



It's time to say goodbye ... and hello

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Sounds of sword-play

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# the free press

University of Southern Maine Student Newspaper

[usmfreepress.org](http://usmfreepress.org)

## Senate tables reduced budget

Sam Hill  
Managing Editor

The semester may be coming to an end, but the Student Government Association is still working on their biggest task—passing next year's budget.

Due to low enrollment at the university, there were less student activity funds for the senate to work with than the previous semester. An emergency meeting to balance the budget took place on March 15, and the senate worked with entities such as the Board of Student Organizations, Gorham Events Board and Portland Events Board to make cuts and create a workable budget for the rest of the semester.

Now their task is to create a budget for next year that works for all entities and groups with far less money. The senate isn't expecting more student activity funds to come in next semester and is budgeting for \$276,940 compared to last year's budget of \$337,694.

"This is a very conservative budget," said former finance committee chair Tyler Boothby. "This budget was created so that we don't have to have another one of those emergency meetings next year."

When the 42nd Student Senate held their last meeting on April 18 and turned responsibilities over to the new senators of the 43rd senate, Boothby recommended that they pass the budget as is, saying that there had been a lot of eyes on the project, and they believed it was the best option.

As the current budget recommendation stands, BSO's budget will be cut by \$16,800, PEB by \$13,601, and GEB by \$33,805. The cuts to GEB would be a 66 percent budget reduction, leaving the board \$17,175 to provide weekly programming for students all year.

Incoming GEB executive chair Chelsea Tibbetts sent a document to members of the senate titled "The Case for GEB," which cited

See **BUDGET** on page 2



Sam Hill / Managing Editor

USM library employee Adinah Barnett spoke at last Friday's #USMFuture rally in support of staff members facing layoffs at the university. Barnett addressed the budget crisis which prompted the past few months' flurry of cuts, saying, "There's plenty of money. It's just all going up, and it's not coming back down." Barnett then agreed with previous speaker and student Jules Purnell, "I do agree that cuts should come from the top."

## Staff layoffs put on hold until May 31

Sidney Dritz  
News Editor

A student rally last Friday in support of USM staff facing layoffs attracted a few faces to the rumors of shadowy eliminations of USM staff members as a part of the university's most recent attempt to cut costs.

Though the majority of the faculty retrenchments and eliminations announced as part of the same initiative have been reversed, staff cuts have proceeded throughout the year.

"Staff cuts are going on behind the scenes, I don't even know who's been cut," said USM library employee and virtual imaging associate Adinah Barnett at the rally, which the #USMFuture group organized.

"I'm glad to be speaking as a current USM employee, and I sure hope to stay that way," Barnett said.

Barnett was one of three current staff members to speak at the rally. The speakers also included one former staff member—Will Dunlay, the former director of energy and

utilities in Facilities Management.

"People are also scared to even come to the event," said junior women and gender studies major and one of the event's organizers Meaghan LaSala to the Free Press afterwards. "I think that points to the precariousness of the position people are in."

There have been 26 staff layoffs in fiscal year 2014, comprised of 15 salaried staff members and 11 hourly staff members, according to Executive Director of Public Affairs Bob Caswell.

"Certainly, if current trends hold, I think it's certain we'll be looking at additional cuts in [fiscal year 2015]," Caswell told the Free Press.

However, he explained, no further staff cuts will take place until after May 31, which is when the Faculty Senate's alternative cost-saving measures for the university are due to be presented to Kalikow.

"We'll evaluate those cost-saving alternatives after May 31, and the next step would be to make a determination on any additional staff cuts," Caswell said.

Jim Bradley, president of the

USM chapter of UMPA, the professional staff union, expanded on what those cost-saving measures might look like. "[Kalikow] said that the Faculty Senate must come up with \$1.2 million in faculty compensation savings as an alternative to the 12 rescinded retrenchments. She will not accept savings they come up with from other areas as she still believes we have too many faculty, and she's given the senate a chance to propose their own cuts," Bradley told the Free Press in an email.

Caswell confirmed the faculty recommendations must come from academic programs, and added that the amount of savings the faculty senate were expected to produce was, in fact \$1.26 million.

LaSala told the Free Press she felt that the fact that there will be considerably fewer students on campus after the end of the spring semester played into the May 31 date.

Kalikow responded to LaSala's statement in an email. "There will be far fewer students on campus, but that's a reflection on the fiscal year schedule, not on any kind of

effort to delay decisions until after the end of the academic year," she said. "The fiscal year ends on June 30. It's always a mad rush this time of year to finalize budget decisions. This year has been especially tough so decisions are getting pushed through commencement and beyond as we prioritize and evaluate cost-saving strategies."

Kalikow also responded to a sentiment that pervaded the rally and was expressed by a majority of the speakers—that the cuts should be made 'from top to bottom,' that is, they should be cuts to the salaries and positions of upper-level administrators, rather than faculty and staff.

The sentiment was echoed by Bradley. "We have too many administrators," he said. "If Theo is sincere in trying to right-size the university, she can't just focus on faculty and support staff, she also has to reduce the number of non-represented administrative staff as well."

Kalikow noted a number of upper-level administrator positions

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# Student profile: Anna Chiu, commencement speaker

Matthew Graeff  
Free Press Staff

USM Senior Anna Chiu, the student speaker at the USM commencement, hopes to inspire graduating students to keep USM values of inclusiveness and understanding in mind as they head out into the world.

Chiu is a health sciences major with a minor in biology. She transferred to USM from Simmons College, where she was a nursing student, in 2012.

For Chiu, that sentiment of inclusiveness and understanding is very important. "I won't ever forget writing an article about depression once, and one guy emailed me and thanked me for speaking out about it because of its stigma. I was very touched and honored to have helped him," she said, referring to her time as a writer and sports editor for the Free Press.

Chiu has fought her own battles with depression and hopes to help other students. "Nobody should be ashamed if they are feeling depressed. I've met the most caring students, professors and staff at USM, and honestly I've never felt more like myself than here," Chiu said.

Chiu will give her speech at the USM commencement on May 10 at the Cumberland Civic Center.

Initially, Chiu struggled to find the words for her speech. "What helped me and got me to start writing was reminiscing on my USM experience and how I've changed since trans-



Randy Hazelton / Multimedia Editor

ferring here," said Chiu, who submitted her speech a day later than the deadline.

"I don't particularly like the idea of talking about myself because I think the duty of the commencement speaker is to represent the student body and showcase just how amazing we all are," she said.

"I wanted a speech that was emotionally captivating yet powerful. I spent hours just sitting at my computer trying to think of something meaningful that I could write about," Chiu said. Eventually she settled on the theme of personal identity and how USM can change its students.

In her speech, Chiu explains that she is the daughter of Chinese immigrants. Her parents were poor, she said, and her father was forced to steal food and her mother did not own shoes until the age of 19. Her parents fled China to escape poverty

and famine. "I was born and raised in Portland and even though I grew up poor, it blows my mind every time to think how much can change in just one generation. My parents probably never would've imagined that their children would one day prosper in America when they were our age," Chiu hopes that her parents story will inspire the outgoing USM class and send a message of hope and inspire them to think about their own identity.

Chiu also has a word of advice for all the students at USM. "Honestly, just breathe. I know it's simple but I think it's true that we are our own worst critic. We need to remember to breathe and stay in the present moment and not be so hard on ourselves."

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From BUDGET on page 1



Sam Hill / Managing Editor

Elizabeth Martin (right) and Jason Blanco (left) are the clerk and treasurer respectively at last Friday's Student Senate meeting.

## New budget slashes GEB and PEB funds

leadership development, reduction of costs and community engagement over the past two years as reasons to reconsider changing the budget recommendation. The letter calls for an alternative cut of 12 to 18 percent of the budget, which would leave the board with around \$45,000 for the year.

"All GEB programs are almost exclusively for entertainment and community building purposes, and that contributes greatly to the sense of community and activity on the Gorham campus," Tibbetts wrote. "[The cuts] would have a substantial and long-lasting negative impact on the development and growth of GEB."

Tibbetts wrote that such a large cut would result in a significant relapse in the group, as members

have worked hard and evolved the board over the past three years. She wrote that with so little funding, GEB would be unable to provide as high quality events as students have come to expect and that they would have to start from scratch.

When the budget was brought before the senate last week, it was tabled immediately at the request of senate treasurer Jason Blanco.

"There are some other things we need to review before we pass this budget," said Blanco. "We may not be doing the students justice by passing this budget."

The budget recommendations will be on the senate's agenda again for their meeting this Friday.

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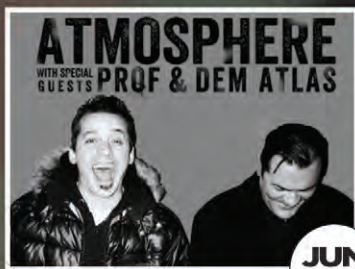
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JUN 6



JUN 13



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JUL 18



JUL 24



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with Elizabeth & the Catapult, Keelan Donovan  
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MAY 10



A TRIBUTE TO PHISH  
MAY 16

5/17 THE AWESOME  
5/18 CLASSIC ALBUM SUNDAY  
6/4 WMPG FASHION SHOW  
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6/13 MODEL AIRPLANE  
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6/20 SISTER SPARROW...  
6/22 REEL BIG FISH  
6/23 PORTLAND FOOD FIGHT  
6/25 THE ENGLISH BEAT  
7/1 DRIVE-BY TRUCKERS  
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**Wednesday, April 30th**

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**In the Woodbury Campus Center\***

Come pick up your cap & gown at **ANY** of our Bookstore locations on April 30th  
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**www.usm.maine.edu/books**

# Caswell takes a bow

After 34 years, Caswell, the first and only executive director of public affairs USM has had, prepares to retire

Krysteana Scribner  
Free Press Staff

USM's executive director of public affairs Robert Caswell has announced that he will be retiring this June after working at USM for over 34 years. He responded to an inquiry from the Free Press reminiscing on his time at the university, and talked about some of his fondest memories.

After graduating USM in 1974 with a bachelor's degree in history, Caswell set out to become a newspaper reporter in Maine. After working six years in the industry, he became interested in public relations and decided to see what job opportunities were available. Caswell first applied to USM in hopes of getting a job in public relations. Due to the fact that there was no such job title, he continued working as a newspaper reporter. Six months later, Caswell received a letter from the university inviting him to apply for an opening that had

just been created, where he began his work in February of 1980.

