

the
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IT'S OFFICIAL



After 17 months on the job, Glenn Cummings is ceremoniously installed as USM's thirteenth president

BY JULIE PIKE | P 5




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Cover photos:

Krysteana Scribner
/ Editor-in-chief

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Krysteana Scribner
Editor-in-chief

Last Friday, the USM community came together to celebrate and honor the installation of President Cummings, who took office in July of 2015. While it's been 17 months since he has begun his presidency at this university, the event was nothing short of inspirational. I attended the ceremony to capture this moment in USM history, knowing full well that President Cummings has and will continue to work hard to ensure students, faculty and staff are a part of a college community they can be proud of.

The event, which took place in the Costello Sports Complex, was filled with smiling and excited community members. Faculty garbed in academic regalia with their chosen student scholars by their sides marched through the aisle, their eyes beaming with happiness and pride for this joyous celebration. I sat in the back, attached my telephoto lens to my camera body and peered through the viewfinder. I find myself nervous, still, when taking photographs in the midst of large crowds. Yet, there was something about this event that was comfortable,

something about the atmosphere that was warm and welcoming.

In snapshots, I watched these students and professors march along. Through the small perspective of my viewfinder, I watched one of my best friends march next to our Free Press advisor, Shelton Waldrep, who has also been a positive role model throughout my college career. I witnessed the diversity of our USM community: Individuals from all backgrounds in life marched together, in harmony, to celebrate the installation of what I consider to be one of USM's most influential Presidents thus far.

Various individuals spoke on behalf of President Cummings, remarking on the strong leadership he has provided for our university. In between some of these speeches, the Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra, in collaboration with USM's concert band and chorus, performed beautiful pieces. When Cummings finally took the stage for his speech, I had made my way to the front, perched below his stadium, my lens pointed at his podium. In a brief snapshot, he looked down, and smiled.

Thank you, President Cummings

The University of Southern Maine is a better place because you are here

It was in that moment that I lowered my camera and listened.

When he spoke on behalf of first year college students, his words hit accord with me. Without speaking to me directly, he made me feel appreciated, and reaffirmed why I've chosen this academic pursuit in the first place. While this celebration was for him, he made it clear that USM wouldn't be where it is today without the hard work of dedicated faculty, staff and students. Since he took office last year, enrollment has increased, as well as the academic scholarships and alumni donations.

So, here's to you President Cummings, and the years to come with you as our President. Since I have been here, I have seen two other Presidents in charge of our university, and you are, by far, the best thing that has happened to USM. Thank you for the hard work and dedication you have provided to our university. You are appreciated by many.

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December 12 - 15
8:00 am - 5:30 pm

December 16
8:00 am - 4:30 pm

December 19 - 21
8:00 am - 4:30 pm

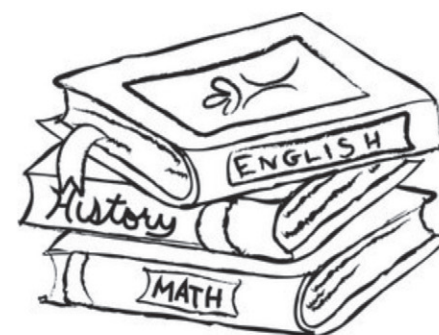
Lower Level Brooks
Gorham campus

December 9
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December 12 - 13
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

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Lewiston campus

December 14
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Krysteana Scribner / Editor-in-chief

Last Friday in the Costello Sports Complex, faculty in academic regalia and students selected as Inauguration Scholars marched in the procession to kick off the installation.

University community celebrates installation of President Cummings

Faculty and students in attendance attribute the notable increase in enrollment, alumni donations and scholarship funds to his installation as the President of USM.

Julie Pike
Staff Writer

On Friday, Dec. 2, the USM community, including faculty, students, alumni as well as family and friends, honored President Cummings at his installation as USM's thirteenth president.

The installation of President Cummings was one that no other president has done before. USM plans to recognize future presidents of the university in a similar way.

Held in the Costello Sports Complex on the Gorham campus, the field house was decorated in blue and white for President Cummings' event.

USM's faculty were garbed in academic regalia, and students who were selected as Inauguration Scholars marched in the procession to kick off the installation.

Students selected as Inauguration Scholars were nominated by faculty members for their academic achievement and promise, and were recognized by President Cummings and Provost Jeannine Uzzi during the event.

"These students here reflect our diversity, our dreams, our power, the barriers and the future of this university," President Cummings stated.

The event featured USM's concert band, along with the Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra and the USM Chorale. Together, their musical performances added an el-

egant touch to the celebration of President Cummings.

Many people spoke in high praise of President Cummings, congratulating him on his position, as well as wishing him luck in the years to come.

Those selected to speak for President Cummings included the Provost Jean-

nine Uzzi, Student Body President Humza Khan, Theresa Sutton of the University of Maine System Board of Trustees and many more. Each person spoke about the positive change that has come to USM as a result of President Cummings.

"Alumni donations are up, enrollment is increasing, scholarship funds are on the

rise and today at USM there is a sense of positivity and optimism," Khan stated.

The Chancellor of the University of Maine System, James Page, was the one to formally charge President Cummings as the thirteenth president of USM.

"It's a great day for the state of Maine," stated Page, who emphasized the event was not only to honor President Cummings, but to celebrate the community of USM.

President Cummings has been the president of USM for almost 18 months. In his closing speech, Cummings shared that the reason for waiting to hold the installation until December was due to budget constraints. Cummings joked that since USM has had five presidents in the last eight years, the community wanted to make sure he was going to stick around.

As a special recognition of President Cummings, Maine Senators Angus King and Susan Collins were broadcasted in a video, and expressed their high regards for him, congratulating him on his presidency.

At the end of his speech, Cummings addressed the importance and overall mission of USM, paying tribute to his faculty and staff.

"It is my delight to tell you that the faculty, the staff, the community and the state, wants us to succeed. We have the best mission of any university and we together will fulfill it," stated Cummings.



Krysteana Scribner / Editor-in-chief

At the end of the installation, President Cummings stood up to give some final remarks. He noted all the positive changes that have occurred at USM over the past year, such as the increase in enrollment and the fundraising of recent university scholarships.

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Board of Trustees propose tuition increase in May of next year

Johnna Ossie
News Editor

This May, the USM Board of Trustees is set to decide on a tuition increase that, if approved, could go into effect as soon as fall 2017. A committee composed of the chief financial officers from each University of Maine institution, along with several staff members and Chief Systems Financial Officer Ryan Lowe, have created the proposal that, if passed, would raise the USM tuition gradually over the next three years.

The committee has also asked for an increase in state allocations to the university of 2 to 2.6 percent, according to Buster Neel, USM’s Interim Chief Business Officer. As of now, Gov. Paul LePage has made a pledge to include 4.65 million in a 2017 supplemental budget, which still needs to pass before the 128th Legislature.

The increase, according to members of the committee, comes as a result of several factors. USM has had in place a “tuition freeze,” in which the tuition rate has stayed the same for the past six years, allowing Maine to be

one of only three states in the country to reduce the cost of their public universities’ tuitions in the past five years.

It is this affordability that may have contributed to USM’s enrollment increase in fall of 2016, the first time fall enrollment has gone up in thirteen years. The tuition freeze, along with inflation, the rising cost of university maintenance, the rising cost of health care, as well as compensation for staff and faculty, has created a need for the tuition to increase.

The committee has proposed what they call a unified budget, which puts the institu-

tions into three tiers, with each tier having the same tuition as other institutions in that tier. USM and the University of Maine Farmington (UMF) reside in the second tier. As of now, the cost per credit hour at USM is eight dollars less than that of UMF. The proposed plan would adjust USM’s tuition over the next three years to match UMF, with the full effect of the tuition raise finalized in the 2019–2020 school year.

In the first year, the cumulative total for 15 credit hours for in-state, undergraduate tuition See **BUDGET** on page 7

University of Southern Maine FY18 Unified Budget: Tuition and Fees

These are the three recommended tuition rate tiers per undergraduate credit hour. The rate at the University of Southern Maine and the University of Maine at Farmington will be equal. Currently, USM’s rate is \$8/credit hour lower than UMF.

	Scenario A			Scenario B			Scenario C		
	Fall '17	Fall '18	Fall '19	Fall '17	Fall '18	Fall '19	Fall '17	Fall '18	Fall '19
Current Rate	\$253	\$262	\$271	\$253	\$264	\$274	\$253	\$268	\$274
UMF Equalization	2	3	3	4	4	-	8	-	-
CPI Increase	7	6	6	7	6	6	7	6	6
Total	\$262	\$271	\$280	\$264	\$274	\$280	\$268	\$274	\$280
Cumulative Increase	\$9	\$18	\$27	\$11	\$21	\$27	\$15	\$21	\$27
15 Hour Cumulative Cost Increase (per semester)	\$135	\$270	\$405	\$165	\$315	\$405	\$225	\$315	\$405

Angelina Smith / Design Assistant

Student activists protest at Maine State House to for equality

Sarah Tewksbury
Staff Writer

On Friday, Nov. 18, a group of protesters gathered in front of Maine’s State House in Augusta in an effort to demonstrate their commitment to progress and equality in light of the recent election. Organized by USM student Emma Donnelly, the gathering was called “We Won’t Go Back,” in reference to a strong unwillingness to revert back to what, in the group’s opinion, is archaic and unequal legislation and government practices.

