



WOMENS SOCCER BEATS BEAVERS PAGE 16

the free press

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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE



STAFF PHOTO BY JOEL C. THERIAULT

DO NOT CROSS DO NOT CROSS DO NOT CROSS

Dean of Student Life Joe Austin confronts Jack Murdock behind Masterton Hall last Thursday. Murdock and his partner Bart Sanso, both of Florida were collecting signatures for Maine ballot initiatives. Students were concerned that out of state interests were being pushed on Maine voters and that the petitioners were rude.

“She did not make the call”

Grade's attorney defends a not-guilty plea in bomb threat indictment

JOEL C. THERIAULT
NEWS EDITOR

Erin Grade, one of two former USM students charged with last year's Dec. 4 bomb threat, entered a plea of “not guilty” before Superior Court Judge Andrew M. Horton at her arraignment last Monday in Portland. The other former student, Geneva Benner, had previously entered a “not guilty” plea.

Grade's attorney, Henry Shanoski, defended his client's plea in a telephone interview. “She did not make the call,” he said. “I am confident that when all the evidence comes into light, she will be exonerated of all charges.”

Grade was arrested in July in her hometown of Rockland, and later released when her mother, Elaine Grade, pledged her home as surety to satisfy a \$10,000 bail bond. Shanoski has asked his client not to speak with the press, and would not offer additional comments because, he said, USM police are actively investigating the rest of last school year's threats.

Meg Elam, the assistant district attorney prosecuting the case, could not be reached for comment.

Grade and Benner were indicted by a Cumberland County grand jury in July in connection with a Dec. 4 bomb threat that evacuated the Portland and Gorham campuses and shut them down for the day. Both former students are charged with terrorizing, a Class C felony punishable by up to five years in state prison.

Maine statute Title 17-A §210(1)(B) reads that a person is guilty of terrorizing “if that person in fact communicates to any person a threat to commit or to cause to be committed a crime of violence dangerous to human life... and the natural and probable consequence of such a threat... to cause evacuation of a building, place of assembly or facility of public transport or to cause the occupants of a building to be moved to or required to remain in a designated secured area.”

A federal charge for bomb threats may apply as well. The federal statute, Title 18, Section 921, §18-844e, states that the crime is punishable by up to 10 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine or both. Kathy McLeod, assistant to the US Attorney in Portland, said she could not comment whether or not the case will be referred their office.

USM Police Chief Lisa Beecher and Detective Penny Belanger continue to investigate all of the bomb threat incidents that occurred between last Oct. 2 and Aug. 11.

A “spam” e-mail threat received two weeks ago at the School of Law building in Portland has been labelled a

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Unwelcomed guests

JOEL C. THERIAULT
NEWS EDITOR

USM students criticized two petition circulators last Thursday for using forceful techniques to gather signatures and because they are not residents of Maine.

Dean of Student Life Joe Austin was called on to speak with two men, Bart Sanso and Jack Murdock, both of Florida. Students asked Austin to speak on their behalf because they questioned Murdock and Sanso's legitimacy as petition circulators.

The two men were gathering signatures for two different initiatives, one

for a bill that would reduce the five percent multiple-listing services fee for listing property sales or rentals, and another to permit a casino to be built near Sunday River ski resort in northern Oxford County. Sanso and Murdock were set up between Luther Bonney and Masterton Halls on the Portland campus.

Katherine Smith, a sophomore theatre arts major, said she wanted to read the petitions but could not understand the word-

ing of the initiatives. She knew another student, Dan Jussaume, a junior political science major, was working a table in nearby Luther Bonney Hall. When she tried to bring copies of the two petitions to him for help interpreting them, she said Sanso grabbed the papers from her hand and told her the petitions were “not for distribution.”

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Student senators rapidly resign

JOEL C. THERIAULT
NEWS EDITOR

Several of USM's 36th Student Senate have resigned their posts and several more threatened to resign last week due to scheduling conflicts. Senate Chair Emily Fitch, a senior chemistry major, said the executive members were working hard

to fix the problem and also fill the open positions.

“(The scheduling) was done at the end of last semester,” said Fitch, “and it was my job as vice-chair to do the scheduling.” Senate meetings are scheduled every Friday and are intended to take place around the senators' class and work schedules.

“I consulted a fair amount of senators but it was hard because it was the

beginning of summer,” said Fitch. “A lot of people weren't around and a lot of people didn't have their schedules yet. So I based it on the historical meeting times of the senate and based it around the class scheduling at USM, (and) most classes end fairly early on Fridays.”

Several senators threatened to resign due to the scheduling conflict. Others

See **SENATORS**
PAGE 3

UMAINE STUDENT GOVERNMENT PRESENTS

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Delta Chi complies, avoids being shutdown

Gorham Fire Department faults frat for alarm trouble

JOEL C. THERIAULT
NEWS EDITOR

A Gorham fraternity house escaped court-ordered shutdown last week because its residents complied with the fire department's requirements to resolve several violations, including a third-party monitoring system for the alarm.

Gorham Fire Chief Robert Lefebvre said an Aug. 7 inspection revealed many violations in Delta Chi's house on 23 Preble St., the most dangerous being a lack of alarm system monitoring.

Lefebvre said his biggest concern was alcohol consumption by college students. "We know that there are parties on a regular basis at the fraternities, at different housing where college students are," he said. "I mean, that's part of college life."

"When those parties are going on," he continued, "there's usually people smoking, and when the parties get done and people go to bed and they're under the influence, their reaction time is not what it normally is. There are times when the alarm system would go off that

those people might not even hear it and react."

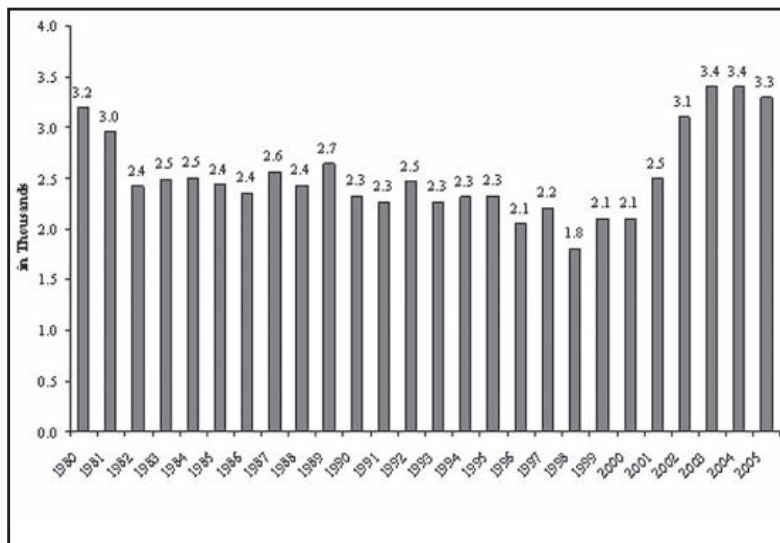
Lefebvre said this was why a monitoring system was a high priority. "At least we have a half-decent chance of making a rescue. That's why we've taken this matter so seriously."

The National Fire Prevention Association's (NFPA) Web site (www.nfpa.org) offers several fire-safety tips for college students, including "After a party, check furniture and cushions for smoldering butts."

Several minor violations were also listed against Delta Chi (See sidebar). Fire Inspector Russell Bearor said in an e-mail that the department was only allowed in common areas due to a lack of duplicate keys.

There are four fraternities and three sororities in Gorham, none of which are owned or operated by USM. Judie O'Mallie of the university's public affairs office said that USM supports the fire department's decision.

Martin Micisso, a member of the house's alumni Board of Trustees, said the fraternity wanted "due pro-



This bar graph shows the total number of fires in dorms, fraternities, sororities and barracks between 1980 and 2005. The number of fires peaked in 2003 and 2004 at 3,400.

COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION ASSOCIATION

cess" and requested to see the statute requiring them to have a third-party monitoring system, but Gorham FD balked. The department later complied with their request.

"Once they got that to me," said Micisso, "we contacted our attorney and (we decided) we're going to comply."

Micisso set up an account with Simplex, a monitoring service in Westbrook. The total cost to

Delta Chi for the service is \$2,000 per year. Micisso said two additional telephone lines had to be installed in the house to accommodate the alarm monitoring.

Connecting the monitoring system also helped Delta Chi avoid a court order to shutdown. A hearing had been scheduled for last Friday.

Micisso said the Delta Chi house "has been operating for 10 years" without a monitoring service.

NFPA Fire Code Violations

The following is the complete list of violations handed to Delta Chi fraternity after the Aug. 7 inspection by Gorham Fire Chief Robert Lefebvre and Inspector Russell Bearor:

- Fire alarm system was in trouble and not being monitored. This was tested on the day of the inspection and several weeks later.
- The 911 street address needed to be of contrasting color and some form of illumination to be seen at night.
- A fire pit in the back yard was too close to structures and needs to be moved. As a result no fire permits will be issued until this is accomplished.
- Exit door behind a bar is not of legal egress size.
- Electrical panel in a large room was screwed shut and the latch needs to be replaced.
- Main electrical panel needs to be properly labeled.
- Paint storage in basement needs to be moved or an approved fire-rated cabinet installed.
- Fire doors on the main level: the gap between the doors is too great and needs to be sealed.
- A resident room on the second floor needs to be labeled with a number.
- Several wire chases need to be filled to prevent the travel of smoke.
- A lighted exit sign and emergency lights needed to be added to the chapter room.