"When I started here at USM, a career in public relations meant primarily that you worked with the news media. People who are in this career now are dealing with community relations, legislative relations, and internal/external communications," Caswell said.

In 1980, USM was transitioning from a school of education to a five year teacher program baccalaureate. The program they were piloting was designed specifically for individuals who had already attended a four year program for another career, but wanted to become teachers, regardless of what

their first degree was in. Caswell believed the transition was a newsworthy topic. After a constant effort to promote the university's transition through the *Portland Press Herald* with no result, he decided to talk to a writer for the *New York*

**"Don't give up on USM, because you can get a really great education here, and you can have the opportunity to work with faculty and staff."**

**-Robert Caswell**  
Executive Director of Public Affairs



Patrick Higgins / Free Press Staff

Bob Caswell attended a media training day hosted by the Free Press in April 2013, where he took part in a mock-press conference in which the participants began to gather information for a fictional news story.

*Times.*

Not long after, a huge feature story on the university ran in the newspaper. "The fondest memory I have while working at USM is picking up the *Portland Press Herald* and seeing that they had run it on the front page. After all the effort I had put it, it was nice to see they finally publicized it. That was just mind-blowing," he said.

When asked what he would miss the least, Caswell replied, "I'm not going to miss the communication challenges associated with budget problems and issues. I've welcomed that challenge time and time again, but I'm not going to miss that. I will, however, miss working with people across USM, who despite what we're going through right now, are

incredibly dedicated to this university."

Over the years, Caswell has seen a lot of change happen on campus. "Working at USM has given me a much deeper appreciation for the value of higher education in terms of what it can do for individuals."

Upon retiring, Caswell says he has no definite plans. "Well, the short honest answer is that I don't have a clue. When I retire I will be almost 62 years old, so I'm still relatively young. My wife is also retiring, so I'm sure we'll do something. It's exciting and sort of scary at the same time, but I'm looking forward to it."

Caswell has a few words of wisdom to give to students before he retires in June. "Don't give up on

USM," he said, "because you can really get a great education here and you can have the opportunity to work with faculty and staff who are deeply committed to their subject and this university."

Although he is sad to be leaving, Caswell says he is ready for this next chapter in his life. "For all the challenges facing USM, someone once told me that working in public higher education is a privilege. Even though it was difficult at times, I've spent a wonderful 34 years here, and I've had a really good run." As of right now, no decision has been made as to who will take his place.

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## March 2014: Dog-Pound Inductees



Interested in joining the Leadership Development Board?  
Please email our chair  
Andrew Cantillo at  
andrew.cantillo@maine.edu

### Catherine Wise



Biology major with a Toxicology and Environmental Health minor

For contributions to campus life and leadership specifically for her outstanding leadership and in getting students from across the country engaged and involved during the international Society of Toxicology meeting in Phoenix Arizona. Her efforts in leading the club resulted in USM's Environmental Health and Toxicology club being asked to be the undergraduate hosts of this international meeting, which was attended by over 6,500 people from around the world.

### Ashley Caterina



Health Sciences major

For contributions to campus life and leadership specifically for being a great role model to residents and coworkers. She has also been highly involved in planning programs with the SENSE floor, and was helpful during the transition when a supervisor had to step down without notice. Ashley was also recognized in March as the February Resident Assistant of the Month.

# USM health insurance gets a makeover

**Sam Hill**  
Managing Editor

The University of Maine System will require proof of health insurance before students enroll in classes beginning next fall.

The new Student Health Insurance Policy will kick in this August and eligible students will automatically be enrolled in the program and have the \$942 annual premium cost added to their student account.

“There is a requirement to have health insurance in this country, and we’re trying to make it as affordable as possible for students,” said Lisa Belanger, the director of Health Services at USM. She said one of the reasons for this new requirement is the federal Affordable Care Act and that the university wants to make sure all students have access to health care while they pursue their education.

“Before, we had a student health plan, but it was not required,” said Belanger. “Insurance companies are not going to support that method of enrollment anymore.”

All students will be required to enroll if they fit certain criteria: taking nine credits or more as an undergraduate and six credits or more as a graduate student. If a student fits either of these or doesn’t already have insurance, they will have to enroll in the new plan. Students already enrolled in a health care plan can opt out of this plan by signing a waiver before the first of October.

“I was dropped from my par-

ents’ insurance just this past winter, so I’m really grateful to have this available to me,” said junior history major Amanda Woods.

“I really like the the university is offering this plan. It sounds cheap and easy,” said junior psychology major Ben Pohl. “I don’t know if I’m into it being completely automatic though.”

Pohl said that he is embarrassed to know so little about healthcare options.

“I just haven’t paid any attention,” said Pohl when asked about the Affordable Care Act.

An informational session on ACA was held at USM at the beginning of March, but few students were in attendance. Jake Grindle of Western Maine Community Action noted at the event that most students would still be covered under their parents’ insurance.

“This is an affordable rate for students and there is a value to having health insurance,” said Belanger, who recalled meeting with a student last week who said they were paying up to \$500 a month for coverage.

While an official notice hadn’t been sent out yet from the system office last week, a short notice explaining the plan had been posted on the USM website. So far, many students are not aware of the plan.

“I heard a friend of mine mention it in passing earlier in the week, but they didn’t know much,” said undeclared freshman Pat Forster. “I’m covered by my parents, but I definitely want to know more about it.”

Belanger noted that getting the



Sam Hill / Managing Editor

Lisa Belanger explained next year’s changes to the student health insurance plan to the Student Senate at their April 18 meeting.

word out to students is a top priority right now.

“We’re going to try to do everything that we can to get this information out,” she said. “We will pursue as many ways to market this as possible.”

When Belanger came to speak about the plan at the student senate meeting on Friday, April 18, some senators expressed concerns about making the option to opt-out well known.

“I’m a bit concerned. People

tend to not opt-out of things,” said Will Gattis, a senior economics major and former senate vice-chair. “I want this opt-out option to be 100 percent clear to students so they aren’t surprised by another bill on their account.”

Belanger said she knows there will be issues when the opt-out deadline rolls around and that she couldn’t guarantee that every single student was going to know and understand the new policy.

She said issues with opting-out

or any other problems that arise will have to be handled on a case-by-case basis and that more information on that will be released by the UMaine system at a later date.

“I would say this is a shift in thinking, it’s a shift that’s happening nationally, and that USM is going to be a part of it,” said Belanger.

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# SoPoBooks swap crosses the bridge to USM

**Krysteana Scribner**  
Free Press Staff

Saman Baghestani has proposed an alternative to purchasing and selling books for college students in South Portland. It’s working so well, he’s bringing it across the bridge to USM.

Baghestani came up with the idea for a book-swap website, which he named the South Portland Book Exchange—or SoPoBooks.com. With the help of his computer programmer friend Jason McDonald, he was able to create a site where users post books they no longer need and request books they are going to need. When a match is made, the site connects the dots, and students are welcome to barter, sell, negotiate or trade favors, such as yard work, for textbooks.

“The idea came to me in a sort of ‘light bulb’ moment,” said Baghestani. “After constantly hearing students complaining about book pricing, I thought, ‘books that are not needed by one student will be needed by others. So why not create a place for students where they can buy and sell books in a timely manner?’”

Although websites such as Amazon and Craigslist have college textbooks for reasonable prices, SoPoBooks.com can make the buying process much easier by allowing students to choose what they pay for their textbooks.

“I have used the website twice as a consumer,” said Baghestani. “After selling my old books and

acquiring new ones, I only spent a total of \$20.00 for the necessary readings.”

When you request a book, you’ll get an email telling you when it is available, and if you post a book you’ll get emailed when someone wants it. “This whole process takes no more than a minute and a half,” Baghestani said. “Rather than have to search through endless pages of results, the website does all the work for you.”

This can be especially helpful

**“I thought, ‘books that are not needed by one student will be needed by others.’”**

-Saman Baghestani  
founder, SoPoBooks.com

when trying to sell books. “Buy-back programs at campus bookstores will take your \$142.00 textbook and give you \$14.00 for it. SoPoBooks.com does not work the same way as campus bookstores, because the transaction terms are 100 percent entirely determined by the students.”

Nicki Piaget, the USM bookstore director, said that this is not always the case. “Students can get a lot of money back for their books. The prices are based on whether the faculty are using it the next semester. If it hasn’t been ordered, USM doesn’t buy

it for resale. If we don’t know if the textbooks are going to be used, we purchase for a different wholesaler, and therefore the prices go down a bit.”

However, Baghestani says that you will never have to wonder what you’ll get in return for books you want to sell, because you have a lot of payment options. “We feel that by cutting out the ‘middle person’ [in this case the bookstore], students can save and earn a lot more money with college books. We believe this is a huge reason for college students to prefer our site over the book store.”

Baghestani said that some students have expressed concerns regarding the buying and selling of old edition books. However, he also said this is not something to be worried about. Students are able to put the author, book title or the ISBN number into their search to make sure they get the exact books needed for classes.

Although the website was primarily intended for students at Southern Maine Community College, Baghestani decided early on in December to branch out to USM in order help others buy and sell books at reasonable prices. He says he hopes to make this website available nationwide in the future. “This method of buying and selling books is working for a ton of students” he said.

Baghestani hopes that every student at USM will look into the website and consider the financial benefits of buying and selling from other students. “The account



Randy Hazelton / Multimedia Editor

is free, and it connects people” he said. “Not only is this a time saver, but you are also going to get a much better deal.

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From **STAFF** on page 1 that have been eliminated since late in fiscal year 2013. “On the other hand, I think it can be penny wise and pound foolish to dial back salaries at any level to the point where you have trouble attracting the highest-quality candidate you can afford,” she wrote.

After May 31, Caswell said, the administration will look at staff cuts again, but the specifics of those cuts, he said, will be left to

the discretion of individual units, although those units might be assigned financial targets.

Two weeks ago, Dean Lynn Kuzma of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences told the Free Press that she had been told that staff cuts would not impact her college’s reorganization, a step Provost Stevenson has asked all of the colleges at the university to begin.

For students involved in #USMFuture, said LaSala, the next

step is to continue to work as a part of a state-wide coalition to make higher education funding reform a ballot issue in the coming election season.

In terms of what’s next for specific staff cuts, Caswell said, “I wouldn’t expect many additional staff cuts in the remains of the fiscal year. There may be, there may not.”

