11-15-2004


John Bronson

University of Southern Maine

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USM creates new designated smoking areas

MICHELLE K. ALGER  CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Decaying leaves and cigarette butts carpet the grounds next to a smoking receptacle behind Luther Bonney Hall. But next week prepare to see that smoking receptacle moved to a new "designated smoking area."

The University has created twenty new smoking areas, eleven in Gorham and nine in Portland. The new areas will have a bench or picnic table marked in yellow, a yellow smoking receptacle and a new "designated smoking area" decal.

These changes are part of a new "Life is Fair" campaign, an attempt to appease both smokers and non-smokers while satisfying the goals of the USM Tobacco/Smoking Policy. The creation of new smoking areas is a revision of the "fifty feet" policy, which stated you must be at least fifty feet away from any university building while smoking.

Pamela Clay-Storm, a nurse at University Health Services and a member of the committee responsible for changing the smoking policy in 2002, said, "our goal [was] not to oust people who smoke." Instead Clay-Storm said, "we tried to be conscious of being respectful to people who do and do not smoke. We tried to be fair."

Jane Coolidge, Director of University Health Services, said, "In fairness to smokers, we created a spot where they can go to feel comfortable and have their needs met." Coolidge said after some assessment on campus PBS discovered "a lot [of smokers] walk out of a building and light up and walk to their car or their next class. Everyone they walk by has to deal with that smoke."

The new smoking areas allow non-smokers to move between buildings without having to worry about secondhand smoke. Coolidge said, "We tried to find areas convenient for people who want to smoke but allow others to avoid them."

As for enforcement, Coolidge said, "People are not going to get ticketed. She encourages smokers to "comply out of courtesy for others."

Clay-Storm reiterates this statement. "We don’t want to be seen as the ‘police.’" She said the new policy is an attempt to "start to contain where people were smoking...try to move them away from doors and windows."

She also said, "[University Health Services] people are here to help people interested in quitting."

When asked about the new policy, Elisabeth Janes, a 23-year-old smoker and Art major, said, "I think it’s fascist. I think that [the new designated areas] are out of bounds."

She added, "They shouldn’t make people stand out in the rain. I think it’s ironic their whole campaign is ‘life is fair.’"

Christopher Reiling, a 23-year-old science major, seems to like the idea of new smoking areas. "I think 50 feet wasn’t enough and isn’t adhered to very well."

Reiling, who sometimes parks his bike behind Luther Bonney Hall, where many people smoke,

"Sorry, everybody. We tried."

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"Sorry, everybody. We tried."

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the free press

Volume 36, Issue 10

15 November 2004

Entertaining Things

John Bronson, News Editor

The days following Kerry’s concession speech were tough for 49 percent of the United States. With Bush referring to his narrow victory as a "mandate" and seemingly enforcing a one-question rule at his victory press conference, there seemed no salve for the prospect of being ignored for another four years. A sense of disenfranchisement crept over the blue voters. It was all the more disappointing because things had seemed to be going so well. Faced with four more years of Bush, what was a liberal voter to do? Certainly no rational response would suffice.

Once news from Georgia snuck into the construction area at the former World Trade Center site and killed himself with a shotgun, apparently in an act of protest.

A Los Angeles student named James Zetlen also had a crazy idea: He built a Web site featuring a picture of himself holding up a sign that read "Sorry world (we tried) Half of America." Zetlen, a neuroscience student at the University of California at Los Angeles (USC), invited others to send their own apologetic pictures, which he promised to post as well. He told his friends on several online message boards about the site. Late on November 3, sorryeverybody.com was born.

Word of the site coursed rapidly through the blogosphere and by friends emailing each other—the online equivalent to word-of-mouth transmission. Dozens, then hundreds, of disappointed voters churred out their own remorseful portraits. On November 4, Zetlen’s student account at USC, where the site was housed, was accessed 2.1 million times. 82 percent of the school’s Internet traffic that day.

The school’s IT administrators cried uncle and removed his site. He moved it to a commercial hosting site. Before anyone knew what was going on, Zetlen was being interviewed by CNN, people were sending pictures from all over the world and at least one parody website had sprung peevishly into existence.

The place where Zetlen did most of his advertising, Dumbrella.com, is a coalition of web comics (including Achewood, which The Free Press syndicated last year). The site features a host of message boards where, as often happens in online forums, much of the discussion has nothing to do with web comics.

A large community has sprung up on Dumbrella, with many friendships and even some marriages finding their inception. When Zetlen’s Web site melted down, a support staff sprung, fully formed, to help him move the site to a server that could handle the load. The contributors, which Zetlen has called his Nerd Herd, commandeered a public chat room where most them have been hanging out for years and made it into their War Room. The site is truly a phenomenon. At Sunday, sorryeverybody.com contained 4040 pictures (double what it was on Thursday). Charitable visitors have contributed $9860 to the cause. On average, 144,392 people visit the site every day. The site has put out a terabyte of data (that’s 1,000 gigabytes). These numbers can only increase by the time you read this story.

“We have Fortune 100 companies that would kill for the type of traffic and exposure you have generated,” wrote Jason Carter, an account manager at Rackspace, in an email to Zetlen.

It takes a man or hours to manage all of this. The Nerd Herd is an international team of geeks hailing from California, Texas, Pennsylvania, Florida, Minnesota—one member lives in Germany. They all hold computer-related jobs or are training in that field.

Andy Warhol predicted that in the future, “everybody will be world-famous for 15 minutes.” That turned out to be true, for the most part. It turns out, 15 minutes was too generous. On sorryeverybody.com, you too can step up for a split second of fame as the world scrolls past your picture. (There is the potential for longer-lasting fame: I’ve taped some of my favorites to my office door. And a cottage industry has cropped up around Photoshopping new words onto the


**In Brief**

**WOMAN SEXUALLY ASSAULTED**

On Nov. 2, a woman reported to USM police a male acquaintance sexually assaulted her. The detective on the case, Jim Daniels could not go into details because the case is still pending investigation. Daniels did say, “This isn’t a case of an unknown rapist on campus. It’s not the type of case where you have to be careful walking to your car at night.” According to Daniels, if a case of sexual assault is reported to a city police department, they would not be obligated to investigate it. However, under federal law, when a sexual assault is reported on a college campus, that school’s police department must investigate it.

The first step taken when a case of sexual assault is reported is to find out if it is recent and then to determine if the assailant is a threat to the community. According to Daniels, the case did not happen recently and the assailant is not a threat to the USM community.

**PRESIDENT PUBLISHES UPDATE**

President Richard Pattenande released his monthly update on November 10 about the changes and developments happening at the USM campus. This update includes the USM/UMA realignements, corporate donations to different parts of the USM campus, calls for convocation themes and other “going ons” on campus.

To read the complete update, go to [http://www.usm.maine.edu/pres](http://www.usm.maine.edu/pres).

**GREEKS WRITE LETTERS FOR CHARITY**

Various fraternities and sororities sponsored a letter writing party to raise money for St. Jude’s Children Hospital. According to Donna Ciccolotta, from Kappa Iota, 2,248 form letters were addressed to friends, family and business, with personalized messages. Those at the event expect to bring in over $3,000 for the hospital.

**EGALITARIAN ESTABLISHMENT EARN ENCOMIUMS**

A representative of the Maine Tobacco-Free College Network will present the University of Southern Maine with an award for “Leadership in Tobacco Control.” The ceremony will take place at 1 p.m., Thursday, November 18, at Philipp Hall on USM’s Gorham campus.

Receiving the award for USM will be Joe Austin, dean of Student Life, Andrew Bossie, vice-chair of the Student Senate, Jane Cooledge, director of University Health Services, and Rebecca DeSantis, president of the Residence Hall Association.

The award presentations at USM and 22 other colleges in Maine are being held in conjunction with the 28th Annual American Cancer Society’s Great American Smokeout.

USM’s policy does not allow smoking in any campus facility, including residence halls, and limits outside smoking to designated areas only.

**SPORTS SECTION INTRODUCES NEW COLUMN**

Aaron Venkus, a staff writer for The Free Press, begins a new column in this week’s sports section. “It’s very in-depth,” said Sports Editor Joe Bilenci, “it has a lot of things you’re not going to hear on any sports channel, or sports talk radio.”

Compiled by Joseph R. Thompson and Molly Lovell

**DEMOSTHENES’ CORNER**

Demosthenes (di-’mäs-th&-nEz): 384-322 B.C. A Greek orator who used to put stones in his mouth and then talk to the ocean rather than paying for a public speaking class.

USM has a variety of illustrious speakers coming here every week. Here is a sample of some of them. This list is not all-inclusive and the number of listings is contingent on space.

**UPCOMING SPEAKERS**

Tuesday, November 16

Women’s Resources Center
“End the Silence” Film Series,
“After the Montreal Massacre,”
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Women’s Center in the Woodbury Campus Center, Portland, free and open to the public, 780-4996.

Wednesday, November 17

10th Annual Celebration of GIS Day, join faculty, staff and students to learn more about Geographic Information Science featuring a noon-time brown bag lunch with Nick Wolff speaking on Gulf of Maine fisheries data and a 1:30 p.m. workshop on how USM GIS can help you incorporate geospatial technologies into your teaching or research, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Room 302, Bailey Hall, Gorham, free and open to the public, 780-5063.

