

the  
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MAY 1, 2017  
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# UNSEALED FATE

**The perpetual punishment against minors with criminal records**

**Krysteana Scribner | p 6**



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**Cover Photo:** Rahul Anil / [unsplash.com](https://unsplash.com)

# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

**Krysteana Scribner**  
*Editor-in-chief*

Three years have passed since I chose to walk into the offices of the Free Press. It's funny how time disappears, slowly, and it was in between moments during my time at the student paper that I wondered how my own time here would come to an end. It doesn't seem real, and it doesn't quite feel right to be leaving.

I remember being deemed the editor-in-chief for the fiscal year of 2016. I was ecstatic, young and uncertain about what the position would do for me here at USM. I had never been an outgoing individual or had much recognition in the community prior to my time here. We sat around the Free Press table, me and the Student Communications Board staff, and our Business Manager Lucille brought me a party hat, which sported a sticker that said EIC. She placed it on my head, and everyone laughed and congratulated me. I still have that hat, two years later, and it serves as a reminder of all I've experienced during my time at the Free Press.

I'll never forget the three separate groups of people I worked with during my time at the Free Press. First, I worked with students older than me, who offered me guidance and mentoring in times when I needed it the most. This is the place I met some great people that I still have in my life today: Francis, Sam, Sokvonny—and I'll never forget the first group of editors I mentored myself: Dora, Zach, Adam, Nick. They've all left, moved on to different dreams both within and without USM, but I learned a lot about myself through our interactions.

I learned to be more patient, to be more open-minded, and to keep a middle ground perspective on everything. I witnessed their trials and tribulations, witnessed their determination and drive to be the best they could be. Their quirky personalities still resonate with me, even though they are only in my memory now. They weren't afraid to stand up to me when I needed correcting, and I believe I learned more from them than I could have ever taught them.

When this year began, I was faced yet again with building an entirely new team; from the bottom up, I searched for people willing to work at the student

paper, to work in the field of journalism with a fearless bravery I had once seen in Zach, in Dora, in Nick. In the beginning, I felt distant toward my new staff, as if I'd lost my family and was required to start a new one with them. It was an epiphany for me, however, as I had only understood the Free Press through my focused lens of friends, but these new staff members were different.

This time, I was the outsider to a family building outside of my presence. I was the "mother hen," as Bradford often says, and witnessed friendships blossom from even the strangest places of the university. The people here, we wouldn't find one another elsewhere on campus; we're too different, quirky and unique. I like to think that we are all lost souls, in some way or another, simply looking for our niche in life. We all find it, sooner or later, nestled under the acceptance we have all felt, at one time or another, we didn't deserve. I'm sometimes unsure of what I did to deserve this position, but I hope I've made an impact that won't be forgotten, and I hope the same for the Free Press in the future.

Johnna, Orkhan, Dionne, Matthew, Cara, Mary Ellen, Erin, Sarah, Julie, Bradford... thank you for giving me the privilege to work with you these past two semesters. Thank you for challenging my values and beliefs, and allowing me to challenge yours. Thank you for putting up with the chaos of assignments, for being willing to work on projects often too complicated for your already overwhelming work and class schedules. Thank you Lucille for the mothering guidance and support, for bringing me tea and chatting with me. I will truly miss your beautiful soul in my daily life.

We have all felt the overwhelming burden of molding ourselves into adulthood, unsure of whether or not we can let go of the childhood tendencies in our heart, but I'm here to tell you that you don't have to.

Keep being creative, never stop trying to make a difference, always push for what you believe in. We all want to create positive change, even if it is only a small ripple in the pool of successes achieved by the human race. The paper is our shared product, our shared desire, our common link in this world of chaos. Don't stop chasing the hard-to-reach stories, don't stop pissing off administration and exposing the truth—and never, ever

# The time has come to say goodbye, *and it sure is bittersweet*



be anyone but who you want to be.

Mary Ellen, never stop walking barefoot to feel the earth beneath your feet. Cara, never hide your incredibly memorable laugh from others. Johnna, never let anyone silence your beliefs and perspectives on the rights of the people. Matthew, never let anyone question your excellent wardrobe choices. Bradford, don't ever stop making people laugh—and Sarah, oh Sarah, never stop being so friendly, be prepared to learn more about yourself from the people you surround yourself with than ever before. It's beautiful, it's melancholic, it's maddening.

In the words of a letter I wrote several years back, I stay true to the statement that the Free Press is an independent being. She brings in a fresh crop of writers, photographers, dreamers and go-getters each year.

"Your team will stay strong. Some will move on and others will take new positions, but they can never lose their place there. That's the beauty of the Free Press. The characters are constantly changing, as they do in life, but the memories are seen in the history, in the stacks of newspapers huddled in corners, in the left-behind stories stuffed into desktops. Never underestimate the power of your voice, and the voices of those who have long since moved on but never let the memories of the Free Press move from their hearts."

# Apologies all around: Cummings and Ginn adress senate

## Ginn briefly addresses ableist comments, USM President discusses Lockman

**Sarah Tewksbury**  
Free Press Staff

The student senate met Friday, April 28 on the Gorham campus in Upton Hastings Hall. The start time of 2 p.m. was delayed by an executive board meeting in which a Violations Inquiry Committee (VIC) recommended that Liam Ginn, former student senate chair, issue a second and separate apology for alleged Islamophobic comments.

According to VIC evidence, three witnesses to the incident, the accuser, the accused and an eyewitness bystander, all

**“It is so important to have significant training... The administration did not train you for what you had to face this year.”**

- Glenn Cummings  
President of USM

had different versions of the story. After lengthy deliberation, the VIC made their recommendation to the student senate. Once the weekly senate meeting was officially called to order, Ginn issued one public apology to satisfy his punishment. Ginn did not prove to the senate whether or not he completed disability sensitivity training, which was one of the stipulations of his initial suspension. During the week of his suspension, Ginn continued to spend time in the SGA office in Woodbury.

**“We’re the university of everyone. You don’t have to agree with me because I’m the president, but I want you to know that you’ve gotten my attention -- and more importantly, my respect.”**

-Glenn Cummings  
President of USM

“I’m deeply sorry for any ableist comments and Islamophobic comments that I have made,” Ginn said. “I’m sorry if I have offended anyone.”

Following Ginn’s brief words, the meeting began with its usual formalities: attendance and introductions. As individuals in the room introduced themselves, it became clear that President Glenn Cummings was present to speak to students.

Cummings began by thanking the students who had chosen to participate in the senate, particularly during this intense academic year. He noted that this was a difficult and “rugged” year that hopefully would not be repeated in the future.

It became apparent that Cummings was there to issue a series of apologies. The first was in regards to how he felt the administration had failed the student senators. It was obvious that Cummings did not believe the administration had provided the student senators with the tools to combat the wide variety of issues that they saw.

“It is so important to have significant training,” Cummings said. “The administration did not train you for what you had to face this year.”

Switching gears, Cummings then apolo-

**“I’m deeply sorry for any ableist comments and Islamophobic comments that I have made. I’m sorry if I have offended anyone”**

-Liam Ginn  
Senator Chair

gized for not making his role more clearly known to senators and students at large. As the leader of the university, Cummings believes he has no say in how the senate is run and that in order for the governing body to exercise its power freely, he has to let it run without his influence. Though he acknowledged the fact that he has the right to suggest changes to the senate, Cummings fully admitted to his desire to allow the students to autonomously govern the USM student body.

Leading into the discussion of free speech, Cummings disclosed his upset over not having taken a stronger stance during the issue of Larry Lockman visiting the campus. Concerned about who was affected by the controversial speaker, Cummings



Bradford Spurr / Multimedia Editor

These photos, taken at the Senate meeting prior to the one discussed in this article, depict Liam Ginn (top) putting his head down on the desk. Humza Khan (bottom) looks on at the photographer. This was the meeting that Ginn was under heat for his commentary.

issued several strong statements.

“I’m not sure I protected the people I was meant to protect. Larry Lockman was given a microphone to spread hate speech against the people I’m paid to, and want to, protect,” Cummings said. “If we have another conservative speaker at USM, we won’t have them up there alone—spewing their hate. We’ll have [them] debating the dean of the law school. There are ways to limit their microphones.”

Stemming off of this, Cummings went on to ensure those in the room that he is still learning how to deal with these kinds of situations. The motivating factor that led to Cummings’ presence at the meeting was

a conversation with a student in which the student calmly explained why they were taken aback by the way USM handled the Lockman event.

Ending with optimism, Cummings proposed that the new senators for the 46th Senate work together with him to create policies that protect the rights of all individuals at USM and determine who can and cannot come to speak.

“We’re the university of everyone. You don’t have to agree with me because I’m the president, but I want you to know that you’ve gotten my attention -- and more importantly, my respect.”

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# Unsealed fate: The cycle of perpetual punishment

*How juvenile records can have consequences beyond the courtroom*

Krsyteana Scribner  
Editor-in-Chief

Growing up, we look to our mentors for guidance and support, particularly from role models such as family and close friends. But what if we don't have the support system we need to thrive as young adults, and turn to criminal behaviors as a way to cope with the struggles of our upbringing? For some young adults, the reality of a crime record will follow them throughout their life.

A report by the Muskie School of Public Service, published in March of this year, explored how the issue of unsealed criminal records for minors can have implications for individuals in Maine with a juvenile record.

