

the free press

Volume 40, Issue No. 7 November 3, 2008
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE



November 4th is “Democracy Day”

No Classes. No Excuses. For more information, see page 4



A house divided



Police push for new rules at Bayside Village - residents push back

David O'Donnell
News Editor

Frustrations are running high over Bayside Village, the independently-owned student housing complex on Marginal Way in Portland.

Tensions between residents, management and the city erupted late last week, after the Portland police department mandated drastic changes to the building's community guidelines.

At first, Bayside's management complied, and a notice was posted across the building with 11 new restrictions concerning guest policy and the consumption of alcohol, set to go into effect on October 31st (a day later).

According to the notice, tenants would be allowed only one visitor at a time without receiving

the express permission of management.

The new rules also banished open containers of beer, wine and liquor from all common spaces, including kitchens and living rooms. The maximum number of people allowed in an apartment at once was reduced from 16 to eight.

But just as abruptly as they were announced, the new guidelines were dropped entirely, as Halloween night approached.

Responding to outrage from residents, a building-wide meeting was held late Friday afternoon in Bayside's closed courtyard. There, owner Joseph Cloutier - founder and president of Realty Resources LLC - told a crowd of approximately 40 residents that he intended to challenge the man-

dates from police and preserve their independence.

“If we could go back in time, it probably would have been better to fight it and never put them out,” said staff trainer and consultant Lori Lavoie, referring to the guideline changes.

“We heard the residents concerns.”

Lavoie took over as Bayside's interim property manager after Scott Ranger was dismissed just one month in, following a rash of police visits over noise complaints and underage drinking- 17 in the first 30 days.

“It was a mess,” she recalls. “There were a ton of non-residents all the time, people were skateboarding down the hallways. That doesn't happen anymore.”

See **BAYSIDE** on page 5

Muskie contracts face reviews

State to examine “no-bid” deals

Taryn Yudaken
Staff Writer

USM's Muskie School of Public Service is one of the primary recipients of “no bid” contracts awarded by state agencies, agreements that are coming under extensive review in the coming months.

The contracts are cooperative agreement with agencies, such

as the Department of Health and Human Services. Under the agreements, the Muskie School conducts research and training for state institutions, mostly in the realm of public services. Students at the Muskie have been working in health and medical programs, child welfare, social

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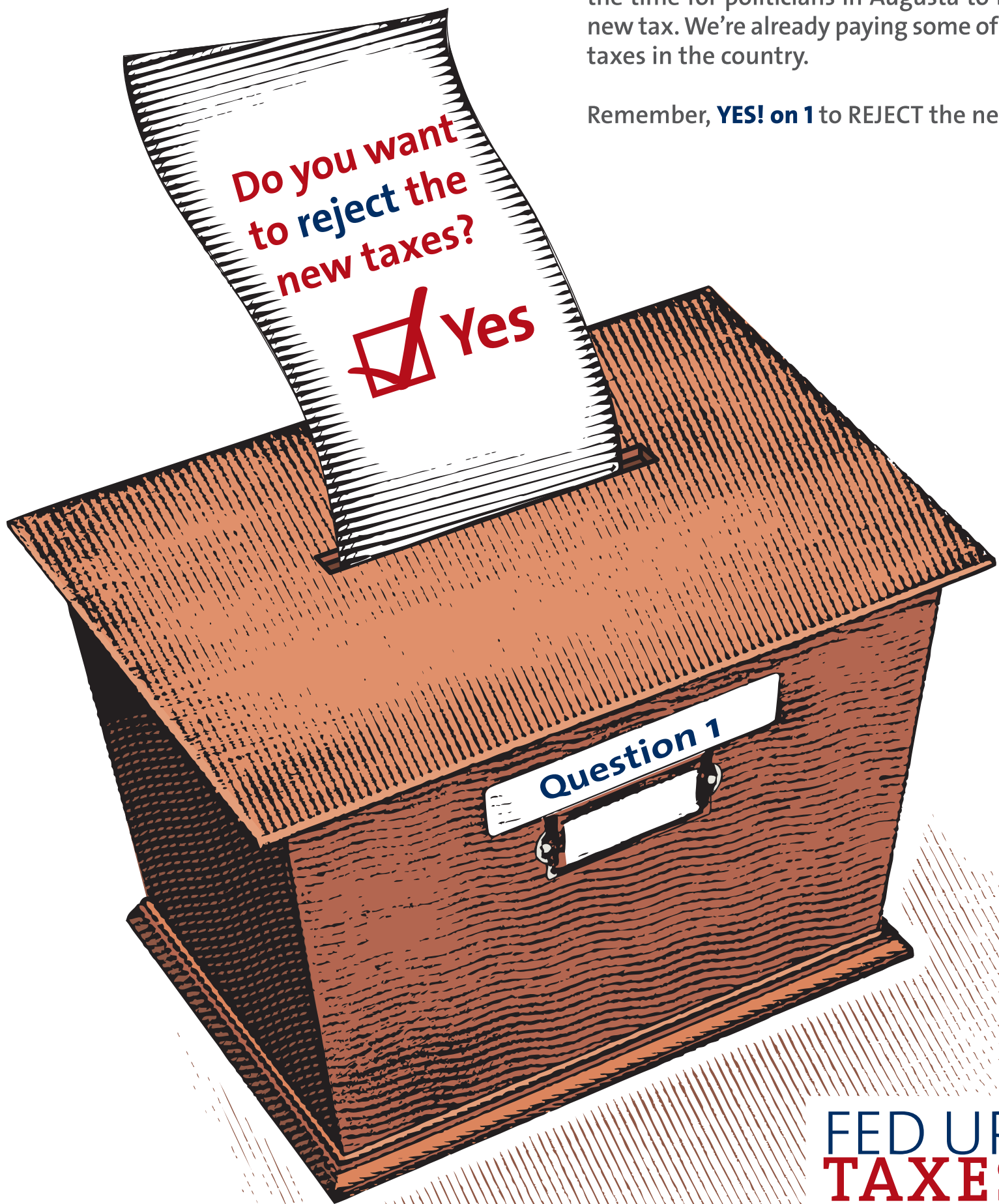
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Fed Up With Taxes?

VOTE YES ON 1.

Don't Get Confused on November 4th. To REJECT a new tax on some of your favorite beverages – including flavored water, juice drinks, soda, beer and wine – Vote **YES! on Question 1**. Now is not the time for politicians in Augusta to be adding a new tax. We're already paying some of the highest taxes in the country.

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**FED UP^{WITH}
TAXES?**
YES! on 1

www.FedUpWithTaxes.org

Break down the (laboratory) walls

USM awarded \$1.3 million to help make science jobs more accessible



Danica Koenig
Staff Writer

An estimated 20 percent of Americans live with a disability of some kind, yet the disabled make up just five percent of the workforce in science and engineering. It's a gap the National Science Foundation would like to narrow.

And they've enlisted the help of USM.

A new \$1.3 million grant awarded to the University aims to increase the diversity of Maine students receiving degrees in what is known as the STEM fields - science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

The grant extends a project that USM has been involved in since 2003. Christine Maher, Professor

and Chair of the Biology Department, describes her unique experience as a faculty mentor to a student researcher with a disability who received two fellowships funded by the first such grant a few years ago. This specific student was able to design and carry out two independent research projects over two summers, and is writing up the results of the second for publication in a scientific journal.

Maher is confident that the new round of funding will be just as beneficial to students.

"The grant will continue to provide opportunities for USM undergraduates in STEM fields to carry out independent research projects and learn what a great experience that can be," Maher says.

She also points out that such projects often lead to students continuing on to Graduate School and STEM-based careers.

"My student researcher is now in a Ph.D. program at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst," Maher adds.

The money will also be used to ratchet up local high school outreach programs, which seek to generate interest in science-related majors as students look ahead to college - especially among those with disabilities, who often have doubts about their capabilities. USM Professor Stephanie Langley-Turnbaugh, Chair of the Department of Environmental Science, is the Principle Investigator of the grant project. She originally got involved after working with high

school students with disabilities at a NASA-funded summer camp at USM.

"I realized that students with disabilities were not being well served in high school science classes, and were not being encouraged to pursue science majors in college. I wanted to work toward change," she says.

The idea is not just encouraging involvement among a seemingly neglected demographic, but putting USM at the center of the effort.

"We would like USM to become the 'go to' school for Maine students with disabilities interested in STEM," Langley-Turnbaugh says.

One of the biggest roadblocks for students and educators alike tends to be reluctance to seek out

support and assistance. Maher and Langley-Turnbaugh urge any student with a disability majoring in a STEM field here at USM to disclose their condition to the Office of Support for Students with Disabilities, if they haven't already.

"Many times people may be afraid to tell someone, or even be ashamed, but they shouldn't be," Maher says. "We have some terrific opportunities for these students, and we want them to succeed here, but first, we need to know who they are."

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WeVote brings some life to the parties

Politics forum takes aim at two-party rule, corporate influence

Matt Dodge
Executive Editor

Thursday's "Life of the Party" political forum was formulated as a break from the candidate-driven, partisan forums broadcast over the last year, where answers and platforms are so routine and regimented, a voter could slip into election-induced déjà vu.

As soon as the slam-poetry styling of the Freedom Choir began to echo their rendition of "The Times They Are A-Changin'" from the back of the Woodbury Campus Center's amphitheater, it was clear this was not going to be another starchy, dry discussion panel.

Organized by WeVote, the political panel was conceived as an attempt to bring people from across the political spectrum into a forum where they could discuss their party platforms, and share how their party would tackle today's most pressing issues. Red, Blue, and Green were all represented on the panel, as well as an Anarchist/radical rep, and Herb Hoffman, speaking for the Independents (neither of whom have an organized party).

