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USM ranked #1 in its class

US News and World Report rates USM top of its tier

JOEL C.THERIAULT
STAFF WRITER

The University of Southern Maine has recently had its strengths spotlighted in three different periodicals; the "US News and World Report," the "Princeton Review," and the "Advocate College Guide for LGBT Students."

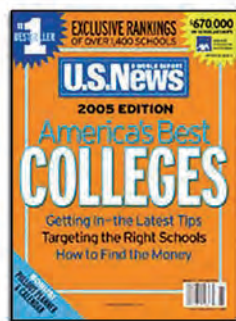
USM's Master's Program for graduate students was ranked #1 in its tier by the US News and World Report, based on the opinions of the academic leaders on its board. A Peer Assessment Score is calculated based on the evaluations from university presidents, provosts, and deans of ad-

missions from schools across the nation. USM's Peer Assessment Score earned them the top ranking for Master's Programs in Tier 3: Northeast Region. Tier 3 represents schools in the 25th to 50th percentiles. Among the other schools on the list are St. Joseph's College (Maine), Trinity University (DC), Fitchburg State (Massachusetts), and Robert Morris (Pennsylvania).

The "Princeton Review's" 2007 edition of The Best Northeastern Colleges ranked USM among the Top 100 of 222 schools in its region. "The Princeton Review" specified USM's library facilities and the dedication of its faculty to students as reasons for its decision.

The "Review" also ranks USM in the Top 100 list for Best Value College in the nation, based on data covering 212 colleges and universities.

USM's population diversity was recognized by the "Advocate College Guide for LGBT Students." Schools were not given a specific numerical rank, but the book places the university among 100 schools ranked for advocacy of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students' rights. Other schools USM ranked with include Middlebury College in Vermont, Ithaca College in New York, Tufts in Massachusetts, Duke University in North Carolina, and Princeton University in New Jersey. ♦



USM responds to hate crime

A university reacts

ROBYN WILEY
STAFF WRITER

Campus police say they're still trying to identify the individuals who threatened two Gorham campus students two weeks ago, in what has been labeled a hate crime incident. USM Police Chief Lisa Beecher says the case is being actively investigated, but declines to explain what methods are being

General's Office, where it will be kept on file.

Two weeks ago at the Brooks Dining Hall in Gorham, a homosexual couple was harassed by a group of male students. Homophobic comments were directed towards at least one of the students, and there was also reference to a gun. One of the gay students was later chased by a member of the group.

Joe Austin, the Dean of Student Life, says his response to this incident was that of "concern and disappointment. It's a scary incident in today's world... Though there is a good sense of community on the USM campus, we are not immune to this kind of thing."

Once the perpetrator is found, the Attorney General's office will assess whether the crime violates the Maine Civil Rights Act. If so, the office will file a complaint in Superior Court and the defendant will be served with a copy of the complaint. Beecher

possibly a fine, if found guilty. It is not yet clear whether one or two males will be charged with this crime, or whether the perpetrators were USM students.

This incident falls under the jurisdiction of the Gorham, Cumberland County, and Maine State Police Departments, though none are currently contributing to this investigation. The Gorham, Portland, and Maine State Police all have information on the incident, but Beecher says, "It is not necessary for them to help. The USM officers have years of experience in other departments." She adds that she has served as a detective for 15 years and that the Lieutenant in charge of the investigation is a detective. She says different police departments sometimes play a factor in one another's investigations, but not yet in this case.

After the investigation is complete, the USM's Office of Community Standards will assess the guilty student's behavior in accordance with the University of Maine System Student Conduct Code. The guilty student(s) has violated several of these codes, including harassment, hazing, and threatening or endangering conduct. According to the Director, Steve Nelson, the USM Conduct Code "permits the imposition of harsher sanctions for hate crimes." When dealing with hate crimes, the first question in the conduct process is "whether or not the accused should

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USM faces \$2M budget deficit

Student retention major factor

JOEL C.THERIAULT
STAFF WRITER

The rate for students to return to USM year to year has fallen sharp enough to leave a \$2 million hole in the university's budget.

Sam Andrews, USM's Chief Financial Officer, gave an analysis of this budget problem to the Free Press. According to Andrews, the university earned \$4.9 million in revenue for the current fiscal year, but cost increases reached \$5.6 million, leaving a \$700,000 deficit. At the same time, USM's enrollment rate dropped 2% from last year's numbers, and each 1% decrease resulted in a loss of \$500,000 for the university. With an additional deficit of \$450,000, partly due to cost-of-living increases and not meeting money-saving goals from last year, the school now looks at a \$2.15 million dollar loss.

Andrews said the university is taking several steps to rectify its current financial situation. A hiring freeze has been imposed on all departments except those pertaining to health and safety, revenue generation, and legal services. Rigorous budget reductions in all departments have also been ordered.

On September 2, President Richard L. Pattenade addressed this issue at the faculty's Opening Day Breakfast. Said Pattenade, "Our continuing student enrollment has been showing a decline since advance registration in the spring; although we had our largest graduating class in history, this does not account for this kind of decline. It is clear that retention is a major factor. Our graduate enrollment was expected to grow and was a major goal of USM; this enrollment is down significantly for this fall, which has major implications for our financial health. Our out-of-state enrollment across the board has declined as well. So, this must be a year of decisive action; there is no time for planning, plans, or punditry."

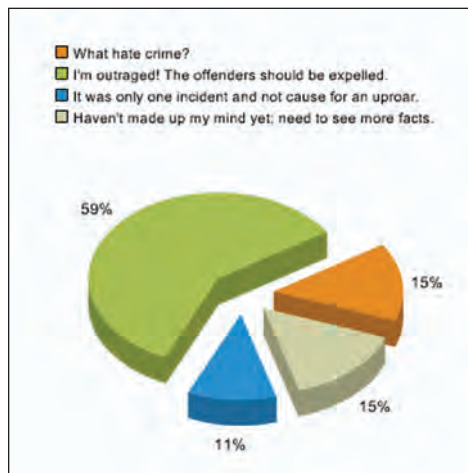
Pattenade outlined in his speech seven steps for faculty and administration, including statewide marketing of USM's programs and an increased effort in retention by linking school and college budgets more to enrollment.

Pattenade's entire speech is available online at the university's web site, www.usm.maine.edu.

Pattenade gave additional comments on this issue to the Free Press, saying, "Public

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What you thought in our online poll



used by her staff. She says, it "would give away how we investigate crimes... if anyone wanted to commit crimes, they could learn from that." After the USM Police Department has "exhausted all avenues and all leads," the case will be sent to the Maine Attorney

of says the perpetrator(s) will likely be charged with, "Criminal Threatening," which is defined as "intentionally placing another person in fear of imminent bodily injury," under the Criminal Maine Statutes. This classifies as a Class-D crime that would lead to imprisonment for one to three years and

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be permitted to remain a USM student.”

Concerning the impact of this incident, Joe Austin says, “There has been a chilling effect, particularly for the LGBT community. Parts of the larger community are scared by it, though many don’t think it affects them. If one person isn’t safe, none of us are safe.” [LGBT stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender].

This past Thursday, Austin sent out an e-mail to all USM residents, in which he wrote, “USM does not tolerate this type of behavior. The behavior is cowardly at best and criminal at worst and creates an atmosphere of fear and powerlessness.” Furthermore, he invited all Gorham residents to meet with him in the Brooks Dining Hall last Friday at 7:30 p.m. for a “community conversation” to speak about the hate crime incident, and to learn what each person can do to make USM a better community.

The USM Student Senate decided to take direct action in response to this incident through legislation. Senator Jason Lavoie wrote a resolution entitled “Condemning Crimes of Hate at the University of Southern Maine,” which was passed by a majority vote this past Friday. According to Ryan Hamden, Chair of the Constitutional

Review Committee, “The senate expressed a lot of concern over the alleged hate crime.” James McKeon, Chair of the Student Senate, said that the resolution was “widely accepted by the senators.”

Of the Faculty and Staff interviewed by the Free Press, there were common beliefs about the root cause of hate crimes. Wendy Chapkis, Professor of the Women Studies’ Department at USM believes the motivation behind such a crime involves a “free-floating hatred,” in which people are “angry and pumped up on their own sense of power and importance.”

Steven Wessler, the Director of the USM Center for the Prevention of Hate Crime, agrees. “The pervasive anti-gay conduct in schools in Maine and around the country comes from different sources, including messages from the media, political and religious leaders, parents, adults, and peers and ambivalence about their own sexual orientation and sexuality,” said Wessler. “One way to prove you are a man is to express hostility and violence to people who are gay.”

“People from more powerful groups want to make sure we stay in our place so we won’t forget we are vulnerable,” said Chapkis. Engaging in these types of discriminatory actions “proves to themselves and to

their friends that they are really somebody; of course, it really proves that they’re terrified of being nobody.”

When asked about her personal reaction to the USM hate incident, Chapkis (a lesbian herself) said, “It makes me want to be even more visible. People need to recognize that we’re everywhere, there are lots of us, and we’re not going away. I’m proud we’re visible enough that we’re making some people uncomfortable.”

The Queer Insurgency, a student-led group, focuses on LGBT visibility to educate the USM community. Student leader Steffan Morin said, “If queer people aren’t seen, people don’t learn from them. This group provides programming and student activities that allow students to ask questions and get straight forward answers.”

The USM Center for the Prevention of Hate Crime is involved with educational programming for students, educators, and administrators from elementary level schools through colleges. According to Steve Nelson, these programs explain the “dynamics of hate crimes, harassment, and how to respond to harassment.”

Denise Nelson, Director of Residential Life, speaks of RA programs that educate student residents about hate crimes. “Hate does not have a home

here,” is the name for one of the popular programs that takes place in the dorms which deals with “language, respect, and asking students to take a pledge” to stand up against hate crimes.

“When an act of hate occurs, it doesn’t just affect the targeted individuals,” said Maya Kasper, Director of the Social Justice office of incident at USM. “The LGBT community is reminded that they are not always safe, and the majority of people at USM are outraged to have these types of hateful events.”