Petitioners cause concerns

From PETITIONERS
PAGE 1

"It wasn't just a little tug either, he swiped it right out of my hand," said Smith. "He never told me I couldn't take it off-site and that it was available online."

"There was concern that they were asking people to sign the petition in a forceful way," Austin said, "and there was some question of whether they were allowed to read the petitions."

Austin said other students complained that Sanso and Murdock were trying to hide the wording of each ballot initiative. One student was concerned that the circulators were not Maine residents and may be supporting out-of-state financial interests, he added.

After several students made formal complaints in Austin's office, he confronted Murdock and Sanso. The circulators defended their jobs to Austin, "What I do is legitimate," Murdock said, "and I stand behind it. I've been doing this for 10 years."

After collecting signatures, Murdock continued, each circulator must provide evidence to the municipality's notary the signatures are

valid and the circulators witnessed each one.

Austin warned Murdock and Sanso against harassment and reminded petitioners to be cordial to students and professors while on campus.

"Our issue is their ability to be there and not interfere with other activities, whether or not they produce those signatures," said Austin.

Whether or not residents of Florida could gather signatures for Maine ballot initiatives concerned some students, including Jussaume.

"The fact that non-residents of the state are pushing Maine initiatives on residents is not fair," he said.

"They do have to be registered Maine voters and residents," said Melissa Packard, director of elections for Maine's secretary of state, in a telephone interview last Friday. "The circulator has to appear before a notary and take the oath that they witnessed the signatures," adding that a Maine resident must be with any circulators from out of state.

"They're supposed to be Maine citizens," said Herb Adams, Portland's District 119 representative and a USM political science professor, "and if they're not going

to admit it, won't tell you who they are, refuse to give you names or tell you who they're working for, I would think so many red flags just went up there that any prudent student would say, 'I want nothing to do with you. You're not getting my signature.'

"You have several rights here," Adams continued. "Number one, you have the right to read the whole petition. Number two, you have the right to sign or not. And number three, you have a right to know if they are legally circulating it. If any number of those make you uncomfortable, don't sign it."

Seth Carey, founder and president of Evergreen Mountain Enterprises—the proposed casino's sponsor and financier—said a Maine resident was assigned to accompany Murdock and Sanso, but was "sitting in the car" when Austin confronted the circulators.

"These people are just the presenters," said Carey. "We're just trying to get this issue on the ballot. If people want to sign they're not being forced."

Despite Austin's warning on conduct, the petitioners remained on campus.

Senate adjusts to resignations

From SENATORS
PAGE 1

complained some meeting times conflicted with other organization meetings requiring their attendance.

Among the students to resign are

Amanda Slattery, Anna Korsen, Kelly Parks and Katherine Joyce. Former chair Ryan Harnden resigned early in the semester to focus on academics.

In a Sept. 17 e-mail interview, senator Lauren Allen said a lack of "a prior indication of when senate meetings will occur undermines the fact that our constituents, students that vote for us to represent their particular demographics and interests, aren't wasting their vote."

"If we are voted into the student senate seat," Allen continued, "later to find out the scheduling of meetings aren't conducive to our class schedule it undermines the purpose of elections. This is clearly a disservice to the student body."

The conflict peaked at a senate meeting held on Sept. 7, when the governing body "lost quorum" and had to end the meeting early.

"When you lose quorum, the meeting's off, we suspend," said senator Alex Bressler. "To have a meeting we need to have over half of a senate. In the beginning of

the meeting, officially the senate has 21 people—it doesn't matter whether they are there or not, so all we needed to have quorum was 11 people.

"Once you accept a certain number of resignations," Bressler continued, "obviously, the number goes down." Parks and Harnden both resigned their positions during this meeting, bringing the number of representatives down to 19. Bressler said a few more senators left for the Board of Student Organizations meeting to follow.

Allen defended the senate's executive members in her e-mail. "I can say, in confidence," she wrote, "the e-board and senate have taken these issues seriously."

"It was blown up as a big issue, I think, by a couple people," said Fitch, "but it really it's something that takes time to deal with, and it's something we've been dealing with."

Fitch said newly-appointed vice chair Benjamin Taylor is now hard at work to correct the scheduling problem, and added the senate's executive committee was considering changing a segment of their constitution to include first-semester freshmen as eligible to run for senate.

"It's tough," she said. "It's not always easy to accommodate lots of people, but we're doing what we can."

Bomb threat defendant pleads not guilty

From BOMB THREAT
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"non-threat" by Craig Hutchinson, vice president of student and university life. FBI media spokesperson Vickie Blank said she "could

not confirm or deny" if the e-mail will be a part of the bureau's federal investigation into similar incidents occurring between Sept. 7 and Sept. 11 of this year.

Horton accepted Grade's plea and reiterated her bail conditions,

including the condition that she had no contact with USM or enter university property. A tentative March 17, 2008, trial date has been set in Cumberland County.

"I'm confident that Erin's name will be cleared," said Shanoski.

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Campus Events

SEPT. 24
USM President's Town Meeting I—All members of the USM community are invited to meet Interim President Joseph Wood and discuss his plan, "Moving Forward." / Room 214/215, Abromson Community Education Center, Portland

campus/ 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m./ Call 780-4480 for more information.

USM President's Town Meeting II—All members of the USM community are invited to meet Interim President Joseph Wood and discuss his plan, "Moving Forward." / PDR/FDR, Brooks Student

Center, Gorham campus/ 2:30 p.m.-4 p.m./ Call 780-4480 for more information.

Philosophy Symposium Meeting—Weekly meeting of the Philosophy Symposium/ Philosophy House, 47 Exeter Street, Portland campus/ 3 p.m.-4 p.m.

"Fortune Telling," Kappa Iota Rush Event—Palm and tarot card reading. Opportunity to meet Kappa Iotas and learn about their chapter./ Presidential Dining Room, Brooks Student Center, Gorham campus/ 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m./ Send an e-mail to dawn.dodge@maine.edu for more information.

"Children's Miracle Network Tea Party," Phi Mu Rush Event—Opportunity to meet the Phi Mus and learn about their chapter./ Presidential Dining Room, Brooks Student Center, Gorham campus/ 8 p.m.-9:30 p.m./ Call Danielle Perro at (207) 590-8464 for more information.

SEPT. 25
USM President's Town Meeting III—All members of the USM community are invited to meet Interim President Joseph Wood and discuss his plan, "Moving Forward." / Room 170, USM's Lewiston-Auburn College, Westminster Street, Lewiston/ 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m./ Call 780-4480 for more information.

"Philanthropy: Plant-A-Wish," Alpha Xi Delta Rush Event—Opportunity to meet Alpha Xi Deltas and learn about their chapter./ Presidential Dining Room, Brooks Student Center, Gorham campus/ 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m./ Send an e-mail to julia.hillmanforbush@maine.edu for more information.

Maine PIRG Meeting—Weekly meeting of Maine PIRG. PIRG focuses on organizing student issue-campaigns like hunger and homelessness, education costs and global warming./ Dining Area, Woodbury Campus Center, Portland campus/ 7 p.m.-8 p.m./ Send an e-mail to emily@mainepirgstudents.org for more information.

"Brother Sister Rush," Kappa Delta Phi and Kappa Iota Rush—Opportunity to meet this family of fraternity and sorority members./ Presidential Dining Room, Brooks Student Center, Gorham campus/ 8:30 p.m.-10 p.m. / Send an e-mail to dawn.dodge@maine.edu for more information.

SEPT. 26
Sullivan Complex Fitness Center Open House—Come check out the new

equipment and improved sound and lighting. Challenge Dean of Students Joe Austin on the elliptical machines. Giveaways throughout the day./ Sullivan Complex, Portland Campus/ 6 a.m.-9 p.m./ Free.

"A Day at the Beach," Phi Mu Rush Event—Opportunity to meet the Phi Mu and learn more about their chapter / Presidential Dining Room, Brooks Student Center, Gorham campus/ 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m./ Call Danielle Perro at (207) 590-8464 for more information.

"Wrestling with Manhood"—documentary/ University Events Room, 7th floor, Glickman Family Library, Portland campus/ 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m./ Free and open to the public / Call USM Women and Gender Studies at 780-4289 for more information.

"Camp AXID," Alpha Xi Delta Rush Event—Opportunity to meet Alpha Xi Deltas and learn about their chapter./ Presidential Dining Room, Brooks Student Center, Gorham campus/ 8:30 p.m.-10 p.m./ Send an e-mail to julia.hillmanforbush@maine.edu for more information.

SEPT. 27
Student Recognition Day—Celebrating USM's scholarship and award winners for 2007/ Hannaford Hall, Abromson Community Education Center, Portland campus/ 3 p.m.-4:30 p.m./ Free and open to the public.

ASL Club Meeting—Bi-weekly meeting of the ASL Club. People of all levels of ASL are invited to socialize, play games, plan events and join club subcommittees/ Room 205, Payson Smith Hall, Portland campus/ 4:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m./ Open to all students/ Send an e-mail to elee@usm.maine.edu for more information.

