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Phoenix says planning was a real big problem

Nate Mooney  
Assistant News Editor

The Portland Phoenix has recently put the Student Activities Committee – a nonexistent group at USM — on their list of “who’s done Main e wrong this year,” in recent issues.

The paper calls their column part of their “last turkeys issue,” calling out Maine people and institutions who committed acts most foul.”

The article also blames the senate in part for the circumstances surrounding September’s Reel Big Fish show. The headline pinpoints the Student Activities Committee for their failure to react appropriately to some of the issues that arose in planning the event. The Phoenix calls Reel Big Fish “obviously washed up” and cites a student op-ed letter published in The Free Press to characterize the public sentiment as increasingly opposed to a large-scale show.

The letter, in an issue last April, suggested an alternative use of the money to pay local acts for shows at USM throughout the school year. However, at the point when his letter was published, the funds had already been allocated for one large, national concert. In reality, the student senate had very little involvement in the concert planning process after they allocated the funds for a spring concert. The planning for the concert began as a result of a student activity fund surplus of $80,000 and a vocal student interest in hosting a spring concert.

“We very rarely turn down students for funds,” said student senator Andrew Kalloch. “Nobody else was using the money.”

The initial request for funding was primarily sponsored by the Gorham Events Board and co-sponsored by multiple student groups like the Portland Events Board and Greek Life – though the GEB was the only group that ended up contributing to the planning and execution of the show after the initial funding approval.

Kalloch thought the Phoenix’s decision to include a student group in a list otherwise populated by businesses and public figures was “inappropriate and unprofessional.”

Both Governor Paul LePage and Lewiston Mayor Robert McDonald made the list for their gaffes this year, along with companies like TD Bank for their near loss of confidential data that affected many Maine customers. Delaney Kennon is a sophomore business administration major who took on much of the work in planning the concert as a member of the GEB. Although student interest had initiated the process, organizers thought that the turnout for the concert was less than ideal, but noted the “huge learning curve” in planning a concert, especially as a student group. The Phoenix did not immediately respond to a request for comment made by the Free Press.

Students and officials talk parking — again

Kirsten Sylvain  
Editor-in-Chief

They’ve done it so many times before, and last week they got together to do it again. Students and administration held a forum-style discussion about campus parking issues that have lately been a source of unrest within the university community.

As he lounged on the seats of the Woodbury Center’s amphitheater, Chief Student Affairs Officer Craig Hutchinson recalled aloud that this was not the first time he’s been a party to this exact discussion. Eight or nine times before, he said, he’s met with students like this to hear their complaints about parking on campus.

“We know we have a problem with parking,” he said. Since the garage was built in 2003, Hutchinson claims, a central problem for the university has been crowding in the 1,150 spot garage.

Though there were few students actually present at the forum, those who were there were not shy in voicing their questions. As students drifted in and out of the open meeting, they repeated the same question over and over — why is the garage full of untagged cars? Misiuk insisted that they don’t pay directly for parking. The event they’re planning does, he said.

Chris Camire, chair of the student senate, asked how feasible it would be for daytime conferences, during the peak 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. hours, to limit the number of spaces they use in the garage. “I don’t know that it would be good for public relations for that event,” Hutchinson said.

Students have not been required to use ID’s to get access to the garage for a year now, and the public can also access the garage for free if they want. In the past, a university employee was paid to take tickets from visitors exiting the garage, where they paid for the time they

See PARKING on page 2

See FISH on page 4
Kalikow shows optimism in five month update

Samuel Haiden
Free Press Staff

New USM President Theo Kalikow recently released a Youtube update summarizing the effect of her first five months toward a more student-centric USM, saying that she is optimistic about the future.

When first elected, student retention has struggled in recent years. Resi-
dency hit a record low of 1,000 students in 2010, and general faith in the system has been deteriorat-
ing with recent budget cuts and the turbulent events surrounding Sel-
a Botman’s resignation.

Kalikow recognizes that the shadow of these problems lingers, but she is con-
fident that things will turn around. However, she admits that change is a slow process.

Many students said they did not recognize any great change in stu-
dent-centricity after Kalikow’s first five months on the job. Kalikow insisted that these things take time, but she hopes that she is planting the seed for a promising future. “If students don’t notice, I am practically retired. I’m not building a career for myself here. I am doing my best to help USM realize its potential,” she said.

She is targeting the faculty pri-
marily to encourage them to stu-
dent-centric professionals. “It’s time to start the parade,” she said. “It’s time to find the professors and faculty members who are focused on the students like they should be and reward them for their disposi-
tion. It’s time to recognize good behavior.”

