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Senator Susan Collins and Congressman Tom Allen squared off in their 10th senatorial debate on Thursday at USM’s Hannaford Lecture Hall.

The debate, moderated by MPB’s Jennifer Rooks, featured questions from the hosts, as well as those culled from e-mail submissions and video questions from Maine residents.

With just over two weeks left before the election, and Allen trailing in the latest Rasmussen poll by 13 percentage points, the Representative from Maine’s 1st district was on the offensive, asking the tough questions of Collins and repeatedly trying to link her to the Bush administration.

When accused of engaging in harsh, class warfare rhetoric, Allen responded, “The only class warfare is Bush’s war on the middle class.”

When Collins was asked if she regretted acting as co-chair for Bush’s 04 campaign, she dismissed the issue as “typical,” adding “it doesn’t mean we run their campaign or support their positions.”

When asked about the growing income gap in the U.S., the largest since the Great Depression, the candidates took different tactics. Collins called the situation “very troubling,” and emphasized progress through education, referencing her support for federal Pell grants for college students, as well as programs such as Upward Bound.

Allen lambasted the incumbent Senator for her support of ‘01, ‘03, and ‘06 tax breaks for the “super-wealthy,” votes that he felt exacerbated the wage gap and was “fundamentally bad for the middle class.”

Collins, who serves on John McCain’s Maine Leadership Team for the presidential election, condemned the McCain campaign for soliciting auto-calls around Maine, in which a recorded message stresses the connection between Barack Obama and former Weather Underground member Bill Ayers. “This has no place in Maine politics,” said Collins.

“I told them I thought they were a mistake, and I am disappointed.” Breaking further from the McCain campaign, she said that while Vice Presidential candidate Sarah Palin has “many admirable qualities, I think Olympia Snowe would have been a better choice.”

Both Allen and Collins have carefully tweaked their campaign platforms in recent weeks to include more talk of the nation’s current economic woes. When asked for concrete proposals to handle the $10 trillion debt, Allen emphasized withdrawal from Iraq, currently running a tab of $1.8 billion a week. It provided an opening to tag the Bush administration as “the most fiscally irresponsible.”

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US Cellular Ad
See other PDF
USM Undergrad eyes fate inside hall

David O'Donnell
News Editor

"I'm not a politician, I'm a community organizer," says City Council candidate Tina Smith, as fellow candidates are one should pass her on a rain Wednesday evening, after wrapping up a lively election forum at the North Star cafe in downtown Portland.

"I'm never going to be a politician."

Smith is running for an at-large seat on Portland's city council that's up for grabs next month. It's an uphill climb - not only does the race include an incumbent mayor, Ed Suslovic, but the chance to take on the mayor from Dory Waxman, a local businessman who has served as chair of Mayor John Vining's Neighborhood Organization, and Portland Community Action.

A recent poll by Portland Monitor exudes her outsider, rookie status. The poll points to a necktie that some friends and advisers have told her to take off, at least for the duration of the campaign.

"They'll say take off your hat, your [gauged ear piercings]," she says, "but if people have a prob- lem with how I look, I don't want them to want people to look at us." And if they see something that needs improvement then ok, let's move forward and make it better."

"But Smith, who admits she doesn't accurately refl ects."

As the candidates forum officially winds to a close, people are testing microphones and amplifiers on the cafe's small stage, preparing for a night of music, breakfast and poetry readings.

A new crowd shuffles in and starts filling up the tables, and somebody lets Smith know that her friend, DJ Grey Matter, will be performing soon, at which point she lights up.

"These are my people," she says.

Bottling the rumors
Having once dominated an industry, Nalgene is forced to address concern over Bisphenol-A

Matt Dodge
Executive Editor

Students have been toting the ubiquitous Nalgene water bottle around for years. Often plastered with more stickers than a VW Bus, these distinctive, conven-ient, and purportedly “unbreak-able” containers have recently come under suspicion from public health advocates groups and consumers as a possible source of Bisphenol-A (BPA) contamination.

The rumor alone was enough to drive many consumers to alterna-tive bottle sources, most notably the aluminum Sigg bottle, which is eagerly swallowing the Nalgene share held by Nalgene since the early 90’s.

The Nalgene public consciousness is being flooded with rumors, corpo-rate sponsored studies, and half-truths about the dangers of BPA. Suslovic, who is a health care consultant surrounding the compound, a worry amplified by government issued reports released earlier this year.

BPA has been shown to act as an endocrine disruptor in lab tests, disrupting the hormone activity in lab animals and raising ques-tions about possible effects on humans, including thyroid issues, and cancer.

In a report released in April, the National Toxicology Program expressed “some concern for ef-fects on the brain, behavior, and prostate gland in fetuses, infants, and children at current human ex-posure to Bisphenol A.”

While these reports suggest little harm for grown adults ingesting BPA, some are choosing to err on the side of caution. “If I were still a parent I would not use it. I'm not going to use it for me or my family,” said Elisa Boxer, an English major and USM advocate and USM English lecturer.

So how do you know if you are toasting around a potential BPA-level consumer? All Nalgene products containing BPA are labeled on the bottom as #7 plastic (shown as the number 7 inside a recycling symbol), but not all #7 plastics contain BPA.

According to the current EPA standards regarding BPA, the average adult woman who ingests 1,300 pounds of food and drink in BPA everyday for their lifetime to exceed the “safe" level of BPA.

Boxer says that these standards do not take into account different exposure levels from different sources. Someone drinking water from a plastic made with BPA, and ingesting a food packaged in a BPA container would be receiving a double-dose of the com-pound. “Plastics are all around us,” notes Boxer.

Health Canada, the nation’s health department, has intensively studied the compound and in April suggested listing BPA as “toxic to human health and the environment.”

While research continues on the adverse effects of BPA, Nalgene and Camelbacks Ortega says the store has been "trying to push stainless steel - it's the only thing guaranteed not to have BPA."

Boxer isn't taking any chances, opting to drink out of glass and stainless steel. "We are all doing this now," says Boxer. "It's up to the research on BPA to slowly roll in. "I try to stay level headed about it," said Boxer. "Just do your homework and look at all the citizen residence the right to vote in local elections, the legislature lays it out plainly.

"There’s a lack of experience with strategic planning, policy, and budgets would not make her an ef-fective advocate on the Council," reads the guide.

She doesn’t see it as a stab in the back so much as indicative of their more establishment turn; their tendency to back Democrats over Greens and independents was the subject of a few argu-ments toward the end of her in-volvement.

But Portland, she says, is a young city, and an increasingly diverse city, something that its representation in Government doesn’t accurately reflect.

