

USM safest in Maine, site says

StateUniversity.com made the call based upon crime statistics from the schools.

Sidney Dritz
Free Press Staff

USM was given the the highest safety rating of the state’s seven universities by StateUniversity.com early last week.

The website is an independent source that ranks state schools nationwide as part of a database for students considering what schools to attend.

“I was surprised,” said USM’s Assistant Director of Public Affairs Judie O’Malley.

Not, she was quick to qualify, because she feels unsafe on the USM campus. On the contrary, “As a long-time employee,” she said, “I always feel safe on campus.”

She is surprised that USM’s safety rating is so high, despite the fact that the school’s Portland campus is located in the biggest city in the state.

Portland’s crime statistics certainly support O’Malley’s surprise. The next safest school on StateUniversity.com’s list is the University of Maine at Farmington. The crime rates in the town of Farmington compared to the city of Portland alone, without even taking into account the crime rates in the towns containing USM’s two other campuses, are not even on remotely the same scale. Farmington compiles its crime statistics by year unlike Portland, which compiles its list monthly with similar numerical results. Despite this, however, Farmington scored higher rates of both forcible rape and larceny than USM.

Stephen Nelson, director of community standards at USM, compiles a list of USM’s crime statistics before it is submitted to the Depart-

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Faculty discuss how to implement union vote

Kirsten Sylvain
Editor-in-Chief

Faculty and committees at USM gathered last week to discuss the recent work-to-rule vote of the USM chapter of the Associated Faculties of the University of Maine.

The vote passed two weeks ago establishes that full-time USM faculty will only do what is specified within their current contracts. Ninety-three percent of the present AFUM members voted in favor of the move, and now each department is faced with deciding how to handle the vote.

Ed Collom, professor of Sociology and president of USM’s AFUM chapter, said that he knew departments and committees were meeting across the campus last week to decide how to implement the vote without hurting students. The vote is meant to pressure system administration to a 4.5 percent cost-of-living raise in a new contract for faculty, while following the faculty guideline to “hold students harmless.”

“Basically it’s up to individual unit members or task forces to decide how they want to implement this — if at all,” Collom said. He



Alex Greenlee / Multimedia Editor

Members of AFUM can be spotted around campus wearing these buttons that show support for the faculty union.

believes that most departments have decided to let individuals decide how much they will or will not do.

The Core Curriculum Committee met on Friday and voted to suspend all of their work until a tentative contract is negotiated. Collom stressed the importance of this decision. The core has been in place since fall 2011, but it has been a project for

USM faculty for a decade.

Lisa Moore, professor of Biology and chair of the department, explained that as a department, the biology faculty are in favor of the vote, but because of low faculty numbers and a rise in the number of majors in their department, imple-

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Protestors act against tar sands pipeline

The state legislature will vote Wednesday on the bill that would approve the pipeline that would pump tar sands through Maine.



Casey Ledoux / Free Press Staff

A protestor holds a sign last Wednesday despite the bitter cold that day.

Jonathan Reis
Free Press Staff

Two protests were staged last week, one on Wednesday in South Portland and the other on Saturday in downtown Portland, to oppose a new bill that, if accepted, would reverse the flow of the Portland-Montreal pipeline, which would allow tar-sands crude oil to be pumped in and shipped to international markets.

Nearly 1,500 people were estimated by officials to have appeared at the protest on Saturday that began. at Monument Square and was followed by a march that spanned almost six blocks starting at the square and ending at the Maine State Pier, directly across

the bay from the Portland Pipeline Corporation.

Environmentalists agree that there are many problems with tar sands. The main process of tar sands extraction, known as strip-mining (or surface mining), refers to the extraction and removal of topsoil, vegetation and all from the landscape. Strip mines stretch for thousands of acres across Canadian lands and turn healthy lush forests rich in vegetation and wildlife into dead zones that are expected to remain lifeless for thousands of years.

Fifteen representatives from nonprofits, as well as a number of political representatives, were seen giving speeches in front of the crowds at the pier.

State Congresswoman Chellie Pingree, Portland Mayor Michael Brennan and other representatives from around New England spoke up for “solidarity,” “democracy” and the “power of the people”, along with promises they would uphold and efforts they would put forth into the fight against big oil companies and tar sands.

Mayor Brennan reminded the crowd of Portland’s last oil spill when a tanker crashed into the Casco Bay Bridge back in September of 1996 spilling, as Mayor Brennan recalled, 180,000 gallons of crude oil out into the bay. He urged the people of Maine to help protect the harbor from any future threats, and to “remain tar sands

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The numbers are in: Report shows improved enrollment figures

Kirsten Sylvain
Editor-in-Chief

Chief Student Success Officer Susan Campbell presented the enrollment and revenue management system results to the faculty senate last month.

The report contains research on USM for fall 2012 from Noel-

"We all need to focus on retaining a robust enrollment."

-Susan Campbell
Chief Student Success Officer

Levitz, a company that provides consultation on higher education enrollment and student success. The university hired the consultant back in fall 2012 to help assess enrollment and retention. The company considers financial aid investments, admission and other statistics to show enrollment trends. According to the report, fall 2012 enrollment was up. It also showed USM's top 25 competitors, analysis of residential enrollment and retention by SAT score.

Keith Dubois, director of financial aid, explained that the university is investing \$4 million over four years in financial aid. The money should, he said, recycle it-

self through the system once it is initially invested. "Unless something ever happens with the budget," he said.

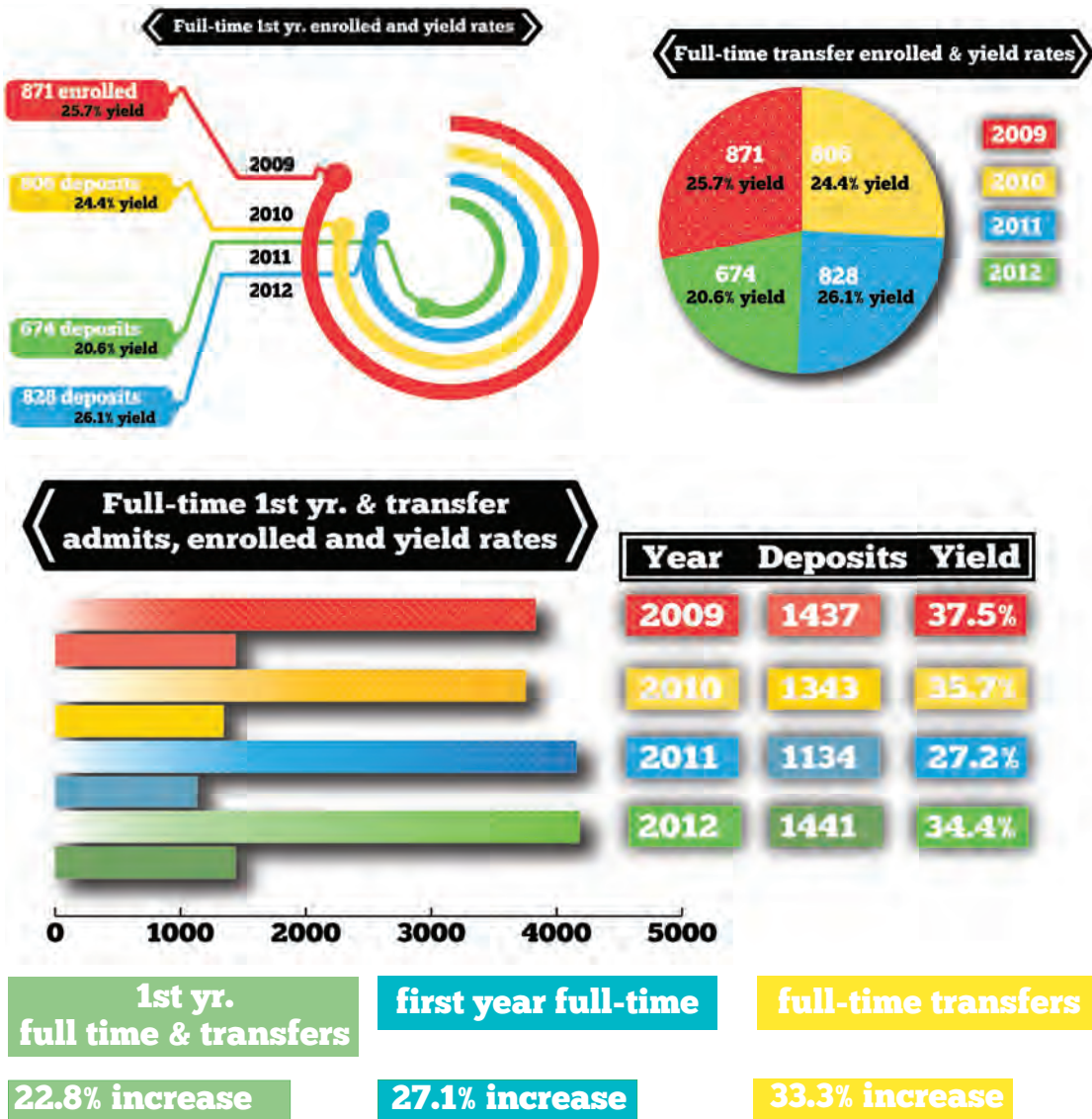
Retention has been an issue for USM in the past. "We weren't able to keep them here when they came," he said. Campbell backed him up, stressing the importance of retention for the economic success of the university. "We have to move the needle on retention."