In the video announcement, Kalikow appears to have a definitive plan to improve USM and a gen-
ue dedication to every individual student. In the long term, she hopes to improve USM’s involvement in the community at large. She ex-
pects that providing students with greater opportunities to become involved in local nonprofits and businesses will not only benefit students, but create a better, more communal environment in which students can succeed. She plans to incorporate work experience into the curriculum and place a greater focus on students attaining intern-
ships while in school.

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Final Science Cafe of the year ends with success

Jonathan Reis
News Editor

Professionals and students alike attended the final Science Cafe of the year this past Thursday in the Portland Public Library’s glass-walled atrium. While there, they discussed important scientific matters relevant to everyday life.

The overlying theme of this year’s Science Cafe is the 50th anniversary of the publication Rachel Carson’s Silent Spring, an influential environmental text that attracted international interest and still resonates with current Maine issues. The discus-
sions will hope to explain how far Americans have come since the 1962 publication of Carson’s book, regarding people’s environmental responsibilities, as well as what changes still remain for the future.

A Science Cafe is an informal collaboration between profession-
al and public interest that takes place in some sort of social setting, like in a restaurant or a bar. Science Cafes aim to see the connections between what scientis-
tists do and how their research relates to the general public.

Lucille Benedict, assistant professor of chemistry at USM, was the designated speaker at the event. Titled “Street Dust’s Little Secret,” her presentation revealed interesting facts about the amount of pollution our everyday activities could be creating on our own.

“Street Dust’s Little Secret” was the title of Benedict’s presentation at the final Science Cafe of the year. Benedict is a scientist with a passion for helping the community understand the science behind common everyday events. This particular presentation delved into the topic of street dust and its effects on the environment. Benedict discussed the different sources of street dust, such as tire wear and brake particles, and the various ways in which this pollution can affect our health and the environment.

During her presentation, Benedict explained the science behind why street dust is a matter of concern. She emphasized the importance of understanding the source of street dust and how it can impact both human health and the environment. Benedict shared information on the health effects of street dust, such as respiratory issues and skin irritations, and highlighted the importance of reducing the amount of street dust in our communities.

Benedict also discussed the role of citizens in addressing the issue of street dust. She encouraged the audience to be aware of the sources of street dust and to take action by reducing their own contributions, such as by avoiding idling their cars or by using alternative transportation methods. She also emphasized the importance of supporting policies and initiatives that aim to reduce street dust and promote cleaner environments.

The final Science Cafe of the year was successful in bringing together professionals and students to discuss important scientific matters relevant to everyday life. The event featured a presentation by Lucille Benedict, an assistant professor of chemistry at USM, who spoke about the health and environmental impacts of street dust. Benedict highlighted the importance of understanding the sources of street dust and taking action to reduce its contribution to pollution.
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‘Tealaxation’ in Woodbury

Portland Student Life will host the first of two ‘tealaxation’ days this month on Tuesday, Dec. 4 from 3-4 p.m. In the Woodbury Commuter Lounge. The tea times are scheduled as a chance for students to unwind and relax in the academically busy month of December. Free tea and baked goods will be provided, as well as a chance to relax during a hectic time. Contact Julia Pond, coordinator of student engagement, FMI at jpond@usm.maine.edu

Public speaking workshop

The USM professional student senate will host a public speaking seminar on Wednesday, Dec. 5 from 12-1 p.m. The workshop will be in room 102 of the Wishcamper Center. Barbara Kelly of the USM bookstores will offer tips for students to work on their confidence levels in public speaking. Bring your lunch and contact USM bookstores FMI.

GSL hosts water documentary

Gorham Student Life will host a screening of “Blue Gold: World Water Wars” on Wednesday, Dec. 5 at 8 p.m. in the Brooks Student Center TV lounge. The documentary focuses on the ways in which governments and businesses seek to control and exploit the world’s water for their own personal profit. A discussion on what the USM community can do to make a positive difference as water becomes an increasingly valuable resource will follow the screening. Contact Cecilia Smith FMI at cecilia.smith@maine.edu

Questions or comments? Send us your thoughts at editor@usmfreenews.org

USM Nights at Portland Stage Company

USM students have the option to see two plays for free at the Portland Stage Company this weekend. The Santaland Diaries will be on Friday, Dec. 7 at 7:30 p.m. and A Christmas Carol on Saturday, Dec. 8 at 7:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. Two tickets per student will be available from the Student Involvement Activity Center in Woodbury starting on Monday, Dec. 3. Contact Aaron Dallaire at 25A Forest Ave. in Portland.

The plays will take place at the Portland Stage Company building in Portland. Portland Stage Company this weekend. The Santaland Diaries will be on Friday, Dec. 7 at 7:30 p.m. and A Christmas Carol on Saturday, Dec. 8 at 7:00 p.m. Two tickets per student will be available from the Student Involvement Activity Center in Woodbury starting on Monday, Dec. 3. Contact Aaron Dallaire at 25A Forest Ave. in Portland.

