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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE

FREE PRESS EXCLUSIVE: *Our interview with President Botman*

David O'Donnell
News Editor

"Budget challenges are, regrettably, part of the DNA of public education," said President Selma Botman, a day after touring USM with grim news about the school's finances.

In recent emails and speeches, Botman has stressed the difficulty of cutting anything from USM's already cash-strapped operating budget. The timing of the states' curtailment of \$2.7 million couldn't have been worse, with much of the years' budget already allocated or even spent.

As a result, next semesters' supply of books, equipment, and professors will be hardest hit.

24-hours after her address to the Portland campus, we sat down with President Botman - and, according to protocol, public affairs director Robert Caswell - to get a better sense of how she came to make such big decisions, how USM will begin feeling them, and her pending return to the classroom.

Free Press: Last year, just the review of some programs provoked strong reactions from department heads. What's the

response been like in the past few days?

Selma Botman: I can't tell you how gratified...I have a slew of emails - honest to god, this is the truth - people writing, saying 'what can I do to help, I'll teach a course'...then offering what they hope would be constructive ideas about savings. And, you know, we're going to take all these ideas into consideration as we look at 2009 and also, beyond that, in the 2010 budget.

FP: When the Governor announced that there would such a massive curtailment, who did you meet with to figure out where to start cutting?

SB: We met with members of the senior staff, vice presidents, and directors, then members of the senior staff talked down to others. So I didn't necessarily meet with all these people. Of course I met with the senior staff, and others were empowered to reach out and make explanations and seek some advice.

In fact I'm going to be talking to a group of faculty this afternoon. It's a faculty meeting, not a bargaining or negotiating, just

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"Storm of epic proportions"

Botman paints bleak picture while rolling out budget cuts



BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR

President Botman listens to statements from concerned faculty, staff and students last Monday at Portland's Hannaford Lecture Hall. Botman held similar forums at Gorham and LAC to address USM's loss of \$2.7 in state funds.

David O'Donnell
News Editor

Addressing crowds at all three campuses on Monday, President Botman elaborated on how USM will recover from a loss of \$2.7 million in state funds: through major cuts to libraries, tech-

nology, professional staff, and non-tenured faculty - effective immediately.

In prepared remarks, Botman vowed to see the University through a "storm of epic proportions," adding that similar or more drastic cuts are almost certain in the coming years.

"Today, I face a responsibility that is as excruciating as it is unavoidable," she said. "Guiding this academic community through a wrenching adjustment to a new financial reality."

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USM hosts anti-hate rally

Local leaders condemn racist, violent sentiment following election



BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR

Protestors gathering in the Woodbury Campus Center to speak out against racist acts across Maine in the wake of November's Presidential election.

David O'Donnell
News Editor

Nearly two-hundred people gathered at USM's Woodbury Campus Center on Friday, November 21, for a "rally against hate", prompted by incidents across the state that have made startling - and for many Mainers, embarrassing - international news.

The crowd was largely a mix of activists and politicians, including Maine Governor John Baldacci and USM president Selma Botman, who delivered short statements to a room teeming with signs reading "Hope Not Hate" and "We Will Not Be Silent".

The rally responded most directly to a sign spotted at the Oak Hill General Store in Standish, days after the presidential election. According to the Associated Press, the poster invited customers to put \$1 into a "shotgun pool" revolving around how and when Barack Obama might be assassinated.

"Let's hope someone wins," the sign reportedly read, below a list of ways the act could be carried out. The store has been closed since the initial outcry, which prompted a federal investigation and was written about everywhere from The Washington Times to The Guardian newspaper in Britain.

The store's owner has denied that the sign even existed.

Here in Maine, it has spurred intense debate, as leaders, lawmakers, and police have rushed to condemn it and other, more racially-motivated acts following the election of the country's first African-American president.

On November 5, a student at Gray New-Gloucester High School reportedly disrupted class with what have been described only as "racist remarks" about the President-elect - followed by a confrontation with a black student in a hallway later on, and racist graffiti on a bathroom wall.

Also following the election, officials in Tremont and Bar Harbor investigated separate incidents in

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The most specific information was revealed right away, as she listed funds that have already been revoked and returned to the state.

Among them: \$300,000 set aside for travel, \$100,000 for online course development and support, \$200,000 in upgrades to the school's website, and \$200,000 for "technology and other equipment."

An additional \$200,000 in non-credit activities such as Lifeline and continuing education will be snipped, along with \$50,000 in non-faculty hiring searches.

But one of the biggest and most difficult decisions, Botman said, was to strip \$300,000 from the libraries' acquisition budget.

The remainder of the deficit must be recovered by a "drop-dead" deadline of June 2009, and will be acquired through up to 65 personnel layoffs. While declining to specify where exactly these will be made, Botman stressed that professional staff will continue to see dismissals.

"Sadly, reductions in the non-teaching ranks have been and remain unavoidable," she said. "There are no remaining reserves on either the local or system level to tap."

She also stressed that the school was making a strong effort to move away from its "reliance" on part-time faculty, while calling on tenured professors to voluntarily increase their course loads. She and other administrators will also begin teaching in the spring.

The final forum of Botman's tour was held in Portland, where

a packed Hannaford Lecture Hall went silent as the the President took the stage - and her soft voice immediately set a solemn tone.

"Today, USM is a very different place than when I became President in July," she began.

The University was projecting a nearly balanced budget for the 2008-09 fiscal year, a strong turnaround from a situation auditors described as a "mess" just last spring.

At the same time, she portrayed the loss of \$2.7 million as somewhat of a bargain after Governor Baldacci's initial proposal, which threatened to curtail \$3.2 million earlier this month.

But with so many careers in the room hanging in the balance, the tone remained dour, if not apologetic.

"This is something that no one at either USM or the University of Maine System Office caused, and for which neither can be blamed," she added.

Following her remarks, Botman took questions from the audience of mostly faculty and staff.

Several questioned whether the school was doing enough to save money through energy conservation, prompting only an assurance that it was receiving scrutiny.

Others asked about the viability of the tri-campus system.

"Have you given any thought to downsizing facilities as well?" wondered one audience member.

She deferred that and many other questions to the pending results of a strategic planning process, which she initiated upon taking office in July. The process aims at providing research and suggestions toward a five-year plan to restructure USM, though

so far no specific possibilities or scenarios have been offered.

"I'm hoping some creative ideas come of it," she said.

Responding to several other questions, Botman referred to what she called the administration's guiding principle: "do no harm to the classroom." One questioner, however, provoked an admission that only the athletics department is actually off-limits in the current environment.

"Some of our athletes are our best students retained from year to year," she said. "And we've made a commitment to them."

While the crowd was dominated by those on payroll, one of the few students on hand - second-year psychology major Brooke Hayne - was prompted to show up when somebody handed her a slip of paper in the computer lab, warning that the machines she was using were at stake.

She left worried about her school's future.

"This is so bleak," she said of the president's address. "Why



BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR
President Botman spoke on Nov. 24 on what the loss of \$2.7 in state funds will mean for the future for USM, its employees and students.

bother with Wi-Fi on busses, and putting all those ads up everywhere - who would want to come here now?"

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Campus Events

Week of December 1st

Monday, December 1st

Moving Thru Fear workshop Women Work & Community

"Moving Thru Fear" begins December 1. Also on December 8, 25 and 22. "Moving Thru Fear" is sponsored by Women, Work, Community.

LearningWorks Conference Room
Lewiston campus
5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

For more information contact Laurie at 753-6612

Tuesday, December 2nd

USM Juried Student Exhibition

Annual display of student artwork as selected by judges. Free admission.

USM Art Gallery, Gorham campus
Tuesday-Friday 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Saturday
& Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

For more information or access inquiries call
(207) 780-5008
or visit the USM Art Galleries web page:
<http://www.usm.maine.edu/gallery/>

Wednesday, December 3rd

Carmen, The Mopera, with Julie Goell

Sponsored by the CAS Cultural Affairs Committee. \$14 general admission, \$10 seniors/USM faculty/staff/alumni, students free

Russell Hall, Gorham campus
5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

For more information, reservations, or for access inquiries, please call the Theatre box office at
(207) 780-5151

Thursday, December 4th

Husky Film Festival

The Community of Arts is hosting the semiannual Husky Film Festival on the Gorham Campus.

Bailey room 10, Gorham campus
8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

For more information visit COA's website at
<http://www.usm.maine.edu/coa>

Friday, December 5th

Season of Light

18th Annual Scholarship Gala. Tickets are \$90/\$150, reservations required.

Abromson Community Education Center
Portland campus 6:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

For more information, reservations, or for access inquiries, please call (207) 780-5526
Visit the USM School of Music web page:

Monday, December 1st

World Aids Day

Join Frannie Peabody Center at One Longfellow Square to honor our friends, family, and the community affected by HIV/AIDS. The brief 45 minute service will include music, guest speakers, and the opportunity to reflect on effect of HIV/AIDS. Donations accepted/ 12-1:00 p.m./ One Longfellow Square/ Corner of State and Congress Street/ Portland/ 761-1757

Tuesday, December 2nd

Perilously close to Earth: asteroids and comets

Astrophysicist Dr. Julie Ziffer shares her expertise about how astronomers track asteroids and what would happen to Earth if we suffered an impact. Donations accepted/ 7:00 p.m./ USM Southworth Planetarium, 96 Falmouth Street/ Portland Campus

Wednesday, December 3rd

Shop-a-do at Space

This will be the loveliest possible holiday shopping party of the season! Featuring cool and handmade stuff from local shops and artists like Ferdinand, Olive's Vintage, and Record Books. Free/ 4-10 p.m./ Space gallery/ 538 Congress St., Portland/ 828-5600

Thursday, December 4th

Night of culture, amateur films

The annual Husky Film Festival was controversial last year, with student protestors outside and formal attire on the inside—let's see how this year's showcase pans out. Students have made the all the films, which will be judged by

on't stay home!

December 1st - 7th

students. Free / 9-11 p.m./ Bailey Hall/ Gorham Campus

Friday, December 5th

Global block party

The USM Multicultural Student Association hosts Global Block Party, Destination: The World in which students and community members will celebrate multiculturalism through musical performances from a Middle Eastern choir to a drummer from Ghana. Food from local Indian, Somalian, and Thai restaurants will be the centerpiece of the celebration. Free/ 5-9 p.m./ Woodbury Campus Center/ Portland campus

Saturday, December 6th

SUNSHINE PARTY!

