**University cuts Lifeline**

Community fitness program to close doors this summer; more cuts to follow

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**Police report rise in thefts**

Laptops, iPods most vulnerable

Danica Koenig

*Arts & Entertainment Editor*

Students and faculty who bring their laptops to campus may want to be more cautious. Last week, three thefts were reported within a four-day period on the Portland campus—two of which were laptops.

These thefts are part of a trend over the last few weeks, during which USM Police have seen an increase in thefts of electronic items such as laptops and iPods.

“It’s been my experience that it’s not uncommon for these thefts to increase during the winter months,” says Lt. Ron Saindon, who is investigating the thefts.

Saindon cited many reasons for the increase in thefts during these months. It could possibly be the season, after the holidays many students would be flush with new economic troubles as a possible motive for people.

“There’s also the possibility that the economy might play a role in this too, but it’s hard to say,” says Saindon.

USM Police says that people often mistakenly think that fewer thefts occur for helping her get through yet another difficult time.

“Being an only parent, life got really difficult again,” she said.

When USM President Selma Botman announced that the University would close down the 33-year-old fitness program on July 31 to shore up an ongoing budget deficit, Ziko was shocked to learn that her long-time source of support had an expiration date.

“I personally find it depressing, and short-sighted of the President to want to cut this program,” she remarked last weekend, in between routines at the Lifeline Body Shop.

In a University-wide memo released last week, Botman cited budgetary constraints as the reason for the cut. She emphasized the need to prioritize fund-

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**Bayside update**

Student residence continues to balance cops, residents concerns

David O’Donnell

*Staff Writer*

Alex Wallace has been living at Bayside Village, Portland’s only independent student housing complex, since its inaugural semester last fall. And while he thinks the building has calmed down since those chaotic first few months, sometimes that’s not quite enough.

“It’s pretty hectic over here,” says the undeclared SMCC freshman. “I have to go back home to get some sleep sometimes.”

Wallace doesn’t have to consider whether to renew his lease later this year, so he plans to transfer out-of-state next fall. But whenever he visits friends at University-controlled apartments nearby, there are some noticeable differences. “I go to dorms, and RAs check up on us every once in a while,” says Wallace.

There are no RAs at Bayside Village. “Here, the cops show up more.”

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**See BAYSIDE on page 3**

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**See THEFT on page 4**
Sullivan Recreation & Fitness Center Spring Schedule

http://www.usm.maine.edu/sullivancomplex

AEROBICS PROGRAMS
Students $10/semester with medical release form required *Other screening fees may apply*
Register at the Sullivan Complex Recreation & Fitness Office, 104 Sullivan Complex with a USM student ID. Classes are subject to change.
Stop in or view website for updates on all program offerings.

Bootcamp: An advanced level fitness class using many different programs, circuit training to cardio and abs… M-W-F 5:15 pm - 6:15 pm

Enhance Fitness: This program offers a comfortable atmosphere conducive for socializing and having fun, while burning calories and getting in your daily exercise.
Ideal for the older student contemplating starting or resuming an exercise program.
M-W-F 7:30 am - 8:30am
M-W-F 9:00 am - 10:00am
M-W-F 10:30 am - 11:30am

Step Aerobics: to include Circuit training, Step n Sculpt, Step n Tone and more…
M-W-F 6:15am - 7:15am

BASKETBALL DROP-IN
Free w/ valid USM ID
$3.00 per day w/ valid State photo ID
Monday 11:30 am to 4:15 pm
6:15 pm to 9:45 pm
Tuesday 6:00 am to 8:30 am
10:00 am to 6:00 pm
Wednesday 11:30 am to 4:15 pm
6:15 pm to 9:45 pm
Thursday 6:00 am to 8:30 am
10:00 am to 8:00 pm
Friday 11:30 am to 4:15 pm
6:15 pm to 6:45 pm
Saturday or Sunday Call 780-4169 for availability.

DANCE – Latin Line Dancing
Thursdays, 2/5 – 3/19 (6 weeks)
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
$10 with Student ID & medical release
Space up your lunch hour having fun learning the Salsa, Cha Cha, Merengue, and other hot Latin Line dances.

FENCING
Tuesdays, 6:00 to 9:00 pm
*Call the Blade Society for more information at 228-8502. Free for Students with Student ID
*Non-students - $3 per day
Contact Kevin LeBlanc FMI: metallicolor87@yahoo.com

FITNESS CENTER PROGRAMS & CONSULTATIONS
usm.maine.edu/sullivancomplex/pcfjc/
Skip Cadigan, Fitness Center Manager
780-4652; gcadigan@usm.maine.edu
Fitness center orientation and consultation by appointment, call Skip. Set up a basic program with proper adjustments to form and instruction on technique. No Fee. For program offerings available visit the web FMI.

Fitness center orientation will include:
- Introduction to the Bodyshop
- Cardio and interval training
- Bicycle and indoor cycle
- Biokinetic strength and conditioning
- Hiking and trail walking
- Body awareness
- Group classes and activities

The Fitness Center will be closed 8:45 am - 9:45am Tuesday & Thursday for the Spring 2009 Semester due to an academic class held in the Bodyshop.
- The Bodyshop will be available during this time for Fitness use.

INDOOR SOCCER
1/29 - 3/30, Thursdays, 8:00 to 9:30 pm
Open to the first 10 Participants with ID who sign up. Sign ups start at 7:00 pm
Bring your Student ID. Also open to any faculty/staff, alumni, with a Sullivan Complex gym membership.

KARATE
2/2 – 4/21, Tuesdays, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm
$10 with Student ID & medical release
$88.00 Faculty/Staff or Lifemember
$95.00 General Public
Beginning/Intermediate students are welcome to join in a ten week session of traditional, Okawan style, martial arts. Basic punching, kicking and striking will be covered, as well as an introduction to sparring and kata forms.
- Dress for class will be informal, long pants (ankle length, no longer) and T-shirt.

MASSAGE-SEATED
Release stress, promote circulation, and balance using a foam cushion
M-W-F 5:15 pm – 6:15 pm
M-W-F 6:15 pm to 9:45 pm
M-W-F 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
3:30 pm to 5:30 pm
4:30 pm
- 10:00 pm - 11:00 pm
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
- The Women’s only
per week for 12 weeks, beginning the week of February 2nd, 2009.
$5 for students / faculty / staff / DP
$10 general public
Levels will be combined if registration is low Call Kevin Noonan FMI, 228-8242

RACQUETBALL, SQUASH, WALLBALL
Reserve courts up to 1 week in advance by calling 780-4169. Bring your Student ID for access. *Non students must show valid state photo ID & $7.50 day court fee must be paid for access each time of play. Racquetball & squash racquets are no longer available for loan as of last year January 1, 2008. Bring your own racquet for use.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE
Tuesdays, 7:00 pm - 9:45 pm
Come one, come all. Bring your own USM student ID card or other USM membership ID card for access.
*Non students must show valid state photo ID & $3 each night of play.

WOMEN’S STRENGTH & POWER HOUR
Tuesday & Thursdays 2:00 – 3:00 pm
Student ID & medical release required
The Women’s only fitness Hour will focus on providing women with all the essentials to get in shape. Cardio and interval training to maximize weight loss, strength training for bone density, core stability for toning, and flexibility for balance and joint mobility. Get all the benefits of a good balanced workout. Modifications can be made to meet different fitness levels.

ASHTANGA YOGA
Wednesday, 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm, Level 1 February 4 – April 23, 2009
$10 with Student ID & medical release
$88.00 Faculty/Staff or Lifemember
$95.00 General Public
- Transportation is available.
- Registration is available for $25 non-refundable deposit & first week of class.
- $25 will be deducted from remaining balance.
- Bring one cushion or small pillow and yoga mat/blancket
- *Pre-registration and 10 week commitment a must.
Visit the web for descriptions of Yoga class offerings.

GOLF
10% discount w/ Student, Faculty, Staff ID
Sunset Ridge Golf Course,
Wells Rd. 854-9636, Regulation Golf Course, par 35/3, 100 yards
Executive Course, par 3 Driving Range, Mini Golf, Batting cages-softball/baseball.

SKATING
Portland Ice Arena $2 per visit (reg $5) with USM Skate Card & USM Student ID
Must register at Sullivan Complex, or call 780-4939 to obtain a Skate card.
Open Public skating times: M-W, F 11:45 am-1:15 pm,
Saturdays: 9:10-3:00pm, Sundays: 1:30-3:00pm
Portland Ice Arena - 774-8553
www.portlandicearena.com/public_skating.htm

SWIMMING
Reiche & Riverton Pools
10 and 20 visit swim cards available. Stop by the Sullivan Complex to purchase your discount cards. FMI on pool schedule visit: www.ci.ptl.or.us/rec/schedulepdfs.pdf

DISCOUNT SKI PASSES
Discounts available for student & staff at Lost Valley, Mt. Abrams, Shawnee Peak, Sunday River and Sugarloaf – Maine & Loon Mountain in NH.
Call 780-4939 for more information or for a complete list of skiing discount offerings visit:
http://www.usm.maine.edu/sullivancomplex/ucfr.html

Southern Maine Outing club
offerrals can be found at: usmoutingclub.tripod.com/ or for a complete list of skiing discount offerings visit:
http://www.usm.maine.edu/sullivancomplex/ucfr.html

Sports are limited and pre-registration is required for all S.M.O.R. programs. Please call 780-4939 or stop by 104 Sullivan Complex on the Portland Campus. Payment is taken at time of registration.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL OUTDOOR PROGRAMS.

OFF Campus Activities and Discounts
http://www.usm.maine.edu/sullivancomplex/ucfr.html

Southern Maine Outdoor Recreation (S.M.O.R.)
http://www.usm.maine.edu/sullivancomplex/cpfr/op/
Southern Maine Outdoor Recreation (S.M.O.R.)
http://www.usm.maine.edu/sullivancomplex/cpfr/op/

Space is limited and pre-registration is required for all S.M.O.R. programs. Please call 780-4939 or stop by 104 Sullivan Complex on the Portland Campus. Payment is taken at time of registration.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL OUTDOOR PROGRAMS.

