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Botman begins

Selma Botman becomes tenth president of USM in formal inaugural ceremony

Daniel MacLeod
News Editor

Last Saturday afternoon, Selma Botman marched down Bedford Street in Portland to the tune of a bagpiper. After nearly one year as president of USM, Botman was sworn in at a formal ceremony attended by about 300 people. The event began as a processional lead by bagpiper and music education student Steven Lemiuex from the Wishcamper center to the Hannaford Lecture Hall in the Abromson Center. Current and past colleagues of Botman celebrated the ceremony, which was emceed by new Provost Kate Forham. Dr. Leila Fawaz, a Harvard classmate of the president, reminded the crowd of Botman’s accomplishments as a scholar of Middle-Eastern history.

The investiture was replete with musical performances by USM students before, during and after the ceremony, as well as the reading of a poem specially written for the occasion by Dr. Annie Finch, the director of Stonecoast MFA.

UMaine System Chancellor Richard Pattenaude, who performed the official installation of Botman as president, reminded her that the job of president of USM extends beyond the students and faculty, it includes the people of Maine.

“We ask you to never forget that the university depends upon the confidence and support of the people of Maine,” he said. “Always remember it is the people’s business you do here.”

In her speech, Botman announced a $1 million scholarship endowment from the Osher family. The scholarships – which are intended for 25-50 year old students – will award $2,000 to 25 students each year.

Botman remained optimistic about the fate of the university, which currently faces a budget shortfall for the coming year of more than $4 million.

“When people say to me, ‘this period of economic distress must be a dreadful time to be a university president,’ I think of the history of the modern Middle East and more broadly, helped define social history in modern times,” she said.

The ceremony, which was attended by about 300 people, was funded by private donors, concluded with a reception complete with a chocolate fountain, and platters of hors d’oeuvres.

Jenkins rides again

Months after failed house bid, USMer returns to campaign trail

David O’Donnell
Staff Writer

On election day last November, Dan Jenkins shared the ballot with a few somewhat bigger attractions: Barack Obama, Susan Collins, Tom Allen and Herb Adams.

Unfortunately for Jenkins, a Green party candidate, Adams was his competitor in the district 119 race for the statehouse – and a veteran Democratic lawmaker that the Bollard’s voter guide called a “Parkside institution” (alongside “sweat pants, prostitution and Deering Oaks”).

Adams handily defeated his much younger rival, who walked away with 25 percent of the vote.

“I was surprised I lost, it was pretty bad,” says Jenkins, on watching the election night returns. “But I got a lot of positive responses from people in the neighborhood about the way I ran my race, so it didn’t feel as bad as the numbers reflected.”

Come January, Jenkins was back in his role as a student at USM extending beyond the student body. The ceremony, which was emceed by new Provost Kate Forham. Dr. Leila Fawaz, a Harvard classmate of the president, reminded her that the job of president of USM depends upon the confidence and support of the people of Maine.”

Always remember it is the people’s business you do here.”

In her speech, Botman announced a $1 million scholarship endowment from the Osher family. The “Osher Reentry Scholarships” are for new or returning students who are struggling to earn their first degree while working and raising a family. The scholarships – which are intended for 25-50 year old students – will award $2,000 to 25 students each year.

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Are you a student?
I have a research project
I need help with.

The project is this. I need a few carefree (you must be carefree), independent students to help me find one professor who will attempt to answer one question about a specific historical issue. The question is: “Can you provide, with proof, the name of one person killed in a gas chamber at Auschwitz?”

Will you help me find a professor on your campus who will attempt to answer this question? Will you keep me advised of your progress? I can be reached at bradley.1910@yahoo.com.

I understand that the question will be considered controversial by some academics and students alike. You may be charged with “challenging authority,” but it is not illegal to challenge authority on a university campus in a free society. You may have been told that it is “morally wrong” to ask this question. Do you think it is? Tell me why.

If you can find the one professor I am looking for, I’ll owe you a beer. At the very least.

Bradley R. Smith, Founder
Committee for Open Debate on the Holocaust
www.codoh.com

NEWS

Online courses: friend or foe?
Students and faculty divided on merits, drawbacks of online education

Chanel Smith
Contributing Writer

With spring semester coming to an end, Alicia Pyle, a junior social work major, began registering for her fall semester classes when she noticed an increase in online courses. “I went to sign up for my fall semester classes, and every class I wanted to take was an online course. I was really annoyed,” said Pyle.

USM has been pushing a new wave of online classes for the upcoming summer and fall semesters. More online courses are being offered than ever before.

Tackling an online course price of $218 per credit for undergraduates—the same rate students pay for an in-class lecture.

There is also a $25 fee a student pays for each online course, but this makes up for the students’ lack of transportation and parking.
Search for Board of Trustees rep delayed

Outgoing representative doubtful that ‘a valid search is possible at this date’

Daniel MacLeod
News Editor

It all began with an art exhibit. In 2006, Marie Follayttar participated in a controversial art show called “Can’t Jail the Spirit,” that was shut down by the university. She went to a Student Senate meeting to get approval to be a student voice on a subsequent panel called “Controversy in the public university: who decides?”

“I saw a senate poster, walked in. That ended up being my first meeting. And three meetings later, I became a student senator,” she remembers.

At the urging of then Student Body President, Andy Bossie, Follayttar attended a Board of Trustees meeting in Machias. At the dinner afterwards, she talked with several board members and administrators until the dining hall closed.

“I was naëve about the system, and the possibility even, of being a student voice,” she says. That first meeting with the board made her realize that she had the capability of speaking on behalf of USM students.

The incident, as Follayttar put it, really opened her eyes about what she could do as a university student.

“I realized that what I had to say was of interest to people,” she says.

In January of 2007, Follayttar became the USM Student Representative to the Board of Trustees (BOT rep), a position that serves as an advocate for USM students at University of Maine Board of Trustee meetings.

By all accounts, Follayttar’s tenure as BOT rep has transformed the position. The job never stipulated communicating as much as she has with Lewiston-Auburn students. It never called for lobbying before the Maine Legislature. Both of which she has done, and views as integral to the position.

“I try to talk to every student I possibly can about an issue: A lot,” she says.

“Most people who know me know that I am always trying to understand their struggle or story. I don’t think if I always do as good a job as I should. I know sometimes I worry about how one person can really represent the diversity that is USM.”

But now, with less than two months left in her term as BOT rep, Follayttar is concerned by the fact that the search for her replacement is just getting underway.