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Background
With no incumbents, the 2008 race for President was wide open this year, and the two main general election candidates reflect this: Democrat Barack Obama is a junior senator from Illinois in the middle of his first term, and the first African-American to head up a major party ticket. John McCain is a senior senator from Arizona, a celebrated war veteran serving his fourth term and now rallying a party that once mocked him as a RINO - Republican in Name Only.

The momentum
Back in early 2007, few could have predicted that these two candidates would get so far. But even fewer could have foreseen that they would look so different as the campaign winds to a close. John McCain came into this race with the biggest name recognition and cachet[wha?] of the whole lot. Early on, he was pegged as a little past his prime, but made some damning pledges and appointments to convince his new Republican base that there's no going back. Bush's tax cuts, once morally reprehensible, will be expanded; habeas corpus is no longer a priority; and the definition of "torture" is now negotiable. Were he the frontrunner, he once briefly skipped ahead of the frontrunner today, John McCain would be getting blasted around the clock in television ads calling him a flip-flopper. But McCain has not been the frontrunner in this race, though he once briefly skipped ahead in the polls. The momentum has belonged to Barack Obama, who managed to use his skills as a writer and orator to build an aura that's more impressive than his political resume. His autobiographical first caught peoples' attention years ago, and a rousing speech at the 2004 Democratic National Convention earned him enough praise and notoriety that TIME magazine was soon asking if he might someday be President. The whole race, up until about September, was centered on whether or not Barack Obama was ready for the job. Polls indicate that a "generic Democrat" would easily defeat a "generic Republican" - but McCain is no generic Republican, and Obama has a set of strengths and weaknesses voters seem to have been sorting out, at varying paces, since he finally defeated Hillary Clinton for the nomination back in June.

Reversal of fortune
"If I were to seriously consider running on a national ticket [in 2008], I'd essentially have to start now before serving a day in the Senate. Now there are some people who might be comfortable doing that, but I am not one of those people." - Obama in 2004

"By 2008, I think I might be ready to go down to the old soldiers home and await the cavalry charge there." - McCain in 2000

Tone
This election has not been terribly civil. A tight race moved Obama's way after the economy looked like it might collapse at the beginning of October. Polls show that the Democrat came off as more calm, collected and serious over three Presidential debates, and voters have indicated that they trust him more to deal with the financial crisis.

McCain's campaign, meanwhile, has been doing what up-and-downs often do: going negative. McCain's campaign, mean-while, has been doing what up-and-downs often do: going negative. McCain surprised more than a few people when he started a vehement platform with demands into the events of 9/11. McCain's campaign, mean-while, has been doing what up-and-downs often do: going negative. McCain surprised more than a few people when he started a vehement platform with demands into the events of 9/11.
Senate

Background

Collins has a reputation as one of Maine’s moderate Republicans, in the same vein as her colleague Olympia Snowe. She’s conservative enough for the state’s rural second district, but occasionally opposes her own party to the satisfaction of many independents. She pals around with folks like John McCain and Joe Lieberman, and was a member of the
the Free Press | October 27, 2008
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Democrats is Chellie Pingree, after
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Charlie Summers was deployed there
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of that media savvy to propel his un-
derdog campaign. He has also served
four years in the Maine state senate
and nine as a state aide to Senator
Olympia Snowe. Accordingly, he’s
running on a somewhat socially
moderate and fiscally conservative
platform.

The momentum

Summers’ pet cause is reforming
the tax code to benefit small
businesses. He founded his own
- Charlie’s Beverage Warehouse,
which he owned from 1992-95 - and
the one it’s title rhymes with - called
Thirty Jobs. The clips have the candi-
date assuming various roles - such as
farmer, Gritty McDuff’s beer brewer,
and beautician - in an effort to better
understand the local economy.

Unfortunately for him, the ad
campaign hasn’t exactly been run-
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prying into Pingree’s romantic re-
collection with wealthy hedge fund
manager S. Donald Sussman, whose
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the Democrat’s campaign. Summers
immediately called for the money
to be returned after the stock market
started to plummet, but there doesn’t
appear to be any official reason to do
so. Local media has pressed the issue
only lightly (for a notable exception,
see The Bollard’s expose “Chasing
Chellie” at their website) and the
big issue is one of forthrightness-
Pingree originally denied that the
two were romantic, which appears to
have not been true even at the time.

Campaign ‘08

Not that you’d ever notice...

By all rights, there should be a
third choice on the ballot: independ-
ent Herbert J. Hoffman of Ogunquit.
A Harvard-educated Korean war
veteran, psychologist, and lecturer,
Hoffman’s name was pushed off by
Democratic Party lawyers, who vig-
ously challenged his petitions on
several technicalities. They simply
didn’t want the distraction in their
own uphill battle to unseat Susan
Collins.

Hoffman has successfully regis-
tered as a write-in candidate. More
than ever, his longshot campaign is
centered around challenging, in his
words, the “duopolistic, power-and-
money-driven, two-party system that
now dominates and controls our life,
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Earlier this year, Hoffman was
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House of Representatives

Background

Tom Allen had no choice but to let
his 12-year Congressional seat go if
he wanted a shot at the Senate, since
he and Collins face re-election at
the same time. So the first district’s
voice in Washington D.C. is now up
for grabs.

Stepping in to fill the void for
the Democrats is Chellie Pingree, after
winning a six-way primary for the
party’s nomination back in June.
Pingree is a former USM student
(though she graduated elsewhere)
and popular veteran of the Maine po-
litical scene, serving in the statehouse
troughout the 1990s and acting as
majority leader from ’96-2000. She
spent much of her hiatus from elected
office as president of the national or-
organization Common Cause, a citizen
lobby that works for transparency in
Government.

Her last appearance on a ballot
was her own 2002 challenge of
Susan Collins; it’s widely believed
that Pingree’s chances were hurt
somewhat by her early opposition to
the war in Iraq - not something that
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by an out-of-state interest group that
started running commercials against
Allen based on his co-sponsorship
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As winter slowly creeps into Maine and things start to look a little drearier, I sometimes wish I had accepted that full ride badminton scholarship to Pyongyang University In North Korea.

That is, the scholarship I might have been offered if I had just taken those back-yard games a little more seriously in my childhood - my grandfather claims I had a heck of a backhand.

The life of gifted badminton player in North Korea, as you might know, is a position of glamour and prestige that rivals that of an “ace” pitcher, go-to running man, or high flying swingman here in the States.

The downside to life in everyone’s favorite Democratic People’s Republic? If you lined the country end-to-end with neighboring Wal-Marts, you would still have a hard time coming up with all the human rights violations dreamed up by Kim Jong-il.

