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AFUM brings alleged contract violations to arbitration with UMS



Sam Hill / Editor-in-Chief

(Clockwise from top left) Professors Lorraine Carroll and Wendy Chapkis greet each other at a protest in September; Student Senate Vice Chair Thomas Bahun holds a sign in support after some faculty members were fired by voicemail; President Flanagan addresses a crowd of student protesters at a board of trustees meeting in November; economics professor Rachel Bouvier protests with other faculty before a BoT meeting.

Retrenchments, program eliminations could be voided

Sam Hill
Editor-in-Chief

Officials from the UMaine system will go into arbitration this week with representatives from the Associated Faculties of the Universities of Maine over alleged contract violations that may have taken place over the past year during administrative budget cuts.

The union alleges that 11 different contract violations took place that involved at least 26 faculty members, specifically when three academic programs were eliminated by the board of trustees in September, when tenured faculty members were retrenched in October, and when two other programs were eliminated in November.

AFUM's 50-page contract with the university has specific guidelines regarding how complaints, or "grievances," are dealt with. If a member has an issue regarding an item included in the contract, like workload obligations or scheduling specifics, that member speaks with the AFUM council and is advised on how to follow up. If a grievance is

filed, it is taken up with the dean that member reports to, continuing on to the provost, president and system-officials if the problem persists.

Susan Feiner, professor and co-president of USM's AFUM chapter, said that complaints about the alleged contract violations have been "blown off" during every procedural step.

Now that the union has exhausted contractual procedure, the statewide grievance board has agreed to fund the case being brought before an arbitrator.

"In this case, there were so many breaches of contract," said Feiner. "This is crucial to our validity of our collective bargaining and it's important to prove that tenure means something in our system."

The arbitrator will decide whether or not the UMaine system violated faculty contracts and that decision will be legally binding. The retrenchments and program eliminations could be voided.

Feiner said she thinks that if that decision were made, the negotiation aspect of it might take longer than

the actual arbitration. It wouldn't be as simple as everyone getting their jobs and programs back.

"A lot of people who were fired are looking for other jobs, have found other jobs or have said, 'I'm being forced to retire, I guess I'll move to Florida,'" said Feiner.

Chris Quint, the executive director of public affairs, said that in his prior experience with unions, he has seen arbitration take a matter of hours to being spread out over weeks. Feiner said hearings are scheduled to take place this Tuesday and Wednesday, with the possibility of two additional days in May due to the number of witnesses.

"There's no way of knowing how long this will take," said Quint.

The hearings are closed to the public and most information will be kept confidential.

"We're confident in our case," said Quint of the UMaine system, saying they adhered to the AFUM contract. "It's really going to come down to arbitration though."

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Photo courtesy of The Maine People's Alliance

MPA's director Amy Halsted speaking to supporters of a higher minimum wage during the referendum launch event last week by city hall.

Will Portland raise the minimum wage?

Local campaign pushing for \$12 an hour by 2020

Francis Flisiuk
Managing Editor

A very important question to anyone who lives and works in Maine may be put on the ballot for 2016: Should the state increase the minimum wage?

The current minimum wage of \$7.50 an hour hasn't changed since 2009 and is absolutely due for an increase, according to Andrew Francis, the communications director for the Maine People's Alliance, an organization representing labor unions.

A team of 32,000 members and volunteers has spearheaded a referendum campaign that hopes to raise the current minimum wage to \$9 an hour in 2017. After that initial boost up, the Maine People's Alliance wants to see the wage increase by \$1 a year until 2020 where then the wage would be tied to the cost of living. This statewide citizen's initiative is currently fundraising and gathering 80,000 signatures which will soon be sent to the secretary of state for approval.

Francis, along with many Mainers, believes that the minimum wage is a poverty wage and should be something a person can comfortably support themselves on; an idea that seems optimistic for the thousands that struggle to pay their bills with a low wage income.

"Each year we release what's called a job gap report, which basically breaks down what a living wage should in the state and com-

pares it to what jobs actually pay," said Francis. "A living wage in the state of Maine, according to the report, should be around \$15.85."

After taxes, a full time minimum wage earner would bring home \$12,300 in income, a figure members at the Maine People's Alliance is "just not right."

According to Francis, raising the minimum wage to even \$9 an hour would do a lot of good for our communities and small businesses because it would provide a greater incentive to work and spend, which would pump more money into the local economy. Apart from that, a wage increase would satisfy certain moral obligations, because Francis believes that a lot of Mainers aren't earning a fair wage for their labor.

"The reality is that a lot of Mainers are working full time and still struggling to pay their bills and rent. Then they have to choose between either putting food on the table, or medicine in their cabinet," said Francis. "Raising the minimum wage is incredibly popular in Maine right now."

Last year's poll from the University of New Hampshire's Survey Center showed that 75 percent of Maine respondents supported raising the minimum wage federally, with 60 percent expressing strong support. Hyper locally, a poll of 203 USM students showed that 190 people don't think minimum wage is a livable wage and 148 said that they

See **MINIMUM** on page 4

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Several issues plague Maine's environment

Industrial agriculture and rising temperatures cited as problems

Brian Gordon
Staff Writer

The 45th annual observance of Earth Day was last week, and all around campus there were events to celebrate our relation to the Earth and how we can work to try and make it a sustainable place to live by preserving its natural resources.

Kappa Alpha Omicron, or KAO, the USM Environmental Science Student Honors Society invited Lisa Pohlmann of the Natural Resources Council of Maine to speak on behalf of USM's environmental student honor society about "The State of Maine's Environment: A Status Report."

Pohlmann laid out the current threats to Maine's environment, most notably the government under Governor Paul LePage repealing environmental protections that have been in place for years. Several bills are before the legislature right now including a bill that would repeal the deposit on bottles larger than 32 oz.

According to Pohlmann, it will save companies such as Coca Cola billions of dollars because they now have to pay for that nickel deposit. If the bill passes, more two liters will end up in landfills instead of being recycled for the economic incentive.

