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Gloria S. Duclos Convocation

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Sarah Tewksbury
Editor-in-Chief

Last week one of my writers wrote a perspectives piece about how abortion should be illegal. At the beginning of the week, I had asked the writer to send in 500 words on a social justice issue they were passionate about. On Friday night, when I opened the document and read their opinion, I was bombarded with thoughts.

At USM in the past, there have been very small groups of individuals who would have ultimately crucified this writer for the opinion and argument they made. One of my first concerns was that this young, new USM student would have to go through a targeted attack. I wanted to make sure that they knew the severity of the possibilities of retaliation, but at the same time I did not want to contact them and have it be assumed that I was picking out this particular opinion piece because of the nature of the argument.

I sought counsel from some of the senior staffers at the Free Press. One editor advised that we hold the article for a week, so that we would have a chance to talk to the writer. A second simply said we have no right to not publish it. The third gently reminded me of my job and responsibility that accompanies it.

Regardless of how it happened, the article was published. Within the twenty-four hours following the delivery of the paper, I had several emails regarding the publication of a pro-life argument. Several of the emails contained constructive criticism, less for the writer and more for me. The opinion piece was essentially unedited. However, one particular email struck me. A USM affiliate wrote to me to detail his concerns about the perspectives piece.

The email was framed in two parts. The first portion of the criticism was targeted at the lack of editing done to the piece and commented on the absence of complexity of the argument the writer made. This was all valid and quite accurate. The piece was, in fact, completely unedited for grammatical errors, context issues and evidence

Freedom of speech includes opinions you hate

provided to support the argument. This burden lies on my shoulders and I accept full responsibility for the way the piece was presented to the Free Press' readership.

The second part of the email was what truly struck me. The critic wrote, "Given that the USM Free Press is a campus wide publication circulated among its diverse student body, it would seem like good practice to have the opinion section offer competing viewpoints on a debate/topic as to foster a healthy dialogue rather than solely relying on the musings of an ill-informed 20-something year old."

My issue with the suggestion is the implication that just because the

do. I would not have thought twice about editing and publishing the piece. I would not have been coaxed to seek out someone to counter the article from a reader.

In this issue of the Free Press there is a pro-choice perspective piece from one of my peers. It is essentially a response to what they read in the last issue. Discourse is happening right here and right now. Responding to an idea thoroughly, without conjecture, is a key element of continuing a discussion. Even more important is the notion of genuinely hearing what is being said or comprehending the written word. Listening to what another person is trying to convey opens the door

"Given that the USM Free Press is a campus wide publication circulated among its diverse student body, it would seem like good practice to have the opinion section offer competing viewpoints on a debate/topic as to foster a healthy dialogue rather than solely relying on the musings of an ill-informed 20-something year old."

- Anonymous Letter to the Editor

published opinion piece took a stance highly different from a typical USM student, the Free Press should "offer competing viewpoints" on the topic. The publication of an anti-choice perspective is, in fact, the competing viewpoint. It is the unpopular opinion and the one we rarely hear argued at USM.

I have my own theories and points of view on abortion, none of which actually matter in this argument. My point is this, if the brand new freshman writer had come back with an opinion piece about a social justice issue that she was passionate about that went along with the grain of the general USM perspective, I would not have asked for advice about what to

to the elimination of ignorance and to education about another viewpoint.

During my time as the editor of the Free Press, I will always accept perspective pieces that agree with and differ from my personal point of view. That is the purpose of the newspaper, to allow for freedom of speech and to influence discourse within the USM community.

Sarah Tewksbury

Right wing rally draws counter protestors in Augusta

Maine's state capitol becomes the site for protest and discourse

Jess Ward
Staff Writer

Saturday, Sept. 30 in Augusta Maine, two opposing political forces met in the form of rallies: one called the “Rally to Denounce Political Violence” and the other “Counter Rally against the Alt-Right”. In name, these two don’t seem to be in conflict at all; both are titled to appear as though each group wants to put an end to hatred and political violence. However, when looking at the names and organizations behind these events, as well as the supporters behind each one, it becomes clear where the clash in ideology occurs.

The “Rally to Denounce Political Violence” organized in front of the Augusta State Building, with a small crowd of organizers slowly growing to a small group of around thirty supporters. Across the street, in a small park, the counter rally was slightly larger, with an audience of around fifty protestors to begin the day. The two events both had a heavy police presence; patrol vehicles were in abundance in the area, with ten to fifteen officers surrounding each event.

The counter rally kicked off with speakers from the organizations represented. Ryan, a representative of the Maine John Brown Gun Club, spoke on the recent incidents in which the “KKK [was] actively organizing in our state... [and] Neo-Fascists in Brunswick [were] targeting LGBTQ+ rights.” These statements were met with boos and hisses from the crowd, as they chanted “Free speech, that’s a lie, they don’t care that Heather died!”

The “Heather” they’re referring to is Heather Heyer, victim of the Charlottesville car attack this past August. Heyer was a counter protester at a white supremacist event held in Charlottesville, who was killed by an Ohio man driving a car into a crowd of protesters, according to the New York Times. It is clear that the members of the counter rally resent the notion that free speech can be equivocated with the often violent and hateful rhetoric proposed by the so called “alt-right,” white nationalist movement.s Ryan proclaimed to the crowd “if this [Rally to Denounce Political Violence] isn’t political violence, I don’t know what is.”

Another one of the groups standing with the counter rally is the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), which is centered around the idea of “building a culture of solidarity with all working class people.” The IWW wants to ensure that anyone interested in victimizing the working class based on “race, immigration status, or anything else” is stopped immediately, which motivated them to get involved in the counter rally.

Ben Clark, a representative of the IWW said

that he doesn’t think anyone speaking at the “Rally to Denounce Political Violence” are white supremacists, but that they are sympathizers. Clark said that the goal of the counter rally is to call attention to white supremacy while offering oppressed peoples comfort in knowing they have allies.

“We view the ‘denounce political violence’ event as being a cynical effort to legitimize white nationalism and other extreme right wing points of view,” Clark said. “While painting antifascist and civil rights activists as



Katelyn Rice / Staff Photographer

violent enemies of free speech. We do not believe we can allow this to pass without calling them out on it.”

On the other side of the political fence, going by only one name, Jarody played a major role in organizing the “Rally to Denounce Political Violence.” Jarody doesn’t really fit into any one description politically; he’s run as both a Democrat and a Republican in the past, participated in Occupy Augusta, and now works with Libertarians. He says that this was supposed to be a “run-of-the-mill rally,” but that the counter protesters are using the label “alt-right” to detract from their movement and invalidate their position.

“It’s tossed around like it’s a slur,” Jarody said., “Other labels are old and tired, so this is the new thing.” By other labels, Jarody is referring to words like Nazi, white supremacist, and fascist, all of which he claims to denounce.

While adamantly condemning violence, Jarody himself has been accused of violent action in the past. According to the Bangor Daily News, Jarody faced charges in 2011 for threatening someone with a sledgehammer in front of the Augusta State Building, where their rally was held on Saturday. Jarody insists that

this accusation is false, and made by a “faction of Occupiers” who sought to eliminate him from their cause. Jarody insists this rally was meant simply to promote free speech and disapprove of political violence, and appears confused and frustrated by the amount of opposition.

It is important to know that a few of Jarody’s fellow speakers, John Rasmussen and Garret Kirkland have both been involved in “Free Speech” rallies in Boston. Jarody describes Kirkland as “a good buddy of mine.”

Those rallies were met with thousands of protesters, who effectively prevented the original rallies’ success. One can’t help but wonder why a “run-of-the-mill rally” would involve such controversial figures, who have faced adamant opposition by leftist groups in the past.

Rasmussen is a self-described centrist, who believes if moderates don’t stand together “the second Civil War will happen.” Kirkland believes that “all extremists have a right to free speech,” however; when asked about groups such as ANTIFA and Black Lives Matter, Kirkland says that he believes their rhetoric is “more violent” than that of the fascists they stand against. Kirkland also comments that he views himself as a victim of political violence, after the second Free Speech Rally in Boston was shut down.

“I was concerned we would be fire-bombed,” said Kirkland, claiming that he felt physically threatened by the counter protesters.

As the “Rally to Denounce Political Violence” continued, it became clear that there was a lack of direction amongst speakers and organizers. Jarody, Rasmussen, and Kirkland all stated that hate speech is not inherently violent, and that violent speech can only be

qualified as direct calls for harm. Pne of their speakers, Richard Light, said thatt some of the speakers’ employers had threatened termination for participation in the rally, and that this threat was “violent speech.” It is unclear as to why these so-called moderates refuse to condemn hate speech, and even more telling, they refuse to condemn the white supremacist movements they have been accused of affiliating with.

While everyone speaking was clear in stating that they were not Neo-Nazis or white supremacists, when asked whether or not they condemn these movements, both Kirkland and Rasmussen stated that they “condemn violence on all sides,” a line that may seem familiar to those who watched President Trump’s response to the Charlottesville rally. This refusal to take a stand against fascist organizations is often viewed as compliance, something that the counter-protesters were in adamant disapproval of.

The organizers of the “Rally to Denounce Political Violence” also refused to classify the death of Heather Heyer as political violence, according to Michael Ghath, a participant in the counter rally. Ghath said this speaks to the fact that, despite their call for peace and non-violence from all, the participants of this rally were clearly focused on defending hate speech and those who perpetuate it from prosecution, while ignoring the violent actions of the Alt-right.”

Tom MacMillan, Co-chair of the Socialist Party of Maine, one of the groups behind the counter protest, said that their organization felt compelled to intervene and protest as to ensure that “the only voice heard is not that of Nazis.” He went on to say that many of the speakers and supporters of the “Rally to Denounce Political Violence” aren’t really Nazis, and that he believes that many of them truly are against “political violence”, as is the Socialist Party. However, MacMillan states that one of the tactics used by the “alt-right” is to “incorporate Libertarians,” to hide their extremist views behind the idea of free speech. He says the goal of the Socialist Party of Maine is to help citizens “realize that people of all backgrounds can stand together to oppose white supremacy.”

To believe that the “Rally to Denounce Political Violence” was a truly “moderate” and peaceful event would be to ignore the histories and views of its speakers and organizers. According to the counter-protestors, if one is not willing to condemn the acts of the violent “alt-right,” then that suggests a level of complicit participation and support. The counter rally’s participants were able to gather twice the support, and organize their message clearly and passionately.

Woodbury Campus Center under construction

Former SGA office to become a gender-neutral bathroom and prayer room

Sarah Tewksbury
Editor-in-chief

Since the middle of the summer, USM's Portland Woodbury Campus Center has been under construction. The former Student Government Association (SGA) office has been covered by a large tarp and is under construction. When the construction is complete, the space will be filled with a gender-neutral bathroom and a prayer and meditation room.

Currently there is a prayer and meditation room in the Campus Life office. However, the space is only available for use during business hours, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Before and after those hours students, faculty and staff are responsible for finding their own peaceful spot to meditate, practice spirituality and pray. The prevailing room has a few prayer rugs, carpeting, basic decorations and seating. Upon completion of the new space, the same items will be transported to the space.

According to Rodney Mondor, Dean of Students, the request for a larger space and for longer operating hours of the prayer and meditation room came from students. A similar call from students for a gender-neutral bathroom in Woodbury Campus Center is being addressed by the developments. In Dec. 2016, the Free Press reported that the closest gender-neutral bathroom students could use was found in Wishcamper Center. Once the new space is complete, the most centrally located building for student activities will house a gender-neutral bathroom.

The grand opening is presently scheduled for mid-fall. However, Mondor emphasized the idea that as the construction process unfolds, hiccups and delays could occur. "There is only so much we can even do with the space. The building is old and structurally we can't change a lot," Mondor said.

The private, one stall bathroom will also house a foot-washing station, to be used for spiritual practice. The foot bath station is currently on order through an official European company and will arrive prior to the grand unveiling.



Bradford Spurr / Director of Photography

Construction continues in USM's Woodbury Campus Center at the site for a gender neutral bathroom and prayer and meditation room.

Its installation will be a significant addition to the host of services USM currently offers its spiritual and religious student body.