It's 4 o'clock and already dark! SPACE will crank up the heat and shine a light (or ten) to brighten the night while Loverless and Dominic and the Lucid play their new albums (Nothing Under the Sun, Season of the Sun, respectively) in their entirety. Sunglasses are REQUIRED. Free, thanks to WCYY/Doors at 9:00, event at 9:30/ 18+ Space gallery/ 538 Congress St., Portland/ 828-5600

Sunday, December 7th

Operaaaaa!

Talented USM Opera students perform selected scenes directed by Ellen Chickering. \$3 students and seniors, \$6 general public/ 2:00 p.m./ Corthell Hall, Gorham Campus/ 780-5151



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a way to talk to our colleagues about the challenges that face us.

FP: A major part of your speech yesterday was that the school was trying to address its "reliance" on part-time faculty. So there will be fewer next semester?

SB: Yes, in the spring.

FP: Have the decisions been made as to who's not returning?

SB: No - we're working with the deans, who will be working with their department chairs and faculty to request volunteers from the faculty to teach an additional course. Tenured faculty, so we'll also be protecting junior faculty members - that may not be the politically correct term today, that's what they used to call us - but they're un-tenured faculty who are already working their way through the tenure system. We're trying to protect them, so that they have time to do their scholarship and teach you.

FP: You will be able to protect those people at least for the spring semester?

SB: Oh, yeah. Because faculty systems are very sensitive to their colleagues.

FP: But in January, we'll be seeing a lot fewer of these professors who teach one or two classes a week.

SB: The important thing is you'll be seeing more full-time faculty in the classroom, which is a good thing. Because the faculty is our most important resource - so you'll be seeing more faculty in the classroom.

FP: Since the hiring freeze, we've heard concern that the school may be holding on to some older professors, maybe a few that are nearing the end of their careers, at the expense of new blood. With all of these layoffs coming, is the University taking any steps to address this? Retirement incentives?

SB: Retirement incentives are connected to the University of Maine system, so that discussion is now at the system level. Whether there will be a retirement incentive, we don't have any closure on that at this time.

Robert Caswell: Those kinds of negotiations are always discussed statewide.

FP: What will we probably see from the loss of \$300,000 out of "technology and other equipment"?

"We will pledge not to harm the academic, educational experience - or the co-curricular experience."

SB: We might not be able to refresh the computers as rapidly as we had hoped, that kind of thing.

You know, I'm sure you know none of these decisions are taken lightly, and all of us do so with a very heavy heart. But we are required to fulfill a mandate, and we are working really judiciously to try to get there.

FP: Who did you meet with to discuss that decision?

SB: [Chief information officer] Bill Wells, and [Chief financial officer] Dick Campbell.

Remember what we're being asked to do - to find available dollars in spring 2009. There aren't many buckets that are available to us. In higher education, you front load much of the budget - much is spent before the end of the fall semester. That's why this is so challenging.

RC: Less of an impact on the student computer labs. More of an impact on replacement of other equipment, that sort of thing.

SB: Bill Wells' principle is very akin to mine, which is 'protect the student.' And we can get back to you about student hours rather than give you just a slice of information that's not full.

FP: And the library is losing \$300,000.

SB: Yes, in book acquisitions, \$300,000 - it's excruciation. You know, somebody who goes to college for such a long time - I never left, obviously - but when you're a scholar, there's personal joy that comes from roaming the stacks of a library and finding unexpected books on the shelves. And to cut the library budget is not something any academic or any university president wants to be in a position to do.

In the old days, you went through the card catalogs and

you found whole areas that had relevant materials. So even if you didn't know what you were looking for, you'd just go to the stacks. I was like a kid in a candy store. So that [budget cut] was a hard one.

FP: So the library won't be purchasing any new books this year?

SB: What we preserved was the online journals. So there's no cuts to the serials.

FP: Will all of this change the focus or the timeline of the strategic planning process you initiated in July?

SB: No...the strategic planning process is, in my view, ever more necessary in order to do what we said right from the start we wanted to do - identify the things we should be doing as a community, and those things we can no longer do. And now, more than ever, with our budget challenges, the recommendations that come from strategic planning will be important to our future planning.

FP: So there are things we won't be doing in the foreseeable future?

SB: All the four groups have met once or twice now. I don't attend the meetings and I haven't

been part of any of these discussions. But from all accounts, the discussions have really been rich and useful.

FP: With all the talk about honing in on the school's focus, do you see a major restructuring of the University as a part of the final plan?

SB: I would be surprised if they came forward with major restructuring. I would be surprised, maybe they will, but I find that hard to believe that major restructuring will be advanced. But I'm not part of these discussions.

We're hoping we'll have a draft strategic plan in January, and it will be finalized by the middle of the spring semester.

FP: What effect do you expect yesterday's announcement to have on your ability to attract new students to USM?

SB: Yes, we're about to send a letter to you, and other current students, as well as perspective students, in which we will pledge not to harm the academic, educational experience - or the co-curricular experience.

RC: Selma has also made a commitment to meet with Maine students. Most importantly, be able to talk face to face with students at High Schools across Maine.

FP: And you've said you'll be teaching in the spring. Do you know what?

SB: I will! I do...I know what I want to teach, I presume the history department will say yes - Modern History of Egypt, 1789

to the present, beginning with Napoleon's invasion.

RC: She's very good at it.

FP: Is that rare, for a president to be active in teaching?

RC: I think so, but I know that [former president Pattenaude] tried to teach an intro to American government course most semesters.

SB: I love teaching, I love the classroom, and I love teaching about the middle east. I'm hoping, I haven't proposed this yet, but I'd like to have a seminar at the presidents house. It would be nice when the students are in the dorms and it will be easier for them to get there.

FP: Are there any previous situations, that you've observed or worked on, that you're using as a model for how to handle this crisis?

SB: This is the third public university system I've worked in - UMass and City University of New York are the other two. And budget challenges are regrettably part of the DNA of public education. In the last two systems I worked in, I was the chief academic officer, and you will see a thread through all of my work and that is 'how do we ensure student success?'

I want you to graduate! I want you to have the kind of intellectual academic experience that you need, and that will prepare you for a lifetime of satisfaction and enjoyment.



"None of these decisions are taken lightly, and all of us do so with a very heavy heart. But we are required to fulfill a mandate, and we are working really judiciously to try to get there."

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From **RALLY** on page 1

which black cardboard figures were found hanging from nooses in trees, taken by many as an allusion to nation's history of lynching black citizens.

At the Woodbury rally on Friday, representatives from the Center for the Prevention of Hate Violence, Maine Civil Liberties Union, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland sought to present a strong counter-point to the unfortunate headlines.

After Reverend Jill Saxby, executive director of the Maine Council of Churches, kicked off the event with a prayer, President Botman took the podium.

"Thank you for coming to this sobering rally," Botman said. "We at the University of Southern Maine[...] prize diversity. We are built on a foundation of tolerance, civility, and respect."

"We want to link arms to ensure that no incidences of racial or religious division separate us," she said, quickly introducing the next speaker, Governor Baldacci, whose brief remarks echoed her condemnation.

"Maine is a welcoming state, we embrace diversity and we reject hate," Baldacci said. "While incidents may have been isolated, they are not to be taken lightly."

The solemn tone that opened the night was soon disrupted after host Rachel Talbot Ross, president of Portland's NAACP chapter, introduced the city's newly reappointed mayor, Jill Duson. Back in 2004, at the start of her first yearlong term, the city councilor and self-proclaimed activist became Portland's first African-American mayor.

"We gather to offer an expanded definition of N.I.M.B.Y. - we gather to say 'not in my backyard.'" Duson said, words spoken calmly but instantly eliciting cheers and shouts of agreement.

"Yes, the hate mongers have freedom of speech," she said.

"And we, the 'hope mongers', to use the words of Barack Obama... have an absolute duty to speak back."

Talbot-Ross continued to energize the crowd by invoking an old call-and-response from the 1960s civil rights movement.

"When I say 'fire it up,' you say 'ready to go!'" she told the crowd, who also obliged when she asked them to walk around and introduce themselves to strangers.

"Fill the room, fill the room," she said, "This is a rally!"

Cumberland County Sheriff Mark Dion, saying he hadn't had time to prepare remarks, said that he would instead "steal some from my two little girls, who are now women."

He recalled his daughter, after being bullied at primary school, describing the sensation by saying, "dad, my heart hurts." To which he reminded her that the bully's did too, "they just don't know it yet."

He mentioned that his daughter has called him from California in recent weeks, asking what he and others can do about the outbreak of hate speech. "We can't fix it if we rely on the law," he told his daughter, and then spoke directly to the gathering.

"The police that are here, I'm proud of them. We're here to affirm that you count on us and you're important. But you've got to fix it."

He was just one of many in an eclectic line-up of speakers that, along with denouncing hateful acts, reminded those in attendance of Maine's sordid history with racism. He noted that until the 1970s, Maine had the largest per-capita membership in the Ku Klux Klan. Speakers also touched on the daunting task of speaking to, not just against, the perpetrators.

"That's the toughest job, and we as police are mindful of this," said Dion. "It's the courage to recognize that they are human too, and we've got to reach out to them."



BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR

USM President Botman, Governor John Baldacci, and community leaders spoke against recent racist acts around Maine, and delivered a message of solidarity against intolerance.

Breaking with tradition

Always attractive to older students, USM branches out



BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR

USM student Tabatha Woodside is seen studying with her son at her side in Woodbury Campus Center.

Nicole Bergeron

Staff Writer

Every weekday morning, Tabatha Woodside wakes up at 6:30 am. She drops her two sons off at daycare and school and heads to class.

When she gets out, it's time for studying and running errands; evenings are for taking care of her family and racing to complete homework.

"By the weekend, I am exhausted," says Woodside, a single mother. "Rarely do I get a night to myself or time to relax with other adults."

USM has long been a magnet for nontraditional students, mainly because of the urban location and affordability. With the current economic hardships, getting a degree to improve one's financial situation is appealing.

The average college student is generally defined as someone between the ages of 18 and 24 - somebody who begins their higher education right around high school graduation.

The rest fall into the "nontraditional" camp - those who take up or resume their studies after some time in the work force, usually beyond the age of 24.

According to the University of Maine System Student Profiles, the average age of a USM student is 27, two years older than in 1995. But the same profile also notes that traditional undergraduate and graduate students are making up a larger proportion of enrollment.

Because USM has traditionally had a high ratio of nontraditional students, it has been categorized as a "commuter school." With the recent drop in enrollment, the school has embarked on a marketing campaign and high school outreach program that indicate an

interest in the more stable and lucrative traditional market.