“Do not have faith that a valid search is possible at this date,” she said in a letter to the BOT rep search committee last week.

“Valid is inclusive and well advertised. We are all too busy to create the right search to grant this extraordinary opportunity to the many students of USM,” she said.

Student Body President Ben Taylor, who is on the search committee, says that the student government got sidetracked with reworking the job description, as well as filling another position: the Student Trustee.

The Student Trustee represents all students for the University of Maine USM’s nominee for the position is Student Senator Mako Bates.

“The student trustee position took some precedence because of its strategic role in the university,” he says.

“I feel that it’s a more important opportunity to have offered students. The student trustee doesn’t technically represent a school. To be able to offer that opportunity to even a small amount of students, we saw that as kind of to our benefit. It was offering a once in a lifetime opportunity,” he says.

Now that the SGA settled on Mako Bates as a Student Trustee, the search committee for BOT rep is moving forward, he says.

But the task of rewriting the job description has delayed the process further.

“The idea is that there won’t be that much change between what is happening now, with Marie Follayttar as the Board of Trustees representative, and what will happen. It was more to formalize the connections and make a lot clearer some of the responsibilities,” he said.

The most current version of the job description for the BOT rep was voted down in last Friday’s student senate meeting, until more constitutional changes can be made. The current version stipulates no responsibility to students of the Lewiston-Auburn college. It also excludes the length of term for the BOT rep and says that the student filling the post only needs to be taking one credit per semester; something that the senate wants to change to three credits.

Getting the job description nailed down is integral to making sure that the nominee knows what they are walking into, says Follayttar.

“There’s a lot that the student BOT rep will need to know potentially to walk into the conversation. And I really wished that I had more time to work with him or her. And right now, I don’t how a real search is going to occur. It’s a search that should have begun months ago,” she says.

Ben Taylor, and other members of the search committee for BOT rep, assert that there is still time to find a proper candidate.

“We were a little bit worried, but some of the senators have been talking to classmates, so we have an interested pool,” says Taylor.

“Really about 4 or 5 is my minimum target for candidates for the search. I think we definitely have the time to meet that.”

Another committee member, Commuter Senator Alison Parker, says that the committee is aware of the difficulty of completing the search in such a limited time frame.

“We’re are aware that the semester is coming to an end and we do know that its going to be a tight time frame,” she says.

Brandon McKenney / Photo Editor

Board of Trustees rep. and Student Senator Marie Follayttar (right) discusses changes to the BOT rep position at last week’s student senate meeting with Alison Parker (left) and Daniel Barrett (center).

“That’s why we’ve actually decided to do phone interviews rather than personal interviews because we do realize that people might go home after finals.”

Senator Brendan Morse says that the committee plans on extending the search past the end of the semester.

“We know people are really busy now. So we don’t just want to cram it in during finals week. We want to make sure people have plenty of time. We want to make sure every student at USM has an opportunity to apply,” he says.

But Follayttar doesn’t think that will be enough.

“The search [is happening] in an extremely limited amount of time, for a job that [lasts] two years that will represent USM undergrads during an extremely difficult time,” she says.

One of the biggest reasons that Follayttar wants to give an equal chance for all students to apply for the position is the learning experience that her time as BOT rep gave her.

“I’m hoping that the senate gives the opportunity for someone else to have the growth and the mentorship that is offered,” she says.

A mass e-mail is expected to be sent out to all students this Monday with an application for the position.
Gay marriage bill debated in Maine

Hearing draws thousands of supporters, critics

Abigail Cuffey

Staff Writer

On Wednesday April 22, over 3,000 people packed into the Augusta Civic Center for a public hearing on two new bills on gay marriage in Maine. The event, which originally was to be held at Cony High School, was moved to the larger venue to accommodate the expected crowd.

The most talked about bill, LD 1020, an “Act to End Discrimination in Civil Marriage and Partnership” as proposed by Senator Dennis Damon of Hancock, would legally recognize the gender-neutral union of two people in the state of Maine.

The bill, which is backed by more than 60 sponsors, also states that religious institutions do not have to recognize or perform same-sex marriages in Maine.

The second bill, LD 1118, proposed by Representative Leslie Fossel, of Aide, would extend more rights to gay couples without legally labeling it marriage.

Maine isn’t the only state discussing same sex marriage, only a week prior New Hampshire conducted a similar public hearing. As recent as this month, Iowa and Vermont legally recognize gay marriage, following the lead of Massachusetts and Connecticut.

If passed in Maine, the bill would redefine a law enacted in 1997 in Maine that defined marriage as a union between a man and woman.

Before the Senator Bliss, of the 124th Maine Legislature, informed the speakers that each person only had three minutes to speak, and that each side would be heard in 30 minute intervals.

“Testimony may be emotional, please be respectful and treat each other with dignity.”

He also stressed the need to wait a moment after speaking, as committee members might have questions afterwards.

“Remember, all opponents are human,” he half-jokingly told the committee members.

Chris O’Connor, Assistant Dean of Student Life at USM was in attendance. Before the hearing, O’Connor suggested that the opposition’s faith based groups were busing people from out-of-state to attend the hearing, a situation that he disagreed with.

“We want to keep this a Maine issue,” O’Connor said.

According to O’Connor, those who opposed the bill are all well-heeled, with their own television stations, buses and buy T.V. ads. O’Connor says he tried to organize buses to drive supporters of the bill to the hearing, but he wouldn’t use university funds to support lobbying.

In the weeks leading up to the hearing, Facebook, support websites like mainefreedomtomarry.org, and word of mouth encouraged supporters of the bill to wear red.

Equality Maine, a group which started in 1984 to obtain security for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and trans-gender community in Maine was also in attendance. Their website encourages supporters to contact their state representatives and senators to extend the protections of same sex couples.

In opposition to gay marriage is Maine Initiative, a coalition of Maine citizens who are committed to preserving tradition marriage. According to their website, they disagree with same sex marriage, because “parents will lose the ability to control what their kids learn in school about marriage and sexual orientation.”

The group says that “business owners can face legal action for refusing to provide services to a gay couple. For example, if you are a photographer and refuse to shoot a wedding you can be sued.”

By 8 a.m. traffic was backed up getting off exit 112A to the Civic Center. By 9 a.m. the parking lot was full. Signs were not allowed inside the Center to deter from rallying, but that didn’t stop people on both sides from setting up outside with signs, handing out buttons, stickers, pamphlets.

