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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE

Botman begins

Selma Botman becomes tenth president of USM in formal inaugural ceremony

Daniel MacLeod
News Editor

Last Saturday afternoon, Selma Botman marched down Bedford Street in Portland to the tune of a bagpiper.

After nearly one year as president of USM, Botman was sworn in at a formal ceremony attended by about 300 people. The event began as a processional lead by bagpiper and music education student Steven Lemiux from the Wishcamper center to the Hannaford Lecture Hall in the Abromson Center.

Current and past colleagues of Botman celebrated the ceremony, which was emceed by new Provost Kate Forham. Dr. Leila Fawaz, a Harvard classmate of the president, and Professor of Lebanese and Eastern Mediterranean Studies at Tufts University, reminded the crowd of Botman's accomplishments as a scholar of Middle-Eastern history.

"Dr. Selma Botman has helped shape our understanding of the

history of the modern Middle East and more broadly, helped define social history in modern times," she said.

The investiture was replete with musical performances by USM students before, during and after the ceremony, as well as the reading of a poem specially written for the occasion by Dr. Annie Finch, the director of Stonecoast MFA.

UMaine System Chancellor Richard Pattenau, who performed the official installation of Botman as president, reminded her that the job of president of USM extends beyond the students and faculty; it includes the people of Maine.

"We ask you to never forget that the university depends upon the confidence and support of the people of Maine," he said. "Always remember it is the people's business you do here."

In her speech, Botman announced a \$1 million scholarship endowment from the Osher family. The "Osher Reentry



BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR

Bagpiper Steven Lemiux leads the processional along Bedford Street at last week's inauguration.

Scholarships" are for new or returning students who are struggled to earn their first degree while working and raising a family. The scholarships – which are intended for 25-50 year old students – will award \$2,000 to 25 students each year.

Botman remained optimistic about the fate of the university, which currently faces a budget shortfall for the coming year of more than \$4 million.

"When people say to me, 'this period of economic distress must be a dreadful time to be a university president,' I think of the

10,000 students at USM who depend on me and all of us in this academic community," she said.

"Our students inspire me, and awaken a level of optimism and intellectual engagement that makes my work at USM a joy."

Students' artwork, and posters of research projects were featured in the conference rooms adjacent to the main lobby of the Abromson Center.

The ceremony, which was funded by private donors, concluded with a reception complete with a chocolate fountain, and platters of hors d'oeuvres.

After the ceremony, Pattenau drew similarities between his life and Botman's. One of the common threads between the two administrators is their humble beginnings, he said.

"My father was a bus driver, her father worked in a shoe factory," he said.

"I think we share values in commitment to students, understanding the enormous importance of the university, but also in having our own lives transformed by higher education."



DANIEL MACLEOD / NEWS EDITOR

Muskie grad student Dan Jenkins discusses his campaign strategy for this June's city election for the charter commission at a campaign kick-off party at his apartment on Grant Street last Thursday.

Jenkins rides again

Months after failed house bid, USMer returns to campaign trail

David O'Donnell
Staff Writer

On election day last November, Dan Jenkins shared the ballot with a few somewhat bigger attractions: Barack Obama, Susan Collins, Tom Allen and Herb Adams.

Unfortunately for Jenkins, a Green party candidate, Adams was his competitor in the district 119 race for the statehouse – and a veteran Democratic lawmaker that the Bollard's voter guide called a "Parkside institution" (alongside "sweat pants, prostitu-

tion and Deering Oaks").

Adams handily defeated his much younger rival, who walked away with 25 percent of the vote.

"I was surprised I lost, it was pretty bad," says Jenkins, on watching the election night returns. "But I got a lot of positive responses from people in the neighborhood about the way I ran my race, so it didn't feel as bad as the numbers reflected."

Come January, Jenkins was back in his role as a student at

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USM's Muskie School for Public Service.

And with the semester winding down, he's already found a reason to pull some of the old campaign gear out of storage: a 12-member commission being assembled to review and revise the structure of city government in Portland.

Once he recovered from his "electoral bruising," Jenkins started talking with friends at city hall - councilors Dave Marshall and Kevin Donahue - who encouraged him to make a run for it.

The commission is the result of a referendum question also on the fall ballot, centered around Portland's lack of a popularly-elected mayor.

At present, the city council decides annually which of its 9 members will don the title, which is largely ceremonial and has been a mixed blessing over the years: current and first African-American mayor Jill Dusen has used it as a pulpit to decry some of the racial bigotry that followed Obama's landmark election - but last year, it may have been little more than a lightning rod for controversy on the campaign trail for former councilor Ed Suslovic.

A top priority for the commission will likely be to re-define the position as a new executive slot answerable to voters; but there's nothing stopping them at that.

"The mayor issue is just the catalyst," says Jenkins. "Once

you open the charter up to a commission, anything goes."

It will be the first such overhaul in nearly a quarter century, and Jenkins is among a loose coalition of candidates across the city who are particularly interested in what the charter has to say about elections.

Anna Trevorow, who herself lost a bid at the school committee last fall, is another Green in her late twenties. She thinks the name recognition she and Jenkins built up last fall will come in handy this time around, while meet-and-greets with voters might put some of their fears to rest.

"One challenge I believe [we] face in this race is the perception that too many changes will make Charter Commission recommendations less likely to be ratified," she says. "It is important to remember that we do not necessarily have to present charter revision recommendations as a single document to be voted up or down. Recommendations can be submitted as separate ballot questions."

Ben Chipman is running his own campaign over on the East End, and he's highly motivated by the prospects of reducing the role that fundraising can play in city politics.

"Smaller districts is a key for me," Chipman said, at a kickoff party for Jenkins' campaign at his Grant street apartment last Thursday. "I've lived here for nine years now, and I've seen

campaign-spending in city races go up dramatically."

One remedy being floated is to reduce the number of seats that are voted on "at-large" - meaning city-wide - while increasing the number (and tightening the scope) of districts represented.

"District races are more about how you know your neighborhood and the views there," says Jenkins. "Whereas an at-large race is more about how much money you can raise."

"Get 25, 30 thousand dollars together, and you can buy yourself a seat," he added.

It's a particularly sensitive point for up and coming, third-party candidates. Jenkins' opponent is once again a bit more seasoned - Robert O'Brien now sits on the Portland school committee.

"You could say conventional wisdom gives him an advantage," says Jenkins, who also points out that the district encompasses USM's Portland campus. "I don't think his advantage is actually that strong. But I'll definitely be knocking on the doors of everybody who showed up at the last school finance vote."

Major door-knocking, however, will begin when after he's finished with his final papers and the semester is officially through.

The elections will be held on Tuesday, June 9. Find your local polling place at:

<http://www.portlandmaine.gov/voter/pollplace.asp>

Online courses: friend or foe?

Students and faculty divided on merits, drawbacks of online education

Chanel Smith

Contributing Writer

With spring semester coming to an end, Alicia Pyle, a junior social work major, began registering for her fall semester classes when she noticed an increase in online courses. "I went to sign up for my fall semester classes, and every class I wanted to take was an online course. I was really annoyed," said Pyle.

USM has been pushing a new wave of online classes for the upcoming summer and fall semesters. More online courses are being offered than ever before. Taking an online course is about \$218 per credit for undergrads - the same rate students pay for an in-class lecture.

"There is also a \$25 fee a student pays for each online credit, but this makes up for the students' lack of transportation and parking fees," says David Vardeman Administrative Assistant at the Center for Technology-Enhanced Learning.

According to Vardeman, the university isn't saving any money from online courses as the teachers are being paid the same amount. "It may actually be costing the university more money because Blackboard is an expensive tool that is used in the online classrooms. It's a virtual meeting tool," he says.

Dustyn Dow, an undeclared sophomore, doesn't agree with the current arrangement makes sense, or is even fair.

"I still don't think it's fair that we pay the same amount to take an online course as we do to go to class and actually interact with a teacher and other students. I don't think we are getting our money's worth," he says.

So if online courses aren't less expensive, then why is the university offering so many new online courses?

"USM is actually kind of late," says Leonard Shedletsky, a communication professor who has been teaching online courses since the late 1980s. "Other universities have been offering online courses for years," he says.

Many universities had been experiencing problems with students dropping enrollment. The University of Illinois in Springfield dubbed it: "Hemorrhage Enrollment." A big part of the problem was accessibility. The universities wanted to offer degree comple-

tion alternatives for students with scheduling conflicts.

Online courses were designed to make learning more accessible to students who had trouble commuting to campus, who had work and other obligations, or for students raising children. The universities modified their class structure based on what the student population needed and wanted.

"USM is trying to expand, where proximity is no longer an issue. In doing so, we are expanding the population of students," says communication professor Maureen Ebben.

Online education is a very different way of teaching and learning for both the student and teacher. Russell Kivatsky taught his first online course over the winter session at USM last year.

"I feel that my personality is a big part in my teaching," he says. "When I knew I was going to be teaching an online class, I was worried my personality would be gone."

The online classroom is undoubtedly breaking the conventions of the typical classroom that students and teachers have grown accustomed to.

"What I worry about is, when I am talking to the class, I read the non-verbal cues and body language of students. When I can sense a misunderstanding, I know that I need to further explain myself. I am scared about not knowing where the students are and whether or not they are grasping the material," says Ebben.

Shedletsky says that students may have many misconceptions about online courses; for one, they aren't any easier than a normal class.

"You can sit in class, nod your head and pretend you're intelligent. You can't do that online. If you nod your head, you're still invisible," says Shedletsky. The student is often times expected to contribute to frequent online discussions as well as submit equal amount of papers and projects as they would in a face-to-face class.

"The professor actually has to work harder in an online class," Ebben says. The classes require more time and preparation. There is more material to produce and a high level of attention is required as the students are constantly emailing questions to the professors.

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DANIEL MACLEOD / NEWS EDITOR

Dan Jenkins pointing out Portland's districts on a map hanging in his dining room on Grant street.

Are you a student? I have a research project I need help with.

The project is this. I need a few carefree (you **must** be carefree), independent students to help me find one professor who will attempt to answer one question about a specific historical issue. The question is: "Can you provide, with proof, the name of one person killed in a gas chamber at Auschwitz?"

Will you help me find a professor on your campus who will attempt to answer this question? Will you keep me advised of your progress? I can be reached at bradley1930@yahoo.com

I understand that the question will be considered controversial by some academics and students alike. You may be charged with "challenging authority," but it is not illegal to challenge authority on a university campus in a free society. You may have been told that it is "morally wrong" to ask this question. Do you think it is? Tell me why.