Bring a toy to donate to: Brooks Student Center - Gorham

Holiday Diner!

December 13th, 2012

4:00p - 7:00p

Dinner door rates apply

Bring a toy to donate to: Toys for Tots

Gorham Upperclass Hall

What did the wall do to you anyway?

8:04 p.m. - Report of damage to the wall under investigation. - Bailey Hall

This cup is still good!

10:12 p.m. - Officer requested to assist with a subject who is going through recycle bins. Person left prior to officer’s arrival. - Glickman Library

Monday, November 19

Another wall?!

12:18 p.m. - Report of damage to a wall. Under investigation. - Bailey Hall

Smells like slacking.


Tuesday, November 20

And I was like, ‘that ain’t even a T-Bone’

4:43 p.m. - Report of a subject selling frozen steaks out of the back of a pickup near the campus center. Unable to locate. - Parking Lot P3

Guy’s Stop.

7:19 p.m. - Report of a hole in the wall. - Upton Hastings Hall

Wednesday, November 21

My Baby!

8:12 a.m. - Report of a theft of a bicycle from the rack. - Portland Campus

All set? I’m going to fail this test!

10:47 a.m. - Received a panic alarm. Of course made contact and subject is all set. - Bailey Hall

Thursday, November 22

We can’t find cruiser #7...

5:51 p.m. - Gorham Police Department requested assistance in locating a vehicle. Nothing found. - Gorham Campus

Friday, November 23

Too much caffeine today, Matthew?

9:43 a.m. - Traffic summons issued to Matthew J. Coffee, 21 of Windham for having no insurance, stop sign violation, operating an unregistered motor vehicle and operating with expired license. Also warned for failure to produce a license and failure to change address. - Parking Lot P3

You should get that figured out.

3:14 p.m. - Warning to vehicle operator for Expired license and failure to change address. - Parking Lot P3

Sunday, November 25

You’re gonna have to call LoJack this time.

1:19 p.m. - Warning to operator for operating wrong way on one way. - Deering Avenue

You realize this is your freebie for the year...

9:07 p.m. - Warning to operator for driving on a learner’s permit and he’s the only one in the vehicle. - Glickman Library

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Police logs are edited for grammar and style.
Sudoku

A sudoku puzzle consists of a 9 × 9–square grid subdivided into nine 3 × 3 boxes. Some of the squares contain numbers. The object is to fill in the remaining squares so that every row, every column, and every 3 × 3 box contains each of the numbers from 1 to 9 exactly once.

Cryptogram

Every letter in a cryptogram stands for another letter. Use the hint to crack the code.

QN GNKAS JANKS XS: MNP APUJEMJWS, UBUD EQXUBUO GXHW XQSN GJPU-GUBXOUG UHHW.

And here is your hint:
J = A

Word Search

Search for the list of words in the grid of letters. Grab a pen and circle each word as you find them.

Dexterity and thinking are emphasized. Relax with a good book, study course, stimulating discussion, badminton, or tennis, etc.

Take a first step toward that “dream vacation” you want: pick up a brochure, visualize yourself on the way, or save a few pennies.

Time to “wash your cares away.” Consider a dip in a swimming pool, a trip to the beach, a walk in the rain, or water sports.

Cuddling is important. Get some hugs today and share some physical contact with those you love. Nurture your body.

Pay attention to your body today. Let go of tension in your neck, shoulders, etc. Relax and share back rubs with someone.

Use your common sense. Stay grounded around love and romance today. A solid appreciation brings rewards.
"My head was in the group," said Sutherland.

"But after 12 years or so we kind of imploded. The group went through many transitions, etc. and in 2005 we just stopped," said Sutherland.

"There is a vibrant, musical community there, and I immediately clicked with an amazingly progressive and creative group of Alicantinos," said Sutherland. "I spent a good deal of time alone in a city where I couldn’t speak the language, without a job or any large social and political movements, and almost all of it was in Spanish," said Sutherland, "and things just took off for me from that point on."

Through the nursing program at USM, Sutherland went to the Dominican Republic in collaboration with the language department as a student medical interpreter. From there he went on to volunteer for the Maine Migrant Health Program. He did translations for in-takes at clinics, and he helped to make a short film about MMHP services for a group of Guatemalans and Hondurans that were working packing potatoes in Fryeburg, Maine.

Soon after, Carey got him involved at The Special Collections on the 6th floor of the Glickman Library, classifying and organizing a collection of Guatemalan Municipal Documents that span a time frame of about 1829 to 1945. He has been working on the project for nearly two years.

