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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE



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Democrat Tom Allen (Left) and Republican Susan Collins (Right), square off during the second debate at USM in as many weeks.

Senate debate at Abromson Allen goes on offensive to close gap as Nov 4th looms

Matt Dodge
Executive Editor

Senator Susan Collins and Congressman Tom Allen squared off in their tenth senatorial debate on Thursday, at USM's Hannaford Lecture Hall.

The debate, moderated by MPBN's Jennifer Rooks, featured questions from the hosts, as well as those culled from e-mail submissions and video questions from Maine residents.

With just over two weeks left before the election, and Allen trailing in the latest Rasmussen poll by 13 percentage points, the Representative from Maine's 1st district was on the offensive, asking the tough questions of Collins and repeatedly trying to link her to the Bush administration.

When accused by Collins of engaging in harsh, class warfare rhetoric, Allen responded, "The only class warfare is Bush's war on the middle class."

When Collins was asked if she regretted acting as co-chair for Bush's '04 campaign, she dismissed the issue as "typical," adding "it doesn't mean we run

their campaign or support their positions."

When asked about the growing income gap in the U.S., the largest since the Great Depression, the candidates took different tacks. Collins called the situation "very troubling," and emphasized progress through education, referencing her support for federal Pell grants for college students, as well as programs such as Upward Bound.

Allen lambasted the incumbent Senator for her support of '01, '03, and '06 tax breaks for the "super-wealthy," votes that he felt exacerbated the wage gap and was "fundamentally bad for the middle class."

Collins, who serves on John McCain's Maine Leadership Team for the presidential election, condemned the McCain campaign for soliciting auto-calls around Maine, in which a recorded message stresses the connection between Barack Obama and former Weather Underground member Bill Ayers. "This has no place in Maine politics," said Collins "I told them I thought they were a mistake, and I am disappointed." Breaking further from the McCain campaign, she said that while Vice Presidential candidate



Sarah Palin has "many admirable qualities, I think Olympia Snowe would have been a better choice."

Both Allen and Collins have carefully tweaked their campaign platforms in recent weeks to include more talk of the nation's current economic woes. When asked for concrete proposals to handle the \$10 trillion debt, Allen emphasized withdrawal from Iraq, currently running a tab of \$1.8 billion a week. It provided an opening to tag the Bush administration as "the most fiscally

See **DEBATE** on page 7

Department Evaluation New reviews target student services

Danica Koenig
Staff Writer

Academic departments at USM must undergo a formal review every seven years, according to UMaine Board of Trustees policy. But there is no such requirement for non-academic departments.

It's something University President Selma Botman is looking to change.

The University has invited two external consultants to review the following departments: Advising Services, Career Services, Early Student Success, Learning Foundations, and Community Service.

The consultants - Jayne Drake of Temple University and Betsy McCalla-Wriggins of Rowan University - engaged each department in an abbreviated self-study, in the form of eight standard questions submitted to each department director. The two consultants also met with department

staff, faculty, and students to hear their thoughts and feedback.

Marie Follayttar, a senior and Undergraduate student representative to the Board of Trustees, says that as a student advocate she has had many students share their difficulties with some of the departments in question, especially Advising Services.

"I think the University needs to re-examine the role and expectations of the advising process," Follayttar says, "and the role the department plays in student success after graduation."

The overhaul is just one element of the Botman administration's new strategic planning strategy, a wide-ranging look at how every aspect of the University can be improved to enhance students' experiences here at USM.

Students aren't the only ones to react positively to this evaluation

See **EVALUATION**
on page 3



BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR

Above left: A Tom Allen supporter rallies in front of Abromson Center on USM's Portland campus.

Above: Supporters of Democratic Senate candidate Tom Allen rally outside of the Abromson Center on USM's Portland campus. Allen squared off with incumbent Republican Susan Collins for their second debate in two weeks.

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USM Undergrad eyes seat in city hall

David O'Donnell

News Editor

"I'm not a politician, I'm a community organizer," says City Council candidate Tina Smith, as fellow candidates and voters shuffle past her on a rainy Wednesday evening, after wrapping up a lively election forum at the North Star cafe in downtown Portland.

"I'm never going to be a politician."

Smith is running for an at-large seat on Portland's city council that's up for grabs next month. And it's an uphill climb - not only does the race include an incumbent mayor, Ed Suslovic, but a very credible candidacy from Dory Waxman, a local businesswoman who has served on a school committee, Bayside Neighborhood Organization, and Portland Community Action.

Smith meanwhile, proudly exudes her outsider, rookie status.

She points to a necktie that some friends and advisers have told her to take off, at least for the duration of the campaign.

"They'll say take off your hat, your [gauged ear peircings]," she says, "but if people have a problem with the way I look, I don't want their vote anyway."

It's important to Smith that she doesn't compromise too much for her campaign, and she's confident it will pay off when it comes time to vote. City council, after all, is a nonpartisan body, though many members' affiliations are well-known; much of the campaign involves face-to-face contact, where candidates pitch their message to one person at a time.

The race is also lower on the food chain in terms of media coverage - there typically aren't many heated battles and lightning rod issues.

This year, however, Suslovic and Waxman have gotten plenty of attention for their squabbles over the politics of developing Portland's pier; Waxman has worked as a "community liason" for one of the losing bidders - Suslovic is pegging her as a former lobbyist with conflicts of interest.

Suslovic and Waxman are both Democrats, with Suslovic sitting more to the margins of his party, often siding with Greens and the one Republican on the city council.

But Smith, who admits she has admired Suslovic's independent streak, still thinks it's time to clean house. The 31-year-old USM undergrad has been taking some time off for campaigning and activism before completing her senior project in media studies, probably next summer.

She traces her own independence back to the group that drew her into politics just a few years ago, the Maine chapter of the League of Young Voters.

When they first came to Smith's attention in 2004, the local arm was in its infancy and known by the more caucus title "The League of Pissed-Off Voters". Smith describes herself as a regular but rather clueless voter at the time, when a friend involved in the league came to her for help producing a video for them.

Within a year, she was their community liason at USM - a campus organizer who immediately found herself working on

an issue that was striking a chord around the state, and for her personally.

An out lesbian since it lead to her discharge from the Army in the late 1990s, Smith committed herself to rallying students against an attempt by religious conservatives to overturn, by referendum, a set of anti-discrimination laws enacted by the state legislature aimed at protecting gays and lesbians.

The Christian Civic League, a major proponent of the referendum, portrayed it as a step toward legalized gay marriage.

That November, the referendum failed and Smith fondly remembers the lively rallies she helped put together at the Portland campus.

And while her work with "the league" sits high on the resume portion of her campaign literature, there is a strong sense the two may have parted ways for good.

"We kicked off the league here in Portland promoting a book called 'How to Get Stupid White Men Out of Office', she recalls. "But now their motto may as well be 'how to get stupid white men out of office, and replace them with smart white guys.'"

She feels the League has lost touch with its roots - it was founded by a self-described "hip-hop activist" in 2003 to promote independence and diversity in politics. She questions that commitment today, as voter guides around the city proclaim the group's backing of Suslovic.

After praising her for her stance on public transportation and equal opportunity, and mentioning her bold call for allowing even non-



citizen residence the right to vote in local elections, the League lays it out plainly.

"Her lack of experience with strategic planning, policy, and budgets would not make her an effective advocate on the Council," reads the guide.

She doesn't see it as a stab in the back so much as indicative of their more establishment turn; their tendency to back Democrats over Greens and independents was the subject of a few arguments toward the end of her involvement.

But Portland, she says, is a young city, and an increasingly diverse city, something that its representation in Government doesn't accurately reflect.

As the candidates forum officially winds to a close, people are testing microphones and amplifiers on the cafe's small stage, preparing for a night of music, breakdancing and poetry readings. A new crowd shuffles in and starts filling up the tables, and somebody lets Smith know that her friend, DJ Grey Matter, will be performing soon, at which point she lights up.

"These are my people," she says.

From **EVALUATION** on page 1

process; the departments themselves are expressing enthusiasm for the opportunity to find areas of improvements. Beth Higgins, the Executive Director of Advising and Academic Resources, welcomed the chance to take a close look at her department.

"I think what it does is it allows departments to really reflect on what they're doing and ask how can we really improve for students," Higgins says.

But with any kind of evaluation, there is always an unnerving aspect for those having their work put under careful observation and scrutiny. She says that's where a department has to have a certain "departmental and professional confidence" in itself.

"The way that I look at it, if we're doing what we think is our best, knowing that we can always improve, then why shouldn't we want people to look at us?" She says. "And if they see something that needs improvement then ok, let's move forward and make it happen, because that's what we're trying to do here, make it the best experience."

Susan Campbell, the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, who helped facilitate and organize the whole evaluation process, says she believes that overall the process went pretty well. So far, all the feedback she has received about this process from staff, faculty, and students has been enthusiastic and positive. However, she and others have already started reflecting on how even the process itself can be improved, and how to ensure that it's only the beginning of more consistent oversight.

"I think we should refine the self-study questions and create a document that will guide this process," Susan

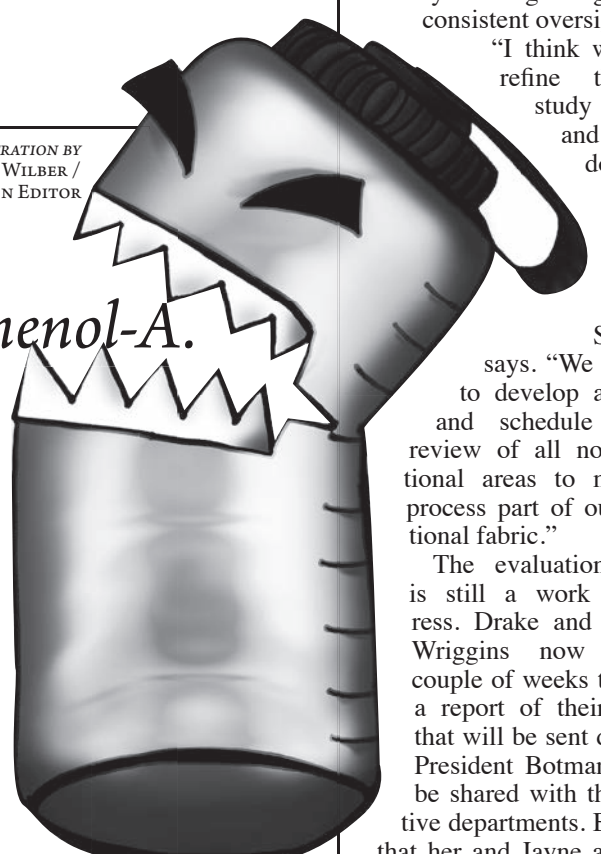
says. "We also need to develop a timeline and schedule for the review of all non-instructional areas to make this process part of our institutional fabric."

The evaluation process is still a work in progress. Drake and McCalla-Wriggins now have a couple of weeks to prepare a report of their findings that will be sent directly to President Botman, later to be shared with the respective departments. Betsy says that her and Jayne are still in the process of receiving more information before they make any concrete recommendations.

They are willing to say that they were impressed with the majority of the feedback they received.

"We can say without reservation that all the individuals we met at USM are committed to the university and the students who attend," Betsy says. "They care deeply about the students they serve and their success."

ILLUSTRATION BY
KATIE WILBER /
PRODUCTION EDITOR



Bottling the rumors

Having once dominated an industry, Nalgene is forced to address concern over Bisphenol-A.

Matt Dodge

Executive Editor

Students have been toting the ubiquitous Nalgene water bottle around for years. Often plastered with more stickers than a VW Bus, these distinctive, convenient, and purportedly "unbreakable" containers have recently come under suspicion from public health watchdog groups and consumers as a possible source of Bisphenol-A (BPA) contamination.

The rumor alone was enough to drive many consumers to alternative bottle sources, most notably, the aluminum Sigg bottle, which is eagerly gobbling up the market-share held by Nalgene since the early 90's.

The public consciousness is being flooded with rumors, corporately funded studies, and half-truths about the dangers of BPA, an organic compound used to harden polycarbonate plastic.

Used for over 50 years in the production of plastics, there have long been health concerns surrounding the compound, a worry amplified by government issued reports released earlier this year.

BPA has been shown to act as an endocrine disruptor in lab tests, disrupting the hormone activity in lab animals and raising questions about possible effects on humans, including thyroid issues, and cancer.

In a report released in April, the National Toxicology Program expressed "some concern for effects on the brain, behavior, and prostate gland in fetuses, infants, and children at current human exposures to bisphenol A".

