New England Champion

Morin becomes third in school history to qualify for national tourney

Sophomore Mike Morin (Fryeburg) fought his way to a 6-4 win in an "home."

"Mike is a humble kid," said Pistone, the two men rolling in short warm-up duels in the back- ground. "He's not really boister- ous, but when that whistle blows, he's as tenacious as can be.

It's hard to tell, watching the pair. As they roll, legs tangled with legs tangled with arms and necks, Moyer is joking and talk- ing casually with assistant coach Julio Santiago as if they could do this in their sleep. The conversation pauses and Santiago nods toward Morin — "Jog!"

Morin takes a lap and pulls off to keep talking to his coach. Moyer, who also felt the pressure of that spotlight, lost his own overtime final match after fighting hard the whole weekend to get there.

"Mark basically battled his way through all the top guys to get to the finals," said Pistone.

As close friends, roommates, and workout partners, the pair, it seems, are nearly inseparable — to the point where they get upset when Pistone separates them in practice.

It was only fitting that both Morin and Moyer were in similar positions for their final match, but also that much more painful that

See MORIN page 23

The evolution of Sri

Sri Dhyana, a physics major in her final year at USM, is a non- traditional student. And that is an understatement.

On this particular evening, Dhyana is relaxing at her home with a glass of white wine, Pink Floyd's 'Echoes' playing softly in the background.

Every once in a while, her living room rocks back and forth just slightly, a reminder that it happens to be in a small boat, docked in the frigid waters of South Portland.

"When I got my bonus for re- enlisting in the army, I was really wanting to buy a motorcycle," she remembers stly. "But I figured that I should probably invest in a home."

Smiling, she throws open her arms toward a window overlook- ing the marine. "This was a nice compromise!"

Back in 2000, while Dhyana was still trying to settle on a major, she decided to help fund her academic career by enlisting in the United States Army. That was one year before the events of Sept. 11.

Four years later, in an unimaginable twist, Dhyana found herself being deployed to Baghleda—at the height of insurgent violence.

She shared some of her expe- rience in a piece for the Portland Press Herald that year, describ- ing her function as what is affec- tionately known as a "fobbit" — a sentry in a forward operating base, whose job it is to safeguard meet- ing areas. She didn’t hide being a little homesick.

"I miss the fish chowder and buffalo wings," she wrote long- ingly. "I miss crisp autumn days that mean the start of a new se- mester."
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Departments, administration speak out on “listed” programs

MATT DOODGE
NEWS EDITOR

Earlier this month, Provost Mark Lapping released a list of 26 academic programs to be put on “probation,” facing evaluation in light of the current budget crisis.

With a deadline of April 1 to present a comprehensive plan of reform, departments and their members have been scrambling to meet the expectation, and are trying to make sense of this forewarned, though unprecedented move.

Faculty it seems, are both understanding of the move, and understandably upset, but “they’re more annoyed than anything,” said Thomas Newton, chair of the listed chemistry department.

The listed degree programs face the threat of suspended admission if their plans for reform are not deemed viable by the USM administration. This suspension would be the first step in a process to gradually phase out a degree program, though it won’t disappear until all currently enrolled students graduate.

“Trend analysis over the last 10 years shows that the number of graduates from these majors are low,” said Lapping.

“These 26 programs graduated 62 students last year. We need to rationalize resources with demand.”

In his “Moving Forward” letter on February 8, Interim President Joe Wood said that these programs were not yet being cut, but evaluated, and that any future action will not affect tenured faculty or students already enrolled in the degree programs.

However, these clarifications from Wood do not instill confidence in the faculty of the listed programs.

“My fear is that we will end up with a weaker university,” said Robert Schaible, professor of arts and humanities at the Lewiston-Auburn campus. He wants to see the administration pressed to better explain what they’re doing.

“I don’t want to see slogans and catchphrases” said Schaible, “I want to see structured, rigorous thinking that shows us how these potential cuts will help us.”

In a letter to USM faculty, Lapping outlined the criteria that the listed programs will be evaluated by after their plans are presented. Retention, graduation trends, funding, and centrality to mission and student success as the rubric against which the degree programs will be judged.

In one of the more interesting passages of his letter, Lapping describes “internal communications and civility within programs,” as a problem that, in part, had landed the listed programs will be evaluated by. Lapping cited program communications in which students were not counselled, and we cannot maintain entities that can’t practice civility.”

Lapping would not name the departments cited for civility.

Many of USM’s hard science programs were placed on the list, including degrees in chemistry, biochemistry, physics, and geosciences, as well as master’s programs in computer science and statistics. This general field of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics is referred to as STEM within USM, and has been touted in the past as a core focus of the university.

According to a letter from the Maine Department of Education, 40 percent of the state industries predicted to gain jobs in the next six years are in STEM careers. Growth in high-tech jobs is expected to be much greater in Maine than in New England and the rest of the nation.

“Growth industries are not reflected in student’s majors here at USM,” said Lapping. “There is a lot of opportunity there, I just don’t understand it.”

Chemistry Chair Thomas Newton sees the inclusion of the hard sciences annoying, but not much of a surprise. “The whole thing is at odds with what USM has talked about for 10 years. This suspension would gut STEM if it passed.”

Many colleges do not describe themselves as “career-oriented universities.” Technical and community colleges are typically seen as more career-based, although they typically offer associates degrees, they often lead to high-demand jobs.

Nationwide, career-growth trends show that jobs in science and technology are among some of the fastest growing, and most promising for college graduates. In a recent interview USM Provost Mark Lapping referenced the lack of students enrolling in STEM programs as a fundamental problem in the university.

“There are a lot of opportunities for students in these programs,” said Lapping.

According to CareerOneStop.org, science and technology jobs are on the rise in Maine, as well as nationwide — a trend that is not reflected in degree enrollment at USM. In a time when six of the top ten fastest growing careers in Maine require a degree in computer science, less than 1% of USM students are seeking degrees in the field.

For example, projected growth in network systems and data communications analysts is expected to be 41 percent by 2014. All of the listed careers in computer science have projected growth of above 20 percent.

Other fast-growing careers requiring at least a bachelors degree include:

- Physicians’ assistants
- Rehabilitation Counselors
- Video & Film Editors
- Mental Health Workers
- Veterinarians
- Financial analysts/advisors
- Marriage and Family Therapists

MATT DOODGE

http://usm.maine.edu/studentlife/vote08/

Still want to run?

Nomination forms are available in the Student Involvement and Activities Center in the Portland Campus Center.

ELECTIONS: MARCH 17TH - 20TH
Transportation fee at work, V.I.P. buys new buses

At a multi-campus school like USM, transportation can become a major part of one’s life. The average student might spend as much time on a bus every week as they spend in a single class.

The shuttle between Portland and Gorham plays many roles for the students who ride it: rolling study lounge, mobile student center, and a gas-saving alternative to driving yourself.

USM has been using some newer buses this semester for the transport between the Gorham and Portland campuses.

Gone are the high-backed, smelly-cloth coaches that students had become accustomed to (which in addition to fast, reliable transport, offered mobile “shower” on rainy days if one was unlucky enough to be seated near an emergency hatch).

Rumors began to float around last semester that VIP — the company USM uses to run the bus system — had acquired a new set of buses for the USM route, that they had come from Disney World, didn’t have heat, and were waiting to be fixed before students got to ride them.

As it turns out, these rumors had a degree of truth to them, according to Ray Penfold, General Manager of VIP.

The company purchased three new buses at the end of last year from ABC Bus Companies, Inc. in Winter Garden, Florida.

Penfold was looking to use some newer buses at USM because some of the older ones were equipped with engines that had been known to leak fuel. As it turns out, these rumors had a degree of truth to them, according to Ray Penfold, General Manager of VIP.

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Penfold was looking to use some newer buses at USM because some of the older ones were equipped with engines that had been known to leak fuel.

Contrary to some of the rumors, Penfold said the three buses were not actually used in Disney World. “This is out of the fleet that was built for Disney — I didn’t say they were Disney buses. I guess they made 50 or 60 of them.”

No one knows for sure why the buses were not used at Disney, but the most likely reason is because there was a mistake in the order.

“A friend of mine who works for the company called me up and said, ‘you oughta come down and look at these, they’re just what you need.’ And sure enough, they were,” said Penfold.

It was certainly not an easy process for VIP to get the buses from Florida to Maine.

Penfold says that shopping for affordable buses in this country is much harder than it may seem — he had been looking for almost two years to find something that would fit the needs of USM, especially with diesel prices on the rise.

One feature that makes these buses difficult to acquire is their side doors. “Not many people buy these types of buses,” said Penfold. “They are for an operation of ‘unload quick, load quick, and go.’ But you can’t buy them anymore, the only way you find buses with side doors is to buy them from cities and towns, but they’re federally funded and you can’t buy them.”

Simply getting the buses to Maine wasn’t the only obstacle.

“We got them home,” says Penfold, “and of course the air conditioners worked wonderfully, but there was no heat. Because the buses hadn’t used the heaters, naturally all the electric motors that ran the pumps were stuck.”

It took roughly two months to get the buses into condition for use at USM. They had to be painted and lettered and have some minor work done before being put into use at the beginning of this semester.

Overall, Penfold has been pleased with the acquisition. “They hadn’t been beat up, they were used on little tar roads and they weren’t run very fast,” he said. Another benefit was that they also have diesel engines that don’t leak oil.

