



FALL SPORTS
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the free press

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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE

USM's 10th bomb threat

Two indicted ex-students face trials

JOEL C. THERIAULT
NEWS EDITOR

As campus police continue their investigation of an Aug. 11 bomb threat—the 10th such threat received at USM since last October—two former students charged with terrorizing in a December incident have withdrawn from the school and face separate hearings later this year.

The students—Erin Grade, 20, of Rockland, and Geneva Benner, 19, of Thomaston—were indicted by a Cumberland County grand jury in July in connection with a Dec. 4 bomb threat that evacuated the Portland and Gorham campuses, shutting them down for the day. Neither woman could be reached for comment.

Grade was arrested in July in her hometown and later released when her mother, Elaine Grade,

posted her home as surety to satisfy a \$10,000 bail bond. Grade's arraignment is scheduled for Sept. 17 in Cumberland County Superior Court in Portland, at which time her court-appointed attorney, Henry Shanoski of Portland, will enter her plea. Shanoski could not be reached for comment.

Benner appeared in Superior Court on Aug. 6 and entered a plea of not guilty. A warrant seeking her arrest was recalled, and her bail was adjusted from \$2500 to \$500. Her attorney Stephen Schwartz of Portland said the District Attorney's office failed to provide discovery of evidence and quickly filed several motions on Benner's behalf, including a motion to dismiss charges. Schwartz filed another motion to suppress any of Benner's statements made to police because Benner alleged that she had not received a Miranda warning, and a motion "bill of particulars" to determine whether the state is charging her with being a primary suspect or as an accomplice.

Assistant District Attorney Meg Elam, the prosecutor in the case, could not be reached for comment.

Bomb threats hit double-digits

A USM employee in Portland reported receiving an e-mail on Aug. 13, naming the Science Building as the target of a planted bomb. USM Police's Lt. Ron Saindon said the threat was "building-specific," and the Science Building was immediately evacuated, but no explosive device was found after an hour-and-a-half long search.

"The investigation is not over," said Saindon. The first bomb threat was received last Oct. 2 when an unidentified male called the billing office in Corthell Hall on Gorham's campus and said four bombs were placed somewhere in Portland. The evacuation created mass chaos as students and

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Former USM student Erin Grade leaves the Cumberland County courthouse in Portland.

STAFF PHOTO BY JOEL C. THERIAULT

Husky Fest 2007 hits USM



STAFF PHOTO BY ANGELIQUE CARSON

Students at last year's Husky Fest enjoyed the free BBQ scheduled for 11:30 September 6 in between Luther Bonney and Payson Smith Halls. The event includes a live DJ and 120 organizations present, the most participants of the festiva's seven-year history.

Closed art exhibit inspires convocation 'Academic Freedom' chosen as theme for 2007-2008

JOEL C. THERIAULT
NEWS EDITOR

This academic year's convocation theme is "academic freedom," and the controversial closing of an art exhibit early last school year is the direct inspiration for the choice, said Joseph Wood, USM's interim president.

"The approximate cause was concern about academic freedom relative to the art exhibit last year," he said.

An exhibit of paintings by Thomas Manning, a convicted murderer, bank robber and self-proclaimed "political prisoner," was taken down from the gallery walls last September in Portland's Woodbury Campus Center one week after it opened.. Former university president Richard Pattenaude, now chancellor of the University of Maine System, ordered the shutdown after grumblings from local and national police organizations over Manning's and USM's choice of

the words "political prisoner." Manning is currently serving a 133-year sentence in a federal prison in West Virginia.

The closing of the exhibit touched off outcries from students, faculty, Manning's long-time partner Raymond Luc Levasseur and supporters of Portland's Victory Garden Project, who held a protest march the following week from Woodbury to a rally on Congress Street.

A series of lectures and presentations centered around the theme of academic freedom will be offered during the academic year.

"Academic freedom," Wood said, "is the freedom to pursue academic and intellectual ideas without impediment, including presenting those ideas in the classroom just as one might present those ideas in a published article or conference paper or something like that."

Many people confuse "academic freedom" with "freedom of speech," said Wood.

"There are those who believe that any impediment to free speech is also a violation of academic freedom. I think that's incorrect... freedom of speech and academic freedom are not the same thing.

"In my mind," Wood said, "freedom of speech, as defined in the Constitution's Bill of Rights, is that opportunity to say what you believe." He added that academic freedom, in contrast to freedom of speech, "deals with an exercise of the mind and an individual's expertise, while freedom of speech does not necessarily require expertise on a subject."

Wood said, "One of the interesting things about the dialogue with convocation is to what extent people find the balance there, or not, with 'rights' and 'responsibility', but academic freedom involves both."

Traditionally, the university president asks faculty members to propose a theme, and an ad hoc

