

University cuts Lifeline

Community fitness program to close doors this summer; more cuts to follow

Daniel MacLeod
News Editor

According to Cecilia Ziko, the first time that the Lifeline Fitness Program saved her life was in 1983, one year after her first child was born.

"I needed to make a change," she remembers. "I needed to make a life for myself."

After reading an article about the popularity and success of Lifeline's programs, Ziko decided to give the program a try.

"When I felt that I needed to do something to make myself feel strong, I first thought of Lifeline," she said.

Since then, Ziko says that Lifeline's programs, staff, and participants have been a constant source of strength when nothing else was. When her husband died in 1999, she credits the program

for helping her get through yet another difficult time.

"Being an only parent, life got really difficult again," she said.

When USM President Selma Botman announced that the University would close down the 33-year-old fitness program on July 31 to shore up an ongoing budget deficit, Ziko was shocked to learn that her long-time source of support had an expiration date.

"I personally find it depressing, and short-sighted of the President to want to cut this program," she remarked last weekend, in between routines at the Lifeline Body Shop.

In a University-wide memo released last week, Botman cited budgetary constraints as the reason for the cut. She emphasized the need to prioritize fund-



DANIEL MACLEOD / NEWS EDITOR

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Lifeline member Cecilia Ziko works out during her daily routine at the USM Sullivan Complex.



ILLUSTRATION BY
RANDY HAZELTON / PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Police report rise in thefts

Laptops, ipods most vulnerable

Danica Koenig

Arts & Entertainment Editor

Students and faculty who bring their laptops to campus may want to be more cautious. Last week, three thefts were reported within a four-day period on the Portland campus- two of which were laptops.

These thefts are part of a trend over the last few weeks, during which USM Police have seen an increase in thefts of electronic items such as laptops and iPods.

"It's been my experience that it's not uncommon for these thefts to increase during the winter months," says Lt. Ron Saindon, who is investigating the thefts.

Saindon cited many reasons for the increase in thefts during these months. It could possibly be the season, after the holidays many students would be flush with new electronics. He also cites the recent economic troubles as a possible motive for people.

"There's also the possibility that the economy might play a role in this too, but it's hard to say," says Saindon.

USM Police says that people often mistakenly think that fewer thefts occur

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Bayside update

Student residence continues to balance cops, residents concerns

David O'Donnell

Staff Writer

Alex Wallace has been living at Bayside Village, Portland's only independent student housing complex, since its inaugural semester last fall. And while he thinks the building has calmed down since those chaotic first few months, sometimes that's not quite enough.

"It's pretty hectic over here," says the undeclared SMCC freshman. "I have to go back home to get some sleep sometimes."

Wallace doesn't have to contemplate whether to renew his lease later this year, since he plans to transfer out-of-state next fall. But whenever he visits friends at University-controlled apartments nearby, there are some noticeable differences. "I go to dorms, and RAs check up on us every once in a while," says Wallace.

There are no RAs at Bayside Village. "Here, the cops show up instead."

How many times cops show up is something Portland police and building management have been working to cut down since police reported 41 incidents in October alone.

Complaints ranged from excessive noise and parties spilling out into the hallways and street, to rampant vandalism and underage drinking.

According to residents, it became a regular stop for young people in the area who were just looking for a party.

The efforts of law enforcement and Realty Resources LLC, Bayside Village's parent company, have been a mix of collaboration and butting heads. And so far, they've been effective in cutting the amount of police calls per month to 10 or fewer beginning in November.

"It's still a work in progress," says Lt. Mike Sauschuck, who describes the apartments as a "new entity" for his department.

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Sullivan Recreation & Fitness Complex Spring Schedule

<http://www.usm.maine.edu/sullivancomplex>

AEROBICS PROGRAMS
Students \$10/semester with medical release form required *Other screening fees may apply*
Register at the Sullivan Complex Recreation & Fitness Office, 104 Sullivan Complex with a USM student ID Classes are subject to change.
Stop in or view website for updates on all program offerings.

Bootcamp: An advanced level fitness class using many different programs, circuit training to cardio and abs....
M-W-F 5:15 pm – 6:15 pm

Enhance Fitness: This program offers a comfortable atmosphere conducive for socializing and having fun, while burning calories and getting in your daily exercise. Ideal for the older student contemplating starting or resuming an exercise program.
M-W-F 7:30 am -8:30am
M-W-F 9:00 am -10:00am
M-W-F 10:30 am -11:30am

Step Aerobics: to include Circuit training, Step n Sculpt, Step n Tone and more...
M-W-F 6:15am - 7:15am

On The Ball: Improve strength, flexibility, and balance using a fit ball for resistance
M-W-F 6:15–7:15am
4:30–5:15pm

BASKETBALL DROP-IN
Free w/ valid USM ID
\$3.00 per day w/ valid State photo ID

Monday	11:30 am to 4:15 pm 6:15 pm to 9:45 pm
Tuesday	6:00 am to 8:30 am 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
Wednesday	11:30 am to 4:15 pm 6:15 pm to 9:45 pm
Thursday	6:00 am to 8:30 am 10:00 am to 8:00 pm
Friday	11:30 am to 4:15 pm 6:15 pm to 6:45 pm
Saturday or Sunday	Call 780-4169 for availability.

DANCE – Latin Line Dancing
Thursdays, 2/5 – 3/19 (6 weeks)
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
\$10 with Student ID & medical release
Spice up your lunch hour having fun learning the Salsa, Cha Cha, Merengue, and other hot Latin Line dances.

FENCING
Tuesdays, 6:00 to 9:00 pm
*Call the Blade Society for more information at 228-8502. Free for Students with Student ID
*Non students - \$3 per day

Contact Kevin LeBlanc FMI:
metallicalord87@yahoo.com
FITNESS CENTER PROGRAMS & CONSULTATIONS
usm.maine.edu/sullivancomplex/pcrf/fc/
Skip Cadigan, Fitness Center Manager
780-4652 , gcadigan@usm.maine.edu

Fitness center orientation and consultation by appointment, call Skip. Set up a basic program with proper adjustment of equipment and instruction on technique. No Fee. For program offerings available visit the web FMI.

The Fitness Center will be closed 8:45 am - 9:45am Tuesday & Thursday for the Spring 2009 Semester due to an academic class held in the Fitness Center. The Bodyshop will be available during this time for Fitness use.

INDOOR SOCCER
1/29 – 4/30, Thursdays, 8:00 to 9:30 pm
Open to the first 10 Participants with ID who sign up. Sign ups start at 7:00 pm Bring your Student ID. Also open to any faculty/staff, alumni, with a Sullivan Complex gym membership.

KARATE
2/2– 4/21, Tuesdays, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm
\$10 with Student ID & medical release
\$88.00 Faculty/Staff or Lifeline member
\$95.00 General Public
Beginning/Intermediate students are welcome to join in a ten week session of traditional, Okinawan style, martial arts. Basic punching, kicking and striking will be covered, as well as an introduction to sparring and kata forms. Dress for class will be informal, long pants (ankle length, no longer) and T-shirt.

MASSAGE-SEATED
Release stress, promote circulation, and feel great! Massages are free for students. 15-minute massage of the head, neck, back, shoulders, arms, and hands. Appointment is a must, call 780-4939
3/3 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm
4/1 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm
4/30 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm

PER4MANCE CYCLING
2/7 - 3/14, Saturdays, 9 – 10 am
Training for the Trek, century ride or any benefit biking? Here is the winter class for you. Keep in shape while using your own bike. Limit 11 to a class, sign up now. 6 week session.
\$10/session w/ Student ID and medical release

USM RACQUETBALL & SQUASH LEAGUES
The USM Spring Racquetball and Squash Leagues will start play the first

week of February, 2009.
Please call by Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2009 with your level of play.

Open to all. Choose one of the following:
Beginner/intermediate
Intermediate/advanced
Advanced

Participants must commit to playing one match per week for 12 weeks, beginning the week of February 2nd, 2009.
\$5 for students / faculty / staff / DP
\$10 general public
Levels will be combined if registration is low
Call Kevin Normand FMI, 228-8242

RACQUETBALL, SQUASH, WALLYBALL
Reserve courts up to 1 week in advance by calling 780-4169. Bring your Student ID for access. *Non students must show valid state photo ID & \$7.50 day/court fee must be paid for access each time of play. Racquetball & squash racquets are no longer available for loan as of last year January 1, 2008. Bring your own racquet for use.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE
Tuesdays, 7:00 pm - 9:45 pm
Come one, come all. Bring your USM student ID card or other USM membership ID card for access.
*Non students must show valid state photo ID & \$3 each night of play.
<http://www.portlandultimate.com/portlandultimate/index.do>

WOMEN’S STRENGTH & POWER HOUR
Tuesday & Thursdays 2:00 – 3:00 pm
Student ID & medical release required
The Women’s only fitness Hour will focus on providing women with all the essentials to get in shape. Cardio and interval training to maximize weight loss, strength training for bone density, core stability for toning, and flexibility for balance and joint mobility. Get all the benefits of a good balanced work-out. Modifications can be made to meet different fitness levels.

ASHTANGA YOGA
Wednesday, 6 pm to 7:30 pm, Level 1
February 3 – April 23, 2009
\$10 with Student ID & medical release
\$88.00 Faculty/Staff or Lifeline member
\$95.00 General Public
Bring one cushion or small pillow and yoga mat/blanket
*Pre-registration and 10 week commitment a must.

Visit the web for descriptions of Yoga class offerings.

Off Campus Activities and Discounts
<http://www.usm.maine.edu/sullivancomplex/ucfr.html>

GOLF
10% discount w/ Student, Faculty, Staff ID
Sunset Ridge Golf Course, sWestbrook. 854-9463. Regulation Golf Course, par 35/3,100 yards
Executive Course, par 3 Driving Range, Mini Golf, Batting cages-softball/baseball.
SKATING
Portland Ice Arena
\$2 per visit (reg. \$5) with USM Skate Card & USM Student ID
Must register at Sullivan Complex, or call 780-4939 to obtain a Skate card.
Open Public skating times:
M-W, F 11:45 am-1:15 pm,
Saturdays: 9-10:30pm, Sundays: 1:30-3:00pm
Portland Ice Arena - 774-8553
www.portlandicearena.com/public_skating.htm

SWIMMING
Reiche & Riverton Pools
10 and 20 visit swim cards available. Stop by the Sullivan Complex to purchase your discount cards. FMI on pool schedule visit:
www.ci.portland.me.us/rec/schedulepools.pdf

DISCOUNT SKI PASSES
Discounts available for student & staff at Lost Valley, Mt. Abrams, Shawnee Peak, Sunday River and Sugarloaf in Maine & Loon Mountain in NH.
Call 780-4939 for more information or for a complete list of skiing discount offerings visit:
<http://www.usm.maine.edu/sullivancomplex/ucfr.html>

Southern Maine Outing club
offerings can be found at:
<http://usmoutingclub.tripod.com/>
email:usm.outing.club@gmail.com

Southern Maine Outdoor Recreation (S.M.O.R.)

<http://www.usm.maine.edu/sullivancomplex/pcrf/op/>

Space is limited and pre-registration is required for all S.M.O.R. programs. Please call 780-4939 or stop by 104 Sullivan Complex on the Portland Campus. Payment is taken at time of registration.
*PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL OUTDOOR PROGRAMS.

X-COUNTRY SKI SERIES 2/28, 3/15, 4/5
Are you looking for a fun way to stay in great shape this winter? Limited gear is available, but you are welcome to bring your own. Transportation is provided. Locations will be decided based on site availability and, of course, snow. Our locations will include

but are not limited to Pineland Farms in New Gloucester, Libby Hill in Gray, and Smiling Hill Farms in Westbrook on the following dates respectively.
\$10 /students; \$15 others, price per trip

NEW HAMPSHIRE SKI & SNOWBOARD WEEKEND Loon Mountain & Sunday River 2/7 - 2/8
Price includes lift tickets, transportation, dinner and accommodations.
\$75 for students (\$30 w/ New England College Pass); \$115 for spouse/DP, faculty /staff.
(Lessons &/or rentals on your own)

NIGHT HIKE AND STAR GAZING
Friday, February 27th
As the sun goes down, we will take a quick hike to the top of Bradbury Mtn. with headlamps, for a chance to gaze into a dark winter’s sky, away from city lights and buildings. Snowshoes will be provided, if necessary, for conditions.
\$7 students; \$10 for spouse/DP

SNOWSHOE WINTER HIKE TO PLEASANT MT.
Sunday, March 8th.
Limited gear is available, but you are welcome to bring your own. Transportation is provided.
\$7 for students, \$10 for spouse/DP

SUNDAY RIVER SKI & SNOWBOARD DAY TRIP
Saturday, March 7th
Unlimited lift tickets available or packages including lift ticket and rentals. Limited transportation is available.
\$35 students/lift ticket /transport
\$55 w/ rentals,
\$60 spouse/domestic partner;
\$90 w/ rentals,
\$10 transportation only (available to N. E. College Pass holders)

SHAWNEE PEAK SKI & SNOWBOARD NIGHT TRIPS
Monday, March 16th or 30th
Classes by day, skiing/riding by night. The price is right! Transportation is limited to first

18 who sign up.
\$15 students/lift ticket/transport
\$35 w/ rental
\$20 for spouse/domestic partners
\$45 w/ rental

Feel Good About Coming With Us !
Your safety is important to us, as is the quality of your experience. This is why all of our trips are lead by a licensed Maine Guide and Wilderness First Responder.
A 10 day cancellation is required for refunds. As always with our SMOR sponsored events, our trips are tobacco and alcohol free.