"The Particulars of Place," Jane Brox lecture—Nature writer and author of Here and Nowhere Else will speak as part of the American and New England Studies Lecture Series./ Room 423-424, Glickman Family Library, Portland campus/ 7 p.m.- 8:30 p.m./ Free and open to the public. / Call 780-4920 for more information.

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QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Interviews by Angelique Carson and Joel C. Theriault, Photos by Angelique Carson

The free newspaper program at USM distributes the *New York Times* and the *Boston Globe* daily, for free. Because of budget shortfalls, this program may be cut for the spring semester.

Do you think it's important that free newspapers are available to students, or do you not care?



I think that it's important to have those things for free... Everyone should be reading and keeping up with current events.

Chris McGuire
Freshman
Undeclared



Yes, because there's a lot of things in the paper you can't get online.

Richard Collette
Communication major
Junior



I've been waiting for someone to ask me this question, because I feel like it's the most valuable use of my student activity fee money possible. I feel like getting a free newspaper is so great to me, I mean I pick them up all the time. If it was gone I'd be very upset.



Daniel Lawrence
Senior
Linguistics major

Of course it's valuable. They have (a rack) right there at Luther Bonney and I pick it up all the time for any of my economics, business, or accounting courses where we have to reference stuff and read stuff. Or, if you just want to pick up knowledge in general and, you know, current goings on, there's plenty of stuff to learn by reading the paper.

Erik Monty
Sophomore
Accounting/financing major



No, because there are sources, like the Internet, to get the news.

Luke Robinson
Senior
Business major

I think it's definitely helpful. I know I read the newspaper, but I know a lot of students won't go out and purchase a newspaper. So it's especially helpful on a college campus because you don't have to spend that money...the issues should be easily accessible.



Maggie Guzman
Sophomore
English major



I didn't know that they offered it...I guess it wouldn't effect me that much now (if the program was cut) because I'm just noticing that it's available to me...I think (the free newspapers) are a good idea, though.

Erin Cannon
Junior
Business administration major

Where's my money going?

My Fellow Students:

Hello there! How's it going? Enjoying your classes? Don't lie to me; I know you think your lit teacher is a little crazy. It's ok, you can be honest with me, I've been there, and done that. I know how unpleasant it is. Well don't worry; everything is going to be fine. That Intro to Psychology class is pretty fun though, right? Don't forget about Homecoming next week too, that's sure to be a blast.

What I want to get into is something you all pay in your student bill, but you might not realize where it goes.

The Student Activity Fee (SAF) is a fee paid by every student, but why? What does it do? Well, here is a brief Q&A that should hopefully answer some questions you didn't know that you should ask.

What is the SAF? SAF is a fee paid by every student that is intended to enrich the extra and co-curricular life of the University. This money is used to fund the many student groups on campus, as well as programs like child care, Student Legal Services and the free newspaper program.

Who Controls the SAF? The SAF is controlled by the Student Government Association (SGA), and administered specifically by the Student Senate and Student Communications Board (SCB). The SGA makes a budget annually of close to \$500,000 of SAF. The Senate and SCB administer \$344,900 and \$150,000 of SAF respectively.

What does the SAF support? The SAF that goes to the SCB (wow, this is a lot of acronyms,

even I'm confused) supports the Free Press and WMPG (the campus radio station, 90.9 and 104.1 on your radio dial), as well as administrative costs incurred by the SCB. The SAF that goes to the Senate is used to fund a variety of student groups. These groups include the Board of Student Organizations (BSO, which is comprised of 46 student groups), the Portland and Gorham Event Boards (which put on events on the Gorham and Portland campuses), Gorham TV, the Leadership Development Board, Maine PIRG (Public Interest Research Group) and USM's annual art publication, Words and Images.

How can I access SAF? There are many ways to access SAF. For one, just go to any free GEB or PEB event! They are paid for with

your SAF money, so you are using it by going! Another way would be to join a student group in the BSO that uses SAF to go on trips and conferences. Go skydiving with the outing club, or go to Beijing with the Model United Nations Organization. The opportunities are endless. Or, you can make a proposal to the Student Senate to get up to \$250 per person to go to a conference or experience that will be a benefit to yourself and the university. For example, a group of students have come to the Senate each year seeking assistance to make an alternative spring break. Last year they traveled to the Gulf Coast to assist in hurricane relief efforts and brought their experiences back to the University to raise awareness of the situation.

How can I have a say in how SAF is spent? Apply for a seat in the student senate (contact Jen Cote jennifer.r.cote@maine.edu), or run for a position in the Student Government Association in the spring. You can also get involved in a variety of positions in different groups on campus. The simplest thing you can do to have a voice is to just vote in the SGA elections. The SAF is a large chunk of change, and students actually control how it is spent. It's your money, don't you want to make sure its not being wasted?

Thanks for taking the time to read this. Speaking of a good time, I'll see you at speed dating on October 5 right? Nice!

All the best,
AJ Chalifour
Student Body President

CULTURE BEAT

Domestic violence a problem among Maine's African immigrants

GERMAINE KAPENA

COLUMNIST

When it comes to domestic abuse, Maine's African women, members of the growing refugee and immigrant communities, make up the most silent victims.

In most cases, African women—known for their love, humility and devotion to their families—fail to take a stand when abused by their spouses and boyfriends. Still worse, they are reluctant to ask for help, despite the sad fact that the level of domestic violence among Maine's African immigrants is rising.

The victims' reluctance to seek help is partly because they are afraid they will be separated from their husbands who—in most cases—are the family income earners. Rather than talking to others who could offer assistance or call the police, they suffer in silence and treat the abuse as a family secret.

In African cultures, starting at an early age, women are raised to respect and sustain their marriages at any cost. In maintaining the abuse as a family secret, they hope to keep the family unit intact, and save the children from the pain of being separated from one parent or another. A French

expression, popular in French-speaking African countries, says it all; "Le linge sale se lave en famille," which means, "dirty laundry needs to be washed in the family."

In reality, though, the secret not only hurts the victim physically and emotionally, but it affects other family members, including children. The long-lasting solution is to educate the members of the African communities to report such incidents; to earn their trust, that seeking help from the professionals and informing the police will not always result in broken marriages and a separation from one's children. Once

the victims and to-be victims are convinced that it is safe to report abuse, it is more likely they will report such incidents and seek support from community programs in place to help domestic abuse victims

In some African societies, women are expected to perform all household chores with no help from their husbands, and they start to accept these conditions. Men work to earn the household income, and when they get home they would rather relax and not help with household tasks, leaving all the work to their wives and mother and sisters. Raising awareness on the available re-

sources in the community and teaching women to advocate for themselves are necessary steps.

As more and more Africans arrive in Maine, programs sensitive to the cultural needs of these women—including ways to combat domestic abuse as a social ill—need to be developed. Language and cultural barriers should never be an obstacle to stop women, whether Africans or otherwise, to get the help they deserve.

Rather than blaming the victims, it makes sense to create resources that teach them how to access help, and therefore survive.

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- 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. On occasion, guest commentaries will be solicited or accepted from members of the USM community on topical issues and may not exceed 750 words.
- One copy of The Free Press is free of charge. Up to 10 additional copies are available for 25 cents each at the office of The Free Press, 92 Bedford St., Portland, Maine. On occasion, bulk purchases may be arranged. Payment and the Executive Editor's approval are required in advance.
- Advertising: The Free Press ads reach an estimated 11,000 students of USM, their friends and families on Portland and Gorham campuses and in the Portland community. To advertise, contact our Advertising Manager at 207.780.4084 x8. • The Free Press reserves the right to reject advertising, including that which the Executive Board considers untruthful, offensive, misleading, or deceptive. We will not accept ads discriminating against race, gender, age, religion, physical ability or sexual orientation.
- The Free Press welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be submitted electronically, include the author's full name, school year or relationship to USM, phone number for verification and may not exceed 350 words without prior approval from the Executive Editor.
- The deadline for all submissions is Thursday at 4 p.m. preceding the week of publication. Send submissions to freepress@maine.edu
- Anonymous and/or illegible submissions will not be published.

Letters to the editor

Academic Freedom: What is taught in the classroom has its limits.

JASON LAVOIE

I sat and listened eagerly to Representative Herb Adams give a great speech on The Constitution of the United States. Herb brought up good points, things like the art exhibit (Thomas Manning's "Can't Jail the Spirit, which was closed due to controversy last fall) are examples of free speech.

However, more disturbing than the art exhibit is the need to reign in on teachers who use their classrooms for political indoctrination. There currently is no uniform policy for what is and what is not taught in our classrooms, leaving professors to teach that George W. Bush is the equivalent to Adolpf Hitler

and that anyone who voted for George W. Bush needs to get their head examined.

What is my goal in all this? While there is no uniform policy on what can and cannot be taught in the classroom, there should be a basic understanding that classrooms are not places for political indoctrination. If a professor feels the need to be politically involved perhaps he or she can take those politics to Main Street rallies rather than telling students what they must believe in the classroom. This is a real problem on college campuses, and is one that should be addressed by those running the Academic Freedom events this semester.

I will continue my call for the Academic Freedom of conservative students, to speak their minds in the classroom with out being penalized for it. If I write a paper, back-up my arguments and pass it into Professor John, he or she is expected to look at that from a fair, equal standpoint.

