

the free press

Volume 40, Issue No. 17 April 1, 2009^{NEVER!}
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE
THIS IS A TEST, THIS IS ONLY A TEST

USM to cut all but two majors

Resources to be restructured into new “College of Hunting and Gathering”

Dan Matthews

Business and economic news correspondent

Last Friday, USM President Selma Botman announced that due to ongoing budgetary gaps, the university will cut the College of Arts and Sciences from its funding, effective July 31st.

“It was an excruciating decision, but unfortunately the university can no longer bear the burden of these programs,” she said in a prepared statement, delivered by carrier pigeon.

“I have been a lifeong advocate of higher learning in all fields of study, no matter how pointless or devoid of context to the real world,” she said.

“Unfortunately, the continued costs of funding the art, biochemistry, biology, chemistry, communication, criminology, economics, English, French, geography-anthropology, geosciences, history, linguistics, mathematics, media studies, music, philosophy, physics, political science, psychology, social work, sociology, and theatre programs

is simply a burden that we cannot continue to bear.”

The College of Arts and Sciences is the largest college in USM, accounting for nearly two-thirds of the univeristy’s students.

These students are invited to re-apply to the newly formed College of Hunting and Gathering, which offers two majors: hunting, or gathering.

Molly Quigley, currently a junior economics student, plans on double-majoring in both hunting and gath-

ering next fall, when the change takes place.

“I’m sort of toying around with whether to get a B.S. in hunting and a B.A. in gathering, or just a B.A in hunting, and getting a real estate license from Andover College,” she said.

“I guess I have a lot to think about.”

Other students aren’t reacting to the news as well. Luke O’Donnell, a sophomore nursing student, says he will not return to USM next fall.

“I’m pretty upset, to tell you the truth,” he said last week during lunch at the McDonald Student Center.

“I’m not really into hunting or gathering, but there’s no way in hell I’m going to be able to get into the biology program at SMCC with a 3.4 GPA.”

Despite near-universal uproar from USM’s 500 students, and 6 faculty members, President Botman says that there is no way that the school can continue to fund the college, which has been operating at a loss of approximately \$12 a semester.

“It pains me deeply,” she said at a recent town-hall meeting at the Wal-Mart Lecture Hall.

“But in these uncertain economic times, I must think about what is best for our students.”

USM institutes “if it’s yellow, let it mellow” cost-saving initiative

Indecent proposal leaves some students, staff fuming

Boyd Tinsley

Waste Management Correspondent

In an effort to save the school is its utilities bill USM is instituting a “if it’s yellow, let it mellow” policy in all university bathrooms across all campuses.

Starting April 1st, USM will closely monitor all bathroom usage by students, faculty, and staff, to ensure that the university’s toilets are only flushed when absolutely necessary.

“It’s a code yellow,” says Facilities Management’s Kenny Chugnee. “These are not luxurious times.”

To assist students in deciding when and when not to go for the handle, Facilities Management, in collaboration with the art department, has devised a color chart ranging from “pale crystal”

to “14 caret gold” to be posted in all USM bathrooms.

At 1.5 gallons per flush, USM students are sending thousands of dollars a semester down the drain for what Chugnee calls “wasteful elitist bathroom vanity.”

“Cuts need to be made if USM wants to remain true to its core mission,” says CFO Reginald Meriwether. “And at this point, it was either this or the desks.”

Some professors aren’t exactly feeling the effects of the cutback

“I bury all my waste in the woods,” says environmental policy professor Birch Maplepine during an interview at his sustainable living compound in the Gorham woods. “Downhill from where I gather my water of course.”

The policy is raising a stink with both students and faculty

See **MELLOW** on page 2

Women and Gender Studies building gets makeover



GINGER CUTANPASTE/ STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Once an unkempt workspace more concerned with grant proposals than girls night out, Portland’s Women and Gender Studies Building recently got a makeover from the sisters at Phi Mu.

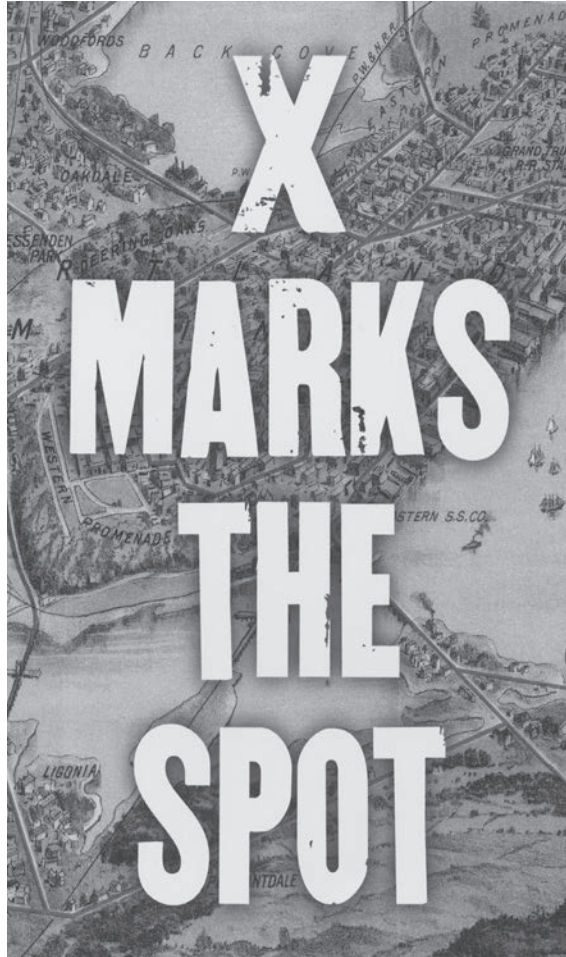
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Osher map leads to \$4.3 million in buried treasure

'Finders-keepers,' says administration



President Botman, energized by the prospect of alleviating the school's budgetary woes, has left campus with a scouting party made up of senior administration officials. The party is rumoured to be somewhere near Montevideo, Uruguay.

This secret plan, uncovered by the Free Press in President Botman's office, lays out USM's strategy for uncovering the lost treasure.

D. Stevens MacLean
Cartography correspondent

Last Wednesday, USM's Office of Public Affairs announced that a map in the Osher Map Library may hold the solution to the school's budgetary woes.

"It has been brought to our attention that a map in the Osher Library may lead to approximately \$4.3 million in gold doubloons," said USM spokesman Robert Caswell, while shopping

for a headlamp at L.L. Bean last Wednesday.

"If this is the case, we may be in better shape than we thought," he said, adding, "finders-keepers."

As soon as the school can verify the location of the treasure, representatives from the Geosciences department will take soil tests and determine the best way to dig. Work-study students - under the close, personal supervision of UMaine Chancellor Richard

Pattenaude - are expected to do the lion's share of digging.

School administrators refused to disclose the general location of the treasure, citing a directive from the UMaine systems office to 'keep it secret, keep it safe.'

Caswell denies allegations that the buried treasure legally belongs to the Spanish government.

"Do you have any idea what we had to go through to get that Map Library built? I mean, who in the hell would even want a

map library at a state university? No, this money is ours, and rightly so," he said while hoisting a rented jack-hammer into the back of his mini-van last Thursday. "We earned it."

Penny Nichol-Dime, a junior political science student, was pleased by the news.

"I'm relieved, of course," he said.

"I hope it turns out to be true. I mean, I wasn't really that excited about majoring in hunting or gathering."

Karl Brief, a freshmen media studies major, was equally excited by the prospect of not having to drop out of school.

"I guess that building wasn't a total waste of money after all," he said.

"Most of us [USM students] were pretty annoyed when they built [the Osher Map Library], especially after they ended up having to fire all my favorite professors, but I guess everything turned out alright."

From MELLOW on page 1

who know have to make some tough decisions on weather or not to brave the bathroom.

"To pee or not to pee," said English professor Vern Elbowpatch "That is the question."

But it's not all bad for USM students. As a means of enforcing the policy, a new, high-paying work-study position has been created. "Waste inspection zero-tolerance associate refuse director" or WIZARD.

Freshman Andy Benoit was initially reluctant to apply to be a WIZARD, but after a couple hours of training in Luther Bonney's notoriously musky third floor lavatory, he is ready for the task.

"Yeah, I got some funny looks while I was training, but after two weeks, I know exactly when to pull the handle," says Benoit.

The policy will save USM an estimated \$35,000 a semester, and while such savings are encouraging for a cash-strapped university, Chugnee reminds bathroom patrons to remember one golden rule.

"If it's brown, flush it down."



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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE

USM gets new VP

Meg Weston
takes over
office of
Advancement
on April 6

Daniel MacLeod
News Editor

On April 6, Meg Weston will take over the position of Vice President of Advancement, USM President Selma Botman announced last week.

The VP of Advancement is one of seven vice presidents operating under the president of USM. The position is responsible for finding donors to help with large-scale projects and endowments for scholarships and academic programs. The VP position also serves as CEO of the USM Foundation, the non-profit organization that manages contributions from the community.

The most recent efforts of the advancement office have resulted in the swath of new buildings along Bedford Street on the Portland campus, as well as the "new dorm" in Gorham.

But with diminished state support of higher education, mounting budgetary gaps, and a vague outlook for the future "identity" of USM, the role of the advancement office is likely to change in the future, as fundraising will be focused less on new building projects, and more on scholarship endowments and funding for academic programs.

"Our job is to paint a very compelling image of where this university wants to go and find those people that that vision really resonates with," Weston said.

Where the university wants to go is still uncertain, as most upper administrators wait for the strategic planning process to provide a clear outline of the future of USM.

One thing seems clear however: given the lack of state support, the role of the Advancement office is likely to play a much larger role in providing funding for the university.

See **VP** on page 4

USM cuts arts, culture from CCE

'These aren't our students' says Botman, as cuts continue



BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR

Students of an Asian brush painting course gather around professor Jean Kigel as she demonstrates techniques for painting birds. USM will no longer offer non-credit personal enrichment courses after this spring in an effort to reallocate resources to other academic areas.

Matt Dodge
Executive Editor

Last week, USM announced plans to eliminate its non-credit, personal enrichment courses offered through The Center for Continuing Education.

These courses, which target non-matriculated students, usually attract around 1,100 community members, but had been operating at a loss of \$30,000 per year.

"In this fiscal environment it is responsible and fiscally prudent to reallocate funds so that we can invest in the growth areas of online education and professional development," said USM Associate Provost for University Outreach Robert Hansen.