Dr. Travis Wagner, environmental policy, teaches his students to come up with better policies and laws for protection so commercial development can continue, but do so in a sustainable way for the Earth and economics. He teaches

consensus building at the grass-roots level. Wagner agreed that the greatest threat to Maine's environment is the "potential rollbacks" of laws.

"Proposal to take the parks and make that part of the department of forestry and to maximize timber harvesting on public lands," said Wagner. "There seems to be no plan, other than just doing it. There's no sustainability."

Another of the events for Earth Week was the screening of the documentary "Cowspiracy – The Sustainable Secret." According to the film, missing from the talk of climate change is the impact of agriculture, namely, raising animals for meat as the number one cause of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States.

A report from the United Nations found that animal agriculture contributes more methane and other toxins than all transportation in America. That's more than all cars, trucks, planes and trains combined.

The filmmakers found the big environmental groups such as Greenpeace and the Sierra Club unwilling to talk about the ecological impact of commercial agriculture. Their stance being that Americans are unwilling to change their eating habits to more of a plant-based diet, even in the face of California's drought, and rising temperatures and seas worldwide.

"Often people don't realize the environmental impacts associated with the food they eat. Massive amounts of natural resources, namely fossil fuels, are used in



Hannah Lyon / Design Assistant

commercial agriculture," said Tyler James Cyr, president of KAO.

It takes between 442 and 8000 gallons of water to produce one pound of beef. Cutting down on your meat consumption could cut your carbon footprint in half.

"You've got some pretty high environmental costs associated with that sandwich you're eating," said Cyr. "Rethinking how our food is produced and where we source it from is going to be a key consideration for our generation."

Wagner said that the most im-

portant action for students is to be informed, because if you're not informed then you don't become active and concerned.

Heather McIntosh, environmental science policy & planning sophomore, echoed Wagner's idea, saying that the most important thing to stopping climate change is to, "Get involved. Volunteer. It feels really good to give back and connect with your community"

For students interested in taking action to keep our Earth a sustainable and clean place to live, there

are certainly environmental groups on campus to join in order to become more involved: The community garden has plots available and teaches students about sustainable practices, or you could join The Eco Reps or DivestUMaine.

At the state level are groups like Pohlmann's NRCM. She finished her presentation by saying "The bottom line is, are we going to fight or give up?"

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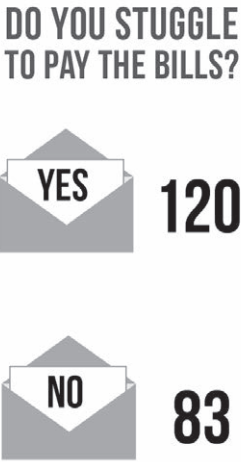
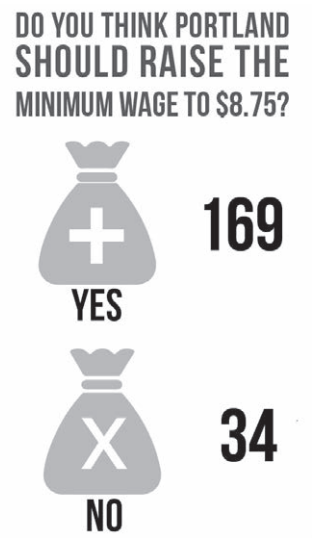
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From **MINIMUM** on page 1



Hannah Lyon / Design Assistant

From a Free Press survey that polled 203 USM students. Results do not reflect the overall opinion of the student body.

struggle to pay the bills with their current job. 169 said the minimum wage should be raised to at least \$8.75, while 49 people said it should be raised to \$15 an hour.

Despite the support, there's still some opposition to the community push for what they consider a "fair wage." Greg Dugal, the president of the Maine Restaurant Association, said that if the minimum wage has to be raised, it should only be done so on the federal level.

"We're definitely opposed to the local initiatives," said Dugal. "The state and the federal government need to come together and discuss the minimum wage issue. Currently that doesn't seem possible."

Dugal, along with members of the Republican party, like Jason Savage, the executive director of the Maine GOP, believe that the minimum wage was never designed to be something that one can solely live off of.

"It's exactly what it says it is," said Dugal. "It's for someone that is just starting at their job. Maybe a young kid that's inexperienced, or someone that's potentially working part time. One person making minimum wage will never support a family."

Dugal's method of success towards a person's financial independence is what he called earning "a combination of wages."

Anonymous responders to the Free Press survey seemed to agree with the sentiment of: if you want to earn more, work harder.

"Burger flipping was never intended to be anyone's career path," wrote one online responder. "It's called motivation, people are motivated to fight for \$15 but not to find a better paying job. They're too afraid they might have to work or think harder. Better yourself."

"Get a real job, slackers," wrote another student.

"I started by working my ass off for free, working hard, and eventually earning everything that I have," wrote another anonymous responder. "It's really frustrating to see people complaining about minimum wage. Want more money? Become indispensable."

Other opponents of the initiatives said that if the minimum wage goes up to \$12 an hour by 2020, it could affect the survival of small businesses like it's doing now in Seattle.

"It would cause the economy to do a tail spin," said Justin Tougas, a sophomore economics major. "What we need to do is to find some way to raise the real monetary value of the dollar, not increase pay just to cause unemployment and dollar value deflation."

Just last week, Joel Baker, the

owner of the Mr. Bagel on Forest Ave., wrote a letter to the Portland Phoenix saying that raising his payroll would doom his breakfast eatery.

"We here at Mister Bagel will probably have to close the doors if this new law comes into play. Saddened by today's world," wrote Baker.

Yet, according to Francis, 3,000 small businesses support their initiative, and will thrive once people that have more money in their pockets spend more at the local spots.

"A lot of small businesses already are paying well above \$7.50 an hour," said Francis. "And the ones we've talked to that actually are paying minimum wage have said that they can't compete with the Walmarts, Targets and other chain stores. So raising the minimum wage actually puts them at a more even playing field with these big box companies."

Shawn Chapla, a junior English major and sociology minor said you could raise the minimum wage to \$15 dollars right now and the chain places like McDonalds would be financially fine.