As Academic Freedom is hotly debated here at USM

these next few weeks, I hope the Academic Freedom of conservative students is brought into the mix as well. I hope I am opening up a Pandora's Box of debates by bringing up this subject. I hope this isn't just another liberal indoctrination of students, just as we have come to expect from today's classroom environment. I welcome the convocation event to campus and expect it to be balanced and fair, with both sides being present at the table. Heck, maybe David Horowitz will be invited to speak. Even better, let me be a guest speaker to your group on this subject. In the words of teenage slang: Bring it on!

I look forward to using my freedom of the press to share these views and many more with you on this topic.

Jason Lavoie, is a senior at the University of Southern Maine from the spring of 2006- 2007. Jason Lavoie served as an at-large student senator. Lavoie ran for office in 2006 and has supported the Academic Bill of Rights in the past.

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Three beautiful ladies bring their talents to USM

The Bayside Trio to perform at Corthell Hall

JENNA HOWARD
A&E EDITOR

The USM School of Music is hosting three female musicians for the first part of their Spotlight Series. "Around the World with the Bayside Trio," is a much-anticipated event, scheduled during Homecoming for good reason. This is not your average group of ladies or musicians. Anastacia Antonacos, a USM faculty member and a 1997 USM graduate, Nicole Rabata, USM class of 1998, and Ani Kalayjian are rumored to blow the USM community away, classically. By way of cello, piano and flute they will perform works by composers from Austria, America, Argentina and Bohemia. Corthell's Music Hall will host them at 8 p.m. and students get in for a fraction of the price the public will pay, at \$5 per ticket. There's no dress code, but everyone will likely be donning their Sunday best for this classy, classical music event. *DownEast Magazine* sponsors the event. Call the music box office 780-5555 for tickets.



The Bayside Trio, Anastacia Antonacos (piano), Nicole Rabata (flute) and Ani Kalayjian (cello) come to Corthell Concert Hall in Gorham Sept. 28. The three will perform works from America, Argentina, Austria and Bohemia.

Photos courtesy of USM School of Music

Homecoming Schedule

SEPT. 27
Banner Judging and T-Shirt Making—Banners made by teams of students will be judged. After, the homecoming teams will make t-shirts for Homecoming: Friends and Family Weekend 2007/ Lower Level Brooks Student Center, Gorham campus/ 5 p.m.-9 p.m./ Free to all students.

SEPT. 28
Pep Rally, Variety Show and Homecoming Bonfire—Annual event at Hill Gymnasium with acts performed by homecoming teams showcasing school spirit for USM's fall athletic teams. Bonfire behind Dickey Wood Hall following/ Hill Gymnasium, Gorham campus/ 7:30 p.m.-11 p.m./ Free to all students.

SEPT. 29
Friends and Family Breakfast—Students join their friends and families for breakfast in their residence halls/ Various residence halls/ 9 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Student Involvement Festival and Mainstage—Student groups and organizations perform for and present their involvement opportunities/ Lawn of Corthell Hall, Gorham campus/ 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m./ Free and open to the public.

BBQ Lunch—Free food. Need we say more?/ Tent in front of Corthell Hall, Gorham campus/ 11:30 a.m.- 2 p.m./

USM Idol—The USM student version of the popular talent

show on television/ Lower level Brooks Student Center, Gorham campus/ 9 p.m.-12 a.m./Free to all students.

USM Husky Student Film Showcase—Showcase of student-made films/ 10 Bailey Hall, Gorham campus/ 9 p.m.-12 a.m.

SEPT. 30
Jazz Brunch—Free brunch and light jazz music by USM students/ Brooks Student Center Dining Hall, Gorham campus/11 a.m.-1 p.m. For more information about Homecoming, visit <http://usm.maine.edu/homecoming> for more information.

—Compiled by Joel C. Theriault

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THERE ARE APPLES TO BE PICKED AND LEAVES TO BE PEEPED

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

If you find yourself dying to listen to a totally new sound, try this. WMPG hosts **'Eagle, Quetzal, Condor Radio Show!'** Listen live on WMPG 90.9/104.1 to Native American music and discussion hosted by DJ Roberto/ free/ 10:30-12 p.m./ WMPG/ radios everywhere

Oh hey. Did I mention that it's **Middle aisle Monday at Videoport?** With any rental you get a freebie from the Horror, SciFi, Thriller, Japanimation or the Incredibly Strange Film section. Imagine if an incredibly strange film never got to be part of your life?/ free movie with rental/ Videoport/ Lower Lobby, 151 Middle Street/ Portland/ 773-1999

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Between classes on Portland's campus check out the exhibit on the 6th floor of the Glickman Family Library in Portland. **The Book Arts Exhibit** runs until October 4th and is quite the show. Works by students who took a special course this summer are shown. And oh me oh my, see Origami like never before, along with an original, refreshing array of creative art/ free/ Glickman Family Library, 314 Forest Ave., Portland/ 780-4270

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

For \$5 catch the coolest movie in town at The Movies on Exchange. **2 Days in Paris** plays now, a film in French and English that critics are calling hilarious. It's the story of a tattooed American boyfriend and Parisian photographer girlfriend, and their comical weekend with her parents. But this is no slapstick Focker picture; it's witty, it's smart./ \$5 Wednesdays/ 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m., 9 p.m. /The Movies/ 10 Exchange St/ Portland/ 772-9600

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Okay. There's no need to be ashamed, We all love funny magicians who captivate people under spells and pull things out of funny places. Thank God **Thirsty Thursday** is putting this on. I knew I wasn't the only one in need of a good hat trick. Free/ 9 p.m./ Brooks Student Center/Gorham campus

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Around the World with The Bayside Trio is the pride of the USM School of Music for now. Three amazingly talented musicians, female, and stunning are going to put on a show for lovers of music. You can't go wrong/ \$5 students/ 8 p.m./ Corthell Concert Hall/ Gorham campus

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

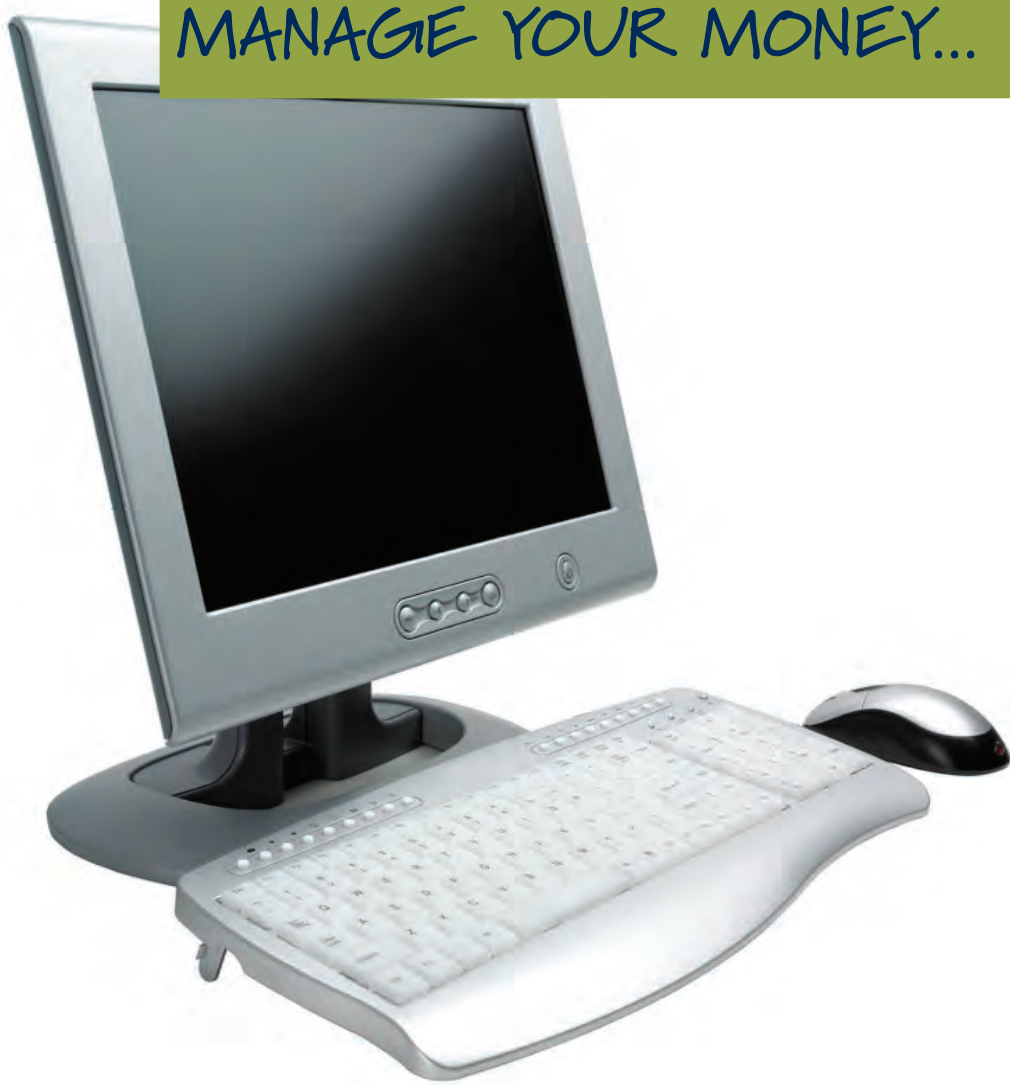
Student Short Films display proudly at 9 p.m. Let's see what our fellow students are thinking about, documenting, and how the hell they do it. Who knew that guy in math class makes cartoons?! Filmmakers will be on hand for comments. I like the sounds of this. Free/ 9 p.m./ 110 Bailey Hall/ Gorham Campus

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

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The 11th Hour begs for green activism

JENNA HOWARD

A&E EDITOR

As I walked out of the Nickelodeon theater with my date, she broke the silence with: "Let's just poison ourselves."