The 82-page report, "Unsealed Fate: The Unintended Consequences of Inadequate Safeguarding of Juvenile Records in Maine," delves into the misconceptions surrounding the practice and ultimately aims to highlight how, regardless of rehabilitation efforts, these unsealed records can have consequences for minors beyond their time served.

"People were experiencing consequences and punishment beyond what was handed down to the courts and I think common sense would tell you that's what happens to people who are incarcerated," said Mara Sanchez, a graduate assistant at the Muskie School of Public Service who helped with the research presented in the report. "Everybody is telling each other and believing that records are automatically sealed in one way or another and that just isn't the case."

The whole system, she stated, is very confusing: When a juvenile commits a crime, the records are not sealed away from the

general public, and these records are taken into consideration in various aspects of their lives as they grow older, especially when applying for college or jobs.

"College, housing, employment, getting a loan, buying a car, getting a cell phone to a certain extent, you gotta fill out an application..." she elaborated.

Susa Hawes, a research associate and co-author of the report, echoed a similar stance to Sanchez. Hawes explained that many young individuals who have a criminal record at a young age often experience traumatic events in their childhood that lead to criminal behavior.

"The system punishes young adults for committing crimes, without really looking at why they did that in the first place," she said. "In order to make this work, we need to work toward really making these records confidential, and working more to educating young adults on the reality of criminal records."

For one Portland local, Steve, the reality of a criminal record has followed him throughout his life. As a young adult, he was abused by his parents, who were both alcoholics. He experienced various forms of severe abuse and turned to criminal behavior as a cry for help.

"I've been through some crazy stuff, staying outside, running the streets at eight years old and couldn't get back in. My mother would be drunk and lock the door and wouldn't let us in," Steve said. "As a teenager, I mostly committed simple assaults. I fought all the time."

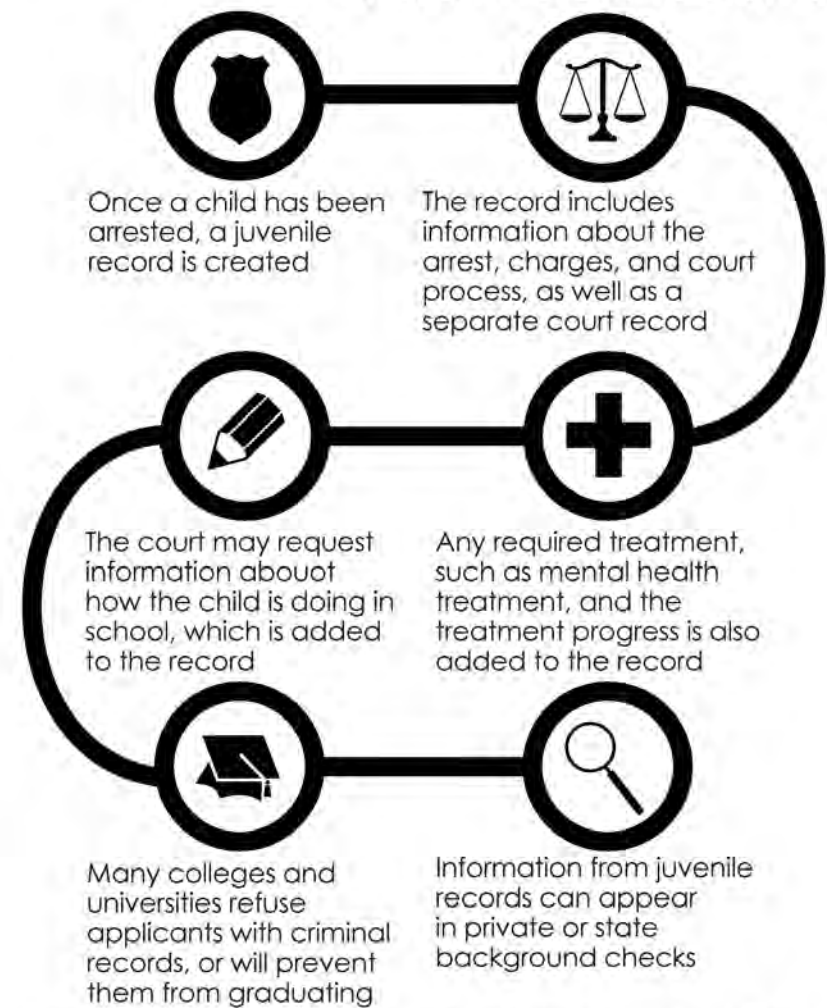
Sanchez explained that Steve's experience isn't unusual, as many of those who commit crimes are likely victims of crime themselves, especially of assaults.

Maine Inside Out, a community based organization in Portland, aims to work with Maine prisons to help young adults released from Long Creek re-enter the community. According to Danielle Layton, a research analyst at the Muskie School and intern at Maine Inside Out, the organization operates on the philosophy of transformative justice that works for kids who have been in the justice system.

She personally helps to co-facilitate the groups in the girls unit at Long Creek twice a week with another facilitator, who is currently working on an original play to highlight some of their own personal struggles with their juvenile crime experience.

"The target of the organization is to change the public perception of criminality and to change the way we go about justice and punishment, because it gives hope for a restorative transformed relationship with

## Juvenile Arrest Records: A Lifetime of Problems



**Juvenile arrest records are not sealed or expunged after a case is closed or once the child turns 18. These records can follow an individual for their entire life, making it difficult to get an education, find a job, or obtain housing.**

Source: <http://jlc.org/future-interrupted>

Angelina Smith / Graphic Designer

**"Nobody ends up in the juvenile system if they don't have a difficult past. There is a strong intersection between being a victim of violence or a witness to violence, and to becoming involved in the criminal justice system yourself."**

- Danielle Layton  
Intern at Maine Inside Out/Research  
Analyst at the Muskie School

the community," she said. "Even when harm occurs, we want to work to address the gaps or disconnections that preceded that harm."

She also noted that many young adults with criminal records are labeled as the problem, but in reality, they went through a great deal before making those decisions. She explained that the theater performances act as a way to express those frustrations, and they become an outlet for the young adults to process what occurred and move forward in a way that can benefit themselves

and their community.

"Nobody ends up in the juvenile system if they don't have a difficult past. There is a strong intersection between being a victim of violence or a witness to violence, and to becoming involved in the criminal justice system yourself," said Layton. "I see that intersection over and over and over again here at Maine Inside Out."

Making a life outside of prison walls is  
See **FATE** on page 7



From **FATE** on page 6

difficult. Steve, who knows the criminal justice system first-hand, believes that the stresses that come with being integrated

If [people] were given a chance to get out here, get taught a skill, and have a place to live and learn the value of money and how to manage it and everything else, [they] would have a much better shot to make it out here.

- Steve \*  
Portland Local

back into society are a large reason those who commit crimes go back to their old habits.

"A lot of people promise you the world, I promised everybody in the world, 'Oh when I get out this is my last time, this is never gonna happen I'm gonna do this I'm

gonna do that' because in prison you have a clean mind because that's what you want to do," he stated. "Unfortunately it goes back to not having money, a place to live, or direction when you get out."

Layton explained that the stigma around those who commit crimes never goes away, which only worsens the exclusion of those with juvenile records. She said that the root of criminal activity is often issues at home. If unaddressed, the choice to commit a crime only adds more stress. When records pile up, opportunities are lost, and it can become hard to stay out of the system. Steve knows this first hand after attempting to apply for jobs that don't require a college degree.

"I couldn't work at a regular job, I couldn't work anywhere there are cash registers even though I'm a different person. They see that [I have a record] and say 'oh no, no, we don't want you.'"

The cycle of perpetual punishment forces young adults who commit crimes to pay the price for the rest of their lives, rather than propel themselves into a future where they could be a benefit to society.

"There is a lot more that needs to be explored, but we couldn't because it's extremely difficult to talk to people who have juvenile records. We can't just call them up, [and] there is no database we can get at," said Sanchez.



Photo courtesy of Maine Inside Out Facebook Page

Outside of the Osher Learning Institute, students from Maine Inside Out pose for a picture with Mara Sanchez (left), one of the individuals who was working on the Muskie report.

While he is unable to make up for his lost time in jail, Steve hopes that one day, he can provide inmates like himself a place to reintegrate into society in ways he never had the chance to.

"If [people] were given a chance to get out here, get taught a skill, and have a place to live and learn the value of money

and how to manage it and everything else, [they] would have a much better shot to make it out here."

\* To protect the identity of individuals involved, the name of the Portland local was substituted to keep this individual's anonymity.

**FP**

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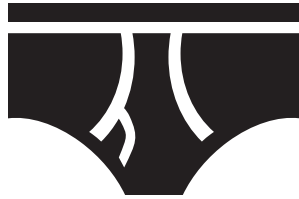
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# In Brief...



## Local

### Portland Mayor Ethan Strimling requests salary review, monthly vehicle allowance

PORTLAND PRESS HERALD - Is \$71,100 a year a reasonable salary for Portland's popularly elected mayor, who has no executive control over day-to-day operations of the city?

That's the question Mayor Ethan Strimling has put to the City Council, which recently approved significant raises for its three employees: City Manager Jon Jennings, City Clerk Katherine Jones and Corporation Counsel Danielle West-Chuhta.

"We made adjustments to the three other positions," Strimling said. "I think they should look at it. We want to make sure the salary is competitive and good people run."

Strimling said he'd like to see the mayor's compensation package include a \$500 monthly vehicle allowance, like Jennings'. The mayor and councilors already are eligible for travel and mileage reimbursements.