The crowd of over 60 individuals assembled at noon, full of positive energy to spread their message. Protesters of all ages attended the event. Donnelly began rallying the participants by briefly speaking to the crowd via bullhorn. Shortly after, members of the group began to share their stories and promote their cause.

Donnelly wanted to “take up space and make our voices heard” through demonstrating. Inspired by the energy at the event, the protesters made their presence known as individuals chanted, waved signs and commiserated with one another. Individuals who spoke at the event asked protesters to think about the statuses they hold, for example as

tacked by politicians.

“This is what democracy looks like!” said Nicole Littrell

As the protest continued, Maine state police officers Jeff Belanger and Lieutenant Bob Elliot oversaw the demonstration from a distance. Their presence was understated. Both officers declared they were there to ad-

“The way that I handle a situation like this is to get involved. That’s why I’m here... to see what I can do to change what I don’t like.”

- Owen Casas
Independant State Representative

a woman or as a member of the LBGTQA community, and understand how those statuses have been and possibly will be at-

vocate for the rights of all Maine citizens.

“This is the people’s house and we want everyone who comes here to voice their

opinions to be safe,” Lt. Elliot said. “We’re here to ensure that every group who has a permit to gather can do so without harmful interruptions.”

While the protest continued to advocate that groups of minorities stand together in the face of adversity under the new Trump administration and Republican majority government, legislators noticed the demonstration and had varying opinions about their presence.

Owen Casas, one of Maine’s two newly elected Independent state representatives, agreed that the protesters have valid concerns that must be addressed by the new wave of elected officials. While his agreement with the cause was understandable and practical, Casas also argued that he did not personally understand the point of protesting.

“The way that I handle a situation like this is to get involved. That’s why I’m here,

See **AUGUSTA** on page 7

From **BUDGET** on page 6

would rise by 270 dollars, then by 540 dollars in the second year and, by the third year, up to 810 dollars.

Some student leaders are concerned by the committee's proposal and are already working to rally support against it. A petition with over 100 supporters was circulating through the student body this week.

The petition reads: "The State of Maine's funding for higher education has essentially been stagnant since the 2008 recession. This has resulted in a multi-million dollar deficit, which is why the Board of Trustees is proposing we raise tuition costs every year until 2022 by 2.6% (Maine's Consumer Price Index).

This solution is unjust and unethical as it offloads the cost of higher education on Maine's working and middle-class families as opposed to sharing the burden. Higher education, especially public universities, should be accessible to all."

"Low income students can't afford for the tuition to go up," said Student Body Vice-President Matthew Raymond. Raymond explained that he and Student Body President Humza Khan spoke with President Cummings and Ryan Lowe about the proposed tuition increase, and have decided to take a position that opposes the committee's current proposal.

Raymond reports that the university has

never recovered from the cuts made during the recession. He, Khan and the Student Government Association are taking a public position against raising the tuition. Khan and Raymond have reached out to the Maine Legislature asking them to support more state appropriations for higher education and to oppose the pro-

"There was a time when tuition increased 300 percent over a 25 year period. Maine families can't afford that kind of increase, there's a strong commitment to keep public education affordable."

- Dan Demeritt
Executive Director of Public Affairs

posed tuition increase.

Dan Demeritt, USM's executive director of Public Affairs, said the committee wants to maintain affordability while also maintaining the fiscal stability of the institution.

"There was a time when tuition increased 300% over a 25 year period. Maine families can't afford that kind of increase, there's a strong commitment to keep public education affordable," Demeritt said.

Neel reports that the proposal includes re-

questing more money from the state and will hopefully convince the state that higher education is important.

The concern of Raymond, Khan and many other USM students is whether the financial deficit of the university should be carried by the student body.

of money for scholarships has been steadily rising over the last three years, and is projected to continue to rise. In 2013, the total amount allotted for merit-based scholarships through the institution was 1.3 million dollars. In 2016, it was 6.8 million, and is projected to be 13.5 million in 2019.

"The amount of state support percentage wise is going down, the cost is being borne more by the students," Neel said. "Is that right or wrong? We would always prefer it not be that way, but that's the reality right now."


According to Neel, 35 to 40 percent of funding for higher education at USM comes from the state, while the rest comes from tuition and fees.

A concern of some members of the SGA is where the money will go once it's collected by the university. "The majority of funding goes to UMO," Raymond said. Fifty percent of funding goes to UMO, with twenty five percent going to USM.

"Our primary focus is on students and student access," Neel emphasized.

Students and faculty who wish to learn more about the proposed tuition increase and budget changes at USM can attend the Town Hall Forum on Dec. 6 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. in Wishcamper 133.

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Samantha Torr / Contributor

Emma Donnelly (left) stands up to speak at the Maine State house, located in Augusta.

From **AUGUSTA** on page 6

working in the state house, to see what I can do to change what I don't like," said Casas, as he left the State House.

Demonstrations continue across the nation, ignited by large groups of individuals who feel as if their rights will taken away by the new administration. Protesters from the Maine State House demonstration encouraged citizens to continue to speak out and voice their opinions, even if these opinions are unpopular. Donnelly is currently spearheading the project of starting a Maine Stu-

dent Action chapter for the university. Her goal "is to have student-led demonstrations, rallies, protests, and events" and, above all, to continue to fight for the values and rights she believes in.

The first meeting of the Maine Student Action chapter at USM will be Tuesday, Nov. 29, at 6 p.m. in Luther Bonney 302. More information can be found on the chapter's Facebook page, Maine Student Action: USM.

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In Brief...



Local & State

Portland landlord gets 90-day jail sentence for apartment house fire that killed 6

PORTLAND PRESS HERALD — A Superior Court Judge on Thursday sentenced a Portland landlord to 90 days in jail for a building code violation stemming from a fire that killed six occupants of an apartment building two years ago.

It is believed to be the first jail sentence for a landlord in Maine for a safety code violation.

Although Nisbet was acquitted of manslaughter charges for the fire on Noyes St., Justice Thomas Warren said the code violation deprived three tenants on the third floor of an emergency exit and a chance to get out of the house alive. The staircase was on fire and the only window was too small to be used as a way out, regardless of doubts raised about whether the tenants were conscious or quickly overcome by smoke and fumes.

"This was a knowing violation of the code and it had serious consequences," Warren said.

Nisbet also was sentenced to pay a \$1,000 fine. It was the maximum fine, although the judge chose not to impose the maximum jail sentence of six months.

Maine police using controversial tool to monitor what you say online

BANGOR DAILY NEWS — Maine police have been using a controversial computer program developed to

monitor the public's social media posts.

The program, known as Geofeedia, works by pinpointing the location of people who are posting publicly on social media platforms, such as Twitter and Facebook.

Geofeedia was developed with financial support from the CIA. As it has gained traction with police who use it to track protests and look for danger signs like the word "gun" online, it has also become the center of a national debate over privacy and government surveillance.

"People don't realize that the government is monitoring the personal information they share," said Zachary Heiden, legal director at the American Civil Liberties Union of Maine. "This isn't just the police standing in a public square. This is the police standing in our bedrooms and living rooms."

National

President-elect Trump plans to slash taxes on businesses — including his own

NPR — During the presidential campaign, Donald Trump promised the biggest tax cut since Ronald Reagan's conservative revolution swept into Washington in the 1980s.

A big part of that tax cut would go to corporations. The president-elect says that will fuel investment and growth. Skeptics say

the plan would explode the federal budget deficit.

Top business tax rate slashed

Trump's proposal would slash the top business tax rate from 35 percent, the highest in the industrial world, to 15 percent — but he says that, at the same time as he's cutting tax rates, he'll also close lucrative tax loopholes.

One of them, known as "carried interest," allows billionaire hedge fund managers to halve the taxes on large proportions of their income. During the campaign, Trump called carried interest "one of the greatest provisions, for people like me."

"I'll be honest with you," he said. "I give up a lot when I run."

Len Burman, a co-director of the independent Tax Policy Center, says that — far from being hurt — Trump probably would be a huge beneficiary of his proposed tax plan.

Burman points out that Trump's new 15 percent tax rate would apply to all businesses.

"And if that's the case," Burman says, "billionaire real estate magnates will get a very big tax cut."

Stephen Moore, a senior fellow at the Heritage Foundation and a senior economic adviser to Trump, says the benefits will be widespread — that it won't be just big business receiving tax relief.

"Every small business in America would also get this 15 percent tax break,"

he says,"as long as they reinvest the profits back into the company."

International

Fidel Castro, Cuba's longtime revolutionary leader, dies at 90

CNN — Fidel Castro, the Cuban despot who famously proclaimed after his arrest in a failed coup attempt that history would absolve him, has died at age 90.

Castro's brother and the nation's President, Raul, announced his death Friday on Cuban TV.

At the end, an elderly and infirm Fidel Castro was a whisper of the Marxist firebrand whose iron will and passionate determination bent the arc of destiny.

"There are few individuals in the 20th century who had a more profound impact on a single country than Fidel Castro had in Cuba," Robert Pastor, a former national security adviser for President Jimmy Carter in the 1970s, told CNN in 2012.

"He reshaped Cuba in his image, for both bad and good," said Pastor, who died in 2014.

Castro lived long enough to see a historic thaw in relations between Cuba and the United States. The two nations re-established diplomatic relations in July 2015, and President Barack Obama visited the island this year.

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Police Beat



Selections from the USM Department of Public Safety police log Nov. 1 to Nov. 3

11/01/2016

You had one job

Assist other Agency, Gorham P.D. Attempt to locate a vehicle.

What "other charges?"