USM has offered non-credit enrichment courses for decades as a part of its community outreach effort. Since 2005, the courses have been housed in the Abromson Community Education Center.

The enrichment courses currently offered are an eclectic mix of subjects, including performing arts, writing, visual art, and language.

USM's current revenue shortfall has necessitated a reevaluation of some of the university's non-essential offerings. Such programs include USM's day-care program and Lifeline fitness program, which were both cut this semester because of a budget deficit.

"It's time for us to focus on programs that meet the professional and career development needs of people throughout the region," said Stacy Calderwood, director of continuing education.

President Botman sees this paring down of community services as a regrettable necessity given USM's current \$4.1 million dollar budget shortfall in the next fiscal year.

Botman says that USM's first commitment is to its students, and those enrolled in CCE courses "are not our students".

CCE will continue to offer its over 150 courses in professional development and certificate programs in human resource management, leadership, grant writing and various nursing topics. The elimination of CCE's enrichment courses will allow the center to "focus on professional development areas," said Calderwood.

While displaced enrichment students will still be able to find similar offerings through local community centers and independently run enrichment programs, they say they will miss the price, and convenience of CCE's classes.

"I've been interested in Asian brush painting for a long time," said Peaks Island resident Doug Smith. "This is a nice opportunity because it's not a big investment of time and money," he said of the one-day, 90-dollar class.

Smith, who plans to take another art class at the Maine College of Art in late April, does not look forward to the end of CCE's enrichment courses. "These are more reasonable in price, and in a real nice facility," Smith said.

"It's a shame that in severe economic times, arts are the first to be cut," said Asian brush painting student Margaret Boyagian. "It's important to balance what we need to do on a daily basis with creative outlets."

Maryanne Storer, another member of the brush painting class, says that the enrichment courses offer a less obvious form of professional development that

should be more carefully considered.

"People doing this can move on to start a small business – making cards or watercolors."

Book critic Bill Bushnell also sees his class, "Book Reviewing: How to Get Started" as a potential moneymaker for his students. "It's a business-oriented class" he said.

Still, Bushnell understands the economic realities that drive USM's decisions. "If you can't break even, you need to cut your losses."

Bushnell has been teaching enrichment courses for the last 11 years, and while he hopes USM will reintroduce the courses as finances stabilize, he plans to offer the same book reviewing class at Glickman library through the Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance.

Bushnell's experience in CCE seems to echo Botman's concern, in his 11 years on the job, he doesn't believe he has had a single full-time USM student in one of his classes.

"Mostly it's an older group," he said "folks who are out of college and want to expand their horizons."

Let’s talk about sects

Chaplains seek to work with - and around - religious differences

David O’Donnell

Staff Writer

Taoism urges its followers to consider the gains and losses of a neighbor as their own.

The Samyutta Nikaya, a Buddhist scripture, asks how we could inflict a state that’s not “pleasing or delightful” onto somebody else.

And as Jesus of Nazareth has been quoted saying, often in red print: “Just as you want men to treat you, treat them in the same way.”

That last expression of the “golden rule” may be preferred by Andrea Thompson McCall, USM’s interfaith chaplain and a lifelong Christian, but she would be the last person to claim that her faith holds a copyright on the sentiment. (Her office’s calling card alone features 12 variations.)

“Christianity is a spiritual language,” she says. “Islam is a spiritual language. Think of different religions as different languages of the human spiritual experience.”

That’s both McCall’s advice and the heart of her work at the Interfaith Chaplaincy, located in an old white farmhouse in the middle of the Portland campus.

She knows college is typically a trying time for students’ religious faiths, when the teachings of families and churches can sometimes seem at odds with much of what they encounter at a university.

“There’s a classic crisis of faith that happens, and I see one of the roles of the chaplaincy as helping students deal with that,” she says. “Not necessary to resolve it one way or the other, but to be a resource.”

That may mean helping students discover a more nuanced and intellectual approach to their

religion - McCall herself studied religion and philosophy as an undergrad, then theology in graduate school - but just as often it can mean overcoming an ancient problem for those who have seen a path to spiritual fulfillment: understanding all the others.

There are eight faith groups represented by the school’s chaplains, with all but McCall sponsored by outside institutions - Baha’i, Episcopal, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Imago Dei, Jewish, Muslim, Pagan and Roman Catholic.

An unavoidable sense of confidence in their mission could be attributed to the effect it’s had on the chaplains themselves. They hold weekly meetings, and are currently in the process of hosting a three-part interfaith conversation on race for the wider community.

“I think I’ve had a great deal more experience of the humanness of other faiths,” says Cynthia Collins, a religion scholar and Wiccan of 30-years who now serves as Pagan chaplain.

“We’re actually a diverse, worldwide group - if you put 200 pagans in a room, you could come up with 200 different opinions,” says Collins, who is accustomed to explaining away some of the stigma attached to paganism - such as green cartoon witches, satanic devotion and dirt worshipping.

One memorable connection between Collins’ group and campus Jews occurred on the Jewish holiday Tu Bishvat, observed as the start of a “New Year of the Trees.” USM’s Jewish group opened their celebration to the pagans, who found a surprising and relatable environmental focus in Judaism.

“I don’t think the idea is to necessarily bring the walls [between faiths] down completely, but see



BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR

Reverend Andrea Thompson McCall poses in the Interfaith Chaplaincy building on USM’s Portland Campus. Thompson McCall is the head chaplain at USM.

through and over them,” says Collins. Reverend John Haslam, chaplain from the Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, seconds that.

“One of the things that’s been a real gift to me is the relationship we have as chaplains together,” he says. “As we’ve gotten to know one another and build a trust, we don’t have to feel superficial about saying everybody believes the same thing - we do have differences, and that’s okay.”

McCall likens the work, which she acknowledges as being at times difficult and complicated, to dealing with the conflicts that can take place in a person’s own religious journey - her own, for example.

McCall is currently an active member at her local, South Portland congregation of the United Church of Christ, a younger and more liberal denomination of Christianity.

But prior to that, she was an Episcopalian who felt increasingly out of step with her religion, which remained steadfast in its opposition to accepting women in leadership roles at the height of 1960s feminism.

“A lot of women of my generation decided to abandon Christianity,” she recalls. “I instead, and with help from teachers, deconstructed that patriarchy and realized it was a cultural overlay to the spiritual language.”

“In the same way, people from different religions can peel away the non-essential and find the common ground,” she adds.

Since initiating the chaplaincy at USM in 2002, the parallel has proved encouraging. Still, for all the friendship between the chaplains, she has noticed that the student population has been slower to adapt.

“The students haven’t moved in that direction,” she says. “That may just be developmental, but it may be that they haven’t seen the bridge yet.”

As long as that remains the case, USM’s chaplains see it as their duty to preach to the choir and lead the way.



COURTESY OF MEG WESTON

Meg Weston, USM’s newest Vice President of Advancement. In her new position, Weston will be responsible for bringing in new donors and collecting previous contributions to USM.

From VP on page 3

“Generally in a public university, it’s become more and more important as states have cut back on their funding or as a percentage of overall funding,” Weston said.

Interim VP of Advancement, Dick Sturgeon, agreed that more could be riding on this position in the future.

“The expectations may be a little bit higher in terms of seeking external support than they have been in the recent past,” he said last January.

Weston says that the new buildings in Portland - commonly referred to as the “University Commons” - were built with the intent of maintaining a competitive edge in attracting new students.

“In order to do that, private fundraising has played a larger role in that whole process,” she said last January.

Weston, a graduate of USM and lifelong photographer, has been involved in the photo-finishing industry for most of her professional life. She was the Chief Operating Officer for Konica-Minolta East and CEO of Print-Life, an Israeli-based online photo business, which later went belly-up when the dot com bubble burst in the late 1990s.

She was also president of The Portland Newspapers, former publisher of the Portland Press Herald and Maine Sunday Telegram, and was the

chair of the University of Maine board of trustees.

Weston currently teaches a digital imaging class at the Abromson Center, as part of the Center for Continuing Education (CCE). It was recently announced that the Enrichment section of CCE - which her class is part of - will be cut due to the university’s ongoing budget problems.

Weston also runs a website, www.volcanoes.com, which is a showcase of her photographs of the world’s volcanoes.

“It really sort of gives me a sense of the power of nature. Most kids do get enamoured of volcanoes or dinosaurs or one of those things, so maybe I never got over it,” she said.

One of Weston’s missions when she takes over will be to strengthen ties with USM’s alumni, an area of fundraising that she feels has been underdeveloped in recent years. She also wants to work on the technology used to contact alumni, as well as the software infrastructure that USM currently uses as a database for donors.

“That will be a big technology changeover, similar to the Peoplesoft changeover,” she said in reference to the program that Mainstreet runs on.

“Between alumni relations and that, those will be my priorities.”

Weston will also have her hands full collecting endowments previously promised by donors.

“People make pledges [that] go out into the future. All of that needs to be finished up and that will take some time,” she said.

Despite the widely-reported global economic downturn, both Sturgeon and Weston believe that there is ample opportunity for fundraising for the university.

“We won’t be in a recession forever. When you’re down, everybody thinks we’re always going to be this way, and when we’re up, the problem with the bubble is that everybody thinks we’re always going to be growing,” Weston said.

Sturgeon says that the recession may actually help USM’s fundraising efforts.

“Ironically, it’s probably a pretty good time to be asking for support because we can exhibit such a strong need for support, maybe even more than we could before,” he said last January.

Weston agrees that the recession’s impact on the school may end up helping it in the long run.

“I do think that there’s a new energy at USM, and that we will emerge from this budget-cutting and these difficult times with a really clear path,” she said.

“I think it will be a much more important source of revenue. I hope that it will be a strategic position within the university.”

Rise in enrollment linked to aggressive marketing

New website, tv ads cited as cause of enrollment spike

Abigail Cuffey

Staff Writer

With a new website and snazzy new buses, USM’s most recent marketing campaign has been hard to miss.

These efforts - and others - are part of a recent marketing campaign which includes television commercials, online ads, cinema spots, and increased recruiting efforts at high schools.

Julie Cameron, executive director of marketing and brand management at USM, says that the media campaign, which was initiated in Fall 2008, is directed at prospective, traditional-age, undergraduate students.

“Our media buy was targeting a 16-24 demographic. A traditional student is usually defined as 18-22,” she said.

The total cost for USM’s marketing campaign rounds out at about \$370,000. These advertisements include two television spots, accompanied by music performed by USM students.