The city is looking to increase the salaries of its non-elected, nonunion staff, following Strimling's first year in office, which was marked with clashes between the mayor, councilors and manager as well as controversial decisions to hire an assistant and to build new office space for the mayor.

Strimling said he originally made the request last fall, when the council was considering raises for its three employees. He recently sought an update from several councilors.

City Councilor Justin Costa said in an April 21 email to

members of the Nominations Committee, which oversees the performance and salaries of the council's three employees, that "the mayor has requested an increase in his salary." Strimling maintains he asked only that his compensation be reviewed. Ultimately, the councilors decided to refer the matter to the Finance Committee, because the councilors don't formally evaluate the mayor's performance.

"I see it as a broad policy discussion," Costa said in an interview Friday. "You never want to have the impression the mayor's compensation is anything that could be affected by political views or policy disagreement or other stuff."

## National

### Trump Could Save Tens of Millions of Dollars in One Year Under His Proposed Tax Plan

NEW YORK TIMES - President Trump could save tens of millions of dollars in a single year under his proposed changes to the tax code, a New York Times analysis has found.

On Wednesday, the White House announced a sweeping plan to cut a variety of taxes that would overwhelmingly benefit the wealthy. The estimated savings for Mr. Trump rely on his income and other information from his 2005 federal tax return and compare what his tax burden would be under the proposal to current law. Mr. Trump's 2005 return is the most recent available publicly and was released in March by the former New York Times reporter David Cay Johnston.

These estimates, done with the help of Robert Willens, an accounting expert, provide a view into how high-income earners like Mr. Trump could benefit from the proposal. They do not take into account other potential planning techniques that wealthy taxpayers often use.

When asked at a news conference on Thursday, Sean

Spicer, the White House press secretary, did not directly address how the plan would affect Mr. Trump. "The president's plan right now is something that every American should worry, hopefully, about how it's going to affect them," Mr. Spicer said.

The decades-old Alternative Minimum Tax is meant to prevent America's wealthiest from using deductions to pay very low or no federal income tax. In 2005, it accounted for about 80 percent of Mr. Trump's overall income tax payment. His plan to repeal the tax would save him \$31.3 million.

Mr. Trump's proposed changes could allow individuals to qualify for a significantly reduced tax rate of 15 percent on certain types of income they receive through business partnerships and similar entities. High-income earners currently face tax rates as high as 39.6 percent.

Mr. Trump could save as much as \$10.4 million on business income and \$16.6 million on income from real estate and other kinds of partnerships under this plan, compared with his tax burden under current law. (In 2005, much of this taxable income was offset by a \$103.2 million write-down in business losses.)

## International

### North Korea crisis: North in another 'failed' missile launch

BBC - North Korea has test-fired another ballistic missile, South Korean and US military officials say.

The missile exploded shortly after take-off, they said - the second failed launch in the past fortnight.

US President Donald Trump accused North Korea of showing "disrespect" towards China and its president.

The missile was fired from a site in South Pyeongan province, north of Pyongyang, in the early hours of Saturday local time, South Korea said.

It came just hours after the United Nations Security Council discussed North Korea's missile programme.

Mr Trump tweeted: "North Korea disrespected the wishes of China & its highly respected President when it launched, though unsuccessfully, a missile today. Bad!"

Mr Trump recently hosted Chinese President Xi Jinping and praised him for "trying very hard" on North Korea.

Tensions in the region have increased lately, with both North and South Korea conducting military exercises.

North Korea is believed to be continuing efforts to miniaturise nuclear warheads and fit them on long-range missiles capable of reaching the US.

It is not known what kind of missile was unsuccessfully launched on Saturday, however, one official told Reuters it was probably a medium-range missile known as a KN-17.

The land-based, anti-ship ballistic missile has already had two failures, but its message is that US, South Korean and Japanese ships should beware.

Meanwhile, an American aircraft carrier - the USS Carl Vinson - has reportedly arrived in the region after it was sent to the Korean peninsula as part of Mr Trump's "armada."

The South Korean Joint Chiefs of Staff (JSC) said in a statement that the "unidentified missile" was fired "from a site in the vicinity of Bukchang in Pyeongannam-do (South Pyeongan Province)" early on Saturday.

Commander Dave Benham, a spokesman for US Pacific Command, also said the launch had occurred near the Bukchang airfield.

He added that the missile did not leave North Korean territory. Mr Tillerson warned of "catastrophic consequences" if the Council did not act, saying it was "likely only a matter of time before North Korea develops the capability to strike the US mainland."



# Police Beat

*Selections from the  
USM Department of  
Public Safety police log  
Feb. 12 to Feb. 22*

02/12/2017

### Gorham PD still needs more officers

Assist other agency, Gorham PD. Officer requested to investigate a vehicle off the road.

### Sorry, I was chilly

Theft, Costello Complex. Employee had his coat taken by accident and has not had it returned.

02/13/2017

### Ghost rider

Suspicious Incident, Corthell Hall. Report of someone using the elevator when the building should be closed. Unfounded.

### How dare they

Disorderly conduct, Upton Hastings Hall. Report of students jumping into the snow from the building. Unfounded.

02/15/2017

### I wanted an A!

Assault, University Way Extension. Report that a staff member was almost hit. Under investigation.

### Bathroom clambake ends abruptly

Marijuana odor, Anderson Hall. Report of the smell of Marijuana coming from the 3rd floor men's bathroom.

02/19/2017

### Do you have Prince Albert in a can?

911 Call, Ice Arena. Misuse of phone, Children playing with the phone. Parents were notified

02/22/2017

### Really, why don't they hire someone?

Assist other agency, Gorham Police Department. Gorham Police asking for an Officer to check a building off Campus.

*Police Beats are edited for grammar and style*



# Arts & Culture

Cookin' some Jazz in the kitchen / 10  
Deaf film festival celebrates culture / 11

## HUD lounge fosters Portland gaming community

**Dionne Smith**  
Free Press Staff

HUD Gaming Lounge is a comfortable spot for people who want to enjoy playing games at a low price. It also turns playing video games into a social experience rather than just playing games alone at home. The atmosphere allows for people to relax, play games with their friends or make new ones while playing.

In the middle of Portland, not far from monument square, HUD Gaming Lounge has its doors open to anyone who has an interest in video games, are involved in internet culture or anything else. The owner, Gabriel Letourneau, who goes by Gabe, opened the lounge in Portland after starting one in Biddeford three years ago and deciding to change to a different location. His reason for opening the gaming lounge was to have a public community of video gamers, stating that there isn't as much of a public presence for gamers in comparison to other communities such as gyms and golf clubs.

After taking three months to complete the setup in Portland, HUD offers four Playstation 4s, four Xbox Ones, one Wii U and 14 playable, custom-built PCs. Along with all of the playable systems, there are videos that are streamed and projected on the walls. There is always music playing inside the lounge, so if you're a hardcore gamer, a casual gamer or just want somewhere to relax, HUD offers it all.

"It says gaming lounge, but the variety of people that come in here is really broad," Letourneau said.

Sitting down and relaxing is completely free. For a casual gamer who wants to play for an hour, it would cost \$6. For a more hardcore gamer who wants to play for eight hours, it would only be \$24. If someone wanted to bring their own PC, it would only be \$2 an hour. The snacks and drinks that are offered at HUD are about the same price as they would be in a convenience store. Letourneau said that he keeps his prices so low because he wants to focus on customers having fun instead of his making money.

"We'd rather have more people playing together [and] paying less, than less people playing together [and] paying more," he said.

To make HUD a comfortable community space, things like bringing your own food and drinks are allowed, and anyone can request a specific song to have played. People

can even go as far as ordering a pizza to be delivered to the lounge.

For many, HUD can act as not only a community space, but as an alternative to buying an expensive gaming console or PC, or dealing with slow internet at home. Instead, people who only want to play for a few hours once or twice a week can just go to HUD and it would be much cheaper than buying a console, and people who play all the time but have slow internet can bring their PC and play on HUD's reliable network.

As a part of the HUD community, Letourneau expressed a desire to set up tournaments for hardcore gamers focused on certain games, and community events such as a table-top night, an anime night and more. Letourneau stressed that he wants to make HUD a community space for as many people as possible.

"A lot of the people that come in all the time, we know their names, we hang out, we play with them, and it's just trying to get that feeling that this is really a community space..."