According to Mondor, this project has been ongoing for about four and a half years. Student input has been crucial to the process of change over the past few reformatory years for USM. This improvement has been no different. During the 2016-2017 academic year, groups of students who frequent the Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversities held discussion forums about the necessity for gender-neutral bathrooms and need for the USM administration to take requests of this nature seriously.

According to Advancing Campus Community (ACUI), a nonprofit educational organization that works to convene students and professionals around improvement goals on college campuses, over 150 college campuses around the United States have started initiatives to improve the facilities offered for students and university affiliates who do not identify with a gender binary. Throughout the fall 2017 semester, USM students will see first hand as the Portland campus joins the list.

FP

New senator elected as senate thinks METRO and financial aid

Cara DeRose
Copy Editor

The Sept. 29 student senate meeting began with the election of senior business major Chase Hewitt. When Senate Chair Muna Adan asked Hewitt why he was interested in joining student senate, Hewitt responded that he is "specifically interested in commuter issues [and] helping commuters have a better experience here [at USM]."

Although Hewitt has no prior experience in politics, he told senators at the meeting that he "has a lot of customer service experience" and "enjoys working with people directly, building relationships." Hewitt

was elected to the senate by a majority vote.

Senator Zachary Tidd was elected as a student senate representative to the USM Student Communications Board. Senators Chase Hewitt and Kyle Brundige were appointed to the senate's personnel review board, which meets twice a year to review senate bylaws and duties. Senate Clerk Joshua Blake was unanimously appointed to the Student Culinary Council, which works to improve campus dining and sponsors food-themed events at USM.

METRO's Board of Directors Vice President Ed Suslovic and General Manager Greg Jordan gave a twenty-minute presentation on USM's METRO program, which

starts next year, and route plans. Jordan revealed details about the program.

"The broad strokes are in place," Jordan said about the program, "but we need [the senate's] help figuring out what the students need."

Approximately 1500 students live in proximity to a METRO transit route, which according to Jordan, speaks to the program's ridership potential. In addition to pre-existing transit lines, a limited-stop Husky Line will be added.

This route will start at the Gorham campus and stop at Gorham Village, Downtown Westbrook, Westbrook's commercial district, Portland's Rosemont district, the Portland campus and then go into Down-

town Portland.

This transit route will operate as a bus rapid transit light system, which Jordan described to the senate as a light-rail system "on wheels." Rather than bus stops, there will be bus stations, and the buses will have a greater rider capacity than the coach buses.

Another route will extend from Westbrook to the Maine Mall, with the Gorham and Portland campuses as two stops on the route. Monday through Friday, the buses will operate from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. and make stops every 30 minutes.

"USM will be able to put less real estate

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From **SENATE** on page 5
in parking and more into students and other programs,” Jordan said.

METRO is currently working with USM to create an internal task force to advise METRO on the program. Jordan and Sulslovic stressed that a USM student should be on the task force.

Representative to the University of Maine Board of Trustees Dylan Reynolds spoke to the senate about the board’s long-term action plans. Although most of these plans are not set to achieve immediate goals, Reynolds discussed an exception.

She had met with Samantha Warren, director of community and government relations for UMS, who talked to the board members about going to various Maine public universities and finding students who would be willing to advocate for higher education before the state legislature.

This year, in the legislature, most of the conversation about education was devoted to K-12, with elementary and secondary schools receiving over \$100 million in funding.

“None of that went to higher education,” Reynolds said.

Reynolds also touched upon the university system’s strategic resource allocation project, which is an “effort to modernize

the university” and “create greater integration” between UMS schools over the next four to five years. Three of this project’s goals are to increase student enrollment, “enhance the fiscal positioning” of the universities and support Maine “through research and economic development.”

After Reynolds’ presentation, Senator Kyle Brundige discussed his proposal for a financial relief program, which is still in the drafting stage.

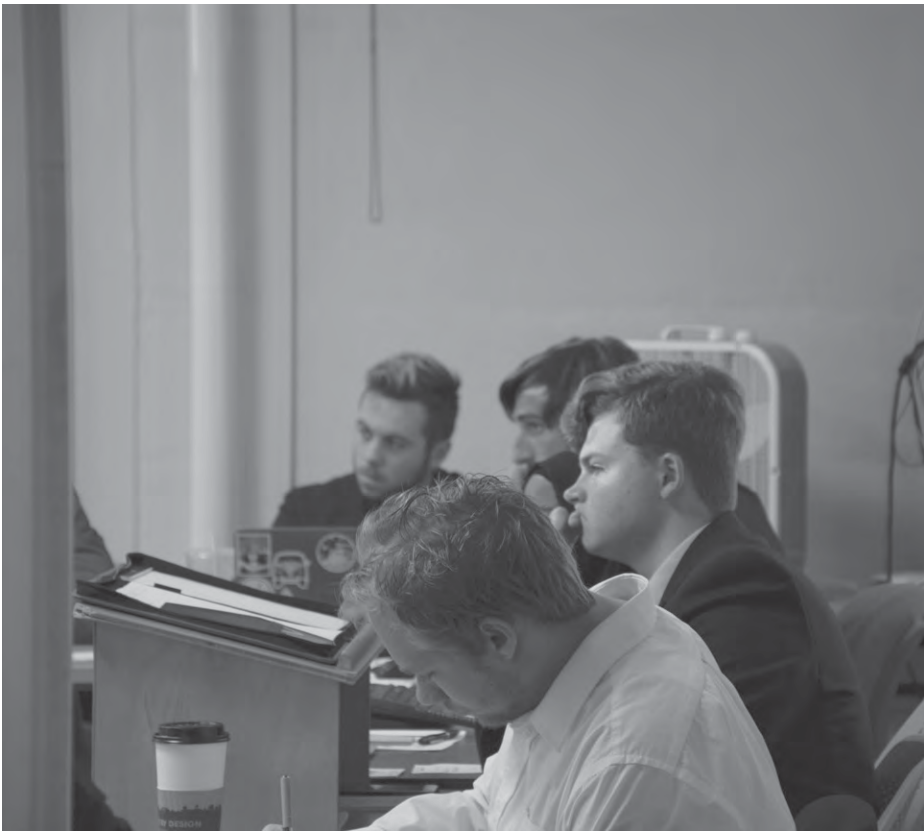
“The program is designed to assist students in financial need, such as those who have outstanding bills they can’t pay right away,” Brundige said. “There will be a mandatory fee of five dollars everyone in the student body is charged. That money will be put into a pool to be used exclusively for this program.”

The money will have to be repaid, which can potentially be done through a repayment plan or through voluntary work hours.

Senators voiced their concerns about the mandatory fee. Senator Hawraa Rikan remarked that students will view this proposal like they viewed free printing at USM and will not want to fund the program.

“This is socialism at its finest,” she said.

FP



Bradford Spurr / Director of Photography

USM requested safety audit report suggests campus changes

Sarah O’Connor
Staff Writer

The International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA) orchestrated an audit report this summer for the USM Police Department. Between May 21 and 24, the Loaned Executive Management Assistance Program (LEMAP) helped USM in evaluating their police, security and public safety programs. Buster Neel, Interim Chief Business Officer, described that the audit was requested by USM for prevention of future issues.

“The Portland campus is going to go through dramatic changes in the future, and we’re trying to prepare for that and how we’re going to handle the planning for that as a budget issue,” Neel said, referring to President Glenn Cummings’ master plan to construct a performing arts center and dorms on the Portland campus.

Several problems were addressed in the audit, including staffing levels, lack of training, policy unclarity and a lack of communication within the department and with the the Gorham and Portland police departments.

Staffing levels proved to be the biggest issue considering its constant reappearance throughout the report. Neel discussed how the budget changes have created a signifi-

cant impact, with a loss of five officers. To alleviate a large structural deficit, the department’s administrative and supervisory staffing was dismantled.

Former Chief Kevin Conger said there was a lack of funds to provide necessary training in the audit report. The LEMAP Team recommended investing “in a full-time training coordinator for the department” and specific training and learning management systems for training modules.

One of the plans for the future is to add another position to the USM police department. According to Neel, adding a visible presence in the library in the first floor of Glickman Library near the circulation desk area will hopefully prevent disturbances on the Portland Campus.

“This will offer more visibility for the USM police on campus,” Neel said.

Claire Madsen-Bibeau, a freshman living on the Gorham campus, thinks that having a strong police presence is important for protection and peace of mind, but she does not want to see it go too far.

“I don’t want some random dude or girl to be able to come in and shoot people,” Madsen-Bibeau said. “It shouldn’t be a crazy amount of police, but it should feel like we are protected.”

See **SAFETY** on page 7

Average number of full-time campus law enforcement employees per 1,000 students, by type and size of 4-year campus, 2011-12

Type and size of 4-year campus	All agencies		Agencies employing sworn personnel	
	Full-time employees	Per 1,000 students	Full-time officers	Per 1,000 students
All campuses	37	4.1	24	2.4
Public	41	3.6	25	2.2
15,000 or more	67	2.5	38	1.4
10,000-14,999	32	2.5	20	1.6
5,000-9,999	26	3.6	16	2.3
2,500-4,999	24	6.7	15	4.2
Private	32	4.8	22	2.9
15,000 or more	114	5.0	52	2.3
10,000-14,999	62	5.2	45	3.7
5,000-9,999	30	4.4	19	2.8
2,500-4,999	17	4.8	10	2.9

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics Law Enforcement Unit, Survey of Campus Law Enforcement Agencies, 2011-12. Published January 2015.

Dakota Tibbetts / Graphic Designer

From **SAFETY** on page 6

Ally Duley, a freshman commuter, thinks the opposite. She said that a police presence “could cause more harm than good.”

“People would be more on edge, and college would be made more stressful than it already is,” she said. “The recent accounts of police brutality definitely have an effect on how the police are viewed, including by myself.”

According to Neel, along with increased protection, a benefit of the audit is the potential to improve communication. The audit report highlighted a disconnect between the local police departments and the campus police and also the campus community and the campus police. The audit noted, “There is very little interaction between the [police departments]” and “The LE-MAP Team identified a major disconnect with student-based programming and understanding the mission of campus public safety.”

Neel said that, in light of the audit, communication has already become a priority.

Monthly meetings are taking place for the first time since 2007. The department is also going to be going on a national search for a new police chief, and USM is in negotiation for the possibility for federal funding for new positions.

“We’re working on how we’re structuring and managing ourselves internally,” Neel said.

The restructuring has been focused on making the USM police a community presence. Neel hopes that in the future, USM students feel a connection with the officers and trust them. As the audit proposed, USM hopes to include student government leaders in establishing a community presence by making clear goals and a mission statement.

Madsen-Bibeau thinks communication between the campus police and students is crucial in crime prevention on campus. On the other hand, Duley thinks it would “set students on edge” and create “overreactions to things they hear in passing.”

Between police departments, the audit

noted the confusion and lack and clarity between officers and dispatchers. Neel stated that the USM police currently works with the Gorham and Portland police departments, and there is a foundation for a stronger partnership between the police departments. While the departments call each other for help in certain situations, mostly in Gorham, there still needs more work to be done to build a relationship, according to the audit report.

This relationship seems necessary as there are less than 10 officers total in the USM police department, according to Neel. The small staff raises the question of whether or not USM should look into a hybrid solution of employing a security staff to work with the sworn officers to help lessen the burden on the small staff. The audit highlights many of the issues that has occurred including having two managing sergeants as shift supervisors, but the obvious issue is that there are three shifts. If there is a student that parks in the Portland parking garage past 11 p.m., an

officer must drive from Gorham to help the student.

While the USM police department is understaffed, the challenge and huge hurdle for making changes is budgetary issues. The problem of understaffing came to be because of budgetary issues, and those issues persist today. At USM, the starting hourly salary for officers is roughly \$15 per hour, whereas at another department or larger institution, it could be closer to \$25.

Despite the budget issues still in play, the audit has prodded USM into action. Neel says that the main goal of the audit was to try to be proactive about the current situation and to understand where USM is regarding safety. Because of the action to get an audit for the USM police department, the university has more clarity on the situation as changes are soon to come.

“The easiest thing to do sometimes is to sit back and do nothing, but that’s not good enough for the USM student body. Let’s be prepared. Let’s be proactive,” said Neel.