USM ads also appear in certain Regal cinemas as well as on dasher boards in Maine ice arenas.

According to Cameron, the marketing campaign has been successful so far, with web advertising “click-through rates” doubling in the past few months.

“Our media buy uses a company that specializes in appropriately targeting what demographic we want,” Cameron said.

When asked if click-through rates jump at this time of year anyways, Cameron says that because this is the first year they have done this, they have no data to compare to previous years. However, they continue to track rates, and have so far seen an increase of 400%.

The Department of Admissions received 935 admission applicants and 495 deposits as of Spring 2009.

This is a 3% and 2% jump, respectively. The Marketing department believes that their efforts are a major factor in increased applications and deposits.

Scott E. Steinberg, Dean of Undergraduate Admission and Chief Marketing Officer at USM says that some of the departments at USM that have seen an increase in applications are accounting, biology, electrical and mechanical engineering, and nursing, noting that there is “also a lot of interest in the liberal studies major”.

Steinberg thinks the rise in enrollment within specific majors hints that students want a degree program that prepares them for a concrete job future. He elaborates that “it’s probably fair to say that

students appear to be interested in programs for which they can ‘connect the dots’ to their post-college professional opportunities. I’m sure the economy has an impact, here.”

But USM ‘s student body is made up of more than just traditional students -- those who are not under the age of 22. In this respect, those who had been accepted for a previous term and reactivated their application increased by 43% in applications and deposits.

Transfer students make up a significant portion of the student population at USM as well. Steinberg comments that compared to last year, transfer applications are up too, from both in state and out of state residents, adding to the rise in numbers.

Admission counselors have been hard at work voyaging to Maine high schools recruiting for USM. With 577 visits so far, and 18% more visits than last year, USM’s values have spread even further, through college fairs, postsecondary workshops and transfer fairs.

High schools such as Gorham and Portland have already received visits from President Botman. Through these visits the President hopes to better understand “local curricular issues” and student goals for the future. The result will hopefully be an active aspiration for higher education.

These visits are often “a general overview, for example, to high school juniors just beginning their college search process, with more detailed information provided for seniors who might be asking about particular majors and programs,” said Cameron.

Counselors visit about every high school in Maine, as well as other areas of New England and the East Coast.

Schools are selected based on a combination of past history. As Cameron says, “‘feeder’ schools,’ for example, that have sent a number of applicants to USM each year” and other schools that USM would like to receive more applications from are part of the selection process.

Despite USM’s budget crisis, Cameron says that they hope to follow-up with another marketing campaign next year.

“When the campaign is over by the end of June, we’ll be doing extensive evaluation. We know it’s working.”

WMPG to get boost

FCC gives thumbs up to power increase

Charlie Nickell

Staff Writer

Good news for WMPG fans: USM’s campus and community radio station is working towards increasing their signal strength further into Maine, widening the station’s broadcast coverage area to reach more listeners.

“We want to be able to reach listeners beyond our current coverage area,” said station manager, Jim Rand, “to places where USM has campuses, like Lewiston, Saco and Bath.”

Weak signals have thus far prevented those campuses from being able to listen to WMPG on the radio.

The station’s current output of 1.1 kilowatt (kW) will be increased to 4.5kW, expanding their potential listener base from 35,000 to 185,000. A second application is pending the FCC’s (Federal Communications Commission) approval to install a low-power frequency in Hallowell that will provide coverage in Lewiston.

Greater coverage not only will allow more people to pick up WMPG on their radios, it will also attract more businesses willing to provide underwriting grants, an income source that helps to finance the station’s operating costs. Since WMPG is not a commercial radio station, it doesn’t rely on advertising revenues for its operation.

WMPG began their “Power Up” campaign this month to raise money to increase their coverage, which means moving their signal from Gorham to a larger tower on Blackstrap Hill in Westbrook.

Greater coverage will not change the station’s programming.

“The product is fine,” says Rand, “We’ll just be reaching more people.”

WMPG submitted their application for a power increase in the spring of 2007, finally receiving approval on Dec. 17, 2008. The FCC has allotted three years for the completion of the upgrade, which WMPG believes can be accomplished in two. The station needs to raise \$200,000 to realize their goal.

“We are applying for a grant that would cover part of the cost,” says Rand, “but we will be having a lot of events like concerts and bake sales to raise money. We’re going to make it fun.” WMPG will need to raise about \$5000 every month in order to meet their costs.

The costs involved cover all the expenses of upgrading the transmitter and all equipment necessary to make the transition to a stronger signal.

The power increase will not make WMPG the most powerful college radio station in MAine. The FCC recently approved UMaine Orono’s station,

WMEB, a power increase from 6.8kW to 10kW that is scheduled to go into effect this fall. WMEB raised money from concert revenues and student fees to pay for their upgrade.

WMPG’s popularity has grown despite its small coverage area. Thousands of free downloads of shows are made each week. Listeners can also stream WMPG from the station’s website.

Since its humble beginning in Anderson Hall’s fifth floor lounge in Gorham in 1973 with 10W of power, only enough to broadcast on campus, WMPG has grown incrementally over the years, increasing to 50W in 1984, and to its current power of 1.1kW in 1988. The new increase will mark a serious accomplishment for the station and the community.

“WMPG is not only USM’s station, it’s also been an important part of the greater Portland community. We are volunteer driven,” said Rand.

Maps of WMPG’s current and potential signal coverage can be seen on their website:

www.wmpg.org

SGA ELECTION RESULTS ROUND-UP

The spring '09 election results are in. Maggie Guzman has been elected student body president with 148 votes (98 commuter, 50 resident). Runners up, Norman Miller received 113 votes (52 commuter, 61 resident), Brendan Morse received 96 votes (26 commuter, 70 resident), Thomas Lapierre got 42 votes (28 commuter, 14 resident), while Gerald Shannon got only 4 votes (3 commuter, 1 resident).

Check out the Free Press next week for our exclusive interview with the new Student Body President.

AT-LARGE STUDENT SENATE SEAT RESULTS [5 SEATS]

* Denotes win in election

* Rose Winegarden -	262 votes (132 commuter, 130 resident)
* Melissa Donahue -	236 votes (122 commuter, 114 resident)
* Martin Emerson -	232 votes (114 commuter, 118 resident)
* Justin Roux -	226 votes (103 commuter, 123 resident)
* Leon Parsons IV -	203 votes (109 commuter, 94 resident)
* Mako Bates -	191 votes (104 commuter, 87 resident)

COMMUTER STUDENT SENATE SEAT RESULTS [8 SEATS]

* Denotes win in election

* Molly Dolby -	148 votes
* Maggie Guzman -	142 votes
* Allison Parker -	136 votes
* Brent Jandreau -	132 votes
* Matthew Taggett -	128 votes
* Daniel Barrett -	124 votes
* Marie Follayttar -	122 votes
* Brendan Morse -	114 votes
* Thomas Lapierre -	111 votes

NOTE - Assuming Maggie accepts Student Body President, Tom will fill the 8th commuter seat.

RESIDENT STUDENT SENATE SEAT RESULTS [5 SEATS]

* Denotes win in election

* Joshua Adams -	132 votes
* Micaela Enevoldsen -	132 votes
* Kaitlyn Hamilton -	128 votes
* John Finison -	123 votes
* Morgan DeBlois -	122 votes

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PERSPECTIVES

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Stop the presses!

A look at the future of journalism

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer shut down its presses last week after 146 years in operation, and moved it daily newspaper to a web-only format. The New York Times is currently over one billion dollars in debt. With New York and the world's economy still cowering under the specter of a prolonged recession, advertising rates just aren't what they use to be.

Right here in Portland, the Press Herald is currently negotiating a deal with an investment group who have only offered what the paper calls a "bargain basement price" to take over Blethen Maine Newspaper's operations.

This is clearly a challenging and uncertain time for traditional print newspapers. Even at a college newspaper like The Free Press, which does not rely solely on ad revenue to cover its production costs, a slowing economy has brought some budgetary realities into the newsroom.

We as a staff are proud of the product we produce on a weekly basis. It's not perfect, we can't always cover everything we would like, and more than a few typos have been known to slip through, but we feel that the newspaper acts as an important record of what happens at USM throughout the academic year.

It has come time for us to find more creative, cost-effective way to deliver the news to members of the USM community. Like other papers, we've tested internet-based news platforms, usm-

freepress.org, a blogger.com site, and a Twitter feed, and we encourage you to follow us there.

In this web-centric time of ours, it's easy to tune out when people start going on about their blogs, Facebook pages, Twitter feeds and so on. However, we believe that we must take every opportunity to carve out a web presence for ourselves.

Usmfreepress.com is the online home of The Free Press, here you can find all the stories from our weekly printed edition, plus some supplementary articles we can't always find room to print. We encourage leaders to log in, comment on stories, and participate in our weekly polls, the result of which we use to refine our focus on what kind of stories we cover.

The Free Press Blotter is our staff blog. Don't expect to find anything terribly newsy here, this is just where our staff of editors share their thoughts, insights, and lots of links to pictures of adorable animals and/or Onion articles. If you ever wanted a look into the gang of snarky miscreants that make up The Free Press, this would be the place to go.

The latest weapon in our arsenal of information is USMFreePress Twitter feed. We were initially skeptical of yet another social networking utility that allowed people to share mundane details of their lives, but recognized that it might be useful in delivering breaking news to our readers right from our cell phones.

As a senior looking for job prospects, I spend a lot of time wondering about the future of the news industry. I can't imagine it's going to look anything like the system I grew up with, and it can be scary to look into such a hazy tomorrow.

But I also count myself as kind of lucky. As a journalist at such a dynamic time, I have the chance to experiment with new ways of doing things, and the freedom and flexibility of a college newspaper makes it the perfect testing ground for these ideas.

So please, keep picking up the paper from our racks around campus, but if you want to get involved in the news process, give us feedback, alert us to breaking news, or just enjoy some YouTube videos with us, get online and keep The Free Press in mind.

Thanks for reading,

Matt Dodge



- usmfreepress.org
- freepressblotter.blogspot.com
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Mainers patience with Nestle dries up

It's bottled water giant vs. small Maine towns in a water rights battle

Karl Rawstron

Contributing Writer

Do you know Nestle? Maine does. Nestle bought Poland Spring in 1980. Now municipalities across the state are struggling for sovereignty against this billion dollar foreign corporation that wants their water.