"Our challenge," she said, "is to maintain our energy for recruitment and maintain retention and think about how and what students are learning."

This infusion of scholarship money, the recent housing grant USM was awarded, lowered housing costs and the tuition freeze appear to be producing results, at least initially. Campbell predicted that Spring enrollment numbers might be up as well, but the numbers will not officially be released until Feb. 15.

"Our goal is to make USM more affordable," Dubois said, and early indications are that students are paying less.

USM has been successful this year in bringing in a large number of transfer students, but Dubois stressed USM's need to bring in more traditional first-year students. "In a time when we should be successful in getting more high school graduates to college, we're not being very successful."



Sokvonny Chhouk / Design Assistant

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free".

Among those at the protest was Bob Klotz, who started in November of 2011 with 350 Maine, a subsidiary of the international environmental group, 350.org. In an interview after the rally, Klotz warned that "if polluted, [the pipeline] would take out nearly one-thirds of the watershed population's drinking water, which comes directly from Sebago Lake."

ExxonMobil and its subsidiaries, Enbridge and Imperial Oil, have already been granted a number of permits in New England that would allow them to reverse the flow of the pipeline. According to Congresswoman Chellie Pingree, they need permission directly from President Obama himself before they are allowed to ship these tar sands across international borders. Pingree stated at the protest on Saturday that she personally will write a letter to the president asking for him to force an environmental health and safety report to be conducted before any sort of federal permit is accepted.

The Maine legislature is scheduled to vote on the bill Wednesday. If accepted, ExxonMobil will soon be able to ship the corrosive material across the state, through a pipeline originally constructed in 1941.

Travis Wagner, USM associate professor of Environmental Policy and Planning, stated in an interview that "Any intentional, avoidable action that exacerbates global climate change is a foolish endeavor." He explained that Mainers feel like we don't have a



Casey Ledoux / Free Press Staff

The crowd that gathered at Monument Square in Portland on Saturday numbered nearly 1,500.

choice in the matter, that we are just being "forced to enable an expensive oil addiction that we, and especially our children, cannot afford." Since the pipeline is already built, and the tar sands will go to the highest bidder, there will be no economic benefit to the state from the project.

Wagner continued by stating that tar sands crude oil production, when compared to conventional crude oil production, is more destructive, especially to the local habitat and the landscape where the extraction takes place. According to Wagner, production of tar sands and its use result in a 14 percent to 20 percent increase of greenhouse gases on a per gallon basis [than conventional oil]. This means that continuing tar sands crude oil production will contribute more to global warming.

USM Student Body President Adam Higgins has been involved

with 350 Maine for nearly a year and a half now.

"The pipeline, which runs within 1,200 or so feet of Sebago Lake, could put the greater Portland area — which gets all of its water from Sebago — in great jeopardy if a leak were to spring," he said.

The next protest, according to Klotz, is scheduled to be held outside the capitol in Washington D.C. on Feb. 17 and is expected to draw over 20,000 individuals from all. Non-profits, such as the Sierra Club, are currently organizing shuttle buses to carry ralliers to and from D.C. at no charge. Klotz finished by quoting the famous words of Bill McKibben, co-founder of 350.org — "we must organize, organize, organize...that is the only way we are going to win this fight."

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ment of Education, as the school is required to do under the Clery Act. He said that he didn't know how StateUniversity.com had determined its safety rankings, but he could guess.

"One of the ways that a person could get that information would be to look at the safety features of that campus," Nelson said.

He also allowed that they could have gotten their information from statistics on the government's website, including statistics from the Clery Act, which he and his office are responsible for compiling to send to the DOE.

"Numbers are not a good indicator of a safe campus," he said

Numbers are, in fact, exactly what StateUniversity.com used to place USM at the top of its list. According to Melissa Rhone, a writer for the website, the safety ratings are determined based on information from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reports database.

The danger of this, Nelson warned, is that numbers do not show the whole picture. As an example, he discussed an increase in the number of forcible sex offenses on the USM campus, from three in 2009 to 10 in 2011. He said that while on the surface, this may look like a decrease in safety on campus, it could just as easily reflect a rise in the reporting of sex offences, which may in the past have gone undocumented.

"I think we're doing our jobs better," Nelson said, expressing confidence that the rising number is not based on increased offenses, but rather on more offenses being reported, perhaps in response to USM's safety initiatives.

Judie O'Malley said something similar, describing her surprise in looking through Clery Act statistics for other schools and noticing the relatively low number of alcohol violations reported. USM's alcohol policy is very strict, she said.

"That's my thought, that we're more diligent in reporting."

Despite this diligence and the higher statistics that might come with it, USM's statistics seem unaffected. Nelson suggested that this might be related to USM's stringent safety policies, including strict residence hall security and the presence of emergency phones at strategic locations on campus for reaching law-enforcement in an emergency.

In fact, O'Malley said, the emergency phone system boasts seven free-standing emergency phone columns on the Portland campus, four on the Lewiston Auburn campus, 18 in Gorham, and 20 in the Portland parking garage alone. In addition, she said, the Gorham campus has 24 hour coverage from on-campus police, and the Portland campus has 16 hour coverage from on campus police, while both campuses have reciprocal agreements with the local police departments in case of emergency.

When asked about the possibility of crime off-campus, given the prevalence of off-campus students at USM, Nelson said that he had no access to that information, which falls under the jurisdiction of local police departments. The Portland Police Department was contacted with the question, but has not responded.

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menting the vote without harming student success will be a challenge. Over the past few years, the Biology department has seen a 42 percent increase in the number of Biology majors. They must advise all biology majors, while supervising independent study and thesis work at the same time.

"The fact that there continues to be no contract for faculty indicates that the UMS administration is not interested in supporting faculty who do extra work," she said.

Her department decided to let each individual faculty member decide about any additional service work in which they are willing to participate.

According to Collom, AFUM also passed a second motion two weeks ago in which they voted to encourage the faculty senate to work with AFUM to help find ways that they can support the work-to-rule vote.

"Through the vote, what we really did was pass the ball to the senate," Collom said. He believes that with faculty senate's support the work-to-rule vote would have a much stronger impact.

The faculty senate meeting will be Friday Feb. 1. Collom hopes that they will be in favor of supporting the vote, and senate chair Physics professor Jerry LaSala thinks that the senate most likely will.

"Part of the discussion and final motion will almost certainly be to define more clearly what sort of activities are to be curtailed under work-to-rule," he said. "Teaching, advising and research will continue as normal, but most other activities, especially committee work, will probably be suspended."

Part of the discussion on Friday, he said, will likely include the status

of the senate under work-to-rule. He described what several possible outcomes of the meeting might be.

"The senate might decide to cancel all meetings," he said. "It might decide to continue meeting, but only in executive session." This option would mean that only voting faculty would be able to attend the meetings — administrators and the public would be excluded.

If the senate backs the vote, Collom believes that it will work to further slow down university projects that require a lot of faculty participation.

"It will become inconvenient that things will get done much more slowly and perhaps not at all," he said. "That's the idea, that basically we slow things down, university projects and initiatives, many of which are coming from the trustees directly," he said. "That's our ultimate target."

He hopes that President Theo Kalikow and Provost Michael Stevenson will support the faculty effort at the Board of Trustees meeting today in Bangor. The president did not directly comment on the vote to The Free Press.

"I think that the administration gets it and is really looking forward to this being settled," he said.

In the end, Collom stressed that USM has dedicated faculty that deserve more compensation than they are getting.

"The average full-time professor has been here for 24 years, the average associate professor — 18 years. These are people who have dedicated their professional lives to USM and to public higher education in Maine," he said.

The University of Maine in Orono is also considering a work-to-rule vote this week.

Students start up divest movement at USM

Tom Collier
News Editor

Divest USM, a small new student group at USM, is an environmentally and socially minded group that intends to start a system-wide movement for the divestment of all University of Maine System investments in the fossil fuel industry. The group is also calling for reinvestment in what it considers to be more socially responsible companies.