While these reports suggest little harm for grown adults ingesting BPA, some are choosing to err on the side of caution. "If something causes cancer in a rat, I'm not going to use it for me or my family," said Elisa Boxer, public health advocate and USM English lecturer.

So how do you know if you are toting around a potential BPA-leecher? All bottles containing BPA are labeled on the bottom as #7 plastic (shown as the number 7 inside a recycling symbol). But don't toss it away just yet; not all #7 plastics contain BPA.

According to the current EPA standards regarding BPA, the average adult would have to ingest 1,300 pounds of food or drink

packaged in BPA every day for their lifetime to exceed the "safe" level of BPA.

Boxer says that these standards do not take into account different exposure levels from different sources. Someone drinking water from a plastic made with BPA, and ingesting a food packaged in a BPA container would be receiving a double-dose of the compound. "Plastics are all around us," notes Boxer.

Health Canada, the nation's health department, also extensively studied the compound and in April suggested listing BPA as "toxic to human health and the environment".

While research continues on the adverse affects of BPA, many businesses have already been forced to address the issue. Nalgene still stands firmly behind the safety of BPA, but is beginning to phase out BPA altogether, switching from the current polycarbonate plastics to Eastman Tritan™ copolyester as a response to consumer demands.

Eastern Mountain Sports, one of the area's leading outfitters, began to notice a shift in demand 6-8 months ago. "Everybody is coming in looking to replace their

The Free Press guide to
maybe voting this year

David O'Donnell
News Editor

Presidential Race



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE CANDIDATES' CAMPAIGNS

Background

With no incumbents, the 2008 race for President was wide open this year, and the two main general election candidates reflect this: Democrat Barack Obama is a junior senator from Illinois in the middle of his first term, and the first African-American to head up a major party ticket. John McCain is a senior senator from Arizona, a celebrated war veteran serving his fourth term and now rallying a party that once mocked him as a RINO - Republican in Name Only.

The momentum

Back in early 2007, few could have predicted that these two candidates would get so far. But even fewer could have foreseen that they would look so different as the campaign winds to a close. John McCain came into this race with the biggest name recognition and cache[wha?] of the whole lot. Early on, he was pegged as a little past his prime, and he desperately lagged in fundraising and media attention. But one by one, he knocked down his Republican competitors. He also surprised many by doing a 180 degree turn in courting some of the conservative figureheads he deliberately snubbed in his 2000 campaign (Jerry Falwell, he said then, was an “agent of

intolerance.” This time, he lobbied for the reverend’s endorsement). Still, McCain managed to stand apart, famously telling Michigan voters that their lost jobs wouldn’t magically return intact in a new administration, while Mitt Romney told another crowd miles away the exact, fantastical opposite. Romney would win that primary contest.

But that was just about the last gasp from the old McCain, a Republican with moderate leanings who became even more of a centrist in the early years of George W. Bush’s presidency. Alas, he’s not only reversed his rhetoric, shooting farther right than he’s ever been, but made some damning pledges and appointments to convince his new Republican base that there’s no going back. Bush’s tax cuts, once morally reprehensible, will be expanded; heabeas corpus is no longer a priority; and the definition of “torture” is now negotiable. Were he the frontrunner today, John McCain would be getting blasted around the clock in television ads calling him a flip-flopper.

But McCain has not been the frontrunner in this race, though he once briefly skipped ahead in the polls. The momentum has belonged to Barack Obama, who managed to use his skills as a writer and orator to build an aura that’s more impressive than his political resume. His autobiogra-

phy first caught peoples’ attention years ago, and a rousing speech at the 2004 Democratic National Convention earned him enough praise and notoriety that TIME magazine was soon asking if he might someday be President.

The whole race, up until about September, was centered on whether or not Barack Obama was ready for the job. Polls indicate that a “generic Democrat” would easily defeat a “generic Republican” - but McCain is no generic Republican, and Obama has a set of strengths and weaknesses voters seem to have been sorting out, at varying paces, since he finally defeated Hillary Clinton for the nomination back in June.

It seems to have been easier for voters to focus on policy and temperament in that decision ever since McCain chose Alaska Governor Sarah Palin as his running mate. Young, attractive, charismatic, and a staunch Christian conservative, Palin essentially buried the Republican argument that Obama might be too inexperienced for the job. (Before two years as Governor of her small state, Palin was mayor of a tiny town - where she previously made a name for herself in beauty pageants and as a sportscaster.) She got hardcore Republicans energized - finally, somebody on the ticket who could hold peoples’ attention - but also caused a revolt among

some conservative intellectuals, especially after failing to answer basic questions in her first few televised interviews.

Reverse self-endorsements

“If I were to seriously consider for running on a national ticket [in 2008], I’d essentially have to start now before serving a day in the Senate. Now there are some people who might be comfortable doing that, but I am not one of those people.”

- Obama in 2004

“By 2008, I think I might be ready to go down to the old soldiers home and await the cavalry charge there.”

- McCain in 2000

Tone

This election has not been terribly civil. A tight race moved Obama’s way after the economy looked like it might collapse at the beginning of October. Polls show that the Democrat came off as more calm, collected and serious over three Presidential debates, and voters have indicated that they trust him more to deal with the financial crisis.

McCain’s campaign, meanwhile, has been doing what underdogs often do: going negative. But McCain surprised more than a few people when he started

hiring a lot of the political operatives that had choreographed a notoriously dirty campaign against him in 2000. The same firm that placed “robocalls” in South Carolina back then, insinuating that McCain fathered an African American child out of wedlock, is now calling voters across the country to insinuate that Obama has “worked closely” with a domestic terror group.

Not that you’d ever notice...

Two candidates are on the Maine ballot that have had trouble getting access across-the-board. Cynthia McKenney - a former Democratic Congresswoman, is heading up the Green Party’s ticket, spicing up the usual progressive platform with demands for impeachment of Bush and Cheney, freedom for political prisoners, and a new investigation into the events of 9/11. Meanwhile, Ralph Nader - now an independent - continues to insist that there is no meaningful difference between the two major party candidates, and that Obama - the one he’s accused of siphoning votes away from - has taken too many important issues off the table.

This is just a start. Depending on where you live, your ballot will have any number of state senate, city council & school board hopefuls begging for your checkmark, in races where the outcome will be decided by very few votes. You don’t just have to play “whose middle name begins with my favorite consonant” anymore. The internet is full of resources for figuring out whose running, why, & which candidates’ platform matches what you want out of your Government.

In-depth voter guides:

From The League of Young Voters >
http://theballot.org/guides/by_state/me ::
Covers Portland, Gorham and Waterville

Vote or Quit Bitchin’ >
<http://www.thebollard.com/bollard/?cat=44> ::
The Bollard’s guide to seats big and small in the greater Portland area

Candidate cupids:

Glassbooth >
<http://www.glassbooth.com> ::
Connects you with your soul candidate in the presidential race

Project Vote Smart >
<http://www.vote-smart.org> ::
A strictly issues-oriented look at races around the country

The inside story:

Talking Points Memo >
<http://www.talkingpointsmemo.com> ::
A diary of politics nationwide (with plenty of original reporting) from a center-left perspective

RealClearPolitics >
<http://www.realclearpolitics.com> ::
A hub for polling data and mostly conservative commentary

Slate’s Political Gabfest >
<http://www.slate.com/gabfest> ::
Three veteran reporters spend 30 minutes telling you what they really think about the week in Washington

Senate

Background

Collins has a reputation as one of Maine's moderate Republicans, in the same vein as her colleague Olympia Snowe. She's conservative enough for the state's rural second district, but occasionally opposes her own party to the satisfaction of many independents. She pals around with folks like John McCain and Joe Lieberman, and was a member of the "gang of 14" senators - seven Democrats, seven Republicans - who managed to diffuse a heated deadlock over President Bush's conservative appellate court nominees.

But following the 2006 midterm elections, in which Democrats were swept into power across the country, Congressman Tom Allen saw a pretty clear opening. At the time, escalating violence in Iraq was causing major public outrage - and he had cast a vote against the war, while Collins voted for it over in the Senate.

The momentum

A lot has changed since Allen announced his candidacy. The surge of

U.S. troops to Iraq, backed by Collins, has coincided with a decrease in violence there. The issue has also taken a backseat recently to other concerns, such as chaos and uncertainty in the global economy.

Even the economy should favor the Democrat these days, as it's been doing in races nationwide. Allen has also pointed to her support for a wildly unpopular President on matters such as Supreme Court nominees, tax cuts, and civil liberties.

But Maine has long been a state that puts a little more stock in personality.

Both candidates have been serving voters since they took their seats in 1997, but Allen has been representing only the 1st district, while Collins can stake claim to the entire state. There is little doubt that she has made more of an impact in her chamber, even chairing the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs for several years. (It should be pointed out that Allen, for 10 of his 12 years, was in the minority party.) She has firm roots in Bangor, where she has remained a familiar face by commut-

ing back and forth from Washington on most weekends.

Allen, meanwhile, has had to breakout from his image as an over-educated outsider to many in the north. It hasn't been easy, even if his policy proposals are a better match with what voters have been clamoring for in the polls.

So far, Collins lead hasn't dropped below 10 points.

Pointless trivia

Susan Collins has previously pledged to never seek a third term, both at the start of her career and during her 2002 re-election campaign. On breaking the vow: "I've found that I really underestimated the importance of seniority," she told the Sun Journal last year.

Kind words

"[Tom Allen] opposed the war in Iraq when it was not popular to do so. He fought against the Bush economic policies that have put this country in such a mess today."

- former Senator George Mitchell

"[Susan Collins] has looked out for the people of Maine no matter what they do, no matter where they live."

- John Martell, head of the Maine Firefighters Union

Tone

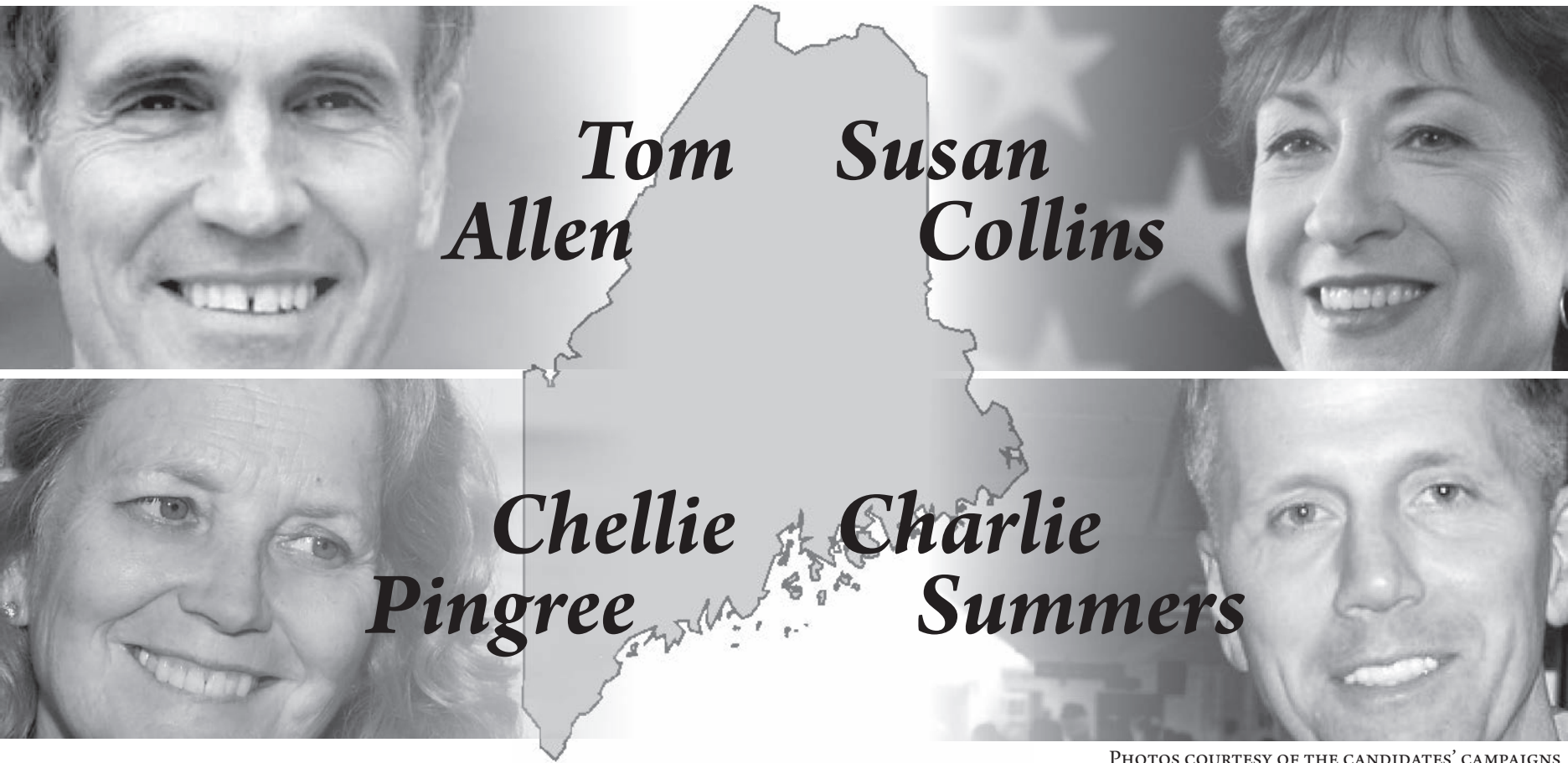
The biggest splash has been made by an out-of-state interest group that started running commercials against Allen based on his co-sponsorship of the Employee Free Choice Act, purportedly aimed at making it faster and easier for workers to unionize. The spots used The Sopranos' Vince Curatola (mobster "Johnny Sac") to make their case that the bill would lead to workers being intimidated into joining unions, since it didn't mandate secret ballots in the decision. They seemed to imply mafia ties on the part of Allen, who immediately protested the ubiquitous TV and radio spots. Collins' campaign also eventually issued a denouncement.