Kim’s decrees, the country would just be a lot worse.

North Korea has officially banned sporting was “disgusting”, adding, “I can’t tell if this is men’s soccer or women’s soccer.”

The “Dear Leader” (as he likes to be known) is certainly entitled to his opinion, U.S. politicians in the 60’s and 70’s made no qualms about those “dirty hippies” and their long locks, but Kim took it one, ridiculous step further and soon after the game, notices were posted in workplaces around North Korea banning long hair for men.

This is a man who is not afraid to govern his country to the tiniest detail, and pulls more strings than Trey Parker and Matt Stone did while filming Team America: World Police, the all-marionette action movie that showed us the plusher side of Kim.

If licitile enforcement was the worst of Kim’s decrees, the country would just be a laughably backwards stalwart of outdated communist ideals, like M*A*S*H had led me to believe. Unfortunately, it gets a lot worse.

We will not accept discriminatory ads. • We reserve the right to edit or refuse all materials submitted or solicited for non-accounting majors: • Earn two degrees in just 15 months. • Complete a 3-month paid residency at a leading accounting firm. • Proven track record of 100% job placement.

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Northeastern’s MS in Accounting/MBA for non-accounting majors:

Start Your Career in Accounting.

Thank you for reading,

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Matt Dodge
Many in the crowd were proud.

“Allen actually attacked the same Obama plan that Collins supported, claiming that it was too shortsighted, and noting that it is not the same energy policy Obama supports today,” said USM grad and Collins supporter Danielle Askin, adding that Collins used this approach to side with both Obama and McCain on different issues throughout the debate. “She uses key phrases to swing liberal votes like ‘oh, I have this energy policy I voted with Obama on. Using things liberals can buy into is a clever strategy,’” said Askin.

Allen also attacked the Obama plan that Collins supported, claiming that it was too shortsighted, and noting that it is not the same energy policy Obama supports today.

Myla Tapia admits that while she’s proud of the accomplishments of a female senator, it’s time for a new direction. I don’t think she will be on board for change that’s really needed.

“Every candidate has important issues, you can’t blame [Allen] for making it a central point of the campaign,” said USM grad and Collins supporter Danielle Askin. “I like how she works with her has a pass on votes that have hurt the country, and Maine.”

The debate was sponsored by USM’s Muskie School of Public Service, MPBN, the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at The University of Maine, and the League of Women voters.

Kari Rawstron
Student

I recently read the “Elephant Hunt” article and found it rather disconcerting. As a student that’s choosing to vote for McCain, it doesn’t surprise me that it seems as though finding Republicans on campus may be difficult. From their perspective, I feel that her “unquestioningly liberal” and says that “it’s fear that keeps [her] judging.” Yet she calls Obama’s campaign one that is “a rehabilitation into a respectful and well-functioning country.” It worries me that she doesn’t take time to question why she is liberal or think about why she is voting for Obama rather than why she isn’t voting for McCain. I’m not surprised that Republicans on this campus choose not to speak up when they are judged so harshly and without researched reason as to why they choose to affiliate with a certain party. Yuadken claims that Obama’s campaign will turn us into a respectable country but I don’t see how that can happen when people our age are so harsh toward each other and religion. If, as in this case, the playwright is not involved in the process, critiquing the script to any great extent is somewhat pointless and more time can be spent on what is actually going on stage.

With these comments in mind I look forward to Mr. Merrill’s continued reviews and hope that he will improve the quality of his writing while maintaining its refreshingly frankness.

Ian Carlson
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Have You Had a Spiritual Experience?

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USM Ignited by *kindle* and the Bioneers

Arthur Page
Contributing Writer

*kindle*, the northern New England Bioneers conference was hosted, among other places, at USM. Every year the Bioneers have a conference in several locations on the same weekend. The conference aims to teach its participants how culture, society, and business are connected with issues of environment sustainability.

The Bioneers have been meeting since the group started in 1990, but until now USM has never been on the list of conference sites. This year USM almost didn’t make the list of sites, but some last minute work by Ted Regan, the event organizer, secured it as a location (even after USM was told that there would be no additional locations for the event). The keynote at the end of the day. The conference was from 7:00am Friday morning until 5:00pm Sunday evening. Each day started with a two to three hour opening plenary, followed by several plenaries, panels, and breakouts after lunch. The workshops were led by industry leaders in sustainability, and covered topics ranging from new media to community activism for rights to control access to public sources of water. No matter what your personal flavor of sustainability may be, the Bioneers covered it.

There was a heavy emphasis placed on blending art and music with presentations. There were several sessions of dance and music between speakers to get participants moving. This included everything from a performance by singer songwriter Emilia Dahlin to live dance by the Keigwin and Company dance troupe. Why were the arts used? It did a great job at attacking the hard issues holistically.

Kevin Casey, another USM student present at the conference had this to say about his experience: "I thought the Bioneers conference was a great success. It was a great display of bright individuals from all professions, talking about the importance of coming together as a community and stressing the environmental issues, problems, and solutions that we can do together."

The conference was a great success for all those who went, but we still don’t know what exactly a Bioneer is. To answer, lets look at the Bioneers Kindle website. Who are Bioneers? They say: “Bioneers are social and scientific innovators from all walks of life and disciplines who have perceived deep into the heart of living systems. They seek to understand how nature operates and to imagine ‘nature’s operating instructions’ to serve human hands while harnessing the web of life.”

That’s a mouthful, to say the least, so we can sum it up this way: A Bioneer is a person who recognizes the ways in which we are all connected, how our society is connected to business and how business is connected to the environment. A Bioneer seeks to understand the impact we have on the environment and the necessary work before we can achieve our goals as a society while also protecting the environment. They seek to understand because they care, and through their compassion for the issues, Bioneers embark to create change leading to a sustainable tomorrow.

**“You can’t fight environmental issues without looking at human rights, without looking at culture, and without looking at the very way that we live. It did a great job at attacking the hard issues holistically.”**

*Eric Favreau*

**Singer and Songwriter, Emilia Dahlin, seen here performing one of her songs live with the Bioneers conference.**

**Bioneers conference this year:**
- Before last weekend, I’m not sure anyone at USM really knew, and regrettable not too many USM students even found out.
- The event was slated to cost $300 for all participants, including USM Students. If you’re still bored from buying text books, the $300 price tag was likely going to limit your admittance. However, in the week leading up to the conference, scholarships were provided to make the event free for USM students, but it may have been too late for a large student turnout.