Thursday, November 18

USM College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Scholars Forum, “Digital Mapping Technologies and GIS in the Geosciences: A Maine Coast Perspective”, Mark Swanston, 7 p.m., Glickman Family Library Special Events Room, Portland, free and open to the public, 780-4221.

Thursday, December 2

Jennifer Finney Boylan, author of “She’s Not There,” will be speaking at USM’s Lewiston-Auburn campus 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., in room 170. This event is sponsored by the Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversity. For more information call 780-5767.

**News Editor Joseph R. Thompson can be contacted at freepress@usm.maine.edu**
Ambassador Charles Dunbar addresses World Affairs Council of Maine:
Less on what’s upcoming, more on what needs to be done

Phil Caper introduced Ambassador Charles Dunbar to the World Affairs Council of Maine (WAC). Caper is one of the twenty directors of the WAC of Maine.

The following are excerpts from Charles Dunbar’s speech to the World Affairs Council of Maine on Tuesday, November 9, 2004. During this speech Dunbar outlined what he saw as being the three biggest challenges facing the United States in regards to its relationship with the Middle East.

Squaring the circle:

“I would argue that in the President’s war on terrorism that there is no country in the world, and I’m speaking really of every country great and small, that matters more to the United States than Pakistan and with whose government we must have a cooperative relationship with if we’re going to be successful in the war on terrorism. I do want to say that I think the Bush Administration, the first Bush administration, has been quite successful in managing that relationship and I think that the situation in Pakistan shows how difficult it has been for us to develop that relationship and how difficult it has been for the Pakistan government to sustain. As you remember, the Pakistani strongman General Parviz Mosharraf decided early on to sign on with the United States shortly after 9/11 and the US decision to invade Afghanistan.

That decision by Mosharraf has been bitterly opposed. There have been several attempts on President Mosharraf’s life, a very direct expression of how his policies are viewed by segments of the population. But he has stuck to it fairly well.

In the three years since we began this cooperation General Mosharraf has moved into a policy of taking control of what are called ‘federally administered tribal territories’ in the northwestern part of Pakistan, an area that has not been under formal control of the Pakistan government since the Afghan government since time immemorial. The Pakistani show signs of moving heavily into this region and eventually bringing it under formal control. If and when they do I think it will be much more difficult for Al Qa’ida to use this area as a base of operations.”

How to get the American people to follow and pay the price:

“We will pay any price, make our military forces as large as they need to be in order to fight wars, and we have demonstrated that the American people are prepared to support that.

What I’m speaking of is giving our diplomacy the sort of muscle that it needs. One part of the muscle is large resources for development purposes. Very frankly, to have money that can be spent over a long period of time, particularly in countries that are important to us.

To just give you some numbers what I’m talking about: The Truman administration asked for 17 billion dollars, got 12, and spent 11 billion. The late 1940’s and very early 1950’s. If you inflate those dollars up till now we’re looking at a figure of 137 billion dollars.”

Clash of civilizations:

“I would contend that since September 12, 2001 the chances of Samuel Huntington’s view that there will be a clash of civilizations between the United States, standing more or less for the western world, and the Muslim world has increased. This was a theory that I tended to debunk. I’m really not so sure and I think that this is a problem that the Bush administration needs to look at with great seriousness as it determines how it is going to deal with the Muslim world for the next four years.

I think that the invasion/occupation of Iraq was a great mistake. I say that with some sadness because I believe no matter what happens to the United States is a result of our having done this.

I think the reason this was a mistake was not because of what it did to Iraq but because in invading Iraq we have created a second pole, a lightning rod, for Muslim anger in the Middle East. The first pole, of course, is Palestine and the Israeli policies for Palestine.

We now have two foci of anger, and the two blend in to one another as a focus of anger against the United States. We will get out with all deliberate speed. In the mean time we face a kind of hostility. And this hostility makes it very difficult for us to deal with these governments, governments that we must deal with if we’re going to be successful in the war on terrorism. I think, not to belabor this point, the Bush administration has been terribly wrong in the way that it has approached the Palestine-Israel conflict. I say that with the full realization that I don’t think even with the best of will to charge forward and get to a settlement they would have been able to do very much. But I think the point was it was important to look busy.”
Behold the blog: the internet’s role in Election 2004

Armstrong served as the Internet advisor for Howard Dean’s political campaign. He believed the Internet played a key role in linking supporters of any party together. He stated, “If this is an election about mobilizing the base, the internet is pretty good at that,” and later added, “I don’t believe the internet influenced the outcome between Bush and Kerry; it wasn’t used to influence the outcome,” he said, insisting the internet was used to mobilize a base of voters instead.

USM’s Professor of Communication Leonard Schedletsky, offered a less generous credence to the Internet’s influence. “I’m sort of the guy who’s gonna fold his arms and say, prove it to me,” stated Schedletsky. Schedletsky mentioned he does not deny the “tremendous” impact of the Internet in politics, but urged the attendees to consider the evidence and be cautious. Schedletsky warned of an “echo chamber” on the Internet. People agree on issues inside an echo chamber—which can be an illusion. “You can also be in an illusion that it’s more powerful than it really is,” Schedletsky pointed out. “I’m wondering,” he asserted, “Had Kerry won, would there have been a claim put out much more strongly that, yes indeed, the Internet did it? There’s no question. The fact that Bush won should make everybody be a little more cautious about the influence of the Internet.”

Robert Klotz offered his perspective as a political scientist. “The Internet led us to talk about certain things, hence I see more of an effect than he [Schedletsky] might,” Klotz told the audience. “I do see a significant potential” for the next election. “Probably by March or April, we will see organizing for presidential candidates on the Internet, probably not by the campaigns themselves. The earlier you can get started on the Internet, the better you are.”

Leonard Schedletsky, Professor of Communications, USM foresees as “untapped [internet] potential” for the next election. Armstrong said “one of the things that’s going to happen is, people are going to learn how to use e-mail effectively and begin to integrate that effectively into the campaign.” He expects that online efforts will begin, “Probably by March or April, we will see organizing for presidential candidates on the Internet, probably not by the campaigns themselves.”

The Albert Glickman Family Library at the University of Southern Maine and several staff members at USM sponsored a panel lecture and discussion titled, “Did the Internet Influence the Election?” The panel spoke on the seventh floor of the library on Tuesday, November 9, at 7 p.m. Richard Maiman, professor and chair of the Political Science Department at USM moderated the discussion. Among the panel were USM professors Leonard Schedletsky from communication, Robert Klotz from political science, and Jerome Armstrong who is an internet consultant for political campaigns and the founder of www.MYDD.com, a political blog geared towards Democrats.
USM community could use more student involvement

RICHARD SMART
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Between the experience and the connections often developed by being involved in a university community, some wonder why there are not more students actively joining student groups.

For Alex Steed, sophomore linguistics major, taking classes at the University is only one part of getting an education. He believes taking part in student groups is important to his education.

“I think some people think of it [classes] as resume building, but you can’t say you’re educated at a university if you just take classes.’” Steed said. Steed works at WMPG part time, has his own media company called Angioplasty Media, which is working with WMPG to release a double vinyl album and is working on starting a student group for political activism.

WMPG is an extremely visible part of the University, with listeners all over the Greater Portland area. James Rand, station manager of WMPG, said the radio station has one of the highest levels of participation on the campus. He credits the station’s high visibility in the community and their policy of making it easy to participate as a DJ or otherwise. He said even though participation is good, they could always use more students and “Frequently we have programs people don’t apply for, sometimes two or three.”

When questioned about levels of student participation, Ezekiel Kimball, chair of the Student Senate said, “It isn’t what it should be, but it’s growing.” He said USM faces a challenge in student involvement, because it has a large population of non-traditional students who might be less likely to take on an active role in the University. Kimball also said USM should “Find a way to reward very involved students out of high school.” He says many students who participated in high school come to the University and do not join student groups.

Time is also a problem for students. The Student Senate knows this as well as any student group as they are having a hard time filling empty seats on the Senate.

“We have people interested, but their schedule hasn’t been compatible with ours,” said Jeremy Collette, a student senator.

Joseph Austin, dean of student life, said for those who become involved in student groups the rewards are worth the work. “We know the more students are involved outside the classroom, the better they tend to do.”

Kathleen Pease, coordinator of the student senate, said putting hard work into a student group offers opportunities students who don’t participate never get, be it meeting people or gaining experience as a leader. She said this year she has been organizing SOOT (Student Organization Officer Training) meetings to train student organizers in leadership, recruitment and financial responsibility skills.

Pease said student participation has grown over the past few years. She hopes this growth will continue over time. Getting students to join can be difficult though.

“It’s an ongoing issue. Recruitment is one of the hardest things.” Pease continued, “It’s the students that do put in the work that get the rewards.”

In an online survey conducted by The Free Press, 43 percent of those polled said they were involved in a student group, 43 percent said they were not involved and 14 percent said they were not students.

Alyson N. Collette

The student involvement center in the Woodbury Campus Center provides information about student activities, groups, and events at USM.