Judging by the massive amount of red colored shirts, supporters of the bill seemed to outweigh the opposition, an observation that Darrell Mitchell of Waldeboro has a face to it.”

Over the days the complaints from legislators. Among those in favor of gay marriage were Sandy and Jaeger Ole from Georgetown, Maine. The couple, who has been married for 49 years came to support the bill. “We believe in marriage for all,” said Sandy.

According to the couple, marriage would create stability for all marriage partners. “There’s no value in fixing marriage because, ‘there is no benefit to any of our kids learning about literacy to diversity, which he sees as harmful to society’s values.”

Mitchell also said that gays do have civil rights, but he is against changing the law. “People have lost their discipline,” he says.

Echoing similar feelings, a group of Baptists argued that gay marriage is an abomination of God, citing Leviticus and Romans as biblical references to the one man one woman argument.

Among those in favor of gay marriage were Sandy and Jaeger Ole from Georgetown, Maine. The couple, who has been married for 49 years came to support the bill. “We believe in marriage for all,” said Sandy.

“This basis of society is family. Children must have a blending of love of mother and father.”

Mondor’s mother, and adopted son Ethan.

“One of the first legislators to speak up against the gay marriage bill was Bill Curtis, who said he had three reasons for his opposition. “Reason number one, technology will not exist.”

He also believes that gay marriage will have a negative impact on education and curriculum, “as we have known it for years.”

“Classrooms will become gender neutral and children will be taught that moms and dads no longer exist,” said Curtis.

His third reason is that we will become a society governed by man rather than a “righteous God.”

Paul Davis of District 26 said he doesn’t oppose the bill because of the “thought isn’t a big deal.”

The basis of society is family, Children must have a blending of love of mother and father.”

“It doesn’t believe Maine needs this initiative,” said Davis.

“This isn’t about special rights, it’s about equal rights for our family,” said Hopkins.

Hitting closer to the USM community, Rodney Mondor, Director of Advising at USM spoke of the initiative, his partner Ray Dumont, Coordinator of Student Government at USM, his adopted mother, and adopted son Ethan.

Mondor discussed the difficulty same sex couples have with getting married, “it is a very difficult issue for people who partner could adopt. This poses problems in regards to medical and school appointments. “Ray was not allowed to assist,” said Mondor.

When Maine’s laws changed recently, both were able to adopt Ethan. But the struggle didn’t end there.

See Marriag e on page 5
Charlie Nickell  
Staff Writer

This summer, all students within the UMaine System will have their Horde e-mail accounts transferred to Google Apps, in an effort to make the university’s e-mail system more user friendly. Those who already use this service know that the step from Horde to Gmail is like trading in Zach Morris’ cell phone from Saved By The Bell for a new Blackberry.

Universities all across the U.S. are making the switch to Google Apps for their e-mail service. The integration of web-mail, instant messaging and calendaring have made this a top choice as students’ need for communication technology continues to increase.

“We had a lot of complaints from students and faculty about interface and usability,” says John Grover, Operations Manager for the UMaine Information Technology Services. The new partnership between the University of Maine System and Google will streamline the transfer process so that all student and faculty e-mail addresses will remain the same and will keep the user name and password to log in. All stored e-mail will be moved and forwarding will also remain enabled.

“We looked for a really long time,” says Grover. “Google is just a better experience.”

ITs also considered Hotmail as an option but chose Google because of its many communication and collaboration applications. Benefits of Google Apps include the ability to open your mail, calendar and editable documents in a web browser, unlike Horde where each new message has its own window and no editing ability. Google Apps also has a chat feature, letting you talk to whoever is available within your address book.

The major concern over switching to Google Apps was information protection, making sure that the information saved in student and faculty e-mail accounts would remain safe. The UMaine system approved a contractual agreement with Google that was reviewed by the system council and spells out that they cannot use or reveal any data to anyone. Part of the agreement included removing any advertisements from the e-mail accounts.

“Students will be able to retain their e-mail addresses for life,” Grover says. “Only when we alert Google of a student’s alumnae status will they be able to replace advertising.”

Storage space was a major factor in the decision to make the switch. Horde’s storage space maxes out a mere 100MB, while Google Apps currently boasts a whopping 7GB of storage, which may expand. Now you can actually open emails with pictures in them, a huge improvement.

The transition process costs nothing to the university system aside from paying employees to make the switch.

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Online TV: hot new item or cause for alarm?

I currently watch all my TV online as many young people do today. Lets face it there’s no or hardly any commercials and you have complete control over what you watch. I mainly used the most popular site that was surf the channel.

Surf the channel started getting threats and legal notices. They were about to be shut down. So they ended up giving up the fight and making most of the links on their site Megavideo or iTunes links and are being paid well for this while doddle a legal battle. I decided even though I have never made a website before to make my own internet TV site.

It was during my lay off time this winter. I am just an ordinary Painter myself. The economic effects it can have on my art career was the main reason I started coding on a Tivo type machine but who want when you want to without first recording on a Tivo type machine but who wants to go through all that when you can click a button on your mouse and watch what you want when you want no restrictions.

Don’t get me started on product placement. I like to think of it much like the auto industry’s dilemma We all know that hydro cars have been available since the 80’s and you could even buy a hydrogen cell for about 30 dollars to hook to your car or truck on eBay. Do you think if gm came out with a hydrogen car that it would be hosted with salt water tomorrow for a normal price not an 800% mark up like it is now. That they wouldn’t sell billions in the first year and leave behind their economic troubles in an instant? Of course they would and in all facets of the free market you see this trend.

You go along to get along or else you get knocked down or paid off. This is part of what’s killing America. I see the Internet as the last vestige of American freedom. I know it won’t be long before they try and make it into some sort of internet package tied to an account with one IP address so they can regulate what you do and say on the internet and who can view it with a pretty bow and hand our freedoms over to the five major telecos but until that day comes I will exercise my right to share whatever materials I want with who I want because America would be a lot better off free.

Have you ever been to Europe? If you have you know that the commercials run before the show and after the show not during and they are very short breaks. The networks still make an obscene amount of money but when I lived here for a few years I didn’t feel the need to watch TV online. They played all shows and movies uncensored and unedited. No restrictions of speech or nudity like here.

For the people that say this leads to bad behavior and role model problems. From what I’ve seen, Botman is the right woman for this job, and I am happy to congratulate her on her inauguration.

Thanks for reading,

Matt Dodge

The Botman era begins

New President just right for troubled USM

This past Saturday, USM held the formal inauguration of its tenth President, Selma Botman.