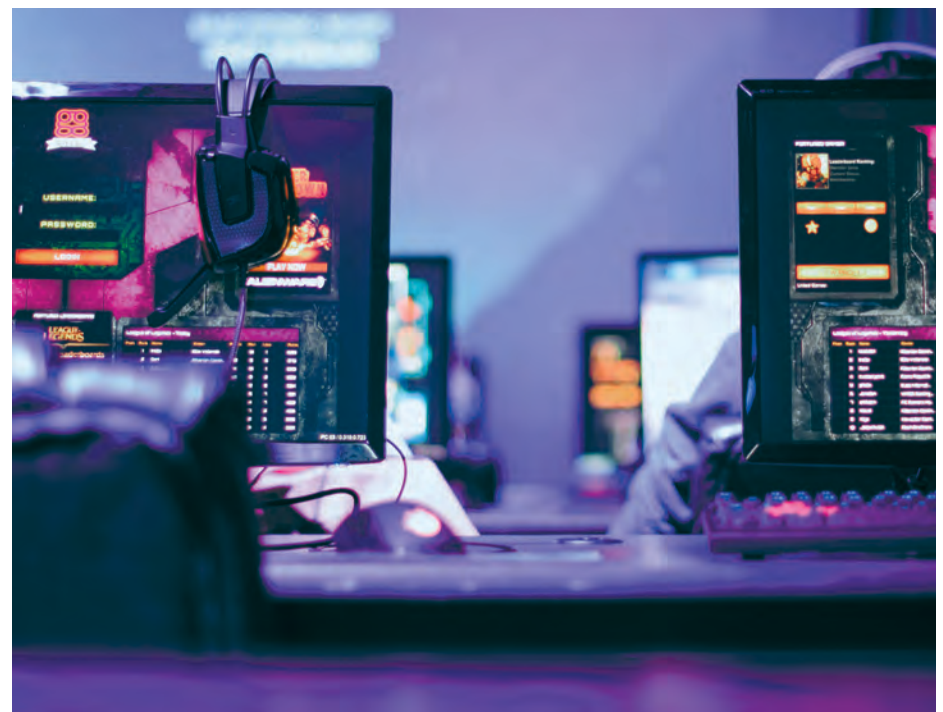
-Gabriel Letourneau  
Owner of HUD Gaming

According to Letourneau, there has been a lot of positive feedback, and the lounge has many regular customers. "A lot of the people that come in all the time, we know their names, we hang out, we play with them, and it's just trying to get that feeling that this is really a community space," Letourneau said. He goes on to explain that HUD is always looking to upgrade and improve any way they can, and that they will take any positive and negative feedback.

"We're not trying to change the way you game, we're just trying to help you game better," he said.

For the future of HUD, Letourneau said that he wants to make one lounge work for now, and will later try to branch out to different parts of Maine without becoming a corporate company. Each HUD would follow the same themes and work together, but each one would have its own personality.

FP



Bradford Spurr / Photography Director

**Bottom:** People hang out at HUD gaming lounge in the desktop section.

**Top:** Two players set up the projection screen for larger-than-life gaming.



# Cookin' in the Kitchen: jazz new and old



Orkhan Nadirli / Design Director

**Matthew Craig**  
Arts & Culture Editor

On Friday, April 28, USM's jazz faculty played a concert called Cookin' in the Kitchen. This concert was the result of work by bandmembers and organizer Chris Klaxton, who devised a set of tunes from traditional jazz as well as popular music. The idea was to blend the two in such a way that popular music would be expressed in the jazz tradition.

Though the concert, based on its description, seemed to be very innovative, it was very much jazz. The concert began with a fast-paced bop tune by Lee Morgan called "The Sidewinder," then vocalist Taylor O'Donnell came on stage and the band performed a vocal rendition of Ray Henderson's "Bye Bye Blackbird." Then, after a version of "Feel Like Making Love" by Eugene McDaniels, which was popularized by soul singer Roberta Flack, Taylor left the stage and the instrumental jazz resumed with a version of Wayne Shorter's "Footprints."

The concert was Maine's jazz at its best. If only it had taken place at Blue, it would have been quite an experience. Nonetheless, it was an excellent performance. Each band member had their time to showcase their skills with a solo in each song, and each is

very talented. Gary Wittner, guitarist, displayed his virtuosity with apparent ease; Les Harris, Jr. broke off into rhythmic tangents and had to be reigned in at times; Barry Saunders, saxophone, served up some exceptionally meaty chops; Taylor O'Donnell laid down some memorable scat solos. On the last song in the set, the reserved, yet dynamic and skilled, Bronek Suchanek had his time to stand out; he surprised the audience with a powerful and inventive solo that made even him crack a smile.

The arrangement of this set was very well done. Chris Klaxton, at times, played the trumpet, and at other times the piano. He also had his solos, with one particularly powerful trumpet solo toward the end of the concert. He laid down funky chords, played complex solos and supported other band members with poetic flourishes. He also provided insights into many of the tunes throughout the performance, adding an educational element to the concert.

Cookin' in the Kitchen was a wonderful experience provided by some of the best talent USM employs, and it's worth keeping an eye out for future performances by jazz faculty artists. Especially for those unfamiliar with jazz, these performances are worthwhile and are unlike anything else.

FP



Matthew Craig / Arts & Culture Editor

Top to bottom: Gary Wittner (Guitar), Barry Saunders (Saxophone) and Bronek Suchanek (Bass) jam; Lee Harris, Jr. plays a satisfying drum solo; Taylor O'Donnell scats her heart out



# Annual Maine Deaf Film Festival an eye opening experience

*Films become a platform for people to learn, appreciate and celebrate Deaf culture*

**Jordan Castaldo**  
Free Press Staff

The 15th Annual Maine Deaf Film Festival took place this year at USM's Portland campus on Friday, April 28th and Saturday, April 29. This event is the only annual festival in the world to show films and innovative videos for and by people of the Deaf community.

Put together by USM's American Sign Language club, all films shown at this festival were written, produced, performed and created by Deaf and Hard of Hearing people, along with film production companies. This event will specifically premiere a collection of the best new Deaf films. The festival's goal is always to provide a platform for people to learn, appreciate and celebrate Deaf culture, issues, and art.

On Friday, April 28, in the Luther Bonney Auditorium and the Talbot Lecture Hall, a series of films were presented, along with a skit and workshop done by Zac Stearn. On Saturday, April 29, Bill Nye, Roxanne Baker and Barney Vega discussed their

workshop "Materials to Preserve Past, Present and Future about the Maine Deaf Community and its People."

On Friday, after the opening statements at 6 p.m., a series of short films were played for about thirty minutes. The first one, "The Predators of Transylvania" was a seven minute long, cute cartoon type of film written in Slovakia. The second film was a signed music video to the song "Boring, I Love You" created in India.

The last film, "Sign: A Silent Film," was a touching story that took place in America, about a couple that met on a subway. One of the men was Deaf and the other was trying to learn sign for him. As their relationship grew, the viewer saw the real-life struggles of relationships where one person is hearing and the other is Deaf.

The story ended up coming full circle in the end, which made for a very interesting story. Even if the viewer was not fully able to understand all of the signs, the facial expressions and emotions depicted through the body were enough to help.

Directly following the films, Zac Stearn performed "Stories from a CODA Come-



Photo courtesy of MDFF

pressive and made for a fascinating show. After his performance, he invited the audience down for a workshop, "Storytelling in ASL."

This workshop took the audience on a journey of learning techniques for storytelling that will help engage audiences, expand on the understanding of expression and learn how ASL is an important storytelling tool. The workshop required no prior experience. Following Stearn's workshop, the festival proceeded to play one more hour long film, "The Godfather."

The following day only brings more fun and films, along with many guest speakers such as Roxanne Baker, Bill Nye, Regan Thibodeau and so many more. The special guest host this year was Brenda Schertz, one of the founders of the Maine Deaf Film Festival.

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Have an event you want us to cover? [editor@usmfreepress.org](mailto:editor@usmfreepress.org)



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**STUDENT  
LEADERSHIP  
AWARDS GALA**

USM's 45th Student Government Association  
invites Students, Staff and Faculty to a  
celebration of our community

**Friday, May 5, 2017**  
6pm Reception/Cocktail Hour, 7pm Awards Ceremony  
**Abromson Community Education Center,**  
**88 Bedford St. Portland, ME, 04101**

Semi-formal Attire  
Please RSVP at [usm.maine.edu/sga/leadershipawardsrsvp](http://usm.maine.edu/sga/leadershipawardsrsvp)  
Questions or FMI email [alexandrea.carrier@maine.edu](mailto:alexandrea.carrier@maine.edu)



# MOVIE TALK | SHOULD I SEE OR SKIP? LET'S TALK ABOUT IT.

## Free Fire misses the mark

John Rocker, *Staff*  
Aaron Halls, *Staff*

*Free Fire* is an action crime film directed by Ben Wheatley. It follows two shady groups as they meet at an abandoned warehouse for an unlawful weapons exchange liaised by Justine (Brie Larson). When an unexpected occurrence causes the deal to go south, the warehouse quickly becomes a battlefield full of chaos as the two groups frantically try to shoot their way out to survive.

### What Did We Like?

**J:** One thing I appreciated about the film was the set design. The entire film takes place in an abandoned warehouse, and you can tell. It's grimy, dusty and disgusting, and all these characters have to crawl around in it. This element brings a lot of realism to the film, as the location feels like it's a place where a clandestine arms deal would go down. If the location was polished and tidy, it would have ruined my immersion in the film.

**A:** I do think that the cast in this piece bring a lot of charisma to their roles, which is highlighted by some great one-liners and quips.. As the violence ensues around the characters, they sometimes confront it with a certain irreverence which leads to hilarious results, almost as if they are commenting on the ridiculous nature of the film itself.

### What Did We Dislike?



Photo courtesy of StudioCanal UK

**J:** The biggest issue with this film is that it tries to take a premise that would be great as a short film and stretches it out to 90 minutes. The film felt long, and that's a not a good thing. This is mostly a pacing issue, as the characters spend a lot of time either crawling around or recuperating after a brief round of shooting. Maybe it was my anticipating it would be a tense, balls-to-the-wall action movie. Instead it felt empty and devoid of tension.

biggest problem with this film is that it seemed to lack a sense of focus. The characters in this movie are in a situation where things are so hectic they don't know who, where or why they are shooting at times. Unfortunately this is for most of the movie, providing us little to no reason to feel invested in the characters and the perilous situation they are in.

### Who Do We Think This Is For?

**A:** Echoing John a bit, my

**J:** I'm honestly not sure

who this is for. I know I've been saying that a lot recently, but I feel that there are better movies in this genre that are worth checking out over this one.