So far, the student response to the new buses seems to be positive as well.

“They like them,” says Bobby Hussey, a freshman. “They’re comfortable — they almost seem to drive themselves.”

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The drivers like them,” says Penfold, “from what I understand, the students like them, and we haven’t had any complaints.”
Cash-strapped USM faces state budget concerns

From BUDGET page 1

ting that the specifics of the cuts have yet to be fully explained to individu-
als within the UMS.
The UMS has already projected an $8 million budget gap for the
upcoming fiscal year, according to Pattenaude’s letter. The effects of the
proposed state cuts could double UMS’s budget gap, landing the organi-
zation, which funds seven universities, $15 million in the red.
Pattenaude’s letter also predicts some of the economic and social con-
sequences this could have on the state.
“Current students and their families would experience a loss of aca-
demic quality, access, and affordability,” he wrote.
But also, he says, “Maine’s economy would suffer a loss of more than
$36 million in economic activity. Taxpayers would also find local tax
revenue affected in lost economic activity related to Maine’s public uni-
versities.”
The UMS also predicts that the budget gap could make suspending or
eliminating course offerings a necessary move. This could affect the 26
degree programs currently on “probation” at UMS.
In his most recent “Moving Forward” letter to the university, Wood
responded to Pattenaude’s report.
“Clearly we must ramp up our efforts to take a hard look at all ser-
vices and programs to identify cost savings and to make sure we are
doing everything possible to protect and support the central mission of
this university.”

Hardly traditional

From SRI page 1

along with many others in the
sciences. If these programs can’t
prove their financial viability in the
coming months, they face
possible suspension.
“It is all about money, I under-
stand that,” she notes. Yet she is
obviously a little disheartened.
“On some level, it comes down
to our basic philosophy as a
University.”

Proceedings for Erin Grade,
along with many others in the
sciences. If these programs can’t
prove their financial viability in the
coming months, they face
possible suspension.

Bomb threat trial delayed

Key witness on medical leave

JOEL C. THERIAULT
STAFF WRITER

The absence of a key witness in one of USM’s bomb threat cases has delayed court proceedings in the trial of former student Geneva Benner of Thomaston.

USM police chief Lisa Beecher, listed as a key witness for the trial, has been on medical leave since Nov. 5 as she undergoes cancer treatment.

Beecher, along with Detective Penny Belanger, has been investigat-
ing the series of bomb threats that struck all three campuses

Benner was set for a Nov. 13, 2007 hearing to address several motions filed by her attorney, “Stephen Schwartz, including a motion to dismiss the case.

A continuance motion was filed by prosecuting Assistant District
Attorney Meg Elam on behalf of Beecher and her health.

Schwartz did not object to the
delay, and Superior Court Justice Roland Cole signed the continu-
ance.

The hearing to address
Schwartz’s motions has been
moved to March 11 at Superior
Court.

Proceedings for Erin Grade,
another former USM student in-
dicted for the same incident, are
scheduled for March 17.

Grade and Benner were each
indicted on a charge of terrorizing,
a Class C felony punishable by up
to five years in state prison, after
a telephoned bomb threat evacuated Portland and Gorham campuses on Dec. 4, 2006.

Title 17-A, M.R.S.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 con-
sequence 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 re-
quired to remain in a designated
secured area.

The incident in which the two
women are being tried was only
one in a string of 13 bomb threats
that were telephoned or e-mailed
to the university between October

The last threat was e-mailed
to the Lewiston-Auburn campus’
Westminster Street building. No
explosive has ever been found as
a result of these threats.

Acting Chief Lt. Ron Saindon
said the department was not sure
when Beecher would return to
work. She could not be reached for
comment.
World Over Imports leaves campus corner empty

USM wants to change look of corner but won’t acquire the property

Matt Dodge & Laura Fellows
Staff Writers

The USM Portland campus covers a large area; from the Glickman Library to the Law School, most of the buildings in between are used and owned by USM. One exception however, is on the corner of Bedford Street and Forest Avenue.

Until recently, World Over Imports was located in the large brick and white building across the street from the Glickman Library and behind the Woodbury Campus Center. This building used to be a Pier One Imports store, but in 2005 the company severed ties with the chain and became an independent import store.

It is on the corner of Bedford Street and Forest Avenue, World Over Imports recently closed its Portland location. The store’s proximity to USM makes it a potential acquisition target—but USM will not seek to now.

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News

Student elections approach, ads abound

Sarah Trent
Executive Editor

Posters have already started popping up on campus — student leaders are using copycats of beer and credit card ad campaigns to say that they want you (insert classic shot of Uncle Sam) to run for student government.

What is student government?

The USM Student Government Association (SGA) consists of two branches: the 21-member Student Senate and the Student Body President.

The Senate oversees allocation of the Student Activity Fee—a half-million dollar pot that goes to fund various entities that exist under the Senate: Portland and Gorham Events Boards, G-TV, the Public Interest Research Group (PIRG) and the Board of Student Organizations, among others.

They are also a student voice to the administration, and have the power to make recommendations and pass resolutions that impact daily life at USM.

Recently, the Faculty Senate was on the brink of passing a change to the Faculty Handbook which would allow tests and quizzes to be given during the week before finals.

The Student Senate recommended against it, reminding faculty that the week prior to exams should allow time to study for those exams.

The Faculty Senate listened, and the motion failed.

The Student Body President also serves as the student voice to the administration, and is the sole student representative on various university committees and governing bodies, including the Faculty Senate and the recent Presidential Search Committee.

In the face of declining involvement on campus, this year’s elections and campaigns have a sense of urgency behind them. This year’s Senate saw huge fluctuations in numbers.

According to elections commissioner senior Sam Walton, and current Student Body President AJ Chalifour, the body that started out last spring with all 21 seats filled shrank to a low-point of 12 students following the mid-year break.

Involved students are quick to explain why they got involved, and why they’ve stayed involved.

“I have no more fear of public speaking,” says senior Emily Fitch, current chair of the Student Senate, who also says that she has gained a lot of experience in conflict resolution, leadership and helping others grow. “It helped me overcome so much of what I held me back before. I went from being the quiet kid in the corner to having my name all over campus, I know people. People know me.”

Junior Alex Bresler, the current Student senate secretary, is not as eager to recommend students to join student government, but feels very strongly that in his role he is helping ensure that things that happen and money that gets spent is in the best interest of the student body.

“I’m on the Senate because I feel there needs to be some work done regarding certain issues, not because I want to be on student government. If I felt secure that I’m not needed or that what I’m doing doesn’t count, I would happily leave.”

Bresler was one of the students who spoke to the Faculty Senate regarding the week before exams.

SGA ads over the next several weeks will seek to recruit students like Fitch and Bresler, students who see changes they want to make, both in their own lives and in the lives of those around them.

But based on the responses of involved students, those ads alone might not be enough. The universal answer when asked why they joined SGA in the first place was that someone else had suggested they’d be good at the job.

To run for student government, you must fill out a nomination form, which is available in the Student Involvement and Activities Office in the Woodbury Campus Center.

Forms are due March 12. Students are allowed to publicly campaign from March 10-14, and elections will occur March 17-20. Results will be compiled and announced after Spring Break.

Sarah Trent, who wrote this story, served as a Student Senator during the fall semester of 2007. She resigned upon becoming the Free Press’ executive editor.
**March 3**

**Free Press Budget Meeting** - Weekly meeting to assign stories. Looking for new writers to help with Apartment & Housing Guide to come out in April/92 Bedford Street, Portland Campus/5pm-6pm/For more information email Sarah Trent at sarah.trent@yahoo.com.

**Drop Off Art for the Student Juried Show** - Call the USM galleries to inquire about what times (different hours on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday) you can submit your art for the chance to get your work chosen for the upcoming 2008 Student Juried Show. Area Gallery/ Woodbury Campus Center/ various times M, T, W/ for more information, contact the USM galleries at 780-5008 or stop by the USM Art Department in Gorham.

**Free Press Writing Workshop** - This week Matt Wickenhieser from the Portland Press Herald will teach story structure and generation. All are welcome/92 Bedford Street, Portland Campus/5pm-6pm/For more information email Sarah Trent at sarah.trent@yahoo.com.

**Model United Nations Organization Weekly Meeting** - If you like global affairs and conference planning, please join us/217 Abromson Community Education Center, Portland campus/5pm-5:30pm/For more information please email jelena.sarenac@maine.edu

**USM Outing Club trip to Bald Face Mountain** - transportation leaves Portland at 7am, come along. For more information contact usm.outing.club@gmail.com.

“Breaking the Silence” Presentation - Israeli Veteran Dotan Greenvald will be presenting slideshow and lecture as part of the organization Breaking the Silence. 423-424 Glickman Family Library, Portland/1:15pm/For more information contact Rita Kissen at 776-5158

**Business on the Balcony Meeting** - Sponsored by Career Services and Professional Life Development, the meeting will happen on high. 2nd floor Lurther Bonney on the balcony overlooking the main entrance/2:30-4:30/for more info contact Career Services.

**Gorham Events Board Meeting** - GEB meets weekly to plan events for the Gorham campus/ Husky Hut, Gorham Campus/7pm-9pm/For more information contact aschwartz@usm.maine.edu.

**Student Senate Meeting** - Weekly meeting of the USM Student Senate/Room 423/424, Glickman Library, Portland Campus/3:30pm-6pm/Call 228-8501 for more information.