Sutherland was awarded a research grant from the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program in the spring of 2011. His proposal was to study a Latino community that had settled in Milbridge, Maine during the late 1990s. Through the second half of 2011 to early 2012, Sutherland was traveling to Milbridge and the downeast region in an attempt to meet and speak with anyone he could about the post-modern situation surrounding Latino migrant agricultural labor and immigration. Through extensive conversation with the staffers from Mano en Mano, a non-profit that originated as a local grassroots movement to support a new influx of a Latino population, he gained knowledge and understanding concerning the push and pull of free-trade economics. He learned of the strength of diversity and culture with regards to Latino responses to a century of North American position of economic privilege in the western hemisphere.

"It gave me the opportunity to face some deep-seated fears and insecurities I have regarding my white, North American, middle-class privilege," said Sutherland. "The small town I was raised in had no ethnic diversity and class lines were ignored or blurred. My UROP project gave me a reason to talk to people about difference - difference of culture, class, ethnicity - and also forced me to use the Spanish I was studying in a practical and serious manner, which was a real challenge for me."

While Sutherland’s research is still in progress, he will be presenting his dissertation on Tuesday, Dec. 11 at 3 p.m. at 102 Bedford St.

Olas performs at Local Sprouts Cafe. Megan Keogh (left) and Lindsey Bourassa (right) perform an original, flamenco-inspired dance while other members accompany them.
A&C Recommends: 2012 MECA Holiday Sale

Courtney Aldrich
Contributor

Help celebrate a season of family, friends, and generosity this weekend as the Maine College of Art (MECA) once again hosts the 2012 MECA Holiday Sale. At this year’s event, sixty-savvy art vendors have been selected to set the tone to this seasonal experience. Electe[s] specially by the organization’s jury, the fol-low[ing] artist vendors have been handpicked as the 2012 featured artists: Dietlind Vander Schaaf, Marican Baker, Olaa Boardman, Aaron Decker, Miles Spadone and Tyless Greenback.

In addition, each individual crafter has do-nated a piece of work to be part of the sale’s raffle. Selling at $5 apiece, raffle tickets can be purchased at the welcome desk in the Porteous Building at MECA and donations for these raffles will go toward scholarship and student programs. “I’m looking forward to this year’s sale,” said Boardman, one of this year’s featured artists. “We have been working to improve our product and we feel really great about our new patterns.”

Sharing the gift of art with the community, the MECA design students work in collabora-tion with the Artist at Work team to organize this yearly event. The sale originated as a ben-eft for the student programs, education and outreach opportunities at MECA and has been going on for over 25 years. “Being part of the sale has been so helpful not only with our growth as a small creative business but also with getting to meet and talk with our custom-ers,” says Boardman.

“Part of what I love the most about the sale is the many shoppers who are genuinely inter-e[sted] in buying handmade products and works of art to give as holiday gifts,” said featured artist Dietlind Vander Schaaf, “and (shoppers) who are excited about the opportunity to meet and talk with the artists themselves.” This sale is now useful in encouraging the com-munity to be involved with students and the arts in the Portland area, while offering some Christmas cheer and an easy way to check off some names on that ever-growing Christmas list. “The MECA Holiday Sale is 100 percent buy local and supports artists directly,” said Schaff.

The Holiday sale also features crafts and fine arts shaped by the creative minds and careful hands of current MECA students, alumni and faculty and even art from some department showcases. How else better to shop for quality art as unique stocking stuffers and holiday gifts? “I donated an encaustic painting from my Nostos series,” Schaaf said. “For me, this series is an exploration of the notion of home - how it is related to child-hood and adulthood, and how it can be lost or reclaimed. I use handmade paper and metal in my work, as well as a meditative line etching technique.”

MECA invites the community to button up their jackets and tuck their ears into their hats this weekend to take a walk to downtown Portland to experience a craft fair like no other. The art sale is free and open to the public and is scheduled for Friday 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the MECA Porteous Building on 522 Congress St. Coffee and treats (not limited to plums and candy canes) will be served at the MECA Cafe.

Contributor

Courtney Aldrich

Staff Writer

Sam Halden

Arts & Culture

December 3, 2012

Sanctuary UK

Jonathan Richman & The Modern Lovers / Roadrunner

Richman is an endearing, wide-eyed man child that I want to give a big hug. The Modern Lovers makes me reminisce about living in MA with their proto-punk half-sung half-spoken songs about dinosaurs, the radio and taking girls on dates to The museum of Fine Arts.

-Laura Coving-Sawyer
Free Press Staff
Get funky with Contrapposto

Contrapposto is an uber funky, at times freaky, and always fresh electronic duo from right here in Portland. Jacob Pitcher and Mirabai Iwanko describe themselves as a “two part zoomorphic-electro musical collaboration.”