FP

Changes to the MBA program continue to plague USM

Sam Margolin
Staff Writer

A new home for USM’s MBA program is still in the planning stages after almost five years. Since 2013, the process of how to combine the MBA and Law programs of USM and UMaine Orono, and build a new graduate center to house them, has been frustrating and stalled. Changes in the CEO of the new project coupled with a lack of academic cooperation has left the project in limbo.

The program is funded by The Alfond Foundation, a

charity founded in 1950 to favor education, healthcare, and youth development. The Alfond Foundation is organized as a trust and is run by a Board of Trustees currently headed by George W. Powell. The Alfond Foundation along with the President Glenn Cummings and the Chancellor James H. Page lead the effort to make the new program and graduate center a reality.

The CEO put in charge of the new graduate center, Eliot Cutler, announced over the summer that he would be resigning as head of the graduate center. USM President Glenn Cummings appointed George Campbell, president

of the University of Southern Maine Foundation, as interim CEO.

Of the proposed \$150 million it will take to complete the new center that will house the new graduate business programs, The Alfond Foundation has given a \$7.5 million challenge grant to help build the new Portland-based graduate center. This leaves a lot of funding outstanding; especially when considering USM’s financial needs elsewhere, such as facility upkeep, construction, re-construction and marketing.

The program has been in the works for many years in part due to the fact that UMaine Orono and USM business faculty must come together to resolve some of the issues. The first step in creating a new curriculum that can be accepted and accredited is to find a dean to head the new department. This has been difficult in itself. Two members of each school’s MBA faculty and a few other chosen administrators make up a search committee tasked to find a worthy dean. The two from USM are Prof. James Suleiman and Richard Bilodeau.

USM receives about half the funding than UMaine Orono, yet the amount of degrees received in the MBA programs in 2015-2016 was only 19% higher at UMaine. This means that housing the new MBA program in Portland makes the most sense.

The two MBA programs of UMaine and USM differ in two key ways: curriculum and residency. According to Susan Feiner, Professor of Economics and Gender studies at USM says that UMaine has a more traditional curriculum that is offered at dozens of other schools where as USM’s is more practitioner-driven because of all the connections to local businesses. As for residency, the UMaine degree is primarily online whereas the USM degree is primarily face-to-face. What’s being proposed is a low-residency program that meets on weekend three or four times a semester making it less attractive to commuter and non-traditional students. The MBA program changes should



Bradford Spurr / Director of Photography

See **MBA** on page 8

From **MBA** on page 7

make student life easier, not harder.

Some faculty members like the idea of the new changes. Jane Kuenz, The Associate Dean of USM's School of Business College of Management and Human Services believes students entering the program under the new MBA configuration, will welcome increased resources and opportunities that the combined faculty can offer. "If anything, making southern Maine the focus for graduate business education in the state will create synergies that will reach down to the undergraduate level. Students enrolled in USM's MBA will be given the option to finish that degree or transfer to the new program once it's official," said Kuenz. The fact that Portland is the center of Maine's economy is unquestionable. To house the program here is not the question— the question is how to do it.

USM Provost Jeannine Diddle Uzzi agrees, "The hope is that by coming together and pooling both resources and expertise, the business faculties from UMaine and USM will create a new, reinvigorated MBA curriculum that neither faculty could have created on its own."

Provost Uzzi points out that the academic community is just that: a community. In order to fight through challenges of collaboration it must be recognized that the end goal is a happier student body.

"There will naturally be challenges

"The idea is to bring in industry experts as well."

- Joanne Williams
Dean of the College of Management and Human Services

related to delivering a UMaine degree on a USM campus with a combined UM-USM faculty, but those challenges should be invisible to students. The challenges we face when we collaborate across UMaine System universities ought to be overcome for a variety of reasons, and when we overcome those challenges, we will have overcome them not only for MBA students but for students in all aca-

demic programs at any school in the University of Maine System," Uzzi said.

"The idea is to bring in industry experts as well," Said Joanne Williams, Dean of the College of Management and Human Service. Williams said she knew that once things get going, a group will be organized consisting of faculty from both schools as well as outside help. The outside help could provide crucial insight to how other schools have integrated programs like this.

Some faculty are critical of why we should spend so much money on what accounts to only a few hundred students. Roughly 700 students graduate from the UMaine and USM MBA programs each year. So the question is aren't there better ways to use the money for the greater good? Other aesthetic motivations could be behind the new programs importance. USM's law building was just voted one of the eight ugliest university buildings in the country by Architectural Digest. Other Portland buildings are dilapidated and old buildings like Luther Bonney and Payson Smith.

FP

NEWS BRIEFS

LOCAL

LePage has talked about firing sheriffs. This Maine governor did it.

BANGOR DAILY NEWS- Paul LePage isn't the first Maine governor to threaten to remove sheriffs.

He isn't even the first Republican to do it — or the first one who ascended to the office from Waterville.

More than a century ago, Waterville lawyer William T. Haines narrowly won a two-year term as governor, promising to aggressively enforce Maine's alcohol prohibition laws as part of a dry Republican platform. Within four months of his inauguration, three sheriffs were gone.

LePage, a Republican and former Waterville mayor, did something similar last week when he threatened to fire two Maine sheriffs for not cooperating with requests from federal immigration officials to hold inmates past

scheduled release dates without a warrant.

It didn't go well for Haines, who lost re-election two years later. But Maine law has changed a lot since then, making it unclear what process LePage would follow to remove sheriffs.

Haines' demands worked politically, but not practically. Maine passed a first-in-the-nation prohibition law in 1851. A watered-down law replaced it seven years later. Partial bans persisted until prohibition was written into the Maine Constitution in 1885.

Bars were still common, but Maine voted in 1911 to keep prohibition in the Constitution. In 1912, Haines — a former attorney general, legislator and Kennebec County attorney — campaigned on ramping up enforcement.

His dry candidacy amused The New York Times. In September 1912, it said he brought in a "not brilliant" \$13,000 in liquor fines in his

four years as county attorney while a Democratic successor collected \$16,000 in one year. But he beat an incumbent Democrat.

NATIONAL

Trump Lashes Out at Puerto Rico Mayor Who Criticized Storm Response

NEW YORK TIMES-President Trump lashed out at the mayor of San Juan on Saturday for criticizing his administration's efforts to help Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria, accusing her of "poor leadership" and implying that the people of the devastated island were not doing enough to help themselves.

As emergency workers and troops struggled to restore basic services in a commonwealth with no electricity and limited fuel and water, Mr. Trump spent the day at his New Jersey golf club, blasting out Twitter messages defending his response

to the storm and repeatedly assailing the capital's mayor, Carmen Yulín Cruz, and the news media.

"The Mayor of San Juan, who was very complimentary only a few days ago, has now been told by the Democrats that you must be nasty to Trump," the president wrote on Twitter. "Such poor leadership ability by the Mayor of San Juan, and others in Puerto Rico, who are not able to get their workers to help."

Mr. Trump said the people of Puerto Rico should not depend entirely on the federal government. "They want everything to be done for them when it should be a community effort," he wrote. "10,000 Federal workers now on Island doing a fantastic job. The military and first responders, despite no electric, roads, phones etc., have done an amazing job. Puerto Rico was totally destroyed."

FP



Police Beat

Selections from the USM Department of Public Safety police log Sept. 14 to Sept. 21

09/14/2017

We thought it was legal now!

Drug complaint, G13C parking lot. Officer referred a student to Community Standards for possession of drug paraphernalia. Closed.

09/16/2017

Remember to lock your car

Theft, G16 parking lot. Report of a theft of a laptop computer from a Motor vehicle. Closed, No Susp, leads or evidence.

09/18/2017

I might have just lost it

Possible theft, Bluetooth speaker from a dorm room. May be misplaced, will call back if actually stolen. Case closed.

09/21/2017

Feuding Glee clubs?

Vandalism/Criminal Mischief, Report of 2 locks to the Corthell Concert Hall had been super glued. Report taken by officer. Under Investigation.

09/21/2017

Too many protein shakes

Disorderly/disruptive student, Student reportedly disruptive at the Costello Sports Complex. Subject removed, trespass paperwork served. Referred to Student Conduct. Case closed.

Police Beats are edited for grammar and style.

Arts&Culture

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USM theater production is original and unique

Free Press staff gets an exclusive first look at Neighborhood 3

Maverick Lynes
Staff Writer

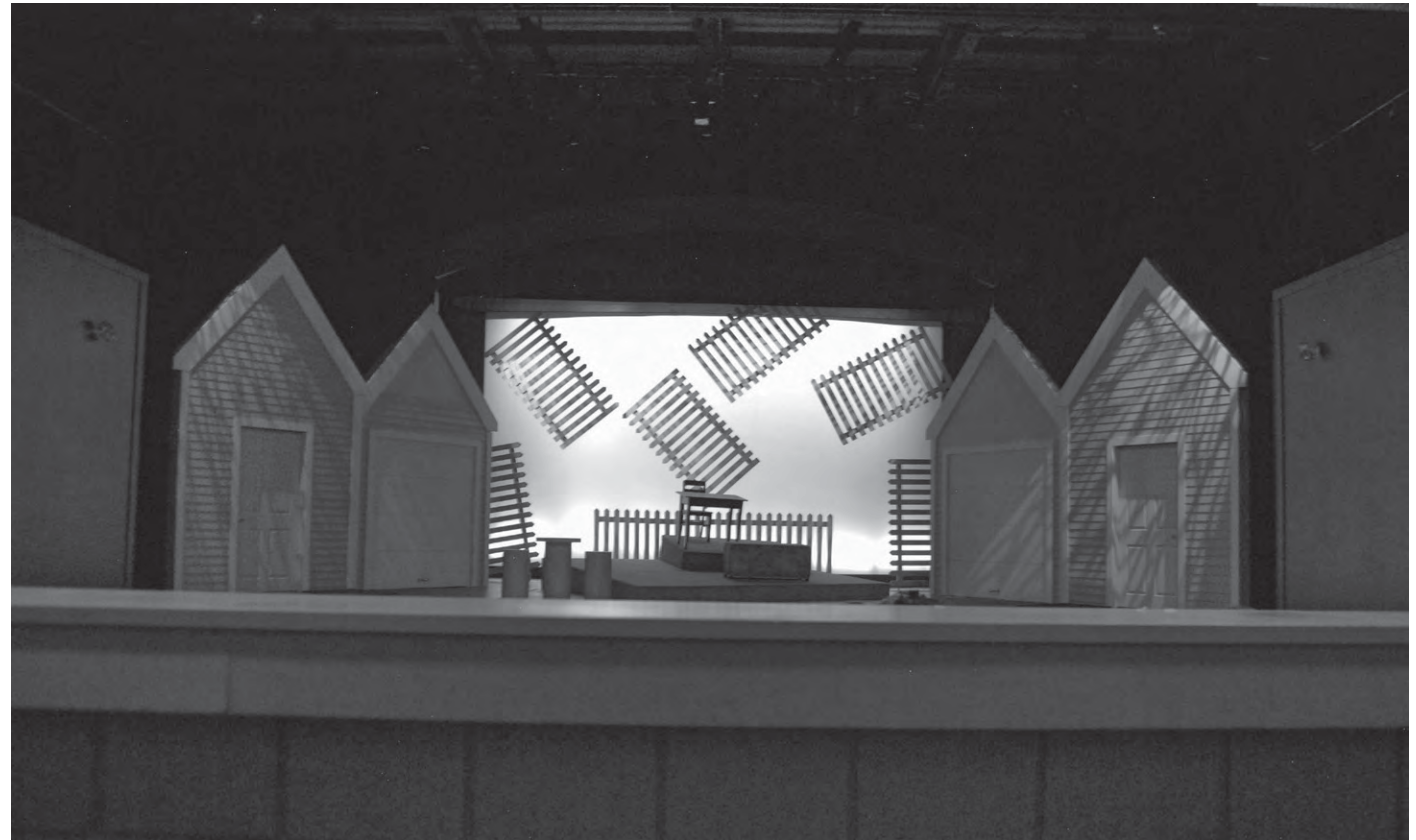
The USM theatre production of *Neighborhood 3: Requisition of Doom* is original, violent, abstract and the furthest thing from boring. I can say with full confidence that this play, a mix of comedy and horror, is nothing like something I have seen before.