**Opening Reception, USM Juried Student Art Exhibit** - Join us for refreshments to view student work and to meet the artists, jurors, and gallery curator and staff. Area Gallery/ Woodbury Campus Center/Portland campus/3:30-5:30/For more information call the gallery at 780-5008.

**Outing Club Meeting** - Weekly meeting of the Southern Maine Outing club. Will discuss upcoming trips, including those for Spring Break/Brooks Student Center Lounge/5pm/For more information contact usm.outing.club@gmail.com.

To get your upcoming USM events posted, send them to freepress@usm.maine.edu with USM events in the subject line.

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**News**

**March 4**

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**March 5**

**African Heritage Month Film Forum and Discussion** - viewing the film Judgment Day/ Woodbury Campus Center Amphitheater, Portland Campus/10:00am-1:00pm/For more information about events please call the office of Multicultural Student Affairs at 780-4006 or Bethany Tremblay at bethany.tremblay@maine.edu

“Breaking the Silence” Presentation - Israeli Veteran Dotan Greenvald will be presenting slideshow and lecture as part of the organization Breaking the Silence. 113 Masterton Hall, Portland/7pm/For more information contact Rita Kissen at 776-5158

**March 6**

**Meditation Club Meeting** - Please come to our weekly open meetings to learn and practice methods for fostering peace in yourself/208 Luther Bonney, Portland Campus/2:30pm-3:30pm/For more information please contact yoorilawson@hotmail.com.

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http://www.usmfreepress.org/
involved and generally concerned students to gather, decide what’s going to happen with USM in various categories (involvement, community, space and scheduling, finances, and school spirit), and develop goals for how students and the administration might address those problems.

The event closed with a listening panel of administrators who heard the compiled ideas and goals from the 50-some students who came up with them. I attended, not as Ms. Executive Editor, but as the involved, concerned, senior English major that I am.

I’ve worn a few hats around here — that of a student, an athlete, the outing club president — and I’ve seen plenty of things that need (gasp) to change.

How about room 327 of Luther Bonney — the one that, last semester, had half the tiles shrivel and peel off the floor? The room whose heater went insane and forced my class to find a new room for a week?

What about the fact that tuition has been increased since I matriculated in ‘03?

And when are we going to get that new student center? Or two of them?

But, as Change ’08 addressed, these things aren’t going to change without realistic goals or a voice crying out for them to be met. Because I had to return to my duties as Ms. Executive Editor, I didn’t get to see the results of the day, but I was thrilled to see a group of very interested students throw around ideas. And not even because the ideas were particularly new or especially intriguing, but because as a group we cared about them together.

Yes, USM has its share, perhaps more than its share, of students who come to school and go home without ever connecting.

My bet is that number is starting to change, as the number of full-time students continues rising (our drop in enrollment has been entirely in part-timers). The new marketing plan, which is aimed toward “traditional” students and which seeks to encourage connection, will play its own role in this process.

But regardless of those students, there are people at USM who have, who want, and who seek out connection — I know because I am one.

And those students are the ones who right now have the power to encourage change.

Somewhere we will have to give up our favorite pillow: its feathers will fall out, its seams will burst, and the 300-count case will get accidentally bleached or dropped in the mud.

Somewhere, I’ll learn when the right time is to dump the men I don’t actually like. Probably, I’ll never switch to skim milk.

But today, tomorrow, I could try.

And today, tomorrow, we can enforce our rights as students to have classrooms that are actually usable, the means to off-set tuition rates, and, please, a new student center.

Run for student government, join a student group, start chatting with your professors after class.

Change is hard; change is good.

And we could use a few of them around here.

Sarah Trent
Executive Editor
In support of the arts & humanities program at LAC

February 13, 2008

Dear Dr. Wood, Dr. Lapping, and the entire USM Community,

I’m a graduate student in the American & New England Studies program here at USM, as well as a research assistant for Dr. Donna Cassidy and Dr. Ardis Cameron. It has come to my attention that several programs have been put on a “list” of programs that might be cut from USM’s offerings.

As a 2003 graduate of the arts and humanities program at Lewiston-Auburn College, I’m specifically concerned about what the loss of this program would mean to the Lewiston-Auburn area and the LAC campus. Often I have heard one of the primary reasons cited for its deinstitutionalization in its importance to the overall mission and academic environment of the USM community.

When I graduated from high school in the late ’90s, I had a full scholarship to Bennington College in Vermont. Not long after I got there, I discovered that my future state in college was going to be a constant financial struggle. Financial aid was not enough to guarantee a comfortable existence of the high private college expenses.

Because I was absolutely committed to a liberal arts education, the arts & humanities program at LAC made perfect sense. I cannot stress enough how instrumental this program was to my education. Professor Cassidy and Barry Rodrigue each nurtured my scholarly and personal interests to an extent unlike any I’ve heard expressed in conversations with other majors. At the same time, many of whom went out-of-state to achieve the same level of education.

The humanities program at LAC, while small, offers a vital service to those of us in Lewiston-Auburn who cannot see ourselves participating in more the “lucrative” programs like nursing or occupational therapy. We all know that these areas are important despite their unfortunate inability to raise the kind of money needed to keep an organization afloat.

Despite that, I can’t help but recall a quote that I read several years ago in Forbes, from a CEO of a Fortune 500 company. Though I forget the exact words and the immediate context, I’ll never forget what the CEO said: “I’ll hire an employee with a liberal arts education over an employee with an MBA any day. Employees with liberal arts backgrounds know how to think.”

If a university is truly committed to education in its broadest sense, it is committed to providing students with an academic pursuit, not just those that show the highest financial returns.

I understand that USM is in many ways a company, and that companies need to make money in order to function. But USM is also obviously a university, and universities must expect that in order to provide a true education, some departments and programs will inevitably make more money than others.

It’s the responsibility of the marketing, admissions and enrollment staff — not individual professors — to design ways a university’s budget can be made to account for these differences in relative value.

Dr. Wood, Dr. Lapping, and others I’ve corresponded with stated that even if the arts and humanities program is cut, humanities classes will still be taught at LAC. But there is a huge difference between offering a major and offering courses.

I would never have attended LAC if I had only been permitted to take humanities courses without having the option to major in it. The lack of a major like arts and humanities severely stints the academic environment of a campus.

How can we stand to tell our students that it’s only interested in offering majors that produce the highest financial returns?

How will USM be able to reflect the spirit of academic integrity if programs like this one, or women and gender studies (my major) are shelved?

If the arts and humanities program at LAC is cut, there will be no recourse for students in this area who are interested in studying outside of the career-track health and human services-type work available by the other programs at LAC.

I hesitate to democratize a strict link between career-oriented and non-career-oriented programs at USM. Now a graduate student in the humanities, I have no doubt that the arts and humanities contributed to my growth as a person in this path as I pursue a career.

And I am not the only one. I am still in touch with several other graduates of the arts and humanities program who have continued their studies in the liberal arts at other institutions.

I hope you will consider the arts and humanities program as one of the things that make USM unique, and support it’s funding.

Thank you for your time,

Michelle Morgan
Auburn, ME

LETTER FROM YOUR STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

We don’t have unions: we have student government

My Fellow Students:

My American Political Thought class recently discussed the labor struggles of the 1880s and the large labor movements that came out of those struggles of the 1880s and the early 1900s. I thought that this might be a good time to reflect on the issue of unionization and the current state of things at USM.

Some of you might ask, “Well, why don’t students have the same kind of representation as the faculty or administration?”

The answer is: you do.

Student government advocates for students to the University administration and to the University of Maine System Board of Trustees.

Student government acts on behalf of students in the governance of the University.

We need a strong student government in order to advocate for other solutions than tuition increases, fee increases or anything else that would harm the student body.

It is the opinion of this Student Senate that the University of Maine System is very fortunate to have so many student representatives who want to make USM a better place.

Nomination forms are currently available for seats on the Student Senate and for Student Body President, and can be picked up in the Student Involvement and Activities Office in the Woodbury Campus Center in Portland. As the soon-to-be-outgoing president, I can tell you personally this has been one of the greatest experiences of my life and what I have learned and what I will take away from the position will stay with me throughout my professional life. Despite its long hours and hard work, I couldn’t recommend it more highly. To find out more check out: www.usm.maine.edu/studentlife/vote08.

You can expect anything to happen.

You can expect anything to change if you aren’t willing to do something about it. Here is your opportunity to do something significant.

All the best,

AJ Chalifour
Student Body President

FROM THE RIGHT SIDE

Manning gave up his freedom

DUSTIN GILBERT
COLUMNIST

If an Iraq war veteran planned and executed bombings and bank robberies, then murdered a USM police officer and was charged, pros- ecuted, and sentenced to a term of x number of years resulting in life, would you want your name and story to be glorified in police stations? How about his artwork?

What if the artwork the police officer created showed that the war veteranLife and the lives he took were because of unjust or unfair doings to him- self and his peers? I say absolutely not—with an exclamation point.

I fabricated this man to parallel a real man: Tom Manning, a Vietnam veteran and a criminal who took part in bombings and bank robberies with a radical group, then killed a New Jersey police officer in “self-defense,” had followers try to put on an art exhibit of this man’s paintings at USM.

