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Student senate works through budget crisis

Sam Hill
Managing Editor

Due to low enrollment this year, the amount of student activity fee funds expected to be dispersed this spring will be much less than expected, and in the past week, the Student Government Association has had to revise its budget and cut the budgets of its entities to adjust.

In the past, the student activity fee has added up to \$250,000 dollars each semester, but this semester the check cut was only \$200,000. Once that money is available, a lot of is immediately dispersed in certain areas automatically due to various contracts. 30 percent goes to the Student Communications Board, which funds WMPG Community Radio and the Free Press, and some is spent covering the costs of the SGA Business Office employees, Student Legal Services, the SGA graduate assistant and an annual audit. After those costs were covered, the student senate was left with \$140,000 to cover a collective budget of \$172,248.

The budget was balanced, but not without a lot of deliberation between SGA and entity members. An emergency meeting was held last Wednesday to adjust the budget.

“The reason why we called ev-

eryone together is so everyone could have a fair shot and express why or why not they may or may not need their funding,” said student senator Tyler Boothby.

Boothby had been working closely with Student Body President Kelsea Dunham and coordinator of the SGA Business Office Ray Dumont to look over the budget and look at various funding scenarios to see where cost saving measures could be implemented.

“I know it’s not an ideal circumstance,” said Dumont. “Student Government is being hit with exactly the same conditions that the university has been hit with.”

Dumont went through the budget and helped to close the gap, using unallocated funds, uncommitted funding from the Board of Student Organizations and available discretionary funds. Money set aside for the student body president and student representative to the Board of Trustees traveling costs were also cut. These cuts brought the gap down to \$20,561, which had to be taken from SGA entities including the Gorham Events Board, Portland Events Board, Leadership Development Board and Words & Images.

“This is something that we don’t want to do at all, but we have to,” said Boothby. “We un-

Randy Hazelton / Multimedia Editor

Various student groups that receive funding from the student activity fee via the Student Senate met to discuss ways they could reduce their budgets at last Wednesday during the emergency meeting of the Student Senate.

derstand that nobody is going to be happy, but we want to make sure everyone has a voice.”

Dumont presented proposed cuts to the entities and each group’s representative explained their plans for the semester and

what cuts they could handle.

GEB, which has the highest budget of all the entities, has already spent \$15,000 of their \$25,000 budget, planning and paying for events as far into the future as April. Looking through

their budget, GEB chair Delaney Kenny and financial chair Samantha Davol were able to cut costs by eliminating projects they had budgeted for, but decided not to complete, including a texting pro-

See **BUDGET** on page 4

Direction Package data needs clarification

Sidney Dritz
News Editor

The Feb. 28 presentation of the Direction Package Advisory Board explored ways to think about the future of the university in an abstract sense, but as the president’s presentation of recommendations for the university’s next step grows nearer, the question of ‘what’s going to get cut?’ is looming.

Early commentary on the Direction Package after the initial roll-out in October included criticism about a lack of specifics, especially in terms of cuts. The advisory board’s recommendations included more specific and numerical evaluations of different academic departments, as well as other aspects of the university, but ultimately, the decisions are going to be made not by the advisory board but by University President Kalikow, with the advice of the President’s Council. “It still

remains uncertain how this work is going to influence the final result,” said electrical engineering Professor Carlos Lück, a member of the Academic Review Committee.

“At the end of the day, we do expect that some people will be laid off,” Lück said.

The advisory board’s final presentation included a graph comprised of data gathered by the Academic Review Committee. The graph delineated between revenue producing degree departments, the departments that were breaking even and those that had lost money in the 2013 calendar year, as well as whether enrollment had increased or declined and to what degree.

The committee cautioned that the numbers in the graph did not comprise a complete picture of the financial health of the university’s academic programs. “There is no historical record of having broken

REVENUE POSITIVE DEPARTMENTS	DEPARTMENTS BREAKING EVEN	REVENUE NEGATIVE DEPARTMENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ENGINEERING COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS FOREIGN LANGUAGES STUDIES BIOLOGY ECONOMICS PHYSICS CHEMISTRY LINGUISTICS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EXERCISE, HEALTH AND SPORT RECREATION AND LEISURE STUDIES ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE POLITICAL SCIENCE SCIENCE SOCIAL WORK BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY CRIMINOLOGY HISTORY PSYCHOLOGY NURSING EDUCATION ENGLISH SOCIOLOGY PHILOSOPHY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> APPLIED MEDICAL SCIENCES AMERICAN AND NEW ENGLAND MUSKIE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC SERVICE GEOGRAPHY AND ANTHROPOLOGY COMPUTER SCIENCE STUDIES GEOSCIENCES THEATRE ACCOUNTING MUSIC ART

“The growth trend in our department goes back several years.”
-Wayne Cowart,
Linguistics Department Chair

“We have the most active student organization in our college.”
-Julien Murphy,
Philosophy Department Chair

Sokvonny Chhouk / Design Director

The information above is taken from the graph from the Academic Review Committee’s slides in the Direction Package Advisory Board’s recommendation presentation. The full graph can be found on slide 43 of the presentation on the Direction Package website.

See **GRAPH** on page 3

Dunham addresses the state of the university



Sam Hill / Managing Editor

Student Body President Kelsea Dunham addressed an assortment of students last Wednesday to discuss the state of the university as she has observed it over her time as president. During her tenure as president, Dunham has worked to make student government more involved both with the administration and with the student body at large.

Sam Hill
Managing Editor

In the State of the University Address last Wednesday, Student Body President Kelsea Dunham encouraged students to learn more about the changes happening at USM and to get involved.

“Change is coming, kids. It is what it is,” said Dunham. “If it doesn’t happen, I can’t confidently

say that this institution will continue to exist.”

Dunham said it has been her and Student Body Vice President Mar- phleen Chann’s goal from the beginning of the year to connect students and administrators in a way that hasn’t happened at USM in a very long time. She believes that they have begun to do so through events like the student leadership brunch, the Student Vision Conference and EDTalks, but that there is always

room for more student voices.

“Administrators don’t know what you want and what you need unless you speak up and tell them,” said Dunham.

Encouraging students to voice their opinions on university matters was the main goal of the Student Visions Conference, where Dunham gathered students together to discuss what they wanted from the administration and problems they had with the university.

“I specifically asked administrators and faculty to stay away,” said Dunham. “I wanted a space where students could come to me and say what they needed and what they wanted from this institution. I really feel like the work of the Direction Package was largely shaped by the work that we, as students, did.”

Since October, Dunham has been working with administrators as a member of the Direction Package Advisory Board. She worked on the vision sub-group, which was tasked with finding and defining a distinct identity for USM. One of the main focuses on the vision group was molding USM into an urban metropolitan university, an institution that is very involved with its urban community and prioritizes real-world application of skills gained in the classroom. Lynn

Kuzma, dean of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, introduced the idea of using the city of Portland as a lab for students.

“That statement has stuck with me in such a huge way through the entire work that we’ve done,” said Dunham. “I’m a dual degree in marketing and women and gender studies. There is no better place for me to do what I want to do than this city. I don’t know if you guys have looked around lately, but Portland is an awesome place to live, and USM isn’t utilizing that space the way it

could.”

Dunham went on to praise the diversity of Portland in comparison to the rest of Maine and the diversity of the student body, saying that the diversity in USM’s students isn’t always reflected in the student leadership and that more work needs to be done to get more students involved.

Toward the end of her address, Dunham stressed to the audience that the administration had a plan for each and every student at USM.

“You are not going to be shipped off to another university,” said Dunham. “You will not have to leave your program. You will get through this. I promise.”

She also advocated students putting more effort into understanding system and university level problems.

“The best thing that we as students can do

through this incredibly difficult time of change is to educate ourselves on what is actually happening,” said Dunham. “Don’t feed into the big scary rumors. I know, it’s real easy, but educate yourself on what’s actually happening and work with USM to get through this.”

A recording of the State of the University Address can be found at usmvotes.com.

“Administrators don’t know what you want and what you need unless you speak up and tell them.”

-Kelsea Dunham
Student Body President

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From **GRAPH** on page 1 down the information in this way before, so we had to break new ground," Lück told the Free Press later.

While the mitigating factors concerning the completeness of the data are important, Lück said, the specific circumstances surrounding each program on the graph are equally significant. "Ultimately, every bubble on this graph has a story to tell."

University President Kalikow responded to a similar comment at the presentation by reminding the board of the extremely limited timeline laid out for her recommendations based on the advisory board's work, which is the two weeks between the Feb. 28 presentation and her own presentation of recommendations on March 15 to the Faculty Senate.

One of the most significant limitations of the data gathered by the Academic Review Committee, Lück said, was the lack of information included on outside funding, like grants and contracts, which have a significant impact on graduate programs. One program this affects is the Muskie School of Public Service, which falls in the revenue-negative quadrant of the graph, but which, Lück noted, receives significant funding through contracts for research.

Other factors to keep in mind, Lück said, include the dual importance and cost of external accreditation and the importance of different programs in maintaining the mission of the university.

As Lück noted, maintaining external accreditation can be included in the financial cost to a program, though the benefits of accreditation are tangible, if not easily quantifiable, as is partially illustrated by the net growth of students enrolled in the linguistics major in the 2012 and 2013 years.

"The growth trend in our department goes back several years," said linguistics professor and department chair Wayne Cowart.

Cowart attributed the departmental growth, despite an on-going university-wide trend of declining enrollment, to several different factors. One factor, he said, was that the linguistics department's American Sign Language interpreter training program gained national accreditation two years ago. "We're seeing a lot of interest in the program from out of state," Cowart said.

Out-of-state tuition, according to the data limitations accompanying the Academic Review Committee's graph, is also not factored into the revenue presented on the graph, which is based on an average of \$280 per credit. In fact, 56 percent of applicants to the linguistics program for the 2014 year are from out of state, from as far across the country as California.

Another factor that Cowart says has contributed to the linguistics department's success in recent years is the college reorganization that divided the former College of Arts and Sciences into the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences and the College of Science, Technology and Health.

"We look at linguistics as a scientific discipline," Cowart explained. He said that it is easier to explain to other scientific disciplines the need for up-to-date computers, programs and other pieces of the current infrastructure a scientific discipline requires.

The College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences is exploring further reorganization at a departmental level, a process which includes the reevaluation of where the major pro-

grams from the former Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures fit best with other programs. When discussing the former organization with the Free Press in November, classics Professor Jeanine Uzzi explained that the dissolution of the MCLL made sense for her program, since the study of the classics, though it includes a language component, in many instances has as much in common with other programs, like history or literature, as it does with modern language majors like French or Spanish.

The uncertainty of the former MCLL's departmental status, however, has not stopped the "foreign languages" bubble on the Academic Review graph from making it into the revenue-positive section, despite a significant decline in enrollment.

Philosophy, on the other hand, straddles the very edge of the graph section between breaking even and losing money. When describing her department, philosophy professor and department chair of three years Julien Murphy focused on the passionate activity of the 76 majors and 27 minors in the philosophy department, rather than the significant decline in enrollment.