If you can find the one professor I am looking for, I'll owe you a beer. At the very least.

Bradley R. Smith, Founder

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Search for Board of Trustees rep delayed

Outgoing representative doubtful that 'a valid search is possible at this date'

Daniel MacLeod

News Editor

It all began with an art exhibit.

In 2006, Marie Follayttar participated in a controversial art show called "Can't Jail the Spirit," that was shut down by the university. She went to a Student Senate meeting to get approval to be a student voice on a subsequent panel called "Controversy in the public university: who decides?"

"I saw a senate poster, walked in. That ended up being my first meeting. And three meetings later, I became a student senator," she remembers.

At the urging of then Student Body President, Andy Bossie, Follayttar attended a Board of Trustees meeting in Machias. At the dinner afterwards, she talked with several board members and administrators until the dining hall closed.

"I was naïve about the system, and the possibility even, of being a student voice," she says.

But her first meeting with the board made her realize that she had the capability of speaking on behalf of USM students.

"I realized that what I had to say was of interest to people," she says.

In January of 2007, Follayttar became the USM Student Representative to the Board of Trustees (BOT rep), a position that serves as an advocate for USM students at University of Maine Board of Trustee meetings.

By all accounts, Follayttar's tenure as BOT rep has transformed the position. The job never stipulated communicating as much as she has with Lewiston-Auburn students. It never called for lobbying before the Maine Legislature. Both of which she has done, and views as integral to the position.

"I try to talk to every student I possibly can about an issue. A lot," she says.

"Most people who know me know that I am always trying to understand their struggle or story. I don't know if I always do as good a job as I could. I know sometimes I worry about how one person can really represent the diversity that is USM."

But now, with less than two months left in her term as BOT rep, Follayttar is concerned by the fact that the search for her replacement is just getting underway.

"I do not have faith that a valid search is possible at this date," she said in a letter to the BOT rep search committee last week.

"Valid is inclusive and well advertised. We are all too busy to create the right search to grant this extraordinary opportunity to the many students of USM," she said.

Student Body President Ben Taylor, who is on the search committee, says that the student government got sidetracked with reworking the job description, as well as filling another position: the Student Trustee.

The Student Trustee represents



BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR
Board of Trustees rep. and Student Senator Marie Follayttar (right) discusses changes to the BOT rep position at last week's student senate meeting with Alison Parker (left) and Daniel Barrett (center).

all students for the University of Maine. USM's nominee for the position is Student Senator Mako Bates.

"The student trustee position took some precedence because of its strategic role in the university," he says.

"I feel that it's a more important opportunity to have offered students. The student trustee doesn't technically represent a school. To be able to offer that opportunity to even a small amount of students, we saw that as kind of to our benefit. It was offering a once in a lifetime opportunity," he says.

Now that the SGA settled on Mako Bates as a Student Trustee, the search committee for BOT rep is moving forward, he says.

But the task of rewriting the job description has delayed the process further.

"The idea is that there won't be that much change between what is happening now, with Marie Follayttar as the Board of Trustees representative, and what will happen. It was more to formalize the connections and make a lot clearer some of the responsibilities," he said.

The most current version of the job description for the BOT rep was voted down in last Friday's student senate meeting, until more constitutional changes can be made. The current version stipulates no responsibility to students of the Lewiston-Auburn college. It also excludes the length of term for the BOT rep and says that the student filling the post only needs to be taking one credit per semester; something that the senate wants to change to three credits.

Getting the job description nailed down is integral to making sure that the nominee knows what they are walking into, says Follayttar.

"There's a lot that the student BOT rep will need to know potentially to walk into the conversation. And I really wished that I had more time to work with him or her. And right now, I don't how a real search is going to occur. It's a search that should have begun

months ago," she says.

Ben Taylor, and other members of the search committee for BOT rep, assert that there is still time to find a proper candidate.

"We were a little bit worried, but some of the senators have been talking to classmates, so we have an interested pool," says Taylor.

"Really about 4 or 5 is my minimum target for candidates for the

search. I think we definitely have the time to meet that."

Another committee member, Commuter Senator Alison Parker, says that the committee is aware of the difficulty of completing the search in such a limited time frame.

"We're aware that the semester is coming to an end and we do know that its going to be a tight time frame," she says.

"That's why we've actually decided to do phone interviews rather than personal interviews because we do realize that people might go home after finals."

Senator Brendan Morse says that the committee plans on extending the search past the end of the semester.

"We know people are really busy now. So we don't just want to cram it in during finals week. We want to make sure people have plenty of time. We want to make sure every student at USM has an opportunity to apply," he says.

But Follayttar doesn't think that will be enough.

"The search [is happening] in an extremely limited amount of time, for a job that [lasts] two years that will represent USM undergrads during an extremely difficult time," she says.

One of the biggest reasons that Follayttar wants to give an equal chance for all students to apply for the position is the learning experience that her time as BOT rep gave her.

"I'm hoping that the senate gives the opportunity for someone else to have the growth and the mentorship that is offered," she says.

A mass e-mail is expected to be sent out to all students this Monday with an application for the position.

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Gay marriage bill debated in Maine

Hearing draws thousands of supporters, critics

Abigail Cuffey

Staff Writer

On Wednesday April 22, over 3,000 people packed in to the Augusta Civic Center for a public hearing on two new bills on gay marriage in Maine. The event, which originally was to be held at Cony High School, was moved to the larger venue to accommodate the expected crowd.

The most talked about bill, LD 1020, an "Act to End Discrimination in Civil Marriage and Affirm Religious Freedom," proposed by Senator Dennis Damon of Hancock, would legally recognize the gender-neutral union of two people in the state of Maine.

The bill, which is backed by more than 60 sponsors, also states that religious institutions do not have to recognize or perform same-sex marriages in Maine.

The second bill, LD 1118 proposed by Representative Leslie Fossel, of Alna, would extend more rights to gay couples without legally labeling it marriage.

Maine isn't the only state discussing same sex marriage, only a week prior New Hampshire conducted a similar public hearing. As recent as this month, Iowa and Vermont legally recognized gay marriage, following the lead of Massachusetts and Connecticut.

If passed in Maine, the bill would redefine a law enacted in 1997 in Maine that defined marriage as being between a man and woman.

Before the Senator Bliss, of the 124th Maine Legislature, informed the speakers that each person only had three minutes to speak, and that each side would be heard in 30 minute intervals. "This testimony may be emotional, please be respectful and treat each other with dignity."

He also asked speakers to wait a moment after speaking, as committee members might have questions afterwards. "Remember, all of your microphones are on," he half-jokingly told the committee members.

Chris O'Connor, Assistant Dean of Student Life at USM was in attendance. Before the hearing, O'Connor suggested that the opposition's faith based groups were busing people from out-of-state to attend the hearing, a situation that he disagreed with. "We want to keep this a Maine issue," O'Connor said.

According to O'Connor, those who opposed the bill are well-funded, allowing them to rent buses and buy T.V. ads. O'Connor says he tried to organize buses to drive supporters of the bill to the public hearing, but USM wouldn't use university funds to support lobbying.

In the weeks leading up to the hearing, Facebook, support web sites like mainefreedomtomarry.org, and word of mouth encouraged supporters of the bill to wear red.

Equality Maine, a group which started in 1984 to obtain security for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and trans-gender community in Maine was also in attendance. Their web



ABIGAIL CUFFEY / STAFF WRITER

Above: More than 3,000 people attended last week's open hearing in Augusta last week.

Left: A supporter of the proposed bills to legalize gay marriage holds signs outside of the Augusta Center last Wednesday.

opposition for the bill. "I am for traditional marriage," he said. He went on to say that society is "all about values these days."

"There's no value in fixing things in place and time. How low do we take these things?" Mitchell says that the U.S. education system has switched from teaching about literacy to diversity, which he sees as harmful to society's values.

Mitchell also said that gays do have civil rights, but he is against changing the law. "People have lost their discipline," he says.

Echoing similar feelings, a group of Baptists argued that gay marriage is an abomination of God, citing Leviticus and Romans as biblical references to the one man one woman argument.

Among those in favor of gay marriage were Sandy and Jaeger Ole from Georgetown, Maine. The couple, who has been married for 49 years came to support the bill. "We believe in marriage for all," said Sandy.

According to the couple, marriage would create stability for children, allowing all members to feel part of the family. It would be especially helpful in times of medical need.

This has not been the first time Maine has discussed legalizing gay marriage. "We see a change in the attitude of people, a sense of fairness," said Sandy. "As people come out, homosexuality has a face to it."

Some people in support of gay marriage wore shirts with the number of years they had been together with their partner. "There are so many red shirts here, we're totally outnumbering people. I love it!" said one supporter in the crowd.

Courtney, a resident of Bath

and a previous USM student said the issue of gay marriage meant more to her after she got married last year.

She hopes the bill will pass in Maine, especially given the momentum in states like Iowa and Vermont. "Worlds aren't falling apart," Courtney said, in response to other states who have already adopted similar bills.

Once the public hearing got on its way, Senator Damon was called forward to introduce LD 1020. Before he even spoke a word, he received a standing ovation from those supporters.

Damon started off by saying that he thought this sponsored legislation would benefit Mainers for generations to come. He called it his "responsibility of doing people's business."

He continued by saying that religious institutions do not have to marry same sex couples if they chose to. "This bill allows people to live and let live," said Damon.

The hearing kicked off with testimony from legislators. Among those in favor of gay marriage, Emily Ann Cain from District 19 spoke up about her reasons for running for legislature.

"Equality was one of the main reasons why I ran for legislature. Marriage is not about gender and sexuality," Kane said, "it's about keeping Maine families together."

One of the first legislators to speak up against the gay marriage bill was Bill Curtis, who said he had three reasons for his opposition. "Reason number one, parenting will no longer exist."

He also believes that gay marriage will have a negative impact on education and curriculum, "as we have known it for years." "Classrooms will become gender neutral and children will be taught that moms and dads no longer exist," said Curtis.

His third reason is that we will become a society governed by man rather than a "righteous God."

Paul Davis of District 26 said he doesn't oppose the bill because of the Bible, and isn't a bigot. "The basis of society is family. Children must have a blending love of mother and father."