The atmosphere on the panel was one of open and frank discussion. With only one candidate represented, in Hoffman, the talk strayed from the usual party-line rhetoric of candidates desperately seeking votes.

"I was encouraged, I heard a lot of independent thought, and logical reasoning outside of the usual party platforms," said Eric Monty, USM Junior.

The discussion took on a tone of honesty in the early goings when Democratic party representative Rachel Talbot Ross made clear her reservations about rehashing the democratic platform. "Sorry to disrupt the program," Ross said "but I'm not here to represent the Democratic Party."

She added that the party's official platform is 50 pages long, and having not memorized it, she only felt comfortable in sharing her own perspective on the issue.

This break from protocol by Talbot Ross quickly spread across the panel, with Republican Scott Kauffman and Green Bruce Gagnon both taking similar stances; they would speak their minds, but not stick to formal party rhetoric. While this might not have been what WeVote imagined when organizing the forum, many found the atmosphere of honesty to be a welcomed break. "It didn't go where was intended, but I was glad for it," said Monty.

Speakers shared what issues are most central to their own party, giving the audience a chance to see past the red and blue, and learn what some of the nation's smaller parties think, a perspective that they feel earns little attention in the current two-party dominated system.

Bruce Gagnon, Green Party rep, saw corporate domination of the nation's two biggest political parties as an overarching problem, one that he feels might explain the bi-partisan rescue of Wall St. in the last month. "There will be no alleviation of these problems until we break the back of this system," Gagnon said.

"This is not an election at all," said Gagnon, "it's 21st century corporate dominated feudalism."

Anarchist rep Danny Muller shared this distaste for corporate influence in politics. Referencing Barack Obama's half-hour, multi-channel prime time commercial (which cost an estimated \$4 million) Muller shared his frustration with political parties using donations to pay for such ads.

"Money gets pumped back into corporate systems under the guise of democracy," he said.

Talbot Ross, who was Maine's first African American delegate



BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR

Panelists gathered at Woodbury Campus Center for 'Life of the Party' discussion forum, hosted by WeVote last Thursday evening

to the Democratic National Convention back in 1976, quickly got the impression that the DNC was "bought and paid for by a couple folks," and shared her disillusionment that parts of the democratic and republican party are "racist, sexist, and class-driven, just like everything."

When discussion shifted to talk of our current two-party system, party lines were further blurred as the panelists spoke out against two-party domination of government. Hoffman, whose independent candidacy was reduced to write-in status in Maine's Senate race, knows first hand the frustration of smaller political parties. He was knocked off the ballot after an aggressive legal challenge from the Maine Democratic party; he repeatedly referred to America's government as operating under a "one-party system."

Many of the speakers challenged the audience, and American public, to not end their political involvement after Nov. 4. "Change is good, but on January 21 (after the next president is inaugurated), what are those who voted for change going to do?" said Talbot Ross. Muller agreed, "if you are going to vote, you must be involved in the political process," adding "you can't check the box then be [uninvolved] for four years."

"They did a great job of telling people you can't wait around for change to happen," said Cassie Shultz, a junior and a member of Maine PIRG. Shultz challenges students affect change beyond the ballot box, "it's needs to start with their involvement, wherever they are, their family, school, community, just being a citizen

in this country should require everyone to do that," she said.

Gagnon suggested public hearings for citizens to make demands of the new president so that "we the people can speak out and make demands." He later challenged USM to become part of this process.

Gabe Demaine, a staff support person for WeVote, was impressed not only with the frankness of the panel, but also with the organization of WeVote, who conceived the idea for a party panel earlier this month, and got right to work making it a reality. "It was awesome mobilization on the part of WeVote." Demaine also thought the format of the discussion made for a more productive event. "I think if it had been more formatted like a candidate forum, it would have been in attack mode," she said.



RANDY HAZELTON / PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Voting FAQ

Where do I vote?

The state of Maine created a handy online form for locating your polling place, but didn't bother with an easy-to-remember web address. So we've created a safe, short URL for you: <http://tinyurl.com/mainevote>

How much time will it take?

Depends. Maine has been holding in-person absentee voting for several weeks now, which is sure to have cut into some of the potential congestion. But let's face it - even if voting isn't relegated to a single day, neither are taxes, but plenty of us wait until the last minute. And the last minute is roughly between 4 and 9 p.m. TIP: square your voter registration before election day, so you don't have to wait in two lines.

Don't I have class that day?

No! It's "Democracy Day".

I showed up at the polls, but was told I couldn't vote. Is that true?

No. The Help America Vote Act of 2002 ensures that, even if there are questions regarding your eligibility or registration, a polling place must offer you a provisional ballot, which can be counted after any questions are resolved. In most cases, somebody will work with you to sort out any issues and get you a proper ballot; if not, vote provisional, and don't accept no for an answer.

What can I do if I experience or witness any problems at my polling place?

Call 1-866-OUR-VOTE for immediate assistance.

From **REVIEWS** on page 1

work, transportation research, and other areas.

One study has helped determine how much money the state is raking in from of highway tolls. Another, still underway, examines the frequency and severity of local emergency room visits, with the goal of reducing the cost of Medicaid in Maine.

In theory, both the state and the schools benefit from the work, the two working closely to draft grant proposals for funding from the federal Government. If approved, money is awarded to the state and paid to local researchers. Occasionally, competing organizations can bid on the project - in the "no bid" contracts in question, the award is nonnegotiable and delivered straight to a chosen school.

The competition is typically eliminated if the state has determined that cutting out bidding and employing a specific college would be the least costly and/or most beneficial option. A review by the state controller's audit division of some 2007 contracts

found that this wasn't always the case.

In 2008's fiscal year, \$15.5 million of the cooperative agreement was spent on the Muskie School. Paul Saucier, Muskie's Research Director, doesn't doubt the commitment of the school and the state to review the agreement properly.

"I'm not concerned that there's anything financially underhanded going on", he says. "Every year we have discussions with state partners. There are negotiations where we agree on a scope of work, so if there's anything people don't find beneficial, it's dropped out of the program."

The state Controller's Office hopes to begin the reviews this month. According to Saucier, it is a "very high-level group review".

"If people have concerns, then I'm all for taking a look so the public can be assured that these are good activities for the state and school system to be involved in. If it's beneficial to both parties, then it's essentially beneficial to the public."

From **BAYSIDE** on page 1

Lavoie immediately began processing evictions against five residents she says were the primary sources of trouble. The eviction process, however, gave those residents 30 days to leave, and to cause more chaos.

She also began co-operating heavily with police - or, at least, thought it was co-operation.

For much of October, law enforcement was visiting the complex regularly on weekend nights, patrolling the hallways and checking on excessive noise. Last week, as police made their case for changing the community rules, it became clear that the department was counting those "walkthroughs" as disturbances, Lavoie says.

The Portland police department would not return repeated calls for comment.

"They're reprimanding the wrong people," said Brooke Hayne, a Bayside resident and sophomore psychology major at USM. Despite the reversal of the guideline changes, she says the initial scare made it clear that the terms of their lease could be altered at any time.

"We didn't sign up for a dorm, we signed up for an apartment," she added. "Had we known we were going to be treated like this, we could have gone elsewhere."

Hayne says that she and others are looking into legal action. Bayside's management says they have not received any threats of litigation, but would "work to address concerns" of residents who felt they should be released from their contract.

A group of anonymous residents - including at least one member of Bayside's community assisting staff - delivered a two-page document to building management and the Free Press. Written in the style of a news article, it quotes residents referring to the complex as "Bayside Village Student Jail", and expresses "distaste" for incoming property manager Benjamin Westman.

Westman was a former student life coordinator at St. Joseph's College, and is currently being trained by Lavoie, who expects to leave Bayside for another position within Realty Resources.

Westman authored and signed that initial notice that sparked the backlash. As controversial as the actual guideline changes were, the notice also mistakenly implied that the possession of any "open container" outside of a residents' bedroom might result in eviction. Rumors developed that this could apply to something as innocuous as a carton of orange juice or a glass of milk, but management insists this was meant to refer only to containers of alcoholic beverages.

In the newest notice, the only guideline change that survives is a requirement that guests be signed in at the front desk. The number of guests is not limited.

While the fallout from forgoing police mandates remains to be seen, Bayside does plan to make some changes to how it handles security within the building. Managers plan to deal with the vast majority of disturbances internally.

Police will only be called in the most extreme cases, such as instances of underage drinking, and any police intervention will result in the immediate eviction of those responsible.

"What our residents do inside their apartment is their business," says Lavoie. "Only if they break the law and we get pulled in, will we get involved."

Bayside Village opened its doors a week before the start of the fall semester. It has attracted around 300 student residents from schools across Southern Maine, but primarily USM and Southern Maine Community College. The biggest challenge, according to all involved, has been offering prices and amenities comparable to the typical college dorm - with the freedom of a typical city apartment.

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Dr. Chalupka will discuss the toxic effects of chemical exposures on our health, with a special focus on those that occur through the use of everyday products and household items. Such chemicals have been linked to learning disabilities, reproductive health disorders, and a growing number of illnesses. Dr. Chalupka specializes in children's environmental health and prevention.

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Teaching and preaching

Maybe they think it’s appropriate, maybe they don’t see us as a captive audience, or maybe George Bush is the funniest man alive, but USM professors espousing their political views in the classroom is a practice that divides our community along it’s political fault lines, and often shifts focus away from the subject at hand.

This practice is forgivable within some departments. I’m not advocating the suppression of free speech within the class, I just ask the fine faculty of USM to recognize that you only have our attention, and a face-to-face chance to educate us, for three hours every week.