The shock and horror dished out in *The 11th Hour* brought on a tangible depression—but provided meaningful commentary, serving up a kind of audience-awareness comparable to product of a Michael Moore film, without such a hands-on approach or obnoxious foolery. Its trailer reads, "Turn mankind's darkest hour into its finest."

Through a series of discussion by field experts, the documentary summed up the harsh environmental effects of humankind on the planet, targeting our own carbon footprint and pointing fingers at capitalism and government. It's rough. It's powerful.

It's narrated by Leonardo DiCaprio, who's behind the project as producer of the film.

Whether this aspect is tacky or intriguing, DiCaprio was totally outweighed by a cast of authorities on the subject, and in the end, the layout and presentation of the film is laudable.

The film offered a surprisingly hopeful ending, meant to remit moviegoers to the light of day in the spirit of an internationally growing concern for sustainability through green design.

I thought it was hopeful, my date suggested suicide.

The film is rated PG, and is now playing at the Nickelodeon daily.

Jenna Howard is the A & E editor of the Free Press. She is always accepting movie, music, and arts reviews for inclusion in the Free Press at: jenna.n.howard@maine.edu

Oldies but goodies

JEFF BEAN

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Are you having trouble finding good music lately? Are the latest trends not of interest to you? Here are some old favorites that you may have forgotten about to restore your faith in the music industry. Warning: slightly 90's nostalgic.

Wilco - *Summerteeth* (1999)

This may be the most overlooked Wilco album. You may only know them for their consecutive masterpieces, *Yankee Hotel Foxtrot* (2002) and *A Ghost Is Born* (2004), but *Summerteeth* stands up just fine by itself. It's a more accessible album than the other two, more famous releases.

Jeff Tweedy's stellar songwriting is showcased, the band is in top form and absent is the slightly avant-garde style the band developed with *Yankee Hotel Foxtrot*.

"A Shot In The Arm" serves as a bridge to *Foxtrot*, while "We're Just Friends" is an amazing, but depressing tune. Slightly out of character from the band's usual eclectic rock sound, "Candy Floss" is one of the most perfectly crafted pop/rock songs I've ever heard. I'm a songwriter myself and "Candy Floss" makes me want to stop trying completely.

Spoon - *Kill The Moonlight* (2002)

Never has there been a band so completely sure of themselves as Spoon. It seems like they know exactly what sound they're striving for, then nail it with ease. Don't let lead singer Britt Daniel fool you; they're actually from Austin, TX. You may remember the rock tune "The Way We Get By" from the Will Farrell movie *Stranger Than Fiction*. It's a fair overview of their sound: classic rock garage with tight and futuristic production. Spoon is ahead of their time for indie rock, yet they channel all the right vibes from classic rock acts. If you aren't able to get through the whole album, "Someone Something" and "Don't Let It Get You Down" are also very worthy of your time.

Fastball - *All The Pain Money Can Buy* (1998)

From one group of Austin, TX to another. This album always has a special place in my playlist, considering it was the first album I bought with my own money. Most people will claim that they don't know who Fastball is. But the first 30 seconds of the album's opener, "The Way" will instantly bring you down memory lane. If for some crazy reason that song doesn't trigger their memory, "Out of My Head" certainly will. This is one of the most underrated albums of the decade. Fastball gives a strong nod to Elvis Costello while mixing in a slightly southern feel. These guys deserve all the credit money can buy, and then some.

Ben Folds Five - *The Unauthorized Biography of Reinhold Messner* (1999)

Never let this album leave your CD player. This is the swan-song from the misnamed piano-rock trio, and it's a major curveball. Those who are expecting the sarcastic and witty charm are in for surprise. Ben Folds and Co. delivers a sincerely heartfelt and somber album, arguably their best yet. It's a difficult CD to fully comprehend, but it's easy to appreciate the sheer genius of what's presented. The album kicks off with "Narcolespy," a blazing number about mentally going to sleep when life gets to be too much to handle. "Army" was the single from the album and is the only song reminiscent of the band's previous sound.

"Hospital Song" and "Jane" continue the depressing mood, while things hit a breaking point at "Regrets," a beautifully crafted rambling of past self-disappointments. The album has seamless transitions between songs via the themes and vibes that the band presents. *The Unauthorized Biography of Reinhold Messner* may take a few listens to fully appreciate, but bottom line: you need this album.

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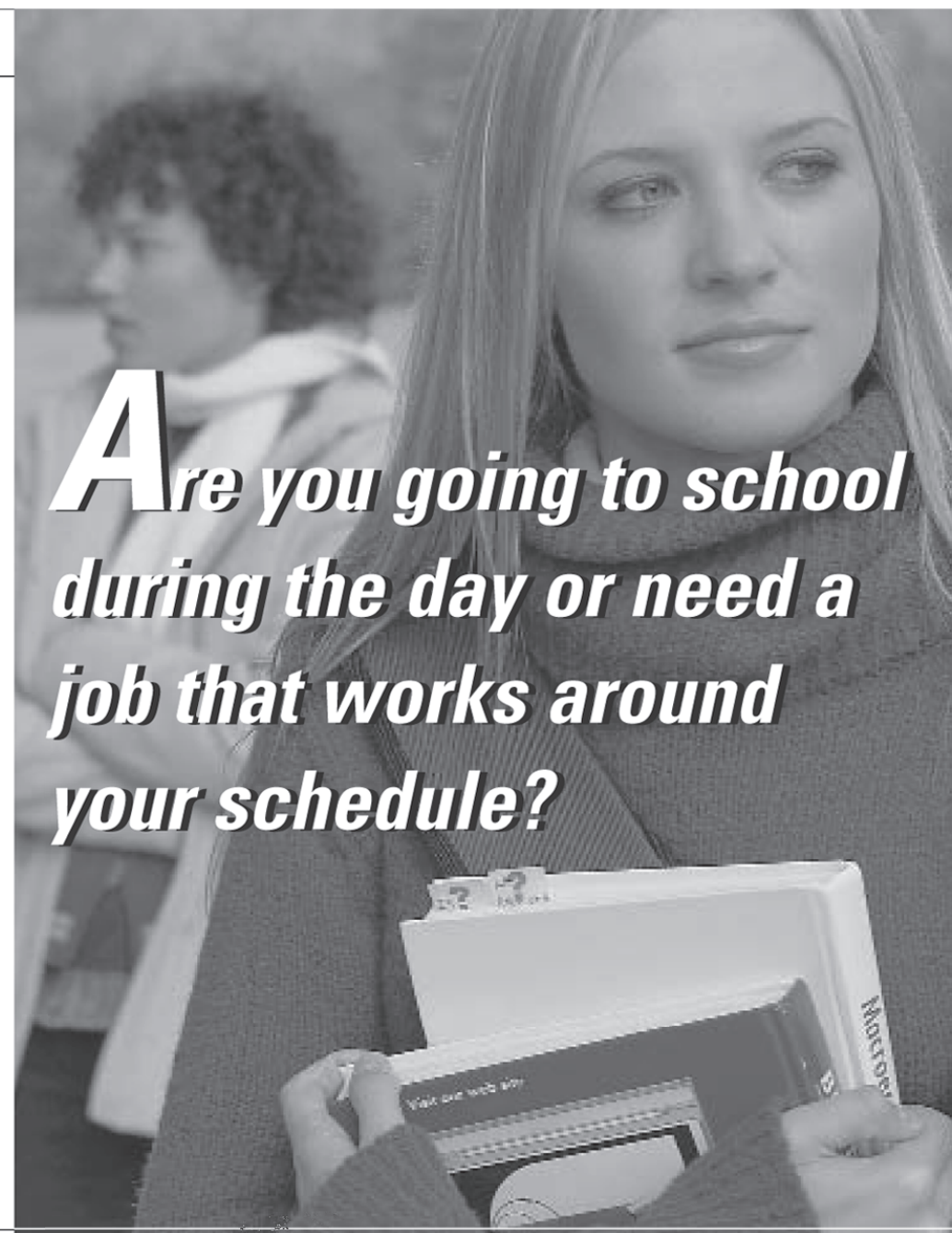


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FOR THE YOUNGSTERS by Gail Grabowski