"I don't believe Maine needs this fight," said Davis.

"This isn't about special rights, it's about equal rights for our family," said Hopkins.

Hitting closer to the USM community, Rodney Mondor, Associate Director of Advising at USM spoke up alongside his partner Ray Dumont, Coordinator of Student Government at USM, Mondor's mother, and adopted son Ethan.

Mondor discussed the difficulty same sex couples have with adoption, since legally only one partner could adopt. This posed problems in regards to medical and school appointments. "Ray was not allowed to help," said Mondor.

When Maine's laws changed recently, both were able to adopt Ethan. But the struggle didn't

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Blackhawk lands in Gorham



DANIELLE MILO / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
A blackhawk helicopter lands on Gorham's soccer field as part of a ROTC exercise.

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stop there. "We are constantly evaluating insurance and health plans."

Church officials were both in support and against the marriage bill at the public hearing. Reverend Deborah Johnson, in support of the bill simply said that people have the authority to interpret scripture. "Jesus teaches equality, even if we don't understand one another," said Johnson.

Another pastor of a Baptist church in a small town in Maine said his opposition isn't motivated by hate or homophobia, but "It's my down east sense," he said.

"Who are we as men and women to redefine this scared assembly?"

Richard Malone, Bishop of Roman Catholic Diocese in Portland said he supports civil

rights for all, but is concerned about what a gay marriage bill would have on divorce, and single parents. The subject of family consequences was a high note among the opposition.

The hearing continued until 8 p.m. Wednesday night. The next step the two bills is a work session of the judiciary committee on April 28th.

The future of the bill is indeed uncertain. Once the judiciary committee convenes again, the Legislature can either pass or reject the bill, or give it to the voters for a referendum. With enough signatures, the question could be on our ballot as soon as November. It's no question that Mainers have strong opinions on gay marriage, and the effects of it's legalization on the state, both positive and negative.

From **ONLINE** on page 2

"In an in-class lecture, you walk in and you walk out and then you're done. In an online class, you are constantly checking up on it. It's like your baby. You're always wondering how the baby is doing," laughs Shedletsky.

"Nervous students are usually afraid to speak out in class. The students don't say anything, then they get in the chatroom and you can't get them to shut up," he says. When a student is speaking in a classroom, they are typically talking to the teacher, as opposed to the other students. In an online discussion, students are speaking to each other and communicating more.

Ben Daigle has only one semester left at USM and has never taken any online courses. He has signed up for four online courses

for fall semester because of a job offer in Anaheim, California. "It gives me the option to leave. I only have one semester left, and if I can finish my last few credits at USM completely online, then why wouldn't I?" said Daigle. "I have the opportunity to travel and online courses are a great way to avoid the obstacles of having to physically attend class."

Casey Washburn, a senior communication major, has taken two online courses through the university. "I do feel that a student can learn as much from an online class if not more," he said.

"You also get an opportunity to read everyone's opinion, not just the one kid in the class who likes to talk a lot."

USM e-mail to switch to Google

User-friendly interface, increased storage space prompt switch

Charlie Nickell

Staff Writer

This summer, all students within the UMaine System will have their Horde e-mail accounts transferred to Google Apps, in an effort to make the university's e-mail system more user friendly. Those who already use this service know that the step from Horde to Gmail is like trading in Zach Morris' cell phone from *Saved By The Bell* for a new Blackberry.

Universities all across the U.S. are making the switch to Google Apps for their e-mail service. The integration of web-mail, instant messaging and calendaring have made this a top choice as students' need for communication technology continues to increase.

"We had a lot of complaints from students and faculty about interface and usability," says John Grover, Operations Manager for the UMaine Information Technology Services.

The new partnership between

the University of Maine System and Google will streamline the transfer process so that all student and faculty e-mail addresses will remain the same and will keep the same user name and password to log in. All stored e-mail will be moved and forwarding will also remain enabled.

"We looked for a really long time," says Grover. "Google is just a better experience."

ITS also considered Hotmail as an option but chose Google because of its many communication and collaboration applications.

Benefits of Google Apps include the ability to open your mail, calendar and editable documents in a web browser, unlike Horde where each new message has its own window and no editing ability. Google Apps also has a chat feature, letting you talk to whoever is available within your address book.

The major concern over switching to Google Apps was information protection, making sure that the information saved in student

and faculty e-mail accounts would remain safe. The UMaine system approved a contractual agreement with Google that was reviewed by the system council and spells out that they cannot use or reveal any data to anyone. Part of the agreement included removing any advertisements from the e-mail accounts.

"Students will be able to retain their e-mail addresses for life," Grover says. "Only when we alert Google of a student's alumnae status will they be able to replace advertising."

Storage space was a major factor in the decision to make the switch. Horde's storage space maxes out a mere 100MB, while Google Apps currently boasts a whopping 7 GB of storage, which may expand. Now you can actually open emails with pictures in them, a huge improvement.

The transition process costs nothing to the university system aside from paying employees to make the switch.

Question of the Week

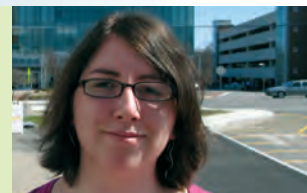
USM is switching from e-mail clients from Horde to Google. Do you currently use your USM email account? How will this switch affect you?



Grace
Sophomore - Studio art
"I've never used Google mail. I don't know what the difference is."



Jasmine
Freshman - Psychology
"I really don't know much about it. It's fine with me."



Kelly
Senior - Linguistics
"I think it's fantastic. I already have a Gmail account. I think it's amazing that we're moving forward."

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the free press

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PERSPECTIVES

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

The Botman era begins
New President just right for troubled USM

This past Saturday, USM held the formal inauguration of its tenth President, Selma Botman.

For me personally, Botman's inauguration capped a process of installing a new president that has been in the works for over a year.

When I first came to *The Free Press* last winter, the search for USM's new administrator-in-chief was just starting in earnest. I watched and reported as the four candidates were named, but reserved passing judgment on the potential presidents.

From my new post, I must admit that I was only just starting to tune in to the day-to-day affairs of the university, but what I saw was not too encouraging. More than anything, I was just ready for someone to take the helm of what I personally saw as a well-intentioned, but disastrously aimless vessel of academia.

Both spring and impending economic collapse were in the air while the search persisted, and I began to worry that without immediate and strong leadership, USM might fall behind in its attempt to restructure itself in a sustainable and positive way.

In trying to be so many things to so many people over its long, schizophrenic and multi-monikered existence (from the Gorham Normal School to University of Maine at Portland) USM has diluted itself into a regional university that is seen by many as a second-chance school for southern Maine's

high school students, and transfers.

I know at first blush this seems like a vehemently anti-school spirited attitude to take against one's soon-to-be alma mater. But in truth, I think everyone has some idea about USM's reputation in the state. Personally, I don't even agree with this assessment, but sometimes a reputation can take on a life of its own that spurns facts for opinions, and leaves a venerable institution smeared in its wake.

But with a dynamic and committed faculty, a great setting, and as of Saturday, a President with the strength to lead, and just as importantly – make the hard decisions – USM has all the tools to tear down this negative perception, and through a paring down of its offerings and expenditures, the potential to raise its status, and weather this economic downturn.

Now, 11 months later, I finally believe things are starting to move forward in a measured and progressive manner.

I commend President Botman for not shying away from a challenge, and stepping into command at a university so mired in economic and public relations problems.

Though our job at *The Free Press* entails questioning the actions and motives of the administration – a task we will continue to undertake, regardless of whose hands hold the scissors – I fully realize that this trimming of our services is the only real means by which we can hope to survive in a state hit hard


with a recession, and spread thin by a weakened tax-base.

An administrator like Botman is the best any school could ask for. Her commitment to academics was what got her appointed to the position in the first place, and someone who has spent so much time in the classroom, and expanding her field of study has the professor's perspective that I believe will keep USM firmly on course, and more importantly, keep the quality of academic offerings well protected.

I think USM has huge potential to become a premier regional university, but it will take a careful reassessment of its core structure and organization to do so. Above all, it will take a President who can solicit advice and input, recognize the very real financial constraints, and still have the wherewithal to execute her vision.

From what I've seen, Botman is the woman for this job, and I am happy to congratulate her on her inauguration.

Thanks for reading,



Matt Dodge

Op/Ed
Online TV: hot new item or cause for alarm?

I currently watch all my TV online as many young people do today. Lets face it there's no or hardly any commercials and you have complete control over what you watch. I mainly used the most popular site that was surf the channel.

Surf the channel started getting threats and legal notices. They were about to be sued. So they ended up giving up the fight and making most of the links on their site Megavideo or iTunes links and are being paid well for this while dodging a legal battle. I decided even though I have never made a website before to make my own internet TV site.

It was during my lay off time this winter. I am just an ordinary Painter by day. I locked myself in my room for 3 weeks and learned to use Adobe Dreamweaver for about 15 hours a day only taking breaks to go to the bathroom and sleep. I ate while coding and learning. I finally did it. Me a simple painter from liberty Maine made my first two websites. The first was an Optimized search engine site. The second was an online TV link site, which is completely legal since the actual content is hosted on either the network site or a foreign site like the very popular Chinese Tudou or Youku.

I can see both sides of this argument myself. The economic effects it can have on lost revenues. The morality issue of hosting someone else's hard

work for profit. On the other hand we as a society have become stagnated. Big corporations like the Hollywood industry donate millions to both Republicans and Democrats each year to lobby for stricter copyright laws.

Instead of using the good old American inventory minds and evolving to capture the public's hearts and wallet's they stagnate the free market through lobbying. Lets face it its too expensive and there's a million commercials and you cant watch what you want when you want to without first recording on a Tivo type machine but who wants to go through all that when you can click a button on your mouse and watch what you want when you want no restrictions.

Don't get me started on product placement. I like to think of it much like the auto industry's dilemma We all know that hydro cells have been available since the 80's and you can even buy a hydro cell for about 30 dollars to hook to your car or truck on eBay. Do you think if gm came out with a hydro car that you filled with salt water tomorrow for a normal price not an 800% mark up like it is now. That they wouldn't sell billions in the first quarter and leave behind their economic troubles in an instant? Of course they would and in all facets of the free market you see this trend.

