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Sports Highlight

Huskies play in NCAA finals



Justicia Barreiros / Free Press Staff

Number 31 Haley Jordan, senior forward, attempts to roll past a Smith defender for a shot at the basket during the first round of the NCAA Division III Championships on Friday.

Team loses

80-58

Anna Chiu

Sports Editor

The nationally eighth ranked Lady Huskies were unable to advance to the second round of the NCAA Division III Women’s Basketball National Championship last Friday in Gorham, losing 80-58 to the Smith College Pioneers (23-4). The loss concludes the season for the women’s team with an impressive 27-2 record.

Just 10 minutes into the game, the Huskies trailed behind Smith 20-17 after sophomore forward Rebecca Knight capitalized on an opportunistic steal, made by junior guard Erin McNamara, with a layup. Knight led the Huskies with a team high 18 points, eight rebounds, four assists. Knight finished the season averaging 12.5 points per game, making her one of the scoring leaders for USM.

Smith, however, soon took over with a 14-2 run with 3:23 minutes remaining, but the Huskies were able to put nine more points on the board to trail 41-28 at half-time. Smith took advantage of the 14 turnovers committed by the

See **HUSKIES** on page 18

Local Politics

New weed bill has Portland roots



Courtesy of Adam King

Russell speaks at local bar about proposed bill that would legalize and regulate recreational marijuana use.

Nate Mooney

News Intern

Maine State Representative Diane Russell has authored a new bill to regulate and tax the sale of marijuana for recreational users 21 and over. Russell, representing Portland’s Munjoy Hill and Old Port neighborhoods, introduced a similar proposal in 2009 but failed to gather enough support to pass the changes to Maine’s existing mari-

juana policy.

Russell cited a number of reasons as impetus for the reintroduction of the bill.

“Eighty-six percent of drug arrests in Maine are for [marijuana] possession,” said Russell, citing the high state expenditures that result from prosecution and imprisonment for marijuana related offenses.

“This policy has not worked,” she

See **WEED** on page 4

Administration discusses future of education



Alex Greenlee / Multimedia Editor

USM President Theodora Kalikow and University of Maine System Chancellor James Page spoke at the philosophy symposium on Tuesday.

Students, faculty and alumni gathered to hear administrators talk

Kit Kelchner

Free Press Staff

University of Maine System Chancellor James Page and USM President Theodora Kalikow explored radical new outlooks regarding higher education during the “Future of Higher Education: Philosophical Perspectives” philosophy symposium last Tuesday in Portland. The event, five months in the making, offered a unique platform for both leaders to discuss with the public, stu-

dents and faculty the future of public higher education in Maine.

Kalikow and Page both emphasized the influence the changing political climate has had in regards to the usefulness of higher education and the necessity for the university to serve the needs of the community in order to justify its mission. Their message was simple: times have changed and so must we.

Online competitors like Moocs, iTunesU and alternative colleges like Thomas Edison State Col-

lege of New Jersey are decreasing the available student pool and changing student expectations about what the college learning experience can and should be. Online modules have opened up new ways of learning with multimedia interactivity, games and pre-recorded seminars that can be accessed at a student’s leisure.

Hundreds of thousands of students are flocking to free and low-cost online education opportuni-

See **FUTURE** on page 5

Student Activism

Students attend Washington rally



Courtesy of Shaun Carland

Thousands of people from across the country gathered in front of the White House in an environmental protest on Feb. 17.

Sidney Dritz
Free Press Staff

Glen Brand, director of the Maine branch of the Sierra Club, said the message the nearly 50,000 protestors at 350.org's Forward On Climate rally in Washington D.C. this Presidents Day were hoping to send to the president "was to let him know we have his back."

The Feb. 17 rally was attended by protestors from all over the country. According to Brand, the Maine branch of the Sierra Club alone sent down four busses full

"What we really need is for the president to start setting some real limits on carbon."

-Glen Brand
Director of the Maine Branch of the Sierra Club

of people. Some of the momentum of the Maine contingent of the rally can be traced back to January's protests in Portland against the pumping of tar sands oil through the Portland Montreal Pipeline. If this plan were put into action, Brand said, "It would be catastrophic, environmentally and financially."

Tar sands oil, Brand said, has a higher rate for spills than conventional oil and can be almost impossible to clean up in the event of a spill. He cited the tar sands

oil spill of July 2010 in Michigan's Kalamazoo river, on which \$750 million has been spent to clean up so far.

When asked to comment on the protest, the Portland Pipeline Corporation sent inquiries to Edward S. O'Meara, Jr. of Garrand, the company's public relations firm, who shared a statement with the press that was released after January's initial protests. The statement assured that the pipeline company has no immediate plans in the works to transport any tar sands oil, and fully intends to scrupulously follow government regulations, should they choose to do so in the future.

According to Brand, though, it is precisely government regulations that need to change. Brand is a firm supporter of Rep. Chellie Pingree's recent letter to the Obama administration asking that any plans to reverse the flow of the Portland Montreal Pipeline to carry tar sands be subject to additional environmental review and a permitting process. When asked to respond to Pingree's letter, which was sent Feb. 20, O'Meara said that Garrand is currently in the process of composing a response.

Brand advocated for stricter environmental changes across the board. "What we really need is for the president to start setting some real limits on carbon," he said, explaining that the president has already set carbon limits on power plants that have yet to be

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Free Press Event

Official date for media training day released

Kirsten Sylvain
Editor-in-Chief

Don't panic – this is just an exercise.

When you see a crowd of students and police responding to an emergency event on campus on April 12, don't run off to call for help. This is just The Free Press's helping the youth of Maine become name-taking, info-grubbing news hounds.

The Free Press will host a media training day in which students will be invited to practice building the media skills required in covering breaking news.

No experience is necessary. This will be a chance for students to learn new skills in an extremely hands-on way. One of the chief goals of the event is for students to have fun while they learn about what it takes to get out the news.

The event will be free and open to all students. USM, local high school and neighboring college students are encouraged to register. All students are welcome.

Here's how it will work: groups of the student journalists will gather in the "newsroom," like on any other normal day, but that day, a call will come in. There will have been an emergency on campus. They will need to respond.

That's how it starts. The students, working in groups, will have to cover the emergency to the best of their abilities. In the end, there will be a constructive critique in which our esteemed panel of judges will talk about each group's work. The winning group will receive a prize, courtesy of The Free Press.

The event is inspired by a similar one that takes place every year at the at the Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication in Georgia. It's called the Management Seminar for College

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WWW.USMFREEPRESS.ORG/BREAKING-NEWS-EXERCISE

Sokvonny Chhouk / Design Assistant

News Editors.

At that conference, nearly 60 college newspaper editors from across the U.S. responded to the staged emergency at the MSCNE training day. Working together, they covered the faux-news in less than two hours with multimedia and written coverage.

Kenneth Rosen, former editor

of the Savannah College of Art and Design and current correspondent for USA Today College, described the media training day in his blog.

"It was a thrilling experience," he said, "one I plan to replicate for training once back in Savan-

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From **WEED** on page 1 said.

Russell said the state spent over \$26 million in 2007 for the prosecution, law enforcement and imprisonment associated with marijuana-related offenses. She sees a big opportunity to turn some of those expenditures into revenue for the state with the introduction of a \$50 per ounce flat tax on the wholesale of marijuana, in addition to the five percent sales tax it would receive when retailed. The revenue from the wholesale tax would be distributed across multiple state programs. Under Russell's current proposal, a majority of that tax revenue would go to the state's education fund. Smaller portions would go to drug addiction and rehabilitation programs and marijuana research.

Russell's bill would create a unique tax structure for the sale of marijuana for recreational use, while leaving intact the current dispensary system for medical users. The bill proposes four new types of permits to license businesses involved in the cultivation and distribution of marijuana for recreational users. Permits would be issued for cultivation, retailing, research and the production of secondary marijuana products like tinctures or edibles. The research permit would only be granted to organizations without any of the other permits.

The bill would take a portion of the proposed tax revenue and create a process for research organizations to acquire funding to study marijuana's long-term effects or other marijuana related academic endeavors. Marijuana is a Schedule I drug under federal law, which stipulates that there is no accepted medical use. That classification has made for a historically restricted study of marijuana and its effects and has

established political repercussions for agencies that endeavor to do so. Russell's bill would address this roadblock to marijuana research by creating a state-level source for research funding.

Russell had help in authoring the bill: David Boyer, the Maine political director for the Marijuana Policy Project met her when he came to Maine as part of the Ron Paul campaign. Boyer joked that the joint effort with Russell did sound like the beginning of a cheesy one-liner – "A libertarian and a progressive sit down to write a bill." A libertarian perspective would favor less taxation and government structure in general, but Boyer can see the benefits to be had by the changes to Maine law proposed in the bill.

"My rationale is that I may not love taxes, but if I can keep law-abiding adult citizens that just want to relax out of jail, that's a net gain."

Boyer and Russell both see a better route to create a framework for legalization and taxation now, instead of after a citizen's initiative is passed — something Boyer's organization plans to back in 2016 if the current bill doesn't pass.

"Some people, myself included," said Boyer, "think this message is more preferable to having a ballot measure and then having the legislature work out the kinks later."

Those kinks are plentiful whether they get addressed before or after the citizens of Maine vote on the bill. Boyer said the legislature's Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs will most likely establish the finer regulations under the proposed bill since it already handles alcohol and gambling regulations.

Over the next few weeks, the bill will be assigned a legislative reference number and public hearings will be scheduled. At that point,

various groups will formalize their support, or lack thereof, for the bill.

"This is my full time job, but it takes a coalition," said Boyer, referring to his efforts to solidify support in Augusta for the bill over the coming weeks. Boyer expects that the public hearings and legislative review will be scheduled sometime in the next few weeks. There have not been many outspoken critics of the law at this point, though Boyer had a pretty good idea where a lot of the bill's detractors would come from. "Our number one opposition is definitely going to be law enforcement."

Support for the bill seemed to be a trend amongst USM students asked by The Free Press about the proposed change in Maine law. Senior psychology major Kate Wolfinger didn't let her personal experiences with marijuana users affect her thoughts on the proposed bill.

"I wish more of my friends that use it knew how to relax without it," she said, "but I'm very much for making your own choices."

Freshman computer science major Justin Hayes agreed with Russell's cause to create the foundational framework now, before a citizen's initiative.

"It's better to have it in the public eye, maintained and regulated through the proper legal channels." Hayes also commented on the notion that making marijuana available through legal channels to any of-age consumer would increase its availability to minors. "Some people have a concern," he said. "Personally, I don't see it changing the status quo."

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Campus Activism

USM participates in worldwide protest

One Billion Rising to end sexual violence



Alex Greenlee / Multimedia Editor

Two people tango dance in front of the Woodbury Campus center at the rally on Feb. 14.