Right now, the divestment movement is specific to the UMS's pooled endowment investments, which were estimated at \$121 million as of June 30, 2012. Endowments are financial gifts received from donors that cannot be directly



Alex Greenlee / Multimedia Editor

Chriss Sutherland, senior Hispanic studies major, explained why he is passionate about the divestment movement and its potential impact.

"We're not going back to your father's planet or my father's planet."

-Chriss Sutherland
Senior, Hispanic studies major

spent. Instead, the UMS invests its endowments, and the capital that they generate may then be put to use, either in a manner specified by the donor, or if the donor made no such specification, in any way that the UMS sees fit. Invest-

ment income is often used to create scholarships, build and maintain new structures and subsidize facility operating costs.

Aside from gifts that are invested under the specific advisement of their respective donors, the UMS entrusts private investment managers with the system's endowments. Some private managers then go on to invest some of the endowments in fossil fuel companies such as Shell, ExxonMobil and Peabody Coal. A statement given to the Free Press by Divest USM estimates that 6.2 percent — approximately \$7.5 million — of the UMS's managed investment pool (including the en-

dowment) had been invested in oil companies as of Sept. 30, 2012.

Chriss Sutherland, a senior and Hispanic studies major and one of the students responsible for bringing the divestment movement to USM, explained that he became aware of university's holdings in fossil fuel corporations when he and his Environmental History of the Americas class went to see environmentalist and author Bill McKibben speak at the State Theatre last November as part of his "Do the Math" tour.

"Right after that class, we went from the State Theatre to Local

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Crossword

Across

1. Fancy sports cars, for short

5. Heavenly strings

10. Minute

14. "A Death in the Family" novelist

15. Alley Oop's girl

16. Galatea's lover

17. Government subsidy

19. Latvian

20. Eddie Floyd's genre

21. Practice Zen

23. New Mexico city or county

26. 17th-century czar

27. Four-time Masters winner

32. Grazing place

33. Parkinson's disease drug

34. Org. divisions

38. Bough

40. Ching-ling or Mei-ling

42. Mosquito repellent ingredient

43. Single subatomic energy unit

45. Put back on

47. Pleasure, to Parisians

48. "Forrest Gump" author

51. Per ___ income

54. A few feet away

55. Fasten papers again

58. Reply to 'You are not!'

62. Greenland town

63. Antiterrorism legislation of 2001

66. One of the opposition

67. Spy Allen or producer Coen

68. Young falcon

69. Yacht spar

70. Ligament: prefix

71. Hunky-___

Down

1. NHL high-scorer Jaromir ___

2. City southeast of New Delhi

3. Sweet cherry

4. Dispatch

5. Polloi preceder

6. Get an ___; ace

7. What the buffalo do, in song

8. Ballet movement in which the knees are bent

9. Iraq's Hussein

10. Thought twice

11. Tool used in mountain climbing

12. Ness quarry

13. Colorado park

18. Game for future Little Leaguers

22. "___ Three Lives"

24. Vegas concerns

25. Tracks

27. Different: Comb. form

28. Harness strap

29. Birth certificate entry

30. Cocteau's "The Blood of ___"

31. Alf who lost to FDR in 1936

35. "___ My Heart" (1913 hit)

36. Mr. T's family name

37. Leaf's support

39. Wear the latest styles, say, slangily

41. "___ With the Wind"

44. Career summary

46. Marsh of mystery

49. Took 40 winks

50. Not suitable for kids, as a movie

51. The best

52. Classic name in insurance

53. They're taken by H.S. juniors

56. Missing a deadline

57. English letters

59. BLT topper

60. Mark

61. "___ Lang Syne"

64. Aries animal

65. Odysseus's rescuer, in myth

Word Search

Theme: Radio

Search for the list of words in the grid of letters. Grab a pen and circle each word as you find them.

W	E	T	S	A	T	S	R	A	C	E	H	T	R	K	L	I	S	ASIA
B	R	I	R	R	H	O	K	O	N	T	E	L	E	A	I	V	E	BANGLES
L	A	F	A	E	E	C	N	E	X	C	O	L	D	J	Y	O	L	BERLIN
O	S	F	E	N	P	L	N	I	N	E	E	T	R	A	E	J	G	BILLY JOEL
N	U	A	F	G	O	A	D	I	B	O	T	N	O	G	N	N	N	BILLY OCEAN
D	R	N	R	I	L	F	R	A	J	A	A	T	W	O	R	O	A	CHICAGO
I	E	Y	O	E	I	P	D	Y	V	E	S	T	E	O	U	B	B	DAVID BOWIE
E	K	S	F	R	C	T	L	U	C	I	A	I	N	G	O	E	E	DEBARGE
C	T	I	S	O	E	L	O	O	R	L	D	S	L	O	J	U	M	EURHYTHMICS
H	H	S	R	F	I	W	Y	I	K	A	C	B	M	O	R	A	Y	FALCO
I	E	E	A	B	N	L	A	T	R	A	N	A	O	Y	H	T	A	FOREIGNER
C	F	N	E	B	L	E	A	N	N	T	D	D	T	W	T	Q	D	GENESIS
A	I	E	T	I	E	L	L	D	G	N	E	H	U	E	I	U	E	HEART
G	X	G	B	N	K	R	A	A	E	C	M	I	P	R	H	E	B	INXS
O	X	S	X	N	I	L	L	S	H	I	H	M	U	E	A	E	A	JOURNEY
L	L	E	C	T	F	O	S	I	C	N	O	U	A	Q	I	N	R	KAJAGOOGOO
E	A	N	N	O	D	A	M	S	N	T	A	R	N	G	S	Y	G	MADNESS
P	T	I	S	L	E	T	O	M	E	H	T	V	A	G	A	N	E	NEW ORDER
																		PRINCE
																		QUEEN
																		QUIET RIOT
																		ROXETTE
																		SCANDAL
																		SOFT CELL
																		TALK TALK
																		TOTO

Sudoku

A sudoku puzzle consists of a 9 × 9–square grid subdivided into nine 3 × 3 boxes. Some of the squares contain numbers. The object is to fill in the remaining squares so that every row, every column, and every 3 × 3 box contains each of the numbers from 1 to 9 exactly once.

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

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

Cryptogram

Every letter in a cryptogram stands for another letter. Use the hint to crack the code.

FJDDRFFXJW SQRIRNF
VQZBI LQM IBR MTHRW-
WA ONQYR.

And here is your hint:

R = E

IK'AK GJAK NCK HEK-
MKA ZKAGBD ICB XD-
MKDNKF MKEMKN RJGN
CTMK RTFK T DXHK
ZXEK.

And here is your hint:

N = T



Weekly Horoscope

★★★★★ great
★★★★ good
★★★ average
★★ alright
★ difficult

Aries ★★★★★
March 21-April 19

Be alert for a business opportunity or a chance to show your worth on the job. You gain respect.

Taurus ★★★
April 20-May 20

A family member really needs appreciation. Tell those you love how much you care. Noticing the good helps generate more.

Gemini ★★★
May 21-June 20

Focus and concentration come more easily to you and your family today. A good time to work on completing unfinished projects.

Cancer ★★★★★
June 21-July 22

You come across as intense when expressing yourself today. Arguments are possible if you get carried away. Words have power.

Leo ★★
July 23-August 22

Something new may appeal, but do not make a hasty decision. Consider other alternatives before purchasing an item you may not use very often.

Virgo ★★★★★
August 23-September 22

Today, your heart calls for one course and your head another. Find a compromise between intellectual and emotional priorities.

Libra ★★★★★
September 23-October 22

Party time! A day of play with friends at whatever you enjoy the most. Concentrate on fun and leave serious stuff for another day.

Scorpio ★★★★★
October 23-November 21

Today you can improve your coordination. Practice will pay of in any sports or leisure activities you would like to get better at.

Sagittarius ★★★★★
November 22-December 21

If you let go of past ideas about what brings you pleasure, you'll be surprised. You will find yourself enjoying new experiences.

Capricorn ★★★
December 22-January 19

Pleasure comes through food, drink, or physical contact. Indulge yourself a bit; you deserve to feel good today.

Aquarius ★★★
January 20-February 18

Although you feel that the people you love are only looking at what you can do for them, they also love you for who you are!

Pisces ★★★★★
February 19-March 20

Mysteries emerge today. You figure things out and may enjoy puzzles, riddles, novels, crime stories, or thrillers.