Arrest: Report of an unwanted person in Sullivan Gym. Officer spoke with subject who was arrested for Criminal Trespass and other charges.

What constitutes a medical emergency?

Medical emergency, Philippi Hall. Student transported to Maine Medical Center.

11/02/2016

Suspicious man becomes suspicious

Suspicious incident, Upton Hastings Hall. Officer investigating.

This was actually racist graffiti

Vandalism, Woodbury Campus Center. Officer investigating.

Just kidding, stupid alarm system

Security Alarm, Glickman Library, Osher Map.

Burn cruise at a stand-still

Drug Complaint, G7 Parking lot Gorham Campus. Smell of marijuana coming from a vehicle in the lot. Unfounded.

11/03/2016

"Officer, someone is singing too loud"

Loud Noise complaint, Robie Andrews Hall. Unfounded.

Keeping Maine Med busy this week

Medical Emergency, Luther Bonney. Transport to Maine Medical Center.

Why aren't there cameras in the garage?

Hit & Run Accident, Glickman Parking lot. Callers vehicle struck in parking lot by unknown vehicle.

Police Beats are edited for grammar and style

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Orkhan Nadirli / Design Assistant

Dionne Smith
Free Press Staff

Tea is a soothing, often hot beverage that has been enjoyed since roughly 2737 B.C. Today, tea is consumed at a higher rate than any other beverage in the world. Portland's own Dobra Tea offers an array of exotic teas in their relaxing tearoom. The word Dobra is a Czech word that means "good." The owners of Portland's Dobra Tea, Ellen and Jay Kanner, decided to quit their jobs, and started their first business in Maine.

They make sure that their tea is top quality. To ensure this they make trips around the world to pick the tea they want to serve. They visit different places such as Taiwan, India, Japan and Turkey, which are all tea-producing countries. The owners have an arrangement between two people in the Czech Republic that tell them where the best tea will be that spring. Each year their connections in the Czech Republic tell the Kanners where they will be going to collect tea. Once the spring hits they go with a group from the Czech Re-

public to pick out tea.

The Kanners visit a number of tea plantations and tea rooms from which they purchase their tea. The tea is kept inside a tea safe, which is a bank safe (because the building Dobra Tea is in used to be a bank). The tea must be kept in cool, dark conditions in order to stay fresh and the safe does provide this environment. There are many different teas, and some need to be prepared a specific way. There is a brewing chart for the employee's which contains a temperature, time and amount needed to prepare certain teas.

Having to constantly remember how to prepare different teas can be challenging. Before the employees become certified tea brewers, they must be trained. Every employee goes through a three-month training program. Once employees have passed the training, they receive a certificate and a tea name that reflects their personality, which makes every employee unique. They also get twenty percent off teas and teaware, as well as free meals while they are on their shifts. They even get a chance to go on a tea trip. On these tea trips the em-

ployees travel to different countries and visit tea plantations.

"Americans have this preconceived notion that you drink tea when you're sick or you drink English breakfast tea and you add a lot of milk to it or cream," Jay Kanner stated regarding stereotypes about tea which persist in American society. "So a big part of what we're trying to do here is educate the public about more Eastern-style tea." They are able to educate the public about different types of tea and different cultures behind the tea due to the mixture of culture that they display in the tearoom, as well as the large amount of tea that they sell, including oolong, herbal teas, green teas and more. It's the perfect place to go and relax after a long day, to sit down with a friend and chat or even to bring a first date.

Warm colors fill your eyes, instrumental songs fill your ears and the smells of a variety of teas fill your nose when you enter the tearoom. Not only do they have different teas from different parts of the world, but their ambiance is derived from the inclusion of different cultural decor as well. For example, in

the tea shop there is a Middle-Eastern-styled elevated platform with a low table, pillows around the table to sit on and curtains around the platform. The experience isn't just about their tea, it's the whole space.

"We try to build a culture that's more relaxing and staying than a to-go culture," Jay Kanner said.

The nature of the tea room is very relaxing and home-like. While they do offer some snacks that you can quickly pick up and eat on the go, the majority of their menu is all eat-in foods.

Dobra Tea is a tea lover's dream. The shop offers different teas from different cultures, a multicultural environment and a calming community, as well as some good snacks to go along with your tea. Dobra Tea has a lot perfectly brewed teas and culture to offer. As the weather gets colder, a hot cup of tea sounds pretty good.

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Matthew Craig / Arts & Culture Editor

The Dobra tea room, located in downtown Portland, offers a unique and relaxing atmosphere for those interesting in tasting exotic teas and congregating with good friends.

MAJOR! brings ignored conversations to the fore

Cara Derosé
Chief Copy Editor

When we think of documentary films, we think of films that are meant to reveal the unknown facts of unfamiliar subjects. Yet MAJOR!—which premiered on Nov. 17 in Maine during an event sponsored by USM's Women and Gender Studies Program in the Glickman Library—is a documentary film that does not merely reveal the unknown about its subject. MAJOR! echoes what has been known about the injustices trans women of color endure in a society that condones cisgenderism and racism, presenting information that is not unknown due to its recent discovery or academic opacity, but rather that is unknown because many choose to ignore the conversations where such information is shared.

From the onset, MAJOR! aims to bring those ignored conversations to the fore. Each interview revolves generally around the experiences of trans women of color, and also revolves specifically around MAJOR!'s primary subject, the eponymous Miss Major Griffin-Gracy, a trans woman of color and activist extraordinaire who has devoted 40 years of her life to advocating for the rights of trans women of color. Currently, she is the executive director of the Transgender, Gender Variant and Intersex Justice Project (TGIJP), a social justice organization that assists transgender individuals who have experienced, or are experiencing, mistreatment and abuse in prison.

As Alexander Lee, the founding director of TGIJP, states in the film, transgender individuals, particularly trans women of color, have difficulties participating in “legal economies,” or lawful work. On top of racial discrimination, employers often discriminate against transgender individuals based on their non-cis-conforming expressions of gender. Additionally, one in five trans women are homeless, a statistic that, when Miss Major and others recount their families' rejection of their identities, should come as no surprise. A safe household and family life is rarely guaranteed. (One trans woman, in a group interview, recalls when her father, a former U.S. Navy officer, used to “put a gun to her head” every night.) Consequently, transgender individuals become entangled in prostitution (or “hooking,” as Miss Major puts it) and commit habitual thefts in order to ensure they have the wherewithal to afford housing, to feed themselves.

In a country where to be a transgender individual is to be cast into a culturally imposed exile, these illegal spheres provide transgender individuals with a putative sense of value. However, as one of the innumerable

voiceovers in MAJOR! explains, transgender individuals' disproportionate participation in illegal activities leads to their being incarcerated at a higher rate than their cisgender counterparts (and with trans women of color more likely to be incarcerated than their white peers). Moreover, they are confined in prisons based on their assigned sex rather than the sex they identify with, and as many of the film's interviewees report, guards and fellow inmates routinely rape and physically humiliate transgender individuals in these prisons.

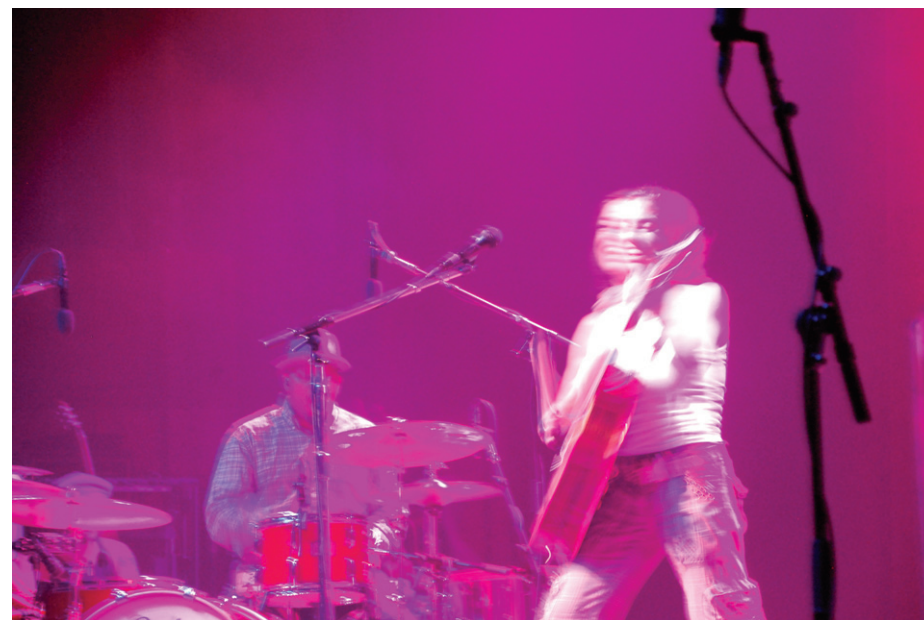
This cruel prison environment is one that Miss Major knows intimately. Born Major “Griffin” Gracie on October 25, 1940, in Chicago, she came out as a trans woman in her teens, after spending years trying on her mother's clothes and feeling more like herself when she was “painted,” or made-up, by an older Queen named Kitty. Her mother thought her identity was a phase she would grow out of, that she would become “the man” she was meant to be. No family photos of Miss Major exist. Her sister burned them. Miss Major was later expelled from two colleges for wearing dresses, and in 1962, she moved to New York City, performed in drag shows and began hooking to make money. When police raided the Stonewall Inn in 1969, Miss Major was there. She was an active participant in the ensuing riots until a police officer knocked her out and took her into custody.

