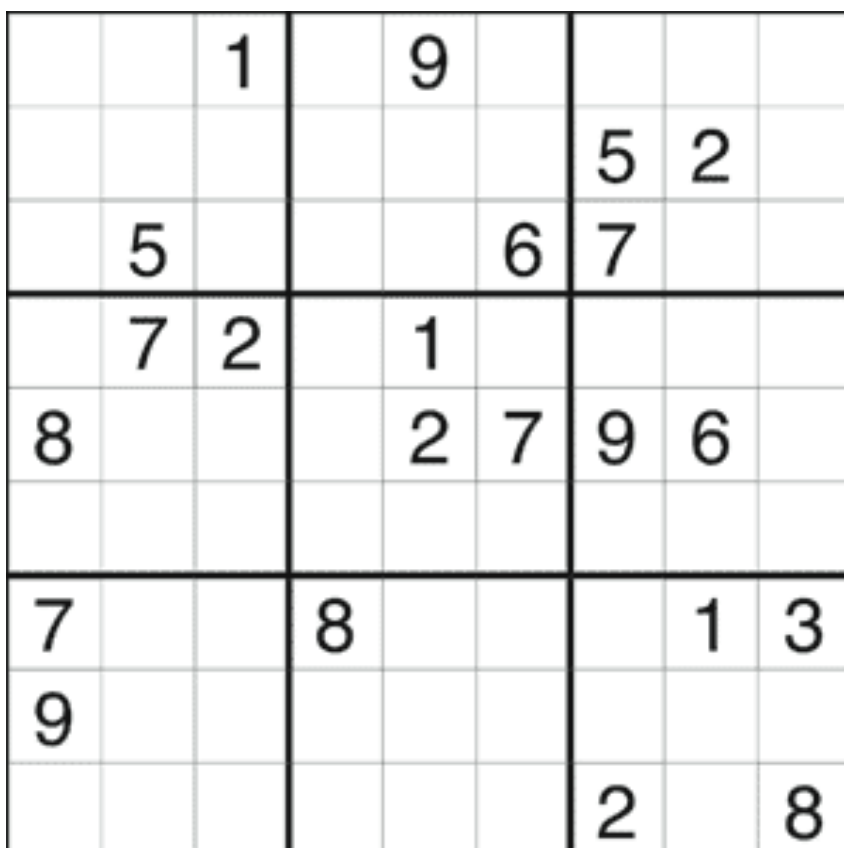
- Rain
- Winter
- Staying In
- Midterms



## 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 A11



# Culture

## The Downtown Bangor Beautification Committee's Adopt-A-Garden program invites people to beautify Bangor



Photo by David Jakacky.

### Meaghan Bellavance Contributor

Every spring season since 2013, the Downtown Bangor Beautification Committee (DBBC) holds an Adopt-A-Garden program for the public and businesses in the Greater Bangor area. This project has allowed adopters to take parks, tree pits and hardscapes and turn them into flourishing, vibrant gardens. This year, even amidst the ongoing pandemic, the DBBC has continued to hold the Adopt-A-Garden program and plans to spread even more beauty throughout the city of Bangor.

Greg Edwards, an active member of the DBBC, shared that there is room for growth this year as there are more gardens to beautify than in previous years.

"We have 137 gardens, although we are looking to add another 10, so we'd have 147," Edwards said. "Right now, 116 of those are adopted, so we are about 85% adopted. We have 21 gardens left, and it'll be 31 left when we add the additional gardens."

The gardens are all over the downtown Bangor area, and adopters have until June 1 to plant. If adopters do not plant by this deadline, the gardens are put back up for adoption. Usually, by the end of the season, almost all of the gardens are adopted.

"They are all over downtown and the focus tends to be around the parkway and spreads out towards Central Street," Edwards said. "We have trouble getting people to adopt on the

outskirts of town, but they usually all end up getting adopted by our deadline."

To adopt a garden, there is a map available on the DBBC website, along with the Adopt-A-Garden application. On the map are red dots that indicate which gardens are available for adoption. Many gardens get re-adopted each year by their previous adopters. The blue dots indicate those that got re-adopted, as well as those who have been adopted already this season.

After gardeners fill out their applications and confirm their adoptions, they can participate in Big Dig Week in May. This is an event where all of the adopters come out and plant their gardens throughout the week. Adopters can choose any design they'd like

for their gardens to add a personalized touch.

Once a garden is adopted, DBBC will provide adopters with signage to place in their garden letting the public know who has adopted each spot. Keep in mind that if you'd like to adopt a garden, then fences, garden lights and decorations are discouraged as the beauty of natural flowers and plants are the primary focus of Adopt-A-Garden.

For those who may be planting, make sure to conduct research beforehand on which plants and flowers would best prosper in the location of your prospective garden. Take into consideration how much sunlight each type of flower would need, how much water each would need and whether or not

they are invasive species.

This year, as well as last year, the pandemic has benefited the Adopt-A-Garden program rather than put a damper on business. Since COVID-19 hit, adopted gardens have been improved even more as gardeners have had more free time on their hands due to quarantine and sometimes unemployment.

"In terms of effectiveness of the program, we actually saw an uptick in the amount of effort people put into their gardens as people were quarantining [last spring]. May was the perfect time for people to get outside and do stuff," Edwards said. "They couldn't do group events but they could certainly adopt a garden at that time with their families."