**A:** While providing moments of fun and entertainment, *Free Fire* is an overall disappointing experience. It's worth a watch, but I'd wait until it's on streaming services or cable.

**J: Watch on Cable**  
**A: Watch on Cable**



## A&C Listings

### Monday, May 1

Get Ready Weekly (workshop)  
Space Gallery  
538 Congress St.  
From 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

### Wednesday, May 2

Jamestown Revival  
Port City Music Hall  
504 Congress St.  
Doors: 7:00 PM Starts: 8:00 PM

The Slocan Ramblers  
One Longfellow Square  
Doors: 7:00 PM Starts: 8:00 PM

### Thursday, May 3

Kris Kristofferson  
State Theatre  
609 Congress St.  
Doors: 7:00 PM Starts: 8:00 PM

Spiritual Rez  
Port City Music Hall  
504 Congress St.  
Doors: 7:00 PM Starts: 8:00 PM

### Friday, May 4

The Dustbowl Revival  
Port City Music Hall  
504 Congress St.  
Doors: 7:00 PM Starts: 8:00 PM

### Saturday, May 5

Twiddle  
State Theatre  
609 Congress St.  
Doors: 7:00 PM Starts: 8:00 PM

Are you interested in writing film or music reviews? Email [editor@usmfreepress.org](mailto:editor@usmfreepress.org)

Want to submit an event?  
[arts@usmfreepress.org](mailto:arts@usmfreepress.org)



# Perspectives

## Our Opinion

## The Fyre Festival was a flop

### *Money better spent on helping refugees*

Editorial Board  
Free Press Staff

Over the weekend the “Fyre Festival” was set to take place on a private island in the Bahamas. Advertised as a luxury music festival, attendees paid between \$2,000 and \$12,000 or more for their tickets. When they arrived, however, they found something less than the lavish experience they were hoping for. According to the festival’s website, organizers were unprepared for the size of the crowds, and large winds had destroyed many of the structures that had been set up that morning.

Reports came in that there was a lack of food, sleeping structures and medical care. Attendees said bedding was soaking wet and that people were starting to steal beds from other tents. There were reports that those attempting to leave were stuck on the tarmac for hours. Some said the festival had descended into “chaos,” going so far as to compare the conditions to a refugee camp.

A refugee is defined as someone who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster. Refugee camps are often dangerous, especially for women and children who are

at higher risk of experiencing sexual assault and violence. A refugee is not defined as someone who spent more than the cost of a year’s tuition at USM for a music festival and had to sleep in a tent for one night and eat a soggy sandwich.

If Fyre Festival attendees come home with a new desire to support those living in refugee camps, perhaps they could take their refunded \$12,000 and donate it to support refugees. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), \$40 a month can provide mats to keep twenty people from sleeping on the ground, \$60 a month can provide tarps to protect four families from the weather and \$90 a month can provide essential medicine to nine refugees. Seems like that refund money could go a long way.

Musical festivals are notoriously problematic. They are rife with rich kids paying large sums of money to spend a weekend on drugs appropriating Black and native cultures and leaving trails of trash heaps for others to clean up in their wake (looking at you, Coachella). The Fyre Festival’s failed attempt at creating a “luxury” music festival seems to be the icing on top of this embarrassing and expensive cake.

FP

## Student-Learn-What?

## Communication - Different

Mary Ellen Aldrich  
Community Editor

In Hearing culture you’re taught to mind your own business, not ask too many questions and not talk about yourself too much.

In Deaf culture, access to information and equal sharing of that information is a top priority. I.e., ask and answer lots of questions, offer up information.

Upon first meeting someone, a Hearing person will often ask your name and where you’re from. Generally this is an adequate amount of information for any Hearing person’s first encounter, but there may be a follow up about work or school.

When Deaf people meet someone, their first encounter tends to be a bit more like this:

“Hi, what’s your name? Are you Deaf? Hearing? Hard-of-Hearing? Where did you grow up? Where’d you go to school? What’s your family like?” If you’re Hearing and know ASL, be ready for, “Where’d you learn ASL? Why? Who was/is your teacher? Do you have Deaf family members or friends?” If you’re Deaf, the questions often turn to, “did you go to a Deaf school? Were you mainstreamed? Did you grow up signing? Or oral?” Within the

See **DEAF** on page 14

Advising Advice: How do you handle stress? / 14  
Staff Musings: Add more fun to summer, USM / 14  
Letter to the Editor: Scammers ruin lives / 15

## Throwing Shade



## Time to shake the sillies out

Paul Pederson  
Contributor

There are few things in this world that feel as good as sitting back and verbally tearing something to pieces. How much time do you spend being positive when you just don’t feel like it? The pressure of everyday life can be overwhelming; full-time work, full course loads, myriad opportunities to practice swallowing your pride...

These little irksome everyday constants can fester with time. It might be healthy to purge this mountain of built up anxiety and frustration in the form of vocalized negativity. But where can this tonic for the psyche be seen in action?

In the nighttime hours I work at a local drinking hotspot. The majority of patrons come in, get a little loaded and then complain for somewhere between two and four hours. Their friends listen and complain and pile on to the petty garbage that gets spewed from the mouth of the most miffed curmudgeon in the group. After everyone has a sore throat from talking over one another and from airing out their grievances, they leave in what appears to be a state of catharsis. Then a co-worker will approach me, rain contempt on the people we just catered to and in turn they get their little cathartic time in the sun. And I smile and I wait for my chance and it never comes.

So I’m taking it myself, I’m taking it in the form of a little article in a school paper in which I refuse to write a single positive word about anything. At this point I am going to throw out a little disclaimer. This is not to be used as a chance to hate people different than oneself or express opinions on the political climate, or as an opportunity to snatch back freedom of speech from

the “P.C. Police.”

It is just supposed to be fun and tension reducing, an adult equivalent of the kindergarten pastime “shake the sillies out” mixed with putting your face into a pillow and shouting at the top of your lungs. So here we go.

**Braces:** I got braces when I was 21 years old to start establishing credit. Immediately I was robbed of my ability to be taken seriously as an adult. On one occasion while wearing braces I was attacked by a homeless man and forced to curl into a little ball to keep my red, white, and blue braces from busting through my lips. On the bright side that completely supports the common patriotic slogan “these colors don’t run.”

After the braces came off it was time to adhere to a strict retainer wearing regiment, which lasted three weeks. At that time all of my possessions were stolen including the retainer. And my teeth rapidly moved back to their original state of crookedness. When I went back to the orthodontist his explanation was “too many teeth, not enough mouth.” On the bright side my FICO score has a mouth full of pearly whites and grins at me every time I say, “charge it.”

**Sharks:** Imagine you could fly, and life was in 4D, and you were zipping around like a jet plane in the clouds, and you looked up and a little sour patch kid was bobbing around with its vision blurred by a cloud, and it saw in 2D and it was frozen in time. That is how a shark views a human being. The idea that a shark does not want to eat you is absolutely ridiculous. People who say you are more likely to get struck

See **SHADE** on page 15



## Advising Advice

# How do you handle stress?

## *The Wellness Center is here to help you*

**Katie MacDonald**  
Contributor

As the Graduate Assistant for the Portland Wellness Resource Center, I often meet students who learned about the Well through their Advisors and are looking for assistance in decompressing from their busy academic schedules. As we approach finals week and graduation I can feel the electric energy building on campus.

Some are feeling excitement for what lies ahead, and others are experiencing stress, anxiety or a whole list of other emotions as the academic year comes to an end. While there is space for all of these emotions and feelings to exist, it is also important to make time to take care of yourself, which isn't always easy to do.

Personally, my finals weeks are usually filled with late night study sessions, stuffing my face with any free food I can find on campus, and sitting at my laptop for hours on end. While I always survive the week, I often end the school year feeling drained--mentally, emotionally, and physically. And these habits don't necessarily make this stressful time any easier for me.

Visit the Well in Portland or Gorham! We have tea, games, spaces to work, coloring and couches to lounge on-- all students are welcome! In addition, there will be stress-busting events going on across campus. Follow us on Facebook: "The WELL at USM" to keep up to date about events and opportunities across campus.

Get outside! Research shows exercise (even as simple as taking a walk) can help increase your ability to concentrate. Meditate! Meditation has been shown to help with depression, insomnia and headaches. Meditation also enhances the immune system, which can help you stay healthy during these final exams. Rest! Sleep is crucial for your brain to recover, and helps you retain information. Give yourself time to reboot and re-energize.

Make a schedule! Planning exactly what you're going to review or work on and when is so helpful in keeping yourself accountable, making your study habits effective and making sure you don't stress too much. Laugh! Laughter boosts your endorphins and even curbs stress hormones. Unplug! Put away your phone while studying and turn off your wi-fi when you don't need it so you're not tempted to distract yourself. Better yet, disable your social media accounts, or have a trusted friend change your social media passwords until the study session (or the semester) ends.

For me, the key to surviving finals is finding a balance of work and play. Yes, school is important, and you want to do your best work for finals, but your health and wellness are more important. You are important, and you will make it through!

*Katie is currently pursuing her Master's Degree in Public Health, and will be graduating in May.*

FP



Photo courtesy of the USM Website

Students gather out front of the Well Resource Center in the Woodbury Campus Center.

From **DEAF** on page 13

Deaf community, everyone tends to know everyone else. If you know anyone within the Deaf community, you'll be questioned about who else you know.

It's expected, whether you're Deaf or Hearing, that you'll not only answer questions, but ask plenty of your own.