"We have always been actively engaged in recruiting both [age] sectors," said Craig Hutchinson, Vice President of Student and University Life, regarding USM's recruiting efforts. However, due to the gradual drop in birth and graduation rates in New England over the past 10 years, homegrown traditional students are becoming increasingly scarce.

For Woodside, college has been a delicate balance between studying and motherhood. She started college in New York State after graduating high school in 1998, but found it difficult to be away from friends and family. She moved back to Maine, got married, and began raising her son while attending USM.

The marriage didn't work out, but Woodside continued with her education with the help of Federal Assistance programs. When her second child was born, she found she could no longer afford tuition.

"Programs started getting cut and I found myself in a position where it was nearly impossible for me to go back to finish my last year and a half at USM," said Woodside.

She moved to Boston in hopes of finding a better paying job, but instead found herself and her youngest son in a homeless shelter. She did eventually find housing and a better job, but moved back to Maine to reconnect with her older son.

Last fall she decided to start taking classes again, but found it much more difficult than before. "Most [professors] are sympathetic, but there are standards, and unfortunately there is only so much they can do to excuse late papers or missed classes for a person in my circumstance."

In President Selma Botman's strategic planning process, which begins offering suggestions for sharpening the University's focus in January, it is expected that offering more distance education will be a part of the push for accommodating older students.

Because of the nontraditional students' lifestyle, making the college course load more convenient is becoming a priority.

Woodside has held on through adversity in the hope that, someday, she will earn her degree. But, she says, as a single mom "everything you do means that much more. It's not just for your future; it's for your children's as well."

She misses programs like Parents as Scholars, a state funded program to help TANF (Temporary Aid to Needy Families) recipients get a degree, and then a better paying job. In 2000, while Woodside was attending USM, the program also included a support group for single parents.

"There is no longer any unity or community here at USM for us," she says. "I feel isolated."

But as sure as she is that the road to a college degree remains difficult for the decidedly nontraditional student with mouths to feed, Woodside remains confident and focused on her academic career.

"The first thing they instruct parents to do during an emergency safety video on an airplane is to secure your own oxygen mask, before you assist your children," she says.

"If you are unconscious what good are you to your children? You have to seek your own happiness before you can give it to them."

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Christmas redefined

How I learned to stop buying and love gift-wrapped socks

As I sunk into the couch after a heavy Thanksgiving dinner, my eyelids heavy and unable to concentrate on the one-sided NFL offering, the family elders gathered mischievously over their wine glasses in the kitchen, scheming to end Christmas as I know it.

With the youngest of my cousins now entering high school, the extended family gift-giving regimen had lost the wild-, eyed, wrapping paper tearing frenzy of Christmas pass.

Gone were deafening squeals of glee; these days, it was a polite "thank you", and smile. Maybe it's the guilt of being the oldest of the seven, and still receiving quite a haul, but I worried that if I wasn't the adorable, toy-hungry picture of gratitude, I wasn't doing enough to earn those presents.

So when the new plan was rolled-out, I took it in stride. Pretending to understand the current economic downturn helped me drum up sympathy for aunts and uncles who had to purchase six of everything to work through the Christmas list.

A similar desire to reassess Christmas had been stirring inside me for a while. Well beyond the age of yearning desperately for the year's hot gift, I had - to my own shock and disgust - learned to appreciate the practical.

When a particularly weighty gift under last year's tree turned out to be

a pair of jumper cables, I remember a strange new sense of appreciation for something I actually needed.

My friends were not going to want to come over to play with my new Bean boots or car accessories, but they also wouldn't lose pieces, or my interest, like the gizmo's and fads of previous holidays.

The decision seemed to mark an important maturation, both in our age, and way of thinking. For a busy family who rarely can coordinate schedules to arrange gatherings, just seeing each other around the holidays a treat in itself.

This might all seem candy-cane sickly sweet, but not having to spend money to show someone your appreciation is a refreshing change, and one that firmly separates matters of the heart from those of the wallet. Despite what the commercial onslaught between now and late December might lead you to believe, we don't just have to rely on the retailers of the world to express ourselves.

I love Thanksgiving, a holiday that brings people together for the sole purpose of eating unnatural amounts of food. Without anything to sell outside of turkeys and explosive deep fryers, advertisers largely ignore our annual feast. Instead, they wait until the second it is over, and then hit the giant Christmas countdown clock, inciting

a wave of consumerism that does not break until the stockings are hung by the chimney with care.

If we continue to allow the holidays to be co-opted by companies, and we use our credit cards to spread season's greetings, than one day they might just move Christmas Eve mass to the mall food court so that we can finish our shopping, and pop out for fro-yo or a coffee if the sermon runs long.

I am glad that I can now define my holiday experience outside the realm of shiny wrapping paper, and begin to decide what the holidays mean to me without any suggestions from those who seek to liberate the dollar bills from my wallet.

Thank you for reading,



Matt Dodge

the free press

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



I don't want to grow up

That unanswerable question that looms over head and follows you through your school days and nights, what are you going to be when you grow up? It's difficult to make a decision that will eventually create your future.

If you are one of the many students here at U.S.M. who lives off campus or has a hectic schedule, the Career Services and Professional Life Development has developed an instant messaging service, where you can talk directly to a counselor on your computer. Career counselors will assist you with any of your immediate concerns regarding career decision-making, resume/interviewing skills, job search strategies, graduate school, upcoming events, and a variety of other services the office provides. "IM the Career Counselor" is free to all USM students throughout the spring and fall semesters.

Ian Brown
Career Services & Professional
Life Development

Public forum on vaccinations & bioethics

The University of Southern Maine Honors Program presents: Vaccinations and Bioethics: A Public forum on an issue that affects all of us.

Wednesday, December 10 from 7 to 9 pm at Luther Bonney Hall in Portland.

Invited speakers include: bioethicist Frank Chessa, Ph.D., Director of Clinical Ethics at Maine Medical Center; a representative from the Maine Center for Disease Control; a medical doctor; a chiropractor; and a parent who has chosen not to vaccinate her children.

The goal of the forum is discuss the risks and benefits of vaccination, mandatory vaccinations and the rights of the individual versus responsibility to the public good. The forum will include a panel discussion and a question and answer period.

The event is co-sponsored by USM's Bioethics Institute and the BioClub.

For more information, please contact: karine.odlin@maine.edu

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Zeitgeist: The Movie

A very important explanation of our world

Taryn Yudaken

Staff Writer

In 2007, *Zeitgeist: The Movie*, undoubtedly one of the most important films on our culture, was released. The movie aims to evolve human consciousness, or at least to educate some unknowing citizens. The German word "zeitgeist" translates into "spirit" of the "time", and is defined as the general thought process and mood of society during a particular period of time. *Zeitgeist* is about *our* time.

Zeitgeist's purpose is to reveal ultimate truths about humanity and society. Watching it requires an open mind, because the ideas portrayed are extremely threatening and challenging to many peoples' personal identities. *Zeitgeist* focuses on myths and truths regarding religion, the events of 9/11, and U.S. banks. These three topics are incredibly intertwined and their relation is explained brilliantly in this film.

Part one, "The Greatest Story Ever Told", goes in-depth about the corruption behind religion. A few people have told me personally how hard it was for them to watch it, which proves *Zeitgeist's* point about how deeply ingrained "faith" is in our society. *Zeitgeist* explains how the story of Jesus is a story of the sun, by detailing the significance of the sun and constellation trends throughout history. "It was the political establishment that sought to historize the Jesus figure for social con-

trol", the film explains. People generally believe what they are conditioned into believing, and religion's intentional conditioning plays an enormous role in the broad agenda of our world's leaders.

If part one was a lot to handle, get ready for part two, titled "All The World's A Stage", as *Zeitgeist* undoes "The 9/11 Myth". There is a significant amount of information in this film that clearly illustrates the U.S. government's motives, leaving little doubt that 9/11 was an inside job. *Zeitgeist's* conclusion is that "Criminal Elements within the U.S. Government staged a 'False Flag' terror attack on its own citizens, in order to manipulate public perception into supporting its agenda." According to the researched claims in *Zeitgeist*, 9/11 was indeed a controlled demolition. Charles Shaw, Executive Editor of online publication Reality Sandwich, points out that "Zeitgeist was running the risk of being ghettoized as 'another 9/11 conspiracy movie' when it was about, and represented, so much more."

Part three, "Don't Mind The Men Behind The Curtain", reveals the fraudulent nature of the banking systems that virtually govern the world. *Zeitgeist* exhibits the most disturbing element of America - the fact that it is not a free country anymore, but most Americans believe it is. Brainwashed into thinking that we have choices and freedom and liberty, our thought processes are

deeply affected and essentially controlled by the governments, religions, and industries that stem from massive banking institutions. Many corrupt laws have been made since 9/11, ironically, opened up the doors leading to the eventual end of the Constitution, and democracy.

Zeitgeist also explains how and why our society will always be in a perpetual cycle of debt with the Federal Reserve (and its current operations) in existence. It asks if this land of economic crisis and injustice is really what the American revolution was aiming for? According to one of the founding fathers, No. "I believe that banking institutions are more dangerous than standing armies...if American people ever allow private banks to control the issue of currency...the banks and corporations that will grow around them will deprive people of their property until their children wake up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered." (Thomas Jefferson)

Less than a hundred years later, Woodrow Wilson said (in regret of signing the Federal Reserve Act), "Our great industrial nation is controlled by its system of credit. We have come to be one of the worst ruled, most completely controlled governments in the civilized world - no longer a government by conviction, but a government by the opinion and duress of small groups of dominant men."

Zeitgeist explains the use of war as a tool for profit and social



control, and how WWI, WWII and Vietnam were carried out by powerful U.S. bankers. The Iraq/Afghanistan war has been maintained for years now, with no real progress made. Why? Because without this war the U.S. banks and corporations that started it wouldn't be profiting so much!

A big question here is that if all this is true, then why doesn't the majority know about it? The answer is simple, we are not told what they don't want us to know.

"We are grateful to the Washington Post, the New York Times, Time Magazine and other great publications whose directors have attended our meetings and respected their promises of discretion for almost 40 years. It would have been impossible for us to develop our plan for the world if we had been subjected to the lights of publicity," reads a quote from David Rockefeller, of the Council on Foreign Relations and the notorious Rockefeller Banking Dynasty.

Our society is so completely drenched in mainstream media

and industries that it's difficult for many to think "outside the box". If you suspect you are in the box and need a hand out, watching *Zeitgeist* is a wonderful place to start.