The town of Fryeburg has been defending itself through 43 months of legal appeals. Residents of Kennebunk came to near riot at their town's water board meeting causing such a stir it made it onto the nationally broadcast Lehrer News Hour. Shapleigh residents have voted in a half-year moratorium on testing for large-scale water extraction.

So why are Americans still spending \$8.8 billion a year for bottled water? Bottled water can cost up to \$10.32 per gallon. Tap water costs \$.005 a gallon here in Portland.

Moreover the Portland Water District tests extensively. Its web site states, "Annually experts collect nearly 6,000 samples and perform 16,000 analyses throughout the system from Sebago to tap."

Most people believe bottled water to be safer than tap, but Amy Dowley of Food and Water Watch (FWW), a D.C. based consumer advocacy non-profit, begs to differ. She relays FWW info, "Nationally the 'Environmental Protection Agency requires that utility companies test municipal water hundreds of times per month,' for example New York tests '500,000 samples of its water per year. That's nearly once a minute all year long.'"

"Conversely 'The Food and Drug Administration has less than one full-time employee devoted to bottled water oversight' and 'the FDA requires only one water test per week by bottling companies.'"

FWW's "All Bottled Up" report states, "In October 2008, Environmental Working Group released a report that found mixtures of 38 different pollutants, including bacteria, fertilizer, Tylenol and industrial chemicals in 10 popular U.S. bottled water brands."

Dowley currently a USM student studying Spanish this semester will be showing the documentary "Flow" here at USM. "Flow" highlights Nestle, the world's largest water bottler and their business dealings in the U.S.

The documentary recounts water tables falling and sink holes appearing in Michigan once Nestle started pumping. "Flow" also tells of Nestle sending private investigators to resident's houses in Michigan to knock and growl at them "did you sign a petition!"

Michigan resident Terri Swier states in the "All Bottled Up" report, "Nestle has violated our lives either directly or indirectly with telephone polling, private investigators, the FBI going to our homes, and a potential Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation against my son."

"All Bottled Up" also reports that in Texas "a few days after pumping began, a local landowner's well was depleted." And, "Nestle threatened to sue the Miami-Dade County Water and Sewer Department over its radio commercials promoting the healthful attributes of the city's tap water." So it's not

only environmental but legal troubles too. Fryeburg can attest.

While Fryeburg awaits the Maine State Supreme Court decision, here at USM water bottles and other plastics litter our trash and recycling.

USM PIRG pulled over 400 plastic bottles out of the trash in four days leading up to Earth Day last year.

Nationally 17 MILLION barrels of oil are used every year for plastic bottle production. Another 50 MILLION barrels of oil are used for pumping, processing, delivery, storage, and refrigeration of bottled water annually.

USM PIRG is asking students to use a reusable water canteen and departments to have bottle free events. Help protect the environment and maintain sovereignty over natural resources.

SIX THINGS TO DO:

- Drink tap water whenever possible
- Buy a metal water canteen
- Have bottle free events
- Encourage your local restaurants to sign the Take Back the Tap pledge: www.foodandwaterwatch.org/water/bottled
- Contact Congress to keep municipal water adequately funded
- Join USM PIRG in the Take Back the Tap campaign Wednesdays 7pm Woodbury Campus Center



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Want to be heard?
Write a letter to the editor.
E-mail our
executive editor,
Matt Dodge
at
mdodge18@gmail.com**

or go to our website

usmfreepress.org

**and click on
“Letters to the Editor”
to send us your thoughts**

AIG – The Party Goes On

In the March 9 issue of the Free Press, I wrote about AIG’s socially irresponsible conduct. I was outraged to learn that we needed to pony up another \$30 BILLION to keep them operating, on top of the \$150 BILLION already doled out. In my rant, I asked how they would celebrate this time reflecting on the fact that they irresponsibly partied with our money right after receiving each of the 3 previous installments. Now it seems I have my answer. It was announced last Sunday, March 15, that AIG will be giving \$165 MILLION in bonuses to its executives because it is contractually obligated to do so. Although ‘we’ (that’s you and I) through no conscious choosing of our own apparently now own this company, the very exec’s that recklessly mishandled our company are still entitled to big fat bonuses for their performances. Even though we own this company, we have no say in this. Treasury Secretary Geithner called on AIG Chairman Liddy to renegotiate these bonuses, but Liddy said ‘his hands are tied’ because of the legal consequences of tampering with these contractual commitments.

So, in short, while increasing millions of competent Americans go unemployed, or work for hugely reduced wages if they’re lucky enough to find work; face consequence of losing their homes, move on to the streets; make enormous sacrifices and face horrors never imagined, these incompetent buffoons are still entitled to their MILLIONS in BONUSES for doing a crappy job. Think about it— we’re paying for the

losses resulting from their incompetence, and paying them bonuses for doing it!!

Personally, I don’t like the feeling that my hands are tied with regard to this matter, so if you’re uncomfortable with this too, how about talking it up with others? Write to the papers, write to our senators and congress people and let them know you’re outraged. Maybe if enough of us speak up our hands won’t be so tied after all.

Disclosure from AIG as to where the rest of this money is going is coming forth as I write...so there’s more...oh so much more... to come. Stay tuned! And be concerned.

Peter Brown
School of Business
Class of 2010

Taxed for being gay?

Same-sex couples get no sympathy - or equal rights - from the tax man

Taryn Yudaken
Staff Writer

With April 15th just around the corner, gay and lesbian people are outraged. This day brings much discrimination upon same-sex partners. There are 1138 benefits of marriage that LGBTQ people do not receive, even if they are “legally married.” Although a gay or lesbian couple can officially marry in one of the (only two!) gay-marriage-friendly states, their relationship is not recognized by the federal government as that of two spouses. Therefore, federal taxes (amongst other discriminations) bring about much anguish and frustration for same-sex couples.

It is relatively known and understood that some people discriminate against gay and lesbian people. Random acts of prejudice and hate can be explained through an individual’s biases and fears. Discrimination that is less publicly known are the inequalities regarding taxes. All LGBTQ people have to pay the same taxes as straight people, but they are given the rights of second class citizens.

A huge inequality regards gay and lesbian couples being taxed on their partner’s health benefits as if it were part of their income. Dr. Wendy Chapkis, professor of Sociology and Women and Gender Studies at USM, explains: “If I’m a lesbian or gay man and I get hired at USM, thanks to the efforts of union organizers, we get domestic partner benefits. So that’s fabulous, yay! We get health benefits just like a heterosexual! Except, no - unlike my heterosexual married colleague whose wife of one day can get health benefits, my partner of 20 years gets [them] and every dollar that the university pays for her health

insurance is added to my paycheck as though it were income; I get taxed on them as if I were making an additional \$5744 dollars a year. I look at that and I think ‘this is outright discrimination!’”

Although any same-sex couple in the U.S. can get a state-recognized marriage in Massachusetts or Connecticut, the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) prohibits the federal government from recognizing those very same marriages (not that they ever have been recognized - DOMA just made that official). So a lesbian or gay couple can get married, but there are 1138 benefits that they are not eligible to receive. Gabe Demaine, Diversity and Scholarship Liaison at USM, calls this ‘hetero-supremacy.’ Chapkis says “This is so unfair, this form of discrimination is so blatant, and it’s not just oh, we want white wedding gowns and a wedding cake like everybody else gets. We want full civil rights.” Demaine confirms “We’re really over hetero-supremacy, and these kinds of discriminatory behaviors by the federal government is an expression of [that]...It’s just, you know, tax day equals hetero-supremacy day.”

But there are many days besides tax day that equal hetero-supremacy day. One could be any given day that a partner of a same-sex couple passes away. Even if both partners have been paying social security all their lives, if one partner dies the other receives not a penny of survivor benefits. This is not the case with straight couples.

Another federal discrimination is family residency rights. When a U.S. citizen marries someone of the opposite sex from another country, that foreigner is automatically eligible for U.S. citizenship, visa rights, or a Green Card, along with any children the couple might have. A foreign partner of a U.S. citizen

in any same sex-same couple is not eligible for these benefits, and neither are their children.

There are so many rights besides these few listed that same-sex couples do not receive. The discrimination is clear, yet hidden since most people don’t really know about it.

Jenni Hebert, an administrative assistant at USM employee shares her frustration: “What happened to justice for all? The federal discrimination of same-sex couples had led to the divide of a nation. MY Constitutional right of Freedom Against Discrimination, as established in the 14th Amendment, is being renegotiated to fit the morals and values of those opposed to anti-discriminatory laws. The ability to file returns as “married filing jointly,” or the ability to cover a spouse on a health plan without paying extra income taxes on that coverage is something only “normal” married couples can enjoy. The rest of us, the “abnormal”, are forced to suffer with higher taxes, lower tax refunds, and a derogatory look from the local IRS agent. As an American citizen I was blessed with the unalienable rights as mentioned in the Constitution of this great United States, what I did not bargain for was that the Government of this “great” nation gets to pick and choose whose rights to honor.”

Indeed, there seems to be a divide in the nation between straight and same-sex couples. Why some enjoy benefits and others can’t is an issue that tax day will inevitably raise.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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The arctic as art “The Coldest Crucible” exhibit at Portland Museum of Art

Danica Koenig

Arts & Entertainment Editor

Arctic exploration has always been a fascination in American culture. The Canadian poet F.R. Scott once wrote about the Arctic, “Hidden in wonder and snow, or sudden with summer, this land stares at the sun in a huge silence, endlessly repeating something we cannot hear. Inarticulate, arctic, not written on by history, empty as paper, it leans away from the world with songs in its lakes, older than love, and lost in the miles.”

The current exhibit on the second floor of the Portland Museum of Art, “The Coldest Crucible: Arctic Exploration in American Culture,” portrays the story of Arctic exploration during its peak years from 1850 to 1910.

During the late 1800’s this so-called “Arctic fever” swept across America, with more than a dozen expeditions to the Arctic, to discover uncharted lands, rescue missing explorers, find a Northwest Passage, or stand at the North Pole.

This Arctic fever wasn’t felt by the explorers alone, but by the entire nation who shared in the excitement through the media and publications.

Michael Robinson, Assistant Professor of History at the University of Hartford wrote about this Arctic fever in the museum brochure about the exhibit.

Robinson wrote, “Arctic voyages thrilled- and sometimes galled- readers, who read about them in personal narratives, newspapers, school geographies, family atlases, and dime novels. Millions paid admission to see explorers narrate their journeys (with noisy retinues of Eskimos and dogs) at public lectures, World’s Fairs, museums, and massive traveling polar panoramas.”