See **ACADEMIC FREEDOM**
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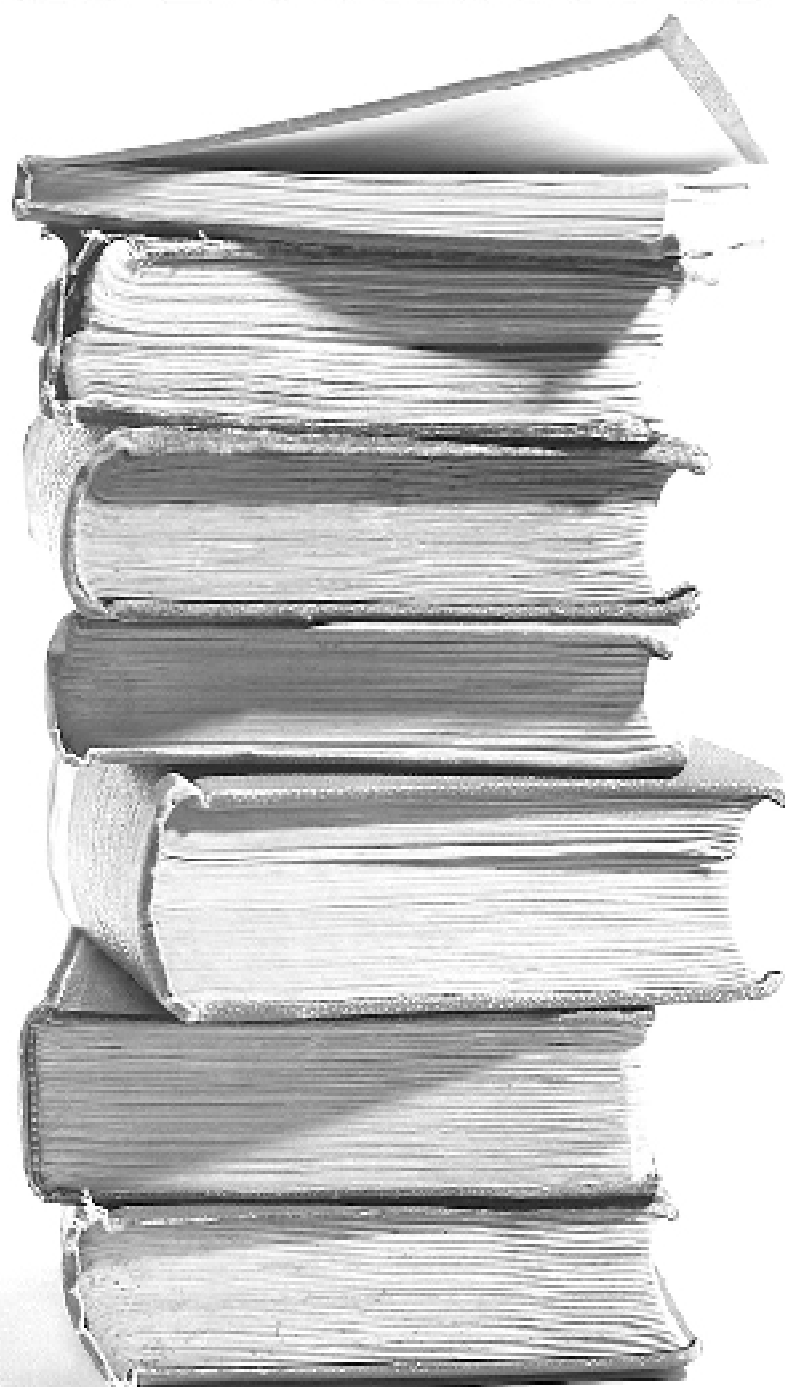
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Neighborhood fights USM on parking lot—and wins

Portland residents rally and defeat plans to pave over a park near High St. building

JOEL C. THERIAULT

NEWS EDITOR

USM's plans to construct a parking lot on a park it owns adjacent to its 68 High Street building in Portland were shot down by the city earlier this summer, after residents of Danforth and High Streets protested the proposed 14-car lot with a petition signed by about 150 neighbors.

The petition was initiated by Annie Wadleigh, a High Street resident. Wadleigh is an employee in the Maine College of Art's advancement office, and a 1986 USM English Literature graduate. When she learned of the university's plans to replace the green space used by the neighborhood, she decided to take action because "The thought of turning that little lawn into parking spaces was just kind of horrible."

"It's just sad to take a green space that's been there for 45 years and turn it into parking, because it would never come back," she said. "That would be the end. There's not too many parking lots that get turned into green spaces."

Wadleigh gathered about 150 signatures and submitted them to both the Historic Preservation Committee and the city's planning board. The committee held a planning meeting with USM on



STAFF PHOTO BY JOEL C. THERIAULT

The parking lot formally leased by USM on High Street, which will soon be turned into apartments.

July 25.

The Portland City Council denied the university building zone permits after the Historic Preservation Board unanimously recommended to city council members that USM's plans would not be an acceptable change to the neighborhood.

The university leases a city-owned parking lot for 22 cars across from 68 High Street, but the city decided last spring not to renew the lease, and sold the property to Peter Bass, a private developer, who tentatively plans to build a low-rent housing complex

on the site.

The park is owned by USM, but residents of the neighborhood protested the idea of turning the space into a parking lot for 14 cars.

Pete Legere, who lives across from the university building, was happily surprised with the city planning board's decision. "Our city council did something right for a change?" he said.

"We really like our green space," said Gail Wartell, an administrative assistant for the Center of Real Estate Education, located at 68 High Street.

"Nobody in the building wants to lose it....but on the other hand, we need the parking."

Wartell said the proposed lot was designed to keep as much of the green landscaping as possible, and many of the trees.

"Even if the new parking lot had gone through, the students still couldn't access it," said Nat Ives, the manager of the Media Studies Production facilities at 68 High Street. "My only vested interest is finding parking for students." Ives also attended the July 25 planning board meeting.

Julia Kirby, deputy director of

the Victoria Mansion Museum on Danforth Street, said, "I think that USM...went above and beyond in their planning" in preserving the historical look of the neighborhood. Kirby, who also attended the planning meeting, added, "We would love to see it stay a park," but also recognized parking was a problem at the university building.

Bob Caswell, USM's executive director of public affairs, issued an e-mail on August 8 on behalf of the university. Caswell wrote in the statement that the Historic Preservation Board "complimented the quality of the design," but did not approve of paving over the green area. "Consequently, we have decided not to proceed with our proposal."

"We cannot justify asking for a vote," the e-mail continued, "on a proposal to build a parking lot that does not have the support of the Historic Preservation Board; has been less than favorably reviewed to date by the Planning Board; and has generated a petition signed by more than 100 neighbors."

"Maybe it wouldn't have gone through anyway," Wadleigh said, "but it was good for the neighborhood to sort of come together, and the people I talked to were really happy that they decided to drop the proposal."

USM's steady transformation steams forward

A new dorm and campus commons erected in Gorham

JOEL C. THERIAULT

NEWS EDITOR

A new dorm in Gorham is now prepared to welcome upper- and graduate-level students. The building tentatively will be named later this month, according to Alison Vander Zanden, an administrative assistant in the Department of Residential Life and Residential Education.

Construction of the \$21.5M building began in the spring of 2006; its housing options include suites and in-house academic facilities, including conference rooms and a study lounge. The Living Learning Community, a collaborative group of students and faculty that study environmental issues, also will be located in the dorm, along with a full-time, live-in faculty member.

The 296-bed hall is the first green-certified residence hall on the Gorham campus. The U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program assists institutions and businesses with constructing energy-efficient and

environmentally-safe buildings.

Other USM buildings with LEED certification include the John Mitchell Center in Gorham and the Abromson Community Education Center in Portland.

In Portland, construction of the Wishcamper Center is nearly completed. Located between Glickman Family Library and the Abromson Center, the Wishcamper Center will be the new home for the Muskie School of Public Service and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI).

