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House fire kills five people; critically injures one

Francis Flisiuk
Managing Editor

A fire engulfed a two family home on 20 Noyes St. last Saturday, killing five people and severely injuring another, who is now in an intensive burn center in Boston.

According to President David Flanagan, seven tenants did escape the structure, one of which was USM student Nick Marcketta. It is unclear whether the fatalities involved USM students, as the police and fire department still are working diligently to identify the bodies, which according to them might take several days. Flanagan said that another tenant that is a USM student is confirmed to have been out of state at the time of the fire.

The police spokesperson Stephen McCausland originally stated earlier in the day that none of the affected were students.

"The police spokesman has been making some statements that just aren't true, he is saying there are no USM students involved. I hope to God that's true, but we won't know that for sure until they identify the

bodies, and that's going to take a while," said Flanagan.

Portland Fire Chief Jerome LaMoria spoke during a press conference and said the injured man in critical condition escaped by jumping out of a second story window while on fire. Before being taken to Boston, he was first brought to Maine Medical Center.

"My friend saw one person that was on fire and put it out by rolling on the ground," said Justin Van-Soest, a neighbor who gathered on Noyes St. after hearing sirens while walking his dog.

Van-Soest said that what was the most striking about the fire was its scale.

"The flames were in every window," said Van-Soest. "It was an absolute inferno, with flames billowing out of the roof and crumbling the balustrades."

The fire was so large that Back Bay Skate owner, Bruce Little, thought that the fire had spread to his shop.

"I heard that it went up really quick," said Little. "It's so sad."

According to Van-Soest the build-

ing and its owner, Greg Nesbitt, was looked on negatively by some community members.

"The building was starting to deteriorate," said Van-Soest. "With furniture all over the lawn and frequent parties, the building was considered sort of an eyesore."

Van-Soest said that the building's tenants had a history of noise complaints and large parties, one of which allegedly took place the night before the fire.

As of now the Portland police and fire department have not yet determined what the cause of the fire was, but people like Van-Soest believe the party might have played a part.

"One plausible explanation could of been the party," said Van-Soest. "People could've been passed out drunk with lit cigarettes or candles."

Police officers and firefighters were working all day last Saturday, since the fire was reported at 7:17 a.m.

"We are working on a plan with the medical examiner to remove the bodies," said LaMoria. "Part of the investigation will also include looking for any code violations that may



Sam Hill / Editor-in-Chief

Firefighters and police work for hours to extinguish still smoldering fires.

have caused the fire."

Portland Chief Fire Marshall Joe Thomas is leading the investigation.

LaMoria thanked President Flanagan and the USM community for opening its doors to accommodate the friends and families of the victims. The Woodbury Campus Center was open for most of the day to serve as a place where the Red Cross

can offer their emotional support.

"On behalf of the mayor and the council, we want to express our deepest sympathies," said LaMoria. "This is an enormous tragedy for this community. We are doing all we can to bring closure."

This story will be updated online.

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Faculty retrenched, some through voicemails

Sam Hill
Editor-in-Chief

Last week 24 faculty members were notified that they would be losing their jobs in an administrative effort to balance USM's budget and address its \$16 million deficit.

These retrenchments are the second phase of the administration's plan to reduce faculty costs, the first phase resulting in 25 faculty opting for early retirements with increased incentives. Targeted faculty received letters regarding their retrenchment, as their contracts require, and phone calls from deans of the college offering one-on-one meetings on their termination.

These phone calls were meant to connect retrenched faculty with deans for support and discussion following notification of layoffs but one dean went too far, reading an entire script meant to be looked over during meetings in a voicemail to some faculty, leaving some with the details of their job loss waiting for them on their office phones the next morning.

"I was fired by voicemail," said Paul Christiansen, associate professor of music history, at a press conference held by anti-administration



Sam Hill / Editor-in-Chief

Faculty, students and community members protest retrenchments of 24 faculty members last Friday. These retrenchments signify the second phase of the administration's plan to reduce faculty cuts and address USM's \$16 million deficit.

groups last Wednesday. "This is pathetic."

Chris Quint, the executive director of public affairs, would not

name the dean who made those calls, but said that it was a mistake.

The script had been put together for one-on-one meetings if faculty chose to speak with the deans and not as a method for faculty to learn of their retrenchment.

"It was never our intention for that to happen and is definitely not a USM practice," said Quint. "We are embarrassed and disappointed that it happened."

Meeting with retrenched faculty is not a requirement but simply a good human resources practice to make sure affected faculty are supported. Faculty could either accept or decline meeting individually.

Last spring, when the administration announced the retrenchment of 12 faculty, professors were required to go directly to the Provost's office to receive their letters one at a time, which resulted in a full day of student protests at the law building.

"This university is just a pathetic shadow of what a university should be," said Susan Feiner, professor of economics and women and gender studies, at the press conference.

"This school doesn't have any idea how students in some of these majors are going to graduate. They

See **RETRENCH** on page 6



Justicia Barreiros / Free Press Staff

(Left) President Barack Obama and democratic gubernatorial candidate Mike Michaud join hands as the audience snaps photos. (Right) Mike Michaud speaks to the crowd, amongst an ocean of supporters.



Justicia Barreiros / Free Press Staff

Go to our website and Facebook page to view more pictures of Obama's recent visit to Maine.

Obama visits Maine to endorse Mike Michaud

Sam Hill
Editor-in-Chief

President Barack Obama stirred and energized a crowd of 3,000 people at the Portland Expo on Thursday, endorsing Mike Michaud in Maine's gubernatorial race just five days before elections.

Obama cited Michaud's roots and dedication to the average Mainer as reasons for voters to check his box in the booth on Tuesday.

"He ran for the state legislature not because he wanted to be someone but because he wanted to do something, he wanted to fight for something," said Obama, headlining other speakers from the demo-

cratic party. "Mike's been fighting ever since for ordinary Mainers because that's who he is."

According to polls released by Bangor Daily News last week, Michaud will be battling incumbent Governor Paul LePage vote-for-vote on election day, with both of them polling near 42 percent with Maine voters.

Independent candidate Eliot Cutler, who has been polling far behind, told supporters last week to vote for other candidates, but did not endorse LePage or Michaud directly. That same day, U.S. Senator Angus King changed his endorsement from Cutler to Michaud, noting he was a more realistic choice at this point in the

race.

"You have a chance to choose a governor who puts you first," Obama said.

Michaud spoke on recent polling, telling the audience that they could sway the election's results simply by talking to their friends and family about voting and knocking on a door or two.

"What we do over the next five days will have a profound impact in the lives of thousands of Mainers. We are being held back by one person and one person only," said Michaud, referring to LePage and speaking directly before Obama.

"You are all here today because, like me, you are not satisfied with what you've seen over the past four years," said Michaud. "This is your state. You know we can do better and we must do better. This is your state and in five days you can take it back."

Obama noted that Maine's last gubernatorial race was just as tight as this year's and stressed that just a small number of people can make a difference on election day.

"Four years ago, republicans won the governor's race in Maine

by less than 18 votes per precinct," he said. "18 votes. Those 18 votes could be the difference between an economy that works for everybody or just for some."

"Mike's got a different vision for what the future holds and I think you do too," said Obama. "In America, prosperity doesn't trickle down from the top. We build ladders for people to get into the middle class. We think the economy works best when it works for the many, not for the few. That's Mike's experience. That's his life."

Former Maine Senator George Mitchell also endorsed Michaud and spoke on his Maine roots as well, after speaking on the victories of the democratic party throughout history, such as creating Social Security, expanding voting rights and continuing to fight for women.

"Mike Michaud will never forget his roots as a working class man from the town of East Millicocket," Mitchell said. "He respects others, he listens to people including those who disagree with him. He will never insult or look down on anyone else regardless of their circumstance."

Both Obama and Michaud encouraged the crowd to go out of their way during the weekend to talk to everyone they knew about voting.

"If you've come to this rally, you're probably going to vote," said Obama. "You can't stop at voting, you've got to get involved. Talk to your neighbors and knock on some doors for Mike."

Toward the end of his 27-minute speech, Obama returned to themes of hope that he regularly used during his own campaign speeches, campaigns he says he'll miss after his second presidential term expires. He urged the crowd to vote for Maine's future and a hard working candidate instead of succumbing to political cynicism.

"Cynicism didn't put a man on the moon," Obama said. "Cynicism has never ended a war, or cured disease, or built a business or taught a young mind ... Hope is what built America. Show that you still have hope, and go out there and vote on Nov. 4."

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Cynicism has never ended a war, or cured disease, or built a business or taught a young mind... Hope is what built America.

Barack Obama, President of the United States

GEB discusses possibility of merge with PEB



Photo courtesy of Gorham Events Board

Students pose for a photo at the Gorham Event Board's event, "Create a Critter," where students are able to select and stuff their own stuffed animal.

Annie Quandt
Contributor

If you've been noticing a lack of events by the Portland Events Board on campus, and have tried calling their representative, you

won't get a response. The office has been empty for about a month now, with no one taking up the title of board or chair holder and no meetings being held.

"The history behind it, is that back towards the end of September, Keith Garson, elected chair of

Portland Events Board, said he was considering resigning as he just had too much on his plate. No one was showing up to the board meetings, and so the Student Senate helped and created an ad-hoc committee," said Daniel Welter, coordinator of student activities.

"We're waiting for the senate committee to come forward with a recommendation to decide what the best option is for student events," said Welter.

Welter noted that it's still a topic of discussion, and that he believes people need to keep an open mind regarding the best course of action for the PEB.

"The merger is one of a few options that are out on the table right now, but there's an opportunity with the merger for students who have a high level of experience and skill in the GEB to have change made in Portland," said Welter.

Welter added that if a new PEB were created, it could revitalize the board and would provide "a new, fresh take on things."

"I don't think either would be

particularly easy, but I support whatever serves the students best," said Welter.