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*Eric Favreau*
Calling all college girls: 
Forever 21 wrought with controversy

Jenna Howard
A&E Editor

For better or for worse, the cheap-chic chain Forever 21 has moved to South Portland, opening up shop in one of the largest spaces of the Maine Mall, nestled en route between Portland and Gorham campuses.

Rumored to be a chain of child-labor-supporting, bible-thumping, sellers of clothes-that-tear-after-two-wears, Forever 21 is looking to their target market (hello ladies ages 18-24), to boost their sales. From the looks of the lavish space, they have the faith in a strong southern Maine following. But before reaching the checkout, check the facts.

They promote a Christian message: True. Buy something at Forever 21 and your purchase will be put inside a yellow plastic bag with black letters. The salesgirl will ask if you want the receipt in the bag and slide it your way. Check the underside of the bag, only visible when it’s got something inside. The words “John 3:16” are printed twice down there. This refers to a frequently quoted Bible verse, “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” It is said this refers to Forever 21’s owner’s religion, but also rumored to be a strange marketing technique to draw attention to the store.

Garment workers called for boycott of Forever 21. True. According to Corpwatch.org, an organization that ‘holds corporations accountable,’ in November 2001, workers producing clothing for Forever 21 called for a boycott of all Forever 21 stores until unsanitary working conditions and payroll improved. Three years later, the matter was settled out of court and the company, still admitting no wrongdoing, publicly stated that they share a belief that garment workers should labor in lawful conditions and should be treated fairly and with dignity.

They have been sued by consumers several times. False. They have been sued by other designers, however. The designers accuse Forever 21 of ripping off their designs and logos, including by Gwen Stefani, Anna Sui, and Diane von Fürstenberg.

Forever 21 is known for low prices and semi-low quality textiles, but also for keeping up with the fashion-forward, something few local retailers have been great at, besides a handful of boutiques in downtown Portland who price above the means of the college girls in question.

The store began in the 80’s on the streets of L.A. by Don Chang and his wife Jin, who moved to America from Korea in 1981 and opened a small store in Los Angeles three years later. Forever 21 now operates 360 stores in 40 states plus Canada, Dubai, and Singapore.

When I contacted Forever 21’s customer service department to see if a socially conscious consumer should shop there, they did not offer a comment. This doesn’t necessarily mean that they aren’t trying to be responsible, yet, it does make me wonder. We’re consumers at a time in the history of the garment industry when many large companies are using sweatshops and heads of the companies get richer, while workers struggle to make minimum wage. With a sexy website that is easy to order from, Forever 21’s site doesn’t mention anything about it being a responsible organization. I suggest we do our homework before making purchase decisions, awareness is the best medicine.

The new store in South Portland offers cheap fashion, but at what cost?
Do-It-Yourself
How USM students took to this challenge, brighty.

Jenna Howard
A&E Editor

For the Art Student Union, a student group dedicated to helping people gain knowledge of the visual arts, it was important that their art show, “Do-It-Yourself,” selected student works, be more critical and cutting-edge than in years past.

I walked though the piles of submissions from USM students in Kiddie Lounge the evening after they’d been due. If students were following this prompt, Do-It-Yourself, it was hard to tell. Many were paintings and drawings that seemed miles away from the theme D-I-Y, which isn’t just about your own hand at the paintbrush.

The modern Do-It-Yourself effigy is a product of human efficiency at work, “Yankee ingenuity,” as it might be called in these parts. It’s the working of minds and creative motive to produce something useful, valuable. Much pop-culture attention has been given to D-I-Y, as magazines and television programs supply tips and trends to the masses.

The 15-day show in the Area Gallery of the Woodbury Campus Center illustrated what the ASU felt about the theme, “DIY Do-It-Yourself, it was hard to tell. After they’d been due. If students didn’t have to be scary. The Space Gallery is hosting their annual Halloween dance party. Prizes for the best costumes. The standout submission, if not for its color and positioning, was submitted by a USM sculpture.

The Art Student Union asked for viewer participation through an installation built on one wall, hoping for students to contribute to the show. They asked for additions to a wall of photocopied works that provide commentary on the D-I-Y era, and our role in it. For more information about ASU, check out it’s page on the USM site, http://student-groups.usm.maine.edu/bso/groups/asu.html.

Above: Patricia Flynn’s sculpture shown here, is made from pipe cleaners and various found material.
Right: A close up example of some acquired objects used in Patricia Flynn’s sculpture.
The Station revamped? Why this overlooked venue is going to be worth the trip

Andrew Rice
Staff Writer

In the last few weeks, renovations of some of the most secret kind have been brewing underground at The Station on St. John Street. The management and booking of the club has fallen into the hands of Jason Legassie, manager of Legacy Maine, a record label and booking agency.

Over the years many USM students have accumulated the small cramped performance space – really more of a pool hall than a music venue. But according to Legassie, The Station is about to look very different.

“Renovations just started. A new restaurant is going in, and we’ve just started tearing out old wallpaper and painting new walls. We’re going to keep 9 pool tables but sell the rest to make room for a bigger stage, so that bigger national [bands] come through.”

The Station is slowly becoming the much needed venue to make Portland a routine stop for national acts. This is a much needed upgrade if Portland wants to be seen as the epicenter of music and culture in Maine.

The bar and lounge area will also be receiving new and improved gadgets for patrons’ visual pleasure. “We’re going to try and get a much bigger and nicer T.V. down there too, for watching sports games,” said Legassie.

Legacy Maine, Legassie’s label, has been getting some attention with notable local bands, like Cambiata, headlining packed houses and opening for other nationals.

Along with the shift in management comes promises of a brighter future. In the next few days hip-hop group Jedi Mind Tricks and pop-rock outfit Plain White T’s make stops at The Station, while November will bring the Ying-Yang Twins and Sondre Lerche; and Legassie promises more. “We’re going to keep doing two to four concerts a week and we’ve got tons of big nationals coming through. There’s a lot in the works.”

Ever since the State Theater closed in early ’07, Portland has lost its premier venue for middle-of-the-road national acts, but a “save the scene” movement has been brewing. In the forefront of this venue revolution has been the Station, which has attempted to fill the void in the Portland music scene, especially on the all-ages front. The State Theater, which could accommodate 2,058, closed its doors after management and owner woes.

Visit www.myspace.com/thesationlive for details on the upcoming onslaught of awesome.

**Treat Time in Maine**

You know the types of food-stuffs that tend to accumulate in cupboards that you never seem to eat, want, or need, and are not really sure how they got there? Things like cans of salmon, chopped clams, artichoke hearts, stewed tomatoes, or boxes of gelato, pudding, tapioca, bouillon cubes, or those varieties of soup that maybe you bought on sale but aren’t actually that appetizing? Plus the straggler boxes of penne, linguine, spaghetti, or elbows, that all together make just about a pound? How about those frosty little tidbits from the freezer from when the kids were home from college this summer?