The Wishcamper Center is part of the University Commons project, "the gateway to campus for the community," as described by Craig Hutchinson, vice president of Student and University Life. The Commons will also feature a landscaped promenade and a new entrance to Glickman Library, facing the campus instead of Forest Avenue. Glickman Library will also have its Osher Map Library and Smith Center for Cartographic Education expanded.

Tentative plans for a residence hall, the first on Portland's campus, are also in the works as part of the University Common's \$25M capital campaign.



STAFF PHOTOS BY JOEL C. THERIAULT



Above: The recreation room on the ground floor level of Gorham's new hall.

Left: The dorm's new lobby.



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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

What happened to our neighborhoods?

ANGELIQUE CARSON
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

I was driving home after brunch on Becky’s new deck—dreamy out there, by the way—when something caught my eye. Black smoke billowed into the sky from a residential neighborhood a few streets over from my home. The dark cloud, lingering above the treetops, looked especially jarring against the afternoon’s cloudless, August blue-sky; the kind of sky wedding-day brides can only dream of.

Up-close, the scene was grim. The homes were packed tightly together, and it didn’t take much of the wind’s effort before the flames extended their grasp to a nearby mini-van, followed by a second house. Firemen began responding to the scene. Flames taunted them, raging out of the home’s ten-or-so windows. The blaze gained strength and height by the minute and with each paint chip it consumed. Water from a nearby fire hydrant spilled onto the street, as did an entire neighborhood, despite a frustrated policeman’s orders to stay back.

I looked for someone I’d recognize to exchange observations like, “Can you believe this?” or, “I heard everyone got out safely.”

That’s when I realized: I didn’t know any of these people.

What happened to neighborhoods?

I grew up thinking that neighbors were friendly. PBS’s Mr. Rogers even used to ask me to be his on a daily basis, and he only promoted wholesome, good stuff.

These days, we’re not likely to borrow an egg from a next door neighbor. We’re suspicious of our neighbor: that maybe they’re child molesters or terrorists rather than people who share a street name and the common goal of safely raising a family. We’ve let slip our sense of community, and our sense of responsibility to each other.

In an age of increasing technology, even our friendships have become electronic.

As youths, we’re so desperate to belong to something that we instantly make “communities” out of electronic versions of people that we’ve never even met. We join networks like Facebook, and myspace—dot

coms where we can meet people with whom we share something, anything, in common. We spend hours of our lives perusing head shots, “friending” people we’ll never meet in person and joining groups like “my name begins with the letter a,” or “left-handed people unite,” as if those are meaningful connections.

So many of our communal gatherings have dismantled. It seems that more families are divorced than together and family dinners are less frequent. And I can’t think of a single friend of mine that regularly, if ever, attends church. We’ve even put our schools on the internet.

We’d rather stare at electronic depictions of each other at keg parties than speak to each other in person. I write messages on web pages like “Miss you! Let’s get a drink sometime, ttyl!” to people I don’t care enough about to pick up the phone and call.

Who doesn’t want to belong to something? We all do, and it’s natural to be curious about each other. But as a community, we should look at how meaningful these new forms of “friendship” really are. How much value really exists in staring at each

other’s “top 8 friends” and where they rank?

The Facebook team is feeling pretty good about providing that venue. In July, their website boasted an all-time high of 30 million members. Clearly, they saw a demand and supplied a solution.

We’ve turned to surfing web pages to satisfy our need to belong to something.

But we waste time on these websites that we could be spending together as a community, solving problems, sharing commonalities. There’s much more to be gained by facing the people who share similar concerns—the stop sign down the street that too many drivers ignore, or how to help your neighbor who’s home just burned to the ground—than is to be gained spending time staring at Bob’s webpage from “left handed people unite.” You and Bob are never going to hang out, and if you do, you most likely only have your dominant hand in common.

Let’s be community-centered



again. Let’s get our priorities straight. If I have to beg, I will:

Won’t you be mine, won’t you be mine, won’t you be my neighbor?

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

September 4, 1881

Thomas Edison establishes first electric service

Thomas Alva Edison (1847-1931) has been heralded in history for introducing many modern conveniences. Besides being credited with the invention of the incandescent light bulb. His first service, established in 1881 in East Newark, New Jersey serviced only 85 paying customers.

The lighting system was the brainchild of Edison’s “invention factory,” employing hundreds of inventors, machinists, chemists and other scientists. He formed the Edison Electric Light Co. on November 15, 1878, to carry out experiments with electric lights and to control any resulting patents.

Edison’s staff of inventors worked with him on the home lighting system even as he was finishing the development of his incandescent bulb. The first long-lasting bulb had a core made of carbonized thread filaments.

The first commercial electric light system was installed on Pearl Street in the financial district of Lower Manhattan in 1882, with 400 lamps. Later that year, 513 customers subscribed to Edison’s service using 10,300 lamps. Edison established many new companies to manufacture and operate the equipment needed for his lighting system, including: the Edison Electric Illuminating Company of New York, the Edison Machine Works, the Edison Electric Tube Company, and the Edison Lamp Works.

Other Edison inventions include an electric vote recorder (1869), the quadruplex telegraph, which could send two different messages in two different directions (1874), an electric pen (1875), and the phonograph, a progenitor to the record player (1877).

– Compiled by Joel C. Theriault

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A letter from our Student Body President

Dear Future USM Alumni:

Welcome to the University of Southern Maine! This is a phrase you will hear a lot throughout your first couple weeks on campus. I could not be more sincere when I tell you how excited we are that you chose to pursue your higher education here at USM. I hope your time here is not only productive, but enjoyable as well.

As you go through orientation, take notice of all of the fun opportunities that are available here at USM through involvement. Whether you become a member of a student group, a part of the Student Government, go Greek, play sports, write for the Free Press, get involved with WMPG or the Gorham and/or Portland Events Board or even study

abroad, you will find that the opportunities are endless.

I would like to take a moment to update you about a brand new way for you to get involved at USM. Through a referendum vote in last year's student government elections, the executive branch headed by the student body president was created as a separate and equal branch of student government. From now on the student government will no longer be limited to the 21 members of the senate and a single student body president. This provides me with the opportunity to get many more students involved in student affairs and student life within the student government and within the university as well.