Kirsten Sylvain
Editor-in-Chief

This Valentine's Day the Woodbury Campus Student Center in Portland was packed with poets, writers, musicians, women activists and students as one of the sites for the global One Billion Rising rally that aimed to fight violence against women.

One Billion Rising is a worldwide protest to end the stagger-

ingly high rates of violence against women across the globe. According to the One Billion Rising website, one in three women will be raped in their lifetime. This pushed author and activist Eve Ensler, who is well-known for writing The Vagina Monologues, to organize the worldwide protest in 2012.

The event called for one billion women and men in 203 countries

See **BILLION** on page 5



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across the world to “strike, dance and rise” to express their outrage and refusal to accept the violence and rape culture that fosters a global environment in which one in three women will be raped in her lifetime.

Portland and Lewiston were both V-Day rally sites for this year’s protest. The Portland rally was organized by Robin Farrin, professional photographer, activist and women and gender studies major. Starting at Monument Square, Farrin estimated 50 attendees gathered to march to the campus center in Portland. When they arrived, they recited poetry, recounted their personal experiences with abuse and talked about proper consent, interrupted only by interludes of music and dancing.

Farrin happily reported that she felt the event was a success. “Almost every country on the planet participated,” she said. “It was pretty incredible.”

Overall, she was pleased with the attendance of the the crowd, although she admitted that she would have loved for more student participation, as she noticed that the event brought in many community members, but fewer students than she had expected, and reaching out to students for help in planning the event, she received less than enthusiastic responses. She created a Facebook page event for the rally, where just under 300

people agreed to attend, but estimated that no more than 100 were in attendance.

Farrin has been active in various activist movements throughout the years, but she noted that she has always been a fan of Ensler’s work in particular. Ensler moved and inspired her when she saw her speak live. Since then, Farrin has been involved in Ensler’s movement.

“Almost every country on the planet participated. It was pretty incredible.”

-Robin Farrin
Event organizer

“I raised my hand in the crowd of 400 women and was committed to do something as well,” she said. In her women and gender studies class, the professor asked them to choose a topic or event to support through activism. The One Billion Rising rally was Farrin’s choice.

Despite not achieving the full 300 hundred attendees, the event was lively, with discernible intensity in the crowd. At one point Annie Finch, local poet and director of USM’s Stonecoast MFA program, read “Invocation for the One Billion Rising” a poem that she wrote for the occasion. As she reached the poem’s high point, she

grew louder until she was screaming and shaking her head and her hands in the air. The crowd rose up, joining her. “One billion of us are rising, rising, rising, / One billion of us are rising through the fire,” Finch shouted to the crowd.

Finch has also long been a fan of the work of Eve Ensler and went to the the Republic of Congo on a creative writing and teaching trip with the state department, sponsored by the University of Iowa, and Ensler herself has done extensive work there.

“When I saw what it was like over there it increased my admiration for her [Ensler] even more,” Finch said.

Finch explained that she is an avid supporter of women’s movements because she understands very personally how acts of violence on women change a woman’s life.

“I’m personally very aware of how it [abuse] can affect a woman’s life,” Finch said. To her, the violence that women face is a central issue right now. “I value women’s contributions to society so much,” she said. “The world really needs women to be strong and healthy right now.”

According to Farrin, footage taken at the Portland rally will be included in a documentary that Ensler is working on.

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Register here:

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nah, and one I implore all college news teams to do at least once a year.”

Volunteers are also encouraged to register for the event to help with preparations. Student actors (or non-actors) are welcomed to play crowds-people, victims and criminals.

Registration for the event will be available online at The Free

Press’s website and at USM student life website (also below). You can also register at the Student Involvement and Activities Center in Portland or at The Free Press office at 92 Bedford St. in Portland.

Stay tuned to hear who the judges will be in upcoming weeks!

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ties focused on skill building that offer the possibility of receiving college-level instruction without having to leave one’s couch.

Both Page and Kalikow openly discussed the positive and revolutionary aspects of these developments. Their goal is to incorporate some of the practices of readily accessible course content into a model that does not sacrifice the open debate and spirit of exploration offered by the university’s distinguished professors.

While evolving with the times is paramount, Page insisted that Maine’s unique demographics cannot be ignored. Because 35 percent of the UMS is funded by taxpayer money in the form of state appropriations, Page believes the university has a huge responsibility to be affordable to Maine families. But the university’s pool of potential in-state students continues to dwindle. The median age of Maine’s citizens is the highest in the nation, and only 14,000 high school students graduate per year. That number is expected to continue to trend downward to just 12,000 before leveling off, Page noted.

Attracting these new high school graduates (and retaining them) while balancing the needs of the UMS’s estimated 40,000 plus students is a major concern. “We have to be relevant, make value for the state of Maine and promise students something better than they can get elsewhere,” said Kalikow.

The business jargon of university efficiency and the talk of delivering traditional humanities education like a product to student customers, however, did not sit well with many of the attendees. Senior English major Phil Shelley asked, “What is the responsibility of the academy to hold the line in defense of non-economic values?” President Kalikow’s response was a clear and definitive “None.”

Delivering this economically-driven, cutting-edge experience will not be easy. When pressed for specifics, Kalikow, who earned a doctorate in philosophy from

Boston University, espoused a strategy she learned from experimental engineering: “Fail early, fail often,” she said. She suggested that students, faculty and university leaders work together to implement best practices. Page noted that everything is under review as he guides the evolution of the university.

“The future of higher education,” Kalikow said, “may include game-play designed to help students reach demonstrable proficiencies.” She remarked that it may also involve the removal of credit hours in favor of a proficiency model, where additional certifications could be awarded based on proven learning, a strategy currently used by Thomas Edison State College in New Jersey, which emphasizes flexibility and alternative learning accreditation. Or there may be a combination of strategies and online modules with more teams, labs and seminars over shortened periods of on-campus time.

Regardless of the final outcome, the important thing is that “careful, free, open debate is preserved,” said Page.

Kalikow was quick to point out that the university experience should be part of a developmental process, not a simple ticket to a job. “That’s not a way to live. No one wants [to hire] a techno-automaton, but a grown-up human being with a moral compass.”

USM philosophy professor Jason Read moderated the Q-and-A session that followed the talk, giving students and faculty an opportunity to react and engage both leaders on their ideas.

USM English graduate Sarah Moon questioned to what extent did either Page or Kalikow feel that President Obama’s proposed \$89 billion cuts to higher education over the next 10 years will affect these plans. Kalikow responded that she didn’t care what Obama said and that the university needed to move forward with these changes.

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built and that what he needs to do now is set limits on the existing ones. Such a decision, he said, is within the president’s power. He understands that the president’s power is limited by Congress, but he hopes the president will do what he can.

When asked what impact he felt the rally had had, Brand mentioned Pingree’s letter and a meeting concerning the divestment movement at Bowdoin that took place Feb. 23 and 24. He also mentioned the galvanization of those who participated.

Among those in attendance were a handful of USM students, including junior geography and anthropology major Patrick Raph. “It’s good to see that many like-minded, aware people,” Raph said.

Raph is a member of Students for Environmental Awareness and Sustainability, a relatively new student group at USM, which was founded by its current president, junior math and computer science major Shaun Carland this past December. Carland, who also attended the rally, was similarly inspired by the scope of the attend-

ees. “The question,” Carland said, “is where do we go from here?”

Carland further emphasized the importance of working to oppose the pumping of tar sands oil through the Portland Montreal pipeline. He mentioned the South Portland city council’s scheduled workshop on March 11 to discuss the city’s position on tar sands oil. Carland’s own group will not be sitting idle, either. SEAS will be hosting Carbon Fest on March 13. The event will be held in the Woodbury Campus Center as a way to ensure that the USM student body is aware of climate change.

Raph, too, was hopeful about the momentum set in motion by the rally, although when asked about whether or not he felt the rally had been a success, he answered, “yes and no.” While he expressed no complaints about the rally itself, when it came to the rally’s impact, he said, “It came out a few days later that Obama was on a golfing trip with the oil executives.”

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SGA Elections

Students start off on campaign trail



Casey Ledoux / Free Press Staff

Student Senate Chair Chris Camire sat down with The Free Press to talk about the upcoming student elections.

Thomas Collier
News Editor

Elections for the Student Government Association are quickly approaching, and students — some of whom currently sit as student senators — are working hard to get their campaigns in order. Last year’s election brought a meager student turnout, with only 146 verified ballots cast. Former Student Body President and current Chair of the Student Senate, Chris Camire, declared student participation in the election process last year to have been “minimal.” But this year, he hopes, will be different — much in part due to the SGA’s increased social media presence and other efforts to engage students.

“Last year we had hardly any Facebook presence,” Camire said. “We didn’t do a lot of marketing for elections; we sort of just let the candidates come in and then let them do the marketing for us.” This year, however, the SGA is working hard to capture student attention. Camire, who is also the election commissioner for the upcoming race, mentioned that the group would begin a poster campaign to raise student awareness and pique the interest of potential voters. The attention-catching posters, he said, will soon be put up all across campus and are visually engaging and informative.

“We’ve had a surprising amount of candidates who have come out of the woodwork for senate and student body president, which is great,” Camire said. “They have a huge following so far.” Unlike the elections of past years, this year the SGA encouraged students to campaign instead of merely adding their names to the ballot. “We really focused on the verbiage of ‘campaign’ in the nomination forms,” Camire said. “[The forms] say, ‘Once you submit this form and it’s approved, you can start your campaign.’ So people think, ‘Oh, I need to run for this — I can’t just put my name on a ballot and automatically be in.’ That’s sort of what happened the past few years because we haven’t had enough candidates.”

As a result of the added emphasis on campaigning, Camire remarked that he has seen many

student facebook pages that are aimed at gathering votes for the senatorial and presidential races and that those pages have received a good amount of student interest.

“It’s inspiring,” he said, “and I hope that those numbers will be reflected in the polls.”

As far as how the SGA has decided to carry out the election process itself, Camire said that the polls will be online, and that voting is to take place over a two-day span.

“In the past we’ve done a week-long election period where polls are open for an entire week, and this year we’re only doing it for two days.” The reason behind that, he said, is to make polling a

“We’ve had a surprising amount of candidates who have come out of the woodwork for senate and student body president...”

-Chris Camire
Student Senate Chair

higher priority. “If you say, ‘Okay, it’s election week,’ and you remind someone to vote, they might say, ‘I’m a little busy today; I’m going to do it tomorrow.’ And so it sort of goes out of the mind. Whereas, if you say, ‘It’s election day today — you need to vote,’ it encourages students to say, ‘Okay, I’ll get it done.’” The deadline to turn in election nomination forms is March 8. The SGA will hold an event on March 11 at 7 p.m. in the Talbot auditorium, where students will be able to meet the candidates and watch a debate between the two candidates for student body president. Voting polls will open at 8 a.m. on March 19 and close at 11:59 p.m. on March 20. Students will be able to vote on the SGA website.