A handful of crinkle fries, a few defrosted looking buffalo wings, and some largely unidentifiable hunks of meat.

As a lifelong “fresh” food con-sumer, I will occasionally clean out the cupboard. I donate most of the staff to the library during their “can-do” month which takes collections of food in lieu of fines for overdue books. This semester, however, I have systematically gone shelf by shelf, cupboard by cupboard, and actually eaten through most of the boxes and cans, concocting some pretty weird meals. And it was not because I don’t have any overdue fines, I do (plus having the dubious distinction of being the only library trustee in town history whose library card privilege are suspended for a combination of exorbitant late fees and one very lost book).

No, I ate my way through my cupboards and freezer out of necessity to stave off starvation. But last Tuesday my student loan check arrived and I was ready for a treat. Lobster is on the cheap these days, and when I went to the library I headed down to the waterfront to buy a few feisty crustaceans. That brings to mind the time I had Harbor Fish Market pack up a crate of lobsters to send to a Texan friend. When he called to thank me, he drewled that he was sorry he couldn’t eat them – they were no good. Apparently they turned green.

This recipe was one of the winners in the state of Maine’s annual lobster recipe contest held at the state house.

**Caribbean Lobster Salad**

- 2 lbs. fresh lobster meat
- 4 teaspoons fresh key lime juice
- 1/2 cup Moroccan olives
- 2 avocados cut in chunks
- 1 garlic clove minced
- Black pepper to taste
- Fresh cilantro to taste

Combine all ingredients. This recipe can be easily modified or halved. For example, I bought a regular lime and just added some artichoke hearts. Seems to me I saw a can around somewhere sitting on a shelf.

**Epicurean Epics**

by Anne McCormack

October 27, 2008

Illustration by Randy Hazelton / Production Assistant

Jenna Howard / A&E Editor

In the next month or so, be on the lookout for rumblings in the small Portland music scene. If Legassie and company succeed in their mission of transformation, then be prepared to see some of your favorite bands in the comfort of your own city.
I don't sweat, I rain... Famous lines from the not-so-famous 1995 film, Angus. For men like me everywhere, this is our mantra. We sweat as if we were stuck in the Sahara Desert being duch ovened by Roseanne Barr. It's out of our grasp, we just can't help it. Do you know how many times I've had to sit out "YMCA" at Bar and Bat Mitzvah's because of pit stains? Every single one! I can't even remember the last time I spilled out Y-M-C-A with my arms. But I always owned in limbo – I once limbo'd under a car.

Now, my pit stains aren’t your average run of the mill “wet spot” pit stains. It’s like a kiddie pool filled with vile bodily fluids under my arms. I can always tell when my pit stains are forming, too. I call the beginning stage, "The Drip." The Drip occurs when you lift up an arm and a drop of sweat plunges downwards from your pit all the way down your ribs. You think it’s just going to be a tiny little drop of nothing, then a second later you check your pits and you have evolved into sweaty Rorschach of death located on the underarm of your shirt. What's a sweaty boy to do?

Old Spice Red Zone comes to handy from time to time. It doesn’t always keep me dry, but it unleashes scents like Mountain Rush, Aqua Reef, and Diaper Fresh Cloud from underneath the pits. The amazing 72 hour protection against odor that prevents disgusting perspiration. Certain Dri clogs the pores under your armpits for 72 hours! Of course this isn’t healthy, but it works. I can grind as hard as I want on any dance floor I please and high five my friends all night without worrying about those dreaded pit stains. Well, sweating is a natural reaction and it is your body's way of cooling down. So, your sweat must go somewhere else, right? Indeed it does. When wearing Certain Dri, your sweat comes pouring out of your forehead, chest, and ass. After applying Certain Dri my forehead gets so wet tiny babies and animals could turn it into a Slip-n-slide – something I am not morally opposed to.

One time I was wearing a gray shirt at a party and the front of my shirt was dripping with perspiration. I looked like Bobby Brown after an all-night crack binge. But my pits? Completely dry. Everyone was making fun of me, but it’s true, sweating out of your chest is so much manlier than sweating from your pits. Just tell everybody you’ve been whipping your pecks into shape all day and those puppies were letting off a little steam.

As for the swamp ass? Wear the thickest pair of jeans you own. A bad case of swamp ass will tear through any pair of khakis in a second. Sweat pants will only make matters worse. You could also just wear a diaper. They don’t call ‘em Depends for nothing. I can’t tell you how many times I’ve depended on Depends in times of ass perspiration. Not to mention times when I just feel like crapping myself. If you ask most people they’d say, “He does it way too many times.” If you ask me I’d say, “Not enough.”

So, there are your options. I really haven’t covered this sweating problem into a nice, dry ranch yet, but I have a feeling better times are ahead. I just shaved my armpits. I felt as if my armpit hair acted as icedeis or stallagmites dripping hot, acidic sewage from my pits. I hope this works, or I won’t be grinding anytime soon.

Jake Cowan is a young man who attends USM and makes jokes.

Restaurant Review

For a ‘from-scratch’ feel, Hot Suppa is sure to please

By Jeff Hodenberg

When I mention the words “Hot Suppa,” I’m disappointed when people don’t know what I’m referring to. I’m talking about the one and only Hot Suppa, an eatery I’ve come to appreciate, located on Congress Street a little ways up from Longfellow Square.

Perhaps the reason no one knows what I’m talking about is that Hot Suppa serves breakfast and lunch, not dinner, and many of my peers are not ready to leave the house before 2 pm. The outside of the building doesn’t look much like much - tinted windows obscure the inside, and it’s hardly bigger than a hole in the wall. But stumble in before closing time at 2:30, and find the best hole in the wall you could hope for. Those tinted windows suddenly provide a little bit of privacy, and the seating area has a cozy, artsy feel to it. The staff are friendly and the service is great; they genuinely seem to want to make everyone comfortable.

As for the menu, it has a down-home appeal, yet it’s blended with high-quality ingredients. The breakfast side of the menu has a great variety of options, from a biscuit and sausage gravy with two eggs to eggs benedict with fried green tomatoes or Canadian bacon. The corned beef hash is absolutely delicious and has a great "from scratch" feel to it. It’s not all artery clogging choices either, but breakfast for me is meant to be a hearty, filling experience.