"We have the most active student organization in our college," Murphy said, referring to the philosophy symposium, which meets once a week for philosophical discussions. Murphy also stressed the numerous interdisciplinary classes and classes taught by philosophy faculty for other programs, like EYE, the honors program and women and gender studies.

Lück's final note for viewers of the financial breakdown of the Academic Review graph is to keep in mind that the graph doesn't take into account the importance of certain programs in terms of their centrality to the mission of the university.

What the mission of the university is, exactly, has been a source of contention since the initial roll-out of the first Direction Package presentation in late October. After the formation of the advisory board in November, defining the university's mission was one of the three main goals each assigned to a different working group within the board.

Lück referred to the vision committee's section of the advisory board presentation on Feb. 28 in discussing what a program's centrality to the university's mission might be.

"The [university's] mission has been defined as 'a comprehensive metropolitan university in the state of Maine,'" Lück said. As such, the school has a commitment to serve the community, which includes offering a broad range of degree programs that pave the way to a broad range of careers. "Those values will affect decisions about programs going forward," Lück said.

With the work of the advisory board completed and presented, the next step is President Kalikow's presentation of her own recommendations, based on the presentation of ideas from the board and consultation from the President's Council.

The Faculty Senate will have time to respond to the president's recommendations before they are put into practice. "I'm going to give you my pick, and you're going to give me your advice," Kalikow said to the Faculty Senate last Friday. However, Kalikow said, she hoped the faculty's feedback could all be presented to her by May's senate meeting in order to move on to implementation of the proposed changes by the year's end.

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Majority of faculty declare provost “very ineffective”



Randy Hazelton / Multimedia Editor

The job performance of Provost Michael Stevenson (right) was a contentious topic of conversation last Friday at the March meeting of the faculty senate

Sidney Dritz
News Editor

The immediate importance of the faculty survey evaluating the job performance of Provost Michael Stevenson is, as with so many things at USM lately, tied up in the Direction Package.

In mid-December, the Faculty Senate exercised its right and responsibility as detailed in the governance documents to evaluate the performance of top administrators, sending out a survey of 46 questions about the effectiveness of the provost’s performance according to his job description, 44

Physics professor and Faculty Senate Chair Jerry LaSala noted that one of the main concerns associated with the lack of confidence in the provost’s job performance is that Provost Stevenson is the only representative from academics on the President’s Council, which is the group that will be advising President Kalikow on the recommendations for the university’s future she will be making on March 15.

The results of the survey were first presented to the Faculty Senate at their Feb. 7 meeting, and further discussed at last Friday’s meeting.

LaSala and the committee that administered the survey met with University of Maine System Chancellor James Page after the Direction Package Advisory Board presentation on Feb. 28 to discuss how the survey’s results will affect Stevenson’s participation in the President’s Council, which has now taken over for the advisory board in determining the university’s next steps in facing deficits and cuts.

LaSala reported back to the senate that Page had decided to adopt one of the ideas the committee set forward, which was to assign an advisory committee to the provost specifically for his work on the President’s Council, which would be comprised of two faculty mem-

See PROVOST on page 5

used ratings from one to five. The survey was sent out to 615 full- and part-time faculty members and received 196 responses. The scores were low across the board, with 57.82 percent of the respondents describing his overall performance as “very ineffective,” or a one out of five.

Stevenson responded in a statement to the Free Press. “I acknowledge and appreciate the role of the Faculty Senate in providing feedback to senior administrators. It is very important for those in such roles to take relevant feedback under consideration and to use it to help improve performance.”

From BUDGET on page 1

	CUT FROM BUDGET	REMAINING BUDGET FOR THE SEMESTER
GORHAM EVENTS BOARD	\$3,070	\$6,930
PORTLAND EVENTS BOARD	\$7,000	\$6,000
WORDS & IMAGES	\$3,000	\$1,500
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT BOARD	\$2,500	\$3,300

Sokvonny Chhouk / Design Director

grams to inform students about their events and future funding for late-night buses between Gorham and Monument Square in Portland.

They also had funds free from situations where they had collaborated with other groups to save money and cut costs on prizes for giveaway events. They ended up cutting \$3,070 from their budget, leaving them \$6,930 for the rest of the semester.

PEB took a \$7,000 cut, leaving them with a \$6,000 operating budget to plan commuter-related events. Words and Images cut \$3,000 cut, bringing their spring semester funding down to \$1,500. The majority of costs for Words

and Images comes at the end of the year when they print their literary journal, so the group still has money they received in the fall semester. LDB cut \$2,500 from their budget, leaving them with a \$3,300 operating budget for the rest of the semester. The SGA business office was also able to cut \$2,000 from their office budget.

All of these cuts total to \$17,570.

The entity heads also decided to reduce stipends for the remainder of the semester by 20 percent, cutting \$2,255 from the budget.

Dunham said that in a recent meeting with University President Theodora Kalikow said most universities don’t pay their student senators or events board chairs at all.

“Most students don’t get paid to do the things that we do,” said Dunham “The fairest way, in my opinion, is to do an across the board stipend reduction.”

The idea of cutting stipends entirely was brought up, but was shot down by many. While cutting stipends entirely would save roughly \$11,000, many students rely on that income.

“For many of us, that’s not feasible,” said Dunham to entity heads. “I’m not going to lie, I need that money to eat, and I know a lot of you do too.”

Dunham said that cutting down on programming is not ideal, but that cutting stipends entirely would be problematic for a lot of students, as they personally budget to receive those stipends and that many do not have time for another job.

“I don’t think it’s fair to just cut you off cold turkey,” said Dumont. “It’s one thing to say, in the next budget year we’re going to

pay next to nothing or nothing, but to cut you off, considering there are people who depend on it more than others, isn’t an option today.”

Dumont was able to find other available discretionary funds to close the remainder of the gap. The revised budget was unanimously approved by the student senate last Friday.

While the budget for the remainder of this year is balanced, Boothby reminded senators and entity heads that there was more work to be done, as they cannot student activity fee funds to increase in the future.

According to Director of Portland Student Life Chris O’Connor,

projected enrollment is down seven percent as of last Wednesday.

“The cutting is going to have to continue, unfortunately,” said Boothby.

Boothby said that he has been advised to help budget to \$300,000 total for next year. the SGA needs to figure out the budget for next year within the next month, as it has to be ap-

proved by the current senate and then voted on again when new senators become active April. This year’s SGA elections includes a referendum question asking students if they would support a slight increase in student activity fees, but it would not take effect until the 2015- to 2016 year if approved.

“I’m going to ask BSO and Student Senate to do your best to make this a learning opportunities for your organizations,” said O’Connor at the emergency meeting.

O’Connor said his primary concern was the lack of funding for student groups under the Board of Student Organizations, which are left with no spare funding after these cuts.

“We need to start training our students to be more fiscally conservative,” said O’Connor. “It’s really easy when we have full budgets to blow through and not scrutinize every proposal that comes through, but that’s not the case anymore.”

At the senate meeting on Friday, Boothby stressed the need to move on from this budget to begin working to adjust next year’s budgets.

“I’m going to ask [the] BSO and the Student Senate to do your best to make this a learning opportunity for your organizations ... We need to start training students to be more fiscally conservative.”

-Chris O’Connor
Director of Portland Student Life

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From PROVOST on page 4



Randy Hazelton / Multimedia Editor

President Theo Kalikow, along with Provost Stevenson, attended last Friday's Faculty Senate meeting in order to address the senate and provide input on the issues they were directly involved in.

bers and one representative of the community outside the university.

Page selected electrical engineering associate Professor Carlos Lück and associate Professor of classics Jeanine Uzzi as the faculty members to be on the committee, both of whom accepted the posts. At the time of the Faculty Senate meeting, LaSala said, Page had asked his choice of community representative to join the committee, but had not yet received a reply or released the name.

"I should add that the president and the provost have both accepted this proposal," LaSala said.

Beyond the Direction Package, President Kalikow told the senate that she intends to pursue the survey by conducting what she described as a "360 evaluation," which, she said, would be comprised of evaluations of the provost done by each group he works with, including the faculty, the president herself and the deans of

the colleges. Kalikow said she has not yet determined exactly which groups those will be and that she will discuss the question with the provost.

Associate history Professor Eileen Eagan raised the question of whether the committee that administered the survey and its respondents had a bias, but English Professor Nancy Gish noted that questioning the motives of members of the Faculty Senate during senate meetings was against rules laid out in the senate's governance documents.

"The Faculty Senate has done its job," Kalikow said. The next part of the job of evaluating the provost, she noted, is hers. The results of Kalikow's 360 evaluation are due to be presented at the Faculty Senate meeting scheduled for May 2.

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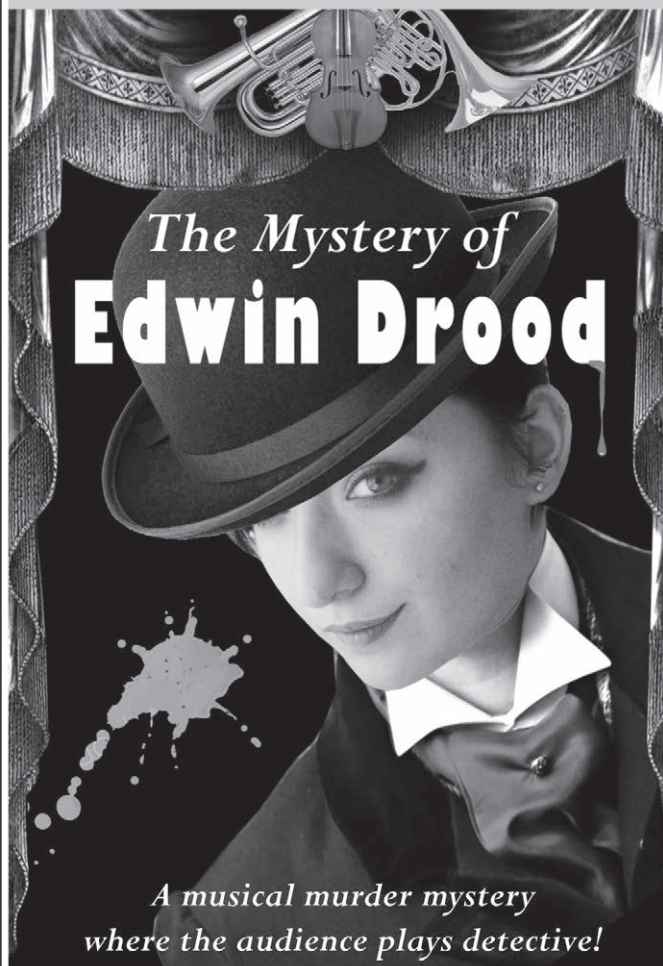
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In Brief...

Student Nursing Organization has a ball

Matthew Graeff
Contributor

Last Saturday the Student Nurse Organization held the SNO Ball, a fun gathering for nursing students to come together, share their experiences and network with one another. “This event is all about building and strengthening the School of Nursing community,” said senoir nursing student Kelsey O’Connell.