All the two situations are nearly exact opposites, but the victims’ family members in each situation might be nearly identi- cal. Put yourself in the shoes of the family who lost a brother, hus- band, son, or even a father. If you want the killer of your loved one gaining any freedom whatsoever is because he is a poet, a painter, a stone sculptor, then he can try to gain it back when he stands in front of God and is judged.

Exhibiting his artwork is indeed a freedom. Letting him create the artwork is a whole sepa- rate freedom and something I also wouldn’t allow, especially to the victim of a killer of a man whose job was to serve and protect the citizens of this country.

Exhibiting the artwork shows that he has no right to claim he is a victim, who believe his actions were under- standable.

Those people have no guts and obviously don’t think with their brain. If they did, they’d use their brain to put themselves in the shoes of the police officer (or pro- fessor or the victims of the bomb- ings and bank robberies). There’s no way they’d think that the man doesn’t deserve any freedom. He deserves to be locked up behind bars until the day he dies, which is exactly what will happen.

Want to see his artwork? Go to the jailhouse.

Ask to visit the man and have him show it to you because that’s where he and all his doings should remain—prison.

Dustin Gilbert describes himself as a compassionate conserva- tive hoping to help students better understand right-wingers.
Perspectives

Introducing...

Interview by Laura Fellows

Colleen Slattery
Biology
Sophomore

What do you like most about teaching?
I really love it when you're in a classroom and it just comes alive, and I love it when a student who's been struggling has a breakthrough, like in a workshop situation and everybody sees it, or when a student writes to the next best level. I just love it when things gel and the class becomes a community.

Who inspired you the most when you were young?
Well, I knew I wanted to be a writer. I loved Shakespeare, I loved the Greek tragedies, as well as Shelley, and Dickinson. And I loved picture books as a kid, way after I learned how to read. And the first humongous book I read after I learned how to read was Dostoevsky's "Crime and Punishment."

So if you could meet any author or poet from the past, who would it be?
Well, I would not want to meet Emily Dickinson because I don't think she would like me. I mean, she was withdrawn and I don't think I could draw her out. Someone I'd love to meet is Czeslaw Milosz. He was born in Poland in 1911, and he just died in the last few years, so he was alive and conscious during most of the twentieth century, and has written about it in essays and fiction and mostly poems, and his perspective is amazing. You know those Eastern Europeans who went through so much are totally different from Americans - they consider us naive. To talk to someone who has been through all that and found a way to be affirmative at the same time, I would just love to do that. I would also like to meet Walt Whitman.

What's your favorite holiday?
I like the February ones - all of them - Presidents' Day and Valentine's day, and Lent, I like the whole group of them. Because those were two complex but decent presidents - Washington and Lincoln. Valentine's Day is in there, which is fun. And I like the whole dynamic between Carnival one day and Ash Wednesday the next. Carnival is right before Lent where you let it all out before you have to get the ashes on your forehead and eat fish and give up chocolate and all that. I love the tension between that - the wildness, and then the stripping down to something more somber. Which is really the thing I like about Halloween too, which is the day we let our inner wolf come out - I think people need to admit they have one. But Carnival is just as good, and it's happier.

What's your favorite dish to cook?
I love to cook Mexican food - Quesadillas, burritos. I have a slimmed-down version of chilies rellenos, which is just poblano peppers with cheese melted inside. I think that's my favorite, right now.

BETSY SHOLL
ADJUNCT ENGLISH PROFESSOR & MAINE'S POET LAUREATE

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Two drummers jam at the Multicultural Center’s event in Woodbury Campus Center. The event was the Center’s biggest of the year and included drum troupes, food, and dancing.

Multicultural Office hosts Dartmouth speaker, dancers
Activism and entertainment highlight Portland campus event

CHANTEL MCCABE
STAFF WRITER

Vibrant performers, energetic drumming, handmade crafts, exotic foods, and a passionate speaker were housed in the Woodbury Campus center last week for the “Main Event” of the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs.

The day featured a guest speaker from Dartmouth University, Peter James Morgan, who, along with his extensive research about Native Americans in the abolitionist movement, spoke about the history of African American and Native American heritage in New England.

To go along with the theme, vendors sold a wide variety of items. One woman, Brigette Nyada, sold handmade masks, paintings, bamboo instruments, beaded gourds, dolls, and clothing to benefit an orphanage and community center that her sister runs in Cameroon, Africa.

The two sisters have been working together since 2000 to help and protect abandoned children and victims of rape and AIDS in the area where they grew up.

Another table included African foods. One of the favorites of the day was a treat called “zambus.” It is a calzone-like pocket is filled with beef, chicken and vegetables.

A Native American vendor had radical political books on display about immigrants, women of color, poverty and human rights.

The man working this table was also selling Zapatista coffee, increasingly popular in the New England area over recent years. A group that supports autonomy and eliminates the middleman in the coffee-selling process sells this coffee; the proceeds go directly to the hands of the people in indigenous communities in Chiapas, Mexico, who grow the coffee beans themselves.

A wide variety of purses were sold by a mother and daughter who help the Wings of Hope Alliance for Cambodia Inc., a group that donates food supplies to the orphan children and elderly residents in an extremely poor part of the world.

The two women explained that the country of Cambodia has 40 percent of the population living below poverty, with no programs to subsidize the needs of children and families.

Also, the death rate is extremely high due to malnutrition and the water supplies are both limited and dangerous to drink from.

They became involved with the group while living in Rhode Island, and brought the spirit of the group to the United States.

The dance performances took place throughout the day to accompany the vendors.

The dancers were mostly women, of all ages, who were barefoot and dressed in handmade skirts, with braided hair and anklets with bells that jingled when they danced.

Like most African dance circles, the music and singing was loud and energetic and spirited. The dancers’
“Main Event” brings culture to Woodbury

From CULTURE page 11

movements were fast and they
beamed as they encouraged the
audience to join them. One dancer,
Sunday Alak, a 13-year-old student at King middle
school, explained that she started
dancing around the age of 10. She
and her family are from Uganda
and moved to the United States
when she was four because of the
war in the area.

This was the first festival she’s
danced at, but she usually prac-
tices in a family friend’s basement
danced at, and her family are from Uganda
and her family are from Uganda
when she was four because of the
war in the area.

The weather, however, made for
a bit of a struggle, she explains.
“The performances went very
well, the speaker was great, but I
think the weather with the snow
storm may have stopped some
people from coming to the campus
center.”

The day, however, was a posi-
tive experience, both educational
and entertaining for those who
great and a way to celebrate
National Heritage Month.

For more information about up-
coming events held by the Office
of Multicultural Student Affairs,
visit http://www.usm.maine.edu/
eco/culture. If you’re interested in
helping the citizens in Cambodia,
please visit www.whacinc.com.

The Bravery looks
good, rocks out

KELLY MCCORMICK &
LOUIANE RUDOLF

The Bravery headlined at The
Station last Saturday, foreshad-
owing the March release of The
Sun and The Moon Complete, an
addition to their 2007 The Sun
and The Moon. The show also
featured Headstart, Cult Maze,
Your Vegas and Switches.

We arrived to The Station late
and unfortunately missed the
first three bands, but were just
in time to catch London’s own
Switches.

Switches arrived onstage
looking quite rad — props to
frontman Matty’s red pants —
introducing themselves as the
Strokes and then the Fratellis
and using Your Vegas’ drum set.

Four (possibly five) gorgeous
guys make up Switches: Matty is
on guitar and lead vocals; Thom
is on bass (and his great-great-
great grandfather apparently
invented the bicycle); Ollie is on
guitar, Steve rocks the
drums and on Saturday, Felix, a
new member (or perhaps just a
friend helping out), was on the
synth and the clapping machine.

Switches surprised us with
their Brit pop/power rock mix
and catchy lyrics.

Having never heard them
before we were surprised to find
ourselves singing along by the
end of each song and dancing
wildly (much to the chagrin of
our neighbors, we’re sure).

Switches have yet to release
an album here in the US, but
in the UK they have two, the
latest being Message from Yez.
These boys are already starting
to make an impression stateside,
with their hit song “Lay Down
the Law” included in the movie
Jumpin’ and an upcoming album
debut March 18.

We didn’t want them to stop.
Or go back to England. Ever.

After what seemed like the
longest set change of our lives,
The Bravery came out at about
quarter to eleven.

Even with the delays, the
enthusiastic headliners never lost
their pizzazz and high energy.
Also not too bad looking, Sam
Endicott (lead vocals, guitar),
John Conway (keyboard),
Anthony Burulich (drums),
Mike Hindert (bass, and a drop-
dead hottie) and Michael Zakarin
(lead guitar, back up vocals)
rocked to the fullest for almost
two hours.

They ended with their straight-
to-the-point, didn’t-head-off-
stage-first encore of two songs.
The crowd and the band both left
this set sweaty.

There was nothing not to like
about this $18 night — especially
if you caught the whole four hour
show — our ears are still ringing,
and we only saw half of it!

We left the show pumped and
ready to snatch up those CDs
when they finally come out, and
to find these guys to congratulate
them on a fabulous show.

The Bravery’s new two-disc
set, also scheduled to hit shelves
March 18, is an addition to
their second CD, The Sun and
The Moon. It features The Sun:
the original 12 songs; and The
Moon: those same songs in the
same order, but completely re-
imagined and re-worked.