According to Joshua Dodge, chair of the student senate, the PEB is exploring other options as well, in case the senate deems it undesirable to conjoin the two boards.

"We want to maintain the integrity of the Gorham Events Board itself, and enrich them as well. We want to make sure we have as much success as we've had in the past. We would want to serve Portland well, as well. We could have as much success in Portland as we've had here," said Chelsea Tibbetts, a member of student senate.

According to Welter, any changes will not happen overnight.

"It's being looked into very heavily to make sure we have everything in place. I would suspect by the second or third week of November, right before Thanksgiving, that a decision will be made," Welter said.

However, Dodge thinks the decision will be made more quickly, possibly as soon as this Friday.

Welter mentioned that there's no lack of events so far in Gorham, and discussed the type of activities they are planning. Welter said that the Gorham Events Board is operating as normal. This week they're showing Hocus Pocus, GEB next week is doing an event in Portland called 'USM's got Talent!' in Woodbury and the week after that they're having a tropical party in Gorham.

"Traditionally we do a little bit more for Halloween, but we wanted to make it engaging but not as staff intensive," Welter said.

Tibbetts spoke of the possibility of a merger positively.

"I think a merger would enrich both campuses in a different way, we'd be able to bring more of the population of Gorham to Portland," said Tibbetts. "We have more off-campus activities and events that we could expand upon that as well."

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Non-majors vocalize concerns in budget cuts

Emma James
News Editor

Part of the administration's rationale behind the elimination of the applied medical sciences program was that the major didn't benefit other programs in the school. According to official census data taken on Oct. 15, 2014, this is not the case.

"In applied medical sciences there are 106 students, total, enrolled in a course in the AMS graduate programs," said Christopher Quint, director of public relations. "Of those 106, 16 are AMS graduate students and 90 -- combination of graduate and undergraduate -- are non-AMS graduate students taking a course in the AMS graduate program in the fall 2014 semester."

In other words, 85% of students taking classes in the AMS program are enrolled in different majors throughout the university.

Tristan Glenn, a student enrolled in the program's immunology course working on his medical school prerequisites, described the program elimination as being terrible.

"[Applied medical sciences are] so incredibly important, given the time we're in, with so many new diseases, threats of biological warfare, antibiotic resistance and all that," said Glenn. "The thought that this subject, in particular, is being considered unimportant seems very myopic to me."

Glenn also worries about the future of students like him, who wish to pursue medicine as a career.

"If USM makes these classes unavailable to people who do want to pursue a career of medicine, I don't know where we're going to go," said Glenn. "I could go to UNE [University of New England], but it's way too expensive."

Glenn explained that, with the elimination of these programs, Maine is being left in a "bind."

"It's a fundamental disservice to Maine on an economic and social level," Glenn said.

Allison Gray, a family nurse practitioner major and part time faculty member, attends classes in two of the five programs slashed in the past two months: applied medical sciences and American and New England studies.

"I have found them both to be so fundamental and enriching that it is beyond disappointing to me that it's just an across the board cut, instead of how we could look at cross listing," said Gray.

Gray finds it disappointing that nobody has asked the question "Would you, as a future medical professional, find these courses beneficial?"

"The immunology class I'm taking will completely affect how I practice as a provider," said Gray. "Even my New England studies class, it's totally outside what I normally do, but I have to say that even that course has affected me so much that I put in to try to work at the Indian Health Service for my clinicals because I was so moved by the information I gathered in the course."

Gray believes that much of this could have been avoided or decisions could have been made in a less inflammatory way had there

been consultation with students and faculty prior to making the decision.

"They're teaching major things. They're looking at vaccinations and preventing cancer and organ transplants," said Gray. "These are important topics. It's just disappointing that they [administration and board of trustees] don't see the value of trying to make that work."

According to Ah-Kau Ng, professor of immunology, classes are also used by students outside the university at different campuses, as well as by undergraduate students looking to be trained in the laboratory setting.

"The quality of their education depends on these experiences," said Ng. "They're very helpful to make them more competitive when they apply for jobs. Students are losing this opportunity."

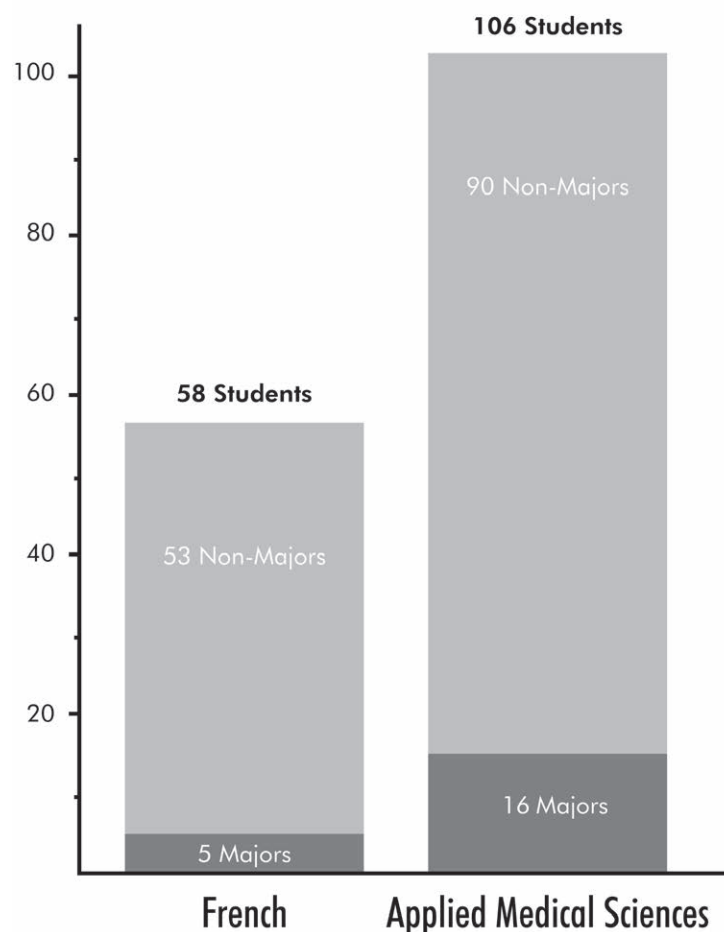
Still, faculty and students plan to continue to fight for the department. In meetings to come, S. Monroe Duboise, associate professor of molecular biology and microbiology, plans to have both AFUM representation and legal representation, for both the students and faculty.

Professors in the program received their official retrenchment letters last Wednesday, sent directly to their homes via express mail at over \$18 each.

"That would've bought a lot of coffee to have a lot of productive and constructive conversations over the past few months," said Duboise. "But they didn't choose to take that approach. They chose to attack."

According to Duboise, this elimination is unprecedented in the academic world and "way outside" the

Students Affected by Program Cuts



Ellen Spahn / Design Assistant

range of ethical norms.

"It's all a team effort and they're essentially attacking us. It seems to be their intent. I think [President David] Flanagan enjoys this, and maybe some other people do too,"

said Duboise. "It seems quite sadistic from where I sit."

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Flanagan responds to critics of his plan



Sam Hill / Editor-in-Chief

President David Flanagan at September's board of trustees meeting.

Francis Flisiuk
Managing Editor

When David Flanagan came out of retirement last year to tackle the daunting task of balancing USM's \$16 million budget shortfall, he said it would be obvious that his plans would be met with disapproval.

From faculty outraged over the loss of their jobs and elimination of their departments, to students upset and confused about the future of their degrees, to alumni and community members unsure that the quality and integrity of USM can endure, Flanagan has garnered plenty of dissenters and he knows it.

"I don't think Flanagan is the right person to lead USM through this restructuring," said David Colson, a 2007 political science graduate.

According to Quint, despite himself and Flanagan both receiving flak from not coming from an academic background, Flanagan's experience at the Muskie School of Public Service makes him well equipped to lead USM.

"Most people don't realize that Flanagan has been involved in some way, shape or form with USM since the early 90's," said Quint. "He has a deep intimate knowledge of how USM and the whole system works."

On top of a law degree from Harvard, Flanagan was also the CEO of Central Maine Power, where he turned the company around from the brink of bankruptcy. USM's problems with public confidence, rising costs and complex financial structure are not foreign to Flanagan.

"Flanagan knows how to run an organization and has experience with financial insecurity and enduring internal protests from staff," said Quint.

Flanagan noted that nobody can be perfectly equipped to handle a challenge like USM's budget problem.

Yet many people like Colson still believe that Flanagan's resume isn't enough to reverse the lack of trust and toxic atmosphere stemming from the administration. Nor is it enough to squash the negative reputation that's lingering over USM.

"Flanagan's past involvement in academic affairs was arguable a mixed success," said Colson. "USM should not be looked upon as a business seeking to make a profit."

"What boils my blood the most is that Flanagan does not care about education for the sake of helping to create a state full of people with diverse educational backgrounds," said Lauren Besanko, a 2012 criminology graduate. "He cares about education as a business."

Indeed much of the criticism stems from some people's fear that

USM will dismantle and shrink into a "corporatized tech university" operating strictly on a for-profit basis with a focus on online courses. Flanagan's role as interim president has been reduced to the title of "hatchet man," by many anonymous critics on online comment boards.

Flanagan applauded and offered his respects to the efforts and missions of school's like SMCC, but said that USM has a different goal and that it's not transforming into a similar institution.

"The corporations are lined up out the door desperate to come here and take over this institution," said Flanagan sarcastically.

"Flanagan is being transparent about his commitment to the destruction of USM as a serious public university," said Wendy Chapkis, a professor of sociology. "He exhibits no understanding of the USM community and entirely ignores the alternatives and appeals of the faculty, students and community leaders."

Quint assures that the administration will not abandon the quest to make USM into a truly robust, metropolitan university.

"I was the executive director of a labor union before I came here," said Quint. "I have no intentions to lead USM into some corporate takeover."