The solution to last issue's crossword

M	A	S	C		A	N	E	S	T		U	C	L	A
A	B	A	R		T	I	L	T	H		N	O	E	S
Y	O	U	A	R	E	H	E	R	E		B	B	A	S
S	O	L	V	E		V	O	L	T	A	I	R	E	
					A	R	B	A			A	R	R	A
B	O	T	T	O	M	D	R	A	W	E	R			
I	C	H			B	O	R	E	D		X	E	N	O
T	T	O	P			C	O	N	D	E		D	A	R
T	O	R	A	H		I	T	A	L	S		R	C	A
						S	Y	S	T	E	M	A	T	I
M	I	A	S	M	A					S	N	U	G	
E	N	D	A	N	G	E	R			F	O	R	A	Y
C	H	U	B			E	T	H	A	N	F	R	O	M
C	E	L	L			S	T	U	M	P		O	W	O
A	R	T	E			T	A	M	E	R		T	E	S

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Blacklight dance

There will be a blacklight and highlighters dance at Gorham’s Hastings lounge from 8:00 p.m. until midnight on Friday, Feb. 1. Be sure to brings some friends and a plain white t-shirt! Call Michael DesRoches in Gorham Student Life at 780-5218 for more information.

ETHEL critiques student pieces

Nationally renowned string quartet ETHEL will perform compositions by USM students on Wednesday, Jan. 30 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Gorham’s Corthell Concert Hall before their concert at USM’s Hannaford Hall that evening. The group describes themselves as having “an eye on tradition and an ear to the future” and will provide critiques to the student composers after the performance in what is known as a “public reading.” Six student and alumni composers will receive critiques from the professional musicians for their composition’s notation, style and playability. Admission is \$6. ETHEL will also perform their program entitled “Present Beauty” that evening at USM’s Hannaford Hall at 7:30 p.m. The concert will feature an arrangement of the Philip Glass soundtrack for The Hours as well as works by other composers. Tickets are \$40 for the general public and \$10 for students through the PortTIX box office at 842-0800.

Valentines workshop

USM will host a local literary arts collector for a workshop

on cobweb valentines Saturday, Feb. 2 from 1 to 5 p.m. in the Glickman Library events room. Cobweb valentines are a victorian era style of paper-cutting that creates many three-dimensional paper hearts. Workshop host Beth Baird will display some of her own paper valentines and lead the group through the technique needed. Advance registration is required, and participants are asked to bring an x-acto knife, a pencil, a ruler, a cutting mat and any photos or clippings to be incorporated into the valentine. The workshop is being presented by the Kate Cheney Chappell ‘83 Center for Book Arts. The registration fee is \$65.

Local immigrant doc screening

USM Multicultural Student Affairs will present a screening of the documentary *Uprooted: Voices of Immigrants and Refugees* on Tuesday, Jan. 29 in the Glickman Library’s University Events Room. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. and food will be served before the screening begins at 6 p.m. The film is a production of the University of New Hampshire and features New Hampshire immigrants and refugees. A panel discussion with members of Maine’s immigrant community will follow the film and focus on educational and employment opportunity for the state’s immigrant and refugee populations. The event is cosponsored by Catholic Charities of Maine. FMI contact Reza Jalali in the MSA office at 780-5798.

Social change short

USM Students for Environmental Awareness and Sustainability will present a screening of a short animated film entitled “The Power of Outrospection” at 6 p.m. in the Brooks Student Center TV lounge. The animated film was produced by the Royal Society for the encouragement of the Arts, Manufacture and Commerce, an organization dedicated to “finding innovative practical solutions to today’s social challenges” according to their website. The film examines empathy as an

important and powerful tool for social change that is lacking in today’s world. Contact Shaun Carland with SEAS at 432-9180 FMI.

Study abroad info fair

There will be an information fair for students interested in studying abroad on Wednesday, Jan. 30 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Brooks Student Center Dining Hall. The Office of International Programs is bringing providers of study abroad programs together to give students a chance to learn about travel and scholarship opportunities for USM students. Contact the Office of International Programs at 780-4959 FMI.

Prize bingo

The Gorham Events Board will host a night of Bingo for prizes at Brooks Student Center in Gorham on Thursday, Jan. 31 from 9 to 10:30 p.m. Past prizes have included an Xbox 360 and a Dirt Devil. Contact Michael DesRoches in the GEB office at 780-5218 FMI.

President Kalikow speaks on leadership

USM President Theo Kalikow will host a talk on inspired leadership from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 1 in 10 Bailey Hall on the Gorham campus. The talk is presented by the Professional Staff Senate and is an opportunity for USM faculty and staff to ask questions of the president about leadership. Those interested in attending are asked to RSVP through the USM events page by Wednesday, Jan. 30.

Questions or comments?
Send us your thoughts at
editor@usmfreepress.org

From DIVEST on page 3
Sprouts and sat down and said, ‘let’s do this.’”

Current and future profits of the fossil fuel industry are based on the amount of fossil fuels currently in the ground, according to Sutherland. “The amount of fossil fuel that’s in the ground right now,” he said, “is enough to end life on earth as we know it.”

“Even if we stop producing carbon today — stop all production and emission — the global temperature is still projected to rise by two degrees [Celsius].” Two degrees Celsius is a significant figure: it has been the decided temperature cap in the international community since the the Copenhagen Accord of 2009. In many European countries, that cap was established in 1996. Many scientists fear that should the average global temperature exceed the designated two-de-

gree cap we would see the greatest consequences of global warming — increased extinction rates and extreme, sporadic weather conditions.

“We’re not going back to your father’s planet or my father’s planet,” Sutherland said.

Divest USM is currently in its infancy, but Sutherland hopes that it will grow in the near future. The USM endowment makes up about seven percent of the UMS investment pool. Because UMS investments are pooled, USM cannot divest alone — the entire UMS would also need to participate. In order to be successful, the Divest movement will need support across all UMS campuses.

“The idea is that we’ll start here at USM, but we also have to start working to find partners at all other campuses,” Sutherland explained.

When asked whether socially

responsible portfolios could compete with the system’s current investments, Sutherland nodded, saying that studies have been done that prove socially responsible investments can be just as profitable.

“It’s not like we’re going to walk in and say, ‘Take that money out, but we don’t know where you should put it,’ or ‘There’s nowhere else we can put it.’ Of course there is. There are many, many options that can be explored,” he said.

At least 210 other campuses across the country are rallying to divest from fossil fuel companies. Unity College in Unity, Maine was the first campus in the nation to do so, leaving USM’s movement in good company as they push forward.

news@usmfreepress.org
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Police Beat

*Selections from the
USM Department of
Public Safety police log
Nov. 18 to Nov. 25*

Friday, Jan. 4

Padiddle!

6:36 a.m.- Warnings to operator for speeding and having a headlight out. - Gorham off campus

Saturday, Jan. 5

She appeared!

11:46 p.m.- Nyachuol Billew, 23 of Westbrook arrested on failure to appear warrant from Portland police department. - Upperclass Hall

Tuesday, Jan. 8

You don’t belong!

3:40 p.m.- Report of a person in the building that does not belong there. Unable to locate. - Payson Smith Hall

Thursday, Jan. 10

Late-night illness

12:14 a.m.- Subject transported to hospital following medical emergency. - Anderson Hall

Friday, Jan. 11

Just rollin’ through

3:52 p.m.- Warning to operator for stop sign violation. - Costello Complex

Saturday, Jan. 12

Smells...

7:08 p.m.- Report of an odor of marijuana. Unable to locate source. - Phillipi Hall

Like...

10:11 p.m.- Report of odor of marijuana. Report taken. - Robie Andrews Hall

Slackers!

10:44 p.m.- Report of odor of marijuana. Referred to community standards. - Upton Hastings Hall

Sunday, Jan. 13

Am I going to have to separate you?

1:54 p.m.- Report of an argument. Subjects were separated and moved along and a report was taken. - Upperclass Hall

Guess you stay free today

11:16 p.m.- Officer checking on a possible bail violation. All set, no issue. - Woodward Hall

Monday, Jan. 14

In a rush?

8:37 a.m.- Hit and run accident. Report taken. - 25 Bedford St.

It says I’m a prince!

1:08 p.m.- Report of a suspicious email. Report taken. - Gorham campus

He was learning too hard...

2:28 p.m.- Injury report taken for staff member injured at work. - 25 Husky Dr.

Nothing suspicious here

5:38 p.m.- Report of a suspicious incident. Officer could not find anything amiss. - 70 Falmouth St.

Wednesday, Jan. 16

That’s nothing new

2:33 p.m.- Report of a cracked vehicle windshield. Determined to be old damage. - Portland Parking Garage

Smoke n’ run

10:20 p.m.- Report of marijuana odor. Occupant left building prior to officer’s arrival. - Dickey Wood Hall

Still stinks, though.

10:36 p.m.- Marijuana odor. Report taken.

Police logs are edited for grammar and style. They can be found at usm.maine.edu/police/campus-crime-log.

Arts & Culture

- 1. What was the first thing you made that you remember thinking of as art?
- 2. What is your favorite thing about teaching?