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Meet the candidates in this year’s race for student body president



Casey Ledoux / Free Press Staff

Left: Isaac Misiuk; Right: Kelsea Dunham. The two students are running for the position of student body president this spring.

Thomas Collier
News Editor

This year, students will decide between two candidates for student body president: Kelsea Dunham and Isaac Misiuk. Students will be able to meet the candidates and watch as they debate at an event held at 7 p.m. on March 11 by the Student Government Association in Luther Bonney’s Talbot Auditorium.

The Free Press was able to speak with both candidates after the Student Senate meeting last Friday to ask them about their future plans for the university and their current activities at USM.

Misiuk aims for president!

Misiuk is the current president of the USM College Republicans, having revived the formerly defunct group last year to represent the conservative presence on campus during election season. “Hopefully I will be stepping down soon to take up the position of student body president,” he said. He did, however, say that he would like to remain active in the group as an advisor should he win the upcoming student elections.

The group, he said, has been very successful in gaining student interest. “Just from last semester to this semester, our membership has tripled.” To this end, Misiuk has expressed interest in bringing more conservative speakers to campus. “We’re looking into bringing in speakers like Ann Coulter along with a few other conservative speakers because there have been other socialism speakers on campus, and we need to get our presence out.”

As far as his goals as student body president are concerned, Misiuk told The Free Press that he has already been working with the current student body president, Adam Higgins, to spearhead an initiative to improve upon career development and transition opportunities for students.

Misiuk said that he has met with the dean of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, Lynn Kuzma, to discuss the creation of a concentration program in which students in major programs could develop greater specializations. “I’m a political science major,” he said, “and I want to get into public policy. Having a concentration in public policy would be great because then [I] would have a better chance of getting an internship in that, sticking with that internship, and then getting a job offer from that internship.”

In regards to his campaign, Misiuk told The Free Press that he has

hit the ground running. “I’ve been meeting with individuals and figuring out what their concerns are, and it’s everything from community outreach within Portland and Gorham... to working on the transfer of study abroad credits.”

He explained the biggest issue that residential students have brought to him have to do with restroom cleanliness and upkeep. “The stalls tend to be disgusting and the showerheads are beginning to corrode. I’ve found a student, I don’t know which residential hall she lives in, but whatever hall it is, this student has no way of drying her hands in the bathroom. I find that atrocious. Prisoners even get to wipe their hands on something. Yet, the school wonders why the dorms are only at 60 percent capacity.”

When asked how his views differ from those of his opponent, Misiuk said that he hadn’t heard her address career development at all. “We both have great visions,” he said, referring to Dunham. “Putting USM students and the possibility of finding careers first is going to be hugely beneficial.”

It’s a bird, it’s a plane, it’s Kelsea Dunham!

Kelsea Dunham is former vice president of the Gender Studies Student Organization and also organized the protest against the Genocide Awareness Project’s display. Students may remember GAP for their exhibition of violent images of aborted fetuses on the walking paths between Payson Smith Hall and Luther Bonney Hall last year. Dunham explained that her experience organizing that event taught her the ins and outs of accessing money from the student activity fund and that she has subsequently been able to help others gain access as well.

“As a student — I was vice-

president of the Gender Studies Student Organization — but as a student outside the context of a BSO group, I didn’t know how to access my student activity fee. I didn’t know that I could access it for other folks. It took a lot of money from the student senate to

put that [protest] on.” Should she win the position of student body president, Dunham said that she would focus on increasing student involvement on campus. “I think that student participation at this university is very low. I’m a non-traditional student and a commuter student, and I’m also a transfer student. This is my third school. So I have a lot of experience at universities that have huge participation rates, particularly Florida State.”

One of the greatest issues of increasing student involvement and awareness, Dunham said, is working to better cater to USM’s largest student demographic — namely, non-traditional, commuter students. “I think the idea of creating a student common hour is genius,” Dunham said, referring to an item up for discussion at the Student Senate meeting last Friday. The basic idea of the common hour is to invite students to be on campus at a convenient time during which no classes would take place so that students would have the opportunity to become involved in student groups and activities.

“I would like to see it happen every single day so that I can be involved in more than one student group as a student. I think that it would increase retention in a big way, which is financially the best idea for our university,” Dunham said. “I think diversity and some institutional issues around diversity are still a problem,” Dunham said,

See **DECIDE** on page 7

Isaac Misiuk

-Sophomore political science major

-Career transitions & development

-Student involvement

-Parking and transportation

-University sustainability

Kelsea Dunham

-Junior pursuing majors in women and genders studies and marketing

-Coalition building

-Diversity

-Proven leadership

In Brief...

Day of Service Planning Meeting

As you may already be aware, USM is hosting its 4th annual “Day of Service” on Friday, April 19 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in both the Woodbury Campus Center and the Brooks Student Center. On this day the entire USM community is invited to take part in bettering the greater Portland area through community service initiatives. The planning meeting is scheduled to take place this Wednesday in the Amphitheater of Woodbury from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. While there, members will talk about the actual Day of Service in April and outline opportunities for involvement. FMI contact Julia Pond either by phone at 780-4787 or by email at jpond@usm.maine.edu.

Women’s History Month Celebration

The theme for this year’s Women’s History Month is “Women inspiring innovation through imagination.”

To support innovative and inspiring women across the community, USM Women & Gender Studies, the NAACP, the School of Social Work and others are hosting a presentation honoring how far gender equality has come in the last 150 years or so. Historian Priscilla Murolo of Sarah Lawrence College, President of NAACP Portland Rachel Talbot Ross, and trans activist and author Kate Bornstein discuss the importance of certain historically significant events. FMI contact either Sarah Lockridge by phone at 780-4289 or Lauren Webster either by phone at 780-4862 or by email at wgs@usm.maine.edu.

Free Snow Tubing with PEB

The Portland Events Board is giving out a total of 50 free tickets for snow tubing at Seacoast Fun Park in Windham for this Saturday from 12:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. All you need to do is bring your USM ID with you to the front entrance at the park to receive your free admission ticket. It’s first come, first serve, so make sure you’re there early in order to make certain you get your free ticket. FMI email Aaron Dallaire at peb.usm@gmail.com. Friends and family are welcome, but tickets will only be given to those students who have their USM ID, so don’t forget it!

MEDley Charity Ball

The USM Pre-Medical and Health Student Society and the USM Salsa Club are co-hosting their annual charity ball in the Italian Heritage Center at 40 Westland Ave. in Portland this Saturday from 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. All proceeds will be donated to the Barbara Bush Children’s Hospital. The event goes for a good cause, so come on down and learn how to salsa dance, socialize, and contribute to your local community. Tickets are \$12 per person or \$20 per couple and can be purchased at www.bbch.org/Events. FMI please email Corinna Bellwood at corinna.bellwood@maine.edu.

Woodbury Marketplace

Starting this week USM will have its very own marketplace! The event will take place every Wednesday from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Woodbury Campus Center. Each week will host new vendors, artisans and USM student organizations. This is a great opportunity to meet new people and taste various cuisines from around the world. To reserve a table go to usm.maine.edu/studentlife/vending. For more information contact Zorica Andric either by phone at 780-2280 or by email at zandric@usm.maine.edu.

From DECIDE on page 6
“one that the university is working on and that I personally would like to improve upon.”

When asked if she could be more specific, Dunham explained. “I identify as queer, and it is hard for me to always be totally out in all of my classes. Women and gender studies? Not a problem. School of Business? Sometimes a problem. I’ve heard comments from students and professors about folks of other ethnicities or backgrounds or other sexualities or other gender

identities, and that just isn’t as inclusive as it could be. And that’s an institutional problem.”


Dunham emphasized her friendship with her opponent, Isaac Mis-iuk, but admitted that they shared opposite political views, and that their goals as potential student body president differ as well. “I think something that makes us very different is that Isaac really wants to address super-systematic issues like implementing specialization programs in order to increase jobs after we graduate — which is awe-

some. I am far more focused on the day-to-day life of our students — what it is that makes us students, even if we’re not at that traditional age of being a student. Our lives are different from those who just go to work, and so they need to be handled differently.”

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Musical Direction by Ellen Chickering
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Sung in English

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Die Fledermaus

Champagne and desire can be a scandalous combination!



Police Beat

Selections from the USM Department of Public Safety police log Feb. 4 to Feb. 21

Tuesday, February 5 About Face!

10:30 a.m.- Warning to operator for operating wrong way on a one-way. - Durham St.
Stop Alitercating!
1:35 p.m.- Report of a motor vehicle accident and some sort of altercation following it. Officers arrived and took a report. - Parking Garage

Wednesday, February 6 It won’t open!

9:02 a.m.- Vehicle struck entry gate to garage. Report taken. - Parking Garage
Chill out, dude
9:42 p.m.- Subject removed from ice arena for their conduct. - Ice Arena

Friday, February 8 It’s cool, he’s a happy drunk.

8:55 p.m.- Report of an intoxicated person. Officer met with them and nothing is amiss. - Brooks Student Center

Saturday, February 9 Playing hot potato?

3:14 a.m.- Fire alarm activation. Fire Department responded and reset system. - Upperclass Hall

Sunday, February 10 Put that phone down!

10:33 a.m.- Traffic summons issued to Marta O. Labreck, 32, of Portland for texting while driving and warning for insurance. - Portland Parking Lot 4

Monday, February 11 Try cooking on low next time

8:51 a.m.- Fire alarm sounding due to burnt food. Gorham Fire Department responded and reset system. - Upperclass Hall
I am Vinz Clortho, Keymaster of Gozer
5:45 p.m.- Assisting Gorham Police with an alarm activation. All set, keyholder was on scene. - Gorham Off Campus

Tuesday, February 12 We’d like a word, please.

10:04 a.m.- Assist State Police with meeting with a student. - Phillipi Hall
Banksy visits USM
2:00 p.m.- Report of graffiti on the walls. - Dickey Wood Hall

Friday, February 15 Bad Hosts

1:42 p.m.- Summons for furnishing a place for minors to consume alcohol to both Jacquelyn Vo, 21, of Gorham and Daniel Brassard, 18, of Gorham.

Monday, February 18 Transients in transition.

6:12 p.m.- Officer removed four transients from building. - Law Building

Thursday, February 21 Didn’t we talk about this last week?

11:23 p.m.- Verbal warning for operating wrong way on a one-way street to operator. - University Way Extension

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

Arts & Culture

Pornography Panel / 10
A&C Recommends / 12
Arts Scholarship / 13



Sam Hill / Arts & Culture Editor

Skösh band members (From left to right) Elijah Allen, Jedidiah Allen, Pete Richard and Tyler Russell played a show at Fusion Lounge in Lewiston Friday. Based out of Buckfield, Skösh has regularly traveled around the state of Maine to play gigs wherever they can find a venue.