The exhibit, drawn from the collection of the Osher Map Library at USM in Portland, boasts an eclectic collection of engravings, newspaper and magazine clippings, photographs, books, and maps.

The black and white engravings depict explorers in Arctic landscapes, trying to survive in the harsh and treacherous climate. One incredibly detailed engraving entitled “Sealers Crushed by Icebergs” depicts a harrowing scene of a ship and men getting run down by a huge iceberg.

“The Coldest Crucible” also features rare Renaissance maps of the Arctic region and world, many of which are fascinatingly different than the sorts of maps we see today. One map entitled “Typus Orbis Terrarum (Map of the World) is a hand-colored wood engraved world map from 1612, which shows what they thought they world looked like.

Another part of the exhibit displays real clippings from publications such as “Scientific American” to reveal what people who lived during this time were reading about Arctic explorations.

There are also some actual photographs in the exhibit; photos and memorabilia from Maine residents Robert and Josephine Peary, a famous Arctic couple, are also on display.

We can no longer read about Arctic explorations in the newspapers on a daily basis, but through this exhibit we can relive this period of American history when Arctic exploration was at the forefront of American thought and consciousness.

Top, Counter-clockwise: George F. Cram, ‘North Polar Regions with the principal routes of discovery from Cram’s Unrivalled Atlas of the World’, 1911, engraving, Osher Map Library; Maker Unidentified, ‘Rounding the Glacier Continent from The Graphic’, Circa 1893, engraving, Osher Map Library; Maker Unidentified, George C. Leighton, Gigantic Iceberg Seen by the Arctic Ships - From a Sketch by an Officer of the Valorous from The Illustrated London News, 1875, wood engraving, Osher Map Library.

Review: Inglorious Basterds'

A spaghetti western with a war movie setting

Kaitlyn Greeney

Staff Writer

Quentin Tarantino is God. Not in the religious sense, but when it comes to movies. Maybe King Midas is more fitting: everything he is involved with turns to gold. Either way, it is well known that Tarantino is an encyclopedia of every genre of film, due to all the quirky elements his films are based on.

Taking a look back on his previous works of cinematic creativity, back in the ancient times of 1992 "Reservoir Dogs," this breakout film was deemed groundbreaking in the crime genre. The movie follows the before and aftermath of a failed jewel robbery, including everything but the heist itself, which he leaves as open to interpretation by the filmgoers. The impressive cast (Harvey Keitel, Steve Buscemi, Michael Madsen, Tim Roth etc) made the film a classic in the independent film world and cult culture, even being commonly referred to as the "Greatest Independent Film of all Time." "Reservoir Dogs" embod-



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The 32nd annual Honors Recital

Two senior vocalists open up about being chosen for this prestigious award



Meghan McCaffrey

Contributing Writer

The University of Southern Maine Music Department will be holding its 32nd Honors Recital in Corthell Hall on the Gorham campus Saturday, April 4th at 8 p.m. This recital will display nine of the music department's most talented musicians performing solo pieces on their primary instrument. The student performers will be Stephanie Gilbert, voice; Sophie Flood, horn; Joseph Valliere, voice; Jesslyn Thomas, voice; Michal Harris, piano; Theresa Sepulveda, harp; Slaney Rose Jordan, voice; Mary Clark, voice; and Joshua Miller, voice. This is a free performance for the public. For more information call 780-5555.

Two of the senior voice performers, Stephanie Gilbert and Mary Clark, talked with the Free Press about the upcoming Honors Recital.

Free Press: Why is this honors recital the "most prestigious" talent award in the music department?



Stephanie Gilbert: The honors recital is the only event in the school of music that specifically features student soloists based on talent alone. It's the only recital that features both vocalists and instrumentalists equally.

FP: Was it a goal of yours to be chosen for the Honors Recital? Why were you chosen to perform?

Gilbert: Being chosen for the recital is definitely something all nominees strive for, but at the same time, we're happy to see our friends be chosen as well. Being selected for the recital is entirely based on the audition and what the judges thought of each of us on that particular day.



FP: What will you be performing? How long did that take to prepare?

Mary Clark: "Les Oiseaux Dans La Charmille" from Les Contes d'Hoffmann by Jacques Offenbach, also known as The Doll Aria. It's been a work in progress over the last year, and I've learned so much about my voice through preparation of this piece. As any serious voice student will tell you, the subtleties of technique advance and mature through months of intensive training.

Gilbert: I will be performing "O rendetemi la speme ... qui la voce" from the opera "I, Puritani" by Bellini. I've been preparing this aria since January, and will continue working on improving it until the performance.

FP: How have your voice teachers helped you to prepare for this award?

Clark: I'd say the question is really how has my voice teacher helped me to progress as a student. In all honesty, the goal was not to be specifically honored by this recital. It has always been about music and how to excel as a student of music. My focus as a student comes from the faith the USM faculty has expressed

that they have in me and all of the USM music students. The dedication of the USM music faculty, mentors and students is a direct testament to my success thus far. This recital is such an honor because I feel it is my chance to show the USM faculty how far I have come since my freshman year.

Gilbert: One of the most important things my voice teacher has taught me is simply to have faith in myself and give every performance or audition my best effort. I've always had a tendency to be very critical of myself, and I struggled with stage fright for a long time. Now I try to focus on the audience. They're there to hear me sing, so I should give them a performance to remember.

FP: What are your plans for the future? Will this recital help you prepare for that? How so?

Clark: I absolutely love to sing, and this recital is simply my most current opportunity to share my love of music. For this alone, I am honored.

Gilbert: I plan to attend Yale in the fall to pursue a Masters of Music in Opera Performance. Every chance I get to sing and act in front of an audience is preparing me more and more for my future plans. I definitely think that one thing the judges considered this year when selecting vocalists for the recital was their ability to portray the emotion of the music through their acting. This is something I have been striving to improve on in my experience here. I'm glad I'm going to have another opportunity to share my hard work on the night of the recital.

Live review:

Darien Brahms, Metal Feathers, Honey Clouds @ SPACE, 3/12/2009



TYLER JACKSON / STAFF WRITER

The band Honey Clouds performing at Space Gallery in Portland on March 12th. The concert was part of a dual-location show with Portland Museum of Art which celebrated the "Backstage Pass" exhibit at the PMA.

Tyler Jackson

Staff Writer

There are several things one can count on at a Space Gallery show. It will be dark. There will be dozens and dozens of hairy and/or horn-rimmed hipsters. The drinks will be relatively inexpensive—\$2 PBR and \$5 Maker's Mark. The employees with whom you exchange money for wristbands will be smiling and grateful.

But most importantly, there will be good music—often, a mixed bag of it. A few Thursdays ago, that mixed bag included a weathered and ferocious rock queen, a foursome of quiet indie brainchildren and a winning reborn alt-country outfit.

Darien Brahms is a truly commanding performer and often

referred to as the queen of the Portland music scene. It was my first time hearing her play, and as far as I can tell, the title is warranted.

Her songs are swampy, rootsy, gravely and not to be trifled with. They're also a lot of fun.

Most of what she and her band performed was from her recent album, Number 4, which came out last August on Cornmeal Records. Brahms wrote, engineered and produced the entirety of the album, and her comfort with the material is apparent on stage. The songs weren't exactly stripped down from their recorded form, but honed to a barebones four-piece rock arrangement that suited them aptly.

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From **BASTERDS** on page 9

ies many themes and characteristics that have become prominent in all of his creative endeavors: the nonlinear storyline, violent crime, heavy profanity, memorable dialogue, and plenty of pop culture tributes.

These ideas steadily carried over into 1994's "Pulp Fiction." The classic follows many sinful characters and the ways in which their stories are interconnected. The film breathed life into the dying career of John Travolta and although was noticeably a loser at the Oscars (because of excessive violence), it cleaned house just about everywhere else. Hopefully you have already seen the film, otherwise a Jheri-curl'd Bible preaching motha-lovin' bad man Jules Winnfield should take you on a ride through Inglewood.

In 1997 Tarantino delivered us "Jackie Brown," his take on blaxploitation films. It certainly did not do well as "Pulp Fiction." In fact, this was Tarantino's worst film to date critically and financially. However, Samuel L. Jackson and Pam Grier's head-on confrontations are enough to watch this forgotten gem. Robert DeNiro hitting a ceramic dragon bong certainly adds to its appeal.

Missing from the movie business for a couple of years after this, Tarantino's absence began to be felt by the lack of intelligent or thought-provoking crime flicks. Thankfully in 2003 and 2004 he gave us "Kill Bill: Vol. One" and then "Kill Bill: Vol. Two." Both are tremendous films on their own and many have debated over which volume is better. The first volume is more focused on his infatuation with Kung-Fu movies so it's a grand opera in honor of choreographed violence.

My personal favorite is the second film, which was more of a Spaghetti Western style applied with a script that revises his instant classic dialogue. Both of these films alone are neo-classics in the genre they mimic, and include some heavyweights like Uma Thurman, David Carradine, Darryl Hannah, Lucy Lui, Vivica A. Fox, Samuel L. Jackson and so forth. If you have a strong fear of being buried alive you might want to skip volume two.

"Grindhouse" reunited Tarantino with director Robert Rodriguez who both collaborated together on the El Mariachi series starring Antonio Banderas. Tarantino produced "Death Proof," the stronger and most stylistically true to the genre of the two, Rodriguez's "Planet Terror" was parodying zombie movies, specifically Romero's "Day of the Dead." "Death Proof" starred and gave wondrous light to the career of Kurt Russell and many beautiful young ladies.

Hopefully this look back at Tarantino's past creative accomplishments helps prepare you for what is coming later this year. In August of this year the genius is bestowing upon audiences his latest movie, "Inglorious Basterds," which premiered at the Cannes Film Festival and stars Brad Pitt among a serious list of others (his largest on screen cast to date, look for comedic legend Cloris Leachman).

Tarantino's non-linear plotline is sure to be prevalent judging by the movie's somewhat separate stories, although he always ties them together quite neatly.

A revenge-riddled girl whose family is exterminated by Nazi members escapes to Paris where a kind woman takes her in. The girl begins to work for the woman at her movie theater where she is put into a conflicting situation, when an infatuated German war hero persuades his superiors to screen their latest propaganda film in the occupied theater. Informed of the propaganda premiere, elsewhere a group of Jewish-American soldiers, deep behind enemy lines are sent there with the pure mission to "scalp as many Nazis as possible" to stop the war machine.