If you think it’s appropriate to use this time to share your own political views, tell a corny joke, or otherwise induce a mumbled, half-hearted grumble of laughter, go ahead. Just please remember, we are paying to be in your class. USM students with families or working that full time job would agree; time is money.

The world can be politically correct to a fault sometimes, but outside of political science classes, excessive Bush-bashing can get out of hand, and no zinger or clever jab at W is worth making a student feel ostracized for their political belief.

And I’m just not talking about passing comments, which eat up about as much class time as that one obligatory cell phone buzzing in someone’s bag. It’s when professors, perhaps powerless against the appeal of showing their favorite YouTube video on a big screen, take up our class time, sharing candidate propaganda to a forcibly-

captive audience of students being graded for their paying attention.

It’s pretty easy to get a feel for the political climate on campus this fall. Just look for the “Susan McCain Collins” scrawled in chalk in front of Woodbury, notice the Obama buttons fashioned to backpacks and purses, try to find any McCain paraphernalia among the crowd. It’s a liberal campus, but it doesn’t have to be an intolerant one.

It’s especially hard for a newspaper editor trying to find a conservative voice to balance out the Free Press’s perspectives section. Columnist Dustin Gilbert stirred up a lot of controversy last semester with his “From the Right” feature, and this paper rarely receives so much reaction to anything it prints.

Walking around campus, hearing whispers of “Gilbert” and “Free Press” on the tongues of USM students was gratifying as a writer, but I soon realized that while the readership ate up this weekly peek at the right, their comments or letters to the editor were rarely anything more than a personal attack on Gilbert.

I think professors have played a part in creating this atmosphere of intolerance. In two years at USM, I have not heard one conservative view shared in a classroom setting, and I can’t believe there are so few conservatives on campus.

What’s more likely is that those who lean to the right feel uncomfortable outing themselves in public. USM

needs to remember that the basic tolerance we give to every strata of our community should not be dismissed when politics come into play.

I have enough confidence in the decency of the average student to think that they wouldn’t stand by while another minority group is attacked, but all pretense of civility is thrown out when politics comes into the equation, and this is no how we build respect on campus.

Thank you for reading,

Matt Dodge



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EXTRA EXTRA



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Don't let the economy get you down, jumpstart your education with a stimulus package, apply for a scholarship.

Do money woes have you wondering how you will pay for classes? Do the words recession have you clenching your wallet? Worried about taking out big loans with the state of our current economy? Well look no further, Career Services & Professional Life Development has come to the rescue. I, like I imagine most of you, count all my pennies. Should I get that \$2 cup of coffee or should I put that \$2 in my car so I can drive home. And what are those professors thinking with \$80 textbooks. Lets be honest, I need money. Whilst leisurely browsing the USM website, I came across the Career Services home page. They have diligently compiled a comprehensive listing of scholarships and fellowships available to USM students. The scholarships webpage also provides a step-by-step guide to help you navigate your way through the application process. I have personally had the pleasure of meeting the wonderful staff that makes up the Career Services Department. They took the time to answer all of my questions and

made me feel like, yes, even I could actually get a scholarship.

I want to pass this knowledge onto all of my fellow classmates. I hope that you take the time to investigate the vast number of possible scholarships that are out there in cyber space. Remember, you don't have to be financially desperate. If you think your parents make decent money, then there are scholarships that don't ask for any financial information. You defiantly don't have to be a genius to get a scholarship; there are thousands of scholarships that don't even consider your academic standing. For those of us returning student who are a little bit older, there are many scholarships tailor made just for you. USM's Career Services and Professional Life Development Center makes the search easy for you by providing you with a time saving list of scholarships and fellowships that match your interests and academic background. Start searching for scholarships today on the career services web site, usm.maine.edu/careers.edu,

Good luck and happy hunting,

Ian Jason Brown
USM Nursing Student

USM Candidate Forum

600 hand bills passed out and not one student came

70 posters hung and not one student came

4 collection boxes set out and not one student came

3 large banners put up and not one student came

200 Facebook contacts notified and not one student came

Emails sent to all the B.S.O. groups and not one student came

Emails sent to every Political Science Professor and not one student came

Fliers placed in every B.S.O. mailbox and not one student came

Public service announcements on WMPG and not one student came

Event advertised in The Free Press and not one student came

Free coffee, tea, cider, brownies, pumpkin bread, cookies, etc, and not one student came

The Mayor of Portland was there and not one student...

Karl Rawstron
Student
Secretary USM PIRG

What happened to Veterans Day?

Dear Veterans & Other Concerned Individuals:

I am not asking anyone to condone any actions that the Federal Government sees fit to declare. I am

requesting your help to honor those that served.

I request that all veterans & other concerned individuals send an e-mail to Ms. Selma Botman (selma.botman@maine.edu), telling her of your dissatisfaction with having voting day office instead of Veterans Day.

All veterans know that they have sacrificed for their country and have given this freely. They may not want to be recognized individually, but appreciate being recognized as a whole group. This also allows us a day to honor and remember those that have given all for their country.

The Federal and State governments celebrate this day by closing; to honor all veterans for their contribution. Why does the University feel that it is exempt doing the same?

When it comes to voting, there is the option of voting early by filing an absentee ballot and having it delivered to the proper authorities. We can honor veterans all year long but only One Day is set aside for everyone to honor them.

We may not be able to get this changed for this year, but we can make sure that this does not happen again in the future.

Please CC me on your e-mail. This way we can make sure that our voices are heard.

Thank you

Dennis Dexter
A Fellow Veteran
dennis.dexter@maine.edu

The Venus Project

Proposing a new society

Taryn Yudaken
Staff Writer

For many of us today, the world is becoming increasingly unaffordable. With a crumbling economy, an endless war, and a collective ignorance about the environment, the most powerful country in the world has become the most indebted and wasteful country in the world. There is global poverty-preventable hunger and disease, and a worldwide state of fear. Our lives are essentially controlled by money, and we care more about profit than we care about people. Now imagine a world with no money. No group of elitists running the show, no corrupt media to brainwash the crowds, no big industries preventing people from being taken care of. A world where you would never have to worry about affording healthcare, groceries, gas, or bills. A world where goods and services worked together to help better human existence, not profit off of it. Imagine a moneyless world, a planet of people all peacefully benefiting from one another. It sounds too good to even comprehend, or to not roll your eyes at. However...

One of the most significant movements that the world may ever see is developing right now. It is a project that has the ability to alter every aspect of our existence; an organization with enormous potential to eliminate almost everything negative in our world. It's a technological revolution that the media-sponsoring institutions do not want anyone to know about. Ideally, it would cause the human mind and consciousness to evolve. It's called The Venus Project, and it could change our lives.

The Venus Project, based in Venus, Florida, proposes a society with a resource-based economy. Instead of painfully crawling towards unobtainable change, The Venus Project requires rebuilding our world so that we can actually achieve that change. The idealistic society that we collectively assume is impossible, actually is possible. The change is possible through the use of technology, and the fact that the Earth has enough natural resources to sustain every single human in the world. Current technology and resources that are only hidden because they would abolish the need for a monetary system. Capitalism keeps the rich power-

holders in control. They don't want the world to know that we actually have the capabilities to live a life that revolves around the quality of life, instead of the competition for profit.

Jacque Fresco, the director and founder of The Venus Project, states: "All limitations imposed upon us by our present-day monetary system could be surpassed by adopting a global consensus for a worldwide resource-based economy. We could easily produce all of the necessities of life and provide a high standard of living for all."

Some people might accuse The Venus Project of being rooted in communist ideals, but in there are very clear differences in these two societal ideas. "Communism has money, banks, armies, police, prisons, social stratification and is managed by appointed leaders", says Roxanne Meadows, Fresco's partner. "Police, prisons and the military would no longer be necessary when goods, services, healthcare, and education are available to all people."

I believe that a resource-based economy would be the answer to most of our planet's problems. It is intelligent and high-functioning in its evolution. The path our

society is on has left uncountable damages on the Earth and its people. Wars, social classes, money, pollution and big industries are all different kinds of factors that have played their part in leaving behind a human legacy of filth, corruption and casualties across the globe. Well, hopefully leaving behind.

I realize (along with others) that it would be incredibly difficult, if not impossible, for The Venus Project's society to become a reality anytime soon. Its not a lack of resources that would make it hard (it's been scientifically proven that wind, solar, geothermal, tidal and wave energy are all abundant enough to power the world, with hundreds of thousands of years to spare for future need). No, the problem lies in convincing everyone that this is the best possible option if we all want to live well; equally. The world will not easily be convinced, because collectively, the monetary system has been so deeply ingrained into almost every individual on this planet. Our senses are constantly flooded with so much mass media influence that it is entirely possible that many people go through life without ever having an original thought; without ever questioning the authorities; without ever wondering why we are all slaves, and who we are really slaves to; without stopping to think that maybe, just maybe, there is a better way of life. a free way of

life. There could be a life for everyone that is not wasted away at some boring and unnecessary cubicle office-job; a life that uses resources to completely erase poverty; a life that encourages human growth and development instead of business growth and development; a life in a society that cares about you because you care about it.

The Venus Project is brilliant, but it is concealed by mainstream media (which is where most people get new information from). There are two excellent movies created by Zeitgeist--a completely nonprofit organization created to enlighten our uninformed society. Discover their breakthroughs at

www.zeitgeistmovie.com.

These two movies are very insightful, and I highly recommend watching them. If you have any desire to learn more about the world you live in, these films should be incredibly helpful. As for The Venus Project, it is a revolution worth examining.

To learn more about The Venus Project, go to www.thevenusproject.com.