Take a skösh of this and a skösh of that

USM students' band wins Young & Free Maine 2013 Sound Off Music Competition and prepares for release of debut album

Sam Hill
Arts & Culture Editor

"These guys are badass," said Tom Trasher, manager of the Fusion Lounge in Lewiston where the high-energy fusion band Skösh performed on Friday. "Really. You're going to love them."

These guys are known in and around this town for their funky, upbeat covers. Listeners in the area come from all over to find them and tear up the dance floor to a collection of perfected covers. They're always switching it up, playing a mix of Top 40 hits, classics and their original songs. The Fusion Lounge, where they played on Friday, is a sleek and stylish local hotspot that fills a big section in the first floor of the local Ramada Inn.

The five-piece funk band had already taken the stage by 9 p.m., jamming out and letting loose on

a collection of danceable classics. Everyone hit the dancefloor, hooting and hollering after each song. And that was just the first set of the night.

The members took a break in between sets, retreating to the lobby to catch their breath and prepare for the surge of patrons that would be arriving for the fast paced second set of the evening.

"Are you guys Skösh?" asked a passerby.

"No. I have no idea who they are," replied guitarist Sam Berce.

Skösh has developed a following throughout the area, drawing back fans and finding new listeners every time they pick up their instruments, but they remain humble, even with their local celebrity status.

Bandmates and brothers Jedidiah and Elijah Allen are senior media studies majors at USM. The brothers make quite the hard hitting rhythm duo, with Jedidiah work-

ing overtime on drums and vocals, while Elijah vigorously lays down some of the funkier bass lines in the land. They have been playing with their friend, guitarist Tyler Russell for seven years now, dabbling in a couple other music projects before forming Skösh in 2008. After a few years of playing and some lineup changes, Berce and junior biology major and saxophonist Pete Richard joined the crew to solidify the "true Skösh lineup."

Recently, they competed in the Young & Free Maine 2013 Sound Off Music Competition sponsored by Maine's credit unions. Musicians from across the state entered by uploading a sample track on to the Young & Free website then waiting for fans to decide which artist deserved the top spot. Voting took place between Jan. 29 and Feb. 7.

"We had had some friends tell us that we should check it out, so we looked it up and entered on a whim. We submitted

the single on our [upcoming] album as the song to get in and that was voted on online," said Jedidiah Allen.

When the voting was over, Skösh had received enough votes to continue to the finals.

"Our fans were really awesome," said Jedidiah Allen. "They were sharing it [the website] on Facebook and spreading the word while keeping everyone interested. They're great, dedicated people."

For the finals, Skösh performed live at Main Street Music Studios on Feb. 15 in front of a panel of judges. Main Street Music Studios is a full-service music instruction and recording facility located in the heart of downtown Bangor.

After all the finalists performed, Skösh was declared the official 2013 Sound Off champion.

As a prize Skösh was awarded a full-day recording session at Main Street Music Studios and a spot to perform on the 2013 KahBang Mu-

sic Festival main stage in August.

"That was the big one. We love both prizes, but for us, we're ready to take our original music to the big stage," said Jedidiah Allen.

KahBang is a four-day festival that, every summer, turns the Bangor Waterfront into the largest music, art and film showcase in New England. The festival highlights both local and national acts, with previous headliners including OK Go, B.o.B., My Morning Jacket, Lupe Fiasco and Atmosphere among others.

KahBang recently picked up some off-season buzz by being listed in fifth place, as one of the "top 5 up-and-coming U.S. festivals" by DJZ, a website dedicated to everything connected to electronic dance music that was started last year.

Skösh plans on using their awarded recording time to work on their second album in the future.

See **SKÖSH** on page 13

USM hosts panel on pornography

Panelists from industry discuss feminist and socially conscious pornography among other topics



Alex Greenlee / Multimedia Editor

(From left to right) Panel moderator Paige Barker and co-founder of Fruit Punch Productions Jules Purnell spoke at "Pop! A Panel on Porn," on Thursday.

Sidney Dritz
Free Press Staff

"We ask that you be respectful of other people's points of view," said panel moderator and member of USM's Gender Studies Student Organization Paige Barker to the audience at the beginning of last Thursday's event, "Pop! A Panel on Porn," and despite the contentious nature of the subject matter, the panel's audience did so.

Barker then went on to introduce the panelists, who explained their credentials on the subject of porn. Those credentials filled a neat venn-diagram of overlap in experience in the field of porn, beginning with sophomore and double major in sociology and women and gender studies Jules Purnell, the co-founder of Fruit Punch Productions, an indie feminist queer porn company in Portland. The second panelist, ju-

nior and double major in marketing and women and gender studies Kelsea Dunham, is a performer in Fruit Punch Productions' premier feature which has been filmed and is currently in the process of being edited, One Night Stand. Dunham is also in charge of business and marketing for Salacious magazine, described its website as "a queer feminist sex mag." Also on the board at Salacious is the third panelist, Erica Rand, a professor of art and gender studies at Bates.

The panel is the third that the GSSO has hosted this year. Paige Barker was the moderator both for "Pop!" and for the GSSO's previous panel, "Gender and Geek Culture." When asked about the process the group uses for choosing panel topics, Barker said, "I wouldn't really

call it a process. Our topics usually just come up in conversation. The GSSO aims to call attention to the ways gender impacts everyone in their daily lives. We take topics that many people are interested in, like geek culture or porn, and look at them through a gender-conscious lens."

The night's discussion centered mostly on feminist porn, with more traditional pornography only making an appearance as a negative example that panelists were working to distance themselves from. Purnell in particular mentioned having been offered work in more mainstream porn productions and turning it down. "I didn't like the way I was being treated," Purnell said, "I didn't like the way I was being represented." They mentioned a general attitude of fetishization in mainstream porn and, in particular, the fact that their identity as a transgendered person was not respected.

Everything, from the language to the clip from One Night Stand shown, was relatively tame and school-appropriate.

"I'm not sure how steamy USM wants it to get," Purnell said.

But the discussion was lively throughout, with new questions asked on the heels of each answer, and no silences to speak of, which could be credited largely to the frankness and engagement of the panelists.

"I went into [porn] as a completely political project," Dunham said, describing her commitment to the idea of increased representation of marginalized groups in porn, particularly marginalized groups who are not generally thought of as "sexy" in mainstream culture. This is an

ideal Purnell shares.

"There's all this stuff about how my body is not supposed to be okay, never mind hot," they said.

Dunham is no stranger to politics, either. Over the course of an answer to a question about how having been in porn can limit future opportunities, Dunham admitted, "I'm running for student body president — I was trying really hard not to say that."

However, she was quick to move on from her own political aspirations, explaining that her own involvement with Fruit Punch took place during her divorce and that she'd had some concerns that it might be brought up to negatively influence the divorce proceedings, but it had not.

However, Purnell acknowledged the possibility that perceptions of porn could have certain consequences. They described a conversation they had with their partner before founding Fruit Punch. "There's a point of no turning back," they said, citing the fact that they and their partner want to adopt, and their partner's political aspirations as considerations.

The panel touched on such topics as anti-porn feminism, the importance of the availability of subtitled porn and the remarkably generous business attitude of the growing feminist and queer porn market, covering a wide range of issues, but leaving the impression that the evening's conversation had only just barely scratched to surface of the subject.

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In Heavy Rotation

What caught the eyes and ears of our staff this week.



Don Giovanni Records

Mastodon / The Hunter

Mastodon switched things up with their 2011 release *The Hunter*, keeping the tracks concise, brutal and razor sharp. It's surprisingly catchy, maintaining an accessibility that few other heavy bands can match. There's a reason Rolling Stone calls them the greatest metal band of their generation.

-Andrew Henry
Perspectives Editor



Matador, Last Gang Records

The New Pornographers/Challengers

They say if you're going to steal, steal from the best, and The New Pornographers steal beautifully. "Myriad Harbor" is a heartbeat away from being an early Velvet Underground song, and the entire album is filled with strains of the greats, from David Bowie to Belle and Sebastian.

-Sidney Dritz
Free Press Staff



Jagjaguwar

Foxygen / We Are the 21st Century Ambassadors of Peace & Magic

This fall 2012 album has heavy roots in classic rock and psychedelia. Electric Dylan vocal stylings abound, and tracks like "Oh Yeah" recall an *Exile on Main Street* era Rolling Stones falsetto boogie. Might be strictly pastiche, if not for the tight execution.

-Nate Mooney
News Assistant

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Big Mouth Thunder Thighs by bess welden
Big Mouth Thunder Thighs, a one-woman vaudeville about body and food, intertwines memoir storytelling with a variety show of roller skating, song, dance, poetry, jokes and five heart-stopping "Death Defying Acts."

If We Were Birds by erin shields
Presented by Lorem Ipsum, *If We Were Birds* tackles contemporary questions of war, violence, and womanhood through the lens of ancient Greek tragedy.

For the Lulz by ben ferber
Presented by Horn&Ivory Productions, in *For the Lulz* the blogosphere watches in horror as a hacktivist, a phreaker, and a cyberterrorist wage war on each other for money, for revenge, and for the lulz.

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National Review

Mark Battles battles mainstream



Self-released

Casey Raymond
Contributor

Mark Battles' new mixtape *Saturday School Pt. 2* is a surprisingly well put-together collection of tracks from an up and coming artist.

There is an uplifting atmosphere carried from the front of *Saturday School Pt. 2* to the back. Songs like "FOD," "Did Enough" and "Watch Me" are all great tracks that reflect that happy attitude that Battles lays out so well. Battles combines a rudimentary flow with heartfelt lyrics, as well showing his versatility. What he lacks in creativity with rhythm, though, he makes up for by being down to earth in select songs on the mixtape. Specifically, the track "Forgive You" puts you in Battles' shoes growing up, dealing with his abusive father.

Battles' always remembers to thank his fans in his lyrics, a personal quality that everyone likes to see in an up and coming artist with a small fan base. The song "All For You" could be labeled his dedication

track to his family, friends and fans that have supported him throughout not only his life, but his musical career thus far as well. It's always nice to see artists who don't lose sight of where they have come from and more specifically the people that allowed them to reach the heights that they have achieved.

This mixtape is a breath of fresh air in the hip-hop world, with Top 40 hits becoming more and more popular. It is evident that he has a lot of confidence in his lyrics because he has the ability to talk about very personal and emotional events in his life that most artists wouldn't dare to use in their songs. Instead of talking about money, women and drugs or dealing drugs delves into much more relatable topics for the than what most pop-rappers are coming up with right now and that is a quality that will certainly make him stand out against the rest.

