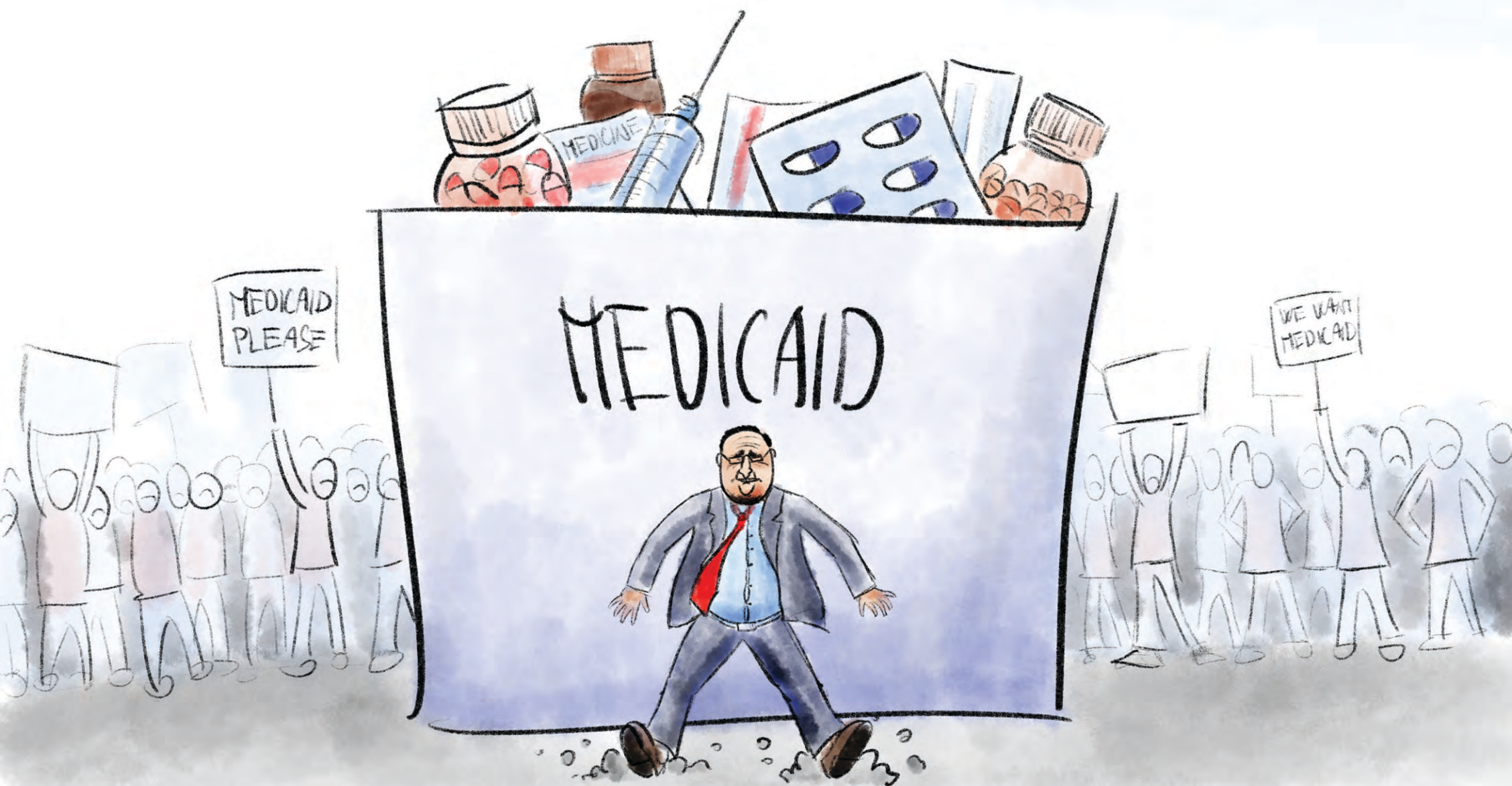


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NOVEMBER 13, 2017  
VOL. 49 ISSUE NO. 9





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**Cover Graphic:** Orkhan Nadirli / Design Director

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

**Sarah Tewksbury**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

Perhaps it simply feels like all I do is witness and talk about social injustice on campus because I hold a position at USM that makes me privy to the gossip, rumormill and inner workings of the university. Perhaps it is just in my face all the time that I notice and understand what is happening on campus. Or perhaps what I perceive to be as an overwhelming number of cases of hate and discrimination truly are increasing and are harming the university's community.

We talk about it every single day in the Free Press office. USM is an institution that houses, educates and trains thousands of people every year. It is a place for learning and growth and hopes to offer opportunities and experiences for every student that chooses to attend and spend thousands of dollars to be a part of. Maybe I only just started hearing about the spread of hate when I started becoming more involved at the Free Press and this kind of situation has been happening quietly for years now, but I can no longer remain silent and without a clear stance.

I was just told that today there was a flier found on the outside of one of the dorm buildings in Gorham. The flier reads, "It's okay to be white." To the author of the flier, you are correct. It is in fact okay to be white. Not a single one of us walking around the planet made the choice to be their race or ethnicity. What is extraordinarily inappropriate is the connotation that those five words strung together have. It is not what is said by the words, but what is left to question that is the true problem. Why does this person feel the need to defend their race in a public forum on the side of a building? Who is this person calling out, if anyone at all? I have answers to these questions, as I am sure my peers and university administrators also do, but it is not my place to answer questions such as these.