Keep your ears cleaned out
because there is definitely more
to come from Switches and The
Bravery. Rawk on.
If USM women’s vaginas could dress up and talk, they would wear diamonds and stilettos and say things like “wrong hole!” and “slower!”

The questions that spawned these responses were asked to those who attended the annual production of The Vagina Monologues, sponsored by the Women’s Resource Center and the Student Senate. The show was performed on both campuses during the week of Valentine’s Day, and featured 17 women, young and old, from USM and SMCC.

The event is done as a fundraiser, and this year supported Sexual Assault Response Services of Southern Maine, the state’s oldest rape crisis center.

In 1996, activist playwright Eve Ensler conducted interviews with women about their vaginas. Armed with this information, she wrote The Vagina Monologues, a series of monologues presenting the issues women face concerning their vaginas.

“My Angry Vagina” deals with one woman’s frustrations concerning gynecological tools, tampons, and douches. USM’s production featured Mary Ann Benson, a staff member in career services.

Highlights of this year’s performance included the cast shouting “cunt” in unison whilst running around the lecture hall, as well as an amusing demonstration of different types of women’s moans, performed by former student Lyndon Cudlitz in “The Woman Who Liked to Make Vaginas Happy.”

The humor of these and many of the monologues is part of the show’s appeal. “My favorite part was ‘My Angry Vagina,’” said sophomore Chris Arsenault. “I had no idea that so many things poked and prodded women in their vaginas.”

Many of the monologues are humorous, but some touch on more serious issues.

“My Vagina Was My Village,” performed here by senior Erin Doyle, deals with the rape of women in Bosnian refugee camps.

In between monologues, the audience was presented with various facts dealing with vaginas or information discovered through the interviews.

Some were lively, such as the audience responses to what one’s vagina would wear or say.

Others presented the audience with surprising statistics and information concerning female genital mutilation.

When she first wrote it, the play was Ensler’s one-woman show, but it eventually took off, with famous actresses performing monologues at shows. It even won an OBIE Award, an honor given to the best off-Broadway shows.

As it continued to spread, colleges across the country began to organize their own performances of the play. It even spawned the global movement known as V-Day, which takes place every year on Valentine’s Day.

The movement’s goal is to generate awareness of violent crimes against women, including rape, incest and sexual slavery.

Activities on this day include performances of The Vagina Monologues, with profits benefiting local anti-violence associations.

V-Day is observed by people in 120 countries in Europe, Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, and North America.

This year, the tenth anniversary of V-Day, it was celebrated with more than 3800 benefit events. The movement has raised more than $50 million so far.

A new monologue in this year’s version of the play was “The Wetlands.”

Performed by Emily Fehrenbacher, USM’s campus organizer, it calls post-Katrina New Orleans the vagina of the United States: its grass-lined marshes and river banks forgotten and abused.

On April 12 of this year, V-Day’s anniversary will be celebrated in New Orleans to help raise awareness for the groups working to end violence in the Gulf South.

The event will take place at the New Orleans Arena and tickets are available online for $25.00 at www.v-day.org.
Adam Ayan worked with Rolling Stones, now USM students

Grammy-winner and community activist is music technology prof

JEFF BEAM
STAFF WRITER

It’s a little-known fact that one of Maine’s greatest musical resources is also one of USM’s greatest resources. His name is Adam Ayan. Grammy-award winning Adam Ayan. That’s right. Adam Ayan is a world-renowned sound engineer. And he teaches his passion to USM students as an adjunct music faculty member.

Ayan operates out of Gateway Mastering, located in the heart of Portland. Mastering, says Ayan, is the creative process of bringing recordings to their full sonic potential.

At Gateway, he has mastered countless albums from the biggest names in the music industry. Among his long list of clients are Nirvana, The Rolling Stones, Phish, the Foo Fighters, Bloodhound Gang, Bruce Springsteen—I could go on forever.

The coolest part is that Ayan doesn’t just focus on national acts. Because Gateway is in Portland, Adam masters local acts as well. Everyone from Animal Suit Drive-By to Jeremiah Froom to Headstart have had their albums mastered by Ayan.

Ayan’s goodwill towards the local community doesn’t stop there. In the fall of 2007, he founded the Portland Music Foundation. It’s a foundation for the local music scene in Portland, aimed at strengthening the community and educating local musicians on how to better prepare themselves for tasks ahead. Bands and individuals who join can attend a variety of lectures and seminars presented by Ayan, as well as other local music professionals.

If all that isn’t enough, Ayan also teaches at the University of Southern Maine. “The class is called Topics in Music Technology,” says Ayan, who has been teaching for seven years. “Basically, the class focuses on basic principles of audio as well as hands on ‘live to 2 track’ recording techniques utilizing the School of Music’s equipment and the Corthell Hall concert hall.”

Featuring top-of-the-line music equipment and recording programs as well as Ayan’s expert guidance, his very popular course, offered in the fall, is a unique experience for USM students.

Local hotshots AS FAST AS will be releasing their latest album, titled Destroy The Plastique Man on March 11. The wild new LP will be exclusively available at all Bull Moose Music locations.

Speaking of Bull Moose, the Portland store will be hosting a free acoustic performance from the band on Saturday, March 8 at 5pm. Advance copies of the album will be available.

Since I’ve only listened to it four or five times thus far, a full review of Destroy The Plastique Man will be in the next issue of The Free Press. But warning - this album is unlike anything AS FAST AS has ever created. It’s experimental and unpredictable, but retains AFA’s catchy charm. Rock.

RAD SITE OF THE WEEK /WWW.VIXY.NET

So, you’ve found a cool tune on YouTube. It’s pretty rad. You want to listen to it over and over, but you’re tired of having to go to the website everytime you want to hear it. You might want to even put it on your iPod! Well, there’s a solution.

www.vixy.net converts online videos into downloadable audio files. You can even convert online videos to a downloadable video format! Party on!

--Jeff Beam
Nailing It

John Bisbee at the PMA

JENNA HOWARD
ARTS EDITOR

Three USM students walk into a bar — a photographer, a sculptor, and a painter.

From here, things get increasingly comical, because they’re meeting with John Bisbee, currently exhibiting his intense welded structures — made up entirely of nails — at the Portland Museum of Art.

A man with a long up his sleeve (not only nails, but mice, too, according to one of his many stories), the swashbuckling, bearded Bowdoin professor tells us he’s been so busy this year, he missed his yearly shave.

From the response to his current solo show at the PMA, “The Bright Common Spike: Sculpture of John Bisbee,” we can see why.

And not just any USM professors. All of the university’s sculpture sections have held a class at the museum to see his work together.

Bisbee has been in Maine for twelve years at Bowdoin, which he says he’ll never leave.

“It’s my paradise,” he says.

He doesn’t think of his teaching as a job at all. When asked what he teaches, he replies, “Advanced Finance and Interpretive Dance.”

He is actually a professor of advanced and core sculpture classes.

Besides teaching, which he’s apparently done for the last three years with a rescued mouse named Pepper in his shirt pocket, he spends 10-13 hours a day in the studio, in Brunswick. Bisbee is a sculptor and his work with nails, Bright Common Spikes, is on display at Portland Museum of Art until March 23rd.

The only piece at the PMA exhibit that has not been welded, Helio, is made up of 12 sections of the 700 acre Tennessee grounds.

While he usually starts getting giddy for Bonaroo around this time of year, this time he is re-cuperating from last year’s madness.

Bisbee is known for his accomplishments in the arts: he’s had successful shows up the east and west coasts, and in working with sculpture students, instills his passion for art in them.

He’s still slaying away in his studio, and now he’s writing music with a band.

“I learned to play guitar when I was 30, and found out it was so much easier than art — and easier on the body,” he says.

He’s planning for Bonaroo, while giving interviews about the renowned PMA show (which will be up until March 23) to everyone from The Boston Globe to The Free Press.

And, of course, he’ll keep on documenting his meals and chuckling with whomever is at his table.

MOVIE REVIEW

Go get ‘sweded’ at Be Kind, Rewind

BRANDON McKENNEY
STAFF WRITER

It’s hard to go wrong with Jack Black and Mos Def starring in your film, and Be Kind, Rewind is a perfect example of that. The latest effort from Michel Gondry ( Eternal Sunshine, Science of Sleep) follows the same style of music and low-budget effects. In the hands of any other director, this film could have easily slipped into a slapstick comedy with cheap CGI effects. However, Gondry makes use of cardboard, tin foil, and pizza pies to create a world that is unlike any other.

It turns parts of the film into almost daydream-like scenes. These effects play into the moral of the film, reminding us that we don’t always need the latest and greatest thing to enjoy life. A film can be made from little more than a video camera and some household items, viewed on VHS and still be great.

To that end, I viewed the film at the newly redesigned and reopened Regal at Clarks Pond near the mall in South Portland. Because it was a matinee, the theater was completely empty.

The two come across almost as children, but that awkwardness is part of their charm. Mike is obsessed with Fats Waller, a jazz musician who was turned into a local legend by the stories told to Mike by Mr. Fletcher, his father figure and owner of the video store.

The plot revolves around a somewhat hard to believe circumstance, as Jerry becomes magnetized and erases all of the tapes in the store. The two then have to recreate the films to save the store.

As is the case with other Gondry films, their charm requires quite a suspension of belief, but that is what makes it so enjoyable. Like any good movie, it opens up a diversion of reality for the audience to explore and delight in.