"The last thing the men behind the curtain want is a conscious, informed public, capable of critical thinking, which is why a continually fraudulent zeitgeist is output via religion, the mass media, and the educational system. They seek to keep you in a distracted, naive bubble, and they are doing a damn good job of it." -*Zeitgeist: The Movie*.

Zeitgeist The Movie can be viewed online for free at www.zeitgeistmovie.com

Maine Street is a dead end

Dave Murphy

Contributing Writer

Upon entering the University of Southern Maine in the fall of 2005, I took an instant liking to the University's website. When I wanted to register for classes, check my student bill, or just print out my schedule, it was simple. A few clicks and I was on my merry way. However, now with the new modifications made and the creation of Maine Street, I've been loathing the web site in its entirety.

Let us all sit back and enjoy the difficulties Maine Street embodies, shall we? First off, we run into a problem before we even get to Maine Street. Getting directed straight to Maine Street is impossible from USM's home page. It can't be done.

The school assumes that internally we have some sort of switch in our brain that tells us to look to the right side of the page and click "current students." What if we aren't currently a student? What if I graduated a year ago and need to find out if I took "Intro to Computers" for a job I'm applying for. I'm not currently a student but I need Maine

Street's help. The old homepage had a scroll down selection which visibly showed Web DSIS; it was a piece of cake. So now after my psychic powers have led me to believe "Current Students" indeed is the gateway to Maine Street, I am taken to another page. This is the best part. On the right of the webpage we now have the choice of Web DSIS or Maine Street. Hmm...what's the difference? Wow, thanks USM for letting us know before clicking it! Printed above the two selections state:

"USM is transitioning current student information into Maine Street, the University of Maine System's portal for System-wide online resources. Beginning with the Fall 2008 semester, students will register for courses using Maine Street. The older system, Web DSIS (Web-based Distributed Student Information System), will continue to be available for students to access financial aid information exclusively." Ok, so let me get this straight. Before, we were able to access everything with Web DSIS but for some reason we now have to start using Maine Street which doesn't allow us access to our fi-

nancial aid information. I don't know about anyone else, but financial aid is a huge reason why I'm able to attend this school. This should have been one of the first things added to Maine Street, but it's not even included.

So finally, I've clicked on the Maine Street button. Alright, simply type my user I.D. and password. And I'm finally in! Wait what the hell is this? Welcome to the most complicated web page any college has ever created.

The first time I made it to this page, I didn't even click anything: I just signed out due to frustration. What are all these buttons? Employee Self-Service? Student Self Service? Enterprise Applications? Enterprise? What am I on Star Trek? Training Tools & Materials? I'm just going to take a gamble and click "Student Self Service"; I guess it makes the most sense. I now have the choice of "Student Center" and something that should've been on the first page; "User Guides & Demos." Ok, I've clicked "Student Center" and my class schedule is now in front of me. But it's not telling me my professor's names or even what the class is. It's just giving me a

bunch of numbers and letters. I need more information; luckily they offer it in a different view, which tells us both the professor's name and the class we're signed up for. Alright, let me just print my schedule now...where's the print button? There was one on DSIS, where's the print button here? There isn't one! We can't even print out our schedule in a print friendly format. What a joke! I sign out and

abhor the next time I have to log back in.

The University of Southern Maine has to go back to Web DSIS. I can't even imagine the trouble that first year students had to go through, trying to figure out how to use Maine Street. Web DSIS was simple and user friendly. Before I leave in the spring, I'd like to see at least one logical decision made by the University staff.



Teaching your old text book a new trick

Arthur Page
Contributing Writer

With the spring semester quickly approaching, many students at USM already have their sights set on the next round of textbooks. Textbook season is usually a sad time for students and involves dishing out cash on books when they would much rather be spending it on other things. Times are changing, and there is work being done now to teach the old textbook a new trick.

Roll Over. Speak. Convert into free open source digital! They say you can't teach an old dog new tricks but the textbook market as we know it is broken and in need of a new trick. The problem is that professors pick textbooks but the students buy them. This process has allowed the prices of books to become inflated because the decision maker in this process is not the buyer. The resulting lose-lose situation is what we Micro Economic types call, market failure. What we have is an inelastic demand curve; publishers increase their price, and instead of students refusing to pay the higher price, we are forced to buy the book because we have to have it at any price.

So what do we do? We get involved. Right now there is a resolution working its way through the student senate about textbooks highlighting ways that we can work together to achieve lower prices. There are also alternative plans to promote affordable textbooks.

What is an affordable textbook? An affordable textbook is defined

as anything other than a brand new textbook. This includes: used books, binder-ready books, book rental programs, library reserves, Campus Book Swap, e-books, and finally the holy grail, open source textbooks.

Open source textbooks ship under a creative commons license, which means that they are free to edit and modify with much less restriction than copyrighted textbooks. The practical application is that you can often view, download, and edit an open source textbook without infringing pesky copyright laws. Students can even print them for a reasonable \$25 at a local publisher. That's music to college students' ears because they won't have to choose between spending all their money out of pocket on books or failing their classes.

A new company named Flat World Knowledge is hoping to put a dent in the problem by publishing high quality, open source textbooks. Flat World Knowledge is in beta this fall with 4 books in use at approximately 20 schools. Co-Founder of Flat World Knowledge, Jeff Shelstad, says that the spring 2009 beta campaign is expected to reach almost 1,000 students from 25 schools. During spring 2009, Flat World Knowledge will publish 10 brand new business and economics open source texts.

Many naysayers are reluctant to believe in any false hope of free textbooks, but Flat World Knowledge has confirmed that their model can work. They have just hired three sales and mar-

keting industry veterans. They continue to sign authors at a rate of approximately 1 project every month. Flat World Knowledge, riding a wave of student excitement, is full steam ahead despite the wimpy economy.

Now the question you've been waiting for: If Flat World Knowledge is open source, how do they generate revenue? They believe in students as consumers who will purchase valuable content at reasonable prices. They have a very reasonable model for their books and supplements. The cornerstone of their pricing model is the online textbook, which is free. Students then will be able to purchase a printable book for \$1.99/chapter or \$19.95/complete text. The audio book version will go for \$2.99/chapter and \$29.99/text. The e-book version(s) will be about the same. From there the next step is a printed textbook that will be shipped to your door for \$29.95 (B&W) or \$59.95 (Color).

Lastly, the company will also have study supplements like online quizzes, audio study guides, and flash cards for purchase. These are \$.99/chapter or \$19.95 for an "all you can eat" semester-long subscription. Their pricing model is very attractive to students who are used to paying upwards of \$150/text, and given the amount of student resentment towards large publishers, Flat World Knowledge shouldn't have any trouble staying in business.

With the current state of economic affairs something needs to be done. Research has indi-

cated that textbooks account for up to 20% of the cost of tuition and have become a tipping cost that can be the deciding factor in attending college. In addition, here at USM and at most colleges around the nation, students have been hit with the perfect storm of rising book costs and continued tuition increases over the past six years.

The future does seem promising but all of this talk is, well, just talk. When will we see some results? Sooner than you may think. The University has heard student concerns about rising textbook prices and wants to help ease the burden imposed by increased tuition costs. Though no specifics are being released yet, and no promises can be made, key administration members will be meeting in the near future to discuss role that textbooks play in the University Maine system.

These are exciting times and we stand on the frontier of opportunity. It's a win-win for students and USM. The University can adopt affordable textbooks for students to ease our financial burden and emerge as a leader in progressive forward thinking. The publishers are counting us out, but we still have a few tricks left up our sleeve. The publishers have taught their over-priced textbook a few tricks of their own. They've taught it how to have frequent new editions, they've taught it to bundle with CD's, and they've taught it to maximize profits. Let's see if we can teach the over priced textbook one more trick, how to play dead.



To learn about all types of affordable textbooks you can join the Facebook Group: *Students For Affordable Text Books*

To sell your books for more, and buy your books for less visit: www.CampusBookSwap.org

To Learn more about Flat World Knowledge, visit: www.FlatWorldKnowledge.com

{ Where the **New Textbook Dollar** Goes }



SOURCE: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE STORES (NACS)

College store numbers are averages and reflect the most current data gathered by the National College Stores. Publisher numbers are estimates based on data provided by the Association of American Publishers.

{ How much did you pay for your **textbooks?** }

SHANE HUSKINS - USM STUDENT

"I don't know the exact amount, but I know it was around \$350 - \$400 bucks at least."

JESSECA GOSS - USM STUDENT

"I paid approximately \$300 for my textbooks. I didn't purchase all of them, though. I bought a couple from people who had already taken those classes."

LEAH MINECHIELLO - NON-USM STUDENT

"Over four hundred per semester, for Interior Design & Architecture books. codes, building construction, design elements, things like that. the Massachusetts Building Code book is \$200 alone, and Interior Graphic Standards book is \$250 alone."

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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Life after USM

For liberal arts students, work after college pays off

Tyler Jackson

Staff Writer

For many students, the looming transition from college to the real world is daunting: the need to support oneself, establish a career, pay back student loans and simply stay afloat without the raft that is college frightens. Upon receiving a degree, the excuse of being in college will no longer validate excessive and random drinking, sleeping, eating, or movie-watching.

Despite its horrifying nature, the transition is universal. The following six recent USM alumni serve as examples that you can graduate; and survive.

Joey Turcotte graduated in 2007 with a Media Studies degree and concentration in production and writing.

"I decided I should probably try and get a job before spending another couple semesters on USM's split campus," he said, only a few credits shy of a third concentration.

So, he worked a summer job, one he had worked in years past. He pulled sixty-hour weeks and saved money to pay back his student loans. Six months after graduation, the payment begins. That fall, he quit and devoted all of his time to applying for media related jobs.

"I spent several hours—probably close to 50 or 60—perfecting my DVD portfolio, cover letters and resume," Joey said.

He spent \$250 making and shipping his portfolio to fifteen employers. Even after following up with each one, he heard nothing. Eventually, his money began to dwindle. He started working odd jobs, including some sparse freelance video editing and filming. That winter, the company AV Advantage interviewed and hired him as a videographer, editor and technician.

"The months and months I spent looking for a job really show you how competitive this field of work is," he said.

Joey said his USM education was useful and necessary, but that the skills developed in the real world setting were most important.

"This degree is meaningless if you don't continue to progress," he said.

His brother, Steve Turcotte, graduated in 2008 with a Media Studies degree. He is still seeking long-term employment, but has had some freelance success since graduating.