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Heather Guaciaro  
Free Press Staff

## Senior week events approach

Senior week will be from May 5-10 and will include a performance by nationally known and made in Maine comedian Bob Marley on Wednesday, May 7 at 8 p.m. in Hannaford Hall on the Portland campus.

Other senior week events include bowling and Bayside Bowling on Monday, May 5 from 5-11 p.m.; trivia night at Binga’s Stadium on Tuesday, May 6 from 8-11 p.m.; senior night in the Old Port on Thursday, May 8 starting at 4 p.m.; and the 5th annual senior cruise with Casco Bay Cruise Lines on Friday, May 9 from 7-10:30 p.m.

Senior week is open to all stu-

dents and passes can be purchased at the Portland student life office in the Woodbury Campus Center for \$20. The pass provides access to all events and discounts for additional tickets to the Bob Marley show on Wednesday and the cruise on Friday.

This special performance by Bob Marley is open to USM students, staff and guests. Tickets prices are: students: \$3, faculty/staff: \$7, non-USM: \$10.

Tickets can be purchased at the Portland student life office in the Woodbury Center. If any are left they will also be sold at the door.

## Music school hosts art therapy conference

USM’s school of music is holding the Creative Arts Therapy Conference on May 31 called “Creative Health: Conference for Healthcare Professionals and Caregivers.”

It is a one-day conference for therapists, medical professionals and caregivers, to learn about the uses of Creative Arts Therapies in health care.

“This conference will be an opportunity for the general public

and professional healthcare providers to learn how arts therapies can complement and enhance traditional healthcare,” said Kate Beever, board-certified music therapist, USM graduate and organizer of the conference.

Presenters include dance therapist Christine Linnehan of Scarborough who will present “Creative Pathways to Resilience” for working with traumatized children, art therapist Bohdi Simpson of Yarmouth who will present “Introduction to SoulCollage,” using collage-making to discover one’s subconscious and music therapist Patricia Mulholland of Kennebunk who will present “The Voice as a Therapeutic Modality,” involving singing and breathing for stress relief.

Those who participate in the conference will find workshops in three forms: art, dance and music, but can choose to attend any workshop. Workshop sessions will focus on both adults and children.

Registration is open to professionals, caregivers, general public and students at varying prices and includes lunch and an afternoon snack.

To register for attending the conference go to [www.usm.maine.edu/music/boxoffice](http://www.usm.maine.edu/music/boxoffice).

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Police Beat

For the end of the year... selections from the USM Department of Public Safety police log, Sept. to now.

Tuesday, Sept. 24

Stole my heart

9:15 a.m. - Report of theft of items. Report taken. - Bailey Hall

Tuesday, Oct. 22

And the week wouldn’t be complete without...

7:31 p.m. - Warning to operator for stop sign violation. - Costello Complex, 43 Campus Ave.

Thursday, Oct. 24

Miniature outrage

7:21 a.m. - Report of a very small protest in front of a building. Officer checked on them, moved them to a better location and all set. - Wishcamper Center, 34 Bedford St.

Sunday, Oct. 27

Just making room for the new ones, officer

5:28 a.m. - Report of damage to a university sign. - 19 Campus Ave. at 116 School St.

Saturday, Nov. 2

Vilely vivisected vegetation

7:06 a.m. - Someone drove a vehicle over grass. - Luther Bonney Hall, 85 Bedford St.

Friday, Jan. 24

Unusual verb activity

10:25 a.m. - Unwanted subject trespassed (added to a trespass list) from campus. - Dickey Wood Hall, 17 University Way, exterior

Sunday, Jan. 26

Unwell by default?

2:53 p.m. - Wellbeing check on an individual, unable to locate individual. - Glickman Library, 314 Forest Ave.

Friday, Feb. 7

Keep it in your pants (pocket)

7:37 p.m. - Warning for texting while driving. - Falmouth St.

Tuesday, Feb. 11

Read the not-so-fine print

11:07 a.m. - Warning to operator for stop sign violation. - College Ave.

Thursday, Feb. 27

Measured in MPH or grams?

10:04 p.m. - Warning to operator for speed. - Parking lot P2, 35 Bedford St.

Monday, March 10

... What?

8:13 a.m. - Initiated - Caller found a piece of equipment and not sure why. Report taken. - 96 Falmouth St.

Police logs are edited for grammar and style. They can be found at [usm.maine.edu/police/campus-crime-log](http://usm.maine.edu/police/campus-crime-log).

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# Arts & Culture

## The Blade Society fights to preserve history



Randy Hazelton / Multimedia Editor

Blade Society members focus on a variety of different fighting styles. Some practice modern style fencing, while others adopt much older styles that include metal armor and shields.

**Francis Flisiuk**  
Arts & Culture Editor

Every Tuesday night in the Sullivan Sports Complex a battle rages between armor-clad members of the USM Blade Society.

The Blade Society is a student-run group that meets weekly to learn, practice and ultimately perfect the sword and fencing techniques of several different European styles. Made up of many different individual groups, including the Society for Creative Anachronism, the Fencing Club, the Quasi Historical Group and the Historical European Martial Arts Club, the Blade Society turns the gym into an almost unrecognizable scene with about 40 diehard history fans—sometimes dressed in full medieval garb—clashing swords, swinging chainmail and banging shields. They're all dedicated to mastering historically accurate combat and swordplay techniques.

Many of the members participate because of their passion for history. Some people come equipped with the typical white jacket and mask of the modern Olympic fencers, but according to Johanne Matzke, an instructor, about 90 percent of the members come clothed in historically accurate clothing and armor, right down to the footwear, which is often handmade. Most participants even adopt a medieval persona to embody when they engage in a sparring session. Although Matzke said he didn't need a combat name because his first name sounded "old-timey" enough.

"I'm a big history nerd," said Matzke, who, apart from teaching 14th and 15th-century swordplay to anyone who wants to learn, also has two master's degrees in history and com-

bat archaeology.

According to Matzke, donning period appropriate clothing, armor and footwear is not required to be a good fencer, but it helps.

"If you can feel the ground wearing shoes that your ancestors wore, you have a better chance of getting in the right mindset for combat," said Matzke. "It also gives you a newfound respect for the brave warriors of the medieval world."

On top of the leather flimsy-looking shoes, many members wear aluminum greaves, titanium cuffs and gauntlets, steel helmets and chainmail. Some sport metal bucklers and leather scaled vests, all of which are puncture proof. The swords (foils, epees, rapiers and sabers) are all weighted and balanced as if they were made to function 500 years ago, although they aren't sharpened and feature a thick rubber guard over the tip, for obvious safety reasons.

Most of the fighting styles and moves that Matzke teaches are rooted in actual historical documents he has researched.

"Within the last 30 years we've gone from having no fighting manuals at all to acquiring them and learning exactly how these expert swordsmen trained," said Matzke.

The combat manuals are all accessible online and feature a combination of diagrams and text, usually either in French, Latin or Spanish. Matzke believes that it's important to research medieval and renaissance combat techniques and learn the truth about them. It helps separate fact from fiction.

"Once you pick up a sword and put on a mask, it helps you understand the past better," said Matzke. "It's important to preserve this tradition of living history."

But not everything from historical combat can be replicated. For example grappling is prohibited because it would be far too dangerous.

"We can't be 100-percent historically accurate in our gear and techniques, because if we were, there would be broken bones and dead bodies," said Stephen Straut-Esden, a 30-year "knight" of the SCA, who goes by Sir Osgkar of the Wood when he's training.

The SCA, a subgroup of the Blade Society, focuses on heavily armored combat from the ancient Romans to the early medieval foot soldiers. If the combat training gets particularly loud, it's probably coming from these guys.

"The only thing we're missing are horses," said Straut-Esden.

According to Straut-Esden, whose armor is inspired by the Saxons of medieval Germany, stepping into the role of a knight can help teach a person how to live life in a nobler fashion.

"The activities of the SCA help us adopt the old honor and chivalry and apply it to our everyday life," said Straut-Esden.

And learning self-improvement through this kind of combat is an ideal that Robert Tupper, a Blade Society instructor and former president, shares. He specializes in the art of

the rapier and short sword.

"Through the practice of these forms we can improve our minds as well as our bodies," said Tupper.

According to Tupper, his involvement with the Blade Society has been rewarding because they've transformed a brutal practice from history into an activity of learning. It helps with physical agility, confidence, and it helps form great friendships with like minded people, he said.

"If we don't study and practice these activities, they will eventually go away forever," said Tupper.

Brenden Belanger, a junior chemistry major and longtime fencer, believes that fencing is more of an art than a sport, and just like both, it requires a lot of practice to acquire proficiency.

"It's not something that you pick up and instantly get," said Belanger. "But once you do get it, it's so much fun."

Belanger, whose fighter name is Sir Tobias, urges anyone who's interested to get involved. According to him, no experience is necessary, and they have enough loaner gear for students to use free of charge. For him, it's absolutely integral to preserve this cultural tradition because it teaches self control, grants a new ability and can bring someone a lot on a personal level.

"It's exciting because it offers an escape from boring everyday life and instead allows you to immerse yourself in a fascinating culture," said Belanger.

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**"If we don't practice these activities, they'll go away forever."**

**-Robert Tupper**  
Blade Society Instructor

Local Album Review

Banditos is bad, but entertaining



Preble Street Records

Dan Kelly  
Free Press Staff

*Straight from the Gutter*, self-released by the Banditos, is old-school punk in its most unrehearsed, technically imperfect and haphazard form. The Banditos are not a good band—at all.

Before playing the album, you may notice that *Straight from the Gutter*'s cover shows a picture of a man, whose head is a poorly photoshopped dollhead wearing a metal helmet. The man is holding a guitar, but, what's more? The guitar is on fire. Aside from being absolutely ridiculous, this image is the mark of a band who just doesn't care.

Toward the beginning of the album, "The Basement" kicks things off with loud and obnoxious drums, fuzz guitar and outright screaming. Lyrics like, "We don't talk about the basement / That's the way that it goes" are really just nonsensical utterances being yelled at you while a rock band rages on in the background.

"Graveyard Dance" follows in similar suit. "Dracula is doing the twist, but Frankenstein is getting pissed" is an example of mindless writing and a questionable-at-best subject

matter. A glorified minor-blues, the Banditos should be ashamed of themselves for borrowing from such a respected genre to make a punk song. A perfectly good chord progression is wrecked with, as always, fuzzed-out guitar, pounding drums and screaming vocals. "Anybody seen the invisible man / Last time I saw him he was doing the slam" finishes the second verse just before you need to turn your stereo off.