X-COUNTRY SKI SERIES
2/28, 3/15, 4/5
Are you looking for a fun way to stay in great shape this winter? Limited gear is available, but you are welcome to bring your own. Transportation is provided. Locations will be decided based on site availability and, of course, snow. Our locations will include, but are not limited to Pinekaid Farm in New Gloucester, Libby Hill in Gray, and smiling Hill Farms in Westbrook on the following dates respectively:
$10/students, $15/lifts, price per trip
NEW HAMPSHIRE SKI & SNOWBOARD WEEKEND
Loop Mountain & Sunday River
River 27 - 2/8
Price includes lift tickets, transportation, dinner and accommodations
$75 for students ($30 w/ New England College Pass); $115 for spouse/DP, faculty /staff.
(Lessons &/or rentals on your own)

NIGHT HIKE AND STARD
GAZING
Friday, February 27th
As the sun goes down, we will take a quick hike to the top of Mt. Hope. Mtn. with headlamps, for a chance to gaze into a dark winter’s sky, away from city lights and buildings.
Snowshoes will be provided, if necessary, for conditions. $7 students; $10 for spouse/DP
SNOWSHOE WINTER HIKE TO LAKE PLEASANT M.
Saturday, March 8th
18 who sign up.
$15 students/lift ticket/transport $5 w/ rental
$20 for spouse/domestic partner $45 w/ rental

Feel Good About Coming With Us !
Your safety is important to us, as is the quality of your experience. This is why all of our trips are lead by a licensed Maine Guide and Wilderness First Responder.
A 10 day cancellation is required for refunds. As always, we reserve the right to cancel our sponsored events, our trips are tobacco and alcohol free.

SUNDEY RIVER SKI & SNOWBOARD DAY TRIP
Saturday, March 7th
Unlimited lift tickets available or package including lift ticket and rentals. Limited transportation is available.
$35 students/lift ticket/transport $55 w/ rentals,
$60 spouse/domestic partner; $90 w/ rental
$10 transportation only (available to N. E. College Pass holders)
SHAWNEE PEAK SKI & SNOWBOARD NIGHT TRIPS
Monday, March 16th or 30th
Classes by day, skiing/riding by night. The price is right! Transportation is limited to first
SMCC enrollment spikes

Students cite lower cost, comparable quality to USM

From BAYSIDE on page 1

The city’s previous major dorm complex, Portland Hall, was under the jurisdiction of USM police until its sale and closure last summer.

At the end of October, police issued an ultimatum to Bayside’s management: institute a new set of community guidelines - including no alcohol consumption outside of bedrooms and no more than a few guests per apartment - or risk being classified as a “disorderly house” subject to fines and possible condemnation.

Laurie Lavoie, relieved Bayside’s first property manager, Scott Ranger, after just two weeks. And it was under her watch that the company at first enacted those new restrictions, set to go into effect at midnight Halloween, and subsequently pulled back on them after protest from residents.

“At the time, several residents delivered a packet of complaints to the company and the Free Press, referring to it as “Bayside Village Student Jail”.”

Lavoie no longer works at the building but is still with Realty Resources, and currently acts as the lone spokesperson on all things Bayside - all in-house management, which experienced rapid turnover last semester, offered no comment for this story.

She says Bayside is still working with police, and has created an internal process of dealing with disturbances before they are called in. Random police walkthroughs are being phased out. Occupancy remains above 77% - slightly over 300 people living in the complex since it opened. “There always would be writing on the walls, people ripping down exit signs.”

“It’s more safe now” says Nick Smith, a sophomore anthropology major at USM. “You don’t have to worry about people coming in here that don’t live here.”

She and others tend to attribute the changes to an increase in the number of security cameras late last semester; but it may have as much to do with the only surviving police mandate, which requires all visitors to sign in at the front desk.

The desk is manned by professional security personnel overnight, and resident staff throughout the day.

The rule has been observed by most people, according to one resident staff member who spoke anonymously. Once, he says, a police officer was turned away for refusing to sign in-for walkthrough in plain clothes, one method police have used to surprise intoxicated minors.

Since it’s inception, Bayside Village has sought to operate a “professional, hands-off, adult apartment complex for students, utilizing the same space and cost-saving methods of traditional college dorms - like having five people share a single bathroom, living room and kitchen.

Just down the road from another UMaine system campus, in Orono, Orchard Trails has operated a similar complex since 2005.

“We’re always addressing issues,” says general manager Jennifer Wing. “At any student housing facility, you have good weekends and bad.”

But just about every weekend, Orono police will pop in for an unannounced walkthrough or two, and are accustomed to several police calls a week. Unlike the Portland PD, which threatened to slap Bayside Village with a costly “disorderly” label, Sgt. Scott Scripture of the Orono Police says his department is content issuing disorderly conduct fines to individual residents.

“Its in close proximity to local watering holes,” Scripture says. “So we’re used to it.”
USM group celebrates Martin Luther King Jr.
African-american relics from Talbot collection to be featured in special event

Charlie Nickell
Staff Writer

USM will be celebrating the life and dreams of Martin Luther King, Jr. at an event organized by the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs and held this Thursday, Feb. 5th, from 4-6:30pm in the Hannaford Hall at the Albromson Center. The event is free and open to the public.

Among those attending will be Portland Mayor Jill C. Duson, who will be giving the keynote speech for the event. Pichu, a multicultural children’s choir will perform, and a video of Dr. King’s “I have a dream” speech will be shown.

USM student and poet, Hashim Abdul Allah will be reading a poem that he read for an Obama pre-inaugural concert at the Shakespeare Theater in Washington D.C. last January. Hashim defined the King as “the most important, “because there’s not enough like him” and he hopes it will help, “revitalize the struggle for human rights.”

On display in Hannaford Hall will be copies of 19th and 20th century posters from the Samson Center for Diversity in the Glickman Library. Many of the posters are donations from Gerald E. Talbot, the first African-American to be elected to the Maine state legislature in 1972. Copies of bills of sale for slaves, posters advertising rewards for runaway slaves, and other pictures of African-American political post- ers will be displayed.

Time will also be provided for USM students to come before the microphone and express their dreams. Reza Jalali, coordinator of Multicultural Student Affairs, says, “This is an opportunity for students to voice their hopes and dreams so that the community can support them.”

Students who wish to speak are encouraged to contact Reza Jalali in the Multicultural Student Affairs office to sign up. Those who come to the mic will have 30-45 seconds to express their dreams.

Because the University was closed on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. day, this event celebrates Dr. King’s legacy during normal school hours so that more students will be able to attend.

“There is an opportunity for us to get together and celebrate the progress this country has made—we have come a long way,” says Hamida Suja, a senior political science major.

Jalali says that USM has celebrated Dr. King’s legacy in the past, but this year’s celebration holds special significance.

“This year students are excited about our new president. This event celebrates what Martin Luther King has done as well as looks to the future and what still has to be done.”

“I hope speakers will talk about having more multicultural students come to USM and inspire the younger generations that will be attending USM in the future,” said Nybol Bol, a junior social work and criminology major.

“One event is a chance to remember what Martin Luther King did and think, communications sophomore Ben Skilling said. “This would have been possible only a short while ago.”

Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his “I have a dream,” speech on Aug. 28, 1963—just 45 years ago. Barack Obama’s election as president has changed America and has given hope to millions around the world that society is getting closer to accepting humans regardless of race or eth- nicity.

If you have a dream you would like to share in the next issues e-mail us at freepress@usm. maine.edu

Gender outside the box
Gender-challenging identity premiers in Gorham

Abigail Cuffey
Staff Writer

MTV’s “The Real World,” the show that give birth to reality television, took a step closer to representing the real world by introducing a transgender to their cast for the first time. But while MTV was taking their time getting to the transgendered population, a pair of USM alumni were bringing transgender issues to the forefront of people’s consciousness.

On Thursday, Jan. 29, a classroom full of faculty, staff, and students gathered in Bailey Hall to witness the premier showing of Alex Roan’s “Gender Outside the Box,” a collection of interviews with transgenders that hopes to shed light on an often concealed issue.

The concept for the film, ironi- cally, came from a textbook. Roan said his entire idea started when he took a human sexuality class in college, and was shocked at the “misinformation in textbooks” where everything was glossed over.

Alex, a FTM (female to male) transgender, is a graduate of USM and founder of the Maine Transgender Network.

One interviewee, Dal, said it was at the age of five that it hit him, and he knew there was something wrong with this picture, he just didn’t have a name for it.

One MTF (male-to-female) said that she didn’t socialize well in school and “didn’t understand the male bonding thing,” both of which are common experiences for the transgendered.

In the film, Roan reminds viewers of the different terms revolving around transgender. He defines transgender as “an umbrella term that encompasses any individual who does not conform to society’s expectations of what it means to be male or female. Often an individual whose gender identity does not ‘match’ their birth sex.”

And Roan’s distinction is important one since many people confuse transgender with transsexual. In reality, a transgender is someone who has taken steps to physically change their body to be more like their gender ident- ity.

Also in attendance at the film was Sarah Parker-Holmes, program-coordinator of USM’s Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversity. Also a USM alumnus, Parker-Holmes was asked to co-sponsor the event by Associate Professor of Counselor Education, Beate Katsekas.

Parker-Holmes said the main focus of the Center for Sexuality and Gender Diversity is to “help identify local therapists in the area, since very few are familiar with transgender issues.”

The group participates in the Safe Zone project, which identi- fies and trains allies on campus, makes contacts, and works with Residential Life with gender neutral housing. They are cur- rently working towards promot- ing gender neutral bathrooms on campus.

The Center also gives referrals for therapists and medical pro- viders.

In terms of gender identity, Parker-Holmes said that it’s really an “internal sense of who you are” and everyone’s gender expression can be different.

Parker Holmes emphasizes that society plays a significant role in gender identity, and that people “can have the freedom to explore in a way that is meaningful, whether that means changing their bodies or not.”

Discussions about transgen- der are often taboo, and stereo- types about the “normal” transgender are often lead to unfilled expecta- tions.

“This issue is important for ev- eryone, not just about transgen- der,” Roan said.

For more information on the Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversity at USM visit http://usm.maine.edu/glbtqa/index.htm

and for the Maine Transgender Network visit http://www.mainetransnet.org/index.htm
From Lifeline on page 1

**NEWS**

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

**Pattenaude announces task force members**

University of Maine System Chancellor Richard Pattenaude announced the members of a 12 person task force assigned to address the $42.8 million shortfall projected for the next 4 fiscal years.