Edited by Stanley Newman

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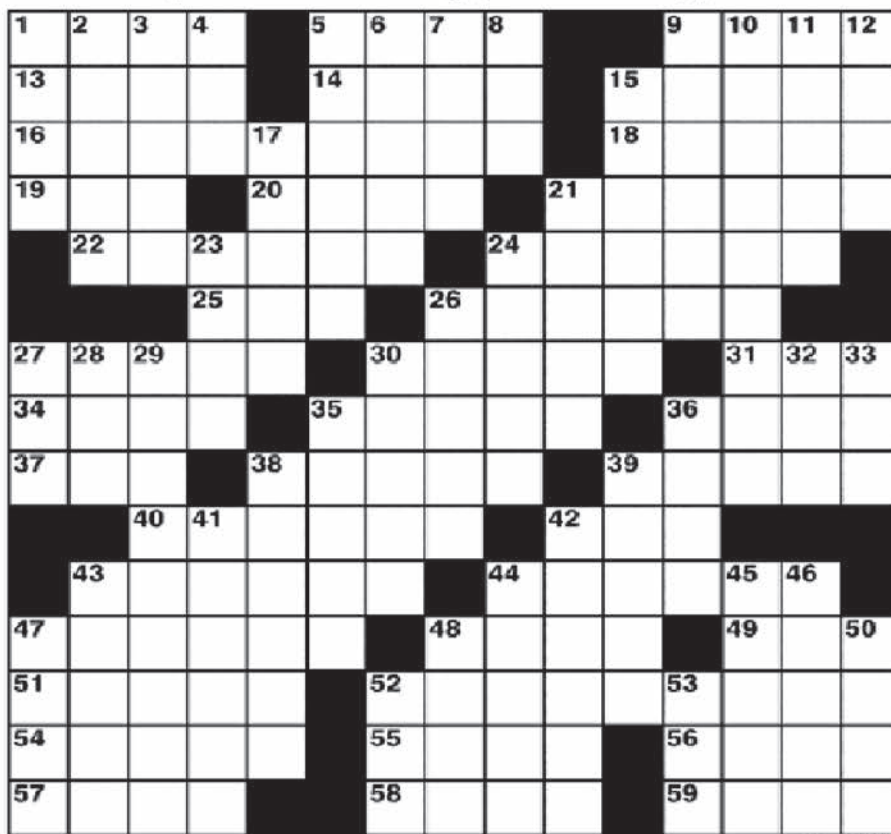
- ACROSS**
- 1 Makes mistakes
 - 5 Some soda containers
 - 9 Little rascals
 - 13 Paperback, e.g.
 - 14 Aroma
 - 15 Egypt's capital
 - 16 Attractive eyes, slangily
 - 18 Nixon vice president
 - 19 Opposite dir. from NNW
 - 20 Breadbasket item
 - 21 Crossword clue heading
 - 22 Casual top
 - 24 Goes in
 - 25 Magazine execs.
 - 26 Less clear
 - 27 Lower-leg joint
 - 30 Comes in last
 - 31 Sphere
 - 34 Installed, as carpet
 - 35 Roadside lodging
 - 36 Moisturizer ingredient
 - 37 Advanced degree: Abbr.
 - 38 Beach accessory
 - 39 Jacket material
 - 40 Scored, as a test
 - 42 Coupe or convertible
 - 43 Nimble-minded
 - 44 Beach shelter
 - 47 Urge onward
 - 48 Top-notch
 - 49 Physicians' org.

- 51 Vagabond
- 52 Water pistol
- 54 The Atlantic, for one
- 55 Go right or left
- 56 Bouquet holder
- 57 Hushed "Hey!"
- 58 Fill completely
- 59 Slow-cooked meal

DOWN

- 1 Recedes
- 2 Sunday-dinner entree
- 3 Terrycloth garments
- 4 Cloud's place
- 5 Red and green
- 6 Grownup
- 7 Christmas carol
- 8 Former jrs.
- 9 "Okay with me!"
- 10 Small part for an actor
- 11 Use a steam iron on
- 12 Female pigs
- 15 Desert plant
- 17 Groom's companion
- 21 Halo wearer
- 23 Grasped in one's hand
- 24 Artist's stand
- 26 Filled in a ballot
- 27 Swiss peak
- 28 Slangy refusal
- 29 Extreme gentleness, so to speak
- 30 Reduce, as a price
- 32 Fishing pole

- 33 Spelling competition
- 35 Fashion poser
- 36 Radiant quality
- 38 Pub
- 39 Cavalry sword
- 41 Say again
- 42 Dog or fox
- 43 Gators' kin
- 44 Judge's workplace
- 45 Constantly find fault with
- 46 Entertain
- 47 Stage accessory
- 48 Hue close to turquoise
- 50 Once more
- 52 Urban roads: Abbr.
- 53 "Plasma" appliances



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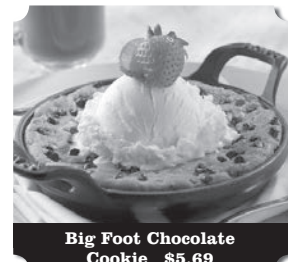
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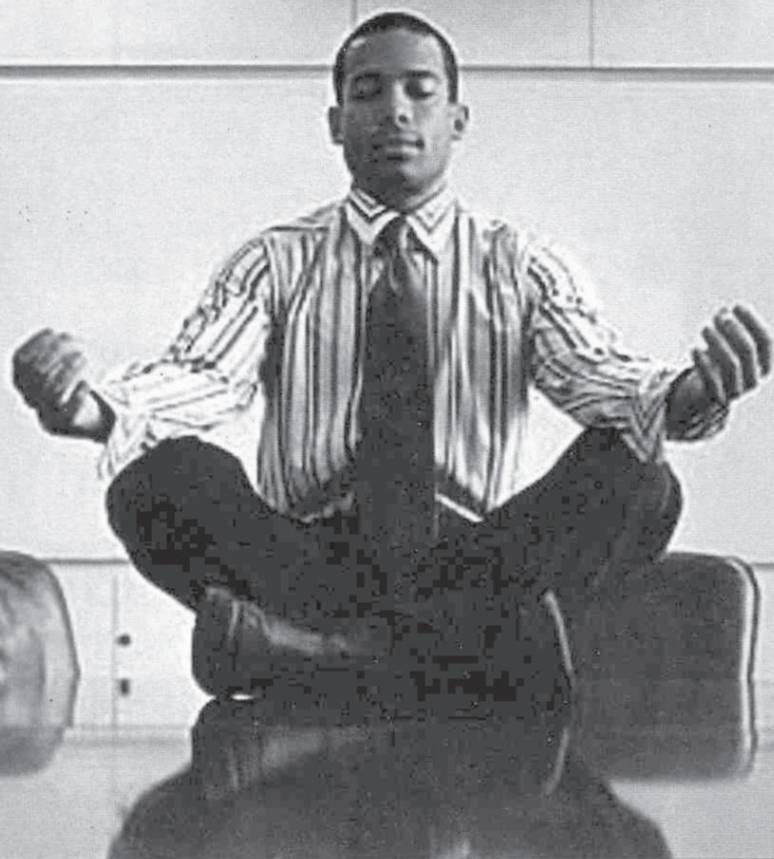
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From Portland with love

MICHAEL TARDIFF

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

If the Red Sox are to win the World Series this year, which many cynics claim is impossible, they will have to do so with much help from former Portland Sea Dogs.

In the wake of injuries to Manny Ramirez, Kevin Youkilis and Coco Crisp the squad has managed to stay afloat (somewhat) and ward off New York, thanks in large part to former Sea Dogs who have supplied wind to the Red Sox slacking sails.

This needs to continue in order for the Sox to be successful against the surging Yankees, the steady Cleveland Indians and the ever-solid Los Angeles Angels.

Perhaps the epitome of this newfound energy came on the storied night of Sept. 1 when rookie Clay Buchholz tossed a no-hitter in his second career start against the Baltimore Orioles.

Buchholz, you might remember, was tearing up Hadlock Field earlier this season as part of his ascent to the majors. No longer in the starting rotation, Buchholz has to be an anchor in the Red Sox bullpen throughout the playoffs and relieve Hideki Okajima's ailing arm. Though he does not have to be perfect like he was against the Orioles, Buchholz needs to rejuvenate a struggling Sox squad.

But Buchholz isn't the only Sea Dogs alum whose impact could lead to another World Series in Boston.

Jacoby Ellsbury has taken Red Sox nation by storm with his electric speed and adeptness at putting the ball in play. After a 13 game-

hit streak to start his Major League career, the 2006-2007 member of the Sea Dogs has seemed to have found himself a home at Fenway and a place in the Sox lineup. As a late-inning defensive replacement and pinch-runner, Ellsbury must be this year's Dave Roberts—providing stolen bases and adding defensive range in the outfield.

A seemingly elder statesman and American League Rookie of the Year front-runner, Dustin Pedroia is batting over .300 and providing the Red Sox with a consistent bat in the top of their line-up—all of this just two seasons removed from his own campaign with Portland. His ability to get on base against some of the best pitchers in the American league could result in ample RBI opportunities for Big Papi and Manny.

And the list goes on. Kevin Youkilis, Jon Lester and Johnathon Papelbon are all recent Sea Dogs whose role in a Red Sox title run cannot be understated.

Usually veterans are looked upon for leadership, but it seems that the Red Sox may need to re-write this conventional logic. The contingent of young players that Terry Francona has on his roster is his only hope at sipping champagne in October.

It'll be easy to see how well prepared these young players are, especially since they'll continuously be compared with the likes of Grady Sizemore, Chien Ming-Wang and Howie Kendrick—the American League's other great young talents.