Neighborhood 3 is a play that is set in a suburban neighborhood and focuses on the teenagers of the community and their new addiction with an online zombie video game. The game uses a GPS to map out the neighborhood and simulate the exact community they live in which the teenagers notice makes the game incredibly realistic. As they go through this game, they realize these zombies also start looking a lot like the parents of the community. The virtual and real world come together, and these teenagers find themselves too invested into the game to see how much it is indeed controlling them.

Perry Fertig (Scenic Design) created a setting that was the most creative I have ever seen in a school production. The setting paired well with the events of the play and complimented the script. The stage construction gave the audience the tools for their imagination to create the surroundings. While not taking attention away from the characters and the storyline; the setting provided a creative background that helped the actors immerse themselves in this neighborhood.

Anna Grywalski who was in charge of costume design did an outstanding job putting the characters in outfits that enhanced the production. The costumes brought out the suburban environment that the play was set in. There is also one costume that looks like it came straight from the movie set of *Mad Max*, it was unbelievable.

Director Dana Wieluns Legawiec said in the Director's Note, "I've always been a fan of the horror genre," so there should be no question as to why she chose this particular play. Dana who says she is, "super excited to finally have an audience," explains how the cast has been working since spring and is feeling optimistic going into opening night. Dana says she hopes the audience, "enjoys the comedy aspect and the creepy aspect." While creepy may not be a draw-



Maverick Lynes / Staff Writer

The set for Neighborhood 3: Requisition of Doom remains on the USM Gorham campus for the duration of the shows run, from Sept. 29 to Oct. 8.

ing factor to a production, she ensures that there is something for everyone.

Right from the start, you can tell that you aren't witnessing your average play. The "IRL's," (In Real Life) played by, Ricky Brewster, Elizabeth Donato and Emma Zerbe, gave the performance a certain mystery to it. These actors provided the play with a certain abstract that was profound.

The main characters played their roles well, enhancing the play and bringing the script to life. Through their actions, they gave the audience the ability to indulge themselves in the performance and for 80 minutes imagine they were in this world the production created.

Griffin Gingrich who played "Son Type" brought an intense tone to the character that I thought fit the role well. When I found out that the original cast member for this role had an unfortunate injury two weeks before

opening night and that Griffin only had two weeks to prepare, I was even more in awe of this freshman's performance.

Savannah Irish who was the role of "Mother Type" says, "This is the most proud of a production I've ever been." Irish brought an elegant comedic tone to the role as well as a few heartbreaking moments, her versatility shined through the role.

Irish hopes that this production causes people to talk to each other more. Throughout the play, there is an apparent lack of communication between characters. While Irish reassures that, "This is an extreme version of lack of communication." She hopes that this can cause us to reassess how submerged we are into the technological world.

Irish explains how her favorite part of the play is the last scene. I will say that the last scene was done in a remarkably courageous, creative and abstract way that I

loved to watch. The director and the performers nailed this ending.

While at times this play was hard to follow, I think it enhanced the play because of how even the characters were having troubles deciphering what the real world was and what was the virtual world. Which made me, as an audience member, feel more connected to the characters as they navigated this new world they were introduced to.

While this may not be the play you bring your Grandma to for her 80th birthday, I believe it is perfect for the targeted demographic of college students. It is theatrical, paralyzing and funny. While at times comical it is was also thought-provoking. This play has something that is bound to peak your interest.

This play runs from Sept. 29 to Oct. 8 in Russell Hall on the Gorham Campus.



Jess Ward / Staff Writer

Xiu Xiu epitomizes emotional expression in the new age of music

Jess Ward
Staff Writer

On Thursday, Sept. 21, Portland's Space Gallery was home to the experimental art rock group known as Xiu Xiu. Featuring two of its members that night, Shayna Dunkleman on percussion and synthesizer, and Jamie Stewart on vocals, guitar and cymbal, the group is known for its abstract and unique sound. Often angry and deeply sad, Xiu Xiu uses visceral emotion to orchestrate seemingly chaotic noise into music.

Upon arriving at the Space Gallery's Xiu Xiu show, it seemed that the opposite tone had taken over the room. The era of passionate young punk rockers appeared passed; the benches lining the walls were full of phone-watching silent spectators, undoubtedly scrolling through their feeds and checking their emails. It's a story told a thousand times: teenagers and young adults unable to break the hold social media has on them. The floor space itself was empty, with the exception of one balding man drunkenly flirting with the woman next to him. It isn't what one would expect at such an alternative and progressive concert, and yet, it is undoubtedly predictable. The metaphorical clock ticked on, the suspense

of waiting for the music dissipated by the evident apathy prevailing in the venue.

Then, seemingly out of thin air, a keyboard rings out. The drunk man laughing and guffawing with the woman at the show was an opener, in his band Mr. NEET. His name is Joel Glidden, and he performs with fellow musician Nigel Stevens. The two are philosophy students, which influences their musical themes, which include religion, politics and, most importantly, alcohol. They describe themselves as "synth-pop-punk-kind-of," and their sound is reminiscent of The Flight of the Conchords, New Zealand comedians whose songs are drenched in satire. While performing, the pair are throwing back beer, and getting progressively sloppier and energetic. The crowd responds enthusiastically, as people slowly begin to feel less self-conscious and more amused. Glidden confesses that not every show goes as well, but at the "good ones people dance," and that's clearly the case as a couple of people began enthusiastically jumping and fist-pumping along with the music.

One of these amused participants is Sebastian Shanes, teenager and frequent concert-goer in the Portland area. Shanes says that he's here just because "it's something to do on a Thursday night." When asked

how he finds the courage to dance in a room full of mostly still spectators, Shanes admits that there's always some hesitancy at first, but that music is "freeing, and clears the mind of chaos." He cites this as his source of bravery and reason for dancing. As the show continues, it is clear that not all of the fellow audience members feel just as liberated.

The moment arrives as Xiu Xiu steps on stage, Stewart and Dunkleman both calm and professional as they set up, the audience silent in anticipation. They open with their song "Dear God, I Hate Myself," a piece centered around the struggle of mental illness and self-loathing. The set goes on, as Stewart's voice achingly rings out and Dunkleman's precise percussion skills and timing carry a strong rhythm through the air. The pair were panting and sweating, their performance full of vigor and movement. Dunkleman appears to almost fly in the air, jumping and banging her instruments with pure enjoyment. Stewart seems more serious, but just as passionate, as his songs continue to touch on sensitive and personal topics. The crowd is amazed as he lays everything bare: his emotions, insecurities, sadness. By the time Xiu Xiu played their last song, the room felt electric and alive, quite opposite of how the night

began.

Stewart says that his music is inspired by "barnyard animals and the ugliest possible sounds," and that he writes most of it under the influence of various substances. He laughs a lot, and finds the idea of analyzing his music humorous. When asked how he wants the audience to feel when watching his profoundly personal and raw performance, he says only that "it's not any of my [his] business, and I can't control the reactions of others." He does, however, admit to some kind of stage fright, commenting that he "keeps his head down and his eyes shut for a reason." It's understandable why Stewart wouldn't want to watch the reaction of the crowd. However, everyone in attendance seemed to be in awe of his honesty. The music centered around ideas like loneliness, anger, depression and love. When Xiu Xiu stepped off the stage, there wasn't a phone in sight.

Perhaps punk rock and the emotions that come with it aren't dead, just reborn. As the crowd watched reverently as Stewart cried into his microphone, sweat pouring down his face and body, begging to be heard, it was clear that the truth in music will persist even in the age of apathy.

Princess Nokia's 1992 Deluxe is everything hip-hop should be in 2017

Cormac Riordan
Staff Writer

Although it's Princess Nokia's first mixtape, 1992 Deluxe is not the first mixtape by Destiny Frasqueri. She began rapping in 2010 as Wavy Spice when she was 18. She released two mixtapes before changing her name to Princess Nokia (after the "Obama Phone" she received through welfare, a Nokia) in 2014 and released a series of singles before putting out the EP 1992. Nokia has been praised for the feminist and LGBT themes in her music, which come through strong on 1992 Deluxe. She is also no stranger to controversy, having gotten into a fight with a man in the crowd of her show at Cambridge in early 2017. Reportedly, he yelled obscenities at her before she slapped him and threw her drink at him. She then declared to the audience "that's what you do when a white boy disrespects you."

It's fairly apparent from that quote why we need artists like Princess Nokia in the current music scene. Rappers have never been afraid to voice their opinions about the world they see, and it's always good to hear social commentary come from a young multiracial woman. She clues her audiences in to worlds otherwise unseen by her fans who all come from different backgrounds. She makes her point succinctly and powerfully in songs like Mine, where she raps "I lie a lot from getting beaten and put off food, I'm not eating/Eczema so bad I'm bleeding, but I smile and keep it cheesing/A nerdy girl with nymphomaniac tendencies/Everyone's offended but nobody here offended me." She creates a powerful image of herself out of being humble and real, she's a role model that's not afraid to make mistakes.

Tomboy, the second song on 1992 Deluxe, opens with a beat that builds by overlaying sounds, starting with a drum-beat, then a whistle, then a motorcycle revving, and finally a series of snaps. Then the first verse begins, with a line that will repeat in the chorus and plenty of brags and a comparison to Missy Elliot, all before ending with a sample from blues clues and going into the chorus. A repetition of the line "my little titties and my phat belly" and, later, "that girl is a tomboy" make up the bulk of it. While it may seem easy to write this off as a "typical" SoundCloud trap song, it's far beyond most of the genre, even coming from a fan of the sound. Nokia has distinct influences from some rappers that classic Hip-Hop fans drool over, such as Biggie Smalls and Big L. But she is not above trap influences as well, creating a more unique sound than a rapper who is dedicated too much to the past. Her melding of the old and new, the classic and the current, is what makes Nokia such an exciting new talent on the field of current Hip-Hop.

Take, for example, her song ABCs of New York. She raps, "Sitting on the steps outside the Natural History/ New York fucking City and I love the history/Everything a melting pot/Every block is fucking hot/83rd the train stop." Compare this to any classic New York Hip-Hop song and the similarities are numerous. She is distinctly her own, however, and shows this in the song Brujas, all about her Puerto Rican and Yoruban ancestry. "I'm that Black a-Rican bruja straight out from the Yoruba/And my people come from Africa diaspora, Cuba/And you mix that Arawak, that original people/I'm that Black Native American, I vanquish all evil" she raps in the second verse on the track. She is uniquely herself, and not afraid of what may come from that.



Photo courtesy of Princess Nokia, Twitter

1992 Deluxe is an important mixtape in a time of important Hip-Hop, making it possible for something like this to slip through the cracks. I implore you to not let that happen, to listen to and treasure this tape, and to spread it to the rap fans you know. It's a powerful collection of songs that can be enjoyed both as party songs and ones that have significance to social issues, which is something we all really all we want out of a Hip-Hop project.

FP

Keller Williams gives Free Press exclusive preview

Mary Ellen Aldrich
Arts & Culture Editor

On Saturday, Oct. 7, Aura in downtown Portland will welcome Keller Williams, a one man band. Williams uses a loop pedal and an acoustic guitar to create his "acoustic dance music" (ADM). Tying in notes of rock, bluegrass, funk, free jazz and electronica, Williams creates a complex sound that energizes and captivates his audience. Having recently been listed alongside Katy Perry, Harry Styles and The Weeknd by Entertainment Weekly as one of the top fall concerts to attend, Williams' performance is expected to be a fantastic one.

Williams is a self taught musician and combines different instruments to create his songs. When Williams is on stage, everything is fresh and real, everything is a 'take-one' and there's no pre-recording. While most people would want to ensure that everything was perfect before stepping out on stage, Keller Williams takes a more improv kind of approach. In some of his live recordings he's stopped mid-song and said "that's not how it goes" and proceeded to restart as if nothing happened.