$100,000 donated to new Muskie building

RICHARD SMART
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The law firm Chadbourne & Parke LLP has donated $100,000 towards the construction of a new building for the Muskie School of Public Service, the University announced on Wednesday. The

“This generous gift from Chadbourne & Parke is not only a testament to Senator Muskie, but also reflects a growing nationwide recognition of the USM Muskie school’s leadership role in public policy education and research,” said Richard Pattenaude, president of USM.

Edmund Muskie was one of Maine’s Senators for 21 years. He has also been Governor and Secretary of State for Maine. He has received both the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Distinguished Service Award. O’Neill described Muskie as “a man of great intellect, unwavering principle and utmost integrity. We were most fortunate and proud to have him as a partner in the Firm.”

Richard Pattenaude, President of USM firm made the donation in honor of Edmund Muskie, a senior partner at Chadbourne & Parke from 1981 to 1996.

According to a press release from the Public Affairs department, Charles K. O’Neill, the Firm’s managing partner, said, “Over the years, the Firm’s clients and its lawyers benefited greatly from Senator Muskie’s wealth of experience and wisdom.”

Chadbourne & Parke is an international law firm with offices in the United States, Russia, Ukraine, Poland, China and the United Kingdom.

“This generous gift from Chadbourne & Parke is not only a testament to Senator Muskie, but also reflects a growing nationwide recognition of the USM Muskie school’s leadership role in public policy education and research,” said Richard Pattenaude, president of USM.

To learn more about the project, visit http://www.usm.maine.edu/music-school/about.

The free press
15 November 2004
Sorry, continued from page 1

At its best, the site is zany, incongruous, bizarre. One woman writes “how can I make it up to u” across the region of her breasts not obscured by a bra. A sock puppet is sorry. There are several storm troopers and a Bobba Fett. One man poses with a quizzical expression next to a piece of paper that says “V oting 4 bush tee vee!”

But most of the site, unfortunately, constitutes a procession of Internet clichés. First, there are the LiveJournal coquettes. Portraits offoreach boys and girls (most of the pictures are Photoshopped into the empty space around their pretty lips and haunting eyes. Sometimes they include some of their poetry. Their poetry could mollify the hard hearts of the most deeply j eweled war mongers. If only they would pay attention.

Then, there are the pet pictures. Is there any more staid tradition in internet publishing than the cute pet picture? And what could demonstrate more clearly the things people find most interesting about themselves that others could care less about: politics and pets?

Throughout the site, droopy dogs and feisty cats apologize for their owners. A large portion of the pet pictures apologize on behalf of “my two moommies.” There seems to be some kind of kooky trend here with lesbian couples and their pets. I know better than to get into it right now.

There are also a few pictures of babies and young children standing in for their parents. Actually, there are quite a lot of these. In one picture, three identical babies gaze at the camera next to a piece of paper that says “Triplets care three times as much,” which is significant and interesting, apparently. The babies are either nauseating or adorable, depending on your temperament. (One Photoshop parody: “My parents suck! They made me do this!”)

People pose next to their cars, their iPads, their guitars, with no shirts on. One senses that, for many people on the site, apologizing takes a back seat to the opportunity to shoulder one’s way onto a famous web site. It is probably fair to say a lot of people submit out of vanity. It’s a like watching people in the audience of game show looking at the jackpot and waving at themselves. “Look, ma! I’m on the tee vee!”

Scrolling through the pictures, you are confronted by thousands of people watching you look back at them. There is an undeniable voyeurism inherent in peering into so many peoples’ living rooms, dens and bathrooms. There’s no doubt that every person who posts to the site goes back to see themselves looking back out at you and the rest of the world. The whole enterprise reeks of exhibitionism, which is probably why the site is so popular with the LiveJournal crowd. A LiveJournal community actually emerged when sorryeverybody.com went down for most of November 6 for a server upgrade. It’s full of girls and boys with perfect hair.

As such, the site perpetuates some of the common stereotypes the right holds toward the left. Zetlen insists the hate mail into the War Room every now and then for the Nerd Herd’s amusement: “Each picture is some freak, pagan, goth, atheist [sic], dyke or fag who has no morals to begin with. Perhaps those that voted for Kerry were wrong and maybe that is why you are scared.”

The reaction from right-wing bloggers ranges from bemusement to outrage. The hate mail continues in and parody pages are multiplying: wearenotsorry.com. natorsorryeverybody.com. usalovelivefordirt.com. are all direct responses to sorryeverybody.com. Someone even started a site for reviewing the parody sites: notsorrynoteverybody.com.

“We’re not responsible to the rest of the world for how we elect our president,” says John Petersen, an attorney from Pennsylvania who runs notsorryeverybody.com which hosts an essay rebuking sorryeverybody.com and its own gallery of unrepentant voters. “I don’t have a problem with people having a critique of the war in Iraq. But others in the Nerd Herd don’t claim to apologize for the Bush voters.”

Charles Vestal, a radio/TV/film major at the University of Texas at Austin, Texas started and maintains the site’s PayPal account. “After an election, the group that doesn’t win seems to disappear,” he says. “It is a way, the site is a way to let people know we’re still here.”

Zetlen says the site has indeed had that effect.

“More than half the email we get is from Europe. The gist seems to be that we’re doing is see Sorry page 14.
Is it difficult being a visually impaired student at USM?

Yes and no. Getting access to the texts (on CD) can be a problem, but the disability office does a nice job.

How do you take notes and write papers?

I use a portable computer that has a voice-output program called Jaws, like a shark. It’s a problem when the professor says, “look at this here,” so I use a note-taker as well.

Why political science?

I always thought political science was boring, but I took, a People and Politics class and got sucked in. Professor Maiman’s to thank for that.

Is it hard getting back and forth to school?

Well, I live in Wintrop, get a ride to Lewiston and then catch a bus to Portland on Tuesdays. I go to class and stay with a friend until Thursday, then head home.

That sounds like a pain in the ass!

Kind of, but it’s not that bad.

Is there anything you’d like to say to the masses?

Blind people rock! No. I guess I’d tell people that visually impaired people aren’t any different than anyone else. I think people get kind of turned off by the concept. They shouldn’t. I mean I’m just a regular student. Don’t be afraid to come up and say “hi.” I think a lot of people think all blind people are like what they see on TV, you know, like Ray Charles or Stevie Wonder. But not all visually impaired people sway back and forth.

Are you involved in any student groups? Why or why not?

I’m involved in Circle K and Portland Events Board.

I’m not. This is my first semester here. I’m still getting my bearings.

I am in the USM Chess Club and no, I am not a dork. I also volunteer at the root cellar, a group devoted to the people on Munjoy Hill and an after school program.

No, I just started here at USM and I’m a part time student.

I’m in the play “Lysistrat,” a play put on by USM. Does that count?
On November 5, Governor Baldacci and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection presented the USM Biodiesel Partnership with an award for environmental excellence for contributions to public health and environment. CONGRATULATIONS USM!

The Governor’s Award for Environmental Excellence should stand as a testament to the ability to accomplish great things by our openness and willingness to cooperate in order to realize common goals. Our ability to work together as a community gives me hope for the future. The strength of the students’ voice gives me reason to hope for our democracy. The power to get biodiesel from three different suppliers within months of our decision (Union Oil, Irving Oil and Frontier Energy) gives me respect for our domestic market. Community, democracy, awareness and the economy are the means by which we have made such a remarkable change.

Improving health, strengthening national security and slowing the pace of global climate change are vital issues that can only be tackled if people are willing to reach out to one another at the local level. As all of the stakeholders involved in the USM Biodiesel Partnership must know, the benefits of such actions will far exceed any minor risks involved. We are all aware that climate change is becoming increasingly evident, health concerns such as cancer and asthma are worsening and we are facing the prospect of more unfathomable wars over dwindling limited natural resources in the future.

By thinking about what we have managed to accomplish in our own community, we should feel empowered to continue to work within our means to find more innovative and collaborative ways for solving the world’s problems. Unity and success are much more tangible at the local level. I look forward to seeing where the “biodiesel bus” takes our community in the months and years ahead.

Sarah Ferriter can be contacted at sara.ferriter.usm.maine.edu.

THE FREE PRESS EDITORIAL POLICY

The Free Press is a weekly student—run newspaper paid for in part with Student Activity Fee monies.

The Free Press has a gender neutral language policy.

Editorials are, unless otherwise indicated, written by the editors. The Free Press reserves the right to edit or refuse all articles, letters, and other materials submitted for publication, including those we have solicited.

Columns are the opinions of the columnist and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the publisher or employees at The Free Press.

Guest commentaries will occasionally be solicited or accepted from knowledgeable members of the University of Southern Maine community on topical issues and may not exceed 750 words.

Letters to the editor are welcome. Letters must be dated, include the author’s full name, school year or relationship to USM, phone number for verification and may not exceed 300 words.

Anonymous and/or illegible submissions will not be published.

Deadline for all submissions is Thursday at 4 p.m., preceding the week of publication.

Sarah Ferriter
Contributing Writer

On November 5, Governor Baldacci and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection presented the USM Biodiesel Partnership with an award for environmental excellence for contributions to public health and environment. CONGRATULATIONS USM! The award is displayed in a case in the Woodbury Campus Center to remind us of our remarkable achievement of working within our means to affect positive change at the local level. Over the past year the USM community—staff, the student senate, students and faculty alike—made a conscious decision to work toward running a more environmentally responsible bus fleet. By opting to use biodiesel in our buses, we are hopefully facilitating the availability and sale of biodiesel to other would-be consumers in the Portland area.