But the Banditos are more than just bad music, they represent what happens when four guys come together to try and exceed the sum of their parts. Alone, each member could surely create an unorganized pile of sound, but *Straight from the Gutter* is ridiculous, mindless and, because of this, endlessly entertaining—even if there is no intrinsic musical value. While we can assume that tracks like "Heart Attack Spree" and "Snake Plissken" won't deliver major musical breakthroughs, they are undeniably fun to listen to, and make you laugh, however they are quite over-the-top. At least The Banditos will force a chuckle out of you.

At most, this album will make you question why you listen to music in the first place. Does it really matter whether or not a group is "good" if they can't make you feel something? While the ideal situation would be good technical ability that also inspires genuine feeling, the Banditos get it half right, and it's the better half. Each member is able to play their instrument well enough to get their point across; it just so happens that they don't have anything particularly complicated or proficient to say. The response this music garners—laughter, mindlessness and surprise—is what matters. The Banditos cultivate meaning out of music that has no meaning and pay rightful due to the funnier side of life—something we could use more of. The Banditos, true to punk tradition, just don't care.

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In Heavy Rotation

A look back at the Free Press staff's favorite albums of the past year.



Warp Records

Estoire Naiaant  
patten

What I love about this experimental electronic album is that it's absolutely directionless, like me. This album never focuses on one thing and relies solely on imagination and patience. I've made this album's strange sounds and broken down drum kits the unofficial sound track to my semester because it mirrors how often I've been either confused or daydreaming.

-Francis Flisiuk  
Arts & Culture Editor

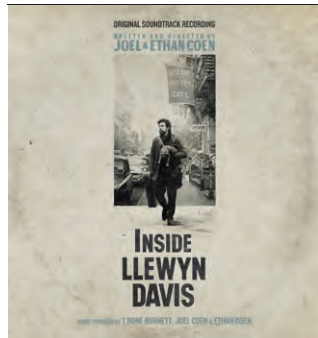


Republic Records

Stop Talking  
Pacific Air

The Lawhon brothers reached their objective for this album. The genre isn't anything new but its refreshing against all the heavy electronica that we hear on mainstream media. It pulls me in and I start to lose track of which song I'm listening to. Stop talking and listen.

-Sokvonny Chhouk  
Design Director



Warner Music Group

Inside Llywenn Davis  
Various

I feel absurd choosing a soundtrack as my album of the year, but just listen to this soundtrack, and I swear, you'll get it. Oscar Isaac was robbed at the Oscars this year, and I'm not making the same mistake in my heavy rotation. This album hasn't left the back of my mind since I walked out of the movie theater and down the street to Bullmoose.

-Sidney Dritz  
News Editor

What was your favorite album this year?  
Tell us on Twitter @USMFreePress

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## Top 5: Ways to cope with finals

Free Press Staff

### 1.) Get organized

Make a list. Make a very detailed list organized by due date and include spaces set aside to allow yourself coffee breaks. Draw your own boxes for check-marks, color code it and draw hearts around the place you allow yourself to take a nap. Then make copies that you can plaster around everywhere, so you can never take a relaxed breath until everything that's on it has been checked off.

When you've finished making your list, congratulate yourself on a job well-done by pouring yourself a strong drink (or helping yourself to something sugary, or something greasy, or whatever your vice of choice is), and put on some really stupid TV. The stupider the better. Sit-coms are good, reality shows are better and game shows are best of all. Feel free to then ignore the TV and read a book involving dragons.

### 2.) Play music

Blast the right music. Sometimes the chatter of a packed computer lab, or incessant shenanigans of drunk roommates can make studying for finals a distracting, annoying debacle. On the contrary the numbing silence of a desolate library floor, might also cause your thoughts to race around so much, it might prove to be a bigger interference to your studies than your sloshed roommates! However putting on an appropriate playlist can sometimes magically lift your mood and grant you focus for the task at hand. The best music to fill a room during a study session are usually songs with atmospheric or ambient qualities. Keep the tempo slow, so you're not anxiously tapping your feet, but make sure it has a distinct sound to keep your mind alert and sharp. It's really hard not to feel relaxed, focused and oddly determined when you've got some classical jazz filling the room.

### 3.) Go to sleep

Things are getting a little overwhelming. You've got a powerpoint presentation due tomorrow, and three final papers are ominously looming over your head that you haven't even done the reading for. There's only one escape from the ensuing madness of meeting deadlines and making excuses: sleep. At least when you're asleep there's a break from stress. Take a nap and you just might wake up with a refreshed mind, ready to tackle any intellectual hurdle.

### 4.) Wait until the 11th hour

Put it off until the last minute. Well, don't actually do that if you can help it, but if you just happen to be one of those people who manages to procrastinate on every assignment, and maybe you thrive under pressure, if that's the case, then getting it all squared away in as brief a period of time as possible, might be the best way to go. Actually, this can sometimes yield the best results. Saving that paper or studying for that exam two days before class, means that you have to hyper-focus, but you'll need to remember to take frequent breaks to re-energize. Study in as many locations as possible, and when you're stuck on that difficult passage, read it aloud or talk it over with a friend. After you've finished, put it away for a few hours, and then come back to it with a fresh set of eyes. You're done. Houla.

### 5.) Accept reality

Pray. Let's be honest, some of us aren't going to make it through finals week in one piece. All of our classes this semester were laid out for us in syllabi on day one, and we thought we could pull it all together, but things are looking a little bleak. We sent out our "please, professor, I promise I'm not a terrible student" emails out months ago and haven't made any progress since then. We've probably spent most of our free time watching Bob's Burgers and organizing our email instead.

At this point in the year the best option might be to bite the bullet. Focus on the work you know you can get done, and do it well. You might not be able to complete all your work this way, but you'll be able to pass a class or two. Write a letter to your future self about how terrible the end of the semester is and hope you don't do it again next winter.

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# Old beats new in a local blacksmithing workshop

*Artisan forges handmade equipment using only 19th century techniques*

Francis Flisiuk  
Arts & Culture Editor

Tucked away in a side shop on Fore street, hiding behind a heavy wooden door, is a workshop that looks like it was pulled from a time warp.

The Portland Forge is a soot filled shop that specializes in crafting custom ordered metallurgic items made using only historical blacksmithing techniques. By using historically accurate techniques and tools, Sam Smith, the founder and master blacksmith, forges handmade metal works for a variety of purposes.

Metal tongs, bellows and hammers, his tools of the trade, are scattered across the dusty room, bathed in a soft orange light from the roaring fire and red hot coals. All are evidence of Smith's unconventional mastery and what he described as his passion.

"I put my life-force and creative energy into this," said Smith. "It's nice to see something either useful or beautiful come out at the end of it."

Smith forges everything from hooks, nails and mason's tools, to fireplace pokers, knives and swords are, who believes in the value of good old-fashioned hard work. According to Smith, many manufacturers today seek technology that is convenient, and the human element is often overlooked.

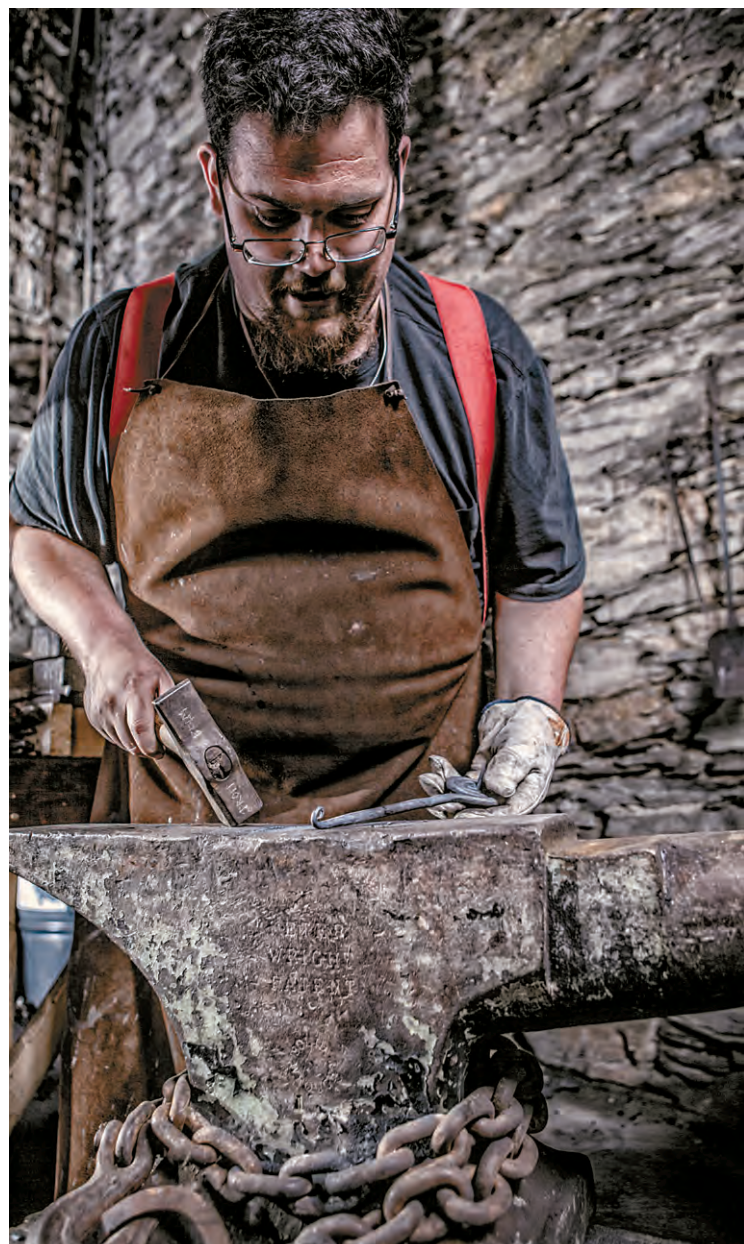
"I work with the sweat of my own brow and the strength of my own back," said Smith.

Smith works with metals like bronze, copper, steel, iron and silver that he exposes to a heat of over 2,500 degrees and then bangs into shape with his hammer and anvil. Depending on whether the metal is ferrous or nonferrous, it's then dunked in a barrel of water to either harden or soften it respectively. Ferrous metals containing iron, non ferrous do not, and both react to temperature changes in different ways.