Williams' first album, FREEK was released in 1994. His most recent two albums, RAW and SYNC follow his trend of having monosyllabic names which sum up the focus of the album. Keller Williams started out as an independent artist in the early 90's and has been ignoring the boundar-

ies of music genres ever since. He strives to create a unique sound that he enjoys with the hope that his audience will enjoy it as well. Williams didn't want to get involved with automatic sequencers yet still didn't want to go solo with the guitar forever. One of Williams' other albums, DREAM, is dedicated solely to recording Williams' music with bands and artists whom he looks up to and admires for their talent.

The variation in Williams' music causes the listener to stop and think beyond 'that's a cool song' and moving on, but instead 'what is this guy up to?' and sticking around to figure it out. There are so many tastes of different genres in his music, including a slightly acapella component at some points during some of his songs. The variation in his music can likely be attributed to Williams' many travels and experiences that range from solo-ing it, to working with former Grateful Dead drummers, to The Travelin' McCourys to a husband-wife duo known as The Keels. Working with these and other artists has lead Williams to produce albums and singles ranging across genres from folk, to bluegrass, funk, hip-hop, alternative, free jazz and even rock.

The one-man-jam-band is so eclectic that people from different backgrounds, generations and taste in music can all find something of interest within Williams' performance. His music sometimes contains some tongue-in-cheek mention of politics or other matters, showing his humor but not always revealing his view on the matter. In several of his

recording sessions he does away with shoes and plays barefoot. He doesn't appear to be a man easily swayed by the popular opinion, in neither his music, nor his style choices.

Keller Williams' music is the type of music that can be put on for studying, dancing, jamming out or hanging with friends. Usually people don't see music as being a one-size-fits-all, Keller Williams has gotten it pretty close. His show Saturday night should draw in a crowd as diverse as his music. Although Williams has worked with bands and groups, and even started up a few of his own, he always seems to go back to his original solo act. Williams' has written many of his own songs, but also enjoys covers and has an entire album, called Thief, that is dedicated to covers. He's covered many bands and artists, including The Grateful Dead, Pink Floyd, Bee Gees, Cage the Elephant, AC/DC and many more.

Keller Williams' show on October 7th is certainly looking to be an event worth attending. He'll finish his show in New Hampshire on Friday, and then after his Saturday performance here, Williams will be headed to Vermont, Arkansas, Montana and several other states in the U.S. before the end of his tour in January where he'll perform in Miami, Florida. Anyone interested in buying tickets to his performance in Portland or for more information about Williams and his music journey visit his website.

FP

MOVIE TALK

Game of Thrones season recap

Daniel Kilgallon
Staff Writer

When looking back on the eventful seventh season of HBO's *Game of Thrones*, the word bittersweet comes to mind for several different reasons. First of all, it is hard to come to terms with the idea that there will only be six more episodes of my favorite television show and it seems like it will be at least another year before it starts to air again. Given how popular and profitable the series has been, spinoffs seem inevitable, but nonetheless, this core story is sadly coming to a close. On a more positive note, the show writers have done just about everything right so far, creating a real chance to finish on a high note and cement *Thrones* as one of the singular greatest series in this history of television.

It is impressive that *Thrones* has continued to deliver high quality content over the years, especially when considering the fact that many storylines in recent seasons have surpassed the source material; George R.R. Martin's *A Song of Ice and Fire*. Serving as a co-executive producer of the series, the author has supposedly had conversations with the showrunners explaining exactly how he intends for the books to end someday. That being said, it has become more and more clear that the screenplay is not coming straight from the pages anymore.

This brings me to my next bittersweet feeling with the shortened (seven episode) penultimate season of *Thrones*, and that is largely concerned with the pace of the storytelling. I appreciated that the plot really picked up steam and there was excitement in each and every episode of the season. But at the same time, I feel as if this story could have benefited from stretching out over the course of a few more episodes. In previous years, the show followed a pretty clear formula containing build up episodes full of character development before finishing off with a pair of action packed, eventful episodes. The choice to lean towards two "half seasons" of sorts seemed to cause the loss of that structure, but is good to understand that these sto-



Photo courtesy of HBO

rytellers are well aware that they would be shooting themselves in the foot if *Thrones* overstayed its welcome. As a result, there was hardly a chance to catch your breath in the seventh season, with more going on than ever before. For example, the opening scene of Arya Stark assuming the role of Walder Frey and fatally poisoning all of his house really set the tone for everything else to come.

With Arya's introduction certainly making the cut, I would like to take this chance to point out a few more of my favorite moments from the seventh season of *Thrones*. To carry on with Arya's arc, I think that she firmly established herself as the most deadly killer in the game this year, and her long overdue slaughtering of Petyr Baelish (Littlefinger) was simply the icing on the cake for that title. Aside from that, the standout part of this season for me was the loot train sequence from "The Spoils of War" (episode four). I think that is the best action we have seen from the show yet and a brighter color palette than any previous major battle was incredibly effective.

Needless to say, I am absolutely ecstatic for the finale season and I hardly even know what to expect. It is somewhat crushing that fan favorites Jon and Daenerys fell for each other so quickly and it will be interesting to see how their inevitably tragic love story will play out. Of course, we now know that Jon is technically her nephew as well as the rightful heir to the Iron Throne. I hate to admit it, but I doubt that my favorite character will assume his rightful role when it is all said and done. Based on the ruthless nature of *Thrones*, I believe that the Night King will use his newly acquired ice dragon and unstoppable army to wipe out the people of Westeros, proving that, in terms of the big picture, their wars were nothing but a game.

Photo courtesy of HBO



A&C Listings

Monday, October 2

Every Big Dream Starts Somewhere
Hannaford Hall - 88 Bedford St.
USM Portland Campus
Starts: 6:00 p.m. / Ends: 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 3

Choke & Croon: An evening of literary and musical synergy
Space Gallery
538 Congress St, Portland
Starts: 7:00 p.m. / Ends: 11:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 4

Jonny Lang Signs World Tour
Aura
121 Center St., Portland
Starts: 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 5

Resonance and Memory: The Essence of Landscape Opening Reception
Art Gallery
USM Gorham Campus
Starts 5:00 p.m. / Ends: 7:00 p.m.

Friday, October 6

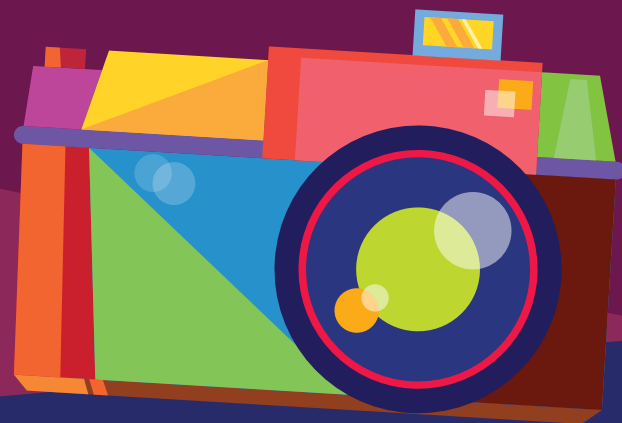
International Open Mic
Mayo Street Arts
10 Mayo St, Portland
Starts: 7:00 p.m. / Ends: 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 7

Keller Williams
Aura
121 Center St., Portland
Starts: 9:00 p.m.

Want to submit an event?
maryellen@usmfreepress.org

JOURNALISM WORKSHOPS



JOIN US 9am to 3pm on Saturday, October 7th
in McKernan Center on the SMCC Campus

Topics will include Story Construction, First Amendment,
Photo Journalism, Illustrating for Newspapers, Typography for
Journalism, Social Media Panel Discussion, Personal
Journalistic Narratives and the Role of the Editorial Staff
Beyond the Printed Page.

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Perspectives

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This Week in Winchester

Fitting in as an American in England

Julie Pike
Staff Writer

One of the reasons I chose to study at the University of Winchester was the fact that I'd be going to a country that spoke the same language.

What I didn't realize until I got here, is that while I speak the same language as everyone in England, I don't always understand them. Whether it be the different slang or how fast they talk, it can take some extra time for me to understand what British people are saying.

At this point I've only been in England for a little over a week, but it didn't take long for me to notice the difference between cultures. As my classes, or modules as they are referred to here, began this week, one thing that became apparent was the amount of effort British students put into how they look each day. I was used to being able to go to class wearing a pair of leggings and a sweatshirt and not feeling like an outsider, but here in England no one would show up to their module in sweats. Even in my early morning classes most of the students well put together, this is a foreign concept to me.

The other day I walked into the food hall around noon to grab lunch, just after going to the gym, so naturally my hair was a mess and I was in typical workout clothes. I could quickly tell I was the odd one out as every girl there seemed to have their hair and makeup all done and their outfits carefully planned out. Luckily I was grabbing my lunch to go and could quickly make my way out of there.

I'm one who often rolls into my morning classes with my hair still wet from the shower, as I don't like using a blow dryer. But I have yet to see any other student do the same. Instead everyone has their hair neatly styled, and not in a frizzy mess like mine. The extent of styling I do is brushing my hair once maybe twice a day. Maybe it's time to invest in a blow dryer.

Besides the fact that I clearly have a different accent from a majority of the people here, I thought for the most part I could blend in. I could get used to dressing up a bit more for lectures and going out into town.

It was pointed out to me by none other than a homeless man that was walking along the streets of downtown Winchester, that my three other American friends and I clearly looked American. This man had not even heard us speak, but somehow knew where we were from right away. For those of you who know me, you know that I have pale skin and red hair, so I thought for certain I could somewhat fit in among British students, but I suppose not.

Once people do discover that I am in fact American, they all feel compelled to mention President Trump at some point in the conversation, to which I politely reply that I would rather not talk about the politics of my country. However when they ask, "how does it feel to have Trump as your president?" it's hard not to delve into my thoughts on that.

Another common question I'll get from local students is what part of the country I am from. I'll often get a blank stare as I mention I'm from the state of Maine. I've found that it's easier to just mention that I'm close to Canada so as

not to confuse them too much.

While I don't expect myself to come back to the states having a different accent, I wouldn't be surprised if I brought back some of the common slang. I've gotten used to calling french fries chips, but I still catch myself saying dollars instead of pounds. Other notable slang I've picked up have been, an umbrella is called a brolly, a sweater is a jumper, and you never refer to a pub as a bar. One thing that took me by surprise is that people will come up to you and ask, "are you okay?" when they are actually asking if they can help you with anything. When I was first approached by someone asking if I was okay I was taken aback, thinking that I looked awful or sick, or that I just looked completely lost, when it turned out they were just being polite and helpful.

As the semester goes on I'm sure it will become easier to get used to living in an entirely new country, but for now I'll just have to accept that I am the odd one in the crowd.

Online textbooks

Jessica Pike
Staff Writer

One of the biggest expenses concerning college students are textbooks. They aren't necessarily covered by financial aid, so the money may come straight out of a student's pocket, and the cost of these textbooks are sometimes enormous. They get more expensive each year as new editions come out to keep up with the fountains of new information. Not only that, but this is the generation dedicated to electronics. So why shouldn't textbooks be converted to online formats?

There are probably many reasons why people prefer an actual paper book compared to the screen of a kindle. They're easier to read, have better aesthetics, and sometimes the feel of a book in your hands is comforting, at least to me. However, textbooks that can be found online are more easily distributed, therefore cheaper to buy. It's also a great deal better than carrying around a full backpack which has been known to cause early back pain among young adults. Laptops can weigh as little as two pounds, and easily fits into a bag. Even if a student didn't own their own laptop, there are computer labs and libraries found that students everywhere can have access to.

Another pro is that it's great for the environment. Imagine the millions of trees that are cut down each year for books. If it was converted online, there would be less of a need for them to be chopped down. It's also easier to take notes, annotate and highlight on the computer than in a book. Typing is by far faster than handwriting, and it could cut the time spent on homework down astronomically. Of course computers make it easier to get distracted, but that can happen with a regular textbook too. If someone really can't focus on what they are supposed to be doing, then they're going to find one way or another to distract themselves anyways.

Online textbooks also have the ability to have access to more updated and accurate information at a much quicker pace. It's more difficult to ruin an online textbook when they can be saved and sent from laptop to laptop. With a real book, things can spill on it, a dog can get hold of it and sometimes you set it down someplace and just don't remember where. It is even proven that most students learn and test better on an electronic device than from paper.