With faculty being notified of layoffs through email and voicemail and students left in the dark about the future of their programs, some people like Michael Havlin, a recent business and economics graduate, believe that Flanagan has facilitated a disconnect between the administration and the rest of the community.

"The president wanted to lay off people the way its done in the private sector, quietly and without public disobedience," said Havlin. "In some ways that disconnect was very intentional."

Quint said they've been practicing complete transparency and that no administrative staff takes matters like layoffs lightly.

"I wouldn't be human if I didn't have thoughts of the people that are going to lose their jobs," said Quint. "These are people that have dedicated their lives to the university and nobody is questioning their love and commitment to USM."

"I do reflect on the lives that my decisions affect," said Flanagan. "I've had to lay off people before in my career. It's never easy."

Flanagan said that he gets no joy out of making decisions that jeopardize people's lives and careers.

Quint said, "This job is hard."

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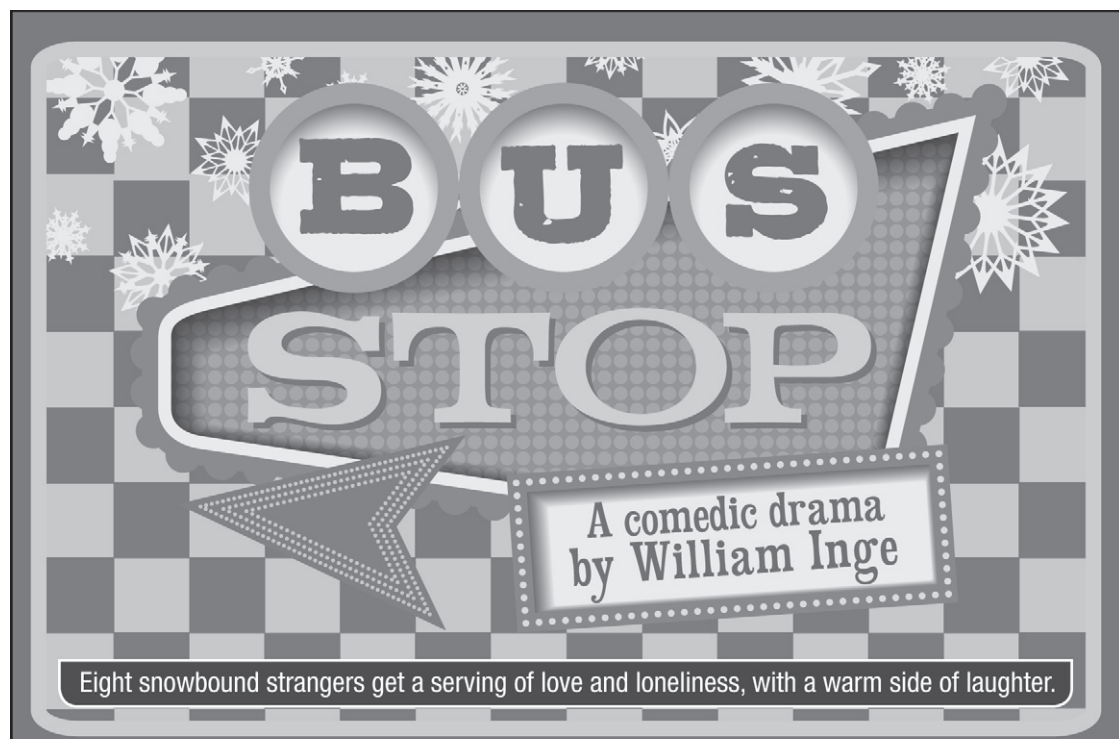
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USM VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

On Tuesday November 11, 2014 at 9:00AM the Prisoner Of War/Missing In Action - POW/MIA Flag will be raised on the Portland Campus Flag Pole in a brief Veterans Day Ceremony. Students, Faculty, Staff, Alumni and the General Public is invited to assemble at the flag pole by Payson Smith at 8:45AM. Closing remarks by USM President Flanagan at 9:15 AM.

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From RETRENCH on page 1

don't have the faculty to teach some of the core classes and they don't have the faculty because they were fired," Feiner said.

Most of the retrenched faculty will leave at the end of the fall semester, while a handful will stay until the end of the academic year, as per their individual contracts. Spring classes set to be taught by faculty who will no longer work here are still included in the online course guide on MaineStreet, but the instructor is simply listed as "staff."

Quint says the administration is still figuring out how those classes will be taught but that it will likely be a combination of part-time lecturers, adjunct faculty and remaining faculty in the programs that will help pick up the slack – a direct violation of the AFUM contract. Full-time faculty cannot be replaced with adjuncts in this way.

The administration has been regularly criticized by groups of faculty and students, most directly involved with programs that have been eliminated this year, for lack of leadership and a lack of vision

for what USM is supposed to look like in the future.

Quint pointed out that the administrative leadership is brand new and has been forced to hit the ground running. President David Flanagan was appointed in August, Provost Joseph McDonnell in September and Quint shortly afterward.

"We don't like having to cut back and it's difficult to let people go who have been here for so long, but it's what we've been tasked to do and what we have to do," said Quint.

Rachel Bouvier, an associate professor of economics who was slated to be retrenched last spring, has received notice of her termination again. Near tears, she described the situation as "heart-breaking" at the press conference.

"You've told me wonderful stories about what I've meant to you, your experiences at USM and what the economics department has meant to you," she said to students. "You need to tell your stories to the legislators. You need to tell them that your education is not just about a diploma, that it's not just about a degree. Your education goes deeper than that."



Sam Hill / Editor-in-Chief

The Student Senate shows support for retrenched faculty at a protest last Wednesday.

"You need to step up," she said, "Not for me, but for you and your education."

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Police Beat

Selections from the
USM Department of
Public Safety police log
October 19 to October
29

Sunday, October 19

Tag it up

11:24 a.m. - Report taken for damage to building. -
Upperclass Hall, 25 Husky Dr.

Can't stop, won't stop

9:41 p.m. - Warning to operator for stop sign violation. -
Gorham Campus, 37 College Ave.

Monday, October 20

We can't afford that here

8:27 p.m. - Report of damage to university property. -
Abromson Center, 88 Bedford St.

Wednesday, October 22

That smelly smell that smells

8:39 p.m. - Report taken for odor of marijuana. - Robie
Andrews Hall, 39 University Way

Thursday, October 23

How can you even see?

12:10 a.m. - Warning given for inadequate headlights. -
Main St.

Back off

8:47 a.m. - Harassment report taken. - USM Public Safety,
21 Falmouth St.

Every little thing is gonna be alright

2:23 p.m. - Subject declined medical transport after a
medical emergency. - Bailey Hall, 16 University Way

Friday, October 24

Make some noise... Actually, don't

9:05 p.m. - Gathering checked on and asked to lower
noise level. - 19 College Ave

Tuesday, October 28

False alarm

6:37 a.m. - Reported security alarm activation. Area
checked and determined to be a system malfunction. -
Payson Smith Hall, 96 Falmouth St.

Wednesday, October 29

False alarm

9:34 a.m. - Summons to Moumen M. Akel, 18 of New
Jersey for: failure to register vehicle, failure to stop at a
stop sign and failure to produce insurance. Warning for
failure to produce license. - G16 Parking Lot, 55 Campus
Ave

Adding up

5:11 p.m. - Vehicle towed for unpaid parking fines. - G20
Parking Lot, 28 Husky Dr.

Suspect activity

5:47 p.m. - Checked on a group of students. Officer moved
them along. - G12 Parking Lot, 19 Campus Ave

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

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Arts & Culture

Portland paintbar combines art and alcohol

Krysteana Scribner
Arts & Culture Editor

Muse Paintbar in Portland can make a Picasso out of anyone by adding alcohol to the mix. Individuals from across Maine gather there to sit back, relax and learn to paint while sipping from an elegant glass of wine or taking shots in between brush strokes. The combination of these two relaxing activities creates a memorable experience that will have you coming back for more.

Regardless of your art expertise or skill level, Muse Paintbar hosts painting sessions that are open to anyone. Individuals ranging from all ages who would like to attend are welcome to visit and make a creation of their own. Better yet, you don't even need any of your own supplies. Muse Paintbar provides everything you will need, including the paint, canvases and aprons. Then, trained artists will

draft beers on tap. If you're not a drinker or happen to be underage, Muse offers all kinds of non-alcoholic beverages as well.

Katelyn Casagrande, a resident of Windham, said that the combination of drinks and friends made for an amazing experience, and at the end of her session she felt like a professional artist.

"I enjoy hanging out with friends and getting a few drinks, so when they suggested we take an art class at the same time I was completely excited for this new experience," said Casagrande. "I've been told I'm artsy before, so it was fun to work with paints again and I definitely plan on coming back soon."

Kathy Rocray, a resident of Saco, sat at her paint station next to her sister. Together they sipped on their martinis and conversed about their busy days. Rocray said that she came to the paintbar simply to have a good time.

"I've been here before a few

I enjoy hanging out with friends and getting a few drinks, so when they suggested we take an art class at the same time I was completely excited for this new experience.

Katelyn Casagrande, Resident of Windham

guide painters brush stroke by brush stroke from a blank canvas to an original masterpiece.

"We provide our customers with everything they'll need, including a variety of paints, aprons and even things like paper towels and stain remover," said Briana Balboni, a Muse paint instructor. "We do the cleanup as well and we try our best to make our customers feel comfortable and welcome."

The bar hosts both private and public sessions, so visitors can compete with strangers for the best drunken portrait or book a session for a birthday party, work event or fundraiser. They host events such as bachelorette parties, work events, fundraisers and children parties. Muse Paintbar also holds special events, such as couples night, partner events and family nights.

"Private sessions are usually held in the other room away from the public sessions, that way they can have the privacy and experience that they want," said Balboni.