One can only expect this artist to improve from this point. His Facebook page is slowly gaining popularity, and he consistently gives credit for his success to his fans. Battles seems like a very honest artist and can certainly go places if he puts in the work necessary. In general, I would say it's as a good piece of work by a good kid that should definitely be checked out. If there were any mixtape released recently that you should check out, it would be *Saturday School Pt. 2*.

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Local
Top 5:

Restaurant Week

Kirsten Sylvain

Editor-in-Chief

1) Hot Suppa \$

This cozy little joint was started up in 2006 by two food-loving brothers after they went on a gastronomic tour of the U.S. The menu features some seriously tasty and fresh breakfast options with delicious coffee drinks to choose from. Make yourself an omelet or have biscuits, sausage & gravy. For dinner, stop in and try some more Southern comfort foods, like a waffle and fried chicken and pair it with a delicious drink. A “New Fashioned” – bourbon, muddled orange, lemon, liquor-infused cherries and bitters – goes well with the lively atmosphere here. Stop in for lunch, too. 703 Congress St.

2) Bonobo \$

This spot is another inexpensive option – great for the penny-pinching college student. Get the sophisticated flavors of a high-end joint on a pie without breaking your bank. No jokes here – when you are feeling adventurous with your pizza, this is a good place to go. These people put everything from clam sauce to jerk chicken sausage on a pizza. Try out the gruyere pie – complete with potatoes, prosciutto, leeks, spinach, parm, guyere and roast garlic butter. They boast a casual environment, local and organic ingredients and free parking across the street. You can also try out a local brew while you eat, like Maine Beer Co.’s Peeper Ale. 46 Pine St.

3) Petite Jacqueline \$\$

This place is a little bit pricier, but for a James Beard nominated bistro it’s a steal. This is the place to go if you’re a francophile looking for a little piece of France in Portland. The atmosphere is exceptional – light and airy– and walking inside is like being transported to Paris. If you’re not there when you walk in the door, take a seat and wait for the plates. The food should do the trick. To start, have a rich salad with apples, spiced pecans, goat cheese and a butter vinaigrette and follow it by a nice place of steak frites with traditional hand-cut fries. 190 State St.

4) Good Egg Café & the
Pepperclub Restaurant \$\$

The walls aren’t the only vibrant part of this place. Stop in to the Pepperclub for a taste of world flavors in an electric setting. Try out the Turkish lamb with cranberry tagine with corn relish over rice, or start with some stuffed jalapeños. If you’re not a meat-eater, there are plenty of vegan and vegetarian options here. If it’s breakfast you’re looking for, check out the Good Egg Cafe – the Pepperclub’s brunch alter-ego – for some traditional, hearty dishes. If you’re a vegan, there are still plenty of options here, too. 78 Middle St.

5) Local 188 \$\$

For some fresh Mediterrean fare in a cool setting check out Local 188. Chill out in the lounge or at the bar, or take a table. Share some tapas to start and then move on to a larger plate – go for the house paella with chicken, house chourizo, mussels, clams and saffron rice. Not a meat-eater? Don’t worry. These folks have you covered with some of the tastiest vegetarian options in town. The roasted red pepper stuffed with root vegetables, manchego cheese, house pickles and mole will knock your socks off. To top it all off, they have an impressive beer and wine list, and their cocktails are superb. Try the mansfield daiquiri with canteloupe infused rum, maraschino, fresh grapefruit and lime juice and simple syrup. 685 Congress St.

kirsten@usmfreepress.org

@KirstenSylvain

Arts & Culture Recommends:

4th Annual International Women’s Day Fashion Show

Francis Flisiuk

Contributor

What’s a better way to celebrate International Women’s Day than a multicultural fashion show?

Women Around the World, a non-profit organization that aims to improve the lives of women locally and globally, will be hosting their 4th annual International Women’s Day Fashion Show at the Maine Irish Heritage Center on Friday. International Women’s Day is a holiday created to help bring women together from all nations and celebrate their diversity and culture. Ngoy believes her fashion show is a great way to express that in Portland.

“I want to get young people excited about their international heritage. My fashion show is a great way for women to embrace their culture by wearing traditional outfits from their country,” said organizer Adele Ngoy, a local fashion designer and Congolese immigrant.

Ngoy is coordinating the entire event. She is definitely up to the task of putting together the event, as she has many years of experience planning similar events to celebrate women while she was still living in the Congo.

Women from all over the world are coming to participate in the show. Since the event started in 2010, more and more people have been participating, with a variety of cultures being represented. Ngoy says that between 200-250 women are expected to display different worldwide fashions during the event. These include women from the Congo, Russia, Austria, Germany and Australia, just to name a few.

“We host women from all over



Photo courtesy of Women Around the World

the world,” said Ngoy. “We keep coming back to the Maine Irish Heritage Center because it’s the biggest place to accommodate all of our participants.”

The fashion show will feature live music, dancing and food, too. The money from ticket sales will be used to help international women living around Portland.

“I used to be a refugee, and the proceeds are going to other refugees and immigrants, to help them with the transitional problems I too once faced,” said Ngoy.

Ngoy is looking to raise awareness of different cultures, and help people recognize March 8 as a holiday dedicated to international women.

Tickets are \$15 and will be sold at the door before the show. More information can be found on the Women Around the World Facebook page and on the official site of the Maine Irish Heritage Center.

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A&C Listings

Tuesday, March 5

Today is The Day / KEN Mode / Fight Amp / Livver
Port City Music Hall
504 Congress St.
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 7

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

Start Making Sense
Port City Music Hall
504 Congress St.
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 6

CLASH: Tom Waits vs Leonard Cohen
Empire Dine and Dance
575 Congress St
Doors: 9:00 p.m. / Show: 9:30 p.m.

Friday, March 8

George Thorogood and the Destroyers
SPACE Gallery
609 Congress St.
Doors: 7:00 p.m. / Show: 8:00 p.m.

Phantom Buffalo / An Anderson / Video Nasties
SPACE Gallery
538 Congress St.
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 8:30 p.m

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

Doubting Gravity
The Big Easy
55 Market St.
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 9

Drive-By Truckers / Old 97's
State Theatre
609 Congress St.
Doors: 7:00 p.m. / Show: 8:00 p.m.

Moufy / Cam Groves / Trails
Port City Music Hall
504 Congress St.
Doors: 7:00 p.m. / Show: 8:00 p.m.

Cherish the Ladies
One Longfellow Square
181 State St.
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 8:30 p.m.

Dean Ford / The Other Bones / Sea Level
Asylum
121 Center St.
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 9:00 p.m.

Waylon Speed and This Old Ghost
Empire Dine and Dance
575 Congress St
Doors: 9:00 p.m. / Show: 9:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 10

The Alternate Routes
One Longfellow Square
181 State St.
Doors: 7:30 p.m. / Show: 8:00 p.m.

Soulfly / Incite / Lady Kong / Dead Season
Asylum
121 Center St.
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 9:00 p.m.

Want to submit an event?
arts@usmfreepress.org

From SKÖSH on page 9

Their debut, self-titled album is nearing completion and is set to be released this summer. When asked if their album was going to be more focused and narrower than their genre blending shows, Richard let out a laugh and a defiant no. Jedidah Allen said if they had to break it down into ingredients, he would describe it as a blend of funk, rock and alternative country.

A skösh is defined as “a small amount” or “a little,” and the band lives up to their name by blending genres during their live shows.

“We got the name from a music teacher we used to have. [He would say] a skösh of this or a skösh of that. And we like to play a little bit of everything, so that’s how we chose the name. People hear funk, rock, reggae, ska and Top 40. We love it all, so we play it all,” said Jedidah Allen.

When asked to describe their influences each member listed their favorite musicians, but the general consensus was that they listen and are influenced by just about everything.

“Uh, I listen a lot... of stuff,” said Berce said after taking a minute to think.

“And jazz! We listen to jazz,” added Richard mockingly.

“But seriously — My collection is constantly growing, but it’s everything from hip-hop to funk to straight ahead jazz to 50s jazz to blues. I like music a lot. Just in general, you know?” said Berce.

An audience member walked by and asked enthusiastically if Skösh played any Nickelback songs. He said his favorite song was “Animal.”

“No, we don’t know any Nickelback – I’m sorry,” said Jedidah Allen with a laugh. “We’ll keep it in mind for next time though.”

He returned to the band shaking his head.

“No,” said Berce firmly. “No Nickelback.”

Other than that, the members of Skösh listen to a wide range of artists, from rock bands such as Grateful Dead, Lynard Skynard and Alice in Chains to funk legend James Brown and George Clinton’s Parliament-Funkadelic.

“For Eli and I, Ween was like, one of our favorite bands growing up, and we admired that they didn’t stick to one genre. I think the one thing that unifies it all is that it all has a kind of classic sound,” said Jedidah Allen.

The band believes that their performance at Khabang this summer will be a big kick-off for their album release and will lead to a series of strictly original gigs.

“The reason we do these cover sets is to make money. I mean this is my job and this is Eli’s job, and we gig every Friday and Saturday night. This is our job



Sam Hill / Arts & Culture Editor

Skösh played a variety of covers on Friday night, including songs from Bruno Mars, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Dr. Dre, Wild Cherry, 2pac and Will Smith, among others.

and this is how we get through school,” said Jedidah Allen.

And while they play at a variety of venues, they’re still looking for more stages to rock and dance floors to electrify.

“We play damn near everywhere in this state. I mean, our two furthest points are Rangely and Arundel, so wherever we can fit. We’ll play just about everywhere,” said Jedidah Allen. “We just haven’t played in Portland much because we want to finish our album and have some solid, original work before we go down there.”

To listen to the first single on Skösh’s debut album and see a schedule of their upcoming performances, you can check out their Facebook and Reverbnation pages online.

“We give the people what they want and people come because there’s a little something for everyone,” said Jedidah Allen.

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@SamAHill

New arts scholarship to be made available to USM

Courtney Aldrich
Free Press Staff

Next Fall, a few deserving fine arts and performing arts majors here at the USM will receive special one-time scholarships of \$2,500 per student. Due to a generous gift of \$25,000 from the Warren Memorial Foundation, the Dean of the office of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences will distribute scholarship money among ten students.

The Warren Memorial Foundation is a Westbrook-based organization whose mission is to foster a passion for the arts as well as support in the funding of education in the field to students in the surrounding areas.

“These scholarships provide the department with a means to substantially reward our most deserving students,” said Theatre Department chair Chuck Kading. “In some cases, they [the funds] may even provide them with the financial means to continue their education.”

In such financially challenging times, this scholarship will assist art, theater and music students who have striven for academic and artistic excellence as well as encourage them to continue in their pursuit to serve the community and the campus by their many concerts, exhibits and performances.

“Like most all college students, music majors face financial pressures, but often have additional expenses that scholarships like those the Warren Memorial Foundation can help them address. They need to purchase professional quality instruments, pay for accompanists and travel to numerous off-site venues,” said School of Music Director Scott Harris.