SMCC enrollment spikes

Students cite lower cost, comparable quality to USM



BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR

Dave Foster
Contributing Writer

In recent years Southern Maine Community College's enrollment has spiked to unprecedented levels. Showing an 8 percent increase in students, and a 13 percent swell in credit hours this Spring means that more students are taking more credits, and the growth doesn't seem to be slowing down.

"We thought we would have strong growth, but these numbers have surpassed our expectations," says Janet Sortor, SMCC's vice president of academic affairs,

In the past five years, general enrollment at SMCC has increased by 62 percent, partially the result of a surge in high school applicants.

In 2003 SMCC's high school entries totaled only 524 students, but increased to 716 in 2004 and stayed steady at around 700 until 2008, when it jumped to almost 900 students.

The rise in entry-level applicants has resulted in a jump in undecided or liberal studies programs. In 2003, only 921 students were enrolled as undecided or liberal studies.

This number had more than doubled by 2008 when it was 2,424 – a growth of 163%.

"The liberal studies program has opened up the college to students that didn't necessarily know what they wanted to do," says Sortor.

The expanded enrollment in these areas benefits SMCC and its students, because they are relatively low cost, and help pay for the more expensive programs, such as heavy equipment operation and health.

"Our Bath campus has grown 20 percent in the last two years and this semester has 48 course sections and over 700 course registrations," says Bob Weimont, associate dean of academic affairs.

While he admits that other sites are much smaller they still have collectively "seen registrations grow 75% in the last two years."

The jump in SMCC's enrollment is linked to the stagnant economy, says Dr. Sortor.

"The current growth of SMCC is a product of the economic times that we find ourselves in, and we are com-

mitted to our mission to provide higher education and training to those who seek it."

While students attend SMCC for a variety of reasons, cost of tuition is a major contributing factor.

Chris Hopper, a former USM criminal justice major, says that SMCC is "cheaper for the same education, and USM lacks the individual focus that I receive at SMCC."

Hopper says he will most likely not return to USM to pursue a bachelor's in criminal justice.

"Husson will accept all of my transfer credits from SMCC, but USM won't. Why would I want to pay for something twice?"

Another student transferred to USM from SMCC, and then back again because his professor taught the same class at both schools, and the USM class was two weeks behind the equivalent class at SMCC.

The overall impression of USM to these students is that it is "a waste of money" – an image that at this point in time, USM cannot afford to have.

From **BAYSIDE** on page 1

The city's previous major dorm complex, Portland Hall, was under the jurisdiction of USM police until its sale and closure last summer.

At the end of October, police issued an ultimatum to Bayside's management: institute a new set of community guidelines - including no alcohol consumption outside of bedrooms and no more than a few guests per apartment - or risk being classified as a "disorderly house" subject to fines and possible condemnation.

Laurie Lavoie relieved Bayside's first property manager, Scott Ranger, after just two weeks. And it was under her watch that the company at first enacted those new restrictions, set to go into effect at midnight Halloween, and subsequently pulled back on them after protest from residents.

(At the time, several residents delivered a packet of complaints to the company and the Free Press, referring to it as "Bayside Village Student Jail".)

Lavoie no longer works at the building but is still with Realty Resources, and currently acts as the lone spokesperson on all things Bayside - all in-house management, which experienced rapid turnover last semester, offered no comment for this story.

She says Bayside is still working with police, and has created an internal process of dealing with disturbances before they are called in. Random police walkthroughs are being phased out. Occupancy remains above 77% - slightly over 300 people

- with the company citing word-of-mouth as it's biggest source of new applicants.

This despite evicting 10 residents so far, all in connection with "issues other than non-payment"

"I think [the Police] understood we needed to find that line between doing what they wanted us to do, while at the same time making it an independent apartment building," Lavoie says. "They kind of just gave us some faith with it."

According to Lt. Sauschuck, however, the police department's recommended guidelines still stand, though they are pleased with the progress made so far.

"It was crazy before," says Katrina Ramos, a USM sophomore who has lived in the complex since it opened. "There would always be writing on the walls, people ripping down exit signs."

"It's more safe now" says Nick Smith, a sophomore anthropology major at USM. "You don't have to worry about people coming in here that don't live here."

She and others tend to attribute the changes to an increase in the number of security cameras late last semester; but it may have as much to do with the only surviving police mandate, which requires all visitors to sign in at the front desk.

The desk is manned by professional security personnel overnight, and resident staff throughout the day.

The rule has been observed if not warmly-received, according to one resident staff member who spoke anonymously. Once, he says, a police officer was turned

away for refusing to sign-in for a walkthrough in plain clothes, one method police have used to surprise intoxicated minors.

Since it's inception, Bayside Village has sought to operate a largely hands-off, adult apartment complex for students, utilizing the same space and cost-saving methods of traditional college dorms - like having five people share a single bathroom, living room and kitchen.

Just down the road from another UMaine system campus in Orono, Orchard Trails has operated a similar complex since 2005.

"We're always addressing issues," says general manager Jennifer Wing. "At any student housing facility, you have good weekends and bad."

But just about every weekend, Orono police will pop in for an unannounced walkthrough or two, and are accustomed to several police calls a week. Unlike the Portland PD, which threatened to slap Bayside Village with a costly "disorderly" label, Sgt. Scott Scripture of the Orono Police says his department is content issuing disorderly conduct fines to individual residents.

"Its in close proximity to local watering holes," Scripture says. "So we're used to it."

Mondays:

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- ✓ Check e-mail

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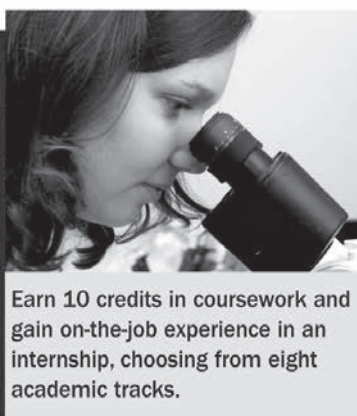
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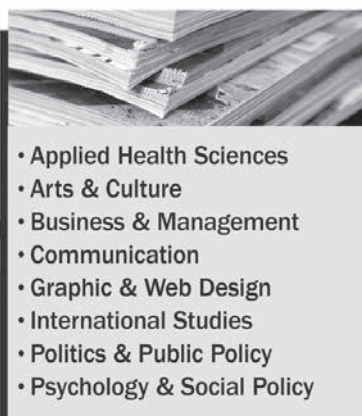
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Boston University Summer Term

USM group celebrates Martin Luther King Jr.

African-american relics from Talbot collection to be featured in special event

Charlie Nickell
Staff Writer

USM will be celebrating the life and dreams of Martin Luther King, Jr. at an event organized by the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs held this Thursday, Feb. 5th, from 4-6:30pm in the Hannaford Hall at the Abromson Center. The event is free and open to the public.

Among those attending will be Portland Mayor Jill C. Duson, who will be giving the keynote speech for the event.

Pihcintu, a multicultural children's choir will perform, and a video of Dr. King's "I have a dream" speech will be shown.

USM student and poet, Hashim Abdul Allah will be reciting a poem that he read for an Obama pre-inaugural concert at the Shakespeare Theater in Washington D.C. last January.

Hashim says this event is important, "because there's not enough like them" and he hopes it will help, "revitalize the struggle for human rights."

On display in Hannaford Hall will be copies of 19th and 20th century posters from the Samson Center for Diversity in the Glickman Library. Many of the posters are donations from Gerald E. Talbot, the first African-American to be elected to the Maine state Legislature in 1972. Copies of bills of sale

for slaves, posters advertising rewards for runaway slaves, anti-racism rally pamphlets, and African-American political posters will be displayed.

Time will also be provided for USM students to come before the microphone and express their dreams. Reza Jalali, coordinator of Multicultural Student Affairs, says, "This is an opportunity for students to voice their hopes and dreams so that the community can recognize them."

Students who wish to speak are encouraged to contact Reza Jalali in the Multicultural Student Affairs office to sign up. Those who come to the mic will have 30-45 seconds to express their dreams.

Because the University was closed on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. day, this event celebrates Dr. King's legacy during normal school hours so that more students will be able to attend.

"This is an opportunity for us to get together and celebrate the progress this country has made—we have come a long way," says Hamida Suja, a senior political science major,

Jalali says that USM has celebrated Dr. King's legacy in the past, but this year's celebration holds special significance.

"This year students are excited about our new president. This event celebrates what Martin Luther King has done as well as

looks to the future and what still has to be done."

"I hope speakers will talk about having more multicultural students come to USM and inspire the younger generations that will be attending USM in the future," said Nybol Bol, a junior social work and criminology major.

"This event is a chance to remember what Martin Luther King did and thank him," communications sophomore Ben Skillings says. "None of this would have been possible only a short while ago."

Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his "I have a dream," speech on Aug. 28, 1963—just 45 years ago. Barack Obama's election as president has changed America and has given hope to millions around the world that society is getting closer to accepting humans regardless of race or ethnicity.

If you have a dream you would like to share in the next issue, e-mail us at freepress@usm.maine.edu



From **THEFT** on page 1

at a university than at other public institutions.

"Unattended laptops, iPods, and similar electronic devices are vulnerable," says Saindon. "These things are vulnerable just like they would be at any institution that's open to the public."

This doesn't mean you shouldn't bring your laptop to class. Saindon says the most important thing is to be mindful and careful with valuables. It's important not to leave anything unattended, especially in an office or classroom. Even if you are only leaving for a few minutes, it's safer just to lock it up.

"Don't leave things unattended. It's usually that simple," says Saindon. "When things are easily available they are vulnerable."

USM Police have also recently had issues with the parking garage. They want to remind students not to leave valuables visible in cars, even if they are locked. Saindon agrees it is unfortunate to have to be suspicious of people around you stealing your belongings, but this suspicion can help prevent a theft.

"We tend to be trusting by nature and unfortunately we need to be more mindful of how easy it is to grab something," says Saindon. "It takes just a few seconds."

Though the USM Police are working hard to resolve these thefts, Saindon admits that thefts in general are difficult crimes to resolve.

"In most cases you need to have a witness. That's what we have to work with in these investigative cases," he says.

So, just as when you're at the airport and that awful voice recording mechanically tells you not to leave stuff unattended, be mindful of where your things are while you're on campus.

Gender outside the box

Gender-challenging identity premieres in Gorham

Abigail Cuffey
Staff Writer

MTV's "The Real World," the show that give birth to reality television, took a step closer to representing the real world by adding a transgender to their cast for the first time. But while MTV was taking their time getting to the transgendered population, a pair of USM alumni were bringing transgender issues to the forefront of peoples' consciousness.

On Thursday, Jan. 29, a classroom full of faculty, staff, and students gathered in Bailey Hall to witness the premier showing of Alex Roan's "Gender Outside the Box," a collection of interviews with transgenders that hopes to shed light on an often convoluted issues.

The concept for the film, ironically, came from a textbook. Roan said his entire idea started when he took a human sexuality class in college, and was shocked at the "misinformation in textbooks {where} everything was dated."

Alex, a FTM (female to male) transgender, is a graduate of

USM and founder of the Maine Transgender Network.

He said the intent of the film was to show "diverse experiences and viewpoints of those who are transgender."

Originally a project to educate mental health and social services professionals about transgender issues, the film's goal is to fill in gaps left by textbooks and conventional teachings.

The film is split into two parts, with the first part being comprised of interviews and the second being advice for health professionals.

Roan's vision begins with various images of Maine, reminding everyone where we come from and giving us a shared sense of community and belonging. What follows is a remarkable journey for the viewer, listening to the stories of transgender people.

All of the interviews represent real-life situations that transgendered people face. For some, it's just the lack of understanding by other people. For others, it's not knowing how to tell those that they love.

One interviewee, Dal, said it was at the age of five that it hit him, and he knew there was something wrong with this picture, he just didn't have a name for it.

One MTF (male-to-female) said that she didn't socialize well in school and "didn't understand the male bonding thing", both of which are common experiences for the transgendered.

In the film, Roan reminds viewers of the different terms revolving around transgender. He defines transgender as "an umbrella term that encompasses any individual who does not conform to society's expectations of what it means to be male or female. Often an individual whose gender identity does not 'match' their birth sex."

And Roan's distinction is an important one since many people confuse transgender with transexual. In reality, a transexual is someone who has taken steps to physically change their body to be more like their gender identity.