The biodiesel campaign was a long process that involved making a commitment. I hope that time will tell that the coordinated USM Partnership, which includes biodiesel suppliers and VIP Charter Bus Co., remains committed to the idea of growing the local market for biodiesel. The other side of this effort is conservation. The anti-idling campaign is still unresolved yet promises to reduce our overall emissions even more than burning biodiesel.

In the course of the campaign, which started over three years ago, I spoke with directly and helped educate literally hundreds of students about biodiesel. Most of the students I talked to didn’t know much if anything about biodiesel. In addition to educating USM students, I also represented the USM Biodiesel Initiative at a national conference for climate change activism at Harvard University and a state-wide conference for students in Maine at the Chewonki Foundation last spring. I would like to think I connected indirectly with thousands more students through these events and through the two fellowships (EnviroCitizen and National Wildlife Federation) I had. The website I created for the Biodiesel Initiative is still active and full of information: http://students.usm.maine.edu/sarah.ferriter.

It’s interesting to point out that Harvard University decided to switch its fleet to biodiesel last spring and to compare what they are doing with what USM is doing. The decision at Harvard came from the top down. Their administration decided to allocate part of their multi-billion dollar endowment to build their own private biodiesel fueling station. Good for Harvard! USM doesn’t even own its bus fleet, let alone have the kind of resources it takes to construct a private fueling station. This is one reason that the “Partnership” is so special. The Governor’s Award for Environmental Excellence should stand as a testament to the ability to accomplish great things by our openness and willingness to cooperate in order to realize common goals. Our ability to work together as a community gives me hope for the future. The strength of the students’ voice gives me reason to hope for our democracy. The power to get biodiesel from three different suppliers within months of our decision (Union Oil, Irving Oil and Frontier Energy) gives me respect for our domestic market. Community, democracy, awareness and the economy are the means by which we have made such a remarkable change.

Improving health, strengthening national security and slowing the pace of global climate change are vital issues that can only be tackled if people are willing to reach out to one another at the local level. As all of the stakeholders involved in the USM Biodiesel Partnership must know, the benefits of such actions will far exceed any minor risks involved. We are all aware that climate change is becoming increasingly evident, health concerns such as cancer and asthma are worsening and we are facing the prospect of more unfathomable wars over dwindling limited natural resources in the future.

By thinking about what we have managed to accomplish in our own community, we should feel empowered to continue to work within our means to find more innovative and collaborative ways for solving the world’s problems. Unity and success are much more tangible at the local level. I look forward to seeing where the “biodiesel bus” takes our community in the months and years ahead.

Sarah Ferriter can be contacted at sara.ferriter@usm.maine.edu.
Like a telemarketer calling at dinnertime, this is the
Arts & Entertainment section of The Free Press

Why this isn’t a preview of the Bill Street Songbook

This week, my esteemed editor Jen Blood handed me a fairly simple assignment: write 800 words on the upcoming Bill Street Faculty Concert on November 19.

Is this not that article? I had every intention of writing that article (and no, dammit, this is not another ‘the dog ate my article’ story, so wipe that look off your face. Mister Never-Missed-A-Deadline-Ever).

Anyway… So, I was going to write the article—in fact, was perfectly happy to do so—but then there was mayhem and sworn statements and, yes, smoke and sirens. In a frenzy, I shot off an email to Editor Tim, who was my most sympathetic to my plight; he emailed back in an offhand way, saying “If you want to write an article on why you couldn’t write the article, I’d print it.”

So, (deep breath) this is why I didn’t write the article on the Bill Street Faculty Concert.

First, a little background on My World:

I’m in grad school at USM and I’m a writer; both of these conditions lend oneself to a certain financial instability (I’m poor). Plus, I have a giant poosh (Moonshadow), and landlords aren’t that amenable to giant pooshes. So, between the poor thing and the dog things, don’t live in the best neighborhood.

It’s not Harlem, but it’s not Bel Air, either. The dark, winding corridors have a very distinct smell—sort of a combination of stale pot, garbage, and…well, rotting flesh—and my neighbors leave a little to be desired.

With the exception of my own, all of the apartments in my building are home to couples or families, all of whom have single-handedly destroyed any desire I may have had to ever develop a lasting relationship. Who would anyone willingly choose to live with another person, if this is the result? All of the couples in my building seem to really, really hate each other. Loudly. Viciously. Except, of course, when they really, really like each other—which they also do at impressive deicels and with much fervor.

When my neighbor down the hall seems to

I can’t answer that. People are nuts, that’s all I know

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Which brings us to the day in question: Wednesday, November 10. It started like any day in my universe, with the train. If the train were ever to derail, I would be the first victim; the tracks are just outside my bedroom door. When I’ve gotten used to it, barely turning over in my sleep when it goes cruising by, which it does frequently through the night. But my downstairs neighbors always seem to get up right around the five-thirty train; I haven’t gotten used to my downstairs neighbors yet.

The downstairs apartment is kind of a clown car, in that it has an innumerable quantity of people, of all shapes and sizes. The only constant among them is a girl, about twelve or thirteen. We’ll call her Claire. Claire plays the clarinet and the keyboards and she almost always has her hair in a ponytail. Really, she seems lovely—at least, by day.

That’s just a trick, though. Because as night falls, all hell breaks loose. And the pre-dawn hours are the worst; at about 5:30 two or three times a week, Claire tends to wander outside. Maybe she’s gone to curse out the train for waking her. Maybe she just needs some fresh air, or a break from the clown-car apartment. Whatever the reason, 5:30 a.m. finds Claire outside, just below my bedroom window. And pretty much without exception, every morning at around this time, someone in my clown car apartment locks Claire out.

Why, you ask? Why would they do such a thing? How can people be so cruel?

I can’t answer that. People are nuts, that’s all I know.

Wednesday, November 10

The train was at the station, and my downstairs neighbors were at their desks, or had a cup of coffee. My neighbor down the hall seemed to

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A gladiatorial contest

Joniblood

A few years ago, my roommate Jake and I decided we needed a competition. Now, this was not to be just any kind of competition involving intellect or brute strength. We did not involve ourselves in any kind of physical challenges or battle of wits. Ours was a challenge to be judged by not only our peers but America herself. A quest to reach over the boundaries of culture, race, and society and really show people who we truly were in 250 words or less and an accompanying photograph (in jpeg format).

That’s right, folks. We signed up for HotOrNot.com. This was our determination, indisputably, who between us was hotter, and on a scale of 1 to 10, which appropriate measure of hotness we would be to be attributed. We had done it. We had thrown our heaving, sweaty, sexy,ubile young bodies into the ring to duke it out, roll with the punches, and cutest of all – and thus there could be no culture. There could be no memory, and thus there could be no culture.

We must steep ourselves in HotOrNot.com lore, fully understand the difference between “hot” and its dreaded antithesis “not,” and become masters in the advanced social science of HotOrNot-ism.

The Wellsprings exhibit in Glickman

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Arts & Entertainment

Mnemosyne is the Greek goddess of memory. She gave birth to the nine muses to whom Greek and Roman poets and scholars looked to for inspiration. Without her, there could be no memory, and without memory there could be no culture. Without memory words would be forgotten as soon as they were spoken, stories could not be told because what we say would be lost, and society could not advance, because none of the gains of our predecessors could be recalled. The Wellsprings of Memory is an exhibit in the Glickman library dedicated to the soul of remembering, and Mnemosyne is to be the patron goddess. The exhibit displays the work of six women artists from New England whose work has been selected from the Astrachan Collection, presumably by Gary Astrachan himself. The artists are: Camille Cole, Tanja Alexsandra Hollander, Buzz Masters, Merle Mainelii Foulton, Pamela Sienna, and Cheryl Warrick.

Warrick’s solitary contribution to the exhibit is a 36” x 36” acrylic titled “Winter Garden.” The border of the painting is framed by a mixture of leafy vines, and white, jagged, birr-leaf entanglements that I thought of as the spirits of winter. These same spirits, or some close relatives of theirs, had driven me into the library not moments before. The actual painting is a depiction of trees on the edge of either a pond or plan of battle. I needed something new, something with power, something that will grab peoples’ attention and bend them to my will.

I pondered what would best allow me to relate to women and win their precious ratings. What do women like? I did some research on the internet, but “long, hard cock” was not something I could supply on this occasion, so I thought back to a conversation I had had with one of the three females I had ever spoken to in my life. Yes! That’s it! Women love cute, furry, animals! I immediately googled “cutie kittens” and took another picture of myself with my arm outstretched and then Photoshopped a picture of the cute kitten with my arm and took my own photo with my open palm, so it looks like the kitten is just sitting there tamely. I’m making a face that says “Oh, look at this most adorable kitten: so innocent, so pure. Won’t you give me a 10?” The kitten is just sitting there in my palm looking so damn adorable and all, so I felt really good about this whole thing.

So the competition continues without what is in for the long haul though, because nothing sums you up as a person quite like HotOrNot.com. Although I have given up most hope of ever achieving a 9.4, I can still have pride in the fact that I did eventually climb the ratings to a respectable 7.1, which is hotter than 68% of men in my age group. Yes, I have probably lost the competition with Jake and my honor is forfeit, but I believe I have learned a lesson through this ordeal. That lesson is: the internet can be a cold mistress, but she speaks the truth, so get used to it. I am proud of my 7.1. So ladies, here I come, and boy am I lukewarm!