Sometimes custom orders can take days because this process has to be repeated several times to strengthen the metal. Smith takes orders from around the Portland area and they usually include things like intricate metal work for fencing or gates and aesthetically designed coat hooks.

Smith said that although his methods are time consuming, the quality of his work is superior and more durable because of his choice to stick to the historical roots of the trade.

"A lot of people consider my job antiquated or extinct, but I'm



Randy Hazelton / Multimedia Editor

Sam Smith supports himself solely by blacksmithing, a trade he started showing interest in at the age of 14 when attending a living history fair.

here to show people it's still viable," said Smith. "But I'm not only providing services that are valued, I'm keeping an important part of Portland's history alive."

Smith detailed Portland's rich and vital history with blacksmithing by explaining that it was through it that the city became more accessible to trade. According to Smith, in the late 19th century, The Portland Company hired blacksmiths to build the first locomotives. Blacksmiths were crucial in forging construction equipment and railroads that would eventually connect Portland to Boston and Montreal.

According to Smith, using the same methods of our ancestral blacksmiths is important to the trade because it pays homage to generations of craftsmen and ensures the skills get passed on through mentors. Smith called his craft "saving history," and he preserves it by demonstrating at fairs, events and art walks. He also welcomes anyone interested in a one-on-one apprenticeship in his workshop.

"I'm duty bound to teach people this craft," said Smith. "You

couldn't have civilization without blacksmithing."

Smith said that it was actually in the same building that he works in now, at the Portland Company, that the forge operated at full capacity during World War I, providing munitions and equipment for the troops overseas.

"There's a reason town centers almost always had a working blacksmith," said Smith. "Not only does it promote productivity and creativity, it builds communities."

Smith said even with the advanced progress of technology, blacksmithing the 19th century way is simply too skills-based to be replaced by machines or any other time saving and modern methods. According to Smith, you can't accomplish this kind of metal work any other way.

"There's an industrial heritage to Portland," said Smith. "We can't forsake and abandon our past."

**"I work with the sweat of my own brow and the strength of my own back."**

-Sam Smith  
Master Blacksmith

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Film Review

Noah is visually impressive but ultimately sinks



Regency Enterprises

Martin Conte

Free Press Staff

At times reminiscent of the darker side of Jim Henson’s puppet workshop, and at other times wandering through Cormac McCarthy’s burnt-out landscape, all the while grappling with one of the oldest stories in Western civilization’s mythos, *Noah* is an overproduced, but impeccably acted, well thought out but poorly written, sweeping philosophical endeavor that sometimes stumbles over the constraints of its genre but nevertheless continues running toward us with all the ferocity of the Great Flood itself.

The story of Noah’s flood is one that needs no synopsis, but Aronofsky’s version moves in such a radically different direction from the stereotype that it necessitates some explanation. Noah, played by the heavy-browed,

cantankerous Russell Crowe, is instructed by God, through some immaculately realized dreamscapes, to seek out his grandfather (Anthony Hopkins), who had fled to the only mountain that Noah’s Earth seems to contain. On his way, he encounters the Watchers, fallen angels encased in stone and rock, who look as if they walked straight out of *The Dark Crystal*, who take him under their protection. They begin building the ark according to God’s instruction and with a little magical help from Noah’s grandfather. Trouble befalls them when the evil descendants of Cain, led by Tubal-cain (Ray Winstone), want in on the whole ark escape plan. Naturally, there is an epic battle scene, drenched in the first downpour of the flood.

Suffering heavily from the over-produced visual quality of today’s Hollywood blockbusters, the film is nominally saved by its rolling prophetic voice. Noah and his grandfather wheel and deal in a sort of voodoo, drug-induced black magic passed down to them from the garden of Eden. Aronofsky, as he is wont to do, veers from the traditional storyline to delve into history and myth: sweeping visual montages that confuse past with future and present. The heavy philosophical questions asked, most left unanswered, revolve around the relationship of God to man and man to beast. Tubal-cain, in one of the most moving of many, many, melodramatic monologues, implores God, asking “I am a man, made in your image... Speak to me!” Aronofsky’s *Noah* is an ancient version of an eco-terrorist, defending Earth’s animal kingdom from the lust and destruction of mankind.

But while *Noah* is strong theoretically, it is weak in its delivery. Its editing is choppy at best, clearly condensing what probably stood

as a more than four-hour film into just over two, which leads to odd swathes of time stripped out of the narrative. The actors collide into each other and bounce off in mildly amusing ways, but no one except Noah bears enough depth and personality to hold our sympathy. The film is surprisingly misogynistic, constructing female characters whose sole concerns seem to be satisfying the sexual and reproductive needs of the men around them. Emma Watson and Jennifer Connelly give everything they’ve got in their own emotional climaxes, but they’re so easily shaped and explicitly created to function around the desires of Noah, that the source material caves underneath their acting prowess..

While this film is at times visually beautiful and bravely performed, these moments are few and far between, cushioned by the stereotyped movements of the modern film epic. Aronofsky, popular for his philosophical pandering in films like *The Fountain* and *Requiem for a Dream*, seems to lose his grasp on his own work here, leaving the viewer confused. The film has glimmers of importance and relevance, but it is crushed under the weight of over-production and genre constraints. Its only worth is in its voice of warning. Noah, in one instance, turns to his wife and says glumly, “The time for mercy has passed, now our punishment begins.” This is where Aronofsky is on sure footing, this beautiful yet harrowing visual language of apocalyptic prophecy, a prophecy of environmental disaster born not from our past, but foretelling of a terrible, all-too-possible future.

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A&C Listings

Monday, April 28

All Time Low

State Theatre

609 Congress St.

Doors: 7:00 p.m. / Show: 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 29

Andrea Gibson

Port City Music Hall

504 Congress St.

Show: 6:30 p.m.

Doug Paisley

Empire

575 Congress St.

Doors: 9:00 p.m. / Show: 9:30 p.m.

Super Cowork Day!

Peloton Labs Portland

795 Congress St.

All Day

Wednesday, April 30

Chute and Co Blues Duo

Gingko Blue

455 Fore St.

Show: 7:00 p.m.

David Beam & The Custom House Gang

Andy’s Old Port Pub

94 Commercial St.

8:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 1

Taking Back Sunday

State Theatre

609 Congress St.

Doors: 7:00 p.m. / Show: 8:00 p.m.

Longfellow and the Occult

Wadsworth Longfellow House

489 Congress St.

12:00 p.m.

Friday, May 2

Nat Baldwin

Space Gallery

538 Congress St.

Show: 8:00 p.m.

Forget, Forget- Tan Vampires Lux Deluxe

Empire

575 Congress St.

Show: 9:00 p.m.

First Friday Art Walk

Downtown Portland

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 3

An evening in the 1920s

Portland Masonic Temple

415 Congress St.

5:30 p.m.

Antje Duvekot

One Longfellow Square

181 State St.

Doors: 7:00 p.m. / Show: 8:00 p.m.

Portland Symphony Orchestra

PortTix

20 Myrtle St.

Doors: 7:00 p.m. / Show: 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 4

Expected Outcomes Art Exhibition

Space Gallery

538 Congress St.

Show: 8:00 p.m.

Want to submit an event?

arts@usmfreepress.org

# Perspectives

## Graduating editors say goodbye and a new editor says hello

I've never gotten into the whole flashy "letter from the editor" thing. Instead, I've preferred to report the news from the safety of a more neutral background, but this week, I decided to come out of the woodwork to say goodbye.

The Free Press has allowed me to indulge in one of my most self-destructive tendencies—that is, my desire to maintain a constant state of busy-ness bordering on insanity. After this, I won't be rushing around at the last minute looking for sources, driving to distant budget-related meetings on a moment's notice or staying late in office until 5 a.m.

I mean, I've always loved a good crash course. That's how I learned to canoe (in a hurricane basically), but starting as the editor of the Free Press after only a semester at the paper was the craziest crash course I've ever gotten.

Two years and 46 newspapers later, I'm a completely different person—in a good way, and I want to thank all of you for reading, for commenting, for helping out, and even for complaining. It's all good stuff, and critical to the success of the newspaper and its student editors.

Sometimes, I still can't believe that I actually got the job. I honestly don't know what my editors were thinking, but I should thank them too because it has been the most valuable part of my college career by a long shot. And I hope it's been informative for you too.

So, thank you and good luck to all of you.



Surprise! I'm a person! If I've done my job right, most of you won't have had a clue.

Hey there, USM. It's been a wild ride of a year, and I wanted to take this chance to thank every single person who picks up this issue for hanging tough with us.

Like a lot of you guys, I'm a transfer student. I didn't expect to end up at USM at all, and I certainly never expected to walk out of here with such a detailed knowledge of student versus faculty senate-style politics, or the contract details of certain unions on campus, but there's something about this school that gets under people's skin—I see it in the USM students that come to work here after they graduate, the faculty members who are willing to fight tooth and nail to keep anyone from dismissing their students, and in current students who have invested so much time and passion in making their voices heard trying to shape the indefinite future of a school they themselves will be graduating from soon, because they care about what happens to this institution after they're gone.

I was a dedicated copy editor who became a slightly reluctant news editor, simply because I feel like helping to gather and share information with my fellow students was an incredibly important job, and I was afraid I wouldn't have the time to do it well and still stay afloat through my senior year. I gave it my best, though, even though it turned into a much more dramatic year than I anticipated, and now that I've reached the end of it, I can only hope I've done you all justice.



When I was a freshman at a summer orientation session, I told a Free Press staffer that I would love to get involved with the newspaper. I was supposed to attend a budget meeting one Monday morning, but I wasn't into trying to find the office in Portland, so I didn't show up and spent the rest of the year binge playing Halo 3 and actually doing my school work.

At the end of that year I applied to be an editor, wrote a piece on 'things to do' in Gorham and, for whatever reason, got the job. One of my first pieces as editor was a album review on some Matchbox 20 album that former Arts Editor Kevin Steeves told me not to print at all. Its okay, I definitely remember quoting a press release in it.

I don't know how it happened, but I started picking up more responsibilities here and there, and next year I'll be the Editor-in-Chief. One day I offered to ordered to go pick up pizza and the next thing I knew I was on the editorial board and had opinions on faculty-student ratios and state appropriations for public higher education.


There have been a lot of fun ideas flying around the office over the last month, so be sure to follow us over the summer as we make some changes and continue to write through our summer vacation.