"McDonalds and Amatos can afford it," said Chapla. "They're not going to leave. I'd like it if they did, but they won't."

Students like Chapla and Sarah Victor, an occupational therapy student, believe that minimum wage should be about providing people with an entry level job they can support themselves on, not one that exploits their labor.

"Just because somebody is gaining experience doesn't mean they have to live in poverty," said Victor. "The only way I've ever been able to cultivate a living wage and not be eligible for food stamps is through my self-employment as a massage therapist."

Victor said that when she occasionally hires somebody to help out with work around the house, she pays them \$15 an hour and that anything less would be unethical.

On top of the Maine People's Alliance's race to get the minimum wage question on the state ballot, Mayor Michael Brennan endorsed a separate plan to increase just Portland's minimum wage to \$8.75. Governor Paul LePage is attempting to squash these efforts by endorsing a bill, sponsored by Andre Cushing in the Senate, that would prohibit local municipalities from having this power.

"Of course he [LePage] is, he hates the people, clearly by his policies," said Victor half-jokingly on the phone.

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USM hosts bone marrow drive

Students explain misconceptions about donating



Krysteana Scribner / News Editor

Lavena Jordon (left), senior nursing major and Abby Krolak (right), sophomore nursing major sit at a welcoming table in Woodbury campus educating students on the process of donating Bone Marrow.

Krysteana Scribner
News Editor

Last week, a bone marrow drive was held at the Woodbury Campus Center so volunteers could sign up to become a potential match for someone in dire need of a transplant.

Bone marrow cancer is a form of leukemia, a cancer of the bloodstream. According to the Maine Medical Center Developmental Department, individuals diagnosed with bone marrow cancer will eventually need a transplant. However, only 30 percent of patients are able to find a compatible donor within their family. This leaves the other 70 percent reliant on marrow donations from strangers in order to survive.

Micaela Manganello, a sophomore nursing major at USM, sat at one of three tables set up to greet and process interested students in the campus center. Manganello explained that there are a lot of misconceptions about donating, but the process overall is an easy one.

"The first table students approached was where I sat and helped them fill out the appropriate paperwork with their information," said Manganello. "The second table was for cheek swabbing to sample if you were a possible match for someone, and the third to get your donor card with all your information."

For individuals who donated, their information was put into the national registry where any patient searching for a donor can match with them. Swabs done on cheeks were immediately sent to a laboratory for testing. This process allows doctors to look for similar protein markers on their cells to match a patient with a donor. If a match is found, you get another call and go in for some final testing before the actual donation process occurs.

"The paperwork is honestly the hardest part," said Manganello. "If it takes a minute or two out of your day and it helps someone else in the long run, then I promise it will be worth your time."

Donors may only be asked to give their blood, which will then be transferred into the veins of a patient with incurable leukemia to keep them comfortable as the disease

“When they told me I didn’t have a bone marrow match, it was a scary realization.”

Lauren Durkin, sophomore nursing major

progresses. For most patients, especially young children, a bone marrow transplant is their best chance for survival.

There is the common misconception that donating bone marrow entails high risk and painful surgery to drill into your bone. Arlene O-Rourke, a nurse practitioner at the New England Cancer Specialist Center, said that marrow isn't the only form of donation and the biggest risk with surgery is one that's taken in most medical procedures.

"When someone donates their marrow, they go through a procedure where it is removed from inside the bone," said O-Rourke. "A long needle extracts this liquid marrow from the hipbone and it is then put aside to be transferred into the patient with the disease. When you wake up, you're sore for a few days but it doesn't affect you in the long run."

O-Rourke said that the biggest risk associated with donating is going under anesthesia, which is a risk that comes with any surgery. There is also a minimal risk of infection, but that shouldn't deter someone from donating because donating can save a life.

"The cool thing about being a donor is if you do happen to match someone, they give you a progress report on how they're doing," said Manganello. "If both the participant and the recipient consent to it, you can meet the person you helped."

According to the National Cancer Institute, every four minutes someone is diagnosed with blood cancer. Out of all these patients, six out of 10 will not receive a bone marrow transplant because a match cannot be found. However, O-Rourke said this could be combated if more people would be willing to donate.

"Leukemia is more common in children because they're growing

and in elderly people because their bones are weak. If a child has rapidly growing cells, they can mutate into leukemia," said O-Rourke. "It's so important to donate because you donating marrow can save a child's life and add fifty or more years to their existence."

Lauren Durkin, a sophomore nursing major, encouraged people to donate marrow. For Durkin, the reality of needing a transplant hits close to home.

As children, her two older brothers were diagnosed with myelodysplastic syndrome, a form of childhood leukemia. Both of her brothers were able to find matches from strangers willing to donate to the cause. When Durkin turned fourteen, she was also diagnosed with myelodysplastic, but doctors were unable to find a matching donor for her.

"I actually had a cord blood transplant because they couldn't find me a match," said Durkin. "I had to go through chemotherapy and radiation, which basically destroyed my entire immune system."

Durkin further explained that upon receiving the transplant, she basically was given a new immune system. She was in the hospital for six weeks after the transplant so doctors could keep an eye on her.

Durkin wants people to know that even though donating sounds scary, it's actually pretty easy and can really save lives.

"When they told me I didn't have a bone marrow match, it was a scary realization," said Durkin. "I was lucky enough to have a cord blood match and my brothers were lucky to have bone marrow matches. I don't know where we would be had it not been for the kindness of donors."

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Solar panels save USM money

Zachary Searles
Staff Writer

Earlier in the year, solar panels were installed on top of the Woodbury Campus center in Portland, sparking some questions. Where did they come from? Who paid for them?

Back in 2013, Dr. Fred Padula, professor emeritus of history, donated \$50,000 to have solar panels installed in a visible location. Tyler Kidder, assistant director for sustainable programs, consulted Dr. Padula on where the panels should be placed.

“We wanted them in Portland, and wanted them to be very visible from around campus. Woodbury campus center was the best location,” said Kidder.

Some complications arose during the installation process of the panels.