For me personally, Botman’s inauguration capped a process of installing a new president that has been in the works for over a year.

When I first came to The Free Press last winter, the search for USM’s new administration chief was just starting to earn its first of what I personally saw as a well-intentioned, but disastrously aimless vessel of academic freedom.

Both spring and impending economic collapse were in the air while the search persisted, and I began to worry that without immediate and strong leadership, USM might fall behind in its attempts to structure itself in a sustainable and positive way.

In trying to be so many things to so many people over it’s long, schizo- phrenic and multi-motored existence (from the Gorham Normal School to University of Maine at Portland) USM has diluted itself into a regional university serving on many as a second-chance school for southern Maine’s high school students, and transfers.

I know at first blush this seems like a vehemently anti-school spirited attitude to take against one’s soon-to-be alma mater. But in truth, I think everyone has some idea about USM’s reputation in the state. Personally, I don’t even agree with this assessment, but sometimes a reputation can take on a life of its own that spurs on or consumes the venerable institution smeared in its wake.

But with a dynamic and committed faculty, a great setting, and as of Saturday, a President with the strength to lead, and just as importantly – make the hard decisions – USM has all the tools to face down this negative perception, and through a paring down of it’s offerings and expenditures, the potential to raise the bar in quality and weather this economic downturn.

Now, 11 months later, I finally believe things are starting to move forward in a measured and progressive manner.

I commend President Botman for not shying away from a challenge, and stepping in command at a university so mired in economic and public relations problems.

Though our job at The Free Press entails questioning the actions and motives of the administrators each week, we will continue to undertake, regardless of whose hands hold the scissors. I fully realize that this trimming of our services is the only real means by which we can hope to survive in a state hit hard with a recession, and spread thin by a weakened tax-base.

An administrator like Botman is the best any school could ask for. Her commitment to academics was what got her appointed to the position in the first place, and someone who has spent so much time in the classroom, and expanding her field of study has the perspective to make us a strong school.

I think USM has huge potential to become a premier regional university, and with a careful reassessment of its core structure and organization to do so, Above all, it will take a President who can solicit advice and input, recognize the very real financial constraints, but chart the wherewithal to execute her vision.

From what I’ve seen, Botman is the woman for this job, and I am happy to congratulate her on her inauguration.

—Joseph A Pagano III
Local Author and USM Disability Advocates Team Up for Special Event

On Friday, May 29 from 5pm to 7pm at the Woodbury Campus Center chronically disabled artists, writers and other professionals will gather to share their artwork and celebrate the release of local author Alice Mead’s new book: NOWISH: A LIFE OUT OF TIME. There will also be a community forum to discuss the chaotic, costly and patchwork system that supports disabled people.

Since 1994, Mead has published a wide variety of children’s novels about kids on the margins of society. She has been a children’s author for 16 years. Her best-selling Junebug series has been featured on Oprah’s best books for kids list. She is also a painter and human rights advocate in Kosovo. She lives in South Portland with her dog Zoe.


Community members, students, local care agencies and politicians are encouraged to attend the event to discuss such concerns as: meeting the needs of the baby boomer generation, costs of care and the personal experiences and of disabled/chronically ill persons in Maine.

Local artists will display and sell their art in an attempt to raise funds for individuals in need of supplemental care.

For more info on the community forum event please contact:

Ben Skillings
207-899-5827
benjamin.skillings@usm.maine.edu

Business cards provide an air of importance...
A “lite” comedy about man’s best friend

Review of “Sylvia”

Alex Merrill
Staff Writer

A.R. Gurney’s 1995 play, “Sylvia,” playing from April 24-May 3 at the Russell Hall Main Stage in Gorham, though it treads the fine line between “light” and “lite” comedy, is only partially a play about a dog. In the hands of a more experienced director, it has the potential to be a passable, though somewhat protracted and obvious, comedy about love, jealousy and the ramifications of impending old age.

For better or for worse, USM’s current production opts more for the “lite” approach; student director Joelle Clingerman is apparently more interested in staging a play about the joys of dog ownership. As she asserts in her director’s note: “Dogs are the essence of instinct, raw passion, unwavering loyalty and the epitome of unconditional love.”

The production works reasonably well but only tells half the story that Gurney’s play is meant to convey.

In “Sylvia,” Greg (Joshua Adams) and

See Sylvia on page 11

Sylvia
By AR Gurney
Directed By Joelle Clingerman
April 24th-May 3rd, 2009
Main Stage Russell Hall

Cast
Greg . . . . . . . Joshua Adams
Sylvia . . . . . . Hayley O’Connor
Kate. . . . . . . . . . Tarra Haskell
Tom/Phyllis/Leslie . . . Ryan Nash
Homeless Woman . . . Desiray Roy
Street Performer . . . Darren Brown

Top: Greg (Joshua Adams of Amesbury, MA) tries to keep the peace between his wife Kate, left, (Tarra Haskell of Sidney, ME) and the dog he loves, Sylvia (Hayley O’Connor of Vassalboro, ME) in the University of Southern Maine's production of “Sylvia” by A.R. Gurney and directed by joelle Clingerman.

Left: Ryan Nash of Kennebunk, Maine plays Tom, a dog-loving philosopher Greg meets in the park; Phyllis, an old friend of Kate’s, and Leslie, a bafflingly androgynous marriage counselor in USM’s production of A.R. Gurney’s “Sylvia.”
**Summer movie madness**
A preview of what to go see this summer

Kaitlyn Creney
Staff Writer

**June**

“The Proposal” promises audiences a Sandra Bullock (“Crash,” “Miss Congeniality”) romantic-comedy that we can all be proud of her in. I’m not knock- ing her talent, just her choice of movies over the last few years. Bullock plays an obtrusive boss that forces her young as-sistant, Ryan Reynolds (“Van Wilder,” “Waiting”), to marry her. She needs to keep her visa status in the U.S. so she doesn’t get deported back home to cold Canada. All the actors are terrifi- cally funny on their own so there are essentially no negatives with this movie. “The Proposal” releases on June 19.

“Old School” director Todd Phillips returns to give audiences another gut-busting movie. “The Hangover” begins with three guys (Bradley Cooper, and two stand-up comedians) wal- lowing through the aftermath of a Las Vegas bachelor party. As the smoke clears and they ponder at bruises sustained the night before, they realize that the groom-to-be is missing. So with twenty-four hours in their hands, they band together to search for him. Warner Brothers is already in talks to make a sequel occur- ring in Atlantic City—since the movie has been barely screened it seems that even the executives got a golden potential. “The Hangover” releases June 5.