Resembling a hipster’s fantasy, the duo doesn’t even have a completed album online. This band only plays in smaller, obscure clubs around town, like SPACE Gallery. The only place we could find recorded music was on SoundCloud, but it was definitely worth all of the searching. The four songs range in styles, from DnB to hip hop, and sometimes bordering on electronica or trance. Altogether, the sound is unique and dynamic.

Some pictures are available online as well, revealing the live drummer. The recorded songs on SoundCloud lack the live kit, but compensate to the nines with tightly mixed drum tracks. The majority of the melodic components are vocal, but are heavily accented by mellifluous synthesizers, creating a lush and dreamy atmosphere. More importantly, though, the Tom Couture photos show a glow-paint-ridden tribal festival of lights, which indicates Contrapposto’s disposition. Green light.

The thumping retro-beat of “rabbit habits,” the second available song on SoundCloud, impacts your brain with the ’80s. The retro synth, however, breaks way to trancey asked-upped synths, and with the addition of Iwanko’s tasteful vocal effects are invigorating. You could simply nod your head or break out an all out dance party with this one. The mastering and live manipulation of effects in this song are worth mentioning. Twice.

The rhythmic delivery of Iwanko’s voice is impeccable. Her use of falsetto and very genuine emotion make for extremely dynamic and catchy hooks. Pair her voice up with the funky beat, and we really have a winner here.

“Lye’s Call,” the third song available, is more of a hip-hop influenced electronic piece. I don’t mean to say it sounds anything like hip hop – rather a dubstep tune. Extremely down-tempo, the progression of synths is like pushing through quicksand – thick, slow and deep. If I had one complaint, it would be a lack of a bass foundation for this song. The drum pattern is tight. The rhythmic variations are awesome, but it would all be accentuated by a more present bassline. Once again, however, we wouldn’t want to detract from Iwanko’s beautiful vocal leads. This song really picks up at the very end though, with a ravaging beat breakdown-step section. In all honesty, this part gives me chills, and almost has the flavor of trap music.

Overall, it would be well worth your in- time-seeking efforts to find out where to get Contrapposto’s music. They represent Portland, and they represent it so very well. For now, keep them out at your local bars in Portland – if you can find them.

National Review

Keys only delivers the usual

Alicia Keys has gone through a lot of personal changes in recent years, and claims that Girl on Fire has been marketed as a heart-wrenching autobiographical album. While it might seem leaps and bounds more personal for Keys, and she has certainly matured lyrically, but the music throughout her fifth studio album remains the same. Her life may have changed, but this new album is not as revolutionary as claimed. It’s quality, but nothing new.

With her mastery of the piano and versatile vocals and nonchalant classiness, she delivers her typical tracks that fans have come to love, mixing old-school soul vibes with a new-school rhythm. Pouring out her heart on to every track, Keys has always put artistry before commercial goals and label agendas. Since her well- received release of The Element of Freedom in 2009, Keys has married successful rapper-producer Swizz Beatz and given birth to her first child, now 2-year-old son, Egypt. The stability in her personal life is reflected in the music, as Keys sounds more at ease and more soulful than she ever has.

That said, Girl on Fire is just more of the same and Keys’ maturation over the past few years has not lead to drastic changes in her music as she claims. Self-empowerment and re-birth of self are themes weaved throughout the album, but it’s done in such a mainstream way that is unlike Keys. The generic titles of her songs could be used as buzz words for self-help books or group therapy: “Brand New Me,” “New Day” and “Listen to Your Heart.” Keys aims for re-invention, but doesn’t go far enough. The album, as a whole, stops just short of being effective.

Keys does turn in a different direction in one sense, bringing a collection of collaborators on to the album. Odd Future’s Frank Ocean, Bruno Mars and outgoing U.K. star Emeli Sande are featured on the album, offering rock-solid vocal performances that complement Keys. Rap queen Nicki Minaj is even featured on the title track, adding a hard-hitting presence that you usually would never find on an album from Keys. These additions to the album are great for this regularly independent and hopefully Keys continues to open up to outside influence in the future.

Keys is known as an unforgettable performer, but she has the tendency to release forgettable albums. It’s hard to say right now how Girl on Fire will be received and go down in the books. Only time will tell. If you can, try to find a show and see her perform live, as recorded tracks will never do her justice.
**A&C Listings**

**Monday, December 3**
Emmett Harrity Trio  
Blue  
650 Congress St.  
Doors: 10:00 p.m. / Show: 10:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, December 4**
Kaki King / Lady Lamb the Beekeeper  
SPACE Gallery  
538 Congress St.  
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 8:30 p.m.
Maeve Gilchrist Trio and Mariel Vandersteel Trio  
One Longfellow Square  
181 State St.  
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 8:30 p.m.