With June 1 ap-

proaching, there is still time for University of Maine students to become involved if they'd like to adopt a garden. For those interested in Adopt-A-Garden, make sure to be prepared to spend time in downtown Bangor to handle the upkeep and presentation of your garden.

Students can also volunteer on a volunteer day, such as DBBC's Spring Clean Up on April 25. Another volunteer opportunity is on May 15 during Big Dig Week, where students can volunteer to help plant flowers in the gardens.

For more information and status updates on the Adopt-A-Garden project, visit [www.downtownbangor.com](http://www.downtownbangor.com) or visit the Downtown Bangor Beautiful Facebook page.

## National Holidays: April 12 through 16

### Meaghan Bellavance Contributor

Monday: National Grilled Cheese Sandwich Day

April 12 is the perfect Monday to prepare a staple American comfort food: a grilled cheese sandwich. Whether you have a recipe you stick to and love or you want to experiment, take time today on National Grilled Cheese Sandwich Day to indulge in the gooey goodness. Try making a sandwich with cheddar, swiss or provolone, or even try it with rye bread instead of white or wheat. The opportunities are endless when it comes

to personalizing your grilled cheese order. As the weather is getting warmer, you could even have a grilled cheese sandwich picnic with friends.

Tuesday: National Peach Cobbler Day

April 13 is National Peach Cobbler Day! If your sweet tooth has been grabbing your attention lately, today is the day to tame that craving. Gather with friends or family and get creative by making your own peach cobbler. If you don't like peaches, substitute them for another fruit such as apples or cherries. Even if classes get in the way of

baking and celebrating this delectable dessert, look up the menus of local restaurants. You may get lucky and find peach cobbler ready to order! April 13 is also National Scrabble Day, National Make Lunch Count Day and International Be Kind to Lawyers Day.

Wednesday: National Gardening Day

April 14 is National Gardening Day. As spring has arrived, now is the perfect opportunity to plant a garden. Head over to Lowe's or Home Depot to pick out the best plants and flowers for your indoor or outdoor arrangements. Make

sure to pick out plants that will flourish and prosper in the type of environment you hope to plant them in. If outdoor gardening isn't your cup of tea, plant an indoor houseplant in a pot. Houseplants make a beautiful addition to your home's character and charm, and most often they are fairly easy to care for. April 14 is also National Ex-Spouse Day, National Look Up at the Sky Day and International Moment of Laughter Day.

Thursday: National Laundry Day

April 15 is National Laundry Day. With the semester soon coming

to a close and assignments beginning to pile up, take today to catch up on laundry you have been needing to do. Instead of thinking of it as a chore, think of it as self-care. Make it fun by doing your laundry with your friends. Take a deep breath and feel like your best self in your freshly washed clothes. Remember, washing sheets and bedding is just as important as washing clothes, too! April 15 is also National High Five Day and Tax Day.

Friday: National Librarian Day

April 16 is National Librarian Day. Take today to show your librar-

ian appreciation for all that they do. Whether they helped you find the perfect book for your essay or created a research guide for your class, send a thank you their way for helping you and the entire student body in achieving their best academic work thanks to library resources. A librarian's job is vital to the success of any academic institution. April 16 is also National Eggs Benedict Day and Wear Pajamas to Work Day.



# Reviews

## Martyr or fallen angel: Lil Nas X advocates for LGBTQ community through ‘Montero (Call Me by Your Name)’



Photo via out.com.

**Rebekah Sands**  
Culture Editor

22-year-old viral singer, rapper and songwriter Lil Nas X, otherwise known as Montero Lamar Hill, has come under fire recently for his No. 1 hit single and music video, “Montero (Call Me by Your Name)” which both uses explicit themes and imagery and created backlash of religious demonization. At the same time, his online sale of “Satan Shoes,” modified Nike Air Max 97s, fit with pentagrams and allegedly, with a drop of blood in their soles,

received similar backlash coupled with a lawsuit.

Known for both his 2019 single and several remixes of “Old Town Road” which topped the Billboard Hot 100 chart for 19 weeks, Hill is an award-winning artist with recognitions including Grammy awards for best music video and best pop duo/group performance, two MTV Music Video awards for song of the year and American Music Award for favorite rap/hip hop song, all for his viral “Old Town Road”.

Two years later, Hill premiered “Mon-

tero (Call Me by Your Name)” on March 26, instantly becoming a viral Youtube sensation, now with 120.4 million views. Featuring biblical, fallen-angel imagery, Hill attempts to “open up a dialogue about the continuing omnipresence of repression among LGBTQ youth, particularly within Christian spaces,” he explained in an interview with Time Magazine.

Keeping in mind the “Montero (Call Me by Your Name)” video is PG-13 at best, Hill received a wide range of reactions, some

in support for advocating for the LGBTQ community and youth, while others deemed it sacrilege and intensely inappropriate, bringing up the issue of artist censorship on a platform frequented by those underage.

On top of the controversial music video, Hill and producer MSCHF Product Studio Inc. also released modified Nike Air Max 97s, dawning pentagrams, biblical reference to a verse illustrating the fall of Satan and an alleged drop of blood in each sole. Naturally, these shoes intended as a market-

ing campaign for the new release fed into the sacrilege view, but more notably, led Hill and MSCHF to face a lawsuit with Nike for product alteration and resell and for “damaging its brand” as according to CBS News.