If breakfast isn’t quite your thing, Hot Suppa serves lunch all day as well; simply flip the menu over or take a look at the specials (which are posted up on the wall or in front of the register). Lunch at Hot Suppa consist of only one item for me: The Cubano. I don’t know of another place in this town to even GET a Cubano (French bread grilled sandwich with pickles, whole grain mustard, pulled pork and ham slices with melted gruyere cheese) let alone one that is this freakin’ good. Specials change seasonally as far as I can tell, this summer showed a lamb burger with feta cheese and fresh cilantro, whole grain mustard, pulled pork and ham slices with melted gruyere cheese which was one of the best burgers I’ve ever had. Sides for lunch are selected a la carte from a mini menu. The first time I’d ever had falafel was in this place as well - my girlfriend grinned as she informed me that I was eating vegetarian food and completely loving it.

The downside to Hot Suppa is also one of its strengths: the place is very small, able to seat less than 50 people at a time. It’s also a little bit more expensive than other lunch spots in the area, but not by too much, and not for what kind of product you’re getting. The price is worth it completely, just be prepared for a possible short wait for a table. I don’t know if I should be writing about this place, because it already takes long enough to get a seat. However, that would be unfair, so do yourself a favor and go discover the best kept secret in breakfast and lunch in Portland.

Hot Suppa

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The Free Press | October 27, 2008

Jake Cowan on: Sweating
Strange moments in political cinema

David O'Donnell
News Editor

Given that we’re still living the Bush years, are we in any place to stand back and take stock of what the man and his Presidency really mean? Any better than I was able to ruminate on what my generation was all about when I was 14, or how pointless my philosophy class is when I’m supposed to write a 20-page paper? But making the statement on George W. Bush is just one route Oliver Stone could go with his new film, W. (Another is a long, SNL-style Bush-bashing comedy, which the trailers would like you to think it is with their classic Bushisms and Richard Dreyfus as Dick Cheney prancing around the White House like Dr. Evl.) Thankfully, he chose a much more oddball route: to exploit everything that is weird and good, and almost in poor taste, about making a movie about an unpopular sitting President, right as the public has gotten used to ignoring him.

In 1992, Stone’s JFK played very loose with the facts surrounding John F. Kennedy’s death and the subsequent investigation - but the film’s defenders pointed out that it re-created exactly the sense of confusion and paranoia that characterized the moment in history. You could make a similar case for W., though the facts aren’t nearly as much of a problem. He doesn’t have to make up characters or conspiracies, but merely flip open any of the available tell-all books or newspaper archives to flesh out the drama behind the big decisions that have shaped Bush’s life, and increasingly in his later years, the course of the country.

And while the film is notable - considering how surreal Oliver Stone can get - for how straightforward it is in the exposition of Bush’s development, it obviously doesn’t care about being the definitive biopic. It’s all about right now, even when it’s traveling back in time thirty years, and it assumes we come to the table with at least a superficial grasp of what’s been happening for the past eight years. A few key events are picked up and ignored at will: there’s no reading of My Pet Goat to school children as 9/11 unfolds...in fact, virtually nothing from that inaugural year.

There is very little Governor Bush. No Florida recount, no DWI arrest (though some sure near-misses). We jump straight from Bush telling his pastor that he’s considering running for President in 1998, to he and his top cabinet officials sitting around the oval office and cooking up the war on terror tagline “axis of evil” in 2002.

Bush prays in that meeting with his pastor, and at the conclusion of nearly every cabinet meeting. Lefly atheist Stone never seems to be mocking his commitment to his own brand of Christianity. Neither is Bush mocked for being a child of privilege - he’s not completely absolved for whatever bad decisions result, but neither is his father.

“Wait a minute. Is that President Kromer holding a gun on a naked gay in a blindfold?”

“Your a Bush”, the elder Bush says at one point. “Act like one.”

Ostensibly, his son never really took that order, and instead re-defined his family into a negative campaign buzzword. We rarely have to look at that way, but Stone gives Bush a lot more credit for being self-motivated than the popular caricature of him does.

It can come off as gentle. There are no definitive recipients of the blame for some of the largest, bastidest turns (ie, the one into Baghdad). How do you decide what drove America to over-ex tend itself across the globe? Bush Sr. didn’t even start it, though he seemed more aware of the drawbacks. Bush Jr. was more eager to get in way over his head, but not without plenty of encouragement.

There are some supremely silly moments. The movie was made very quickly, and there are times when it feels like a Lifetime movie as it1 hashes out some of the pre-fame tribulations in Bush’s romantic, business and political life.

But those moments breeze by, and the sometimes puzzling build-up pays off in a big way in two key scenes of the conclusion. They are nothing we haven’t seen on television - they use small snippets of the actual broadcasts, which is cheaper than training another impressionist to play Nancy Pelosi, I’m sure - but they strike a much different chord when their time comes in the film. That, to me, is an indication that W. works, even if just for this moment.

Honorable mention:
Primary Colors (1998)
John Travolta plays Clinton! Really!

The American President (1995)

Dave (1993)
Kevin Kline plays a presidential decoy who has to take over the office when the real president dies. I’m pretty that’s standard procedure - the order goes something like decoy, then best SNL impressionist, then dog groomer, then vice president and speaker of the house.

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The War Room (1994)
If you know who political operative James Carville is, you would never pass up the opportunity to see him weep like a baby. You get all that and more in this documentary about Bill Clinton’s 1992 campaign team, specifically chief strategist Carville and George Stephanopoulos, two truly graceful political ballerinas...see them jeté over rumors of marital infidelity that dog their candidate as early as the New Hampshire primary.

“It’s the economy, stupid!”

The country is so locked in a culture war right now that it’s difficult to remember, back in 1998, we mostly hated ourselves. Democrats were getting tired of their President, Republicans tired of their leaders’ inabilities, and Nader was two years away from scoring 4% of the popular vote. It’s that climate that allowed Warren Beatty to make a film in which he plays a rapping U.S. Senator, who sleeps with Halle Berry and drops rhymes about how the two-party system sucks, yo, whenever there’s a microphone present.

“We’ve got people in this country that can’t even buy a meal! Ask a brother who’s been downsized if he’s gettin’ any deal.”

Bulworth (1998)
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 8 9 6 1 5 7 8 9
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**Random Fact!**
The first American cheerleaders were a bunch of guys at Princeton in the 1880’s.

For more random facts go to: mentalfloss.com/amazingfactgenerator
Luke warm about WEEI

Seldom can you listen to Dennis and Callahan without hearing the conservative, Obama-bashing and socially inept criticisms of WEEI's shock jocks. And while, admittedly, WEEI is a strong hold on my presets, I enjoy their content in the same way I enjoy listening to politically-slanted pundits like Rush Limbaugh or Al Franken.