Joni Blood can be contacted at joniblood@maine.edu

In honor of Memory

RichardSmart

Mememone is the Greek goddess of memory. She gave birth to the nine muses to whom Greek and Roman poets and scholars looked to for inspiration. Without her, there could be no memory, and without memory there could be no culture. Without memory words would be forgotten as soon as they were spoken, stories could not be told because what we say would be lost, and society could not advance, because none of the gains of our predecessors could be recalled. The Wellsprings of Memory is an exhibit in the Glickman library dedicated to the soul of remembering, and Mnemosyne is to be the patron goddess. The exhibit displays the work of six women artists from New England whose work has been selected from the Astrachan Collection, presumably by Gary Astrachan himself. The artists are: Camille Cole, Tanja Alexsandra Hollander, Buzz Masters, Merle Mainelii Foulton, Pamela Sienna, and Cheryl Warrick.

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Loathing on Campus

Brother Matt speaks at the University of Sadomasochism

He had just arrived and was warming up his vocal chords, on this icy November 9. Besides a man standing off in the distance, I was the first person to stop and listen to him.

The man in the distance came over and handed me a tract (a leaflet). The man in the distance came over and handed me a tract (a leaflet). The tract was a missionary tract, and told her she would “be skipped across the lake like a flat stone.”

As Brother Matt started to address the crowd, I saw a man in the crowd put “middle-aged man” in his pocket to hear and looked talking. Brother Matt shouted that every “potty-mouthed [lesbian]” was going to hell, it caused a large stir that made the crowd grow even more.

A girl on a cell phone said, “I’m a lesbian and this is my girlfriend on the phone.” Not even startled by this, Brother Matt responded, “Well it is nice to know that the school can put on a free comedy act.”

The church was still reeling from the previous week’s events, as the scene (a confession that proved to be understated. Poulton also likes to use what I thought of as a “books in flight,” motif in several of her works. Her paintings have a simple elegance to them that I admired.

Sienna’s work differs greatly from the other pieces in the exhibit. All of her paintings consist of an unknown object, wrapped in cloth and tied with string, sometimes with a skyine and sometimes not. It may sound boring, and a little odd, but her paintings caught my attention. I will not, however, disavow their being odd. My favorite piece of hers “Hot Fallout Corral” shows a cloth-wrapped object surrounded by a rope corral with a mushroom cloud rising in the background.

Her paintings are different from the others in that she strives to be realistic and detailed, particularly in portraying folds in fabric. The Wellsprings of Memory is on display on the seventh floor of the Glickman Library in the Clause Provident Reading Room. The artwork is on display until March 15 and it is free and open to all who are interested in taking a look.

Other students began yelling and a few sensible ones got closer to Brother Matt and calmly asked him logical questions. The air was thick with nearly 50 students laughing and jeering at each threatening statement he made.

We stood there in the deserted freshman parking lot for a few awkward moments when I said that I did not have the same calling.

A girl came out of nowhere and joined the group but she came prepared. Charlotte came with her own sign reading, “I love peace.” She stood next to the speaker following everything he said with retaliation and a degrading statement. Keeping up with the last tomato splattering against Brother Matt’s sign and spraying my jacket. I followed Brother Matt and asked if I could speak with him for a moment. He handed me his last business card and said he would not mind talking.

“Keep the peace” as he put it, and to “enjoy the show.”

The crowd was playing right into his hand,” he said, “if they just walked away he would leave. But it is nice to know that the school can put on a free comedy act.”

So he has an hour and 15 minutes later when I got back from my English class he was still screaming at the heathens. But it was a different crowd that had gathered. A girl was walking around with a sign reading, “You Know Nothing About Us! So Go Home!” I recognized her as the one who told him to shut up. She told me she could not do homework so she made this sign and even threw it at him.

The yelling moved from subject to subject, mostly revolving around the different headings on his sign. “Liars, Thieves, Lesbians, Sadomasochists, Potheads, and Idolaters.” The topic turned from menstruation to a long talk about homosexuality. He was given a condom, but he didn’t want it. He preferred to call them, by a member of the crowd and opened it and begin saying that they are not safe for sex.

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Brother Matt, his wife and his four home-schooled children, make up Consuming Fire Campus Ministries which has been traveling for five years to 43 of the United States and a few other missionary trips out of America. We stopped in a patch of grass so he could clean the tomatoes off his sign and clothes. We talked for the next half hour about his military service, which he still continues in the National Guard.

Everything was going very “reporter-like” when Brother Matt and Terry stopped in an odd union and Matt said, “I don’t believe you are here talking with us because you want to write about it. I feel that God is calling you back from your backwards state.” I had told him I was once part of the religious scene (a confession that proved to turn on me. We stood there in the deserted freshman parking lot for a few awkward moments when I said I did not have the same calling.

I noticed Bush-Cheney sticker on his car and quickly changed the subject to politics. He had voted for the Constitutional Party but felt that Bush was God’s choice and would be better than John Kerry.

He offered me a ride back to my dorm, which I hesitantly accepted. He seemed insistent on showing some sign of friendliness toward people who give real religion a bad name. “Those kinds of people who give real religion a bad name.” Non-religious people just laughed him off as a “ zealot.” My laugh was heard by a few other people.

In the day that followed I talked with a few Christians who said that it was “those kinds of people who give real religion a bad name.” Non-religious people just laughed him off as a “ zealot.” My laughed him off as a “ zealot.” My laugh was heard by a few other people.

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Running away to join the circus

It all started in one not-so-sunny morning class when my Professor announced that he wanted to do a “dialogue” exercise. Twenty sleep streaked faces stared back at him blankly as he eagerly prompted us to move the tables out of the way and form a circle. We begrudgingly complied, and soon faced each other in a mismatched loop.

"Ok, now we’re going to go around the room, and everyone will check in.”

More blank stares.

“What do you mean check in?” a fellow classmate asked.

“We’ll all go around the room, and everyone will say their name, and what’s on their mind, and then say “I’m in,”” he answered. Hmm. We all looked around the circle apprehensively.

It started rather awkwardly, as none of us were quite certain as to what we were supposed to be doing, but I was quickly struck as to what we were supposed to be doing, but I was quickly struck

“..."these are the best years of your life” may apply to the rare student whose biggest responsibility outside of class is to find a semi-clean shirt to wear to the Brew Fest. Joy to the world.

With pocketfuls of beer left for George was thrilled, but no one took tickets.

“We don’t enforce the ticket taking,” they told us. “Please give us more beer.”

“This sucks!” shouted George as he got more free beer. “I wish I was home sleeping!”

There were a million sexy babes there. George and Tim got none of that shit.

The two connoisseurs enjoyed Scottish Ales, Bitters dark malts and Pale Ales.

Shipyard Export is Tim’s favorite Portland brew. Geary’s is second.

Breweries close to the sea are superior to most inland ones.

There were many guys with circle beards at the Brew Fest. Joy to the world.

Many of the folks there looked blurry. It’s because they had been drinking.

At 12:15, the taps closed and a man made a throat cutting motion. Tim accidentally lost his pen so he didn’t write anything down.

George was supposed to take photographs but he ripped the film in half. Oops!

The expo smelled like perfume. Then everyone left and it smelled like fumes.

George and Tim both chose the Sheepdog’s Pernada Klee as “best of the fest.”

Words & Images seeks submissions

Words & Images, the annual literary and art magazine from USM, seeks submissions for their upcoming fall issue. From now until Dec. 31, the staff will be accepting submissions of previously unpublished prose, poetry, and/or performance art.

Words & Images is in its 24th year, and headed by publishing director Victor Wyatt, a senior English major with women’s studies, education, and creative writing minors. Wyatt came on as publishing director in September, which is traditionally late, but he and his staff are prepared for an exciting edition.

“We are anticipating as many submissions as last year,” said Wyatt. “We have 65 poetry submissions, 15 fiction, and 55 submissions for the contests.”

The Stephen Dunn Poetry Award and the Andre Dubus Short Fiction Award are the awards for whose winners in addition to holding for the second year in a row as ways to increase the increase of submissions and recognize superior writing. To be included for the contest, people submitting their work must also include a $12 reading fee. The award recipients will receive special recognition in the 2005 edition, a congratulatory nod at the event in the spring, as well as a monetary prize.

Last year Words & Images went national, accepting submissions from outside of New England. They also experienced record sale with distribution local bookstores such as Gulf Breeze Books, and national distribution. The award deadlines are also advertised in national publications such as The Writers Chronicle, and on their Web site www.wordsandimages.org.

Wyatt credits much of the current successes of Words & Images to former publishing director Robin Talbot, who graduated last spring.

“She was a one-woman show,” he said. “Wyatt and his staff, including poetry editors Keith Foster and Ezra Koch, Literary Editor Tony Luchini, and associate publishing directors Nickell and Sandi Rivard (who is also the public relations director and last year’s student commencement speaker), office manager and submissions director James Whitten, returning production designer Mark Ford and part-time office manager Sarah Seeling anticipate a strong year, with a major goal to make the magazine more accessible to students and others.