Damir Porobic,
Full-time Lecturer
of Printmaking and
Digital Arts



- 1. “I did a drawing, a watercolor of a giant, I was, I think, two years old, and the lady that took care of us went to the art academy, and supposedly, right, it was so amazing. I vaguely vaguely vaguely remember, it was anatomically correct, and she was amazed with it, and and she took it to the art academy, and people were offering her money for it. And it was stolen. It was so good someone stole it for their collection.”
- 2. “Students are. Interactions with students.”



George Burk,
Associate Profes-
sor of Painting and
Drawing

- 1. “That goes back a long way. Probably in high school. I had a teacher that was very important to me, he was my mentor, and he had a fabulous collection that he would keep locked up, and he would show us the American artists that he had in his collection of prints, and from that point on I always thought ‘what a nice way to share the work of an artist. In multiples. And I started collecting prints. And I still do. In terms of the first thing that I thought of as art, it was probably in a high school class.”
- 2. “Working with the students, seeing them develop their ideas, helping them grow as visual artists.”

Faculty presents art gallery



Alex Greenlee / Multimedia Editor

Many came to see the USM faculty art exhibition when it opened on Wednesday, Jan. 23,

Sidney Dritz
Free Press Staff

The amphitheater area of the Woodbury Campus Center has been decked out with works of art made by the professors of USM’s Art department.

“It gives art students a chance to see their professors’ work,” said Carolyn Eyler, director of exhibitions and programs of the USM art gallery in Gorham. The show, which opened Wednesday, Jan. 23, is an annual event, and is currently on display in the AREA Gallery of the Woodbury Campus Center. The show gives art students a chance, she said, to see their teachers as artists and as people, outside the classroom and in a more informal context. According to her, the show is usually held at the gallery in Gorham, but that space is currently occupied by USM alumna Astrid Bowlby’s exhibit, “Everything.”

Eyler said she was disappointed that the AREA Gallery was not the ideal location for the show, mentioning in particular that it meant that she was unable to display Associate Professor Raphael Deluzio’s digital artwork. Still, she was enthusiastic about Bowlby’s exhibit in the Gorham gallery and mentioned that perhaps the Portland location this year would bring the exhibition to a new audience.

Eight of the sixteen artists on display spoke during the gallery talks on the opening night of the exhibition, describing processes in sculpture, printmaking, photography, painting and drawing.

Eyler’s comment about showing professors in a context outside the classroom was well-taken. The profes-

sors speaking at the gallery talks were undeniably there in their off-hours--their speeches were passionate and invested in their own work, but entirely devoid of instructional tone, and their discussions of their work drifted often drifted into the realm of the personal. Associate Professor George Burke discussed painting the series of miniature landscapes that he painted from inside of his car. When talking about the road he parked on to do these paintings, he said, “On this particular road you don’t have to pay for parking. I’m very much against paying for parking.”

Lecturer Damir Porobic described the intricate process of abstract printmaking while holding his young daughter on his hip and kept a distracted eye on her for the rest of his speech.

Part-time lecturer Lin Lisberger displayed a giant woodcut and a print made from it that she made using a chainsaw. “It’s very rewarding to work with a chainsaw, instead of this careful, meticulous process,” she said.

The crowd followed the speakers around the room, eyes pivoting, directing attention from artist to artist as they stood beside their work, before settling on the final speaker, part-time lecturer Brandon Lutterman. He expounded upon his process in producing ceramics. “Clay has got so many possibilities,” Lutterman concluded. “It’s kind of like the ocean reefs, there’s so much left to be discovered.”

The exhibition will be on display in the AREA Gallery in the Woodbury Campus Center through April 3, 2013.

art@usmfreepress.org
[@FreePressArts](#)

A&C Listings

Tuesday, January 29

ETHEL
SPACE Gallery
538 Congress St.
Doors: 7:00 p.m. / Show: 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 30

Traditional Irish Session
Blue
650 Congress St.
Doors: 7:00 p.m. / Show: 7:00 p.m.

Keane / Youngblood Hawke
State Theatre
609 Congress St.
Doors: 7:00 p.m. / Show: 8:00 p.m.

Tift Merritt
One Longfellow Square
181 State St.
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 8:30 p.m.

Clash of the Titans 2013: T REX vs. ELO
Empire Dine and Dance
575 Congress St.
Doors: 9:30 p.m. / Show: 10:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 31

Wes Hartley and Friends
Blue
650 Congress St.
Doors: 7:00 p.m. / Show: 7:00 p.m.

North of Nashville
Brian Boru
57 Center Street
Doors: 9:00 p.m. / Show: 9:30 p.m.

Friday, February 1

Jazz Friday with The Bernie Bouthot and Ali Stauble
The Dogfish Bar and Grille
128 Free St.
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 9:00 p.m.

Erica Brown & The Bluegrass Connection
One Longfellow Square
181 State St.
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 8:30 p.m.

6th Annual Ruckus Cup MC Battle
The Big Easy
55 Market St.
Doors: 8:30 p.m. / Show: 9:00 p.m.

Jeff Beam / Tan Vampires / Old Abram Brown
Empire Dine and Dance
575 Congress St.
Doors: 9:00 p.m. / Show: 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 2

Britta Pejec Et Les Frenchman / The Robin And Rose
Bayside Bowl
21 Alder St.
Doors: 6:00 p.m. / Show: 6:30 p.m.

Matt Meyer and The Grumpton Junction
The Dogfish Bar and Grille
128 Free St.
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 9:00 p.m.

Lyle Divinsky & The Velvet Vagabonds
The Big Easy
55 Market St.
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 9:00 p.m.

The THE BAND Band: Tribute to Dylan
One Longfellow Square
181 State St.
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 8:30 p.m.

National Review

Olu is far from ordinary person



Self-released

Sam Hill

Arts & Culture Editor

Riding high off internet buzz and armed with a surprising work ethic, Cleveland rapper Olu has given his fans what they've been asking for.

Ordinary People is a full-length album that, like his previous releases, is full of first-rate lyricism, a varied collection of beats from underground producers, and tracks that appeal to the tastes of all kinds of hip-hop heads. This is what we've come to expect from Olu and he doesn't let us down.

The album's title track, which in the hip-hop world is notorious for being terrible, breaks the mold as Olu describes how he feels about individuals. "See me, I see no evil, just ordinary people," he raps in the chorus as he goes on to explain the choice-

es people are forced to make everyday. The beat, produced by Dude My Name is Kevin, fits the lyrics perfectly and the vibe is subtly serious. It should be noted that this producer is the only one who offers more than a single track on the album.

The best tracks on the album are so chill. In "Midnight," Olu raps that he's "Awake, but it feels like a lucid dream," and that's how I would describe the track. It's a slo-mo weed anthem of sorts, but not an obnoxious one. Producer Dave Cappa creates a relaxed atmosphere with the beat and it'd be hard not to vibe with this track. "Every Autumn" is another ambient track with some subtle bass, as Olu touches on his lifestyle with plenty of references to alcohol and Pokemon. "Foolish" and the Kid Cudi sampled "Sounds of Sanity" are tracks for the loner.

The only disappointment on this album is the lack of production by Olu himself. He has used such unique samples on previous work and uses them well. Not that there aren't incredible producers on this album. It's just not the man himself. For example, "Gold" uses this incredible sample from Flight Facilities' "Crave You" that I felt would be a great choice to connect with the audience on an emotional level. But it flips into a track about the average rappers' obsession with gold. Oh well. You win some, you lose some.

All in all, *Ordinary People* is what fans have come to expect from Olu, and this free album needs to be added to your collection.

sam@usmfreepress.org

@SamAHill

National Review

Casey Veggies is green, but learning



Self-released

Casey Raymond

Contributor

If you're remembering Casey Veggies from his work on the early Odd Future mixtape, then this one is probably going to disappoint you.

Despite being a solid example of his style, it's nothing like the strange, mysterious, unique flow usually exemplified by OF. The release of his mixtape, *Life Changes*, offered him a perfect canvas to display his own style rather than simply being featured on other artists tracks. The production of the album was done extremely well with a big thanks to The Futuristiks, 1500 or Nothin, and Harry Fraud. If you have been paying attention to the underground hip-hop scene you might remember Harry Fraud from his work done on ex-Das Racist member Heems' latest mixtape that was released back in November of 2012.

The album begins with the heavy hitting album title track "Life Changes", and drops into a relaxed vibe that is carried throughout the album. The mix-

ture of soft female background vocals and his persistent lyrical choice intertwine to create an easy listening mixtape from front to back. "My Vision" gives Casey a chance to touch on some of his accomplishments and achievements thus far in life. This concept shows up quite frequently in the lyrics later in the mixtape during the song "Whip it," you can hear Veggies gloating about how he's "only 18... feeling like Hercules." He has featured a few artists as well including underrated BJ the Chicago Kid and Dom Kennedy who added great balance to Casey's vocals.