You go along to get along or else you get knocked down or paid off. This is part of what's killing America. I see the Internet as the last vestige of American freedom. I know it won't be long before they try and make it into some sort of internet package tied to an account with one IP address so they can regulate what you do and say on the internet and wrap it up with a pretty bow and hand our rights over to the five major telecoms but until that day comes I will exercise my right to share whatever materials I want with who I want because America would be a lot better off free.

Have you ever been to Europe? If you have you know that the commercials run before the show and after the show not during and they are very short breaks. The networks still make an obscene amount of money but when I lived there for a few years I didn't feel the need to watch TV online. They played all shows and movies uncensored and unedited. No restrictions of speech or nudity like this once great country was meant for.

For the people that say this leads to bad behavior and role model problems they have about 98% less people in the prison systems.

—Joseph A Pagano III



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Local Author and USM Disability Advocates Team Up for Special Event

On Friday, May 29 from 5pm to 7pm at the Woodbury Campus Center chronically disabled artists, writers and other professionals will gather to share their artwork and celebrate the release of local author Alice Mead's new book: *NOWISH: A LIFE OUT OF TIME*. There will also be a community forum to discuss the chaotic, costly and patchwork system that supports disabled people.

Since 1994, Mead has published a wide variety of children's novels about kids on the margins of society. She has been a children's author for 16 years. Her best-selling Junebug series has been featured on Oprah's best books for kids list. She is also a painter and human rights advocate in Kosovo. She lives in South Portland with her dog Zoe.

www.alicemeadbooks.com *NOWISH: A Life out of Time* is available on Amazon.com ISBN: 1-4392-1716-5.

Community members, students, local care agencies and politicians are encouraged to

attend the event to discuss such concerns as: meeting the needs of the baby boomer generation, costs of care and the personal experiences and of disabled/chronically ill persons in Maine.

Local artists will display and sell their art in an attempt to raise funds for individuals in need of supplemental care.

For more info on the community forum event please contact:

Ben Skillings

207-899-5827

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Page 9. Summer movie preview
Page 10. Bob Dylan album review
Page 11. Bargain bin pick of the week

A “lite” comedy about man’s best friend

Review of “Sylvia”

Alex Merrill
Staff Writer

A.R. Gurney’s 1995 play, “Sylvia,” playing from April 24-May 3 at the Russell Hall Main Stage in Gorham, though it treads the fine line between “light” and “lite” comedy, is only partially a play about a dog. In the hands of a more experienced director, it has the potential to be a passable, though somewhat protracted and obvious, comedy about love, jealousy and the ramifications of impending old age.

For better or for worse, USM’s current production opts more for the “lite” approach; student director Joelle Clingerman is apparently more interested in staging a play about the joys of dog ownership. As she asserts in her director’s note: “Dogs are the essence of instinct, raw passion, unwavering loyalty and the epitome of unconditional love.” The production works reasonably well but only tells half the story that Gurney’s play is meant to convey.

In “Sylvia,” Greg (Joshua Adams) and

See **SYLVIA**
on page 11



PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF TROY R. BENNETT

Sylvia

By AR Gurney
Directed By Joelle Clingerman
April 24th-May 3rd, 2009
Main Stage Russell Hall

Cast

Greg Joshua Adams
Sylvia Hayley O’Connor
Kate. Tarra Haskell
Tom/Phyllis/Leslie Ryan Nash
Homeless Woman Desiray Roy
Street Performer Darren Brown

Top: Greg (Joshua Adams of Amesbury, MA) tries to keep the peace between his wife Kate, left, (Tarra Haskell of Sidney, ME) and the dog he loves, Sylvia (Hayley O’Connor of Vassalboro, ME) in the University of Southern Maine’s production of “Sylvia” by A.R. Gurney and directed by Joelle Clingerman.

Left: Ryan Nash of Kennebunk, Maine plays Tom, a dog-living philosopher Greg meets in the park; Phyllis, an old friend of Kate’s, and Leslie, a bafflingly androgynous marriage counselor in USM’s production of A.R. Gurney’s “Sylvia.”

Kaitlyn Creney
Staff Writer

June

“The Proposal” promises audiences a Sandra Bullock (“Crash,” “Miss Congeniality”) romantic-comedy that we can all be proud of her in. I’m not knocking her talent, just her choice of movies over the last few years. Bullock plays an obtrusive boss that forces her young assistant, Ryan Reynolds (“Van Wilder,” “Waiting”), to marry her. She needs to keep her visa status in the U.S. so she doesn’t get deported back home to cold Canada. All the actors are terrifically funny on their own so there are seemingly no negatives with this movie. “The Proposal” releases on June 19.

“Old School” director Todd Phillips returns to give audiences another gut-busting movie. “The Hangover” begins with three guys (Bradley Cooper, and two stand-up comedians) wallowing through the aftermath of a Las Vegas bachelor party. As the smoke clears and they ponder at bruises sustained the night before, they realize that the groom-to-be is missing. So with twenty-four hours in their hands they band together to search for him. Warner Brothers is already in talks to make a sequel occurring in Atlantic City- since the movie has been barely screened it seems that even the executives realize its golden potential. “The Hangover” releases June 5.

Sam Mendes is an awesome

creative director (“Revolutionary Road” and “American Beauty”) but he deals exclusively with drama. So why is he dipping his hands into the comedy pool? Maybe because he has John Krasinski (“The Office”) and Maya Rudolph (“Saturday Night Live”) as his leads in “Away We Go.” The two play first time expecting parents who travel across the country to find the perfect place to raise their bun in the oven. Mendes is able to combine the best comedic elements from both actors’ shows. “Away We Go” releases June 5.

July

“Public Enemies” is based off the life of legendary and real life, robin hood-esque bank robber John Dillinger circa the Depression era. Johnny Depp (“Blow”) steps into the robber’s polished shoes and the rest of the cast, on both sides of the law, is just as respectable as the people they are portraying. Christian Bale (“The Dark Knight”) and director Michael Mann (“Heat”) are also involved. “Public Enemies” releases July 1.

From the sick bastard that brought us all the culturally insensitive “Borat” or the whitest of all philosophical British rappers “Ali G” comes “Bruno.” That’s right, morally messed-up comedian Sacha Baron Cohen returns from infamy to bring us yet another golden comedic raunchy gem. The working title of the much anticipated movie garners just as much interest, “Delicious

Journeys through America for the Purpose of Making Heterosexual Males Visibly Uncomfortable in the Presence of a Gay Foreigner in a Mesh T-Shirt.” That combined with the available photos of Cohen playing his new character (picture a blonde bob on a very tan Australian man fashionista, with questionable sexuality, straddling a horse in mesh booty shorts) are sure to make “Bruno” a blockbuster smash. “Bruno” releases July 10.

The humid month also brings an unlikely romantic comedy that is based on a misogynistic sportscaster. Ridiculously gorgeous and Scottish Gerard Butler (“300”) plays the chauvinistic brute who provokes his romantically challenged morning sports show producer, played by Katherine Heigl (“Grey’s Anatomy”), into several excruciatingly sexual and awkward tests to prove his theories on relationships, and also to find her love- if that’s possible. His clever plot will undoubtedly make the two hook up but “The Ugly Truth” has been whispered about for being lewd, humorous and sweet all in one. “The Ugly Truth” releases July 24.

August

I came across a film entitled “Taking Woodstock” in a recent movie review and was immediately attracted to it. Comedian Demetri Martin plays a supportive son working for his parents and their failing hotel business. When he attempts to keep his parents from defaulting on the

mortgage he discovers, or starts something monumental. He inadvertently begins the summer generation-defining concert Woodstock. “Taking Woodstock” releases August 14.

“The Goods: Live Hard, Sell Hard” looks like a great comedy but because of little publicity it’s hard to predict the end result. Jeremy Piven (“Entourage”) plays a used car liquidator that is hired by a failing auto dealership to make their Fourth of July clearance into a wicked cash cow. Not much else has been released about the film other than the director of “Talladega Nights” and the co-creator of “Chappelle Show” have teamed up to provide the backbone of the film. “The Goods” releases August 14.

“Inglorious Basterds” is by far the movie I am most excited about. Perhaps it’s because every movie Quentin Tarrantino has touched has turned into cinematic gold. Perhaps it’s because Brad Pitt stars as an inbred hillbilly officer in WW2 whose main goal is to lead his soldiers to scalp Nazis. Perhaps it’s because film legend Robert DeNiro supposedly makes a mind blowing guest appearance. My list could go on but I have confidence that this will be one of the standout films of the year. “Inglorious Basterds” releases August 21.



From top to bottom: movie posters for “Away We Go,” “Public Enemies,” and “Inglorious Basterds.”

Bountiful Bromst

Review of Dan Deacon’s newest album

Tyler Jackson
Staff Writer

‘Bountiful’ is the best word I can come up with to describe the music of Dan Deacon. It is bountiful in its sounds, styles, influences and directions. His latest album, *Bromst*, has the magnitude of a large piece of classical music with all of the benefits of a pop album. Deacon is often dubbed an electronic musician, which is mostly accurate. His music isn’t electronic in the pure Daft Punk sense (he uses plenty of acoustic instruments), but more in the Dan Deacon sense—that music is to be created electronically.

“Bromst”—a word Deacon made up—is the follow-up to 2007’s critically acclaimed “Spiderman of the Rings.” The result is bigger, more diverse, and as he puts it, celebratory.

Songs like “Red F,” “Of the Mountains,” and “Woof Woof” employ Deacon’s own version of the Wall of Sound approach used by Phil Spector and Brian Wilson in the ‘60s. The main components of his “wall” are layers of meaty synthesizers, sharp mathematical

drums and vocals.

With Deacon, no sound wave is sacred. Everything is subject to be sped up, skewed, sent through a multitude of filters, distorted or anything else. His singing is no exception. He’s got a particular penchant for the chipmunk vocal effect.

The layering on much of “Bromst” is thick and highly orchestrated in the style of the pieces “Floe” and “Rubric” from Phillip Glass’s popular 1981 recording “Glassworks.” Like Glass with his chamber music and operas, Deacon uses repetitive structures that evolve slightly and gradually, steadily increasing into cataclysmic, glorious crescendos.

Deacon is a prime example of a musician who uses the studio as an instrument. “Bromst” was recorded in the mountains of Whitefish, Montana at the beautiful Snow Ghost studios with engineer Brett Allen. Pitchfork. tv is currently featuring a documentary that illuminates Deacon and Allen’s recording process, as well as Deacon’s quirkiness as a modest musical genius.