On April 8, MSCHF announced it would buy back Hill’s “Satan Shoes” for retail price as settlement, also offering to do the same for their 2019 “Jesus Shoes” (which were not recalled at the time of release) in order to “remove them from circulation,” according to Nike.

Although both re-

leases of “Montero (Call Me by Your Name)” and his “Satan Shoes” certainly gave way to significant controversy and roadblocks for the artist, Hill notes he “100% wants to represent the LGBTQ community” in an interview with The Guardian, possibly leading to more representation and activism in his upcoming debut album, “MONTERO” this summer.

## Does it still haunt you? Raise the cup song from the dead and binge ‘Pitch Perfect’ all weekend long

**Abigail Martin**  
Contributor

5/5 Stars

The “Pitch Perfect” movie series consists of three silly, relatable and family-friendly movies following a group of diverse college aged girls who participate in a cappella. Jason More directed the first of three movies in 2012. Three years later, Elizabeth Banks directed the second film, both producing and starring in all three films as an a cappella competition spokesperson. Trish Sie produced and directed the third movie

in 2017.

The story revolves around a first-year at Barden University, Beca Mitchell, who is played by Anna Kendrick. When entering college, Mitchell had her eyes set solely on producing music. However, when she met Aubrey Posen and Chloe Beal at the campus activities fair, as played by Anna Camp and Brittany Snow, she became a part of the Bellas, an all-female a cappella group. Rebel Wilson as Fat Amy, Hana Mai Lee as Lilly Onakuramara and Esther Dean as Cynthia Rose Adams all join the Bellas alongside

Mitchell in the first film.

The writers make a strong effort throughout the film franchise to ensure that the Bellas and the TrebleMakers, the male a cappella group at the same college, stand apart from each other. Benji Applebaum, played by Ben Platt, and Jesse Swanson, played by Skylar Austin, join this group at the same time as Beca joins the Bellas. Bumper Allen, played by Adam Devine, leads the TrebleMakers.

Rotten Tomatoes gave the first movie 81% and IMDb gave a rating of 7.1 out of 10. The second and third

movies in the series follow the same set of characters in addition to a few extra a cappella singers and are rated lower as the franchise goes on.

The Bellas go international in “Pitch Perfect 2” (2015). The Bellas feel disappointed in their unsuccessful performance for President Barack Obama on his birthday — Obama actually starred in the movie during this scene.

During the World’s competition, the Bellas bring a bunch of surprises that really blow the minds of everyone in the audience. Hailie Steinfeld joins the

group in this movie and shines light on how important it is to support one another. Personally, the end scene of the second movie where the Bellas perform is the best scene in all of the three movies. It’s really a must-see!

The third movie verges more on action than comedy. “Pitch Perfect 3” (2017) starts out with a complication of scenes that express how everyone’s lives have been since college when Seinfeld tricks the girls into a reunion. At this point, the girls take on a tour journey where, one could say, all hell breaks loose.

The girls still manage to share quite a few quirky, laughable moments with the audience throughout the film. The plot was also considerably more developed, a main reason why the audience enjoyed the third film.

There are rumors that a fourth film will be released in the near future, however, the date is uncertain due to production challenges. “Pitch Perfect” can currently be streamed on HBO, Hulu and Amazon Prime video platforms.



# 'Hidden UMaine' virtual tour creates a sociocultural sense of place on campus



## Women Overcame Obstacles to Acquire an Education in Early Years

Female students were not admitted to the university during the institution's first 5 years, and continued to face other limi...



## First Female Faculty Members Leaders in Their Fields

Historian Dr. Caroline Colvin, entomologist Dr. Edith Patch, and other early female faculty members persevered through s...



## A History of Black Student Success on Campus

Early Black students at the University of Maine were only a generation removed from slavery, and grew up in a world that...



## Red Summer Racial Violence Comes to Campus

The beautiful Cyrus Pavilion holds a dark secret. One cold night in April of 1919, two Black brothers from Boston, Samue...



## UMaine's Ugly Ties to the Field of Eugenics and the KKK

No building on campus has attracted as much recent attention as Little Hall, named for Dr. Clarence or "C.C." Little, form...



## From Depression Era Hungry Hollow to Bumstock (VIRTUAL STOP ONLY)

While this land may look like just a vacant lot to current students and passersby, a hundred years' worth of alumni could ...



## Students in Service: The Class of 1944

This building is named in honor of students who served in World War II from the Class of 1944. Many students put their ...



## Finding Their Voices: Student Activism on Campus

Before jumping into the backstory of student activists on campus, please read the words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. tha...

Photo via Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center.

### Rebekah Sands Culture Editor

On April 6, the McGillicuddy Humanities Center debuted their new "Hidden UMaine" virtual tour, showcasing aspects of UMaine's history through an online platform. Introduced by Michael Socolow, the event covered the project's purpose, history, student and faculty involvement as well as upcoming plans for further updates and additional material.

The "Hidden UMaine" tour project is overseen by Karen Sieber, humanities specialist at the McGillicuddy Humanities Center whose work can be found as used or featured by the American Historical Association, Oral History Review and Zinn Education Project among others. Some of her notable works such as "Visualizing the Red Summer" and "The Well Read President" demonstrate the

technical and historical literacy embarked upon for the "Hidden UMaine" project and are currently being used in over 300 classrooms.