Prospective students will see the SNO Ball as a perk of choos- ing USM over other schools which in turn benefits the School of Nursing. O’Connell noted that future prospective students might see the SNO Ball as a perk of attendance at USM over other nursing programs. “We wanted to do something fun for everyone in the School of Nursing, not just for SNO members. We wanted an event that we could get lots of students to and maybe even have some faculty attend, thus the SNO Ball was born. Our whole team has been brainstorming for months on how to get this event going and make sure that it will be a night to remember.” O’Connell said.

SNO is an organization that

seeks to foster community at the University and provide a support system for its members. “Nurs- ing school is tough, and the whole point of SNO is to create a place where nursing students don’t have to do it alone. We are all a team and we are all in this together; that is what SNO is all about!” said O’Connell.

French immersion days hit USM

Matthew Graeff
Contributor

On Friday March 21 and Satur- day March 22 The USM Depart- ment of Modern and Classical Languages and The Professional and Continuing Education will be hosting a French Immersion weekend featuring Claude Beau- clair and Catherine Masson.

Participants in the program will improve their French by working with texts like stories from the 17th century collection Le Fon- taine’s Fables and modern French Poetry and will feature a perfor- mance by Beauclair of a famous monologue from the play Cyrano de Bergerac.

The program is described by event organizer and USM Asso- ciate professor of French Nancy Erikson as “A rare opportunity to work on your French in a pleasant and enjoyable manner with two first-class professionals and also experience presentations of clas- sic French texts.” Beauclair has held similar programs at USM be- fore and established his own the- ater company. The program’s first day lasts from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and the second day from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. costs \$350 to register for both days.

Nursing students hold book drive

Sidney Dritz
News Editor

Last Thursday, the Bayside Nursing Program sent out a call for book donations for their after school reading program where professors and students from the nursing program volunteer to read with children who live in family shelters and assisted living apart- ments. “This program allows the kids to have structured play time while still learning different shapes, colors, vocabulary, dis- cipline, sharing and ways to get along with one another ... Many of the families are immigrants so reading children’s books gives everyone the ability to learn the spoken and written English lan- guage,” said Britney Meunier, a pediatric nursing student.

Meunier currently runs the pro- gram, which works with children from ages five to 13 and meets once a week. Meunier says that one of her goals in running the program is that it continue to be run by nursing students in the fu- ture. “The kids really enjoy it and ask me if we can have it everyday. A daily reading group would be great and ideal but nursing stu- dent schedules are pretty hectic so as of a right now we are sticking with once a week,” Meunier said.

The book drive requests new and gently used books children’s and young adults’ books be brought to the drop off points in 253 Luther Bonney and outside the LRC in Masterton Hall from Thursday, March 6 to Friday, March 28.



Police Beat

Selections from the USM Department of Public Safety police log Feb. 26 to March 5

Wednesday, Feb. 26

Time-lapse reporting
3:16 p.m. - Delayed personal injury report taken. - Brooks Student Center, 32 University Way

Calling on higher powers
3:49 p.m. - Suspicious incident, referred to other agency. Incident to be handled by Portland police. - 96 Falmouth St.

“We’ve taken your report and we’re not giving it back.”
8:00 p.m. - Reported marijuana odor. Report taken. - Upton Hastings Hall, 52 University Way

Field of dreams?
10:32 p.m. - Open door found. All set. - Baseball Field, University Way

Thursday, Feb. 27

Measured in MPH or grams?
10:04 p.m. - Warning to operator for speed. - Parking lot P2, 35 Bedford St.

Friday, Feb. 28

Brains of the operation
1:09 a.m. - Warning to operator for stop sign violation. - Key Bank, Main St.

Living off the grid
4:20 p.m. - Summons for unregistered vehicle issued to Daniel Cheung, 56 of Gorham. - Brighton Ave.

Saturday, March 1

“None shall (tres)pass.”
11:30 - Michael A. Alvarez, 18, of Bath, ME, arrested for criminal trespass. - Upton Hastings Hall, 52 University Way

Monday, March 3

‘Cause anges stole your red shoes?
9:33 a.m. - Verbal warning to operator for stop sign violation. - Costello Complex, 43 Campus Ave.

Hot and bothered
1:46 p.m. - An officer made contact with a person who was bothering people working in the computer lab. - Luther Bonney Hall, 85 Bedford St.

The 10th circle of hell
4:20 p.m. - Summons for stop sign violation to Stephen Virgilio, 32, of Portland. - Campus Ave.

Two-force job
5:29 p.m. - Assisted Gorham Police with paper service. - Philippi Hall, 19 Campus Ave.

Tuesday, March 4

Poetic justice
10:45 a.m. - Vehicle towed for unpaid parking fines. - G 13 C Parking Lot, 17 University Way

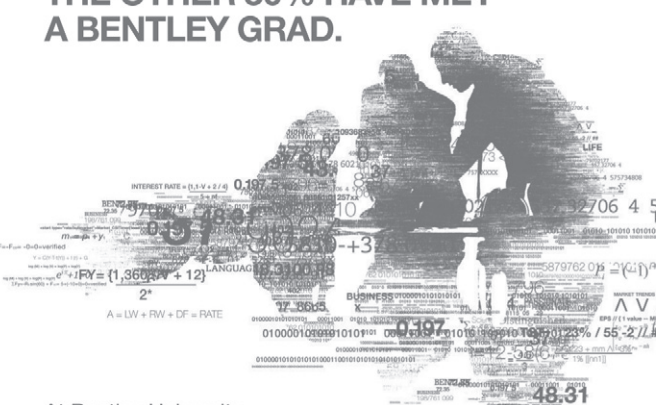
Wednesday, March 5

Stranger endanger
5:36 p.m. - Operator warned for driving to endanger. - Deering Ave.

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


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Arts & Culture

Campbell brothers shoot for big screens

Filmmakers take their short movie to New Orleans festival

Francis Flisiuk
 Arts & Culture Editor

Siblings Thomas and Peter Campbell, emerging filmmakers and theatre and music majors at USM, are ready to see their work on national and international screens, after winning several awards, including "Best Film," during Portland's 48 Hour Film Project last year.

The brothers made their winning eight-minute film as part of the 48 Hour Film Project, a nationwide event that requires fledgling filmmakers to write, produce and shoot a short film in just two days. After winning several awards in Portland with their short film *Crá Croí*, they've moved on to the next phase of the competition, the Filmapalooza Film Festival in New Orleans, where the film competed for a chance to be featured at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival in France to an audience of film critics and industry professionals.

For Thomas and Peter Campbell, travelling to New Orleans first meant completing a successful Indiegogo campaign, a crowdfunding website which helped the brothers raise over \$100 dollars more than their goal of \$3,000. They are both excited with the suc-

Film Project last year including: best use of genre, best emerging filmmaker, best actor, best writing, best directing and most importantly best film. The brothers thought the competition was too good to be

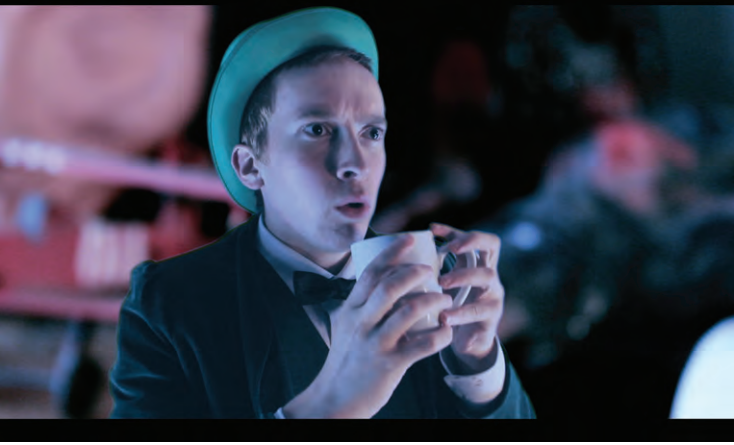
"I'm curious to see how people will respond to our film nationally."

-Peter Campbell
 Sophomore music major

beaten, leaving them surprised to find that they had won so many of the festival's awards.

"There were so many other talented films artists there that when we won it kind of felt like the luck of the draw," said Thomas Campbell. "But we also felt like *Crá Croí* was a polished product worthy to compete against."

Crá Croí is a whimsical tale of an unnamed man who's plagued by a miniature dancing Irishmen every time he tries to sleep at night,



Courtesy of Thomas and Peter Campbell

A screen-shot of the Campbell Brothers' short film *Crá Croí*. Pictured here is Peter Campbell playing the incessant Irishman who purposely dances to cause annoyance for the unnamed main character.

cesses of their campaign and the opportunity to network with film aficionados and see the reaction to their creative work.

"This is a big opportunity for us," said Peter Campbell. "I'm curious to see how people will respond to our film nationally."

According to Thomas Campbell, there was no better place for them to travel with their work than New Orleans. Filled with actors, writers and a thriving live music scene, New Orleans is a southern hub of performing arts culture.

"For a pair of music and theatre students, New Orleans is a playground," said Thomas Campbell. "We're so grateful to have the opportunity to travel there and see what other creatives think of *Crá Croí*."

Their short comedy *Crá Croí* won six awards at Portland's 48

that is, according to the siblings, an homage to their Celtic heritage. Fittingly enough, the Gaelic phrase "crá croí" means "torment of the heart" and, during a comical allusion to J.R.R. Tolkien's trilogy, it's also a "plague with a persistence as infinite as the void."

The plague comes in the form of the Irishman, played by Peter Campbell, who dances a perpetual riverdance. The film revolves around the resolution of this unusual conflict. It also features an uncanny Gandalf impression from a voiceover provided by Patrick Molloy a theatre alumnus from USM. According to Thomas Campbell, bizarre is what they were going for, in response to a challenging genre restriction set by the 48 Film Project. Every year the festival requires that the film submissions adhere to a specific genre.



Patrick Higgins / Free Press Staff

Peter (left) and Thomas (right) Campbell sit to discuss their travel plans to the Filmapalooza Film festival in New Orleans that started this weekend and ends Monday.

"We were dealt an odd hand at the film festival being a two-man sibling group and given the romance genre to work with," said Thomas Campbell. "So we said, 'Let's just make it as strange as possible.'"

Other elements of the contest required them to use a trash can as a prop, create a scene featuring a motivational speaker and use the line: "Come on. You can tell me." But bringing these elements together, they said, came relatively easy for them because they work so well as a team.

"It's hard to find other people to work with that click as well as Peter and I do," said Thomas Campbell. "We're like two halves of the same person, and our films almost always come out exactly the way they're envisioned in our heads."

Both Tom and Peter Campbell draw inspiration for their films from the Coen Brothers, the critically acclaimed directors of many well-known films, including *Fargo* and *No Country for Old Men*. Like the Coen Brothers often do, the Campbells try to blend strictly situational comedy with dramatic elements.