They are entertaining not because of their wit or intelligence, but because of their closed-mindedness and their inability to see beyond the veneer of their candidate's public persona. And while, admittedly, WEEI is a strong hold on my presets, I enjoy their content in the same way I enjoy listening to politically-slanted pundits like Rush Limbaugh or Al Franken.

But, at that point, calling WEEI a sports station is a bit of a stretch, isn't it? Inviting Curt Schilling onto your programs, like WEEI so often does, is a subsequent invitation for political rantings and unfounded personal attacks. If viewers want a taste of Schilling they should read his blog. In talking about Brady's recent knee surgery the commentator questioned Brady's choice of surgeon, insinuating that the man who performed the ACL reconstruction was somehow inept. To corroborate his point the pundit compared Dr. Neal S. ElAttrache, Brady's doctor, to the sex-crazed and infinitely unethical doctors of the FX TV show Nip-Tuck. Of course, if anyone has seen the show they know that doctors like that are pure works of fiction.

But what was equally disturbing was a comment that followed. Declaring Dr. ElAttrache a skeptical choice based on his last name - in fact, this so-called journalist cited the random “capital letter” in the middle of his last name as a red flag for his lack of medical acumen. In what sounded like a discussion facilitated by Anne Coulter the crew at WEEI didn’t pause at these clearly Anglo-centric and insensitive remarks.

In reality, ElAttrache is more than qualified to cut open one of America’s sports heroes. He’s won awards and fellowships. He’s written 14 textbooks, filmed ten instructional videos and facilitated over 150 lectures. Nip Tuck, he’s not.

WEEI never ceases to amaze me on my trips from Saco to Portland with their sideshow diversions. I only wish I had some hip-hop to take my mind off all this political talk.

Luke warm about WEEI

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WOMEN'S SOCCER

The women's soccer team has lost five of their last six games and has been shutout in three of those contests. With losses to Western Connecticut, Framingham State, Eastern Connecticut, UMass-Dartmouth and Bates, the Huskies have watched their season record fall to 4-10-1. The Huskies remain winless in conference with a 0-5-1 mark in the Little East.

The lone highlight of the six-game binge came when the Huskies beat NESCAC and in-state rival Colby at home 2-1 in overtime. The two goals against the Mules accounts for half of their six game total - they have been outscored 19-4 since losing to Bates 4-1 on Oct. 7.

The Huskies have gotten offensive production from Heidi Dehan (Plymouth, MA) who scored her second goal and Bates, the Huskies have gotten strong play from captain Greg Cox (Brookline, MA) has also turned up the heat in his senior campaign amassing four goals and an assist in his last six games.

The Huskies will play host to Rhode Island College on Nov. 1 in Gorham in hopes of claiming a share of the conference title.

FIELD HOCKEY

The Husky field hockey team has played seven games since Oct. 7. Over that stretch Coach Bonny Brown-Denio's squad has compiled a 3-4 record. The Huskies sandwiched four losses against Keene State, Bates, UMass Dartmouth and Plymouth State with wins against Salem State, St. Joseph's and Bridgewater State. In those seven games the Huskies were outscored at a two-to-one rate (21-14), a stat that can be attributed in large part to the 8-1 and 4-0 losses they suffered at the hands of Bates and UMass-Dartmouth respectively.

The Huskies have had some bright spots, though. Junior goalkeeper Allison Hill (Cape Elizabeth) set the school mark for saves in goal during the Huskies 2-1 loss against Plymouth State. And junior forward India Lowe (Gloucester, MA) has provided some fire-power scoring three goals and assisting on another while Senior Bethany Boulge each had two goals and an assist over that stretch.

With one game left against Bridgewater State the Huskies moved their overall record to 5-9 while pushing their record to 5-5 in the Little East. The Huskies are currently in seventh place in the 12-team league.

CROSS COUNTRY

Both the men’s and women’s cross-country teams continued their strong showings. Junior Tyler Jasud (Rumford) won the individual title at the Maine Championship, while senior Gabby Cyr (Fort Kent) turned in a solid eighth-place finish on the women’s side. The men’s team came up eight points short of the Bowdoin team, but the Huskies effort did not go unrecognized.

Cyr followed in Curtis Wheeler's footsteps as the second Husky runner to win the event in as many years, was named LEC Runner of the Week for the fourth time this season. Freshman Alex Gomes (Peabody, MA) continued his impressive cross-country campaign garnering the Rookie of the Week award from the LEC. Gomes was the first freshman to cross the finish line and the eighth runner overall at the State Championship. On the women’s side, Cyr continued her monopoly over conference accolades earning her fourth Runner of the Week award. Her eighth place finish made her the only USM runner to crack the top-20.

MEN'S SOCCER

The men’s soccer team has won their last two games against Western Connecticut and Maine Maritime in 2-0 shutout fashion to move their record to 3-3 over that stretch. The Huskies also defeated conference foe UMass-Dartmouth in a 3-0 overtime battle during that stretch, while dropping games to Bates (3-0), UMaine-Farmington (3-1) and Eastern Connecticut (4-3). The Huskies, who are currently second in the Little East behind undefeated Rhode Island College (5-0-1), have compiled a 5-1-0 record in the conference and stand at 11-6-1 overall.

The Huskies fared better at home, with wins against Salem State, Brown-Denico's squad has compiled a 5-1-0 record in the conference and stand at 11-6-1 overall.

Over their last six games the Huskies have gotten strong play from their goalies David Kep and have mustered fire-power from senior Peter McHugh (Portland), who tallied three goals and two assists during that time. Senior captain Greg Cox (Brookline, MA) has turned up the heat in his senior campaign amassing four goals and an assist in his last six games.

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Rhode Island College Johnson and Wales University. On the individual side, Loss finished his USM career on a strong not sharing second-place honors with freshman Cody Berkowitz (Saco). The third-place finish bested their fourth-place effort a year ago.

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Sports career panel draws large crowd

Sports management program works to increase numbers

Mike Tardiff
Sports Editor

Jon Jennings is poised to become the president of Portland’s very own minor league basketball franchise. He’s worked as an assistant coach with the Boston Celtics and under legendary college basketball coach Bobby Knight at Indiana University.

Cheryl Hebert manages Olympic athletes. She’s worked alongside Maine’s Olympic gold medalist snowboarder Seth Wescott and helped create the record-breaking Facebook page of Michael Phelps.

Jennings and Hebert were both in Gorham last week, alongside two other panelists, as part of the Sport Management program’s Career Discussion Panel held in the Hastings Formal Lounge. The panel, which was held as part of the University’s open house, drew over 100 students. It offered prospective students the opportunity to hear sport business professionals discuss their career paths and field questions.