To learn more about The Zeitgeist Movement, go to www.thezeitgeistmovement.com

Campus Events

Week of November 3rd

Monday, November 3rd

Step Aerobics

Stepping, toning, and stretching...
all choreographed to music.

6:15-7:15 a.m. /\$10 for semester/ <http://usm.maine.edu/sullivancomplex/> 780-4939.

Tuesday, November 4th

Election Day

Get out and vote!

Wednesday, November 5th

Civic Leadership Series Workshop

The Civic Leadership Series offers USM students skills for effective leadership and a deeper understanding of the role of a citizen leader at USM and in Southern Maine.

7:00-8:30pm / Husky Hut, Brooks Student Center, Gorham campus

For today's topic and more information see www.usm.maine.edu/studentlife/communityservice/leadership.html.

Thursday, November 6th

Dying to Get High: marijuana as medicine- Author Reading and Book Signing

Dr. Wendy Chapkis Professor of Sociology and Women and Gender Studies at the University of Southern Maine will be reading from her new book *Dying to Get High: marijuana as medicine*. Medicinal marijuana is a politically charged topic in this country. Despite overwhelming public support (12 states, including Maine, have passed pro medical marijuana laws) and ever growing scientific evidence of the therapeutic effects of marijuana, it remains illegal under U.S. federal law.

7:00-8:00pm / Longfellow Books, 1 Monument Way, Downtown Portland

For more information on the book reading contact:
Longfellow Books (207) 772 4045

Friday, November 7th

FaithWorks Interfaith Service Project

Help host a dance party and social event with STRIVE, a great agency providing services to teens and young adults with development disabilities.

7:00-9:00pm / TBA

For more information or to sign up: interfaith@usm.maine.edu or 228-8093.



Monday, November 3rd

Learn Openness

Dharmachari Nagabodhi, a practicing Buddhist since 1968, run a number of Buddhist centers in Britain, has written on a range of Buddhist topics speaks tonight in Portland. He travels widely, teaching Buddhism, meditation and mindfulness. Free/ 7 p.m./ Nagaloka Buddhist Center/ 81 Oak Street/ Portland

Tuesday, November 4th

Vote or Die a miserable, slow, painful death!

Only use this day off to party after you vote!

Wednesday, November 5th

Go Green or Go Home!

The Department of Environmental Science Environmental Science & Policy Seminar Series Presents: "Energy in the 21st Century: A Reality Check." Presentation by Dr. Daniel Martinez (DES)/ Free/ 12:15-1:00 p.m./ 205 Bailey Hall

Thursday, November 6th

Yee-ha ay ay ay!

Dust off that old Chiquita banana hat and mosey on down to Sullivan complex where you can learn to Latin line dance. It's a lot sexier than regular line dancing. \$10/ 12:15 – 1:00 p.m./ Multi-purpose room, Sullivan Sports Complex, Portland campus/ 780-4939

Friday, November 7th

Walk it out!

What does the first Friday of every month signify? The Art Walk! Kick off your month with some culture and stroll around Congress St. and beyond in downtown Portland admiring the plethora of art studios while sipping on some wine./ Free/ All ages/ 5-8 p.m./ visit firstfridayartwalk.com for maps and more

Saturday, November 8th

What's an LP?

WMPG's 13th annual record and CD sale is going to be grand – nearly 500 people showed up last year. The sale includes records, CD's, tapes, books, and magazines. Let music save your life! \$2 admission/ 10 a.m. – 4 p.m./ Sullivan Gym/ Portland Campus/ Contact Jim Rand for donation info and all other inquiries at 780-4424

Saturday, November 8th

The Undisputed Truth!

Throw ya hands in the air as Brother Ali lays down some pigment free raps with his boys BK One and Toki Wright. Fans of Atmosphere and MF Doom should not miss this! \$13/ 9 p.m./ 121 Center St., Portland/ 772-8274

Sunday, November 9th

Inner Peace!

Start the week off in a peaceful state of being. Join others in meditation at the Odiyana Meditation Center, and increase your happiness with a positive, compassionate mind. \$10/ 10:00 – 11:15 a.m./ Odiyana Meditation Center, 368 Cumberland Avenue Portland/ 765-4869

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Have You Had a
Spiritual Experience?

A sense that you have lived before? An out-of-body experience? A dream with a departed loved one?
An inner light or inner sound?

Come learn about the reality of these experiences and how they can have a positive impact on your everyday life and spirituality. Learn new and advanced ways to explore your inner worlds. People of all faiths are welcome.



Nov 9, 2-3:30pm, Luther Bonney Hall, Room 523, USM campus, Bedford St.

Admission is free.

Attendees will receive a free audio CD of spiritual exercises.

Presented by Eckankar, Religion of the Light and Sound of God. www.eckinme.org 1 800 992-7276

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

With a bang: A New Brain

Cast

Joseph Valliere . . .	Gordan Schwinn
Slaney Rose Jordan	Mimi Gordon's mother
Kim Stone	Rhoda Gordon's best friend
Kyle Dennis	Roger Gordon's boyfriend
Christopher Ellis	Dr. Jafar Berensteiner
Rylee Doiron	Lisa
Roger Marcotte	the Minister
Autumn Pound	Nurse Nancy D.
Alexis R.D. Handy	waitress
Jeremiah Haley	compassionate nurse
Kyle Skillin	Richard; Mr. Bungee
Bungee's Tadpoles	Emily Holden
	Ashley A. Christy
	Greer Vashon
Danielle Gagne	Stage Manager
Kyle Hardy	Alto Saxophone/ Clarinet
Kelly Mosher	Piccolo/ flute

Jenna Howard A&E Editor

You may not have heard, but there is a musical theatre major at USM, and it is producing spectacular work. The community was privy to this work over the weekend as fourteen student vocalists took to the Corthell Concert Hall stage. They transformed it into the mind of Gordon Schwinn—and a restaurant, a sidewalk, an apartment, a sailboat, and a hospital room: all without technical scenery other than the actors themselves, a few props, and pianos.

The production was different from many musicals in that it was one hour and 40 minutes of straight singing, without intermission, without more than a short dialogue between songs.

To learn this much music in only seven weeks might sound challenging, but, as director and music director Ed Reichert explains, "It is the music is that the students are so crazy about. It's rhythmic, it's infectious, it gets under your skin."

He chose the piece based on the student's interest in the music

of William Finn, the play's composer. "They have been singing a lot of his music for the last few years, and they've really been turned on by the music of this man. I thought that I had a good combination of students in the program that could take on some of these roles, and it was chosen."

"A New Brain" wasn't the production originally planned, however. "Assassins" by Stephen Sondheim was the choice, but at the last minute, the chair of the school of music turned it down in light of the election.

For lead Joseph Valliere, a junior, this choice was welcome. He has admired the work of William Finn for years. "When I first heard this music, it made me laugh, it made me cry—literally. I fell in love with the main character. He's so determined, yet so vulnerable, he doesn't want to give up, but you see him start to. Every song is great, there are beautiful ballads, and quirky songs, I dare say it might be my favorite (musical) as far as the music goes."

The role is Valliere's dream, and something that he probably wouldn't have been able to play until later in life because of his age, as the part being written for an older man.

Because he is working with a young cast, which he is thankful for, he could be cast in the role.

"I couldn't waste this opportunity, I put my hands in every aspect of this performance that I could. I would invite parts of the cast to rehearse with me outside of rehearsals, and always offer to be there an hour before to work with anyone who wanted to go over something. Basically, I wanted this show more than anything."

A few days before opening night the cast is buzzing with energy, mostly costumed, laughing between takes while making small changes of choreography to enhance the scenes. The feeling on stage is of a tight-knit group of friends, very comfortable with one another and obviously enjoying every minute.

Director Reichert explains, "We have an awful lot of limitations to producing a musical in this setting, (Corthell Concert Hall) but I've found that these limitations can be assets. You can get into big sets, cumbersome sets. And instead, here you're left with the students making the piece come alive"

Corthell's Concert Hall was certainly alive as an impressed audience met the students with praise and applause this weekend for three performances including a Sunday matinee.

See the USM school of music website for information about upcoming events at <http://www.usm.maine.edu/music/>

Left: Kyle Dennis, Joseph Valliere, Slaney Rose Jordan, and Kim Stone star in the USM musical "A New Brain."



Caleigh and the chicken

Just last week I heard on the radio that during Whole Foods Fall Madness Sale whole chickens were going for .99/lb. accompanied by .39/lb. butternut squash (sale ends November 4th, but the store is open until 10 p.m.). I heard value either way, as you can get a lot of mileage out of a chicken.

That ad brought to mind the wholesome, plump roaster of a year ago, when branches were dropping their golden leaves, and the air held that crisp nip. This chicken was about an eight pounder, its cavity stuffed with quarters of an apple, onion, and lemon, plenty of garlic cloves, and fresh picked sprigs of thyme and rosemary. She was clearing vying for the Miss Aromatic Bird of the Year award. She was a beauty, too, embellished with herbs between her skin and breast, like pressed flowers. After a coat of olive oil, her patina was perfect, her skin crisping to a honey brown.