Tarantino has repeatedly stressed that despite "Inglorious Basterds" being a war film, the movie will come off as "a spaghetti-Western but with World War Two iconography."

There are a great number of skeptics that simply write off Quentin Tarantino as a has-been, to those people: I should use the Five Point Palm Exploding Heart Technique on you, and then finish you off by sticking my black mamba on you.



TYLER JACKSON / STAFF WRITER

The band Metal Feathers perform at the Space Gallery in Portland on March 12th. The concert was part of a dual-location show with the Portland Museum of Art to celebrate the local music scene as well as the "Backstage Pass" exhibit at the PMA.

From **REVIEW** on page 9

"Sweet Little Darling" boasts a tremendously catchy chord progression and chorus, while "Cream Machine" is a sneering anthemic rocker perfect for the live setting.

Next on the bill was the unbearably good Metal Feathers, who never fail to mesmerize the audience. Their set comprised of all the songs from their dazzling self-titled debut—minus one instrumental—which I urge everyone who has not already done so to pick up immediately.

One of Metal Feathers' greatest performance strengths is the personality and inimitability projected by each band member. Jay Loble, former front man of the fizzled-out Cult Maze, writes brilliant pop songs and performs them with much precision. His brother and keyboardist Derek does as good of a job providing backing vocals as anybody could.

Jason Rogers, known chiefly as the prime mover of Diamond Sharp, plays distorted, truncated bass parts that make up much of the distinctness of the band's sound. Althea Pajak is apparently a newcomer to the drums, but the exactitude of her playing (on a topsy-turvy, one-of-a-kind kit) keeps Metal Feathers grounded and simple in a crucial, defining way.

They began with the album opener, "Glamour Skulls," one of the drearier tunes in their repertoire. The Lobleys and Rogers sing the verse with a worrisome, almost pained collective tone. At the chorus, Derek and Jason kick their voices up to dueling falsettos

and resolve: "Oh 'cause there's a town just out of reach/glamour skulls at haunted beach..."

They went on to play nearly everything from the album: the jagged rockers "Blind For You" and "All For Blood," the hazy, sweet instant classics "Tough" and "Embrace." It would be impossible to detail highlights of their set on a song-by-song level, because each number was fantastic in its own regard.

If you hadn't heard the album before the performance, Metal Feathers did a pretty damn good job laying it out for you that night; there isn't much on there that can't be translated faithfully live. This was, by far, the best I've heard them play.

The final set of the evening was from Honey Clouds, who in a previous incarnation was known as the alt-country band Harpswell Sound.

In case you were wondering, their sound is as sweet (in quality and aesthetics) as their name.

Now, with a new rhythm section—Sean Wilkinson on drums and Diamond Sharp's Mandy Wheeler on bass and backing vocals—the band's sound is fresh and leaning closer toward straight pop than ever before.

Trey Hughes, a phenomenal and tranquil singer with a deep, bawling intonation, leads

Honey Clouds. His songs sound both laid back and potent, wrapped in a wash of clean guitars played by him and the other Harpswell Sound veteran Ron Harrity (Peapod Recordings skipper).

There's something really nice about a high-pitched female vocal singing along with an un-

usually deep and melodic voice such as Hughes'. "Color Spills In," which can be heard in different versions on their Earl Grey Demos and Peapod's Winter '09 compilation, is a songwriting triumph, aided terrifically that particular vocal concoction.

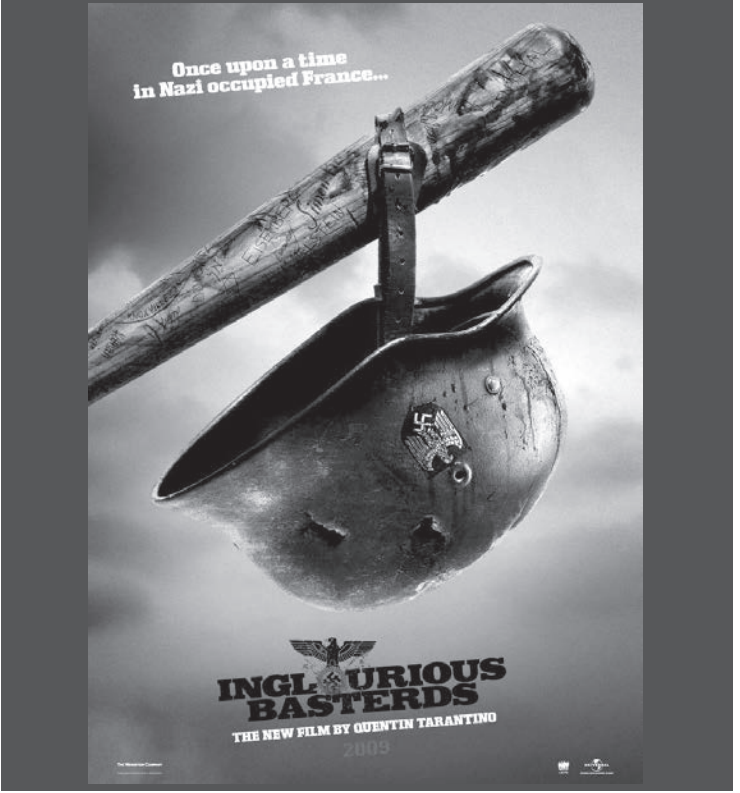
The band explodes with joy on the borderline-transcendentalist chorus: "Oh, but the air smells clean/Yeah, it just rained/There's a slight chill lingering on these hills/Just above the ridge/Color spills in..."

Harrity and Hughes' guitars compliment each other in a fashion all too uncommon in indie rock these days: their parts stand alone, going in different directions and expanding the songs to adventurous yet succinct reaches.

Wilkinson is a skilled drummer who knows how to take it easy on his equipment and at the same time fulfill every aspect of his rhythmic duties. Wheeler's voice is welcoming, delightful and a match made in heaven for Hughes'.

You wouldn't know that that was the first Honey Clouds show in months; they sounded incredibly fresh and enthused. They are finished recording their proper debut LP, so it shouldn't be long before it emerges on Peapod and we're treated to a new round of their remarkable performances.

<http://www.myspace.com/darienbrahms>
<http://www.myspace.com/metalfathers>
<http://www.myspace.com/honeyclouds>



Quentin Tarentino's newest gorefest features allied commandos kicking Nazi asses across France, in bloody Tarentino fashion.

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Talk Radio

A controversial talk radio host inflames the passions of the marginalized in America's heartland, at his own peril.

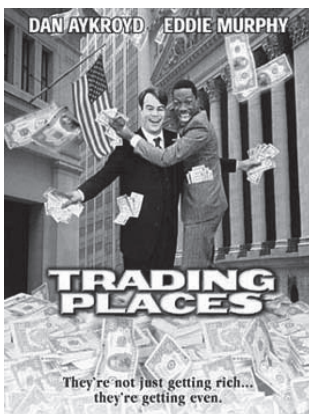
Alright, unlike Rush Limbaugh, the subject of this Oliver Stone film never gets his shot at the big time, and never attracts the attention of the President of the United States. He does, however, talk out of his ass for hours a day, sometimes making okay sense, always sacrificing his own mental and emotional well-being in order to create quality entertainment. Nevermind Rush Limbaugh, this film foretells the rise of Jim "Mad Money" Cramer. If John Stewart were more violent.



Trading Places

Two corrupt commodity brokers tire of gambling with other peoples' livelihoods indirectly, and decide to swap a well-to-do, effete white businessman with a poor, black street hustler. Just for shits and giggles.

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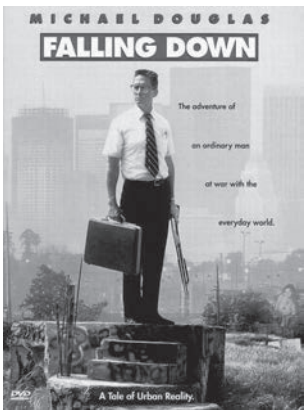
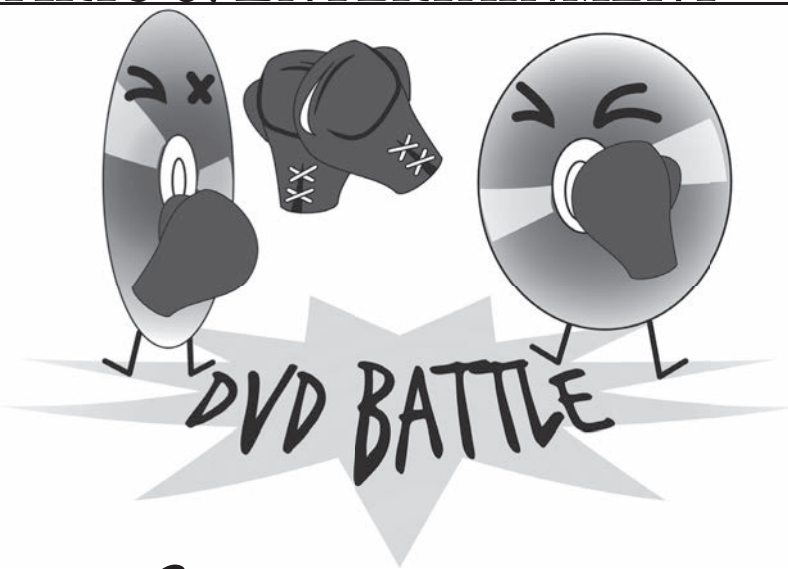
David O'Donnell

Staff Writer

The internet and sketchy college newspapers are overrun with guides aimed at helping you understand the massive and complicated recession we're currently clawing our way out

of. Yet the real oracle in times like these is, as always, classic cinema on DVD. With that in mind, here are some old movies - which you can probably pick up free at your local library - that might help you understand or at least weather the hard times.

Life imitates art edition



Falling Down

If you thought the populist rage over AIG bonuses was bad, see what twenty minutes in rush hour traffic does to Michael Douglas.

Though his character thankfully sets his sights on anything and ev-

everything he sees wrong with society, marching around town with a shotgun and a briefcase. His beefs include immigrants who fail to speak English, fast food workers who won't serve you breakfast after 11 p.m., and panhandlers who fudge their resumes - but for good measure, he has more politically correct annoyances too, and gives a homophobic Nazi gun dealer a proper scolding. Look for the upcoming special edition DVD, retitled "GO AHEAD OBAMA, KEEP HANDING OVER OUR HARD-EARNED CASH TO GREEDY BANKERS and WELFARE QUEENS, AND MAYBE, ONE OF THESE NIGHTS, I WON'T JUST FALL ASLEEP WATCHING JIMMY KIMMEL LIVE WITH MELTED CHEESE STUCK TO MY SHIRT!"