“Unfortunately, Woodbury’s roof was in need of replacement before the solar panels could be installed,” said Kidd. “Much of the building has an old curved wooden roof, making solar installation nearly impossible on much of the surface.”

Because of these complications, the installation process was

delayed a whole year while they waited for USM to replace the roof above the book store. This made it so more of the donated amount had to go to installation than originally planned.

“To this end, the solar array is smaller than it would have been if installed elsewhere, but also much more visible to passersby,” Kidder said.

Solar panels use light energy from the sun to generate electricity through the photovoltaic effect, which is the creation of an electrical current in a material due to the exposure of light. This is considered to be a chemical physical phenomena.

As of now, there are no data on how much money is being saved in energy costs, but Kidder states that the panels are rated to generate 8.5 kW of power, meaning that in perfect sunny conditions, the panels could be generating as much as 11,400 kWh of electricity in a year.

Kidder did state that those are in perfect conditions and the panels will generally generate less due to conditions such as the angle of the sun or cloud coverage.

The panels themselves require very little maintenance unless

something happens to them, like a fallen branch striking it, or there is a roof leak.

“In general, solar panels have an expected lifespan of 20 years. After that time, they tend to lose generation capacity and create less power,” said Kidder.

Kidder expressed that she was interested in seeing more panels installed around campus. “If we can get more solar panels installed, especially with affordable installations, we can make a dent in our energy consumption.”

At this point, there are four solar installations on campus: Woodbury, Abromson, which has 52 panels that were also donated by Dr. Padula, Sullivan Gym Solar Thermal, which was installed in 1982, and on the childcare/police station in Gorham.

“We are always interested in more partnerships,” said Kidder. “As solar becomes more and more affordable, it is definitely on our list of ways to lighten USM’s carbon footprint and reduce our energy costs.”

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Free Press places in regional contest

The Free Press will soon be taking home another award.

The newspaper won runner-up in the New England Newspaper and Press Association best newspaper contest.

Issues 7 and 15 of the past volume were submitted.

Issue 7 included stories on the Noyes Street house fire that killed six people, a faculty protest when

some professor were fired through voicemail and Barrack Obama’s visit to Portland when he endorsed gubernatorial candidate Mike Michaud.

Issue 15 included stories on the snow storm that shut USM down for three days, the announcement of USM’s presidential candidates, a report on student library fines and a faculty-alumni joint art exhibition.

Managing editor Francis Flisiuk and incoming editor-in-chief Krysteana Scribner will travel to Dedham, Massachusetts for an award ceremony and job fair this Thursday.

Earlier this year the Free Press won an award for best print advertisement design from the College Media Association.



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Police Beat

Selections from the USM Department of Public Safety police log April 8 to April 14

Wednesday, April 8

Midnight Bright Light

2:33 a.m. - Verbal warning following failure to dim high beams

Robie Andrews Hall - 39 University Way

Sneaky Starving Artist

9:00 a.m. - Report of graffiti damage and the theft of a guitar. Report taken and the situation is under investigation.

Corthell Hall

It's All in Your Head, Officer

6:01 p.m. - Officer reports three vehicles backed up to front door of Sports Complex. Clear, no problem.

Costello Complex - 43 Campus Ave.

Tail Lights? I Don't Have A Tail!

8:10 p.m. - Defect card issued to student for having no tail lights.

Dickey Wood Hall - 17 University Way

Phone Call Report About Broken Phone

11:43 p.m. - Report of damage to the emergency phone near the bus stop. Report taken.

Bailey Hall - 16 University Way

Thursday, April 9

First World Problems

8:30 a.m. - Information provided via phone call regarding cyber security issues. Report Taken. Handled by Officer.

Expressing your Inner Creativity

8:35 a.m. - Reported graffiti at the top of a stairwell, first floor. Report and photos taken. Comment removed from the wall.

Bailey Hall - 16 University Way

I've Fallen and I Can't Get Up

9:24 a.m. - Report o a student falling in the parking garage. Medical transportation brought student to MMC.

Parking Garage - 88 Bedford St.

I Need This Saw to Cut Vegetables

11:19 a.m. - Report of a theft of a Bosch saw. Officers unable to find stolen object.

Science Building - 70 Falmouth St.

Sunday, April 12

You Can't Outrun the Po Po

2:36 a.m. - Request sent out to USM police backup for a Gorham officer responding to an assault.

121 School St.

Monday, April 13

Kick and Run

3:21 a.m. - Damage report to the glass in one of the main doors to the student center. Looks to have been kicked in. Report taken, incident under investigation.

Brooks Student Center - 32 University Way

Tuesday, April 14

Do You Smell What I Smell? That Smelly Smell?

8:36 p.m. - Report of smell of marijuana in the basement of Corthell Hall. Unfounded. Officer was unable to identify the source of the smell.

Corthell Hall - 13 University Way

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

Arts & Culture

Local community program hosts film fest

Exploring personal interests and passions at Bomb Diggity Arts in Portland

Kristen Ouellette
Contributor

Portland is home to artistic minds galore. In fact, there are not many places you can walk through in the city without seeing at least a speck of artistic talent, whether it be an eclectic, beanie-wearing artist walking on the sidewalk, or a mural painted on the side of a brick building, there are so many different outlets that Portland offers for those “striving” artists. One in particular holds a special place in our hearts.

Bomb Diggity Arts is a community-support program of Momentum, which is a program that focuses on multi-media, visual, culinary, musical/vocal and agricultural arts. This outreach program extends its services specifically to adults.

The program helps people discover different forms of artistic expression, exploration of personal interest and passion and developing an overall healthy lifestyle.

Through attending cooking workshops, gardening, ceramics, archery and much more, students get the opportunity to express themselves in ways they may not be able to do in real life. The Momentum program believes that it is important for students to build a meaningful connection to their community and promotes the idea that art is the most effective way to do so.

Each spring, students at Bomb Diggity Arts work extremely hard to put on their annual film festival. The event showcases animations, short love stories, music videos, and many others.

With films that will make you laugh, cry and think, the goal of the film festival is to ultimately open people’s eyes to the abilities of the participants. You can expect to be filled with many different emotions as you get a firsthand view at all of the efforts put



in by the Momentum students.