Not that you'd notice...

By all rights, there should be a third choice on the ballot: independent Herbert J. Hoffman of Ogunquit. A Harvard-educated Korean war veteran, psychologist, and lecturer, Hoffman's name was pushed off by Democratic Party lawyers, who vigorously challenged his petitions on several technicalities. They simply didn't want the distraction in their own uphill battle to unseat Susan Collins.

Hoffman has successfully registered as a write-in candidate. More than ever, his longshot campaign is centered around challenging, in his words, the "duopolistic, power-and-money-driven, two-party system that now dominates and controls our life, our liberty, and - increasingly - our ability to pursue happiness."

Earlier this year, Hoffman was a senior national staff member in Dennis Kucinich's campaign for President.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE CANDIDATES' CAMPAIGNS

House of Representatives

Background

Tom Allen had no choice but to let his 12-year Congressional seat go if he wanted a shot at the Senate, since he and Collins face re-election at the same time. So the first district's voice in Washington D.C. is now up for grabs.

Stepping in to fill the void for the Democrats is Chellie Pingree, after winning a six-way primary for the party's nomination back in June. Pingree is a former USM student (though she graduated elsewhere) and popular veteran of the Maine political scene, serving in the statehouse throughout the 1990s and acting as majority leader from '96-2000. She spent much of her hiatus from elected office as president of the national organization Common Cause, a citizen lobby that works for transparency in Government.

Her last appearance on a ballot was her own 2002 challenge of Susan Collins; it's widely believed

that Pingree's chances were hurt somewhat by her early opposition to the war in Iraq - not something that is expected to be a liability this time around.

The Republicans' contender is not without his credentials on Iraq either - Charlie Summers was deployed there as a member of the U.S. Navy last summer, working on the public relations front. Summer has been in the Navy's information bureau for most of his nearly 15-year armed forces career, and has hoped to utilize some of that media savvy to propel his underdog campaign. He has also served four years in the Maine state senate and nine as a state aide to Senator Olympia Snowe. Accordingly, he's running on a somewhat socially moderate and fiscally conservative platform.

The momentum

Summers' pet cause is reforming the tax code to benefit small businesses. He founded his own

- Charlie's Beverage Warehouse, which he owned from 1992-95 - and for two years served as regional director for the U.S. Government's Small Business Administration.

So he has made entrepreneurship the cornerstone of his campaign, but the angle hasn't seemed to really cut into Pingree's lead. Perhaps because she has also founded a small business in her time, North Island Design Company, which she ran from 1981-1992.

Aside from ideology, Summers biggest problem in this race has probably been that it hasn't gotten very much attention at all, the Senate race sucking up whatever air the Presidential contest leaves behind. On name recognition and social issues alone, Pingree is a pretty comfortable fit for the district.

Tone

Summers has been trying some new things, like a series of web videos that mimics a TV show - specifically

the one it's title rhymes with - called Thirty Jobs. The clips have the candidate assuming various roles - such as farmer, Gritty McDuff's beer brewer, and beautician - in an effort to better understand the local economy.

Unfortunately for him, the ad campaign hasn't exactly been runaway hit on Youtube. Other than that, the most excitement has come in prying into Pingree's romantic relationship with wealthy hedge fund manager S. Donald Sussman, whose firm has generated lots of money for the Democrat's campaign. Summers immediately called for the money to be returned after the stock market started to plummet, but there doesn't appear to be any official reason to do so. Local media has pressed the issue only lightly (for a notable exception, see The Ballard's expose "Chasing Chellie" at their website) and the big issue is one of forthrightness... Pingree originally denied that the two were romantic, which appears to have not been true even at the time.

Not that you'd ever notice...

These candidates have debated, with sharp disagreements on health care, trade and the war in Iraq. Nothing really unexpected on either side, with Summers stressing the success of the surge and the noble results of the Iraq endeavor, and Pingree stressing the need to reign it in and bring troops and resources home. Summers feels the benefits of free trade are overlooked by the opposition to the North American Free Trade Agreement (or NAFTA), and Pingree thinks that outsourcing and the lack of worker protections warrant a severe overhaul. On health care, Summers wants solutions that address the problems in the current system, avoiding "big government" control over medical access, while Pingree believes universal health care should be the ultimate goal.

It looks like the traditional liberal vs. conservative debate writ...small.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Our hair, our phones, our liberty

As winter slowly creeps into Maine and things start to look a little drearier, I sometimes wish I had accepted that full ride badminton scholarship to Pyongyang University In North Korea.

That is, the scholarship I might have been offered if I had just taken those backyard games a little more seriously in my childhood - my grandfather claims I had a heck of a backhand.

The life of gifted badminton player in North Korea, as you might know, is a position of glamour and prestige that rivals that of an “ace” pitcher, go-to running back, or high flying swingman here in the States.

The downside to life in everyone’s favorite Democratic People’s Republic? If you lined the country end-to-end with neighboring Wal-Marts, you would still have a hard time coming up with all the human rights violations dreamed up by Kim Jong-il.

I’ve always been aware of this gross suppression of individual freedom, but it was in readings an account of Kim’s visit to a university soccer game that brought it all home for me.

While taking in a match between Kim Il-sung University and Pyongyang University, Kim decided that the style of long hair many of the male players were sporting was “disgusting”, adding, “I

can’t tell if this is men’s soccer or women’s soccer.”

The “Dear Leader” (as he likes to be known) is certainly entitled to his opinion, U.S. politicians in the 60’s and 70’s made no qualms about those “dirty hippies” and their long locks, but Kim took it one, ridiculous step further and soon after the game, notices were posted in workplaces around North Korea banning long hair for men.

This is a man who is not afraid to govern his country to the tiniest detail, and pulls more strings than Trey Parker and Matt Stone did while filming Team America: World Police, the all-marionette action movie that showed us the plusher side of Kim.

If follicle enforcement was the worst of Kim’s decrees, the country would just be a laughably backwards stalwart of outdated communist ideals, like M*A*S*H* had led me to believe. Unfortunately, it gets a lot worse.

North Korea has officially banned citizens from carrying cell phones, and enforces the rule with public executions of violators, who they worry will spread news of a worsening food crisis. There is also a report that the country plans to launch it’s own cell phone service soon, which will not allow users to place or receive calls from outside the country.

This is a hard and sobering thought for those of us who can hardly escape catching a satirical rip on our own government while browsing the Internet or flipping through T.V.

Democracy hardly seems perfect this time of year; rampant partisanship seems to divide our country into colored regions, and it’s easy to get jaded into thinking that one voice doesn’t matter. But put our situation into a slightly more international context, and you might start to understand the incredible power each of us (18 years and older) holds over the policy and direction of our country.

So please vote, because the only thing worse than a government-mandated haircut is losing your cell phone privileges - and possibly death.

Thanks for reading,

Matt Dodge



the free press

www.usmfreepress.org

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

USM Candidate Forum
Tuesday October 28th • 6-9 pm.
Woodbury Campus Center

City Council at Large race: John Myers (Recent write in Candidate), Tina Smith, Ed Suslovic, Dory Waxman.

School Board at Large race: Liz Holton, Anna Trevarrow

Starting off the night we will have City Councilors Dave Marshall and Kevin Donoghue talking about the City Charter Commission ballot question.

Schedule of Events: Councilors Donoghue and Marshall speaking on the City Charter Commission ballot question, 6-7pm. Candidates for City Council at Large 7-8pm. Candidates for School Board at Large 8-9pm.

USM PIRG's New Voter Project Intern Kevin Casey says, "Campus wide between PIRG and other groups we've registered over 900 people to vote since the beginning of the semester. This is an active population of the student body that we're going to lead into the Election as an important voting bloc that demands to be heard by politicians."

USM PIRG Chair Cassie Shultz says, "With so many people voting for the first time we want them to be familiar with the candidates and the issues. We set up this candidate forum with the Municipal candidates so students can be make informed decisions not just in the national election but at the local level too where we can be very affective in impacting the decisions that are made."

The event is hosted and organized by USM PIRG. Students have the opportunity to submit questions to the candidates if they forward them to me Karl Rawstron at karlemail1@gmail.com

Karl Rawstron
Student

Reaction to "Fool for Love"

First off I would like to applaud Mr. Merrill's incentive for the USM theater community: drama criticism is a useful tool for recording the individual artistic merit of a production and is useful as a commentary for the artists concerned to improve their work as it is presented to the general public. I am glad that Mr. Merrill has decided to pull no punches in his reviews and to speak the truth.

Also, while I can agree with him that the experience of art is ultimately subjective. The position of a critic must be objective and knowledgeable. I hope that with this position he might be encouraged to take a class within the theater department to gain a deeper understanding or look to other reviews as an example. To critique from a position of ignorance only breeds acceptability for that ignorance.

Take time to weigh the performance for its merits or lack thereof. Comment on the cohesiveness of each element of the production: design, direction, acting, etc. in conveying the questions (or answers) of the script. If, as in this case, the playwright is not involved in the process, critiquing the script to any great extent is somewhat pointless and more time can be spent on what is actually going on onstage.

With these comments in mind I look forward to Mr. Merrill's continued reviews and hope that he will improve the quality of his writing while maintaining it's refreshing frankness.

Ian Carlsen
5th Year Theater Major

Reaction to "Elephant Hunt"

I recently read the "Elephant hunt" article and found it rather disconcerting. As a student that's choosing to vote for McCain, it doesn't surprise me that it seems as though finding Republicans on campus may be difficult. Yudaken calls herself "unquestioningly liberal" and says that "it's fear that keeps [her] judging." Yet she calls Obama's campaign one that is a "rehabilitation into a respectful and well-functioning country." It worries me that she doesn't take time to question why she is liberal or think about why she is voting for Obama rather than why she isn't voting for McCain. I'm not surprised that Republicans on this campus choose not to speak up when they are judged so harshly and without researched reason as to why they choose to affiliate with a certain party. Yudaken claims that Obama's campaign will turn us into a respectful country but I don't see how that can happen when people our age are so harsh towards each others views and religions and however else we may choose to define ourselves. As college students, it surprises me that that liberals who claim to be so open-minded towards ideas are so quick to shut down those ideas with which they don't agree. I'm not saying that some conservatives don't do the same thing sometimes, but Yudaken claims that we should "reexamine our values." I don't believe that there are many college students out there that just vote because that's what our parents or grandparents believe. We're in college for goodness sake! We have to think about what we say and when we write papers or talk in class. We are educated, and although we are still in the process, we're on the same level as liberals. Republicans, like Democrats, think about why we vote a certain way. I get tired of all this bashing of conservative views because our current president didn't do a good job. If you focus you're judgmental views on one president, or one idea, then this country, whether under Obama or McCain, can't learn to work together to be respectful or well-functioning.

Kaitlin O'Donnell
Student

From **DEBATE** on page 1

irresponsible" in his lifetime. Collins offered cutting agricultural subsidies, eliminating subsidies for corn-based ethanol, and a slight tax hike for the wealthy.

Many of Allen's answers came back to his ambitious health care plan, a idea that Collins disagrees with in part because of the estimated \$75-\$100 billion annual cost.

When the candidates were given the chance to ask questions directly of their opponents, Collins joked that "at this point, we could probably give each other's answers."