Sometimes this questioning and sharing of information can be off-putting to Hearing people. But Hearing people's hesitation to share information can be just as off-putting to Deaf people. Neither is right or wrong, it's merely a difference in culture.

Most Deaf and Hearing people use texting, Facebook, snapchat and other modes of communication. What's interesting, though, is the variation in face-to-face communication.

When Hearing people get together, the entire conversation is often done without looking at the person's face, let alone making eye contact.

There's usually a lot of room-scanning and phone-checking while Hearing people talk. Most Hearing people tend to skirt around topics and not get to the point until

much further along in the conversation.

When Deaf people get together, the conversation is given undivided attention. Since ASL is a visual language, eye contact is a must. If someone breaks eye contact, the other person will pause, wait for eye contact to be reestablished and then repeat the last portion of what they signed. Deaf people are often blunt and get straight to the point.

These differences make me think about how I communicate and how I could improve on that communication. Interacting with members of each culture helps me become more aware of how I communicate with people and teaches me to be more flexible in my approaches.

The examples I've given may not be true for everyone, but it's what I've learned and observed through interaction with both cultures.

*Mary Ellen Aldrich is a hearing student majoring in linguistics with a concentration in ASL/English interpretation and a minor in Deaf studies.*

FP

## Staff Musings

## Offer alternative summer activities

**Dionne Smith**  
Free Press Staff

Summer vacation approaches quickly. The semester is on its final week and the only thing left is finals. However, there are students who stay on campus during the summer for reasons such as summer classes. What are some events that can make the summer exciting for these students?

Over the summer, there are surprisingly few things to do across all three campuses. For the Portland and Lewiston-Auburn campuses, it's reasonable that there are no events because they're commuter campuses and there would be a very small number of students on the campuses. In Gorham, though, students live in the dorms, and it could get extremely boring, especially since the buses don't run over breaks and not every student has a license and a car. I'd personally loath having to stay in Gorham with nothing to do and no mode of transportation.

The university should put together a number of summer events in Gorham. There don't have to be as many events as there are throughout the school year, but there should be a few scattered throughout the months so the students don't loath the fact that they're stuck on campus. Some of the events could be like events that happened during the semester, and some could be different. The Escape Room, for example, was a fun event that people enjoyed. There could also be

parties and fun game nights.

Another alternative could be offering discounts for students to concerts and events happening in Gorham or Portland. Portland tends to get very lively over the summer with a flood of tourists, concerts, free events and more. The university could even offer a bus service in the summer that would take students to the Portland campus and pick them up later so they can enjoy events such as First Friday.

There could be organized adventuring trips for students over the weekends and scattered throughout the week. Students could get on a bus and go explore different parts of Maine, or do things such as tubing and visiting a beach. It's possible that a lot of the students staying on campus are from out of state, and the summer would be a great time to have those students experience Maine's beauty.

A trip to an amusement park like Six Flags Great Adventure or Hersheypark could be extremely fun. Students wouldn't mind paying for a trip to an amusement park if they were guaranteed a safe ride there and back, and they would get hours of fun.

Adding these events could potentially increase the amount of students who stay over the summer to work or do summer classes. At the least, it could raise morale and offer some fun for the students while they're on campus, instead of leaving them with nothing to work with.

FP





# Sustainability and ME

## Reduce, Reuse and Recycle?

*Letting bags sit in landfills can damage plant life*

**Nate Cronauer**  
Contributor

As I was scrolling through Facebook the other day in-between classes, I stumbled upon a short video from a popular science and technology page with a demonstration of a completely dissolvable plastic bag. The creator, Kevin Kumala - an entrepreneur and representative of BIOWEAR - claims the bags are compostable and even edible, as he demonstrated in the video by placing a small portion of the bag in a glass of water, stirring until it dissolved, and then consuming it.

The bags are 100 percent biodegradable, and derived from starch of the cassava plant; a woody shrub native to South America that is widely cultivated for its tuberous roots. The starch bags are not as durable as plastic bags produced from petroleum, but are a nice substitute to the green filmy bags many people use for produce at the grocery store. Of course, bringing one's own reusable bag is always a better option, but the topic of disposable plastic bags got the gears turning in my head: where do all of these single use bags end up?

As an Environmental Planning and Policy major focusing specifically on solid waste management, I know that plastic shopping bags can be recycled into certain composite materials used for benches and other construction elements. USM actually has several "plastic bag benches," which say USM Recycles, located on both the Gorham and Portland campuses. Unfortunately, the possibility of these bags being actively recycled for reusable purposes, while ingenious, is rarely utilized.

The low quality plastic and high collection costs do not provide a good incentive for municipalities and individuals to engage in such

a widespread recycling effort. Instead, these bags primarily end up in landfills or are incinerated, which poses another question: as they are derived from petroleum and contain potentially toxic ingredients, what is the best way to dispose of them?

Letting the bags sit in a landfill can damage soils and plant life, but burning them exposes the air to harmful contaminants. We now enter a battle many solid waste industry members are facing on a daily basis - where is it preferable to release such hazardous materials, the air or the soil?

Landfills are essentially giant holes in the ground where we dump all manner of waste, including food waste, construction debris, compostable material and yes, even perfectly recyclable or reusable materials. When exposed to rain and other weather elements, stormwater can seep into the ground and absorb some of the nasty stuff in our garbage, creating a soupy mixture called leachate. This leachate can be mitigated with special linings and storm water diversion methods, but a lot of the time it seeps into surrounding soil, rendering it toxic.

If you do not want to send your waste to a hole in the ground, your other option is incineration. Every product we use presents us with a choice to better preserve the resources of our planet and the value of our dollar. Plastic bags provide just one example of materials that can be recycled or reused. By actively seeking to find a second or third life for many of the "disposable" products we use in our day-to-day life, we can work to keep our soils, air, and water cleaner for generations to come.

*Nate is a fifth year Environmental Planning and Policy Major here at USM. He enjoys climbing rocks and drinking craft beer.*

**FP**

From **SHADE** on page 13

by lightning then bitten by a shark should immediately be thrown in prison.

They have dangerous and flawed logic from which nothing good could come. That is a brazen statement that fails to consider time spent in the ocean vs. time spent alive. First off, wherever you are at this very second you could be struck by lightning. For a shark to come jack me right now in my living room a biblical deluge would have to flood my house with sea critters from several miles away, and you're going to tell me that just because more people are annually struck by lightning than bitten by sharks that makes the ocean safe? There are 8,000,000 people with the potential to get struck this second.

Let's say 1,000,000 people take a swim in the ocean annually, and yet the likelihood of both occurrences are the same? But these people might swim once a year while literally 24/7 lightning strikes are the boogeymen of the sky, and yet almost nobody is struck... then you are at least 8 times as likely to get bitten by a shark if you step in the ocean. Statistics. Facts. I rest my case. That was hard for me to follow too but that is not the point, I feel

cleansed.

**Chipotle:** Not specifically the chain, but the concepts that accompany the chain. That people think Chipotle is a guilty pleasure or something that they are cute for enjoying is just not ok. Something I over-hear far too often: eeeewwww, I just ate so much Chipotle, I'm so gross, lol. The only person who could possibly dislike this establishment is someone who hates both sage budgeting practices and having control of their own destiny. You can adhere to any type of absurd dietary restriction you desire.

I know a kid that gets nothing but chicken and avocado, that's it! I've heard him described as "the hardest thing I've ever touched." And Chipotle built that body. You can also crush margaritas like you're spring breaking in Cancun, with no expectation of tipping. And they give you a free bottle of Tabasco sauce whenever you want. That's pretty sweet. In hindsight I can't say a single bad word about this place.

I now have nothing but good vibes flowing from deep within me, all thanks to throwing a little shade.

**FP**

### Letter to the Editor

## Scammers ruin people's lives

**Carol Laverriere**  
Contributor

Earlier this week, I found out that my email had been hacked. I was locked out of my email and unable to access my list of contacts. It was frustrating and it was scary.

Luckily, on April 20 I attended AARP Maine's event with fraud expert Frank Abagnale, so I knew what to do. The first thing I did was call my local police. They came to my house and suggested next steps. We also filed an official police report. I also contacted all three major credit bureaus - Experian, Equifax and Transunion - and placed a freeze on my credit report. Mr. Abagnale mentioned during his talk that doing this is the best way to protect oneself from identity theft. Not knowing exactly

what the hackers may have stolen from me, I was eager to put this in place right away. Mr. Abagnale also mentioned that Maine is one of only three states where placing a freeze on your credit report is free. It was easy to do, it didn't cost me a dime and now I have more peace of mind.

I also joined the AARP Fraud Watch Network because they will send me free scam alerts so I can learn about the latest scams and keep an eye out. I am really grateful that I was able to attend this event. I learned a lot from Mr. Abagnale and I also learned that law enforcement and our state agencies are working really hard to help us stay safe from scams and fraud. I'm excited to learn more and get involved.

Scammers ruin people's lives. It's up to each of us to stay vigilant.