With this in mind, I am creating a cabinet of students who will be seated on university administration committees. These committees are responsible for the planning and organizing of university projects, programs and departments. It's an amazing opportunity for students to meet and talk with university administrators, at the same time representing the interests of USM students in their respective committees. Monthly meetings of the cabinet will take place to get the pulse of what's happening on campus and to strategize and plan student action. This is an unprecedented opportunity for students to have a significant impact on student life at the University of Southern Maine.

More opportunities to get involved with event planning, such as the 2008 edition of last year's wildly successful Black and White formal will become available in the coming months. Keep tuned to the Free Press and bulletin boards around campus to keep up with the many opportunities to make this school year a success in and out of the classroom. For more information about these opportunities please e-mail me at alvah.chalifour@maine.edu.

Once again, allow me to say welcome to the University of Southern Maine, and I hope to see you out there making the best of your college education.

All the best,

AJ Chalifour
Student Body President



PHOTO COURTESY OF AJ CHALIFOUR

Why Don't You DO SOMETHIN'!



A student rides a bull at last September's Husky Fest

FREE PRESS FILE PHOTO

Dear freshman class of 2007,

An important part of the college experience that new students often overlook is getting involved on campus. Joining a team, group, or club is a great way to meet people and make new friends at USM. Being part of a community provides a great support system and helps connect you to the faculty and staff here. You'll develop tons of skills that you can use throughout life (not to mention a great addition to your resume or grad school application!)

Think you don't have time to get involved? Studies have shown that students who participate in co-curricular activities are actually more successful with time management and academic performance.

There's something for everyone here at USM, so stop by one of our Student Involvement and Activities Centers to help get connected with the perfect involvement opportunities for you. Our offices are located in the Woodbury Campus Center in Portland and in the Lower Level of the Brooks Student Center in Gorham.

Welcome to USM!

Christopher O'Connor
Assistant Dean of Students for
Student Involvement &
Activities

Chris can be reached by calling: 780-4942 or emailing conorc@usm.maine.edu. For more information on student events on campus visit: www.usm.maine.edu/studentlife/involve

CAMPUS EVENTS

September 6

Husky Fest, opportunity to find a student group, club or organization to get involved with the Portland campus. Happening between Luther Bonney and Payson Smith Halls/ 11 a.m. to 3 p.m./ free BBQ from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. See page 9 for details.

September 12

Spirit of USM, "Inclusion and Community", interfaith

discussion/4 p.m.-6 p.m./ Woodbury Campus Center Amphitheatre, Portland campus/Free and open to public/Call the office of the Interfaith Chaplain for details at 228-8093.

September 19

"Women in Islam" panel discussion, featuring Islamic students and alumni/7 p.m.-8:30 p.m./University Events Room, 7th Floor, Glickman Family Library,

Portland campus/Free and open to the public/Contact Women and Gender Studies for details at 780-4289.

September 20

Academic Freedom lecture, featuring Roger Bowen, recipient of the 1996 Alexander Meiklejohn Award for his defense of academic freedom/7 p.m./Talbot Auditorium, Luther Bonney Hall, Portland campus/Free and open to the public.

September 23

Annual New England Association for College Admission Counseling College Fair, opportunity to learn about colleges in New England, Canada and other parts of the United States/2 p.m.-4:30 p.m./USM's Costello Sports Complex, Gorham campus/Call the Office of Undergraduate Admission for more details at 780-5670.

Sullivan gym gets a facelift

New fitness center equipment replaced after 12 years

JOEL C. THERIAULT
NEWS EDITOR

The Portland campus' Sullivan Gym recently replaced many of its old and worn-down equipment, some having been used for up to 12 years.

Skip Cadigan, manager of the fitness center, said "Most of the stuff in here for weight equipment was like 12 years old so it was in need of replacement. A lot of the cardiovascular equipment we had bought used years ago."

New treadmills adorn the exercise area. Cadigan said that one of them had clocked in over

40,000 miles on it. All but one of the elliptical machines were replaced, as were some of the exercise bikes, and a new weight bench was added. Cadigan also had some of the older benches and equipment re-upholstered.

"Most gyms replace equipment probably every six to eight years," said Cadigan. "Twelve is stretching it, but we got a lot of good life out of the old equipment."

Most students questioned said that they enjoy the new equipment.

Naun Lobo, a graduate student and immunology major who frequents the gym, said he finds the new Functional Trainer machine to be useful.

"The only bad thing about the new equipment is the (abdominal) machine," said Lobo. "I think that the old one was better."

The new equipment was installed earlier this summer, and will be showcased during the

fitness center's open house on September 26. Cadigan said the event will feature "giveaways" including t-shirts, towels and water bottles and a chance to take on Dean of Students, Joe Austin, in an elliptical machine challenge.

The improvements may surprise some students and faculty who have been hearing grim reports recently calling for cuts to a stretched-thin budget. Cadigan explained the renovation's funding.

"(The fitness center) is funded partially by student activity fees," said Cadigan, "and it's partially funded by alumni and Lifeline memberships." Some of this fee money is set aside in Sullivan Gym's budget for renovations, repairs and equipment replacements.

Other new features for the fitness center include energy-efficient lights, which use fewer



Sullivan Gym fitness center members test out new treadmills recently purchased, replacing old equipment, some of which was 12 years old.

STAFF PHOTO BY JOEL C. THERIAULT

fluorescent bulbs and offer place to upgrade the music speaker system as well, said Cadigan.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Photos and Interview by Joel C. Theriault

What is the most important piece of advice you want this year's freshman class to know?

"Don't sit around and wait for other people to do things for you. Take advantage of the fact that you have so many students in one area who all have crazy, radical ideas and mobilize if you wanted to get something going."

Jessica Sokol
Abromson Center staff



"Go to class, because you learn so much, especially if you have teachers that put questions from class on the test. I have a lot of teachers like that. You can't learn what you learn in class from the book because you miss the discussions and all the random stuff that happens in class."

Lindsay Ricker,
junior, communications major



"Take advantage of the opportunity to study abroad."

Amy Gieseke
third-year public policy graduate student, Abromson Center staff.



"Get involved with a campus activity, an organization, anything."

Rachel Bragen
senior, biology major

"Sign up for classes early."

Scott Adley
Alumni (2006)
Abromson Center staff



"Don't worry about picking a major right away. Work on core classes first."