"Peter and I try to make our films funny without telling jokes," said Thomas Campbell. "We try to make comedy arise purely on the plot and the situation itself."

The brothers started filmmaking early. At the ages of 11 and 12, they dipped their toes into the industry by experimenting with their mother's camcorder, making what they now consider "silly videos" as a way to have fun and pass the time.

"Filmmaking started for me as just a hobby," said Peter Campbell. "Then it just grew on its own—we didn't plan on becoming filmmakers in advance."

Progress in the film world included getting more involved with

the community by participating in local film festivals like the 48 Hour Film Project. Tom and Peter Campbell's short films have been featured three times in the festival since 2011. Positive reactions from Youtube viewers of their first film

"It's hard to find other people to work with that click as well as Peter and I do."

-Thomas Campbell
 Senior theatre major

Ye Apprenteth was what originally inspired and motivated the brothers to share their filmmaking talents with the community through the internet.

Commenting on YouTube, Cory Schnaible, a local Portlander, writes about the Campbell brothers first film submission, "Loved this when I first saw it, and even more now."

Another YouTuber Phil Cormier writes, "Now this is my idea of a good 48 hour project, I love it."

According to both of the brothers, skills gained through classroom experiences at USM have also helped in producing quality video content, and ensuring that their view count on YouTube continues to climb. Thomas Campbell is a senior theatre major at USM, who believes that his acting has seen an improvement because of some of the courses he's taken in college. However, he stresses that there is a major difference between theatre acting and film acting.

"They are completely different experiences," said Thomas Camp-

bell. "In theatre it's one continuous line, you don't stop until the scene is done. But when you're working on films, you're stopping all the time and taking the scene to different places. You're forced to build up emotions as soon as you press record, as opposed to in theatre when you build up emotion gradually and naturally."

For Peter Campbell, a sophomore now, the pursuit of his music major at USM has also led to some improvements in his personal videography skills.

"Classes at USM have helped immensely with the editing process," said Peter Campbell. "With video editing it's all about arranging and organizing the clips to create the perfect comedic timing. I think that studying music really helped me develop those skills. Music is all about timing, as well as developing an ear for what sounds good and has fluidity."

Future goals for the brothers, besides attending the Filmapalooza festival in New Orleans, includes furthering their video and acting skills by the best way they know how: hands on experience. And they certainly plan on producing more submissions for future local film contests.

"We learn the best by just going out and shooting," said Thomas Campbell.

All of the brothers shorts films and animations can be viewed by searching their YouTube page "8mufnz" or by going to their Facebook or Twitter pages. The brothers urge viewers to laugh, leave feedback and help spread the word of their professional endeavors.

"Your support helps us represent local Maine films on a national level," said Thomas Campbell.

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Ceramist shares historical method

Traveling artist Shawn O'Connor visits Gorham

Elizabeth Friedman
Contributor

Last week USM hosted a special guest, alumnus and ceramist Shawn O'Connor.

O'Connor teamed up with the USM Art Department to finish a project with students, the construction and lighting of a one time use paper kiln. The paper kiln was lit Thursday with Brandon Lutterman a professor of ceramics and several USM students in attendance. While at USM, he also acted as a guest lecturer, teaching students about the construction of the kiln and his philosophy of art.

Wood is a solid fuel, he explained, and all fuel needs oxygen to combust. That fuel source leaves behind carbon, which results in a unique surface. In ceramics, that's called fly ash, that moves through the kiln and sticks to the pottery. Since the kiln is firing at such high temperatures, it creates a natural glaze, he said. That is why none of O'Connor's pieces are identical.

The coloring and glazing predominantly relies on the motion of the fire and ash as it wafts through the kiln. O'Connor's most recent trials have been a result of mapping and trying to understand how to manipulate a wood fire kiln.

According to O'Connor, a paper kiln is comprised mostly of slip (a thinner version of clay), chicken wire, combustibles and sticks.



Francis Flisiuk / Arts & Culture Editor

From left to right: Shawn O'Connor stands with Dylan Rohman, a senior ceramics major, Rachel Grover, a senior art education major, and Caitlyn Puchalski, a junior art major, around the kiln last Thursday.

is going to climb really quickly and then fall quickly, and as stuff burns, things are going to fall down. So, it could be a total disaster, but it will be fun."

In a modern world full of controlled heat sources, to better understand O'Connor's choice to utilize a more involved process, such as a wood fire kiln, one must look to his roots. "I'm from a small town called Minot, in Maine. My childhood home was heated by a wood stove. The process of chopping wood and getting up early is natural to me. I'm a very physical person, and the wood fire kiln is physical, you're there chopping the wood and loading the fire."

He spoke of ceramics as a philosophy not just an art form.

"A work is not complete until it's actually used," he said. He explained that for his Master of Fine Arts thesis at Syracuse University, he made 600 cups, and then he invited people to pour through the cups, touch them and use one throughout the exposition. He qualified that this interaction between the guests and his work is what finished the project.

"It becomes a communal activity, taking the cup. And if the guest liked the cup, they could take it home as a gift. This created a special connection between me and the people attending," he said.

What pleased him most was that the project still lives on. According to O'Connor, he found one of his pieces behind the bar of a Mexican restaurant. "One of the waitresses puts her tip money in it," O'Connor said with a smile.

Aileen Andrews, a junior drawing major, attended one of several classes that O'Connor guest



Paper kilns, basically an insulated oven, is an essential part of making ceramics. They dry and harden clay at temperatures greater than 900 °C.

lectured last week. "He thinks of how something can function, then improves upon it and makes it aesthetically pleasing," Andrews said.

A theme that seems to trend through O'Connor's work is the utilitarian nature of pottery. "I think it's my practical nature that makes me create functional work. I see all of my work as sculpture. I don't see a divide between them."

O'Connor often emphasizes the functionality of his work. "It's a vehicle to provide the body with sustenance. The idea is to break down all social barriers, race, religion, age and gender."

This need to connect art with a purpose and rise above modern constructs may shed light on his evolving drive to use more primitive types of kilns. "I designed and built this train-style kiln. I knew nothing about kiln building to begin with, but from failure, you learn a lot."

O'Connor will be heading back to North Dakota to finish several large urns that will be exhibited this summer in upstate New York.

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In Heavy Rotation

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



Deathsquad Media

Pointless Podcast Kevin Pereira

If you're like me and miss the days of the old G4 channel, this podcast is a welcome replacement for the channel dedicated to technology news, comedy, and video games. Kevin Pereira brings his well known wit and charm to an hour long interview with some of the biggest names in the industry. The interviews aren't stiff, they sound like actually conversations, which certainly adds to the hilarity.

-Francis Flisiuk
Arts & Culture Editor

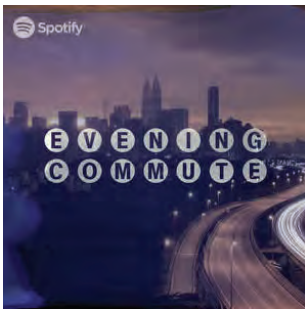


Capitol Records

Heart is a Wheel Linda Rondstadt

Okay, so maybe the *Inside Llewyn Davis* soundtrack sent me on a country/folk/bluegrass kick that isn't showing any signs of slowing down, but the combination of light and fun songs with the ones that will break your heart on this album can't be beat.

-Sidney Dritz
News Editor



Spotify playlist

Evening Commute

I always have a hard time finding or creating a good playlist to listen to while I'm working. This has the right type of mix, where I'm not constantly clicking the next button. I do that a lot. I know I'm not the only one. When production night rolls around at the Free Press, this playlist is on repeat every Saturday.

-Sokvonny Chhouk
Design Director

"This is about gathering information and learning a process, more than anything else."

-Shawn O'Connor
USM alumnus and ceramic artist

These materials create a precarious tepee structure that surrounds the pottery and is lit from the bottom. "It's a very sort of primitive way to make a kiln that can be done anywhere," he said.

O'Connor explained that kilns have been used as a method of making clay and pottery for thousands of years. Essentially a thermally insulated oven, a kiln permanently alters the chemical and physical properties of the clay by treating it to very high temperatures.

However, this primitive mode of firing ceramics comes with drawbacks. "I told the students, have very low expectations. This is about gathering information and learning a process, more than anything else. It's very aggressive. You know, the temperature

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Arts & Culture Recommends: *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*

Join the actors of the USM Theatre Department for an interactive night of murder, mystery and musical production

Matthew Donovan
Contributor

The USM Theatre department is letting the audience decide “whodunit” with the premiere of the Tony Award-winning murder mystery musical *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*.

The Mystery of Edwin Drood is shaping to be a musical that narrows the distance between audience and player interaction, where the ending of the story is entirely up to its viewers.

Over the next two weeks, USM students will be taking to the stage in this interesting take on Charles Dickens’s unfinished, final novel, in an event that can only be described as metatheatrical in nature.

“It is shrouded in love, tragedy, murder, mystery and comedy, but how these are implemented in the show are up to you—the viewer,” said Wil Kilroy, professor of theater and director of the play.

The setting of *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* helps illustrate that the show is essentially a play within a play. The show is set in the Music Hall Royale, home of a quirky acting troupe, that has decided to undertake their rendition of Dickens’s incomplete work. The rendition itself involves many flamboyant characters. For example, John Jasper, a somewhat bipolar choirmaster and uncle of Edwin Drood, is one of many to have fallen for Miss Bud, a music student. But the problem is, Miss Bud is engaged to Edwin Drood. In a surprising turn of events, Edwin disappears one cold Christmas Eve. What happened? Who is to blame? The ambiguity of it all makes for a spine shivering

melodrama, taking place within a stylized vision of the Victorian era.

USM musical theater major and senior Emily Davis takes her place in the cast as the title character, or so it seems. She actually plays Alice Nutting, a famous male impersonator, who portrays Edwin Drood. Davis is essentially an actor, playing an actor, playing a character.

“I have never had to portray a boy. It’s been very fun though. This show is the most unique show I have ever been a part of, and it is unlike anything I’ve ever done,” said Davis.

Carolyn Glaude, senior and musical theater major, plays the role of the beautiful Miss Bud and is more than excited to be a part of this production.

“This is the most prepared I’ve ever been for a play, this is my dream role,” said Glaude. “Even the actors don’t know how the produc-

“This is the most prepared I’ve ever been for a play. This is my dream role.”

-Carolyn Glaude
Senior musical theatre major

tion ends each night, so it’s all up to the audiences opinions, you’re the one’s that are going to decide.”

Caleb Lacy, a senior theater major at USM, plays the role of the chairman, the sort of mediator for the production, who bridges the gap between the audience and the stage.



Casey Ledoux / Free Press Staff

Cameron Wright, a sophomore musical theatre major, plays the role of Neville Landless.

“Since the audience votes for the outcome, each ending can and will be different. So I highly encourage people to come multiple times to see the differences,” Lacy said.

Lacy praised the show and encouraged the community to come out to see it because it’s rarely performed and hard to catch in theaters. “It’s a one of a kind experience,” said Lacy.