“Bomb Diggity Arts is a good place to learn new things, like how to be nice to your own friends,” said one student at Momentum. “It’s a pretty interesting place, with so much to work on including arts and crafts to do. I just like to be myself here.”

On April 29, come out and show your support for not only the Bomb Diggity program and students, but the Portland art community as a whole. Tickets are only \$5, and the fest is being held at One Longfellow Square at 6:30 p.m.

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Photo courtesy of Bomb Diggity Arts Program

Screenshots of Bomb Diggities latest films made by the students in collaeration with employees. Each film is meant to express and explore the producers interests. In the photos above, individuals picked a subject they wanted to develop and created films that will be showing at One Longfellow Square on April 29 at 6:30 p.m.

Broadway star does one-man performance

Dora Thompson
Arts & Culture Editor

Bill Bowers has graced Broadway’s stages as Leggett in “The Scarlet Pimpernel” and Zazu in “The Lion King.” He has studied with the world-famous mime, Marcel Marceau. His award-winning solo play recounting a tale of his own life, “It Goes Without Saying,” was repeatedly sold out in off-Broadway theaters. He has performed it throughout the country and out of it. But last Tuesday, Bowers took on USM’s own Russell Theater.

The idea of a one-man show might raise some questions to au-

dience members. How does one man keep a theater-full of people entertained with just himself, a notepad, and some sound cues? Bowers can do it. “It Goes Without Saying” takes viewers on a journey throughout his life. Born and raised in Montana, Bowers talks upon what it was like to grow up gay in a small with more conservative values. He talks about being given Tonka trucks after he started playing with Barbie dolls. Bowers explained the loss of his boyfriend during the AIDS epidemic of the 1980’s. He mimes and speaks us through all his old jobs on his road to stardom, from being hired to mime an

airplane safety course, to being a mechanical man outside of a car wash.

Bowers said that he was always known for telling stories, and one day someone told him that he should make these stories into a play. Before “It Goes Without Saying,” Bowers had never written anything. In 2003 the writing process began, and the show got its first production a year later. He worked with a director to feel out the process of making a play based on his life.

Bower originally planned on writing a wacky comedy, until he started to get deeper.

The play has even been translat-

ed in other languages in different countries, like Germany and the Netherlands. After all his success, Bowers is still surprised when his work gets such a response.

“It’s always amazing to me that anyone comes at all. That’s the magic of theatre. Theatre doesn’t happen unless you show up in this space,” Bowers said. “The story seems to have a resonance with people.”

Andrea Danforth, a freshman theatre major, came to see the show on Tuesday.

“It was the most powerful performance I have ever seen. His story telling, miming, and energy is simply amazing,” she said.

The overarching theme of the play is the culture of silence that Bowers grew up in, and how nothing was ever talked about or expressed. It is a journey that involves laughter, profound sadness, and self discovery.

“I try to make it into a piece of theatre that’s based on my experiences,” said Bowers. “My hope is that you find something in it for yourself.”

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A&C Listings

Monday, April 27

Gett: The Trail of Vivian Amsalem
Portland Museum of Art
7 Congress St.
Starts: 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 28

Downeast Pride Alliance Networking Event
Tiqua
327 Commercial St.
Starts: 5:30 p.m. / Ends: 7:30 p.m.

Music: The Wailin Jennys
The State Theater
609 Congress St.
Starts: 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday April 29

Bomb Diggity Arts Spring Film Fest
One Longfellow Sq.
181 State St.
Starts: 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 30

Theater: Other Desert Cities
Mad Horse Theater Company
24 Mosher St.
Starts: 7:30 p.m.

Music: Xavier Rudd & The United Nations
Port City Music Hall
504 Congress St.
Starts: 9:00 p.m.

Friday, May 1

First Friday Art Walk
Downtown Portland
Starts: 5:00 p.m. / 8:00 p.m.
MECAmorphosis 2015 Spring Gala
MECA
522 Congress St.
Starts: 5:00 p.m. / 10:00 p.m.

Shango Afrobeat Orchestra
One Longfellow Sq.
181 State St.
Starts: 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 2

Music: Builder of the House
Space Gallery
538 Congress St.
Starts: 8:30 p.m.

Music: The Box Tiger
Empire
575 Congress St.
Starts: 9:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 3

Film: In Organic We Trust
Maine College of Art
522 Congress St.
Starts: 4:00 p.m.

Want to submit an event?
arts@usmfreepress.org

HEAVY ROTATION

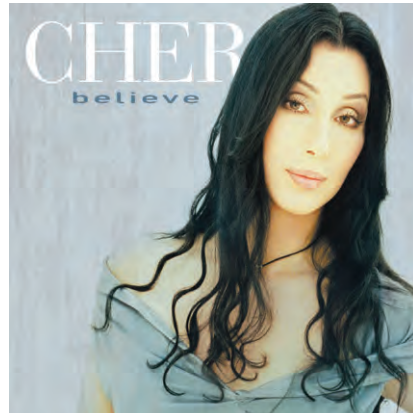
WHAT CAUGHT THE EYES AND EARS
OF OUR STAFF FOR FINALS WEEK



Epic - Syco
Fifth Harmony: Worth It

Listening to this song gets me pumped up to study for finals and write those last-minute essays. This song drops the beat in all the appropriate places, and the saxophone that plays in the background gives it a groovy '60's feel to go along with the rapping and melodic voices of Fifth Harmony. During finals week, I'm always stressing about the next thing I have to finish in order to enjoy the upcoming vacation. Not only is this song a good one to listen to during study time, but it's also a good transition song that I can listen to in the car with my speakers blasted while I cruise around Portland wearing cheap sunglasses. The rapper in this song, Kid Ink, sneakily jumps in with raps that may not make any sense, but if you're looking for a good, motivational beat, this song is certainly worth a listen.