I'm excited to see what, and who, next year will bring at the Free Press. I'm proud to be this newspaper's new EIC and ready to work with a brand new group of staffers to bring the USM community the news.



 Kirsten Sylvain,  
Outgoing Editor-in-Chief

 Sidney Dritz,  
News Editor

 Sam Hill,  
Incoming Editor-in-Chief

## Sustainability and ME Time to buck the rhythm USM needs to stay positive

Tyler Kidder  
Contributor

I had a short lunch with a close friend and mentor at USM, and like all conversations these days, our dialogue drifted toward the changing face of USM, what that means for us and the state in which we find our mental health, financial security and emotional stability. My friend suggested that USM has a rhythm, up and down, positive and negative, caring and not-caring, engaged and disengaged, on target and off target. Effectively, we all are riding together these crazy wavy waters together, students, administrators, staffers, and faculty, and we allow ourselves to sometimes be swallowed in a trough.

Let me give you an example of a few troughs that I've found myself in: the 'I can't (or won't) make a difference because nothing I do seems to matter' or 'how am I supposed to do anything with no \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank: time, money, support, buy-in, technology, tarps, chairs, etc)?!'

We are a big organization and have lots of opportunities to chat and collaborate, so when one of us is feeling swallowed and expresses it, it is easy for others to go down in the trough with them. It is much

harder to resist the rhythm and stay riding high on a crest.

Like everyone here, losing colleagues has had a real effect on me, one that I would not have been able to name previously, having never experienced it before. We have all been asked to spend less but accomplish the same amount or more as before. Students are rallying, organizing, sitting out of classes, getting pissed off. For someone who always runs around like her hair is on fire, all this excitement has just about pushed me over the edge. Because I operate at a level ten all the time I rely on the world around me to be peaceful and make sense so that I can maintain my idiotic schedule and expectations of myself. But it hasn't been making sense to me recently, and weird things have been happening and it makes me waste a lot of time and energy on worrying. I'm about done answering the endless flow of questions about my job from family and friends who read about our dirty laundry in every newspaper in Maine (and New Hampshire).

Thus, I fall into the hole of negativity. And I've been here for a little while, feeling sorry for myself and shaking my head at what 'they' are doing. Maybe you are here, too. Alas, that is the current rhythm of our sea. Why plan when we don't

know if any of us will even be here next fall? Why go above and beyond when layoffs are based on the position, not performance? What are the incentives for doing well, creating new traditions, being innovative? Should I be job hunting?

But I'm here to get myself, and you, out of the trough. Because it's dark and stupid down there and there isn't any spring, or apple trees or increasing recycling rates or ocean breezes or new crops of eager students. Those things are on the crest. In fact, they are on a pier, free from the ups and downs. It's time. Climb out, the weather's great. Let's watch the community garden fill up with organic miracles, listen to the birds who visit our campus, enjoy simple time together with each other as people, work hard to make ourselves proud, rejoice in record-setting waste reduction events, and sympathize with those around us. There is much to celebrate and so much more important work to be done. If not by us, then by whom? If you need a pep talk, please drop me a line. You'll just have to put my hair out first.

Tyler Kidder, Assistant Director for Sustainable Programs and eternal optimist. She can be reached by email at [tkidder@usm.maine.edu](mailto:tkidder@usm.maine.edu)

### the free press

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**You Are Wrong**

# This time you may be right

Thaddeus Moriarty  
Staff Writer

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

Because you expect me to be here to say goodbye. After all, this is the last "You Are Wrong" you may ever read. I know, I know; it's a travesty and a shame. I lobbied for the Free Press to include free tissues in every paper for your unrelenting tears, but the robotic overlords nixed the idea. If only "You Are Wrong" were printed on a medium of, say, a crumpleable tree-pulp-based substance. Hmm.

But anyway, it's true; this is the last time I'll be able to write for most of you. Potentially any of you. In just under two weeks I'll be graduating from USM and transitioning from one chapter of my life to another. In flux. Boldly going where no man has gone before.

I'm going to be ending the column in a different way than you'd probably predict, thus making you wrong. I'm not going to be making fun of you (as much). I'm not going to pick a pop-culture reference and pretend I know anything concrete about it. I'm not going to try to teach you something about history or conspiracies or football.

I'm just going to say thank you. We have all been eternally changed in some way by our tenure here at USM, graduating seniors like me or otherwise. Each of us, students, families, friends, whoever you happen to be reading this paper. It may have been the advisor that pointed you down the road you needed to traverse to wear your own silly hat. Maybe it was the department chair that convinced you to follow your passion for studying math or nutrition. Maybe it was the editor of the Free Press for giving you a weekly column to vent in. Maybe, for some of you, USM



Ellen Spahn / Design Assistant

was the first time in your life that you'd ever been surrounded by so many people cleverly disguised as responsible adults.

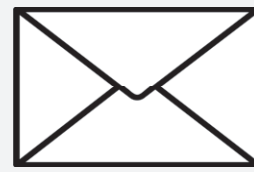
For me? I've been changed by all of you. You and you and you and you and you, each in your own manner. You, the people who listened to what I had to say and let me teach you something every now and again. You, who read my words and maybe even laughed a little. You who advised my path, you who supported my plans. Thank you. Truly.

Thank you, Kirsten and Sam, for allowing me to take up way more space in the Free Press than I ever should have, and for letting me cut loose and be more than a little silly in a newspaper that should be taken seriously. Thank you to Ellie Spahn, for taking the time to doodle for my column the graphics that made the page thrive over more worthwhile. Thank you, Libby Bischoff, who

helped me get into grad school and was the best advisor a boy could ask for. Thank you, ARAMARK, thank you Philippi Hall, thank you shuttle bus drivers, thank you ex-girlfriends and janitors and Help Desk workers and WMPG and health services and Kilobics and the Gorham Grind and planetarium shows and Tammy Szafranski and everyone and everything else.

But mostly, honestly, thank you, dear reader. You made me into a writer. For the first time in my life, I got paid to write. A writer. It's a dream come true, and it's because of you, the people who read You Are Wrong, that it happened. And I will never forget it.

Thank you.  
Oh, and by the way ... this time, you were right.  
Goodbye.  
*Thaddeus Moriarty is a senior history major, and he will be missed by his editors.*



## Letters & Comments:

### *Student groups need to be heard*

Student Body President, Kyle Frazier proposed the issue to the E-Board on a whim, who then in turn told us (student groups) about it at one of the last meetings of the year. The Student Senator's idea took precedence over groups' proposals that were scheduled to be voted on. We were blind-sided by it, but were told that 'nothing would go forward without (our) consent and approval'. Now, Kyle Frazier is choosing to go forward, regardless of what we replied, and is looking to give his self the highest power of our student activity fees. This is aggressive take over and should not be considered the first option when discussing ways to improve a student run organization that handles our student activity fees, paid with tuition.

I never got a chance to speak after two hours of waving my placard, because the list of speakers was so long. The biggest problem that the E-Board has expressed about this system is getting consistent attendance at the meetings with experienced and SOOT trained representatives. Our student group solved that problem for ourselves. We appoint two officers as BSO Representatives. Their only job is to make it to the meetings, help make quorum, and vote on the proposals. This year our group was present at every single meeting because of our BSO rep, Parker Gerrish.

As a student group officer, I never hear from the BSO Executive Board, and wouldn't have known that a stipend position was up for grabs otherwise I'd have gone for it myself. Alas, there is a protocol for handling this pinch which was bound to happen when three seats are going to be empty.

Aggressive takeover wouldn't be happening if the BSO E-Board and the Student Senate were more proactive about solving issues before finals week.

Amanda L. Martin  
Environmental Science, Planning & Policy Major  
ESP Student Group Treasurer 2013-2014

*Want to respond to something you read in this week's issue of the Free Press? Write a submission and send it in! Email [editor@usmfreepress.org](mailto:editor@usmfreepress.org)*

## Senior Week Pass - \$20

Participants get a **wristband** for entry to all events and a **Senior Week pint glass**!

Passes on sale starting **April 14<sup>th</sup>** in the **Student Involvement and Activities Center** in Woodbury Campus Center, Portland.

# USM Class of 2014

## SENIOR WEEK!

MONDAY 5/5	TUESDAY 5/6	WEDNESDAY 5/7	THURSDAY 5/8	FRIDAY 5/9
<b>Bayside Bowl</b> 58 Adler St, Portland 9:00pm-11:00pm Bowling, shoes, and appetizers with your wristband!	<b>Trivia Night at Binga's Stadium</b> 77 Free St, Portland 8:00pm-11:00pm Wings, trivia and prizes!	<b>Bob Marley Live!</b> Hannaford Hall, 88 Bedford St, Portland 8:00pm Enjoy a night full of laughter with Maine comedian Bob Marley! <b>Two tickets</b> with your wristband! <b>Extra tickets:</b> Students / \$3 Faculty and Staff / \$7 Non-USM / \$10	<b>Senior Night in the Old Port</b> 4:00pm-1:00am Discounts at various locations around the Old Port. <b>Meet-ups with free food:</b> 7:00pm - Gelato Fiasco 10:00pm - Three Dollar Dewey's	<b>5th Annual Senior Cruise (21+)</b> Casco Bay Lines 56 Commercial St, Portland 7:00pm-10:30pm Dance the night away on Casco Bay! Free Snacks! <b>Cash bar only!</b> Guest tickets / \$10

# THANK YOU,

## Lucille Siegler,

## Shelton Waldrep,

— and the members of —  
the Free Press Advisory Board

Without your work behind the scenes, this wouldn't be possible.