In the 1960s, cross-dressing was a criminal offense, and Miss Major was incarcerated in a men's prison. Her time spent in this prison is presented as a series of drawings. Her blonde hair was cut; her makeup was removed. She was sent to a psychiatrist, forced to walk naked down a prison corridor. Other inmates leered at her body. The guards did what they could to shame her.

She was released from prison in 1974, and in 1978 she relocated to San Diego, taking along the young son, Christopher, she had with a girlfriend. In one interview, she recounts a time when she was chased out of a parenting session for “looking like a man” and having breasts. When the AIDS epidemic began in the United States in the 1980s, she worked to provide healthcare for those who had contracted HIV. Simultaneously, she worked to assist trans women who were incarcerated or homeless. She'd later join TGIJP after its inception in 2003.

What's perhaps most apparent in every interview, whether it be one with Miss Major or one with an acquaintance or friend of Miss Major, is how Miss Major endears herself to those she encounters. “She'll stop the whole world to look at you,” as one of her friends says, “to see you.” Through these interviews, personal anecdotes and statistics, MAJOR! weaves together a narrative about Miss Major

Ani DiFranco brings message of hope and activism to full house in Portland



Johnna Ossie / News Editor

DiFranco encourages the cheering crowd to push members of the electoral college to change their vote to Clinton, noting that “We’re living in the present, resistance is key.”

Johnna Ossie
News Editor

Long time singer-songwriter, political activist and entrepreneur Ani DiFranco played to a full house on Nov. 15 at the State Theater in Portland.

DiFranco's message has always been one of political activism paired with raw emotion, strength and vulnerability. She and her band have been on the road performing her “VOTE DAMNIT!” tour, encouraging young people to become involved in the election process as well as in activism. In light of the recent election, the crowd was particularly fired up and eager to participate.

She had a message to bring to the Portland audience. She told the crowd she believes voting to be an act of speaking not a single voice, but the voice of the people, and described voting as an act of collective accountability.

DiFranco encouraged the large and cheering crowd to work to push members of the electoral college to change their votes to Clinton. A small group in the back of the house broke out chanting, “Bernie, Bernie, Bernie.” DiFranco responded, “We’re living in the present now, we have to,” and continued on with her discussion of how important it is to organize and form resistance.

She started the night with the song “God's Country” off the 1993 album Puddle Dive, and played other well known songs such as “If He Tries Anything” from the 1994 album Out of Range. She recited the culturally relevant poem “Grand Canyon”

from her 2004 album Educated Guess, in which lines such as “I love my country, by which I mean I am indebted joyfully to all the people throughout its history, who have fought the government to make right” drew cheers from the audience. In the song “Subdivision,” DiFranco sang, “I’m wondering what it will take for my city to rise, first we admit our mistakes, then we open our eyes,” which drew more applause from the crowd.

DiFranco, who has long been a talented guitarist and vocalist, played complicated guitar riffs with ease, and has only progressed in her depth of musical talent and her ability to draw from different styles

“I’m wondering what it will take for my city to rise, first we admit our mistakes, then we open our eyes.”

-Ani DiFranco
Singer-songwriter

and incorporate them into what could be considered her signature style. Some of her songs came off as almost jazzy, while some had the broodiness and acoustic stylings of her earlier works. The audience was at times dancing, at times sitting and listening intently, and at times brought to their feet to cheer for the well-loved DiFranco.

Her set was energetic, emotional and full

See **DIFRANCO** on page 11

From **DIFRANCO** on page 10

of life. Filled with old favorites and new music that brought the audience to their feet in a standing ovation on several occasions. DiFranco is a talented musician, and Tuesday night showcased her artistic expertise, including guitar, singing, lyricism and poetry, as well as highlighted her charming and commanding stage presence.

DiFranco has recorded twenty studio albums since her first self-titled album was released in 1990 and has amassed a massive and dedicated following for both her music and the views she expresses through her songs. She has long been a feminist icon and role model for young women, and her music has been known to fill the dorm rooms and bedrooms of young political and

social activists. The crowd she drew on Tuesday was clearly full of long time followers, who were overjoyed by her return to the stage.

Her most recent album, *Allergic To Water*, has garnered high praise. It's an impressive feat to maintain such a large fan base for over 25 years and still produce music that resonates and moves audiences in the way DiFranco has been able to.

Though her fans have grown quite a bit since the release of her first album, her message manages to remain timeless and her fans seem to remain as eager as ever to participate in both her music and political message.

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From **MAJOR** on page 10

that does not engender superficial concern or provide its viewers with a momentary impetus for action.

Because Miss Major is not looking for short-lived outrage. She is looking to live, and for the long term. She confronts ridicule with unflagging confidence, swings her sultry hips into places she was told never to be. She scoffs at gaudy earrings. When criticizing the statues that commemorate the Stonewall riots for a lack of trans representation, her tone is jocular, and her suggestions for improvement are sandwiched between enunciated swears and her electrifying laughter. Miss Major will not reduce her character to fit within the strictures of a disapproving society. She will not allow others to reduce themselves either. She fights to help them live, as themselves, while she loves them to death.

That life in her, that life she exudes and extols in others, inspired something in the audience members who packed the conference room on the seventh floor of the Glickman Library. Many cried. A group gathered outside the room. People held and consoled one another.

Miss Major's experiences with her son Christopher moved audience member Anthony Gallons, an English and history double major and nontraditional student. Regarding this, they explained,



Photo courtesy of MAJOR! website

"I'm a relatively invisible trans woman with a child, and so I can identify with the difficulties of bringing up a child and being perceived as whatever the person looking at you decides they see."

Holly Macrae, a social worker and Portland resident, remarked that MAJOR! shows how "one person on the margins of society has taken risk after risk to stay true to herself, and by doing that, [she] has helped so many others stay true to themselves."

In the wake of Trump's

victory, the reaction from audience members was reasonable. A man whose campaign, to get votes, exploited the prejudice Miss Major and others like her work to combat has been elected president. But in seeing Miss Major's story unfold in MAJOR!, in seeing her commitment to fight and care for an embattled many, a courage similar to hers can perhaps be stirred in those who watch this film.

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University Jazz ensemble made up of students from various majors



Matthew Craig / Arts & Culture Editor

The vocal quintet enters the stage and join instrumentalists, who take turns doing solos.

Matthew Craig
Arts & Culture Editor

On Tuesday, Nov. 5, the USM Vocal Jazz Ensemble, directed by Taylor O'Donnell, performed a set of jazz standards at Corthell Music Hall. Songs performed included "In a Mellow Tone" by Milt Gabler and Duke Ellington, arranged by Kirby Shaw, and "Come and See" by Pat Metheny. The concert opened with a performance by the USM Ladies' Ensemble, which includes students who are not music majors. One such student, Sarah Berry, is working toward a bachelor's degree in communication and media studies. For the first few songs, the singers commanded the stage, pro-

ducing complex melodies and harmonies that were supported by instrumentalists. With Anthony Branca playing guitar virtuosically, Alex Adams on the bass and Alex Ouellette on the drums, the ladies' ensemble left the stage, and USM's vocal jazz combo came on. Saxophonist and bass clarinetist Hunter McKay briefly lead the combo, and then two vocalists, Christian Cilley and Greta Goode, took over. Each instrumentalist had their own solo, and each took the opportunity to display their technical process. Branca, Adams and Ouellette seemed to really come alive after the Ladies' ensemble left and they were able to lead the performance in a direction more like that of Bebop and other forms of jazz with

more complex instrumentation. After a few more tunes finished, the rest of the USM vocal quintet made an appearance, which includes Cilley and Goode. To end the concert, all of the performers took the stage and played a version of "Love Makes the World Go 'Round," written by Jon Hendricks and arranged by Darmon Meader. This performance was the culmination of much hard work and dedication throughout the semester by every student involved, and the inclusion of students whose major is not music is representative of how talented so many USM students are, sometimes in unexpected ways.

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HEAVY ROTATION |

WHAT CAUGHT THE EYES AND EARS OF OUR STAFF THIS WEEK

Fantastic Beasts most enjoyed by J.K. Rowling fans

John Rocker, Staff
Aaron Halls, Staff

Taking place seventy years before the events of the Harry Potter series, Newt Scamander (Eddie Redmayne) arrives in New York carrying a suitcase full of magical creatures. When a No-Maj accidentally releases the creatures, it's up to Newt and an Auror named Tina Goldstein to get the creatures back in their suitcase before they hurt others or before others hurt them.



Warner Bros. Pictures

What Did We Like?

J: One of the most unique aspects of this film was the American magic culture. With their own rules and terms which are vastly different than what Potter fans are used to was refreshing, and I think having the film take place in the 1920s certainly helped with that. The beasts themselves were also stand-outs. Their designs felt like they couldn't be part of our world, but they could certainly be part of the word of wizardry. They were imaginative, and they certainly were fantastic in their own right.

A: The Harry Potter series is loved for its charming characters, themes of friendship and acceptance, as well

as its expansive wizarding world filled with possibilities of wonder and adventure. It's these same attributes for which this series is beloved that J.K. Rowling and David Yates are able to bring to Fantastic Beasts, making it an enjoyable film. With her script, J.K. Rowling expands her wizarding universe to show us how magic would operate in 1920s New York, and also gives us new characters to root for and become attached to. New protagonists Newt Scamander, Tina Goldstein, Jacob Kowalski and Queenie Goldstein not only have unique personalities and qualities that make them different from the original Harry Potter trio (Harry, Ron and Hermione), which is nice, but they are also

older, allowing the film to be viewed through a slightly more adult lens without taking away from the sense of awe and fun the other films in the franchise had. Actors Eddie Redmayne, Katherine Waterston, Dan Fogler and Alison Sudol fit their respective characters perfectly and also have excellent chemistry, which makes their developing friendships seem believable. Visually Yates, Rowling and cinematographer Philippe Rousselot create a beautiful world to look at, filled with exciting creatures, magic spells and the New York streets.