The USM faculty and student groups are taking an active role in the denouncing of hate crimes. Dean Joe Austin believes we each have “personal accountability” when it comes to these types of incidents, and that “we all have responsibility” when it comes to preventing and dealing with these issues. “As a lesbian, I find USM to be a pretty open and accepting community,” said Kasper. “But it is still a reflection of society. Hatred breeds from ignorance, and we must break down this hatred and the misconceptions out there.”

“In addition to the LGBT community taking steps towards a solution, a critical piece must come from other faculty and students, who are indispensable as allies,” said Chapkis. “This is a fight we can not go on alone.” ♦



This week in history

September 25, 1957
“Little Rock Nine”
Escorted Into School By
Soldiers

During this week 49 years ago, President Dwight D. Eisenhower ordered over 1000 US paratroopers to escort nine African-American students into Central High School in Little Rock. Arkansas Governor Orval Faubus had refused to abide a 1954 Supreme Court decision to desegregate schools across the nation.

The students, also known as the “Little Rock Nine,” attempted to enter school on September 2, but Faubus stationed Arkansas State Troopers at the doors to block them. A federal judge forced the governor to withdraw the officers three weeks later.

Later, white protestor’s took to the streets. Citizens of the southern states appealed to the President for help. When the nine children attempted to attend classes on the 23rd, they were harassed by Caucasian students to the point of school-day disruption. The “Little Rock Nine” were escorted home by local police later that day.

On September 25, the African-American children arrived at Central High School with over 1000 US paratroopers from the 101 Airborne Division in full battle dress and fixed bayonets. A crowd of over 1500 white students demonstrated outside, and seven were arrested. General Walker, the commanding officer, warned all students that any disruption would result in arrest by local police. Eisenhower also placed Arkansas’ National Guard under federal command for the duration of the transition.

Governor Faubus continued his defiance of the federal government on issues of segregation for several more years, remaining in office for ten years after the Central High incident until 1967. After the school year ended in 1958, he closed all public high schools in Arkansas. A year later, a federal court refused his request to re-open the high school system with all private schools as a way to get around desegregation laws. ♦

COMPILED BY JOEL C. THERIAULT



COURTESY OF THE
USM POLICE DEPARTMENT

SEPTEMBER 18

Skateboarder – Police received a complaint of skateboarder on the sidewalks near Upton Hall. An officer gave the person a verbal warning to stay off the sidewalks.

SEPTEMBER 19
Unauthorized Entry – A student entered the Print Shop through an unsecured window after hours. She was escorted out of the building.

Dead Animal Report – There was a dead squirrel in the roadway, facilities were notified and they removed it.

SEPTEMBER 20

Loud Noise and Criminal Mischief – Three males left Brooks Student Center yelling and screaming. One threw an orange cone at Communication Coordinator DeLong’s car. Officer unable to locate suspects. Approximately \$700 damage done to car.

crime of the week

Injured Bird – Person reported an injured pheasant had been on campus in a tree for a few days. The bird was gone when officers arrived.

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universities are more sensitive to enrollment issues because the budget relies on enrollment...Students are our best ambassadors.”

Andrew Bossie, Student Body President, said, “Retention has been an issue that the university’s been addressing for some time now. Our retention rates are not where they should be. We should be retaining more students for an institution of our type. USM is a great school and I think the community is starting to realize it. However, it’s not happening fast enough. We’re commonly referred to as a back-up school, a safety school, by guidance counselors and by people throughout the community. We got to break out of this whole notion that we are a back-up school. We got to continue to develop the sense of pride we’ve been growing over the years and the sense of ownership in the university.”

Bossie explained the problem of retention lies within the students’ sense of community

and university involvement. He said, “What makes a university attractive in my opinion is... that it is part of a larger community, that it is a place where people can feel they can go and be part of that environment. USM is becoming that more and more every year...The student community and the student life, as well as the university life in general, has a sense of ownership in this community, is definitely strengthening, and that’s something really important for us as students to recognize...we’re all in this together. This is as much our problem as it is Richard’s [Pattenaude] problem...student involvement, participation outside of the classroom, all of those things, help build this institution stronger, and makes it more attractive to students [and] more attractive to government that subsidizes part of our education.”

Pattenaude’s speech to his staff on September 2 ended with encouraging an environment students would return to. “...I ask you



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MAINE

Audrey Lough

Gorham Lewiston Auburn Portland

MAJOR:
Business

YEAR:
Senior





USM CARD

Describe your basic personality in one sentence:
The greatest person ever!

What’s your favorite class this semester?
Organizational Behavior, it’s the least boring of my classes.

Who is your celebrity role-model?
Don Miguel Ruiz, author of the book, The Four Agreements. It changed my perspective on everything!

If you won \$1,000,000, what’s the first thing you would buy?
A mountain so I could

snowboard all the time. One side would be a resort and the other side would be a private club for my friends

What is your biggest guilty pleasure?
Smoking butts and drinking

If you had to get married tomorrow to whoever you wanted, who would you choose?
Seth Wescott; a quasi-famous snowboarder who won the Snowboard Cross at the U.S. Olympics

What’s your favorite scary movie and why?

I hate scary movies and don’t watch them, I don’t like the bad energy

If you were to create a business, what would it be?
An interior design business, because I love to design

What is your favorite foreign language and why?
Spanish because a. I can speak it somewhat, and b. I really like the culture

In one sentence, what is the most important thing you have learned from being in college?
To make sure I am enjoying every minute of my life



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Letter from the editor

Where are you, USM?

ANGELIQUE CARSON
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Students at USM, I’m kind of mad at you. Not mad in a “I can’t believe you did this, I’m breaking up with you” kind of way, but mad in a “sit down, we need to talk” sense.

Thursday USM put on a “Student Involvement and Activities Fair”. The objective was to gather together as many of the university’s interest groups in one place so that students could

peruse each table and for information that may spark their interest. There were 65 organizations present from the Ski and Ride Club, to Words and Images, to the Black Students Organization, to Model UN just to name a few. The forecast was 65 degrees and sunny. At the Free Press, we grabbed our sweatshirts, posters and fliers and headed to the grassy area between Luther Bonney and Payson Smith for what we anticipated to be an interactive and exciting day. The fair was a perfect opportunity for us to meet students, hear their input, and put faces on the audience that we cater to every week known as USM’s student body.

Crickets, my friends. You could hear crickets chirping. The fair was dead. Were where you?

One of the biggest concerns that I hear voiced at this university is that there isn’t enough of a “college campus feel” to our school. Commuters commute, residents pack up and go home on weekends, and students are left feeling uninvolved and detached from campus life.

I shared this feeling about a year ago. I went to class, smiled, threw out a few answers and went home at the end of the day to hang out with friends that I grew up with. I love these friends, I do, but college to me is a time to break out of those safe spaces of youth and become a part of something fresh. It’s a time to indulge those instincts bubbling inside of you that are looking to be fulfilled. The ones that sit on your list of things that you wish you’d already done, like learning to sail or helping out at Maine’s Special Olympics. It’s easy to get lost in the swamp that

is your “to do” list; thesis papers that wrap themselves around your nights off from work like tangled branches, and deadlines looming in the murky water like crocidiles with unhinged jaws. But life has to be about more than just fulfilling obligations and cramming for exams. College especially should be a time to use the advantages that signing everything but your first born child away to pay tuition provide.

65 groups and organizations provided themselves to you in hopes that you’d swing by, see what they’re up to and maybe even decide that its something that you want to be up to, too.

Husky Fest was sweet. The Free Press had over 60 people sign their name on our contact sheet for more information and possible involvement. It was the same type of festival, just without a mechanical bull.

What? You guys have become so spoiled that you need a mechanical bull around for you to show up? Move to Texas, people. This is Portland, Maine. You get one bull ride per year compliments of the university.

I think we can repair this. I want to love you again, I want this relationship to work. You have a chance to redeem yourself. There’s a second fair of the same name and nature on the Gorham campus Tuesday. Go walk the strip. Take a look at what the students here are capable of doing with a little time and some hands on deck. You might just find the answer to what you’re lacking.

A reason to be at USM, and some people to be there with. ♦

the free press

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- The Free Press is a weekly student-run newspaper paid for in part with Student Activity Fee monies.
- The Free Press has a gender neutral language policy.
- Editorials are, unless otherwise indicated, written by the editors. The Free Press reserves the right to edit or refuse all articles, letters, and other materials submitted for publication, including those we have solicited.
- Columns are the opinions of the columnist and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the publisher or employees at The Free Press. On occasion, guest commentaries will be solicited or accepted from members of the USM community on topical issues and may not exceed 750 words.
- One copy of The Free Press is free of charge. Up to 10 additional copies are available for 25 cents each at the office of The Free Press, 92 Bedford St., Portland, Maine. On occasion, bulk purchases may be arranged. Payment and the Executive Editor’s approval are required in advance.

- Advertising: The Free Press ads reach an estimated 11,000 students of USM, their friends and families on Portland and Gorham campuses and in the Portland community. To advertise, contact our Advertising Manager at 207.780.4084 ext. 8. The Free Press reserves the right to reject advertising, including that which the Executive Board considers untruthful, offensive, misleading, or deceptive. We will not accept ads discriminating against race, gender, age, religion, physical ability or sexual orientation.
- The Free Press welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be submitted electronically, include the author’s full name, school year or relationship to USM, phone number for verification and may not exceed 350 words without prior approval from the Executive Editor. Anonymous and/or illegible submissions will not be published. The deadline for all submissions is Thursday at 4 p.m. preceding the week of publication. Send submissions to freepress@maine.edu

This column is funny
College: the strategy guide

JAKE CHRISTIE
COLUMNIST

This Column is Funny is a weekly look at the least important parts of college life.

Congratulations on your purchase of College: The Game. Since College costs somewhere around \$50,000, you want to make sure you get your money’s worth, which is why we are happy to present College: The Strategy Guide. If you follow these tried and true tips and tricks™, you’ll find yourself at the end of the game in no time, with barely any sexually transmitted diseases to show for it.