Many in the crowd were proudly displaying their party allegiance with stickers, pins, while a red-shirted crowd of Collins supporters clustered together. While few seemed undecided, they were willing to give some kudos to the opposition.

"Collins is well spoken, she's good at finding different ways of approaching question," said USM grad Danielle Askini, adding that Collins used this approach to side with both Obama and McCain on

different issues throughout the debate.

"She uses key phrases to swing liberal votes like 'oh, I have this energy policy I voted with Obama on. Using things liberals can buy into is a clever strategy," said Askini.

Allen actually attacked the same Obama plan that Collins supported, claiming that it was too shortsighted, and noting that it is not the same energy policy Obama supports today.

Mya Tavaréz admits that while she's proud of the accomplishments of a female senator from that it's "time for a new direction. I don't think she will be on board for change that's really needed."

"Every candidate has important issues, you can't blame [Allen] for making it a central issue," said Joe Lizotte, recent USM grad and Collins supporter. His favorite thing about Collins? "I like how she works together, not just the party line."

Jeff Douchette, President of the USM College Democrats thought Allen's aggressive strategy served him well in the

debate. "Tom did a good job of reminding voters how Collins has aligned with Bush, and not letting her have a pass on votes that have hurt the country, and Maine."

The debate was sponsored by USM's Muskie School of Public Service, MPBN, the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at The University of Maine, and the League of Women voters.



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USM Ignited by kindle and the Bioneers

Arthur Page
Contributing Writer

Kindle, the northern New England Bioneers conference was hosted, among other places, at USM. Every year the Bioneers have a conference in several locations on the same weekend. The conference aims to teach its participants how culture, society, and business are connected with issues of environment sustainability.

The Bioneers have been meeting since the group started in 1990, but until now USM has never been on the list of conference sites. This year USM almost didn't make the list of sites, but some last minute work by Ted Regan, the event organizer, secured it as a location (even after USM was told that there would be no additional locations for the



PHOTO COURTESY OF SAMUEL COUSINS
Singer and Song writer, Emilia Dahlin, seen here performing one of her songs live for the audience at the Bioneers conference.

Bioneers conference this year. What is exactly is a Bioneer? Before last weekend, I'm not sure anyone at USM really knew, and regrettably not too many USM students ever found out. The event was slated to cost \$300 for

“You can’t fight environmental issues without looking at human rights, without looking at culture, and without looking at the very way that we live. It did a great job at attacking the hard issues hollistically.”

-Eric Favreau

all participants, including USM Students. If you're still broke from buying text books, the \$300 price tag was likely going to limit your admittance. However, in the week leading up to the conference, scholarships were provided to make the event free for USM students, but it may have been too late for a large student turnout..

The workshops were lead by industry leaders in sustainability, and covered topics ranging from new media to community activism for rights to control access to public sources of water. No matter what your personal flavor of sustainability may be, the Bioneers covered it.

There was a heavy emphasis placed on blending art and music with presentations. There were several sessions of dance and music between speakers to get participants moving. This included everything from a performance by singer songwriter Emilia Dahlin to live dance by the Keigwin and Company dance troupe. Why were the arts used to help combat some of these environmental issues? When asked, about the conference Eric Favreau, a student at USM said:

“You can’t fight environmental issues without looking at human rights, without looking at culture, and without looking at the very way that we live. It did a great job at attacking the hard issues hollistically.”

Kevin Casey, another USM student present at the conference had this to say about his experience when asked what he thought of the Bioneers conference:

“I thought the Bioneers conference was a great success. It was a great display of bright individuals from all professions, talking about the importance of coming

together as a community and stressing the environmental issues, problems, and solutions that we can do together.”

The conference was a great success for all those who went, but we still don't know what exactly a Bioneer is. To answer, lets look at the Bioneers Kindle website. Who are Bioneers? They say:

“Bioneers are social and scientific innovators from all walks of life and disciplines who have peered deep into the heart of living systems to understand how nature operates, and to mimic ‘nature’s operating instructions’ to serve human ends without harming the web of life.”

That’s a mouthful, to say the least, so we can sum it up like this: A Bioneer is a person who recognizes the ways in which we are all connected; how our society is connected to business and how business is connected to the



PHOTO COURTESY OF SAMUEL COUSINS
TwodancersfromtheKeigwinandCompany, NYC Dance Troupe Extraordinaire dance company seen here in the middle of one of their live performances.

environment. A Bioneer seeks to understand the impact we have on the environment and the necessary work before we can achieve our goals as a society while also protecting the environment. They seek to understand because they care, and through their compassion for the issues, Bioneers embark to create change leading to a sustainable tomorrow.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SAMUEL COUSINS
The conference organizer, Ted Regan, is seen here talking with some local high school students about the conference.

CAMPUS EVENTS - October 27-31

Monday 27	Tuesday 28	Wednesday 29	Thursday 30	Friday 31
Community Conversation about the Political Process- <i>Conversation about the political process will be held.</i> Where: Upstairs Lounge, Lewiston campus When: 11:45a.m.-12:25p.m. For more information about this event or to RSVP, please email commservlac@gmail.com or call 753-6547.	Candidate Debates at USM- <i>Candidates for Maine’s 1st Congressional District, Chellie Pingree and Charles Summers will debate.</i> Where: Hannaford Lecture Hall, 88 Bedford Street, Portland campus When: 12-1p.m. For more information please contact Lauren Webster (207)780-4862 or at lwebster@usm.maine.edu	USM Flu Clinic- <i>University Health has scheduled a flu vaccine clinic.</i> Where: Multi-Purpose Room 162 L, Lewiston campus Where: 12-3:30p.m. For more information contact Terri Pelletier at 753-6551.	“Life of the Party: Critical Choices”- <i>Representatives from the Democratic, Green, and Republican parties will present their party’s platform, discuss its relationship to their candidates and reveal what they see as the burning issues of this election.</i> Where: Woodbury Campus Center, Amphitheater, Portland When: 4:15-6:30p.m. For more information please contact Pat Finn at 780-4284.	The WMPG Friday Night Fall Film Festival- <i>“Head” will be shown at the USM Gerald E. Talbot Lecture Hall.</i> Price: Free to USM students, \$5 general admission, tickets only available the night of the event Where: Gerald E. Talbot Lecture Hall, Portland campus When: 7p.m. For more information on this event please contact Mgr. Jim Rand at (207) 780-4424 or email stationmanager@wmpg.org . For more information on the up coming shows please visit www.wmpg.org .

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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 Page 12. Jake Cowan on sweating
 Page 13. Film review: "W"

Calling all college girls: Forever 21 wrought with controversy

Jenna Howard

A&E Editor

For better or for worse, the cheap-chic chain Forever 21 has moved to South Portland, opening up shop in one of the largest spaces of the Maine Mall, nestled en route between Portland and Gorham campuses.

Rumored to be a chain of child-labor-supporting, bible-thumping, sellers of clothes-that-tear-after-two-wears, Forever 21 is looking to their target market (hello ladies ages 18-24), to boost their sales. From the looks of the lavish space, they have the faith in a strong southern Maine following. But before reaching the check-out, check the facts.

They promote a Christian message: True. Buy something at Forever 21 and your purchase will be put inside a yellow plastic bag with black letters. The salesgirl will ask if you want the receipt in the bag and slide it your way. Check the underside of the bag, only visible when it's got something inside. The words 'John 3:16' are printed twice down there. This refers to a frequently quoted Bible verse, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son,

that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." It is said this refers to Forever 21's owner's religion, but also rumored to be a strange marketing technique to draw attention to the store.

Garment workers called for boycott of Forever 21. True. According to Corpwatch.org, an organization that 'holds corporations accountable,' in November 2001, workers producing clothing for Forever 21 called for a boycott of all Forever 21 stores until unsanitary working conditions and payroll improved. Three years later, the matter was settled out of court and the company, still admitting no wrongdoing, publicly stated that they share a belief that garment workers should labor in lawful conditions and should be treated fairly and with dignity.

They have been sued by consumers several times. False. They have been sued by other designers, however. The designers accuse Forever 21 of ripping off their designs and logos, including by Gwen Stefani, Anna Sui, and Diane von Fürstenberg.

Forever 21 is known for low prices and semi-low quality textiles, but also for keeping up with the fashion-forward, something few local retailers have been great at, besides a handful of boutiques in downtown

Portland who price above the means of the college girls in question.

The store began in the 80's on the streets of L.A. by Don Chang and his wife Jin, who moved to America from Korea in 1981 and opened a small store in Los Angeles three years later. Forever 21 now operates 360 stores in 40 states plus Canada, Dubai, and Singapore.

When I contacted Forever 21's customer service department to see if a socially conscious consumer should shop there, they did not offer a comment. This doesn't necessarily mean that they aren't trying to be responsible, yet, it does make me wonder. We're consumers at a time in the history of the garment industry when many large companies are using sweatshops and heads of the companies get richer, while workers struggle to make minimum wage. With a sexy website that is easy to order from, Forever 21's site doesn't mention anything about it being a responsible organization. I suggest we do our homework before making purchase decisions, awareness is the best medicine.

Don't Stay Home

Do-It-Yourself

How USM students took to this challenge, brightly.

Jenna Howard
A&E Editor

For the Art Student Union, a student group dedicated to helping people gain knowledge of the visual arts, it was important that their art show, ‘D-I-Y,’ selected student works, be more critical and cutting-edge than in years past.

I walked though the piles of submissions from USM students in Kidder Lounge the evening after they’d been due. If students were following this prompt, Do-It-Yourself, it was hard to tell. Many were paintings and drawings that seemed miles away from the theme D-I-Y, which isn’t just about your own hand at the paintbrush.

The modern Do-It-Yourself effigy is a product of human efficiency at work, ‘Yankee ingenuity,’ as it might be called in these parts. It’s the working of minds and creative motive to produce something useful, valuable. Much pop-culture attention has been given to D-I-Y, as magazines and television programs hurry to supply tips and trends to the masses.

The 15-day show in the Area Gallery of the Woodbury Campus Center illustrated what the ASU felt about the theme. “DIY subculture explicitly critiques modern consumer culture, which emphasizes that the solution to



our needs is to purchase things, and instead encourage people to take technologies into their own hands to solve needs.”

“When selecting the work, we really considered the prompt, in fact, we were critical,” said Justin Levesque, 22, a senior photography major, president of the ASU, “We needed to see the perimeters of D-I-Y were played with.”

The standout submission, if not for it’s color and positioning, was submitted by a USM sculptor, Patricia Flynn, who’s pipe-cleaner and rubbish wall-hanging transforms the dull into something flashy and forward.

The Art Student Union asked for viewer participation through

an installation built on one wall, hoping for students to contribute to the show. They asked for additions to a wall of photocopied works that provide commentary on the D-I-Y era, and our role in it.

For more information about ASU, check out it’s page on the USM site, <http://student-groups.usm.maine.edu/bsu/groups/asu.html>

Monday, October 27 - Make model peace not model war!

Model United Nations Organization Meeting. Any student interested in world affairs, travel, leadership, education and great times is welcome. 7-8 p.m./ 423 Glickman Library, Portland campus/ For more information Email Jelena Sarenac at jelena.sarenac@maine.edu

Tuesday, October 28 - Clash of the Titans!

Go check out this uber-popular weekly series of cover band battles. This week’s bout will be between Soundgarden and Tool. Get there early if you want to get tickets! 21+//Doors 9 p.m./ \$7/ The Big Easy/ 55 Market St., Portland/ 775-2266/ 21+

Wednesday, October 29 - Yoga! Y-y-y-yoga!

Ashtanga Yoga is the most challenging form of yoga, while including meditation and flowing movement. It’s offered at Level 1 for those who dare at USM. 6-7:30 p.m./\$10 for the semester for USM students/ Sullivan Complex/ Portland campus/ 780-4939

Thursday, October 30 - Scary Pets!

Get in the Halloween spirit by strutting your puppy around in his or her costume with other dogs at Planet Dog Company Store’s Halloween party. You can enjoy the tricks while they enjoy the treats. Best costume and spookiest howl contests! Free!// 6 to 7:30 p.m./Planet Dog Company Store/ 211 Marginal Way, Portland/ 347-8606

Friday, October 31 - Happy Halloween!