Katie Sponsler
senior
communications major





HUSKYFEST 2007

Husky Fest is USM's biggest production of the year and the only time that nearly every organization at USM is in one place at one time. Both new students looking to make connections and veteran students searching for a more meaningful college experience are encouraged to attend. Plus, all the cool kids are doing it. This year's festival will take place on Thursday, Sept. 6 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This year's festival will boast the highest number of organizations in Husky Fest's seven-year history with over 120 tables featuring different groups, 40 of which are campus departments and community organizations, and 30 are student groups. Every group from the student senate to the Ski and Ride Club to the English department to WMPG will be present with representatives to speak with and information to take home. Companies not associated with the university

will be present as well, including jewelry and cell phone vendors.

Chris O' Connor, assistant to the dean of student life, is largely responsible for organizing the event along with the Portland Events Board, and is enthusiastic that this year's Husky Fest will be the best yet.

"It's the biggest event at USM in the year, plus there's free food," said O' Connor. "It's designed to be the most comprehensive introduction to all the services and resources that USM has to offer. It's going to be the biggest Husky Fest ever!"

O'Connor described the event to be "one-stop shopping" experience for students looking to be successful, and said he sees student involvement as a key ingredient for that success.

A free barbeque will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and all students are invited.

—Angelique Carson



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Bomb threats continue

From BOMB THREAT
PAGE 1

faculty tried to leave campus, and the traffic on Forest and Deering Avenues was congested for hours. Classes and events were cancelled for the day.

Benner maintains her innocence

Explaining his motions, Schwartz said in a telephone interview, "An accomplice in Maine is someone who is not the primary actor, but could be charged with a crime just like the primary actor." He said he was given the USM police report on the December threat last week and was reviewing it.

"My client (Benner) is a nice young woman," Schwartz said. "She's presumed innocent and we're going to let this play out in court." A hearing to review the motions is scheduled for Nov. 13. A Jan. 18, 2008, trial date awaits Benner. Schwartz said he would not allow his client to speak with the press. "That's just something that we're not going to do."

Grade and Benner are charged with terrorizing, a Class C felony punishable by up to five years in state prison. Maine statute Title 17-A §210(1)(B) reads that a person is guilty of terrorizing "if that person in fact communicates to any person a threat to commit or

"My client (Benner) is a nice young woman,"
"She's presumed innocent and we're going to let this play out in court."

— Stephen Schwartz,
Benner's lawyer

to cause to be committed a crime of violence dangerous to human life...and the natural and probable consequence of such a threat...to cause evacuation of a building, place of assembly or facility of public transport or to cause the occupants of a building to be moved to or required to remain in a designated secured area."

USM police Chief Lisa Beecher could not be reached for comment, but previously said that a federal charge for bomb threats may apply as well. The federal statute, Title 18, Section 921, §18-844e, states that the crime is punishable by up to 10 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine or both.

As condition for bail, Benner and Grade are to have no contact with USM, direct or indirect, including property held in Portland and Gorham. Craig Hutchinson, vice-president of student and university life, said that the two former students left USM prior to their indictments.

Manning controversy shapes academic year

From ACADEMIC FREEDOM
PAGE 1

committee defines and refines the idea as the convocation theme for the year.

This year, however, special circumstances from last year's Manning exhibit controversy called for a special selection process for the convocation theme.

"In this case, the faculty senate took two steps following the 'Can't Jail The Spirit' exhibit," said Wood. "Some people claimed that closing the exhibit violated academic freedom, and one of the resolutions from the faculty senate was to establish a working Academic Freedom committee."

The second step, he said, was for the faculty senate to select "academic freedom" for this year's theme.

"I could object and say that's not the process," Wood said, "but it was a very reasonable and appropriate theme, so there was no reason to object. It seemed very appropriate to accept the resolution in lieu of the normal process."

Wood was quick to defend former president Pattenaude's decision to close the exhibit.

"Did what Rich Pattenaude do, was that wrong? No. What he did was appropriate and I do not believe it was in violation of academic freedom in closing the exhibit."

The university president also said that he had asked the Academic Freedom committee to stand in as the convocation's steering committee. A USM senior, Marie Follayttar, one of the students who had contributed her own work to the exhibit, has been

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FEATURED FACULTY

Interview by Joel C. Theriault

Meet Mark Lapping

Interim provost of USM and vice-president of academic affairs.

FREE PRESS: Why is the position of provost so important to you?

LAPPING: Well, I did it before (laughs). I was provost from 1994 to the year 2000, and I had to retire from the position because I became very seriously ill. I lost my kidneys in that year and had to go on dialysis three times a week...I was on dialysis for about three and a half years, and managed to still keep up with my teaching full-time. Then, four years ago, on August 10, I received a transplant. And so I have a new kidney—or a four-year-old kidney—and I'm doing very well.

FREE PRESS: (Stunned to silence)

LAPPING: So, I've done the job before, and I'd like to believe I was reasonably experienced in it. When I

was asked to do this for this current year, it wasn't as if I was learning a new job. It was stepping into something that I did do and I enjoyed it very much.

It is, in many ways I think, one of the most important jobs that anyone can have at the university. It's really in a sense guiding and taking responsibility for the quality and the range of academic programs, which lie at the heart of any university.

FREE PRESS: Any new or exciting programs you wish to implement this year?

LAPPING: I am going to try to bring a number of people from around the campus who have environmental interests and see if we can do some greater collaboration, particularly in the area of supporting undergraduate environmental research and...activities in the community, and strengthen environmental studies...I'd also like to work with various constituencies to make sure

that the brand-new general education program—which I'm very excited about!—gets implemented and on its way. A third thing that I would like to do is, at the same time that we're introducing our new general education program, to ask faculty to re-examine the quality of our majors and see ways to strengthen our majors programs as well as our general education.

FREE PRESS: You are really in it for the long haul, huh?

LAPPING: This is not a job that I want permanently! (laughing) I was very happy to be doing what I was doing before!

FREE PRESS: Which was?

LAPPING: I was—well, I guess I still am—the university's first distinguished professor.