The task force is part of Pattenaude’s plan to restructure the state university system, the outline of which he presented to the USM board of trustees on January 11th.

The task force will be chaired by David Flanagan, former CEO of Central Maine Power.

Other members include Dr. Sandra Featherman, former president of the University of New England, James Bradley, president of the C.O.L.T staff union of the University of Maine, and Presque Isle undergraduate Charles Weiss, who is a student body representative of the UMS Board of Trustees.

In a press release last week, the Chancellor’s office stated the purpose of the task force is to “review and recommend operational and structural changes” to the University.

In his January 11th presentation to the board of trustees, Pattenaude outlined the dire financial circumstances.

“Those are not choices between poorly run, unneeded programs and programs of quality, but rather choices between what we can and cannot afford to do,” Botman stated in the memo.

**Other programs currently under scrutiny include USM’s childcare program.**

Lifeline began in 1976 as a Jewish Community Center fitness program at the YMCA on the University of Maine campus. Lifeline’s popularity grew to the point where the YMCA’s facilities were no longer adequate.

“In the mid-70s the whole running craze was escalating. At one time, we probably had 500 people in our walk/jog class,” said Downing.

In 1977, the program joined forces with the university to offer a larger space to run its popular jogging program. By 1978 however, the YMCA had decided to move on, and Downing and his staff moved the entire program to the university’s Sullivan Fitness Complex.

Downing says Lifeline’s mission has always been to offer a down-to-earth community gym, one that is non-judgemental and inclusive.

“This is not the Bay Club, this is not Planet Fitness,” Downing said last Friday.

“It’s more designed to be an environment where people can feel safe. They don’t have to have the latest Spandex.”

Ziko agrees that the laid-back environment is part of the appeal.

“I keep coming back for the same reason,” she said. “It’s not a ‘fitness factory’. There aren’t rows and rows of cardio machines with televisions... It’s not huge and overwhelming.”

Downing says that the recent increase in competition from larger gyms like Planet Fitness has resulted in lower enrollment in Lifeline programs, citing the fitness behemoth’s ability to undercut almost every other local gym.

Lifeline’s longevity in the face of these corporate mega-gyms is partially due to the niche it has carved out in Southern Maine as a comfortable, cloistered work-out environment. Downing also attributes the programs success to the close working relationship it has developed with area physicians through their rehabilitation programs.

“We get referrals from physicians all the time. They know that if they send somebody here, they’re going to follow the guidelines, and that their patients have a good chance of meeting their goals,” he said.

Lifeline’s popular Enhance Fitness program, which is offered three times a week, is a group aerobics class designed for the aging population who otherwise wouldn’t have access to a regular workout routine.

“Some of these people live by themselves and that’s their one social activity of the day.”

Ziko says that the Enhance program is especially important to the local aging population.

“I just see how incredibly important the program has been to them, getting them out of the house, keeping them mobile, keeping them strong and literally well-balanced.”

Some of Lifeline’s programs will continue to operate at the Sullivan Complex but which programs will survive, and in what format they will be offered has not yet been determined.

“Discussions are under way with Student Recreation to see if there’s a feasibility to continue some of Lifeline’s group exercise programming,” says Downing.

For now, all Lifeline memberships will be honored through Jul 31, at which point members will be directed to renew their memberships at the Sullivan Fitness Center.

The important thing, Downing says, is that the spirit of Lifeline’s mission will carry on in some form even after the program shuts down.

“We’re just trying to make sure the public understands we haven’t forgot about them,” he explained.

Ziko says that she will probably still continue to work out at the Sullivan Complex, but that without the Lifeline staff, the experience won’t be the same.

“The instructors are incredibly knowledgeable and just really good communicators of health and wellness, and they’ve been a very important part of my life, offering encouragement and advice. You can’t put a price on that kind of thing.”

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**USM’s General Scholarships.**

Applications available online at:

WWW.USM.MAINE.EDU/CAREERS

Deadline: February 27, 2009

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**Mentor Celebration!**

**Be the change: Mentor a child.**

**JANUARY**

**Mentoring Month**

**Snow date!**

**Wednesday, February 4th, 4-6pm**

Woodbury Ampitheatre

Who mentored you? Pass it on!

Refreshments and stories provided.

Sponsored by the Office of Community Service & Civic Engagement and the Greater Portland Mentoring Partnership
Late Night with Jimmy Fallon-Lon

Dave Murphy
Contributing Writer

College students watch a lot of late night talk shows. This is because the young people stay up late, own TV’s, and drink Red Bull when they’re bored. The college student is wise when allowing this, for late night shows are educational. A big reason for this (besides the homosexual thing) is that the show is not confined solely to them. It’s often covered by a group of others who are watching a different program. They are watching Jimmy Fallon on Late Night. He is a popular figure among college students, with such smash hits as “Factory Girl”, “Anything Else”, and my personal favorite “Vorite”. In all actuality, I’ve never seen any of these acts and I doubt any of you saw them either.

Fallon is best known on SNL for laughing uncontrollably, forgetting lines, and having a great time. Fallon’s claim to fame was his impersonations of Mick Jagger, John Lennon, and Jerry Seinfeld. Granted he was well liked and seemed to have a unique charm that made him stand out. But why? I must be missing something. Also, Fallon is a comedian who is not only funny, but also has a heart. He can make you laugh uncontrollably, forgetting your troubles, and make you feel better.

In a recent interview Fallon stated “It’s gonna be fun. I’m interested in talking to people. It’s gonna be a grind. We’re gonna try everything and what works hopefully we’ll do more of and if it doesn’t work we’ll have to just roll with the punches.” Hopefully he has a lot of new fans because he’ll probably see a lot of them from me.

Fallon just comes up short. His personality seems phony and he’s riddled with flaws. How can a guy who can’t even roll with the punches be asked to host a live television show? So why does this just add up? I can see why NBC is trying to target the average audience. The network is trying to revive late night. Conan O’Brien is 45. David Letterman is 61. Craig Ferguson is 46. Jimmy Kimmel is 44. Fallon is 34. As you can see, Fallon has the advantage of being young and more energetic. Fallon could attract more of a younger audience which would boost ratings. The real question is, for how long? How long will viewers buy his personality? Will they tune in after night to night to see how he can manage to screw up another opening monologue? I just don’t see him succeeding.

I can’t be sure. He just doesn’t have the experience. In my opinion, he’s just not ready. Maybe he’ll be able to host a show, but not a live one.

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PERSPECTIVES
Committed to fear “Jesus Camps” promote intolerance and hatred

Taryn Yudaken
Staff Writer

Humility is separated. We are segregated by our “individualism”, and at the heart of individualism lies a culture and, most often, its religion. Religion is a highly individualized institution, a creation of each person, and a world of those “degenerates” who fail to uphold their particular establishment. It’s their separation between people that has broken the Eastern shoreline in sad place that it is today. We don’t care about our collective consciousness or our massive effects on our planet; we care about our individual lives, our individual identities and problems. The thing is, although we are pushed to admire a very specific standard of living (something like wealthy Barby and Kens), we have also been taught to value individuality, and our unique backgrounds and lifestyles. I suppose this is where religion comes in, because if you’re not rich or super-model-like then at least you have this god who loves you. Any connection? If you are individualistic, of course, you’re a homosexual. Then it depends on the congregation whether god will love you next.

A big reason for this (besides the homosexual thing) I “abandoned” religion was my disgust with the way children have no say in the process of being placed in a separate community. It’s relatively rare that parents lay out all the different religions, explain them, and then have the kids pick their happenings. They path they might find appealing, if any. Usually, future generations blindly accept whatever they happen to be told, and I am one of these. I was shook when I read an article, “Jesus Made Me Puke”, about this evangelical church camp. In it, I was so disturbed that I went on to watch “Jesus Camp”, and then “Religious”. After a little disheveling research, I realized that many religious leaders do more than just create hate and inequality movements (such as the recent Prop 8), they completely brainwash future generations to make sure they do the exact same thing. Hundreds and thousands of children are yielded at by intense fanaticisms in deeply influential camps - first to see them, then to inspire them. This is all done by groups of very passionate and believable church figures, who make me shiver if I observe long enough that they seem more right than real, reciting bible lines robotically and convincingly. Their service is not only designed to support recovery shows or those who have hit life meltdowns. Their service is ultimately designed to guarantee their establishment never dies. How can their children ever progress into a rational world when they are taught that critical thinking is demonic? That science is evil? That anyone not living by the holy bible is a sinner?

I know I am not addressing the fanaticism of many other religions, but this is the same thing. The proximity is just striking me out of me. It is terrifying to watch children who are barely old enough to walk, screaming and crying in tongues as they continue to do so until the age of twenty. Suddenly hundreds of young minds absolutely freckling out. All their natural human instincts are told to be repressed, their beautiful goodness and sadness, fun, and scary, and adults. We love computers, we love technology, we love the way the world is today. We don’t care that has broken the Earth down to the atom. We love their particular establishment. We love their particular establishment.

The college student is wise when allowing this, for late night shows are educational. A big reason for this (besides the homosexual thing) is that the show is not confined solely to them. It’s often covered by a group of others who are watching a different program. They are watching Jimmy Fallon on Late Night. He is a popular figure among college students, with such smash hits as “Factory Girl”, “Anything Else”, and my personal favorite “Vorite”. In all actuality, I’ve never seen any of these acts and I doubt any of you saw them either.

Fallon is best known on SNL for laughing uncontrollably, forgetting lines, and having a great time. Fallon’s claim to fame was his impersonations of Mick Jagger, John Lennon, and Jerry Seinfeld. Granted he was well liked and seemed to have a unique charm that made him stand out. But why? I must be missing something. Also, Fallon is a comedian who is not only funny, but also has a heart. He can make you laugh uncontrollably, forgetting your troubles, and make you feel better.

In a recent interview Fallon stated “It’s gonna be fun. I’m interested in talking to people. It’s gonna be a grind. We’re gonna try everything and what works hopefully we’ll do more of and if it doesn’t work we’ll have to just roll with the punches.” Hopefully he has a lot of new fans because he’ll probably see a lot of them from me.