The project also involves UMaine undergraduate history students Elizabeth Dalton, current McGillicuddy Humanities fellow, and future fellow, Luke Miller. Both students contributed significant time, effort and research for the "Hidden UMaine" project, demonstrating their knowledge as they took the audience through the virtual tour Tuesday evening.

As introduced by Dalton, the project originally started as a class project for the history department's research seminar class, as taught by professor Liam Riordan with a focus on public history and efforts made on incorporating nontraditional methods such as a public digital tour.

The purpose of the "Hidden UMaine" proj-

ect focuses on "highlight[ing] key people, moments and places in campus history that often go overlooked," Miller said.

The project began using the Storymaps program in class, and later switched to Clio because of image and interconnectivity concerns. The project finally settled in a format that allowed for multiple images and recommended sources to be added to an otherwise simple format.

"We really felt that these stories involving such long periods of history and important themes of American history deserved a little more breathing room. We also wanted this to be something public — something we could share with students and professors on campus, alumni, community members," Sieber said.

The Clio platform is accessible both via desktop and through their app at "Hidden History Tour of the Uni-

versity of Maine" and is intended to be utilized across all ages, including students ages K-12 who may either be assigned a certain stop to research or to build their own story by using the UMaine "Hidden History" project as an example.

"This would be a unique way, especially during [the time of COVID-19] with social distancing, that people could take this tour in-person by themselves either at home on the computer, or in-person on campus, but outdoors, just with their phone," Sieber said.

Currently, the "Hidden History" project features 10 stops on the UMaine campus, discussing themes of "First Female Faculty Members Leaders in Their Fields," "A History of Black Students on Campus," "From Depression Era Hungry Hollow to Bumstock," "Proud and Out: Early LGBTQ Activism on Campus," and "Native

American Studies in the Dawnland" among other topics.

This project takes care to not only highlight the progressive achievements UMaine strived to obtain, but also the darker aspects of campus as its foundations were laid, particularly shown through "UMaine's Ugly Ties to Eugenics and the KKK" stop which features former UMaine President Clarence Little.

By using the Clio platform, the project is also expandable. It plans to further develop its tour to include narrated audio tours as opposed to the current computer-generated audio tours, add stories and stops including more Civil Rights era stories at UMaine's MLK Plaza stop, develop additional women's rights stories along the way, and include more citations throughout.

"It's a rabbit hole, every time we look for one new fact or detail, we find 10 new articles that add whole new

layers and dimensions to the stories," Sieber said.

"Hidden History" also has an Instagram page for viewers to follow along with project updates, special highlights and research suggestions as the project moves forward.

The McGillicuddy Humanities Center is currently looking for applicants for the spring and fall of 2022. 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.

## Horoscopes

### Antyna Gould Photo Editor

Aries (March 21 - April 20)

The good vibes are buzzing all around this week. Feel the good vibrations and be prepared to get stuff done. On Wednesday, April 14, Venus takes control of your finances and self-worth. As your mind begins to see things in a more positive light, getting projects done at work will become easier.

Taurus (April 21 - May 20)

Starting on Wednesday, April 14, a weight will lift from your shoulders. With this newfound freedom, reflect on the past to encourage personal growth.

Have faith in yourself and your support system. You are capable of great things.

Gemini (May 21 - June 22)

The support you need is right in front of you. Mercury and Mars come together in your sign this week. Communicating and logically thinking flow easily into work. Your hard work is bringing you closer to important people.

Cancer (June 23 - July 21)

Venus brings your extroverted nature out starting Wednesday, April 14. Now is the time to start networking the connections you have. Working towards new goals will help you enter into a

long-term relationship with happiness.

Leo (July 22 - Aug. 23)

Seek out the good company of new friends to find yourself launching into an action-packed future. The best adventures are those right in front of you. Meet up with someone new and work on developing a deep, strong relationship.

Virgo (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)

Be on the lookout for professional support from someone unexpected. Despite the competition surrounding you, there is an alliance to be made. Together the both of you will work together for a strong finish.

Libra (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)

Adopt an open-door policy within yourself. Open your emotions up and be honest with yourself. Treating yourself this way will encourage other people to treat you the same. This attitude will bring your relationships to a new level.

Scorpio (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

The signs around you scream to take better care of yourself. Constantly overworking yourself will run you into the ground. Make changes for the better now before it's too late.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)

Planets Mercury and Mars are working

together in your relationship sector. The confidence you exude will attract many potential new relationships. Enjoy developing them one-on-one by relating to each other's similarities.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)

Never underestimate the power of a helping hand, especially when it comes from family. People who have been with you, watching you grow into the person you are today will be valuable assistance in starting your new projects.

Aquarius (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

Pushing yourself too hard will result in injury. Remember to

take time to rest and recover. This period of rest will coincide with a chance for new beginnings. Communicating your desire for rest will lead to a valuable learning experience.

Pisces (Feb. 20 - March 20)

This week is the time to get your hands dirty and cross projects off your list. When a job is done, remember to take a moment to revel in the pride of your accomplishments. However, there is a fine line between pride and gloating, stay on the right side of the line.