CHARACTER SELECTION

Though you could spend years developing “depth” or “personality,” it’s much easier to select one of many clearly-defined college archetypes, such as Jock, Stoner, Nerd, or Spaz. Each character type has its own advantages and disadvantages. Jocks, for example, have a wide array of athletic skills but very few intelligence points. Stoners have the largest number of skills, but unfortunately they can’t remember any of them.

PART ONE: FRESHMAN YEAR

The game begins in a small room, shared with two other characters. One of them is known as Chad, and the other is referred to only as “Razor.” For the first few levels, you’ll want to spend time developing certain attributes, particularly “Memorization,” “Cramming,” and “Beer-Drinking.” These will all be very important in later levels if you want to avoid the three Game Over scenarios: Flunking Out, Death, and Appearing to be Uncool.

PART TWO: SOPHOMORE YEAR

By the time you advance to the Sophomore levels, your character will have developed the basic skills necessary to survive. The Sophomore levels bring many new enemies to the table, like the Math Requirement and the College Relationship. You can easily get around both of these obstacles if your Cheating skill is high enough, but there is a strong chance of getting caught, which will severely lower your score. In fact, if you get caught, you may not get the chance to score again for quite some time.

PART THREE:
JUNIOR YEAR

At the start of the first level, you’ll immediately want to leave the world of Campus Housing and get an apartment. Apartment World is much more hostile, with new enemies like Creepy Neighbor and Inscrutable Landlord. Go to the closest shop to purchase a can of Mace and you should be fine.

You’ll notice that the new classroom stages look and sound very similar to those in the first two parts, they are much more difficult to get through. In a sad twist of fate, the skills in SparkNotes and Nerd-Threatening that you built up so much become null at this point, and you’ll have to fall back on your somewhat ignored skills of Reading the Material and Seriously, Actually Reading the Material.

PART FOUR: SENIOR YEAR

Once you get to the final stages of the game, things actually start to slow down a bit. As you approach the end, you are given many decisions to make, each of which will help determine your outcome. Some players may want to get the Graduate School: The Game expansion pack, while others may want to wait for the lengthy sequel, Life is Tough in the Real World. Either way, there are some attributes that you’ll want to develop either way: Cheapness, Scrounging, and Paying Bills.

Note: If you choose the Remain in College Relationship option, you’ll have to consult with your partner character in this decision. You may think that it’s your decision, and it’s really not any of your partner’s damn business what you do with your life, but this is a bad position to take, as it will leave you spending most nights on the couch.

FINAL BOSS: TED’S GRADUATION PARTY

Make sure your Beer Bong skill is up to at least level 34 before even attempting this level. Otherwise, it’s going to be one rough night.

Jake Christie is a humor writer with credits at various websites. He can be reached at jason.christie@maine.edu or at www.JakeChristie.com.



These days Sudan suffers from genocide and apathy

ALEX STEED
COLUMNIST



On Sunday, September 17th, between 20 and 30 thousand demonstrators gathered in Central Park in order to bring to attention to the war that is taking place in Darfur. In the absence of global, or even national action against the crisis, activists came together to give a voice to the voiceless. The crowd's demand was not only for the world to take notice of the crisis there, but as the *New York Times* reported, "that the United States government press the Sudanese to stop the killings and displacements in Darfur and to allow United Nations peacekeepers to enter the country." As of Wednesday, the Sudanese government has refused to let this happen.

In an editorial published last Tuesday, the Times suggested that President Bush could make a difference to a potentially "tough," and "in many cases hostile crowd" if he "devoted this speech [to the UN General Assembly] to the horrors of Darfur, and committed himself personally to stopping the Genocide." While his speech wasn't devoted to Sudan, he did address the issue. "If the Sudanese government does not approve [a UN peacekeeping] force quickly, the United Nations must act." He explained that the credibility of the United Nations is at stake.

In response to the Administration's previous positions on Sudan, USM STAND president Aaron White noted, "As far as them taking action, it's basically all been lip service." STAND, or Students Taking Action Now for Darfur, was formed in Georgetown University in 2004. There are now over 200 college high school, college and university chapters across the United States. White started a chapter at USM last year after becoming aware of the genocide taking place in Darfur while studying in Boston.

"[The Bush Administration] said they were going to do something. As an organization, we hope to hold them accountable for doing what they'd said they'd do," White says of STAND.

And when it comes to accountability, the cost is too high and time is of the essence. At the rally on Sunday, former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright reiterated this, stating that the world "must act and it must do so now because time is not on our side." This message isn't new to the USM community. When Paul

Rusesabagina visited the university last year, he spoke to a jam-packed Abromson Center. We all came to hear him, fascinated to see a man speak whose life would remind us that despite the international community's response to the post-World War II pledge of "never again," we've allowed the horrors of genocide to re-occur. Despite Albright's knowing words about time, and despite the international community's broken promise, the Bush Administration stands idle; we are left with no choice but to make change from the ground up.

Maine can be proud of our leadership on issues concerning Sudan. Under the leadership of Portland Senator Ethan Strimling, Maine has become one of the few states that has divested from Sudan. We can now count local participation in STAND as another dynamic effort to counter idle international leadership. As great as these efforts are, local, statewide and national efforts must come together as the problem continues to grow, in some cases going unrecognized and subsequently under-reported.

Earlier this month, National Geographic reported that United States government underestimates the death toll in Darfur the count by hundreds of thousand of lost lives. There, the death toll is reported as being as high as 500,000. Millions have been left homeless. In the near future, conditions are suspected to worsen. Despite the peace deal signed there in May of this year, conditions in the Sudan don't appear to be getting better. Fighting hasn't stopped and human rights violations have continued. Despite the African Union's recommitment of peacekeeping forces through the end of the year, Sudan's situation is only getting worse.

In response, STAND has nationally organized the "Time to Protect" Campaign. October 5, people concerned with the crisis are encouraged to give up a luxury good for the day and donate the money saved to anti-genocide action.

We know that time is short, yet our national government will not act. We know that to our national politicians, "never again," has become a cliché supported with little conviction or follow through.

For more information about USM's STAND Chapter, contact Aaron White aaron.white@maine.edu

For more information about what STAND is doing across the US, check out <http://www.stand-now.org>. ♦

Alex Steed is a philosophy major at USM.

The jelly donut series Non-alignment is cool again

DAVID BROWN
COLUMNIST

Iran develops its nuclear program (or a bomb, depending on who you ask), Venezuela threatens to withhold oil supplies to the US and calls Bush the "Devil", a coup d'etat in Thailand, political shifts in Cuba, and now Egypt's Gamal Mubarak talks up a potential nuclear program. In short, the Non-Aligned States are busy and there is much for the west to be thinking about.



The Non-Aligned Movement was born out of the Cold War as a response to the two super powers (the USSR and the US) who would solicit poorer countries in the Developing World on a regular basis. Originally called the "G77" as a response to the "Group of 6" (the 6 richest nations in the world: US, Germany, France, Japan, UK, and Italy formed in the late 1970s) the group now consists of over 130 nations.

The Non-Aligned movement is an informal organization; it meets every three years, has a rotating presidency (currently Cuba), and discusses social, economic and political issues pertaining to the third world. At the time of its formation the 'raison d'être' was to band together in the struggle against imperialism, the global hegemony of the two major power blocks, and racism.

In the 1990s the USSR fell and the New World Order emerged, and the international community entered into a new era that questioned the need for the Non-Aligned Movement. There was hope around the world that democracy and capitalism were on the march and would raise the masses out of poverty.

16 years later, its clear that those hopes haven't played out. Capitalism has failed to reach the corners of Africa, and democracy is the cause of deep divisions in the Middle East, to name two major problems. As a result we are seeing a quiet resurgence of the Non-Aligned Movement.

In the southern hemisphere, where the vast majority of the world's poor live, there is a something of a malaise from western style democracy and capitalism. This prompts accusations of neo-imperialism and a resistance to western influences. We see strong fundamentalist and authoritarian currents running through political developments in the third world. Popular support leans towards those parties and individuals who are seen as being able to stand up to the west.

The sudden coup in Thailand is an excellent example. The military rejected Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawarta from office, although democratically elected and the winner of a recent referendum (albeit one which was annulled due to concerns of legitimacy), on charges of corruption and in the name of preserving the state's integrity.

There has been no popular resistance to the military, no one marching in the street on behalf of the civil government. The coup leaders have said that there will be no democracy for years. This narrative has resurfaced time and again throughout third world history.

With natural, charismatic, and powerful leaders like Castro, Chavez and Amhadinejad, rhetorical escalation against the west will continue. How much of a threat is this to western dominance? There isn't one in the short term. Desire to sit at the table with the big players and consolidate their regional power motivates most of these actors. They don't necessarily want to bring us down, but in the long run we risk alienating the world's majority. If our goal in the end genuinely is life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for all people, which rhetorically is the tenet of United States foreign policy, we will fail.



Question of the week

Photos and interviews by Robyn Wiley

If you could choose anyone to be the U.S. President, who would you choose?



Cyrus Dulac
Sociology

John Stewart because his Vice President would have to be Steven Colbert! Their administration would make more young people take part in politics.



Eliza Burwood
Undeclared

Anybody but Bush!



Jordan Whitehead
Undeclared

John McCain-my family is all Republicans, but are against Bush, and they like McCain



Chris O'Connor
Asst. Dean of Student Life

Hillary Clinton, she has enough experience and she lines up with my own political and social ideals. Also, I would love to see a woman president!