Sam Mendes is an awesome creative director (“Revolutionary Road” and “American Beauty”) but he deals exclusively with drama. So why is he dipping his hands into the comedy pool? Maybe because he has John Krasinski (“The Office”) and Maya Rudolph (“Saturday Night Live”) as his leads in “Away We Go.” The two play first time ex- pecting parents who travel across the country to find the perfect place to raise their bun in the oven. Mendes is able to combine the best comedic elements from both actors’ shows. “Away We Go” releases June 5.

July

“Public Enemies” is based off the life of legendary and real life, robin hood-esque bank robber John Dillinger circa the Depression era. Johnny Depp (“Blow”) steps into the robber’s polished shoes and the rest of the cast, on both sides of the law, is just as respectable as the people they are portraying. Christian Bale (“The Dark Knight”) and di- rector Michael Mann (“Heat”) are also involved. “Public Enemies” releases July 1.

From the sick bastard that brought us the all culturally insen- sitive “Borat” or the whitest of all philosophical British rap- pers “Ali G” comes “Bruno.” That’s right, morally messed-up comedian Sacha Baron Cohen returns from infamy to bring us yet another golden comedic race- a-lively. The working title of this much anticipated movie garnered just as much interest, “Delicious Bromst” created by Phil Spector and Brian Wilson in the ’60s. The main components of this “wall” are layers of meaty drums and vocals.

Deacon is at its helm. Every song on “Bromst” is sacred. Everything is subject to be sped up, skewed, sent through a multitude of fi lters, distorted or anything else. His singing is no exception. He’s got a particular penchant for the chipmunk vocal effect.

The layering on much of “Bromst” is thick and highly or- chestrated in the style of the pieces “Floe” and “Rubric” from Phillip Glass’s popular 1981 recording “Glassworks.” Like Glass with his chamber music and operas, Deacon uses repetitive structures that evolve slightly and gradually, steadily increasing into cataclysmic, glorious crescendos.

Deacon is a prime example of a musician who uses the studio as an instrument. “Bromst” was recorded in the mountains of Whitefish, Montana at the beau- tiful Snow Ghost studios with engineer Brett Allen. Pitchfork. tv is currently featuring a docu- mentary that illuminates Deacon and Allen’s recording process, as well as Deacon’s quirksiness as a modest musical genius.

Every song on “Bromst” has its merits, but a few stand out. “Wet Wings” is based completely around a sample of Jean Ritchie’s acappella rendition of the tradi- tional folk song “The Day is Past and Gone.”

“When I feel good” is certainly the epic of the album. It’s a sprawling piece driven by bells, drums and a refl ective vocal. “When I feel good” is sung so many times before / But never quite like this / Heard all in the rain / But the rain all turned to pass.” Around the five-minute mark, the song transforms into something intense and tribal with rhythmically cut-up vocal tracks and drums.

“Bromst” is the perfect album to close out a decade of pio- neering electronics-based pop music. Recent work from Animal Collective and Of Montreal has accomplished similarly innova- tive results. Modern recording and mixing technology provides musicians and engineers with every possible advantage to ex- plore new sounds and establish new methods of creation.

It’s an exciting movement, and “Bromst” proves that right now, Deacon is at its helm.

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**Bountiful Bromst**

Review of Dan Deacon’s newest album

Tyler Jackson
Staff Writer

“Bountiful” is the best word I can come up with to describe the music of Dan Deacon. It is bounti- ful in its sounds, styles, infl uences and directions. His latest album, Bromst, has the magnitude of a large piece of classical music with all of the benefits of a pop album. Deacon is often dubbed an electronic musician, which is mostly accurate. His music isn’t electronic in the pure Daft Punk sense (he uses plenty of acoustic instruments), but more in the Deacon sense—that music is to be created electronically.

“Bromst” — a Deacon made up—is the follow-up to 2007’s critically acclaimed “Spiderman of the Rings.” The result is bigger, more diverse, and as he puts it, celebratory.

Songs like “Red F,” “Of the Mountains,” and “Woof Woof” employ Deacon’s own version of the Wall of Sound approach used by Phil Spector and Brian Wilson in the ‘60s. The main components of this “wall” are layers of meaty synthesizers, sharp mathematical
A taste of Greek

The first time I had a Greek gyro (pronounced in English as yeers) was in Montreal, a city which boasts hundreds of ethnic restaurants. My daughter Brianna would often call with details of meals from cuisines all over the world - Ethiopia, Thailand, Poland, Ireland, Portugal, and Brazil are a few I remember. In addition to salivating, I marveled at how a young college student she managed to eat so well so often.

Yet when we went to La Maison Grecque I realized a small meal was very affordable, and, oh so good.

The gyro was made with lamb that had been marinated and roasted on a rotating spit. Tender thick strips sat alongside red onion and generously dressed with tzatziki, a yogurt based sauce. A round of pita is the perfect vehicle for containing this messy, finger licking feast.

I went on to replicate the gyro. I opted to use pork, and in making my tzatziki I ignored the instructions to drain the yogurt as it seemed thick enough, being made from whole milk.

It wasn’t until last week at a cheese-making class at St. Mary’s Nutrition Center in Lewiston that I learned the difference it makes in draining yogurt. Community Educator Denise Dill, along with prominent Chef Scott Johnson, demonstrated how to make panir (an Indian cheese that is similar to farmer cheese), chevre (French for goat), soft goat cheese, mozarella, yogurt cheese, whole milk ricotta, and whey ricotta.

We used the whey, which is the liquid portion of milk that develops after the milk protein has coagulated, to make carrot spice yogurt, to make tzatziki sauce, and even to make homemade goat cheese. It's worth noting that the whey is often used as a base for making yogurt cheese, although there are many other uses for it as well.

In making the yogurt cheese, we put a quart of plain yogurt into a colander that was lined with cheesecloth. After tying the cheesecloth into a pouch, we hung the bag to drain the whey. After twelve hours we added a little salt and a smattering of thyme and oregano to make a slightly tart spread that we enjoyed on Dr. Kracker’s® Tzatziki Seed crackers.

Eager to try cheese making at home, I began with making the gyro, this time the yogurt got drained. The difference in consistency and taste of the tzatziki was remarkable, and it is a lot cheaper than buying Greek yogurt, which is recommended for tzatziki.