One thing that must be kept in mind is that Casey Veggies is a relatively new artist and still hasn't quite gotten his flow and lyrics as solidified as other heavy hitters in the scene right now. This is mainly evident on tracks like "She in My Car" and more noticeably "Faces" where his style is easily traceable back to the popular, yet less than stellar, Taylor Gang rapper Juicy J. This is easily overlooked, however, due to how well the beats and production were done. There are a few moments where I was a little disappointed in what he did with the music at hand, but that is to be expected with an artist still in the greenhorn category. I kept wanting to hear artists such as Big Sean or even Mellowhype simply because I would have enjoyed what they would have brought to the track over Casey Veggies.

All in all this mixtape was done very well and definitely houses some good tunes and beats to bump to while cruising with your friends. This was a great starting point for a new wave of music that is sure to come from Casey Veggies after the positive reactions that were shown for *Life Changes*. His talent is sure to improve and I can expect him to be a big contender in the years to come. This is definitely a mixtape to check out.

sam@usmfreepress.org

@SamAHill

Want to submit an event?
arts@usmfreepress.org

Lend us a hand and **copy-edit for us.**
E-mail us: **editor@usmfreepress.org**

Perspectives

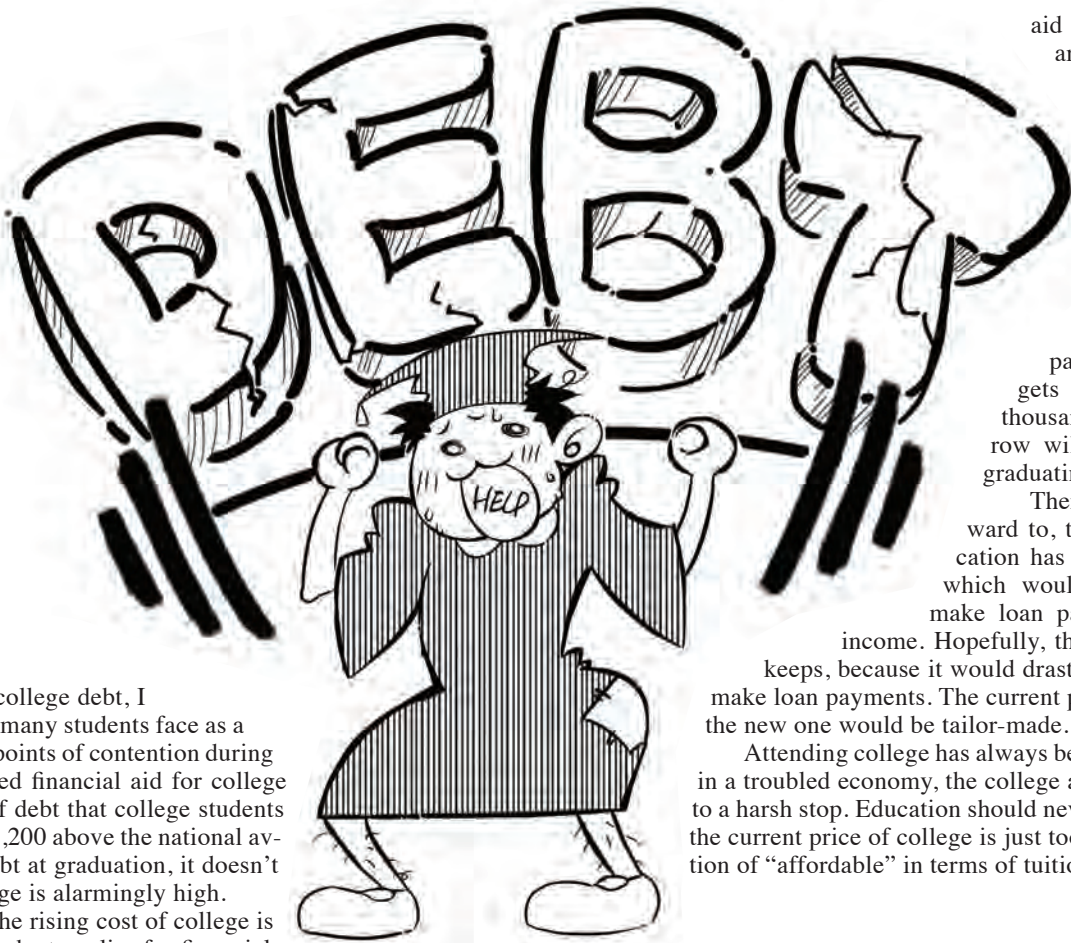
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Henry's Head



Andrew Henry
Perspectives Editor

As someone who is currently experiencing the financial pitfalls of college debt, I can easily understand the anxiety that many students face as a result of that debt. One of the biggest points of contention during the presidential race this year involved financial aid for college students and the increasing amount of debt that college students graduate with. While Maine is only \$1,200 above the national average of \$27,000 of undergraduate debt at graduation, it doesn't negate the fact that the national average is alarmingly high. One of the best ways to combat the rising cost of college is to apply early for financial aid. If a student applies for financial



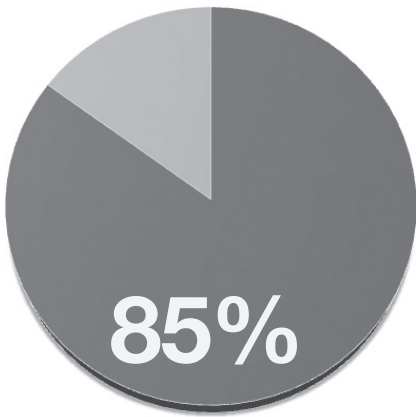
Contributed by Jia Zou

aid much earlier in the semester, chances are that he or she will be awarded more financial aid as a result. The well, so to speak, dries up with each passing day that you don't apply for financial aid because that money is going to other students. So, when your adviser or parent tells you to apply early, you should probably listen. It may not seem like a big hairy deal while you're in college, because you haven't actually started paying off your loans yet, but it rapidly gets expensive once you graduate. A few thousand dollars that you don't need to borrow will be helpful in the months between graduating and finding a job. There is one thing to potentially look forward to, though. The U.S. Department of Education has proposed a "Pay As You Earn" plan, which would allow some federal borrowers to make loan payments based on their postgraduate income. Hopefully, this is one of the promises that Obama keeps, because it would drastically change the way we individually make loan payments. The current payment system is one size fits all, and the new one would be tailor-made. Attending college has always been a part of the dreams of students, but in a troubled economy, the college aspirations of many people are coming to a harsh stop. Education should never have to be an unattainable goal, but the current price of college is just too high. It's time we re-think the definition of "affordable" in terms of tuition.

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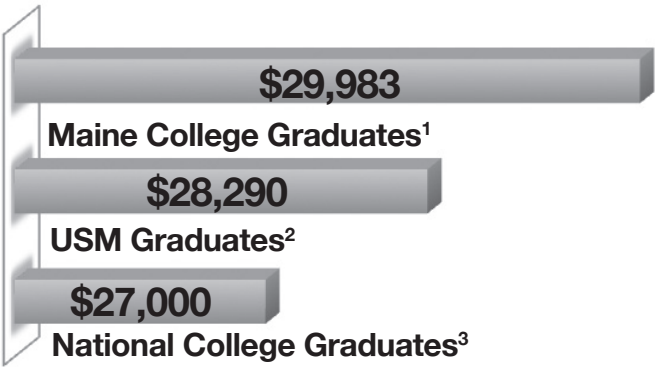
College debt at-a-glance

Percentage of USM students who receive financial aid



- The average financial aid package for USM students is \$13,500.
- Only degree students can receive financial aid.
- USM awards \$95 million in total financial aid annually to students.
- The best way to get more financial aid? Apply early!

Debt Averages



\$124,500.00

Total Combined

Junior



Name:
Thaddeus Moriarty
Total college debt: **\$70,000**

When Thaddeus Moriarty went to college for the first time right after he graduated from high school, he probably didn't think to himself, "In just a few years, I'll be \$70,000 in the hole with college debt." But that's the exact amount that he faces now in his 3rd year at USM. Moriarty, 25, faces a harrowing amount of debt, but his situation is a peculiar one. He went to college for two years right after he graduated high school, and a family member took out and co-signed a loan in Thaddeus' name to the tune of \$28,000, to pay for college. When Thaddeus didn't come back to school after two years and looked at the loan, he realized the scope of his misfortune. The family member had taken out a loan that didn't go into forbearance and wouldn't be deferred when he returned to school. The loan had also accrued interest, and had gone up to \$35,000. He now had \$35,000 in loans that he was expected to pay off immediately as a twenty year-old with no degree trying to find full-time work in a poor economy. Thaddeus contacted a family lawyer when the family member who co-signed the loan refused to be a part of the process, and he managed to get the loan deferred until he graduated from USM. His experience with loans, other than the aforementioned, has been fairly typical. He receives a moderate amount of federal loan allotment and plans to pay it off after he graduates from graduate school. His total debt between \$31,000 in federal loans and \$36,000 in private loans means that he'll be facing almost \$70,000 in college loans after he finishes school.