“People will enjoy coming inside, laughing, being entertained and escaping this long winter,” said Kilroy.

The performances of *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* will show at Russell Hall in Gorham,

with the first three performances at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. and matinees at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* will continue showings throughout the following week as well.

For more information about the showtimes and ticket pricing visit the USM Theatre Department website. They’ve also got the entire list of the cast and people involved.

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National Review

Ross’s newest album disappoints



MayBach/Slip-n-slide/Def Jam

Francis Flisiuk
Arts & Culture Editor

Rick Ross’ sixth studio album *Mastermind* has just dropped this week with yet again another rap drama embedded with the highly unoriginal themes of drugs, gun-shots and gettin’ money.

The album, full of Ross’ signature Maybach Music drops, doesn’t really add anything to the hip-hop genre that hasn’t been done or said a thousand times before. Ross seems to be aggressively inflating his gangster image at which point his claims of being the “bawse” seem a bit forced. And maybe they are in light of a recent outing by 50 Cent to being a former corrections officer. Ross is an over-the-top thug in this album and with the changing rap landscape, its starting to sound less and less believable.

Rick Ross is a self-proclaimed boss totally focused on delusions of grandeur. When he’s not comparing himself to Frank from Scarface or even Bill Belechick, he’s spitting raspy and cliché rhymes about living the life of a rich

baller that lives outside the law. From eating sushi on private jets to puffing on imported cigars and drinking Cristal, Ross is desperate to convince us he’s something special by using vivid imagery plucked from the life of the rich and famous.

Take the track “Rich is Gangsta” for instance, which is pretty much just a terrible attempt at trying to convince the listener that Ross is a “true player.” He raps, “you’re just smoking weed on your couch while I’m pulling cars out of the lot” and “I’m a young mogul, like Bo Jackson, a true switch hitter.” He then goes on to describe his Benz, his whores, his Cubans and his yachts, which have all reached “gold status.” According to Ross, his rise to fame is “just beginning.” Well let’s just hope it ends soon.

The only strength the album has lies with Ross’ featuring artists. *Mastermind* includes these 12 artists from the rap game: The Weeknd, French Montana, Jeezy, Tracy T, Mavado, Jay Z, Diddy, Kanye West, Lil Wayne, Meek Mill, 160 Sizzla and Big Sean. They at least add some diversity in rap styles. One collaboration in particular, “The Devil is a Lie,” stands out as the best track on the album, but is probably due to the skills of the collaborator Jay Z and some clever sampling of Gene William’s song “Don’t Let Your Love Fade Away.”

However, *Mastermind* is still a testament to what happens when a rap career turns stale. The album could easily be swapped with Ross’ previous one *God Forgives, I Don’t* and probably only the serious hip-hop heads would notice. Filled with unimaginative lyrics, gross overstatements, too many grunts and an auto-pilot delivery from Ross, *Mastermind* lacks in originality and is better off left out of your hip-hop playlist.

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Local Review

Epidural fulfills simple pleasures



Teenareena Records

Dan Kelly
Free Press Staff

Epidural, released by Portland’s native the Metal Feathers, is a joke, but humor makes life enjoyable.

These sounds are lo-fi, with the production quality of a garage and a synthesizer. The songs are simple, but with harmonies and rhythms that work well with one another. Indie sounds mixed with heavy Beatles influence are delivered with a punk attitude—almost as if the Beastie Boys and the ‘60s psychedelic movement formed to make an offspring that grew up in the ‘90s nerd-rock era. Whatever the Metal Feathers are the product of, they sound great and certainly don’t take their work too seriously.

“Such a Good Singer Only Need One Note,” for example, is exactly as the title suggests—no complicated melodies to worry about with only one note singing all the lyrics. A repeating progression of three chords and a loose groove come together

to create a sound that is anything but tight. Sloppiness is the key here, and this track nails it. A relaxed feel lets you feel the same.

Not to say that *Epidural* is overly simplistic, however. “All I Do is Dream All Day,” for instance, is reminiscent of early Weezer, but with a spot of John Lennon. Falsetto backup vocals add a nice touch to the vintage influence, and a mixed-back synthesizer singing upper-level chord tones creates a drone-like feel. Finally, a slow tempo and a melodramatic chord progression successfully conveys that American teen angst that can never quite be fully extinguished.

What makes *Epidural* a good album is that it cannot, and should not, be taken seriously. Pay attention to the value of humor. The Metal Feathers are able to make you laugh and enjoy yourself.

Without digging down, *Epidural*, on a surface level, delivers good tunes in an uncomplicated way. Below the surface, however, one should question the limited value that our culture affords to humor.

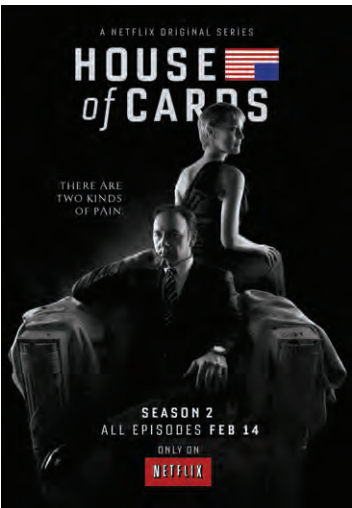
While most people enjoy a good joke, few professional settings place a central role on the value of laughing and fooling around. While this sounds intuitive—goofing around wastes time, right? It robs us of our potential. Enjoying ourselves leads to insight and creativity, which can lead to substantial progress and positive change.

While *Epidural* is not likely to become the subject of scholarly study, it deserves merit. The tracks on this album point to the worth of a light-hearted disposition and remind us of one the more enjoyable aspects of life.

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Netflix Review

Kevin Spacey’s back and better than ever



Netflix/Media Rights Capital

Martin Conte
Free Press Staff

Not long into the first episode of Netflix’s latest installation of *House of Cards*, Vice President Frank Underwood is sitting in his favorite ribs joint in D.C, across from the chef and proprietor of the establishment, Freddy. Freddy is describing an illegal way of slaughtering pigs, a process of slow bleeding where “They can smell it coming. You stick that pipe in their throat, the next ten minutes is hell.” This gory image will haunt the rest of the season in a show already notorious for its viciousness and visceral cruelty. It is hard to imagine a Frank Underwood harder and more villainous than he has already been portrayed. But the blood spilled in the last season becomes blood

gorily celebrated in this next virulent and utterly brilliant step in Underwood’s plot for domination.

Season two picks up exactly where season one left off; the Underwoods run down a hill out of the dark into a political and personal landscape fraught with mines waiting to explode. Kevin Spacey is once again impeccable, delivering knavish speeches in that hearty Southern drawl that has become a haunting staple of American pop culture. But it is Robin Wright, playing Frank’s equally chilling wife Claire Underwood, who continues to shine as the rough gem of the show. Given the success and popularity Claire had as a character in season one (which garnered Wright a Golden Globe last year), this season offers her even more opportunity to develop as a complex individual with her own poisonous form of power. There is nothing but stark determination as she faces down a dissident pregnant woman, sneering, “I’d let your child wither and die inside you, if that’s what’s necessary.” Where Frank is conniving and cruel, Claire is silent and brooding. Frank is a lion stalking its prey, while Claire is a snake, subliminal and unnoticed until she chooses to lash out ferociously.

One of the most entrancing and challenging aspects of Underwood’s character is how he reflects Shakespeare’s monumental villain Richard III. Through a complex of soliloquies delivered directly to the audience (in this case, the camera lens), we are of-

fered particular insight into the plots and schemes Underwood is conjuring. A nod, a quick glance at the camera, a smirk, each unseen by the other characters in the story, forces us as viewers into the positions of privileged confidante. At the close of the first episode, Underwood turns to stare at us through a bathroom mirror, asking “Did you think I’d forgotten you? Perhaps you hoped I had.” Unlike perhaps any other television show in history, *House of Cards* incites in the viewer a feeling of guilty complicity in its villainy; Underwood’s asides to us force us to take partial responsibility for his actions. We have a privileged view of the pain and suffering each character is about to undergo, but instead of watching from the perspective of the hero who will save them, we become partners in crime with the very villain plaguing them.

Frank and Claire Underwood may be the most terrifying monsters to ever cross our path in television, but in a real world political climate that screams corruption, crime and insatiable lusts for power, they’re not the monsters under the bed, but rather the monsters at our front door. They’re easy to hate, but hard to abandon; we watch in equal parts revulsion and seduction, always painfully aware of our complicity, as viewers, in the destruction they sow. In Frank’s own words, “there is but one rule: hunt, or be hunted. Welcome back.”

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Oscars Recap

A night of selfies, pizza and memories

Martin Conte
Free Press Staff

Last Sunday, March 2nd, film royalty once again gathered to celebrate the 86th Annual Academy Awards.

Following the fiasco of Seth McFarlane’s sexist and enraging performance as last year’s host, Ellen DeGeneres returned for her second whirl, delighting the audience by dressing as Dorothy in Oz, distributing slices of pizza, and taking a selfie surrounded by celebrities that became the most retweeted photo of all time in less than half an hour.

This year’s award show included few upsets, though most believe the real scandal came in the nominations.

Critics were amazed to see that Tom Hanks was not offered a nod for his gripping role in *Captain Phillips* and J.C Chandor’s second film *All is Lost* was all but ignored in the major categories. Still, *Gravity* was awarded its due in all categories of technical awards, including editing, sound mixing and visual effects. *Gravity*’s Alfonso Cuaron received a well-earned oscar for directing, quipping about how the monumental project transformed him by turning his hair gray.

Steve McQueen and the producers of *12 Years a Slave* went home with the Best Picture win, a win McQueen celebrated exu-

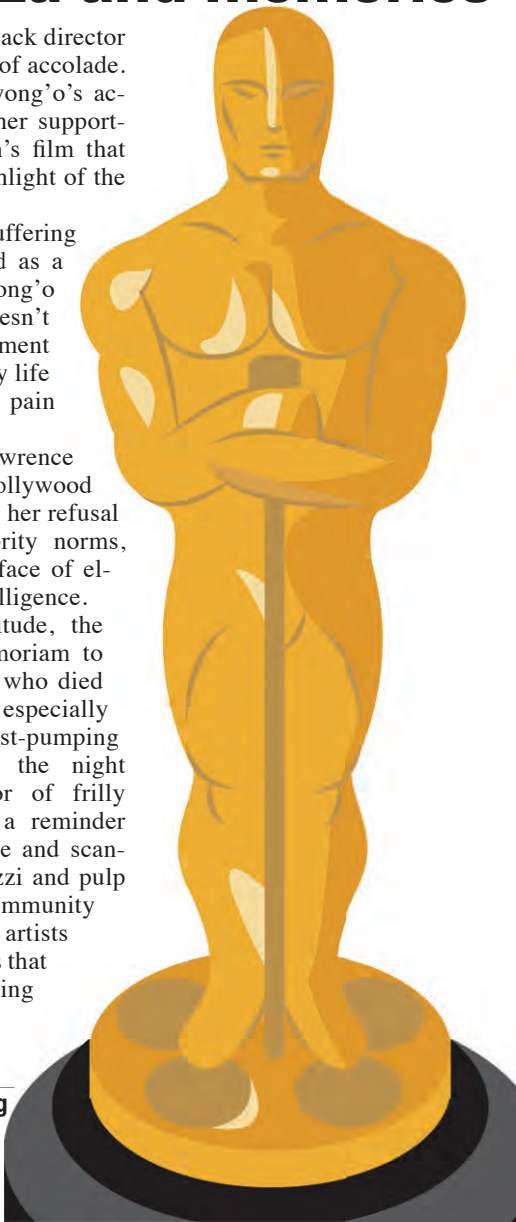
berantly as the first Black director to garner this highest of accolade. But it was Lupita Nyong’o’s acceptance speech for her supporting role in McQueen’s film that stands as the true highlight of the evening.