I teach at the Muskie School, at the master's level and the Ph.D. level, and I also teach at LAC (Lewiston/

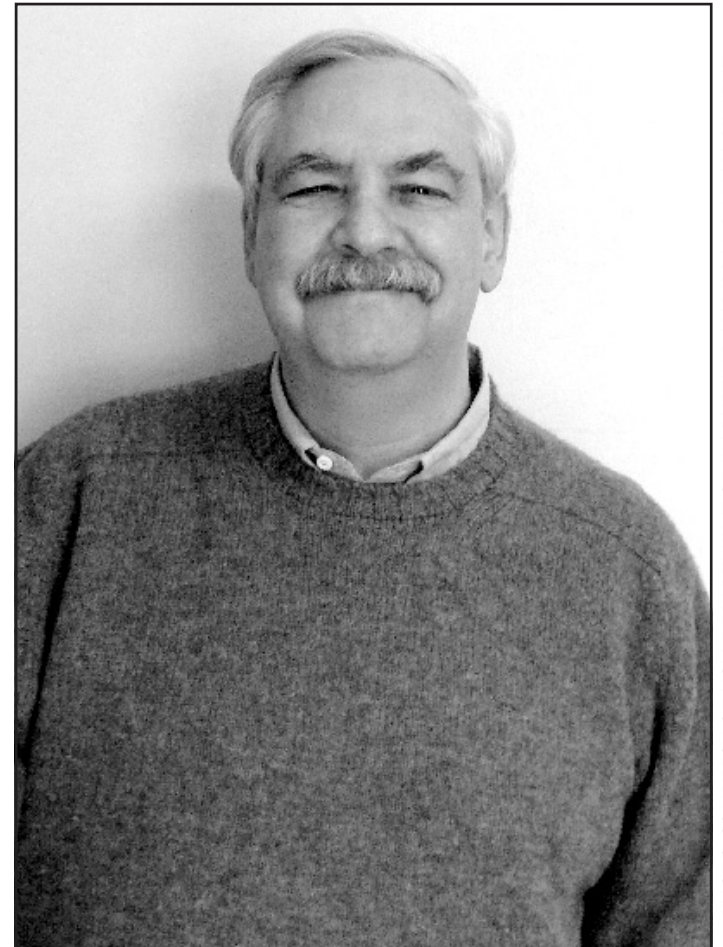


PHOTO COURTESY OF USM DEPARTMENT OF MARKETING AND BRAND MANAGEMENT

Auburn campus) in the leadership and organizational skills program, both at the baccalaureate level and at the master's level.

FREE PRESS: What else should we know about you?

LAPPING: I love my teaching, I love my writing, I love my public service and I'm doing this this year in part because I love it here at USM. This is where I've built most of my career and I feel very committed to this institution and to this community.

University Health & Counseling Services

Do you have health insurance?

The University of Southern Maine Student Health Insurance Plan has been developed especially for USM students, and their eligible dependents*, to help pay for costs not covered by the student health fee. The cost for an individual is \$1996 for the year, with coverage through 8/31/08. The enrollment deadline is October 4, 2007.

For more information, contact:

University Health Services, Portland campus
Modular Unit (next to the
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(207) 780-4211

University Health Services, Gorham campus
110 Upton Hall
(207) 780-5411

***Eligible dependents include a lawful spouse or same or opposite sex domestic partner, and children under the age of 19. The cost for dependent coverage, and answers to other FAQs, are available on our website: <http://www.usm.maine.edu/health/insurance.htm>.**

Everyone loves a smarty pants

These USM students recently received the following scholarships, and that's something to celebrate. Congratulations on your hard work. Now, seriously, come write for us.

Colin BachmeyerReilly, Evergreen, Colorado—USM Scholar-Athlete award, USM General Achievement Scholarship
Emily A. Julian, Putnam, Connecticut—USM Alumni Association of Florida Scholarship, Madelyn and Marion Ulmer Memorial Scholarship
Sarah H. Lyons, Jackson, New Hampshire—NiSource Charitable Foundation Scholarship
Lynn I. Poor, Lincoln, New Hampshire—Osher Re-Entry Scholarship, Helen Greenwood Scholarship
Jennifer Brown, Northwood, New Hampshire—Marcella Lee Davis Scholarship
Margot Fine, Rye Brook, New York—Lunder Scholarship, ChrisAlice Community Service Scholarship
Shannon M. Kynoch, South Burlington, Vermont—Dorothea J. Vlahakos Memorial Scholarship
Tyler Ravlo, Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada—Exercise Science and Anthem Blue Cross Scholarship
Mary Makkreel, Montreal, Quebec, Canada—Anna Keating Scholarship
Theresa L. Arita, Auburn, Maine—USM College of Education and

Human Development Clinical Fellows Scholarship
Tyler Sperry, Auburn, Maine—USM-Portland Ballet Scholarship, Duane Wood Scholarship, USM General Achievement Scholarship
Karen A. Belanger, Biddeford, Maine—Richard and Melissa Costello Scholarship
Karen Elise Knox, Bridgton, Maine—Margaret McKenna Memorial Scholarship
Christina Bilodeau, Brunswick, Maine—Anthony Pearson Scholarship, NiSource Charitable Foundation Scholarship
Tamara P. Watson, Brunswick, Maine—Stewart Belknap Hamblen 1924 Scholarship
Tawny L. Babbitt, Buxton, Maine—Jesse Michael Gabacik Memorial Scholarship
Scott Petrlik, Cape Elizabeth, Maine—Governor's Computer Science Scholarship
Patricia S.T. Sims, Damariscotta, Maine—Lawrence H. and Pearl W. Fickett Educational Leadership Scholarship
Debra Bea Shurtleff, Dixfield, Maine—Androscoggin Bank Scholarship
Lanna Lee Maheux-Quinn, Dover-Foxcroft, Maine—Portland Junior College Scholarship
Ashley Michelle Carey, Embden, Maine—Burchard A. Dunn Memorial Scholarship, George D. Woodward Scholarship, Anson Academy Scholarship, TD Banknorth Scholarship, Merit Scholarship

Amy Belanger, Farmington, Maine—Department of Exercise, Health and Sport Sciences Scholarship
Eric Meyer, Freeport, Maine—Portland Pipeline Corporation Scholarship
Patricia Malone, Hartford, Maine—Literary Achievement Award
John L. Olsen III, Kittery, Maine—Robert W. Berry Memorial Scholarship
Katherine A. LaMore, Lewiston, Maine—Lunder Scholarship, USM General Achievement Scholarship
Frank Kehoe, Jr., Limerick, Maine—William G. Hooper & Laura S. Hooper Scholarship
Kimberly M. Lopez, Mapleton, Maine—Alice E. Toothaker Scholarship
Deziree Dawn Markie, Mattawamkeag, Maine—Mildred A. Roche/Alice G. Green Memorial Nursing Scholarship
Bonnie M. Robibns, Mechanic Falls, Maine—USM College of Education and Human Development Clinical Fellows Scholarship
Mike Nelson, Minot, Maine—Masi Magnetic Research Scholarship
Vijayarani Suresh, Naples, Maine—Anthem Scholarship
Bonnie Best, North Berwick, Maine—Outstanding Student in Environmental Science
Katarina Kuzmova, Old Orchard Beach, Maine—Dean John W. Bay Scholarship