What Did We Dislike?

J: To me, I felt a lot of the character development didn't come organically from the story. It came from the script, and when that kept happening, it felt forced. There are also some other plot elements that are thrown in that don't have much use in this film, but it's possible that they could be used for other films. Even if those characters do appear in the sequel, I have to wonder what their purpose will be and if people will actually remember them when they come back. Speaking of sequels, Warner Brothers announced that they have four more in store. My biggest question is how will

these characters come back into the fold? It feels like the focus is going to shift to other people, and if these characters come back it's going to feel forced. I shouldn't judge a film on what its sequels could be like, but it's just something I couldn't help but think about as I was leaving the movie theater.

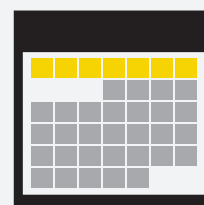
A: Though there is much to enjoy, I felt the beginning of the film was too fast paced, which resulted in awkward transitions between scenes that felt jumpy, but this problem went away as the movie continued into its second and third act.

Who Do We Think Will Like This Film?

J: I believe fans of the Harry Potter series and of the wizarding world that J.K. Rowling has created will get the most enjoyment out of this. I wouldn't say this is a "Fun for the whole family" kind of thing because of the darker tones it presents.

A: Similar to John, I feel that if you are a fan of Harry Potter you will get a lot of enjoyment out of this film, but those just looking for an exciting adventure movie with endearing characters will have fun as well.

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A&C Listings

Monday, December 5

The Game
Empire
575 Congress St.
Doors: 7:30

Tuesday, December 6

Twin Peaks
Port City Music Hall
504 Congress St.
Doors: 7:00 Starts: 8:00

Wednesday, December 7

Willy Porter and Carmen Nickerson
One Longfellow Square
Doors: 7:00 Starts: 8:00

Thursday, December 8

Greendrinks Reverb Holiday Bash
Port City Music Hall
504 Congress St.
Starts: 5:30

Friday, December 9

Norah Jones
State Theatre
609 Congress St.
Doors: 7:00 Starts: 8:00

Saturday, December 10

Rubblebucket
Port City Music Hall
Doors: 8:00 Starts: 9:00

Sunday, December 11

Rock My Soul
One Longfellow Square
Doors: 3:00 Starts: 4:00

like what you see?

hate what you see?

Send your opinions / comments to:
editor@usmfreepress.org



Want to submit an event?
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Perspectives

Socialists in solidarity / 14
Thinking about graduate school? / 15
Crossword and word search / 16

Editor Perspective

The contemplations that follow loss

Mary Ellen Aldrich
Community Editor

On December 5, 2010, my uncle, Sean, made a decision that changed many lives. It was a decision that couldn't be un-made, it couldn't be changed. After struggling with major depression and suspected bipolar disorder, as well as alcoholism for many years, Sean had the wrong mix of drinks and benzos. This caused the state of his already depressed mood and unstable mind to plummet. He ended his life, in his parents house that night, while they were home.

We knew Sean was depressed and had all encouraged him to seek help. He did at one point speak to his doctor, but without being entirely honest. His lack of honesty meant he wasn't getting all the help he needed. Everyone wonders, "Was there more to be done?" and "What if...?". These and other never-ending questions swirled through the minds of everyone, especially those of my grandparents who were there, wondering if they could have stopped it or should have seen it coming.

If Sean had realized how important he was to so many, the scores of people who

showed up for his funeral, those who went to the home of my grandparents and offered support and help, his father, mother, sister, and nieces and nephews, maybe it would have helped him. Maybe we didn't show enough support. Or enough love. But we don't know if it would have made a bit of difference.

When Sean ended his life, it seemed to send a ripple effect through my family. My grandfather, still recovering from a battle with cancer, broke. The tall, independent, proud, resilient man that I saw as being able to face anything and come out unscathed, broke. It scared me. My grandmother, usually cheerful and optimistic, was struggling to get up in the morning and face each day. My mother, always caring deeply and having something good to say about every situation, blamed herself.

Some of my siblings were too young to remember Sean, some knew him vaguely, and some of us thought of him as the perfect, fun-loving, crazy uncle.

I was mad. Mad at the world, mad at God, mad at my uncle, mad at myself, mad at everyone and everything. But underneath I wasn't mad. I was sad, confused, hurt, and

I felt suddenly alone. I saw all these strong people in my life wither, wilt, and break. I didn't know what to do, what to say, or what to feel.

It wasn't long after the passing of my uncle Sean that my grandfather also passed. After winning against so many things, poverty, family fallouts, cancer, I thought he would win against this too. But losing a child, no matter how old they are, is something that people don't always come back from. And he didn't come back from it. After losing her son and her husband, my grandmother passed within months of my grandfather's death.

For a long time I held on to the feelings of loss and sadness. I didn't know what else to do with them. I didn't know how to process losing so much of my family in such a short time. And I could only imagine how my mother felt after losing both her parents and her only sibling.

The six years that have transpired since that December 5th have taught me a lot. Many things seem to be common sense, such as how fragile life is or that at some point, everyone leaves. But there's a

See **LOSS** on page 15

Community Commentary

Anger doesn't always mean violence

Elyssa Morse
Contributor

Anger. It's a word that evokes strong reactions from people, often reactions of fear. But why is that? We aren't afraid of other people when they're sad, happy, excited or mellow, but when people become angry, many of us feel a strong urge to run away.

I think it's because most of us associate anger with negative situations, whether that be from our past or from the media. Whenever someone is angry the media often portrays this emotion as being associated with violence. Something we are not told to think about is that anger doesn't imply

violence.

Most individuals believe that anger should be associated with violence because our society has conditioned us to feel that way. However, anger is just like any other emotion. It must be expressed, otherwise it can come out in unhealthy ways. Anger can be expressed through words or art. Anger is a valid emotion that should be expressed without offending people.

Why am I sharing my point of view on anger? Because anger is in the air right now. Since the election many emotions have been washing over people. These emotions range from fear to sadness to anger and, for some, even happiness.

For those of us upset by the election, we have been gathering for protests, vigils and supportive events. I'm glad to see we're coming together in such dangerous times, but there is one thing these gatherings lack and that is anger.

The few marches and protests I've gone to since the election have spread messages like "unity" and, more popular, "Love trumps hate." I'm not saying these slogans are invalid or useless. I'm simply suggesting that these statements are too idealistic.

We should come together as a people for "unity," to overthrow the broken sys-

See **ANGER**
on page 15



Sustainability and ME

Eating sustainably as a college student

Asia DiBenedetti
Contributor

College students are under a lot of stress. As the semester is nearing its end, you may be feeling anxious as finals approach. It can be easy to stress-eat unhealthily, especially with all the food going around during the holidays. When your body isn't receiving the nutrients it needs to function properly, you may experience lack of focus, less energy and trouble sleeping. Eating sustainably and eating healthy go hand-in-hand and can help with your physical and mental health, which in turn will help you to focus on school and improve your performance on

your exams.

If you are living on campus and have a meal plan, it can be easy to eat pizza and ice cream every time you go to the dining hall. With the weather getting colder, you might want to skip out on the walk to the dining hall all together and settle for some ramen in your dorm or apartment. Take advantage of all the nutritious food the dining halls have to offer. Check out the information on what local foods are being served. Have a plate full of meat, veggies, fruit and whole grains. Some of the produce and food offered in Brooks and Woodbury Dining Centers comes from local farms and suppliers, as Sodexo has pledged to

provide 20 percent locally grown and produced foods by 2020. They typically highlight these ingredients or foods with special signage.

Eating local foods means you are both getting fresher food and reducing your carbon footprint by using less fuel to transport that food. By supporting local agriculture, you are also supporting the local economy. Do you still need to buy some of your own groceries? The Portland Farmers' Winter Market takes place on Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 84 Cove Street in Portland. Even grocery stores like Hannaford and

See **SUSTAINABLE**
on page 14

Weekly Verse

Nairus Abdullahi
Contributor

Passages from the Qur'an explained

"And give the relative his right, and [also] the poor and the traveler, and do not spend wastefully. Indeed, the wasteful are brothers of the devils, and ever has Satan been to his Lord ungrateful" (Quran 17:26-27).

Islam is a religion that teaches us to have moderation in everything we do - from how much we eat to how much we spend. Extravagance means going over the proper limits that is naturally set for all humans. The Quran teaches us that overspending in materialistic items is haram (forbidden) just as it is over-eating. The determining of extravagance and wastefulness depends on one's wealth. Moderation is a reminder that sharing and charity are very important.

From **SUSTAINABLE**
on page 13

Shaw's offer local and organic foods. Don't forget to make use of the kitchens on campus in the dorms!

If you are living off campus and don't have a meal plan, you might be under the impression that eating healthy isn't affordable. Keep your eyes open for sales on fresh produce. Try to buy organic if you can, especially those items which could have been exposed directly to pesticides. To save money, cook with others. Have a friend cook one night, then you can cook the other night and share the leftovers. If you happen to have EBT, you'll definitely want to check out Portland's farmers' markets, as they accept and actually double your EBT dollars. The Portland Food Co-op also has a discounted produce section for food that may be "ugly" or very ripe and ready to be eaten.