Fallon just comes up short. His personality seems phony and he’s riddled with flaws. How can a guy who can’t even roll with the punches be asked to host a live television show? So why does this just add up? I can see why NBC is trying to target the average audience. The network is trying to revive late night. Conan O’Brien is 45. David Letterman is 61. Craig Ferguson is 46. Jimmy Kimmel is 44. Fallon is 34. As you can see, Fallon has the advantage of being young and more energetic. Fallon could attract more of a younger audience which would boost ratings. The real question is, for how long? How long will viewers buy his personality? Will they tune in after night to night to see how he can manage to screw up another opening monologue? I just don’t see him succeeding.

I can’t be sure. He just doesn’t have the experience. In my opinion, he’s just not ready. Maybe he’ll be able to host a show, but not a live one.
Peak oil and climate change for our generation

Matt Isgro  
Contributing Writer

How old are you? Do you know how old your district’s City Council representative is? One clue: the youngest is 30. And why do I ask? I have to answer that question with another question: have you heard of peak oil, or permaculture?

As young people, we will live with the consequences of peak oil and climate change longer than any older generations. So, technically, we are the greatest stakeholders. As a result, shouldn’t we have the greatest say in how we go deal with these problems?

Peak oil is a simple idea. In 1956, a geophysicist named M. King Hubbert predicted that over the next 30 years (or so) after a region ‘peaked’ in oil discoveries (after the peak, the total discoveries of oil reserves will always be less and less as time goes on), it would peak in its oil production capabilities. So, you start finding less and less oil, but it takes about 30 years for that to affect actual production and then the market.

‘Hubbert’s Peak’ has been tested and proven regionally and time again. In fact, those stories lead up to what we’re dealing with today, which is a global peak in oil production. That is to say, global oil demand exceeds supply. The result is that oil and other fossil fuels (which includes natural gas, coal and uranium) will go through a period of very high-, low-, even higher-, and higher still-prices. What we’ve seen so far is the first high and now we’re approaching the low. Supply and demand are playing a volatile game of tug-of-war which will ultimately end in a price for fossil fuels—and all this is derived from them—that is simply uneconomical.

Other indicators include a dramatic rise in resource wars, which we already see in U.S. vs. Iraq and Russia vs. Georgia (just look at these regions and their role in either producing or transporting fossil fuels). Because our food is now produced and distributed through a system completely reliant on petroleum (transportation, pesticides, fertilizers), that, too, is entirely vulnerable. Biofuels, also, represent a great threat so long as they actually compete for land (whether forest, grassland, or farm); over-dependence on biofuel threatens the both the climate and food prices.

Think of climate change like this. Our population started consuming a lot more energy—an exponential increase—after we discovered coal. The amount of fossil fuels we’ve consumed has always increased as our population and economies have increased (remember that economies need to grow). We know that the negative results from fossil fuel consumption lead to climate change (among many other problems), but now it’s time to add some context for considering how fast things are going to move in the future.

It takes a pretty long time for the consequences to add up to a point where they can tip our entire global biosphere out of wack (about 150 years). The problem is, once we’re at that tipping point, it’s basically too late to avoid at least a lot of trouble. Things start changing really fast (like ocean currents, plant respiration, species survival, food prices, clean water, health care, etc.), and they keep changing really fast for a while until a final equilibrium is reached. This is when population size and energy/resource availability come back into harmony.

That’s a basic outline of some major players in a game that will challenge that you, me, and everyone else our age and younger for a long time. Or will it be a long time? That’s the most important question, because there are a lot of really great solutions taking place in our community and many others. They’re all getting started, and they can make a huge difference, but it comes back to that matter of time. We’re getting to the point where the typical, old-school pace of political change is not going to cut it if we hope to avoid the greatest catastrophes of these challenges, catastrophes which people our age will undoubtedly pay the biggest price for.

There are many in the community who want to do something new. We want to create a model for public process: how much influence and involvement the public has in government policy issues...like developing the Maine State Pier, for example. We’re not yet sure on where we’re going. We’re not sure because we’re waiting to hear from you, as your voice is most important to all of us. An older generation is waiting, also, to be inspired by your ideas and energy. We hope that you’ll take the time to join us and share your voice. A little time now could be worth a lot of time later.
Monday, February 2nd
Sing for no other reason than fun!
The Wishcamper Center Art Room at USM plays host to “Singing for-the-fun-of-it Sessions” every Monday from February 2nd through May 4th. Join fellow songstes in belting out a variety of tunes from an array of traditional backgrounds. Not having the ability to carry a tune and tone deafness won’t get you kicked out, but why would you want to sing if you can’t carry a tune and are tone deaf anyways? Free to students ($2 suggested donation fee) 4:30-5:30 p.m./ Wishcamper Center Art Room #103/ 34 Bedford St., Portland/ Call 780-4324 or email artz@usm.maine.edu for questions and info.

Tuesday, February 3rd
Think you’re smart?
Tuesday Night Trivia (TNT) explodes every Tuesday night at Gorham’s Brooks Student Center. If you’re a know it all and want to play alone, go for it! The maximum numbers of students per team is four. Compete for prizes and bragging rights and a chance to win the semester’s grand prize awarded to the individual or team with TNT’s cumulative high score! 7 p.m./ Brooks Student Center, Gorham/ For more information call 228-8011.

Wednesday, February 4th
Go to Bootcamp without joining the Army!
Sign up for the Bootcamp workout to get whooped into shape with an intermediate to advanced cardio workout. Develop your core strength and gain balance through sprints, calisthenics training and plyometrics to increase speed and endurance. Don’t be afraid, there won’t be any climbing nets or firing squads. $10 a semester for USM students/ Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays/ 5:15 p.m. – 6:15 p.m./ Sullivan Complex, Portland Campus/ Visit usm.maine.edu/sullivancomplex for more information.

Thursday, February 5th
I have a dream!
The University of Southern Maine’s Office of Multicultural Student Affairs is honoring the life and dreams of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with a celebration at the Hannaford Lecture Hall on the Portland Campus. Speakers include the Mayor of Portland, Jill C. Duson, and USM President, Dr. Selma Botman. Dr. King’s inspirational speech, “I Have a Dream,” will be shown in its entirety. The program includes performances by African and Native American drummers and Pihcintu, a multicultural children’s choir. Refreshments at 4 p.m./ Program begins at 5 p.m./ Hannaford Hall, Abromson Education Center, Portland Campus/ Call 780-4006 for more information.

Friday, February 6th
Don’t cry emo kid!
Recently broke up with your boyfriend or girlfriend and looking for that emotional song to sing to? Fear not! Acoustic-emo heavyweight Second Hand Serenade will be crooning at the Station for all to sing a long. Be hopeful though, singer and guitarist, John Vesely, started Second Hand Serenade as an outlet to serenade his wife. You’ll find love again, I promise. Supporting acts include Meg and Dia and White Tie Affair. 7 p.m./272 St. John St., Portland/ myspace.com/thestationlive.

Saturday, February 7th
So many “F”s!
Celebrate Middle Eastern Night at the Space with traditional Arabic music. Turgay Ertek comes all the way from Turkey to showcase his talents on the longed neck lute saz, oud, and yazi tanker. Don’t know what any of these instruments are? Go get cultured and find out! Portland based Alhan will also be playing a mix of classical and Arabic tunes. 18+/$10/ 7:30 p.m./ Space Gallery/ 538 Congress St., Portland.

Sunday, February 8th
Explore Vacationland!
Do you ever think about how beautiful Maine is? Do you ever think about how lazy you are for not adventuring through the beautiful rivers and forests this great, gigantic state has to offer? Well, get off your bum and go to the Vacationland RV and Camping Supershow to find the best places to explore. With tips on how to get there and the equipment needed for your future journey, the Supershow is a must visit. $7/ Free for ages 12 and younger/ 10 a.m. – 5 p.m./ Portland Exposition Building/ 259 Park Ave., Portland/ Visit campmaine.com for more information.

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www.thefreeprint.com
It was 1968 and he saw something in the window of a California record store that as a fan, he was thrilled about; a copy of The Who on Tour.

Griel Marcus paid the $1.99 and rushed home to discover that that album was not a live album at all but a studio recording with a misleading title. He scribbled down his disheartened review and mailed it to Rolling Stone, a publication that was but a year old. A week later, the twenty-something opened the magazine and saw his words in print.

After American studies at Berkeley and graduate school in political science, his drive to write and love of music lead him to become the first records editor for Rolling Stone in 1979. He was paid $35 per week.


J. Gabriel Boylan calls Marcus’ books “Mystery Train” (1975) and “Lipstick Traces” (1989) “two of the most compelling investigations of music ever published.”

“I was always a huge music fan,” Marcus told me as he reminisced about how his love affair with rock music began, “I remember at one point I was trying to get someone to understand this 1959 Barrett Strong cover, the 1963 Beatles recording of “money,” which was not released in the US at the time my young friend’s father was an airline pilot and brought home the British recording.

See Rock on page 14

Maine pulls in grant dollars for local Rock 'n Roll

Tyler Jackson
Staff Writer

Joshua Loring, singer and guitarist for the rock group Brenda, pledges a strong allegiance to the veiled music culture of Portland—or, rather, to its unveiling. He is Portland's adamant champion, its believer, and most recently, its spokesperson.

With a grant of $7,500 from the Maine Arts Commission, Loring, a resident artist at the Space Gallery, is creating a multi-platform, multi-media documentary audio-visual project to document the art and lives of a thriving yet largely hidden treasure trove of Portland musicians.

The project consists of three main components: a book of photographs and text portraying the musicians at shows, practices and their day jobs; an audio compilation; and a blog which will continue on after the completion of the project.

Loring will ship about 500 copies to college radio stations; clout-wielding independent record labels. He'll send the project to various independent record labels. He'll send it to friends in strategic places—to anybody with the capacity to help these artists sustain themselves as musicians in a larger marketplace.

"Part of living in Portland is this frustration at having no real exposure," Loring says. He considers local bands like the RattleSnakes, Honey Clouds and Metal Feathers to be far more compelling than the mainstream local music Mainers at large are exposed to.

Moreover, he feels the quality of these bands' work is on par with—if not superior to—much of the nationally celebrated music from the New York scene and others like it.

"Here, it's a very self-sustaining community where everybody takes an interest and will continually go out to see you," he says. "But it's often the same people over and over again because of population."

Loring points out that in addition to Portland's size, its isolation from major cities keeps its talented musicians below the radar.