For the tzatziki sauce, we blended:

2 quarts of whole yogurt, drained for 2 hours
2 medium cucumbers, peeled, seeded, and cubed, then sprinkled with a tablespoon of salt to remove excess moisture (these and any dry ingredients will be pressed out)
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 clove of garlic
Salt and pepper to taste
Blended in a food processor until smooth

Extra tzatziki adds a nice dimension to fish, chicken, or pork, or use it anywhere in place of mayonnaise.

High water everywhere

The world was a different place for Dylan in 2001, and it was the different artist he became. Dylan’s story, but appropriately so: a kid too-wise for his age grows everybody away, grows into his talent before their eyes, keeps his integrity and bitterness in the face of universal praise, burns out, writes his masterpiece, then revives a whole lot more. Finally, in his autumn years, he comes back hard and actually turns out a few infectious celebrations of his craft - and one hell of a record, before riding off into the sunset.

But this is earth, and it’s 2009, where everybody’s favorite surly, mercurial folk legend has surprised even his record label by whipping up album number 33, on a trip into the studio that was supposed to yield just a track or two for a film soundtrack.

Dylan borrows a cover photo from one of his favorite novelists, Larry Brown; photograph by Bruce Davidson

The result is “Together Through Life,” a record that has been lovingly teased to the press for the past month, two tracks offered up on the internet free of charge: “Beyond Here Lies Nothing” and “I Feel a Change Comin’ On.”

No, he’s not singing about Barack Obama on the latter, thank heaven. More like an impending shift into the next phase of life - which for somebody his age and living, could be a mysterious one indeed.

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From DYLAN on page 10

Now what’s the use in dreamin’
You better got things to do
Dreams never did work for me
Now what’s the use in dreamin’

Each track brings something new
Guaranteed to blow you away.

Victor Wooten Heads Up Records, 2008

From SYLVIA on page 8
Kate (Tarra Haskell) are a middle class Manhattan couple who are experiencing the early stages of empty nest syndrome. At the start of the play Greg comes home with a stray dog that he finds in the park (played by 3rd year Theater Major Hayley O’Connor). Greg immediately falls in love with Sylvia, while his fastidious Shakespeare obsessed school teacher wife immediately resents the dog’s presence. While Kate’s distaste for Sylvia grows, Greg, who is miserable at his job, becomes increasingly emotionally dependent on the dog.

Finally, Kate applies for a fellowship in England, knowing that going there would mean having to put Sylvia in quarantine for six months. This situation allows her to finally present Greg with an “it’s either me or the dog” ultimatum. Greg agrees to give Sylvia away and make the move, but the couple have a change of heart, leading to an abrupt, maudlin epilogue in which Greg and Kate tell the audience about how Kate learned to (bravely) love Sylvia, putting aside her asparations in service of her husband’s love for the creature.

Tarra Haskell does a very good job in a largely thankless role. Josh Adams is sweet and likeable as Greg, and, as the dog lover, has the benefit of the audience’s sympathy; though he is clearly the straight man of the play, he is vulnerable and generally above reproach as a character. Likewise, third year theater major Ryan Nash gets to deliver the lion’s share of the play’s jokes, playing two of his three roles in drag, which is always good for a few easy laughs. Haskell, however, is charged with the task of playing bad cop.

Depending on how one looks at it, Kate can appear to either be the voice of reason, or a complete pain. In many ways, Kate is the most outwardly self-awareness; she loves him, but has to subsume her own agenda simply because she doesn’t want to be the one to puncture his bloated, putrid on looking back on life. Haskell, mostly by virtue of her solid dictation and world weary demeanor, manages to split the difference between tragic figure and overbearing bat-freak quite effectively.

Nash brings a genuine talent to his multiple roles as well. Even though he is afforded so many opportunities for broad comedy, watching him is entertaining because he is able to lose himself in his characters. Nash is particularly strong while he is playing Kate and Greg’s shared landlord, manic counselor, Leslie. Cross dressing jokes aside, Nash’s Leslie carries with her an air of pathos along with her stench of insanity. She’s both funny and legitimately creepy at the same time.

All this said, I can’t help but feel that Cleringerman is so invested in creating a love letter to man’s best friend that it leads to a production in which the human element in Gurney’s text is largely ignored. She seems to grant Hayley O’Connor free reign in the title role while viewing the human characters as two-dimensional vessels for the self consciously obvious jokes in Gurney’s script. Though this might strike some people as, to quote Cleringerman’s foreword again, “A Rompin’ good time!” it is ultimately unfair to both the actors and to the audience, who should be presented with some challenge to their intellect and abilities. Theater certainly doesn’t need to be an exercise in didacticism, and, to be fair, Gurney’s play is partly about the way humans relate to their pets. However, it’s also a play about how humans relate to each other, and that reading of “Sylvia” gets short shrift in this production, leading to an incomplete theater-going experience.

NOS PLAYING! A howlingly funny romantic comedy

Sylvia

by A.R. Gurney

directed by Joelle Cleringer

April 24-May 3, 2009
Russell Hall, Gorham

For show times and ticket prices Visit www.usm.maine.edu/theatre or call the box office at (207) 780-5151 for show times and ticket prices.

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Pop-punk’s “it” band for the past few years, Fall Out Boy, are bringing their high energy live show to The Station. Touring in support of their newest album, “Folie À Deux,” Fall Out Boy are bringing All Time Low along for the fun. Exclusive Portland openers include: Sparks the Rescue, The Minus Scale and The Bigger Lights. Don’t be emo and go to the show! $20/7 p.m./ The Station/ 272 Saint John St., Portland/ myspace.com/thestationlive

Maine’s definitive, and somewhat iconic, comedian, Bob Marley, brings his barrel of laughs to USM for Spring Fling week. Do not miss this free opportunity to see Maine’s funniest comedian. Make sure to get there early because when Bob Marley is in the house, the place gets packed! Free/ 9:00 – 10:30 p.m./ Brooks Student Center, Gorham

If you’re one of those people who carry around a bottle of wine at a party, stock a box of wine in your fridge or have permanently stained red teeth, then you are definitely a wino. Turn your drinking problem into something productive and learn how to make your own wine! From red to white, you’ll get all the inside tips and tricks into making your choice beverage. Space is limited so call ahead! $25/ Italian Heritage Center/ 40 Westland Ave., Portland/ 450-4440