The Free Press | March 3, 2008

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE PORTLAND MUSEUM OF ART

STAFF PHOTO BY BRANDON MCKENNEY
**SUFFERING FROM MIGRAINES?**

An investigational medication for migraines is in development and we are currently enrolling participants for a clinical research study.

You may be eligible if you:
- Are 18 years of age or older.
- Suffer from migraines.
- Currently treat your migraines with butalbital-containing medications such as Fioricet®.

**Study participants receive:**
- Study-related testing.
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**Migraine Clinical Research Study**

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Have you been getting bored of the same old drinks? You wake up every morning and try not choke and die on that nasty pulpy OJ your roommate insists on buying.

Come lunchtime at the Brooks Student Center you buy a Vitamin Water. Why? Because everyone drinks Vitamin Water! It’s a flavored alternative to water! “WOAH COOL!” Also, the hip people who make it write funny things on the side of the label! “EVEN COOLER!” Vitamin Water is owned by Coca-Cola, a giant corporation. There is nothing hip about that.

Come dinnertime you may sit down with an ice cold Shasta and cringe as the black sludge craps all over your mouth and finds its way into the deepest recesses of your teeth exploiting cavities you never knew you had. You don’t want that.

Liberate your fettered conforming taste buds and try something new. Head on down to Bubble Maineia on Commercial Street, next to Dimillos, and try a bubble tea.

I have a basic rule of never trusting puns but I will make an exception for bubble tea. (But I still hate you Condom Sense!). Bubble tea is the most fun you can have while drinking. Well, besides drinking absinthe (but that’s illegal), or ambrosia, (but that’s the drink of the gods and doesn’t even exist), or taking shots of Tequila.

Ok, bubble tea is the most fun you can have while drinking. Well, besides drinking absinthe (but that’s illegal), or ambrosia, (but that’s the drink of the gods and doesn’t even exist), or taking shots of Tequila.

On to the bubbles: the bubbles are tiny, black, flavorless, tapioca jelly balls, referred to professionally as “pearls” in order to avoid endless jokes about swallowing balls.

The bubbles chill at the bottom of the tea waiting for you to suck them up and chew them. Remember that old drink Orbitz? They’re kind of like that but bigger (and better). The bubble tea is presented to you in two possible clear containers. The first has a jungle scene with a monkey hanging from a tree with the phrase “Aloha!” plastered around the side. Are there monkeys in Hawaii? It doesn’t matter; Bubble Tea does not care about the geographical placement of monkeys!

The second cup is an enlightening experience. It is an underwater scene with a dancing crab and a sea horse. Check it, instead of repeating the phrase “Aloha!,” the crab and sea horse go all Zen on us and the side of the cup reads “Enjoy Your Life!” I must admit that I have never enjoyed my life more than when I drink bubble tea.

As well as being this mutated man of exuberance, I am also a Bubble Maineia VIP and I have the card to prove it. It gives me discounts on all my purchases and access to the VIP room which makes Studio 54 look like Mr. Rogers Neighborhood.

Just kidding, there really isn’t a VIP room but I do have a VIP Card. And bubble tea is kind of like doing cocaine. It’s addictive and it makes you wanna dance! So grab your friends and try a new beverage for a change. Your taste buds will thank you (and so will the delightful people who own Bubble Maineia).
Arts & Entertainment

Maineia’s tea is dairy free. Ants out there, don’t fret! Bubble chocolate, Taro (sweet cookie), from your favorite fruits, black tea, milk tea. Pick a flavor ranging from a holic drink. You can have while enjoying a shots of Tequila.

Also, the hip people who make it trusting puns but I will make an exception for bubble tea. (But I still hate you Condom Sense!).

On to the bubbles: the bubbles makes you wanna dance! And for all you lactose-intolerant, the bubble tea is the most fun you can have while drinking. I have a basic rule of never get a drink bubble tea.

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Come dinnertime you may sit monkey had an orgy and birthed a sea horse. Check it, instead of repeating the phrase "Aloha!," the monkey hanging from a tree cringe as the black sludge craps all over your mouth and finds its way into the deepest recesses of your teeth exploiting cavities you never knew you had. You don’t want to end up with an ice cold Shasta and Coca-Cola; a giant corporation.

Come lunchtime at the Brooks Student Center you buy a Vitamin Water. It’s a flavored alter-native to water! "WHOA COOL!" write funny things on the side of the label! "EVEN COOLER!"

Why? Because everyone drinks Vitamin Water. It’s owned by a giant corporation. The first has a jungle scene with the phrase "Aloha!" plastered around the side. The second cup is an enlightening experience. It is an underwater placement of monkeys!

As well as being this mutated native to water! "WHOA COOL!" write funny things on the side of the label! "EVEN COOLER!"

Why? Because everyone drinks Vitamin Water. It’s owned by a giant corporation. The first has a jungle scene with the phrase "Aloha!" plastered around the side. The second cup is an enlightening experience. It is an underwater placement of monkeys!

It doesn’t matter; Bubble Tea does it best. The label! "EVEN COOLER!"

Interested in Sports? Editing? or both?

The Free Press is now hiring sports editors. Inquire at 92 Bedford Street, Portland between 9 and 1.

Women’s Basketball
2/16 – New England Alliance Championships – #1 Keene State 140, #2 USM 131.5
2/23 – New England Div. III Championships – #1 Tufts 118, #7 USM 35
3/1 – NELCAA New England Championships – Results not in?

Women’s Hockey
2/16 – Umass Boston 8, USM 1
2/22 – USM 3, New England College 2
2/23 – New England College 10, USM 2
3/1 – New England College 4, USM 3

Women’s Indoor Track
2/16 – Little East Championships – #1 USM 209, #2 Keene State 117.5
2/16 – New England Alliance Championships – #1 USM 196.5, Keene State 119
2/23 – New England Div. III Championships – #1 Tufts 136, #11 USM 24
2/29 – NYU Fastrack Invitational – Non team scoring event

Wrestling
2/24 – NEWA Championships – 8th place
USM Child and Family Center has work study openings. If you have an interest in working with children, we would appreciate your help. Flexible hours to accommodate your schedule. Please contact Jen Hebert at 780-4300.

The SGA Business Office is looking for a few good staff members! Great experience, flexible hours, fun office! Please contact Drew or Carolyn 228-8503 for more info.

Work-study Job $7.75/hr. Entry-level. Training provided. Tues & Thurs 8:30-10:30 a.m. Exercise, Health, & Sport Sciences Field House, Gorham 780-5782 therault@usm.maine.edu

Roommate Wanted
Subletting my West End 2 BR apt. Sunny w/10 ft ceilings and big windows, office, private entrance and porch. Rent includes off street parking. Move in today! $475 + utils. Gas heat. 841-3853. Josh

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Development Asst. Univ. Advancement: Administrative duties and special projects Fun and creative environment. Flex. hours, Mon-Fri, anytime from 8a-5p Position on Portland Campus Betty Bean 780-4714

Info Desk and Admin. Office staff needed at Woodbury Campus Center, Portland. $8.50/hour. Contact Cathy Wright 228-8200. Must have Federal workstudy funds.

Human Resources - Gorham hours available 8-4:30, M-F Must be willing to answer phones, be reliable, confidential, and able to work with different supervisors. Excellent pay, flexible work hours contact Kerry at 228-8304

Women & Gender Studies is hiring work study students! Great work experience in a fun, feminist atmosphere. Call Lauren Webster at 780-4862 or drop by 94 Bedford Street.

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HUSKY HERO
Interview by John Forestell

Adam Haggerty
Year: Senior
Major: Athletic Training
Sport: Men’s Track

FP: How many sports did you play in high school?
Adam: I did soccer and indoor/outdoor track.

FP: When did you start to become really serious about pole vaulting?
Adam: I started to pole vault my first year of high school, I followed in my big sister’s footsteps. She set the state record her senior year of HS. I wanted to see what it was like to fly with a pole and after I started I just couldn’t stop! The rush of the vault is amazing, and it’s fun to say that you’ve jumped over 15 feet.

FP: Was it something that you were able to learn naturally, or was it challenging and frustrating at first?
Adam: I wasn’t a natural when I first started but picked it up really quickly and that first year I set my high school record. By the end of my high school career I had the bar at 13’6”.

FP: What are some of the things you do to stay focused right before a jump?
Adam: I run through the jump in my head and try to picture all of the motions. I slow it down and picture it over and over until I feel like I’m ready to give it all I’ve got on the runway.

FP: How has the Men’s Track program at USM made you a more efficient pole vaulter?
Adam: The pole vault coach here is very good and knows his stuff, he has helped make me into a much better jumper.

FP: Do you do any other events besides pole vault?
Adam: Nope, I have always just been interested in the vault, and other events don’t compare.

FP: The men’s track team has always been very successful, does it disappoint you and your team when you don’t get the press you feel you deserve?
Adam: It has always been a thorn in my side when other teams get recognized for their wins and successes but the track team gets overlooked and under budgeted, I’ve come to like it but I still don’t accept it.

FP: Is there anything you want USM to know about the “real” Adam Haggerty?
Adam: I’m a down to earth guy, love the outdoors, don’t compare. I'm a down to earth guy, love the outdoors, love to travel, and want to fill my life with stories and adventures.

The competition gets heated, sometimes lopsided, and it’s unclear the whole situation is going to play out. But, nonetheless, the geniuses in intramural basketball, you’re asked to call your own fouls; to officiate your own game; to take accountability for your actions.