Larry White, Jr., Old Orchard Beach, Maine—Governor's Scholarship
Gail Percy Fitch, Phippsburg, Maine—USM College of Education and Human Development Clinical Fellows Scholarship
Jenna D. Nelson, Poland, Maine—Joan Martin Beaudry Scholarship
Justin Levesque, Portland, Maine—Outstanding Graduate Student Award
Nicole M. Jensen, Westbrook, Maine—Women's Board of MMC Nursing Scholarship
Germaine Ntumba Kapena, Portland, Maine—Wayne H. Bonoff '95 Scholarship
Lauren Rose-Cohen, Portland, Maine—National Counsel of Jewish Women Scholarship, USM College of Nursing and Health Professions Dean Patricia Geary Memorial Scholarship
Brianna J. Blanchard, Presque Isle, Maine—USM College of Education and Human Development Clinical Fellows Scholarship
Gretchen M. Schmitt, Rockland, Maine—Society for Human Resources Management Scholarship
Jared Boudreau, Saco, Maine—Outstanding Graduating Senior of 2007
Danielle Lynn Dadiago, Saco, Maine—Bertha F. Loomis '37 & Charles H. Loomis '39 Scholarship
Lauren Amber Demers, Sanford, Maine—Laura B. Hansen Scholarship

Amy S. Brown, Shapleigh, Maine—Ruth V. Conley Scholarship
Farrah Taylor Giroux, South Portland, Maine—College of Education and Human Development Scholarship, Lunder Scholarship
Allison Libby, South Portland, Maine—Portland Junior College Scholarship
James R. Morris III, Topsham, Maine—Governor's Computer Science Scholarship, Presidential Dirigo Scholarship
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Jessica L. Madsen, Windham, Maine—Anna Keating Scholarship
Sam Gaudet, Winterport, Maine—Cilley Technology Scholarship
Matthew Blanchette, Woodland, Maine—Governor's Computer Science Scholarship
Michael Corson, Yarmouth, Maine—William G. McGowen Scholarship, Maine Higher Education Assistance Foundation Scholarship

—Compiled by Joel C. Theriault



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CORRECTIONS

In the Free Press 2007 Summer Guide edition, the bomb threat Erin Grade and Geneva Benner were indicted for was actually received on December 4, not December 6. Additionally, the criteria for a person to receive the \$20,000 reward is that a suspect is convicted, not arrested as stated.

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See **SPORTS PREVIEW**
PAGE 15

*These partial schedules highlight USM bus stops.
For complete schedules, visit www.opmetrobus.com or call 774-0351.*

[illegible]

2007 Fall Sports Preview

PORTS PREVIEW PAGE 13

Championships. At the 2006 New England Championship, Curtis placed 10th, completing a 3,000-meter course in 10:00 to earn an at-large bid to the 2007 NCAA Championships. **Coach Hutchinson says:** "We have a good mix of experience and youth. Will Fulford from the University of Maine and Doug Smith from the University of Hampshire, Jon Smith from Southern Maine University College will add length to this squad, with sophomore new-tyler Jasud and Dan Reid. Additionally, with a recruiting class of seven that have run stellar times, the '07 men's country team will have depth and talent."

Men's Volleyball

Barry Tripp (second

year) Junior Shannon Newsbury, MA) and Junior Danielle Netland (and). As the outside hitter last season, Stoll led the team with 319 kills, service aces and total blocks (68). and

was second on the team in digs (246). Netland finished with 89 kills, 46 service aces and was second on the team in assists with 223. Her 223 assists rank her 12th in USM single-season records.

2006 Record: 6-24

Top Returnees: Junior outside hitter Shannon Stoll and junior outside hitter Cassi Sticht.

Toughest Competition: Keene State College was predicted as the preseason favorite to capture the LEC championship this season. Last season the Owls earned a program-high 25 victories and their first postseason bid since 1982. Keene reached the semifinal round in both the LEC Tournament and the ECAC New England Tournament. The Huskies were ranked eighth.

Coach Tripp says: "Shannon Stoll is a transfer from Elmira College and someone who will definitely make an immediate impact on the court. We look for positive contributions from her on both offense and defense. The team went 6-24 last season. We're looking to make some small improvements that will have a dramatic effect on our season record. Our goals include a trip to the LEC conference tournament and achieving

team unity, as well as setting the ground work for future winning seasons."

Golf

Coach: Reggie Grant (eighth season)

Captains: Senior Greg Mitchell (Durham) and junior Ben Loss (Wilmette, IL).

2006 Record: The Huskies closed their 2006 regular season schedule with a fifth-place finish at the Husson College Invitational. The team tied for second after the first round, and fell to fifth when they finished with an aggregate score of 650, eight shots behind Bowdoin College. Junior Adam Belleville (Ludlow, MA) and sophomore Ben Loss (Wilmette, IL) were the top USM finishers.

Toughest Competition: Overall, the co-ed Golf team had a great season last year. They were second among four teams at the UNE Invitational, third among eight teams at the Terrier Invitational, second among eight teams at the UMaine Farmington Invitational and second among eight teams at the USM Fall Classic.



PHOTO BY ASHLEY ST. MICHEL

Last year's volleyball team finished at 6-24 and this year hopes to improve that record.

Field Hockey

Coach: Bonny Brown-Denico (10th season)

Captains: Sophomore Cristina Corson, senior Samm Johnson and senior Alyson Lumino.

2006 Record: 10-11-0

Top Returnees: Sophomore goalkeeper Allie Hunt, sophomore forward India Lowe, junior forward Caitlin Albert, sophomore midfielder Cristina Corson, senior midfielder Alyson Lumino and senior midfielder Samm Johnson.