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Free Press: What is your major and concentration?
FK: Fletcher Keene: Technically I’m an English major, but I’m switching it to art as soon as I can get through my art history requirements.

FP: What year/class are you?
FK: I’m a third year student in sophomore standing. (I got sick in spring ’08)

FP: What is the medium that you work the most with?
FK: Right now I’m taking a sculpture class, and I dabbled in printmaking but most of the time I do large 2D works.

My favorite medium is Vellum paper, compressed black charcoal and a few spats of color using some conte.

FP: How would you describe your artwork?
FK: My artwork is mostly expressionistic and emotionally driven. I also dabble in a little primitivism. I always work quickly and rather messily, but it gives a dramatic effect.

FP: Where do you get ideas/draw influence from to make your art?
FK: I draw influences from everywhere. I look at other artists (even the ones I hate) and take little bits and reproduce them with a twist.

FP: Do you have any continuing themes that you find pop up in your work often?
FK: I find that I do a lot of faceless figures and anonymous pieces. My latest obsession is making beautiful things revolting.

FP: What are you currently working on (in your spare time, for class etc)?
FK: For class I’m working on a sculpture based on the human body. I think I’m carving some intestine-like things, but in knots to represent the physical feeling of anxiety. We’ll see where that goes.

FP: How do you see your art fitting in after you graduate?
FK: My art will always be a part of my life. I just hope it can turn into something that can sustain me so I can sustain it.

FP: How have you grown as an artist during your time here at USM?
FK: I’ve found many many valuable things over the years here. I’ve found new artists, thought of new themes, styles.

My education here has really been immeasurable.

FP: Where do you want to see your work go? Do you have any plans, techniques, mediums you’d like to try or get into?
FK: I’ve always wanted to try metal work. I’ll see what I can make metal do for me. I really want to move in a direction that sounds a bit sappy. Pieces that force you to look at your life and cherish the small beauties in it.

Epicurean Epics

An easy and hearty alternative to oatmeal

There is something about the onset of winter and the desire for a morning bowl of oatmeal: the real deal kind, not the quick-cooking variety or the multi-flavored sugary rip-offs in little brown packages that barely serve a finicky kid. The oatmeal I thrive on is plain old rolled oats that are toasted into twice as much boiling water and left to plump up and play nicely with surrounding oats. Soon a mass of nutrition is ready to be garnished with the likes of pure maple syrup, brown sugar, a dollop of dairy, or a pat of butter. Fresh or dried fruit is an added bonus to your morning. Oatmeal like that will sustain you for hours. So will granola, which is sometimes more convenient if time is short.

When my daughter Brianna called last week to say she was considering going for a PhD in Food Science/Human Nutrition at UMO, I got on the university’s website to learn more about their doctorate program. During her four years at McGill University in Montreal, I sat in on a class here and there, toured various labs, greenhouses, and departments, yet never felt the excitement I do now. Lobster, blueberries, potatoes, dairy – they study and research it all and more!

Perhaps it’s a Maine thing: she’s back in the U.S., at a state university with a prestigious Princeton review. It takes less than two hours to visit her compared to six hours and a border scrutiny.

In the course of perusing UMO’s Food Science website, I clicked on the faculty that Brianna works with, Mary Ellen Camire, Ph.D., had written an article in Food Technology titled Breakfast Foods and Satiety. I clinked on the publication and found scientific validation in my opinion that eating oats seems to stave off hunger for a long time.

In a graph that detailed the satiety index for various breakfast foods, oats offered triple the satiety.
Brew Review

Bring on the hops

After last week’s foray with stouts, my taste-buds needed a reawakening. To me that means one thing: hops – and lots of them. That’s why this week I’ve chosen an array of beers all of which are centered more on their use of hops than on their delicate use of specialty grains.

60 MINUTE IPA
Dogfish Head Brewing Company - Milton, DE
6.0% ABV

Produced by the iconic Dogfish Head Brewing Company (DFH), known for their extreme and unique beers, the 60 Minute IPA gets its name from the unique brewing process for this beer, whereby the brewers add hops continually throughout the brewing process. What results is a golden offering with a plume of white head. The hop aroma from this beer is remarkable. Piney, citrusy hops blend with just a hint of alcohol. The taste is fairly reserved hop-bitterness, tempered by a sweetness that bleeds through the hops, leaving just a shred of hop bitterness to forebode the next swill.

What’s great about this beer is the delicate use of hops. Though DFH does offer 90 and 120 minute versions of this beer, at 9% and 21% ABV respectively, this beer is no gimmick. My only wish is that the flavor of the hops was a bit more nuanced. There seems to be a singular flavor imparted by this particular process, which, although yummy, leaves me wanting a little more.

A solid rendition of an IPA, this beer should be a staple for those who like hoppy, drinkable beers. (yeah, that’s right, A minus minus)

Hi P.A.
Magic Hat Brewing Company - Burlington, VT
6.8% ABV

In the interest of full disclosure, I bought this beer solely for its label. The tantalizing and trippy little lady with a crazy head of hair made my heart swoon as I walked by the beer cooler. I couldn’t help myself.

Luckily, first impressions often work, and this beer satisfied. With an awesome aroma of grapefruit and pine-trees in spring time, this beer poured with a massive (almost too massive) head that left a beautiful laced pattern during the whole drinking experience. When I was done drinking, in fact, my glass looked like a tacky lace doily from your grandmother’s house.

Big hop flavors and a pretty tenacious bitterness mark this beer at first. But as the beer continues to settle and mellow, the more nuanced flavors seem to shine (maybe once your taste buds get adjusted to the shot of hops). Alcoholic warmth and a light sweetness accompany the floral and fruity bouquet of hops. This beer reminds me of fresh spruce boughs in spring time. It’s fresh. It’s crisp. It’s exactly the way hops should be used in beer.

I only wish the first few swills were as enjoyable as the last. Balance is a bit of an issue with this beer, but it’s still a great American Style IPA, especially for hop heads.

HOPPUS MAXIMUS
Thirsty Dog Brewing Company - Akron, OH
5.9% ABV

The label for this beer says that it won’t disappoint. It boasts a “complex character of American hops and amber colored caramel malts [that] make this beer very crisp and refreshing.” With such a confident label and unique name, I couldn’t help but indulge in one of these beers. But, regrettably, the only promise that was fulfilled was the color of this beer. Pouring a rich amber color with a minimal white head, this beer had a sub-par hop aroma that blended the sweetness of the caramel malts with the musty, almost indistinguishable mustiness of the hops.

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This beer could have been old, but it’s makers didn’t stamp with a fresh-by date, so I’m not giving them the benefit of the doubt.

RUNATION IPA
Stone Brewing Company - San Diego, CA
7.7% ABV

From the makers of Arrogant Bastard, the whacky Stone Brewing company, comes the Runation IPA, guaranteed, as the name suggests, to ruin your tongue with a bombardment of hops in all forms. Built in the same vein as DFH 60 minute, Stone uses a unique technique for hopping their beers that involves up to 100 minutes of contact time. The result? A beer that, unlike Hoppus Maximus, lives up to its reputation... but in a good way.

Cracking open the 22 oz bottle of this, hops are all I can smell (despite there being a perfectly good Freschetta pizza in the oven). A hazy golden color, fitting for the style, the first drink of this beer is ridiculous. It’s almost unreal how hoppy this beer is. But, unlike my preconceived notions about this beer (that it was purely a gimmick, that it’d lack any semblance of balance, and that it was ridicuously overpriced at six bucks a bottle), there was something inviting about being smacked in the face with a barrage of bitterness and subtle-flowery fruit flavors. This is a beer that gets better with every sip, and it doesn’t take long to acclimate yourself to its robustness. By shocking your taste buds with bitter alpha acids, it allows you to enjoy the more subtle sweetness of the malts in this brew – plus it made the factory made tomato sauce of my frozen pizza taste like a culinary masterpiece.

As amazing as this beer’s ability to be so hoppy, is the way it covers up being nearly 8% ABV, which, under most circumstances would be deadly. But, the mouth-puckering hopiness of this beer and it’s devastation on the mouth clearly out-up being nearly 8% ABV, which, under most circumstances would be deadly. But, the mouth-puckering hopiness of this beer and it’s devastation on the mouth clearly out-

Wow. Only if it were a little more drinkable.

Make your mark on the paper...

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Stop by our office at 92 Bedford St. on the USM Portland Campus or contact Executive Editor, Matt Dodge at mdodge18@gmail.com
If George Carlin seems a tiny bit more worn out than Chris Rock in his latest special, it’s excusable: Carlin was 71, in his 52nd year in showbusiness, several years since his last stint in rehab. Since 1977, he’d maintained a grind of returning to HBO every three to four years with an hour of all-new material.

Add failing health to that, as “It’s Bad For Ya” turned out to be his final HBO special-turned-DVD-turned-comedy album, and there should be enough goodwill to get you through an unusually low-key performance.

It’s nice that Carlin was finally able to get in some material on aging—or being an “old fuck”, as he proudly proclaims here—before his death. It’s a topic he’d never really dealt with before, and he’s so humble and good-natured that it’s like a throwback to his 70s material on being a goofy, filthy-minded Catholic schoolboy. Makes me wish he stuck with it, too.

Beginning in the mid-90s, his shows got increasingly bogged down with earnest, angry, expletive-filled rants against...civilization, basically. The only thing he seemed to dislike more than the status quo were the people who thought it could be improved upon.

Not that I mind deep-seeded cynicism in a person, per say, but I prefer when you can mostly just feel it stewing below the surface. Claiming you’re “divorced from the human race”, as Carlin often did in his later years, seems disingenuous coming from somebody so thoughtful, active and not fourteen years old.

Still, people consistently flocked to cheer along with that righteous anger, as they do during a long closing rant here on the fleeting nature of civil rights. I still think its an awkward way to go out, especially for a man who only moments earlier demonstrated the big laughs you can get from the simple pleasures of faking senility at a family dinner.

Maybe Chris Rock isn’t at the top of his game anymore either, but he’s definitely found a more comfortable plain to settle down on and spend his golden years, if he so chooses. He has some time.

Perhaps you’re familiar with Mr. Rock from such films as “Head of State,” which explored the comedic possibilities of an African-American becoming President, or “I Think I Love My Wife,” which explored the comedic possibilities of trying not to cheat on your spouse.