**-THE FP STAFF**

Crossword

- Across
1. Target of an X rating
5. Migrants in "The Grapes of Wrath"
10. Existence: Lat.
14. Casanova type
15. Cabbage or kale
16. Double no-hit pitcher Johnny Vander \_\_\_\_
17. Decorative
19. British statesman
20. Big name in video arcades
21. Won and own, for now
23. Inch
26. Fridge stick-on
27. Certain blue stone
32. Airport info next to "Dep."
33. Girlish laugh
34. Hosiery risks
38. Salt, chemically
40. Release upon
42. Unbend
43. Hebrew unit o dry measure
45. Words before roses or lettuce
47. Woody's ex-mate
48. Deer hunter's dinner
51. Triple Crown jockey Eddie
54. Nick at \_\_\_\_
55. Post-Renaissance language
58. Actors Sharif and Epps
62. Argentine timber tree
63. Contingent arrangement
66. Bohr's subject
67. At full speed, on the briny
68. City on Utah Lake
69. Virgil, Morgan or Wyatt
70. Mends with stitches
71. Atlantic Coast area, with "the"
- Down
1. Malay sail canoe
2. \_\_\_\_ cloud (cosmic debris)
3. \_\_\_\_ fever (be hot)
4. '\_\_\_\_, My God, to Thee'
5. Kipling's "Follow Me \_\_\_\_"
6. \_\_\_\_-Tiki
7. Minute bit
8. Liveliness
9. Deli cold cut
10. Newly formed
11. Four-door
12. Terse note from a boss
13. German painter Max \_\_\_\_
18. In the thick of
22. Long-snouted fish
24. Scottish Celt
25. Youths coming of age in ancient Athens
27. Mentally sound
28. Gridiron play
29. Prefix for duke or enemy
30. Fountain and Rose
31. Kind of collision
35. "Life is hard..."
36. Earth goddess: Var.
37. Valentine acronym
39. Groovy light source
41. Tennille or Morrison
44. Sister of Zeus
46. Aperture setting
49. Comment of approval
50. Place to observe Saturday Sabbath
51. Architectural pillars
52. Spanish lariat
53. Kind of guard
56. "\_\_\_\_ Rock!": Simon and Garfunkel hit
57. Raleigh's state: Abbr.
59. Temple of Athena \_\_\_\_
60. Fans' shouts
61. Peeved mood
64. Reunion-goers
65. Young \_\_\_\_: children, in dialect

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				

Sudoku

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

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

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

The solution to last issue's crossword

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

Cryptogram

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

HXY GYBWTMHHMWC  
GYIFA MN UWMCU  
NBWWHXTA. SVCN  
EVTT MH V NBVNXMCU  
NLEEYNN.

And here is your hint:

U = G



Weekly Horoscope

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



Aries  
March 21-April 19

★★★★★

Part of you wants to be out in the world; the other half yearns to stay at home. You need both; don't let guilt get in your way.



Libra  
September 23-October 22

★★★

Sharing beauty with those you love is important today. Take extra care with your grooming and makeup. Use your good taste.



Taurus  
April 20-May 20

★★★

Pushing a loved one to change just generates more resistance. Let go and let be.



Scorpio  
October 23-November 21

★★★★★

Beauty moves your soul--in your appearance, attending galleries or museums, creating beautiful things, or listening to music.



Gemini  
May 21-June 20

★★★★★

Singing and music soothe your spirits today. Attend a concert, hear an orchestra or musical performer, play CDs, tapes, or radio.



Sagittarius  
November 22-December 21

★★★

Restlessness is likely today. Don't tie yourself or the family down to a "must follow" routine. Keep everybody's options open.



Cancer  
June 21-July 22

★★★★★

Future dreams tie into your recreation - community action, science fiction movies or books, inventing something, or fantasizing.



Capricorn  
December 22-January 19

★★★

Your mind and tongue are quicker than usual, which might leave some people behind. Use humor lightly and don't be TOO direct.



Leo  
July 23-August 22

★★★★★

Joy and inspiration are high-lighted. Engage in recreation or relaxation which gives you positive, uplifting feelings



Aquarius  
January 20-February 18

★★★★★

Communication is the key today. Write letters, pin little love notes to the refrigerator, telephone, sky write, communicate with loved one(s).



Virgo  
August 23-September 22

★★★

Appreciate your lover's appearance today. S/he needs to hear that s/he is attractive. And take extra care to look good yourself.



Pisces  
February 19-March 20

★★★★★

Sensual gratification is more important today. Reach out and touch someone. Food, drink and material pleasures taste extra sweet.

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# Sports

## Must Watch Games

### Wednesday

**Baseball**  
Boston Red Sox  
vs Tampa Bay Rays  
7:10 p.m.

### Thursday

**Baseball**  
Portland Sea Dogs  
vs Reading Fightin Phils  
11:00 a.m.

## Looking back:



## 2013-14 seasons in review



**Justicia Barreiros**  
*Sports Editor*

### Men's Basketball

USM concluded its 2013-14 season with an overall record of 7-19, going 3-11 in the conference. The Huskies' (#7) went against Rhode Island College (#2) in the 2014 Little East Championship Quarterfinal losing 74-66 ending their season.

**Highlights**—Senior Conor Sullivan was named to the 2014 Little East Men's Basketball All-Conference Second Team. He also earned the second team Maine Men's Basketball Coaches and Writers Association All-State honors. Sullivan led the Huskies in scoring and rebounding averaging 14.5 points and 6.6 rebounds per game. Sullivan also achieved a record 1000 career points becoming only the 25th player in USM's men's basketball history to do so. He finishes his USM basketball career with 1024 points, 491 rebounds, 137 assists, 116 steals and 50 blocked shots.

### Golf

The Huskies regularly placed second or third in their classics and invitations. USM took first place of four teams at the Southern Maine Cup with 205 points. At the end of the regular season the Huskies competed in the Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC) Championship the Huskies finished third of nine teams with 303 points.

**Highlights**—Three Huskies awarded GNAC post-season honors. Senior Aidan Boyce and freshman Bradley Myers were both selected to first team all-conference, while freshman Tom Murray was selected for the GNAC All-Sportsmanship Team. Myers was also named the 2013 GNAC Rookie of the Year.

### Men's Ice Hockey

The Huskies went 6-15-5 overall and 5-11-2 in their conference. USM went into overtime in six games during the season, winning one but remaining tied in the other five games.

**Highlights**—Freshman forward Kelby Lorenz was named ECAC Men's East Co-Rookie of the Year. Sophomore defenseman Alex Pompeo was voted on to the All-Conference first team, while Lorenz and fellow freshman class member Cole Klippenstein were named to the All-Rookie team.

### Men's Cross Country

USM finished 14th of 50 teams at NCAA Regional Meet with 415 points, sophomore Alex Beals led the pack with a 59th place finish out of 366 competitors. Both the men's and women's races were held in Gorham.

**Highlights**—Freshman Tyler White named LEC Rookie of the Year, third USM freshman to receive the honor joining Julian Gazzelloni (2010) and Alex Gomes (2008) before him.

### Field Hockey

The Huskies ended their season with a record of 10-11 overall and 6-5 in the conference after losing at the Little East Tournament Quarterfinals 2-0 against UMass-Dartmouth. Seven Huskies earned NFHCA National Academic Squad Honors led by senior Ariel Kaplan, a four-year recipient. Also receiving the award were seniors Cristina Mountain, Rebecca Pratt, Cailley Bonti, Julia Richardson, sophomore Allison Ward and freshman Hana Martinez.

**Highlights**—Junior forward Peyton Dostie was chosen as the 2013 Little East Conference Field Hockey Offensive Player of the Year. Dostie was also named to the all-conference first team, while teammates senior forward Natalie Harkins and sophomore back Marina Davidson were both named to the All-LEC third team. Dostie went on to be selected to the National Field Hockey Coaches' Association (NFHCA) New England West Region First Team and then to the ECAC Division III New England All-Star Team. Dostie has 37 goals and 15 assists earning 89 points in her 42-game career with USM.

### Women's Soccer

USM concluded the season with an overall record of 5-14-1. The Huskies (#6) competed at UMass-Dartmouth (#3) in the Little East First Round losing 2-1 to conclude their season.

**Highlights**—Four USM players received LEC postseason honors. Senior forward Jordan Grant was named the Rookie of the Year, also receiving a spot on the all-conference second team with two teammates junior midfielder Kelly Burrell and senior goalkeeper Katie Cobb. USM's junior back Nicole Bordeau was named to the all-conference first team.

### Men's Soccer

The Huskies ended the season with a disappointing 0-18-1 record overall. They tied 2-2 against Husson University in a non-conference game after two overtimes.

**Highlights**—Junior Nat LeBlanc, a back and midfielder, was named to the All-Little East Conference second team.

### Women's Volleyball

USM won two-thirds of all of their games achieving an overall record of 22-11 for the season while going 2-5 in the conference.

**Highlights**—Huskies' freshman Kristina Rubico was named to the All-LEC Volleyball second team after receiving the Rookie of the Week award three times in the 2013 season. Head Coach Tom Gardner was named LEC Coach of the Year after guiding the Huskies' to their most successful season by the number of wins since 1976.

### Women's Ice Hockey

The Huskies went 10-15-1 overall and 7-9 in the conference. USM fell 1-0 to Castleton in the ECAC Women's East Quarterfinals. Junior goalie Liz Bergstrom saved 33 shots on goal made by Castleton.

**Highlights**—Senior forward Erin Banfield had a career high 12 goals this season for an overall career total of 32 goals in her four years playing at USM. Banfield also had six assists this season, for an overall career total of 15 assists.

### Women's Cross Country

USM finished 16th of 53 teams at the NCAA New England Regional Championship scoring 504 points, senior Morgan Beede led the Huskies to finish the race in 75th place overall of 371 competitors.

**Highlights**—The Huskies placed second in the Little East Conference Championship and the New England Alliance Championship in fields of seven and 15 teams respectively. Junior Emily Panciera led the Huskies taking fourth place overall after completing the 5,000-meter course with a time of 19 minutes, 13.55 seconds.

### Women's Tennis

The Huskies ended their season with a record of 8-7 overall and 3-5 in the conference. USM (#5) lost in the first round of the Little East Tournament 5-2 against Worcester (#4). Of team's eight wins, five were shut out matches in which USM beat the opposing team 9-0.

**Highlights**—Senior Mary Moran earned a spot on the All-LEC women's tennis second team. Moran achieved a record of 12-2 overall in singles action and 10-5 in doubles for the 2013 season. For Moran's three-year career at USM, she has an overall singles record of 25-11 and a 15-8 record against LEC opponents. In her doubles career, Moran is 29-12 overall and 17-7 against LEC opponents.

See **REVIEW** on page 10

Upcoming
<b>April 29</b>
<b>Baseball</b> USM at Bowdoin 4:00 p.m.
<b>April 30</b>
<b>Baseball</b> Bates at USM 4:00 p.m.
<b>May 1</b>
<b>Men's Outdoor Track New England DIII Championships</b> 11:00 a.m.
<b>May 2</b>
<b>Women's Outdoor Track New England DIII Championships</b> 12:00 p.m.
<b>Men's Outdoor Track New England DIII Championships</b> 12:00 p.m.
<b>Baseball</b> Eastern Conn. at USM 12:00 p.m.
<b>Baseball</b> Eastern Conn. at USM 3:00 p.m.
<b>May 3</b>
<b>Men's and Women's Outdoor Track &amp; Field New England DIII Championships</b> 12:00 p.m.