**FP**

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**Write us a letter for our upcoming summer issue!**

**What are your thoughts about USM?**

**What do you like? Dislike?**

**Send your letter before May 11th to:**  
[editor@usmfreepress.org](mailto:editor@usmfreepress.org)



## Crossword

## Across

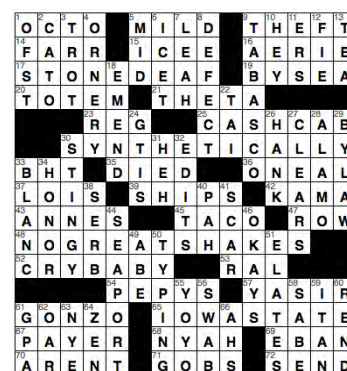
1. "This Old House" host Bob  
 5. Square dance group  
 10. "Project Runway" Judge Michael  
 14. Environmental sci.  
 15. Kasparov's game  
 16. Somewhat  
 17. "Forget about it!"  
 19. Basmati, e.g.  
 20. Port of Belgium  
 21. Fable master  
 22. Picnic quaff  
 26. See eye to eye  
 30. Professors  
 34. Rebroadcast  
 35. "Avatar" language  
 36. "—hunting we will go..." (children's song)  
 37. Has, as good health  
 39. Becomes less strong  
 42. "— la guerra!" (Spanish antiwar chant)  
 43. Isaac's firstborn  
 47. Money on the Web  
 48. Papeete's people  
 51. Starter for Schwarzenegger  
 52. Trial container  
 54. Musical volume increase (abbr.)  
 57. Wyoming Indian  
 62. Tennis player Lacoste  
 63. 1969 Bob Dylan hit  
 66. — nitrite (inhalant)  
 67. Some German autos  
 68. Balustrade  
 69. Bark  
 70. Sticks around  
 71. Salad dressings' ingredients



## Down

1. Anatomical blood carrier  
 2. Symbol  
 3. Football Hall-of-Famer Ronnie  
 4. — unto himself  
 5. Earthy pigment  
 6. Johnny Appleseed's real surname!  
 7. X  
 8. Laptop key  
 9. "The Waste Land" author's monogram  
 10. N.B.A.'s — Abdul-Jabbar  
 11. Kimono ties  
 12. Puerto follower  
 13. Put your foot down  
 18. Salad stalk  
 21. Picnic drink  
 23. Andean tuber  
 24. Admiral's org.  
 25. Sarah McLachlan single  
 26. Ain't right?  
 27. Salami style  
 28. Indian royal  
 29. "Old MacDonald" syllables  
 31. Little bits  
 32. Thorax  
 33. The younger Obama girl  
 38. Thrice dos  
 40. Decapitate  
 41. Here, in Hidalgo  
 44. Posed  
 45. Picnic crasher  
 46. For the most part  
 49. Reflexive pronoun  
 50. Sleuth, slangily  
 53. Copper/zinc alloy  
 54. Sticking place  
 55. Action film hero Williams  
 56. Greek war goddess  
 58. Firebug  
 59. Jai —  
 60. Get a cab  
 61. Olive and family, of "Popeye"  
 63. Plural Spanish article  
 64. Befitting  
 65. Nay's opposite

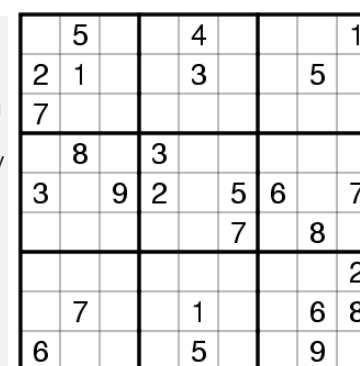
## The solution to last issue's crossword



## Sudoku

Level of difficulty: Medium

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



## Word Search

Theme: Spring

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



breeze  
 bright  
 butterfly  
 cheery  
 cleaning  
 flowers  
 grass  
 green  
 joyful  
 May  
 puddles  
 rain  
 rainbow  
 sky  
 spring  
 sunshine  
 umbrella  
 warm

## Cryptogram

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

N BXFDU INTT MUPJUUD PJF OCDCGPUWG  
 OCLXP MU INTTUS BNWGFDF PF BNWGFDF.

And here is your hint: D = N



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# USM Community Page

## NAMI on campus coming to USM

*New club is working to destigmatize mental illness*

**Julie Pike**  
Staff Writer

Working alongside faculty members at the Recovery Oriented Campus Center (ROCC), a sophomore nursing student, Jessica Fossett, is in the process of bringing a NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) club to USM.

NAMI is a nationwide advocacy group that represents individuals and families who have been affected by mental health issues. NAMI already has an established presence in Maine, with headquarters in Augusta and training sessions and events around the state.

No college campus in Maine currently has a NAMI club. Fossett intends to change that. NAMI clubs work to end the stigma that makes it hard for students to talk about mental health

which is more focused towards students in college.

"Different students have their own recovery, their own journey, and how we support each other around that doesn't have to be in the same way" said Gardner. "NAMI broadens the awareness of recovery from mental health disorders, rather than just recovery from substance use disorders."

The ROCC has been affiliated with other clubs on campus, including Yesplus, which is a group that provides students with ways to destress, meet new people and volunteer. The group also offered support groups for mental health recovery. The NAMI club will be different because it will tie in support with advocacy and awareness for mental health.

The NAMI official website states that "1 in 5 students face a mental

would view that. I think the more people that join in, the more people will feel comfortable," Gardner said. "It's these kind of conversations that [are] going to keep the effort of destigmatizing mental illness going."

Fossett began working on starting the club this semester, and she received approval for the club at the student senate meeting last week on Friday, April 21. The next step, Gardner said, is to become officially affiliated with NAMI.

Fossett plans to start off the club next semester with the group attending one of the many NAMIWalks that are held across the country. The walk in Maine Fossett hopes the club can attend is on Sept. 24 at the Spring Point Ledge Lighthouse in South Portland. It is a 5k walk that raises awareness and funds for NAMI.

Fossett intends to have the club run off of the interests of the students who join, which could include anti-stigma and awareness campaigns or creating more support and conversations for students. She wants to bring in speakers and include educational opportunities for students, such as attending the NAMI training sessions that are hosted in the area.

Currently the NAMI club has been meeting every Monday, and she plans to continue having weekly meetings next year.

"The weekly meetings are a good way to support each other," she said, "and also to make a game plan of how to get different departments of the school working together."

For the end of the spring semester, Fossett is focused on getting the word out about the NAMI club, as well as trying to spark interest among students. She has already found some students who want to join.

"This club is an opportunity for people who are struggling themselves, or know people who are struggling with mental illness or substance use disorders," Fossett said. "As well [as] people who are interested in learning more about policy, activism and making a difference."

FP

**"Different students have their own recovery, their own journey, and how we support each other around that doesn't have to be in the same way."**

- Anna Gardner

Collegiate recovery program coordinator, clinical counselor

and get the help they need.

The NAMI club will be housed in the ROCC, but it will be its own student-run club. Fossett has been getting help from Anna Gardner, the Collegiate Recovery Program Coordinator and clinical counselor from the ROCC.

"We are happy to have the club here at the ROCC and to support Jess and the club in any way that we can," said Gardner. "It ties into exactly what we are here for, which is students supporting other students with recovery from substance use disorders, mental health disorders and behavioral concerns."

Fossett went to Gardner with her idea for the club, which she got from a flyer for a NAMI training session she saw at a local hospital she works at. While looking up more information about the organization, Fossett saw that they had a NAMI club on campus,

health condition, and nearly three-quarters of mental health conditions emerge by age 24, so many college students are facing mental health concerns for the first time."

Fossett is an advocate for students to feel comfortable talking about their experiences with mental illness. She co-facilitates the Eat Your Art Out weekly event at the ROCC. In her group, they work on different arts and crafts and focus on general mental wellness, as well as food and eating disorders.

Students that she works with in her group mention how they get the feeling that mental illness is not something okay to talk about, but they feel better when they are able to do so in a supportive environment.

"For me it was hard to come out as someone who was active at the ROCC because of the fear of how people

## THE PREVALENCE OF MENTAL ILLNESS



**1 in 5**

American adults experience a mental illness in a given year.



**1 in 25**

(10 million) adults in America live with a serious mental illness.

**1.1%**

1 in 100 (2.4 million) American adults live with schizophrenia.

**2.6%**

(6.1 million) of American adults live with bipolar disorder.

**6.9%**

(16 million) of American adults live with major depression.

**18.1%**

(42 million) of American adults live with anxiety disorders.

**10 million**

adults have co-occurring mental health and addiction disorders.

Mental Illness

Addiction

**26%**

of homeless adults staying in shelters live with a serious mental illness.



**24%**

of state prisoners have "a recent history of a mental health condition."



Hannah Lyon / Design Assistant





# People of USM

## Robert Ritchie, the always smiling Jack of all trades

**River Plouffe Vogel**  
Staff Writer

The University of Southern Maine is home to many bright characters. It's a unique place that offers new and interesting experiences. For many students, finding community takes time, however there are certain individuals who bring the community to the students. Robert Ritchie is one of these individuals.

Ritchie has worked in the Portland Woodbury cafeteria for almost five years now. He is originally from Australia and moved to Maine a little under 30 years ago. Since he started working in Woodbury, his attitude, friendliness and passion about his job and the students, have helped him become a local favorite amongst the entire USM community. His voice and charming accent can often be heard drifting above the hum of the cafeteria. As most people who know Ritchie will tell you, he loves conversation and always has a smile on his face.

**Tell me a little more about your role here at USM, and a bit about yourself**

"My Name is Robert Ritchie. I've worked at the cafe for 4 years now. I started in Pizza with George for about a year. Then I moved to the fry station, then outback, and finally I worked outfront again first at the sandwich station. Now I do the local section, with food sourced locally from Maine.