- Krysteana Scribner
News Editor



Warner Bros. Records
Cher: Believe

Are finals shattering your entire world? Is the end of the year making you question your very existence? Have no fear, because the goddess of pop is ready to sooth your fears with her sweet electro dance tunes. This album brought autotune to the ears of listeners and was a crown to Cher's reign. It's like a feminine disco where the only goal is to make the consumer feel like they can take on the world. Put "Believe" on while you're studying, and let Cher sing you into a 4.0 with that legendary contralto voice. It's impossible not to feel "Strong Enough" to conquer your giant tests with this album on in your headphones. Do you believe in life after finals? With Cher, you can.

- Dora Thompson
Arts & Culture Editor



Self-Released Album
Ryn Weaver - OctaHate

Ryn Weaver is a new artist who became an overnight sensation. Last year she put her track "Octahate" onto her SoundCloud account, and within hours it received attention from several artists including Charlie XCX and Hayley Williams. Once you listen to this song you will be humming, "I can't take it / From the day I saw / My heart start breaking / No one saved me." I plan on listening to Weaver while studying for my math final because of her upbeat music. Her songs are catchy and fun to sing along with. If you are looking for some new music you should go on iTunes and preorder her first full-length studio album, "The Fool," right now.

- Hannah Lyon
Design Assistant

What caught your eyes and ears this week? Let us know! arts@usmfreepress.org

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Perspectives

What the Free Press has given us

Sam Hill
Editor-in-Chief

After three long years at the Free Press, I'm excited to pass the torch on to a new team of staffers and watch how the newspaper evolves after I'm gone.

Instead of taking off on an inspirational or punchy note, I just want to share some of the things I've learned during my time here, because obviously I'm writing this on production day and haven't thought of anything special to write.

If you take yourself seriously, other people will take you seriously. Confidence is key, especially while transitioning from a campus environment to the "real world." A "fake it 'til you make it" attitude honestly works, as long as you remember to learn along the way and play catch-up.

You need to learn how to be a team member. There are very few places in life where you can succeed entirely on your own. Surround yourself with people who want to work toward the same goal and learn to trust them. Everyone groans at group projects, but chances are you're rarely going to work entirely on your own.

Be curious. When you have a question, explore it and find answers. Chances are someone else is wondering the same thing but will never take those steps to figure things out. Always be learning and sharing what you learn with



others.

Set goals. Meet goals. Repeat. It's good to get out of that "I sort of want to do something" mindset and actually focus in on a task. Whether that's learning a new skill, getting a new job or just finally going down to the basement to retrieve the laundry you cleaned two days ago. Find something you feel happy and accomplished doing, then keep doing that.

There is such a thing as too much pizza. Sorry, Leonardo's, but production day pizza for three years is enough.

The Free Press has treated me well. I've met a lot of great people through working here and have had access to amazing parts of Portland I wouldn't have seen otherwise.

I wish the best of luck to all future Free Pressers. Don't get spun by public relations.

Francis Flisiuk
Managing Editor

Hello readers. Some of you may know me simply from my byline, or as the annoying guy reaching out to you on Facebook, or shoving my cell phone in your face while you're trying to eat lunch in Woodbury. I've achieved a strange sense of pseudo-popularity during my time as managing editor, at least judging by how fast my inbox fills up with press releases and how many friendly head nods I get on campus.

It's the end of an era for me. I've been snapping photos, writing stories and bugging students for interviews for almost three years now, and it's safe to say that the experience has defined my college career. When I came to USM as a sophomore, I had no idea what I wanted to major in and it stressed me out to no end. Picking a major that you actually enjoy is a huge decision. I changed my major three times and each time I thought, "I'm not really sure if I'm going to like this career path, but here's thousands of dollars, so let's hope I do!" Thankfully, stumbling into the Free Press office eventually shined a light on a profession that I now love and am pretty good at: journalism. So I majored in media and English. Getting paid to talk to USM community members and sharing important news was an eye opening experience, and



one that exposed me to almost all aspects of campus life. Now I'm prepared to take it to the next level. The Free Press gave me the skills my resume needed and I'm excited to say that I'll continue my storytelling efforts at the Bangor Daily News this summer. Simply put, journalism is fun. Brainstorming ideas, researching interesting topics, meeting quirky characters and packaging a story with compelling images is an incredibly rewarding process.

Although I'm graduating, I've found a way to continue educating myself and others, through what I consider a lifelong learning experience. I have big dreams about where my reporting will take me, but I'll never forget my humble roots at the Free Press and the smart and hilarious friends I've made along the way.

Krysteana Scribner
News Editor

This year has been one long learning experience. I've gone from being an egotistical volunteer writer, to staff writer, to Arts & Culture Editor, to News Editor and to next year's Editor-In-Chief in such a short time span. I awkwardly walked into the office wearing a nerdy button-up shirt to look "professional" in hopes of simply writing. Now I can say I'm lucky enough to have been given such a privilege as being Editor-in-Chief.

Over this past year, working for the Free Press has opened up a lot of opportunities for a future career in journalism. I've explored USM and the city of Portland to its fullest. I've talked to people that have done amazing things and been inspired to write stories that tell people what is happening throughout Maine. Although one day I hope to write for a big name newspaper, I'm happy to say I can start with Editor-In-Chief at the Free Press.

Next year is going to be a lot of fun! I'm excited to find new and exciting ways to help other students learn to write, edit and lay out stories. I want to improve the way we tell news via social media (because everyone knows that's where the future is headed anyway) and I look forward to watch-



ing this newspaper grow during my time at USM.

I'm not 100 percent sure why I was awarded such a big title next year, but with the help of all my new Free Press friends I'm ready to take on the challenges that come my way. Sam, Francis and Sokvonny were the first three people that helped me learn what it means to be a good writer and editor. At the end of this semester, all three of them are moving on to greater things and I'm going to be an Editor-in-Chief needing a whole new group of writers and designers. I look forward to working with my staff next year and I hope to have an impact in their lives as great as my Free Press friends have had in mine.

Sokvonny Chhouk
Design Director

When I started at the Free Press, the walls in the Free Press meeting room were bright green and now they're purple. I have definitely been here for too long. My journey at the Free Press is finally coming to an end. When I transferred to USM, I didn't have a strong passion for computer technology anymore. My plan was to finish out school for the sake of having a bachelors degree. I always had an interest in graphic design but I didn't know how to go about it. My advisor Carl Blue suggested I check out the student newspaper. I didn't take him seriously at first, because I wasn't sure what the free press had to offer me.