**Thursday, December 6**
Dark Star Orchestra  
State Theatre  
609 Congress St.  
Doors: 9:00 p.m. / Show: 9:15 p.m.
Dopapod  
Port City Music Hall  
504 Congress St.  
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 9:00 p.m.

**Friday, December 7**
The Fogcutters Present Big Band Syndrome  
State Theatre  
609 Congress St.  
Doors: 7:00 p.m. / Show: 8:00 p.m.
Tess Collins  
The Big Easy  
55 Market St.  
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 8:00 p.m.
Miss Fairchild / Lost in Stockholm / One Hand Free  
Empire Dine and Dance  
575 Congress St.  
Doors: 9:00 p.m. / Show: 9:15 p.m.

**Saturday, December 8**
Band of Horses / Jason Lytle  
State Theatre  
609 Congress St.  
Doors: 7:00 p.m. / Show: 8:00 p.m.
Post Provost  
The Big Easy  
55 Market St.  
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 8:00 p.m.
Lucy Kaplansky  
One Longfellow Square  
181 State St.  
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 8:30 p.m.
Robby Krieger’s Jazz Kitchen  
Port City Music Hall  
504 Congress St.  
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 9:00 p.m.

**Sunday, December 9**
Patrick Watson / Arborea  
SPACE Gallery  
538 Congress St.  
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 8:30 p.m.
Rock My Soul Rockin’ Holiday Concert  
One Longfellow Square  
181 State St.  
Doors: 4:00 p.m. / Show: 4:00 p.m.

Want to submit an event? arts@usmfreepress.org
Perspectives

Guest Column

USM student fondly remembers his best friend

Marcelo Rugini died tragically last month in a plane crash at Owl’s Head

Kyle Spear
Guest Contributor

Sometimes the most inspirational people you will ever know come from the most unlikely destinations. In my case, the person was Marcelo Rugini and the place was Brazil.

He arrived on my family’s vegetable farm over seven years ago just as I was finishing up my freshman year in high school. At the time, I had no idea that a year in conflict. But he would spend Christmases and birthdays with my family and become my best friend and big brother, let alone eventually become the United States for a second year.

When he first came to the farm, even toxic English was a challenge, but that smile and positivity immediately struck me. Most of the English he knew came from the Strokes, Guns N’ Roses, and Metallica lyrics (quite diverse, I know). But after only two summers at the farm he could speak English fluently and chose to further his education by studying in Orono on an international scholarship that was awarded to just 25 students. At Orono, he joined the brothers of Lambda Chi Alpha and was able to maintain a 4.0 GPA nearly every semester. On Christmas Eve I can recall asking how his semester had ended up: “Eh, 3.8 — I didn’t focus very well.” His intelligence and success drove me to improve my own study habits, so I could try to brag about having a GPA even remotely close to his.

All summer and every available school weekend he would be working at the farm, doing anything from fixing or driving tractors to improving crop growing methods without complaint. Countless times I would say “Come on Marcel, we should all do something tonight” and no matter how exciting it sounded, he understood that he had a job to complete. Unlike me and others who worked only to earn income for ourselves, he would always send money home to his family to make sure that they could get by, always caring about the livelihood of others first. Nevertheless, as soon as work was done he would be the first to want to have the best time possible with his friends. We would have a Brazilian BBQ every Sunday with our group or just watch TV together and discuss life, totally regardless of how exhausted he may have been. It is this understanding of priorities and the real meaning of friendship that always stood out to me, but I am only truly coming to appreciate now.

I feel that we tend to take too much for granted, expecting that what is there today will be there tomorrow. The simple fact, as I am discovering, is that this is not the case. We do not know what tomorrow will bring; we are guaranteed the present moment and nothing more. Marcelo realized this and gave everything he had to each and every second.

It has now become my ongoing challenge to take what made him special as a person and integrate his practices into my own life. In all those years I would never call my big brother in front of him, but in my heart no one else came close. It is never easy to get up and going again following the loss of a loved one, but Marcelos has taught me to look at what made them so special in my eyes and apply those same principles so that not only do they live on in my heart, but so other people can feel the positive spirit they brought to this thing called life.

Gregorio with Kyle’s younger brother, Ethan, during Christmas time

Former Free Press News Editor reflects on his time abroad

Noah Hurowitz
Free Press Staff

It’s 2 a.m. as I write this, perusing from a 40-page research paper due in 48 hours. This predicament is all too familiar, but the context in which I’m currently disrupting my already disrupted sleep schedule is totally foreign — like actually.