Also in attendance at the film was Sarah Parker-Holmes,

program-coordinator of USM's Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversity. Also a USM alumnus, Parker-Holmes was asked to co-sponsor the event by Associate Professor of Counselor Education, Bette Katsekas.

Parker-Holmes said the main focus of the Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversity is to "help identify local therapists in the area, since very few are familiar with transgender issues."

The group participates in the Safe Zone project, which identifies and trains allies on campus, makes contacts, and works with Residential Life with gender neutral housing. They are currently working towards promoting gender neutral bathrooms on campus.

The Center also gives referrals for therapists and medical providers.

In terms of gender identity, Parker-Holmes said that it's really an "internal sense of who you are" and everyone's gender expression can be different.

Parker Holmes emphasizes that society plays a significant role in gender identity, and that

people "can have the freedom to explore in a way that is meaningful, whether that means changing their bodies or not."

Conversations about transgender are often taboo, and stereotypes about the role of women often lead to unfulfilled expectations.

"This issue is important for everyone, not just about transgender," Roan said.

For more information on the Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversity at USM visit

<http://usm.maine.edu/glbttq/index.html>

and for the Maine Transgender Network visit

<http://www.mainetransnet.org/index.htm>

From **LIFELINE** on page 1
ing according to the University's
"core academic mission."

USM is still scrambling to account for \$900,000 out of a total \$2.7 million state curtailment of funding for the University. Shutting down the Lifeline program will account for \$200,000 a year, she says.

Tom Downing, executive director for Lifeline, said that Botman's decision came as no surprise given the broader economic circumstances.

"These are extremely challenging and difficult times. And I'm saddened, obviously, that our program has to close. But I'm certainly understanding that the primary focus of a college or university is teaching."

News of Botman's decision broke amidst speculation by University students and faculty about the programmatic impact of the University of Maine System's restructuring plan, announced by UMS Chancellor Richard Pattenau on Jan 11.

"These are not choices between poorly run, unneeded programs and programs of quality, but rather choices between what we can and cannot afford to do," Botman stated in the memo.

Other programs currently under scrutiny include USM's childcare program.

Lifeline began in 1976 as a Jewish Community Center fitness program at the YMCA on Forest Avenue. Lifeline's popularity grew to the point where the YMCA's facilities were no longer adequate.

"In the mid-70s the whole running craze was escalating. At one time, we probably had 500 people in our walk/jog class," said Downing.

In 1977, the program joined forces with the university to offer a larger space to run its popular jogging program. By 1978 however, the YMCA had decided to move on, and Downing and his staff moved the entire program to the university's Sullivan Fitness Complex.

Downing says Lifeline's mission has always been to offer a down-to-earth community gym, one that is non-judgemental and inclusive.

"This is not the Bay Club, this is not Planet Fitness," Downing said last Friday.

"It's more designed to be an environment where people can feel safe. They don't have to have the latest Spandex."

Ziko agrees that the laid-back environment is part of the appeal.

"I keep coming back for the same reason," she said. "It's not a 'fitness factory.' There aren't rows and rows of cardio machines with televisions... It's not huge and overwhelming."

Downing says that the recent increase in competition from larger gyms like Planet Fitness has resulted in lower enrollment in Lifeline programs, citing the fitness behemoth's ability to undercut almost every other local gym.

Lifeline's longevity in the face of these corporate mega-gyms is partially due to the niche it has carved out in Southern Maine as a comfortable, cloistered workout environment. Downing also attributes the programs success to the close working relationship it has developed with area physicians through their rehabilitation programs.

"We get referrals from physicians all the time. They know that if they send somebody here, we're going to follow the guidelines, and that their patients have a good chance of meeting their goals," he said.

Lifeline's popular Enhance Fitness program, which is offered

three times a week, is a group aerobics class designed for the aging population who otherwise wouldn't have access to a regular workout routine.

"Some of these people live by themselves and that's their one social activity of the day."

Ziko says that the Enhance program is especially important to the local aging population.

"I just see how incredibly important the program has been to them, getting them out of the house, keeping them mobile, keeping them strong and literally well-balanced."

Some of Lifeline's programs will continue to operate at the Sullivan Complex but which programs will survive, and in what format they will be offered has not yet been determined.

"Discussions are under way with Student Recreation to see if there's a feasibility to continue some of Lifeline's group exercise programming," says Downing.

For now, all Lifeline memberships will be honored through Jul 31, at which point members will be directed to renew their memberships at the Sullivan Fitness Center.

The important thing, Downing says, is that the spirit of Lifeline's mission will carry on in some

form even after the program shuts down.

"We're just trying to make sure the public understands we haven't forgot about them," he explained.

Ziko says that she will probably still continue to work out at the Sullivan Complex, but that without the Lifeline staff, the experience won't be the same.

"The instructors are incredibly knowledgeable and just really good communicators of health and wellness, and they've been a very important part of my life, offering encouragement and advice. You can't put a price on that kind of thing."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Pattenau announces task force members

University of Maine System Chancellor Richard Pattenau announced the members of a 12 person task force assigned to address the \$42.8 million shortfall projected for the next 4 fiscal years.

The task force is part of Pattenau's plan to restructure the state university system, the outline of which he presented to the UMS board of trustees on January 11th.

The task force will be chaired by David Flanagan, former CEO of Central Maine Power.

Other members include Dr. Sandra Featherman, former president of the University of New England, James Bradley, president of the C.O.L.T staff union of the University of Maine, and Presque Isle undergraduate Charles Weiss, who is a student body representative of the UMS Board of Trustees.

In a press release last week, the Chancellor's office stated the purpose of the task force is to "review and recommend operational and structural changes" to the University.

In his January 11th presentation to the board of trustees, Pattenau outlined the dire financial situation currently facing the University of Maine, citing the need for drastic action.

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PERSPECTIVES

Committed to fear
“Jesus Camps” promote intolerance and hatred

Taryn Yudaken

Staff Writer

Humanity is separated. We are separated by our “individualism”, and at the heart of individualism lies a culture and, most often, its religion.

When a society creates a particular institution, such as a religion, its community is conditioned to uphold that establishment in order to survive in the battle against other cultures and their establishments. Children are usually raised to believe in their given community, and once thoroughly taught, it is often difficult to reemerge from an objective and rational standpoint.

I have met many people who have led me to believe that not everyone disrespects what is unknown or different to them; it is only those who feel most threatened who seek to convert others, or more aggressively, rid the world of those “degenerates” who fail to uphold their particular establishment.

It's this separation between people that has broken the Earth down to the sad place that it is today. We don't care about our collective consciousness or our massive effects on our planet; we care about our individual lives, our individual identities and problems. The thing is, although we are pushed to admire a very specific standard of living (something like wealthy Barbies and Kens), we have also been taught to value individuality, and our unique backgrounds and lifestyles. I suppose this is where religion comes in, because if you're not rich or super-model-like then at least you have this god who loves you unconditionally. (Unless, of course, you're a homosexual. Then it depends on the congregation whether god will love you or not.)

A big reason (besides the homosexual thing) I “abandoned” religion was my disgust with the way children have no say in the process of being placed into a separated community. It's rela-

tively rare that parents lay out all the different religions, explain them, and then objectively ask their babies what path they might find appealing, if any. Usually, future generations blindly accept whatever they happen to be told, and live accordingly.

I was shook when I read an article, “Jesus Made Me Puke”, about this evangelical church camp in Texas. It was so disturbing that I went on to watch “Jesus Camp”, and then “Religulous”. After a little disheartening research, I realized that many religious leaders do more than just create hate and inequality movements (such as the recent Prop 8), they completely brainwash future generations to make sure they do the exact same thing. Hundreds and thousands of children are yelled at by intense fanatics in deeply influential camps - first to scare them, then to inspire them. This is all done by groups of very passionate and believable church figures, who make me shiver if I observe long enough. They seem more mechanical than real, reciting bible lines robotically and convincingly. Their service is not only designed to support recovering alcoholics or those having mid-life meltdowns. Their service is ultimately designed to guarantee their establishment never dies. How can their children ever progress into a rational world when they are taught that critical thinking is demonic? That science is evil? That anyone not living by the holy bible is a sinner?

I know I'm not addressing the fanaticism of many other religions, but this intense Jesus fervor just scared the hell out of me. It is terrifying to watch children who are barely old enough to walk, screaming and crying in “tongues” as their peers follow, until there are simultaneously hundreds of young minds absolutely freaking out. All their natural human instincts are told to be repressed, which creates enormous groups of hateful, angry, and scared adults. Because

thousands of children are screaming bloody murder over Jesus, it does not mean that any beautiful spiritual event is happening. This brainwashing is an utter disgrace to humanity, and I would expect all those church leaders to be immensely ashamed... if they weren't so brainwashed themselves.

I can't help but imagine a montage of pain caused by religion. War, shame, inequality; the Holocaust; a misplaced Palestinian girl wandering a dirt road; a deranged priest molesting innocent children; recent pictures of the deaths in Israel and Gaza; a room full of lost souls hollering out cries for change that is being commercialized and sold to them; religion - perhaps the biggest cause of separation between all humans.

Deconstructing these vicious religious cycles is no easily foreseeable task. In this world, someone who believes diligently in “God” is generally going to be much more readily accepted than someone like me who wants to assertively question everyone that believes in “Him.” (Can I note the apparent sexism in that too?)

When we have such evolved technology and ways of receiving new information, there is no more logic left in explaining life through religion. There is even less logic in damaging future generations by separating them from knowledge, when they are the ones who are going to need it in order to sustain and repair the Earth. At this point it all seems to be causing much more harm than good, and we're going to need to collectively step back and examine the craziness. Maybe all I can do for now is share my perspective and promote some critical thinking, but I'd like to imagine that one day we can achieve a world where such fanaticism and brainwashing is as disgusting to society as an unclothed woman in the Middle East is now, or even just a homosexual in the Midwest.

Late Night with Jimmy Fail-lon

Dave Murphy

Contributing Writer

College students watch a lot of late night television. This is because college students stay up late, own TV's, and drink Red Bull when they're bored.

The college student is wise when awful things appear on the screen in front of them, and change the channel before the dire information can stew. As a college student, I'm familiar with this theory and the putrid broadcasting that can go on after 11 P.M.

Unfortunately with the soon to be addition of Jimmy Fallon to the late night line up, I'm going to get even more familiar with my remote, especially the “Off” button.

Jay Leno is set to leave his late night throne on May 29, 2009. He succeeded Johnny Carson back in 1992. The very popular Conan O'Brien will fly west and replace Leno as the host of The Tonight Show. And Saturday Night Live alum Jimmy Fallon will be replacing O'Brien as the host of NBC's Late Night. As we all know Fallon has hit the box office huge several times,

with such smash hits as “Factory Girl”, “Anything Else”, and my personal favorite “Taxi.” In all actuality, I've never seen any of these movies and I doubt any of you saw them either.

Fallon is best known on SNL for laughing uncontrollably, forgetting lines, and breaking character. His claim to fame was his impersonations of Mick Jagger, John Lennon, and Jerry Seinfeld. Granted he was well liked while on SNL and seems to be more appreciated in Hollywood.

But why? I must be missing something here. If they chose Fallon, I'd hate to see who the runners up were; Bruce Vilanch? Carrot Top? Or the Devil himself, Frank Caliendo? I mean the list could go on.

In a recent interview Fallon stated “it's gonna be fun. I'm interested in talking to people. It's gonna be a grind. We're gonna try everything and what works hopefully we'll do more of and if it doesn't work we'll have to just roll with the punches.” Hopefully he has experience “rolling with the punches” because he'll probably see a lot of them: from me.

Fallon just comes up short. His personality seems phony and he's riddled with flaws. How can a guy who clearly can't hack it on live television be asked to host a live television show? Something just doesn't add up. I can see why NBC is trying to target a younger audience. The network is trying to revive late night. Conan O'Brien is 45. David Letterman is 61. Craig Ferguson is 46. Jimmy Kimmel is 41. And Fallon is only 34. His youth could attract more of a younger audience which would boost ratings. The real question is, for how long? How long will viewers buy his personality? Will they tune in night after night to see how he can manage to screw up another opening monologue? I just don't see him succeeding.

I'll be curious to see the ratings once Fallon starts. But not compared to Conan or Letterman, rather compared to the Magic Bullet infomercials and the latest cleaning invention infomercial that Billy Mays is promoting. So enjoy Leno for the time being and prepare to start studying at night once Jimmy Fallon hits the circuit.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

USM Bookstore refunds

I have got to say something about the USM bookstore. I did my undergrad at USM from 2000-2007, and am now a law student. I have bought a significant amount of books from the bookstore over the years, totalling in the thousands of dollars. This year, the bookstore erroneously ordered a book for one of my classes that they thought the professor had ordered, she had not. We were told we could take the book back. I had paid cash for the book, but did not have my receipt, as I knew I was not going to be dropping the class. I was very summarily told at the refund counter "Sorry, we can't give cash refunds without receipt." Fine, I would take a gift card to the store instead. "Sorry, can't do that either."