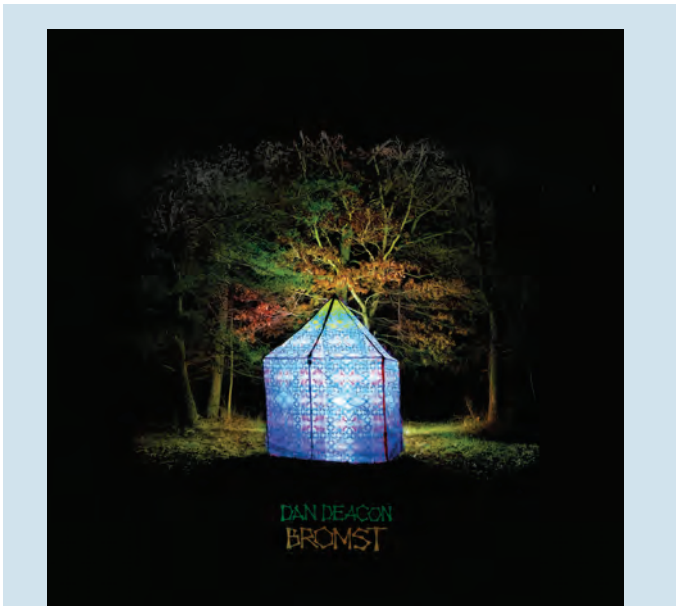
Every song on “Bromst” has

its merits, but a few stand out. “Wet Wings” is based completely around a sample of Jean Ritchie’s acappella rendition of the traditional folk song “The Day is Past and Gone.”

“Snookered” is certainly the epic of the album. It’s a sprawling piece driven by bells, drums and a reflective vocal: “Been wrong so many times before / But never quite like this / Heard all in the rain / But the rain all turned to piss.” Around the five-minute mark, the song transforms into something intense and tribal with rhythmically cut-up vocal tracks and drums.

“Bromst” is the perfect album to close out a decade of pioneering electronics-based pop music. Recent work from Animal Collective and Of Montreal has accomplished similarly innovative results. Modern recording and mixing technology provides musicians and engineers with every possible advantage to explore new sounds and establish new methods of creation.

It’s an exciting movement, and “Bromst” proves that right now, Deacon is at its helm.



Bromst
.....
Dan Deacon
Carpark Records, 2009

A taste of Greek

The first time I had a Greek gyro (pronounced in English as yeero) was in Montreal, a city which boasts hundreds of ethnic restaurants. My daughter Brianna would often call with details of meals from cuisines all over the world: Ethiopia, Thailand, Poland, Ireland, Portugal, and Brazil are a few I remember. In addition to salivating, I marveled that as a poor college student she managed to eat so well so often. Yet when we went to La Maison Grecque I realized a small meal was very affordable, and, oh so good.

The gyro was made with lamb that had been marinated and roasted on a rotating spit. Tender thick strips sat alongside red onion and generously dressed with tzatziki, a yogurt based sauce. A round of pita is the perfect vehicle for containing this messy, finger licking feast.

When I went to replicate the gyro, I opted to use pork, and in making my tzatziki I ignored the instructions to drain the yogurt as it seemed thick enough, being made from whole milk.

It wasn't until last week at a cheese making class at St. Mary's Nutrition Center in Lewiston that I learned the difference it makes in draining yogurt. Community Educator Denise Dill, along with prominent Chef Scott Johnson, demonstrated how to make panir

(an Indian cheese that is similar to farmer cheese), chevre (French for goat), soft goat cheese, mozzarella, yogurt cheese, whole milk ricotta, and whey ricotta. We used the whey, which is the liquid portion of milk that develops after the milk protein has coagulated, to make carrot spice muffins, a blueberry and strawberry smoothie, and pizza dough (which we topped with fresh mozzarella).

In making the yogurt cheese, we put a quart of plain yogurt into a colander that was lined with cheesecloth. After tying the cheesecloth into a pouch, we hung the bag to drain the whey. After twelve hours we added a little salt and a smattering of thyme and oregano to make a slightly tart spread that we enjoyed on Dr. Kracker's® Pumpkin Seed crackers.

Eager to try cheese making at home, I began with making gyros, this time the yogurt got drained. The difference in the consistency and taste of the tzatziki was remarkable, and it is a lot cheaper than buying Greek yogurt, which is recommended for tzatziki.

TZATZIKI

2 quarts of whole yogurt, drained for 2 hours this first as it'll take about 20 - 30 minutes)
Juice of one lemon 1 tablespoon fresh dill if desired.
1 clove of garlic Salt and pepper to taste
2 medium cucumbers, peeled, seeded, and cubed, then sprinkled with a tablespoon of salt Process ingredients in a food processor until blended.
to remove excess water. (Rinse and pat dry. Do
Extra tzatziki adds a nice dimension to fish, chicken, or pork, or use it any where in place of mayonnaise.

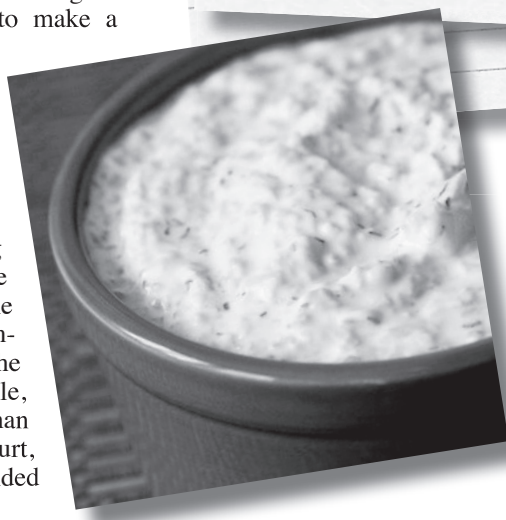


Photo of tzatziki sauce.

THE GYRO

Pork, chicken, or lamb
Pita bread
Red onion
I bought a pork tenderloin and marinated it in Greek salad dressing, cooked it on the grill, and sliced it in half inch medallions when it was cool.
I layered the juicy pork on a pita, added circles of red onion, a liberal coating of tzatziki, and rolled the whole thing up. Kali Orexi!

Preview: “Together Through Life”

A sneak peak at Bob Dylan’s latest album

David O'Donnell
Staff Writer

Disclaimer

DVD critic David O'Donnell was privileged to a private pre-release “listening event” of Bob Dylan’s 33rd album, “Together Through Life,” in stores April 28. He was afforded a single but extremely comfortable listen to the disc’s 10 original songs. We’re firm believers that you can’t review an album based on one go ‘round, but you can spoil it ever so slightly for everybody else. Enjoy.

Preamble

I was eighteen years old when Bob Dylan released “Love and Theft” in 2001, and it was the album that converted me from somebody who listened to Bob Dylan - and who loves music and doesn't at least give him a shot? - to a different kind of fan. It was worlds away from his 1960s heyday, may as well have been a different artist. But “Theft” shared some important qualities and added a few more: confident and energetic, sarcastic and soulful - and didn't seem to give a damn about the world outside of it.

I was also roped in by his newly obliterated vocal chords, which could make wry asides about entropy and longing seem like warnings of biblical proportions.

*High water risin', the shacks are slidin' down
Folks lose their possessions - folks are leaving town
Bertha Mason shook it - broke it
Then she hung it on a wall
Says, "You're dancin' with whom they tell you to
Or you don't dance at all."
It's tough out there
High water everywhere*

“Modern Times” came down the pike a whopping five years later, even more deceptively clean and old-fashioned on its surface, but with menacing touches if you gave it a chance. A lot of people did, I guess, as it ended up being Dylan’s first number one album in 30 years. Critics embarked on what Alexis Petridis of the “Guardian” tagged “the competition to see who can slather Bob Dylan’s 32nd studio album with the most deranged praise known to man,” and even he gave it four out of five stars.

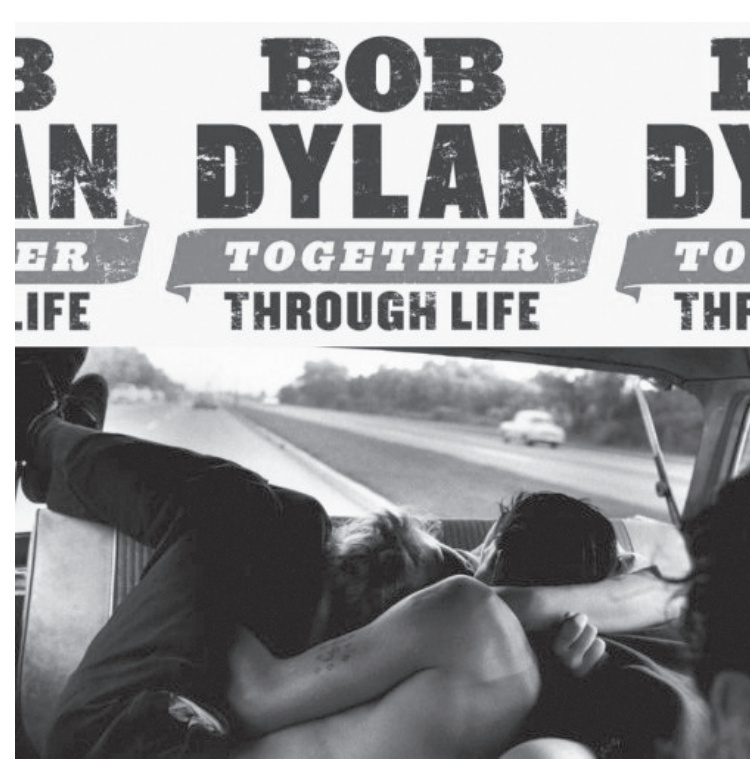
Dylan himself gives notoriously rotten interviews, but he put it nicely to *Rolling Stone* a few years back:

“Time Out of Mind” was me getting back in and fighting my way out of the corner. But by the time I made “Love and Theft,” I was out of the corner. On this record, I ain’t nowhere, you can’t find me anywhere, because I’m way gone from the corner.”

He also hinted that the cornerless “Modern Times” could very well be his last trip into the studio. And, despite my awe-bordering-on-worship of the man’s current groove at the time, I was charmed by the idea.