Overall, online textbooks just seem to be more practical, and it teaches a lot of much needed technology skills. You can save tons of money, even if only by not having to pay shipping prices or for gas to pick them up from a bookstore, which can instead be used to pay back student loans. It's no secret that some people prefer hard copies, so why not give the option to choose? America is, after all, a democracy. If it's not too difficult to teach it that way, then some students can use hard copies while others can use online versions. However, it'll be a long while before the concept of even using computers for textbooks will be brought up in schools. For now, students are stuck with the expensive, outdated bound books we use today.



Photo courtesy of Julie Pike

FP

FP

My journey to becoming a part of the ROCC

Micaela Manganello
Contributor

Thursday, August 25th, 2016. For most, this was probably another normal day. Some might have been enjoying the beautiful weather and holding on to those last weeks of summer vacation. Others might have been at work waiting for the day to pass so they could be closer to the weekend. For me, this was the day that both devastated me and put me on the path that I'm on today.

My cousin David had struggled with mental health issues from childhood trauma for most of his life. As a kid, I never really saw this side of him. I only remember swimming with him in his pool, playing soccer in his basement while listening to his music, and later on watching him play for his high school soccer team. But it was during his adolescence where he began to battle with a Substance Use Disorder. As I got older, I became more aware of the issues he was facing; getting DUIs and totalling cars, smoking weed, and eventually using heroin. He was eventually arrested and spent some time in jail, and tried to enter sober houses and begin the process of recovery. He tried moving to Florida to move away from his past and start fresh with new surroundings and new people. Unfortunately, it didn't work out.

Flash forward to the morning of August 25th, 2016. I was starting my second year as an RA and I was about a week and a half into training. When I woke up that morning to start my day, I got a call from my mother telling me that David had passed away overnight from an overdose. I remember breaking down into sobs and trying to process this information. How could this possibly happen when he was trying to turn everything around? The grief I faced from this loss ended up impacting me a great deal. It affected my school work and even some of the friendships I had. This was the first death of someone who was close to me

that I had to cope with, and I didn't know how to deal with it.

One day when I was taking a shower, where most of my great ideas come from, I thought to myself "I want to make a difference and do something so no one else has to go through what David and my family had to. I want to turn this experience into something positive and beneficial." I remembered two people, Diane Geyer and Anna Gardner, coming to talk to the RAs during training about this new place called the Recovery Oriented Campus Center and how they were looking for front desk greet-

ers. Long story short, I ended up interviewing for the position and I became the first work study student at the ROCC.

Through this job, I've learned so much about what recovery means and how to best support someone who is in recovery or seeking it. I remember times where I thought I was helping David with the "tough love" method: telling him that he has to want to make the changes in his life like it was all under his control. I didn't realize how stigmatizing and wrong this way of thinking was. Educating myself on Substance Use Disorders and understanding that it's a dis-

order of the brain that people can't control, not a decision that someone chooses to make and chose to stop when they want to, has helped me change my frame of thinking. I have the ROCC to thank for that.

I have also learned that building connections and having unconditional support can help someone in long term recovery tremendously. This principle is what the ROCC is founded on; being a community based on peer to peer support that helps to foster personal growth and connections within this community. We do this by having fellow students run support groups for students who are in recovery or seeking recovery from SUDs or mental health conditions. Recovery allies are welcome to participate in them as well. We also have trips and events to help bond and form those connections with one another.

Being a part of this community has not only helped me become more educated about recovery, but has also brought so many other wonderful things into my life. I have met so many incredible, inspiring, and supportive people that I am so thankful to work with and know. They have all welcomed me with open arms into their community; not once have I ever felt like an outsider for being an ally and not in recovery. Working here has also inspired me to be a role model amongst my peers as well as pursue a profession in the addiction field when I graduate. I want to help educate people about person-first language and how it can help decrease the stigma around SUDs. I hope to show people that supporting those with an SUD or a mental health condition no matter what situation they are in instead of shaming them, showing them compassion, and treating them like a person and not a problem is incredibly important. I want to keep making a difference in people's lives and do right by my cousin. As cliché as it sounds, I honestly don't know what I would do without the ROCC and I am so fortunate and proud to be a part of it.

FP



Photo courtesy of Micaela Manganello

USM student attends rally in Augusta over the weekend

Andrew Volkers
Contributor

Saturday, Sept. 30 a broad coalition of left leaning political groups, including Maine John Brown Gun Club, Portland Confront Community Network for Resistance Organizing and Training (CONFRONT), International Socialist Organization: Portland, ME, Socialist Party of Maine, Socialist Alternative Maine, Bangor Racial and Economic Justice Coalition, Greater Portland SURJ, Central Maine SURJ, SURJ So Maine/Seacoast, March Forth

Maine, Resources for Organizing and Social Change - ROSC, Progressive Portland, Southern Maine Democratic Socialists of America, and Greater Bangor Area Branch Maine NAACP organized a demonstration at Capitol Park in Augusta to challenge a political rally purportedly claiming to "denounce political violence." The rally stems from the growing rhetoric that Donald Trump helped amplify when he made comments on Charlottesville citing violence "on many sides".

This aspect was touched on during the six or so speeches at the counter demonstration. "One of the official images

for their event on their facebook page reads 'no kkk, no antifa, no violent usa' there should be no question, we do not conflate the white supremacist terror of the ku klux klan with the people brave enough to stand and face them," stated Amy [last name withheld], one of the organizers of the counter demonstration and member of the ISO of Portland, Maine.

Attendance of the counter demonstration was somewhere between 60-80 people whereas the rally had an at-

See **RALLY** on page 17



Sustainability and ME

What if everyone is wrong about climate change?

Aaron Witham
Contributor

To some people, climate science seems like straight-up fiction—so why even try to lower your carbon footprint? For others, climate science seems real but also too complicated—so why try to take action if you are not sure which action is best? Finally, some people just plain shut down when they hear about ice caps melting, monster hurricanes, and historic droughts, because any action you can take seems hopeless.

No matter where you fall on the spectrum, it's hard not to think what if I put in all this effort for no reason?

First, you might become healthier. For example, if you pledge to ride your bicycle

“To some people, climate science seems like straight-up fiction—so why even try to lower your carbon footprint? For others, climate science seems real but also too complicated—so why try to take action if you are not sure which action is best?”

to work or school once a week instead of riding in a car, you'll get some additional exercise and get to soak up the last bit of sunshine before the Maine winter comes howling.

Perhaps bike riding is not for you. What about cutting your beef consumption in half, and replacing it with less carbon-intensive foods like turkey or chicken? Beef is not only one of the most carbon intensive foods we eat, it is also higher in calories and cholesterol than many white meats. Better yet, switch your beef for low-carbon vegetables, which are even better for your health.

Second, you might be happier. Riding a bicycle once a week could be good for your mental health, as it will give you a chance

to breath in fresh air and be more present with your surroundings, taking your mind off school and work.

Switching your diet to less intensive carbon food might lead you to buy more locally-produced organic vegetables. You could buy these vegetables at your local farmer's market or you could invest in a CSA (community-supported agriculture) where you get your food directly from a farmer. Either method presents an opportunity for you to build a deeper relationship with your local community. Many people experience great satisfaction by being able to shake their farmer's hand and know that they are supporting the local economy. Better yet, you could plant your own vegetables in your backyard, or in pots in your kitchen if you don't have a backyard, or in a community garden plot at USM. Growing vegetables not only helps some people feel accomplished, but it's also a great motivator for getting outside to breath in the fresh air and watch the seasons change.

Third, you might find yourself more empowered. You could join a University group like the Eco-reps or the Environmental Science & Policy Club to work on tangible projects that help you feel like you're making a difference. If you're a commuter student, perhaps it's more convenient to join your town's local energy team or climate action team instead. In either case, you'll be sharing resources and sharing ideas, building bigger projects than you could have built yourself. You might even make some new friends along the way.

If you don't have time to join a team or a committee, then you could focus on at least exercising your right to vote. Participating in our democracy may not only make you feel empowered as an individual, but it may also inspire others to get involved.

So, back to the original question: what if the scientists are wrong about climate change, and you take all these actions for no reason? The answer is that you might find that you're healthier, happier, and more empowered because of it. Is that such a bad outcome?

To hear more about climate change and the actions you can take, join us for a free event on Wednesday, October 4th from 3:00-5:00 pm at Talbot Hall in Luther Bonney on the Portland campus. The event is being co-hosted by the office of sustainability and CELL (Center for Ecological Living & Learning).

FP

Letter to the Editor

Abortion should be legal without any restriction

Emma Donnelly
Contributor

Content Warning: Rape, Abuse

1 in 3 women will have an abortion by the time they are 45. Most of these women are over 18, most already have one child, and the fact of the matter is: we don't get to have an opinion about what someone does with their body.

If I were to become pregnant today, as a 20 year-old in her third year of undergrad, I would absolutely have an abortion. I can't be pregnant right now, let alone physically have a child, or financially support myself through a pregnancy or birth. Something I don't think a lot of people think about is how much of a commitment being pregnant for 40 weeks actually is, whether you keep the child to raise yourself or have the child adopted. Pre-natal care, maternity clothes, doctor's appointments, and childbirth itself are terribly expensive. Along with the physical demand of gaining weight, carrying a fetus, morning sickness, giving birth, other complications that can be associated with pregnancy, and the emotional demand that comes with giving a baby to someone else to adopt... why should we ever force someone to carry a fetus to term that they do not want?

Becoming pregnant unexpectedly may seem irresponsible, but there are many factors that can lead to an unplanned pregnancy. Birth control can fail! You may think you are doing everything right, and then you find yourself pregnant. It's uncommon, but it happens. Especially considering most people who have abortions are adults with children, not “irresponsible teenagers”. And sometimes you think you are using protection, but turns out your partner deceived you. Have you ever heard of “stealthling”? When the man takes off his condom without telling his partner? That's abusive on so many levels; the partner did not consent, is now at risk for sexually transmitted infections, and now may become pregnant! Also, we do not have adequate sex education in this country. Most high school and college aged people don't

even know the implications of unprotected sex before they start having sex.

If you are someone like me who's ever been in an emotionally abusive relationship, you certainly do not want to be tied to that person for the rest of your life via a child that you conceived together. In my first relationship when I was 16, I was manipulated into thinking this boy loved me. He forced me to have sex, didn't stop when I told him to stop, and I eventually was too scared to say no. I did not even realize that this was abusive at the time. It makes me sick to my stomach to think about what would have happened if I became pregnant in that relationship and was “forced to deal with the consequences” of having his child. No one in high school (or after high school) who becomes pregnant unexpectedly deserves to be “forced to deal with the consequences”, end of story.

How would it even be fair to a child to be born into a situation where it is unwanted in a country that does not have adequate social services to provide for them? Think about the state of Maine, and the amount of hungry school aged children we have here (1 in 4). Think about the entire country, and that in 2015, 670,000 children spent time in U.S. foster care. That's the population of Portland, multiplied by ten, and then some. That's a lot of kids that do not have homes. It isn't a viable option to put a child up for adoption, especially when getting an abortion is a safer procedure than getting your wisdom teeth out.

I could argue for hours about why abortion is a fundamental healthcare procedure. It saves lives, it allows people to have autonomy over their bodies, and then some. The only thing that is truly ours for the entirety of our lives is our body; I refuse to let anyone take that autonomy away from me or anyone else. Even if we think we know the reason why someone is choosing to have an abortion, we will never know the whole story. We can trust the decisions people make about their health care. At the end of the day, we do not get to have an opinion about what anyone does with their body. Abortion is a human right.

FP

To submit a letter to the editor, please email
sarah@usmfreepress.org

Our Opinion

Trump administration fails Puerto Rico

Editorial Board
Free Press Staff

The Trump administration has catastrophically failed the people of Puerto Rico in its response to Hurricane Maria, which has left the island in devastation. Trump initially chose to ignore the U.S. citizens in Puerto Rico whose towns and homes were destroyed and chose instead to spend his time tweeting about NFL players and other sports figures kneeling during the National Anthem in protest against racism in the U.S. The president called on the NFL to fire any “son of a bitch” who chose to kneel during the anthem. Yet for all his “patriotism,” the President seems to have forgotten the people facing unfathomable chaos and destruction in Puerto Rico.