Tina Smith
Media Studies

Barack Obama, because he seems to share a lot of the same beliefs with me

USM
GOING
HOME



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MAINE

Thursday, September 28, 2006

GORHAM CAMPUS For students Brooks Student Center
7-9 p.m. T-Shirt Making, Student Homecoming Teams
9 p.m. Thirsty Thursday with hypnotist/mentalists Joshua Seth

Friday, September 29, 2006

8 a.m. -noon **School of Business Executive Forum 2006** Portland Marriot
Guest speaker Robert B. Reich, former secretary of at Sable Oaks
labor under President Clinton. Admission: \$95.
9 a.m. **USM Athletics Husky Golf Tournament** Sable Oaks Golf Course
GORHAM CAMPUS
11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. **College of Education and Human Development** 232 John Mitchell Center
External Advisory Council
2-5 p.m. **USM Olympics** Field Hockey field
USM students compete in USM Olympic games for fabulous prizes.
7:30 p.m. **Pep Rally and Spirit Variety Show** Hill Gym
Students, show your school spirit!
9 p.m. **Bonfire** Enjoy a good, old-fashioned bonfire to spark your school spirit!
PORTLAND CAMPUS
3-4:45 p.m. **Chemistry and Biology Alumni Reunion** Science Building
Reception and tours of science labs
3-5 p.m. **College of Education and Human Development** 301 Bailey Hall
Recognition Ceremony, Recognizing distinguished alumni,
inauguration of the Bailey Hall Wall of Achievement
4-4:45 p.m. **Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE)** Hannaford Lecture Hall
School of Business SIFE student group presentation
5 p.m. **Lecture by Raymond Stevens '86, Ph.D.** Hannaford Lecture Hall
Distinguished USM chemistry alumnus presents the latest in molecular biology
5:30-7:30 p.m. **Alumni Reception** Abromson Community Education Center
Students, faculty, staff, and friends of USM are welcome

Saturday, September 30, 2006

GORHAM CAMPUS • Parents' Visit Day
The Hospitality Tent in front of Corthell Hall opens at 10 a.m. Stop by for a cup of coffee or cider. Get information, register for drawings and events, buy meal tickets, pick up a program, or just take a break.
8 a.m. **Run for the Children:** Benefit for the Maine Children's Cancer Program
9:15 a.m. 1K Kid's Run/Walk
9:30 a.m. Run/Walk 5K Road Race
10 a.m.-4 p.m. **Children's Activities** *The historic area of USM transformed into a child's playland.*
Midway games, prizes, bouncy inflatables, balloon artist Lanna Maheax-Quinn
Children's Comic, Juggler, and Mime Randy Junkins '74
10:30 a.m.
11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. **BBQ Lunch**
noon-4:30 **Beer Garden** *Sports on the big screen, non-alcoholic seating, too* By Russell Hall
1-2 p.m. **Old Fashioned Outdoor Band Concert on the Green** By Corthell Hall
USM Concert Band, directed by Professor Peter Martin. Bring a lunch or enjoy the BBQ. *Sponsored by ARAMARK.*
1 p.m. **USM vs. UMASS Boston—Men's Soccer**
Meet the soccer alumni who were on the first team in Maine 50 years ago!
USM vs. Worcester State College—Field Hockey Field hockey field
Sigma Nu Alumni Homecoming Celebration Chapter Home, 24 School St
Faculty Art Exhibition USM Art Gallery
2-4:30 p.m. **Gorham Alumni Reception** Burnham Lounge, Robie-Andrews Hall
Hosted by CEHD Dean Betty Lou Whitford
2-4:30 p.m. **Guided Arboretum Tours**
Sign up for a USM Arboretum tour at the Hospitality Tent, guided by staff from USM Departments of Environmental Science and Facilities Management
USM Survivor! Fire Starting and Spear Throwing
Test your skills with the USM Geography-Anthropology Student Association
"Deal or No Deal" game show and Block Party Behind Russell Hall
plus mechanical bull, "Gladiator Joust," music, concessions, and student crafts.
2 p.m.-3 p.m. **USM Music Alumni Meeting**
3:30 p.m. **Men's Soccer Reunion and Reception** Costello Sports Complex
Honor the 1956 team—the first soccer team in Maine—celebrating its 50th reunion
4-6:30 p.m. **Meal with a Hawaiian Twist** Brooks Student Center
6-8:30 p.m. **Reception and Entertainment**
Reception and the riotous performance by the Maine Hysterical Society.
6:30 p.m. **Husky Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction** Brooks Dining Center
9 p.m. **USM Community Hawaiian Luau and Dance** Outdoors, weather permitting
Aloha! Students, alumni, families, and friends—join the fun! Dress Hawaiian!

Sunday, October 1, 2006

2 or 3 p.m. **Brandenburg Concertos** Hannaford Lecture Hall
Celebrating USM School of Music's 50th anniversary. The complete Brandenburg Concertos by J.S. Bach with USM School of Music faculty, special guests, and the DaPonte String Quartet.
1 p.m. **Men's Soccer Alumni Game**
Let's see what the alumni can do and show them some USM school spirit.
1-5 p.m. **Faculty Art Exhibition** USM Art Gallery
8 p.m. **Drive in Movie: Superman Returns** Field Hockey field

FMI: www.usm.maine.edu/homecoming
For information and access inquiries, call the USM Alumni Association at 780-4110.

Thanks to our Homecoming sponsors:





arts & entertainment



Don't stay home

A list of things to do instead of staring at your dorm room walls.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Check out the banned book displays at the Glickman Library in Portland as well as the Gorham Campus library. (It's Banned Books Week!)

Cat and Mouse Records Open Mic / 8 p.m. / Acoustic Coffee / 32 Danforth Street / 774-0404

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Gerald Talbot and HH Price read Maine's Visible Black History / 4:30 p.m. / Glickman Family Library / USM Portland Campus / 780-4275

Mod Night (dance party) / 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. / The White Heart / 551 Congress Street / 21+ / 828-1900

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

The Ground Truth Today in Iraq: reports from independent journalist with Dahr Jamail / 7 p.m. / Glickman Family Library / USM Portland Campus / 780-4289

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Comedy Showcase / 8:30 p.m. / Comedy Connection/ 16 Custom House Wharf / \$6 / 774-5554

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

J. Biddy / 9 p.m. / Bull Feeney's / 315 Forest Avenue / 21+ / 773-7210

And the Banned Played On... / Sara Corbett, Alex Irvine, Richard Russo, and Betsy Sholl read passages from their favorite banned books / 7:30 p.m. / Space Gallery / 538 Congress St., Portland / \$5 suggested / all ages / 828-5600

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

High Ball Jazz Trio / Dogfish Bar and Grille / 128 Free Street / 21+ / 772-5483

Comedy Jam / 7:30 p.m. / Liquid Blue / 440 Fore Street / \$5 / 21+ / 615-4019

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

Spotlight Concert Series for the School of Music's 50th Anniversary / The Brandenburg Concertos / 2 p.m. / Abromson Center, Portland / \$5 students, \$10 seniors, \$15 public / 780-5555

COMPILED BY ARTHUR MOSEN

Celebrate your right to read

The 25th anniversary of Banned Books Week

ANNE HOBBY
A&E EDITOR

Maine Poet Laureate Betsy Scholl, will be reading from her favorite banned books on Friday at 7:30 p.m. at the Space Gallery. She and other Maine writers will be there to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Banned Books Week, nationally recognized every year during the last week of September.

"If we ban books, we ban ideas," said Scholl, "and therefore ban ourselves from growth and challenge."

This week from Sunday to Sunday of next week libraries,

bookstores, and readers everywhere will commemorate their right to read by recognizing books that were or are banned. The bookstore in the Woodbury Campus Center in Portland is doing a window display highlighting some of the books that were banned or challenged over the past year. These include Brokeback Mountain, The Giver, To Kill a Mockingbird, and Lolita.

Many of the books being highlighted nationwide this week are not necessarily banned but simply challenged. According to the ALA website, libraries often fight on behalf of these books to keep them in schools and libraries 71% of challenges).

Hundreds of book bans and challenges are made every year from cities across the country. The challenges are usually local objections to certain books in public libraries and schools. According to the ALA website, 60% of challenges are by parents. Sometimes the books are successfully banned from the institution, putting them officially on the "banned books" list.

Banned Books Week was started in 1982 by a number of associations including the American

Library Association (ALA) and the American Booksellers Association.

Both the USM libraries will be celebrating this event by displaying banned books.

Some of the top challenged books of the 90s include Harry Potter, The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, and Of Mice and Men. Reasons for challenging books are recorded by the Office for Intellectual Freedom. They include accusations of books containing too much sex or violence, promoting homosexuality, promoting a religious viewpoint, or promoting Satanism.

The Wilsona School District in California removed 24 books from a recommendations list. One book had an "unsavory hero who made a bad role model for children," while others "were books with which they were unfamiliar and didn't know whether they promoted good character or conflicted with textbooks." Some of the books taken off the list were Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince, Disney's Christmas Storybook, and The Eye of the Warlock.

The USM bookstore will be giving out bookmarks and pins pro-

see BOOKS, page 8



PHOTO BY JEN FELDMAN

A piece of history

hides in Glickman

Osher Map display excites students,

history buffs

ANNE HOBBY
A&E EDITOR

When Courtney Chandler shows history majors the Osher Map Library she typically hears, "this is awesome." There is a wealth of historical information in USM's Glickman Library pertaining to cartography. Just last week Chandler held the original of a survey hand written by George Washington.

"It's not just a bunch of old maps," said Chandler who interned at the Library and now has a work-study position there. There is a reference section that has books on maps and cartography from a range of places and time periods. Chandler is particularly interested in Tudor England and found three or four books on cartography of that era.

The library also holds historical documents pertaining to property.

The Osher Map Library is on the ground floor of the Glickman Family Library on the Portland campus. "It's not clear based on the name what we have and the resources we have here," said Chandler. "I think that if you told any history major that we have an original map dating back to 1475 they'd be in here in a minute."

USM's surrounding community uses the library as well. "It's accessible to everyone," said Chandler, "Anyone can walk in off the street and ask for a map on their town. We can pull maps from 100 years back and they can see the evolution of their property or their family on this map."

Curator and Head of Cartographic Collections, Yolanda Theunissen said that her goal is that every student at least knows about the library. They are included in campus tours for incoming students. Theunissen hopes this will bring introduce



Portland Observatory Pitcher, 1807

PHOTO COURTESY OF OSHER MAP LIBRARY

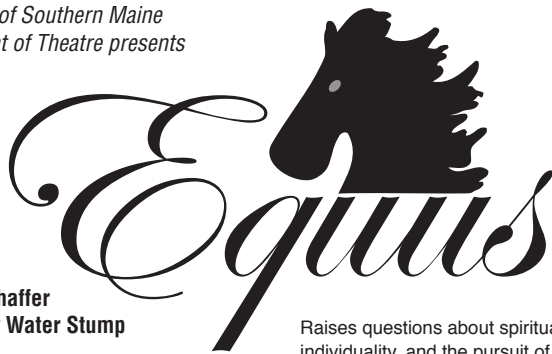
the spot to students and bring interest in the exhibits.