In the end, the skill and composure of this batch of players will provide the extra fire power that leads the Sox to their second world title in four years.



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Tuesday, September 25

Golf @ St. Joseph's Invitational, Point Sebago CC 11 a.m.

Wednesday, September 26

Men's Soccer @ Colby 4:30 p.m.
Field Hockey vs. WORCESTER STATE 4 p.m.

Thursday, September 27

Women's Soccer @ Salem State 6 p.m.
Women's Tennis @ Colby-Sawyer 4 p.m.

Saturday, September 29

Men's Soccer vs. PLYMOUTH STATE 1 p.m.
Men's Cross Country @ Gordon College Invitational 11:30 a.m.
Women's Soccer @ Plymouth State 1 p.m.
Women's Tennis vs. UMASS DARTMOUTH 1 p.m.
Field Hockey @ Westfield State 3:30 p.m.
Women's Cross Country @ UMaine Farmington Invitational 12 p.m.

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



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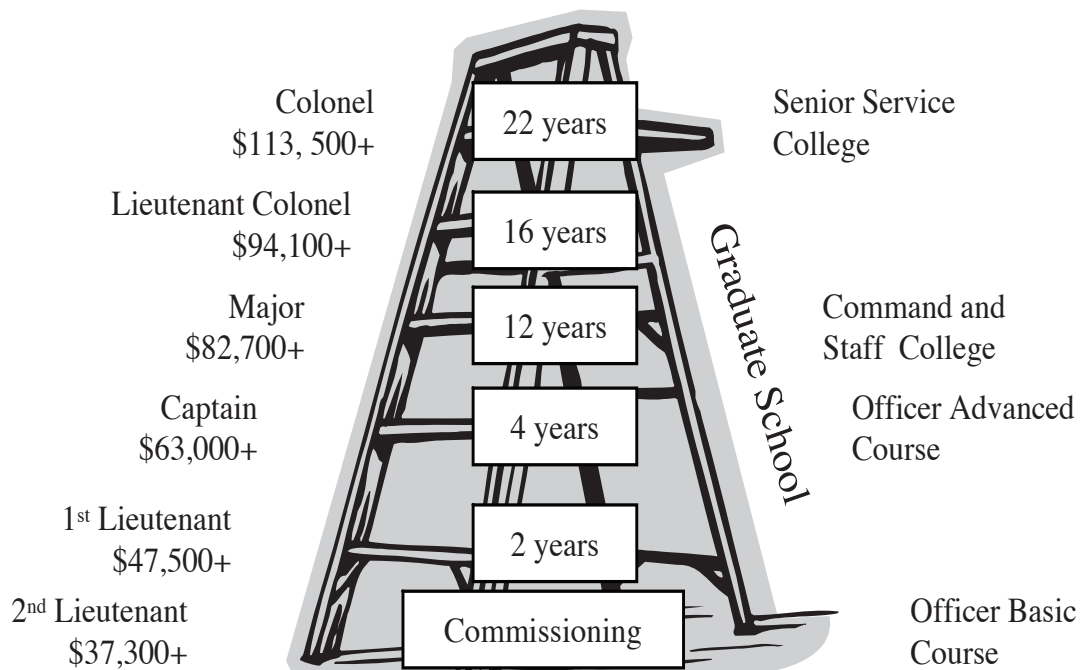
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Volleyball program killed, for now

Lack of players leads to season's suspension

SARAH TRENT
SPORTS EDITOR

Shannon Stoll, a junior from Shrewsbury, Mass., came to USM to play volleyball. Named Little East Conference rookie of the week during her freshman season and considered one of USM's top players, she led the 2006 team in kills, service aces, and total blocks. She returned this year with the honor of being named captain. Sitting at a booth in the Brooks Student Center cafeteria with teammate Cassi Sticht (junior, Meredith, NH) and co-captain Dani Netland (sophomore, Cumberland), Shannon glances toward the clock. It's 6:30 p.m., and they should be at practice. But there isn't one. There isn't even a team.

When the 16 recruits promised by Head Coach Barry Tripp didn't materialize, the team was left with only four returners and one unrecruited freshman. The athletic department was forced to make a decision. Input from players, Tripp, and department staff, helped administrators come to the conclusion that USM could not run a credible volleyball program this year. Women's volleyball has been suspended.

"I could have gone to Colby-Sawyer, Franklin-Pierce..." said Cassi, trailing off.

"We want to play. This was a huge disappointment," said Shannon. "You go there to play volleyball and then we don't have a team? It's definitely discouraging."

But the three reluctantly agreed with the final decision.

"We wouldn't have even been able to put six people on the court

who knew the game," said Dani. "We couldn't have been competitive."

"Volleyball has always been a tough sport for us," said Al Bean, director of athletics and the man ultimately responsible for the team's fate. Citing the lack of volleyball programs in the state—only 18 high schools have teams—and the difficulty of attracting new players to a team that has "never been overly successful," he's not surprised that the team is having trouble, especially since he's seen this happen before.

While it came as a shock to Shannon, Cassi, and Dani, this is not the first time USM volleyball has been suspended. Facing conditions similar to the present, it was cut from the athletics program in the 1987-88 season. It did not return again for nine years. When Shannon

heard this, her jaw dropped, and the three sank deeper in their chairs.

As of now, Al Bean is unsure whether or not volleyball will return next year. Just as the rest of the university is being asked to cut spending to counteract decreasing enrollment, the athletic department will need to find places to downsize.

"It really depends if we think we can get a viable team back together," said Bean.

Bean is also aware of his obligation to keep Title IX rules in mind, which require equal opportunities for men's and women's sports, though he doesn't think it should be an issue.

"We weren't trying to eliminate [volleyball]," he said, "And we generally have about 50-50 participation, with slightly higher numbers of women over the last few

years. With 23 sports, we offer a broad spectrum, and don't get a lot of call for what we don't have, excepting football, and recently men's volleyball."

While Bean and his staff decide what to do, Shannon and her teammates sat in the dining hall last Wednesday night, wondering what might happen next.

"We need to focus recruiting in Maine, New Hampshire, and Mass.," says Dani, adamant that teammates can be found. "The other Maine teams have 16 to 19 players, why can't we find any?"

In the meantime, the ladies will continue to practice, off campus.

"We're hoping to practice with the guys [club] team, if they come together" said Shannon. "I'll play in Maine state volleyball leagues, I'll coach in the winter. I can't not play volleyball."

Trails behind a USM Gorham parking lot offer wilderness refuge

CHRISTINE BULLARD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The constancy of city traffic and the Old Port just a bus ride away from campus, it's easy to feel lost in the urban jungle that Portland can be. However, as many people often forget, there is more to USM

than just downtown Portland. For those who would rather enjoy the quiet of the wilderness over the busy city lifestyle, a perfect escape exists on the Gorham campus.

A large patch of woods with an extensive system of foot and bike trails, found behind the G20 parking lot, offers endless hours of relaxation and fun. Entering from

the parking lot, the path takes walkers straight into a wooded area with a path wide enough to fit a small group. On either side of the trail, oak, maple and pine trees stretch their limbs to give shade, while the fall's foliage covers the ground and adds to the sense of solitude.

The main trail has many smaller paths which loop around the entire area. Some of these lead toward denser forest, while others take you to open fields where you'll often find monarch butterflies during the fall. Walking through the more wooded areas this time of year, you're likely to find chipmunks and chubby-cheeked squir-

rels, as well as the occasional deer print. You can even find blackberries, if you're lucky.

The woods in Gorham are perfect for a casual stroll, beginner and intermediate biking, or just a quiet place to sit and contemplate at the small stream that meanders beside some of the trails: a perfect place to relax for hours on end.

HUSKY HERO

Interview by Sarah Trent

Natasha Levandowski

Year: **Senior**
Major: **Health fitness**
Position: **Forward**
Sport: **Women's soccer**

Natasha Levandowski played one season for the UMaine Black Bears before transferring to USM, where she was quickly seen as a team leader, though she wasn't lighting up the scoreboard. This season is another story: After scoring her first-ever USM goal against the Coast Guard on Sept. 8, Natasha seems unstoppable. Now captain, she leads her team with four goals and one assist, helping the Huskies toward a 3-3 record after their first month of play.

FP: What's your most memorable soccer moment?

Natasha: Scoring my first goal against the Coast Guard a few weeks ago!

FP: Do you or the team have any pre-game rituals?

Natasha: We listen to music. As a team, we have fun with country, and we like to have lots of fun.

FP: What do you do when you're not playing soccer?

Natasha: Work! And schoolwork, but mostly (I) work at Sports Authority.

FP: What do you want to be when you grow up?

Natasha: I want to go into cardiac rehab, but I'll do grad school first.

FP: Have any party tricks?

Natasha: That's not a good thing for a captain to say!!



PHOTO COURTESY OF USM ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Husky Scoreboard

Women's Soccer

9/15 – Keene 7, USM 2
9/19 – USM 2, UMaine Farmington 0

Women's Tennis

9/18 – Salem State 8, USM 1

Field Hockey

9/15 – USM 3, Western Connecticut 1
9/20 – UMaine Farmington 1, USM 0

Men's Soccer

9/15 – USM 1, Keene 0
9/18 – Bowdoin 3, USM 0

Huskies settle for sloppy win

SARAH TRENT

SPORTS EDITOR

The women's soccer team registered another win Wednesday, knocking down the UMaine Farmington Beavers 2-0 and bringing their record back to 500. The game, however, wasn't pretty.