Steve was hired by local filmmaker Betsy Carson to edit her cooking show, "Delicious TV." He interned with her the previous semester and was hired freelance to edit the fourth season of the show. His job was to capture data

from the cameras' HD memory cards to a computer and quickly return them to the crew so they could continue shooting. He then organized the clips, chose segments which would be used and created a layout of each episode in the timeline.

The work flow was very efficient and organized," he said. "So much that by the end of the six day shoot, all of the episodes were in the timeline and nearly half were already cut to broadcast length."

That work lasted a month. A few months later, the first 3 seasons of "Delicious TV" were picked up by a Romanian broadcasting company. Carson hired Steve to edit the sound for the entire third season. This time, his job was to mute all English dialogue while keeping the ambient kitchen sounds and cooking audio intact.

"As we progressed, we began to develop quite a large sound library of various actions: quick knife slices, setting down a small glass bowl, stirring a pasty mixture with a wooden spoon," Steve said.

Heidi McDonald graduated in 2006 with a degree in Social and Behavioral Sciences. Today, she is employed by the University of Maine system as an Administrative Assistant II while working toward a master's degree from USM.

"The immediate threat of not having a paycheck became relevant, and I ended up taking the first job I was offered," she said.

On a day-to-day basis, Heidi answers an endless stream of telephone calls, registers students for classes, schedules system-wide distance education courses for upcoming semesters and fulfills a host of other administrative duties.

"I'm not directly using my B.A. at this point," she said. "However, my education has allowed me to understand the concepts and objectives in my field—higher education—much more clearly."

Kate McRae graduated from the USM School of Music in 2008 and moved to Burlington, Vermont. She teaches K-8 music in nearby Westford. Aside from her day job, Kate teaches piano lessons and performs live with the group Bella Voice.

"I am doing a conducting internship with Dr. Dawn Willis, as well as running choral and instrumental workshops at local high schools," she said.

She says that though she misses Portland, the move was a good one. She plans on applying to graduate school in the Chicago area next fall.

Emma Kafka graduated from USM with an Art degree in

2007. She worked locally for a few years, but eventually felt the need to get out of the "Portland rut," as she calls it. She moved to Brooklyn and is looking for work in New York, not necessarily something related to her major, but something that will allow her to be flexible—a job she "doesn't dread, with great coworkers."

"I'm really looking forward to creating a community here and making the kinds of friends I had in Portland," she said.

Chell Stephen, originally from Toronto, graduated in 2005 from the Media Studies program. She is working in New York for the video-on-demand music network Music Choice. Chell works as an independent music video director—the kind of job a media studies graduate would kill for. After USM, she obtained a master's degree from Syracuse University's Newhouse School of Public Communication. Chell planned on moving to New York after graduation, with or without a job and place to live.

"Though I'd applied for what feels like a billion positions, I had essentially placed all of my eggs in one basket," she said.

That basket was Music Choice. She met a Syracuse alumnus at one of the company's industry seminars and decided it was the job she wanted. She aggressively kept in touch with him, sending homemade thank you cards, emails and showing in person up to share a music video she had finished.

The night before graduation in April, she received a call from the company saying she was hired as a Production Assistant. She was promoted to Junior Producer a year later and now works on a weekly new releases program and produces a rock show.

"My job consists of researching, interviewing bands, shooting in the field and in studio, field producing and editing," she said. "Seeing the show from start to finish."

Chell speaks fondly of her USM experience, specifically of the Media Studies department.

"I loved the coursework of the program and found that like most things, you can get out of it exactly what

you are willing to put in," she said.

She says that undergraduate studies are where you learn the little things: "How to be a fully functioning human, what you want to spend your time doing, and how to make the most of what's laid out in front of you."

"Kate Kaminski and Nat Ives are two instructors whose dedication, combined with unbelievable knowledge and experience, make the Media Studies program so strong," she said.

Chell keeps a blog, www.brownbookelastic.com, where she writes about her work directing videos and shooting live music.

As difficult and time-consuming as college can be, the real work seems to come after graduation:

applying for jobs, racing to inter-

views, consolidating debt. These people are living proof that hard work does pay; and that immediate post-graduate experience is as much of a stepping stone as college itself; and, of course, the possibility that amid the cogs of upward mobility, USM will be remembered as a block of time, a hazy part of life where you just may have had it easy.



Into the great wide open

A diary of The Leftovers' Bring the Pop Canadian Tour

Andrew Rice

Staff Writer

We had been in my 2001 Ford Focus since 9am. It was now 6pm. Usually our 1996 GMC Savanna chauffeurs us to our next destination but without the burden of equipment, the much more economical car let us keep some money in our pockets. After crossing through Buffalo and the great Niagara Falls, the border came quickly, but not without our plan of attack.

Adam said, "Alright this is what we do. We say we're going to visit our friend in Toronto. His name is Matt Bod. If they ask us if we're playing shows, we say they got cancelled but we're still going up because we already had the weekend off. If they ask about the merch, we just say that we're giving it out. Any questions?"

"Yeah, what's the guy's name again?" asked Kurt.

"It's Matt Bod! Not that hard to remember."

"Alright."

You see, for a band going into Canada with merchandise, the band is required to claim the goods, and they either have the necessary papers, or get taxed heavily. We weren't prepared for either. So what we usually do is lie. We've lied directly to the Canadian government twice before...so why not a third? However, we've never had the best of luck at the Canadian border. Our first experience resulted in a full gutting of our minivan and Adam being thrown into a cell. The second time was better. We were only fined \$100 dollars because we failed to claim three boxes of CD's instead of two. This time we were prepared, Kurt had even thrown away his bag full of wine coolers before we got to the border. We all had the story down and a half hour later we were free. But not without some questioning in the waiting area, watching all of our bags being screened and searched.

"If you're students then why don't you have class today or tomorrow?" the border official asked.

"We all took the day off today, and none of us have class on Friday."

"What kind of university doesn't have class on Friday?"

The Leftovers:

Kurt - Bass, Vocals

Andrew - Guitar, Vocals

Adam - Drums

Matt - Guitar, Vocals

The PG-13's:

Jeff - Bass, Vocals

Shaun - Guitar, Vocals

Pat - Drums, Vocals

"One's in America."

That's how it began. Toronto was an hour away.

11/13 - TORONTO, ONTARIO - THE BOVINE SEX CLUB

The last two times we've been to the biggest city in all of Canada, we've played a bar called the Bovine Sex Club. Sounds intriguing, I know, and it also looks intriguing. Attached to the center of its pitch black storefront are countless rusted and broken bicycles, with colored lights and other shards of metal weaving through them. It continues inside on the ceiling, the same twisted decorations let us know were not at Amigo's anymore. It's a long, narrow, cavernous stretch of concrete slabs. TV's play music videos, and there's a back room, closed off, with a zombie movie on the projector and paintings of The Ramones hoisted high. I wish this bar would relocate to Portland.

We met our fellow touring pals, the PG-13's shortly before their set at 10. Jeff, Shaun, and Pat are all from the nation's capital of Ottawa, about a two hour drive from Toronto. As expected, they are huge fans of hockey. However, it just so happened that the New England Patriots were playing a Thursday Night game so we searched for a sports bar that might be carrying it. Surprisingly they were watching the NFL instead of the Canadian Football League. Who would have thought? Unfortunately, we

couldn't stay to see the complete pounding of our native team; our set time was closing in.

Back at the Bovine the mood had changed. The air was thick, moist and smoky. People were crowding around the bar after the band before us had finished. We began to set up. Its always weird using someone else's equipment, you get so used to your own. Adam had it the worst. Drummers are the most specific when it comes to other kits, but at least Matt and I had our own guitars.

"Well, well, well," Kurt announced. "It's good to be back with our cousins from the north. Today we are proud to say that this weekend celebrates our 6th year anniversary as a band! We go a little something like this..."

The set was good I think. We were a little rusty and Adam wasn't used to the kit, but it didn't seem to matter. We weren't in Maine anymore so we were loud and fast. The after party was a good time as well. I would go into details but this is obviously a campus publication and I don't think it would best serve my fellow students.

11/14 - NORTH BAY, ONTARIO - 211 HIGHLAND

I woke up on a couch, stood up, stumbled my way into the bathroom and flicked on the light. "This is gonna be a good day," I said to myself. Everyone woke up, brushed off the dust from the day before, and got dressed. A four-hour drive lay ahead, straight north into Ontario's version of Aroostook County. North Bay just sounded like it was in the middle of nowhere. After a stop at the Canadian favorite Tim Horton's, we were ready. I sat behind the wheel and saw the slow transition from highways to no ways. The darker it got, the more it rained, and the more the roads got smaller; the kind of driving that kills your eyes. It was like driving through a combination of upstate Maine and Wisconsin, which are similar in some ways. The trees grow more sporadically and the farmland lets you know you're not in New England.

As we closed in on the town, the sign read North Bay, population: 52,000. Not bad, North Bay. We thought it would be a lot smaller. The funny farm came out of the woodwork that night. A quick stop at the government-owned-and-operated "Beer Store" gave us a preview. Walking towards the door we realized we were entering the exit, as a man was trying to exit.

"Wow, you guys are pretty smart eh? The sign says exit. You guys must be college students or something."

"No, were just Americans."

It's funny that we used being American as an excuse two days in a row.

Something about pale ale made in Canada stills tastes like a Bud Light, and I thought the beer here was better! A Comfort Inn would be our home for the night. Two days into the tour and we were already pampering ourselves. As per usual, we would share two beds. By now we're all pretty comfortable with it. You either sleep in a bed or not. We weren't playing until later, around 11, so we stopped at a grill and bar to get some eats. Walking in, the hostess and waitresses already knew we weren't from North Bay. I'm not exaggerating when I say that I overheard one of them say, "You can put them in my section." The food was pricey, but with the exchange rate, it leveled it off in our favor. We invited our waitress to the show, and she told us she would come when she got off of work, but she lied.

The show was at 211 Highland. Exactly, an address; this is because the show was in an upstairs makeshift venue. The guy who ran it also lived there. You gotta love small towns. Somehow, the people who had put on the show and a few other show-goers had heard of our band and it was good to get some excitement brewing. Somehow everyone was allowed



COURTESY OF THE LEFTOVERS

drink

and do whatever they wanted; a BYOB party! There must not be any cops in North Bay, or hopefully they're following more important leads.