As I prepared a medley of vegetables to roast, the dogs were resting in the sun porch off the kitchen lazing in the fall warmth. Deciding to eat dinner out there, I relocated the potential beggars to the kitchen, set the table, and then carved a few slices from each side of the bird. I made a platter of chicken slices, beets, potatoes, carrots, and asparagus spears, set

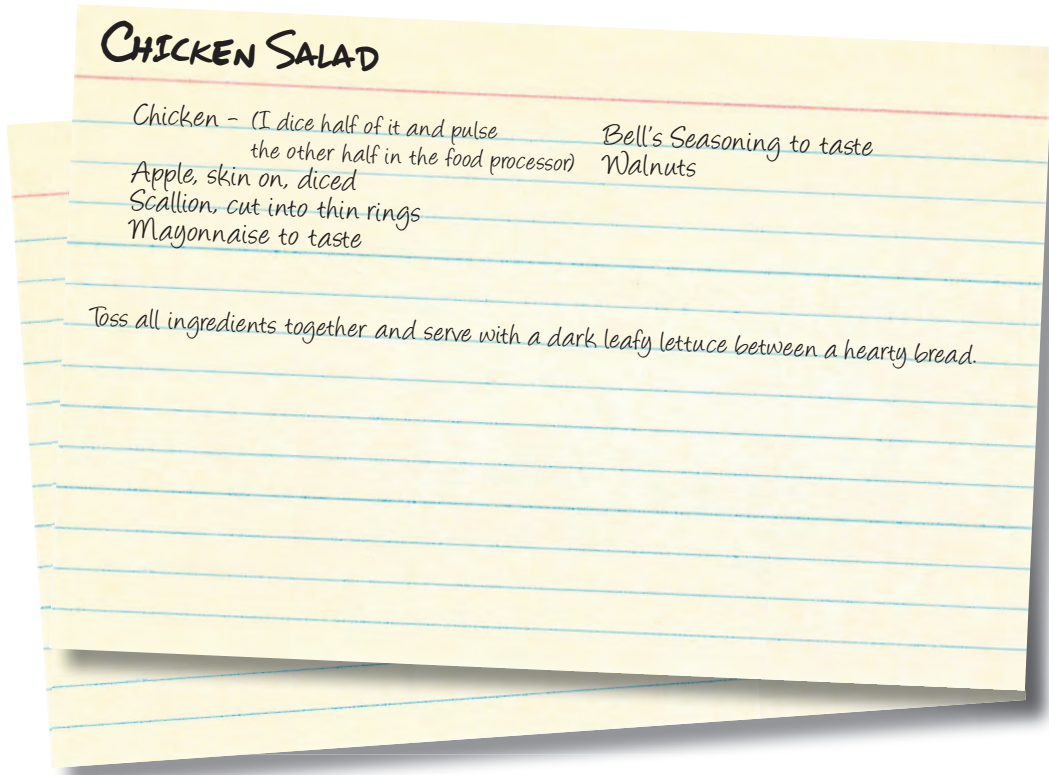
it in the sun porch and closed the door on Caleigh and Reilly.

Our meal was tasty, satisfying, and relaxing. I was thinking about the chicken salad I would make for our lunches over the next couple of days. The chicken cubes would be mixed with cubes of apples, walnuts, tiny rings of green onion and tossed with a bit of mayonnaise and dusted with Bell's Seasoning. Peter went into the kitchen to slice a little more chicken. He called out asking where it was. "It's right on the cutting board on the island." wondering how he could miss it. "There's no chicken here." I pushed my chair back to see for myself just as Peter was opening the oven door in search of it. I looked at the cutting board which held a juicy puddle. The dogs were gone and there was a big smear of grease with a stray herb or two on the floor. Believe it or not, there was not a single trace left from that chicken.

Now Caleigh is an Anatolian Shepherd, pure white, and five feet long from curly tail to nose. She was fired from Pineland Farms in New Gloucester, where, when she wasn't busy escaping, her job was to guard the sheep. As a working dog, she was trained to kill predators, which she thought included chickens, which were kept in the adjacent barn. This pastoral setting was occasionally marred by Caleigh's overzealous

guarding, as she would attack not only foxes or coyotes, but any errant chicken that chanced to wander into her territory. Reilly, however, was just a mellow, old yellow lab who enjoyed the feast that was wrought by our "counter cruiser".

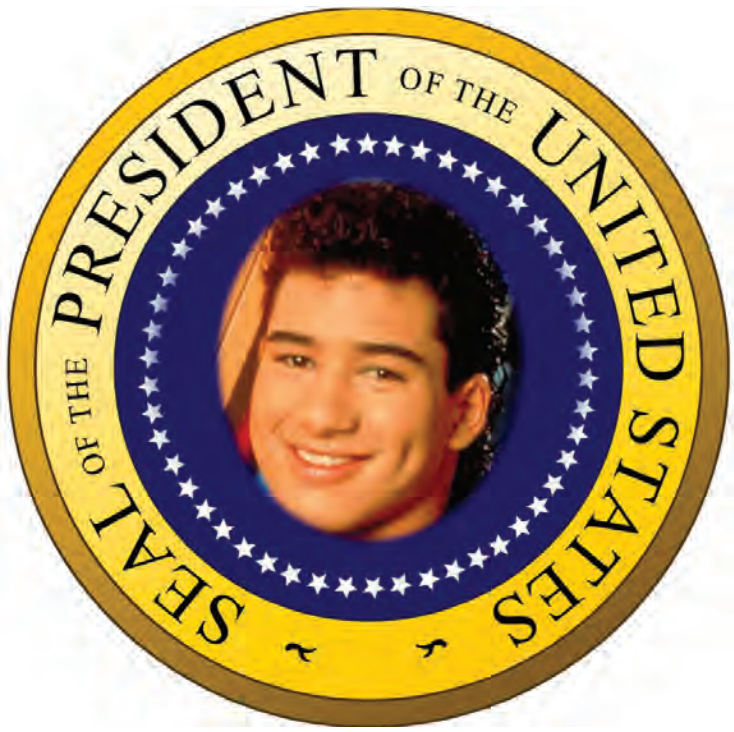
Enjoy a chicken this fall, guard it with your life if you want leftovers. Here's the recipe for the chicken salad, which has many variations.



JAKE COWAN ON: BEING THE PRESIDENT

by Jake Cowan

Cowan/Slater in 2012



August 30th, 2004 was the day I turned 18. Everyone and their mothers asked me if I was going to vote in the upcoming election. I told them, "No. One vote can't change anything." I was kidding when I said this and had every intention in the world to vote, but whether I voted or not didn't really matter. Once I got into the booth, I wrote AC Slater on the write-in portion of the ballot.

Four years later and I am stuck in the same predicament. I do, again, plan on voting, but not for Barack Obama, John McCain, or Darth Vader (Ralph Nader). No, in this election I plan on voting for myself. Before you clench your butt-cheeks so tight you snap that thong in half, listen to my credentials: I once traveled the land as a hobo selling children Chinese finger traps and telling them stories about how when your prostate enlarges you will go to the bathroom much more often; I appeared in the great American film "Over the Top"; and I once strangled a lemur to death. Actually, I only did the first one and the last one. But two outta three ain't bad.

My running mate will, of course, be AC Slater. I will force Mario Lopez to wear a sleeveless, mesh shirt, white Reebok pumps, and tight jeans, and to cut his

hair into that beautiful jheri-curl mullet he once donned on "Saved by the Bell."

Once elected as your dictator, ahem President, I plan on tackling the issues our nation cares about. Ever heard of global warming? Yeah...me too - OK! Well, I'm going to give that bastard a great, big Uncle Sam bitchslap. One main factor in the destruction of our ozone layer is the poisonous chemicals that seep from our cars. People always jibba-jibba about electric cars, but I myself don't want to carry around the burden that if I accidentally spill water on my car, I will be electrocuted. I believe that that is a risk not many people are willing to take. No, I would do one better than electric cars, and make rickshaws the main mode of transportation. Rather than having humans carry around each other like they are used in foreign countries, I would hire animals. Preferably fast ones, like the ostrich or cheetah. Most animals are lazy, and I can't stand that. All of those who oppose this rule by claiming animal cruelty will be deported directly to hell.

Our current financial crisis is quite simple: Not enough money? Make some more. I will print more money, with my face on it, and distribute it to the wonderful citizens of America. If you still

can't afford anything, then blame your parents for not forcing you to play sports or join the adult film industry. There's tons of money in both. Parents are lame. I will also hold an annual treasure hunt that spans the continental U.S. (sorry Alaska and Hawaii, in my term Alaska will become part of Russia, and Hawaii will be blown up). The treasure hunt will last two months and play out similarly to the "Amazing Race," but with weapons.

To get closer to my people, I will turn my life as president into a "Hills" style reality show, which isn't even reality at all, to show all you plebeians how glamorous the Prez can be. I will discuss girl problems with Kim Jong Il, then get into a cat fight (nuclear war) with him after I find him with my woman.

Doesn't this sound great? Please, if you've never done anything before in your tawdry little life, then please vote for me, Jacob Cowan, as your next Presidential Elect.

Show our number in your phone and get 20% off your ride

ASAP TAXI

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Sexualized schizo-pop: Confounding ear candy from Of Montreal

Dylan Martin
Contributing Writer

Not even the previos album, *Hissing Fauna, Are You The Destroyer?* could have prepared us for the newly released trashy-pop funk-fest better known as *Skeletal Lamping*. Beyond *Of Montreal's* usual tendency to evolve their genre, album-to-album, leadman Kevin Barnes pushes the envelope with hypersexuality, hyperactivity, and a very short attention span. Many songs are structured in 30 to 60 second vignettes with radically different melodies and almost seamless transitions. The album's opener, "Nonpareil of Favor", warms up the listener with two mini-songs followed by a 3-minute noise section.

As if the long noise break wasn't enough, the following song, "Wicked Wisdom", serves as one of the greater challenges, with a total of 6 songs stretched across 5 minutes; however, the quick spray of melodies soon become very infectious. Other songs on the album follow the similarly confusing format including "Triphallus, To Punctuate!", "Women's Studies Victims", and "Plastis Wafer".

There are some songs that follow more traditional structures such as "For Our Elegant Caste", a dance song utilizing a mix of funk, African drum, and quirk-pop. "Id Engager" is an utterly flamboyant disco with



Skeletal Lampings by Of Montreal.