# Italy's opportunities for outdoor recreation

**Gustav Anderson**  
Contributor

Lifeguarding will forever be the best job I have ever had. For three summers, I spent entire work days on the beach getting paid to save lives, yell at children, tan and most importantly, surf. One of my favorite year-round recreational activities, lifeguarding is what first introduced me to surfing as a necessary part of lifeguard culture. Most days before and after work, my boss would encourage me to stay fit for the job by messing around in the waves with a board, turning a casual workout routine to an obsession with the world of surfing.

Until I studied abroad in the spring of 2020, I always had the freedom to escape to the Maine coast and lose myself in the waves. However, the unlimited access I had changed when I arrived in northern Italy, as this boot-shaped Mediterranean peninsula is sadly not known for world-class swell. Nevertheless, I was determined to surf a wave in Europe somewhere, even if it was not an Italian wave.

While Italy is not a surfing country, it still holds incredible opportunities for outdoor adventure. Here are some of the many recreational activities Italy

is known for:

### Skiing

With the Alps serving as its northern border, Italy is home to some of the best skiing in Europe. These mountains are enormous and almost unlike anything found in the United States. With hundreds of resorts and mountains to choose from on just the Italian side alone, the Alps is a skier's paradise. Two of my friends went to Breuil-Cervinia, which resides in the shadow of the most recognizable peak in the Alps, The Matterhorn. They said the experience was amazing — they even got to ski right over the Italian-Swiss border. I only went skiing once while abroad at a small resort called Bardonecchia, just north of Torino. It gave me only a taste of what skiing in the Alps has to offer.

### Soccer

If baseball is America's pastime, then soccer is undoubtedly Italy's. In fact, soccer is truly the world's pastime outside of the U.S. Soccer (or "calcio" in Italian) and its culture permeates Italian life significantly. Italy is home to some of the largest and most successful soccer clubs in the world. Torino, the city I lived in, is home to the 36-time Italian

champions Juventus. The fandom inspired by clubs like Juventus creates a passion for the game down to the smallest level. People play it on the streets, in schools, at parks and everywhere in between. It is not hard to put together a game — all you need is a ball and a few friends.

### Canyoning

Now, this is an odd one. Think of canyoning as going down a natural waterslide, except that the slide is a jagged fissure. The water is straight from a glacier. There is sometimes more climbing than sliding involved, and helmets are an absolute necessity. Canyoning allows people to descend river systems in canyons via swimming, climbing and rappelling. Italy's plethora of mountains in the north offer the perfect opportunity for this relatively new sport. My friends and I scrambled to book a guided trip last-minute near Lake Como, but sadly, our plans fell through. All for the best probably; the guide we found didn't even have a website.

### Hiking

The mountains in Italy are not only meant for skiing. The country has a wide range of hiking terrain for multiple skill levels between the Alps, the

Apennines and the many rolling hills in the central and southern regions. Running north to south, the Apennines offer many casual to moderate hiking trails with scenic views of the Italian wilderness. Hiking trips in the Apennines are especially beautiful in the well-known region of Tuscany and are an absolute must-do for any hiking enthusiast.

From these highlights, hopefully one of these four recreational activities speaks to you on a personal level even if you're not currently booking a one-way trip to pursue the outdoor recreation of your dreams. Obviously, Italy's list of outdoor activities goes on for much longer, but skiing, soccer, canyoning and hiking are the most notable.

Unfortunately, surfing did not make this list. While there is a little surf culture to be found on Italy's western coast, namely around the cities of Genoa and Rome, surfing is a limited sport in the country. To pursue my dream of finally surfing outside of the U.S., I had to travel by plane half an hour south into the Mediterranean Sea. On the island nation of Malta, I discovered a tiny, yet passionate surf community. Like surfing in Maine, Mediterra-

nean waves are small and somewhat mushy; there are no 20 plus foot barreling waves to be found in this body of water.

I got into contact with a surf coach in Malta who was willing to let me rent a board and wetsuit for an afternoon. Originally from Italy, he told me that he grew up surfing beaches near Rome. A few years ago, he decided to pursue his passion in Malta, beginning the Malta Surf School to instruct tourists and locals on how to surf waves at Ghajn Tuffieha Bay.

After not having surfed since December in Maine, my afternoon at Ghajn Tuffieha was revitalizing. It only took several minutes to get my technique back. Surfing is sort of like riding a bike in that one never really forgets the fundamentals. The waves were a familiar size to those found in Maine and the water temperature was cool, yet comfortable.

Beyond the physical conditions, the surfing culture at this little Maltese bay was even similar to Maine. In fact, I would go so far as to say that surfing culture is, for the most part, the same everywhere around the world. Etiquette and rules do not change between countries, and the overall easy-going spirit associated with surfers

is present across most cultures.

The only slight difference between surfing in Malta and Maine is the level of communal excitement and support. In Maine, surfers tend to ignore one another while out in the waves unless they are acquaintances, noting a competitive spirit in the air. In Malta, however, total strangers were whooping and whistling for me whenever I caught a wave. Maybe the cold water has made Maine surfers bitter and aloof, but one thing is for sure; we can definitely learn a thing or two from the Maltese when it comes to friendliness in the water. They do not get many chances to surf in the often quiet Mediterranean swell — perhaps this scarcity helps bring their niche community together.