I am stuck with the book. And it was THEIR error in ordering it. I get to pay the price for their mistake, apparently, after I have basically supported them as a customer for near 10 years.

I will NOT be returning to that store unless I am absolutely forced to, in order to get materials. I will do all my shopping at the "alternative" bookstore in town, or online. Just the last week, a bookstore employee told me that this was a "local bookstore" which needed to be supported by the community. Bah. They need to get their priorities and their sense of what is right correct.

Sincerely,

Heather Staples
Maine Law Class of 2010

Forecast

Just because a forecast is grim doesn't mean Maine won't still be a good place to have a picnic. We can lead perhaps even more satisfying lives with fewer cars that use cleaner, more sustainable forms of energy and drive fewer miles to more satisfying destinations closer to home with friends we take better care of. And if we are to support those of us who lose jobs or become "under-employed" those still working can help by spending more money on Maine made products and services, on products that add more value to our lives rather than waste to landfills. By buying fewer, yet more costly goods that are made well enough to be worth repairing, we can help get people back to work in good jobs making goods to be proud of. More skilled workers will be needed to keep such goods in fine repair.

The tired neoclassical myth of the ever-expanding market of an ever-growing population seeking an ever larger number of material goods made possible by inexhaustible resources will be replaced. One hopeful alternative offers more satisfying lives for a stable population of a more cooperative nature that values creativity over consumption. Many have already begun.

Dudley Greeley
Student

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Peak oil and climate change for our generation

Matt Isgro
Contributing Writer

How old are you? Do you know how old your district's City Council representative is? One clue: the youngest is 30. And why do I ask? I have to answer that question with another question: have you heard of peak oil, or permaculture?

As young people, we will live with the consequences of peak oil and climate change longer than any older generations. So, technically, we are the greatest stakeholders. As a result, shouldn't we have the greatest say in how we go deal with these problems?

Peak oil is a simple idea. In 1956, a geophysicist named M. King Hubbert predicted that 30 years (or so) after a region 'peaked' in oil discoveries (after the peak, the total discoveries of oil reserves will always be less and less as time goes on), it would then peak in its oil production capabilities. So, you start finding less and less oil, but it takes about 30 years for that to affect actual production and then the market.

'Hubbert's Peak' has been tested and proven regionally time and time again. In fact, those stories lead up to what we're dealing with today, which is a global peak in oil production. That is to say, global oil demand exceeds supply. The result is that oil and other fossil fuels (which includes natural gas, coal and uranium) will go through a period of very high-, low-, even higher-, a little lower-, even higher- and higher

still-prices. What we've seen so far is the first high and now we're approaching the low. Supply and demand are playing a volatile game of tug-of-war which will ultimately end in a price for fossil fuels—and all that is derived from them—that is simply uneconomical.

Other indicators include a dramatic rise in resource wars, which we already see in U.S. vs. Iraq and Russia vs. Georgia (just look at these regions and their role in either producing or transporting fossil fuels). Because our food is now produced and distributed through a system completely reliant on petroleum (transportation, pesticides, fertilizers), that, too, is entirely vulnerable. Biofuels, also, represent a great threat so long as they actively compete for land (whether forest, grassland, or farm): over-dependence on biofuel threatens the both the climate and food prices.

Think of climate change like this. Our population started consuming a lot more energy—an exponential increase—after we discovered coal. The amount of fossil fuels we've consumed has always increased as our population and economies have increased (remember that economies need to grow). We know that the negative results from fossil fuel consumption lead to climate change (among many other problems), but now it's time to add some context for considering how fast things are going to move in the future.

It takes a pretty long time for the consequences to add up to

a point where they can tip our entire global biosphere out of wack (about 150 years). The problem is, once we're at that tipping point, it's basically too late to avoid at least a lot of trouble. Things start changing really fast (like ocean currents, plant respiration, species survival, food prices, clean water, health care, etc.), and they keep changing really fast for a while until a final equilibrium is reached. This is when population size and energy/resource availability come back into harmony.

That's a basic outline of some major players in a game that will challenge that you, me, and everyone else our age and younger for a long time.

Or will it be a long time? That's the most important question, because there are a lot of really great solutions taking place in

our community and many others. They're all getting started, and they can make a huge difference, but it comes back to that matter of time. We're getting to the point where the typical, old-school pace of political change is not going to cut it if we hope to avoid the greatest catastrophes of these challenges, catastrophes which people our age will undoubtedly pay the biggest price for.

There are many in the community who want to do something new. We want to create a model for public process: how much influence and involvement the public has in government policy issues....like developing the Maine State Pier, for example. We want to create a system based on a bottom-up, grassroots approach with a specific emphasis on diversity and inclusion. Using this system, we'd like to develop

a public vision of Portland's long-term, sustainable future, starting with the Maine State Pier.

We are particularly interested in new and creative solutions to some old problems. We're looking into ideas like Open Space meetings, Permaculture, and Transition Towns for a start (just Google any one of these if you interested and you'll find plenty).

We're not yet sure on where we're going. We're not sure because we're waiting to hear from you, as your voice is most important of all to us. An older generation is waiting, also, to be inspired by your ideas and energy. We hope that you'll take the time to join us and share your voice. A little time now could be worth a lot of time later.



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Don't stay home!

February 2nd - 8th

Monday, February 2nd

Sing for no other reason than fun!

The Wishcamper Center Art Room at USM plays host to "Singing for-the-fun-of-it Sessions" every Monday from February 2nd through May 4th. Join fellow songsters in belting out a variety of tunes from an array of traditional backgrounds. Not having the ability to carry a tune and tone deafness won't get you kicked out, but why would you want to sing if you can't carry a tune and are tone deaf anyways? Free to students (\$2 suggested donation fee)/ 4:30-5:30 p.m./ Wishcamper Center Art Room #103/ 34 Bedford St., Portland/ Call 780-4321 or email artz@usm.maine.edu for questions and info

Tuesday, February 3rd

Think you're smart?

Tuesday Night Trivia (TNT) explodes every Tuesday night at Gorham's Brooks Student Center. If you're a know it all and want to play alone, go for it! The maximum numbers of students per team is four. Compete for prizes and bragging rights and a chance to win the semester's grand prize rewarded to the individual or team with TNT's cumulative high score! 7 p.m./ Brooks Student Center, Gorham/ For more information call 228-8011

Wednesday, February 4th

Go to Bootcamp without joining the Army!

Sign up for the Bootcamp workout to get whooped into shape with an intermediate to advanced cardio workout. Develop your core strength and gain balance through sprints, calisthenics training and plyometrics to increase speed and endurance. Don't be afraid, there won't be any climbing nets or firing squads. \$10 a semester for USM students/ Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays/ 5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m./ Sullivan Complex, Portland Campus/ Visit usm.maine.edu/sullivancomplex for more information

Thursday, February 5th

I have a dream!

The University of Southern Maine's Office of Multicultural Student Affairs is honoring the life and dreams of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with a celebration at the Hannaford Lecture Hall on the Portland Campus. Speakers include the Mayor of Portland, Jill C. Duson, and USM President, Dr. Selma Botman. Dr. King's inspirational speech, "I Have a Dream," will be shown in its entirety. The program includes performances by African and Native American drummers and Pihcintu, a multicultural children's choir. Refreshments at 4 p.m./ Program begins at 5 p.m./ Hannaford Hall, Abromson Education Center, Portland Campus/ Call 780-4006 for more information

Friday, February 6th

Don't cry emo kid!

Recently broke up with your boyfriend or girlfriend and looking for that emotional song to sing to? Fear not! Acoustic-emo heavyweight

Second Hand Serenade will be crooning at the Station for all to sing a long. Be hopeful though, singer and guitarist, John Vesely, started Second Hand Serenade as an outlet to serenade his wife. You'll find love again, I promise. Supporting acts include Meg and Dia and White Tie Affair. 7 p.m./ 272 St. John St., Portland/ myspace.com/thestationlive

Saturday, February 7th

So many "F's"!

Celebrate Middle Eastern Night at the Space with traditional Arabic music. Turgay Ertrk comes all the way from Turkey to showcase his talents on the longed neck lute saz, oud, and yayli tanbur. Don't know what any of these instruments are? Go get cultured and find out! Portland based Alhan will also be playing a mix of classical and Arabic tunes. 18+/\$10/ 7:30 p.m./ Space Gallery/ 538 Congress St., Portland

Sunday, February 8th

Explore Vacationland!

Do you ever think about how beautiful Maine is? Do you ever think about how lazy you are for not adventuring through the beautiful rivers and forests this great, gigantic state has to offer? Well, get off your bum and go to the Vacationland RV and Camping Supershow to find the best places to explore. With tips on how to get there and the equipment needed for your future journey, the Supershow is a must visit. \$7/ Free for ages 12 and younger/ 10 a.m. - 5 p.m./ Portland Exposition Building/ 239 Park Ave., Portland/ Visit campmaine.com for more information

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aRTS & Entertainment

Page 10. Local rock 'n roll gets grant
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Page 12. Brew review

Greil Marcus riffs on Rock 'n Roll photography in Portland

Renowned rock critic talks with The Free Press

Jenna Howard
Staff Writer

It was 1968 and he saw something in the window of a California record store that as a fan, he was thrilled about; a copy of The Who on Tour.

Greil Marcus paid the \$1.99 and rushed home to discover that that album was not a live album at all but a studio recording with a misleading title. He scribbled down his disheartened review and mailed it to Rolling Stone, a publication that was but a year old. A week later, the twenty-something opened the magazine and saw his words in print.

After American studies at Berkeley and graduate school in political science, his drive to write and love of music lead him to become the first records editor for Rolling Stone in 1979. He was paid \$35 per week.

Marcus has since written for Artforum, the New York Times, Creem, The Village Voice, Salon, Interview, and The Believer. He is the author of "The Old, Weird America" (1997), "The Shape of Things to Come: Prophecy and the American Voice" (2006).

J. Gabriel Boylan calls Marcus' books "Mystery Train" (1975) and "Lipstick Traces" (1989) "two of the most compelling investigations of music ever published."

"I was always a huge music fan," Marcus told me as he reminisced about how his love affair with rock music began, "I remember at one point I was trying to get someone to understand this 1959 Barrett Strong cover, the 1963 Beatles recording of "money," which was not released in the US at the time my young friend's father was an airline pilot and brought home the British recording.

See **Rock** on page 14



Clockwise from top: The Beatles, photographer and year unknown; Joan Jett, NYC, 1981 by Laura Levine; Boy George, London, 1982 by Laura Levine.

Maine pulls in grant dollars for local Rock 'n Roll



DARRELL BULMER / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Left to Right: Ferdinand R. Liva, Adam Ayan, Joshua Loring, Donna McNeil, Myles Jordan, Attorney General Steven Rowe, Patrick May

Tyler Jackson Staff Writer

Joshua Loring, singer and guitarist for the rock group Brenda, pledges a strong allegiance to the veiled music culture of Portland—or, rather, to its unveiling. He is Portland's adamant champion, its believer, and most recently, its spokesperson.

With a grant of \$7,500 from the Maine Arts Commission, Loring, a resident artist at the Space Gallery, is creating a multi-plat-

form audio-visual project to document the art and lives of a thriving yet largely hidden treasure trove of Portland musicians.

The project consists of three main components: a book of photographs and text portraying the musicians at shows, practices and their day jobs; an audio compilation; and a blog which will continue on after the completion of the project.

Loring will ship about 500 copies to college radio stations; clout-wielding independent media outlets such as CMJ, Tiny

Mix Tapes and Pitchfork; mp3 blogs; FM stations such as Jersey City's brilliant freeform juggernaut WFMU; and booking agencies like Bowery Presents.

Though he considers it a "pre-historic concept," he will also send the project to various independent record labels. He'll send it to friends in strategic places—to anybody with the capacity to help these artists sustain themselves as musicians in a larger marketplace.

"Part of living in Portland is this frustration at having no real exposure," Loring says.

He considers local bands like the RattleSnakes, Honey Clouds and Metal Feathers to be far more compelling than the mainstream local music Mainers at large are exposed to.

Moreover, he feels the quality of these bands' work is on par with—if not superior to—much of the nationally celebrated music from the New York scene and others like it.

"Here, it's a very self-sustaining community where everybody takes an interest and will continually go out to see you," he says. "But it's often the same people over and over again because of population."

Loring points out that in addition to Portland's size, its isola-

tion from major cities keeps its talented musicians below the radar.

Bands from New York can drive to Philadelphia to do a show one night, Washington D.C. the next, and back to New York for two more nights of shows. These types of opportunities are virtually nonexistent for bands in Portland, especially considering the stagnant quality of Boston's independent music scene, he adds.

As an artist, Loring possesses an uncanny devotion to his hometown of Portland. He graduated from Sarah Lawrence College in New York in 2002. For the next few years, he worked at a design studio in Manhattan. He played with a band that practiced in a textile mill-turned-studio in his neighborhood of Park Slope, Brooklyn.