Prepare your senses for the 7th semi-annual Husky Film Festival! Featuring films from USM’s best and brightest amateur filmmakers, the films range from dramatic, comedy, horror and documentary. You never know what you might see during the Husky Film Fest! Popcorn and refreshments are available to enhance your viewing experience. 8 – 10 p.m./ 10 Bailey Hall, Gorham/ 228-8466

Don’t miss Will Ferrell and John C, Reilly when they come to USM in honor of Spring Fling! Well, they won’t actually be appearing in person, but you can catch all of their hilarity and hi-jinx in the film “Stepbrothers.” Settle down with some friends and your favorite snack and savor the comedy genius of Ferrell and Reilly. 9 – 11 p.m./ Brooks Student Center, Gorham

It’s national free comic book day! This means all the free indie, humor and super-hero comics you can handle! Head over to Portland’s Casablanca Comics on 151 Middle Street to pick up your haul of free comics! It’s 2009, reading comics isn’t a nerd hobby anymore; it’s cool. And nothing’s cooler than free stuff! Anywhere comic books are sold/ Visit casblancacomics.com for more info

Who doesn’t love babies? If you don’t love babies, get a soul. For those who do adore those tiny, chubby humans, join the March of Dimes and help give mothers and babies a healthy life. 77 cents of every dollar raised helps mother’s have full-term pregnancies, and helps babies who were born too soon or sick a chance to survive. 9:30 a.m./ Maine’s Point Health Care/ 891 Washington Ave., Greater Portland, Portland/ Visit marchforbabies.org for more info and how you can help raise money

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getuscell.com
Taking on Tuckerman’s
Unique area offers great spring skiing

Brian Slagle
Sports Intern

Once the snow begins to melt and the ski resorts begin to close each spring, skiers flock to Tuckerman’s Ravine, a bowl on the east facing side of Mt. Washington in New Hampshire’s White mountains.

Tuckerman’s has long been a springtime Mecca for its notoriously challenging terrain and its reputation for annually holding skiable snow into June (record- ing an average of 35 feet of snow pack on any given year).

Despite its popularity, a trip to Tuckerman’s should not be confused with any sort of resort skiing, it is an entirely different type of outing.

The easiest way to access the ravine is from the AMC lodge, located at Pinkham Notch. The lodge offers parking, but on crowded spring weekends the cars can line the road, Route 16, for miles.

From the lodge, it is an uphill hike of 2.6 miles to the caretaker’s cabin. Here skiers can check in with either snow rangers or the caretakers on the conditions of the terrain and surrounding areas. The avalanche danger as well as other useful information is posted on a viewing board across from a deck where hikers and skiers will often gather before making the final push up to the ravine.

For winter camping, there are eleven assorted three and four-walled shelters available for shelter, but these shelters are first come first serve. Require a sign in at the lodge, and holding a capacity of 95 sleepers.

From Bike on page 16

Eddie Quinn, owner of Cycle Mania, says “there is nothing better for fitness.” And while the initial costs of getting a bike and right equipment may seem prohibitive, Quinn assures novices that after the initial round of expenses, you can “just roll down your driveway and go.”

There are all sorts of levels for cycling, everything from casual, social rides (like Cycle Mania’s Saturday morning 30 mile ride), to Juniors teams, to advanced rides, to hill rides to Cycle Mania’s Elite semi pro rides. Quinn also shared that there are also all different levels of bikes; many people shy away from road bikes because they are uncomfortable in a racing position. Hybrid bikes have been developed in recent years and allow the rider to enjoy a low impact workout on the roads and remain sitting upright. With cycling there are no minimum requirements and no limits.

If you hate to see the snow melt and ski season slip away, consider a trip to Tuckerman’s. It is a test of endurance with the hike, and of skill with the very technical terrain, but can be incredibly rewarding. “Skiing Tux” is often considered a right of passage to northeast skiers, and was ranked on Skiing Magazine’s “Top ten things to before you die” list.

Spring at Tuckerman’s Ravine can be a hectic time. Cars line the incoming highway and hikers pack into three-sided shelters, all in the name of some late-season skiing.

The scene on a crowded spring weekend can draw crowds of over a thousand hikers and skiers, and can best be described as a party mixed with an extreme skiing video. An especially extreme tumble will be rewarded by cheers from the crowds of onlookers and can often deter people from attempting to climb and ski the bowl.

Depending on how much snow is left, usually until mid-May, skiers can ski most of the way down to the caretakers cabin when they are done for the day. From the caretakers cabin, skiers descend down a trail called The Sherbourne Trail, which runs adjacent to the Tuckerman’s Ravine Trail, which does not allow skiers. The Sherbourne trail will usually spit you out about halfway down, conveniently cutting the hike in half.

To Do List Before Summer vacation
1. Go to my campus Computer Store.
2. Get my educational discount on a new computer, software, & accessories.
3. Save money! Leave Happy :)

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Your Campus Computer Store

The Free Press | April 27, 2009

13
Cheering takes second place in Div II Nationals

Injury-stricken teams brings it on in Daytona

Sarah Violette
Staff Writer

The beats of hip-hop music often reverberate throughout the USS Sports Complex before the sun has even fully hit the horizon. And if you ever took the time to explore the rhythmic cacophonies, you would find one of USM's hidden athletic treasures: the cheerleading team.

For the first time in five years, the USM cheerleaders were able to make an impressive appearance in Daytona, Florida, taking second place in the Division II National Tournament.

Attaining such a prestigious title was certainly no easy journey. For the team, the challenge was to overcome the challenges that had plagued them all season, thanks mostly to an experienced coach who was able to guide the squad to a successful season despite the team's lack of experience.

Despite being faced with such an uphill battle, the team was able to pull together and overcome the challenges that had plagued them all season, thanks mostly to an experienced coach who was able to guide the squad to a successful season despite the team's lack of experience.

"So our coach said, ‘Well, this is what we’re going to do. We’re going to leave for nationals. We’re not going to fix it yet. We’re going to get down there, we’re going to practice, and then we’re going to fix it.’”

"This experience was definitely a mood setter for next year. We saw so much cheering that it made us stop and think the double. Wow, we didn’t know cheering was like this,” Dragoon says.

Although the cheering world is still rather unknown to USM’s campus, the squad is extremely hopeful and sees each supporter as a valuable one.

The opportunity to compete in Florida was monumental, not only for this year’s team, but for many cheering teams as well. All season, the cheerleaders faced diverse challenges, such as adapting to a new coach, raising enough money in an economical recession to be able to compete at nationals and staying together as a team when it looked as though everything was falling apart.