The thing is, Rock has been talking about these things forever, but his stand-up is actually successful and funny. Not to criticize a guy for trying new things, but I hope he stays here forever and never tries anything new.

The first twenty minutes of his big comeback show, “Kill The Messenger,” are the sweetest, even if they’re the most dated now as he spends about ten minutes each on candidates Barack Obama and John McCain. He wrings just enough enthusiasm from the mostly black audience over their anticipation of the first black President—and manages to find the last remaining jokes about McCain’s age. “He’s so old he used to own Sydney Portier.”

It didn’t take long to remember why I love Chris Rock - it is a rare quality to be able to say the most vulgar, repulsive things, whether they be about public figures or oral sex technique, and still come off as a good person, almost like you’re doing a public service. Honestly, PBS, give this man a show.

It’s also rare to laugh so hard at the first half of an hourlong comedy show that I’m not sure if the last half wasn’t so funny, or if I was just worn out.
Sam Anderson-Patnode of "Turn Down Day".

covered in the project is that ulti
Moneycastasia, Turn Down Day
Honey Clouds, An Evening
bands: the RattleSnakes, Gully,
ect documents nine other
away—is as good as what comes
City—albeit tiny and tucked
rock music coming out of this
message of Loring's thesis: the
writer and embodies the vital
From
G/r.a/a.a/n.a/t.a

"I think that one of the things
along with representatives from
is, after all, an intimate locale.
share rehearsal spaces. Portland
these bands—minimal exposure,
lines of former greats like Guided
fluence, it's something along the
Generally speaking, if these
any sort of high-cresting wave.

The bands do share a
music. The bands do share a

The factors holding back any
initial commercial success for
these bands—minimal exposure,
impact, lack of recognition—
may, in fact, be incubating their
unique spirit. They live together,
play live shows together and
share rehearsal spaces. Portland
is, after all, an intimate locale.
In the early 2000s, Maine
Attorney General Steven Rowe,
along with representatives from
thirty-nine other states, sued a
handful of major music compa-
nies, including Tower Records,
BMG, Sony and Capitol Records,
on the grounds that they illegal-
ly instituted massive scale CD
price-fixing at the retail and dis-
tribution levels.

The companies were forced to
compensate each of the states
with thousands of CDs for their
libraries and schools, rebate checks for
its music consumers and a chunk
of the funds around the time the funds
were distributed through its Artists
in Maine Communities Grant.

In 2007, Maine's share of
$23,000 went to the MAC to be
distributed among Portland's
working musicians.

Lately, he has been photo-
graphic individual band mem-
bers at their day jobs. He took
the Metro to the Maine Mall
with Tara Bincoursky from the
RattleSnakes and one of her cli-
cents. Bincoursky works for a
facility that assists developmen-
tally disabled people.

"I'm reaching out to a website with Brian Cohen, also from the
RattleSnakes, who works for a
company that neutralizes spaces
contaminated by asbestos.

"He showed me one instrument
that shoots an infested beam hun-
dreds of feet, he recalled. "And
whenever the little laser beam,
you can tell you surface tempera-
ture, which is really weird."

Loring says the physical nature
of the book portion has yet to be
fully realized. They have de-
cided to use a thin paper stock
to save money, which will allow for
more content and more copies.
Portland's 43rd Parallel Press
will print the literature. Rather
than sending out individual CDs,
objects Loring considers too
clunky and outdated he will in-
clude a barcode for access to the
music compilation online.

If nothing else, Loring hopes
the project will serve as a catalyst
for greater local media represent-
ation from unlikely outlets such
as the Portland Press Herald or
WCSH 6.

But the ultimate objective isn't
impossible: to generate wide
spread recognition of and effec-
tively buoy Portland's unusually
good music in a larger market-
Frequenters of the scene,
as it stands today, should stop
and count their lucky stars now
and again for how other a Portland's
size, if any, boast such a high concentration of fierce
young musicians. There's just
something in the water, or some-
thing in the air that has created
many different communities that
are experts in the field as far as
the city of Portland as a lifestyle,
In a way, "she said. "A commu-
nity that is really nurturing to
young musicians. There's just
something in the water, or some-
thing in the air that has created
something in the air that has created
something in the water, or some-
thing in the air that has created

From ROck on page 9

A couple years later, as I'm
explaining this song to another
friend, he doesn't get it, I go into
a pseudo-lecture about the indi-
vidual being crushed by technol-
gy and this song as a scotoma
coming from the crushing ma-
chine. As I'm doing it, I realize
I totally believe everything I'm
saying, and that's really what I'm
into. It was startling!"

Grief's ability to turn his
love into something and successful
shimmers in the distance for
college students who fear graduat-
ning into a barren economy, "You
know I came of age in a very
different time, the economy was
very different," yet he offered
advice for the generation entering
the workplace.

"I'm a writer. If you feel the
need to write, you have to start
writing. The student paper, a web-
site, you've got to get it out and
get a response, you have to give
it public dimension. When you
first see your work in print, you
think, "how could I say that," and
you cringe. But you keep writ-
ing, keep struggling—and send
it all over the world. Writing, making
music, I'm talking about anything. If you think you
want to be a writer, you're not a
writer. A writer needs to write.
Writing poetry and wanting to be
even a poet are two different things."

"As I'm talking about the show, most of the photog-
raphy is taken of action onstage and there's maybe only one shot
performing --isn't that it in
there?" He'd also touch on what
how the show speaks to the cliché
of rock music.

His Monday evening talk, the
PMA's annual Bernard A. Osher
lecture, drew a crowd of 850 at
the Holiday Inn by the
Bay.

In Marcus's introduction, the
museum's chief curator Thomas
Denenberg, proudly spoke to
Portland's enthusiasm for the
show, bearing. "A visitor
proached me this week and told
me that he'd lived five minutes
away from the museum and had
come once in, him down to see the
rock and roll show."
The Razzies, the other side of Hollywood

The nominations and winners of the least prestigious movie awards

Kaitlyn Creneny
Staff Writer

The Golden Raspberry Awards, aka the Razzies, were created in 1980 with the sole purpose of balancing out the Academy Awards. However, you never want to receive or become nominated for this anti-prestigious status. It dis-honors, (or honors, depending on personal taste) the worst acting, screenwriting, songwriting, directing, and most importantly filmmaking that the industry produces every year.

Unlike the Oscars, voting on the garbage is open to the public, as long as you have membership to the Golden Raspberry Award Foundation (GRAF). Nominations are announced one day prior to the Oscars and also presented one day earlier. The award itself is just as absurd as the mentioned films; taking the form of a plastic raspberry and roll of film that is spray painted gold and mounted on a base, typically valued at a whopping $4.89. This year the nominees were leaked early, much to the dismay of the GRAF, but thankfully for potential audiences.

Some of the other mentionable categories in the award show are: Worst Screen Couple and Worst Prequel or Sequel. Special categories have also been made up depending on the substance of awfulness such as Worst Screenplay Grossing Over $100 Million, Worst Excuse for an Actual Movie (All Concept/No Content!), Most Tiresome an Actual Movie (All Concept/No Content!), Most Tiresome

The unfortunate passings of the year

The losses and deaths in the entertainment industry this year

Kaitlyn Creneny
Staff Writer

This year brought cinema-goers some of the most unique and entertaining movies since, well, perhaps last year depending on who you talk to. But with this great time also came great losses to the entertainment world. A great deal of these were shockingly, emotionally, unexpected, and also reminded us that life is only temporary, as depressing and obvious as that sounds. We were lucky enough to experience some of these tremendous performers before their time was up, and in honor of them a dedication must be brought forth. Australian actor Heath Ledger who passed away almost a year ago, left the public shocked by his extremely young age of death, twenty eight, and his final (and now most infamous) performance in “The Dark Knight” The star solidified himself as a true actor in his few years in the public eye. Besides his brilliantly deranged portrayal of The Joker, his acting in films such as “Brokeback Mountain,” “Monster’s Ball,” “The Patriot,” “Lords of Dogtown” (and you can insert your choice role here) gave just a glimpse into his deeply layered talent and mind. Compare him to legend James Dean, the only other actor to win a posthumous Oscar, as the great young lost star of the current generation. His partially completed role in Terry Gilliam’s upcoming film “The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus” was completed with help from Johnny Depp, Colin Farrell, and Jude Law, and will undoubtedly be a heartbreaking movie.

Perhaps not such a great shock, given his age, but nonetheless despairing was Mr. Cool Hand Luke himself, movie icon Paul Newman. The eight time Oscar nominated, film heavy gave a bevy of celebrated work in the sixties and seventies but was one of the few greats to keep his acting choices and performances fresh up until his departure from lung cancer complications in September. Where would the importance of movies be without such pivotal roles as Butch Cassidy on “Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid,” Paul Newman (and his stunning charisma) is the reason why society loves their actors. Newman will certainly be in our hearts and minds for a long time.

We were also burdened with the loss of one of the greatest comedians of all time, George Carlin, most recognized for his stand up routine “Seven Dirty Words.” Carlin touched on all, I repeat, all, of the taboo subjects that we would most veered away from: Catholicism, politics, sex. Carlin was more than a comedic talent and the like that most were forbidden to speak of in the good old days. He managed to rack up four Grammy awards for his Comedy albums and most critics rank him higher (or equal), in importance and hilarity, to Richard Pryor. Carlin was much more than a funny, cranky, crude, and obnoxious Irishman; he blatantly attacked our culture’s laws in his routines. His final HBO special, “It’s Bad For Ya;” was filmed less than four months prior to his death and is still as hysterical as his classic stand-ups.

One of the “Original Kings of Comedy” also disappeared too soon this year. At the age of twenty five, drug use, the inevitable, as depression and the like that most were they will ever know. His latest film, “Soul Men” with close friend Samuel L. Jackson, that premiered after his passing was not the best of his career, but he assuredly brought laughs to the otherwise dull film. His stand-up had him taking on the Radiohead photos and muck shots as films but he had a

See OSCAR on page 16

See RAZZIE on page 16

on Larry King Live, the statue was sold and paid for the next year’s ceremony budget, Affleck angrily broke his award out such pivotal roles as Butch Cassidy on “Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid,” Paul Newman (and his stunning charisma) is the reason why society loves their actors. Newman will certainly be in our hearts and minds for a long time.