It would have been an all-too perfect and unearthly cap to Dylan’s story, but appropriately so: a kid too-wise for his age blows everybody away, grows into his talent before their eyes, keeps his integrity and bitterness in the face of universal praise, burns out, writes his masterpiece, then burns out a whole lot more. Finally, in his autumn years, he comes back hard and actually turns out a few infectious celebrations of his craft - and one hell of a radio show - before riding off into the sunset.

But this is earth, and it’s 2009, where everybody’s favorite surly, geriatric folk legend has surprised even his record label by whipping up album number 33, on a trip into the studio that was supposed to yield just a track or two for a film soundtrack.



Dylan borrows a cover photo from one of his favorite novelists, Larry Brown; photograph by Bruce Davidson

The result is “Together Through Life,” a record that has been lovingly teased to the press for the past month, two tracks offered up on the internet free of charge: “Beyond Here Lies Nothin'” and “I Feel a Change Comin' On.”

No, he's not singing about Barack Obama on the latter, thank

heaven. More like an impending shift into the next phase of life - which for somebody his age and living, could be a mysterious one indeed.

See **DYLAN** on page 11

Bargain bin pick

Weekly album find

Ben Boyden

Staff Writer

Victor Wooten "Palmystery"

Victor Wooten has done it again! Straight from the man who brought us "Soul Circus," and "Show of Hands" comes an album that will completely blow your mind. "Palmystery" shows the full extent of this bass playing virtuoso. Combining his classic 'slap and pop' technique to create a masterful display of musicianship, Wooten does the name of the album justice, for it is indeed a mystery.

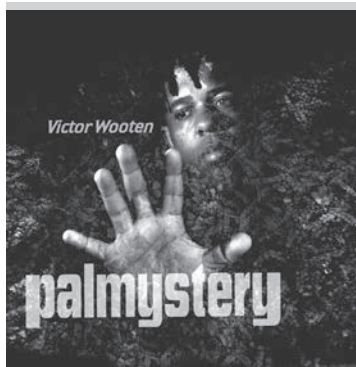
The CD has 12 tracks that are guaranteed to blow you away. Each track brings something new to the album. When I listen, I am captivated by the feelings the songs bring out.

There are so many great things going on between the musicians. They connect with each other like a good ensemble should. Nearly

every kick from the drummer was perfect and precise, and overall, each musician contributed to its level of awesomeness.

I would have to say that my favorite track is "The Lesson." The song features Victor playing a solo over a simple clapping pattern. There is an incredible amount of amazing skills going on at the same time, while rotating around a central melody. You could say that this track is mesmerizing, a form of hypnosis for the ears. It is very easy to get lost in the sounds of the central melody. Its sound puts you in this trance where you begin to stop listening, and start feeling the music.

There are several religious overtones in this album as well. With myself not being religious, I immediately dismissed the track, but if you listen to "I Saw God" you'll quickly notice that there is much more than religion here. The lyric "I saw God the other day; he looks like you, he looks



Palmystery

Victor Wooten
Heads Up Records, 2008

like me" speaks to me. It's saying that there is a little something in all of us. Not only does he take a Christian outlook on things, some of the lyrics are very Zen-like.

You can pick up "Palmystery" by Victor Wooten at Bullmoose for 14.97, or on iTunes for 9.99.

From **DYLAN** on page 10

Now what's the use in dreamin'?

You got better things to do.

Dreams never did work for me anyway

Even when they did come true

*I feel a change comin' on,
and the last part of the day is already gone...*

The Real Thing

The two previews left me stumped. "Beyond Here Lies Nothin'" is a slightly wicked little blues song that introduces a new instrument to the longtime touring band - the accordion of Los Lobos' David Hidalgo - and lyrics that almost up the ante of themes Dylan has been hooked on for over a decade now: *life is cold; love is good, but it will hurt you; God may be out there, but the world is bleak, bleak - thank the lord for women. And I might be dead soon.*

Okay, that's why I don't write lyrics. But Dylan himself seems determined to get his point across as modestly as possible - and I'd gather the point here is that he's holding onto his current love tight against the notion that it's his last one.

*Down every street there's a window
And every window made of glass
We'll keep on loving pretty baby
For as long as love will last
Beyond here lies nothin'
But the mountains of the past*

A good indicator, too, that he's not even trying to make a new record in the vein of "Love and Theft" or "Modern Times." Despite their dark and daring moments, they kicked off with pronouncements of unexpected vitality that their remainders thankfully paid off on.

"Beyond Here Lies Nothin'" is like a Do Not Disturb sign being placed on the door.

The point where you realize a change really is comin' on would

be track four, "My Wife's Home Town," a contender for most disposable song Mr. Bob Dylan has ever made permanent, tied with every track on Self-Portrait.

"I just want to say," he sings in the refrain, "Hell's my wife's hometown."

Unlike other straightforward blues he's offered up in the last few years, this one doesn't have jubilant energy on its side - it's slow, one might say plodding, electric blues. Though there is some definite cackling in there from the author at one point, something he hasn't done on record since possibly 1965.

At the start of its bordermate, "If You Ever Go to Houston," I felt like I was being handed off from Eric Clapton over to Billy Joel - for a second. By the end, I was sold. Nowhere is the casual nature of this disc more pleasant - it's a breezy song with playful lyrics and produced to sound like it's being blasted out an open window.

If you ever go to Dallas, say hello to Mary-Ann

[...]

If you see her sister Lucy, say I'm sorry I'm not there

Tell her other sister Nancy to pray the sinner's prayer.

(I have no idea what he's singing about for the most part, but you'd be hard-pressed to convince me that the last line does not invoke what Cyndi Lauper refers to as "she-bopping").

A couple women down, and Bob is stuck on a name immortalized by Dolly Parton many years ago. It's safe to assume he's not trying to usurp Dolly's "Jolene," and she has nothing to worry about. Presumably this Jolene lady is a cheap, good time, and doesn't warrant anything more than a generic barroom blues tune.

At least the next dip into the genre, "Shake Shake, Mama," features an exceptionally goofy

vocal hook. I've had a theory that Dylan discovered jazz singing over the last decade, though there's not enough evidence like this in these sessions.

It's a lazy stroll from there to the big finale, "It's All Good." And to flog a dead horse, it marks the first time in years he's closed an album without consolidating his current strengths. "Highlands," "Sugar Baby," "Aint' Talkin'" - they set a pretty high bar, funny and sad summations of his current attitude, but he doesn't seem to care a whit about doing that sort of thing right now.

Why bother, when he can just play around with that ubiquitous space-filler of a phrase "It's All Good." It reminded me of the Woody Allen line - "I can't enjoy anything unless everybody is happy. If one guy's starving someplace, that puts a crimp in my evening." This song might put a crimp in yours, what with all its starving people and cheating wives, jerkface politicians telling lies (not to mention "kitchen full of flies"....alright). But again, he's laughing, and defiantly slurring the vapid title on the way out.

There aren't many singer/songwriters you can say this about: it's kind of surprising that Bob Dylan, legacy artist age 68, has released such a tossed-off record at this phase in his career. (Don't even try substituting Neil Young or Paul McCartney in that sentence, it can't be done.) The streak has ended, I think, and he's proven definitively that he's just here for a good time.

Which is fantastic, but I can't find a surplus of reasons - with so much new music out there and 32 records in Dylan's own back catalog - that anybody but a dedicated fan would need to pick this one up.

Still, I had to hear it for myself to believe it.

From **SYLVIA** on page 8

Kate (Tarra Haskell) are a middle class Manhattan couple who are experiencing the early stages of empty nest syndrome. At the start of the play Greg comes home with a stray dog that he finds in the park (played by 3rd year Theater Major Hayley O'Connor). Greg immediately falls in love with Sylvia, while his fastidious, Shakespeare obsessed school-teacher wife immediately resents the dog's presence. While Kate's distaste for Sylvia grows, Greg, who is miserable at his job, becomes increasingly emotionally dependent on the dog.

Finally, Kate applies for a fellowship in England, knowing that going there would mean having to put Sylvia in quarantine for six months. This situation allows her to finally present Greg with an "it's either me or the dog" ultimatum. Greg agrees to give Sylvia away and make the move, but the couple have a change of heart, leading to an abrupt, maudlin epilogue in which Greg and Kate tell the audience about how Kate learned to (begrudgingly) love Sylvia, putting aside her aspirations in service of her husband's love for the creature.

Tarra Haskell does a very good job in a largely thankless role. Josh Adams is sweet and likeable as Greg, and, as the dog lover, has the benefit of the audience's sympathy; though he is clearly the straight man of the play, he is vulnerable and generally above reproach as a character. Likewise, third year theater major Ryan Nash gets to deliver the lion's share of the play's jokes, playing two of his three roles in drag, which is always good for a few easy laughs. Haskell, however, is charged with the task of playing bad cop.

Depending on how one looks at it, Kate can appear to either be the voice of reason, or a complete pariah. In many ways, Kate is the victim of Greg's lack of self-awareness; she loves him, but has to subsume her own agenda simply because she doesn't want to be the one to puncture his blithe outlook on life. Haskell, mostly by virtue of her solid diction and world weary demeanor, manages to split the difference between tragic figure and overbearing battleaxe quite effectively.

Nash brings a genuine talent to his multiple roles as well; even though he is afforded so many opportunities for broad comedy, watching him is entertaining because he is able to lose himself in his characters. Nash is particularly strong while he is playing Kate and Greg's transgendered marital counselor, Leslie. Cross dressing jokes aside, Nash's Leslie carries with her an air of pathos along with her stench of insanity. She's both funny and legitimately creepy at the same time.

All this said, I can't help but feel that Clingerman is so invested in creating a love letter to man's best friend that it leads to a production in which the human element of Gurney's text is largely ignored. She seems to grant Hayley O'Connor free reign in the title role while viewing the human characters as two-dimensional vessels for the self consciously obvious jokes in Gurney's script. Though this might strike some people as, to quote Clingerman's foreword again, "A Rompin' good time!" it is ultimately unfair to both the actors and to the audience, who should be presented with some challenge to their intellect and abilities. Theater certainly doesn't need to be an exercise in didacticism, and, to be fair, Gurney's play is partly about the way people relate to their pets. However, it's also a play about how humans relate to each other, and that reading of "Sylvia" gets short shrift in this production, leading to an incomplete theater-going experience.

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Don't stay home!

April May

27th - 3rd

Monday, April 27

Dance, Dance!