Barnes singing out during the chorus, "can't help it if it's true/ don't want to be your man/just want to play with you". These lyrics epitomize the sexual ambiguity expressed through the entire album. At the beginning of "St. Exquisite's Confessions", Barnes starts out with shocking cries of the fictional she-male, Georgie Fruit. The entire album follows the sexually confused life of Georgie and plays out like an erotic musical.

To anyone familiar with Of Montreal's live shows, they know of Kevin Barnes' fondness for David Bowie through his garb and theatrics. *Skeletal Lamping* could be declared as a crazy, funkcd-up extension of

Bowie's "Ziggy Stardust." There are many Bowie-isms to be found in songs such as the melancholic "Touched Something's Hollow" and the moody "And I've Seen a Bloody Shadow".

The follow-up to *Hissing Fauna* is a bit of a paradox in the beginning, but after some contemplation and careful listening, the entire piece begins to make more sense. For fans that have been faithfully following the band's incredible transformation over the past 10 years, this should be seen as their most ambitious work yet and a much-needed evolution of pop music.

Broken Social Scene pounces Bowdoin College

The eclectic to the erratic played

Dylan Martin
Contributing Writer

The Canadian collective Broken Social Scene put on a fantastic and unique show this week in our backyard. While some bands might get lost in the number of members, (more than 10!) Broken Social Scene does it right with eclectic compositions and an amazing stage presence.

I didn't know much about the band on arrival. Very quickly, I saw why Bowdoin chose Broken Social Scene to play. The Farley Field House was packed. The band consisted of 10 or more members, with four guitarists at most, two percussionists and a four-piece horn section. While co-founder Kevin Drew appeared to be the lead vocalist, vocal duties would often switch on various degrees as the band played out their experimental, ambient jams, ranging from greatly danceable to the slow and droning. All of the

members performed with high-energy, openly displaying their own idiosyncrasies and styles, which in turn, resonated with the ecstatic, youthful audience.

The musical collective was clearly a group of friends and family who enjoyed playing music and noticeably supported each other in their own musical endeavors. While most of the songs were collaborative efforts by the entire band, BSS played a handful of songs written by cofounders Kevin Drew and Brendan Canning in their solo efforts. Two of my favorites were "Fire'd Eye Boy" and Canning's "Hit the Wall", both exhibiting great texture walls of guitar and infectious melodies.

The opening band, Land of Talk, was a great combination of Blondie and early-90s light grunge, and two of the members performed in most of Broken Social Scene's lengthy two-hour set.

Though it was a late night at Bowdoin, the crowd was energetic and seemingly delighted by the band's presence.

There were only two student-related 'incidents.' One where a student crowd-surfed onto the stage while the band was performing, and one where another student started a verbal argument with Kevin Drew and eventually became violent.

Drew made a lighthearted jab to the audience saying, "I'd like to thank all your parents for making this concert possible," and the student took it offensively, he screamed obscenities at the band, even after Kevin went down and talked to him for 5 minutes. After the student almost punched a band member attempting to escort him, security came in and guided him to the exit.

A moment with O.A.R.'s Richard On

Andrew Rice
Staff Writer

This week I had the pleasure of talking with the guitarist of the popular college rock band O.A.R.



Free Press: Heard you guys are making your way up to our neck of the woods again pretty soon...

Richard: We are! On the 17th I believe.

FP: Cool. What do you guys think of good old Maine?

R: Maine's great. I think the whole music scene in the northeast is a pretty cool place to be touring. You know, we tour depending on the season and depending on what part of the country, but we always look forward to tour the northeast...we're pretty excited.

FP: Good thing it's not the middle of the winter just yet.

R: Haha, yea, it could definitely be much colder.

FP: So where are you guys right now?

R: We're actually all at home, in all our designated cities. We all live in different areas so we'll all be meeting up for the first show on November 1st in Madison, Wisconsin.

FP: Halloween in Madison is quite the experience.

R: Yeah, I remember when we were at Ohio State, everyone went to Madison just to party there for Halloween, it's pretty crazy.

FP: So the tour is called the Campus Consciousness Tour. What is it all about?

R: It's basically an attempt to turn a tour "green" by using things such as bio-diesel, recycling, and trying to reduce our carbon footprint while we tour. When bands go on tour, there's usually a lot of wasteful things that could be prevented, and we're trying to help spearhead that, along with Reverb, to make people aware of what we're doing and what they could be doing to help the environment.

(Of A Revolution). The band recently released their sixth studio album, "All Sides," in July and it debuted at #13 on the Billboard charts. If that's not an eye opener, then consider them playing sold-out shows at Madison Square Garden and opening for the Dave Matthews Band as solid evidence of their recent dominance. As of late, they have partnered with Reverb, an enviromental-savy concert touring group, for the third time, and are heading out on the Campus Consciousness Tour on November 1st. The tour, which is making many stops at universities all over the country, will stop at UMaine on November 17th, and Richard speaks for the lot when he says they're excited for a return trip to the great Northeast.

FP: That's awesome. Do your buses run on bio-diesel?

R: Well, the thing about bio-diesel is that it's not heavily available, so you can't always use bio-diesel and you can't always route your tours around where you can fill up. But, what we're working on now is making sure that some buses can run on a combination of bio-diesel and regular fuel.

FP: You guys just got added to the MTV Concert for the Vets. How did it feel to be in the midst of such a large group of celebrities?

R: It was definitely interesting to see the show with all those characters running around. You know, we're not usually associated with a lot of the mainstream bands that are pretty much brand names, but it was all for the same cause and the whole experience was completely positive.

FP: Well, it was for a good cause...

R: Yes. Bringing awareness to how hard it is for our troops when they come home, you know, making sure that veterans, when they come home, can get the best heath care they could possibly get, whether they can afford it or not. That shouldn't be a problem, and the whole event was very supportable.

FP: Well, keep up the good work.

R: Thank you, look forward to being in Maine again.

O.A.R. will be at the UMaine Feildhouse on Nov. 17 Tickets are \$20 for all college students in Maine and \$30 for general public and are available at umainetix.com and Bull Moose Music.



Creating Cat Dancer

Tyler Jackson
Staff Writer

Thirty years ago, the man who calls himself Cat Dancer was a young, self-described introvert enthralled with computers and math, walking quietly through his family’s five acres of woods in North Monmouth, Maine. He rode his bike through the town’s empty streets past the smoky, brick expanse of Tex-Tech Industries—the world’s lead-

for Visa as a Java programming contractor in what he calls “the bowels” of the company; a Dilbertesque job in a cubicle. It was the cubicle that drove him to dance.

June 29, 2004 marked the birth of the name Cat Dancer with his first post on the internet blog site LiveJournal. He needed to come up with a screen name and chose Cat Dancer in reference to the toy people used to play with kittens and cats. He was looking for

scene. He decided he would just take it outside.

Cat remembers being nervous at first, wondering if he would be arrested for disorderly conduct, mugged, or have his boom box stolen. He went out and bought the cheapest boom box he could find and set up at Monument Square in Portland without a costume. Cars stopped, people marveled, homeless men complimented him.

“Everyone was astounded to see people dancing outside,” he said. Eventually, he donned the costume he had worn as a disguise at the Arisia science fiction convention in Cambridge, Massachusetts, before the dance existed: a black spandex unitard, a massive, transparent cherry red cape which resembles the fictional frill of a Dilophosaurus and a black and red feathered Mardi Gras masquerade mask.

The Cat Dance is a wild, flaring, seemingly interpretive display of symmetrical reaching and grabbing and sleek movements. It is suave, twirling, a waltz with one’s self, and indeed, catlike. The improvisational, one-of-a-kind routine is accompanied by new age, pop, dance and video game music. It is an unabashed presentation of self expression reminiscent of a Chinese ribbon dance.

Combining his online handle, new dance and flashy costume, the fully-realized Cat Dancer was born. When discussing the inspiration and ideas behind this entity, he talks about the work of American cartoonist and theorist Scott McCloud. He says that the less realistic and more cartoony a protagonist is, the more people are able to identify with the character.

“You could draw a Cat Dancer figure very quickly, like you could draw a cartoon character quickly. So if you wanted to draw a natural person, that would take longer, because then you would need to actually draw their features and so on,” he says.

He discusses the old French cartoon *The Adventures of Tintin*: “Tintin, the character, was

drawn in a very cartoonish way, you know, just like a circle for a head and a couple of wiggles for the ruffle of his hair, sort of like a Peanuts cartoon,” he said. “The background was drawn very realistically, almost like a photograph; photorealism. And Scott McCloud points out that that combination makes it especially easy for people to identify themselves as being in the story.”

So here is the story: a thirty-something trapped and troubled computer programmer breaks out of the cubicle, into guise, and onto the streets. A cartoon among ordinary life, he dances his feelings away with streamers and loud songs in front of passersby and those who stop to watch. But

BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR

Cat Dancer does not consider himself a performer. “People ask me, ‘When are you going to dance again?’ But I dance just for fun, when I feel like it,” he says. Upon first the words “eccentric” and “oddity” come to mind. The sight of him dancing and prancing to loud music in the the superheroesque outfit evokes the madness of a big city; he wouldn’t be the least bit out of place there. He has danced in Central Park, but Tommy’s Park in the Old Port is where he could be found most often. He would Cat Dance for hours on end, to praise and insults.

See **CAT** on page 13



BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR

ing producer of tennis ball felt; a place where workers are liable to lose a few fingers in the machines. There wasn’t anyone else around who shared his interests of fantasy and science fiction.

After years of incessant bullying in public school, Cat enrolled in Wesleyan. He graduated with a degree in physics and moved back east to Portland to work

a name that was fun and playful.