"We played down to their level, played their game a lot," said junior goalkeeper Alison Bradley (Auckland, New Zealand). "But..." she said, forcing a smile, "we won."

Senior co-captain Natasha Levandowski (Scarborough) was able to capitalize early on the less-than-stellar defense of the Beavers, scoring five minutes in, off a pass from senior midfielder Sam Rennie (Hudson, NH). The rest of the half consisted of somewhat sloppy play on both sides, and went by scoreless despite a 7-0 shot advantage for the Huskies.

Farmington came out strong in the second half, but the women in white stepped up their game, and didn't allow the Beavers a single



PHOTOS BY CHARLIE WIDDIS

Freshman Courtney Berkowitz (20) challenges a defender during Wednesday's match against UMaine Farmington. USM beat the Beavers, 2-0.

shot on senior keeper Meghan Ibar (Milwaukee, WI), who subbed in for Bradley at the half. The

second goal of the day came at 72:23 when junior Whitney Huse (Falmouth) found the rebound

after teammate Andrea Blanchette (junior, Hodgdon) hit the post.

Though the game was not played to the level hoped for by USM coaches and players, head coach Lisa Petrucci was happy that the Huskies "battled for the entire game," never letting the Beavers slip through the cracks.

"It's good to know you have another level," said volunteer team assistant Amanda Fox, "and that even at your worst, you still won the game."

The lack of enthusiasm post-game was obvious as the Huskies took a final run back and forth across the field, then trickled off without much of a huddle.

"Coach said it wasn't pretty," said head athletic trainer Matt Gerken, but Petrucci framed her comments more carefully.

"We executed at times very well," she said. "But at other times we played a little bit more of their game. However, a win is a win, it doesn't have to be gorgeous."

The Huskies are on the road for the rest of the month, returning to Gorham to meet Framingham State on Oct. 3 at 3:30 p.m.

A football team at USM won't be coming home soon

MIKE TARDIFF AND SARAH TRENT

CONTRIBUTING WRITER AND SPORTS EDITOR

Hanging off of pickups trucks, eating brats, drinking beer and talking big about favorite players, college football teams across the nation will play their homecoming games this weekend. Not at USM, however. Here, there isn't even a team.

This Thursday, Sept. 27, USM will kick off its third annual "homecoming" celebration, minus the kick-off, but including a variety of events designed to celebrate the entire student body, rather than just those wearing shoulder pads.

"We're trying to build a homecoming tradition without sports," says Chris O'Connor, assistant dean of student life and one of the major players in getting homecoming off the ground each year.

USM's homecoming weekend has been designed to include concerts, comedians, T-shirt making contests and an Olympic competition. While it does highlight athletic events scheduled at home this week—this year includes tennis and both men and women's soccer—it focuses more on encouraging student involvement and community. Its focus is not on the USM Huskies and it avoids the ever-popular tailgating.

Despite the growing success of student-involvement style homecoming, the question that this time of year inevitably raises remains: why doesn't USM have a football team?

USM has never had a football program, primarily because it has

never had a stadium capable of hosting the team. Bangor's Husson College, which went for many years without football, was able to start a program in 2004 after legendary baseball coach Dr. John Winkin donated the worth of his summer camp and inspired a \$1M dollar donation from Harold Alfond, a long time friend. Their football program now features a roster of 108 players, including 57 hailing from Maine.

Like Husson, USM has always had the occasional voice calling out for a football team, but has rarely seen much effort put forth to help start one. The most serious effort to build a program came in 2000, when an outside group, calling themselves "Friends of USM Football," approached USM officials and asked for permission to help raise the start-up costs required to build an all-purpose stadium at USM and fund staff, equipment and other projected needs that a football team would require.

After meetings in the spring of 2000, then-President Richard L. Pattenau decided that "football would not become a reality without \$2.1 million in privately raised start-up costs," and in May gave the "Friends of USM Football," permission to try.

After more than a year of trying to raise the money, the group, Pattenau, and athletics director Al Bean decided it was time to call it quits. An October 2001 press release finalized the end of their efforts.

"Many people worked long and hard on this," said John Wolfgram in the release, the former South Portland High School coach and co-chair of the "Friends of USM

Football," "and we know that football continues to generate interest among Maine high school players, their coaches and others who would like to see a Division III program at USM."

Having reviewed the program with USM officials, the Friends decided it was in everyone's best interests to discontinue the attempt, as they were unable to secure the primary gift they had hoped for.

"None of us want to start a program without full financial support. The lead gift which would have secured construction of the all-purpose field at USM was the key factor," said Wolfgram. "Many people were financially supportive but without the lead gift we could not reach our goal. At some time I think football will happen at USM, but now is not that time."

Pattenau felt similarly that year.

"All of our programs, academic as well as athletic, are facing tighter budgets, which makes it increasingly difficult to justify a football program. I remain committed to the notion that a high-quality football program can be a significant factor in student recruitment and building a sense of community," said Pattenau, "but the time is just not right."

Until that time is right and efforts are re-initiated, students will continue to wonder about USM football.

Tyler Yeo, a junior and former all-conference defensive and tight end at John Bapst Memorial High School in Bangor said he would love such an opportunity. "I would definitely want to be a part of a football team," said Yeo. "And I think a

lot of former football players, especially ones from around here would too."

"We could have a hundred kids at the drop of a hat," said athletics director Bean, "But that was not the issue. Money was the issue."

But does the lack of a football team mean that homecoming can't be homecoming?

Not if Chris O'Connor has anything to do with it.

O'Connor has been trying for three years to revamp school spirit with a new brand of homecoming that maintains some focus on university athletics but includes the entire USM community.

"The first year was a great success and the second year was an even greater success and we expect the same thing this year," said O'Connor.

Starting Thursday on the Gorham campus with a banner judging competition and t-shirt making for the student homecoming teams—comprised of students from all brands of student organizations—the festivities will run all weekend.

Highlights of this year's events include an Olympics-style competition for student teams on Friday followed by a pep rally, which drew more than 500 students last year. A concert called "Around the World," with the Bayside Trio and soprano Brooks Evers and a bonfire are also scheduled.

Despite all the odds, and without the unifying force of a USM football team, homecoming will continue at USM.

As for the beer, bratwurst and tailgating? You can always have your own party.

HUSKY HIGHLIGHTS

Field Hockey

Huskies take second conference win

The Huskies took down conference rival Western Connecticut on Saturday Sept. 15 on the goals of juniors Allysa Kraus (Standish) and Missy Rivets (Bridgton), as well as leading scorer, sophomore India Lowe (Gloucester, MA). Kraus started the scoring attack for the 4-1 squad when she took a pass from Lowe in the 14th minute and deposited in the net. The Huskies then padded their lead when Rivet scored her first career goal on a Christina Corson (sophomore, Naples) assist. Lowe then added her 6th goal of the season to give the Huskies a 3-0 lead in the 64th minute on a pass from freshman Sara Winterbottom (Burlington, CT). Not until the 66th minute did Western Connecticut even get on the board when their prolific goal scorer Cortney Romyns notched her seventh goal of the season. Husky goalie Allie Hill (sophomore, Cape Elizabeth) was only forced to make five saves in the effort, thanks in large part to a defense led by senior Justene Dorr (Cherry Hill, NJ).

Men's Soccer

Bajic leads men to first Keene win in decades

Sinisa Bajic (junior, Belgrade, Serbia) continued his scoring tear, giving the Huskies a 1-0 win over Keene State on Saturday, Sept. 15. Bajic, who is on pace to break the school's scoring records, took a pass from junior Greg Cox (Brookline, MA) and found the back of the net just 16 seconds into the second half of the contest. It was his sixth goal of the season and the 33rd of his career. Following Bajic's goal, the USM defense warded off the Owl's attempts at getting a goal of their own, earning sophomore goalkeeper David Kreps (Agawam, MA) his fourth shutout of the season. The win was their first over Keene State since 1980 and moved them to 4-1-1, while the struggling Keene State Squad fell to 2-3-1.

Women's Soccer

USM run over by Owls

The Huskies took a big fall Saturday, Sept. 15, as they lost 2-7 to Keene State in their first conference match of the season. The Owls took an early lead when senior Kathleen Keniston (Minneapolis, MN) headed in a cross ball in the 14th minute of the game. Five minutes later, Husky points leader and co-captain Natasha Levandowski (senior, Scarborough) took matters into her own hands, picked up a loose ball and fed junior Caitlin Brown (Camden), tying the game 1-1. Just 34 seconds later, the Owls pulled ahead, starting a three-goal streak that the Huskies would not be able to overcome. Entering the second half down 1-4, the Huskies allowed two more Owl goals before Levandowski found the net, bringing the score to 2-6 with five minutes left on the clock. Further cementing their win over USM, Keene got their final goal a mere 15 seconds later, as their Renee Halsey put it past senior keeper Meghan Ibar (Milwaukee, WI) for the final goal of the game.

-Source www.usm.maine.edu/athl