The scholarship requirements include a minimum grade point average of 3.0 as well as financial need. Applicants must also be graduates of a Maine high school.

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Perspectives

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Things of the Week: *Henry's Head*

Disappointing state political decision of the week



Andrew Henry
Perspectives Editor

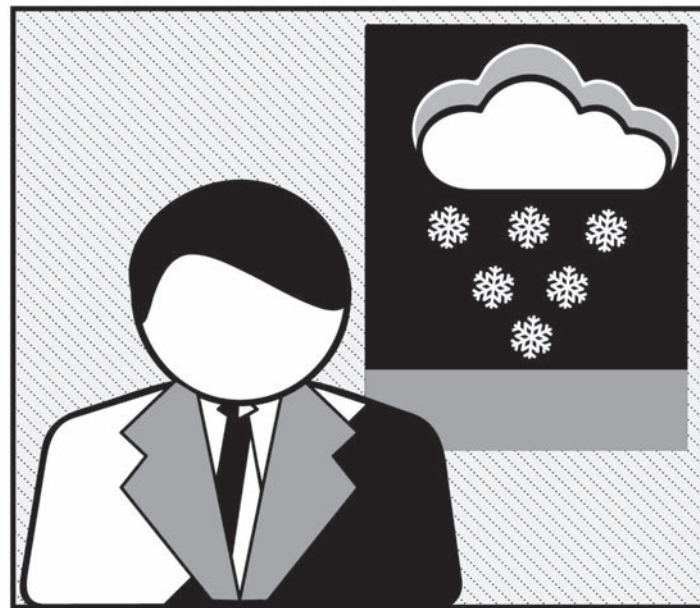
Like a kid holding their breath until they get what they want, Governor Paul LePage said on Friday that he will veto all proposed bills that come across his desk until

Alex Greenlee / Multimedia Editor

his hospital debt plan is passed by lawmakers. LePage's plan is to renegotiate the state of Maine's contracts on liquor and use those proceeds to pay down all of Maine's accumulated hospital debt, which stands at \$198 million. In addition, this would warrant a matching payment of

nearly \$300 million from the federal government. My qualm isn't with the proposed results of the plan because I actually support paying off hospital debt. I do, however, have a problem with LePage's method of getting this bill to pass. Simply refusing to pass any other bills until his own is passed is not only headstrong, it's impractical as well. I understand the need to strongarm something every once in awhile, but there are plenty of classier, more reputation-friendly ways of getting your own bill passed. This has made me question any optimism I had for LePage after his successful State of the State address, and I'm really not surprised that it only took him a month to undo much of the progress he made with skeptics. LePage said in the address that it's "embarrassing to work for a state government that doesn't pay its bills." What he clearly doesn't realize, however, is that it's even more embarrassing to be a Maine citizen represented by such a obstinate governor.

Angry student reaction of the week



Sokvonnny Chhouk / Design Assistant

USM's Facebook page made a post on Wednesday that said "There are currently no plans to close the Portland and Gorham campuses today," sparking an angry response from students who left almost 30 comments, including student senate chair Chris Camire who claimed that it was clear to him that student safety is not a high priority for USM. Other commenters also called into question how great a priority the overall safety of USM students is to the administration, and some criticized the University for their poor judgement.

All who commented, however, contributed to a mentality that blew the situation out of proportion. So USM didn't cancel school on two different occasions when they probably should have. Should we conclude from this that USM doesn't care about student safety in general? Not even remotely. Does it mean that all USM officials involved are, as some commenters declared, "careless" and "irrational?" No. Will the lack of a single USM class cancellation mean imminent peril for your college experience and career? Not if you make the decision that is best for you to go home early or go to class. While students have to drive varying distances to get to class, one thing remains the same – we are adults, and we have to make our own decisions. Most professors won't chastise you if you miss class due to a storm. Some classes

have attendance policies, but many of those are for unexcused absences. Send a professor an email, chances are that they will work with you, and any absence will be excused due to a storm.

"While students have to drive varying distances to get to class, one thing remains the same – we are adults, and we have to make our own decisions."

The outcries of student anger on that Facebook post are based on legitimate concerns and questions – student safety and the poor judgement of the university – but the reaction was perhaps out of proportion with the event. Yes, having a student get injured in a car-related accident due to a snowstorm would be awful, and USM would most certainly rethink its snow day policy. But if you want to avoid driving in snow, then you should rethink living in New England, which is well-known for its snowy weather.

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Wonderful state political decision of the week



Casey Ledoux / Free Press Staff

Polar opposite to the tone set by Governor LePage's decision to veto all bills that come across his desk until his hospital debt bill is passed, Maine's own Chellie Pingree, Mike

No Republican congressman, congresswoman or senator signed the brief. While the progress made for equal rights in Maine took a huge leap forward when same-sex marriage was legalized in Nov. 2012, there is still work to be done on a national level. The Defense of Marriage Act, or DOMA, federally defines marriage as between "one



U.S. Congress

man and one woman" for lawmaking purposes, and further discriminates against same-sex couples. Surprisingly, Senator Susan Collins did not sign the bill despite her moderate tendencies and involvement in gay rights such as overturning the military's "Don't ask, don't tell" policy.

"The Defense of Marriage Act imposes a sweeping and unjustifiable federal disability on married same-sex couples."

- From amicus brief

Michaud, and Angus King are among the 212 congress members who signed an amicus brief to challenge the constitutionality of the Defense of Marriage Act that was enacted in 1996 during the Clinton administration.



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President's Desk

President Obama shares his thoughts on higher education



Pete Souza / White House Photostream

In my State of the Union Address, I laid out ways Democrats and Republicans can work together to reignite the true engine of America's economic growth – a rising, thriving middle class.

We should ask ourselves three questions every day: How do we bring good jobs to America? How do we equip people with the skills those jobs require? And how do we make sure hard work leads to a decent living?

Strengthening the middle class requires making America a magnet for new jobs and manufacturing, and rewarding hard work with wages that allow families to raise their children and get ahead. But it also means recognizing that the surest path into the middle class will always be a good education.

As college students, you're already well on your way. The education you're getting right now is the single best investment you can make in yourselves and your future, and it will put you in the best position to get a good job and build a great life for yourselves and your families. Now it's up to us to help keep the cost of that investment within reach, and to give even more Americans the opportunity to earn the education and

skills that a high-tech economy requires.

We should start in the earliest years by offering high-quality preschool to every child in America, because we know kids in programs like these do better throughout their academic lives. And we should redesign America's high schools to better prepare students with the real-world skills that employers are looking for right now.

But the truth is, most young people will need some type of higher education. It's a simple fact: the more education you have, the more likely you are to have a job and work your way into the middle class. And that means we have to do more to make sure skyrocketing costs don't price you and your families out of a college degree, or saddle you with mountains of debt.

Already, my administration has worked to make college more affordable for millions of students and families through a mix of tax credits, grants and loans that go farther than before. But we also need to do something about the rising cost of college.

Over the last two decades, tuition and fees at the average college have more than doubled, and right now, students who take out loans end up leaving college owing more than \$26,000.

That much debt can force you to pass over valuable opportunities that don't pay as well – like working for a nonprofit or joining an organization like the Peace Corps. And it can mean putting off big decisions like when to buy your first house or start a family of your own.

That's why colleges also need to do their part to lower costs. And we need to make sure they do because the taxpayers can't keep subsidizing the rising costs of higher education.

Already, I've called on Congress to consider value, affordability, and other factors when they decide how much federal student aid a college should get. And last week, we released a new "College Scorecard" that lets students and their parents compare schools based on simple criteria:

where you can get the most bang for your educational buck.

As a nation, our future ultimately depends on equipping students like you with the skills and education a 21st century economy demands. If you have the opportunity to reach your potential and go as far as your talent and hard work

will take you, that doesn't just mean a higher-paying job or a shot at a middle-class life – it means a stronger economy for us all. Because if your generation prospers, we all prosper. And I'm counting on you to help us write the next great chapter in our American story.

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780-4629

Snowmobile safety needs more attention



theredmission / flickr

The smoky wreckage of a snowmobile burns as snowmobilers watch from a safe distance on top of a snowbank.

Mick Ramos
Free Press Staff

I want to preface this article by saying that I do not know a whole lot about the sport of snowmobiling itself.

From what I can extrapolate

from others' experiences though, it has a bit in common with other motorized outdoor sports: motocross, 4x4s, etc. You are driving something that can go very fast, over what would be dangerous in

See **Safety** on page 17



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the free press

Vol. 44, Issue No. 9
Nov. 12, 2012

University of Southern Maine Student Newspaper

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Students share their reactions to the results

Civic Matters continues growth in fourth year

Nate Mooney
News Assistant

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Get your drag on

USM's Royal Majesty Drag Show on its thirteenth year

Sam Hill
Arts & Culture Editor

It's that time of year again and Portland is getting up to get its "drag" on.
The largest campus and community drag show in Northern New England, the annual Royal Majesty Drag Show, will return for its 13th year on Nov. 16 in the ballroom at Holiday Inn by The Bay. This year's show will be hosted by USM alumni and reality TV show RuPaul's Drag Race veterans, Miss Infante.
The show consists of performances from the local, community member performers from Portland and competitors from local colleges, including USM, Maine College of Art, Southern Maine Community College and St. Joseph's College. The competitors, both drag queens and kings, will rock the runway and earn scores given to them by a panel of judges consisting of USM staff, students and community members.
"Drag has been so underground, but in recent years it's become a legitimate, gay performance art," said Sarah Holmes, the director of USM's Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversity.
The show serves as a fundraiser for CSGD and a platform for the LGBT community to be in the spotlight.
The first show was performed in the Woolwich Campus Center dining hall for a crowd of an estimated 150 people in 2000 and has grown larger every year since. Holmes estimates that two-thirds of attendees are directly connected to USM, while the rest are most likely LGBT community members in the area.
"The first year when it was in the dining hall was just something else. We had music playing on this little boombox with a mic plugged in, a few balloons, staples here and there and a mirror that was like it sticks off the ground, if that," said Infante.
Infante first got involved with the show as a contestant while attending Dennis High School and has since played the role of judge, producer and host. When she was involved in the Royal Majesty Drag Show, she's performing across the country. She has also been involved in drag on a national level as a competitor on RuPaul's Drag Race, a reality television show that searches for "America's next drag superstar." Infante participated in the third season of the show and came back this fall for RuPaul's All Stars season.
"It's just crazy that I started not doing all these little shows in Maine and as it blew up, we did I saw there I was asked to be a part of one of the biggest shows in the country. I feel so lucky and blessed," said Infante.
Throughout the years, more and more organizations at USM have become involved in sponsoring the show. The event is sponsored in part by the Student Senate, Portland and Gorham Externs Board, the Queer Straight Alliance and the Women's Center.
"It's great to see so many student organizations and university departments supporting it," said Holmes.
"Student involvement is key," said Christopher Daley, Program Coordinator for Proud Rainbow Youth of Southern Maine. The fact that this is run by students for students is amazing. It's really empowering as he able to say this is ours."
PROSYM is a program that provides a safe and positive space for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender questioning, intersex and allied (LGBTQIA) youth, offering social support and information about common problems facing youth and community education. Daley will be at the show distributing information on PROSYM services and supporting the contestants.
Drag, while it may seem strange to outsiders, is viewed as an art form of sorts to those involved.
"I originally got into drag as a theatrical medium, it's just because something I could get paid for," said Infante. "It's like playing dress-up. We all get to that age where we aren't supposed to play, pretend anymore, but I get to continue doing that through drag."
"Drag has been so underground, but in recent years, it's become a legitimate, gay mainstream performance art."
-Sarah Holmes
Director of USM's Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversity
USM students have gotten a little extra help in preparing for the show this past weekend. A workshop was held in the Brooks Student Center on Saturday for women to give drag a try, providing make-up and clothing to experiment with.
The state of Maine made history on election day this year by being the first state in the country to approve same-sex marriage by popular vote, and the show, those involved say, might become a bit of a celebration in the community for their national victory. Holmes mentioned that the 2009 show had a stressful and generally down attitude due to the repeal of same-sex marriage legislation. She is excited to see the turnout and upbeat attitude this year.
"This year we've had a huge victory and we're definitely going to find a way to celebrate that," said Infante.
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Perspectives

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Henry's Head

So, wait a minute – why did Obama win again?