Before individuals begin painting, they can take a look at the menu, which offers a variety of options from mixed drinks to

times, and everytime I've had an amazing experience and furthered my art skill," said Rocray. "It's nice to just be able to get a few drinks after a long day and then create the masterpiece you never thought you could do. The combination of alcohol and painting is better than I could have imagined."

Kelly Simonds, a resident of York, stood back to take a look at her painting and let the experience of the night sink in.

"I was afraid my painting would come out sloppy with the combination of alcohol in my system, but I was delighted to see that it came out amazing. Muse has such a warm welcoming atmosphere and it really reflects the culture of Portland," said Simonds.

"We always have a lot of fun and people end up painting masterpieces original to their personality," said Balboni. "Walk-ins are always welcome, and you'll find that this friendly relaxing environment can make an artist out of anyone."

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Aaron Damon / Free Press Staff

Film Review

Gone Girl has an excellent plot twist



20th Century Fox

Sergey Miller
Free Press Staff

The newest movie directed by David Fincher, titled *Gone Girl* explores the deeper psychological outlook on what it means to build relationships.

Gone Girl shows the audience a very real and complex human rela-

tionships we call marriages. Based on the book written by Gillian Flynn, this movie creates ripples upon the serene marriage life of the main characters.

This mystery-thriller film experience leaves viewers with an unexpected surprise plot twist. The movie begins with the story of Nick Dunne, played by Ben Affleck, and Amy, played by Rosamund Pike, as they start their marriage life. Both Nick and Amy are writers and live off the trust fund of Amy's parents. Although they lack funds of their own, they are able to live a high-class lifestyle with the money they receive. Class relationship becomes an important issue in this film, as well. What do they really want from one another in this marriage?

Both characters question how conventional or unconventional they want their marriage to be.

As the film progresses, we learn that story line centers on the character Nick and the disappearance of his wife Amy. Nick is suspected of

being involved with his wife's disappearance. As the evidence stacks up against him, he begins to lie, and his strange behavior have everyone asking the same dark question: Did Nick Dunne kill his wife?

This film has viewers constantly questioning the reality of each situation, allowing individuals to explore some of the more unsaid realities of human relationships as well as the depths of the human mind.

The truly noteworthy experience of the film is the sense of displaying the many facets of human relationships. Is Amy alive or is she dead? If someone looked into any relationship, how odd or suspicious would her disappearance look from the outside?

Overall, this movie has complicated plot twists that spur the imagination, and it is highly recommended that viewers dive right into the complex world of *Gone Girl*.

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Album Reviews

Local band gives attention to detail in lyrics

Kyle Cumiskey
Contributor

Hailing from Portland, the band If and It has just released their eighth studio album on Aug. 30, titled *Asleep in the Forest*. Complex vocal harmonies and captivating guitar jams induce a feeling of intimacy throughout the album. "Space Suite 2000," is a seven minute escapade into the life of a man who experienced problems with a close friend. The feeling of unrefined instruments is prominent, which makes it obvious that there is not a lot of post-production. "With your space suite on / we could crash into the sun / into the sun." Although melancholy in regard to melody, it's also uplifting in lyrical content; which is a dynamic you don't often hear colorfully presented within the music industry.

"Two Feathers," is an example of lyrical sorrow. "Where no two

feathers ever fall the same / It's a sad dream / it's one that I cannot quite explain." The metaphors in this song have the ability to create an environment that the listener can relate to emotionally. This element, which they tend to have in every song, is what makes this work of art so beautiful.

Whether it be from the guitars or the singer stunning your mind with his lyrics, there are copious amounts of emotion.

In the song "Letting Go," he describes personal issues he has with the world around him. "How did we learn to hold on / when this whole world keeps letting us float / it's okay to let go" (coming from the final song, titled "Letting Go").

One of the best parts about this album is the fact that it was recorded, mixed and mastered, entirely by the band. The songs on *Asleep in the Forest* depict raw emotion, real feelings and a group of musi-



Self-Released Album

cians who clearly love what they do. Whether you are from Portland, or you enjoy alternative, folk or indie rock, there are plenty of reasons to let your mind embark on a fifty seven minute adventure called *Asleep in the Forest*.

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Festiva writes songs about the simple life

Elle Davis
Free Press Staff

Carver Arena, Maine native relocated to West Chester, Pennsylvania for college, released an EP through his solo project, Festiva, earlier on this month. The EP, *Bummer But Whatever*, gives listeners a hearty dose of lo-fi configuration in only four tracks.

One of the tracks, titled, "Hell Week," which goes against everything that could describe light-heartedness. Quick stabs of synth and a glitchy drum machine juxtapose contrast with Arena's voice. This song portrays the heartbreaking feeling of losing someone and the need to escape the circumstances. "You have no idea how damaging it is / to see you better off with someone else / so now I'm running / far away / from everything and everyone I know."

The third track on the album titled "Easy Mac and Alcohol," is a personal anecdote of consuming booze and cheap, processed

cheese-carb combinations. This song is simple in its 8-bit melodies that are less abrasive than the first two tracks of the EP. There doesn't seem to be a deep, philosophical meaning within this song, but rather a clear image of what it's like to vicariously live life by somewhat uneventful, but deeply honest lyrics.

"The first time that I got drunk at my parents' house / I passed out in their garage / And I know that they're not proud of me / But I think that's a pretty nice homage."

The last track on *Bummer But Whatever* shows a more complex side to Arena's perspective amongst a repetitive loops of dream synth layered on top of a subtle trance drone. There's a feeling that's more biting about this song, something about it that makes it feel more bitter. There's mention again of unwantingly losing someone, but there's also mention of the desire to intentionally lose someone. "Save that last cigarette for me / And I know that I'll



Self-Released Album

never see you again."

Festiva's first release is promising as far as Indie-pop goes. He has gotten creative within his bedroom-produced electro-dreamscape and has effectively delivered an attention-catching voice for his music.

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Local Top 5:

Fall Snack Staff Picks

1.) Fall flavors at the Holy Donut

Waking up in the morning before going to work is a job in itself, so one of my favorite things to do is drive over to Holy Donut in Portland and get a small coffee with extra cream and sugar to dip my pumpkin donut in. I love that they use real Maine potatoes in all of their donuts because it adds a unique flavor to my already favorite breakfast food. Sometimes I get a Maine blueberry filled donut to satisfy super sugar cravings. I can never get enough of their coffee flavors either! This time of year, my favorite is pumpkin spice coffee but I also like the Jamaican Me Crazy flavor to give me a sweet taste of summer in the chilly fall afternoons.- Krysteana Scribner

2.) Cider at the Farmers Market

I love drinking cider come the fall season. It is the best non-alcoholic drink ever. I get the unpasteurized cider that has a ton more flavor than anything I could ever find in a grocery store. I typically buy it at the farmers markets we have around Portland. I like to set the cider by my heater, wait a couple weeks and make alcohol. Sometimes I even add whiskey now for the best drink West of Ireland. There are so many different things you can do to enjoy your cider, the list goes on and on. Some stores also sell cider pastries which can add a unique twist to your flavorful combination. - Brian Gordon

3.) Red beans and rice at Bayou Kitchen

When it starts to get chilly outside in the fall, I like to go to Bayou Kitchen and get a spicy, hearty bowl of red beans and rice. It warms me up from the inside out, and the warm southern atmosphere and hospitality makes me feel like I'm miles away from the gray Maine day outside. In addition, they offer warm delicious coffee at any time during the day, with endless refills. For a breakfast options, their french toast breakfast option, which you can choose to be white, wheat, raisin or hand-cut Italian, makes for a warm and delicious breakfast combination that keeps me warm even after I go back out into the cold.- Ellie Spahn

4.) Blueberry muffins at Bibo Madd Apple Cafe

During the fall, muffins are my favorite food to snack on. Every morning before work or class I'll walk down to Bibo Madd Apple Cafe to get a muffin and a bottle of milk. My favorite muffin flavors are blueberry, chocolate chip and banana nut. What makes Bibo Madd Apple such a satisfying cafe is how filling their food is. It's always freshly baked and well priced. They have other items there too that I have yet to try, such as the apple cinnamon pancakes. They also have cranberry walnut pie covered in maple cranberry sauce and topped with vanilla ice cream. All of these menu items have a fall essence to them, and even though I go with the simplicity of the blueberry muffins, I would love to try the other food to satisfy my fall cravings. - David Sanok

5.) Pumpkin Chai from Market House Coffee

The increasingly cold weather has often turned my morning routine into a frantic search for a hot, frothy and decadent beverage to slurp down on my way to work. Thankfully, Market House Coffee has my back, with their tantalizing selection of syrups, flavor shots and spices that's available to add to their already delicious coffee options. Lately though I've been on a chai kick. I'll admit at first I was a little turned off to the idea of drinking a coffee-like drink, that's really a tea, but tastes like spiced milk. The taste bud teasing concoction usually consists of cinnamon sticks, cloves, ginger, cardamom and black tea for a beverage made of pure bliss. In a move that's even extra cliché, I like to add a burst of pumpkin syrup, which adds some more complexity to its flavor. Chai is more to me than just a spicy, aromatic fall themed treat. It's my morning vitality potion. There's just something about walking past piles of red and orange leaves, gourd filled porches and dilapidated scarecrows, while I'm sipping on my pumpkin chai. Not only does my body thank me for the much needed jolt of caffeine induced energy, but my mind is set to a seasonally cliché, happy place. - Francis Flisiuk

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What's your favorite fall snack?
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Arts & Culture

Recommends: Bus Stop



Photo courtesy of USM Theatre Department

Dalton Kimball, Martin Bodenheimer and Alyssa Rojecki in *Bus Stop*.

Dora Thompson
Free Press Staff

Hold onto your saddle shoes, because *Bus Stop*, directed by Thomas Power, hit USM main stage Oct. 13 and will continue showing at USM until Nov. 3. This a rodeo-rattling, doo-wop-ping comedic drama and will take you back to Midwestern 1950's. So, grab a cowboy or a showgirl and come see this All-American tale of love.