I lived in Australia for two-thirds of my life. I traveled to America and Europe many times; the last time I traveled to Europe I met a girl. She was from Maine, and now I live in Maine! This stuff happens man. We have a daughter from Vietnam, she is 19, and she is attending the Wentworth Institute of Technology. She is a very bright young lady."

**What are some of your favorite dishes to cook or meals to prepare?**

"I like to cook what sells the best, because it's the most rewarding thing to make. You bought all my food, I'm happy. In the winter, it's protein's, big chunks of meat like pork, beef-tenderloin and meatloaf. Meatloaf is fantastically popular. I like making quiches too, of all the weird things, cause they all sell. There is no reward in making

food for hours and having everyone just look at it."

**You have a really amazing and unique life and education, could you expand more on that? You have a several degrees, I understand?**

"I'm short of degrees actually, that's the problem. I need a lot more of that stuff. I studied retail and management first, working as [a] retail manager in a big store for five years. It was the oldest one in my country. Then I went to work for a big American ad agency for nearly 10 years, starting at the bottom and becoming an account executive by the end, and that was fun. I came from an airline family so I traveled non-stop, every month, all over the world since I was five. I even helped deliver John Tra-

**bit more about your life in Maine?**

"I came directly to Portland and started working here. I moved and sold houses, I started a carpentry business called Down Under Carpentry, Tile and Paint, and I enjoyed it very much. Eventually I went to SMCC and in under four years got my culinary arts degree, which is technically an applied science. That was fun!"

**Could you speak about what you enjoy most in working with the USM community?**

"By and large everyone is fantastic. I haven't come across anyone who was grumpy two days in a row. You know there might be a day when they have a couple tests, but usually everyone is fantastic. You just do it right and make them happy. Feeding peo-

"I lived in Australia for two-thirds of my life. I traveled to America and Europe many times; the last time I traveled to Europe I met a girl. She was from Maine, and now I live in Maine... We have a daughter from Vietnam, she is 19, and she is attending the Wentworth Institute of Technology. She is a very bright young lady."

volta's airplane before he had it. I studied horticulture science for three years, along with advertisement in my early twenties.

I ended up being a partner at a plant nursery, then an orchard with three guys in the mountains behind Sydney. Then my family bought a vineyard, so I worked there. it was a whole lot of fun. Eventually the lease ran out, so I decided to do something else. I went to carpentry and joinery school for nearly four years in Australia. They covered everything from the theory of skyscrapers, what holds buildings up, to what makes a swimming pool stay in the ground, to how to build a cute box or hang a door. I had a renovations business at that time, renovating highrise buildings with a 12 man crew. I ran it while I finished school. Then, when I was in my mid-thirties, I met my future wife on a trip to Europe and I've been in Maine for 28 years now."

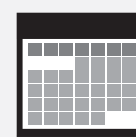
**Would you mind telling me a little**

ple is great fun. You learn that many people don't get three meals a day, so the one you get is important. It's vital to ensure that one meal is good."

**Do you have any words of wisdom or advice for students here at USM?**

"I've thought about that: you got to keep smiling to start. You can't let yourself get driven into the ground. You have to stay honest and upfront with people. I'm 62 and I think differently now. I've seen two people pass away this year alone and it changes how you approach life. I like working here, I like the students here. I don't get down on them. I make them a good sandwich or meal, talk to them, get them out of their head a little bit. They're good people. Not everyone thinks of it that way, but it makes work easy. It's important to keep your chin up. You can learn a lot just doing things and that's great! Being fairly up and cheery makes it so easy, people like you and it makes life easier!"

FP



## Community Events

### Monday, May 1

Mindful Mondays  
USM Portland campus  
The Recovery Oriented Campus Center  
Starts: 1:30 p.m. / Ends: 2:30 p.m.

### Tuesday, May 2

Woodbury Community Builder  
USM Portland campus  
Woodbury campus center  
Starts: 11 a.m. / Ends: 1 p.m.

### Wednesday, May 3

Student Support Network Training  
USM Portland campus  
The Recovery Oriented Campus Center  
Starts: 2 p.m. / Ends: 3:30 p.m.

### Thursday, May 4

Star Wars Stress Relief  
USM Gorham campus  
Brooks student center  
Starts: 8 p.m. / Ends: 12 a.m.

### Friday, May 5

When Two Brains Come Together  
USM Portland campus  
Southworth Planetarium and 165 Science  
Starts: 7 p.m.

### Saturday, May 6

Into the Deep  
USM Portland campus  
Southworth Planetarium  
Starts: 3 p.m. / Ends: 4 p.m.

### Sunday, May 7

Love you to the Moon  
Muse  
245 Commercial St. Portland, ME  
Starts: 5 a.m. / Ends: 7:30 a.m.

SpringSong  
Williston-Immanuel United Church  
156 High Street, Portland, ME  
Starts: 4 p.m. / Ends: 6 p.m.

**Want us to include your event?**  
[maryellen@usmfreepress.org](mailto:maryellen@usmfreepress.org)



# Sports

**Tuesday**
**Baseball**

 vs. Bowdoin  
4:30 p.m.

**Wednesday**
**Baseball**

 vs. Bates  
3:30 p.m.

**Thursday**
**Baseball**

 MIT  
4:00 p.m.

**Saturday**
**Track and Field**

 vs. NE D3  
Championship  
11:00 a.m.

**Saturday**
**Baseball**

 vs. UMass  
Dartmouth  
12:00 p.m.

## USM honors longtime baseball coach by renaming stadium

**Erin Brown**  
*Sports Editor*

“It’s kind of weird. But it’s humbling, especially when you’re still coaching,” Ed Flaherty said about receiving the honor of his career this past weekend when USM renamed the baseball stadium “Ed Flaherty field.” Flaherty has spent 32 seasons and counting as head coach of Huskies’ baseball. Throughout those three plus decades, Flaherty’s list of achievements with the team is second to none.

To start, Flaherty has tallied 22 NCAA tournament appearances, eight NCAA regional titles and two NCAA Division III National Championships in 1991 and 1997. Both years he won the National Championship, Flaherty was named NCAA DIII National Coach of the Year. In the Little East Conference (LEC), he has won five tournament titles, eleven shared or outright season titles and has been voted LEC Coach of the Year eight times in the past twenty years.

To continue to write about his championships, titles, honors, and other awards in detail would fill this entire newspaper. Along with his extraordinary list of accomplishments, he holds the utmost respect of his players past and present. Current players can’t say enough great things about Flaherty. They look up to him for his passion, his leadership, his ability to stay humble and so much more.

Sophomore catcher Kip Richard (Kennebunk, ME/ Kennebunk) told the Free Press, “he has a true passion and respect for the game, and it’s fun playing for a person who loves the game as much as he does.”

Flaherty truly does have an absolute passion for this game. After playing at the Division I level at the University of Maine until an injury halted his plans for major league ball, he decided to put his love of the game into coaching. Coach Flaherty came to USM in 1985 and hasn’t left, and really has not thought about leaving. “To have a job that you really love doing, because I love baseball and I really love the University of Southern Maine, it’s almost like you haven’t worked,” Flaherty said. “I’d like to do this for quite a while.”

For leadership, Senior Matt Bender speaks highly of the respect he has for his coach after spending four years on his team. Bender believes the leadership of Flaherty is unmistakably the reason for the



*Photo courtesy of USM Athletics Website.*

*Ed Flaherty receives his 2013 NCAA tournament ring from athletic director Al Bean after one of the Huskies’ most recent trips to the D3 World Series. Flaherty has spent 32 seasons and counting as head coach of the Huskies baseball team at USM.*

team’s success. “When he talks, guys listen,” Bender says. “Every time he puts a lineup up, it’s for a reason. He knows best.”

Bender was unwavering on the fact that there was no better honor for his coach, and the pride he feels from playing under Flaherty’s direction really shows. Bender told the Free Press, “when I take the field everyday it’s an honor to put on that USM uniform, because you know you’re playing under the helm of a legend.”

Coach Flaherty believes his leadership to the boys in his program is an important part of their lives, even outside of baseball. He speaks about the ages of his players, 18 to 22, and how he feels he can really communicate with their age group very successfully. “It has nothing to do with winning, it has to do with the fact that I enjoy the kids. I think they know and I think it means

something to them as a leader or teacher. The kids have to know that you care and I do. I really do,” Flaherty said about the most rewarding part of his job, being a leader to these boys 150 days of the year.

Junior catcher Cam Hauze says about the leadership he sees from his coach on a regular basis, “he shows us how to be respectful on and off the baseball field and he has really shown me what it takes to be successful in the real world.” Hauze also adds, “being a player that doesn’t play all the time, he has taught me that every player matters and it takes everyone on the roster for the team to be successful.”

As for staying humble, Coach Flaherty pretty much wrote the book. Flaherty talks about the field dedication as being a tremendous honor and says, “for me the word has always been team,” Flaherty adds, “I

put a thing on Facebook and said it really should be named ‘Southern Maine baseball team field’ because it’s everybody. Without every piece of that, this thing certainly doesn’t happen.”

Flaherty talks about the importance of his assistant coaches throughout the years that ultimately led him to his success. “for me, to think back at 32 year of people who have been in the program, particularly my assistants,” he says. “Vinny and Eddie have been with me for 20 years. They’re probably the most important thing I’ve got.”

Flaherty hopes to continue to honor the team after the stadium dedication. He says this current season looks interesting. “We have so many young, talented players. As the season’s progressed, some of these guys have blossomed. We’ve got ourselves in a position to do really well.”



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