Pop-punk's "it" band for the past few years, Fall Out Boy, are bringing their high energy live show to The Station. Touring in support of their newest album, "Folie A Deux," Fall Out Boy are bringing All Time Low along for the fun. Exclusive Portland openers include: Sparks the Rescue, The Minus Scale and The Bigger Lights. Don't be emo and go to the show! \$20/ 7 p.m./ The Station/ 272 Saint John St., Portland/ myspace.com/thestationlive

Tuesday, April 28

Listen to Bob Marley!

Maine's definitive, and somewhat iconic, comedian, Bob Marley, brings his barrel of laughs to USM for Spring Fling week. Do not miss this free opportunity to see Maine's funniest comedian. Make sure to get their early because when Bob Marley is in the house, the place gets packed! Free/ 9:00 - 10:30 p.m./ Brooks Student Center, Gorham

Wednesday, April 29

Calling all Winos!

If you're one of those people who carry around a bottle of wine at a party, stock a box of wine in your fridge or have

permanently stained red teeth, then you are definitely a wino. Turn your drinking problem into something productive and learn how to make your own wine! From red to white, you'll get all the inside tips and tricks into making your choice beverage. Space is limited so call ahead! \$25/ Italian Heritage Center/ 40 Westland Ave., Portland/ 450-4440

Thursday, April 30

Make a College Film!

Prepare your senses for the 7th semi-annual Husky Film Festival! Featuring films from USM's best and brightest amateur filmmakers, the films range from dramatic, comedy, horror and documentary. You never know what you might see during the Husky Film Fest! Popcorn and refreshments are available to enhance your viewing experience. 8 - 10 p.m./ 10 Bailey Hall, Gorham/ 228-8466

Friday, May 1

Stepbrothers!

Don't miss Will Ferrell and John C. Reilly when they come to USM in honor of Spring Fling! Well, they won't actually be appearing in person, but you can catch all of their hilarity and hi-jinx in the film "Stepbrothers." Settle down with some friends and your favorite

snack and savor the comedy genius of Ferrell and Reilly. 9 - 11 p.m./ Brooks Student Center, Gorham

Saturday, May 2

Free Comics!

It's national free comic book day! This means all the free indie, humor and super-hero comics you can handle! Head over to Portland's Casablanca Comics on 151 Middle Street to pick up your haul of free comics! It's 2009, reading comics isn't a nerd hobby anymore; it's cool. And nothing's cooler than free stuff! Anywhere comic books are sold/ Visit casblancacomics.com for more info

Sunday, May 3

March for Babies!

Who doesn't love babies? If you don't love babies, get a soul. For those who do adore those tiny, chubby humans, join the March of Dimes and help give mothers and babies a healthy life. 77 cents of every dollar raised helps mother's have full-term pregnancies, and helps babies who were born too soon or sick a chance to survive. 9:30 a.m./ Maine's Point Health Care/ 891 Washington Ave., Greater Portland, Portland/ Visit marchforbabies.org for more info and how you can help raise money

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Taking on Tuckerman's

Unique area offers great spring skiing

Brian Slagle
Sports Intern

Once the snow begins to melt and the ski resorts begin to close each spring, skiers flock to Tuckerman's Ravine, a bowl on the east facing side of Mt. Washington in New Hampshire's White mountains.

Tuckerman's has long been a spring skiing Mecca for its notoriously challenging terrain and its reputation for annually holding skiable snow into June (recording an average of 55 feet of snow pack on any given year).

Despite its popularity, a trip to Tuckerman's should not be confused with any sort of resort skiing, it is an entirely different type of outing.

The easiest way to access the ravine is from the AMC lodge located at Pinkham Notch. The lodge offers parking, but on crowded spring weekends the cars can line the road, Route. 16, for miles.

From the lodge, it is an uphill hike of 2.6 miles to the caretakers cabin. Here skiers can check in with either snow rangers or the caretakers on the conditions of the ravine and the surrounding areas. The avalanche danger as well as other useful information is posted on a viewing board across from a deck where hikers and skiers will often gather before making the final push up to the ravine.

For winter camping, there are seven assorted three and four walled shelters available for shelter, but these shelters are first come first serve, requiring a sign-in at the lodge, and holding a capacity of 95 sleepers.

capacity of 95 sleepers.

The deck at the caretakers cabin - nicknamed HoJo's - offers a good place to take a breather and prepare for the hike up the bowl, which is viewable from this venue.

There are public outhouses along with a well available for hikers to refill their water.

From HoJo's the last leg of the hike to reach the ravine takes about half an hour. This trail parallels a stream originating from the snowmelt runoff of Mt. Washington. For most of the winter this is frozen over, but during warm weather it can become raging rapids.

Most people upon reaching the bowl of the ravine, especially on warmer sunny days, will setup camp somewhere in the bowl and ditch the extra weight of food or layers they won't need on their hike up or when skiing down. To the right a group of exposed rocks known as "lunch rocks" offers a good place for people to eat as well as view the skiers descending on various runs in the bowl.

There are several established runs available for hiking and skiing. Depending on the day, various boot packed paths offer skiers a place to make their ascent to the top of the bowl, typically taking around a half an hour or more depending on pace.

It is usually a good idea for a skier to hike the boot pack along the run that they wish to ski because it will give them an idea of how steep the run is. The runs in the ravine range from around 40 degrees to a staggering near 60 degrees. To lookers left is "left gully" which is one of the easier

Esposito's 200-mile training days. This seems like a pretty big window for participation, but it's even bigger than this.

Cycle Mania (Esposito's sponsor located in Portland) explains that "cycling is for all ages."

Cycling is also a sport with no requirements. Anyone can ride.

Eddie Quinn, owner of Cycle Mania, says "there is nothing better for fitness." And while the initial costs of getting a bike and right equipment may seem prohibitive, Quinn assures novices that after the initial round of expenses, you can "just roll down your driveway and go."

There are all sorts of levels for cycling, everything from casual, social rides (like Cycle Mania's Saturday morning 30 mile ride), to Juniors teams, to advanced rides, to hill rides to Cycle Mania's Elite semi pro rides. Quinn also shared that there are also all different levels of bikes; many people shy away from road bikes because they are uncomfortable in a racing position. Hybrid bikes have been developed in recent years and allow the rider to enjoy a low impact workout on the roads and remain sitting upright. With cycling there are no minimum requirements and no limits.



Spring at Tuckerman's Ravine can be a hectic time. Cars line the incoming highway and hikers pack into three-sided shelters, all in the name of some late-season skiing.

runs, comparatively. The runs become increasingly steep and challenging, offering things such as cliffs and waterfalls as looker scans right across the bowl.

The scene on a crowded spring weekend can draw crowds of over a thousand hikers and skiers, and can best be described as a frat party mixed with an extreme skiing video. An especially extreme tumble will be rewarded by cheers from the crowds of onlookers and can often deter people from attempting to climb

and ski the bowl.

Depending on how much snow is left, usually until mid-May, skiers can ski most of the way down to the caretakers cabin when they are done for the day. From the caretakers cabin, skiers descend down a trail called The Sherbourne Trail, which runs adjacent to the Tuckerman's Ravine Trail, which does not allow skiers. The Sherbourne trail will usually spit you out about halfway down, conveniently cutting the hike in half.

If you hate to see the snow melt and ski season slip away, consider a trip to Tuckerman's. It is a test of endurance with the hike, and of skill with the very technical terrain, but can be incredibly rewarding. "Skiing Tux" is often considered a right of passage to northeast skiers, and was ranked on Skiing Magazine's "Top ten things to before you die" list.

From **BIKE** on page 16

riding, Esposito participates in the sport as a member of the Narragansett Wheelmen, a cycling "team" based out of Gorham. John Strout, an adult and parent in the community, rides with Esposito and the Wheelmen.

"We're cardiovascular junkies," said Strout.

The Wheelmen is a social riding group made up of 30 guys who enjoy the sport, the workout and the competition.

Strout explains that for most of the Wheelmen "cycling has served as a transition from high impact sports" and allowed them to remain active and competitive.

Many young athletes who participate in sports like football, baseball, basketball, soccer, track etc, reach a point where the wear and tear on their bodies catches up with them and they have to hang up the cleats for good.

Cycling is low impact; there is little or no impact strain or weight bearing on the rider's knees, lower back and hips.

The Wheelmen recently returned from a 60-mile ride on the Kancamagus Highway.

"Chris is quite a phenom," said Strout.

Sixty miles sounds like a lot, but not when compared to



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Cheering takes second place in Div II Nationals

Injury-stricken teams brings it on in Daytona

Sarah Violette
Staff Writer

The beats of hip-hop music often reverberate throughout the Costello Sports Complex before the sun has even fully hit the horizon. And if you ever took the time to explore the rhythmic cadences, you might just find one of USM's hidden athletic treasures: the cheerleading team.

For the first time in five years, the USM cheerleaders were able to make an impressive appearance in Daytona, Florida, taking second place in the all-girl, Division II National Tournament. Attaining such a prestigious title was certainly no easy journey for the team. All season the cheerleaders faced diverse challenges, such as adapting to a new coach, raising enough money in an economic recession to be able to compete at nationals and staying together as a team when it looked as though everything was falling apart.

"This was definitely a building year," says sophomore captain Stephanie Dragoon. "We had never even met our coach before, so it was kind of rough going into the year. We just didn't know what to expect, but she turned out to be awesome."

Luckily for the team, the coaching change was more than just a comfortable one. It was a successful one, too, as evidenced in the team's strong showing at the national level.

After sending in a video of the team's stunts, tumbling and crowd cheers in the beginning of the year, the team received a bid to compete on a national level.

"Because we had a late coach, they let us have an alternative way in because we didn't have a chance to receive a bid through the summer camp," says Dragoon. "Next summer we will have to attend a cheering camp for four days at Boston College and that's how we'll receive our bid."

The opportunity to compete in Florida was monumental, not only for this year's team, but for many cheering teams to come. If the USM squad could pull off at least a top three finish, they would be able to make a name for themselves and finally make the term "cheerleading" more familiar around USM.

After constantly fundraising all season and waking up at 6 a.m. for rigorous practices, the team was finally ready to make a showing in Daytona.

Or so they thought.

Just a week before their departure, the team lost a crucial flyer due to a torn ACL and then, when things couldn't get any worse, Kayla Methot, a junior and first

year flyer for the squad, hit the ground hard during their final practice and was unable to compete with just two days until nationals. With such a drastic loss, the team's walls were ready to crumble.