William Inge wrote *Bus Stop* in 1955, which was the same year it hit Broadway. This audience favorite was adapted into a film a year later, starring Don Murry and Marilyn Monroe.

Bus Stop tells the story of a hodge podge group of stranded strangers in a diner a stormy winter night in 1955. The colorful cast includes a washed up philosophy professor, who quotes Shakespearean sonnets and reminisces on his misfortune in love.

There is a naive young waitress, a god-fearing Sheriff and a rough and rowdy cowboy named Bo Decker. Bo is painfully in love with a showgirl named Cherie - so in love with her that he forced her to come on the bus with him, and is convinced that they'll get married. Cherie is opposed to the idea, and the play follows Bo's haphazard courting of Cherie.

"This play is really about love," said junior theatre major Martin Bodenheimer, who plays the part of tamer cowboy Virgil.

Power said that after seeing the play, audience members may begin to ponder the topics of true love, ideas of romantic expectations and partnership.

"It's about how we misinterpret love and experiment with emotional relationships, and how we learn from them. All set with

the standards of the 1955," he explained.

Before starting the rehearsal process, Power did a lot of research about the writer's other works, as well as his outlook on the 1950's. He also made sure his cast was well versed in the era.

"At every rehearsal the discussion of morals, customs, behavioral standards and sexist and non sexist references continued," said Power.

He continued to explain that he encouraged actors put themselves in the mind set of someone living in the fifties, when morals were different. Cherie is looked down on because of her relations of men, and Bo's ideas of how to get women is sometimes questionable.

"I think it's an interesting thing to deal with, how different society was back then as compared to now," said junior marketing major Josh Cohen, who plays Will the small town Sheriff.

Although it is a romantic comedy, the play also has some darker undertones where most of the characters have many sides and develop throughout the late night journey. Backed by a realistic 50's diner set the characters deal with moral dilemmas on the matters.

"The most rewarding part of being a director is mounting the play and working with the actors to find and evolve their characters," said Powers. "My favorite part of the play, though, is the end," he said, "but you'll have to come see it to know what I mean."

The last showing of *Bus Stop* will be playing tonight, so don't miss out on this amazing experience.

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A&C
Listings

Monday, November 3

From Away
Portland Stage
25A Forest Ave.
Starts: 7:00 p.m. / Ends: 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 4

First Tuesday Book Club
Maine Charitable Mechanic Association
519 Congress St.
Starts: 12:00 p.m. / Ends: 1:00 p.m.

Page to Stage Series: Souvenir
Rines Auditorium, Portland Public Library
5 Monument Sq.
Starts: 12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 5

Tonee Harbert's "Curiosities" Exhibit
PhoPa Gallery
132 Washington Ave.
All Day Event

Portland Chamber Music Festival
SPACE Gallery
538 Congress St.
Starts: 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 6

Italian for Travelers
The Language Exchange
80 Exchange St.
Starts: 5:30 p.m. / Ends: 7:00 p.m.

Live Acoustic Music Nightly
Andy's Old Port Pub
94 Commercial St.
Starts: 7:00 p.m.

Friday, November 7

Iraqi artist and poet Kifah Abdulla
The Language Exchange
80 Exchange St.
Starts: 5:00 p.m. / Ends: 8:30 p.m.

Presentation of a Monumental Robert India Sculpture
Portland Museum of Art
7 Congress Sq.
Starts: 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, November 8

Harvest Festival
Breakwater School
856 Brighton Ave.
Starts: 12:00 p.m. / Ends: 2:00 p.m.

5th Annual State Street Holiday Stroll
75 State St.
Starts: 9:00 a.m. / Ends: 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 9

Souvenir
Portland Stage
25 Forest Ave.
Starts: 7:30 p.m./ Ends: 9:30 p.m.

Beer by Bruce



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Ah!... Maine, the way life should be.... Maine, worth a visit, worth a lifetime. While this is undoubtedly true, not everyone can visit or stay a lifetime, so why not export some of Maine's goodness across the state, the country, even around the globe? That's exactly what Shipyard Brewing Company has done with Export Ale.

So what exactly is an export style ale? The answer is a little unclear.

Beer carries with it a dizzying array of jargon, which, depending on

its origin or context, can have various meanings. The term "export" is a classic example.

One meaning is: a beer that strays from a brewery's typical fare. In response to a new taste or trend in the market, a brewery may adapt its beer's characteristics to meet that shifting expectation.

Another meaning can be a designation of the beer's strength in general or within the same beer style. The Scots, for instance, defined their ales with terminology based on its alcoholic strength. A "light" ale was less than 3.5% ABV; a "heavy" ale was between 3.5 to 4.0% ABV; an "export" ale 4.0 to 5.5% ABV; and a "wee heavy" 6.0% ABV or greater. A beer labeled "export" would have a longer shelf life due to its higher alcohol content and could be shipped a greater distance from the brewery.

Export can also simply mean that a beer is deemed of a high quality worthy of exportation.

Coming in at 5.1% ABV, Shipyard Export is our version of an export strength North American Golden Ale. This beer was first

brewed in 1992 at Federal Jack's Restaurant & Brew Pub in Kennebunkport Harbor – the birthplace of Shipyard Brewing Company. Within just 2 years, the drinkability and success of Shipyard Export spurred the founding of Shipyard's brewery on the Portland waterfront, where Shipyard Export became the flagship beer of the brewery.

We at Shipyard invite you to re-explore the greatness of Export Ale! A classic brew which leads the way as a drinkable, well-balanced, flavorful ale worthy of exportation from our brewery to your lips. This is true even, as we Mainers like to say, if you're from away! So import a Shipyard Export to your homeport today.

ABV: 5.1%

COLOR: Golden Copper

AROMA: Caramel malts and moderate grassy hop notes

BODY: Medium body with a creamy mouth feel

FINISH: A hint of malt sweetness upfront balanced by a subtle and distinctive hop presence leading to a clean, flavorful finish.

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Perspectives

Our opinion: Admins need to show concern for students, be transparent with plans as USM moves forward

Students studying in the five eliminated programs are still in a state of unrest, some unsure of how they can continue their education.

The administration has promised degrees to those students and swear they will be able to finish their coursework, but a two-year timespan to complete the programs is unrealistic for the typical USM student. Rushing through a degree program isn't what the average student is looking for and forcing them to speed up their education and ditch any interest in side-courses is a disservice.

Without the guidance for thesis research and independent studies from experienced faculty, the process to degree completion could take even longer. Recognition that theses are based on research, which doesn't always turn out as planned the first time around, is vital when determining the timespan to allot for degree completion.

We can't imagine the levels of stress that exist among students in eliminated programs. It must be incredibly demoralizing to put investment into class work that may not exist in a couple months. It must be hard to study for a test, for a class that will soon vanish. It also reflects poorly on the administration's ability to plan, when a student logs into

Mainstreet, finds a class they like and sees the word "staff." Getting in touch with professors is an integral part of the schedule building process, but as of now, students that want to take classes in eliminated programs, have no real place to start.

Figuring it out as you go along isn't a good business practice, especially with the education (and money) of thousands of students in your hands.

We also think the criteria for targeting programs for elimination should be revisited or, at the very least, discussed at length with affected students and faculty.

This criteria looked at enrollment, graduating students and relations to other programs in the university and faculty members. In a perfect world, this criteria would make sense; however, in the nontraditional world that is USM, this criteria is flawed. The number of graduating students is not the only factor that deems a program successful. There are many factors that determine a department's worth. The eliminated programs, like French for example, have classes that are a prerequisite for many other students seeking degrees outside the French major. Do these students and their academic interests matter to the administration? Or do they simply not matter because they aren't majoring in the targeted program?

At the board of trustees meeting in which the program eliminations were approved, many leaders in the biotech and medical industry spoke against the decision, saying that USM students contribute to the local business after graduation at very high rates.

So many students (at USM and from other institutions), faculty members and business leaders collaborated within that program. It linked USM directly with the community, but that wasn't taken into consideration.

Because of the elimination of these programs, other degrees throughout the university may have to be reworked, like the concentration in biotechnology. It seems like it will be more work to restructure programs in their entirety than to look elsewhere for money saving strategies.

Finally, we urge administration to actively listen to their students. It's not enough to simply say, "We hear your concerns and empathize." Show that you support USM. Show that you want to save USM.

We understand the urgency of USM's financial situation and that the needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few, but the few are still here and they're still your students.



INVEST IN USM

A weekly forum for USM voices to identify opportunities to join together, think creatively, reorganize our priorities, and help USM and the entire UMaine System prosper and grow stronger to serve all Mainers and their communities.

Destroying the village in order to save it

Dan Kolbert
Contributor

Dan Kolbert is a building contractor who has lived in Portland since 1988.

As a building contractor, I've run a business and had employees in Portland for the past 16 years. I've had various personal and professional connections with USM, and have employed several students and graduates. I myself have taken classes both related to my business and not; and both my children attended the excellent USM Child Care center before it was disassembled in an earlier round of questionable budget cuts.

I have always been impressed by the quality of educational opportunities and by the community engagement at USM. I appreciate that it is the job of the administration and board of trustees to ensure the stability and future of the university, but watching from the outside, all I can think of is "We had to destroy the village in order to save it."

Despite the various efforts to define what a "metropolitan university" is, I confess to having no understanding of what it is supposed to mean.

If we take its proponents at face

value, a metropolitan university is one that is engaged with and responsive to the community in which it is situated. I don't know how to gauge its success, but hasn't USM already proven itself to fill that role? On most significant policy questions, professors are called upon to weigh in. If there are world events exploding, public events at the school help make sense of it. If there are pressing business or policy skills needed, USM has often stepped up to offer classes and certificate programs.

As far as I can tell, what the phrase really means is putting the public resources of USM at the disposal of private interests. As a small business owner, I would be only too happy to have a public institution offer to train my workforce for me, but as a concerned citizen, I can't help but think this isn't the best approach.