The current exhibit, "The Changing Peninsula," chronicles Portland's transformation through maps and photographs dating back to the mid 1700s. The library boasts pictures from the fire of 1866 portraying images of hundreds of tents that housed the victims. Theunissen describes this tragedy as Portland's version of hurricane Katrina. After the inferno was the beginning of Portland's transformation into a more industrialized city.

The exhibit was planned to close in July but Theunissen said the public expressed such interest that they are keeping it until the end of this year. The next exhibit on celestial charts will be shortened.

see MAPS, page 8

University of Southern Maine
Department of Theatre presents



by **Peter Shaffer**
directed by **Water Stump**

October 6-15, 2006

Russell Hall, USM Gorham campus

7:30 p.m., October 6, 7, 12, 13, and 14
5 p.m. Matinees: October 8, 11, and 15

Reservations: **780-5151**
\$12 general; \$5 students
\$8 senior citizens/USM employees

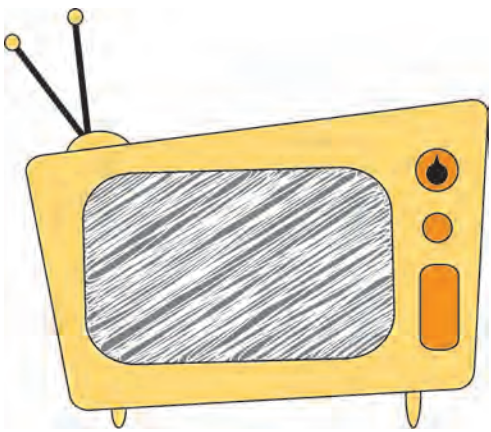
For mature audiences only.
Presentation includes nudity.

For access inquiries call 780-5151, TTY 780-5646



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MAINE

Raises questions about spirituality, individuality, and the pursuit of life's passions.



Media whore American Apparel shocks audiences

ALEX STEED
COLUMNIST

American Apparel is a company that is controversial on all levels. They have created a line of T-shirts, hoodies and other tight-fitting “sweatshop-free” items that are made here in the United States. While their business model is a relatively responsible one, they have been criticized for their racy and often overtly sexual marketing campaign.

An American Apparel advertisement recently came to my attention that featured a product called *Micro Mesh*. The ad, modeled by “Erica,” takes inappropriate to a new level of brilliance, and the surface reasons for the criticism of the companies marketing campaign become immediately clear. The photograph is taken from the point of view of the person being straddled by the model, who is clad in a black, sheer body suit. Her thighs are spread, her stomach slightly protrudes. She is a recognizable body-type, approximately a size 8, and with real, voluptuous curves. She holds her hands behind her head. The shot is so intimate that slight razor burn is visible.

What is interesting about the advertisement is that it demonstrates that even if you desire to see more realistic body images and less airbrushing in the media, the product can be shocking to the point that it can cause a break in ideology. A friend who is generally uninterested in media distortion of female body-imagery looked at it and noted, “I draw the line at razor burn.”

I don’t.

In their short lifespan, American Apparel advertisements have generally acted as a post-modern response to the hyper sexuality of average commercialism. Comedian Bill Hicks made the argument that the Supreme Court’s definition of pornography as any act that has no artistic merit and causes sexual thought, “sounds like every commercial on television.” American Apparel realizes that the name of the sales game is selling products with sex and they’re refusing to pull punches by showing the consumer what real sex with realistically beautiful people looks like.

American Apparel has seen Mischa Barton sell Neutrogena and Scarlett Johansen selling Dior; it knows unrealistic sexual scenarios are being traded for thoughtless consumption. Products are being sold in exchange for perfect tits, full lips and erotic stares. In other words women we will never be or be with. This is a company that has long since smelled the bullshit. At the same time it has put us in a room with our best possible scenario: dim lighting, crappy art on the wall, being straddled by a sexy woman, razor burn and all. One might look at this advertisement and ask where the lines are drawn between raw, provocative, edgy and, well, mesh-clad crotches. American Apparel has chosen to illustrate the difference between advertising-inspired wet dreams and reality. In exchange for sex in a car we could never afford with a person who can afford to not be seen with us, we’re given a slice of what our fantasies really look like. The Micro Mesh advertisement accomplishes all of this by taking the realistically gratuitous to an arousal-inspired level of brilliance.

Many are not impressed, however. In the spring, Clamor Magazine tried to pick a fight with American Apparel by spoofing their advertisements. There is no shortage of blog-chatter discussing how “obnoxious” these advertisements have become and the direction in which they are going. American Apparel’s CEO, Dov Charney, appears to still be facing a pending sexual harassment suit. Despite the company’s flaws, I still love their advertisements. In a world over-saturated by fantasies the average undergrad will never know, where we’re sold ideas about who we will never be, American Apparel has provided a breath of fresh – or more appropriately, dank and pungent – air. ♦

MAPS, from page 7

“We’re always trying to be a part of something that the university is dealing with,” said Theunissen. Many of the history, anthropology, and geography classes use these maps to gain better understanding of what they are learning in textbooks.

For K-12 students, the library is also a very popular field trip destination.

There are two guest lectures scheduled for this fall. The first will be by William D. Barry, a local historian who writes book reviews for the Maine Sunday Telegram. His lecture is entitled “Deering: A Geographic History,”

and is scheduled for October 4 at 6:30 p.m. and follows a reception. Dr. Mary Pedley will be speaking on “Art, Science, and Design in 18th Century European Cartography” in November.

“The Changing Peninsula” will be open until December 31 and is available for viewing on Wednesday and Thursday from 12:30 to 4:30, and Saturday from 10:00 to 1:00. Over 12 exhibits are fully available at the website www.usm.maine.edu/maps/exhibit.html. ♦

Arthur Mosen also contributed to this story.



Chart of Falmouth Harbour, 1781

PHOTOS COURTESY OF OSHER MAP LIBRARY

BOOKS, from page 7

moting the right to read banned books. Barbara Kelly, the trade book manager for the USM bookstores, is setting up a call to the public to write a paragraph about a book that has made a difference in their lives. Bags of books will be given away in a random drawing of these paragraphs.

Zip Kellogg, who works in Reference and Information Services at the Glickman Library said, “The library wants people to read. We don’t want to be censors”

But not everyone feels that it is the individual’s decision to read certain books. As far back as 1497 there was censorship. The Divine Comedy by Dante was burned for religious reasons. Even Queen Elizabeth censored sections from Shakespeare’s Richard. For supporters of the week, the idea of censorship is a restriction that defies America’s First Amendment Right to free speech. To them, censorship is an enemy that restricts intellectual freedom.

“A lot of the people who challenge books think they are doing it for good,” said Kelly. “But who’s good? That’s not why we’re Americans.” She said the beauty of books is, “if you don’t want to read a book you don’t have to.” ♦

Travis Redman contributed to this story.

Most challenged books of the 20th century

The Great Gatsby

by F. Scott Fitzgerald
Challenged at Baptist in Charleston, SC (1987) because of “language and sexual references.”

The Catcher in the Rye

by JD Salinger
In 1963, a delegation of parents of high school students in Columbus, Ohio, asked the school board to ban the novel for being “anti white” and “obscene.”

The Grapes of Wrath

by John Steinbeck
Burned by the East St. Louis, Ill. Public Library (1939) and barred from the Buffalo, N.Y. Public Library (1939) on the grounds that “vulgar words” were used. Banned at over 50 more schools and public libraries around the world.

To Kill a Mockingbird

by Harper Lee
Challenged and temporarily banned in cities including Eden Valley, Minn. (1977) due to words “damn” and “whore lady” used in the novel, and Stanford Middle School in Durham, N.C. (2004) because the novel uses the “N-word.”

The Color Purple

by Alice Walker
Challenged and banned at hundreds of schools and libraries and challenged at the public libraries of Saginaw, Mich. (1989) because of its language and “explicitness,” and Fairfax County, VA elementary (2002), by a group called “Parents Against Bad Books in Schools.”

Ulysses

by James Joyce
Burned in the U.S. (1918), Ireland (1922), Canada (1922), England (1923) and banned in England (1929).

Beloved

by Toni Morrison
Challenged at the St. Johns County Schools in St. Augustine, FL (1995), and challenged by a member of the Madawaska, Maine School Committee (1997) because of the book’s language. Challenged in the Sarasota County, Florida schools (1998) because of sexual material.

The Lord of the Flies

by William Golding
Challenged at many schools and libraries such as the Dallas, TX. Independent School District high school libraries (1974) because of profanity, lurid passages about sex, statements defamatory to minorities, God, women and the disabled.

1984

by George Orwell
Challenged in the Jackson County, FL (1981) because Orwell’s novel is “pro-communist and contained explicit sexual matter.”

Of Mice and Men

by John Steinbeck
Challenged by a Fresno, Calif (1991) parent as a tenth grade English college preparatory curriculum assignment, citing “profanity” and “racial slurs.”

ALEX KAROSIS AND ANNE HOBBY

CONTRIBUTING WRITER AND A&E EDITOR

“Students can get a glimpse instantly of the art department,” said Carolyn Eyler, director of exhibitions and programs, “and what their teachers are up to.”

The exhibition is an opportunity for students to see what their professors do as artists, not just as teachers.

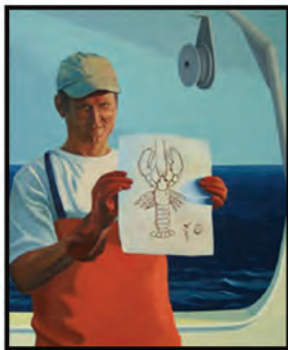
“We have faculty members from many different disciplines, who bring various kinds of theme to their art,” said art department chair Michael Shaugnessy. “Students should get to know that side of the faculty.”