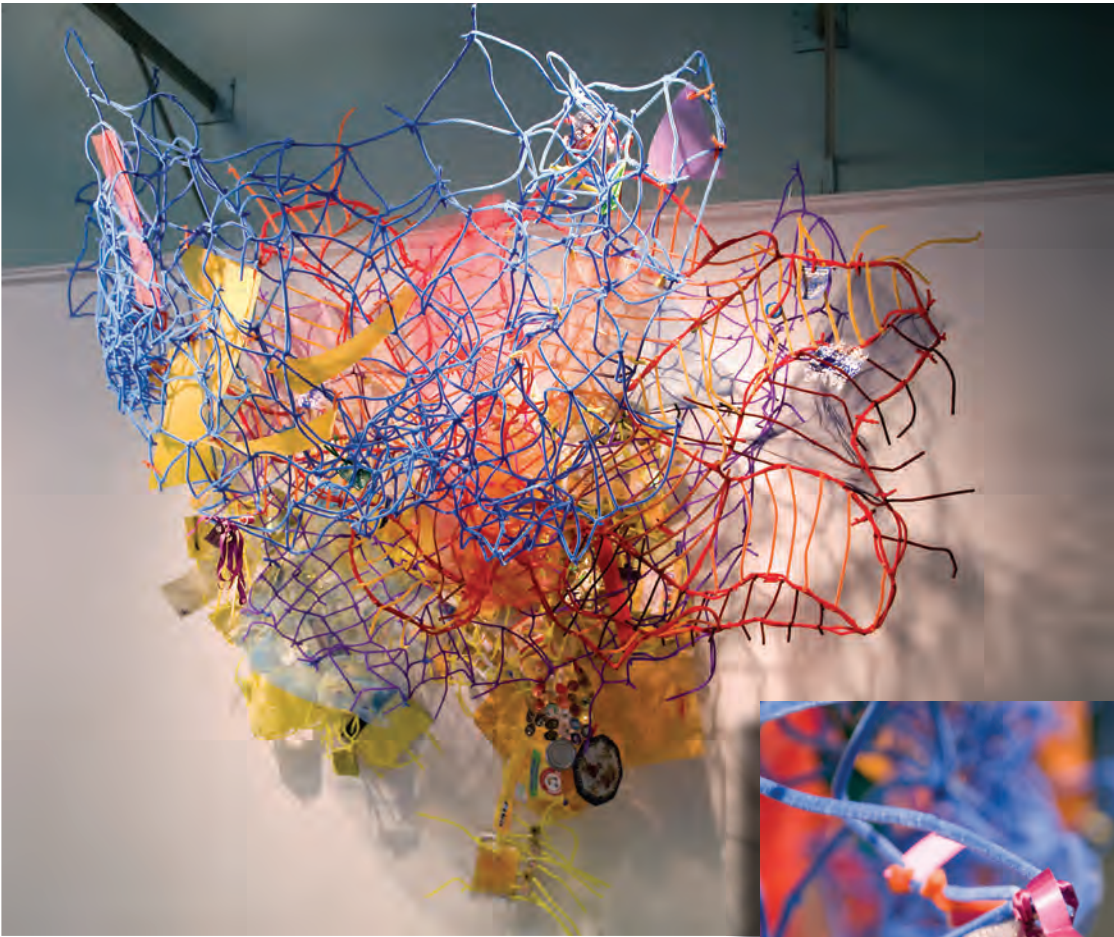
All Halloween parties don’t have to be scary. The Space Gallery is hosting their annual Halloween dance party. Prizes for the best costumes. 21+// 9:00 p.m./ Space Gallery/ 538 Congress Street, Portland/ 828-5600

Saturday. November 1 - So Stringy!

The Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra plays the afternoon away for all of you in Gorham who have high hopes for something more than spending the afternoon hanging out at the Crack. 3-5 p.m./ \$3 students, \$6 general/ Gorham Middle School/Gorham/ 780-5555

Sunday, November 2 - It’s yummy time!

1st Sunday brunch at Caiola’s is the best meal you’ll have in a while. It’s the only day of the week the Portland spot opens before evening, and it’s worth the trip to the West end. 58 Pine Street, Portland/ 772-1110



Above: Patricia Flynn’s sculpture shown here, is made from pipe cleaners and various found material.

Right: A close up example of some acquired objects used in Patricia Flynn’s sculpture.





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The Station revamped?

Why this overlooked venue is going to be worth the trip



ILLUSTRATION BY
JENNA HOWARD / A&E EDITOR
RANDY HAZELTON / PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Andrew Rice
Staff Writer

In the last few weeks, renovations of the most secret kind have been brewing underground at The Station on St. John Street. The management and booking of the club has fallen into the hands of Jason Legassie, manager of Legacy Maine, a record label and booking agency.

Over the years many USM students have tolerated the small, cramped performance space; really more of a pool hall than a music venue. But according to Legassie, The Station is about to look very different.

"Renovations just started. A new restaurant is going in, and we've just started tearing out old wallpaper and painting new walls. We're going to keep 9 pool tables but sell the rest to make room for a bigger stage, so that bigger national [bands] come through."

The Station is slowly becoming the much needed venue to make Portland a routine stop for national acts. This is a much needed upgrade if Portland wants to be seen as the epicenter of music and culture in Maine.

The bar and lounge area will also be receiving new and improved gadgets for patrons' visual pleasure. "We're going to try and

get a much bigger and nicer T.V. down there too, for watching sports games," said Legassie.

Legacy Maine, Legassie's label, has been getting some attention with notable local bands, like Cambiata, headlining packed houses and opening for other nationals.

Along with the shift in management comes promises of a brighter future. In the next few days hip-hop group Jedi Mind Tricks and pop-rock outfit Plain White T's make stops at The Station, while November will bring the Ying-Yang Twins and Sondre Lerche; and Legassie promises more. "We're going to keep

doing two to four concerts a week and we've got tons of big nationals coming through. There's a lot in the works."

Ever since the State Theater closed in early '07, Portland has lost its premier venue for middle-of-the-road national acts, but a "save the scene" movement has been brewing. In the forefront of this venue revolution has been the Station, which has attempted to fill the void in the Portland music scene, especially on the all-ages front. The State Theater, which could accommodate 2,058, closed its doors after management and owner woes.

In the next month or so, be on the lookout for rumblings in the small Portland music scene. If Legassie and company succeed in their mission of transformation, then be prepared to see some of your favorite bands in the comfort of your own city.

Visit www.myspace.com/thestationlive for details on the upcoming onslaught of awesome.

EPICUREAN EPICS

by **Anne McCormack**

Treat Time in Maine

You know the types of food-stuffs that tend to accumulate in cupboards that you never seem to eat, want, or need, and are not really sure how they got there? Things like cans of salmon, chopped clams, artichoke hearts, stewed tomatoes, or boxes of jello, pudding, tapioca, bouillon cubes, or those varieties of soup that maybe you bought on sale but aren't actually that appetizing? Plus the straggler boxes of penne, linguine, spaghetti, or elbows, that all together make just about a pound? How about those frosty little tidbits from the freezer from when the kids were home from college this summer? A handful of crinkle fries, a few deformed looking buffalo wings, and some largely unidentifiable hunks of meat.

As a lifelong "fresh" food consumer, I will occasionally clean out the cupboard. I donate most

of the stuff to the library during their "can-do" month which takes collections of food in lieu of fines for overdue books. This semester, however, I have systematically gone shelf by shelf, cupboard by cupboard, and actually eaten through most of the boxes and cans, concocting some pretty weird meals. And it was not because I don't have any overdue fines, I do (plus having the dubious distinction of being the only library trustee in town history whose library card privileges were suspended for a combination of exorbitant late fees and one very lost book).

No, I ate my way through my cupboards and freezer out of necessity to stave off starvation. But last Tuesday my student loan check arrived and I was ready for a treat. Lobster is on the cheap these days, and after I went to the library I headed

down to the waterfront to buy a few feisty crustaceans.

That brings to mind the time I had Harbor Fish Market pack up a crate of lobsters to send to a Texan friend. When he called to thank me, he drawled that he was

sorry he couldn't eat them — they were no good. Apparently they turned green.

This recipe was one of the winners in the state of Maine's annual lobster recipe contest held at the state house.

CARIBBEAN LOBSTER SALAD

2 lbs. fresh lobster meat
4 teaspoons fresh key lime juice
2 1/2 tablespoons olive oil
1 garlic clove, minced
1 cup Moroccan olives

2 avocados cut in chunks
Fresh cilantro to taste
Black pepper to taste

Combine all ingredients. This recipe can be easily modified or halved. For example, I bought a regular lime and just added some artichoke hearts. Seems to me I saw a can around somewhere, viva la leftovers!

JAKE COWAN ON: SWEATING

by Jake Cowan

"I don't sweat, I rain." Famous lines from the not-so-famous 1995 film, *Angus*. For men like me everywhere, this is our mantra. We sweat as if we were stuck in the Sahara Desert being dutch ovened by Roseanne Barr. It's out of our grasp, we just can't help it. Do you know how many times I've had to sit out "YMCA" at Bar and Bat Mitzvah's because of pit stains? Every single one! I can't even remember the last time I spelled out Y-M-C-A with my arms. But I always owned in limbo - I once limbo'd underneath a car.

Now, my pit stains aren't your average run of the mill "wet spot" pit stains. It's like a kiddie pool filled with vile bodily fluids under my arms. I can always tell when my pit stains are forming, too. I call the beginning stage, "The Drip." The Drip occurs when you lift up an arm and a drop of sweat plunges downwards from your pit all the way down your ribs. You think it's just going to be a tiny little drop of nothing, then the next time you check your pits you have evolved into sweaty

Rorschach of death located on the underarm of your shirt.

What's a sweaty boy to do?



Old Spice Red Zone comes in handy from time to time. It doesn't always keep me dry, but it unleashes scents like Mountain Rush, Aqua Reef, and Diaper Fresh Cloud from underneath

the pits. The only thing that has kept me dryer than british humor is Certain Dri. Yes, Certain Dri!

The amazing 72 hour protection against odor that prevents disgusting perspiration. Certain Dri clogs the pores under your armpits for 72 hours! Of course this isn't healthy, but it works.

I can grind as hard as I want on any dance floor I please and high five my friends all night without worrying about those dreaded pit stains. Well, sweating is a natural reaction and it is your body's way of cooling down. So, your sweat must go somewhere else, right? Indeed it does. When wearing Certain Dri, your sweat comes pouring out of your forehead, chest, and ass. After applying Certain Dri my forehead gets so wet tiny babies and animals could turn it into a Slip-n-slide - something I am not morally opposed to.

One time I was wearing a gray shirt at a party and the front of my shirt was dripping with perspiration. I looked like Bobby Brown after an all-night crack binge. But my pits? Completely dry. Everyone was making fun of me, but c'mon, sweating out of your chest is so much manlier than sweating from your pits. Just tell everybody you've been whipping your pecks into shape all day and those puppies were letting off a little steam.

As for the swamp ass? Wear the thickest pair of jeans you own. A

bad case of swamp ass will tear through any pair of khakis in a second. Sweat pants will only make matters worse. You could also just wear a diaper. They don't call 'em Depends for nothing. I can't tell you how many times I've depended on Depends in times of ass perspiration, not to mention times when I just feel like crapping myself. If you ask most people they'd say, "He does it way too many times." If you ask me I'd say, "Not enough."

So, there are your options. I really haven't corralled this sweating problem into a nice, dry ranch yet, but I have a feeling better times are ahead. I just shaved my armpits. I felt as if my armpit hair acted as icicles or stalagmites dripping hot, acidic sewage from my pits. I hope this works, or I won't be grinding anytime soon.

Jake Cowan is a young man who attends USM and makes jokes.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

by Jeff Hodenberg

For a 'from-scratch' feel, Hot Suppa is sure to please

When I mention the words "Hot Suppa," I'm disappointed when people don't know what I'm referring to, I am talking about the one and only Hot Suppa, an eatery I've come to appreciate, located on Congress street a little ways up from Longfellow Square.

Perhaps the reason no one knows what I'm talking about is that Hot Suppa serves breakfast and lunch, not dinner, and many of my peers are not ready to leave the house before 2 pm. The outside of the building doesn't look like much - tinted windows obscure the inside, and it's hardly bigger than a hole in the wall. But stumble in before closing time at 2:30, and find the best hole in the wall you could hope for. Those tinted windows suddenly provide a little bit of privacy, and the seating area

has a cozy, artsy feel to it. The staff are friendly and the service is great; they genuinely seem to want to make everyone comfortable.

As for the menu, it has a down-home appeal, yet it's blended with high-quality ingredients. The breakfast side of the menu has a great variety of options, from a biscuit and sausage gravy with two eggs to eggs benedict with fried green tomatoes or Canadian bacon. The corned beef hash is absolutely delicious and has a great 'from scratch' feel to it. It's not all artery clogging choices either, but breakfast for me is meant to be a hearty, filling experience.