Meditating on the suffering her character endured as a plantation slave, Nyong’o expressed how, “It doesn’t escape me for one moment that so much joy in my life is thanks to so much pain in someone else’s.”

Where Jennifer Lawrence is the darling of Hollywood for her quirkiness and her refusal to conform to celebrity norms, Nyong’o is the new face of elegance, class and intelligence.

Ellen’s campy attitude, the heart wrenching memorial to those in the industry who died this past year, and especially McQueen’s epic fist-pumping celebration changed the night from its usual color of frilly self-indulgence into a reminder that, beneath the hype and scandal stirred by paparazzi and pulp journalism lies a community of actors, writers and artists striving to create films that are honest, challenging and beautiful.

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A&C Listings

Monday, March 10

Swearin
Space Gallery
538 Congress St.
Show: 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 11

The Glitch Mob
State Theatre
609 Congress St.
Doors: 7:00 p.m. / Show: 8:00 p.m.

Houndmouth
Port City Music Hall
504 Congress St.
Show: 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 12

Islands
Port City Music Hall
504 Congress St.
Show: 9:00 p.m.

Clash of the Titans: Wilco vs. The Shins
Empire
575 Congress St.
Doors: 6:15 p.m. / Show: 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 13

Kung Fu
Port City Music Hall
504 Congress St.
Show: 9:00 p.m.

Richard Shindell
One Longfellow Square
181 State St.
Doors: 7:00 p.m. / Show: 8:00 p.m.

Fiddlehead Green Gala
Asylum
121 Center St.
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 9:00 p.m.

Friday, March 14

The Manhattan Transfer
Asylum
121 Center St.
Doors: 8:00 p.m. / Show: 9:00 p.m.

Reykjavik Calling
Space Gallery
538 Congress St.
Show: 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 15

Maine Roller Derby Bout: Lucky Lass
Happy Wheels Skate Center
331 Warren Ave
All Day

My Name is Rachel Corrie
Portland Ballet Studio Theater
517 Forest Ave
Doors: 7:00 p.m. / Show: 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 16

Bryan Graf Photo Exhibition: Moving Across the Interior
Maine College of Art
522 Congress St
Lecture and opening reception: 7:00 p.m.

Flash Forward: Student Photography Exhibit
Salt Institute for Documentary Studies
561 Congress St.
All Day

Want to submit an event?
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Perspectives

Our Opinion

Boosting involvement a two-way street

Student elections are right around the corner, and you may be thinking to yourself, “So what?” The majority of senate seats are going to be uncontested, voting on the referendum questions doesn’t necessarily mean anything will come of them and with only a week until polls open, we’re not entirely sure what specific issues any presidential candidates want to make priorities.

But many of the candidates seem to agree on one thing, the lack of a tight-knit community atmosphere at USM that welcomes everyone. It’s often attributed to funding, the split campuses or how busy everyone is, but what we think the university needs is a little more effort from all sides—that is, from the voters and the candidates.

Data from last year’s election shows that a total of 580 students voted for a student body president and the most who voted for any referendum question was 479. That’s out of a total student population of more than 6,000. Compared to the figures from 2009, this is an improvement, with only 409 voting for president, and in 2008 only 345 voted.

Despite steadily dropping enrollment numbers, more students are pushing to become part of the community. We see this reflected in a rise in the number of student groups and in the number of students who voted, but we can do better.

Last year’s number of votes is not that high when we’re talking about the people in charge of the funding of student activities that comes out the pockets of every USM student. Last week we tried to encourage students to speak up and get involved. We don’t want USM students to be labeled as apathetic. While it’s easy to focus on the lack of bodies showing up at the polls and write a call to action to the average student, we’d also like to ask students who are already involved to make it their responsibility to increase student activism and general knowledge about how the university operates.

Students might ask themselves whether it even matters if they vote. And the answer is that it might not — unless we all decide to make it matter. Students should be more involved, but this also means that student leaders should be an asset to the student body.

What does this mean? What do we expect from the incoming candidates?

Student leaders should be a resource for the rest of the student body. This year, for instance, they have acted as liaisons between the student body and the administration to communicate what students want and expect during the Direction Package Advisory Board meetings while it determined the future direction of the university. This type of work and a commitment to understanding of the intricacies of university politics is essential for student leaders to make informed decisions.

Creating a community at USM is not a one-way street, and it’s difficult. We can’t only ask that students come out to more meetings, vote more in elections, or get involved. We should also expect that student leaders reach out to them and make themselves available publicly whether this means visiting classes, tabling or walking around the campus center introducing yourself. We can’t expect miraculous election turnout and involvement at USM without a little grassroots, man-on-the-ground action.



Sustainability and ME Climate neutrality means a brighter future

Shaun Carland
Contributor

A USM committee generated the University’s Climate Action Plan, entitled “USM’s Guide to a Climate Neutral Education,” in 2010, under former president Selma Botman. In 2008, USM signed the American College & University President’s Climate Commitment, which publicly declared the USM’s commitment to achieving climate neutrality by 2040. But what exactly is climate neutrality, what is the university doing to achieve it, and why does it matter?

The university will achieve climate neutrality by cutting at least 80 percent of greenhouse gases while offsetting the remaining emissions. Offsetting means cancelling out difficult-to-avoid pollution by taking actions to reduce or capture emissions that would otherwise occur at a differ-

ent location. It will be difficult to transition all of our heating and energy infrastructure to carbon-neutral technologies by 2040, but with offsets, USM can pay to support green power generation elsewhere while offsetting traditional heat and electrical generation on-campus.

Since the plan was enacted, the university has taken steps to achieve carbon neutrality. A gradual shift from oil to natural gas, a lower carbon fuel, in the Portland campus’s central heating plant and other buildings has prevented over one thousand tons of carbon dioxide emissions from being released and has saved USM over \$300,000 yearly since 2011. Facilities Management has implemented a “Vehicle Management Plan” to replace old university fleet vehicles with the most fuel efficient option, and this winter facilities completed a major up-

See **CLIMATE** on page 12

You Are Wrong

History’s not history, yet

Thaddeus Moriarty
Staff Writer

I’m Thaddeus Moriarty, and you are wrong. Why?

Because you’re not studying history. You’re here at USM studying business, or physical therapy, or nutrition, or underwater basket-weaving — but you’re not studying history. And why not? It’s common knowledge that history majors and professors are the most clever, interesting and beautiful people in academia. Seriously, just go ask any history professor. Go ahead. I’ll wait.

Everyone knows the adage: “those who don’t learn history are doomed to repeat it.” Well, it’s not untrue, but it is a little misleading. History is always repeating itself, like a record, baby. It has nothing to do with learning it or not (although, you’re wrong because you don’t), but rather because the world simply goes through cycles that can be easily observed. The recorded centuries can be studied and boiled down to an interconnected series of events that shape the future so they happen all over again. Think *The Butterfly Effect*, only less Ashton Kutcher-y and more Allan Whitmore-y.

Alright, alright. I know what you’re thinking. This study of history doesn’t sound very glamorous, does it? It’s a lot of dates and names and memorization of things that are very, very dead, right? Wrong again. History is very much alive, and it gives us insight into the present and the fu-



ture in ways that are easily taken for granted. Just think about how far we’ve come to get to where we are today! If you went back to the earliest days of the United States

Ellen Spahn / Design Assistant and, stepping out of your Thaddecorp® Time-o-Matic, showed George Washington a picture of Barack Obama on your iPhone,

See **WRONG** on page 12

the free press

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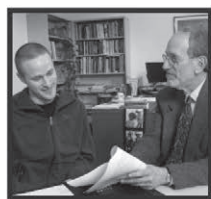
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* Have no more than 9 credits
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780-4629

From **CLIMATE** on page 11
date to the Gorham Central Heat Plant that will result in an estimated seven percent greenhouse gas reduction.

Why does climate neutrality matter? It matters because climate change is a harsh reality that will indiscriminately affect us all. Reports like the International Energy Agency's World Energy Outlook predict an 11 degrees Fahrenheit increase in temperature by 2100 if there are not drastic cuts in the world's global emission output, especially in developed countries like the United States and Canada. Steven LeBlanc of Harvard University and author of *Population Growth, Carrying Capacity and Conflict* argues that our current rates of emissions will result in a drastic cut in the planet's carrying capacity, severely reduce resources vital to life such as freshwater, and spark global conflicts and wars over dwindling resources.

Climate change threatens the very existence of the Portland campus and everyone who goes to school and works here. "Effects of Sea-level Rise on Maine," a report released by the Natural Resource Council of Maine, predicts that the body of water in Back Cove may reach and wash out portions of the USM Portland campus by 2100, and within 50 to 100 years, neighborhoods such as Oakdale, Baxter Boulevard, East Deering, portions of I-295 and over 1,000

acres in downtown Portland (including all of Commercial street) may be wiped out. In the meantime, ever more severe storms threaten all three of our campuses.

But none of this is absolute. By taking actions today, the university will reduce its financial burdens on inefficient energy usage and its environmental impact on future generations. As the only research institute in the area, USM provides education not only through its academic curriculum but also by using the campus as a living laboratory and exploring and sharing how the campuses are built, designed and powered. By sending the message that it is a priority to reduce greenhouse gases, the university affirms the paradigm of environmental stewardship in the lives of its students, staff, faculty and alumni.

Want to take steps towards reducing your carbon footprint? Visit the Office of Sustainability's website at usm.maine.edu/sustainability to learn about sustainable transportation, recycling and waste reduction and other ways you can lower your emissions. To read the climate action plan, visit usm.maine.edu/sustainability/climate-action-plan.

Shaun Carland is a mathematics and computer science major and a research assistant at the Office of Sustainability.

From **WRONG** on page 11
he would be astounded that his fledgling America had progressed to such a point where an African American could be president. And then burn you at the stake for witchcraft. (No refunds, sorry.)

I bring all this up not only to glorify the bastion of knowledge that is the USM History Department or the sexnuggets that are its students, but also to bring attention to something that is less whimsical than my usual topics — the current violence in the Ukraine. What began in November 2013 as a series of political protests against a pro-Moscow leader has exploded into a staring contest between Russia and the United States and — guess what? We've done all this before.