# Two MDI High School students talk local climate action in "Story of Climate Change Series"

**Abigail Martin**  
Contributor

On April 8, the McGillicuddy Humanities Center hosted a climate change talk which aimed to highlight the environmental activist work of two Mount Desert Island (MDI) High School students in the local Maine community. The "Local Solutions to Climate Crises" talk is a part of the McGillicuddy Humanities Center (MHC) 2020-2021 Symposium on "The Story of Climate Change" and featured Ayano Ishimura and Ruby Mahoney, who both play an essential part in Maine's environmental activism scene.

Katherine Glover, employee at the Climate Change Institute,

and the Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies organized the "Local Solutions to Climate Crisis" talk.

Currently, Ishimura is a senior at MDI High School and holds the co-president position on her school's Environmental Concerns (ECO) Team. Additionally, she has worked on other advocacy projects such as declaring a climate emergency in her town and working to expand the use of solar energy throughout the state. Ishimura asks that Mainers "take inspiration from nature and fellow youth members" in order for the state "to find creative and collaborative solutions to the climate crisis."

Mahoney is a junior at MDI High School

and is a distinguished member of the ECO Team. According to her, she is "eager to make the world a better place." In an attempt to reach her personal and environmental goals, she has worked with a variety of local and national political and environmental justice organizations. She has advocated and volunteered during the re-election campaign of junior senator and co-writer of the Green New Deal, Ed Markey of Massachusetts. She has also been active in the Sunrise Movement and A Climate To Thrive (ACTT).

Consisting of 30 members, the two have worked with their ECO team to discuss the installation and implication of solar energy on MDI and through-

out the state. The ECO Team also works on composting, and has an Endangered Species Fundraising Project. Ishimura also works on Project Legacy through the ECO Team. Project Legacy brings information and project ideas in relation to climate advocacy to the school board at MDI High School.

The COVID-19 pandemic put a halt on their efforts last spring, but in the following summer and this year, they've been able to accomplish a lot during weekly Zoom meetings.

Thanks to the ECO Team and ACTT efforts, their school is primarily powered using solar, saving the school around 1.5 billion dollars. ACTT is a grassroots local

nonprofit organization striving for MDI energy independence by 2030. ACTT is currently working to better support youth activists in a productive and genuine way. The fact that "adults are actually willing to listen, and are committed to being responsible" leaves Ishimura and Mahoney hopeful for the future of climate action.

As one part of Mahoney's journey, University of Maine students can participate in climate action through The Sunrise Movement. The Sunrise Movement was founded in 2017 and is a 501 political action organization that advocates for political action on climate change. UMaine has a Sunrise Movement Chapter as of the be-

ginning of this year as initiated and run by Izi Topper. Meetings are on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. Due to COVID-19, all meetings are held over Zoom. The UMaine chapter is a growing organization and is currently looking for students to join to take part in climate action in the State of Maine.

## Diversions Answer Key

Puzzles, comics and more on A7

Puzzle Solution © OnlineCrosswords.net

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

Crossword

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

Sudoku

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

Word Search



# Sports

## Remembering Red: A testament to Red Gendron

**Patrick Silvia**  
Staff Writer

Friday, April 9 was opening day at the Penobscot Valley Country Club in Orono. I arrived at the country club at 12:30 p.m. and was looking to tee off despite not having a tee time. I was told that I could take the 12:40 tee time because the group scheduled for that time slot had cancelled. I rushed to the first tee box, put my tee in the ground, placed my ball on the tee and stepped back. I stretched for a minute and started to walk up to my ball to take my first shot of 2021.

As I approached my ball I heard someone yell in the distance, "Does anyone know CPR?" I stopped approaching my ball, looked up and saw golfers on the course from various holes all run and gather on the third hole. Moments later police and paramedics arrived at the scene. An ambulance drove down the golf course to the crowd of people. I stood on the tee box for around 30 minutes observing the

crowd — I had no idea what was going on or who the paramedics were attending to.

I ended up standing behind my teed-up ball for 30 minutes, waiting for the ambulance to move or to get some news of what was going on. I was eventually told by an employee at the golf course that I should tee off on the back nine of the golf course. I made my way to the back nine and started my round. The ambulance remained on the course until I was three holes into my round.

As I was walking up the 18th fairway my phone began to ring. My boss had called to inform me that the University of Maine hockey coach Dennis "Red" Gendron had died while golfing at the Penobscot Country Club, and I was asked to write this article. This became a moment in my life I will never forget.

Red Gendron had been the head coach of the UMaine men's ice hockey program since 2013.

He started his coaching career in

1979 as an assistant coach at the Berlin High School in Berlin, New Hampshire. In 1981 Gendron went on to get his first head coaching position at the Bellows Free Academy in St. Albans, Vermont. Gendron led Bellows Free Academy to four state championships in his nine years as their head coach.

In 1990, Gendron became an assistant coach under Shawn Walsh for the UMaine men's hockey team. In 1993, Gendron helped to lead the Black Bears to their first-ever National Championship title. The 1992-93 Maine Black Bears came to be considered one of the best college hockey teams ever when they went 42-1-2 and featured future NHL Hockey Hall of Famer Paul Kariya.