Puerto Rico is a U.S. territory comprising 3.4 million American citizens (that’s 2.4 million more than the state of Maine). Puerto Rico has no representation in the electoral college—citizens are barred from voting in presidential elections. They have no senate representation and one non-voting member in the House of Representatives. In a poll of 2,200 thousand American adults, Morning Consult found that 54 percent of those polled knew that people born in Puerto Rico are U.S. citizens.

According to the New York Times, those who knew Puerto Ricans were U.S. citizens were more likely to support increasing aid sent to the island—“more than 8 in 10 Americans who know Puerto Ricans are citizens support aid, compared with only 4 in 10 who did not.”

When Trump decided to finally speak on the issue, he tweeted on September 25, “Texas & Florida are doing great but Puerto Rico, which was already suffering from broken infrastructure & massive debt, is in deep trouble.” He went on, “Much of the island was destroyed, with billions of dollars owed to Wall Street and the banks which, sadly must be dealt with.”

Trump’s astute observation with regards to why recovery efforts to the island were slowed? “This is an island surrounded by water, big water, ocean water.” History tells us that relief efforts in the past have been rapidly sent, somehow, to places surrounded by water. Even “big water,” even “ocean water.”

The Mayor of San Juan, Carmen Yulín Cruz, expressed shock and frustration upon hearing the Trump Administration’s acting Homeland Security Secretary Elaine Duke’s statements that what’s happening currently in Puerto Rico is “a good news story.”

“When you’re drinking from a creek, it’s not a good news story. When you don’t have food for a baby, it’s not a good news story....I’m sorry but that really upsets me and frustrates me....I would ask you to come down here and visit



Photo courtesy of the American Red Cross

the towns and then make a statement like that, which frankly, it is an irresponsible statement,” Cruz said in an interview with CNN. “Dammit, this is not a good news story. This is a people are dying story. This is a life or death story...”

On Friday, she sent out a plea for help. “I will do what I never thought I was going to do. I am begging, begging anyone who can hear us to save us from dying. If anybody out there is listening to us, we are dying, and you are killing us with the inefficiency,” she said.

In typical fashion, Trump rose early to tweet Saturday morning in response to Cruz’s criticism.

“The Mayor of San Juan, who was very complimentary that you must be nasty to Trump,” he wrote. “Such poor leadership ability by the Mayor of San Juan, and others in Puerto Rico, who are not able to get their workers to help. They want everything to be done for them when it should be a community effort. 10,000 Federal workers now on Island doing a fantastic job.”

When Trump says things like “They want everything done for them,” he is using dog-whistle politics. Author Ian Haney-López explains that dog-whistling “simply means speaking in code to a target audience.”

This isn’t the first time Trump has used racially coded language, and it certainly won’t be the last. From talking about Puerto Rico, to immigration, to the NFL, to Charlottesville, Trump’s insistence that people of color should be “grateful,” respect “our heritage,” aren’t willing to work, and take from “us,” is the kind of dangerous, violent rhetoric that supports white supremacy and white violence.

Hurricane Maria knocked out power to the entire island of Puerto Rico. With the exception of those places running on emergency generators, the island is still waiting for electricity to return. The storm destroyed cars, homes and roads. Though the Puerto Rican government has announced that the official death toll is 16, others have estimated that it could be in the hundreds. Since the island is still without power and may be for many months, communications have been difficult, and the after effects of the storm continue to threaten lives.

The National Weather Service has said Puerto Rico will remain under a flash flood warning throughout the weekend of September 29, which could impede rescue efforts and rebuilding on the island. Trump has stated that he and First Lady Melania Trump will go to Puerto Rico on Tuesday, Oct. 3. Whether or not he will still believe it is “a good news story” after that is still up for question.

FP

From **RALLY** on page 15

tendance of maybe twenty people. The two rallies were separated by a good distance, with the main rally happening at the state house and the counter rally down the hill at Capitol Park.

At the conclusion of the speeches, a group of demonstrators trekked to the state house and peacefully continued the demonstration across the street.

There were many victories to be had on Saturday. These included the broad coalition work of the groups involved,

the direct counter demonstration across the street going swimmingly and without conflict, and outnumbering of the original rally.

The way these racist, sexist, xenophobic, classist, and nationalistic ideas and zealots will be defeated is through the mobilization of the people on the broad left and the success of a united front of groups and organizations. Students were present from UMaine Farmington, Bowdoin, University of Southern Maine and the coalition groups were geographically spread from southern Maine to Ban-

gor.

Let it be said that the true political violence we need to denounce is the humanitarian crisis in Puerto Rico, the stripping of Title IX protections on university campuses, the housing crisis in Portland and nationwide, the acidic beliefs being spewed under the protections of an absolutist free speech, and the ever growing inequality between society’s classes.

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LET'S TALK ABOUT IT



Recently a really good friend of mine talked to me about my use of social media. She felt like who I try to be through social media is a fake version of myself. This got me thinking whether or not it's true. I was hurt and worried when a close friend brought it up because they know who the real me is, but now I don't know what to think. I feel like more people follow my life through social media and what they see is who they think I am. How do I navigate this? How do I manage this pressure to be one person in "real" life and maybe the person I want to be on social media?

Johnna Ossie
Managing Editor

I recently read an article that said couples who post the most of on social media about how happy they are actually likely to be the most insecure in their relationships. I think there are relatively few people in the world who manage to post true, authentic versions of themselves via social media, because that's not really what it was made for.

Back in the days of MySpace, I used to upload sad songs that would start playing as soon as someone opened my page. My "about me" section read something like, "I like laying in grass and listening to Brand New. My friends are the best!!! High school sucks!" That is to say, I'm no stranger to cultivating an online personality that is different than the person you are in the living, breathing world. Many of us have been doing this since we were very young, and I think it would be unfair to pretend like it doesn't affect us in real ways.

That being said, I think it's all relative. It can feel good to get validation from our friends. There's nothing wrong, in my opinion, with having people like your pictures and tell you how great you are. But if you're worried that the people who like your photos aren't getting a true picture of who you are, you can choose how honest you want to be.

There's no social media law that says you can't post on facebook and say you spent the afternoon crying because you saw

someone who sort of looked like your ex girlfriend or that you and your partner got in another fight over who is going to wash the dishes. I pinky promise that you are not alone in most experiences that feel isolating or hard.

Being human is being flawed. I can almost guarantee you that if you post you're having a hard time, you'll find someone who reaches out to support you. For me, being honest about who I am has been one of the greatest reliefs in my life.

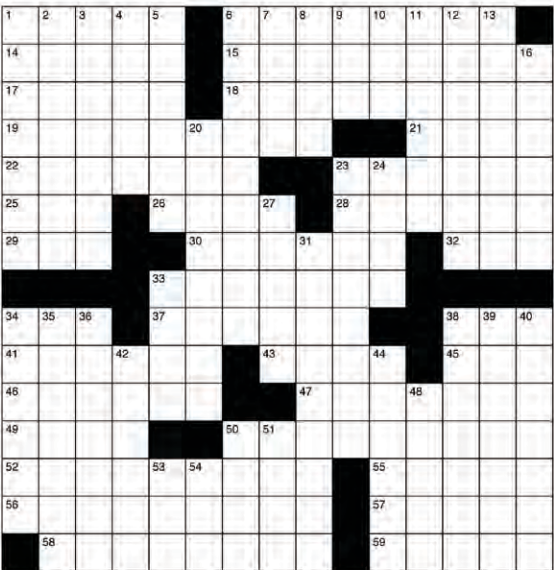
It's easy to get gratification from others about parts of our lives we aren't completely happy with via social media. I have definitely been guilty of lying in a pile of empty food wrappers in my bed, posting a selfie that I took sometime the week before, and knowing that in that moment I'll get validation that I am in fact pretty/ fun/ whatever it is I'm looking for.

I guess the answer I have for how to manage being one person in real life and one person on social media is: you don't have to be. You can be the same person in real life and on social media, if you want to. You can be funny and smart and flawed and sad and joyful all at the same time, because no one person isn't all of those things. You can be holed up in your house for three days with nothing but Thai take out and you can be out hiking and at the beach with your pals. You can experience both things and it doesn't make you any less lovely or any less likeable, in every sense of the word.

Crossword

Across

- 1. Political crime
- 6. Lid edger
- 14. Eagle's home
- 15. Kept track of
- 17. Bound to secrecy
- 18. Get used to one's surroundings
- 19. Called like a swan or elephant
- 21. Osiris' wife
- 22. "The Thieving Magpie" composer
- 23. Moola
- 25. Mineral suffix
- 26. Cpl. and Sgt.
- 28. Lament
- 29. These, to the French
- 30. Win over
- 32. One way to get Google's attention? (abbr.)
- 33. Start a long-distance call, say
- 34. German article
- 37. Head over heels
- 38. Rap doctor?
- 41. To some extent
- 43. Cornhusker's state: Abbr.
- 45. MCD competitor on the NYSE
- 46. Devout Iranian
- 47. Get-together at work
- 49. Dutch painter Frans
- 50. Sucrose, for one
- 52. Egyptian battleground of 1942
- 55. Stop ____ traffic
- 56. Hindrance
- 57. Parts in plays
- 58. Hates
- 59. Go formal



Down

- 1. Of the stomach
- 2. Penned anew
- 3. Wakens
- 4. Law corporations, e.g.
- 5. Tough pickup for some bowlers
- 6. Unlike Mr. Spock
- 7. Bygone times
- 8. Oklahoma city
- 9. Fib
- 10. BBC rival
- 11. Jotting down
- 12. Rubber tips on pencils
- 13. Pension beneficiary
- 16. Mississippi River discoverer Hernando
- 20. Pregnant
- 23. Hive male
- 24. Middle of a noted palindrome
- 27. Parlor
- 31. Symphony parts
- 33. ____ cheap
- 34. Served up
- 35. Took a deep breath
- 36. Remove hair
- 38. Die out
- 39. Goes back on
- 40. Occupy completely
- 42. Airplane passageways
- 44. Put the brakes on
- 48. Voice above baritone
- 50. Comprehends
- 51. Rosé or Merlot
- 53. With "A," a retiree's org.
- 54. Hosp. scan

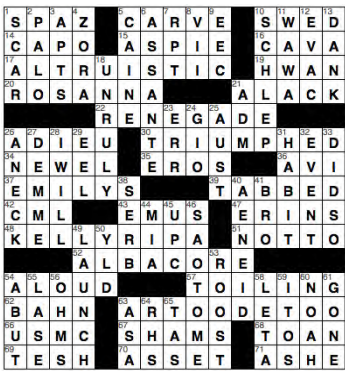
Cryptogram

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

PJB LBOXNTB LPCPNHA CUQCFL TJCORBE
WHO CNO. PJB F THALNEBOBE NP PJB
THLP HW NAWUCPNHA.

And here is your hint:
T = C

The solution to last issue's crossword



Sudoku

Level of difficulty: Easy

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

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

Word Search

Theme: Nintendo

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



- Bowser
- Donkey Kong
- Ganon
- Kirby
- Link
- Luigi
- Mario
- McCloud
- Mii
- Pikmin
- Rover
- Samus Aran
- Sonic
- Starfy
- Tom Nook
- Wario
- Yoshi
- Zero



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USM Community Page

Gloria S. Duclos Convocation begins ceremoniously

Year long event focused on race and participatory democracy

Kate Rogers
Staff Writer

Friday morning on the lawn in front of Payson Smith Hall, USM student Mariana Angelo led hundreds of audience members in a chant adopted and used by protestors across America, “It is our duty to fight for our freedom. It is our duty to win. We must love each other and support each other. We have nothing to lose but our chains.” Leaning against the front of the podium was a sign placed there by a mystery student, with the words “Black Lives Matter” printed clearly on it.