Freshman



Name: **Meghan Chantler**
Total college debt: **\$0**



Name: **Erica Green**
Total college debt: **\$4,000**



Name: **Kyle Robinson**
Total college debt: **\$1,500**



Name: **Jordan Henry**
Total college debt: **\$4,500**

Junior



Name: **Morgan McDonald**
Total college debt: **\$44,500**

R.A.s have more responsibilities than you think



Spencer McBreairty
Free Press Staff

An RA's first thought every morning is never, "I'm an RA." Instead, like every other student, we think of what homework assignment is due that day whether it's a day at our internship or our job. Our schedules can be hectic, because we are also typical students. We are out in the USM community as student senators, Gorham Event Board members, admission staff, fraternity and sorority members and other positions as student leaders.

Even in training, RAs are told to focus on academics first. We have many of the same responsibilities that regular students have — homework, jobs, socializing and internships. But on top of that, we also have duties as RAs. It's a balancing act, and it can be a real challenge, especially for new RAs. For those who find a way to make it work, the benefits make up for the late nights. We may not get a check for our hard work, but that doesn't make it any less meaningful. Our housing costs are covered, though we live where we work as a compromise. Being an RA can mean waking up at 3 a.m. to let a resident into his room if he's been locked out, mediating a conflict between roommates or documenting an incident that violates university policy.

Despite what you might have heard, the latter is not our favor-

ite part. In my nearly four years at USM, I have never met an RA who enjoys that part of the job. No, we don't have a quota to fill. We don't target any student specifically. In fact, most RAs will tell you it sucks to document a violation because it means more paperwork and late nights spent working instead of sleeping. We're still students after all, and we want to get to sleep and go to class like everyone else.

Working as an RA is not all rainbows and butterflies - it's a tough job, and sometimes it's just another strike against our sanity.

But RAs do provide an invaluable service to the USM community. Whether it be monitoring the building for safety and policy violations, aiding students in identifying campus resources or helping a resident into their room when they're locked out in only a towel - we understand that it is still a job.

So, why do we do it? For me, it is a combination of resume building, campus involvement, and cost-saving benefits.

Although there are many benefits, we also deal with a fair amount of issues. Last year, the residential

community at USM went through a very rough time. What I have seen, more as a student than an RA, is how strong the sense of community can be when everyone puts their all into it. It's easy to walk away from a tough residential situation and go it on your own. It takes real courage and strength to persevere in the face of adversity and come out better on the other side.

From time to time in my USM career, I have thought of transferring. Working as an RA is not all rainbows and butterflies - it's a tough job, and sometimes it's just another strike against our sanity. But when I get to know the people I live with and I get to see the friendships and community they're building, it's hard to see myself anywhere else.

People can criticize the Gorham campus for not being as updated as it should. But in the end, our residential campus is a part of what makes this school great. Even when they are united against their residential staff, students form bonds here. They come to RA events, use their RA as a resource and ask us to let them into their rooms or to use the kitchen. We do that, and in a small way it makes a difference. If my actions, in one way or another, can help foster a sense of community and inclusiveness, I would say it's a job well done.

editor@usmfreepress.org
@USMFreePress

Alex Greenlee / Multimedia Editor
Spencer McBreairty, who is currently an R.A. in Upton-Hastings.

Have an opinion?

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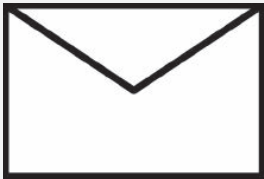
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Letters & Comments:

From: "Blowing smoke at USM Tobacco ban"

Ironical that our state has that silly slogan "Breathe easy, you're In Maine" when we have such high rate of air pollution here, what with all the stuff blowing from southern New England and the mid-Atlantic up here. Not to mention the fact that cars, busses, and trucks are forever spewing unhealthy gasses and particulates into the air. Sure, clean it up by reducing a few hundred cigarettes a day, but that has zero effect on the air in Maine. And again, I state that the ban on chewing tobacco is a paternalistic attempt to tell people not to engage in a behavior that doesn't affect anyone else.

It's unfortunate that the universities of the UMS have chosen to enact such policies that can't be enforced without looking like a bully.

-Joseph Willingham

Want to voice your opinion? Email editor@usmfreepress.org.



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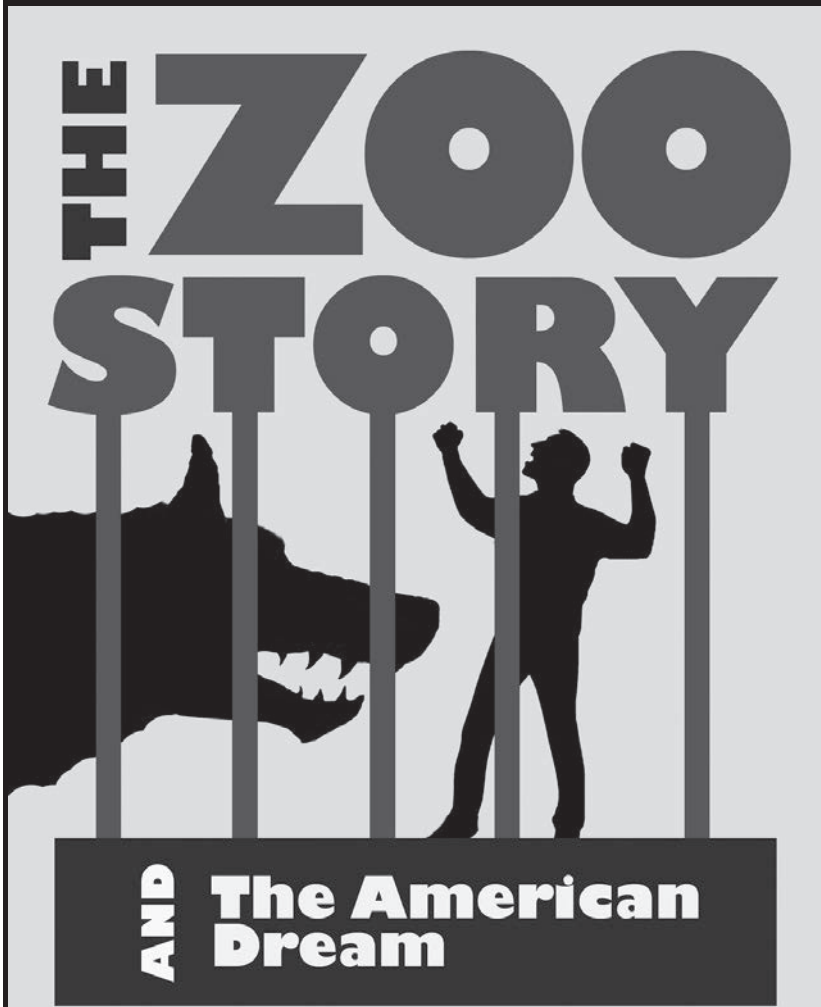
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Quick Hits: The Huskies' week in review



Justicia Barreiros / Free Press Staff

Junior forward Angelo Vrachnas (#9) fights for the puck against two Norwich defenders during the 0-2 loss on Saturday.

Anna Chiu
Sports Editor

Men's Ice Hockey
Huskies face seventh straight loss

The men's team were unable to come out on top against number one team Norwich University, losing 0-2 at the USM Ice Arena on Saturday night. The loss drops the team record to 6-14 overall and 3-10 in conference play.

The Huskies only had 11 shots on goal compared to Norwich's 33. Freshman goalie Josh Hillegas had 31 saves and is 6-9-0 in his collegiate career.

The men's team will return next Saturday when they face UNE at the USM Ice Arena at 4 p.m.

Women's Basketball
Huskies end 18 game winning streak

After an impressive start to the season, the women's basketball team lost their first game 55-68 to Western Connecticut on Saturday in Danbury, Connecticut. The loss drops their record to 18-1 overall and 8-1 in the Little East. The 18 game winning streak is just two better than the previous high of

16-0 in the 1987-88 season. The Huskies struggled offensively, shooting only 31.6 percent from the field and 66.7 percent from the free throw line. Senior forward Jordan Grant lead the team scoring 15 points, eight rebounds and three steals. Also contributing was sophomore Rebecca Knight with nine points and nine rebounds while senior guard Haley Jordan recorded nine points and five rebounds. The women's team hope to bounce back with a win when they face Colby College for a non-conference game this Tuesday.