He described the group as "anticipating a nostalgia wave that would tend toward a mid-'70s Thin Lizzy-esque type of cock rock."

But his interests, aesthetically and geographically, were elsewhere.

He fled his design job to travel to southeast Asia and live with a family in Bangkok.

In 2004, he was drawn back to Portland to contribute to its music

scene, and ultimately attempt to stimulate its static nature.

After working on solo efforts and briefly playing in the band Certain Numbers, Loring formed Cult Maze with Jay Lobley, Peet Chamberlain and Andrew Barron.

For two years, they played Portland vigorously, put out a few records and generated considerable critical acclaim around town.

But despite their increasing popularity, Cult Maze disintegrated in 2008 on the verge of a national tour.

Loring, eager to start a band to perform his own songs, formed the alt-rock trio Brenda with Chamberlain on bass and DJ Moore on drums.

Brenda is a mid/high-tempo, catchy and fluid pop outfit. Their songs sound vigilantly crafted in structure, yet completely let loose in performance.

Cult Maze front man Jay Lobley, along with his brother Derek Lobley, Althea Pajak and Jason Rogers, formed the auspicious Metal Feathers.

Their self-titled, self-released debut is remarkably well-written and beautifully assembled.

See **GRANT** on page 14



JOSHUA LORING / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Brian Cohen of the RattleSnakes at work

Featured Artist

As a growing artist, Fletcher Keene takes in all that he can in hopes of portraying his truly unique and interesting artistic vision.

Keene was recently interviewed for The Free Press by Kathleen Wilber.

Fletcher Keene

Free Press: What is your major and concentration?

Fletcher Keene: Technically I'm an English major, but I'm switching it to art as soon as I can get through my art history requirements.

FP: What year/class are you?

FK: I'm a third year student in sophomore standing. (I got sick in spring '08)

FP: What is the medium that you work the most with?

FK: Right now I'm taking a sculpture class, and I dabbled in printmaking but most of the time I do large 2-D works.

My favorite medium is Vellum paper, compressed black charcoal and a few spatulas of color using some conte.

FP: How would you describe your artwork?

FK: My artwork is mostly expressionistic and emotionally driven. I also dabble in a little primitivism. I always work quickly and rather messily, but it gives a dramatic effect.

FP: Where do you get ideas/draw influence from to make your art?

FK: I draw influences from everywhere really. I look at other artists (even the ones I hate) and

take little bits and reproduce them with a twist.

FP: Do you have any continuing themes that you find pop up in your work often?

FK: I find that I do a lot of faceless figures and anonymous pieces. My latest obsession is making beautiful things revolting.

FP: What are you currently working on (in your spare time, for class etc)?

FK: For class I'm working on a sculpture based on the human body. I think I'm carving some intestine-like things, but in knots to represent the physical feeling of anxiety. We'll see where that goes.

FP: How do you see your art fitting in after you graduate?

FK: My art will always be a part of my life. I just hope it can turn into something that can sustain me so I can sustain it.



KATHLEEN WILBER / PRODUCTION EDITOR

Top: Artist, Fletcher Keene at a drawing horse in the drawing studio on the USM Gorham campus. Above (left to right): 'Bell' Charcoal on Vellum; 'Slitherer', Charcoal and Conte on Newspaper; 'Explosive Troll', Conte on Vellum, Blind-Contour.

FP: How have you grown as an artist during your time here at USM?

FK: I've learned many many valuable things over the years here. I've found new artists, thought of new themes, styles.

My education here has really been immeasurable.

FP: Where do you want to see your work go? Do you have any plans, techniques, mediums you'd like to try or get into?

FK: I've always wanted to try metal work. I'll see what I can make metal do for me. I really want to move in a direction that sounds a bit sappy. Pieces that force you to look at your life and cherish the small beauties in it.

EPICUREAN EPICS

An easy and hearty alternative to oatmeal

There is something about the onset of winter and the desire for a morning bowl of oatmeal: the real deal kind, not the quick-cooking variety or the multi-flavored sugary rip-offs in little brown packets that barely serve a finicky kid. The oatmeal I thrive on is plain old rolled oats that are tossed into twice as much boiling water and left to plump up and play nicely with surrounding oats. Soon a mass of nutrition is ready to be garnished with the likes of pure maple syrup, brown sugar, a dollop of dairy, or a pat of butter. Fresh or dried fruit is an added bonus to your morning. Oatmeal like that will sustain you for hours. So will granola, which

is sometimes more convenient if time is short.

When my daughter Brianna called last week to say she was considering going for a PhD. in Food Science/Human Nutrition at UMO, I got on the university's website to learn more about their doctorate program. During her four years at McGill University in Montreal, I sat in on a class here and there, toured various labs, greenhouses, and departments, yet never felt the excitement I do now. Lobster, blueberries, potatoes, dairy – they study and research it all and more!

Perhaps it's a Maine thing: she is back in the U.S., at a state university with a prestigious Princeton review. It takes less

than two hours to visit her compared to six hours and a border scrutiny.

In the course of perusing UMO's Food Science website, I clicked on the faculty that Brianna works with. Mary Ellen Camire, PhD., had written an article in Food Technology titled Breakfast Foods and Satiety. I clicked on the publication and found scientific validation in my opinion that eating oats seems to stave off hunger for a long time. In a graph that detailed the satiety

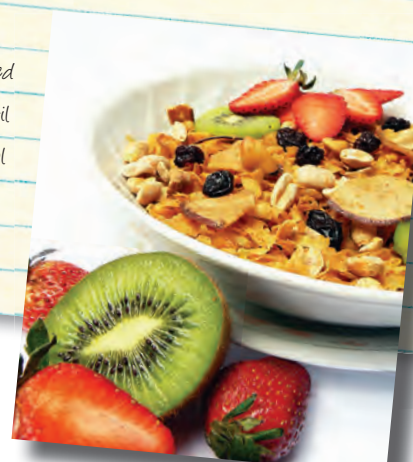
GRANOLA

4 cups rolled oats
1/4 cup flax seeds
1/4 cup sesame seeds
1/4 cup sunflower or pumpkin seeds
1/2 cup toasted mixed nuts, if desired
2 teaspoons cinnamon
1 teaspoon sea salt
1/2 cup honey

1/3 cup canola oil
2 tablespoons pure maple syrup
2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
2 cups mixed dried fruit

Preheat oven to 325 degrees.

Mix everything together except for the dried fruit, spread on a cookie sheet and bake until golden brown. Stir occasionally. When cool add fruit.




index for various breakfast foods, oats offered triple the satiety.

by Anne McCormack

Bring on the hops

After last week’s foray with stouts, my taste-buds needed a reawakening. To me that means one thing: hops – and lots of them. That’s why this week I’ve chosen an array of beers all of which are centered more on their use of hops than on their delicate use of specialty grains.

But hoppy beers don’t have to mean an unbearably bitter drinking experience. Rather, if an IPA or a hop-filled amber ale is done right, the bouquet of hops, alone, can be as rewarding as anything in the world of beer drinking. Of course, there are beers that’ll be the drinking equivalent of a tonsillectomy. Luckily, that wasn’t the case this week – but it was close.



60 MINUTE IPA


Dogfish Head Brewing Company - Milton, DE
6.0% ABV

Produced by the iconic Dogfish Head Brewing Company (DFH), known for their extreme and unique beers, the 60 Minute IPA gets its name from the unique brewing process for this beer, whereby the brewers add hops continually throughout the brewing process. What results is a golden offering with a plume of white head. The hop aroma from this beer is remarkable. Piney, citrusy hops blend with just a hint of alcohol. The taste is fairly reserved hop-bitterness, tempered by a sweetness that bleeds through the hops, leaving just a shred of hop bitterness to forebode the next swill.

What’s great about this beer is the delicate use of hops. Though DFH does offer 90 and 120 minute versions of this beer, at 9% and 21% ABV respectively, this beer is no gimmick. My only wish is that the flavor of the hops was a bit more nuanced. There seems to be a singular flavor imparted by this particular process, which, although yummy, leaves me wanting a little more.

A solid rendition of an IPA, this beer should be a staple for those who like hoppy, drinkable beers. (yeah, that’s right, A minus minus)

A - -



HOPPUS MAXIMUS


Thirsty Dog Brewing Company - Akron, OH
5.9% ABV

The label for this beer says that it won’t disappoint. It boasts a “complex character of American hops and amber colored caramel malts [that] make this beer very crisp and refreshing.” With such a confident label and unique name, I couldn’t help but indulge in one of these brews. But, regrettably, the only promise that was fulfilled was the color of this beer. Pouring a rich amber color with a minimal white head, this beer had a sub-par hop aroma that blended the sweetness of the caramel malts with the musty, almost indistinguishable hop presence: a theme that continued from pour to final drink. Rather than the fresh, fruitiness of American hops like I was promised, this beer tasted stale. The hops that were tastable were musty. In fact, this beer tasted the way Marden’s (the store) smells. But I didn’t read anything about surplus and salvage on the label.

The one positive thing about this beer was its dry finish. That’s it.

This beer could have been old, but it’s makers didn’t stamp with a fresh-by date, so I’m not giving them the benefit of the doubt.

C -



Hi P.A.

Magic Hat Brewing Company - Burlington, VT
6.8% ABV


In the interest of full disclosure, I bought this beer solely for its label. The tantalizing and trippy little lady with a crazy head of hair made my heart swoon as I walked by the beer cooler. I couldn’t help myself.

Luckily, first impressions often work, and this beer satisfied. With an awesome aroma of grapefruit and pine-trees in spring time, this beer poured with a massive (almost too massive) head that left a beautiful laced pattern during the whole drinking experience. When I was done drinking, in fact, my glass looked like a tacky lace doily from your grandmother’s house.

Big hop flavors and a pretty tenacious bitterness mark this beer at first. But as the beer continues to settle and mellow, the more nuanced flavors seem to shine (maybe once your taste buds get adjusted to the shot of hops). Alcoholic warmth and a light sweetness accompany the floral and fruity bouquet of hops. This beer reminds me of fresh spruce boughs in spring time. It’s fresh. It’s crisp. It’s exactly the way hops should be used in beer.

I only wish the first few swills were as enjoyable as the last. Balance is a bit of an issue with this beer, but it’s still a great American Style IPA, especially for hop heads.

A -



RUINATION IPA

Stone Brewing Company - San Diego, CA
7.7% ABV

From the makers of Arrogant Bastard, the whacky Stone Brewing company, comes the Ruination IPA, guaranteed, as the name suggests, to ruin your tongue with a bombardment of hops in all forms. Built in the same vein as DFH 60 minute, Stone uses a unique technique for hopping their beers that involves up to 100 minutes of contact time. The result? A beer that, unlike Hoppus Maximus, lives up to its reputation... but in a good way.

Cracking open the 22 oz bottle of this, hops are all I can smell (despite there being a perfectly good Freschetta pizza in the oven). A hazy golden color, fitting for the style, the first drink of this beer is ridiculous. It’s almost unreal how hoppy this beer is. But, unlike my preconceived notions about this beer (that it was purely a gimmick, that it’d lack any semblance of balance, and that it was ridiculously overpriced at six bucks a bottle), there was something inviting about being smacked in the face with a barrage of bitterness and subtle-flowery fruit flavors. This is a beer that gets better with every sip, and it doesn’t take long to acclimate yourself to its robustness. By shocking your taste buds with bitter alpha acids, it allows you to enjoy the more subtle sweetness of the malts in this brew – plus it made the factory made tomato sauce of my frozen pizza taste like a culinary masterpiece.

As amazing as this beer’s ability to be so hoppy, is the way it covers up being nearly 8% ABV, which, under most circumstances would be deadly. But, the mouth-puckering hoppiness of this beer and it’s devastation on the mouth clearly outlines the boundaries of ruination.

Wow. Only if it were a little more drinkable.