If you're really struggling to put healthy food on the table, you can check out local food pantries, as many of them provide excess produce that is "gleaned" from local farms. The Well in the Woodbury Campus Center also offers some free food on campus through the Husky Hunger Initiative. There is a shelf in The Well with dry goods, and once a week they offer a free breakfast on Wednesday mornings.

Avoid eating processed and fast food as much as possible. While fast food is quick and cheap, it has negative effects on your mind and body. In addition to obesity and diabetes, regular consumption of fast food has been linked to anxiety and depression. Eating foods such as spinach, fish, walnuts and soybeans are great for the brain as they are high in omega-3 fatty acids. Supporting fast food chains also takes business away from the local economy.

By eating local foods, you have a better idea of where your food is coming from and what's being done to it. The mass industrial food system has a whole slew of problems from additives, overuse of antibiotics, hormones, carcinogenic pesticides and more. Eating sustainable foods such as local and organic produce can prevent the negative effects processed food or junk food might have on your body, such as diabetes, cancer and heart disease. So, during this winter vacation when baked goods and candy treats may get the best of us, try and reconsider what foods you fuel your body with. If you keep health and sustainability in mind, you'll start your next semester off right and finish this one with success!

Asia DiBenedetti is a freshman who lives on the Gorham campus.

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Letter to the Editor

USM Socialists statement in solidarity with muslim students

USM Socialists
Contributor

On Nov. 2, a student wrote the phrase "Deus Vult" on multiple surfaces in the Student Senate office one day after five Muslim students submitted applications to join the Student Government Association. "Deus Vult" is Latin for "God Wills It." The phrase originates from the Crusades of the Middle Ages and is linked to violence against Muslims. More recently, it has been adopted by a growing alt-right movement and is heavily associated with Islamophobia. In October, the phrase was spray-painted on two mosques in Fort Smith, Arkansas alongside swastikas and the words "go home." There is no question that "Deus Vult" is meant to connote hate towards Muslims.

Two officers of the Student Senate were found to be attempting to cover up the incident in an internet messaging conversation that was made public. Students responded quickly to protest their leadership's racist and inadequate response to the graffiti. The protests were part of an over two-hour long meeting of the Senate, with a long string of student speakers demanding the resignations of the entire board. This resulted in the resignation of two student senators. These senators were found to have used Islamophobic language to dismiss the incident, including a pig emoji and a mocking reference to Sharia law.

These events occurred days before the election of Donald Trump, a man who ran on a platform of Islamophobia and anti-immigrant sentiment, promising to deport immigrants, build a wall on the Mexican border and to ramp up the United States military and police officers. Like many people in this country, we were horrified by the results of the election and felt intense

sadness, anger and fear about the meaning of these results for the years ahead.

Unfortunately, the Islamophobic incidents on the USM campus are not isolated. Since the election of Trump, there has been a dramatic increase in reports of threatening graffiti and direct assaults on minority groups and women across the entire country, with a focus on immigrants, Muslims and People of Color.

USM Socialists and the Portland Branch of the International Socialist Organization unequivocally denounce the Islamophobic incidents on our campus and beyond. As socialists, we believe that Islamophobia, while often perpetuated by working class people, only serves the ruling class in its project to secure profit, build empire and prevent a unified resistance of working class people. We know that Islamophobic acts

fight back against. We need to fight right-wing forces wherever they appear. A recent statement from the University President refers to some student demonstrators taking a vocal stance against bigotry as uncivil, intimidating and disrespectful. We wholeheartedly support the student demonstrators who occupied the Senate and continue to forcefully confront racism and xenophobia.

The USM Socialists and the International Socialist Organization believe that, "an injury to one is an injury to all." Islamophobia is an ideological weapon used to prevent the organizing of a multiracial, revolutionary force capable of transforming our system from one based in war, exploitation and greed, to one based on meeting human needs in a just and democratic society.

As socialists, we condemn

"As socialists, we condemn these incidents and stand in solidarity with Muslim students at USM..."

- USM Socialists
Portland Branch

more often affect Muslims, endangering their very lives and forcing them to live in fear.

We also believe Islamophobia and racism are weapons against all working class people, regardless of race or creed, because these ideologies are used to divide movements and prevent the working class from building a multiracial, unified challenge to capitalism and austerity.

We will not let the right have a foothold in our University. Big, combative demonstrations, like the kind that occupied the Student Government Office, are exactly the kind of response we need to

these incidents and stand in solidarity with Muslim students at USM and Portland's Muslim community. We urge all students to participate in the ongoing discussions and actions to support Muslim and immigrant students and Students of Color at USM, building alliances that protect and fight for human needs while coordinating to fight effectively against instances of xenophobia and racism on campus and beyond.

Solidarity and Respect,
USM Socialists

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From **ANGER** on page 13

tem we live under, or at least get Trump out of the White House. However, we as citizens of the United States cannot unite until we recognize and learn to accept our differences. We have to acknowledge the privileges we have, either as white people, males, heterosexuals or whatever it may be. We must constantly police ourselves, whether it be for internalized misogyny, racism, transphobia, heterosexism and ableism. I really wish we could all instantly unite and create a truly democratic system, but unity doesn't mean anything until we hold ourselves accountable.

Love and unity, then, go hand-in-hand, because we must love and appreciate one another in order to be unified. That's why the post-election slogan "Love trumps hate" has been popular. Love is a wonderful thing. I am not anti-love, and I am not pro-hate. And yes, love can trump hate in interpersonal situations. Yet, on a societal level, love cannot trump hate. I think we should be showing each other love and support in our communities, especially to vulnerable individuals. But when it comes to creating societal/systemic change, love isn't going to cut it.

Love isn't enough because our government creates policies that will increase profits for corporations. To our government money is more important than human lives. We can see that right now in

Standing Rock, where peaceful protesters are shot by rubber bullets, kept up all night by low-flying helicopters and sprayed with water in sub-zero temperatures. All for the sake of oil.

This is where anger comes in. Yes, love people in your community, but harness your anger and use it to be proactive! Thinking about the injustice transpiring in this country right now makes me so angry and makes me want to go scream until my vocal chords hurt at these protests. Call Senator King, connect with social justice organizations and let your voices be heard when you witness harassment, racism, sexism, etc. Anger can be used in many ways that are far from violent. Anger was the driving force behind America's most significant movements. Boxes of tea were thrown overboard during the Boston Tea Party in 1773, Rosa Parks refused to leave her seat in the front of the bus, a transgender person of color started the Stonewall riots that marked the beginning of the Gay Liberation Movement.

It doesn't feel right for me to chant "Love trumps hate," because I simply don't believe that in this context. Something I can chant with conviction that is much more accurate with how change has transpired throughout history is "No justice, no peace."

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From **LOSS** on page 13

difference between knowing something and accepting something. And it took a long time for me to see that difference and to then accept it. It still hurts, as it probably always will, but that's okay. I've learned that allowing that feeling of hurt to set in when it's too heavy to hold back, experiencing it, and then letting it go, has been the best way for me to deal with that loss. But this realization didn't come to me on its own, and it didn't sink in when others said either. The moment I remember it hitting me, that it's okay to still feel sad and hurt sometimes, was during an episode of one of my favorite shows, NCIS. Ziva David, one of the main characters, said something that really

struck me: "One gets over the loss of a wallet, or a watch. But a loved one...they never leave you. You never get over it. You only get through it."

This quote has stayed with me and has helped me remember that I don't need to get over it like I thought I should, and that dwelling on it isn't what I should do either. But it's okay to feel it, experience it and to get through it. This December 5th will be hard, just as it has been in past years. I'll have those moments when I just need to feel sad, and that's okay. I'll get through it.

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Advising Advice

Thinking about graduate school?

Your academic advisor can guide you through the process

Mary Sloan
Director of Graduate Studies

Recently, your faculty or professional advisor may have introduced you to the many reasons to choose graduate school. A graduate degree may help you further study in your major, prepare you to change fields completely or help you get a job promotion. Some professions require a graduate degree for licensing or certification. Or you might choose to pursue a doctoral degree and do research in a field you love.

Graduate study is different from undergraduate study in a number of ways. Being a graduate student means you will be working toward increasing your knowledge in one particular discipline instead of being exposed to a number of different disciplines as you are while an undergraduate. Graduate classes tend to be smaller than many undergraduate classes, so your opportunities to interact with faculty are much greater.

Whatever the reason for attending graduate school, it is never too early to start thinking about the application process. Many graduate programs have November or December deadlines for students wishing to start the following fall semester. Some graduate programs require a standardized test while others require a portfolio. Some require specific undergraduate degrees and some are open to all undergraduate majors. Many students believe they can only go on to graduate school in the same field as their undergraduate major. That is not correct.

It can feel like a daunting task to find the right graduate program, or even to de-

cide if graduate school is the right choice for you. One way to get started is to attend the Graduate School Information Session run by the Office of Admissions. You will learn valuable information on how to think about graduate school and receive helpful guidelines for applying to graduate school, whether here at USM or elsewhere. You can also learn about USM's graduate programs. Details can be found on the Admissions website.

If you want to earn a graduate degree in your major, it can be very helpful to talk with the faculty in your department. They are a valuable source of information on graduate programs in their discipline. This is particularly true if you want to go on to a doctorate in your major. They can help you identify the best programs in their area of expertise. If you are thinking of going on to study in a different field it can be beneficial to talk with someone who has completed a graduate study in that field and ask for their advice.