"We have so many people taking part in this routine and when you lose a person, everything falls apart, it's not like you have an extra pair to come in and save it," says Methot.

Despite being faced with such an uphill battle, the team was able to pull together and overcome the challenges that had plagued them all season, thanks mostly to an experienced coach who was able to demonstrate impeccable leadership at such a critical time.

"So our coach said, 'Well, this what we're going to do. We're going to leave for nationals. We're not going to fix it yet. We're going to get down there, we're going to practice, and then we're going to fix it,' Dragoon recalls. "In theory, Naomah had this all ready to go. The rest of the team was ready to fall apart, but she was totally cool about it."

The cool factor paid off.

The squad nailed their routine both days and despite one failure at a pyramid attempt, the Huskies still managed to take second place out of eight teams at the intermediate level.

"This experience was definitely a mood setter for next year. We saw so much cheering that it made us stop and think like, Wow, we didn't know cheering was like this," Dragoon says.

Although the cheering world is still rather unknown on USM's campus, the squad is extremely hopeful and sees each supporter as a valuable one.

"As the season progressed we were starting to get that recognition with people saying, 'Wow, you guys look good this year,' and 'Oh, you have a lot of people on your team,' and things like that. It's definitely starting to get there. It just takes time," Dragoon concludes.

With coach Naomah already receiving E-mails from high school students across Maine, it is beginning to look as though it may take less time than they thought. The girls hope to be able to compete in more competitions by next year and also plan on making a return to nationals after attending the four-day cheering camp in Boston this summer.

"We're laying down the foundation in hopes to see where it goes from here," Methot says.

Husky Highlights

MEN'S TRACK

Men's Track Sweeps at LEC/Alliance

Trailing Westfield State heading into the final event of the Little East Conference/Alliance Championships, the USM men's track and field team capped off an improbably victory, capturing their first-ever title. In the final event, the 4 x 400-meter relay, the Huskies shattered the school record en route to a slim victory over Westfield State. The relay team of freshmen Justin Vigeant and Jake Moore (Bridgton), sophomore Corey Gobbi (Haverhill, MA) and senior Doug Mercer (Laconia, NH) completed the event in 3 minutes, 20.01 seconds, besting the former record by over two seconds, while edging out the Westfield contingent that finished in 3 minutes, 20.49 seconds.

From **BASEBALL** on page 16

weekend, the team is still hitting a .351 clip with seven starters hitting over .300.

Accolades galore

Senior centerfielder Ryan Pike (Saco) had a great week off the field. The former Thornton Academy standout won a trio of awards, including D3Baseball.com National Hitter of the Week.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Women's LAX holds off UNE charge

The USM women's LAX team surged to an early 9-1 lead and didn't relent, capturing a 15-12 victory over the University of New England. Junior Jessica Knight (Alfred) netted five goals to lead the Huskies, including four times in the Huskies' 9-1 run to open the game. The Nor'easters did cut the lead to 9-4 on the back of three-goal run before USM could answer. UNE then opened the second half with three more goals, cutting the USM lead to three at 10-7. But the Huskies reeled off five more goals and never relinquished their early lead, pushing their record to 6-8 overall, while UNE fell to 3-12.

MEN'S LACROSSE

Men's LAX slips past UNE

Freshman Kyle Hamilton (Buxton) scored two goals in the final two minutes to rally the USM men's LAX team past rival University of New England, 7-6 last week. Hamilton's goals keyed the Huskies' fifth straight victory. Trailing 6-5 in the waning minutes of the game, Hamilton tied it with an unassisted goal at the 1:54 mark. Moments later, he scooped up a rebound and slid a shot past the UNE goalie to complete the comeback.

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RANDOM FACT!

The first registered domain name was *symbolics.com*, which was registered on March 15, 1985.

For more random facts go to:
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Newsday Crossword

ROOMY by Gail Grabowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
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- ACROSS**
- 1 ___ as a pancake
 - 5 Scoundrel
 - 10 British fellow
 - 14 Green citrus fruit
 - 15 Accumulate
 - 16 Ration (out)
 - 17 At any time
 - 18 Unnerves
 - 19 Sink-drain problem
 - 20 Cub Scout leader
 - 22 Loses color
 - 23 Creative thoughts
 - 24 Fair-to-middling
 - 25 One who uses barbells
 - 28 Chin indentations
 - 31 One of the Great Lakes
 - 32 Semester-ending test
 - 35 Hardly any
 - 36 Guy's date
 - 37 Stage-set background
 - 39 Frozen cubes
 - 40 Cash dispenser, for short
 - 41 "In case you ___ noticed . . ."
 - 42 Dull pain
 - 43 Teaching session
 - 45 Catholic clergyman
 - 47 Golf pegs
 - 48 Asparagus piece
 - 50 Modeler's adhesives
 - 52 Cram for an exam

- 56 Fishing poles
- 57 Scarlett of *Gone With the Wind*
- 58 Creme-filled cookie
- 59 Opera solo
- 60 Book of fiction
- 61 Departed
- 62 Kitten's cry
- 63 Fencing swords
- 64 Lessen

- DOWN**
- 1 Ran away
 - 2 Exist
 - 3 Prayer ending
 - 4 Wood-eating insect
 - 5 Roof support
 - 6 Nebraska city
 - 7 Looks intently

- 8 Computer owner
- 9 Curvy letter
- 10 Music fan's container
- 11 Serve as mayor, e.g.
- 12 Hand-cream ingredient
- 13 Wooden pins
- 21 Poem of praise
- 22 Absurd idea
- 24 Lasting mark
- 25 Allowed by law
- 26 Furious
- 27 Motion-picture company
- 29 Computer troubleshooters
- 30 Sugary
- 32 Gave a meal to
- 33 Rural hotel
- 34 Tennis-court divider
- 37 Footwear
- 38 Some soda containers
- 42 Pet-carrier feature
- 44 Playground fixture
- 45 Bicycle parts
- 46 Bit of sunshine
- 48 Barrel strip
- 49 Blender setting
- 50 Metric weight
- 51 Folk wisdom
- 52 Search for bargains
- 53 Region
- 54 Football officials, briefly
- 55 Lavish affection (on)
- 57 Hour after midnight

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Newly #1 Huskies drop game to UMass Boston

Huskies claim LEC Regular Season title

Joel Neill
Staff Writer

Riding a 17-game winning streak, the USM baseball team nabbed the #1 ranking in the country, according to the latest D3Baseball.com poll, only to lose against conference foe UMass-Boston three days later, 5-0 in Gorham. The Huskies then took two games from Rhode Island College to claim the Little East Conference regular season title, and the chance to host this year's tournament.

"It's really nice to be recognized as the best team in Division III college baseball at this point in the season. It shows how hard we worked in the off-season, but right now it doesn't hold a whole lot of meaning for us. It's whose number one at the end of the year that counts," junior relief pitcher Andrew deBethune says. "I think we definitely deserve to be one of the top teams in the country, but the people who vote haven't really seen us play, and we haven't seen

any of the other top teams. We are just trying to do our job and win every day."

The Huskies' bid to hold onto their #1 ranking hit a significant road bump last Friday when they ran into UMass Boston lefty Andrew LeBrun, who quieted the potent USM offense. USM mustered only six hits and did not score a run for the first time this season.

But the Huskies didn't let the upset ruin their weekend as they bounced back to sweep the pesky Anchormen of Rhode Island College 3-0 and 14-11 in two totally different games.

Senior Tim Therrian (New Portland) stymied RIC in game one, scattering six hits and striking out nine. In game two, the USM offense awoke from their longest offensive lull of the season to bang out 15 hits, including a backbreaking two-run homer by junior Josh Mackey (Danvers, MA) in the fifth inning.

Therrian, whose prowess is often overshadowed by the USM

offense, is now 7-0 on the season. The right-hander has a 3.14 ERA with 44 strikeouts in 51.2 innings. He's only walked 11 batters on the season, good for a 4-to-1 strikeout/walk ratio.

"Being number one has given us confidence and it's great to be nationally recognized as one of the top teams in the country. We're a good team but there still are a lot of holes that have to be filled to make us a great team. Right now we're just focused on the road ahead and take it game by game, and we are trying always get better to become the best team we can possibly be," added junior 1b/P Collin Henry, who is now 2-1 on the mound and is 12 for his last 21 at bats, bumping his batting average up to .333.

The Huskies certainly have the offensive statistics to warrant their number one ranking. Despite their streaky offense this

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BRANDON MCKENNEY / PHOTO EDITOR

USM sophomore Nick Hahn (Guilford, CT) pitches during the second game of a double header against Rhode Island College. Hahn, who has appeared in 18 games for the Huskies, has proven to be a go-to guy when the team needs strong relief innings.



Breaking away

Young Gorham cyclist sets example

Brian King
Sports Intern

Chris Esposito has put college on the back burner. The senior at Gorham High School, instead of attending university in the fall, will be pursuing his first love: cycling. But, instead of dreaming of the lush life of professional athletes, Esposito finds himself longing for a much different element of the lifestyle - an element that many people in the area find captivating.

"Cycling is the ultimate suffering sport, the ultimate endurance sport. I love seeing how far I can push myself."

Esposito explained that "suffering" is an important part of cycling at the elite level. It becomes a matter of endurance. A rider needs to be, in a sense, too stubborn to submit to the pain and slow down.

"It's not like other sports," said Esposito, who played soccer and ran track at the high school level, "cycling has no limits"

Esposito sees the only barrier for a cyclist as his or her own psyche. Cycling is a sport that demands constant growth in order to compete. Everyday the goal

is to perform better than the day before.

Esposito trains in a number of different ways throughout the week. Three days a week he weight trains, two days he rides and every weekend he spends racing.

When he rides, he either trains in intervals or endurance. Intervals consist of workouts comparable to a track and field sprinter, while his endurance training is incomparable. Esposito goes on day-long rides up to 200 miles in his endurance training.

But the road to success for Esposito demands that he travel. There just isn't enough of a cycling culture in the north-east. Esposito hopes to travel to Colorado to participate in a scouting camp this summer. After he qualifies as Cat 4, the first step towards professional riding, he will be looking to join a team.

When asked about the competitive conditions in Maine, Esposito expressed some concern.

"Cycling has been pretty big in the past, but there are less juniors riding now than ever," he says.

The juniors division is made up of 16-18 year olds who want to compete.

In addition to competitive

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