He had always been an admirer of dance and eventually attended some method workshops where he learned what are known as the “five rhythms”—flowing, staccato, chaos, lyrical, and stillness. This led him to create what became the Cat Dance. Stuck in a cubicle, he was at a loss as to how and where he could perform other than the loud, drunken bar



BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR

Movie review

Choke: dark humor at its heartiest

Kaitlyn Creney

Contributing Writer

Without a doubt our culture is fascinated by addictions. Choke focuses on a few unpleasant addictions but connects the viewer to the movie in an addictive way. The film illustrates that everyone has at least one habitual flaw.

It has been adapted from Chuck Palahniuk's, ("Fight Club") book of the same name and remains surprisingly by-the-book the whole way through.

Sam Rockwell ("Confessions of a Dangerous Mind") plays the protagonist, Victor, an eighteenth century colonial tour guide by day and gruesome jumble of troubles by night. Compulsive liar, sex addict and varied scam artist may make him a bad person but Rockwell plays him with a boyish charm so that no one can

cast him off for these faults permanently.

It's a delight to see Rockwell go to his Sex Addicts Anonymous meetings just to have casual sex, or to see him artfully choke on pieces of food to collect money or evoke sympathy from strangers. Even his constant lying is so ridiculously funny the audience must love the villain.

All of his issues draw back to his mother, cinema great Angelica Houston, and her less-than-stellar-parenting. We see this through a series of flashbacks where she teaches Victor the art of scamming, while she lies in a mental hospital. Houston's dementia leaves her unable to recognize her son, heartbreaking to both Victor and the viewer.

Victor's best friend and fellow sexual deviant, Denny, is played by Brad William Henke. We see

his transformation from pervert into a "normal" member of society after he completes Sex Addicts Anonymous therapy and, naturally, falls in love with a stripper named Cherry Daiquiri.

Kelly MacDonald (No Country for Old Men) plays a doctor who takes care of Victor's incompetent mother. Obviously Victor peruses her to the point that a restraining order may have to be involved.

It is without a doubt that Choke is a guilty pleasure; it's a clever, quirky and twisted satirical dark comedy. It is meant to shock, and you will delight in the humor. Especially if you enjoyed Fight Club, Choke will fit in with your taste.

From CAT on page 12

His website, features questions and answers, three "How To" pages [How to Be Cat Dancer, How to Dance the Cat Dance, How to Give Great Hugs], advice, insults, praise, and a page of writings which are separated into five categories: Ecstatic, Humorous, Dramatic, Scary and Sensual. Each of essay and poem reveals something about Cat Dancer that makes the character—not the performance—more understandable, more human.

Cat Dancer has entertained people at anime and science fiction conventions for the past four years. PortCon is an annual convention which takes place at the Sheridan Hotel in downtown Portland. At the 2008 convention, he made a presentation entitled "Creating Cat Dancer" which involved demonstrations, and eventually, audience participation.

"He has a very free-flowing, spontaneous dance. It's very

modern, very lyrical," said Jenna Olijar, a friend of Cat Dancer who lives in Brunswick. She works at PortCon and minored in dance at the University of Southern Maine.

Olijar met Cat Dancer five years ago on LiveJournal through a mutual friend. They communicated online for a time until one day, after Jenna posted that she was moving and needed help, Cat Dancer showed up at her apartment. She had never seen a picture of him or any of his Cat Dancing videos.

"My first impression was he was very graceful," she said. "The very first thing he moved was my rug and I remembered he made a dance out of it. He rolled it up and danced it around the room and down the stairs and into his car."

On his blog, Cat Dancer talked about being on the road: "The driving itself is fairly tedious. I do get some books on tape and that's a big help. I find myself

driving lots of hours during the day. I'm eager to get to my next destination, whatever that may be."

He is still learning about the life on the road. "Now I can go where I want," he says. "Well, I'm not sure I've really figured out yet where exactly I want to go."

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COSTUME DESIGNER CATHERINE GEORGE
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JOE KLITZ PRODUCTION DESIGNER ROSHELLE BERLINER
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS TIM ORR PRODUCED BY ANNE S. RYAN DERRICK TSENG
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BASED ON THE BOOK BY CHUCK PALAHNIUK
SCREENPLAY BY CLAYTON KRAMER
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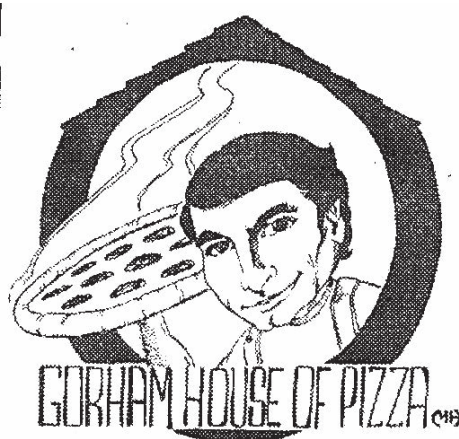
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1	7							8
			6	7				1
3		9		4		5	7	6
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8			5	6		2		3
6	5	4		1		8		2
9				2	3			
2							1	4

Random Fact!

John Quincy Adams was elected the 6th President of the United States despite losing both the popular and electoral vote. No one won the majority, so the election went to the House of Representatives, where John Quincy Adams had more friends than his competition.

For more random facts go to:
mentalfloss.com/amazingfactgenerator

PUZZLES

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Store event
5 British bloke
9 Hollywood headliners
14 Mouse, to an owl
15 Angelic ring
16 Archer's weapon
17 Assistant
18 Lubricates
19 Tropical fruit
20 Manicurist's bottle
23 Skeptical reply
24 Peeved moods
25 Requires
27 Negative vote
28 Wanderers
32 Sore spot
35 Make into law
38 Take to court
39 Pest
43 Ginnie ____ (mortgage agency)
44 Foe
45 Job to do
46 Run of luck
48 Tax pro: Abbr.
50 Sit in the driver's seat
53 British nobles
56 Stylish
59 Marching-band groups
62 Of farm life
64 Whitish gem
65 Scissors sound
66 Run off to wed
67 Floor model

- 68 Rights org.
69 Ebbs
70 Historical periods
71 Adolescent
- DOWN**
- 1 Reach across
2 Opera solos
3 Escorted
4 Cosmetic in a pencil
5 Very particular
6 Signal, as a taxi
7 ____ a day's work
8 Pursuit group in westerns
9 Droop
10 Self-evident statement

- 11 Jordanian, e.g.
12 Wander
13 Attack, as a fly
21 After-school grp.
22 Therefore
26 Decimal points
29 Where Japan is
30 Defective firecrackers
31 Look for
32 24-hr. cash sources
33 Informal talk
34 Farmer, in the spring
35 Compass pt. opposite WSW
36 ____ de plume
37 Whichever
- 40 Well-ordered
41 Ready to use, as a stamp pad
42 Ogles
47 Get away
48 Large string instruments
49 Butter portion
51 Wear away
52 More mature
54 Jousting weapon
55 Photographer's request
56 Ship's personnel
57 Luau dance
58 Metal in steel
60 The Dalai ____
61 Twirled
63 ____ *Misérables*

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
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Portland native to head LAX team

Reid named women's lacrosse coach

Mike Tardiff
Sports Editor

The University named Lauren Reid, a Portland native and Deering High School graduate, the new women's lacrosse coach last week.

Reid becomes the fifth coach in the program's history and replaces Sue Frost who was at the helm for three years. Frost has accepted the women's lacrosse job at University of New England.

In Reid the Huskies get a coach who was a four-year letter winner and high school All-American

while at Deering and someone who played for the University of Maryland Terrapins, who advanced to the NCAA Div. I Semifinals in 2003. Reid also spent time at the University of Massachusetts, where she played three seasons and completed her undergraduate degree.

I fully expect that [Reid] will bring our women's lacrosse program to a new level of performance," said Al Bean, Director of Athletics, in a press release. "She earned high school All-American honors at Deering and played at the very highest level of intercol-

legiate lacrosse competition at Maryland and UMass."

Reid's prior experience has been at the high school level, serving as the junior varsity coach and varsity assistant at Deering High School in 2008. Reid also held a varsity post at Belchertown (MA) High School.

"I am extremely excited about being a part of USM Athletics and look forward to building a consistently strong women's lacrosse program here. I hope to instill a whole new level of play with our athletes that sets an ag-

gressive tone for many seasons to come," Reid said in the release.

Reid will have a solid base to build from. Last year's team posted an 8-9 overall record but turned up the heat in conference play earning a 5-1 mark. The Huskies advanced to the Little East Championship where they lost to Western Connecticut 17-10. Reid will inherit a team that returns 11 players including four of the teams top five scor-

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Upcoming Games

November 4
Field Hockey @ TBA

November 5
Little East Conference Semifinals @ Gorham

#1 Men's Soccer v.
Winner Western Connecticut/Plymouth State

November 8
Little East Conference Championship @ Gorham (if USM wins)
Men's Cross Country @ ECAC Div. III
Championships at Colt State Park - Bristol, RI 11:00 a.m.

Women's Cross Country NCAA New England Regional Championship @ Mt. Greylock High School - Williams, MA 12:00 p.m.