“My biggest fear for Words & Images was that it was too removed from the face of the student,” Wyatt said. “We want to de-artify our image. We don’t want just high-brow aesthetics. We want a looser, person-on-the-street feel. . . Our priority is to the students.” This plan combines well with the notable, yet as of yet top-secret, prospects for the interviews for the volume. Last year’s featured Mystic River author Dennis Lehane, artist William and poet Adam Woelfle. Wyatt feels that the combination of “de-artifying” and keeping a high standard for quality will make the magazine more accessible, enjoyable, less pretentious, yet still literary.

New to the 2005 edition will be a multi-page spread of a featured notarist. Although it is hard to determine a central theme for the edition before all the submissions have been read, the Words & Images staff plan the art section to combine art with words, truly integrating word and image.

Fundraising plans have already begun for an event with WMPI in January. The event will combine musical acts with spoken-word and/or performance art.

Words & Images Submission Criteria

Deadline: Dec. 31

FICTION and POETRY: Authors are limited to a total of three submissions. All submissions must be previously unpublished. Please make sure that your name appears only on the first page of each double-spaced manuscript.

ART: Submissions will be accepted in three forms:
Photographic Print: minimum of 5x7 and maximum of 8x10
Digital File: We will accept images on CD. For optimum reproducibility, the file must be at least 300 dpi, in CMYK color, and in .tiff format, with the greater dimension being equal to approximately 7 inches.

FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS: A personal information sheet must be attached, and should contain the following information: Title of work, your name, address, phone, e-mail, school affiliation, and a brief biography of approximately 50 words (written in the third person). Work unaccompanied by this information will not be reviewed.

Submissions of previously unpublished prose of 20 pages or less, poetry of 10 pages or less, and prints of artwork can be sent via mail to Words & Images, 11 Baxter Blvd, P.O. Box 9300, Portland, ME 04104, 9300. They may also be dropped off to the Words & Images office at 11 Baxter Blvd. Remember to include a $12 reading fee in the form of a check made out to Words & Images if you are interested for consideration for one of the awards.

Words & Images

Words & Images can be contacted at elise.adams@maine.edu

Illustration by Katie Diamond

Contact me at m.m.valentine@usa.net

Contact me at elise.adams@maine.edu

Contact me at skynose@hotmail.com

"college student" doesn’t give credit to you in your head of being a carefree student? The reason for this discrepancy, I believe, is the bizarre, mutant image of the college student that is projected into our society by favorite ’80s flicks like Animal House and Revenge of the Nerds, newer movies like Road Trip, American Pie 2, Legally Blonde, and those horrible little college yearbooks that feature the unbelievably diverse, group of laughing, linked-armed friends as they stroll through the manicured school lawns on their way to fill their minds with fascinating information. Now that you know better, look closely at their faces: do any of them need the sleep for work or the free press..."college student"...is otherwise known as being a..."These are the best years of your life" may apply to the rare student whose biggest responsibility outside of class is to find a semi-clean shirt after rolling out of bed, but for the rest of us, this phrase is frightening. As I discovered during my class, it’s not as though my fellow classmates imagine that work after class is to find a semi-clean shirt...I’m in,” he answered. Hmm. We all looked around the circle apprehensively.

It started rather awkwardly, as none of us were quite certain as to what we were supposed to be doing, but I was quickly struck

“..."these are the best years of your life” may apply to the rare student whose biggest responsibility outside of class is to find a semi-clean shirt after rolling out of bed, but for the rest of us, this phrase is frightening. As I discovered during my class, it’s not as though my fellow classmates imagine that work after class is..."college student"...is otherwise known as being a..."These are the best years of your life" may apply to the rare student whose biggest responsibility outside of class is to find a semi-clean shirt after rolling out of bed, but for the rest of us, this phrase is frightening. As I discovered during my class, it’s not as though my fellow classmates imagine that work after class is to find a semi-clean shirt after rolling out of bed, but for the rest of us, this phrase is frightening. As I discovered during my class, it’s not as though my fellow classmates imagine that work after class is to find a semi-clean shirt after rolling out of bed, but for the rest of us, this phrase is frightening. As I discovered during my class, it’s not as though my fellow classmates imagine that work after class is to find a semi-clean shirt after rolling out of bed, but for the rest of us, this phrase is frightening. As I discovered during my class, it’s not as though my fellow classmates imagine that work after class is...I’m in,” he answered. Hmm. We all looked around the circle apprehensively.

It started rather awkwardly, as none of us were quite certain as to what we were supposed to be doing, but I was quickly struck
Dems and Greens run all over GOP in Southern Maine voting

Several ballot initiatives, national, state and local election results served as a reminder of the different worlds the two University of Southern Maine campuses are located in despite their proximity to one another. In the presidential election, the City of Portland voted overwhelmingly for Senator John Kerry by a 71.9 percent to 26.1 percent over President George W. Bush. Gorham bucked statewide as well as Southern Maine trends with Kerry scoring a narrow 50.2 percent to 48.5 percent victory our of 6210 votes cast.

Both municipalities did not deviate much with the overall state results on Question 1, the tax cap initiative. Statewide the measure failed to pass at a 62.8 percent clip. Portland and Gorham voted against the proposal at 65.5 percent and 61 percent respectively. The larger illustration of the difference between the two communities was in Question 2. Question 2 would have made it illegal to use bait, dogs, or traps to hunt bear. Statewide, the initiative was voted down 53.8 percent to 46.2 percent. Portland residents voted for the measure 67 percent to 33 percent. Gorham residents also voted yes, though in a less resounding manner, 51.7 percent to 48.3.

Both Portland residents voted on and passed two referendum questions. The citizens voted to allow the city to borrow $4 million dollar renovation towards the renovation of the Portland Public Library. The other initiative was dependent on the passage of the tax cap initiative. Had the state initiative passed, Portland residents voted in favor of a measure allowing city officials to collect enough taxes to pay for prior existing debt, thus going over the cap amount. Gorham residents also voted on a referendum question, which they voted down. The proposal to zone some residential areas into commercial districts surrounding the intersection of routes 114 and 22 failed 62 percent to 38 percent.

Aaron Venskus can be contacted freepress@usm.maine.edu
Sorry, continued from page 6

making a big difference in their opinion of Americans.” Aristotle, who didn’t want his last name published, is a software developer in Cologne, Germany. He wrote some of the software that lets people upload their pictures and lists the Nerd Herd review them for publication.

“It’s reassuring,” he says. “It’s nice to see people saying ‘we really didn’t want that either.’ I knew they were there but it gives it a feeling on a whole different level.”

Many of the site’s pictures feature people outside the U.S. accepting the apologies and offering condolences. Canadians offer up their couches. Two websites have sprung up to host acceptance pictures exclusively: www.we-still-love-you.com and www.apologiesaccepted.com. www.notsorryeverybody.com’s penitent photos.

Some critics fail to see the humor inherent in the site. In a November 8 column in the Detroit Free Press, Dawson Bell says that sorryeverybody.com represented “a telling example” of the left’s lack of humor. “I couldn’t be sure that the site is not self parody,” he writes, adding: “A real parody site...can be found at: werenotsorry.com” In fact, neither site is a parody. Both sides of the issue have healthy senses of humor—just not about each other. This points to the depth of the ideological division in the country today, something not even a skyrocketing Internet phenomenon like sorryeverybody.com can hope to mend.

Nevertheless, there is pride among the Nerd Herd for what they’ve accomplished. Partly it’s from hard work well done and a sense of empowerment, of having provided their fellows with a forum for self expression in one of their darkest days. A lot of the pride stems also from the exhilaration of becoming literally and quite suddenly, famous.

“When you’ve got sites parroting yours, you know you’ve MADE IT,” one of the Herd said when werenotsorry.com started appearing alongside the original site in news stories. Every time the site becomes more prominent, someone makes a similar statement (“When you’re the first site on a Google search.”)

In the end, sorryeverybody.com may do nothing to bring the left and right closer together. Maybe it can even be a mouthpiece for disappointed liberals. That’s all that some in the Nerd Herd ever expected in the first place. And there are signs the site has fostered sympathy for our nation’s people abroad. That alone may be enough to justify all those ridiculous pet pictures.

---

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A uniform and natural look of golden brown tan.

Gorham:
McClellan (back upper side)
Phillipi (front)
Towers (front)
Ice Arena (corner by Mitchell Center)
Admissions House (back)
Bailey Hill Plaza (facina field)
Between Bailey & Woodward (grass)
Between Corthell & Robie (on grass)
On hill in front of Upton
On hill between BSC & Uston
On Grass Lower back end of Upton

Life is fair!

USM’s NEW DESIGNATED SMOKING AREAS

RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF SMOKERS & NON-SMOKERS

---

Portland:
Woodbury campus Center (front)
Beal Roadway (near corner of Health Services)
Luther Bomney (Facing Payson Smith)
Between Payson & Science
Law School (on Falmouth Street)
Forest Ave side of Library
Between Cshmerlain & Bedford
Community Education Center (corner of garage)
Portland Hall (IBA)

---

John Bronson can be contacted at
freepress@usm.maine.edu
**Rational Numbers**

by Linda Thistle

Using the clues, simple arithmetic, and a little logic, place a single digit (0 to 9) in each empty box in the diagram. To help you get started, one digit has been entered in the diagram.