After the 1993 National Championship season, Gendron moved on to the NHL, where he worked as a technological specialist for the New Jersey Devils. In the 1994-95 season, he was promoted to serve as an assistant coach for

New Jersey's head coach, Jacques Lemaire. Gendron helped lead yet another team to their first championship. The Devils swept the Detroit Red Wings to win the 1995 Stanley Cup Finals with Red Gendron behind the bench. The Devils were a great team that produced multiple hockey Hall of Fame players such as Scott Stevens, Scott Niedermayer and Martin Brodeur. Gendron's name made it on the cup a second time as an assistant coach in 2000 after the Devils defeated the Dallas Stars in the Stanley Cup final. Gendron remained as a part of the New Jersey Devils Organization until 2004.

After a single season as head coach of the Indiana Ice of the United States Hockey League USHL, Red returned to the world of college hockey in 2005, this time with the University of Massachusetts Amherst. He stayed on as the assistant head coach for the Minutemen for six seasons. In 2011, Red Gendron left UMass and joined the coach-

ing staff of Yale University where he once again proved to be a championship-winning coach.

In 2013 the Yale Bulldogs were able to claim the last at large bid to be the last team to make the NCAA tournament. Yale went on a Cinderella run, upsetting the second-ranked University of Minnesota in the first round and beating the number one ranked team Quinnipiac University in the National Championship game. This was Yale's first ever NCAA Division I National Championship in hockey, and Red Gendron's second National Championship as a coach.

After helping Yale win the national championship in 2013, Gendron finally was offered his first head coaching position in college hockey.

Red Gendron returned to the University of Maine where his college coaching career began back in 1990, rounding out a successful career.

Gendron coached the Black Bears from 2013 to 2021. As the

head coach for Maine, Gendron helped UMaine finish with a winning record in his first full season. The Black Bears peaked under Gendron in the 2019-20 season, where Maine finished fourth in the Hockey East standings.

After Gendron's death on Friday, hundreds of people took to social media to commemorate his impact on their lives. Players from the past and present made posts in honor of their fallen coach on various social media platforms. Many college coaches and rival programs gave statements after his passing, all in praise of how good of a man he was.

The UMaine men's hockey team posted a photo that showed a stick resting against Gendron's office door in honor of the time he gave to the program.

Red Gendron will be remembered throughout the UMaine community and beyond for being a great coach and an even greater person.

## UMaine football spring recap



MEC Archive.

**Brian Sundstrom**  
Contributor

The University of Maine football team currently sits at 2-2 on the season and there is a real chance they have played their final game of the 2021 shortened season. The team recently announced that their last two scheduled games of the season against the University of New Hampshire and the University of Rhode Island have been cancelled due to COVID-19 conflicts with their opponents. The Black Bears will look for an alternative path to help them con-

clude their season on a positive note, but it will be difficult given the circumstances.

It is tough to evaluate any team's season when they may only play in a total of four games. UMaine showed plenty of potential throughout the games, in which they ended up winning two and losing two. The team responded well against Albany and won after getting roughed up in the season opener. They then traveled to Stony Brook, where they were able to rack up another victory, as they won 35-19.

The Stony Brook game was filled with touchdowns. UMaine started off trailing before their offense, led by second-year quarterback Joe Fagnano, came on strong and played well for the last three quarters of play. He played his cleanest game of the season, throwing for 250 yards and four touchdowns, while also adding a rushing score. UMaine's quarterback also did not turn the ball over. Fourth-year wide receiver Andre Miller has been a monster on the perimeter every game. He finished with eight catches for

133 yards and a pair of touchdowns.

This year's roster can be defined by youth, but it is safe to say one of the biggest losses will be losing Miller, as the team's premiere wideout is in his senior campaign. Not only will he be a loss to the team, but he will also be a major loss to what Fagnano will have to lock into a new No. 1 receiver. If the team has indeed played in their last game, it would be a tough way to end the season with the way things went against Villanova in their most recent contest.

Their loss to Villanova is what evened the team's record at 2-2. This game quickly got out of hand and the final score of 44-17 makes the game seem like it was closer than it actually was. A wire-to-wire win for Villanova raised their record to 2-1. In this contest, they were able to ground and pound all afternoon and the team ended up with a total of 232 rushing yards. When the Fagnano to Miller connection is not working, it is tough for Maine to generate consistent offense. Fagnano finished with 235 passing

yards, no touchdowns and one interception. Miller hauled in just two balls for 39 yards. On the bright side, redshirt junior wide receiver Zavier Scott stepped up and recorded a 100-yard game for the Black Bears. Maine hopes its up and down season will not come to an end after four games, as they attempt to schedule opponents and end on a high note heading into the fast-upcoming fall season.



# Jeremy Swayman's debut with Boston Bruins is one for the books



MEC Archive.

**Patrick Silvia**  
Staff Writer

The University of Maine's former All-Star goalie Jeremy Swayman had his first career opportunity to start in the NHL on Tuesday, April 6. The Boston Bruins were dealing with an injury to starting goaltender Tuukka Rask and backup goalie Jaroslav Halak went on the COVID-19 protocol list. Swayman was called up to the big leagues and because the Bruins were on the second game of a back-to-back he would get the start. Swayman seized the moment and led the Bruins to a 4-2 victory. Swayman recorded 40 saves, 23 of which came in the second period. His heroics kept the Bruins in a game that easily could have gotten out of hand.