USM offers a wide variety of graduate degree programs and graduate certificate programs. These include offerings in healthcare, education, social work, public health and other fields. If you want to talk with a graduate admissions counselor, Lisa Sweet's office can be reached at lisa.sweet@maine.edu. The staff members in the Office of Graduate Studies, located in 124 Wishcamper, are also available to answer any questions you may have about graduate studies.

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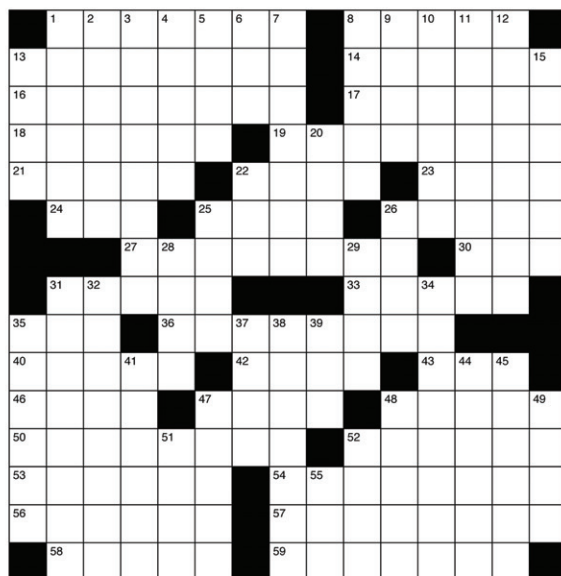
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Crossword

Across

1. Clemente of baseball
8. They dry out hops
13. Barney Fife, and others
14. ____ child (hippie)
16. Insults
17. Take out
18. Spruce up
19. Schools
21. University of Florida player
22. Dire prophecy
23. Old Milan moolah
24. Sleuth, informally
25. "Movin' ____" ("The Jeffersons" theme song)
26. Curtail
27. Motorcycle maker
30. Sci-fi creatures
31. Italian motor scooter
33. Intoxicating, as wine
35. Leg, slangily
36. Firm control, metaphorically
40. "Why don't you put ____ on her finger?"
42. Pork portion
43. Part of DMV (abbr.)
46. Baltic capital
47. Basketball's Archibald
48. Southeast Asian capital
50. Crime concern
52. Bitter resentment
53. Lined up
54. Tympanum examiner
56. Cast members
57. Beat
58. Very small
59. Scrambled



Down

1. Tell to someone else
2. Narcotic drug
3. Where Forrest Gump was shot
4. Anesthetic
5. Bupkis, in Brittany
6. 1968 offensive
7. Bony
8. "Yo-ho-ho, and a bottle ____"
9. Obi-Wan portrayer
10. Iman, by birth
11. Betrayed, in a way
12. Rigor
13. China's ____ Xiaoping
15. Changes the time
20. L-____ treatment
22. Twins share it
25. Portuguese man ____ (venomous jellyfish)
26. Broken line?
28. "...put lipstick on ____"
29. "Jungle Book" villain Shere ____
31. Discrepancy
32. Change homelands
34. Highly complex
35. Ice cream flavor Cherry ____
37. Rose Nylund's birthplace St. ____
38. Hamlet choice
39. Make haste
41. Certain salt
44. Cry for more
45. Like skirts, once
47. Full of topical info
48. Must
49. Plenty angry
51. D'oeuvres lead-in
52. College org.
55. Countdown start

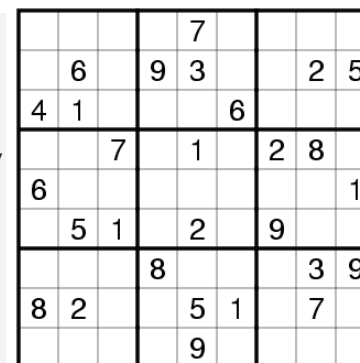
The solution to last issue's crossword



Sudoku

Level of difficulty: Hard

The object of a sudoku is to fill in the remaining squares so that every row, every column, and every 3×3 box contains each of the numbers from 1 to 9 exactly once.



Word Search

Theme: Finals

Search for the list of words in the grid of letters. Grab a pen and circle each word as you find them.



books
calendar
education
essay
exams
finals
grades
library
memorize
project
questions
schedule
semester
study
tutoring
work

Cryptogram

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

VPVAWESV QELXM OMJZC CBOC JEGC
HEQKEWG BOPV HESGZMVA-O-KLXX COX-
VSC.

And here is your hint: E= O



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USM Community Page



People of USM

Sara Valentine, director and lecturer in theatre at USM and beyond

Jack Hahn
Free Press Staff

Starting a new job in a new town can be nerve-racking, but for USM's new theatre professor, Sara Valentine, this experience has become a normal occurrence in her life.

Born and raised in New England, Valentine got her bachelor's degree in theatre arts at Ithaca College and her master's degree in acting from the University of Delaware. Her career has taken her all over the country, performing in states such as Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Colorado and many more.

As she puts it, "As a professional actor, you go where the work is." While most actors base themselves out of either New York City, Los Angeles or Chicago, she based her acting career out of the Philadelphia area.. While she did enjoy traveling around the country and meeting new people, she loved it when she could find work close to home.

Valentine got into acting at a young age. In middle school, her mother encouraged her to join the theatre club after seeing how well she could recite TV commercials. Valentine also gave her childhood experiences and imagination as reasons she got into theatre.

"I always liked playing pretend, and my best friend and I, growing up, made up a lot of games and played outdoors a lot, so using my imagination was just part of who I was as a kid," she stated.

She also said that she has always enjoyed working with young people and, while it may not have been her plan to become a college professor, she feels that teaching goes hand in hand with acting.

While born and raised in Massachusetts, she has always had ties to Maine in some way before coming to work at USM. She is the youngest of six siblings, and two of them came to Maine to attend college. Her mom and two of her sisters also now live in Maine. After traveling for so long, she is just happy to be back home in New England. She loves USM so far, and espe-



Photo courtesy of USM Website

cially loves the students. "The USM students have great enthusiasm and interest," she said, "which makes my job not always feel like a job." Her most recent job was at Tulane University in New Orleans where she was an assistant professor of theatre.

Recently, from November 10–15, the first show Valentine has directed at USM was performed. It was called The Language Archive and was a unique play dealing with the language of love.

She is a big fan of Shakespeare and of language, two major influences in her productions. Along with producing plays for school, she also works with a production company called Really Inventive Stuff.

She explained that the USM theatre department is currently producing and designing shows for young audiences with the incorporation of symphony orchestras.

"These productions are typically more visual than verbal, using found-object puppets and alter-ego narrators to help illustrate a musical story," Valentine said. "Theatre is a place where magic still happens, and finding ways to bring that magic out for audiences of all ages is what keeps me in the game."

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Dance USM!
DIRECTED BY MARIA A. TZIANABOS

Thursday, December 8 to Sunday, December 11, 2016
Main Stage, Russell Hall, USM Gorham Campus

Thursday, December 8 at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, December 10 at 7:30 p.m.
Friday, December 9 at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, December 11 at 5:00 p.m.

\$15 general public; \$11 seniors/USM employees/alumni; \$8 students
Box Office: (207) 780-5151, TTY 780-5646 or visit usm.maine.edu/theatre

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Featured Photo



Photo courtesy of USM website

USM visiting artist Gina Adams recently showed students a variety of methods of painting encaustic - using pigment and hot wax. Her work is currently on display in Woodbury.

STUDENT
ACTIONMaine Student Action chapter
recently established on campus*Students hope to inspire young activism in Portland community*Sarah Tewksbury
Free Press Staff

Although still in the early stages of development, USM's chapter of the Maine Student Action group is hoping to inspire a strong presence of young activism on campus. The group met for the first time on Nov. 29 on the Portland campus, and its founder and organizer, Emma Donnelly, discussed the goals for the group.

While the group that gathered was small, only seven individuals total, the energy and enthusiasm of those present was powerful. The gathering was informal and introductory.

According to Donnelly, the goals of USM Student Action are to "start movements and spark positive change" at university, local and state levels. Creating and maintaining a strong presence on campus will be one of the group's first initiatives. Standing up and making their voices heard against social injustices is a priority.

The first action the group will participate in is a walkout and demonstration on Dec. 5 at noon to show support for the protesters who stand against the Dakota Access Pipeline and to express solidarity with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. The Army Corps of Engineers has required that the protesters evacuate their campsite by noon on Dec. 5, which corresponds with the date and time of USM Student Action's demonstration.

Another event directly affecting USM students that the Student Action group will likely advocate against is the recent discussion of a tuition increase. The introductory meeting for USM Student Action saw a positive response to the proposal

of taking action, and participants denounced the proposed tuition spike. The opportunity for the group to gather will occur on Dec. 6. A town hall style forum will take place to discuss what this tuition increase will mean for students.

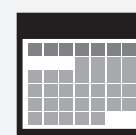
Another part of what USM Student Action will do on campus is fundraising. Donnelly proposed that the group choose one or two charities to support each month. The month of December will likely see fundraising efforts to support Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and the Community Foundation for Greater Flint. Donnelly declared that funds are intended to support "emergency services, nutrition, and water."

Another key aspect of USM Student Action that was discussed at the introductory meeting is the initiative to build coalitions with other student activist groups at USM as well as Student Action chapters at other institutions, such as SMCC. Events such as the Nov. 30 Sundaes and Solidarity social gathering will hopefully promote solidarity among student groups.