Men's Basketball
Kee leads team to overtime victory

The Huskies won their second game in a row 90-77 against Western Connecticut State University in overtime on Saturday afternoon. The team improves their record to 12-7 overall and 7-2 in the Little East. Senior guard Alex Kee shot 6 for 6 to help dominate Western Conn. with a 19-6 run in overtime. Juniors Brandon Tomah and Conor Sullivan each scored a game-high 23 points while junior forward James Odneal had 13 points and Kee had 14. Senior guard Mike Poulin also

contributed eight points, eight rebounds and four assists. In overtime, the Huskies shot 7-of-8 to seal the win. The men's team will travel to Colby College on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. for a non-conference game.

Women's Track
Huskies win USM invitational

The women's indoor track and field team won the USM Invitational on Saturday in Gorham thanks to seven first place finishes. The Huskies narrowly beat Colby College by seven points, winning the meet with an overall 178 points. Freshman Nicole Kirk and sophomore Peyton Dostie both had two wins each. Kirk snatched the 55-meter dash with a time of 7.54 seconds and also stole the top spot in the 400 meters with a season-best time of 59.48 seconds. Dostie finished on top in the 55-meter hurdles with her season-best time of 8.66 seconds and also finished first in the long jump, leaping 5.41 meters, just one centimeter shy of the school record. Dostie also had second place finishes in the 800 meters and the high jump. Sophomore Allie O'Brien and Emily Panciera had the

other first place finishes for the women's team. O'Brien had her personal best jump in the pole vault, clearing 3.07 meters to win the event. Panciera also had her personal best time, winning the 600 meters in 1:40.76.

The women's team will next travel to compete at the annual State of Maine Championships this Friday night at 6 p.m.

Women's Ice Hockey
USM finishes with a 1-1 tie

The women's team tied 1-1 against the College of the Holy Cross on Saturday at the USM Ice Arena. The tie brings the team record to 4-9-5 overall and 3-6-3 in conference play. Sophomore forward Julia Pearl scored at 5:30 into the second period with an unassisted goal to tie the matchup. Sophomore goalie Liz Bergstrom had 30 saves and is now 3-5-3 on the season. The Huskies had 22 shots on goal but had seven penalties and were 0 for 2 in power plays. The women's team will host Colby College this Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the USM Ice Arena.

achiu@usmfreepress.org
@theannachiu

Scoreboard

January 22

Women's Basketball	
USM	91
Plymouth St.	52
Men's Basketball	
USM	71
Plymouth St.	46
Men's Ice Hockey	
USM	1
Bowdoin	5

January 25

Men's Ice Hockey	
USM	4
St. Michael's	5
Women's Ice Hockey	
USM	1
Salve Regina	4

January 26

Women's Basketball	
USM	55
Western Conn. St.	68
Men's Basketball	
USM	90
Western Conn. St.	77
Men's Ice Hockey	
USM	0
Norwich	2
Women's Ice Hockey	
USM	1
Holy Cross	1

Upcoming

January 29

Women's Basketball	
USM	@ Colby
Men's Basketball	
USM	@ Colby
Women's Ice Hockey	
Colby	@ USM

February 1

Women's Ice Hockey	
USM	@ Norwich

February 2

Women's Basketball	
Keene St.	@ USM
Men's Basketball	
Keene St.	@ USM

Men's Ice Hockey	
UNE	@ USM

Women's Ice Hockey	
USM	@ St. Michael's



Community Spotlight: Veteran Student Organization



Alex Greenlee / Multimedia Editor
Matt Stewart, president of the VSO, relaxes at Veteran Resource Center in the Portland Woodbury Campus Center.

Skyla Gordon
Free Press Staff

The Veteran Student Organization at USM meets once a month at the Veteran Resource Center in the Woodbury Campus center to discuss fundraising, plan events and talk about any issues concerning veterans on and off campus.

The VSO aims to raise awareness about veterans on campus, helping them to more easily transition from military to student and civilian life.

According to the USM website, the VSO was established to create a safe place for veterans to come together, to build a community and to help them overcome the challenges associated with the transition.

Matt Stewart, a sophomore Electrical Engineering major and the President of the VSO, explains why he volunteered for the position. “It’s a combination of wanting to see the VSO succeed, and I want to be able to help veterans on Campus.”

The organization currently has about 70 members, 65 of whom are students and five of whom are staff. While not every member attends all the meetings, they correspond through email and Facebook.

They encourage all students to join, including non-veterans. Jennifer Balser, a sophomore English major and a non-veteran said, “they are very welcoming. I have no military experience, and they accepted me.” According to Balser, the group members come from a variety of backgrounds and are a fun and eclectic group.

VSO members participate in several events throughout the year. Group members often get together for dinner or drinks. Five to ten people have participated in ice fishing, camping and hiking trips as well. They also have an end of semester party, and everyone is invited.

Stewart was new to USM and joined the VSO in order to connect with people with similar interests. “I’ve made life-long friends out of it,” he said. Stewart believes that as President he has the greatest chance

of making a difference.

Their annual Thanksgiving dinner was served this year in the Woodbury Campus center, where they provided meals to veterans for \$5 and to non-Veterans for \$6. They encouraged everyone to attend and they were thrilled when nearly 100 students showed up, earning the VSO about \$1000.

Other fundraising activities include a year-long bottle drive and selling t-shirts and sweatshirts. Coming up in April, the VSO will hold their annual spring barbeque on the Portland campus. The butche and grocer in Scarborough, Meat House, barbeques lunch, and students can buy a plate of food to support the VSO.

The VSO is currently deciding on a day and time for their monthly meetings. Keep an eye on the USM events board for updates on meetings and for upcoming events.

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Senate votes in favor of saving

Sidney Dritz
Free Press Staff

USM student senate unanimously voted down a proposal last Friday to spend \$2,098 on new computers.

Student Senate Chair Chris Camire, who made the proposal, was concerned that the computers were, at three or four years old, growing a little slow. However, student senator Andrew Kalloch said that the proposed expenditure “seemed a bit lavish.”

Camire endorsed the proposal based

on complaints heard around the office. However, according to Kalloch, the senate felt that the timing was wrong. “Do I think we’re going to need to replace them? Definitely,” Kalloch said, but went on to explain that the student senate was expecting funding requests to come in soon from the Gorham Events Board, since a lot of student groups plan events for the spring. According to Kalloch, the senate does not want to repeat any mistakes.

The student senate does not have a perfect record of expenditures for this scholastic year, perhaps most notably in the

case of the fall concert, which the Free Press critiqued in our Oct. 15 issue, in the editorial “Real big fiscal responsibility.” However, the decision against spending on supplies, which would be used specifically for the senate’s benefit, comes at a time when budget cuts continue to make pecuniary prudence increasingly practical. Some at the senate meeting spoke about setting an example of fiscal responsibility in the wake of the budget issues.

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Campus Events

- Monday, January 28

First Queer Straight Alliance meeting of the spring semester
7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Woodbury Campus Center, Portland

Circle K International Weekly Meeting
8:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Upperclass Hall, Gorham
- Tuesday, January 29

Commuter Open Gym - Sullivan Recreation & Fitness Complex
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Main Gym, Sullivan Complex, Portland

Uprooted: Voices of Immigrants
Documentary showing
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
7th Floor Glickman Library, Portland
- Wednesday, January 30

Accounting Society Weekly Meeting
2:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Payson Smith Hall, Portland

Study Abroad Fair
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Brooks Student Center, Dining Hall, Gorham
- Thursday, January 31

USM Enactus Weekly Meeting
11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Room 327, Luther Bonney Hall, Portland

Portland Events Board Weekly Meeting
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Conference Room, Woodbury Campus Center, Portland

Students for Enviornmental Awareness and Sustainability (SEAS) Meeting
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Room 202, Payson Smith Hall, Portland
- Friday, February 1

“Inspired Leadership” by President Theo
12:00 p.m. -1:00 p.m.
Room 10, Bailey Hall, Gorham

Blacklight Dance
8:00 p.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Hastings 1/2 Lounge, Gorham
- Saturday, February 2

Snow Tubing - Southern Maine Outdoor Recreation
3:30 p.m. -10:30 p.m.
Seacoast Fun Park
- Sunday, February 3

Usm Theatre presents “The Zoo Story” and “The American Dream”
5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Portland Stage Company Studio Theatre, 25A Forest Avenue, Portland

Want your student group featured? Have a USM event for our calendar?
Send an email at events@usmfreepress.org.

Comments or questions?
Email us at editor@usmfreepress.org

For more events:
www.usm.maine.edu/events