Swayman made his

professional debut earlier this year on Feb. 4 for the Providence Bruins of the American Hockey League -- the league situated under the NHL.

Throughout his time at UMaine, Swayman racked up an impressive 0.939 save percentage, and a 2.07 goals against average for the Black Bears. He has managed to carry this momentum to his professional career.

In his first career start, Swayman stopped 26 of the 27 shots he faced en route to a 4-1 victory against the Bridgeport Sound Tigers. Swayman won the first seven games he started.

Swayman's first shutout came on March 10 against the same team he picked up his first win against, the Bridgeport Sound Tigers.

In the AHL Sway-

man has an 8-1 record, a 0.933 save percentage and a goals against average of 1.89, which are quite outstanding numbers for a rookie in a competitive league. Swayman ranks third in the AHL in goals against average, fourth in wins, and second in save percentage. The fact that he is in the top four in all of the major goalie stats is quite amazing considering he is a rookie, but as UMaine fans know, Swayman is a special talent and it's not too surprising to see him have this level of success.

Swayman's performance in his first game with the Boston Bruins was good enough to earn him a second straight start, and on Thursday, April 8, Swayman took the net for the Bruins again. Swayman helped the Bruins to another 4-2

victory, where the only time the Capitals were able to beat Swayman came on a two-man advantage powerplay. Both came within 20 seconds of each other on the same powerplay, with the first one coming on a one time slap shot by Alexander Ovechkin and the second being another one timer from T.J. Oshie.

Swayman had been so impressive in his first two starts that the Bruins decided to ride with Swayman since he had the hot hand. In his third start on Saturday, April 10, Swayman came back down to earth a bit and suffered his first career NHL loss. A few rookie mistakes by Swayman had a direct part in two of the three goals against the Bruins. Swayman allowed three goals on the 23 shots. At UMaine, fans rarely saw Swayman struggle, but

we should keep in mind he is going to have some rough starts as a young goalie in the best hockey league in the world.

After three career NHL starts, Swayman sits with a 2-1 record. He has a spectacular 0.929 save percentage and a solid 2.35 goals against average. These stats are spectacular for a 22-year-old goalie in his first few starts. Swayman is ahead of schedule in development, and his play thus far will make the Bruins management's decisions on who their two goalies will be on the club come next season very interesting. Jaroslav Halak's contract is up at the end of the season, and Swayman may make him expendable.

With Swayman's great start, along with the Bruins' goalie issues, it is possible

Swayman may make a few more starts for the Boston Bruins in the next few games. When Halak and Rask come back Swayman will most likely return to play with the Providence Bruins and continue to develop.

Seeing Swayman play at the highest level this past week has been very exciting for UMaine fans. Just over a year ago, he was starting for UMaine at the Alford Arena, and now he is making waves at one of the biggest clubs in the NHL. Swayman's play has planted him firmly as the leading candidate to be the Bruins goalie of the future, and the future may be sooner than we had expected.

## This week in sports history: 'The Sandlot' memorialized baseball's golden years

**Brian Sundstrom**  
Contributor

The movie industry is always evolving, and 28 years ago the sports genre took a big step in the right direction. On April 7, 1993, the baseball movie "The Sandlot" was released and became more than a sports film — it became a classic family movie. "The Sandlot" portrayed the excitement and joy kids have playing the sport they love, while also showing just how competitive the sport of baseball can be. Unfortunately, in today's major league game, emoting high levels of competitiveness has become frowned upon

and sometimes even punished.

There has been a lot of talk over the past few years about how "America's pastime" is declining from an entertainment perspective. Baseball has the least amount of action in comparison to other major sports leagues, which means the MLB has to market the game in a way that appeals to casual fans. "The Sandlot" perfectly exemplifies how the game should remain and be popular for players and spectators alike. Throughout the movie, there are several scenes that show the team of teenage boys' motivation to play and practice at

every possible moment in order to improve. Their trash-talking, good-natured banter during games offered an inviting atmosphere for the young and evoked fond memories for the old.

It is easy to argue that from a baseball perspective, the most valued part of this movie is the idea that baseball is fun. This sounds simple, but this is what the MLB needs to get back to if they want to maintain and build a consistent audience. The 2021 MLB season is officially underway and there is a percentage of fans allowed to be present at each ballpark around the league. In

the first weekend of play, a controversial event took place in the Reds v.s. Cardinals game which left baseball fans and players puzzled.

Nick Castellanos, one of many electric players baseball has in its game today, careened full speed into home plate and scored following a wild pitch from the Cardinals pitcher, Jake Woodford. After he was deemed safe by the umpire, he stood over the catcher, Yadier Molina, and flexed while screaming in response to extending his team's lead in the game. This is the type of play that reminds sports fans how baseball can be

exciting. Between the lulls in the action, these situational plays that result in players showing a wide range of emotions. One of the main reasons people tune in to sporting events is to feel the energy from players exhibiting an immense desire to win.

A few days after this game took place, the MLB announced a two-game suspension for the Reds outfielder, which he then appealed. Castellanos never made contact with anyone on the opposing team, making the suspension a questionable decision by the league. This led to current players speaking out as a way

to wonder how players are supposed to show emotion during exciting moments of a game. Time will tell whether or not this suspension gets upheld. Either way, this serves as a topic of discussion for sports fans, and it can have a massive impact on the future of baseball's popularity.