"This was definitely a building year,” says sophomore captain Stephanie Dragoon. "We had never even met our coach before, so it was kind of rough going into the year. We just didn’t know what to expect, but she turned out to be awesome.”

Luckily for the team, the coaching change was more than just a comfortable one. It was a successful one, too, as evidenced in the team’s strong showing at the national level.

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After sending in a video of the team’s stunts, tumbling and crowd cheers in the beginning of the year, the team received a bid to compete on a national level.

"The cool factor paid off. The squad nailed their routine both days and despite one failure at a pyramid attempt, the Huskies still managed to take second place out of eight teams at the intermediate level.”

"This was definitely a mood setter for next year. We saw so much cheering that it made us stop and think the double. Wow, we didn’t know cheering was like this,” Dragoon says.

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**Random Fact!**

The first registered domain name was symbolics.com, which was registered on March 15, 1985.

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

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### Puzzles

**Newspaper Crossword**

**ACROSS**

1. __ as a pancake
5. Soundbread
10. British fellow
14. Green citrus fruit
15. Accumulate
16. Ration (out)
17. At any time
18. Unnerves
19. Sink-drain problem
20. Cub Scout leader
22. Loses color
23. Creative thoughts
24. Fair-to-middling
25. One who uses barbells
28. Chin indentations
31. One of the Great Lakes
32. Semester-ending test
35. Hardly any
36. Guy’s date
37. Stag’s-set background
39. Frozen cubes
40. Cash dispenser, for short
41. “In case you noticed…”
42. Dull pain
43. Teaching session
45. Catholic clergyman
47. Golf pegs
48. Asparagus place
50. Modeled’s adhesives
52. Cram for an exam

**DOWN**

1. Run away
2. Execute
3. Prayer ending
4. Wood-eating insect
5. Root support
6. Nebraska city
7. Looks intensity
8. Computer owner
9. Curvy letter
10. Music fan’s container
11. Serve as mayor, e.g.
12. Hand-cream ingredient
13. Wooden pins
21. Poem of praise
22. Absurd idea
24. Lasting mark
25. Allowed by law
26. Furious
27. Motion-picture company
29. Computer troubleshooters
30. Sugar
32. Gave a meal to
33. Rural hotel
34. Tennis-court divider
57. Hour after midnight

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### Puzzle Answers

Puzzle answers can be found on our website: www.usmfreepress.org

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Newly #1 Huskies drop game to UMass Boston
Huskies claim LEC Regular Season title

Joel Neill
Staff Writer

Riding a 17-game winning streak, the USM baseball team nabbed the #1 ranking in the country, according to the latest D3Baseball.com poll, only to lose against conference foe UMass-Boston three days later, 5-0 in Gorham. The Huskies then took two games from Rhode Island College to claim the Little East Conference regular season title, and the chance to host this year’s tournament.

“It’s really nice to be recognized as the best team in Division III college baseball at this point in the season. It shows how hard we worked in the off-season, but right now it doesn’t hold a whole lot of meaning for us. It’s whose number one at the end of the year that counts,” junior relief pitcher Andrew deBethune says. “I think that counts,” junior relief pitcher number one at the end of the year lot of meaning for us. It’s whose right now it doesn’t hold a whole lot of meaning for us.

The Huskies didn’t let the upset ruin their weekend as they bounced back to sweep the pesky Anchormen of Rhode Island College 3-0 and 14-11 in two totally different games.

Senior Tim Therrian (New Portland) stymied RIC in game one, scattering six hits and striking out nine. In game two, the USM offense awoke from their backbreaking two-run homer by junior Josh Mackey (Danvers, MA) in the fifth inning. Therrian, whose prowess is often overshadowed by the USM offense, is now 7-0 on the season. The right-hander has a 3.14 ERA with 44 strikeouts in 51.2 innings. He’s only walked 11 batters on the season, good for a 4-to-1 strikeout/walk ratio.

“Being number one has given us confidence and it’s great to be nationally recognized as one of the top teams in the country. We’re a good team but there still are a lot of holes that have to be filled to make us a great team. Right now we’re just focused on the road ahead and take it game by game, and we are trying always get better to become the best team we can possibly be,” added junior 1bP Collin Henry, who is now 2-1 on the mound and is 12 for his last 21 at bats, bumping his batting average up to .333.

The Huskies certainly have the offensive statistics to warrant their number one ranking. Despite their streaky offense this

See BASEBALL on page 14

Brandon McKenney / Photo Editor

USM sophomore Nick Hahn (Guilford, CT) pitches during the second game of a double header against Rhode Island College. Hahn, who has appeared in 18 games for the Huskies, has proven to be a go-to guy when the team needs strong relief innings.

Breaking away
Young Gorham cycler sets example

Brian King
Sports Intern

Chris Esposito has put college on the backburner. The senior at Gorham High School, instead of attending university in the fall, will be pursuing his first love: cycling. But, in stead of dreaming of the lush life of professional athletes, Esposito finds himself longing for a much different element of the lifestyle - an element that many people in the area find captivating.

“Cycling is the ultimate suffering sport, the ultimate endurance sport. I love seeing how far I can push myself.”

Esposito explained that “suffering” is an important part of cycling at the elite level. It becomes a matter of endurance. A rider needs to be, in a sense, too stubborn to submit to the “pain and slow down.

“It’s not like other sports,” said Esposito, who played soccer and ran track at the high school level. “Cycling has no limits.”

Esposito sees the only barrier for a cyclist as his or her own psyche. Cycling is a sport that demands constant growth in order to compete. Everyday the goal is to perform better than the day before.

Esposito trains in a number of different ways throughout the week. Three days a week he lifts weights, two days he rides and every weekend he spends racing.

When he rides, he either trains in intervals or endurance. Intervals consist of workouts comparable to a track and field sprinter, while his endurance training is incomparable. Esposito goes on day-long rides up to 200 miles in his endurance training.

But the road to success for Esposito demands that he travel. There just isn’t enough of a cycling culture in the north-east. Esposito hopes to travel to Colorado to participate in a scouting camp this summer. After he qualifies as Cat 4, the first step towards professional riding, he will be looking to join a team.

When asked about the competitive conditions in Maine, Esposito expressed some concern.

“Cycling has been pretty big in the past, but there are less juniors riding now than ever,” he says.

The juniors division is made up of 16-18 year olds who want to compete.

In addition to competitive

See BIKE on page 13