And while this seems a little abstract, it’s really not. I’m not going to say that intramurals are a microcosm of life, but they’re not far off.

They are, if nothing else, a forum for practicing how we should conduct ourselves on a day-to-day basis; a venue for learning how to win and lose with respect and dignity.

It would have been easy, amidst our obliteration, to pack up our things and leave – to cry foul. But we didn’t.

And likewise, it would have been just as easy for the teams we played to take advantage of us – to run up the score, but instead, they did the right thing.

Last Wednesday night when my team of wanna-be basketball stars took the floor against a former captain of the USM team, a two year player for the Huskies and a former high school standout, the proverbial cards were stacked against us. But somehow, some way, it was fun.

Sometimes the competition of the real world becomes an abstraction, something way off in the distance that we hear the rumblings of but do not acknowledge.

By taking part in some sort of activity, be it intramural soccer, uni-cycling, riding horses or playing hockey, competition becomes real.

I didn’t realize this before I took part in the Sullivan Complex’s version of David versus Goliath (although Goliath decisively prevailed in this case).

I had forgotten a lot of what I knew about competition – and cardiovascular health, for that matter.

It is important for all of us to find time between jobs, schoolwork and other obligations to stay active in competition and sport — because intramural basketball isn’t for the faint of heart, and neither, for that matter, is life.
The Free Press  |  March 3, 2008

Sports

Well I went down to my local arena, I asked to see the manager man. He came from his office and said, “Son can I help you?” I looked at him and said, “Yes you can.”

‘Cause I wanna drive the zamboni

Brandon McKenney
Staff Writer

Stefan Black walks into the ice arena with a confident swagger, giving off the impression that he owns the place. He looks relaxed and certain, and hums a tune as he makes his way down to the rink. In a way, Black does own the ice.

No, he’s not a star hockey player or the head coach. He’s the zamboni driver.

“I’ve got the job that everyone wants,” explains Black about why he enjoys his work so much. Being the zamboni driver, he knows, is hockey’s equivalent to being a rock-star.

Black has been driving a zamboni for six years, since he first began at Kennebec Ice Arena when he was 16. He played hockey through his junior year of high school until he blew out his shoulder, which left him on the wrong side of the boards.

Black decided he wanted to “learn how to drive,” and asked his head coach to connect him with the rink manager. Since coming to USM, Black has slowly worked his way into being one of the main drivers.

Although he was unable to work last year, he has come back to full action — and his hard work has been noticed by Ice Arena Manager Vinnie Degifico.

“When given the chance during one of the games, I made the better ice,” remembers Black. He’s been the go-to guy ever since.

Black says driving the zamboni is relatively easy once you know what you’re doing, explaining that it’s mostly like regular driving but you have to “flip switches and stuff.”

He says that he has never screwed up or crashed into the boards in all of his years of driving, “but I cross my fingers every time that I don’t do that.”

Black begins to show a little modesty about his famed position, saying that when people tell him what a cool job he has, he explains to them that it’s not really different from any other. It’s almost as if he’s become bored with the zamboni.

But Black still knows that he has a coveted job. In between periods he’s the star on the ice, and spectators can’t help but thinking that they wish they could drive the zamboni — and with good reason: good money is involved.

While the money may seem good, he has higher hopes for his future. Black, a criminology major, hopes to head instead toward the arena of homeland security.

He can see himself in any number of positions, but says he wants to be a sky marshal, or a border patrol officer in Texas. It’s clear he has aspirations, and while the zamboni fame is nice right now, it won’t satisfy him.

But until those new careers come along, Black is content with his place at USM and with everyone wishing they had his job.

(Cause I wanna drive the zamboni, I wanna drive the zamboni….iii, yes I do.)

Song lyrics by The Zambonis, “I wanna drive the zamboni.”

Junior Stefan Black glides the ice-smoothing zamboni over the rink at the Gorham Ice Arena. With six years of experience, Black has slowly become one of USM’s main drivers.

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Women’s basketball loses Conference Championship, could still advance to the NCAA national tourney

From WOMEN page 24

But Saturday’s game against number two Eastern Connecticut didn’t end as well.

Eastern hardly flinched in the overtime period, and outscored the Huskies 9-4. They sank 9 of 10 shots from the free-throw line, while USM struggled to connect, missing 8 of 9 shots from the field.

Junior forward Stacey Kent (Northwood, NH) and senior forward Angela Santa Fe (Derry, NH) both led the Huskies with 13 points.

The Huskies came from behind to tie the game at the end—they had a 7-4 streak to tie the game at 51 with 4:40 left to play, fell behind again, and then traded baskets after a big 3-point shot from sophomore Nicole Paradis (Skowhegan) until the game ended tied at 56. Both teams had 3-point shots in their final possessions of regulation time, but neither went in.

After a scoreless first minute of overtime, Eastern took a four-point cushion on free-throws, and the Huskies couldn’t answer.

Assuming they are given a bid to the national tournament—an expected move, since they were the number one seed in the conference, the women remain confident in their ability to continue toward the NCAA Final Four.

“We played very well and didn’t leave anything on the court,” said Paradis following the game against Keene. “I feel really confident if we play like we did today.”

But regardless of how they’ve done, she says, “it’s amazing to be a part of a team with such a legacy. It’s special, I’m really privileged to be a part of this.”

For an update on the Huskies fate and to see a schedule for the national tournament when it is announced, see the USM Athletics website: usm.maine.edu/athletics.

Close battle vs. rival New England College ends difficult season

The Pilgrims answered with a slap shot to tie the game, and just one minute later their leading scorer, junior Sarah Graham, snuck another past Husky goalie junior Emily Barrett (Westport, MA).

The second period was a close battle, though NEC out-shot USM 10-6, and netted their third goal of the game.

The third period was controlled by the Southern Maine, who out-shot the Pilgrims 15-6. Junior Megan Irving (Cumberland) narrowed the gap on a power-play goal on a pass from senior Katie Quartuccio (Poughkeepsie, NY).

NEC rallied for two goals and though the Huskies remained strong and brought the score to 3-4 on Herzog’s first goal of the season, they couldn’t capitalize on several late-game opportunities.

Barrett finished the game with an impressive 23 saves.
Sports

Huskies lose in playoffs, succeed where it counts

MIKE TAREFF
STAFF WRITER

The men’s basketball team may not have won the conference championship, but if you consider achieving team goals a triumph, then the Huskies had an extremely successful close to their season.

Coach Karl Henrikson and his team aspired from the start of the season to accomplish three things: to end the season with a winning record and to both host and win a playoff game.

With their 79-69 win over Eastern Connecticut last Tuesday at Hill Gymnasium, the Huskies solidified the completion of all of those goals. And though the Huskies fell to the league’s number one seed and nationally ranked UMass Dartmouth in a very close 69-75 contest on Friday in North Dartmouth, Mass., the team’s spirits were not dashed.

“We played with a lot of heart in the second half,” Henrikson said following the loss. “We’re a very senior laden team and I feel like the responsibilities were on the right people tonight.”

The seniors, a contingent including forwards Jamaal Caterina (Portland) and Drew Coppenrath (Barnet, VT) as well as guard Foster Oakley (Mt. Vernon) who started in place of injured senior Josh Daniels (Everett, WA), led the Huskies throughout the playoffs.

Caterina and Coppenrath powered the Husky offense in both games, but also anchored consecutive defensive gems.

In the first game, the senior tandem collaborated to shut down Eastern Connecticut’s leading scores, Leon Martin, to just 11 points – five below his season average.

Caterina paced the Husky offensive arsenal against Eastern Connecticut with a career-high 33 points and 14 rebounds, while Coppenrath’s steady shooting touch allowed him to contribute 15 points on 7-for-12 shooting from the field.

In their quarterfinal victory, the Huskies coupled Caterina’s dominance on the offensive end of the floor with a defense that held the Warriors to a sickly 35.6 percent field goal percentage for the game. "We came out and played like it was our game from the start," Caterina said following his career-high night. "We were just real aggressive.

The win marked the Huskies first playoff victory since 2000.

Playing UMass Dartmouth on Friday, Caterina and Coppenrath, who both played the entire 40 minutes of regulation time, again proved to be a formidable pair on both ends of the floor.

On this night, Caterina finished with 24 points and 11 rebounds for his 11th double-double of the season, while Coppenrath knocked down key shots while amassing 18 points on 8-for-15 shooting, including 3-for-6 from behind the three point stripe.

Southern Maine’s version of the twin-towers, along with Oakley, sophomore Greg Whitaker (Presque Isle) and freshman Troy Jefferson (Bangor), managed to hold the high-octane offense of UMass Dartmouth to just 29-for-66 (43.9 percent) shooting during the game and to ten points below their season average of 85 points per game.

Playing under very hostile conditions – an estimated attendance of 2000 – the Huskies managed to hang tough with UMass Dartmouth until the Corsairs pulled away with a 13-3 run to end the game after the Huskies made it a tie ball game at 56 late in the second half.

The Huskies ratcheted up their defensive effort in the second half, which allowed them to make up for their nine point halftime deficit.

Henrikson’s squad, who finished the season ranked first in team defense, baffled the Corsair offense and forced a series of bad shots, but the effort proved to be not enough. Key buckets by UMass-Darmouth players thwarted any upset effort by the Huskies.