"I do whatever is happening in my life, whatever seems to make the most sense. That frees me from having to go by another particular set of rules," said Trudy Wilson, associate professor of art education. Her piece in the exhibit is a square of 16 photos of water.

Lambert's painting teacher, James Slahaven, has a painting of himself holding a lobster. "He's serious in class," said Lambert. "But now I can tell he has a good sense of humor." He also said that seeing his artwork has clarified some of the ideas he teaches in class.

"I'm modeling for my students as I hope they are going to model for their students in the future," said Wilson.

Shaugnessy said that it is also important for the faculty to see each other's work. "We are able to see ourselves as a unit." He often uses hay and twine to create abstract sculptures. In this exhibit



PHOTOS COURTESY OF USM ART GALLERY

“Self-Portrait as a Lobsterman” by Jim Flahaven

he has a small hay bundle on the floor and a drawing on the wall that refers to it. The sculpture is in the shape of a tulip bulb with thick columns intertwined to form an intricate yet powerful structure.

“Go into it with an open mind and curiosity,” Shaugnessy recommends to students. “If they dig a little deeper they will start to see the meanings behind things.”

The contributing faculty members include: Judith Allen, S. Patricia Benson, George Burk, Ray Chen, Susan Colburn Motta, Luc Demers, James Flahaven, Rebecca Goodale, Duncan Hewitt, Richard Lethern, Robert Lieber, Lin Lisberger, Rose Marasco, Elizabeth Olbert, Alex Sax, David Schneider, Joel Seah, Michael Shaughnessy, Richard Wilson, and Trudy Wilson. For more information on the exhibit or the gallery, visit www.usm.maine.edu/gallery or contact Carolyn Eyler at ceyler@maine.edu. The exhibit will be on display until October 8. ♦

JOHN COONS

COLUMNIST

“And the Glass Handed Kites.” That may sound like something out of an acid trip, it is the latest offering from Denmark’s indie bizarre-o-nauts, “Mew” on Columbia Records. I’m going to be 100% honest. Last week, Mew was my younger cousin’s favorite Pokemon. This week, it’s my latest musical head-scratcher.

It was suggested to me that I listen to the album from start to finish with “lights off, candles burning, a beverage of choice, comfortable seating, and a pair of headphones.” I’ll admit, this somewhat cryptic listening advice had me worried. When I popped Mew’s (supposedly much-anticipated) fourth album into my CD player, I had no idea what to expect. My only clue was the album cover, where members of the band appear to be eating each other’s heads (not as gross as it sounds).

The first 20 seconds of the first track, “Circuitry of the Wolf, were not promising. Crunch, grind, and squeak, all sounding very random. This is where I had to grit my teeth in worried anticipation of the next 40 or so minutes.

I was relieved when the group moved from this brutal beginning into a multi-layered section. Ethereal vocals and synth lines came in to completely change the texture and mold the song into a perfect bridge for the second track, “Chinaberry Tree.”

This album feels seamless, as tracks fold one into the next. Some will tout it as a tour-de-force, and others as an endurance trial of Herculean proportions. To draw a parallel to Wagner and his epic operas, Mew has great musical moments interspersed with extended “When are they going to go somewhere with this?” sections in between. Harmonically, it can get a little stale because all of the tracks run into each other. The album improves after several listens, and it’s definitely one that needs to be listened to as a whole.

But, for me, the sign of a great group is how well individual songs can stand up to the test of time when put on “shuffle” mode in my iTunes. It’s hard to recommend individual tracks. That would be like recommending just one corner of a Picasso painting; you have to see the whole thing to appreciate it. With that in mind, “Saviours of Jazz Ballet,” “Special,” and the more subdued

“White Lips Kissed” were the highlights for me.

Mew is not, on the surface, an easy to market band. Their songs are not about a 12 bar chorus that can be repeated ad nauseam. It is not about picking out a shape on the guitar and moving it around, or taking generic chord patterns



SOURCE: LUNAMONKEY.CO.UK

Mew rocks out in England.

and writing new lyrics with a melodic lick thrown in. This is a band that is simply not American in nature. The music is very organic and spontaneous, much like Sigur Ros's approach to layout (if not necessarily in color or style). The downside? For many people, this "noise" is random and weird.

One reason that they may never truly take over the American market is that they do not stock a major selling point of much of our music--The Catchiness Factor. We want something we can hum, something that gets stuck in our head. When the overall selling point is the sum of the textures and spontaneity it's hard to build a giant fan base.

Listening to the album as a whole, I realized that my friend's advice was spot on. This is an album that you listen to by yourself, lights off, with headphones. Ambience central. It's an easy album to get lost in, in the good way. A bizarre, sprawling journey, with a good number of high points peppered throughout.

"And the Glass Handed Kites" is admirable, but not made for easy listening. If you're looking to expand your musical palette with an up and coming (and bizarre, did I mention bizarre?) band, and don't mind lyrics that meander into trite territory from time to time, then Mew is for you.

LISTEN TO: “The Zookeeper’s Boy,” “Saviours of Jazz Ballet,” and “White Lips Kissed”

GET THEM: mewsite.com, myspace.com/mew, iTunes



The Proposition

An Australian “Western” for modern audiences

CHARLES HOBBY
STAFF WRITER

John Hillcoat has created a masterpiece that brings to surface ideas of love among the despicable, and the gripping power of justice. The Australian Western outdoes its American counterparts, staying true to the genre while simultaneously breaking off on its own. The slight change



Richard Wilson, Guy Pearce and Danny Huston in 'The Proposition'

in location transforms The Proposition into a spectacularly foreign experience. There are no cowboys and Indians, no good against bad. There is no one to root for and nothing, ultimately, to hope for. The story progresses as though written for the enjoyment of the devil, as it is teeming with a full cast of deplorable characters. The heroes are despicable and the villains even worse.

What makes this film so enjoyable, despite its depressing exterior, is the genius of Nick Cave’s script and the beauty of the actors that flesh it out. Cave has done something miraculous with the original ideas of the American Western but does not

follow the paradigms of the genre; one lone hero combats an evil villain. He has destroyed all convention and devoted his writing to the creation of real people, not stereotypes. The Proposition follows the lives of the Burns Brothers, a trio of criminals who recently added the rape of a pregnant woman and slaughter of an entire family to their long list of criminal acts. Two of the brothers, Charlie (Guy Pearce) and Mike (Richard Wilson) are captured after a brutal opening firefight. Captain Morris Stanley (Ray Winstone) goes against protocol and allows a little deal between the captured: he gives Charlie until Christmas to find and kill his older brother Arthur (Danny Huston), the true ringleader of the band. What follows in the next nine days is a test of wills, not just for the characters, but for the audience itself as it is led through a telling journey of brutality and desperation. Each character loses his fictional quality and the script itself is written with such

a cool authenticity. The characters just speak. Instead of a story through convention, we are left with a story focusing on the characters themselves. A group of characters are thrown to the pit of hell, where there is no good or evil. Captain Stanley, seemingly our hero, cuts corners, abandons both lawful protocol and his wife (Emily Watson) in the name of his extreme crusade for justice. Conversely, Arthur is certainly evil, but juxtaposed against this are his poetic musings on the importance of love and family. Meanwhile, Charlie floats between both camps, a pawn that keeps changing colors, as he tries to find where he belongs, if anywhere in this desolate world. The film will not be universally loved because it’s controversial and hard to take. Through use of its lifelike script, an intense score (also by Cave), and solid acting by all, The Proposition succeeds on all fronts and comes together as a gem, one of the finest films of the year. ♦

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Fall 2006 Meeting Schedule		
University Of Southern Maine 35th Student Senate		
Friday, September 29, 2006	Husky Hut	Gorham 3:00 PM
Friday, October 6, 2006	423 Glickman Library	Portland 4:00 PM
Friday, October 13, 2006	1 Payson Smith Hall	Portland 3:00 PM
Friday, October 20, 2006	1 Payson Smith Hall	Portland 3:00 PM
Friday, October 27, 2006	1 Payson Smith Hall	Portland 4:00 PM
Friday, November 3, 2006	423 Glickman Library	Portland 3:00 PM
Friday, November 10, 2006	Husky Hut	Gorham 3:00 PM
Friday, November 17, 2006	1 Payson Smith Hall	Portland 4:00 PM
Friday, December 1, 2006	423 Glickman Library	Portland 3:00 PM
Friday, December 8, 2006	423 Glickman Library	Portland 4:00 PM

For more information, please contact Rachel Bragan, Appointments Committee Chair, at Rachel.Bragan@maine.edu or call 228-8501.

Agendas will be posted on Black Board 24-hours in advance of each meeting and at the Student Senate Offices in Gorham and Portland.



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MAINE

HOMECOMING

All events on the
Gorham Campus

Schedule of Events

All events on the
Gorham Campus

Tuesday, 9/26
8-10pm
Student Involvement & Activities Fair
Brooks Student Center

Friday, 9/29

2-5pm
***USM Olympics**
A variety of field activities in the spirit of friendly competition
Field Hockey Field

7:30-9pm
***Pep Rally and Spirit Variety Show**
Join your fellow USM students as we cheer on Fall athletic teams. Show your team's talent through USM spirit!
Hill Gymnasium

9pm
Homecoming Bonfire
Field behind Dickey Wood Halls

Thursday, 9/28

7-9pm
*** Team T-Shirt Making Party**
Join your fellow competitors in designing your Homecoming shirts

9pm
Hypnotist - Joshua Seth
GEB's Thirsty Thursday
Brooks Student Center

Sunday, 10/1

8pm
**Drive-In Movie
Superman Returns**
Pull up a blanket and grab some popcorn
Field Hockey Field

Saturday, 9/30

8-10:30am
***Roadrace for the Maine Children's Cancer Program**
Costello Sports Complex

11:30am-2pm
Homecoming BBQ Lunch
Under the tent in front of Corthell Hall

1pm
**Field Hockey vs. Worcester State College
Men's Soccer vs. UMass Boston**

12-4:30pm
USM Block Party
Parking lot between UH and AW
Music, inflatable activities, carnival games and food. Join USM Alumni, families and friends to celebrate a great day of events.