Jennings and Hebert were joined by Portia Lowe, Associate Athletic Director at Lake Forest College in Illinois, as well as Liz Riley, the Director of Group Ticketing for the Portland Sea Dogs.

Together the four panelists represented a breadth of experience and careers and showed students how far a sport-centered career can take you.

“You realize that you can reach your goals,” said Israel Jasmin, a junior in the Media Studies department. “It’s inspiring to know you can get there as well.”

Jasmin, who attended the session with only moderate interest in the program, left feeling as though the window of possibility had been propped open slightly more by anecdotes shared by the esteemed panel.

While Jennings and Hebert told of their interactions with marquee sports figures (like Phelps, Larry Bird and the late Red Auerbach), Lowe and Riley, the youngest of the four panelists, focused on their unconventional routes to their current positions.

But the themes for the discussion remained the same. All of the panelists stressed an active involvement in the field, the importance of mentorship and the willingness to do what it takes to succeed.

Jennings started his trek towards the sports world after being denied by Notre Dame and settling for Indiana University. It was there that he worked under the tutelage of Knight before moving onto the professional ranks with the Indiana Pacers and later the Boston Celtics.

Hebert, a Syracuse University graduate, originally wanted to follow in the footsteps of Bob Costas as a broadcaster. But after a critical self-evaluation and the discovery of his knack for marketing, she followed her dream to turn into a large field. After getting onto the Geocaching.com website for other adventurers to hunt down tupperware containers hidden in the woods. What’s your hobby?

Though I can’t take credit for this anonymous quote, it’s the perfect description to a growing movement of adventure seekers who do just that. If you’ve never heard of geocaching, you’re not alone. Until a week ago, I was also unaware that people had taken to hiding containers throughout the world for other adventurers to find. Geocaching has quickly grown in the US and has a substantial following even as it flies under the radar of most people. What it basically amounts to is a treasure hunt for people of all ages. Geocachers hide containers in various places, leaving unique items in the cache. Then they post the coordinates of the site onto the Geocaching.com website for other adventurers to go out and find.

This past weekend I took to the woods with my friend Sarah on our first hunt for a cache. Using my iPhone as our GPS device, we parked at the Evergreen Cemetery, across from Baxter Park on Stevens Avenue and set out. We passed a number of large burial chambers set into hills, and a duck pond at the back. A significant part of geocaching is all about the journey before the treasure at the end of the hunt. It can be a good excuse to get outside when you want something easier than a long hike or bike ride.

What most people don’t know about the Evergreen cemetery is that at the back end it turns into fields and trails that visitors can enjoy by foot or bike. Our cache was supposed to be hidden at the edge of the woods where it begins to turn into a large field. After getting to the coordinates with my iPhone, we began searching the floor of the woods for a medium sized tupperware container. As weird as it was to be doing such a thing, my interest turned to a disappointment after nearly 15 minutes of failed searching. We decided to give up, but luckily we had written down the coordinates of another cache that was hidden nearby.

After turning our search to this new location, our spirits regained a sense of wonder on a crisp fall day. This cache had a much easier hint and we found it in no time. A medium sized ammo box was there waiting for us. We were a little couple rocks. We opened it, finding a log book as well as other assorted items. Although we didn’t have anything of our own to leave, we signed the book and were glad to have completed our first find.

Geocaching is a fairly easy activity as long as you have access to a GPS device to track down coordinates. At face value, it seems like a fairly weird activity and it is, but that’s why it’s so enjoyable. As you pass people walking on paths and get that first sense that they have no idea you’re searching for a mysterious container in the woods, it’s easy to get hooked. Good luck and happy cache hunting!

Brandon enjoys fresh air; short walks on long beaches, and everything else that happens outdoors. Stay tuned for more exciting ideas to get outside as we head into the winter months!
US Cellular Ad
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Volleyball take two
Former basketball star leads resurgent group

Sarah Violette
Staff Writer

As the ball bounces over the net, the triumphant and enthusiastic voice of head coach, Ashley Marble, echoes through the gym, “Get it! Get it! Get it!” she yells to her players.

But when the ball goes out of bounds, Marble exhales a deep sigh. “Let’s do it again,” she says. This time, sophomore Nikki Hamm spikes the ball in bounds for a point. “Now that’s how we play volleyball.”

Most Husky sports fans know Marble was an All-American basketball star during her four-year career here at USM. What they may not know about is her passion for volleyball.

“The passion I have for basketball is just as strong as the passion I have for volleyball,” says Marble, who has been an active participant in the sport since she began playing in junior high.

After winning two state volleyball championships at Woodland High School, Marble was offered a full scholarship to the University of Maine at Orono.

Although her passion for volleyball drifted away during her college years due to an insufficient amount of basketball stardom here at USM, her love for the game has emerged at a perfect time.

After the varsity volleyball program at USM was cancelled last year due to an insufficient amount of players, the program has been resurrected with full force thanks to Marble’s passionate leadership, and of course, the highly dedicated players who share the same love that Marble does.

After discussing the idea of a volleyball club with Athletic Director Al Bean, the immediate challenge Marble faced was spreading the word about the revival of the pro-

gram.

“Danielle and I were spreading the word any way we could” explains Shuttle. “We were using social networks like Facebook and Myspace, as well as posting flyers just to spread the word.”

The girls worked relentlessly to recruit as many players as possible during the 2008 off-season, talking to anyone they could find around campus that was remotely interested. Any girl who had any experience with volleyball was a candidate and by the end of the second semester last year, Netland and Shuttle had over twenty players on their list.

“I was the only one who came in besides the four girls who had played last year. So for us to have twenty players playing consistently now really says a lot about the hopes of the program,” Shuttle adds.

Since its heavy recruiting job, the club has begun its season playing strong (and still recruiting), and practicing every day of the week except Wednesdays. The team sees strong potential in Marble’s coaching and hopes that she can lead them to a strong season.

“Shes very energetic,” says sophomore Savannah Phelps. “She keeps you upbeat and moving. But at the same time she keeps you laughing as much as she corrects you.”

Although Marble faces the extraordinary task of rebuilding an entire program, her players have strong faith in her guidance and the team has already begun to bond as a family.

With such success already stemming from, what was, a non-existing program, Marble and the team are certain that they can have a varsity volleyball program back at USM by next year.

For now, they are focused on preparing for the upcoming season, including their first tournament this weekend at Bowdoin College.

“I think we have a great group of girls, our comradery is wonderful and we work well together,” says Shuttle. “We may not be as talented or experienced as other teams, but we work hard and Im really looking forward to a great season with these girls.”