If breakfast isn't quite your thing, Hot Suppa serves lunch all day as well; simply flip the menu over or take a look at the specials (which are posted up on

the wall or in front of the register). Lunch at Hot Suppa consist of only one item for me: The Cubano. I don't know of another place in this town to even GET a Cubano (French bread grilled sandwich with pickles, whole grain mustard, pulled pork and ham slices with melted gruyere cheese) let alone one that is this freakin' good. Specials change seasonally as far as I can tell, this summer showed a lamb burger and feta cheese which was one of the best burgers I've ever had. Sides for lunch are selected a la carte from a mini menu. The first time I'd ever had falafel was in this place as well - my girlfriend grinned as she informed me that I was eating vegetarian food and completely loving it.

The downside to Hot Suppa is also one of its strengths: the place is very

small, able to seat less than 50 people at a time. It's also a little bit more expensive than other lunch spots in the area, but not by too much, and not for what kind of product you're getting. The price is worth it completely, just be prepared for a possible short wait for a table. I don't know if I should be writing about this place, because it already takes long enough to get a seat. However, that would be unfair, so do yourself a favor and go discover the best kept secret in breakfast and lunch in Portland.



Oliver Stone lays liberal understanding on

W

Strange moments in political cinema

David O'Donnell

News Editor

Given that we're still living the Bush years, are we in any place to stand back and take stock of what the man and his Presidency really mean? Any better than I was able to ruminate on what my generation was all about when I was 14, or how pointless my philosophy class is when I'm supposed to write a 20-page paper?

But making *the* statement on George W. Bush is just one route Oliver Stone could go with his new film, *W.* (Another is a long, SNL-style Bush-bashing comedy, which the trailers would like you to think it is with their classic Bushisms and Richard Dreyfus as Dick Cheney prancing around the White House like Dr. Evil.)

Thankfully, he chose a much more oddball route: to exploit everything that is weird and good, and almost in poor taste, about making a movie about an unpopular sitting President, right as the public has gotten used to ignoring him.

In 1992, Stone's *JFK* played very loose with the facts surrounding John F. Kennedy's death and the subsequent investigation - but the film's defenders pointed out that it re-created exactly the sense of confusion and paranoia that characterized the moment in history.

You could make a similar case for *W.*, though the facts aren't nearly as much of a problem. He doesn't have to make up characters or conspiracies, but merely

flip open any of the available tell-all books or newspaper archives to flesh out the drama behind the big decisions that have shaped Bush's life, and increasingly in his later years, the course of the country.

And while the film is notable - considering how surreal Oliver Stone can get - for how straightforward it is in the exposition of Bush's development, it obviously doesn't care about being the definitive biopic. It's all about right now, even when it's traveling back in time thirty years, and it assumes we come to the table with at least a superficial grasp of what's been happening for the past eight.

Key events are picked up and ignored at will: there's no reading *My Pet Goat* to school children as 9/11 unfolds...in fact, virtually nothing from that inaugural year. There is very little Governor Bush. No Florida recount, no DWI arrest (though some sure near-misses). We jump straight from Bush telling his pastor that he's considering running for President in 1998, to he and his top cabinet officials sitting around the oval office and cooking up the war on terror tagline "axis of evil" in 2002.

Bush prays in that meeting with his pastor, and at the conclusion of nearly every cabinet meeting. Lefty atheist Stone never seems to be mocking his commitment to his own brand of Christianity.

Neither is Bush mocked for being a child of privilege - he's not completely absolved for whatever bad decisions result, but neither is his father.

"You're a Bush", the elder Bush says at one point. "Act like one."

Ostensibly, his son never really took that order, and instead re-defined his family into a negative campaign buzzword. We rarely have to look at it that way, but Stone gives Bush a lot more credit for being self-motivated than the popular caricature of him does.

It can come off as gentle. There are no definitive recipients of the blame for some of the biggest, baddest turns (ie, the one into Baghdad). How do you decide what drove America to over-extend itself across the globe? Bush Sr. didn't even start it, though he seemed more aware of the drawbacks. Bush Jr. was more eager to get in way over his head, but not without plenty of encouragement.

There are some supremely silly moments. The movie was made very quickly, and there are times when it feels like a Lifetime movie as it hashes out some of the pre-fame tribulations in Bush's romantic, business and political life.

But those moments breeze by, and the sometimes puzzling build-up pays off in a big way in two key scenes of the conclusion. They are nothing we haven't seen on television - they even use small snippets of the actual broadcasts, which is cheaper than training another impressionist to play Nancy Pelosi, I'm sure - but they strike a much different chord when their time comes in the film. That, to me, is an indication that *W.* works, even if just for this moment.

Bulworth (1998)

The country is so locked in a culture war right now that it's difficult to remember, back in 1998, we mostly hated ourselves. Democrats were getting tired of their President, Republicans tired of their leaders' obsession with the President's genitals, and Nader was two years away from scoring 4% of the popular vote. It's that climate that allowed Warren Beatty to make a film in which he plays a rapping U.S. Senator, who sleeps with Halle Berry and drops rhymes about how the two-party system sucks, yo, whenever there's a microphone present.

"We've got people in this country that can't even buy a meal! Ask a brother who's been downsized if he's gettin' any deal."

The War Room (1994)

If you know who political operative James Carville is, you would never pass up the opportunity to see him weep like a baby. You get all that and more in this documentary about Bill Clinton's 1992 campaign team, specifically chief strategists Carville and George Stephanopoulos, two truly graceful political ballerinas...see them jeté over rumors of marital infidelity that dog their candidate as early as the New Hampshire primary.

"It's the economy, stupid!"

My Fellow Americans (1996)

When two elderly ex-Presidents from opposing parties are nearly assassinated by the corrupt new administration, well, naturally their first instinct is to covertly travel the country together, meeting ordinary Americans and quietly uncovering the truth. The movie is aimed squarely at the over-70 crowd, rated PG for gentle political humor and a plot that requires heavy blood pressure medication.

"Wait a minute. Is that President Kramer holding a gun on a naked guy in a blindfold?"

Honorable mention:

Primary Colors (1998)

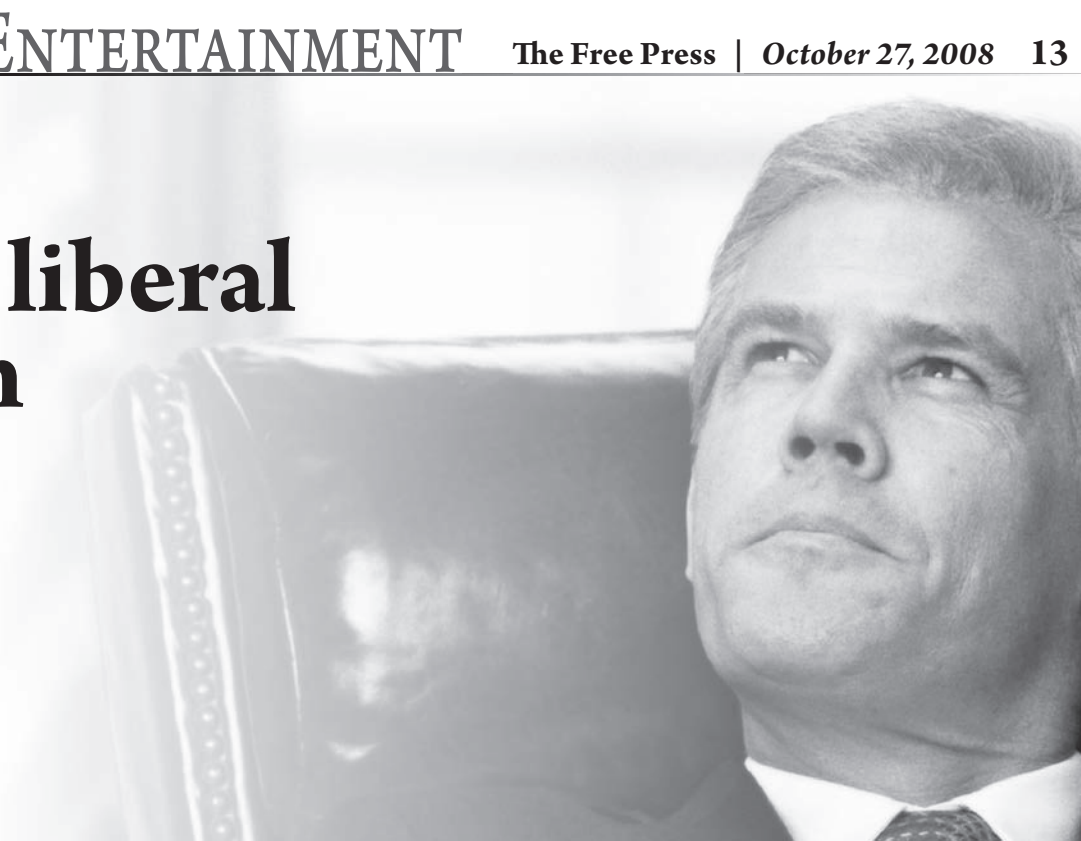
John Travolta plays Clinton! Really!

The American President (1995)

Michael Douglas plays Dukakis. Really.

Dave (1993)

Kevin Kline plays a presidential decoy who has to take over the office when the real president dies. I'm pretty that's standard procedure - the order goes something like decoy, then best SNL impressionist, then dog groomer, then vice president and speaker of the house.



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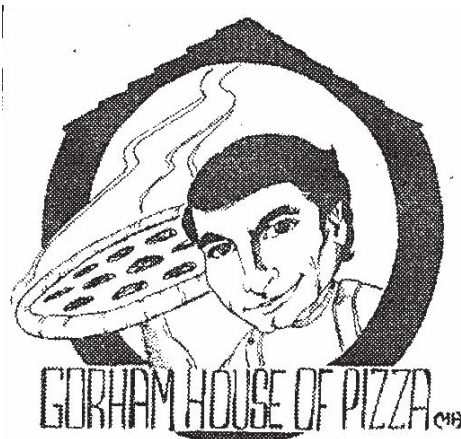
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Random Fact!

The first American cheerleaders were a bunch of guys at Princeton in the 1880's.

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

PUZZLES

Newsday Crossword

The Free Press | October 27, 2008 15

INSTALLATIONS by Gail Grabowski
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ACROSS

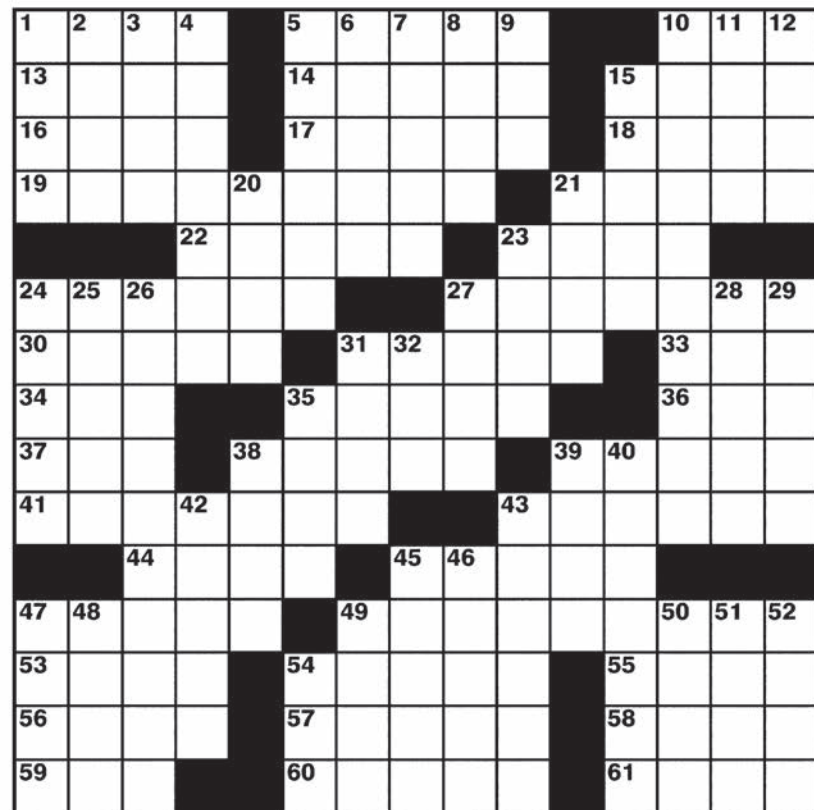
- 1 Fail to include
5 Hamburger serving
10 Distant
13 Mexican money
14 Think alike
15 Tenth of a dollar
16 Pronto, in memos
17 Drizzles or pours
18 Highways: Abbr.
19 One not of the clergy
21 Goliath, for one
22 Belt holders
23 Pillowlike
24 Not at school
27 TV news segment
30 Watermelon throwaways
31 Sword metal
33 Luau necklace
34 Do-it-yourself purchase
35 Inexpensive
36 Hosp. areas
37 Conceit
38 Clip wool from
39 Adorable child
41 Gave the meaning of
43 Cone-shaped dwellings
44 Cornfield bird
45 "Laughing" African beast
47 Corporation's rule
49 Oregon peak
53 Ill-mannered fellow
54 Undercover drug agents
55 Nervous

- 56 Toothpaste holder
57 Part of a pound
58 Suffix for million
59 Fourth-yr. collegians
60 Travelers' documents
61 Homeowner's document

DOWN

- 1 Milky gem
2 Flat-topped elevation
3 London exclamation
4 Knocked down
5 Talking bird
6 Visibly startled
7 Threesomes
8 Where Nashville is: Abbr.
9 Affirmative answer
10 Exemplar of good health
11 Prayer ending
12 Take a break
15 Wander aimlessly
20 Long periods of time
21 Soccer score
23 Flow slowly
24 Questioned
25 Light brown
26 Golf-bag contents
27 Be dressed in
28 Spooky
29 Gets up
31 Storage building
32 Coffee alternative

- 35 Gnaw
38 Winter forecast
39 Penny
40 Looming in the distance
42 Angry
43 Forms of a verb
45 Antlers
46 Desert plant
47 Crunchy sandwiches, briefly
48 "Watch ___ step!"
49 Hawaiian island
50 Garfield dog
51 Fairy-tale monster
52 Tinted
54 Election Day month: Abbr.