Our set was a little better than Toronto. We mentioned the 6th year anniversary bit again (Hey, we're kind of proud), and mixed the set up a little. One of the handful of fans yelled for us to play an old song called "She Doesn't Like Me Anymore." There are always those times when you have to just sigh, put your head down and play. It wasn't that bad, and Matt somehow remembered it after only playing it twice in two years. Actually, his playing was kind of a metaphor for the whole show; we were rusty but we pulled it off anyway.

We sold some shirts and much-slaved-over CD's and returned to the Comfort Inn. All of us were falling asleep while we bit into the last slices of pizza. We go to the nation's capital tomorrow. *To be continued...*

Stay tuned for more magic and mystery as The Leftovers continue their weekend tour to Ottawa and Montreal!



COURTESY OF THE LEFTOVERS

Radio OPEN MIC

Thursday 3-5pm
December 11th
on WMPG

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Campus Center Portland



PHOTOGRAPH BY MARC GAERTNER

EPICUREAN EPICS

by Anne McCormack

Extraordinary entrée

Pork tenderloin en croute is an impressive entrée to adorn a holiday table as well as an overall excellent meal to savor in the fall when mushrooms are in abundance. Simply, this recipe consists of pork tenderloin that has been seared, cooled, and wrapped in puff pastry that has been covered in duxelles.

Duxelles is a combination of fresh mushrooms (white, portabella, baby 'bella's, porcini, or any variety), shallots, onion, or garlic, herbs, and a splash of white wine, apple cider, or any other liquid.

I was reminded of this recipe because of a recent power outage

in Maine. The first time I ever made pork tenderloin en croute I had just popped it in the oven and the power went out. Living in a rural area, I knew it was not likely the power would be restored soon. Luckily, it baked to perfection in the remaining heat in the oven.

Roasted vegetables or risotto make good accompaniments to the pork.

Anne McCormack, former owner of the Village Bakehouse, is an English major who also teaches cooking classes at her farm in New Gloucester.

PORK TENDERLOIN EN CROUTE

pork tenderloin
puff pastry
egg yolk and 1 T milk or water, beaten
1/2 lb. fresh mushrooms
1-2 shallots
2 tablespoons butter
Salt & pepper

1/4 cup white wine
2 teaspoons thyme

Thaw one sheet of puff pastry. Preheat oven to 400.

Thinly coat a frying pan with oil and sear the pork on all sides until brown. Remove from heat and cool. Make the duxelles as follows, cooling as well. Can be made in advance. Before covering the pastry with the duxelles, wrap the puff pastry around the pork and cut off any excess pastry. Pinch seams together and coat with an egg wash. Take extra puff pastry, cut in three strips, braid, and lay across top of pork tenderloin en croute. Brush with egg wash. Bake for about 20 minutes, or until puff pastry is golden brown. Cut into inch slices and serve.

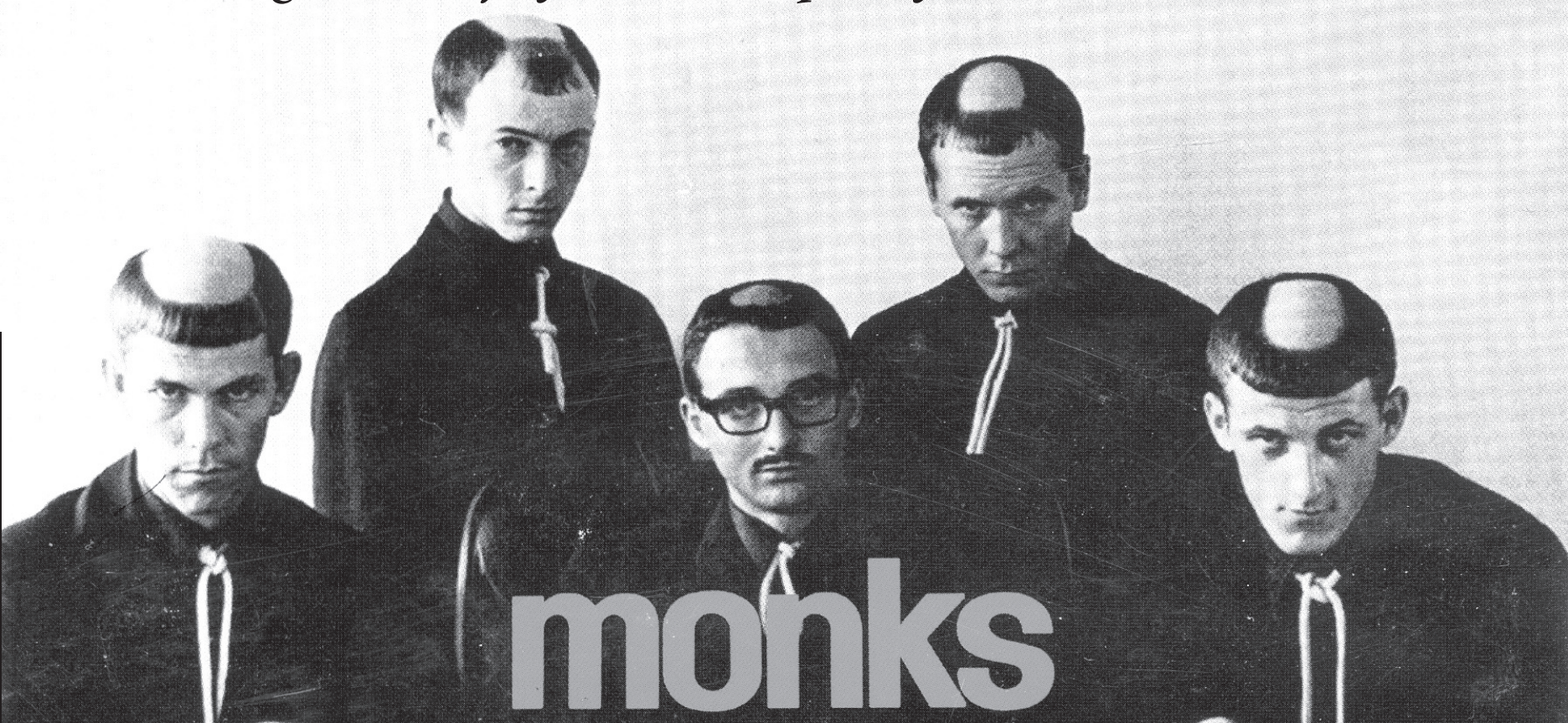
DUXELLES

Finely chop mushrooms and shallots. Saute in butter until soft, about 3 minutes. Stir in minced mushrooms, salt and pepper, chopped thyme to taste, and a pinch of salt and pepper. Add wine. Cook the mixture over medium high heat, stirring every few minutes. Cool the mixture slightly and taste for seasoning. This will make about 1-1/2 cups. Duxelles may be frozen for 1 to 2 months.



Bigger than the Beatles

WMPG brings the story of industrial, punk forerunners to USM



Jenna Howard

Arts and Entertainment Editor

The Monks documentary will show for first time in America beyond New York City or Chicago this Friday at USM. For more than thirty years this band of American GI's were not able to talk about their strange experience as a rock band in cold war

Germany. In the film they recount their story for the first time.

The Monks were five American soldiers in 1960's Germany who billed themselves as the anti-Beatles. They were loud, and "heavy on feedback, nihilism and electrical banjo." They dressed like monks, they mocked the military and are credited with the invention of industrial, punk and techno music.

The documentary covers several genres, eras, and illustrates the pop music phenomenon in its political, social and cultural historic contexts. It also reveals the monks project as the first marriage between art and popular music-- even before Andy Warhol and the Velvet Underground.

The band entered cold war Germany in 1961 as soldiers and left the country in 1967 as avant-garde monks. Their harsh protest

to the Vietnam War came through the first spoken/screamed pop music.

The film opens with the band playing on Germany's version of American Bandstand, BEAT CLUB, live in front of 6 million young people. The band documents five soldier's choice to stay and live in Germany after their years of touring there, stationed near the Berlin Wall as JFK was assassinated. The band creates a

minimalist, deconstructed sound that has no beginning, middle, or end. The sound is raw and the lyrics are full of angst.

The film is sponsored by WMPG and will show at 7:00 p.m. in USM's Gerald E. Talbot Lecture Hall, Portland Campus. Free for USM student, \$5 for the general public.



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Finding the perfect niche: Ferdinand

Congress Street shop proves artistic young entrepreneur can succeed



BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR

Inside Ferdinand: Owner and artist Diane Toepfer sells things she makes, finds, and loves in her quaint Congress Street shop.

Jenna Howard

Arts and Entertainment Editor

The interior of the blue-trimmed shop features oddly precious prints, vintage shoes for a few dollars, and a bowl of ceramic peach pits. The wallpapered dressing room is lit as friendly as the little studio that is visible in the back of the shop. This shop, Ferdinand, is the quirky child of Diane Toepfer, who made her home in Portland as she shaped the shop-that-could.

It was January seven years ago. Diane had eloped and moved from California to Maine on a whim. After spending the decade of her twenties working odd jobs in the Bay Area, from arranging flowers to selling vintage clothes, she was certain of two things. First, a regular day job would not do for her in Portland, the prospect of being an adult serving coffee was out. Second, after seeing her employers manage to pull off their businesses, she believed anyone could do so—even she. Within the first week of her move to Portland, she stumbled upon something that would become her livelihood.

Her first observation of Portland was the sheer number of ice cream shops. “For a place that’s cold nine months of the year, I thought, there must be either huge seasonal sales or the rent is real cheap.” The wheels were turning.

When she saw the FOR RENT sign in a Congress Street storefront on Munjoy Hill, she knew she could put something together and avoid the ‘day job’ she so dreaded.

With only the five thousand dollars she’d saved by working odd jobs and peddling homemade cards door to door in California, she rented the space, and began

making something from nothing. It was the start of Ferdinand.

Selling her homemade cards in the Bay Area had allowed her to keep a studio space there, but the task itself she remembers as humiliating. Store-owners were often rude and judgmental, but she was forced into doing business with them to keep her set of skills functioning, to give herself a sense of purpose, as well as income.

Diane grew up on the West Coast. Her mother was a frustrated painter who refused to paint for lack of confidence all through Diane’s young life. Her grandfather was a skilled woodworker who gave away his pieces because he didn’t think he could sell them. Dianne realized early on that both of these people could’ve been harnessing something special, and if only she could learn to use her own skills, she could be prosperous, happy.