This was the kickoff for the 2017 Convocation at USM. Convocation is a faculty-led initiative in which every three to five years a theme is chosen and events following the theme occur throughout the year. It was started when USM Professor Gloria S. Duclos was appointed to the Walter E. Russell Endowed Chair in 1981 and put the money given to her towards a fund that USM uses now for convocation. Over the years convocation has covered themes like The Age of The Computer in 1983, Arts in Our Lives in 1986, and Religion and the Human Experience in 1999.

According to Provost Jeannine Uzzi, the goal of Convocation is to start a conversation and promote public debate. In President Cummings’ introductory speech on Friday, he called it a “great convening.” Convocation invites students, community, scholars and experts from all over America to be a part of the dialogue.

The theme for this year, proposed by Honors Program Director Rebecca Nisetich and African American history professor Leroy Rowe, is race and participatory democracy. “This convocation theme responds to a national conversation,” said Uzzi when asked about the importance of the subject. Talking about the social environment in America under Trump’s presidency, she said that, “Expressions of racism are not new, they’ve always been there but now people are feeling empowered to express them...now we can’t pretend that we are post racism. We have to address it and this is one way to do it.”

In his first speech during the event, Cummings discussed the steps USM has taken and is currently taking towards equality, mentioning gender-neutral bathrooms and expansions to the multicultural center. Nisetich and Rowe



Bradford Spurr / Director of Photography

Gerald Talbot stands to address the audience at the kickoff of Convocation after being recognized for his work in the Portland community.

then framed the theme. Both of them spoke about everyone as individuals putting aside differences and trying to understand others. Rowe told the audience, “From time to time our democracy requires fixing...we each have a responsibility.”

Four USM students were invited to the podium next. The first was Mariana Angelo, a sociology major. She bluntly called out USM for allowing racism to take place on campus, recounting one of her own experiences and saying, “This university has failed us.” To her fellow people of color she offered words of encouragement, saying “you are magic, and the sun rises and falls on you.” She ended with the aforementioned chant, bringing the entire crowd together.

Following Angelo, U.S. Marine and political science major Omar Andrews talked about meeting with Governor LePage and putting aside their differences in agreement over a student loan bill. Marketing major Joe Menard discussed using white privilege as a tool to fight back against white supremacy and a way to provide resources to people of color. Finally, chemistry major Pamela Jean Keehn

spoke of the Native American community and the struggle to make their voices heard in America. “If our concerns aren’t addressed, there is no hope for change,” Keehn said. On the further importance of this convocation, Keehn ended by saying, “There are people out there willing to listen if we are willing to speak up.”

Following the student speakers, Robin Talbot spoke on the importance of community in helping build a better society. Once she had spoken, Cummings presented an award to her parents Gerald and Anita Talbot. Gerald and Anita have been civil rights activists since the 1960s and Gerald was both the first African American elected to the Maine House of Representatives in 1972 and the first president of the NAACP in Portland. The award was given to recognize them both for their immense contributions to human rights progress in Maine.

The keynote speaker for the event was Dówtóti Désir. Désir has a master’s degree in Contemporary Art and Critical theory from Bard college, is an expert for the International Slavery Museum Conference and is a chairperson for the AfroAtlantic Theologies &

Treaties Institute. In her speech Désir focused on how democracy is in danger in America and citizens’ part in repairing it. She praised Convocation for giving voice to, in her words, “Our collective vision as activists.” Concerning the audience’s responsibility, she continued by saying, “And yes, activists whether or not you know that you are...you define a space of engagement brimming with the agency to change what happens to yourselves and fellow citizens, documented and undocumented.”

Convocation at USM in 2017 is a call to action, both to the individual and the collective to put aside their differences and make their voices heard. The calendar of Convocation events can be found on the school website and includes numerous panels, keynotes and film series. According to Nisetich, music and art and culture will also be a huge part of the events.

“What we are hoping is that convocation gives the university and the greater Portland community an opportunity to learn more... and to think more critically,” Nisetich said.



People of USM Catherine Barbarits

Dionne Smith
Community Editor

The Women and Gender Studies program has many interesting people, one of them being Catherine Barbarits, the coordinator of the Women and Gender Studies program, who started working at USM last September. Her job as the coordinator is making sure that the program is always running smoothly, doing a variety of jobs such as managing Work Study students and co-advising the Gender Studies Student Organization.

Barbarits grew up in Durham, New Hampshire, a college town that houses the University of New Hampshire (UNH). Growing up there, she attended UNH where she found philosophy. She also studied women's studies and had a minor in queer studies, which was a new major during her senior year.

"I found my way to philosophy through feminism because there was a class called philosophy of feminism and I thought, why not just take that," Barbarits said. She notes how, when she was a freshman, she didn't call herself a feminist because she didn't understand what feminism was truly about, and didn't understand the oppression. As she went through college, her views began to change as she witnessed violence against women and witnessed the oppression women face. Seeing the oppression is what guided her towards gender studies.

During her time in college, she became an activist for feminism and helped form a group on campus called the Woman's Union. "A lot of what we did was respond to sexist events on campus," Barbarits said. The group's focus was raising awareness of sexual assault on campus that stemmed from the large amount of fraternities on campus. Members experimented with different forms of activism as well, such as civil disobedience and coalition building with other programs on campus.

The program helped her learn what to do as an activist, and what not to do, and the professors and faculty supported her activism. Aside from the normal things that people learn from college, like time management, she said that learning what a feminist is, becoming one, and being an activist for feminism helped shape who she is as a person and how she thinks



Dionne Smith / Community Editor

Catherine Barbarits in her office in the Women and Gender Studies building.

about the world around her.

Once she graduated from college, she tried living in Brooklyn, New York, but the city was too big for her. She enjoys going out in nature and found that hard to do in a large city. She was interested in Portland be-

"One of my goals for my job in general is to support the activist and be the bridge."

- Catherine Barbarits
Women and Gender Studies
Coordinator

cause it is close from Durham, and she found Portland to be a good middle ground for both the city environment and going out into nature. "[Portland] just feels like a livable city," Barbarits said. She took a job working for the Women and Gender Studies Program because it spoke to her strongly, being an activist and a feminist herself. She expressed how excited she was to return to a learning community.

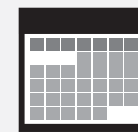
While she is working here, she wants to meet and support the student activists at USM, wanting to put them

in contact with other people and organizations that help activists. With students already having their classes as well as having jobs, it can be hard for student activist to get in contact with people who can support them.

WGS have already held many events in the past, such as having Özlem Altioğlu, a Turkish feminist and scholar who talked about gender and religion in Turkey, and the Say Now event last year in relation to Donald Trump winning the presidency where people came and expressed their stories and how they felt. There are more events planned for this year.

Barbarits also wants students to take more Women and Gender Studies classes, saying that once you've taken it, your view on the world changes vastly. She also wants students to feel invited to the space that they have available to use, and to never be afraid to walk in.

She expressed that she is very motivated to expand the program, and wants to help build on the program as much as possible, creating continuity in an environment that contains so many commuter students. She wishes to continue working hard to raise awareness for feminism and for more students to know what WGS is. "One of my goals for my job in general is to support the activist and be the bridge," Barbarits said.



Community Events

Monday, Oct. 2

Apple Fest
USM Gorham campus
Brook Student Center
Starts: 11 a.m. / Ends: 1 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 3

Stay Up Late
Print: A Book Store
273 Congress Street
Starts: 7 p.m. / Ends: 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 4

L.L. Bean Maine College Night
L.L. Bean
95 Main Street, Freeport
Starts: 6 p.m. / Ends: 11:59 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 5

Crique Du Soleil-Kurios
Portland Exposition building
239 Park Avenue
Starts: 8 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 6

Freeport Fall Festival
Freeport
95 Maine St, Freeport
Starts: 11 a.m. / Ends: 4 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 7

Old Port Culinary Walking Tour
Old Port
Starts: 10:30 a.m. / Ends: 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 8

Pumpkin Patch By The Sea
Alewife's Brook Farm
83 Old Ocean House Road
Starts: 10 a.m.

Want us to include your event?
dionne.smith@usmfreepress.org

Sports

Monday

Field Hockey

vs. Bowdoin College
3:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Women's Tennis

@ UMass. Boston
3:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Men's Soccer

@ Thomas College
7:00 p.m.

Thursday

Golf

@ Augusta Country Club
10:00 a.m.

Saturday

Men's Cross Country

@ Franklin Park, Boston
11:00 a.m.

Sports Perspective: Take a Knee

River Plouffe Vogel

Sports Editor

Recently the sports world has been rocked with controversy over players kneeling or choosing to stay in locker rooms during the national anthem. This of course isn't entirely new but is a trend that has slowly, yet not so quietly, burst onto the national stage and simultaneously caused a national debate. However, trying to define and describe the parameters of this debate is not so easy.

It would be unfair to lump all the opinions into two broad opposing sides, in fact it would be impossible to really encapsulate all the different opinions. It's rare that such an important and dynamic debate be raised in sports on the national level, and for that reason, I feel like it deserves special attention. First and foremost, regardless of what anyone says, this is not about a flag or anthem, this is about the marginalization of minorities in the United States. This is about athletes exercising their first amendment rights to peacefully and respectfully protest against something history can entirely back up, and does.

So let's start from the beginning--before Sunday's series of events, before the President's controversial comments, and before Colin Kaepernick started kneeling over a year ago. America was founded on slavery, and I will have this debate with anyone who is willing. Many of the founding fathers owned slaves and an overwhelming majority of presidents in the first twenty years of our nation came from Virginia, the largest slave holding state. Slavery was specifically not mentioned in the Constitution because the framers knew they couldn't have a complete union, with the participation of the southern states, without protecting slave owners' interests. It was a compromise with evil, simply put.

We cannot ignore the deep history of racism, sexism and segregation in this country. We do not live in a post racial society. The ripple effect of such extensive, damaging and discriminatory laws can still be felt today in neighborhoods, schools, the workplace, the courthouse, politics and prisons. Of course there have been leaps and bounds, of course we've seen massive victories for equality, social justice, liberty and the advancement



Photo courtesy of ESPN

Cleveland Brown players kneel in protest during the national anthem before their game against the Indianapolis Colts on Sunday, Sept. 24.

of millions of marginalized people, but that fight is long from over.

Statistically in this country, even today, you're at a disadvantage if you're a minority. That doesn't mean you can't grasp the "American dream" but it does mean you will probably have to fight through more barriers to get there. These facts can't be ignored or justified. The point is, there is a rhyme and reason for these players to protest. It certainly doesn't come from nowhere, it comes from our shared history, one we can be ashamed and proud of, but one we can't just ignore, or treat as the past and shove aside.

The history of sports has been no different. It has seen its fair share of inequality, sexism and discrimination. From Jackie Robinson to Title IX, it's been a long fight. Athletes like Muhammad Ali paved the way for millions of people to rise up in protest for a war they didn't start or want to be a part of. Women like Billie Jean King shed the spotlight on the huge pay gaps between male and female


tennis players in 1973, something the American women's national soccer team is still dealing with today, almost fifty years later. And now, in the NFL where two-thirds of the players are Black, they are starting to take a stand, or knee, if you will.

If anyone has ever listened to or watched a sports show, they know that they are brutal. Typically a bunch of guys, who never played beyond high school, sit there and just rip into the moral fiber of these young players. They are merciless. They criticize and analyze their every move and complain they aren't grateful enough for how much they get paid.

It should be noted that NFL players get paid so much because people choose to buy into sports, big time. And they make pennies to a dollar when compared to owners and literally thousands of other people who profit off their play, and that's not even mentioning college sports. We take these young players, throw them under a national spotlight, expect them to play a very aggressive, competitive

game where they are told to win or get off the field, where they are tossed aside when injured and then they are expected to be model citizens for youth. Most of these guys are under twenty-five, playing a game where even just the fans' emotions are so high you see people crying and shouting, friendships lost and even families at odds, over a game. And that's the reality here, these guys are out there risking their butts for our enjoyment, but at the end of a day, it's just a game.

But when they take a knee, they are silently, respectfully speaking out against a real injustice, against issues in our country that actually affect the lives and welfare of millions of Americans. We idolize them, we worship them, we wear their jerseys and fantasize playing in their shoes. Think about it, sports is like a religion, some people care more about sports than they do school, relationships, work. When these players try to say something, people should listen.



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