A liberal arts education, available to many, was one of the great accomplishments of the US after World War II. It required a significant public investment. Perhaps it was never meant to last, a statistical blip. If that's the case, we at least need to be honest and say that higher education is once again the province only of the wealthy few,

and that any schooling that doesn't serve an immediate financial need is wasted on the many.

I hope that's not the case. I was lucky enough to earn a college degree. I don't know if it's made me a better businessman, but I'm confident it made me a better person. The critical thinking skills I learned have served me well and helped me both make sense of and enjoy an ever more complicated world. I would like to think it's made me a better citizen, but that's not for me to judge.

The current thinking seems to be that there is nothing the public sector (government, public education, etc.) does that can't be better done by the private sector. Often called "neo-liberalism" this model has crept deeper and deeper into our culture, until it's just part of the air we breathe and we don't even question it anymore. For better or worse, the current rounds of cuts seem to have awoken people in Portland and around the state that there have to be alternatives. I hope we find them before one of the institutions we should be proudest of is hollowed out.

Dan Kolbert is a building contractor who has lived in Portland since 1988.

Letter from the Editor

Over the course of last week, editors of the Free Press were accused of pandering to disgruntled faculty and being manipulated by a secretive and headstrong administration within the same set of stories, writing an entirely one-sided story about a halloween costume controversy and not balancing our election coverage.

Our goal at the newspaper is always to present balanced stories that represent the opinions of our diverse community, without any personal biases. Sometimes we hear more from one side than another, based on the availability of sources in a given week. Our goal is not to present 'sides' to a controversy and match quote-for-quote, but to give any involved parties the opportunity to speak for themselves.

We're the paper of record at USM, not an organization abusing the title of journalist to push our individual beliefs on the community. We're not out to save programs and positions, and we aren't going to blindly support administrative directions.

We have these conversations in our newsroom on a daily basis. We've held stories longer than we wanted waiting to speak with 'the other side' and even scrapped entire stories when we thought they were leaning too far in one direction and

didn't meet our standards.

Sourcing has been a topic of discussion within our staff recently too, and we're committing ourselves to go outside our comfort zone to speak with new sources. We're just as tired of the "he said, she said" stories that we've published over recent faculty cuts and program eliminations.

When you're a journalist, your work is public and open to the scrutiny of the community you serve. We own up to our mistakes and work hard to improve whenever we make an error or publish a story we feel is sub-par. Every employee here is a student who wants to continue to better their work week after week and we're all open to comments and suggestions.

If there's something you have to say about our coverage, positive or negative, or have an opinion on something happening on campus please contact us directly. We publish letters to the editor and op-eds on any subject relative to our community at USM. Lurking in the comments section of our website or sending reporters snappy emails will get our attention, but we believe that anything worth saying is worth saying on the record.

Shoot me an email anytime of day. I'd love to talk about the paper.

the free press

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Conte and Crumpets

Backpacking in the British countryside

Martin Conte

Free Press Staff

I had the great pleasure, this past Friday, to follow in the footsteps of Wordsworth, Keats, Austen, and many thousands of other writers who lived and wrote in England. I woke leisurely (I am graced with 3 day weekends), strapped into my backpack an armful of books, notebooks, food, and my ipod (essential), and set off into what is perhaps the most uniquely British aspect of this island: the Countryside.

The city of Winchester is compressed on all sides, like most of England's population centres, by farmland, hills, land preservations, and a few carefully placed highways. My goal was St. Catherine's Hill, which stood prominently opposite the University, beyond the valley in which the city sprawled. I had passed the hill a few weekends ago, exploring with the Winchester Rambling society, and had often looked out my window in longing at its cluster of trees that sat like a crown upon its summit.

Those who know me personally will no doubt know that I have an irresistible obsession with wandering. Whether it is the streets of Portland at midnight, or Blue Hill mountain at sunrise, I take great pleasure in the simple placing of one foot in front of the other. England is, quite simply, designed for just such an obsession. Framing the highway and villages are thousands of footpaths and cycling trails, stretching from one town to the next. These trails often share pastures with cows, sheep, and horses. Winchester's particu-

lar stretch of public wandering land follows the river Itchen from where it crosses the city out into the free air.

You walk along the river, a small affair only about twenty feet across and never more than six feet deep, past the castle ruins, the college grounds, the tennis courts, and a host of houses local students would describe as 'posh.'

Then, St. Catherine's emerges. A slim snake of metal steps lead you up the face of the hill, a casual climb up only a short way. Though the season is long past, the hill is usually home to a conservation of butterflies. Up to the top, to the regimented circle of trees. Inside, of all things, a rope swing, on which a steady stream of children climb, screaming. Beyond, at the foot of a tree, as if curved to my specifications, a natural nook of a seat, in which I picnic.

There I sat, like some conquering hero, with my book open in front of me and poetry flowing freely into my journal. It is said that the hill is occasionally host to Wiccan and Witchcraft activities. I believe it. The magic in the air was so thick and palpable, you could taste it. I lay there, drinking the satisfaction of the sunny, unseasonably warm day. It was an experience of something which we don't have an exact word for any longer. In the past, it may have been called the Sublime. Some may call it spiritual, others ecstatic. It was, in lacking of a more exact term, pure peace.

And from that peace stemmed not a little bit of yearning for home, for Maine. The countryside of England is beautiful, but it exists in what appears to be a tempo-



Martin Conte / Free Press Staff

ral state. The crowded population is literally crawling from incredibly tight urban density, spreading into the fields. The hill was a small respite from human foundations, but an isolated one, quite unlike the vast empty spaces of our home. I longed, in a moment, for the empty forests behind my parents' house, or the empty beaches where we used to skinny dip under the full moon. It is a great privilege, growing up and living in Maine, a great gift to be able to stretch our arms and minds in the vast untouched woods and sea-

scapes. One I do not take lightly. This freedom allowed me perhaps a greater pleasure in the retreat to St. Catherine's hill, a more poignant satisfaction in its untouched wildness.

Up to now, I have found myself fascinated, curious, humored, disappointed, excited, and challenged by England. Now, I can safely say that I have fallen in love with it. On my way down the hill, I stopped to speak to a fellow hiker, who told me she once taught at the University. She gave me a homework assignment: John

Keat's 'Ode to Autumn,' written in inspiration from the very paths I walked on. It is in Keats' words that I trust to define that indiscernible satisfaction I found in the cloisters of the hill: 'While barred clouds bloom the soft-dying day/ And touch the stubble plains with rosy hue... The red-breast whistles from a garden-croft;/ And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.'

Martin Conte is a senior English major currently studying abroad at the University Winchester and loving it.

Guest Column

Students should vote for Michaud

Adinah Barnett

Guest Columnist

Dear Students: PLEASE VOTE! Many of you may feel powerless these days, as our will, which we have eloquently stated in speeches and letters goes ignored by those in decision-making positions here at the University and in the state.

Businessmen making anywhere from two to six times the salary of your brightest and most valued professors have been making decisions that directly impact your education, your daily life and your future.

The Board of Trustees, who in their latest grave-digging session Friday, Oct. 24 voted 8-2 to eliminate the French program and Dr. Nancy Erickson, the only French professor at USM along with the master's degree in Applied Medical Science, were appointed by our current governor, Paul LePage. LePage has consistently failed our state by denying Mainers many basic social services including access to education. You may have heard him say that if people want a good education they should go to a private school. He fails to recognize that the vast

majority of us cannot afford to do that.

While national government elections, like the Presidency, are so controlled by money that getting someone in the White House who doesn't worship Mammon and isn't completely bought is near impossible, we have more decision making power close to home and local government can be much more representative of the people's will.

Mike Michaud is our best bet for governor. We have already seen the devastation LePage can cause. LePage does not support increased funding for either K-12 or higher education. Michaud supported increased federal financial aid while in Congress and has said that he sees USM's value and supports increasing state funding for education. Michaud is more likely to appoint Board of Trustees members who have experience in education, not just in business. Many of Eliot Cutler's opinions on education are in line with Michaud, but in the last gubernatorial race votes for Cutler pulled votes from the Democratic candidate, Elizabeth Mitchell, resulting in a victory for Le Page when only 39% of voters actu-

ally sided with him. Cutler himself has recently stated that voters need to act strategically. "The Republican Governors Association has sought to boost Cutler in the hopes he will help peel off more of Michaud's support", resulting in another win for LePage (quote taken from Washington Post blog by Sean Sullivan 10-29-2014). Voting for Michaud is the best plan to turn the trend of defunding around.

With a governor who actually sees the value in educating Maine's citizens we stand a chance of saving teachers, staff and programs that are vital to our education and our lives.

Apathy is the enabler of corruption. If you don't think that you are political that is in itself political. Silence is complicity.

Whoever becomes our next governor will appoint new members to the UMaine Board of Trustees and will have budgetary discretion. Let's make our voices heard. We need quality public education. Please register to vote and go to the polls November 4!!

Adinah Barnett, 2010 Art alum, USM employee and proud parent of a French major at USM

like what you see?