Andrew Henry
Perspectives Editor

Guest Column

Debbie Condello
Contributor

Many disappointed Republicans are lashing out at the American public for making a mistake by re-electing President Obama, claiming they are going to get worse, not better. And I can absolutely understand why.
Mitt Romney may have lost, but he still represents a true Republican. Most, yes, during his years as

Republicans, like Democrats, deserve to be heard

edebell / Flickr

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From **Safety** on page 15 something not purpose built for it, i.e. cars.

To me, it appears pretty self evident that this should not be run by those who are intoxicated. However, recent incidents, one involving the tragic death of an Orrington man, and several other accidents involving snowmobiles and alcohol, beg me to revisit the issue of operating sports vehicles like these while consuming alcohol.

I'm certainly not a dry individual. I've done my fair share of bad decision-making while drinking, involving fast moving objects (though none of them motor operated) and luckily, I was able to get away with it without getting hurt – looking at you night sledding.

Unfortunately, I've also seen several accidents where friends,

family and acquaintances of mine have been seriously injured by others who were under the influence. This is something that we all know happens, but still never seem to think it could happen to us.

As a former motocross rider and a current downhill mountain biker, I know that rules concerning safety and precautions can sometimes be a hindrance to what looks like a good time, whether those be in regards to a new trail or a track closed for maintenance. I also know that drinking after rides goes hand in hand when hanging out with fellow riders. I do not feel like I need to teach a lot of people what happens when people who have competitive interest in something get together and start drinking. Inhibitions go down, and risk taking goes up.

Before you know it, someone is trying to do a 360 on the sketchy jump that someone built in the backyard and too few are saying, “You know, you’ve had some drinks, why don’t we save it for daylight?”

We’ve heard all the cautionary tales before. When it comes to vehicles with engines, the risk of injury grows exponentially, not only to yourself but to others. I would beg those who are participating in winter motorsports to please honor the tragedies of others by observing some common sense and not drinking while in operation of whatever they chose to be driving. No thrill is ever worth it and never will be.

editor@usmfreepress.org
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Our opinion: Support for Pingree’s proposal for environmental review

U.S. Representative Chellie Pingree sent a letter to the Obama administration on Wednesday detailing her stance on the tar sands pipeline.

Pingree requested the implementation of an extensive environmental review in addition to a new permitting process for any plans to reverse the flow in the Portland Montreal Pipeline. She expressed concern for the environmental hazards that a tar-sands pipeline could present. “The pipeline passes along a number of pristine lakes and rivers including Sebago Lake, the jewel of a regional tourism economy and the drinking water supply for much of southern Maine,” Pingree said in the letter. Pingree’s response follows those from other environmentally concerned groups, such as the National Resources Council of Maine.

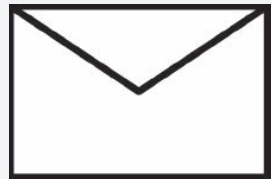
The stance that Pingree and the 17 other members of Congress who signed the letter have taken is one with which The Free Press agrees. “We believe that a changeover to carrying tar sands is a significant alteration in function and environmental risk for existing pipelines, and that the State Department should require a new permit and environmental review for these changes to occur,” Pingree said. Changing the material the pipeline transports from crude oil to oil sands – otherwise known as tar sands – should absolutely require an environmental review, and a thorough one at that. A tar sands pipeline in particular poses more hazards than a crude oil pipeline, such as a higher spill rate and increased pressure within the pipeline itself. Because Maine, and for that matter Canada, are areas with an abundance

of untouched natural land, we shouldn’t want a potentially hazardous pipeline to negatively affect that land simply for the profit of an oil company.

The U.S State Department has made no concrete statements about their stance on the pipeline. In their latest report on Friday, they had no outstanding objections to the pipeline, but they didn’t explicitly recommend the tar sands pipeline either. Their neutral tone in discussing the pipeline seems evasive, and the lack of details they are providing further complicates public understanding of the issue.

One the whole, we support Rep. Pingree’s argument for an environmental review of the pipeline.

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Letters & Comments:

Challenge to others to question energy policies

When Winona LaDuke was on campus a couple of months ago, she told us about how her people were taking care of themselves by installing wind turbines and planting rice. Should the larger systems for providing electricity and food in our country become functionally compromised, her people will still have two of the survival basics, food and electricity.

At the Public Utilities Commission here in Maine in Jan. our state leaders approved a \$200 million investment by electricity ratepayers in far off-shore floating turbines for which the technology is experimental. According to Civil Engineering professor Habib Dagher from UMaine, it will be eight to 10 years before we know if the far off-shore technology will be competitive. If it is, it will be Statoil of Norway that will reap the benefits. It is they we are subsidizing.

There are at least two people in Maine who personally benefit from wind turbine generated electricity. Angus King, our newest senator, will forever have an income from selling electricity to the grid from his Independence Wind Co. in Oxford County, and Chellie Pingree’s family and neighbors on North Haven/Vinalhaven Islands will forever have their electricity generated by wind turbines on their island home.

If the people of Maine could think of themselves as a “tribe” as our Native American friend Winona does her people, we could install wind turbines at many locations in the Gulf of Maine that are less than 90 feet deep. That technology has already been proven to work. Within three miles of shore the people of Maine “own” the wind so we would not have to pay a fee to some company from away or the federal government to use it to generate our electricity.

I would like to challenge my USM colleagues and friends to debate the issue. If Maine can be electricity independent, which we now can, why don’t we install near shore wind turbines to generate the 9 billion Kilowatts of electricity we use each year?

Jim Tierney
Senior studying law, organizational management, and engineering

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

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- We welcome letters to the editor. They must be submitted electronically, include the author’s full name, school year or relationship to USM, and may not exceed 350 words without prior approval from the Editor-in-Chief.
- The deadline for all submissions is Wednesday at 5 p.m. preceding the week of publication. Send submissions to editor@usmfreepress.org.

Sports

Home Games

Thursday

Women's Lacrosse
vs. UNE
3:30 p.m.

NCAA Division III Championship

Friday

Men's Indoor Track
vs. Babson
3 p.m.

Women's Indoor Track
vs. New England College
7 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Season loss a disappointment for lady huskies, but team still optimistic for next year, coach says

From **HUSKIES** on page 1

the Huskies which contributed 17 points for the Pioneers by halftime. The Huskies fought hard in the second half with the help of senior forward Nicole Garland and McNamara, who each scored seven points for a 18-9 run that kept the Huskies in the game with 10 minutes to go. With USM trailing 64-52, Smith stole any hopes of a comeback, scoring 14 points to take the largest lead of the game, 78-53. With a little over two minutes left, the Huskies scored five more points to finalize the 80-58 loss. The Huskies shot 41.5 percent

"The amount of work, commitment, dedication and sacrifice that goes into a season goes beyond what most people realize."

-Gary Fifield
Head Coach

compared to Smith's 50 percent. Smith had 28 points from turnovers alone and 16 second chance points. Garland and McNamara each had 10 points while senior forward Jordan Grant had 12 points and seven rebounds. Garland and Grant both finished the 2013 season as the top scoring leaders, averaging 13.1 points per game. Knight led the season in rebounds with 8.1 rebounds per game while McNamara led in assists with 3 assists per game.

For head coach Gary Fifield, the loss was a disappointing one, especially after an impressive one loss record in the regular season.

"You feel the pain. They feel the pain, but you really hurt for the se-



Justicia Barreiros / Free Press Staff

#12 Junior guard Erin McNamara comes back to the bench during the tough loss against Smith College.

niors. It is very difficult to come up with words to try take the sting out of the situation," said Fifield.

The journey to make it to the first round of the NCAA Division III Championship wasn't an easy one.

After plowing through Plymouth State in the quarterfinals and fighting through Rhode Island College in the semifinals, the Lady Huskies stole the well-deserved 2013

Little East Women's Basketball Championship away from UMass Dartmouth over winter break.

"The amount of work, commitment, dedication and sacrifice that goes into a season goes beyond what most people realize," said Fifield.

This is Fifield's 25th season as head coach for the Huskies with an overall record of 628-114. He credits captains Nicole Garland,

Haley Jordan and Meredith Reid for stepping up in terms of leadership, helping to create a special team chemistry that made them stand out this year.

"You hope that in a few days when the hurt subsides that they will realize what a great season it was and what they accomplished: a record of 27 - 2, Little East Conference regular season and tournament champions, and get-

ting ranked 8th in the nation," said Fifield.

And as for next year?

"Our goals never change. We always strive to be the best program in the state and to win the LEC Championship."

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Coach, players reflect on their well-played season

Players found balance in academics and practice despite coaches 'high expectations'

Alyssa Thomson
Free Press Staff

The USM women's basketball team secured their 20th Little East Conference Championship for the 2012-2013 season over winter break. The team was chosen to host the first two rounds of the NCAA Division III National Championship Tournament in Gorham. Their first matchup was Smith College on Friday, and they were unsuccessful in advancing to the National Championships.

Led by veteran head coach Gary Fifield, the team was able to achieve an overall record of 27-1, easily beating out the second place Western Connecticut team with a

19-8 overall record. This record gave them an eighth national ranking according to the D3hoops.com NCAA standings. The team also boasts an undefeated record at home, giving Fifield and the team members their top standing and automatic transition into the tournament.