Usually, I’d go eat some late night or early morning bacon at Denny’s, but the nearest Denny’s to my temporary apartment in Lima, Peru is in another hemisphere.

Life has settled down somewhat for me here in Peru when I’m studying globalization, indigenous identity and the contemporaryocollective author of conflict. But while small discomforts and the need for constant adaptation are never far off. I have been living somewhat out of my comfort zone for about seven years. Over the seven years that I’ve been here, I’ve been living in Lima, Peru is in another hemisphere.

After seven years in Lima, Peru, it has now become my ongoing challenge to take what made him special as a person and integrate his practices into my own life. In all those years I would never call my big brother in front of him, but in my heart no one else came close. It is never easy to get up and going again following the loss of a loved one, but Marcelo has taught me to look at what made them so special in my eyes and apply those same principles so that not only do they live on in my heart, but so other people can feel the positive spirit they brought to this thing called life.

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Life has settled down somewhat for me here in Peru when I’m studying globalization, indigenous identity and the contemporary collective author of conflict. But while small discomforts and the need for constant adaptation are never far off. I have been living somewhat out of my comfort zone for about seven months now. That gets old at times like these, but I’m nowhere near ready to return to “safety.”

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Release the list of Zumba “Johns” in full — we don’t mind waiting

The list of people involved in the Zumba prostitution ring should be released in the same way the people want to lose weight: in one large, swift motion. As it stands, the list is long, but the names are only being released in bi-weekly segments, with merely a few names being revealed with each update. At this rate, we will be well into next year before the list is completely out in the open.

I understand the need for careful and tactical procedure with something local and as large as this scandal, but the people on the list knew what the consequences of involvement in a Zumba prostitution ring could entail. Why should they be granted the convenience of this segmented release of information? The police seem lenient of this segmented release should they be granted the convenience of this segmented release of information? The police seem lenient

The scandal is certainly animated in the next few weeks!” While the people want to lose weight: in one large, swift motion. As it stands, the list is long, but the names are only being released in bi-weekly segments, with merely a few names being revealed with each update. At this rate, we will be well into next year before the list is completely out in the open.

Jonathan Reis
Perspectives Editor

Andrew Henry

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The scandal is certainly animated

No speculation, no rumors, just names. Isn’t it more of a hassle to do damage control after the rumors, rather than to just release the list in its entirety and prevent it altogether? If I were them, I’d want to do less wrangling with the media, not more.

really, there are only two avenues that make sense from a publicity standpoint: release it when it’s completely done, or don’t release any names at all. Instead of doing what I refer to as the “trickle-release,” they could just let out the entire list when they truly believe everyone on that list has a connection to the crime. Yes, this would take longer, but it wouldn’t stir up rumors in the way that the trickle-release does.

Andrew Henry
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from Peru on page 11
exchange rate (past, someone pay me to do stuff).
I’m looking forward to drinking tap water, scarfing down an entire pizza from Otto’s, eating the Hobo Homestyles at Marcy’s Diner and enjoying countless other comforts I haven’t had access to since I left the U.S. in August.
But I’m also going to miss Peru terribly, and I’m going to miss being challenged on a daily basis to speak with people I’ve never met in a language with which I continue to struggle. I’m going to miss getting some sort of language practice out of every interaction, whether it’s giving directions, buying food or taking a taxi, which is ludicrously cheap.
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My experience here was an excellent antidote — though no panacea — to my often terminal cynicism. You try ignoring a sense of wonder while staring out a plane window at the peaks of the Andes poking through the clouds.
It sounds like goofy, eager-beaver nonsense, but such experiences challenged me constantly, never allowing me to coast. I couldn’t have asked for a better way to spend a semester.
So jez, go do it yourself already. You won’t regret it, probably.
Noah Hurowitz is the former news editor of The Free Press and is currently in Peru studying indigenous identity and collective memory of conflict. By the time you read this he will be done with his final project and hopefully fast asleep.

From Microfame on page 11
In a blog entry, Horning reflects, “My experience with Facebook has been double-edged in that way...it forced me to recognize yet again that my tastes and experiences aren’t really my own, because I still want so badly for people to applaud me for them. You end up ruining all the cool things you thought you wanted to share with the world because you can’t share them without tainting them with shameful self-importance.”

As I read more of Horning’s work, it became apparent he has an axe to grind with the “hipster” crowd, who revel in all things perceived cool. Horning sees the problem with hipsterdom in its reductionism: “Everything becomes just another signifier of personal identity.” In real life, the whole hipster chic thing has taken a nose dive socially in favor of more authentic presentations, but not so online.