Specifics of the group's management and bylaws will be determined through the writing of a constitution, which Donnelly will partner with USM Campus Life to create. Though the process is just beginning for USM Student Action, members of the group look like they are ready to hit the ground running and work hard to ignite change.

For more information about USM Student Action, inquiries can be directed to Emma Donnelly or posted on the group's Facebook page, Maine Student Action: USM.

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Community
Events

Monday, December 5

Supporting Loved Ones with Addiction
USM Portland Campus
The ROCC
Starts: 4:00 p.m. / Ends 5:00 p.m.

Dining Committee
USM Gorham Campus
Presidential Dining Room
Brooks Student Center
Starts: 3:00 p.m. / Ends: 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 6

QSA Open Mic Night
USM Gorham Campus
Robie-Andrews Hall Burnham Lounge
Starts: 7:30 p.m. / Ends 11:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 7

Neighbors Standing Shoulder to Shoulder
USM Portland Campus
Woodbury Campus Center
Starts: 12:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 8

Moving Forward post Election
USM Lewiston-Auburn Campus
Room 285
Starts: 11:30 a.m. / Ends: 1:00 p.m.

Friday, December 9

Pajama Party Stress Relief
USM Gorham Campus
Brooks Student Center
Starts: 8:00 p.m. / Ends: 12:00 a.m.

Saturday, December 10

Dance USM!
USM Gorham Campus
Russell Hall Mainstage
Starts: 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 11

Late Night at Glickman
USM Portland Campus
Glickman Library
Starts: 7:00 p.m. / Ends 1:00 a.m.

Want us to include your event?
maryellen@usmfreepress.org

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Sports

Tuesday

Women's Basketball

vs. Salem State
5:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Men's Basketball

vs. UMF
7:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Women's Ice Hockey

vs. Bowdoin
7:00 p.m.

Saturday

Indoor Track

USM Open I
1:00 p.m.

Saturday

Wrestling

at PSU
11:00 a.m.

Evangelista and Shapiro honored as NEHC goaltenders of the week



Photos courtesy of USM Athletics

Shapiro saved 47 shots for a 2-1 win over Trinity College and Evangelista 32 shots in the 2-1 win over Colby College to earn the title of goaltenders of the week.

Erin Brown
Sports Editor

The goaltending of both Huskies' ice hockey teams received high honors from in the New England Hockey Conference (NEHC) this past week. Sophomore goaltender Britney Evangelista (North Smithfield, RI/ Junior Blades) from women's ice hockey and junior Kyle Shapiro (Ocean, NJ/ Walpole Express) of men's ice hockey team were both named NEHC goaltender of the week for the week of November 28th.

Evangelista has started four games for the Huskies' women's ice hockey team, who are 2-5 so far this season. This is her second season in between the pipes for the

This is Evangelista's first honor as NEHC goaltender of the week and Shapiro's second time this season receiving the honor.

women's team, last season she received the NEHC Rookie of Week honor twice and this season she has shown how strong of a player she continues to be for the team. Overall this year, Evangelista has upheld a .948 save percentage with only a 1.5 goals against average (GAA). Her appearance in the non-conference game against Colby College Nov. 22 is what earned her her first ever NEHC goaltender

of the week honor. In the 2-1 win over the Colby College Mules, Evangelista recorded a season high of 32 saves and her first win of the season. Only allowing one goal throughout the contest, her save percentage against the mules was .970.

For Shapiro, this is the second time this season he has been honored as NEHC goaltender of the week. He's had a successful career net minding for the Huskies thus far, including being named to the ECAC Men's East All-Rookie team and ECAC Men's East Rookie of the week his freshman season of 2014-2015, and being named co-goaltender of the week his sophomore season. In his third season in net for the Huskies, Shapiro has once again proven to be a strong backbone for the 5-4 Huskies. Shapiro has four wins under this belt this season, a .949 save percentage, and a 2.01 GAA. The past two games for Shapiro have been some of his strongest this season for the Huskies. In the 5-2 win over UMass Boston, he stopped 48 out of the 50 shots sent his way, his season high thus far. The non-conference win that ultimately gave him his most recent honor of goaltender of the week, was the 2-1 win over Trinity College. In that game he achieved a save percentage of .979 and stopped 47 shots sent in his direction.

The season's are still young for both teams and success in the net will help the Huskies campaign for success on the ice. Both Men's and Women's Ice Hockey will return to action with non-conference matchups against Bowdoin College Tuesday December 6th. The women's team will play at the Costello Ice Arena at 7 P.M. and the men's team will play at Bowdoin at 7 P.M.

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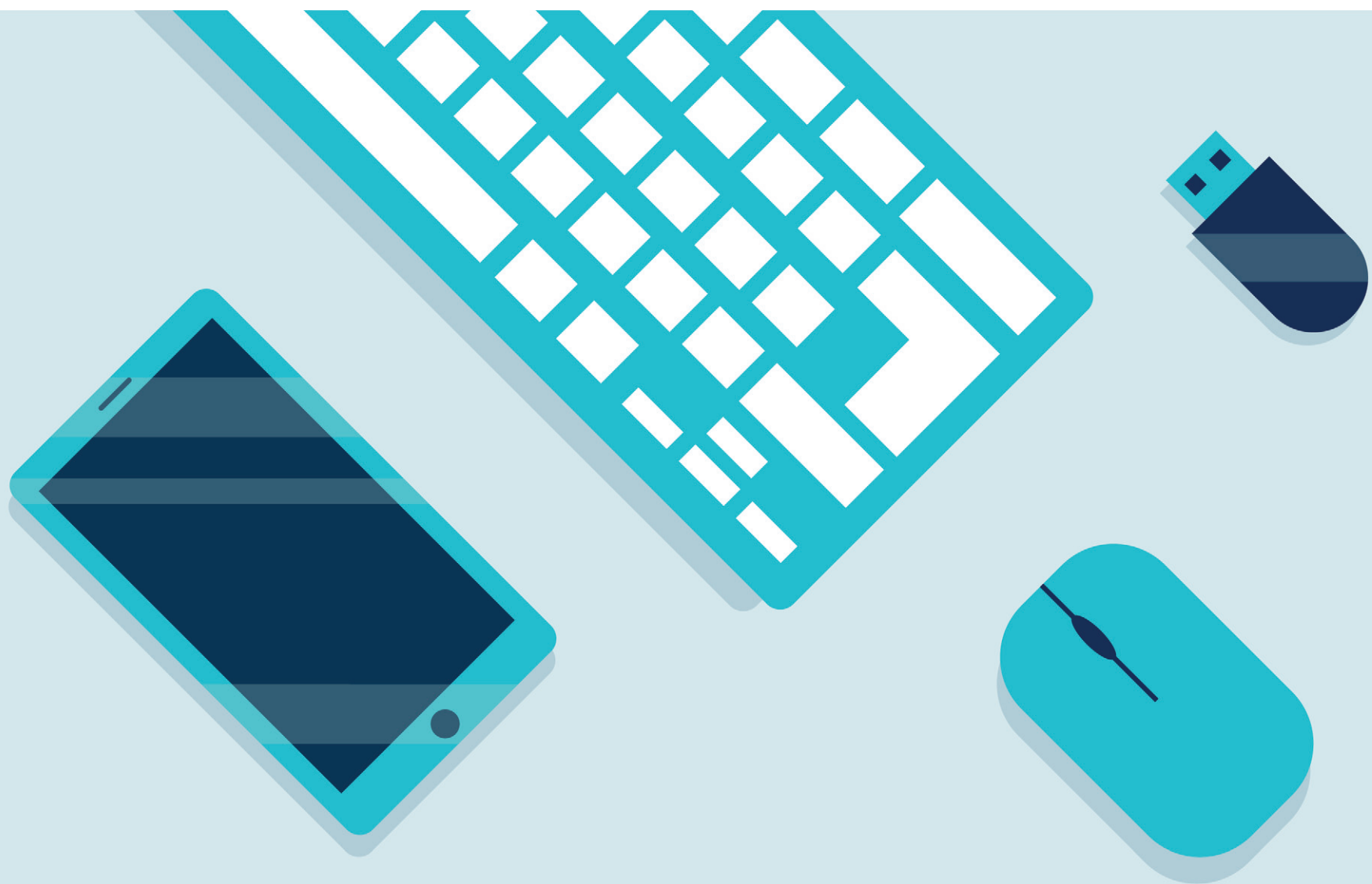
Men's basketball reclaims Costello Cup

Erin Brown
Sports Editor

Named after the late Dr. Richard Costello, former USM Athletic Director and basketball coach, the Costello Cup has been passed back and forth between the University of Southern Maine and the St. Joseph's College's Monks for 28 years now. The Huskies reclaimed the Costello Cup for the first time since the 2014-2015 season with a close 74-72 victory over the Monks. An impressive feat for the Huskies was that three players' points were in double digits.

Southern Maine led throughout the entire first half of the game, but St. Joseph's didn't let the point margin become too wide. The Huskies headed to the locker room for halftime with the slight edge over the Monks, 37-33. USM controlled the game just by a hair until almost halfway through the second half when the Monks tightened up the score and eventually took a slight lead. It boiled down to the last 14 seconds the Huskies held a two-point lead over the Monks when a missed three point jump shot by a St. Joseph sophomore and a defensive rebound by senior James Starks III (Miami, FL/ Miami Killian Senior) sealed the deal on the Costello Cup for the Huskies.

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