In the spring of 2012, I started as a volunteer and worked my way up as a design assistant and design director. Before I knew it, the Free Press was basically my life. A lot of times, I put the paper before my school work; which is bad I know, but I don't regret it at all. Running a newspaper with a bunch of other students takes a lot of dedication and teamwork. I'll be honest, it was frustrating and challenging at times.

The Free Press gave me friends who share the same goal and dream as I do, the skills and experience I wouldn't have gained



anywhere else and it gave me pizza every Saturday on production day. We used to have plain cheese and pepperoni, now we get to have 4 toppings. This might not seem like a big deal now, but it is, seriously.

I know Krysteana, Abby, Hannah and Dora will kill it next semester. Every awkward person that has stepped into this office has become someone and is pursuing a job in their desired field.

I can walk away feeling confident and grateful for the past 3 years. The Free Press memories will always stay with me. I will miss asking, "What's the kerning on that story?"



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The Free Press is a weekly student-run newspaper paid for in part with the Student Activity Fee. One copy of The Free Press is available free of charge. Up to 10 additional copies are available for 25 cents each at the office of The Free Press, 92 Bedford St., Portland, Maine.



Thank you!

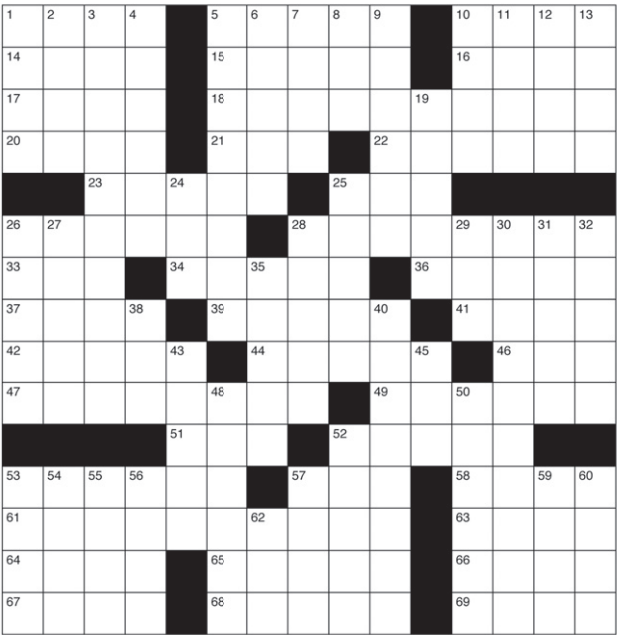
**Thank you to our readers and advertisers.
Without you, we wouldn't be able to do the
work we love.**

**Thank you to our advisory board for guiding us
throughout the semester and providing critical
feedback.**

**And a special thanks to Lucille Seigler, our
business manager, and Shelton Waldrep, our
faculty advisor. The newspaper wouldn't be
complete without your work behind the scenes.**

Crossword

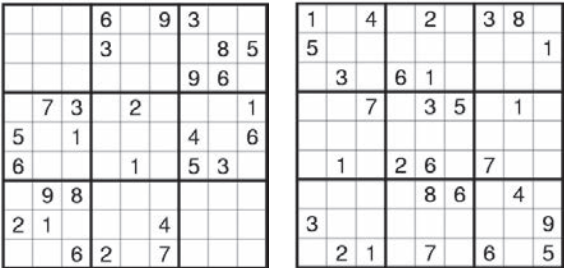
- Across**
- 1. "I didn't mean anything ____!"
 - 5. Type of beer
 - 10. Clark of "The Daily Planet"
 - 14. Host Jay
 - 15. Take ____
 - 16. Comment after a trip?
 - 17. Wild West Wyatt
 - 18. Financial investor
 - 20. Shout of joy
 - 21. Metric distances (abbr.)
 - 22. Decades, to centuries
 - 23. Slate shades, to Brits
 - 25. Singers' notes
 - 26. Cold state
 - 28. Rich dessert
 - 33. Actor James Van ____ Beek
 - 34. Trouble
 - 36. Texas city just north of Dallas
 - 37. Trip to Mecca
 - 39. 508, once
 - 41. Cowboy hat feature
 - 42. Blender maker
 - 44. Idiomatic
 - 46. Saint Lucia IOC code
 - 47. Singing groups
 - 49. Regarded
 - 51. Lincoln brand
 - 52. Motor scooter
 - 53. Table clearer
 - 57. Abbr. on a street sign
 - 58. Ice legend's family
 - 61. Inferior
 - 63. Stick in one's ____ (cause resentment)
 - 64. Arab sultanate
 - 65. Eagle's home
 - 66. Engine type
 - 67. Soliloquy starter
 - 68. Golf taps
 - 69. Hangup



- Down**
- 1. Made a mess of
 - 2. Informal assent
 - 3. Concerning
 - 4. Sots
 - 5. Sought-after feature in real estate, often
 - 6. Muslim leaders
 - 7. Weight training counts
 - 8. 901, to Nero
 - 9. Tout's tidbit
 - 10. Brick oven
 - 11. Cast forth
 - 12. Enjoy a snack
 - 13. Discount theater letters in NYC
 - 19. "The Fox and the Grapes" author
 - 24. Heart readout, for short
 - 25. Underworld group
 - 26. Like a specially appointed committee
 - 27. Dog strap
 - 28. German dissents
 - 29. Barrister's deg.
 - 30. Chief Justice, 1953-69
 - 31. Preserved, in a way
 - 32. Wandering tribesman
 - 35. Wall climbers
 - 38. Musician Garcia, informally
 - 40. Opposites of a sort
 - 43. Gossip mill product
 - 45. Grafton's "____ for Evidence"
 - 48. Airport aide
 - 50. Eocene and Miocene, e.g.
 - 52. Stop by
 - 53. Dab with absorbent paper
 - 54. Man, in Italy
 - 55. Mop, as the deck
 - 56. Nota ____ (attention-getting phrase)
 - 57. Transport of a sort
 - 59. "____ Lama Ding Dong" (Edsels hit)
 - 60. Gulp from a bottle
 - 62. Romanian coin

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.