FREE PRESS PICK

It's a Wonderful Life

When beloved George Baily's humble little Savings and Loan operation goes belly-up, his tiny town turns on him. Between a rock and a hard place, George is forced to wonder - should he take an all-strings-attached bailout from Big Brother, or just kill himself?

This once public-domain film used to be a Christmas TV staple, since cheap local stations could run it ad nauseam - for free - in the spirit of the holidays. Some legal loophole has since put a stop to that (though now "A Christmas Story" gets the same marathon treatment thanks to some deranged programming executive at TBS). That said, It's A Wonderful Life is hardly a Christmas movie and may never have been intended as one. It's a Frank Capra movie. As such, it's mission is to celebrate America in a surprisingly downbeat fashion, subjecting Jimmy Stewart to some of the worst twists of faith his merciless God (Capra) can imagine for him - like being rescued from a suicide attempt in icy water, only to be dragged into even deeper depression by a clumsy angel for the next hour and a half. The title has surely turned people off for years



EPICUREAN EPICS

by Anne McCormack

The year's first harvest

Majestic maples over seventy feet tall overlook Connemara Farm's landscape, generously shading in the heat of summer, and providing homes to robins and Baltimore orioles, as well as resting places for crows, ravens, grackles, sparrows, and sharp-shinned hawks.

The trees offer pleasure throughout the year, from their glory days of fall to their barky, seemingly barren nakedness throughout the winter.

Yet come spring, when days are warm but nights are still freezing, maple trees weep with sappy joy that soon they will bud and burst into a canopy of leaves, exploding like fireworks that don't fade until late fall.

The trees are tapped and sap springs forth, drip by drip, to accumulate into gallons of sap which is condensed by evaporation into the most miraculous of all confections: pure maple syrup.

As a "backyard sugarer" I do not have to be as frugal with

the syrup I harvest as if I were paying the current \$11 for a pint. Therefore, I liberally enjoy syrup in a myriad of ways beginning with a splash in my morning coffee, drizzled over vanilla ice cream, combined with olive oil and vinegar for a salad dressing, and in place of honey when I make granola.

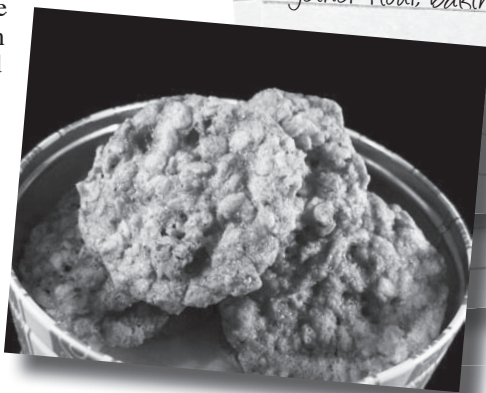
Combining orange juice, soy sauce, garlic, and maple syrup made a great marinade for salmon, which I reduced to a glaze to serve as a side sauce. On the sweet side, however, these lovely cookies are best enjoyed with a cup of tea laced with a little spoonful of syrup.

MAPLE OATMEAL COOKIES

YIELD: ABOUT 70 COOKIES

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 1 1/2 cups (3 sticks) butter, softened | 6 cups old-fashioned rolled oats |
| 1 3/4 cups maple syrup | 2 cups all-purpose flour |
| 1 cup sugar | 2 teaspoons baking soda |
| 2 large eggs | 1 teaspoon salt |
| 2 teaspoons vanilla extract | |

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease two baking sheets. In large bowl, beat together butter, maple syrup, sugar, eggs, and vanilla. Stir in oats. In another bowl, stir together flour, baking soda, and salt. Add dry ingredients to butter mixture and mix well. Drop by rounded teaspoonfuls about 2 inches apart onto baking sheets and bake for about 12 -15 minutes.



su | do | ku

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.

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

RANDOM FACT!

Cashews are always sold without their shells because the shell contains an oil that can cause a rash similar to poison ivy.

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Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

1 Break sharply
5 Lawn area
9 Ewes' mates
13 Freeload
14 In addition
15 Assist, as a criminal
16 Waikiki welcome
17 Home for bats
18 Stroll through the surf
19 Gambling tokens
21 Suit accessory
22 Wrestling surface
23 Worrier's words
26 Pants measurement
30 Bread maker
32 Goes bad
33 List-ending abbr.
35 Bother continuously
39 Fist in the mouth, slangily
42 Coupe cousin
43 Late-night emcee
44 Fairy-tale beginning
45 Banana coverings
47 Degrees in a right angle
49 Life's work
52 Certain offspring
53 Yes, in Paris
54 Voice-box bulge
61 Racetrack postings
63 Feeling angry
64 Courtroom peer
65 Dessert-cart array

DOWN

1 By oneself
2 Cozy corner
3 Post-workout feeling
4 Drug company, for short
5 Ritzy boat
6 Jai ____
7 Initials on invitations
8 Has some success
9 Not cooked
10 Die down
11 Newspapers and television
12 Do the driving
13 Traveler's guide
20 Sahara animal
24 Follow the advice of
25 Use as a resource
26 Annoys
27 ____ of the above
28 Tuxedo-shirt fastener
29 Break out of captivity
30 Military installations
31 Alda of *M*A*S*H*
34 Spill the beans
36 Fork part
37 Part of IRA: Abbr.
38 Those people
40 Leg joint
41 Forbidden activities
46 Cleans the chalkboard
48 Up the creek
49 Henhouses
50 Sound from a broadcast
51 Bus passenger
52 One of the senses
55 Cooing bird
56 Diva's solo
57 Mountain lion
58 Head honcho
59 Ear-piercing site
60 The Roaring Twenties, e.g.
62 Retired fast plane: Abbr.



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From **HUSKIES** on
page 14

But, the Huskies weren't to be quieted. Sophomore Mike Eaton (Sabattus) belted his own three-run shot in the second to pull the Huskies within one. But Eastern Connecticut wouldn't surrender their lead, as they widened it to 5-3 the next inning. Senior Chris Burleson's RBI single in the fourth would be as close as they Huskies would get before Eastern Connecticut pulled away for the 8-4 win.

Early outdoor games pay dividends in AZ

For the first time since the Arizona trip's inception, the USM baseball went undefeated.

Many of the Huskies' players feel that playing three games in New York prior to Arizona really made a difference in preparing for their competition in the Valley of the Sun.

"I think those three games in Long Island really benefited us by getting us used to playing outside, especially defensively. I mean last year we came out and lost our first three games in Arizona and really struggled defensively, and our improvement showed this year as we didn't commit an error in our first four games. It was crucial in our preparation for this trip," Henry said.

The benefit of playing outdoors before Arizona was readily apparent when Southern Maine defeated the 2008 World Series runners-up Johns Hopkins 12-7 in their opener out West.

The Huskies lineup scored the first nine runs of the game with eight coming off right-hander Chez Angeloni, who was the Most Outstanding Player of the 2008 College World Series and handed eventual National Champion Trinity their only loss of the season.

Wins were also posted against always competitive Middlebury, Roger Williams, and Springfield as USM tallied a total of 138 runs.

Offensive juggernaut

USM's tenacious hitting lineup and a combination of experienced veteran/young poised pitching has helped them swipe the number 10 spot in the country.

Seven Husky starters are currently batting over .300, with two of them batting over the coveted .400 mark.

Division III's "Murderer's Row," averaged 12.2 runs per game in Arizona and has a team batting average of .353. The Huskies are led by seniors Anthony D'Alfonso (Westbrook) who is batting .396, with 16 RBI's and 1 home run, five tool shortstop Burleson (Portland) who is batting .416 with 11 RBI's and 3 home runs including 25 hits in 12 games, and DH/outfielder/pitcher Andrew Stacy

(Denmark) who is batting .400 with 12 RBI's and 20 hits.

The middle of the lineup is reinforced by senior slugger Ryan Pike (Saco) who has homered in the last four game, and Ryan Gaffney (Salem, NH) who earlier in the year homered four times in the first three games. The two of them have combined for 37 of the team's 136 RBI's.

Pitching and defense win championships

Not only was the offense outstanding in Arizona, but the pitching and defense has fulfilled expectations as well, and still seeks to improve. The defense has committed 14 errors in its 14 games, but the pitching staff has a combine ERA of 5.21 and has only given up a total of 5 home runs.

Defensively, USM is solid at every position with the quick feet and strong arms from Pike, D'Alfonso, Eaton, and rookie Roberto Valenti (Lawrence, MA) in the outfield.

The infield is anchored by Burleson at shortstop, solid fielding at the corners from Gaffney and Henry, smooth fundamentals from Mackey, and freshman Anthony Pisani (Cheshire, CT) at second, and Berthiaume catching.

USM's deep pitching staff thrived in Arizona, and is led by senior Therrian (4-0, 2.05 ERA), and sophomore Mike Eaton (3-0, 1.46 ERA), as well as veterans Henry, Stacy, Mark Schmidt (Gorham), Ben Ives (Portland), and UMaine transfer Josh Jillson (Monmouth).

The Huskies recieved solid relief appearances from Hahn and senior Andrew deBethune (Pittsfield), and also very good debut's from freshman hurlers Matt Melia (East Sandwich, MA), Matt Leach (Saco), and Brennan Perry (Hampden) who have all recorded wins.

What's next

The Huskies have a busy week in front of them with six games in as many days. They will host a pair of games at the Wainwright Complex in South Portland against Bowdoin and Bridgewater State before they welcome LEC foe Plymouth State to Gorham on Friday. The Huskies will then travel to Western Connecticut for a double-header on Saturday and will catch Wheaton College of Massachusetts (#6 in the nation) for a game on Sunday that could help the Huskies ascend the national rankings, perhaps even to the top spot.

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NCUA

Huskies living up to expectations

Split with nation's number one shows USM's powerful potential

Joel Neill

Contributing Writer

Climbing as high as seventh in national polls before even playing a game, the USM baseball had high expectations. But through the first 14 games of the season, they've lived up to all the hype.

After sweeping their nine games in Arizona, the Huskies returned to the East Coast riding a ten-game winning streak as they took on the number one team in the country, Eastern Connecticut for a double-header on Saturday.