2-4pm
***USM Deal or No Deal**
Will your Homecoming team qualify to play? One team member from the top three teams will be selected to play HUGE prizes!

4-6:30pm
Luau Dinner
Join alumni, families and friends for a luau-themed dinner as we get in the mood for the evening's festivities.
Dining Room, Brooks Student Center

9pm-12am
USM Homecoming Luau
A dance party in the tropics. Food and beer garden for 21+.
Parking lot between UH and AW

www.usm.maine.edu/homecoming

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Husky Pride Alive in 2006!

Cards and stars

By LEMMA LUCIFEROUS

Rather than just looking at the sky for some insight into your week, I perform a single card tarot reading each week to see what challenges and blessings are approaching you during your journey through life.

r: retrograde, inverse

☉☉☉☉☉ On top of your game

☉☉☉☉ Things are going well

☉☉☉ Average week

☉☉ You have some work to do

☉ Time to reevaluate your game plan

ARIES (7 OF PENTACLES r)☉: First the good news, Aries: You’re getting better about living in the moment and not letting things around you or in the future stress you out. Now the bad news: This week will give you plenty of time to practice your new virtue.

TAURUS (JUSTICE)☉☉☉☉☉: Summer was a lot of fun wasn’t it, Taurus? Perhaps you broke a few rules hoping nobody would notice? Everybody does at some point, but did you think Karma would forget about you? Take some time to do some good deeds in secret if you have not already.

GEMINI (8 PENTACLES)☉☉☉: Decisions about your professional future will seem pretty obvious this week, Gemini. This particular eight is all about vocational attainment. You’ll either find your direction or learn that one piece of all important information that’s been holding you back. Just keep in mind, this card is about happiness in your physical world, not necessarily wealth.

CANCER (TEMPERANCE)☉☉☉: Oh Cancer, have you been a bit extreme lately? This week try to find some balance. Sit and chill silently with a thoughtful Leo, perhaps. Temperance is a sign that the four planes of your body need some healthy R&R.

LEO (KING OF RODS)☉☉☉☉: Even though the world around you might be chaotic, you seem to have found your center of peace, Leo. This is rare for a fire sign like you. Expect to be called on for your heightened diplomatic abilities. Better yet, offer them to an Aquarian.

VIRGO (4 OF CUPS)☉☉☉☉: Hey Virgo, just go for it! This week you’re being offered opportunities. In what? Well, that’s going to be a surprise. But don’t forget your inherent responsibility: While opportunity is the gift, it’s up to you to make it into an experience.

LIBRA (7 OF SWORDS r)☉☉: Don’t let your mind go to waste, Libra. Despite all temptation this week, try letting go of the game pad, putting out the J, and dropping the bottle. These things slow you down and this week it would be good if you were running full speed.

SCORPIO (6 OF CUPS r)☉: While they might just be games to you, Scorpio, they may be getting on your friends’ nerves. This card in this position could best be described as the “Oh, grow up!” card. So, when your friends chide you for being childish, remember: When I was a child I spoke as a child (blah blab blah). But when I became an adult I put away my childish things.

SAGITTARIUS (ACE OF SWORDS)☉☉☉☉☉: This is a good week for you to focus on the sciences, Sagittarius. You’ll have a great acceptance of the dualistic nature of the universe that will come in handy in the more concrete areas of your life. FYI: It’s probably not a good week to start anything too abstract.

CAPRICORN (6 OF RODS)☉☉☉: It’s you’re nature, Capricorn, to usually be a doer. But this week, that doing will be most efficient if it is delegating. Although it might feel like you’re just off on the sidelines direction, it will position you as an essential member of the team.

AQUARIUS (KNIGHT OF SWORDS)☉☉☉☉☉: You’ve got plenty of drive this week, Aquarius. There’s no denying that. But what about direction? Try to resist the urge to jump headlong into a confrontation until you are completely sure you understand both your point of view and the other persons.

PISCES (THE FOOL)☉☉☉☉☉: In the Buddhist tradition, Pisces, this card represents the “no-mind.” It’s the beginning point and the absence of all things real and imaginary. “Huh?” you say. Exactly. To use a western aphorism, this is the first day of the rest of your life.

Crossword

By JENNIFER FELDMAN

	1	2	3			4	5	6
7					8	9		
10			11	12		13		
14		15				16		
17						18		19
	20		21		22		23	24
25		26			27	28		
29	30				31			32
33					34	35		
36					37			

Across

1. West African nation
4. routine urine analysis, acronym
7. jazz or swing music
8. to improve
10. sacred Buddhist syllable
11. support group for recovering addicts
13. open
14. monastic house
16. then
17. art funding organization
18. silvery metallic element
20. baseball term
23. smoker’s item, abbr.
26. teen girl magazine, now defunct
27. tearful
29. city in Arizona
31. North Carolina
32. publicity field
33. local urban legend
34. luminous ring
36. creative work
37. give one to a dog

Down

1. harvested wood
2. doctor’s appointment, abbr.
3. hereditary unit
4. celebrate
5. one, in Spanish
6. in a thirsty condition
7. fashion critic Rivers
9. vertical pole on sailboat
12. affirmative vote
15. watch over children
19. part of a baby bottle
21. Shiite authority figure
22. to possess
24. Greek lamb dish
25. actress Watson
28. Sound ripple
30. energy efficiency ratio, abbr.
35. article

SOLUTIONS, from 9.18.06 issue

	O	W	E	N				T	O	C
D	R	A	N	O				M	A	R
I	G	L	O	O			T	I	R	E
R	A	D			K	L	A	X	O	N
E	N	O	S			A	R	E		
				O	T	T	E	R		
				T	E	H		S	L	A
R	E	D	H	A	I	R		I	R	Y
B	A	R	E	R		A	L	L	O	T
I	C	E	D				P	E	A	C
S	H	E					T	I	C	K

Sudoku

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

see SUDOKU, on page 13

IF YOU SAVE A HERO WHAT DOES THAT MAKE YOU?

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SUDOKU, from page 12

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

EVENTS

R U N? Interested in traveling and learning about the world? Join Model United Nations! Meetings: Thurs@ 6PM Ambromson Rm 212. Modelunorg@yahoo.com

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Men’s soccer takes a kick in the gut

Disabled list hurts the team early in the season

CHASE KUECH
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Injuries would prove costly on Saturday as Rhode Island College came into Gorham and shut down the USM offense. Thanks to a +14 shot margin and a +7 corner kick margin, the Anchormen opened the Little East Conference play for both teams with a victory over the sputtering Huskies.

Sometimes with as many as seven freshmen on the field, USM could not muster any offense, and the RIC goalkeeper was not forced to make a single save over the course of 90 minutes.

“Losing Adam Bial is just so hard on this team,” head coach Mike Keller said. “He is the glue that holds this team together and keeps them working hard. Coming into this weekend, because of injuries, we had to change our formation and we just haven’t had enough time to prepare.”

Senior co-captain Adam Bial missed the game with turf toe and his return date is undetermined, also, sophomore forward Sinisa Bajic is struggling with hamstring issues. With conference play settling the schedule down, USM will look to get a little rest and try to get some upper-classmen back on the field.

“Adam is our engine,” co-captain senior goalie Chris Willard said. “Four games in six days is tough. It takes a toll on the team. Every game in Conference is tough, but we’ll get back.”

“This team is just so young,” Keller said. “Even though we were out-shot by a considerable margin we still were in the game and had chances to tie the score. We’re working better together, we just need to practice hard and do the little things in the games it takes to win.”

There are currently only six seniors on the roster, compared to eleven freshman, most of whom have seen considerable playing time due to injuries. The situation isn’t

looking any easier as Little East Conference play begins, guaranteeing hard-fought battles every time out on the pitch.

The Huskies had compiled a four-game winning streak coming into Saturday, after losing their first two games of the season. Rhode Island College remains undefeated on the season, outscoring opponents 7-2.

The Little East Conference looks tough again this year, as five different teams have only lost one game or less as of September 14. With four games left in September, two are against Conference opponents, and three are at home. The difficulty hits in November, when the Huskies have to open the month on the road for three straight games, two of which are against conference foes.

Regardless of whether or not the Huskies have to battle injuries for the rest of the season, there is no doubt that every game for the next two months will be a fight. ♦

Husky Highlights

Lowe named rookie of the week

Freshman field hockey forward India Lowe (Gloucester, Mass.) was named the Little East Conference rookie of the week for September 11-17. Lowe was a key factor in the Huskies’ 4-1 win over Little East Conference rival Salem State. Lowe added four points helping Southern Maine snap a five-game losing streak and earn its first victory of the season.

Bates sweeps women’s volleyball

The Bates College Bobcats took the University of Southern Maine Huskies in three straight games, 30-13, 30-18 and 30-17, for a 3-0 victory in a non-conference women’s volleyball match last Tuesday. Sophomore outside hitter Shannon Stoll (Shrewsbury, Mass) continued to be the leading offensive threat for the Huskies, hitting another double-double with ten kills and eleven assists, both team highs.

Women’s tennis still struggling

The Salem State College Vikings evened their season record at 1-1, sweeping the Huskies 9-0 in a Little East Conference women’s tennis match last Tuesday in Salem, Mass. Becky Pyndynkowski of Salem State came back from being a set down to defeat USM junior Ashley Kirkpatrick (Sanford), 3-6, 6-0, 6-4.

Women’s cross country finishes 20th

Sophomore Christa Hutchinson (Gorham) placed 72nd among the 229 finishers to lead the Huskies to a 20th place finish at the 34th Annual UMass Dartmouth Cross Country Invitational on Saturday, September 16. The meet was the team’s season-opener and included 33 competing institutions. USM scored a total of 609 points.

Wheeler twins place third, fourth

Junior co-captains Curtis Wheeler (Derby, Vermont) and Nick Wheeler (Derby, Vermont) placed third and fourth, respectively, to lead the men’s cross country team to a second place finish in the Bates College Invitational Saturday, September 16.

COMPILED BY ASHLEY ST. MICHEL

Game schedule

Scream and yell a little: a few games to go and support your Husky’s!