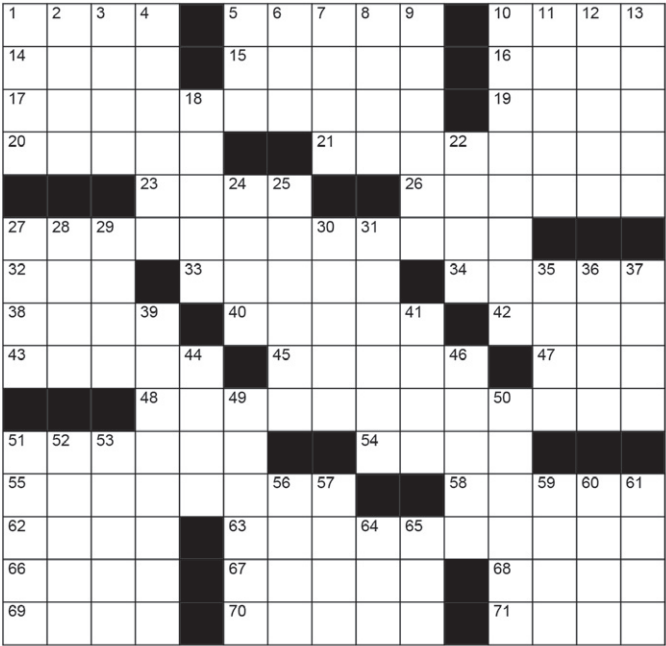
hate what you see?

let us know!

editor@usmfreepress.org

Crossword

- Across
1. That, in France
5. Spreads on breads
10. Rain torrentially
14. Landlocked Asian sea
15. Shoe specification
16. High mountain, to Henri
17. TV, movies, comics, etc.
19. 20's-30's cars
20. Without face value, as stock
21. Sound-absorbing flooring
23. ____ Rivera, Calif.
26. Treat for an elephant
27. Spotted ocean predator
32. NYPD alert
33. Country in the West Indies
34. "White April" poet
35. "Hud" actress
40. Way beyond well done
42. They were once "The most trusted name in television"
43. Italian salami city
45. Roadside inn
47. Run-D.M.C.'s music
48. Fail magnificently
51. Third-century pope
54. Implement
55. Back section of seats
58. Doggy
62. Place to put a thimble
63. Musical with the song "Singapore Sue"
66. Senora's son
67. Certain rocket engine
68. Via, informally
69. It follows 11
70. Dutch river
71. Gawky types

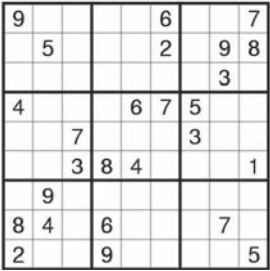
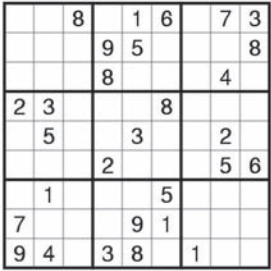


Down

1. ____ Crunch (cereal brand)
2. Slangy suffix with smack or sock
3. Northern Scandinavian
4. Creator of Li'l Abner
5. Bird of prey
6. Torched
7. The "E" of N.E.A.: Abbr.
8. Other, south of the border
9. Everest climber's porter
10. Person who joins in
11. Vegetable oil component
12. Western Samoan island
13. Computer button
18. Dickens' Heep
22. Gourmet Graham
24. Fiddler, for one
25. Deep dislikes
27. "M" director
28. Type of foil
29. Scottish port
30. ____ Brewery Co., of Detroit
31. Suggest subtly
35. Neutral tone
36. European industrial area.
37. "Stump the Schwab" cable channel
39. When said three times, a real estate mantra
41. Sinew: Comb. form
44. "Rule, Britannia" composer Thomas
46. Parkinson's disease drug
49. Hang out on the line
50. Drunk, in slang
51. Wharton's sch.
52. 2:1 or 5:2, e.g.
53. Disney dog of "Cinderella"
56. Actress Charlotte and family
57. Ambulance grp.
59. Workers' protection org.
60. Bennett of "What's My Line"
61. Deutschland dwelling
64. "But I heard him exclaim, ____ he ..."
65. Old ____ (the sun)

Sudoku

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



Cryptogram

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

RK P UMPKOHBP
USCHOMYUOH P
EJPHYORKYQ BPCOJQ,
HTSYQF TJ EJ HTJQK-
HPORHKRJF?

And here is your hint:

J = E

The solution to last issue's crossword



Weekly Horoscope



Aries ★★★★★
March 21-April 19
Trusting your instincts works well. You can achieve your goals by listening to your inner wisdom.

Taurus ★★★
April 20-May 20
Bringing dreams to earth is a theme for fun today. Take practical steps to make that dream vacation more of a reality

Gemini ★★★
May 21-June 20
Improvement is a concern today--whether you focus on personal or societal issues. You need to make or do things better.

Cancer ★★★★★
June 21-July 22
Magnetism and persuasive ability are at your fingertips today. You can talk other people into sharing what you enjoy.

Leo ★★★
July 23-August 22
Passion flares sharply, quickly passing AND deeply consuming. Make sure you and your lover are in sync.

Virgo ★★★★★
August 23-September 22
One-on-one activities offer pleasure. Plan on sharing your play with someone else. Togetherness is more rewarding than solitary bliss.

Libra ★★★★★
September 23-October 22
Slow, sensuous and savoring is the style. Trade back rubs with someone you love and ENJOY! Share food and mutual pleasure.

Scorpio ★★
October 23-November 21
A family member nags or pressures you about eating, drinking, smoking, spending money, etc. Don't retaliate.

Sagittarius ★★★★★
November 22-December 21
Don't be afraid to reach toward your dreams. Fear stops you only if you let it. Plan carefully for that first, essential move--and then make it.

Capricorn ★★★★★
December 22-January 19
Bringing your most achievable sensual fantasies to life is the order of the day. Make your dreams real for heightened pleasure.

Aquarius ★★★
January 20-February 18
Your idealistic quotient is high today; balance perfectionism with self-assertion. Do something for charity, beauty, or spiritual inspiration.

Pisces ★★★
February 19-March 20
Catch a thriller at the movies or video store; check out a cop show or look for entertainment which arouses intense emotions.

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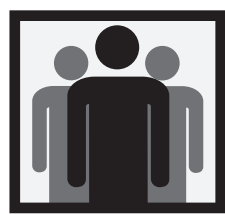
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USM COMMUNITY PAGE



Community Spotlight: Pagan student group shut down stereotypes

Brian Gordon
Free Press Staff

The Pagan Student Association meets on Wednesdays at noon in Woodbury Campus Center and there are no animal sacrifices. They do not worship Satan, cast black magic spells on anyone or fly around on broomsticks.

Instead the group is made up of a lively bunch of young students who've banded together to help each other learn about the pagan religion and their experiences with it.

According to Diane Edgecomb, the PSA's chaplain, the group has a mission to provide a safe haven for students, sort of akin to a church. The group is also meant to serve as a platform to talk about paganism with other believers. The PSA is open to anyone with an open mind and is respectful of others with different views.

Edgecomb is the elder and serves as the group's chaplain, or head of the religious group. She's a former USM law student and practicing lawyer. Edgecomb said USM is one of the only campuses in the country that has pagans represented as a religious group on campus.

But what is paganism actually? For pagans going outside tends to be a more spiritual thing than just a recreational hike in the woods. "For a lot of us nature is at the forefront. We believe in

protecting our mother Earth. We believe in worshipping the moon who is a representation of the Goddess. We believe in hugging trees and talking to trees. Its spiritual for us. We feel connected to the earth and its energies," said Sarah Tapley an junior English major. "We find peace in our souls through nature."

All pagans practice different aspects of the religion, and there are many sub sects similar to how Christianity consists of Baptists, Catholics and Jesuits. Not all pagans adhere to one set of beliefs.

"Its like a salad bar, you get to take what you like and leave the rest" said Tapley, a PSA member who described herself as "out of the broom closet." Some members of the group fear persecution if people knew they were pagans. Some have even had rocks thrown at them.

One of the pre-conceived notions of paganism is that they worship the devil. According to Vanessa Bemis, a senior art major, pagans don't even believe in the devil, and it's a strictly Christian belief.

Another major misconception concerns the use of magic, specifically dark magic.

"When people think magic, they think of it the wrong way," said Samantha Post, a junior French major.

The magic group members perform is a positive thinking based practice where they might use

stones and crystals to aid them. "Rocks are like herbs. They can heal bad energy and generate positive energy. It's more power to help you," said Post.

The pagans were adamant that they don't use magic for evil.

Kara Spinney, a senior psychology major was raised by her mother as a witch. Spinney said that her family contains many pagans. For Spinney, who identifies as a Wiccan, being a witch and practicing magic means burning candles and using plants as medicine.

"Magic is not this scary thing that people imagine it to be," said Spinney. "It's used for very normal everyday things, like helping someone to make a wise decision or perform to their best ability on a test."

Spinney mentioned she feels a deep connection with nature and whenever she takes from a plant, she makes sure not to harm it and give something back.

"The main point is that witches cooperate with nature to manifest their wishes, said Spinney. "We don't cast a spell if it isn't for the highest good, and we never take advantage of living beings in the process."

The pagans were getting ready to celebrate Halloween or Samhain(pronounced sow-win) as they call it. It's the biggest night of the year for the group as it's the pagan new year. Samhain is also a night where the pagans don't raise



Abigail Johnson-Ruscansky / Design Assistant

the dead, they honor them. Some of them may try and talk to the dead, if the dead so wish to speak to them. The group gets together preferably outside, light a fire, have a ritual and dance around to music. Then they feast on a pot-luck dinner.

What the Pagan Student Association wanted people to know most was that they're just like

them.

"Sometimes we do magic, sometimes we wear cloaks, sometimes we chant under the moonlight," said Tapley. "But I have a job, I'm a student. We have something in common with everyone."

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Gallo, Guimond and Klippenstein named men's ice hockey captains

Staff Reports
USM Athletics

GORHAM, Maine -- Veteran University of Southern Maine men's ice hockey head coach Jeff Beane announced this week that seniors Stephen Gallo (Barnstead, N.H.) and Sam Guimond (Portland, Maine), and sophomore Cole Klippenstein (Franklin, Tenn.), have been named captains for the upcoming 2014-15 season that gets underway tomorrow afternoon.

Gallo and Guimond served as assistant captains during the 2013-14 season. This is Klippenstein's first tour as a captain. All three will wear the captain's "C" this season.