Boom: history.

Vladimir Putin, president of the Russian Federation, was a member of the KGB (the Russian Secret Service), during the days of the USSR and, in politics, has always been a hard-liner for both restoring and protecting the power, glory and independent sovereignty of his country. He has a proud history of criticizing countries like the United States for trying to force "Western" policy on Russia. Thus, when President Obama released a (rather patronizing) statement condemning Russia's foreseeable involvement in the half-Russian, once-Soviet-state Ukraine, Putin was understandably miffed. It was kind of similar to telling your girlfriend or boyfriend "Don't you dare argue with me!" and no dessert for a month if they do. Let me know

how that goes.

Now we have Putin sending troops into Ukraine to place the ousted pro-Russia leader back in office under the guise of national security (Operation Ukrainian Freedom, perhaps?) while ignoring further American allowance-taking threats, and countries from Europe and elsewhere taking one side or the other. It's managing

to condense into a whole lot of glaring across-the-table over a country that is as divided as everyone else. Sound familiar? Your daddy called it "the Cold War." Look it up.

That's my point about history.

Things that are happening right now in the Ukraine can be traced back to things that Putin said in his Munich speech in 2007, and before that to the Western world's involvement in the Soviet collapse of 1991, and before that to the Berlin Wall in 1961, and before even that to the fall of the Third Reich in 1945, and so on and so forth. Whether or not this conflict in Europe will lead to World War III is yet to be seen, but the dots of how we got to this point are there. They just have to be connected. That's why you should study history: to connect those dots. Once you do, you'll find yourself learning more than just where we came from, or where we might be going. You'll also learn about yourself, and your today.

Still convinced you shouldn't take a history course?

Well, you are wrong.

Thaddeus Moriarty is senior history major.

Crossword

- Across
1. Made a hole-in-one
5. Make 'it' again, in a game
10. Human rubbish
14. Former Milan money
15. Greek epic poem written in dactylic hexameter
16. French magazine
17. Temperamental person
19. Fashion name
20. Take place
21. Noted role for Art Carney
23. Journalist Jacob
26. Tracks
27. Cause of an out
32. Sitcom star Charlotte
33. Ship navigation aid
34. Tending to ooze
38. Biblical wife
40. Foch and Simone
42. Ballpark near Ashe Stadium
43. "R.U.R." dramatist
45. Seoul's home
47. Grammar school basics, briefly
48. Breakfast loaf
51. Extent
54. Teri of 'Tootsie'
55. Take lightly
58. 2005 #1 album by Ashlee Simpson
62. Month after Shebat
63. Indication of no fever, briefly
66. ____ Puente, the Mambo King
67. Indigo shrubs
68. "Able was I ____ saw Elba"
69. Put on cargo
70. Work on, as a stubborn squeak

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17				18							19			
20							21			22				
			23		24	25		26						
27	28	29					30	31						
32				33					34		35	36	37	
38			39		40				41		42			
43				44		45				46		47		
			48		49						50			
51	52	53						54						
55						56	57			58		59	60	61
62					63			64	65					
66					67						68			
69					70						71			

Down

1. Dog food brand endorsed by Lorne Greene
2. Round:Abbr
3. Football Hall of Famer Dickerson
4. Decorous
5. Disabuse (of)
6. 'Evil Woman' rock group
7. Pea piercer
8. Texas ____ M
9. Birthplace of Solidarity
10. American Beauties
11. O'Connor's Supreme Court replacement
12. Elevator operator's query

13. Bracken plants.
18. Durant who co-wrote "The Story of Civilization"
22. Unlocks, in poetry
24. "The Heat ____" (Glenn Frey hit)
25. Work stoppage
27. ____ II (Gillette razor)
28. "Mary ____ little lamb"
29. Gather grain
30. Talked and talked
31. Where a bug is snug
35. Honor: Ger.
36. Section of Istanbul.
37. Word with arm or stick
39. Living "fence"
41. ____ high standard

44. Good last name for a veterinarian
46. Month after marzo, in Mexico
49. Ball of the thumb
50. For adults, as films
51. Bar aspirants' hurdles, briefly
52. Bring to a close
53. Peachy-keen
56. Top-rated
57. Half a sextet
59. A ____ pittance: very little
60. Sras., in Savoie
61. Like some struggles
64. 1051 on monuments
65. Gallaudet Col. communication method

Sudoku

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

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

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

The solution to last issue's crossword

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

Cryptogram

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

GFWCEK OHJ
KRRKXJFNK SBNFXK
RMY NKQKJSOEK
QSYBKIKYG: ZKKB
JTKW SIB YKSC!

And here is your hint:

G = S



Weekly Horoscope

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



Aries
March 21-April 19

★★★★★

Your natural stage presence, love of fun, and talent for amusing or entertaining others is in focus. Have a good time!



Libra
September 23-October 22

★★★

Safety needs are in focus. Avoid being stodgy, possessive or stuck in the past. Share warmth, affection, and security with loved ones.



Taurus
April 20-May 20

★★

If you ask, you can get reassurance about a family matter. Blood remains thicker than water.



Scorpio
October 23-November 21

★★★★★

Teamwork comes naturally today. The urge to cooperate with others is strong and your diplomacy makes the atmosphere pleasant.



Gemini
May 21-June 20

★★★

Small problems in the home can be solved by a practical focus. Be willing to help those you love.



Sagittarius
November 22-December 21

★★

Loved ones make demands on your pocketbook. Toe the line between over indulgence and too much denial.



Cancer
June 21-July 22

★★★

A friend needs some extra support today. Your warmth and assistance will be very important.



Capricorn
December 22-January 19

★★★

Control emerges as an issue with household members today. Balance your power with love and a happy result can occur.



Leo
July 23-August 22

★★★

Today you have a stronger need than usual to have your work under your own, personal control.



Aquarius
January 20-February 18

★★★★★

Don't be afraid to reach toward your dreams. Fear stops you only if you let it. Plan carefully for that first, essential move--and then make it.



Virgo
August 23-September 22

★

Illusions come crashing to earth, but you're prepared to face reality. You do what must be done to cope.



Pisces
February 19-March 20

★★★

Put something away (no matter how small) as a start toward a private fantasy. Begin saving for your daydream now.

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Sports

From small town life to the international games

USM athletic trainer Ben Towne shares his Olympic experience

Justicia Barreiros
Sports Editor

The opportunity of a lifetime was years in the making for Ben Towne, lecturer and clinic coordinator of athletic training at USM, who returned to Maine just last week after traveling with the U.S. Olympic teams to Sochi, Russia. Towne was chosen to be one of 17 athletic trainers to travel to the 2014 Winter Olympics with team U.S.A. The application and selection process takes years, to ensure that they have the best medical staff possible to travel with Olympic athletes.

For Towne, the process actually began eight years ago when he applied for the U.S. Olympic Committee's volunteer sports medicine program—the very same year he began working at USM. “They either accept you or they don’t, and you complete a two-week stint at one of the Olympic training centers,” said Towne. “You work with all the athletes, physicians, chiropractors and massage therapists, [and] as you

“Watching the opening ceremonies was one of the most surreal experiences I’ve ever been through.”

-Ben Towne
Lecturer and Clinic Coordinator of Athletic Training

cycle through they evaluate you. Everybody is evaluated, from the coaches and the athletes, even down to the permanent sports medicine staff.”

According to Towne, after passing the first level of evaluations, medical staff members are given the okay to travel with the teams within the United States, during which they are evaluated again. If approved, the staff members will then be given the chance to travel internationally with the U.S. teams to World Cup and World Championship events.

After having traveled multiple times with the team and passing all evaluations, Towne was entered into the pool to work on the Olympic Team's medical staff. “Thankfully for me it all worked out with Sochi,” said Towne. “They offered me a chance to travel with the team in the regu-



Photo courtesy of Ben Towne
Ben Towne (right), clinic coordinator of athletic training at USM, pictured with USA skeleton Bronze Medalist Matt Antoine (left) during the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia.



Photo courtesy of Ben Towne
Ben Towne excited to be at the winter Olympics in Sochi snapped at selfie in front of a Sochi 2014 sign.

lar season, so I was actually gone for a couple of months and then moved seamlessly into the Olympics.”

Towne was assigned specifically as an athletic trainer for the U.S. skeleton and bobsled teams, which provided him with a challenging and learning experience. “I realized that experience is important and getting to know the athletes for the last few years, getting to know the sport and the physical demands of it was something that I didn’t have when I first started, especially with

bobsled and skeleton because it’s not like I’m covering bobsled and skeleton events throughout the year,” said Towne.

Although he spent the majority of his time with his assigned teams, Towne was also able to work with other athletes.

“You end up treating various athletes as they come through the sports medicine clinic, so I ended up working with some ski and snowboarding athletes who came through,” he said.

See **OLYMPICS** on page 15

Must Watch Games

Saturday	Saturday
Men's Lacrosse Husson @ USM 12:00 p.m.	Women's Lacrosse MIT @ USM 3:00 p.m.



Quick Hits:

The Huskies' week in review

Women's Lacrosse

Huskies fall in season opener against Bates

Bates' 16-5 victory over USM last Tuesday increased their record to 2-1, while the Huskies fell to 0-1. The leading scorer for the Huskies was senior Jacki Kelly with two goals, while freshman Lauren Lesard and juniors Laura Fay and Nicole LaPlante each added one goal. USM's next game is Tuesday against Colby College.

Men's Lacrosse

UNE defeats USM 14-4

The USM Huskies fell 14-4 to the UNE Nor'easters. With this loss, the Huskies fall to 0-2, while the win was the first of the season for the Nor'easters after they opened with a pair of losses. For the Huskies, the leading scorer of the game was sophomore Austin Watts with two goals while freshmen Seth Wing and Tyler Jamison contributed one goal each. Senior captain Dylan Kenney had an assist and scooped up a game-high 10 ground balls, while sophomore goalie Ryan Jurgelevich finished the game with a career-high 17 saves. The Huskies' next game is Thursday against St. Joseph's College.

Wrestling

Deupree wins 184-pound title

Ten USM wrestlers traveled to Wesleyan University in Connecticut to compete in the NCAA Division III Northeast Regional Championships on Sunday March 1. Overall the team scored 30.5 points, placing 13th of the 18 teams present.

Huskies' freshman Khalil Newbill and Daniel Del Gallo each narrowly missed All-Region honors performing 2-2 in the 125 and 149 pound brackets respectively.

Junior Jonathan Deupree dominated the 184-pound bracket. Winning the regional title earned Deupree a spot in the NCAA Division III National Championship Tournament coming up on Friday and Saturday, March 14-15. Deupree was also recognized as the co-Most Outstanding Wrestler, making him the first USM wrestler to earn this honor.