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Tue.	9-26	Golf @ St. Joseph's Invitational	11:00 a.m.
Wed.	9-27	Field Hockey @ Eastern Connecticut	4:00 p.m.
Wed.	9-27	Men's Soccer vs. Colby	4:00 p.m.
Thu.	9-28	Women's Tennis vs. Colby-Sawyer	3:30 p.m.
Thu.	9-28	Women's Soccer vs. Salem State	4:00 p.m.
Fri.	9-29	Volleyball @ Bates	4:00 p.m.
Sat.	9-30	Volleyball @ Bates	10:00 a.m.
Sat.	9-30	Women's Cross Country @UMF	11:00 a.m.
Sat.	9-30	Men's Cross Country @ Keene State	11:30 a.m.
Sat.	9-30	Field Hockey vs. Worcester State	1:00 p.m.
Sat.	9-30	Men's Soccer vs. Umass Boston	1:00 p.m.
Sat.	9-30	Women's Soccer @ UMass Boston	1:00 p.m.
Sat.	9-30	Women's Tennis @ UMass Dartmouth	1:00 p.m.

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Husky Hero



Chris Willard

Year: Senior Major: Criminology/Psychology
Sport: Soccer Position: Goalie

Why did you choose USM?

I chose USM because former Coach Miller and current Coach Mike Keller convinced me to come play here.

What is your favorite part about USM athletics?

I like having a lot of friends here and having a small community. A lot of the athletes here are friends, even if we play different sports, and we all support each other; it's nice.

What other hobbies do you enjoy?

I like to play basketball, baseball, and basically any sport. I also like to lift and work out and spend time with friends.

Who do you give thanks to (family, coach, etc..)?

I have to say thank you to everyone who has pushed me along the way. That includes my family and my friends, and

basically anyone I've known.

Any pre-game rituals?

I drink a glass of Hershey's chocolate milk before every game.

Who is your personal athletic hero?

My athletic hero is former Coach Jim Valvano. He taught me to never give up and keep working hard.

Anything else you would like us to know about you?

I served in Iraq for four months in the Air Force before returning to the States in May.

WANTED: Sports Writers
Call Sports Editor
Ashley St. Michel
(207) 780-4084 x.6

Husky scoreboard

Men's Soccer: (4-4-0)

9/16 – Rhode Island College 1, USM 0
9/19 – Bowdoin 4, USM 0

Women's Field Hockey: (1-5)

9/16 – USM 4, Salem State 1

Women's Tennis: (0-5)

9/16 – Bridgewater State 8, USM 1
9/19 – Salem State 9, USM 0

Women's Volleyball: (4-6)

9/17 – USM 3, Thomas College 0
UMaine Presque Isle 3, USM 0
9/19 – Bates 3, USM 0

Women's Soccer: (1-5-0)

9/16 – Rhode Island College 4, USM 0

Men's Golf:

9/18 – USM placed second out of eight schools at the University of Maine at Farmington Invitational played at Belgrade Lakes Golf Club.

COMPILED BY
ASHLEY ST. MICHEL

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A football culture alternative
Flags replace tackles at USM

CHRISTI BROWN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Football season is finally here, even at USM where there is no tackle football program. Last week students signed up for intramural flag football league, a backyard version of football that requires the capturing of a flag rather than the tackling of a player. Ned Iberger, a new student to USM, was among those who signed up for the league on September 13.

“I love playing football,” Ibeger said. “It’s a blast when you can’t play tackle anymore, it’s better than just watching.”

Robert Prince, USM’s Recreation Coordinator is overseeing the formation and operation of the intramural flag football teams this season, though USM students help with officiating, keeping time and score, and help market the program. So far, he reports that 12 teams have joined

the league. Teams can be made up of both men and women and have at least seven players to a team.

Jeff Frithsen, a freshman on the Gorham campus, signed up for flag football in hopes that others would join.

“It seems like it would be a pretty fun experience,” Frithsen says. “The more people that sign up, the more competitive it’s going to be.”

Intramural flag football is played in much the same way as tackle football, complete with a coin toss, designated captains, and a 20 yard line kickoff. Each game runs 40 minutes, with a five minute halftime.

Pre-season started Sept. 17 for teams interested in gearing up for the regular season. During the season, teams are able to practice on their own, rather than be limited to scheduled practice times.

The regular season began Sunday at the Paula D. Hodgdon

field on the Gorham campus. The season goes until the first week in November, followed by single elimination playoffs. The top six teams will make playoffs, which will go until there is a champion.

For students interested in rooting on their favorite team, games will be played every Sunday starting at 11 a.m.

USM’s intramural flag football league is a step in the right direction, but does not replace the excitement and competitiveness of tackle football. Some students expressed disappointment in the lack of a tackle football team on campus.

“I wish they had [a tackle football program], I would have probably been here two years ago if they did,” Iberger said.

Students who were signing up had many thoughts on why USM does not have a football team, but most believe it is for financial reasons. Prince agrees that USM’s finances play an important role.



PHOTO BY CHRISTI BROWN

A student registers for flag football.

“The formation of a football team would be a huge undertaking,” Prince said. The question is, how big of an undertaking would it be? Perhaps with some effort by USM students and a clear plan for a football program, it could one day become a reality. After all, Karl Maeser once stated, “Play and recreation are more than mere diversions, they are recuperative requisites in the process of physical, intellectual, and moral development.” ♦

Health & Fitness
Protect Yourself: A USM student’s guide to sexually transmitted diseases and how to avoid them

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In August, the Society for Adolescent Medicine (SAM) released a study that showed sexually transmitted diseases are on the rise among students in college. The study contained that of college students living away from home, 56 percent have been sexually active while at college. Out of these students, 73 percent reported having unprotected sex.

At USM, University Health Services nurse practitioner Ann Conley said that Gonorrhea and Chlamydia are the most common STDs found in the University of Southern Maine’s campus.

“When students come in for testing,” Conley said, “it is our opportunity to educate them.”

What is an STD? STDs are serious, sometimes painful, and can cause a lot of damage to your body. Some STDs infect only the sexual and reproductive organs; others, like HIV and Hepatitis B, cause general body infections. Sometimes, students may not even know they have an STD because they show no signs. Other times, students may have symptoms or signs for a short time, but the symptoms may eventually subside go on their own. What students don’t know is that even if the symptoms go away, the STD does not.

How is an STD spread? STDs are spread during close, sexual activity, including vaginal,

anal and oral sex. Some STDs, like HIV and Hepatitis B, are spread by contact with infected blood. Most STD germs live in warm, moist areas, which is why they infect the mouth, rectum and sex organs.

What should you do if you think you might have an STD? The staff at Health Services can set you up with testing and take care of medications, if needed, right in the office. For a small fee (ten dollars per test, and twelve dollars for medication) students can be on their way to suppressing or getting rid of the disease.

“We try to minimize expense to the students,” Conley said.

Health services said it is also important to know general symptoms that can indicate something is wrong with your body. Women may notice an unusual discharge or odor from the vagina, pain in the pelvic area – the area between your belly button and sex organs–burning or itching around the vagina, blood from your vagina that is not your regular period, and pain deep inside the vagina during sex. Men may notice a drip or discharge from the penis. Some symptoms are evident in both men and women: sores, bumps or blisters near sex organs, rectum or mouth, burning and pain during urination or bowel movements, need to urinate often, itching around sex organs, a swelling or redness in the throat, flu-like feelings with fever, chills and aches and swelling in the groin. ♦

“It is extremely important for students to know the symptoms,” Conley said. “Once they are informed, we think they should definitely get screened before they are sexually active again.”

Other ways that students can stay safe is to only have sex with one uninfected partner. Ask your partner to get tested with you before you become sexually active. Talk to your partner about past partners and needle drug use. The more you know about the past the easier it will be for you to stay safe. Before you have sex, look closely at your partner for any signs of STD. Some signs could consist of a rash, a sore or discharge. If you see something suspicious, don’t have sex. Always make sure you use a latex condom every time you have vaginal, anal and oral sex. Condoms can help protect you from getting infected and from becoming pregnant. People who are allergic to latex can use plastic (polyurethane) condom. These can be found at any drug store and come in both male and female styles. Get checked for STDs regularly; if you are infected make sure you don’t have sex until you know that your treatment is complete. If you have sex and infect your partner, they could give it back to you before you are in remission. Of course, the only way to make sure you don’t become infected and stay safe is to not have sex. ♦

STD	Symptoms	What happens if you don’t get treated?
Chlamydia or NGU	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• affects both men & women• discharge from vagina/penis• burning when urinating• pain in abdomen• shows up 7-28 days after sex	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• can spread it• serious infection• damage reproductive organs
Genital Warts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• affects both men & women• small, bumpy warts on sex organs• itching or burning around sex organs• shows up 1-8 months after sex	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• can spread it• warts may go away, grow, or spread• mother can spread to baby
Gonorrhea	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• affects both men & women• thick yellow discharge from vagina/penis• burning when you urinate/bowl• shows up 2-21 days after sex	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• can spread it• heart trouble, skin disease, arthritis & blindness• infertility in both men/women
Hepatitis B	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• affects both men & women• flu-like feelings that don't go away• Jaundice (yellow skin)• dark urine, light colored bowl• shows up 1-9 months after contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• can spread it• permanent liver damage• some people can't be cured
Herpes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• affects both men & women• small, painful blisters on sex organs• blisters last 1-3 weeks• flu-like feelings• shows up 1-30 days after sex	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• can spread it• cannot be cured• mother can spread to baby
HIV/AIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• affects both men & women• unexplained weight loss & tiredness• diarrhea• white spots in mouth• several months to years after sex	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• can spread it• HIV cannot be cured• can cause illness & death• mother can spread to baby
Syphilis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• affects both men & women• sores in mouth or sex organs• a rash somewhere on the body• flu-like feelings• shows up 1 week-6 months after sex	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• can spread it• heart disease, brain damage, blindness and death• mother can spread to baby or have miscarriage
Trichomoniasis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• affects both men & women• itching, burning or irritation around sex organs• yellow, greenish discharge from vagina/penis• shows up 3-14 days after sex	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• can spread it• uncomfortable symptoms will continue• men can get infections in prostate gland