Toughest Competition: Keene State entered the 2006 LEC championships 13-4 last season, and the Huskies entered fourth. Keene was the 2005 LEC Champions. Last

season, freshman field hockey forward India Lowe (Gloucester, MA) scored the game-winning goal in the 63rd minute to lift the Huskies to a 1-0 victory over the sixth-seeded Westfield State College Owls. With the first-round game win of the 2006 LEC Championship, the Huskies advanced to the semifinal round of the tournament.

What coach Brown-Denico says: "We have a strong group of returning players and a great young group of new players. The biggest difference in this season is the depth of our bench. I could easily start any 11 and feel confident."

— Ashley St. Michel
Contributing editor

SOUTHERN MAINE OUTDOOR RECREATION

Program offerings:

Space is limited and pre-registration is required for all SMOR programs. Please call 780-4939 or stop by the office at 104 Sullivan Complex in Portland. Payment is taken at time of registration for all programs. A 30-day cancellation notice is required for refunds. *Refundable deposits are contingent upon participation in chosen activity.

Southern Maine Outing club offerings can be found at: student-groups.southernmaine.edu/outing/groups/outing.html

USM Ski & Hike club information can be found at: student-groups.southernmaine.edu/outing/groups/ski.html

Whale Watching - Sat, Sept. 8

While our school year is just beginning, many whales along our coast are starting a long trip from their northern feeding grounds to their southern breeding and calving grounds. Before they go, come and search for Humpbacks, Minkees, Humpbacks, seals, porpoises, and sea birds. Bring a sweatshirt, water, and of course a camera!

Cost \$25 student, \$40 spouse or DP

Coastal Cleanup - Sat, Sept. 15

(a volunteer/community service opportunity) Coastal Cleanup is part of Maine Coastweek Programs. It is the largest single volunteer event in the state. Please join us in this opportunity to give back to the natural resources we enjoy. Our clean up site is Wills Neck State Park in Freeport, Maine. We will work in teams of two or three to pick up and record unwanted debris. Sign up as a team or individually and get a beautifully designed Coastweek poster. Volunteers should be ready to commit to an afternoon of service. Students free with a \$5 refundable deposit *

Saco River Canoe and Camping Trip: Sept. 22 & 23

Two days of canoeing on the crystal clear waters of the beautiful Saco River. Enjoy spectacular views of the mountains in fall color. Canoe and camp on one of the many sandy beaches along the river. A great trip for beginners. Canoes, paddles, life jackets, food, transportation and instruction are provided. Some camping equipment is available. This trip is open to students and domestic partners.

Cost \$35 student, \$50 spouse or DP.

Sea Kayak Series - 3 separate weekends

Sun, Sept. 16

Sun, Sept. 30

Sun, Oct. 14

Maine's coastline is known worldwide for its rugged beauty and dramatic glacially carved features. One of the most unique experiences of our coastline that you can have is to see it from the water, with the close quiet intimacy that a kayak offers. We will visit several nearby destinations for a diverse sample of the Maine Coast. No experience is necessary to participate, come for one trip or all of them, each will include a basic paddle lesson to start and on the water instruction as needed or requested. This trip is open to students, faculty/staff & DP.

Cost \$25 student, and \$45 faculty/staff, or DP

Portland Trails Series - 3 separate weekends

Sat, Sept. 29

Sat, Oct. 20

Sun, Nov. 4

For those plagued with "sitting at a desk blues", Portland has what you need, miles of walking trails right in the City! These may getaways will take us along the Scarborough River, Fore River, and to nearby Mackworth Island. Students free with a \$5.00 refundable deposit *

Pleasant Mountain Hike - Sat, Oct. 13

Whoever named this mountain was being modest. On a clear day you can easily see Mt. Washington, the highest Peak in the Northeast. An impressive four-mile long ridge line rises dominantly above the landscape of the Lakes Region of southwestern Oxford County, helping its moderate 2,106-foot elevation.

Cost \$5.00 student, \$10.00 spouse or DP

Scarborough Marsh Canoe Paddle - Sun, Oct. 21

Scarborough Marsh is a quiet place to kick back in your canoe and watch the wildlife. This is Maine's largest salt marsh, and home to 27 species of endangered, threatened, and rare birds. Come for the birds or just for the scenery, these marshes are difficult to visit any way other than by small watercraft, so don't miss your chance.

Cost \$10 student, \$20 spouse or DP

Full Moon Beach Walk - Fri, Oct. 26

Let us romantic walk together this night, along the crescent of sand that borders shimmering waters from Scarborough to Old Orchard. This beach is a true gem, and no night is better than one in mid Oct. to enjoy the moonshine. Free for students with a \$5.00 refundable deposit*, \$10.00 spouse or domestic partner

White Mountains Hike - Sun, Oct. 28

Banks of red, orange and yellow in our Oaks, Maples, and Birches sparkle the fall forests with their brilliance. People come from all around to see the display, and we will have ringside seats from atop one of the lower mountains along the Maine/New Hampshire border. Expect to hike for a leisurely paced 3 hours each way, with a cocoa break on top. Our destination is weather dependent. Cost \$5 student, \$10 spouse or DP.

Orienteering at Deering Oaks Park - Sat, Nov. 3

This is an introduction to map and compass navigation by using landmarks in Deering Oaks Park, so nobody should get lost. Map and compass skills increase your confidence on trails, and are a must for travel in the backcountry. Come to learn or to refresh, it never hurts to practice. Free for students with a \$5.00 refundable deposit *

Night Hike and Starazing - Sat, Nov. 10

Brady Mountain is a short stairway to the heavens, and there is so much to see. The winter sky is emerging with characters you are sure to recognize. Pegasus, Taurus, Orion, the Big Dipper and more will be in view, so come enjoy the celestial scenery with cocoa in hand. Free for students with a \$5.00 refundable deposit*, \$10.00 spouse/DP.

Learn to Ski or Snowboard at Sugarloaf - Sat, Dec. 8

This trip is made for rookies. Beginners will receive rental equipment (skis, boards, boots, and poles), a limited access lift ticket, and a lesson with a professional instructor. Transportation is limited. Cost \$20.00 student, \$44.00 faculty/staff, spouse, domestic partner

Feel Good About Coming With Us

Your safety is important to us, as is the quality of your experience. This is why all of our trips are lead by a licensed Maine Guide and Wilderness First Responder. As always with our SMOR sponsored events, our trips are tobacco and alcohol free.



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