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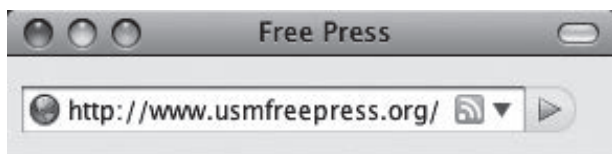
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HANGIN' WITH MR. TARDIFF

by Mike Tardiff

Luke warm about WEEI

The election is unavoidable. Everywhere you look there they are, Barack and John, spewing partisan rhetoric.

I use sports to get away from all of that; when Joe the Plumber and Joe the Vice President are too much, I tune into a game or listen to some sports banter. But one sports outlet has made escapism through sports impossible.

WEEI took over 95.5 and 95.9 on the FM dial replacing WRED and WJAB. Considered the number one sports radio station in the country, WEEI now provides Mainers with an all-sport alternative.

One problem: it isn't all sports.

Seldom can you listen to Dennis and Callahan without hearing the conservative, Obama-bashing and socially inept criticisms of WEEI's shock jocks. And while, admittedly, WEEI is a strong hold on my presets, I enjoy their content in the same way I enjoy listening to politically-slanted pundits like Rush Limbaugh or Al Franken.

They are entertaining not because of their wit or intelligence, but because of their closed-mindedness and their inability to see beyond the veneer of their candidate's public persona. I am also not so naïve as to think this isn't intentional on their part. Controversy breeds ratings. Being conservative in arguably

the bluest state in the bluest part of the United States is a sure way to garner ratings. But, at that point, calling WEEI a sports station is a bit of a stretch, isn't it?

Inviting Curt Schilling onto your programs, like WEEI so often does, is a subsequent invitation for political rantings and unfounded personal attacks. If viewers want a taste of Schilling they should read his blog.

Unfortunately, intertwining sports and politics isn't the only flaw I've noticed in WEEI in attempts to attract listeners. Their broadcast journalists, if you can call them that, often resort to personal attacks while inhibiting intelligent discussion and comments by their listeners.

There's no place for this, anywhere.

Recently I was listening to a WEEI program when the topic of Tom Brady's health took center stage. The pundits on the stations immediately entered rave mode making insensitive comments and uttering phrases that sound like they came directly from the O'Reilly Factor.

In talking about Brady's recent knee surgery the commentator questioned Brady's choice of surgeon, insinuating that the man who performed the ACL reconstruction was somehow inept. To corroborate his point the pundit compared Dr. Neal S. ElAttrache, Brady's doctor, to the sex-crazed and infinitely unethical doctors

of the FX TV show Nip-Tuck. Of course, if anyone has seen the show they know that doctors like that are pure works of fiction.

But what was equally disturbing was a comment that followed declaring Dr. ElAttrache a skeptical choice based on his last name - in fact, this so called journalist cited the random "capital letter" in the middle of his last name as a red flag for his lack of medical acumen.

In what sounded like a discussion facilitated by Anne Coulter the crew at WEEI didn't pause at these clearly Anglo-centric and insensitive remarks.

In reality, ElAttrache is more than qualified to cut open one of America's sports heroes. He's

won awards and fellowships. He's written 14 textbooks, filmed ten instructional videos and facilitated over 150 lecture.

Nip Tuck, he's not.

WEEI never ceases to amaze me on my trips from Saco to Portland with their sideshow diversions.

I only wish I had some hip-hop to take my mind off all this political talk.

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FROM PAGE 15

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	LOOPS	SOFT
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	CROW	HYENA
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LOUT	NARCS	EDGY
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CATCH UP ON YOUR DOGS

It's been a while since we last went to press and a lot has happened for Husky sports.

Compiled by Mike Tardiff

WOMEN'S SOCCER

The women's soccer team has lost five of their last six games and has been shutout in three of those contests. With losses to Western Connecticut, Framingham State, Eastern Connecticut, UMass-Dartmouth and Bates, the Huskies have watched their season record fall to 4-10-1. The Huskies remain winless in conference with a 0-5-1 mark in the Little East.

The lone highlight of the six-game binge came when the Huskies beat NESCAC and in-state rival Colby at home 2-1 in overtime. The two goals against the Mules accounts for half of their six game total - they have been outscored 19-4 since losing to Bates 4-1 on Oct. 7.

The Huskies have gotten offensive production from Heidi Dehaan (Lewiston) who scored two goals against Colby and Bridget Fitzgerald (Concord, NH) who scored her second goal of the season against Framingham State. Shannon Martin also contributed two assists.

Coach Lisa Petrucci's team will play host to St. Joseph's on Oct. 29 and hope to pick up their first conference win when they travel to Rhode Island College on Nov.1.

MEN'S SOCCER

The men's soccer team has won their last two games against Western Connecticut and Maine Maritime in 2-0 shutout fashion to move their record to 3-3 over their last six games. The Huskies also defeated conference foe UMass-Dartmouth in a 3-2 overtime battle during that stretch, while dropping games to Bates (3-0), UMaine-Farmington (3-1) and Eastern Connecticut (4-3). The Huskies, who are currently second in the Little East behind undefeated Rhode Island College (5-0-1), have compiled a 5-1-0 record in the conference and stand at 11-6-1 overall.

Over their last six games the Huskies have gotten strong play from their goalie David Kreps and have mustered fire-power from senior Peter McHugh (Portland), who tallied three goals and two assists during that time. Senior captain Greg Cox (Brookline,

MA) has also turned up the heat in his senior campaign amassing four goals and an assist in his last six games.

The Huskies will play host to Rhode Island College on Nov. 1 in Gorham in hopes of claiming a share of the conference title.

FIELD HOCKEY

The Husky field hockey team has played seven games since Oct. 7. Over that stretch Coach Bonny Brown-Denico's squad has compiled a 3-4 record. The Huskies sandwiched four losses against Keene State, Bates, UMass Dartmouth and Plymouth State with wins against Salem State, St. Joseph's and Bridgewater State. In those seven games the Huskies were outscored at a two-to-one rate (21-14), a stat that can be attributed in large part to the 8-1 and 4-0 losses they suffered at the hands of Bates and UMass-Dartmouth respectively.

The Huskies have had some bright spots, though. Junior goalkeeper Allison Hill (Cape Elizabeth) set the school mark for saves in goal during the Huskies 2-1 loss against Plymouth State. And junior forward India Lowe (Gloucester, MA) has provided

some fire-power scoring three goals and assisting on another while Caitlin Albert and Bethany Bougie each had two goals and an assist over that stretch.

With their win over Bridgewater State the Huskies moved their overall record to 8-9 while pushing their Little East record to .500 at 5-5. The Huskies are currently in seventh place in the 12-team league.

GOLF

Coach Reggie Grant's team took a break after their victory in the Southern Maine cup, but resumed action at their two biggest tournaments of the years. At the New England Intercollegiate Golf Championships, the Huskies turned in 35th-place finish out of 44 teams. The event included Div. I teams like UConn, Dartmouth and Quinnipiac. Senior captain Ben Loss (Wilmette, IL) turned in the best USM score finishing 35th in the two-day event.

The Huskies fared better at the Great Northeast Athletic Conference Championship held at the Cranston Country Club in Cranston, RI. They finished third place overall, making a second-day surge to overcome UMass-Dartmouth and move out of the fourth slot. The Huskies finished behind two Rhode Island schools,

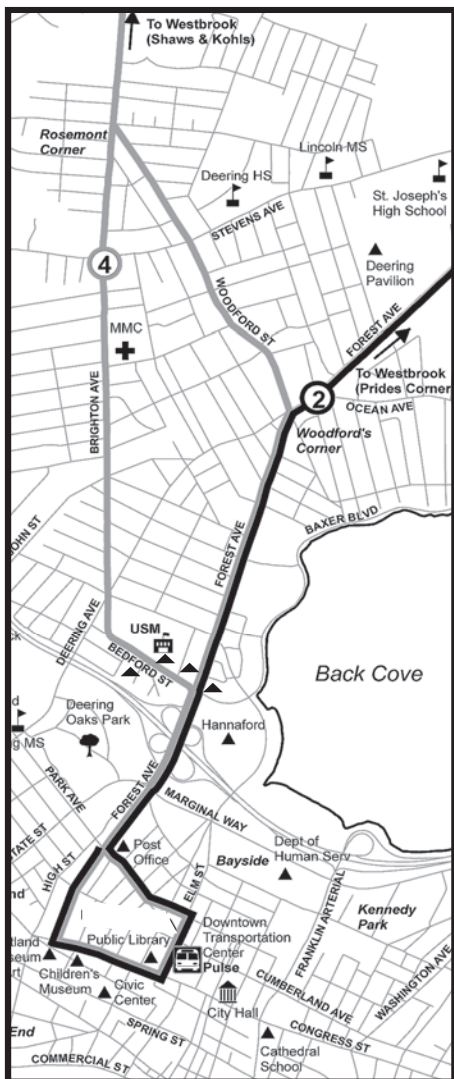
Rhode Island College and Johnson and Wales University. On the individual side, Loss finished his USM career on a strong note sharing second-place honors with freshman Cody Berkowitz (Saco). The third-place finisher bested their fourth-place effort a year ago.

CROSS COUNTRY

Both the men's and women's cross-country teams continued their strong showings. Junior Tyler Jasud (Rumford) won the individual title at the Maine State Championships, while senior Gabby Cyr (Fort Kent) turned in a solid eighth-place finish on the women's side. The men's team came up eight points short of the Bowdoin team, but the Huskies effort did not go unrecognized. Jasud, who followed in Curtis Wheeler's footsteps as the second Husky runner to win the event in as many years, was named LEC Runner of the Week for the fourth time this season. Freshman Alex Gomes (Peabody, MA) continued his impressive freshman campaign garnering the Rookie of the Week award from the LEC. Gomes was the first freshman to cross the finish line and the eighth runner overall at the State Championship. On the women's side, Cyr continued her monopoly over conference accolades earning her fourth Runner of the Week award. Her eighth place finish made her the only USM runner to crack to the top-20.