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See OSCAR on page 16

See RAZZIE on page 16
Five albums to get snowed in with

From Oscar on page 15

great talent regardless, even seen in his later lesser known movies. Admittedly not my favorite actor, Charlton Heston was another sad parting that came with the year. I thought his performances were over the top, but noticeably entertaining and obviously an important character to the foundation of old school Hollywood. Without him epics would not have been as epic. "Ben-Hur," "El Cid," and most noticeably "Planet of the Apes" are just a few of the notches on his leather acting belt. Strong in his political beliefs, including the National Rifle Association and his pride of the Second Amendment. "From my cold, dead hands!" Heston will always be remembered as a tough as nails actor who did what he wanted to.

The movie that made all of us intensely fear the water at some point in our lives was easily Jaws. And the man we could count on to deliver was皇ton Heston. Without him epics would not have been as epic. "Ben-Hur," "El Cid," and most noticeably "Planet of the Apes" are just a few of the notches on his leather acting belt. Strong in his political beliefs, including the National Rifle Association and his pride of the Second Amendment. "From my cold, dead hands!" Heston will always be remembered as a tough as nails actor who did what he wanted to.

The movie that made all of us intensely fear the water at some point in our lives was easily Jaws. And the man we could count on to deliver was Roy Scheider. Later considered to be the go to character actor for good guys with a tinge of corruption, The French Connection, which earned him an Oscar nod and Marathon Man. He continued his acting until recently, which included roles in the thriller "The Punisher" and a cameo in "Family Guy." "Chocolate Salty Balls," is a phrase that was uttered numerous times in South Park by soul superior Issac Hayes or Chef. His career turned into something as ridiculous as one of the sketches on the show. However, his seven tunes albums like "Hot Buttered Soul" and "Black Moses" are ludicrous at first glance, due to mostly the titles, but he laid the way for soul to breakthrough into mainstream culture. If you don’t believe, try listening to the theme of Shaft and not bobbing along; because of this song he was the first African-American to receive an Academy Award for Best Original Score.

If you don’t know who Bo Diddley is I should jump off the page and slap you because of it. Nicknamed "The Originator" because he was the most influential rock and roll and bluesman perhaps known. Without him Eric Clapton, Jimi Hendrix, Buddy Holly, The Rolling Stones and the like would not have been inclined to music careers. He was also well regarded for the invention of the rectangular guitar and his one-edged driving rhythms. Just to list a few of people who played with him and gave the man great respect: The Grateful Dead, Tom Petty, George Thorogood, Little Richard, The Clash, Led Zeppelin, Aerosmith, B.B. King, and Elvis Costello among many others.

It is quite depressing that this multitude of amazing people left the entertainment business as we know it. Fortunately they all left us with work that can forever be accessed and savored, even if it is for the first time. So don’t be sad because life goes on.

Jake Cowan
Staff Writer

Bon Iver
For Emma, Forever Ago

After breakups with his band and girlfriend and bout with a liver ailment, Justin Vernon solo-journied in a tiny cabin in northern Wisconsin during the winter and created this minimalist masterpiece. Catharsis at its core, Vernon’s falsetto and mellow guitar strums portray the fragility of beauty with a sound too delicate for words. This album in Michael Myle"s words, "Let this be the soundtrack to your winter as it was for Vernon when he recorded it in cold, snowy Wisconsin.

Bjork
Vespertine

Bjorks fragile voice has never sounded so calm or ethereal as it does on Vespertine, her fourth studio album. The album flows through a gentle pulsing of mellow beats letting Bjork’s one-of-a-kind croon kiss your ears like a snowflake gently landing on your face and dissolving. Bjork herself has said, “It sounds like a winter record.” She even uses snow samples of snow being walked on and ice cracking on the album. It’s peaceful, contemplative, and guaranteed to keep your mind as silent as the snow.

Broken Social Scene
Feel Good Lost

Indie all-stars, Broken Social Scene, may have made a giant splash on the scene with their sophomore release, “You Forgot it in People.” But the ambient, instrumental “Feel Good Lost” is the album that will let you enjoy the sublime nothingness of a snow day. You’ll get lost in the layers of sound piling up unsuspecting-ly like the snow outside. It’s the perfect album to keep you warm all day whether you’re wrapped in blankets sleeping or wrapped in blankets having sex. It’s the ideal background for both.

Cinematic Orchestra
Ma Fleur

British nu-jazz kings, Cinematic Orchestra, mellow out from their normally frantic pace and bring this staggeringly gorgeous work of art. The songs range from instrumental tunes of airy saxophones over piano to one of the most beautifully sung tracks you will ever hear in “To Build a Home.” The crescendo in “To Build a Home” just might make you amass more tears than the clouds can produce snowdrops.

Cursive
The Ugly Organ

Harsher than the worst frostbite and more sincere than the prettiest snow angel, Cursive creates a somber, sorrowful sound by adding a cello to the band on their fourth studio album. Lead singer, guitarist, and brain child of Cursive, Tim Kasher, literally sings “bloody murder” throughout the album, but balances the violent moments with optimism through refrains of “I’m staying alive” and “The worst is over.” On first listen, “The Ugly Organ” may make every icicle look shyer, but upon further introspection you’ll hear that it’s about melting the sharp moments in life and coming on refreshed. It’s an album to help you survive even the most severe of storms; snow or otherwise.
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**Random Fact!**

A group of jellyfish is called a ‘smack’.

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

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**Need Money?**

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**Newsday Crossword**

**ACROSS**
1 Distribute the cards
5 Old-time oath
10 Shoo!
14 Sneaky scheme
15 Terry-cloth garments
16 Ankle-length skirt
17 Opera solo
18 Make amends
19 Maui or Kauai
20 Gets rid of
22 Take up a hem, perhaps
23 Major happening
24 Apple and coconut custard
25 Squeaky (on)
28 Hacksaw run
31 Detest
32 Pub servings
34 Paulo, Brazil
35 Neither’s partner
36 Teacher’s request
37 Tax-collecting org.
38 Wedding words
39 Dessert in a mold
40 Deputy’s shield
42 Fisherman’s major purchase
44 Puts through a strainer
45 Thin opening
46 Hardly any
48 Laundry woe
50 Gets rid of
52 Grass area
55 Free-for-all
56 Creme-filled cookie
57 Just slightly
58 Black bird
59 Breadbasket item

**DISCARDS**

12 Wheel connector
13 Wedding-cake layer
21 Hardy ___ (rarely)
22 Lands a hand
24 Use a vegetable peeler
25 Arrested
26 Residence
27 Gets rid of
28 Office note
29 Private’s superior, informally
30 Fire-hydrant attachments
32 Alternative to suspenders
33 Wiggy feature
36 Bench, for one
39 Sign up for

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**Puzzles**

**The Free Press | February 2, 2009**

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**Husky Highlights**

**WRESTLING**

Morin’s perfect records leads to NEWA honor

Junior Mike Morin (Fryeburg) has yet another honor to add to his trophy case. After starting the season an amazing 30-0, the 165-pounder was honored as New England Wrestling Association’s Wrestler of the Week. Currently top in his weight class, Morin leads New England in wins and is eighth nationally in victories. Last week, Morin defeated third-ranked Josh Berkovic of Wesleyan 13-7 and then posted a fifth-ranked Josh Berkovic of Wesleyan 13-7 and then posted a victory over Coast Guard’s Greg Bredariol while wrestling up a weight class at 174 pounds.

**MEN’S INDOOR TRACK**

Men’s Indoor Track wins home event

Led by double event winner Jeremy McKeon (Rutland, VT), the USM men’s indoor track team bested Bates and Emmanuel to capture the USM Co-ed Invitational crown. McKeon won both the 55 and 200 meter events, while helping USM edge-out Bates with a score of 267-233. Senior Doug Mercer (Laconia, NH) captured the 600 meter title, while Evan Davis (Fair Haven, VT) took home the high jump event. The Huskies also had a 1-2-3 sweep in the triple-jump, led by AJ Marden (Victory, VT), who won the event.

**WOMEN’S ICE HOCKEY**

Women’s hockey beats nationally ranked Mahattanville

The USM women’s hockey team continued their impressive campaign with a 4-3 win over the Manhattanville Valiants in Gorham. The win was the Huskies first over Mahattanville in 17 tries. Pacing the now 10-6-3 Huskies was freshman forward Jana Sacco (Niagra Falls, ONT) who tallied a pair of power-play goals to knock off ninth-ranked Valiants. Freshman goalie Kristen Gresko (Phoenix, AZ) also posted a pair of shutouts for the Huskies as they moved their record to 9-3-1.

**Upcoming Games**

February 3  
Men’s Basketball @ Colby 7 p.m.

February 5  
Women’s Basketball v. THOMAS 7 p.m.

February 6  
Women’s Ice Hockey v. ST. ANSELM’S 4 p.m.
Men’s Hockey v. SKIDMORE 7 p.m.

February 7  
Wrestling @ Rhode Island College (v. Roger Williams) Noon
Women’s Basketball @ Eastern Connecticut 1 p.m.

Women’s Ice Hockey v. NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE 1 p.m.

Men’s Basketball @ Eastern Connecticut 3 p.m.

Men’s Ice Hockey v. CASTLETON STATE 4 p.m.

Men’s Indoor Track @ Maine State Championships / Bates College 6 p.m.

Women’s Indoor Track @ Maine State Championships / Bates College 6 p.m.

**On the clock**

New brand of website blends adrenaline with good deals

Mike Tardiff  
Sports Editor

For those of you who like the latest in outdoor gear, but find the prices to be more cumbersome than stage five rapids, there’s new hope. A new set of websites that offer amazing deals, one at a time, appeals to the adrenaline seeking personality of outdoorsy adventurers.

Steepandcheap.com, purveyors of fine outdoor gear, lists their niche at the bottom of their page: “At Steep and Cheap, we sell premium, core outdoor gear and clothing at prices that are downright criminal. Here’s how it works: Steep and Cheap sells one ‘screamin’ deal at a time until it’s gone. The deals are up (to 80% off and no less than 50% off), so they sell out fast. You have to act fast or you’ll miss it, but don’t stress - as soon as one deal sells out, we kick off another.”