There’s a risk of using social media as simply the ultimate hipster platform. A few months ago you were planking, now you are sampling the latest exotic foods and so on. None of these things, in and of themselves, are the culprit. It is that sum total of exchanging an embedded identity, what some think of as the real you, for a constructed momentary identity, endorsing what everyone else thinks is cool. The manufactured persona can become the social media hipster, a connoisseur of cool.

How do we know who we are dealing with, when the online hipster might be the ultimate poser? Horning understands that no one wants to admit to being a hipster, so they define it as “not me” and reinvent themselves to put distance between themselves and those other hipsters. But that just keeps the cycle of indulgence going.
Horning hasn’t pointed out the exit. Lecture host, philosophy professor Jason Read felt Horning was trying more to examine the scope of the problem with various theories than prescribe a solution.

It was clear that, for Horning, authenticity in social media is neither easy nor simple. It may even be that all levels of participation are inherently infected with the problems of micro-fame and celebrity.

Though you might not use social media any less, just being aware of these influences may be enough to curtail a post you wish you had never made.
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The women’s team managed to capture a win against Eastern Connecticut State University in a Little East Conference game on Saturday afternoon. Senior guard Nicole Garland and sophomore forward Rebecca Knight had a combined 11 points, seven rebounds, four assists and three steals for the Huskies.

Junior Conor Sullivan and sophomore Sam Guimond. Scoring for the Huskies were senior guard Mike Poulin and sophomore forward Rebecca Knight had a combined 11 points, seven rebounds, four assists and three steals for the Huskies.

Both teams battled back and fourth to take the lead but junior forward Nick Bisbee tossed a 3-pointer to capture the lead with 16:09 remaining. Eastern Connecticut tried to take the lead again after a pair of field goals that put them 56-54 behind the Huskies with 57 seconds to play, but junior guard Erin McNamara was able to add more insurance points to the board, finalizing the score 59-54. The women’s team will host Salem State this Tuesday at 7 p.m. for a non-conference game.

Men’s Basketball
USM steals the win in overtime

The men’s team conquered Eastern Connecticut State University 69-63 in overtime on Saturday afternoon. The win ends their two game losing streak and improves their record to 4-2 overall and 1-0 in the LEC. Knight scored a game-high 19 points and was 10 from the field with seven rebounds, three assists and three steals. Garland scored 12 points total and had four rebounds, three assists and a steal. Senior forward Jordan Grant had nine points, seven rebounds, four assists and three steals for the Huskies.

The Huskies’ week in review

The women’s team faced an unfortunate loss against Manhattanville during a conference match with the final score of 1-6 on Saturday afternoon. The Huskies record falls to 2-3-2 overall and 2-2-2 in conference play.

Wrestling
USM finishes second out of nine teams

The Huskies captured second place in the Red Reese Invitational with the help of sophomore Michael Arango and junior Jonathan Deupree, who each placed first in their respective weight class on Saturday afternoon. The team finished with 92 points and was two points shy to New York University’s 94 points for first place. Arango wrestled in the 125-pound weight class and won all of his first matches to capture the first place win. Deupree won in a sudden victory match to take first place in his weight class at 184 pounds.
The Social Work Student Organization is making a comeback this semester after a brief lapse last year, advocating for students during faculty meetings, recruiting new members and planning events. They offer peer support to social work students or connect them with a faculty member who can provide them with guidance.

The organization was re-organized by a group of students who wished to give social work students the opportunity to make friends and have fun, educational events for themselves, faculty and the rest of the school in which they talk about social issues.

David Wagner, a faculty advisor for the SWSO explains the lapse. “It is not unusual in my experience for student groups to be left off. Members expressed interest in expanding the elective choices for bachelor’s students in the social work department. They are also interested in attending faculty meetings in order to represent student interests.

Joyce Dolley, a senior social work major, explained the goals of the group. “I personally believe students need a vehicle for support and advocacy that they can turn to. This can also benefit faculty, so they can be better connected to the students.”

Amanda Noble, another senior and social work major, explained the importance of the organization. “If we want a class on a specific topic, then the staff and faculty need to know, and they won’t know unless we say something. Being able to have a voice will make a difference for us, and for the students who come after us.”

“The SWSO has greatly helped in the past to advise us on schedules, on what they thought about [curriculum] requirements, what type of electives we have and what social issues were important to them,” said Wagner.

The SWSO hopes to pick up where the previous organization left off. Members expressed interest in expanding the elective choices for bachelor’s students in the social work department.

Students in the Social Work Student Organization meet to discuss social issues, and they represent students at faculty and administrative meetings.

Skyla Gordon
Staff Writer

The SWSO meets monthly to discuss current social and student issues, problems with the curriculum and plan future events. Anyone can join. Check the USM event board for precise dates and times of the upcoming meetings.

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