A



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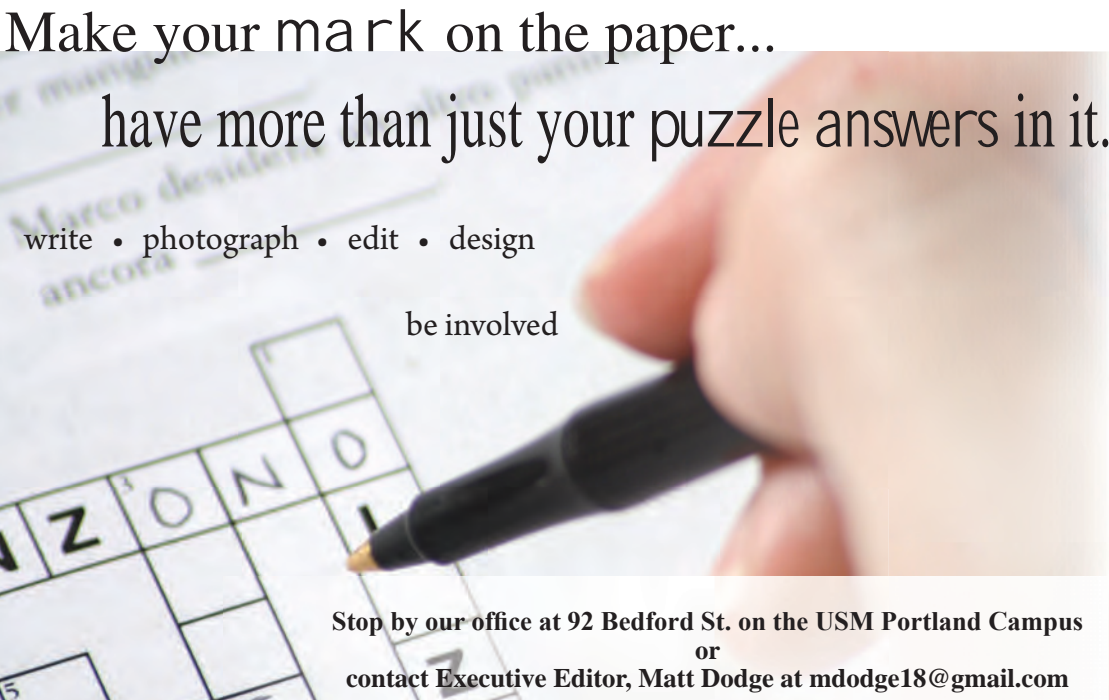
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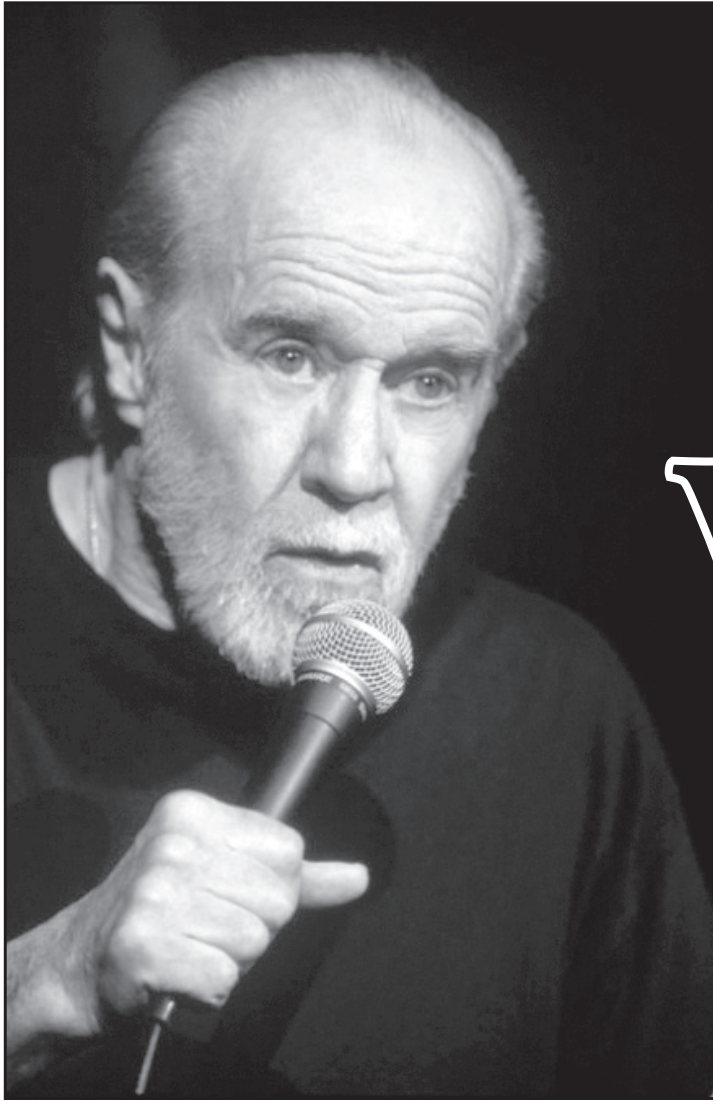
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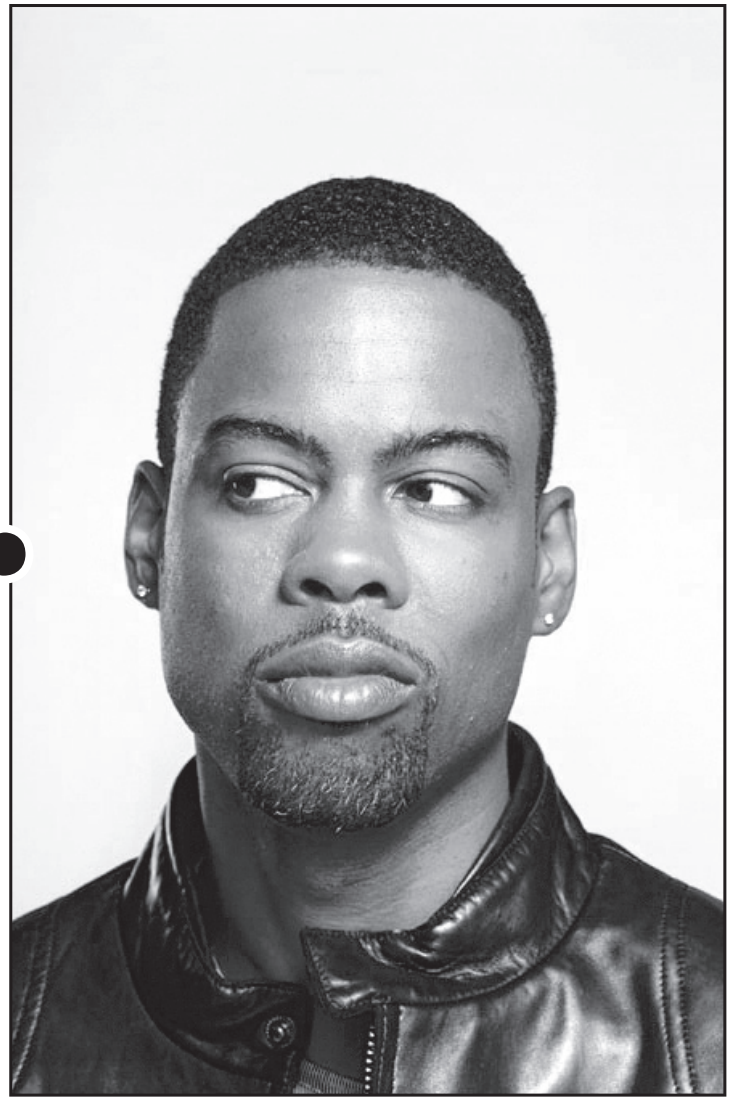
DVD Battle: Stand-up edition

Two new-releases. Gladiator-style combat.

By David O'Donnell



George Carlin
“It’s Bad For Ya”



Chris Rock
“Kill the Messenger”

If George Carlin seems a tiny bit more worn out than Chris Rock in his latest special, it’s excusable: Carlin was 71, in his 52nd year in showbusiness, several years since his last stint in rehab. Since 1977, he’d maintained a grind of returning to HBO every three to four years with an hour of all-new material.

Add failing health to that, as “It’s Bad For Ya” turned out to be his final HBO special-turned-DVD-turned-comedy album, and there should be enough goodwill to get you through an unusually low-key performance.

It’s nice that Carlin was finally able to get in some material on aging - or being an “old fuck”, as he proudly proclaims here - before his death. It’s a topic he’d never really dealt with before, and he’s so humble and good-natured that it’s like a throwback to his 70s material on being a goofy, filthy-minded Catholic schoolboy. Makes me wish he stuck with it, too. Beginning in the mid-90s, his shows got increasingly bogged down with earnest, angry, expletive-filled rants against...civilization, basically. The only thing he seemed to dislike more than the status quo were the people who thought it could be improved upon.

Not that I mind deep-seeded cynicism in a person, per say, but I prefer when you can mostly just feel it stewing below the surface. Claiming you’re “divorced from the human race”, as Carlin often did in his later years, seems disingenuous coming from somebody so thoughtful, active and not fourteen years old.

Still, people consistently flocked to cheer along with that righteous anger, as they do during a long closing rant here on the fleeting nature of civil rights. I still think it’s an awkward way to go out, especially for a man who only moments earlier demonstrated the big laughs you can get from the simple pleasures of faking senility at a family dinner.

Maybe Chris Rock isn’t at the top of his game anymore either, but he’s definitely found a more comfortable plain to settle down on and spend his golden years, if he so chooses. He has some time.

Perhaps you’re familiar with Mr. Rock from such films as “Head of State,” which explored the comedic possibilities of an African-American becoming President, or “I Think I Love My Wife,” which explored the comedic possibilities of trying not to cheat on your spouse.

The thing is, Rock has been talking about these things forever, but his stand-up is actually successful and funny. Not to criticize a guy for trying new things, but I hope he stays here forever and never tries anything new.

The first twenty minutes of his big comeback show, “Kill The Messenger,” are the sweetest, even if they’re the most dated now as he spends about ten minutes each on candidates Barack Obama and John McCain. He wrings just enough enthusiasm from the mostly black audience over their anticipation of the first black President - and manages to find the last remaining jokes about McCain’s age. “He’s so old he used to own Sydney Portier.”

It didn’t take long to remember why I love Chris Rock - it is a rare quality to be able to say the most vulgar, repulsive things, whether they be about public figures or oral sex technique, and still come off as a good person, almost like you’re doing a public service. Honestly, PBS, give this man a show.

It’s also rare to laugh so hard at the first half of an hourlong comedy show that I’m not sure if the last half wasn’t so funny, or if I was just worn out.

The winner...

Never mind the battle. In a few weeks, you can probably pick them both up in a used bin for the price of a rental, and still have money leftover for Richard Pryor.



Sam Anderson-Patnode of "Turn Down Day".

JOSHUA LORING / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

From GRANT on page 10

Jay Loble is a whiz-kid songwriter and embodies the vital message of Loring's thesis: the rock music coming out of this city—albeit tiny and tucked away—is as good as what comes out of any other city in America.

In addition to Brenda and Metal Feathers, Loring's project documents nine other bands: the RattleSnakes, Gully, Honey Clouds, An Evening With, Cursillistas, Vince Nez, Moneycastasia, Turn Down Day and Huak.

The bands' sounds vary from straightforward '90s indie and '60s pop to pastoral soundscapes and alt-pop. Somehow, each group possesses something invisible that keeps their sounds in the same world, as with Athens, Georgia's Elephant 6 Collective.

"I think that one of the things about the bands that are being covered in the project is that ultimately, each of them is accessible in their own way for a broad audience," Loring says.

In other words, it's all pop music. The bands do share a similar sound, but it is its own animal.

They're not imitating another scene or attempting to ride any sort of high-creeping wave. Generally speaking, if these bands are under a common influence, it's something along the lines of former greats like Guided by Voices, the Rock *A* Teens or Sleater-Kinney.

The factors holding back any initial commercial success for these bands—minimal exposure, isolation, lack of recognition—may, in fact, be incubating their unique spirit. They live together, play live shows together and share rehearsal spaces. Portland is, after all, an intimate locale.

In the early 2000s, Maine Attorney General Steven Rowe, along with representatives from

thirty-nine other states, sued a handful of major music companies, including Tower Records, BMG, Sony and Capitol Records, on the grounds that they illegally instituted massive scale CD price-fixing at the retail and distribution levels.

The companies were forced to compensate each of the states with thousands of CDs for their libraries and schools, rebate checks for its music consumers and a chunk of change to benefit the state's artists and art consumers.

In 2007, Maine's share of \$23,000 went to the MAC to be distributed through its Artists in Maine Communities Grant. Rowe, a strong proponent for the arts and a 2010 gubernatorial candidate, demanded that the money went toward music specifically.

Loring met Donna McNeil, director of the Maine Arts Commission, at a photo shoot in Orono around the time the funds became available. They were

working on a public relations campaign intended to depict a cross-section of contemporary Maine culture through its residents. Among the representatives were Sudanese refugees, Native Americans and Loring.

McNeil, intrigued by Loring's commitment to Portland's independent music, encouraged him to apply for the newly acquired lawsuit money through the Space Gallery with his friend Ian Paige, the gallery's events coordinator.

"I kind of went to her with a head full of ideas and things I wanted to do with the music community," Loring said. "She helped to turn it into something that was more reality-based."

McNeil liked that the proposal reached out to musicians who could really use the help. She wasn't familiar with most of the bands it highlighted, but deferred to Loring and Paige: "Those guys are experts in the field as far as I'm concerned."

She was particularly interested in the idea that there was something deeply communal in Portland's music scene.

"He was really talking about the city of Portland as a lifestyle, in a way," she said. "A community that is really nurturing to young musicians. There's just something in the water, or something in the air that has created this particular community."

The final product of Loring's project, which he hopes to have finished by June, will illustrate both the artistic virtues and practical needs of Portland's hard-working musicians.

Lately, he has been photographing individual band members at their day jobs. He took the Metro to the Maine Mall with Tara Bincarousky from the RattleSnakes and one of her clients. Bincarousky works for a facility that assists developmentally disabled people.