Scoreboard
<b>April 22</b>
<b>Softball</b> USM 5 UMass Boston 6
<b>Men's Lacrosse</b> USM 11 UMass Boston 12
<b>April 23</b>
<b>Baseball</b> USM 4 Babson 6
<b>Women's Lacrosse</b> USM 6 Plymouth 17
<b>April 25</b>
<b>Baseball</b> USM 13 Keene 1
<b>Baseball</b> USM 8 Keene 3
<b>Softball</b> USM 0 Keene 2
<b>April 26</b>
<b>Men's Lacrosse</b> USM 3 Western Conn. 10
<b>Men's Tennis</b> USM 9 Western Conn. 0
<b>Women's Lacrosse</b> USM 24 UMass. Dartmouth 5



Justicia Barreiros / Sports Editor

USM senior first baseman John Carey (#5) narrowly misses getting a runner from Western Connecticut State out at first base in a pickle between first and second base. The Huskies won both games in the double header against Western Connecticut on Saturday, April 12.

# Babson defeats USM 6-3

David Sanok  
Free Press Staff

What began as a low scoring pitching duel played in gusty winds turned into a scoring barrage in the eighth inning as the USM Huskies fell to the Babson College Beavers 6-4.

The game started off well for the Huskies when freshman Paul McDonough received a walk to first, stole second base and scored on an RBI by sophomore Sam Dexter for the first run of the game. Dexter himself advanced to home plate after the Beaver's sophomore catcher George Crowley committed a throwing error to third, giving the Huskies a 2-0 lead.

Defensively the first six innings were dominated by the Huskies with solid pitching from junior Alex Tobey. In the 5.2 innings Tobey pitched, he recorded three strikeouts and surrendered only one run in the fifth inning when Beaver's senior Sean Lanahan hit a single that cut the deficit to 2-1.

The Huskies added another run in the seventh inning when fresh-

man Matt Bender hit a sacrifice fly ball to center field bringing senior Matt Verrier home to increase the Huskies' lead to 3-1.

In the eighth inning, the game began to unravel for the Huskies as the Beavers scored five unanswered runs bringing the score to 6-3.

Huskies' Head Coach Ed Flaherty reflected on his team's eighth inning meltdown. "We just weren't the better team that inning and it cost us," said Flaherty. "They got some guys on base and took advantage of those opportunities while we didn't."

The Huskies trouble in the eighth inning began when junior pitcher Andrew Richards gave up three singles-loading the bases with only one out. Babson freshman Owen Shea hit an RBI single to cut the deficit to 3-2, followed by a two RBI single from junior Sean MacPhee to put Babson up 4-3-their first lead of the game.

After the Beavers added four runs in the top of the eighth. Richards was relieved by Huskies' junior Dylan Morris but the team

fared no better as he threw a wild pitch that bounced off the catcher's glove-bringing in another run for the Beavers increasing their lead 6-3.

"Our relievers struggled against some very good hitters," said Coach Flaherty. "As a coach, you don't want to go through that many relievers in one game, but we were in a tight jam so you give it a try and see if it works."

The Huskies staged a late rally in the ninth inning when they managed to load the bases but were only able get one RBI from sophomore Nick DiBiase-leaving the Beavers with a 6-4 victory.

USM played again on Friday in a double header against Keene State. The Huskies swept both games going 13-1 (seven innings) and 8-3. The double win boosts the Huskies record to 26-8 overall and 11-1 in conference play.

The Huskies will next play on Tuesday at Bowdoin College.

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## Men's Indoor Track and Field

As a team the Huskies placed second at the LEC Championships, third at the New England Alliance Championships, and 21st of 62 teams at the ECAC Div. III Championships. Juniors Kevin Desmond and Jamie Ruginski set new school records in the 600 meters, long jump and heptathlon. Desmond won the 600 meter title with a time of 1:21.82 at the Bates Invitational, while Ruginski set the long jump record with a leap of 23 feet, 1 ¾ inches and the heptathlon with 4,726 points.

**Highlights**–Junior Jamie Ruginski is the NCAA Division III National Champion in the triple jump and All-American in long jump. Ruginski won the triple jump with a leap of 50 feet, 1 ¾ inches and placed third in the long jump with a record tying jump of 23 feet, 7 ¼ inches. Ruginski was named the United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) Division III Men's Field Athlete of the Year for his many honors and achievements this season.

## Women's Indoor Track and Field

After taking fourth place at the Maine State Championships, the Huskies went on to take the titles at both the Little East Conference Championships and the New England Alliance Championships scoring 208.5 and 184 points respectively. Freshman Ashley Belanger, sophomores Nicole Kirk and Hannah Damron and junior Peyton Dostie each earned All-ECAC honors this past season by placing in shot put, 400 meter, 800 meter and long jump respectively.

**Highlights**–Dostie and Damron qualified for the NCAA Division III Championships held at Wesleyan Nebraska. Damron competed in the 800m, setting a USM school record with a time of two minutes, 13.39 seconds. Damron was 12th of 17 competitors. Dostie ran in the 400m achieving a time of 58.35 seconds, placing 16th.

## Women's Basketball

USM went 20-8 overall in their 2013-14 season and 10-4 in the conference. The Huskies (#2) won their quarter- and semifinal games in the 2014 Little East Championship but lost 64-59 to Rhode Island College (#1) during the Championship game on Saturday, Mar 1.

**Highlights**–Senior guard Erin McNamara earned a position on the 2014 Maine Women's Basketball Coaches Association (MWBCA) All-State First Team. She was also named to the D3Hoops.com All-Northeast Region Fourth Team. McNamara played in every game during her four-year basketball career at USM for a total of 114 games. She has 944 points, 343 assists, 211 rebounds, and 130 steals total in her career.

# WMPG 2014 FASHIONSHOW

Sunday May 4 @ Port City Music Hall  
Doors 7pm -- Show 8pm  
Tickets \$10 adv  
All ages welcome !

**Presented by WMPG**  
Southern Maine Community Radio

Tickets: [portcitymusichall.com](http://portcitymusichall.com)

Celebrating Local Fashion Designers!  
Openers: Dark Follies and Hoop Vixzens  
More Info at [WMPG.org](http://WMPG.org)

# USM COMMUNITY PAGE



## Community Spotlight: Students showcase research

Heather Guaciaro  
Free Press Staff

USM and SMCC students gathered to showcase their achievements at the annual Thinking Matters Conference in Portland on Friday.

Thinking Matters, an annual exhibition of student research, scholarship and creativity started in 2004. Students from all academic disciplines are invited to submit a paper or posters of classroom work, independent study, internship, student teaching, clinical or any other scholarly or creative project for presentation to the public. The goal of the annual event is to encourage and celebrate student achievements while also cultivating friendships between students and encouraging student and faculty collaboration.

USM, SMCC and Maine Medical Center Research Institute faculty and mentors encourage students to participate in Thinking Matters each year, some professors even work it into their class curriculum.

The event takes two forms. The morning session, held in the Sullivan Gym, consisted of poster presentations, in which students were available to answer questions on their work, and in the afternoon oral presentations were held in Payson Smith.

There were a wide variety of presentation topics including women's rights, LGBTQ representation in children's literature, sustainability in everyday life, Maine activism, cyber science and immigration in Maine, among others.

Ashleigh Guild and Thomas Waltz,



Randy Hazelton / Multimedia Editor

Students put posters on display fro Thinking Matters in the Sullivan Gym Complex.

are both graduate students at USM who are graduating in May. They showed a poster on their research and work with drama therapy, which is the use of acting exercises to give

others a means of expressing themselves and connecting with others. "We chose to do a poster because there are more people to interact with," said Guild.

"It's wonderful to engage with people from other disciplines," said Waltz. "It gives a real sense of community."

"It's wonderful to see what others have done and worked so hard on," said Guild.

Denise Bluhm, a non-traditional USM student and geology major, presented

her classes' work on the field mapping of Timber Point and Timber Island in Biddeford. "I get really excited about presenting something I love to the public," she said.

"It's awesome and a good experience in any field," said Bluhm on the Thinking Matters experience. "It's good practice for the real world."

"It's a wonderful opportunity for students," said Judie O'Malley, assistant director of Public Affairs, who encourages students to participate every year. "It inspires students to go above and beyond their regular classroom assignments, encourages faculty [and] student interaction and allows everyone involved to demonstrate their creative work in front of the USM community."

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**"It's wonderful to engage with people from other disciplines."**

-Thomas Waltz  
Graduate student



## Featured Photo:



Randy Hazelton / Multimedia Editor

The community came together Friday, April 18 for an event, titled War Stories: Beyond the Front Lines, an event held in honor of USM student and Spc. Christopher Gelineau, who died in battle on April 20, 2004.



## Campus Events

### Monday, April 28

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

Matthew Johnston, Drum Set, and Shannon Allen, Cello, Junior Recital  
7:30 PM  
Corthell Concert Hall, Gorham

### Tuesday, April 29

Autism Speaks Pizza Fundraiser  
11:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.  
Gorham House of Pizza, Gorham

Sociology Club Weekly Meetings  
1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.  
Sociology House Conference Room,  
120 Bedford Street, Portland

### Wednesday, April 30

Celebration Graduation 2014  
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
Bookstore, Woodbury Campus Center, Portland

USM Department of Theater Play Readings  
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM  
Russell Hall, Theater Lab, Gorham

### Thursday, May 1

2014 Veterans Graduation Recognition Ceremony  
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
7th Floor Glickman Library, Portland

USM Lavender Graduation 2014  
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversity,  
Woodbury Campus Center, Portland

2014 Media Studies Service Learning Showcase  
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
Talbot Auditorium, Luther Bonney Hall, Portland

### Friday, May 2

Student Senate Meeting  
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
405 Bailey Hall, Gorham

2014 Student Involvement Recognition Gala  
5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Mariner's Church Banquet Center,  
368 Fore Street, Portland

### Saturday, May 3

2014 STEM Ecology Forum  
8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
Wishcamper Center, Portland

Baha'i Campus Association Clothing Swap Fundraiser  
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Amphitheater, Woodbury Campus Center, Portland

For more events:  
[www.usm.maine.edu/events](http://www.usm.maine.edu/events)