**ACROSS**
- 1. Down times 16-Down
- 4. Consecutive digits in ascending order
- 5. The last digit is the sum of the other digits
- 7. Eight times 15-Across
- 8. The first digit is three times the last digit
- 10. Consecutive digits in ascending order
- 12. Four times 14-Down
- 14. The last digit is the sum of the other digits
- 15. The first digit is the sum of the other digits
- 17. Six times 9-Across

**DOWN**
- 1. Four less than 16-Down
- 2. Five times 4-Across
- 3. 4-Across minus 11-Down
- 6. Nine times 17-Across
- 7. Consecutive digits in descending order
- 8. Three times 5-Down
- 11. Six more than 10-Across
- 13. Eight times 2-Across
- 14. 7-Across minus 2-Down
- 15. Consecutive digits in descending order

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Greenville

856-9700
856-2224
853-4779

Open daily 7am to 9pm
Aries (March 21 to April 19) A long-
sought workplace change could be
happening soon. Consider revising
your ideas and preparing a presenta-
tion just in case. A personal relationship
takes a new turn.

Taurus (April 20 to May 20) Your
persuasiveness doesn’t really start to
kick in until midweek. By then, you can
count on having more supports in your
camp, including some who doubted you
would ever join you.

Gemini (May 21 to June 20) Your
persuasiveness is still high, but—good
news!—you should start to see daylight
by the week’s end. Reserve the weekend
for fun and some quality time with
friends and loved ones. You deserve it.

Cancer (June 21 to July 22) Regard-
less of how frustrating things are, keep
that “Crab” under control. A cutting
comment you might think is apt right
now will be quickly repaired. Be sure
to stand up for yourself in an
overbearing situation.

Leo (July 23 to August 22) Be
more sensitive to the emotions of loved
ones who might feel left out while you’re
stalking that new opportunity. Be sure
to make it up to them this weekend. A
nice surprise could be waiting.

Virgo (August 23 to September 22) The
gregarious Virgo rarely has a problem
making new friends. But repairing frayed
relationships doesn’t come easily. Still,
if it’s what you want to do, you’ll find a
way. Good luck.

Libra (September 23 to October 22) A
misunderstanding with a partner or
spouse needs to be worked out before it
turns into something really nasty. Forget
about your pride for now and make that
first healing move.

Scorpio (October 23 to November 21)
Communication dominates the week.
Work out any misunderstandings with
coworkers. Also get back in touch
with old friends and those family members
you rarely see.

Sagittarius (November 22 to
December 21) As busy as your week is,
take some time for yourself. Your
act of kindness could later prove to be more
significant than you might have realized.

Capricorn (December 22 to
January 19) Congratulations. Your busy
workweek leads to some very satisfying
results. Sports and sporting events are
high on your weekend activities aspect.
Enjoy them with family and friends.

Aquarius (January 20 to February
18) Your generosity of spirit reaches
out again to someone who needs
reassurance. There might be problems,
but keeping that line of communication
open eventually pays off.

Pisces (February 19 to March 20)
You are among the truth-seekers in the
universe, so don’t be surprised to find
yourself caught up in a new pursuit of
knowledge. You are among the truth-seekers in the
universe, so don’t be surprised to find
yourself caught up in a new pursuit of
knowledge.
### Classifieds

**WANTED**

BSA- Troop 73, Gorham ME is in need of assistant Scout Master. If you are interested in keeping active with scouting, please contact BSA- troop_73_gorham@msn.com  

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**Spring Break 2005. Travel with STS, America's #1 Student Tour Operator to Jamaica, Cancun, Acapulco, Bahamas and Florida. Now hiring campus reps. Call for discounts. Info/Reservations: 1-800-648-4849 or ststervall.com**


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**For Sale**  
1998 Subaru Outback Wagon. 130k miles; executive condition, $5500. 847-9342

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**Events**

The Sociology Department Association is raffling 3 items. Tickets cost from $1 - $3.00. For $1.00 we have gift cert. to the Campus Bookstore (value $50). For $2.00 we have a facial to SkinCare by Hillary (value $50-60). For $3.00 we have (2) 4th row seats to the 1/10/05 Boston v. Detroit Piston's game and a nights stay at the Onyx hotel in Boston. contact Dr. cruz at 780-4490 or jmcruz@usm.maine.edu for more info. drawing to be held on 12/2/04

---

**For Rent**

Roomate needed to share 3bdrm house. North Deering, M/F, 21-35, $500/mth, includes utilities. $300 security deposit. 3 references. Available 12/5/04. 207-415-1493

---

**For Sale**

GWM grad student seeks, similar to share 2 bdrm apt near USM. Quiet area, smoking outside, 1 cat no other pets allowed. Share: utilies, cable, heat $400 + dep. No parties at home must like houseplants. 838-4788.

---

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Classified ads up to four (4) lines are free of charge to any private USM student, employee, or faculty member.

For all others:

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- $10 per column inch for an image/display classified.

Classified ads must be submitted with contact name and phone number by 5 p.m. Thursday before publication.

Ads phonied in will not be accepted. Payment is due upon placing the ad.

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Brady deserves more credit… still

Brady bashers need to be exposed

AARON VENUSKI

COLUMNIST

Two Super Bowl Cadillac rides later and Tom Brady still can’t get a fair shake from the mainstream sportswriters. The talking heads of the Joe Six-Pack and his 50 watt talk show in Chebygan here, these are legitimate NFL commentators. Last week ESPN’s Chris Mortensen called Brady one of the “six or seven best quarterback’s in the NFL.” Earlier this year Dan Marino said that if he had to pick a quarterback to win one game for him it would be Peyton Manning. Seems appropriate, coming from a guy who has as many Super Bowl rings as I do.

The criticisms of Brady are generally summed up: He’s the product of a system, he benefits from the Patriots defense and he doesn’t put up big numbers. But hey, I get it. He’s a young guy with a meteoric rise to star status who appears on every magazine cover at the Harry Potter checkout lane. You might as well paint a target the size of John Madden’s nugget on him it would be Peyton Manning. Seems appropriate, coming from a guy who has as many Super Bowl rings as I do.

The first knock on Brady is that he benefits from the Patriots defense. This is of course true. It is as true now as it was when the 49ers were ranked second and first in Joe Montana’s first two SuperBowl winning seasons. Brett Favre had the top ranked Packers defense in his Super Bowl winning year. All of Troy Aikman’s defenses were top five in his Super Bowl seasons. Brady’s defense was sixth in 2001 and first last year. Quarterbacks who win consistently have great defenses, if we’re breaking new ground here, please stop me.

Defectors also claim that Brady is the “product of a system.” The answer, again: of course he is. If an NFL quarterback is not in a position to play his strengths, it is an absolute that they have coaching staff is not doing their job. Look to Atlanta f or example. M ike Vick in the West Coast offense? What next? Drew Bledsoe running the option? Brady’s talent was transposed to offense when he was playing in Hawaii. But he has put up the gaudy numbers that are generally threefold: He’s the guy who has as many Super Bowl rings as I do. He’s being exposed and taken in context can tell you all that you need to know, football is the dopiest stat in sports. His yards-per- attempt is not as much win games as he does keep the Patriots in them. Is there any anyone who thinks that it was Adam Vinatieri who won those Super Bowls? It was Brady’s decision making, his ability to step up in the pocket, and his clock management that put them in a position to win those games.

When Brady does make a bad decision (see the pick against Carolina or the pick in this year’s home opener) he invariably makes it up for it on the next drive. He doesn’t raise his palms in the air, slap his helmet or throw any of the Peyton Manning-like temper tantrums. Brady could have easily thrown Dan Graham under the bus for breaking off his route into the zone in the home opener, but he didn’t. He made the throw, it was his fault. It’s tough to imagine Brady calling 64 an “idiot kicker” isn’t it? With one more Super Bowl winning drive and Teddy, Bill, Bobby and Larry will need to make some room. But this ride is just beginning.

With one more Super Bowl winning drive and Teddy, Bill, Bobby and Larry will need to make some room. But this ride is just beginning. When the Panthers took the lead in last year’s Super Bowl, Carolina wideout Muhsin Muhammad turned to his counterpart Steve Smith on the sideline and said, “It ain’t over… not with that dude at quarterback.”

He was right. Not by a longshot.

Sports Editor Joe Bilancieri can be contacted at 780-4084 x5 or joe@bca.lemars.edu

BRIEFS continued from pg. 19

(Portland, ME) were both named to the all-conference first team. Earning second team honors were senior Troy Waltz (Portland, ME), Mike Suesse (Westborough, MA) and sophomore goalkeeper Chris Willard (Hampton, CT). All players chosen were first time selections and Miller becomes the first man’s coach to ever win the award in the 16 year history of the program in the LEC. It is also the first time the Huskies had five players be named to the conference team in the same season. Budelman led the Huskies with 17 goals and three assists on the season, good for 37 points. His 17 goals is the second highest ever in the 48-year history of the men’s soccer program. Rossignol, who assisted on many of Budelman’s goals throughout the season, anchored the Husky midfield while scoring one goal and assisting on nine others.