Steep and cheap is joined by other pages like BonkTown.com, which specializes in biking equipment and WhiskeyMilitia.com, who sell snowboarding gear and clothing.

Steep and cheap is the least specialized of the websites and offers a wide array of stuff, ranging from foldable camp chairs to performance thongs. It’s not uncommon to find the best name brands like North Face or Volcom, either.

But what’s most appealing about this website is the time factor. Just like their predecessor e-Bay, these websites add another exciting dimension to the shopping experience: a countdown. If you wait too long, you’ll miss the deal, but if you jump the gun, something better might come along next.

Really, it’s quite addictive, because you never know what kind of deal waits behind the HTML curtain.

These new sites are better than e-Bay if only for the certainty of their prices. I don’t know how many times I’ve bid on something on e-Bay, been the leader until the final 20 seconds, only to have the price jackd to almost retail.

While I was perusing the trio of sites, I saw a pair of DVS Skate Shoes that were marked down 80 percent from $99.99 to $19.99 and a pair of Smith Chino polarized sunglasses that were originally $128.95 and were marked down to $38.65 - a savings of 70 percent.

The only question mark with these ridiculous savings are the figures themselves. Nowhere that I could find does it list where these “original” figures come from. My best guess would be that they’re the Manufacturer’s Suggested Retail Price.

Regardless, there are some solid deals to be had if you’re lucky enough to be on at the right time. The sites also offers an alert service which will notify you when there’s a good deal, saving you the hassel of sitting through the page all day waiting for a good pair of male-cut briefs.
When life hands you snow, get big shoes

**When life hands you snow, get big shoes**

If there’s one thing that Maine has plenty of during these winter months, it’s snow. Just when you think we’re going to get away with a relatively boring (but very cold) winter, Mother Nature decides to dump another 8 inches on us overnight. The recent snowfall we saw during winter break had me itching to get outside and enjoy the snow as much as possible. Since I don’t snowboard or ski, my mind automatically went to my favorite snow activity: snowshoeing.

There’s plenty of great trails around the southern Maine area that are ripe for snowshoeing, from snowmobile trails to dedicated cross-country ski and snowshoe trails, to small sloped hiking paths. One of my favorite trails is out in my hometown of Parsonsfield, near the New Hampshire border. This weekend I took a drive out there and took to the local snowmobile trail. The trails were well packed from all of the machines using them lately, which made for some quick movements. Normally I find myself on trails that haven’t been frequented all that much and require a bit more strength to trudge through the deep powder. While this can be fun from time to time and feels a bit more like a winter exploration, a well packed path is a welcomed sight.

The trail I took winds its way through the backwoods of western Maine. Starting at an opening on Pendexter Brook Road, I made my way over small brooks and past sand pits covered in snow just begging to be slogged down. This particular route was just shy of 5 miles round trip and hits its peak at the mid-way point where you reach a steep incline into local farm fields. These fields behind Highland Dairy Farm in Cornish offer a wide sweeping vista of the western foothills and even Mount Washington in the distance. After a leisurely half hour rest enjoying the view and catching my second wind, I followed the same trail back to my car.

Not only is snowshoeing a great winter exercise, it’s also relatively cheap to get into. Unlike hitting the mountains, there’s no seasons pass or expensive day tickets to buy. All you need to get out there is a set of snowshoes and the willingness to hit the trails and make the most of the snow and blistering cold. And if you can’t enjoy the winter in Maine after all, why live here at all?

**Sleeping off the big game**

Last week I wrote about the importance of sports in communities. Never did I think my argument could be taken to an unhealthy degree, but it has been. That’s because students in the Pittsburgh area will be given an extra two hours sleep today thanks to the Super Bowl.

According to Pittsburgh Public Schools Superintendent Mark Roosevelt, the school will operate on a two-hour delay because the Super Bowl will keep younger students up late. And this isn’t the first time the city has done such a thing. Just three years ago, when the Steelers won, students were granted a similar luxury.

While I’ll grant that sports are a major cohesive force in society, in no way (repeat: no way) should they ever affect the day-to-day activities of institutions like schools. These kids should have to rip themselves out of bed today, get on the damn bus and get to school just like everyone else in the world.

No game, not even THE game is worthy of such allowances.

**Hangin’ with Mr. Tardiff**

By Mike Tardiff

To me, these are the first steps toward making the Super Bowl a national holiday. Besides, the game starts at 6:30, which means that it’ll be over at 11 p.m., giving kids plenty of time to get tucked in and ready for the school day tomorrow. Part of the entire fan experience is dealing with the inconvenience of game scheduling and lack of sleep. I can remember having early mornings following the Red Sox playoff series – even when they were on the West Coast – and never once was I granted two extra hours of sleep.

Instead, I joined throngs of other groggy-eyed people. It was almost a communal experience. Way more communal, I might add, than sleeping in.

School is supposed to be where kids learn life lessons. Sleeping in because of a football game is not a life lesson. In fact, it’s sending exactly the wrong message to all of those little yellow towel twirlers. Down the road when these kids are in the “real world” that we always preach about, they’ll remember that day they got to sleep in for a football game, and maybe, just maybe, they’ll have one too many drinks at the “big game” and opt out of work.

After all, that’s what they were taught. I mean, come on, it’s the STEELERS. Sports should be a healthy addition to someone’s life. They should never take the place of other more important things like school or family. That’s why students who don’t hold up their end of the road when these kids are in the classroom don’t get to play sports.

Whatever happens in the game, whether its a Steelers rout or a Cardinal’s come-from-behind, those kids won’t be witnessing the kind of history they’d get in an actual class.

And that’s the only history that really matters.
Great Lakes trio
Trio of Michiganians lead women's hockey

Sarah Violette
Staff Writer

Looking at the USM women’s hockey roster, one thing becomes clear: hockey is a geographical sport. Unlike basketball which has gained almost universal appeal, hockey’s most die-hard fans and players still reside in isolated pockets of the country. One of those pockets, Michigan, has been kind to the team.

Kylie Blasen, Jackie Zarb and Danielle Ward are all from the Wolverine State. They’ve played hockey for most of their lives and have decided to continue their dedication to the sport. But instead of the land of Great Lakes, these three women chose the rocky coasts of Maine as their home for the next four years.

“Kylie and I were kind of a package deal. They had both of our majors here and we liked the people a lot when we first visited,” says Ward. “The professors definitely challenged you and expect the best out of you. I really wanted to further my education and learn a lot more, so the academic program was a big factor in my decision on going here,” she explains.

This was good news for our women’s hockey program.

Ward, a freshman forward, is one of leading scorers for the Huskies with a solid 11 goals and eight assists on the season, including a hat-trick against Sacred Heart earlier in the season.

Freshman forward Kylie Blasen has also chipped in, contributing seven goals and four assists, while sophomore goalie Jackie Zarb has recorded four wins and a tie in net, including her third career shutout against Castleton State.

Although the girls are doing just fine with their college hockey careers, they’re finding it somewhat difficult to adapt to the slow lifestyle of winter in Maine.

“We both come from a college town, right next to Michigan State,” Blasen explains. “The lifestyle is much faster.” Ward adds, “Here it’s more like vacationing up north at our cabin, but all the time,” she jokes. “You know? Like driving on a dirt road in the middle of the woods. That’s what it reminds me of.”

When asked about homesickness, Zarb gives a little chuckle, but Blasen reacts immediately, “Don’t even get me started,” she says with a smile.

Although Zarb’s family is able to drive to Maine on some weekends and see her, Blasen’s family comes about once a year.

“I have a big family that I’m really close with, so not seeing them gets pretty hard,” she explains.

Luckily, both Blasen and Ward have friends from back home who have come to visit the two about six times already this year.

Webcams have also been a good source in getting a dose of home. Zarb talks to her mom almost every night via webcam.

“The internet definitely helps,” she says. “But the lack of family and slower lifestyle, the girls are still happy about their decision on coming to Maine.”

“Our team has improved a lot and I like who I play with,” explains Ward, “It’s been really fun.”

Men’s hockey jostling for playoff position
Huskies need key wins this weekend

Brian King
Sports Intern

The playoffs have started early this year for the men’s hockey team. With all of the playoff teams set and only seeding to be decided, Coach Jeff Beaney’s squad is trying to ascend the seeding ladder, in hopes of advancing to their first ever NCAA tournament.

And they’ve got plenty of opportunities to do so, since the top seven teams in the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Association (ECAC) are separated by just three points.

The Huskies are currently tied for third place with Babson, Skidmore and Castleton State, the latter two of whom the Huskies will host next weekend, in what will surely have playoff implications.

But the level of parity in the ECAC is a strong indicator of USM’s national position. Out of the last fourteen national champions, ten of them have played in the Huskies conference.

If USM wants to join the ECAC’s line of immortality, they’ll have to address a few issues.

The Huskies rank second to last in the conference for power play goals and have the worst penalty kill in the league. This season they hit a four game streak of conceding only power play goals, which proved fatal on a few occasions.

“Our special teams needs work,” Beaney said, summarizing the team’s biggest flaw.

Staggeringly bad statistics for a team currently in third place, the Huskies make up for the special-team woes with a strong even-strength game, as they are second in the league in overall scoring including a league-leading 29 full strength goals.

“Five on five, these guys can play,” Beaney said, adding that the team “has good depth, and a lot of young defensemen [making this team] a little more defensive-minded than the past.”

And while the Huskies may have some defensive-minded players, those players can find the net, too. Senior Captain Dan Gordon (Lynnfield, MA) is tied for most points and goals, while fellow defensemen Paul Conter (Woodbridge, ONT) leads the team in scoring.

More than just a cliché, the Huskies depth came to forefront when they picked up a big victory against UMass Boston last week with their fourth-string, freshman goalie, Casey Cox (Springvale) making 27 saves in the effort.

“We don’t have a ton of size, but we can skate, and that’s fun to watch,” said Beaney. Despite a lack of “puck luck” so far, the USM men’s ice hockey team is in a great position to succeed in their conference playoffs.

“I don’t know if the fans know how much they bring to the guys,” Beaney said.

With any luck, throngs of fans will show up this weekend as the Huskies welcome Skidmore to Gorham for a Friday night showdown at 7 p.m., and Castleton State for a 4 p.m. matinee on Saturday.

“The only thing you can control is the game you’re playing, winning will take care of itself if you go out and compete,” Beaney said.