Although her close family members lacked the drive, Dianne describes her aunt as a huge inspiration. “She loves to paint. And to travel. And she loves teaching. So she has people pay her to take them on tours of Italy, where she paints, and teaches painting, and they buy her paintings, and then she has shows and sells more paintings, and it ends up that people pay her so she can keep doing exactly what she loves. Over and over.” This harnessing of passions is how Dianne sees her own work, just the right equation allows her to sustain herself and be productive in her unique way.

“I knew opening this shop was something I could do, but I had no idea how to do it. I just said to myself, ‘what do I need, how do I get it?’ and began from there”

Renting the shop and getting material to sell would end up costing less than one semester of school, which kept her optimis-

tic about spending her savings. Without a business plan at all, she dove in.

In less than six months from moving to town, she opened the store, Ferdinand. “I knew I was fine living on a budget, frugally. I also knew I needed a way to support myself.” What was born was an ever-changing shop featuring local designers, crafts, mostly locally made, rarely made-in-China, offering an incidentally socially responsible shop. Without partners or a plan, she began selling things she made from nothing. Cards. Vintage clothes. Lampshades she made on top of lamps she’d scavenged. Trinkets. Some men consigned loads of old, cool furniture, which, Diane recalls, was Ferdinand’s saving grace because this filled all the empty space.

“When I opened Ferdinand an upstairs neighbor came down and spent seven dollars. I was on the moon!”

She refers to her ability to make it in the beginning, so unsure of the local market, as ‘enthusiasm of the uninitiated.’ Feeling her way into the business, she started making observations. People would buy things that were under fifteen dollars. Though at first the shop seemed too fancy compared to junk shops on the same block, the low prices began to change people’s minds. Slowly, there formed a small customer base, although Diane was the new girl in town.

But she faced some strange reception as well. On that first day of business, a man came in and demanded to know, “What is it you sell?” And then came her reply, one that she still uses in describing the store.

“Well,” she replied, “It’s stuff I make. And stuff I like.”

Three years into opening the business, Diane remembers her first triumphant moment. It was

almost Spring and she was sitting at her kitchen table. She realized she’d gone the entire winter without eating Ramen noodles. It brings tears to her eyes. However mundane, the moment was monumental for her.

At the three year mark, another monumental event occurred. A man came into the shop and looked around. He was a writer from the New York Times. He mentioned Ferdinand in an article. The shop received floods of orders very quickly. Diane was tempted to think, “Now I am an adult. Now I’ve gotten the recognition.” But as quickly as it came, it was over. She likens it to the let-down following a birthday. “You know how you anticipate the day, and then it’s over with and you feel exactly the same as before?” She plunged into creating, with a desire to make her business as great as she could craft it, despite the pomp of the press.

In the almost seven years, Diane watched almost every shop on the block shut down, including many of the junk shops she first talked about. “Many of these shops had very specific goals, and therefore, they could not satisfy changing needs.” Diane believes that her ability to shift shape, and constantly invent has allowed her to stay on top of things. “People get bored. They always want something a little bit new.”

For Ms. Toepfer, Ferdinand has become a pocket of discovery, shifting, and creating that fits her nicely. The organization and methodology of her entrepreneurship is as quirky as her personality, and has proven successful in the long run.

It’s her “I gotta do it, not suppress it” philosophy that has allowed her to keep creating. She doesn’t believe that artists have to be starving. The asset that has kept Ferdinand alive? “It’s my scrappy sense of getting by however I can.”

Ferdinand is open every day in December from 11-6 at 243 Congress Street in Portland and is worth the trip. Visit online at ferdinandhomestore.com



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BREW REVIEW

by *Mike Tardiff*

Something to keep you warm

Winter brew showdown

With Thanksgiving gone and the commercial blitz in full force, it's a good time to grab some good beers and get away from it all. Unless, of course, you are Sebago Brewing Company by the mall, in which case, well, drink more.

Craft breweries around the country are introducing their winter selections, which come from two basic schools: the malty and the hoppy. The winter warmer and the florally hopped Amber ale.

Over break I indulged in four winter brews that stretched the style's gamut:



GEARY'S WINTER ALE

English India Pale Ale
6.0% ABV
\$7.79/6 pack

Listed as an English Pale Ale on their website, this beer may miss the style mark as far as IPA's go, but is a good beer on a cold night in Maine. Without the explosion of floral hop flavor that Geary's promises, the balance of malt and hops in Geary's winter selection makes it the perfect middle ground. With a relatively light body and a generally quaffable taste, Geary's Winter Ale pours a coppery color with a nice white head that sticks around for a while. With a fairly neutral aroma that blends fruity-yeastiness and alcohol, the beer's taste is not hoppy like the IPA it promises to be.

More so, the beer's sweet maltiness comes to the forefront. Despite its maltiness and alcohol content, Geary's offering is extremely drinkable as far winter beers go.

Overall, Geary's Pale is perfect for those who can't handle the malti-sweet goodness of winter warmers and shy away from the hoppy explosions of other amber-style beers of the season.

This beer gets high marks for its drinkability.

B



SEBAGO'S SLICK NICK WINTER ALE

Winter Warmer
6.3 % ABV
\$8.29/6 pack

Slick Nick is exactly what I think of when I think of winter ales. Pouring a nice amber color with a fluffy head and good lacing, Slick Nick's nose was that of mild hops, alcohol and little else. Sebago's version of the winter warmer comes equipped with a more-malty-than-hoppy palate, but an amazingly smooth texture. While this is the strongest of the four beers I dabbled in, it was probably the smoothest going down the shoot - surprising, considering its high alcohol content. I wouldn't go nuts with Slick Nick though, it's alcoholic warmth sneaks up on you if you're not careful. If you over indulge-you'll end up with a rosy red cheeks just like Mr. Claus whose pictured on the beer's label.

Sebago's winter ale is brewed for those of you out there who like beers like Shipyard's Prelude. It's definitely robust and meant for keeping away Jack Frost.

This is one beer that definitely warrants the not-so-ominous "drink responsibly" mantra.

B



ROGUE ALE'S SANTA'S PRIVATE RESERVE ALE

Amber Ale
6.0% ABV
\$10.49/6 pack

Renowned for their innovation and prodigious brewing, Rogue Ale, based in Newport, Oregon, lives up to their reputation with this beautifully hoppy but relatively balanced Amber Ale. Pouring a seductive amber color with a nice white head, Rogue's idea of a winter ale leans more toward the bitter end of the spectrum, but does so in a delightfully seasonal way. With hints of evergreen and a beautifully hoppy bouquet, this beer smells and tastes like a walk in a pine grove. As far as drinkability, this beer is great if you can handle the residual hop bitterness, which can be a bit overwhelming; plus, at 6% it's not exactly Budweiser.

I'm glad Santa didn't horde this beer into his private reserve forever. Any beer that can wet my whistle and take me to an ice-covered Christmas tree lot in one swill is worth the price of admission.

Just like the Christmas tree salesman, the hop aftertaste of Rogue's winter brew can be a bit relentless.

B+ / A-



MAGIC HAT ROXY ROLLES

Amber Ale
5.1% ABV
\$7.79/6 pack

Like everything that comes out of Burlington, VT, Magic Hat's Roxy Rolles is an alternative to the winter-brew template. Roxy Rolles' spicy-yet-roasty aroma and inviting amber color leads to a wonderfully balanced but exciting brew. The blend of bready-malt and spicy, citrusy hops makes for an intriguing brew. With less hop bitterness than Rogue's brewer, Roxy Rolles is more quaffable and could be consumed, responsibly, in large quantities without regret. I don't necessarily think of this as a winter-brew, but I'm sure it's ideal for sipping after a hard day on the slopes.

In the end, Roxy Rolle steals the show. If you're into higher-gravity beers, then Roxy probably ain't your girl. At 5.1% it's not dangerously strong like some winter warmers, but it offers enough alcoholic warmth to beat out your run-of-the-mill light beers any day.

Avoid the Rocky Mountains and head for the Greens.

A-

Regardless of your preference, winter's an ideal time to belly-up to a bar somewhere and keep yourself warm. These are just some of the hundreds of options available. Other local favorites include Shipyard Prelude and Longfellow Ales, Gritty McDuff Christmas Ale, Sam Adam's Old Fezzwig Ale, Red Hook Winter Folly and Samuel Smith's Winter Welcome Ale.

Upcoming Games

December 2

Men's Basketball @ Bowdoin
5:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball @
Bowdoin
7:30 p.m.

December 5

Women's Ice Hockey v.
PLYMOUTH STATE
4 p.m.

Men's Ice Hockey v.
WILLIAMS
7 p.m.

December 6

Men's Indoor Track @
Northeastern Winter
Carnival
10 a.m.

Wrestling TED REESE
INVITATIONAL
10 a.m.

Men's Indoor Track @ Bates
Pentathlon
12 p.m.

Women's Basketball v.
KEENE STATE
1 p.m.

Women's Ice Hockey @
Plymouth State
2 p.m.

Men's Basketball v. KEENE
STATE
3 p.m.

Men's Ice Hockey v.
MIDDLEBURY
4 p.m.

SCOREBOARD (11/18 - 11/25)

Women's Basketball

11/18	
USM 77	UNE 57
11/21	
USM 76	UMaine Farmington 57
11/22	
USM 64	Norwich 61
11/25	
USM 67	Bates 57

Men's Basketball

11/18	
USM 85	UNE 71
11/25	
Bates 66	USM 45

Men's Ice Hockey

11/21	
Norwich 4	USM 2
11/22	
USM 6	St. Michael's 2
11/25	
USM 6	Plymouth State 0

Women's Ice Hockey

11/21	
USM 2	New England College 1
11/22	
USM 3	St. Michael's 2
11/25	
Colby 3	USM 1

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3		7		1			4	
				9	8		6	3

RANDOM FACT!

It is illegal to enter the Houses of Parliament in a suit of armor.

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

PUZZLE ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND BELOW

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Feudal laborer
 - 5 Aerosol output
 - 10 Wild guess
 - 14 Margarine
 - 15 Dried plum
 - 16 Sheet of a book
 - 17 Consumer
 - 18 Watermelon coverings
 - 19 Mystical glow
 - 20 Party's liberal branch
 - 22 Coal worker
 - 23 Feel a need for
 - 24 On an angle
 - 26 Obtain from overseas
 - 29 "Identical" sibling
 - 30 Lug along
 - 31 Percussionist's prop
 - 36 Sign above a theater door
 - 37 Sports venue
 - 38 April forecast
 - 39 Party's conservative branch
 - 41 Excessive speed
 - 42 Take, as advice
 - 43 Northerner, informally
 - 44 Love songs
 - 48 Scale notes after fas
 - 49 Japanese or Israeli
 - 50 Packing tightly
 - 54 Hoop edges
 - 55 Car-transmission settings
 - 57 Adam and Eve's home

- 58 Do newspaper work
 - 59 Have a debate
 - 60 Italy's capital, to natives
 - 61 Full collections
 - 62 Sew temporarily
 - 63 Not very speedy
- DOWN**
- 1 Human spirit
 - 2 Otherwise
 - 3 Navigation hazard
 - 4 Texas city
 - 5 Short-distance run
 - 6 Write with block letters
 - 7 Ladder step
 - 8 In addition
 - 9 "Okay!"