He visited a jobsite with Brian Cohen, also from the RattleSnakes, who works for a

company that neutralizes spaces contaminated by asbestos.

"He showed me one instrument that shoots an inferred beam hundreds of feet," he recalled. "And wherever the little laser lands, you can tell the surface temperature, which is really weird."

Loring says the physical nature of the book portion has yet to be fully realized. They have decided to use a thin paper stock to save money, which will allow for more content and more copies. Portland's 43rd Parallel Press will print the literature. Rather than sending out individual CDs, objects Loring considers tacky, clunky and outdated he will include a barcode for access to the music compilation online.

If nothing else, Loring hopes the project will serve as a catalyst for greater local media representation from unlikely outlets such as the Portland Press Herald or WCSH 6.

But the ultimate objective isn't implausible: to generate widespread recognition of and effectively buoy Portland's unusually good music in a larger marketplace.

Frequenters of the scene, as it stands today, should stop and count their lucky stars now and again. Few other cities of Portland's size, if any, boast such a high concentration of fierce talent and ambition. For better or worse, Portland's musicians are nocturnal, growing pale beneath a cloud of conventional mediocrity by day. But by night, they slave over their art, playing hard and true for their patrons like dutiful troubadours earning their keep.

The project blog:

www.trebletreble.com
[under construction]

Maine Arts Commission:

www.mainearts.maine.gov

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From ROCK on page 9

A couple years later, as I'm explaining this song to another friend, he doesn't get it, I go into a pseudo-lecture about the individual being crushed by technology and this song as a scream coming from the crushing machine. As I'm doing it, I realize I totally believe everything I'm saying, and that's really what I'm into. It was startling!"

Griel's ability to turn his love into a long and successful career shimmers in the distance for college students who fear graduating into a barren economy. "You know, I came of age at a very different time, the economy was very different," yet he offered advice for the generation entering the workforce today.

"I'm a writer. If you feel the need to write, you have to start writing. The student paper, a website; you've got to get it out and get a response, you have to give it public dimension. When you first see your work in print, you think, 'how could I say that,' and you cringe. But you keep writing, keep struggling—and send it all over the world. Writing, making music, I'm talking about anything. If you think you might want to be a writer, you're not a

writer. A writer needs to write. Writing poetry and wanting to be a poet are two different things."

Asked to give a talk in Portland in conjunction with the current exhibit Backstage Pass: Rock and Roll Photography, showing at the Portland Museum of Art through March 22, Marcus chose to speak about what is in the collection, as well as what's not.

"I'm fascinated by what's not in the show, most of the photography is taken of action offstage and there's maybe only one shot performing—why isn't that in there?" He'd also touch on what how the show speaks to the cliché of rock music.

His Monday evening talk, the PMA's annual Bernard A. Osher lecture, drew a crowd of 850 at the Holiday Inn by the Bay.

In Marcus' introduction, the museum's chief curator Thomas Denenberg, proudly spoke to Portland's enthusiasm for the show, beaming. "A visitor approached me this week and told me that he's lived five minutes away from the museum and never once come in, until he came to see the rock and roll show."

The Razzies, the other side of Hollywood

The nominations and winners of the least prestigious movie awards

Kaitlyn Creney

Staff Writer

The Golden Raspberry Awards, aka the Razzies, were created in 1980 with the sole purpose of balancing out the Academy Awards. However, you never want to receive or become nominated for this anti-prestigious statue. It dishonors, (or honors, depending on personal taste) the worst acting, screenwriting, songwriting, directing, and most importantly filmmaking that the industry produces every year.

Unlike the Oscars, voting on the garbage is open to the public, as long as you have membership to the Golden Raspberry Award Foundation (GRAF). Nominations are announced one day prior to the Oscars and also presented one day earlier. The award itself is just as absurd as the mentioned films; taking the form of a plastic raspberry and roll of film that is spray painted gold and mounted on a base, typically valued at a whopping \$4.89. This year the nominees were leaked early, much to the dismay of the GRAF, but thankfully for potential audiences.

Some of the other mentionable categories in the award show are: Worst Screen Couple and Worst Prequel or Sequel. Special categories have also been made up depending on the substance of awfulness such as Worst Screenplay Grossing Over \$100 Million, Worst Excuse for an Actual Movie (All Concept/No Content!), Most Tiresome Tabloid Targets, Worst Reckless Disregard for Human Life and Public Property and a lengthy list of shameful other categories. However, the Worst Career Achievement Award has to be the most painful by far (only given to Linda Blair, Ronald Regan, Irwin Allen, and "Bruce the Rubber Shark" from Jaws) director Uwe Boll will be accepting his plastic statue of disappointment this year for being, as GRAF said, "Germany's answer to Ed Wood."

Despite the intensely horrible public attention, it is no surprise that several stars have still attended and accepted their awards; Bill Cosby, Tom Selleck, Barry Pepper, Tom Green and Halle Berry (who called her winning film "Catwoman" a "piece of shit, god-awful movie") have all poked fun at themselves. While triple winner for "Gigli," "Daredevil," and "Paycheck" actor Ben Affleck angrily broke his award

on Larry King Live, the statue was sold and paid for the next year's ceremony budget. Air-head extreme Kim Kardashian was nominated this year for her performance in "Disaster Movie" and released a statement saying, "It's an honor just being nominated!" she obviously didn't get the memo or have the ability to read it.

More importantly though are the laughable Razzie records, that easily show what and who not to go rushing to see when a film premieres. Unsurprisingly "Gigli" is the first and currently only film to win in all the top five categories at the ceremony, which is why Mr. Affleck might have been so pissed. Lindsay Lohan's catastrophe of a flick "I Know Who Killed Me" managed to win the most Razzies in a single year. Lohan is also the only actress to win twice for her role, for both of her equally deficient characters.

Sylvester Stallone has had the most nominations, an incredible thirty, and won ten of them. I guess if you are

See **RAZZIE** on page 16

The unfortunate passings of the year

The losses and deaths in the entertainment industry this year

Kaitlyn Creney

Staff Writer

This year brought cinema-goers some of the most unique and entertaining movies since, well, perhaps last year depending on who you talk to. But with this great time also came great losses to the entertainment world. A great deal of these were shocking, emotional, unexpected, and also reminded us that life is only temporary, as depressing and obvious as that sounds. We were lucky enough to experience some of these tremendous performers before their time was up, and in honor of them a dedication must be brought forth. Australian actor Heath Ledger who passed away almost a year ago to date, left the public shocked by his extremely young age of death, twenty eight, and his final (and now most infamous) performance in "The Dark Knight" The star solidified himself as a true actor in his few years in the public eye. Besides his brilliantly

deranged portrayal of The Joker, his acting in films such as "Brokeback Mountain," "Monster's Ball," "The Patriot," "Lords of Dogtown" (and you can insert your choice role here) gave just a glimpse into his deeply layered talent and mind. Compare him to legend James Dean, the only other actor to win a posthumous Oscar, as the great young lost star of the current generation. His partially completed role in Terry Gilliam's upcoming film "The Imaginarium of Doctor Parfassus" was completed with help from Johnny Depp, Colin Farrell, and Jude Law, and will undoubtedly be a heartbreaking movie.

Perhaps not such a great shock, given his age, but nonetheless despairing was Mr. Cool Hand Luke himself, movie icon Paul Newman. The eight time Oscar nominated film heavy gave a bevy of celebrated work in the sixties and seventies but was one of the few greats to keep his acting choices and performances fresh up until his departure from lung cancer complications in September. Where would the importance of movies be with-

out such pivotal roles as Butch Cassidy, Hud Bannon or Eddie Felson? Paul Newman (and his stunning charisma) is the reason why society loves their actors. Paul Newman will certainly be in our hearts and minds for a long time.

We were also burdened with the abandonment of New York comedic legend George Carlin, most recognized for his stand up routine "Seven Dirty Words." Carlin touched on all, I repeat, all, of the taboo subjects that most veered away from: Catholic priests, sex, drugs, the government and the like that most were forbidden to speak of in the good old days. He managed to rack up four Grammy awards for his Comedy albums and most critics rank him higher (or equal), in importance and hilarity, to Richard Pryor. But Carlin was much more than a funny, cranky, crude, and obnoxious Irishman; he blatantly attacked our culture's flaws in his routines. His final HBO special, "It's Bad For Ya," was filmed less than four months prior to his death and is still as hysterical as his classic stand-ups.

One of the "Original Kings of Comedy" also disappeared too soon this year. At the age of fifty Bernie Mac left the industry in August due to complications involving pneumonia. His self entitled, "Bernie Mac Show" ran for a surprising five years and probably earned Fox network the only Emmy nominations they will ever know. His latest film, "Soul Men" with close friend Samuel L. Jackson, that premiered after his passing was not the best of his career, but he assuredly brought laughs to the otherwise dull film. His stand-up comedy however will make you chuckle no matter what mood you are in.

Young actor Brad Renfro was another shock to the system, probably because it was so eerily similar to Ledger's. He was twenty five and died one week prior to Heath due to a drug overdose. Most famous early on in his career for films that included "The Client," "Apt Pupil," "Bully," and "Sleepers," his star faded away after multiple altercations with the law. Soon he was making more photos for mug shots than films but he had a

See **OSCAR** on page 16

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Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 block contain all of the digits 1 thru 9.

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

RANDOM FACT!

A group of jellyfish is called a 'smack'.

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

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Distribute the cards
5 Old-time oath
10 "Shoo!"
14 Sneaky scheme
15 Terrycloth garments
16 Ankle-length skirt
17 Opera solo
18 Make amends
19 Maui or Kauai
20 Gets rid of
22 Take up a hem, perhaps
23 Major happening
24 Apple and coconut custard
25 Squealed (on)
28 Reckless run
31 Detest
32 Pub servings
34 ___ Paulo, Brazil
35 Neither's partner
36 Teacher's request
37 Tax-collecting org.
38 Wedding words
39 Dessert in a mold
40 Deputy's shield
42 Fisherman's major purchase
44 Puts through a strainer
45 Thin opening
46 Hardly any
48 Laundry woe
50 Gets rid of
54 Grassy area
55 Free-for-all
56 Creme-filled cookie
57 Just slightly
58 Black bird
59 Breadbasket item

- 60 Picks up the tab
61 Got some shuteye
62 Leg joint

DOWN

- 1 "Doggone it!"
2 Italian coin
3 Without a guarantee
4 Accept as a tenant
5 Helped with the blackboard
6 Boarded, as a bus
7 Approximately
8 Fender-bender result
9 U-turn from NNW
10 Said "cheese"
11 Gets rid of
12 Wheel connector
13 Wedding-cake layer
21 Hardly ___ (rarely)
22 Lends a hand
24 Use a vegetable peeler
25 Arrested
26 Residence
27 Gets rid of
28 Office note
29 Private's superior, informally
30 Fire-hydrant attachments
32 Alternative to suspenders
33 Wiggly swimmer
36 Bench, for one
39 Sign up for

DISCARDS by Gail Grabowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- 40 Hot-dog holders
41 Gallery display
43 Window coverings with slats
44 Inventor's protection
46 Soothing ointment
47 Move sneakily
48 High-five sound
49 British "Bye-bye!"
50 Church-bell sound
51 Clothes-pressing appliance
52 Prefix for marketing
53 Sewing-needle feature
55 Bride's new title, often

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
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54						55					56			
57						58					59			
60						61					62			

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

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On the clock

New brand of website blends adrenaline with good deals

Mike Tardiff
Sports Editor

For those of you who like the latest in outdoor gear, but find the prices to be more cumbersome than stage five rapids, there’s new hope. A new set of websites that offer amazing deals, one at a time, appeals to the adrenaline seeking personality of outdoorsy folk.

Steepandcheap.com, purveyors of fine outdoor gear, lists their niche at the bottom of their page: “At Steep and Cheap, we sell premium, core outdoor gear and clothing at prices that are downright criminal. Here’s how it works: Steep and Cheap sells one screamin’ deal at a time until it’s gone. The deals are fat (up to 80% off and no less than 50% off), so they sell out fast. You have to act fast or you’ll miss it, but don’t stress - as soon as one deal sells out, we kick off another.”

Steep and cheap is joined by other pages like BonkTown.com, which specializes in biking equipment and WhiskeyMilitia.com, who sell snowboarding gear and clothing.

Steep and cheap is the least specialized of the websites and

offers a wide array of stuff, ranging from foldable camp chairs to performance thongs. It’s not uncommon to find the best name brands like North Face or Volcom, either.

But what’s most appealing about this website is the time factor. Just like their predecessor e-Bay, these websites add another exciting dimension to the shopping experience: a countdown. If you wait too long, you’ll miss the deal, but if you jump the gun, something better might come along next.

Really, it’s quite addicting, because you never know what kind of deal waits behind the HTML curtain.

These new sites are better than e-Bay if only for the certainty of their prices. I don’t know how many times I’ve bid on something on e-Bay, been the leader until the final 20 seconds, only to have the price jackd to almost retail.