Unable to play, but cognizant of the environment, Daniels said the atmosphere was a great way to end his career.

"When people talk about March Madness, this is the closest thing to D-I that you can get," the senior, who tore his meniscus in quarterfinal action, said.

The semifinal loss drops the Husky’s record to 14-13 on the year; however, the Huskies won 11 of their last 16, which softened the post-season loss.

“I don’t regret leaving UNH to come here. Coming here let me play how I do,” Caterina said of the late season push. “I was glad I could come back second semester and contribute the way I was capable of.”

The successful latter stages of the season also pleased Daniels, a two-year captain for the squad. Following the win over Eastern Connecticut, he lowered himself to the gym floor and kissed the half-court logo, paying homage to his final game at Hill Gymnasium.

“Jamaal and I thought we could end my career here on a positive note and that we have turned the program around,” Daniels said.

The relatively quiet and unassuming Coppenrath was also very pleased with his team’s efforts in the playoffs and the program’s triumphs.

“I told you at the beginning of the season that we wanted to have a winning record and win a playoff game and we did. This is the best opportunity of my life.”

HUSKY HIGHLIGHTS

Men’s Basketball

Caterina commands Huskies into Semifinals of the Little East tournament

USM Senior Forward Jamaal Caterina (Portland) broke his single game scoring record with 33 points in a win over Eastern Connecticut in the first round of the Little East tournament. Caterina notched his 10th double-double of the season and also pulled down 14 rebounds to lead the Huskies.

Senior Drew Coppenrath also added 15 points, going 7-for-12 from the field in the effort.

Men’s Track & Cross Country

USM Men’s head coach Scott Hutchinson was named LEC Head Coach of the Year in Cross Country. This is just Hutchinson’s third year as coach of the Men’s Cross Country and Track teams, and he has the Huskies into a spot as one of the elite Div. III programs in New England.

Senior Curtis Wheeler (Derby, VT) set a USM school record in the 3,000 meters as he won the event at the New England Intercollegiate Amateur Athletic Association Indoor Championships. Wheeler’s effort topped off a record setting day for the Huskies, as both Junior Jimmy Sawyer (Gothenburg) and Derek Murchie (Windham), set new records in the 800 meter and 200 meter respectively.

Women’s Track

Emily Artesani breaks long standing record

Sophomore Emily Artesani (Orono) broke the USM record in the 400 meter event with a time of 59.64 seconds, edging past a 17 year old mark of 59.72 set in 1991 by Angela (Welchel) Lally. Artesani also posted a season-best 26.50 in the 200 meter event, 0.02 seconds shy of her school record.

Hattie Landry and Gabby Cry joined Artesani in leading the Huskies at the NYU Fast Track Meet. The event was a non-team scoring invitational.

Above. Sophomore Greg Whitaker (Presque Isle) drives past a defender from Eastern Connecticut. The Huskies beat Eastern Connecticut in the first round of the Little East tournament, but lost to top-ranked Dartmouth in the semi-finals. Below, Senior Nick Gooding (Concord, CA) puts up an easy bucket against over a couple defenders.

STAFF PHOTOS BY APARMENT
Even for wrestlers, it’s a team effort

From MORIN page 1

while one prevailed, the other had to walk away.
But Moyer seems remarkably unphased by his loss.
“It didn’t feel too bad,” he said.
The whole wrestling tournament went so well, I felt like I accomplished a lot that day. It was a good experience—the light, the pressure, and on home territory.”

After a week of recovery, he’s here to make sure his friend, roommate, and partner is as ready as he can be for his trip to Iowa.

When asked how he feels doing this, he sits back in his chair, crosses his arms, and smirks.
“He’s a pain in my ass,” he jokes.

“Nah, I couldn’t leave him hangin’! This is his time to shine, I’m just doin’ my part.”

Moyer pauses, and continues, a more serious note in his voice.
“I’d rather him be there than me go instead of him. I’m not sore at all.”

When their teammate, Steve Valastro, went to the tournament last year, he came back and told everyone a little about his experience.

“He said it was a bigger atmosphere,” said Morin, “more intense, everyone was tougher out there.”

But Morin hasn’t talked to Valastro about it since he won last weekend. “No matter what someone tells you, you have to experience it on your own.”
The pair keeps wrestling on the mats tucked in the top corner of the Costello Sports Complex, Moyer giving instructions and making Morin repeat a move a few times. For the most part, their coaches leave them alone, except for Santiago’s occasional “jog!”

As Morin takes one of his jogs, Santiago yells to sprint, and takes a second out of a conversation with Moyer to encourage the man running.

“You gotta open your lungs!” he shouts. “The air’s different in Iowa. They only breath championship air!”

Morin will travel to Iowa to represent USM at the 2008 NCAA Division III national championships on March 7-8 at Coe College. With 19 men in his weight class, he is expected to do well.

“After talking to a few other coaches, I believe Mike has the tools to place in the top eight, which would make him an All-American,” said Pistone.

He would be the first All-American of the USM wrestling program.
Turbulent season over for men’s hockey
Season opened 11-0-1, closes on 11 game winless streak

JOHN FORESTELL
STAFF WRITER

Hockey is a game that relies on momentum. You have to be able to counter-act every good move your opponent makes and create a good opportunities right away; any sudden mistakes will be detrimental to the objective of winning. It’s like chess on ice. You have a limited amount of moves. But the opponent can counter-act every good move you make. The Huskies know all too well about momentum.

After an up-and-down season that ended on a down, they lost their first playoff game 5-2 to New England College.

After going 11-0-1 in their first 12 games of the season, they turned downhill and went 0-3-2 in their next 5 games.

After the short mid-season skid, the Huskies got back on track, going 4-2 in the next 6 games.

This streak included impressive wins versus Bowdoin and Skidmore. It was equally important because the Huskies were struggling with injuries as three of their top defensemen were forced to the bench.

The end of the season was looking bright after a hard fought win at home against Tufts in which they won 6-5, but the Huskies could not hold the momentum on their side of the rink and lost their final three games of the regular season.

“We’ve been having a lot of team meetings to straighten out some things that we got away from earlier in the season.”

“At the beginning of the year everything was bouncing our way and going right, now it seems like we can’t seem to be as consistent as we were at the start of the year,” said Gilbert, who is ranked fourth in the conference with a 91.1 save percentage.

Every team has some bad luck, and the Huskies have had their share of bad luck injuries this season, but they’ve also struggled in two key areas: staying out of the penalty box and scoring goals in the third period.

The Huskies rank second in their conference in penalty minutes with 573, averaging 22.9 penalty minutes game—that’s more than one full period of playing with men in the box.

Despite the loss and the frustration, the bad generally did not moment it could be taken away. “Even though we were on top,” said senior captain Dawn Ross (Gray), “we were still the underdogs. People didn’t think we’d do as well as we have.”

Throughout the season, she and Kynoch have both said that this year, their mission was to prove people wrong—to prove to fans that despite the loss of several key players last season, that they’re still Southern Maine, and that they are strong no matter what.

The semi-finals game versus Keene went in their favor—the game got rough at times, but the Huskies prevailed, downing the Owls 55-34.

“We had some bad 3’s in the first half,” said head coach Gary Fifield, “Haley Johnson (sophomore, West Simsbury, CT) gave us quality minutes when we were in foul trouble, and Jo (Danielle, senior, New Gloucester) played really well defensively off the bench.”

And rare in a semi-finals game, everyone on the team got to play. “That’s tremendous,” said Fifield.

Women lose in OT, could still advance to NCAA tourney

SARAH TRENT
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

After a season of winning, the women’s basketball team took a hit in the conference championship game, losing in overtime to Eastern Connecticut, 60-65. They will likely still continue to the NCAA tournament, but have to wait until late Sunday night for the announcement of teams getting at-large bids.

The loss drops their record to 25-3, and breaks a streak of 11 consecutive Little East Conference championship wins. USM has been on the NCAA tournament for the last 13 years in a row, and have gone 21 times since joining the NCAA in 1985.

What made this year different? “In the past, we’d go to the LEC’s thinking ‘we’re gonna win,’” said senior Shannon Kynoch (South Burlington, VT)after their semi-finals win against Keene.

“This year it was a lot tougher; we’d had to work that much harder. It wasn’t going to be a walk in the park.”

The team was ranked first in the conference, but knew that at any moment it could be taken away. “Even though we were on top,” said senior captain Dawn Ross (Gray), “we were still the underdogs. People didn’t think we’d do as well as we have.”

Throughout the season, she and Kynoch have both said that this year, their mission was to prove people wrong—to prove to fans that despite the loss of several key players last season, that they’re still Southern Maine, and that they are strong no matter what.

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Sophomore Chris Travis (Scituate, MA) brings the heat on a slapshot in a regular season game this year. The men lost to New England College, 2-5, in the quarterfinal game of the conference tournament. They end their season 14-9-3.

In their final game versus NEC, they took 8 penalties, compared to their opponent’s 6.

They’ve also been outscored 29-19 in the third period of conference games (19 goals is lowest in the conference).

In the game versus NEC, they were leading the game 2-1 after the second period, but allowed the Pilgrims to rally in the third with four unanswered goals.

Gilbert started the game, stopping an impressive 27 shots, but left the game midway through the second period with an injury. Senior Ryan Sullivan (Newton, MA) replaced him to make 18 saves.

Despite the loss and the frustration, the bad generally did not...