Fifield attributes the success of the team to their work ethic and skill. "You have to have talented players that enjoy playing together and understand the commitment that it takes," he said. The conference offered plenty of strong competition for the team this season. "You had to be ready to play every single game," said Fifield, adding that only one out of the eight teams

in the conference was an easy win.

Fifield was also recently named the Little East Conference Coach of the Year for the 14th time out of his 22 years with the Huskies. Fifield says that the title means more because it is voted on by his peers.

Fifield describes his coaching style as very detail-oriented, and says that he has high expectations for his team. This season, his team definitely met those expectations with their impressive season. The team leads the Little East Conference in offensive scoring, free throw percentage, field goal percentage, 3-point field goals and steals.

Senior Haley Jordan, a sports

"If I'm having a bad day, I have to put that aside and come to practice with energy."

-Nicole Garland
Senior forward

management major, is one of the captains of the team and plays as a forward. She describes herself as a quiet leader, hoping to lead by example. She gave a lot of credit to the well-rounded quality of the teams, balancing shooters, blockers and players willing to drive to the hoop. She also is second in the league for her 3-point shot percentage, outdone only by her co-captain, Nicole Garland.

Both Jordan and Garland were recently awarded the Little East Conference co-players of the week after an impressive win over Rhode Island College in February. They also both received All-Little East Conference Honors alongside teammates Rebecca Knight and Jordan Grant. Knight is a sophomore and plays forward. Grant is a senior, and, according to Garland, helped the team out a lot by taking on the position of center forward, which was not her normal position.

Garland plays guard for the team and is a senior business and marketing major. She says that the entire team has had to make adjustments based on their opponents. She says Grant in particular had to step out of her comfort zone to make up for the team's lack of height in comparison to the other

See **PRACTICE** on page 19

Like **writing**? We have openings for sports writers.
Email achiu@usmfreepress.org if interested.

Scoreboard

February 23

Women's Basketball	
USM	90
Mass.-Dartmouth	66

Women's Ice Hockey	
USM	5
Salve Regina	2

Men's Ice Hockey	
USM	0
Norwich	2

February 27

Men's Basketball	
USM	62
Anna Maria College	76

March 1

Women's Basketball	
USM	58
Smith	80

March 2

Women's Ice Hockey	
USM	0
Norwich	5

Baseball	
USM	14
Mt. St. Mary	1

Men's Lacrosse	
USM	10
Castleton	12

Women's Lacrosse	
USM	15
MIT	11

Upcoming

March 5

Men's Lacrosse	
USM	@ Curry

March 7

Men's Lacrosse	
USM	@ UNE

Women's Lacrosse	
UNE	@ USM

March 8

Women's Indoor Track	
NCAA Division III Championship	@ North Central, Illinois
TBA	

Men's Indoor Track	
NCAA Division III Championship	@ North Central, Illinois
TBA	

March 9

Women's Lacrosse	
USM	@ Endicott



Justicia Barreiros / Free Press Staff

Head coach Gary Fifield talks to his starters during a time out

From **PRACTICE** on page 18

teams, which has affected their success in rebounding. As co-captain of the team, Garland says her job as a leader is to be a spark for her teammates. “If I’m having a bad day, I have to put that aside and come to practice with energy,” she said. She added that she wants to make sure her teammates stay on top of

their academics and be a support for them on and off the court. As a student athlete she says there can be struggles with creating schedules around practices and games, but that the players get used to it over time. The team tries to spend time together on and off the court to keep their fantastic team chemistry and help each other both in basketball and in their courses. Ultimately,

they are working hard to continue their confidence and momentum that they have gained through this season. Going into next season, the captains seemed very optimistic about the continued success of the group. Jordan wants to stress the potential that she sees in her fellow teammates and the program as a whole. Meanwhile, Garland reflects on the past season. “We knew from the first meeting that

we had a special group of girls,” she said. With these seniors moving forward, the Huskies will have to rely on the rest of the talent on the team and the expertise of the coaching staff to try and match their current level of success.

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Quick Hits: The Huskies' week in review

Anna Chiu
Sports Editor

Women's Indoor Track
Dostie leads USM with individual records

The women's track team finished with 26 points to earn sixth place out of 50 teams at the ECAC Division III Championships last Friday and Saturday in New York City. Sophomore Peyton Dostie and freshman Nicole Kirk respectively finished second and third in the 400, combining to produce a total of 14 points for USM. Dostie also set individual records in the five-event pentathlon, scoring 3,241 points to secure second place among 12 other competitors. She won the 60-meter hurdles with a new school record time of 9.18 seconds and also won the 800 meters with a time of 2:20.85. Senior Jennifer Durham set an individual record in the

shot put, throwing 12.46 meters on her second attempt to put her in sixth place. Competitors in the national rankings will advance to the NCAA Division III Indoor Track and Field National Championships held at North Central College next weekend.

Men's Indoor Track
USM finishes sixth among 51 teams

The Huskies finished with 34 points to capture a sixth place finish at the ECAC Division III Championships in New York City this past weekend. Sophomore Jamie Ruginski won the triple jump, leaping 14.86 meters and also placed second in the long jump with a leap of 7.04 meters. The 4 x 400-meter relay team, featuring freshman Jeremy Collins, sophomore Kevin Desmond, freshman Dan Webb and senior Parker Chip-

man, set a new school record, finishing in 3 minutes, 18.76 seconds that landed them in second place overall. Competitors in the national rankings will advance to the NCAA Division III Indoor Track and Field National Championships held at North Central College next weekend.

Baseball
USM dominates in season opener

The huskies plowed through the season opener against Mt. Saint Mary College, winning 14-1 on Saturday. Junior Chris Bernard hit two home runs and also pitched five shutout innings to lead the team to victory. The men's team had five runs in both the first and second innings to take a 10-0 lead. Bernard contributed two more runs on the fourth inning while junior Matt Verrier had a

RBI double in the sixth inning to push the Huskies to victory. USM will next play Farmington State next Saturday.

Men's Basketball
USM exits first round of ECAC Championship

The men's team struggled to secure a win against second-seeded Anna Maria College, losing 76-62 in the quarterfinals of the 2013 ECAC Division III New England Championship. The loss wraps up the season with an overall record of 15-13. Freshman guard Cole Libby came off the bench and led the Huskies with 15 points, 4 rebounds, 3 assists and two steals while senior guard Mike Poulin recorded eleven points, 7 rebounds and four assists. Also coming off the bench was sophomore center Tyler Penney, who was 4-for-7 from the field with 10 points.

USM COMMUNITY PAGE



Community Spotlight: Gymnastics Club

Skyla Gordon
Free Press Staff

The USM Gymnastics Club finished its third meet of the year on Saturday at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with success — the boy’s placing third as a team and the girls coming in second.

The six-member team is pleased with its rankings so far. Several members placed at the two previous meets, and at their second meet, the New England Open Invitational, the team placed third overall.

Shawn Starkey, a freshman and undeclared major, joined the Gymnastics Club this year without any prior experience in gymnastics.

“They’re all really great guys, really helpful,” she said. “There’s a lot of learning potential in this club, even if you are 100 percent a novice.”

They also have a few members who are seasoned gymnasts, and they are happy to help those with less experience. Dylan Tanguay, a freshman music major, has been practicing gymnastics for 15 years and peer coaching Starkey.

Tanguay also appreciates the laid-back nature of the group, and he likes that he can enjoy the sport without feeling the pressure to win competitions.

Megean Bourgeois, a sophomore political science major, agrees with Tanguay. “Being a part of a club gymnastics community is really great because I’m able to just relax. No one cares about your score. It’s a really friendly atmosphere to compete in.”

Because USM doesn’t have the equipment they need, the team practices three times a week at the Maine Academy of Gymnastics in Westbrook, where they coach as well. By forming a relationship with the gym owner where they worked, they were able to secure a place to practice.

The club also does all of its fundraising through the gym. On Sundays the club members help the to host birthday parties at the Maine Academy of Gymnastics, and all of their proceeds go to the organization.



Casey Ledoux / Free Press Staff

Vice president of the club and junior electrical engineering major Josh Stewart practices the rings.

qualify as a sport or student organization.

Chris Camire, Student Senate chair, further explained the issue. “We’re trying to figure out where exactly they belong. The only thing that really created a difference is that they need liability insurance.” Camire is working with Student Life to create a Club Sports Council that will be a combination of a student organization and an athletic organization. The council will allow the different club sports groups to work together, and it will appropriate their money. He hopes to have the council set up by the end of the academic year.

They were able to secure funding this year by submitting separate proposals to the student senate, under the category of “Special Events Funding,” in order to receive money for this season. The club’s goal for the season is to work with Camire to have the Club Sports Council established by the end of the year. This will allow them to receive funding like other student organizations.

The team also hopes to do well at the nationals competition this year, which is

scheduled for April 10 –14 in Minneapolis. It will be the third time that the team has gone to nationals since its creation three years ago. “It’s a bunch of like-minded individuals. We get a chance to gauge ourselves at a national level against both not so good and really good competition. “Our first year, we placed ninth as a team. Last year, we placed tenth,” Tully said.

“My personal goal is to place on the rings at nationals,” said Josh Stewart, junior electrical engineering major and the club’s vice president.

The members of the Gymnastics Club are thrilled with their results so far and are excited for nationals in April. While they hope to do well, their main goal is to have fun and enjoy the sport.

Anyone can join the club, including people who have never practiced gymnastics before.

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Campus Events

Monday, March 4

Safe Zone Project Training
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
G38 Masterton Hall, Portland

Circle K International Weekly Meeting
8:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Room 113, Upperclass Hall, Gorham

“CreateMaine” entrepreneur-ship event for everyone
7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Corthell Concert Hall, Gorham

Tuesday, March 5

Ted x USM
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Commuter Lounge, Woodbury Campus Center, Portland

Tealaxation
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Women and Community Center, Woodbury Campus Center, Portland

USM Navigators - Nav Night
7:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.
Hastings Formal Lounge, Upton
Hastings Hall, Gorham

Wednesday, March 6

Woodbury Marketplace
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Woodbury Campus Center, Portland

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

4th Annual Day of Service-Planning Meeting
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Amphitheater, Woodbury Campus Center, Portland

Thursday, March 7

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

Friday, March 8

Student Senate Meeting
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Room 1, Payson Smith, Portland

Saturday, March 9

Free Snow Tubing with Portland Events Board
12:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Seacoast Fun Park, Windham, Maine

Regression Night
8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Brooks Student Center, Gorham

Sunday, March 10

Die Fledermaus, Operetta by Johann Strauss
5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Russell Hall, Gorham

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

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

Comments or questions?

Email us at editor@usmfreepress.org

“There’s a lot of learning potential in this club, even if you are a 100 percent novice.”

**-Shawn Starkey
Freshman, undeclared**