Puzzle Answers FROM PAGE 15

SALE	CHAP	STARS
PREY	HALO	ARROW
AIDE	OILS	GUAVA
NAILPOLISH	IBET	
SNITS	NEEDS	
NAY	NOMADS	
ACHE	ENACT	SUE
THORN	INONE	SIDE
MAE	ENEMY	TASK
STREAK	CPA	
STEER	EARLS	
CHIC	DRILL	TEAMS
RURAL	OPAL	SNIP
ELOPE	DEMO	ACLU
WANES	ERAS	TEEN

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

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GET OUT!

by *Brandon McKenney*

What to do when in limbo

It's that time of year again. Fall has all but passed us by, the leaves are dying and the weather is getting colder every minute. On the other hand, it's not quite winter yet either. The ground is still bare so there won't be any hitting of the slopes any time soon. With the brisk air and the apparent void in outdoor activities, it's this time of year that people tend to stay inside the most. Well I'm here to provide you with just a few of the many things to do outside that you might not have thought of yet. So shake that laziness off, grab a coat, and don't let the door hit you on your wait out to enjoy this beautiful world.

- Those mountains aren't going anywhere. Contrary to popular belief, this is actually a great time to go hiking. No it's not going to be the great weather you'll find in the summer, but the trails will be just about empty. If you dress in layers, this time of year is a great chance to explore some of the wonderful trails in Maine (think Acadia or Katahdin) or venture over to the Whites in New Hampshire. If hiking the larger peaks isn't your cup of tea, there's smaller options around that provide a great experience as well. Try out Burnt Meadow Mountain in Brownfield if you're looking for a relatively short hike with multiple peaks and a great view.



- It looks like a great beach day! Like the mountains, the beach is another large part of Maine that starts to become ignored and abandoned when the weather turns cold. While you won't be able to lay out and get that bronze tan like you would in July, Maine has more coastline than the entire state of California, and it should not be left alone. This time of year is perfect for watching a brisk sunrise, looking for shells, or even going surfing. As the water and air get colder, the tourists retreat to Canada and the munchkins go back to school, and the beach becomes your playground. Even if it's just for a nice long walk from Pine Point to Old Orchard's pier, it's worth the short drive to the coast.



- Who needs Planet fitness anyway? While it may be tempting to spend the colder months in a nice gym running on a treadmill or pumping iron, the outdoors is the original gym and it's free admission year round. For that upper body workout you've been looking for, take an axe to some wood and get ready to stoke that fireplace. Work on those legs on a run before it gets snowy outside.
- Anything summer can do, winter can do better. Okay, so this might not be true, but that's no reason to become depressed as the cold chill hits. Take it in stride and realize there's still plenty to do outside, especially before the snow hits the ground. Basically anything you were doing outside this summer is still game for at least another month or two, so take advantage. Personally I'm partial to longboarding, biking, hiking, and just generally exploring this great state of ours.

So there you have it. While not a comprehensive list by any stretch, hopefully my ideas have at least given you the motivation to let your imagination run wild. Seriously. Get outside and enjoy what this time of year still has to offer. And don't worry, I'll be back in the middle of winter to get you off your butt again then too.



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Husky Highlights

Men’s XC 1-2 punch

Junior Tyler Jasud (Rumford) continued his dominance of the Little East Conference where he captured the individual title at the LEC Conference Championship on Nov. 1. Jasud was followed in the effort by freshman Alex Gomes (Peabody, MA) who placed second. The Huskies finished second as a team, 12 points behind nationally ranked Keene State University.

Women’s XC third in conference

The USM women’s cross country team had a stellar third-place finish at the Little East/Alliance Conference championship on Nov. 1. The effort was led by senior Gabby Cyr (Fort Kent) who placed third overall in the event. Cyr’s finish was the best by a Husky since Sara Marzouk took second place in 2005. Following Cyr were sophomore Carly Dion (Biddeford), who finished 11th. Just steps behind Dion, junior captain Sarah Myrick turned in a 12th place effort. The Huskies finished behind winner Keene State and event host Westfield State.

Field Hockey claims playoff berth, wins

The USM field hockey team claimed a 2-1 victory against Fitchburg State to claim the fifth seed in the Little East Conference and advanced to the playoffs. The Huskies got goals from junior India Lowe (Gloucester, MA) and Catilin Albert (Scarborough) to fend off their conference foes. Lowe assisted on Albert’s goal. Junior goalkeeper Allison Hill (Cape Elizabeth) turned away three shots to help lift the Huskies past the Falcons. The Huskies end the regular season with a 9-10 record overall and a 6-5 mark in the conference.



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SCOREBOARD (10/28 - 11/1)

Men’s Soccer

11/28

Salem State	USM
2	1

11/1

USM	RIC
1	0

Women’s Soccer

10/29

St. Joseph’s	USM
1	0

11/1

RIC	USM
2	0

Field Hockey

10/28

New England College	USM
5	1

11/1

USM	Fitchburg State
2	1



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Huskies win first LEC title

Matt Dodge
Executive Editor

Greg Cox (Brookline MA) knew what had to be done in his last regular season game as a Husky.

And with 15 minutes left on the clock he got it done.

The senior captain took a solid pass across the middle from senior Sinisa Bajic (Belgrade, Serbia) and slotted a shot home under the diving Rhode Island College keeper to give the Huskies a 1-0 win over the Anchormen and the school's first-ever LEC regular season crown.

"The fact that it was Sinisa to Greg meant a lot," senior Ben Sagle (Scarborough) said. "They're seniors and they been our most offensively productive players."

In a game where RIC came out very psychical with hard tackles and three yellow cards in the first half - an effort to slow down the Husky offense - USM used solid ball control and defense to down the previously unbeaten RIC squad. "It wasn't a cheap game. It was what you expect in a conference game," Sagle said.

While Goal-scoring opportunities came at a premium, the Huskies were able to limit RIC's chances while capitalizing on theirs.

After the first half the tone for attacking had been set. USM looked to a structured attack a deliberate pace to control the action, while RIC tried to dump the

ball to it's speedy forwards in hopes of a breakout chance.

Shortly into the second half, a cross from the left by Sagle looked promising but ended up in the side netting after a blistering run up the side from the forward.

Several minutes later RIC began to ramp up its offense and challenged the USM defense in consecutive attack, culminating in a slalom run down the middle from Adam Philbin and a curling kick saved by a diving David Kreps (Agawam, MA), who earned the shutout in net.

The Anchormen had their chances, but could capitalize.

A direct free kick almost resulted in a goal from RIC when Kreps dropped the ball after a save, and an ambitious RIC attacker knocked it free.

The effort was saved off the line by sophomore Nick Johnson (South Portland) to keep the game even, and soon after the Huskies went ahead with the Bajic to Cox connection.

And then the Huskies went into lockdown mode to secure the win. The played a relatively cautious final 15 minutes, trying to prevent any late-game heroics by RIC.

But the Anchormen made one final push when Ben Coco got free with four minutes remaining in the game. Luckily, the Husky defense was able to track him down to finally sink the Anchormen and secure their fate as the number one team

in the conference, which affords them the luxury of hosting both potential playoff games. "Up to this point we've done everything we can to put ourselves in position to achieve our ultimate goal of making the NCAA tournament," Sagle said.

The Huskies finish their regular season with a 12-7-1 record overall and an impressive 6-1 mark in the Little East. The Anchormen, who will enter the Little East Conference tournament as the second seed, finish their 2008 campaign at 10-5-4 overall and 5-1-1 in conference.

The Huskies were out-shot by RIC 9 to 4 in the contest.

USM will play host to the winner of Western Connecticut and Plymouth State on Wednesday, Nov. 5 in Gorham in the semifinals of the LEC tournament. "Whoever we play we know it's going to be a tough game," Sagle added.



DANIELLE MILO / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Senior captain, Greg Cox, hustles after a loose ball in the Huskies' 1-0 victory over Rhode Island College. Cox scored the game's lone goal.

SAAC gives back Student athletes haunt Costello for 14th annual Halloween party

Sarah Violette
Staff Writer

Ghostly goblins, creepy skeletons, and spooky jack-o'-lanterns all helped to kick off the scare of the night at the 14th annual Halloween Party hosted by the Student-Athlete Advisory

Committee in Gorham on Thursday night.

On a night where innovative costumes and free candy provided a great opportunity for USM to give back to the community, dozens of families came out to enjoy the various activities put on by many of our Husky athletes. With different teams coming out to help decorate and coordinate the party, "It's a chance for the kids to meet athletes and be involved with them while their off the playing field," said Meredith Bickford, the assistant athletic director here at USM. "We try to get donations from the community and surrounding businesses, but it's really just a way for the Rec. department and the Athletic department to give back to the community," she explained.

Having the night equipped with a haunted locker-room, giant inflatable slides, ghostly musical chairs, ponies, and even a mummy wrap, children were certainly able to enjoy the festivities of the evening. Five year old Mathew Finney from Gorham, who was dressed as the famous Spiderman, was accompanied by his mother and father, Kim and Mike Finney.

"It's a lot of fun and the kid's love it," said Kim.

"It's our 5th year now

and Mathew loves it when the college kids wrap him up like a mummy," she explained. "He's pretty excited about the bouncy house too," Mike added.

Although the athletes weren't able to enjoy the bouncy house as much as Mathew, the feeling of gratitude they received from the community's supporters was enough. "It's great to help out, especially since a lot of people support all of our sporting events. It's the least we can do to return the favor," said Kristen Arsenault, a junior basketball player who helped the children enjoy their pony ride for the night.

As candy was handed out to contest and game winners, free pop corn, brownies, doughnuts, and beverages were also available to ease any stomach grumbings or dry throats that needed a little more than just candy. The amazing costume displays were also fun to marvel at, especially the baby girl dressed as the fish from Disney's "Finding Nemo," who spent most of the night crawling on the floor, searching for a little water to exercise her little fins.

After all was said and done, the athletes spent the remainder of the night cleaning up and, for underclassmen, already looking forward to next year's festivities. "It was definitely a fun night," says Mary Vaughan, a sophomore hockey player. "Our haunted house was the best. Hopefully we can continue to scare all the little kids next year."