Prior to Saturday's game, senior pitcher/first-basemen Collin Henry told the Free Press that if his team could hold Eastern Connecticut to six or seven runs, they'd be successful.

Henry's prediction ended up being spot on as the Huskies split with the number one team in the country, winning the first game 7-1 and losing the second 8-4, just a run over Henry's threshold.

In the first game:

Senior righthander Tim Therrian (New Portland) pitched a complete-game gem, striking out eight and allowing six hits, as the team handed Eastern Connecticut their first loss of the season, 7-1.

Therrian allowed no hits after the fourth inning and retired the final eight batters he faced. The only run he surrendered was unearned coming of an error and two singles.

The Huskies, facing one of the Warrior's premier players in Shawn Gilblair, got things going in the fourth inning when they posted four runs thanks to a two-run single by sophomore catcher Jordan Berthiaume (Berlin, CT), an error and an RBI single by junior Josh Mackey (Danvers, MA). USM then added insult to injury when they ousted Gilblair in the fifth with back-to-back shots by junior Collin Henry (Penobscot) and senior Ryan Pike

(Saco), who homered in his fourth consecutive game. Berthiaume continued the offensive fireworks when he scored USM's final run with a solo homer later in the inning.

Henry led the Huskies with four hits.

In the second game:

A shaky first one-third of an inning likely cost the USM a chance at sweeping the nation's best team as the Warriors reeled off four runs before the Huskies could collect their second out of the game.

Eastern Connecticut's Gilblair, who was chased by the Huskies' power, got revenge when he blasted three-run bomb off Henry, the game two starter. A subsequent solo home-run brought sophomore Chris Hahn (Guilford, CT) out of the pen to quell the storm.

See **HUSKIES** on page 13



BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR

Senior Anthony D'Alfonso celebrates a home-run during with teammates during a 2008 regular season win over Thomas College. D'Alfonso is leading a potent USM offense to national recognition.

Gorham sports center goes non-profit

Brian King

Sports Intern

In August of 2007 the owner and builder of the Gorham Sports Center, Stephen Martin, began to explore the possibilities of turning the indoor turf field into a non-profit enterprise.

Martin founded a board of local coaches and businessmen who were interested in this community resource.

In February of last year the facility was purchased at auction and in July Yourspace officially hit the books as a non-profit.

Yourspace is an indoor turf field lined for soccer but also caters to almost any outdoor sport.

This \$3.3 million facility is in prime condition. Compared to other indoor sports facilities in Maine, like Portland Sports Complex, Yourspace is the newest field with the least amount of use.

However, its most significant difference to other indoor sporting facilities is the fact that it is a certified non-profit.

The Yourspace dome is able to offer lower prices than other facilities and has become a community resource in Gorham.

In their first year, Yourspace finished in the black and had a more successful year, financially, than any other year that the facility was open.

Yourspace has plans to expand the operation to better serve the community - some of these plans include outdoor fields and locker rooms.

Where has USM been in all of this?

So far USM has existed all too separately from the Yourspace facility.

The USM field house is only 1.5 miles from Yourspace.

Coach Mike Keller of the USM Men's Soccer Program has been working with the Yourspace board and organized spring training for the Men's Soccer Program in exchange for volunteer work. The USM Men's Soccer players will help Yourspace run and advertise for a youth soccer tournament fundraiser.

What can this facility offer USM Athletics?

Yourspace is a lined soccer field with a center drop net that separates the field into two smaller fields.

Yourspace also offers ample space and equipment (including a pitching machine and nets) for lacrosse, field hockey, football, rugby, baseball, softball, and they even have an archer who trains in the facility.

The center becomes of particular interest to USM during these tough economic times. With plans for a multi-purpose turf-field simmering, the field offers a

better alternative than practicing on the less-realistic surfaces of the field house.

St. Joe's lacrosse team currently trains there and the USM soccer teams trained at Yourspace on days when the weather wasn't ideal and even days when the field just needed a break.

Adam Sturtevant, of the Yourspace board, said "We would like to work more with USM in the future, we always try to work with the student athletes."

Sturtevant has been with the board since the beginnings of Yourspace and shared that he sees the potential for USM intramural sports to offer programs at the Yourspace facility, maybe some of you have already participated in Ultimate Frisbee at Yourspace.

The board is looking forward to working with students and can offer "very attractive student rates." Plus, Yourspace's peak times are between 4 p.m. and 11 p.m., meaning that, during other times, students have ample time to get in their off-season workouts or other events that necessitate the space and accommodations of the building.

Check out the Yourspace website at www.yourspacemaine.com or call them at (207)839-6767.

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From **ELDERMURALS** on page 16

Matlocks was neutralized when his Rascal scooter ran out of batteries late in the third quarter.

The game came down to the wire, with a few hard fouls in the final minutes. One particularly fierce jab from Matlocks guard

Bryant DeRoche sent a mouthful of teeth clattering from Jefferies' mouth; a injury that looked a lot worse than it was as Jefferies simply reapplied his Polydent and hustled up the court for a massive blocked shot.

The Matlocks took the game 34-29, with the ecstatic Jefferies exclaiming, "well don'tcha

know, nothing is impossible there bub!"

In the true spirit of the intramural league, the Matlock and Lansburys attended a joint celebratory dinner at Grey's Cole Farms restaurant, and were all in bed by seven-thirty.

From **CHIHUAHUA** on page 16

porn, mouse traps, dead animals, Skittles, human hair, and chocolate Kisses.

Sporting events will promote the poor sportsmanship and binge drinking tactics used by major Division I schools while rooting for the Chihuahuas. If any player from the women's or men's hockey teams scores a hat trick, bottles, not cans, of beer will be thrown from the stands exploding victoriously over the ice. This will be known as the "beer trick."

The trick will culminate at the end of the game when several drunk, rowdy fans will hide in the opposing team's locker room and urinate all over their equipment, thus leaving an indelible stain all over their dignity and sense of human-worth.

To neatly wrap the school's message into a catchy phrase, several student government officials have proposed to abandon the school's current slogan, "Education Your Way," and replace it with, "Education You're Lame. Let's Party."

Only time will tell if this radical tactic to attract more students will work, but it is almost guaranteed that this change will bring immense joy, and intense hangovers, to the current student body.

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Students: ‘Yo quiero party school’

USM to change mascot from Husky to Chihuahua

Jel E. Donit

Columnist

The years of the Chihuahua are rapidly approaching at USM. Upon fall semester of 2011, USM’s boring mascot, the Husky, will be replaced by a much fiercer, four-legged fiend: the Chihuahua.

In an effort to contemporize, and stray from the generic, USM will abandon the oft overused Husky as its totem spirit and athletic symbol.

Through years of secret society-esque meetings, the student government has been discussing and petitioning for this change, keeping the details and have just now reached a verdict.

The change is seen as a desperate attempt to attract more students to USM during these tough financial times. Government officials believe that USM will benefit from having the reputation of a party school, and not just a school, school.

The Husky is seen as an outdated form of valor and pride. By replacing the handsome Husky with the party-obsessed Chihuahua, the student government hopes that more students will enroll for the various perks and festivities that come with having a

Chihuahua as as the symbol of the school’s mission.

For example, from now on, all fraternities that wish to throw the popular “CEO’s and Office Ho’s,” themed parties must replace it with the Chihuahua friendly, “Sombre-bros and Tac-hos.”

The dress code for such soirées, which will be outlined in further detail, along with other rules and regulations, by the “Chihuahua Code of Conduct” manual in fall 2011, will require all males to where a sombrero and females to dress as tacos.

In the classroom, a Chihuahua piñata will hang from the ceiling to remind the students, teachers and faculty of the pride of USM. Since many classes occupy the same room, one piñata will be assigned for each specific class, implementing a reward system that will inspire students to aim for the top.

For every “A” that is rewarded on each individual test or paper, one whack upon the piñata is permitted to try and gain the hidden items inside.

It is not certain which candy or items will fill the piñatas, but initial frontrunners are: condoms, Pixy-Stix laced with stimulants,

See **CHIHUAHUA** on page 15



GINGER CUTANPASTE/ STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Omar, the new face of USM athletics. The chihuahua brings a more festive attitude that the student government feels better represents the USM population.



RANDALL CUNNINGHAM/ STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Herb Jefferies slams home a massive dunk against the Lansburys on Thursday afternoon as part of USM’s new “Eldermurals” sports program. Jefferies credits his active lifestyle to hard work, dietary supplements, and the love of his adorable grand-daughter, Samantha.

Intramural sports to cater to seasoned tastes

‘Eldermurals’ to include USM’s aged population

Richard Trickle

Geriatric Sports Correspondent

Citing the growing population of “seasoned students,” interim Director of Student Life Philip Cosby announced yesterday that USM will begin offering intramural sports and student groups that cater to the school’s 80-plus set.

Cosby calls this plan a step forward for the university, which has come under fire recently for cutting the Lifeline Fitness program, a favorite of Portland’s older crowd.

“We recognize the need to reach out to some of these students, who have felt marginalized because of their extreme oldness,” he said.

USM plans to add shuffleboard, bingo and bridge to its regular intramural sports schedule at the Sullivan Fitness Complex.

Student Involvement also plans to offer non-athletic clubs geared towards this age group. Such clubs would include “Fans of buying greeting cards out of season,” as well as a group discussion called “Why the grandkids never call.”

Another club plans to crochet jerseys for the emerging intramural clubs. “Itchy, not breathable, and with turtlenecks, per the players request,” said the needle-wielding Margie Higgenfelt.

“We’re really trying to make [USM] a friendly environment for our more seasoned students,” President Botman said last week, while getting lunch in the new Country Buffet kiosk in the student center.

The Gold Bond Medicated Foot Powder was in the air last week as these “Eldermurals” kicked off, with the “Matlocks” took on the “Angela Lansburys” in a game of basketball in the Sullivan gym.

Herb Jefferies was looking good in the early going, but aggravated a lingering hip injury on a wobbly, cane-aided drive to the hoop.

USM men’s basketball Coach Karl Henrikson stopped by to show his support for the new program, and agreed to give the underdog Lansburys some tips to keep the game interesting.

While a kindhearted move on Henrikson’s part, his help was not well received by power forward Earnest “Red” Reddenbocker, who turned over the ball three times while yelling back “what?” and “speak up sonny!” to the coach.

Big things were expected from former NBA player Leo “Ace” Gottlieb, a member of the first New York Knickerbockers team, but his usually tenacious defense for the

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