X HXT'V GUHQ RV GRV
KXVNCQ, RT X HXTUM
UL VEQXDRTP.

And here is your hint:

D = K

The solution to last issue's crossword



Weekly Horoscope

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

Aries
March 21-April 19

Thinking for yourself is important. Be direct and forthright (but not too blunt). Your mind and tongue work swiftly.

Taurus
April 20-May 20

A day to dream and scheme about possible money-making projects. Think big today and let your imagination soar.

Gemini
May 21-June 20

Optimism is emphasized. You're more restless today, with an urge to travel, to learn, to share ideas, or to make changes.

Cancer
June 21-July 22

Run that new idea you have by a friend. Feedback can help you sort out the best path.

Leo
July 23-August 22

You're inclined to be too hard on yourself today. Nobody's perfect. Give yourself a break.

Virgo
August 23-September 22

More errands or short trips and changes in the routine are needed. Be casual and flexible and you'll handle whatever comes your way.

Libra
September 23-October 22

A loved one demonstrates caring and commitment. Your bonds of attachment are strengthened.

Scorpio
October 3-November 21

If you listen closely today, you'll hear a clue about what to get someone near and dear for next birthday.

Sagittarius
November 22-December 21

Issues of practical empathy and realistic caring are uppermost in your relationships. Seek out support.

Capricorn
December 22-January 19

Suit yourself as much as possible today. Compromise does not come easily, so do your own thing without battling with others.

Aquarius
January 20-February 18

Doing things with friends is highlighted today. Flexibility allows you (and family members also!) to have a good time.

Pisces
February 19-March 20

You avoid unpleasant topics, preferring to keep things "nice." A smooth flow appeals, but don't overdo.

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Community Spotlight:

Southern Maine Downs Bates 10-4; Flaherty Get 900th Career Win

Staff Reports
USM Athletics

The University of Southern Maine scored five times in the fifth inning to overcome a 3-2 deficit and went on to defeat Bates College 10-4 in non-conference baseball action Thursday afternoon at Leahey Field.

For veteran USM head coach Ed Flaherty, the win was the 900th of his stellar career. Now in his 30th season at USM, Flaherty has a 900-403-4 career record (.690 W-L pct.). The Huskies raised their overall record to 21-9 on the season with their third straight win. The Bobcats had their two-game winning streak stopped, and slipped to 11-13 overall. The two teams will play again next Wednesday (4:00 p.m.) at USM.

The Huskies took a 2-0 lead in the second inning when rookie Thomas Zarro doubled in a run, and classmate Brandon Martins plated the second run with a sacrifice fly.

Bates got one back in its half of the inning on rookie Reed Mszar's sacrifice fly. Bates took a 3-2 lead in the third inning scoring a pair runs. Senior Mekae Hyde scored on a passed ball to tie the game, and senior Rockwell Jackson crossed the plate on junior Conor Reenstierna's sacrifice.

Southern Maine exploded for five markers in the fifth inning to take the lead for good. Junior Sam Dexter ignited the rally with a two-run single. The Huskies took advantage of some sloppy Bates infield defense on back-to-back plays to score two more runs, and senior Brendon Joyce brought home the fifth



Photo courtesy of USM Athletics

run with an infield single.

The Huskies added on three runs in the sixth, again with the benefit of Bates miscues, to take a 10-3 lead. Sophomore Paul McDonough brought home the first run with a single. Dexter scored an unearned run when sophomore Damon Wallace's fielder's choice ground-er was mishandled. McDonough scored the third run on a fielder's choice.

Joyce and junior Nick DiBiase had two hits apiece for the Huskies. Junior left-handed reliever Dan Kinnon picked up his first win of the season allowing one run over four innings. Kinnon gave up two hits and walked four while striking out four. Classmate Ryan Browner hurled two innings of scoreless one-hit relief to finish.

Hyde and Jackson had two hits each for the Bobcats as both sides had nine

hits in the game. Sophomore Robert Jones, the second of seven Bates pitchers used in the game, was tagged with the loss. Jones retired the side in order in the fourth inning, but gave up four straight hits to open the fifth inning before being lifted.

Southern Maine is back in action on Saturday hosting Keene State College for a Little East Conference double-header. Bates begins a three-game NE-SCAC series at Tufts University with a single game on Friday.

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Campus Events

Monday, April 27

Real Talk
12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
302 Luther Bonney, Portland

Patience and Urgency: Lessons Learned in a Life of Science
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Hannaford Hall, Abromson Center, Portland

Tuesday, April 28

Stress Relief
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Woodbury Campus Center, Portland

USM Flow Jam
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Sullivan Recreation and Fitness Complex, Multipurpose Room, Portland

Wednesday, April 29

Wellness Breakfast
9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Woodbury Campus Center, Room 143a, Portland

Celebration Graduation 2015
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
USM Portland Bookstore

Wednesday's Sundaes
8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Brooks Student Center, Gorham

Thursday, April 30

USM Vocal Jazz Ensembles
7:30 p.m.
Corthell Concert Hall, Gorham

Carto-Crafters
4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Osher Map Library, Portland

Friday, May 1

Mark Rossnagel Graduate Piano Recital
8:00 p.m.
Corthell Concert Hall, Gorham

Maine Deaf Film Festival
6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Talbot Lecture Hall, Luther Bonney, Portland

Friday, May 2

Jenna Guiggey Graduate Voice Recital
2:00 p.m.
Corthell Concert Hall, Gorham

Mark Rossnagel Graduate Piano Recital
8:00 p.m.
Corthell Concert Hall, Gorham

Tina Davis Senior Piano Recital
8:00 p.m.
Corthell Concert Hall, Gorham

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



Featured Photo:




Abigail Johnson-Ruscansky / Design Assistant

Photos from the "Maineah" dance last Friday in the Brooks Student Center.

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