"We have a strong and diverse group of captains this season," commented Beane, who begins his 28th season behind the Huskies' bench. "They each bring something little different to the table, but most importantly, they have the respect of all the players in the room."

"Sam provides us with a quiet, even keel sense of leadership and leads by example. He is one of those players who we can count on to play in any given situation."

"Stephen brings a lot of energy and versatility. He always gives

100 percent whenever he's on the ice. He has proven his versatility over his first three seasons having played all five positions at some point.

"Cole brings an intensity that the other players can feed off. He proved last season as an All-Rookie pick that he has the tools to be an outstanding player in this league."

A four-year member of the Huskies, Gallo has split time between forward and defense during his career. Projected to start the 2013-14 season at forward, Gallo has played in 76 games during his career amassing 10 goals and eight assists for 18 points. Last year, the 6-foot-2, 225-pound Gallo played in all 26 games scoring three goals and passing out three assists.

Another four-year member of the program, Guimond has appeared in 73 games collecting seven goals and dishing off 19 assists for 26 points. In 23 games last season, Guimond had one goal and five assists. An outstanding student, Guimond was named to ECAC Men's East All-Academic team last winter.

Klippenstein was named to the ECAC (Eastern College Athletic Conference) Men's East All-Rook-



Photo courtesy of USM Athletics

Sophomore Cole Klippenstein (#2, right), senior Sam Guimond (#37, middle) and senior Stephen Gallo (#23) have been named captains for the 2014-15 men's ice hockey team.

ie Team last season after tallying five goals and eight assists in 25 games.

The Huskies open their 37th season tomorrow hosting Stonehill College in a non-conference game at the USM Ice Arena. Opening fa-

ceoff is set for 4:00 p.m. The game is part of the daylong Husky Palooza activities on USM's Gorham campus that include a field hockey game against Fitchburg State University (12:00 p.m.), women's soccer playing Keene State College

(2:30 p.m.), a volleyball tri-match (12:00 p.m.) with the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, and a men's basketball exhibition game (7:30 p.m.) against Division I University of Maine.

Williamson leads USM past Anna Maria 3-0

Staff Reports
USM Athletics

PAXTON, Mass. -- Freshman outside hitter Jessica Williamson (Goffstown, N.H.) had a match-high 24 kills to lead the visiting University of Southern Maine Huskies to a 3-0 victory over the Anna Maria College Amcats in non-conference women's volleyball action at the Fuller Center Thursday night.

The win snapped the Huskies' six-game losing streak, and improved their overall record to 16-13. The Huskies won all three sets by identical 25-19 scores. The Amcats concluded the regular season at 13-14.

Williamson, who is among the nation's leaders in kills per set (4.64), pounded home 24 kills and compiled a .395 hitting percentage (24-7-43). It marked the fifth time this season that Williamson has surpassed the 20-kill plateau in a match. The 5-foot-7 hitter also earned her 15th double-double of the season by digging up 12 balls.

Sophomore setter Megan Nilson (Granby, Conn.) picked her eighth double-double of the season with 32 assists and 12 digs. Junior outside hitter Renee Trottier (Biddeford, Maine) had seven kills and a match-high 15 digs for the Huskies. Junior libero Demi Ruder (Grand Junction, Colo.) had 10 digs and a team-high three service aces.



Photo courtesy of USM Athletics

Sophomore Megan Nilson had her eighth double-double of the season helping the Huskies defeat Anna Maria 3-0.

Freshman middle hitter Telliah Bursie (Cheektowaga, N.Y.) led the Amcats with seven kills, a .538 hitting percentage (7-0-13), six solo blocks and two block assists. Junior middle hitter Jessica Goulet (Lawrence, Mass./Whittier Tech) added six kills. Junior setter Samantha Parker (Athol, Mass./Mahar Regional) had a double-double for the Amcats as she was credited with 18 assists and 11 digs.

Southern Maine will close the 2014

season this Saturday with a home tri-match. USM opens the proceedings playing the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth (12:00 pm.) in a Little East Conference match, and St. Joseph's College in the final match (4:00 p.m.). UMD and St. Joseph's will play in the middle match (2:00 p.m.). Anna Maria will await the seeding of the GNAC) Great Northeast Athletic Conference) Tournament.

Featured Photo:



Photo courtesy of Jared James Lank

Send us your feature photo! If you captured a photo on the USM campus:
➤ Send an email to editor@usmfreepress.org ⬅



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Campus Events

Monday, November 3

Meet Rear Admiral Michael Dumont
9:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Abromson Center, Room 109-110, Portland

Glow Flow Black Light Yoga: Dominican Republic Partnership Fundraiser
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Sullivan Gym, Portland

Tuesday, November 4

Flatbread Company Fundraiser for the Dominican Republic Partnership
5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Flatbread Pizza, 72 Commerical St., Portland

Gorham Events Board Weekly Meeting
8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Husky Center, Brooks Student Center, Gorham

Wednesday, November 5

Chill The Eff Out Wednesday
The Wellness Center, Woodbury
Campus Center, Portland
12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Come Learn About Bikes!
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Portland Gear Hub, Basement of the YMCA, 70 Forest Ave, Portland

Bestselling Author Walter Isaacson is coming to USM!
7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Hannaford Hall, Abromson Center, Portland

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

Thursday, November 6

Love Is An Orientation - Christianity and the LGBTQ Community
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversity, Woodbury Campus Center, Portland

Project Login team and Maine employers reception
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Abromson Center, Portland

USM's Got Talent- Portland Edition
8:00 p.m.
Woodbury Campus Center, Portland

Friday, November 7

Student Senate Meeting
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
405 Bailey, Gorham

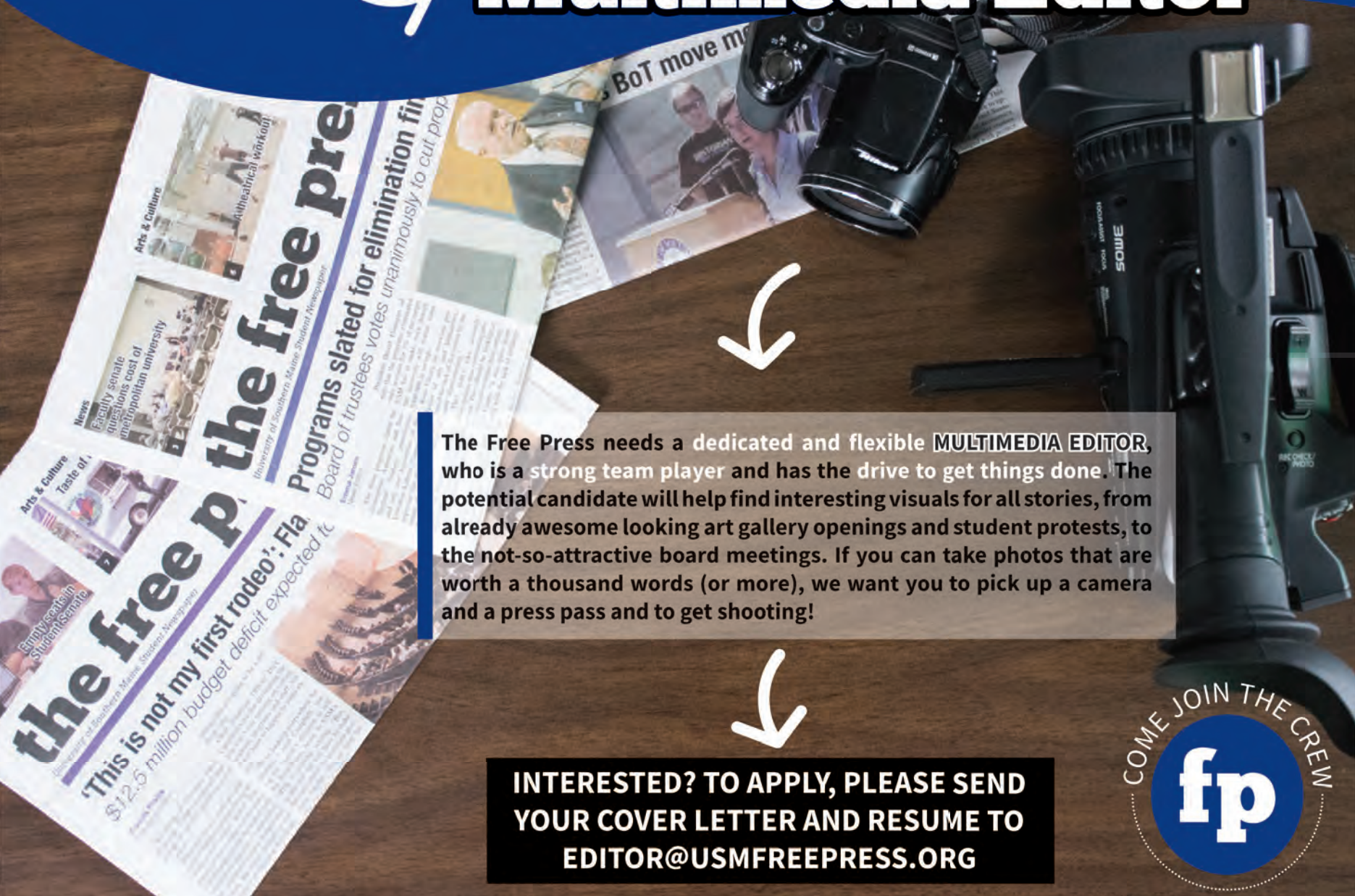
Tealaxation!
Upton Hall, The Well 151, Gorham
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Balloon Animal Night
8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Brooks Student Center, Gorham

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

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The Free Press needs a dedicated and flexible **MULTIMEDIA EDITOR**, who is a strong team player and has the drive to get things done. The potential candidate will help find interesting visuals for all stories, from already awesome looking art gallery openings and student protests, to the not-so-attractive board meetings. If you can take photos that are worth a thousand words (or more), we want you to pick up a camera and a press pass and to get shooting!

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