- TURKEY LEFTOVERS** by Sally R. Stein
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com
- 10 Nation next to Portugal
 - 11 Tease
 - 12 See eye to eye
 - 13 Lincoln facial feature
 - 21 Suspicious (a dog)
 - 22 ___ best friend
 - 24 Tried to hit a baseball
 - 25 Capital of Peru
 - 26 Cake decorator
 - 27 Long skirt
 - 28 Fussy sort
 - 29 Current fashion
 - 31 Uses a towel
 - 32 Changes schools
 - 33 "This is all ___"
 - 34 Give as an example
 - 35 Pants-leg part
 - 37 Very impressed
 - 40 As compared to
 - 41 50%
 - 43 Explanation starter
 - 44 Makes public
 - 45 All kidding ___
 - 46 Restrict
 - 47 Wears well
 - 48 Swaggering walk
 - 50 Droops
 - 51 Admired one
 - 52 Verne's sub captain
 - 53 Chew like a rodent
 - 55 Chatter
 - 56 Historical period

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HANGIN' WITH MR. TARDIFF

by Mike Tardiff

Old school brand of ball

The University of New England Nor'easters blew into Warren Hill gymnasium a couple of weeks ago. The newly revamped team from Biddeford, complete with a roster-full of transfers from Texas, stormed out to a 15-5 lead early, a run that was punctuated by an emphatic breakaway dunk. Coach Karl Henrikson called a time-out and told his team they were playing scared.

And they were. But when Henrikson called upon freshman guard Michael Poulin a few plays later, the game changed.

The rookie from Maranacook Regional High School quelled the storm with combination of rigorous on-the-ball defense and heady point guard play. And, in large part thanks to his efforts, the Huskies were able to climb back into the game and move on to an eventual 85-71 victory.

That a freshman, playing in only his third collegiate game, could have such an immediate calming effect on a basketball team is amazing. That a young men fresh out of high school could alter the course of a game is impressive. But, given where Poulin comes from, it's not all that unexpected.

That's because Poulin, whose high school team won the 2008 Maine State Championship in basketball last season, is no newcomer when it comes to taking on challenges.

After all, Poulin played alongside, and inevitably drew the responsibility of guarding, one of the best high school basketball players in Maine's illustrious history: Ryan Martin, Maine's Mr. Basketball last season. Martin, who stands only five-feet-seven-inches on a good day in work boots, is the definition of shifty.

With an array of ball-handling moves and a lightning quick first step, Martin amassed enormous scoring totals in his career and now plays at the University of Maine.

Poulin's tutelage paid dividends the other night. With a look of determination carved on his face, Poulin was anything but scared. He was driven.

After a year of watching the likes of Jamaal Caterina and Taylor Coppenrath evoke fear in opponents, seeing the Huskies get beaten to the punch was a bit of a surprise.

I was sitting beside Josh Daniels, one of last year's captains, and we were mutually shocked by the sheer athletic abilities and intimidation displayed by the Nor'easters early on. But we were equally surprised by the play of Poulin who, admittedly, Daniels couldn't name.

It's this sort of anonymity or flying-under-the-radar that's going to have to become commonplace for the Huskies as the season progresses.

There are no giants in Gorham anymore, but there is a wealth of talent. And it's going to take individual efforts like the one displayed by little-known Michael Poulin if the Huskies hope to find themselves making waves in the playoffs.

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

Husky Highlights

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**Demillo named MWBCA Player of the Week**

Sophomore guard Kaylie Demillo (Jay) was named Maine Women's Basketball Coaches Association Player of the Week for the week ending Nov. 23. Demillo's honor comes after a red-hot week for the Huskies. Demillo led the Huskies to a 3-0 week, including the Husky Tip of Championships. Demillo averaged 17 points over that stretch, shooting a lights-out 55-percent from the field and 13-26 from behind the three-point stripe. She was named the Most Valuable Player in the Tip-off tournament.

Huskies capture Tip-Off Crown

The USM women's basketball team easily beat UMaine-Farmington in their first game and squeaked by Norwich University en route to capturing the USM Tip-off Tournament Championships held in Gorham. The Huskies defeated UMF 76-57 in their first game, capitalizing on 25-point performance from sophomore guard Kaylie Demillo (Jay) and 13 points from Stacey Kent (Northwood, NH). USM then went on to edge out Norwich University in the championship game 64-61. This time, it was Kent's turn to lead the team with 18 points and eight rebounds, while Demillo chipped in with 15. Both Kent and Demillo were named to the All-Tournament team while the Huskies pushed their season record to 3-0.

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY**Jasud and Gomes have strong showing at nationals**

Junior Tyler Jasud (Rumford) and Alex Gomes (Peabody, MA) both traveled to Hanover College in Hanover, IN to take part in the 2008 Division III Men's Cross

Country Championships. Jasud, whose steady hand led the Huskies throughout the season, posted a solid 43rd-place finish, while his rookie teammate cracked the top-100, crossing the line in 97th-place. Jasud's effort matches the best finish by a Husky all-time and was just six seconds behind the final All-American spot (35th). Last season, the venerable Curtis Wheeler also finished 43rd at the championships.

MEN'S ICE HOCKEY**USM routes St. Michael's**

The USM men's hockey team skated to a 6-2 route of St. Michael's Nov. 22 in South Burlington, VT. The Huskies got six goals from six different players and 13 of the 18 Huskies in uniform chalked up at least one point. Freshman Dan Rautenberg (Cape Elizabeth) and senior Dan Gordon (Lynnfield, MA) were the only multiple point scorers for USM, each picking up a goal and an assist. Senior goalie Jamie Gilbert (Lewiston) picked up the victory in net, his first of the season, with 18 saves.

WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY**Huskies fend off Saint Anselm**

The USM women's ice hockey team pulled out a hard-fought 3-2 win over St. Anselm College Nov. 22 in Manchester, NH. Freshman Katie Paradis (Rochester, NH) notched the game-winning goal and added an assist for the Huskies, who picked up their second straight victory. USM built a two-goal advantage early on, using first period-goals from freshman Nani Jacobs (Kahnawake, QC) and Danielle Ward (Lansing, MI), but 17 seconds into the third-period St. Anselm's cut the USM lead in half. Paradis, however, added a power play goal to sure-up the Huskies lead and secure the win.

Women's hoops rolling, hope to topple Polar Bears**Huskies travel to Bowdoin Tuesday****Michael Tardiff**

Sports Editor

So far, so good for the USM women's basketball team who, with their 67-57 win against Bates last week, moved to 4-0 on the season.

The Huskies will now get ready to face their toughest test thus far, the perennial powerhouse and 15th ranked Bowdoin Polar Bears on Tuesday.

Coach Mike McDevitt's squad is coming off four straight wins, including the USM Tip-Off Tournament championship where they snuck by Norwich University 64-61.

Leading the way for USM are the usual suspects. Senior forward Stacey Kent (Northwood, NH) is living up to her recognition as one of the best collegiate players in the state. Kent is one of three Huskies scoring in double-figures with a 15.8 point per game clip. Behind her is fellow senior captain Nicole Paradis (Skowhegan) who, thanks to her 29-point outburst against the University of New England, is averaging 14 points a night. Kaylie Demillo (Jay), the reigning Maine Women's Basketball Coaches Association Player of the Week, is contributing 13.3 points per night.

But the storyline this season is depth.

And while the three leading scorers for the Huskies are doing their part to help the Huskies' toward another Little East Conference title, some new faces have emerged and have contributed some valuable minutes for McDevitt and his crew.

Kristi Violette (Readfield) has emerged as the team's leading rebounder and made her presence known around the basket. Grabbing 10.8 boards per game, Violette dominated the paint against the University of New England and demonstrated an uncanny knack for finding the basketball during loose-ball and

rebounding situations. She's also been contributing on the offense end in addition to her defensive prowess. The junior is averaging 8 points a night.

The Huskies got their season rolling against local rival UNE with a 77-57 victory. In what was a three-point game at half-time (27-24), the Huskies shook off early season rust - manifested in a slurry of missed opportunities and ice-cold shooting - to outscore the Nor'easters 50-33 in the second stanza.

USM then hosted the Tip-Off tournament which included the University of Maine-Farmington, Husson and Norwich, which the Huskies went on to win after an easy 76-57 victory over UMF and the aforementioned squeaker against Norwich.

The Huskies will have a tough task on their hands Tuesday. The Polar Bears are 3-1 on the season with their only loss coming in blowout fashion to unranked Brandeis University.

The Huskies and Polar Bears have had only one mutual opponent, UNE, who Bowdoin defeated in a similar fashion, 75-53.

USM will have to utilize their athleticism and get big efforts from Violette and fellow ball-hawk Haley Johnson (West Simsbury, CT) if they hope to stake claim to Maine women's basketball supremacy.

The Huskies are currently ahead of Brandeis in the latest D3Hoops.com Top-25 poll, receiving 46 points to Brandeis' 44.



BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR
Senior Nicole Paradis (Skowhegan) gets a step passed a UNE defender. Paradis, who scored 29 points against the Nor'easters, hopes to do the same Tuesday at Bowdoin College.

Postseason Awards - Fall '08'**Men's Soccer:**

Collin Reilly

Mike Keller

Greg Cox

Peter McHugh

Collin Reilly

David Kreps

Sinisa Bajic

Women's Soccer:

Regina Wilson

LEC Defensive Player of the Year

LEC Coach of the Year

LEC First Team All Conference

LEC First Team All Conference

LEC First Team All Conference

LEC Second Team All Conference

LEC Second Team All Conference

Field Hockey:

India Lowe

Women's Cross Country:

Gabby Cyr

Men's Cross Country:

Tyler Jasud

Alex Gomes

LEC Second Team All Conference

NFHCA All Region Second Team

Four Time LEC Runner of the Week

Four Time LEC Runner of the Week

LEC and Maine State Individual Champion

Four Times LEC Rookie of the Week