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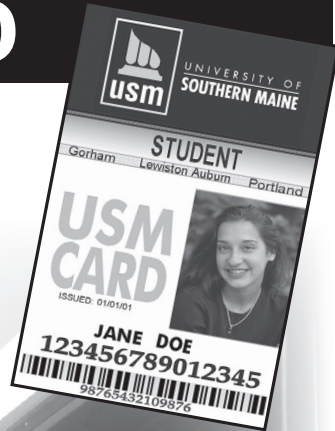
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4:45	4:52	4:55	5:15
5:15	5:22	5:25	5:45
5:45	5:52	5:55	6:15
6:15	6:22		
7:20	7:27		
9:30	9:37		
6:15	6:20	7:00	7:15
7:15	7:20	8:00	8:15
8:15	8:20	9:00	9:15
9:15	9:20	10:00	10:15
10:15	10:20	11:00	11:30
11:30	11:35	12:15	12:45
1:15	1:20	2:00	2:15
2:15	2:20	3:00	3:15
3:15	3:20	4:00	4:15
4:15	4:20	5:00	5:15
5:15	5:20	6:00	6:15
6:15	6:20	6:55	7:20
9:30	9:35	8:00	8:25
OUTBOUND	Arrives	INBOUND	Arrives
Departs Downtown METRO PULSE	Back Bay Bicycle	Arrives/Departs Forest/Bedford	Downtown METRO PULSE
9:40	9:47	10:20	10:40
10:40	10:47	11:25	11:45
11:45	11:52	12:30	12:50
12:50	12:57	1:35	1:50
3:00	3:07	3:45	4:00
4:00	4:07	4:45	5:05
5:05	5:12	5:50	6:10

2 Riverton / Forest Avenue			
OUTBOUND	Arrives	INBOUND	Arrives
Departs Downtown METRO PULSE	Back Bay Bicycle	Arrives/Departs Forest/Bedford	Downtown METRO PULSE
6:20	6:25	6:20	6:40
6:40	6:45	7:20	7:40
7:00	7:05	7:40	8:00
7:20	7:25	8:00	8:20
7:40	7:45	8:20	8:40
8:00	8:05	8:40	9:00
8:20	8:25	9:00	9:20
8:40	8:45	9:20	9:40
9:00	9:05	9:40	10:00
9:20	9:25	10:00	10:20
9:40	9:45	10:20	10:40
10:00	10:05	10:40	11:00
10:20	10:25	11:00	11:20
10:40	10:45	11:20	11:40
11:00	11:05	11:40	12:00
11:20	11:25	12:00	12:20
11:40	11:45	12:20	12:40
12:00	12:05	12:40	1:00
12:20	12:25	1:00	1:20
12:40	12:45	1:20	1:40
1:00	1:05	1:40	2:00
1:20	1:25	2:00	2:20
1:40	1:45	2:20	2:40
2:00	2:05	2:40	3:00
2:20	2:25	3:00	3:20
2:40	2:45	3:20	3:40
3:00	3:05	3:40	4:00
3:20	3:25	4:00	4:20
3:40	3:45	4:20	4:40
4:00	4:05	4:40	5:00
4:20	4:25	5:00	5:20
4:40	4:45	5:20	5:40
5:00	5:05	5:40	6:00
5:20	5:25	6:00	6:20
5:40	5:45	6:20	6:40
6:00	6:05	6:40	7:00
6:20	6:25	7:00	7:20
7:20	7:25	8:00	8:20
8:15	8:20	8:55	9:15
9:15	9:20	9:55	10:15
10:15	10:20	10:55	11:15
11:15	11:20	11:55	12:15
12:15	12:20	12:55	1:15
1:15	1:20	1:55	2:15
2:15	2:20	2:55	3:15
3:15	3:20	3:55	4:15
4:15	4:20	4:55	5:15
5:15	5:20	5:55	6:15
6:15	6:20	6:55	7:15
7:20	7:25	8:00	8:20

These partial schedules highlight USM bus stops. Connect with other METRO routes on Congress St. or at on Elm St. (off Congress St.).



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Sports career panel draws large crowd

Sport management program works to increase numbers

Mike Tardiff
Sports Editor

Jon Jennings is poised to become the president of Portland's very own minor league basketball franchise. He's worked as an assistant coach with the Boston Celtics and under legendary college basketball coach Bobby Knight at Indiana University.

Cheryl Hebert manages Olympic athletes. She's worked alongside Maine's Olympic gold medalist snowboarder Seth Wescott and helped create the record-breaking Facebook page of Michael Phelps.

Jennings and Hebert were both in Gorham last week, alongside two other panelists, as part of the Sport Management program's Career Discussion Panel held in the Hastings Formal Lounge. The panel, which was held as part of the University's open house, drew over 100 students. It offered prospective students the opportunity to hear sport business profes-

sionals discuss their career paths and field questions.

Jennings and Hebert were joined by Portia Lowe, Associate Athletic Director at Lake Forest College in Illinois, as well as Liz Riley, the Director of Group Ticketing for the Portland Sea Dogs.

Together the four panelists represented a breadth of experience and careers and showed students how far a sport-centered career can take you.

"You realize that you can reach your goals," said Israel Jasmin, a junior in the Media Studies department. "It's inspiring to know you can get there as well."

Jasmin, who attended the session with only moderate interest in the program, left feeling as though the window of possibility had been propped open slightly more by anecdotes shared by the esteemed panel.

While Jennings and Hebert told of their interactions with marquee sports figures (like Phelps, Larry

Bird and the late Red Auerbach). Lowe and Riley, the youngest of the four panelists, focused on their unconventional routes to their current positions.

But the themes for the discussion remained the same. All of the panelists stressed an active involvement in the field, the importance of mentorship and the willingness to do what it takes to succeed.

Jennings started his trek towards the sports world after being denied by Notre Dame and settling for Indiana University. It was there that he worked under the tutelage of Knight before moving onto the professional ranks with the Indiana Pacers and later the Boston Celtics.

Hebert, a Syracuse University graduate, originally wanted to follow in the footsteps of Bob Costas as a broadcaster. But after a critical self-evaluation and the discovery of his knack for marketing, she followed her dream of working for the Olympic

Committee to her current position at Octagon Sports.

A music major at Colby College, Riley went on to pursue a fellowship at Springfield College in Massachusetts before ending up at Hadlock Field. While her youthful counterpart Lowe always wanted to be the "CEO-type," it wasn't until after an internship with the Women's College Basketball Association that she narrowed her focus to athletic administration: a career path that took her from her native Texas to snowy Massachusetts, New York and finally Illinois.

It was these real-life success stories that excited junior Scott Nevers. Hearing some names that he was familiar with got him excited about the program and joining the work force. "[The panel] showed that you don't have to come from a big place to work with big athletes," Nevers said.

And he's right.

In fact, two of the panelists were from right here in Portland.

Octagon is a world-wide sport marketing firm that deals with athletes across the sports spectrum, but their action and Olympic sports branch is Portland. They have offices around the world in places like London, New York, Toronto, Tokyo and Sydney.

Even in its infancy, the USM Sport Management program has built a relationship with Octagon that has resulted in internships, as well as one hire in just a year's time.

"We have a formal relationship [with USM] and we recruit on a quarterly basis," Hebert said. "We've had six interns and they've been great."

Other internship opportunities available to students include working with the Portland Pirates, the International Tennis Hall of Fame, Arena League Football and others. Check out the program's website through the School of Business (www.usm.maine.edu/sb).

GET OUT!

by **Brandon McKenney**

"What'd you find in that tupperware?"



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"I use a multi-million dollar space based satellite system to hunt down tupperware containers hidden in the woods. What's your hobby?"

Though I can't take credit for this anonymous quote, it's the perfect description to a growing movement of adventure seekers who do just that. If you've never heard of geocaching, you're not alone. Until a week ago, I was also unaware that people had taken to hiding containers throughout the world for other adventurers to find. Geocaching has quickly grown in the US and has a substantial following even as it flies under the radar of most people. What it basically amounts to is a treasure hunt for people of all ages. Geocachers hide containers in various places, leaving unique items in the cache. They then post the coordinates of the site onto the Geocaching.com website for other adventurers to go out and find.



This past weekend I took to the woods with my friend Sarah on our first hunt for a cache. Using my iPhone as our GPS device, we parked at the Evergreen Cemetery across from Baxter Park on Stevens Avenue and set out. While most geocachers use handheld dedicated GPS units, a simple application on a GPS enabled cell phone should suffice for most cache hunting. The easiest way to seek out a cache is to find the GPS coordinates on geocaching.com. On this official website, thousands of caches are listed with coordinates, descriptions, and hints.

After entering the coordinates into my phone, we set out into the cemetery and basically allowed the GPS compass to do the work. We leisurely walked the paths of the cemetery, appreciating the size of this unique historical land. We passed a number of large burial chambers set into hills, and a duck pond at the back. A significant part of geocaching is all about the journey before the treasure at the end of the hunt. It can be a good excuse to get outside when you want something easier than a long hike or bike ride.

What most people don't know about the Evergreen cemetery is that at the back end it turns into fields and trails that visitors can enjoy by foot or bike. Our cache was supposed to be hidden at the edge of the woods where it begins to turn into a large field. After getting to the coordinates with my iPhone, we began searching the floor of the woods for a medium sized tupperware container. As weird as it was to be doing such

a thing, my interest turned to disappointment after nearly 20 minutes of failed searching. We decided to give up, but luckily we had written down the coordinates of another cache that was hidden nearby.

After turning our search to this new location, our spirits regained enthusiasm as we got closer and closer. This cache had a much easier hint and we found it in no time. A medium sized ammo box was there waiting for us under a couple rocks. We opened it, finding a log book as well as other assorted items. Although we didn't have anything of our own to leave, we signed the book and were glad to have completed our first find.

Geocaching is a fairly easy activity as long as you have access to a GPS device to track down coordinates. At face value, it seems like a fairly weird activity, and it is, but that's why it's so enjoyable. As you pass people walking on paths and get that first sense that they have no idea you're searching for a mysterious container hidden nearby, it's easy to get hooked. Good luck and happy cache hunting!

Brandon enjoys fresh air, short walks on long beaches, and everything else that happens outdoors. Stay tuned for more exciting ideas to get outside as we head into the winter months!

US Cellular Ad See other PDF

Volleyball take two

Former basketball star leads resurgent group



Sarah Violette
Staff Writer

As the ball scorches over the net, the triumphant and enthusiastic voice of head coach, Ashley Marble, echoes through out the gym, “Get it! Get it! Get it!” she yells to her players.

But when the ball goes out of bounds, Marble exhales a deep sigh. “Let’s do it again,” she says. This time, sophomore Nikki Hamm spikes the ball in bounds for a point. “Now that’s how we play volleyball.”

Most Husky sports fans know Marble was an All-American basketball star during her four-year career here at USM. What they may not know about is her passion for volleyball.

“The passion I have for basketball is just as strong as the passion I have for volleyball,” says Marble, who has been an active participant in the sport since she began playing in junior high.

After winning two state volleyball championships at Woodland High School, Marble was offered a full scholarship to the University of Maine at Orono.

Although her passion for volleyball drifted away during her days of basketball stardom here at USM, her love for the game has emerged at a perfect time.

After the varsity volleyball program at USM was cancelled last year due to an insufficient amount of players, the program has been resurrected with full force thanks her passionate leadership, and of course, the highly dedicated players who share the same love that Marble does.

After discussing the idea of a volleyball club with Athletic Director Al Bean, the immediate challenge that Marble faced was spreading the word about the revival of the program.

“We just weren’t sure if we could get the numbers,” says Marble.

Luckily, Marble had been an assistant coach for USM’s varsity team just a few years before its fall and was able to spread the word to a few core players.

“I told them that they could really set a name for themselves and help USM to come along with the program,” Marble added. Danielle Netland, Shannon Shuttle, and Cassi Stichts were all pivotal players who carried the hope of resurrecting the volleyball program.



BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR

Former USM athlete, Ashley Marble, is coaching the Women’s volleyball club team as they try to regain their varsity status.

“Danielle and I were spreading the word any way we could” explains Shuttle. “We were using social networks like Facebook and Myspace, as well as posting flyers just to spread the word.”

The girls worked relentlessly to recruit as many players as possible during the 2008 off-season, talking to anyone they could find around campus that was remotely interested. Any girl who had any experience with volleyball was a candidate and by the end of the second semester last year, Netland and Shuttle had over twenty players on their list.

“I was the only one who came in besides the four girls who had played last year. So for us to have twenty players playing consistently now really says a lot about the hopes of the program,” Shuttle adds.

Since its heavy recruiting job, the club has begun its season 20 players strong (and still recruiting), and practicing every day of the week except Wednesdays. The team sees strong potential in Marble’s coaching and hopes that she can lead them to a strong season.

“She’s very energetic,” says sophomore Savannah Phelps. “She keeps you upbeat and moving. But at the same time she keeps you laughing as much as she corrects you.”

Although Marble faces the extraordinary task of rebuilding an entire program, her players have strong faith in her guidance and the team has already begun to bond as a family.

With such success already stemming from, what was, a non-existing program, Marble and the team are certain that they can have a varsity volleyball program back at USM by next year.

For now, they are focused on preparing for the upcoming season, including their first tournament this weekend at Bowdoin College.

“I think we have a great group of girls, our comradery is wonderful and we work well together,” says Shuttle. “We may not be as talented or experienced as other teams, but we work hard and I’m really looking forward to a great season with these girls.”

Left: Senior Cassi Sticht makes contact during a volleyball practice in Costello gym. The sports is gathering a solid club following after being cut as a varsity sports last year.