While I was perusing the trio of sites, I saw a pair of DVS Skate Shoes that were marked down 80 percent from \$99.99 to \$19.99 and a pair of Smith Chino polarized sunglasses that were orginally \$128.95 and were marked

down to \$38.65 – a savings of 70 percent.

The only question mark with these ridiculous savings are the figures themselves. Nowhere that I could find does it list where these “original” figures come from. My best guess would be that they’re the Manufacturer’s Suggested Retail Price.

Regardless, there are some solid deals to be had if you’re lucky enough to be on at the right time.

The sites also offers an alert service which will notify you when there’s a good deal, saving you the hassel of sitting the page all day waiting for a good pair of male-cut briefs.



Screen captures of websites.
Above: WhiskeyMilitia.com
Below: BonkTown.com



Husky Highlights

WRESTLING

Morin’s perfect records leads to NEWA honor

Junior Mike Morin (Fryeburg) has yet another honor to add to his trophy case. After starting the season an amazing 30-0, the 165-pounder was honored as New England Wrestling Association’s Wrestler of the Week. Currently top in his weight class, Morin leads New England in wins and is eighth nationally in victories. Last week, Morin defeated fifth-ranked Josh Berkovic of Wesleyan 13-7 and then posted an impressive 21-6 technical fall victory over Coast Guard’s Greg Bredariol while wrestling up a weight class at 174 pounds.

MEN’S INDOOR TRACK

Men’s Indoor Track wins home event

Led by double event winner Jeremy McKeon (Rutland, VT), the USM men’s indoor track team bested Bates and Emmanuel to capture the USM Co-ed Invitational crown. McKeon won both the 55 and 200 meter events while helping USM edge-out Bates with a score of 267-233. Senior Doug Mercer (Laconia, NH) captured the 600 meter title, while Evan Davis (Fair Haven, VT) took home the high jump event. The Huskies also had a 1-2-3 sweep in the triple-jump,

led by AJ Marden (Victory, VT), who won the event.

WOMEN’S ICE HOCKEY

Women’s hockey beats nationally ranked Mahattanville

The USM women’s hockey team continued their impressive campaign with a 4-3 win over the Manhattanville Valiants in Gorham. The win was the Huskies first over Mahattanville in 17 tries. Pacing the now 10-6-3 Huskies was freshman forward Jana Sacco (Niagra Falls, ONT) who tallied a pair of power-play goals to knock off ninth-ranked Valiants. Freshman goalie Kristen Gresko (Phoenix, AZ) made 31 stops in net to help stymie the Manhattanville attack. Jessica Knight (Alfred) and Katie Paradis (Rochester, NH) also scored goals for the Huskies as they moved their conferences record to 9-3-1.

SCOREBOARD (1/27- 1/31)

Men’s Basketball

1/27	
Plymouth State	USM
64	56
1/31	
UMass Dartmouth	USM
81	56

Women’s Basketball

1/27	
USM	Plymouth State
66	51
1/31	
USM	UMass Dartmouth
69	41

Women’s Ice Hockey

1/31	
USM	Manhattanville
4	3

Men’s Ice Hockey

1/30	
USM	Colby
5	2
1/31	
USM	Bowdoin
6	6

Upcoming Games

February 3
Men’s Basketball @ Colby 7 p.m.

February 5
Women’s Basketball v. THOMAS 7 p.m.

February 6
Women’s Ice Hockey v. ST. ANSELM’S 4 p.m.
Men’s Hockey v. SKIDMORE 7 p.m.

February 7
Wrestling @ Rhode Island College (v. Roger Williams) Noon
Women’s Basketball @ Eastern Connecticut 1 p.m.

Women’s Ice Hockey v. NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE 1 p.m.

Men’s Basketball @ Eastern Connecticut 3 p.m.

Men’s Ice Hockey v. CASTLETON STATE 4 p.m.

Men’s Indoor Track @ Maine State Championships / Bates College 6 p.m.

Women’s Indoor Track @ Maine State Championships / Bates College 6 p.m.

GET OUT!

by Brandon McKenney

When life hands you snow, get big shoes

If there's one thing that Maine has plenty of during these winter months, it's snow. Just when you think we're going to get away with a relatively boring (but very cold) winter, Mother Nature decides to dump another 8 inches on us overnight. The recent snowfall we saw during winter break had me itching to get outside and enjoy the snow as much as possible. Since I don't snowboard or ski, my mind automatically went to my favorite snow activity, snowshoeing.

There's plenty of great trails around the southern Maine area that are ripe for snowshoeing, from snowmobile trails to dedicated cross-country ski and snowshoe trails, to small sloped hiking paths. One of my favorite trails is out in my hometown of Parsonsfield, near the New

Hampshire border. This weekend I took a drive out there and took to the local snowmobile trail. The trails were well packed from all of the machines using them lately, which made for some quick movements. Normally I find myself on trails that haven't been frequented all that much and require a bit more strength to trudge through the deep powder. While this can be fun from time to time and feels a bit more like a winter exploration, a well packed path is a welcomed sight.

The trail I took winds its way through the backwoods of western Maine. Starting at an opening on Pendexter Brook Road, I made my way over small brooks and past sand pits covered in snow just begging to be sled down. This particular route was just shy of 5 miles round trip and hits its peak

at the mid-way point where you reach a steep incline into local farm fields. These fields behind Highland Dairy Farm in Cornish offer a wide sweeping vista of the western foothills and even Mount Washington in the distance. After a leisurely half hour rest enjoying the view and catching my second wind, I followed the same trail back to my car.

Not only is snowshoeing great winter exercise, it's also relatively cheap to get into. Unlike hitting the mountains, there's no seasons pass or expensive day tickets to buy. All you need to get out there is a set of snowshoes and the willingness to hit the trails and make the most of the snow and blistering cold. And if you can't enjoy the winter in Maine after all, why live here at all?



BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR

HANGIN' WITH MR. TARDIFF

by Mike Tardiff

Sleeping off the big game

Last week I wrote about the importance sports in communities. Never did I think my argument could be taken to an unhealthy degree, but it has been. That's because students in the Pittsburgh area will be given an extra two hours sleep today thanks to the Super Bowl.

According to Pittsburgh Public Schools Superintendent Mark Roosevelt, the school will operate on a two-hour delay because the Super Bowl will keep youngsters up late. And this isn't the first time the city has done such a thing. Just three years ago, when the Steelers won, students were granted a similar luxury.

While I'll grant that sports are a major cohesive force in society, in no way (repeat: no way), should they ever affect the day-to-day activities of institutions like schools.

These kids should have to rip themselves out of bed today, get on the damn bus and get to school just like everyone else in the world.

No game, not even THE game is worthy of such allowances.

To me, these are the first steps toward making the Super Bowl a national holiday.

Besides, the game starts at 6:30, which means that it'll be over at 11 p.m., giving kids plenty of time to get tucked in and ready for the school day tomorrow.

Part of the entire fan experience is dealing with the inconveniences of game scheduling and lack of sleep. I can remember having early mornings following the Red Sox playoff series – even when they were on the West Coast – and never once was I granted two extra hours of sleep.

Instead, I joined throngs of other groggy-eyed people. It was almost a communal experience. Way more communal, I might add, than sleeping in.

School is supposed to be where kids learn life lessons.

Sleeping in because of a football game is not a life lesson. In fact, it's sending exactly the wrong message to all of those little yellow towel twirlers. Down the road when these kids are in the "real world" that we always preach about, they'll remember

that day they got to sleep in for a football game, and maybe, just maybe, they'll have one too many drinks at the "big game" and opt out of work.

After all, that's what they were taught. I mean, come on, it's the STEELERS.

Sports should be a healthy addition to someone's life. They should never take the place of other more important things like school or family. That's why students who don't hold up their end in the classroom don't get to play sports.

Whatever happens in the game, whether its a Steelers rout or a Cardinal's come-from-behind, those kids won't be witnessing the kind of history they'd get in an actual class.

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Great Lakes trio

Trio of Michiganians lead women's hockey

Sarah Violette
Staff Writer

Looking at the USM women's hockey roster, one thing becomes clear: hockey is a geographical sport. Unlike basketball which has gained almost universal appeal, hockey's most die-hard fans and players still reside in isolated pockets of the country. One of those pockets, Michigan, has been kind to the team.

Kylie Blasen, Jackie Zarb, and Danielle Ward are all from the Wolverine State. They've played hockey for most of their lives and have decided to continue their dedication to the sport. But instead of the land of Great Lakes, these three women chose the rocky coasts of Maine as their home for the next four years.

"Kylie and I were kind of a package deal. They had both of our majors here and we liked the people a lot when we first visited," says Ward.

The same went for Zarb, who also factored her decision largely upon the academics here at USM. "The professors definitely challenge you and expect the best out of you. I really wanted to fur-

ther my education and learn a lot more, so the academic program was a big factor in my decision on going here," she explains.

This was good news for our women's hockey program.

Ward, a freshman forward, is one of leading scorers for the Huskies with a solid 11 goals and eight assists on the season, including a hat-trick against Sacred Heart earlier in the season.

Freshman forward Kylie Blasen has also chipped in, contributing seven goals and four assists, while sophomore goalie Jackie Zarb has recorded four wins and a tie in net, including her third career shutout against Castleton State.

Although the girls are doing just fine with their college hockey careers, they're finding it somewhat difficult to adapt to the slow lifestyle of winter in Maine.

"We both come from a college town, right next to Michigan State," Blasen explains. "The lifestyle is much faster." Ward adds, "Here it's more like vacationing up north at our cabin, but all the time," she jokes. "You know? Like driving on a dirt road in the middle of the woods. That's what it reminds me of."

When asked about homesickness, Zarb gives a little chuckle, but Blasen reacts immediately, "Don't even get me started," she says with a smile.

Although Zarb's family is able to drive to Maine on some weekends and see her, Blasen's family comes about once a year.

"I have a big family that I'm really close with, so not seeing them gets pretty hard," she explains.

Luckily, both Blasen and Ward have friends from back home who have come to visit the two about six times already this year.

Webcams have also been a good source in getting a dose of home. Zarb talks to her mom almost every night via webcam.

"The internet definitely helps," she says.

Despite the lack of family and slower lifestyle, the girls are still happy about their decision on coming to Maine.

"Our team has improved a lot and I like who I play with," explains Ward, "It's been really fun."



BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR

Danielle Ward (Freshman), Jackie Zarb (Sophomore), Kylie Blasen (Freshman) have come halfway across the country to lead the Huskies to a solid start.

Men's hockey jostling for playoff position

Huskies need key wins this weekend

Brian King
Sports Intern

The playoffs have started early this year for the men's hockey team. With all of the playoff teams set and only seeding to be decided, Coach Jeff Beaney's squad is trying to ascend the seeding ladder, in hopes of advancing to their first ever NCAA tournament.

And they've got plenty of opportunities to do so, since the top seven teams in the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Association (ECAC) are separated by just three points.

The Huskies are currently tied for third place with Babson, Skidmore and Castleton State, the latter two of whom the Huskies will host next weekend, in what will surely have playoff implications.

But the level of parity in the ECAC is a strong indicator of USM's national position. Out of the last fourteen national champions, ten of them

have played in the Huskies conference.

If USM wants to join the ECAC's line of immortality, they'll have to address a few issues.

The Huskies rank second to last in the conference for power play goals and have the worst penalty kill in the league. This season they hit a four game streak of conceding only power play goals, which proved fatal on a few occasions.

"Our special teams needs work," Beaney said, summarizing the team's biggest flaw.

Staggeringly bad statistics for a team currently in third place, the Huskies make up for the special-team woes with a strong even-strength game, as they are second in the league in overall scoring including a league-leading 29 full strength goals.

"Five on five, these guys can play," Beaney said, adding that the team "has good depth, and a lot of young defensemen [making this team] a little more defensive-minded than the past."

And while the Huskies may have some defensive-minded players, those players can find the net, too. Senior Captain Dan Gordon (Lynnfield, MA) is tied

for most points and goals, while fellow defensemen Paul Conter (Woodbridge, ONT) leads the team in scoring.

More than just a cliché, the Huskies depth came to forefront when they picked up a big victory against UMass Boston last week with their fourth-string, freshman goalie, Casey Cox (Springvale) making 27 saves in the effort.

"We don't have a ton of size, but we can skate, and that's fun to watch," said Beaney. Despite a lack of "puck luck" so far, the USM men's ice hockey team is in a great position to succeed in their conference playoffs.

"I don't know if the fans know how much they bring to the guys," Beaney said.

With any luck, throngs of fans will show up this weekend as the Huskies welcome Skidmore to Gorham for a Friday night showdown at 7 p.m., and Castleton State for a 4 p.m. matinee on Saturday.

"The only thing you can control is the game you're playing, winning will take care of itself if you go out and compete," Beaney said.

BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR

Left: Junior Pat Noonan (Burlington, MA) tries to get past a Middlebury player who is blocking his way.