Men's Indoor Track

Collins wins 500 meter, breaks his fourth school record

The Huskies attended the ECAC Division III Championships held in Boston on Friday and Saturday March 7-8. Sophomore Jeremy Collins scored points for the team when he won the men's 500 meter event, also setting his fourth school record. Collins has now broken the 200, 400, 500 and 600 meter events during this season. The additional points for the Huskies were scored by the 4-by-200 meter relay team. Altogether the team scored a total of 18 points during the two-day meet.

While waiting for the NCAA to announce the official list of athletes that qualified for the Division III Championships, the Huskies' 4-by-400 meter relay team was ranked first in the nation, and Collins and Ruginski are ranked within the top 15 outline for individual events.

Women's Indoor Track

Four Huskies earn All-ECAC honors

Also in attendance at the ECAC Division III Championships, the lady Huskies score a total of 25 points during the two-day meet. Sophomores Nicole Kirk, who placed fifth in the 400 meter dash, and Hannah Damron, who placed third in the 800 meter dash, both earned All-ECAC honors. In field events, junior Peyton Dostie earned the All-ECAC title with her seventh place finish in the long jump, while freshman Ashley Belanger earned the title by placing fifth in shot put on Friday. The Huskies also received points for the fourth place finish of their 4-by-400 meter relay team.

Men's Lacrosse

Huskies play strong, falling 6-7 against Curry

After a well fought game, the tied score in the final quarter was broken by Curry College's Harrison Foster scoring an unassisted goal with just a minute remaining. Sophomore Austin Watts scored two of USM's goals, and junior Ryan Jurgelevich rebroke his personal record with a career high 18 saves. USM will play again on Thursday against St. Joseph's College at Deering's Memorial Stadium in Portland.

From **OLYMPICS** on page 14

This wasn't Towne's first time traveling with the team outside of the United States, having also traveled to France, Italy, Germany, Switzerland and Austria. "Those were all two-week stints so I'd just leave for two weeks, work with them and then come back," said Towne. "It was different this time—and much longer—but it was kind of nice because you get to work with the athletes for an entire two months so you really get to know their bodies and they get continuity of care."

Towne explained that while the athletes are on tour, they typically have a new athletic trainer every two weeks. "So they have to start the process over again, or if one trainer was handling an injury you have to hand it over to the next person cycling through," he said.

This was Towne's first Olympic experience. Although his work schedule didn't allow him to watch many of the events other than bobsled and skeleton racing, he was given the opportunity to march with Team U.S.A. in the opening and closing ceremonies. "I was really fortunate that the team voted for me to march with them and that was really cool because I got a chance to meet a lot of other people from other countries whether they're medical staff or athletes, and to chat with them and sort of have a front row seat for all that," said Towne. "Watching the opening ceremonies was one of the most surreal experiences I've ever been through—it was incredible."

Originally from the small town of Denmark, Maine, and having attended public universities for his bachelor and post-graduate studies, Towne explained that it

doesn't matter whether you went to a public or private university or whether you're from a small town, you can still reach high level of professionalism in a given field.

"I remember when I was in college I really wanted to work with elite level athletes—that was a goal of mine—to be able to that is incredibly satisfying." And he did just that.

Towne expressed that he is very grateful for all of the support he has received from his mentors, colleagues and students within the USM sports sciences community. "Without them being supportive of me traveling over the last several years, I wouldn't be talking to you about my experience at the Olympics," said Towne. "But because they were so supportive and understood—converting classes to online for a week or two at a time—I just feel really blessed to be a part of something like that."

"I feel like I get to have my cake and eat it too," he said. "I get to teach, and I still get to practice as an athletic trainer," said Towne. "It's always good when you have a faculty member that still has to go out there to manage concussions and make difficult return-to-play decisions."

Towne proudly mentioned that both of the U.S. teams he was with medaled in every event. "Men's and women's skeleton and men's and women's bobsled all took home at least bronze, so it was a really, really successful Olympics," he said. "It's been awesome—really the coolest experience I've had so far in this profession, so I'm really fired up."

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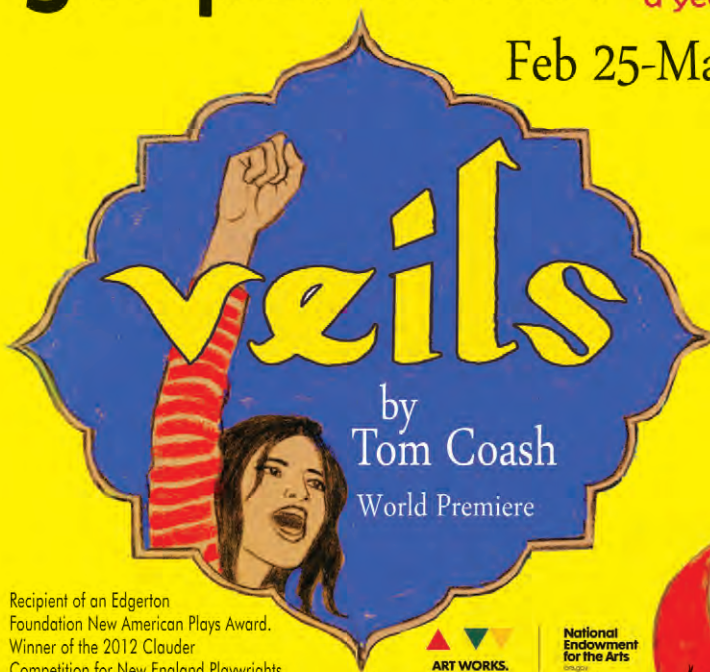
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This Week

March 11

Women's Lacrosse

Colby
 @ USM
 4:00 p.m.

March 13

Men's Lacrosse

St. Joseph's College
 vs USM
 @ Deering Stadium
 4:30 p.m.

Women's Lacrosse

USM
 @ UNE
 5:00 p.m.

March 14

**Men's Indoor Track
 NCAA DIII Championship**
 @ Nebraska Wesleyan

**Women's Indoor Track
 NCAA DIII Championship**
 @ Nebraska Wesleyan

**Wrestling
 NCAA DIII Championship**
 @ Cedar Rapids, Iowa

March 15

Men's Tennis
 USM
 @ Colby
 12:00 p.m.

**Baseball & Softball
 Florida Invitationals**

Scoreboard

March 2

**Wrestling
 NCAA Regional
 Championship**
 30.5 pts; 13 of 18 teams

March 4

Women's Lacrosse
 USM 5
 Bates 16

March 5

Men's Lacrosse
 USM 4
 UNE 14

March 7

**Men's Indoor Track
 ECAC DIII Championship**
 USM 21st place

**Women's Indoor Track
 ECAC DIII Championship**
 USM 14th place

March 8

Men's Lacrosse
 USM 6
 Curry College 7

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USM COMMUNITY PAGE



Community Spotlight: Go Zen with mindful meditation

Nate Bari
Free Press Staff

The Mindfulness Group offers students a way to unwind and reflect through meditation.

Each Tuesday, the Mindfulness Group assembles from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Sullivan Recreation and Fitness Complex in the Multipurpose Room.

The group was started by the USM Health and Counseling Services' suicide prevention initiative USM CARES with the meditation and spiritual guidance of John Baugher, associate professor of sociology and Buddhist community advisor with the Interfaith Chaplain. USM CARES, founded in fall 2011, was developed by Robert Small, clinical director of Health and Counseling Services.

Psychologist Micheline Hagan, coordinator of the USM CARES initiative, reached out to Baugher to head the project. "She discovered an interest among students involved in the USM CARES Student Support Network for a mindfulness group on campus," said Baugher. The whole experience is intended to be very positive and welcoming, Baugher said, but with serious intentions to practice and understand meditation.

The session is broken up into a series of "sits" in which participants sit silently trying to empty their minds. "So much of our lives we spend habitually driven by thoughts and emotions, attachments and aversions, hopes and fears, and with this practice, we invite ourselves to rest in non-conceptual awareness, allowing our thoughts and emotions to come and go as they please," said Baugher. Participants are then invited to share their reflection on the experience of meditation, and they are encouraged to ask questions.

Newcomers are more than welcome to join guided sessions, Baugher said. The Mindfulness Group provides participants



Patrick Higgins / Staff Photographer
Buddhist community advisor for the Interfaith Chaplaincy John Baugher leads the Mindfulness Group. The group meets on Tuesdays in the Sullivan Gym.

with many of the basic tools they need to start meditation, like a zafu and zabuton, a set of meditation pillows designed to help the participant sit in the correct position.

Newcomers have the opportunity to learn the basics from Baugher as well. He explained that though many generally know what meditation is, few are aware of what they actually need to do when meditating. Also, a common misconception is that meditation is a method of self-help or self-improvement, he said.

"Yet meditation is not about trying to change who we are, but instead involves practicing seeing who we are with clarity and loving kindness," said Baugher.

Baugher explained that much of the energy behind the group comes largely from student Andrew Donovan, a psychology major, and Doug Cowan, a clinical counselor and multicultural coordina-

tor for University Health and Counseling Services.

Donovan talked with his fellow academic intern, Dri Huber, about starting the group last year, and he returned to counseling services for another internship this year.

"One of my goals was to create a mindfulness group," he said. "And here we are."

The grant that funds the USM CARES initiative ends this year, but according to Baugher the Mindfulness Meditation group has built community and an atmosphere of support and connection among students, staff and faculty at USM and aims to continue doing so.

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Featured Photo:



Sam Hill / Managing Editor
Vice chair of the Student Senate Will Gattis laughs as he votes to approve a measure at last Friday's meeting that would change the name of the Veterans Activity Group (VAG) to the Student Veterans Association (SVA).



Campus Events

- Monday, March 10

English Student Association (ESA) Weekly Meeting
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Room 319, Glickman Library, Portland

Graduate Studies Open House
4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Abromson Center, Portland
- Tuesday, March 11

Gorham Events Board Meeting
8:00 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.
Lower Brooks Student Center, Gorham
- Wednesday, March 12

Grief and Mourning Rituals: Religious and Spiritual Perspectives
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Woodbury Campus Center Amphitheater, Portland

Capitalism Hits the Fan: The Personal and Societal Effects of the 2008 Economic Crisis
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Hannaford Hall, Abromson Center, Portland

Women & Military Service: Lioness
6:00 p.m.
UNE Portland Campus, WCHP Lecture Hall
- Thursday, March 13

Capitalism Hits the Fan: The Personal and Societal Effects of the 2008 Economic Crisis
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Glickman Family Library, Portland

Opening Reception for USM Juried Student Exhibition
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Art Gallery, Gorham
- Friday, March 14

Husky Day of Service 2014
9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Woodbury Campus Center, Portland

Conversations with the Candidates: Eliot Cutler
11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Talbot Auditorium, Luther Bonney Hall, Portland

Anime Club
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Room 403, Bailey Hall, Gorham
- Saturday, March 15

USM Boff Club Weekly Meeting
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Wrestling Room, Costello Sports Complex, Portland

Trivia Night
8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Lower Brooks Student Center, Gorham

The Little Star That Could
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Southworth Planetarium, Portland
- For more events:
www.usm.maine.edu/events