Women’s Soccer:

Three Lady Huskies earned bragging rights in the LEC as they were named to the first and second all-conference teams last Monday. Coach Steve Quinones was also named Coach of the Year by coaches around the conference. Junior defender Stacy LeBlanc (Standish, ME) was named to the All-Little East first team for the first time in her career. Junior forward Liz Brunton (Birch Harbor, ME) and junior midfielder Devin Edwards (South Paris, ME) were both named to the all-conference second team. Brunton and Edwards are also first time selections.

Volleyball:

Freshman middle hitter Ashley Freeman (Gorham, ME) was named the LEC’s Rookie of the Year for her outstanding performance over the fall season. The award, which is voted on by LEC coaches, is the first of its kind to be won by a USM player in the program’s eight year history. Freeman led the Huskies with 279 kills and 79 blocks on the season. Freeman was named LEC Rookie of the Week twice during the season for the 15-16 Huskies.

Field Hockey:

Sophomore Denise Minigell (Auburn, ME) has been named to the 2004 LEC second team. Minigell started 17 games for the Huskies. She also transitioned to offense when she had to, scoring two goals on the season. Minigell has also started in all 40 games she has played in over the past two years and was also a National Field Hockey Coaches Association Academic All-America selection in 2003. USM finished their season at 4-16 overall and 3-7 in the LEC.

USM freshman Ashley Freeman is pictured here making a kill during regular season play. Freeman was named Rookie of the Year last week by coaches in the LEC.

Aaron Venuski can be contacted at freexpress@usm.maine.edu
Dolbec an added bonus for USM cross country

Name: Colleen Dolbec
Sport: Cross Country
Year: Senior
Hometown: Newfield, ME
Major: Sports Medicine/Health & Fitness

Stats: runs the 5k in 20:40

Pre-game rituals or superstitions: “Warm-up, stretch out and get to the starting line ahead of time.”

Favorite thing about USM athletics: “Everyone’s friendly.”

Quote from Coach Towle: “Colleen has been a real bonus to this year’s team. We expect continued progress as we head into the indoor season.”

interview by Iris Burke

Sports Briefs
A quick look at the past week in USM athletics

JOE BLANCHIERI
SPORTS EDITOR

Men’s Soccer:
The USM men’s soccer team traveled to New London, CT to take on the United States Coast Guard Academy in the first ECAC Division III New England Tournament that the Huskies have played in in twenty years (1984). The Bears scored early, deflating to Huskies hopes of advancing as they went on to beat them by a score of 2-0. This is the second time in two years the Bears have advanced to the semifinal round. Sophomore midfielder Sean Munns (Dowington, PA) scored just 2:43 into the first half and classmate Casey Steuer (Madison, WI) scored 2:30 into the second to advance the fourth-seeded Bears to the semifinals. The Huskies had their best season in 24 years, ending with a mark of 11-5-3.

Coach Eric Miller was named Little East Conferences (LEC) Coach of the Year recently as voted on by his LEC coaching cohorts. The Huskies also had two players earn first team honors for the LEC. Senior forward Andy Budelman (Rochester, NH) and senior midfielder Zach Rossignol

see BRIEFS
continued pg. 18

Sports Schedule
Upcoming athletic events for the week(s) of:
11/15 - 11-27

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Location/Opponent/Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri.</td>
<td>11-19</td>
<td>Men’s Basketball @ UMaine Farmington</td>
<td>Tip-off Tournament</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri.</td>
<td>11-19</td>
<td>Women’s Ice Hockey vs. Manhattanville</td>
<td></td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri.</td>
<td>11-19</td>
<td>Men’s Ice Hockey @ Trinity</td>
<td></td>
<td>7:45 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri.</td>
<td>11-19</td>
<td>Women’s Basketball @ USM Tip-off Tournament</td>
<td></td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat.</td>
<td>11-20</td>
<td>Wrestling @ Doug Parker Invitational</td>
<td>@ Springfield College</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat.</td>
<td>11-20</td>
<td>Men’s Basketball @ UMaine Farmington</td>
<td>Tip-off Tournament</td>
<td>1 &amp; 3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat.</td>
<td>11-20</td>
<td>Women’s Basketball @ USM Tip-off Tournament</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 &amp; 3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat.</td>
<td>11-20</td>
<td>Men’s Ice Hockey @ Wesleyan</td>
<td></td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat.</td>
<td>11-20</td>
<td>Women’s Ice Hockey vs. Manhattanville</td>
<td></td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue.</td>
<td>11-23</td>
<td>Women’s Basketball @ Bates</td>
<td></td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue.</td>
<td>11-23</td>
<td>Men’s Ice Hockey @ Salem State</td>
<td></td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue.</td>
<td>11-23</td>
<td>Women’s Ice Hockey vs. Colby</td>
<td></td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue.</td>
<td>11-23</td>
<td>Men’s Basketball @ Bates</td>
<td></td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat.</td>
<td>11-27</td>
<td>Men’s Basketball vs. Husson</td>
<td></td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat.</td>
<td>11-27</td>
<td>Men’s Ice Hockey vs. Johnson &amp; Wales</td>
<td></td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Home games signified in bold

Joe Bilancieri can be contacted at 780-4084 x5 or joseph.bilancieri@maine.edu
USM women’s hoops built for success

The Lady Huskies are ranked in the top three teams in nation in pre-season polls

COLEY STETLER
SPORTS WRITER

The USM women’s basketball team finished last season with an impressive record of 29-2. The Huskies season ended with a disappointing loss to Bowdoin in the third round of the NCAA tournament. Bowdoin was the only team to beat the Huskies, defeating them once in the regular season as well.

With such a successful season last year and having lost only two players, Meg Cressler (Appleton, MA) and Jen Webster (Braintree, MA), the Huskies are starting what should be another standout season for the team. Coach Gary Fifield is very optimistic. The Huskies have been ranked nationally in two polls. The USA Today/ESPN/WBCA poll places USM third in the nation, while D3hoops.com places USM in second place.

Fifield, who is entering his 18th season at USM, acknowledges these polls as “showing respect for the program and its continued success through the years.”

The Huskies lost two major contributors last season, but will be returning ten players. Juniors Katie Frost (Calais, ME), Donna Cowing (Weeds Mills, ME), Meg Myles (Turner, ME), Tiffany Jones (Skowhegan, ME), Ashley Marble (Topfield, ME) and sophomore Katie Sibley (Boothbay, ME) all bring experience and leadership to the team. Jones and Myles were the team’s first and third top scorers respectively last season.

Also returning is junior Dianna Thibaudenu (Sanford, ME), sophomores Lindsey Welch (Newport, ME), Shannon Kynoch (South Burlington, VT) and Lauren Samuelson (Southbury, CT), who add depth to the Huskies bench.

Fifield feels the team’s composition will lend to an up-tempo style of play.

“We are fairly athletic, with good depth in several positions. We should be able to play pressure defense and take advantage of the fast break,” said Fifield. The Huskies will also be adding transfer Lauren Krause (Flloyd’s Knobs, TN) and four freshmen: Amanda Bryant (Lewiston, ME), Dawn Ross (Gray, ME), Trish Sylvain (Ware, NH) and Lisa Welch (Newbury, VT). For Fifield these players all have the potential to be great players for the Huskies.

“We all know what we want what it takes, and we’re willing to work for it.”

- USM junior Meg Myles

Frost agrees, seeing the players as great additions to the team.

“The new players bring a lot of talent to the team,” he said. “Combined with the experience we already have it should be a great season.”

With the consistency of success that the Huskies have shown the team sets high goals. Winning the LEC season title is just the first step on the team’s path to achieving their ultimate goal of winning the National title.

“We all know what we want, what it takes and we’re willing to work for it,” said Myles.

Photo by Mike Barden

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Men’s ice hockey gears up for winter season

Joe Bilancieri
SPORTS EDITOR

USM men’s ice hockey is returning 18 players from last year’s roster, which is often a large attribute to a successful season.

Last season, USM was eliminated in the first round of the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference (ECAC) East Tournament by Salem State College, ending their season at 11-14-1.

This year’s group of returning players includes top scorers junior James LeBlanc (Dorval, Quebec) and senior John Lounsbury (Winthrop, ME). LeBlanc finished off the ‘03-’04 campaign with 14 goals and 11 assists, good for a team-leading 25 points on the season. Lounsbury had five goals and a team-leading 19 assists for the Huskies.

Missing from this year’s roster is Franco Narcisi (Laval, Quebec), a sophomore last year, who was the third leading scorer on the team. Forward Chad Lauze (Gorham, NH) who scored 21 points last years for the Huskies was also lost due to graduation.

The Huskies will open their season on November 19 at Trinity College in a game that starts at 7:45 p.m.

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Right: USM senior defensemen John Lounsbury fights for possession with a teammate during practice last week. Lounsbury is a top returning player for the Huskies, as he was selected to the ECAC east all conference team last season scoring five goals and adding a team-leading 19 assists.

Above: USM junior Meg Myles shields the ball from a teammate during practice last week in Warren G. Hill gymnasium. Myles was one of USM’s top three scorers returning to the team from last season.

Left: USM junior Katie Frost looks to make a pass through a defending teammate during practice last week. Frost is one of ten returning players for the Huskies this season.

Photo by Andrew Davis

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