Since the beginning of the school year, harmful rhetoric has been plastered around campus calling out the most marginalized groups of people at USM, such as the LGBT+ community and multicultural students. I am certainly and genuinely confused as to the frequency of graffiti and posters with hateful lan-

# Take a stand with me



*Photo courtesy of Emma Donnelly*

*A piece of computer paper taped outside a dorm on the Gorham campus was found Saturday, Nov. 11.*

guage being spread around the USM campuses.

We are supposed to be at school together, learning and bettering ourselves through education. We are supposed to be acquiring worldliness and growing into mature adults that can interact positively and substantially in society. I have no comprehension of how egregious and pernicious language, threats and messages are continuing to prevail on the USM campus. I have been sitting in on meetings and conversations with administrators, students and faculty members about what is happening and how to stop it. While solutions are in the planning stages and are not prepared to be implemented, USM currently has a no tolerance policy for discrimination on campus. However, that can only go so far when we do not know who the culprit is of spreading such abhorrent messages.

It is nobody's place to call someone out for an identity trait, regardless of what the trait is. My declaration is this: I denounce the actions of the author of

this particular flier. I denounce the one who crafted graffiti in the elevators on the Gorham campus. I denounce the lack of action taken to promote a more inclusive campus in Gorham. I do not support any of the sentiments spread through the chain of hateful hyperbole. I will not sway from this position. I have also taken the stance that freedom of speech includes opinions that you do not agree with and might even detest. However, having access to freedom of speech, like we have the privilege to in the U.S., does not mean that someone can write or say threatening and hateful articulations with the possibility of inciting violence and putting marginalized people at risk.

*Sarah Tewksbury*



Lauren Kennedy / Staff Photographer

Left to right: Nan Hayworth, Senator Susan Collins, Ivanka Trump and U.S. Treasurer Jovita Carranza form a tax reform discussion panel.

Adviser to the President Ivanka Trump answers audience questions in Volk Packaging.

# Republican Female leadership gather at Volk Packaging

## Topic of discussion focused on tax reform policy changes

**Sarah Tewksbury**  
Editor-in-chief

With a backdrop of corrugated cardboard boxes, adviser to the President, Ivanka Trump, joined Maine Republican Senator Susan Collins and U.S. Treasurer Jovita Carranza in a warehouse to discuss tax reform on Friday. Sitting in Volk Packaging in Biddeford, the three responded to topics of discussion facilitated by former Republican representative Nan Hayworth from New York. With just under 250 invited guests at the forum,

Acting as moderator and opening up the conversation, Hayworth introduced the panelists, each of whom detailed why tax reform was such a significant aspect of their work.

Trump's talking points were broad and focused on large-scope issues. Her first objective during the forum was to highlight the necessity of "streamlining, modernizing and simplifying" the U.S. tax code. Noting that data has shown large percentages of Americans as being confused and believing taxes are too complicated, Trump called for a substantial overhaul of current tax code, saying "it has been over thirty

years since meaningful tax reform has happened." The plan the Trump administration has for the simplification of taxes is two-fold, according to Trump. The first goal is to enable businesses of all size capacities "to be competitive and thrive." The second intention is to provide purposeful tax relief to middle-income families.

The effects the changes to the tax code will have on Maine was highlighted by Collins, who contended that fair and equal standards for workers and businesses will help promote the vitality of the U.S. economic system. "Given a level playing field, American workers will prevail every time," Collins said.

During the scripted, hour long conversation Hayworth asked Trump, "Ivanka, I wonder if you could tell us just a bit more about specifically how the administration envisions how you foster economic growth and how tax reform fits into that total picture?" Trump's lengthy response honed in on the overall Trump administration's direction for deregulation of businesses, incentives for companies to move business ventures back to the domestic market and the development of the workforce.

"I think the administration's general

sense on pulling back overreaching regulations and a pretty aggressive deregulation viewpoint—not all regulation is bad—but a lot of regulation does not achieve the intended goal and places tremendous burden on business, particularly small businesses that doesn't have the margin or the ability to deal with overreaching regulations," Trump said. "I think the combination of deregulation with pro-growth policies coming out of the White House, workforce development, skills training, technical education being priorities that we're focused on as we think about developing the workforce to enable our American citizens to be able to thrive in the economy."

Calls for bipartisanship came from all three panelists. Carranza distinguished that the issue is one that neither concerns only Democrats or only Republicans, but one that requires a "unified effort to [reform taxes] right." Collins and Trump agreed with Carranza and also stated that they felt tax reform policy changes would effectively be made with bipartisan reaches across the aisle.

Bringing the event to a close, the three political advocates distinguished their support for the tax reform plan. Trump men-

tioned her perception of the benefits to the current proposition for reform.

"So when you think about what's been eliminated, it's the loopholes, the things that the lobbyists have inserted over the years and when you think about the things that have remained, the credits that have remained intact, it's those who have large constituents but no lobbyist group in supporting families and that's what we want to see in tax reform, not the credits that benefit very specific industries but the credits that benefit the American people and American families," Trump said. "So I'm very excited about where the debate is today. Hopefully the bill only gets enhanced from this point forward and I think it is very consistent with the president's goal of supporting American working families."

As attendees stood and applauded the exit of Collins, Trump and Carranza, consultation and debate considered the event to be productive and considered the continuation of discussion about tax reform imperative to effecting policy change.



# Needle exchange program critical to Portland public

**River Plouffe-Vogel**  
Sports Editor

Needle exchange programs originated in the U.S. in the early 1980's, as a response to the increased transmission of AIDs and hepatitis B and C. Typically Needle-exchange programs, or NEPs, are community-based initiatives that allow intravenous (IV) drug users to exchange used syringes for clean, sterile ones in an effort to stem the spread of HIV/AIDS, hepatitis B and

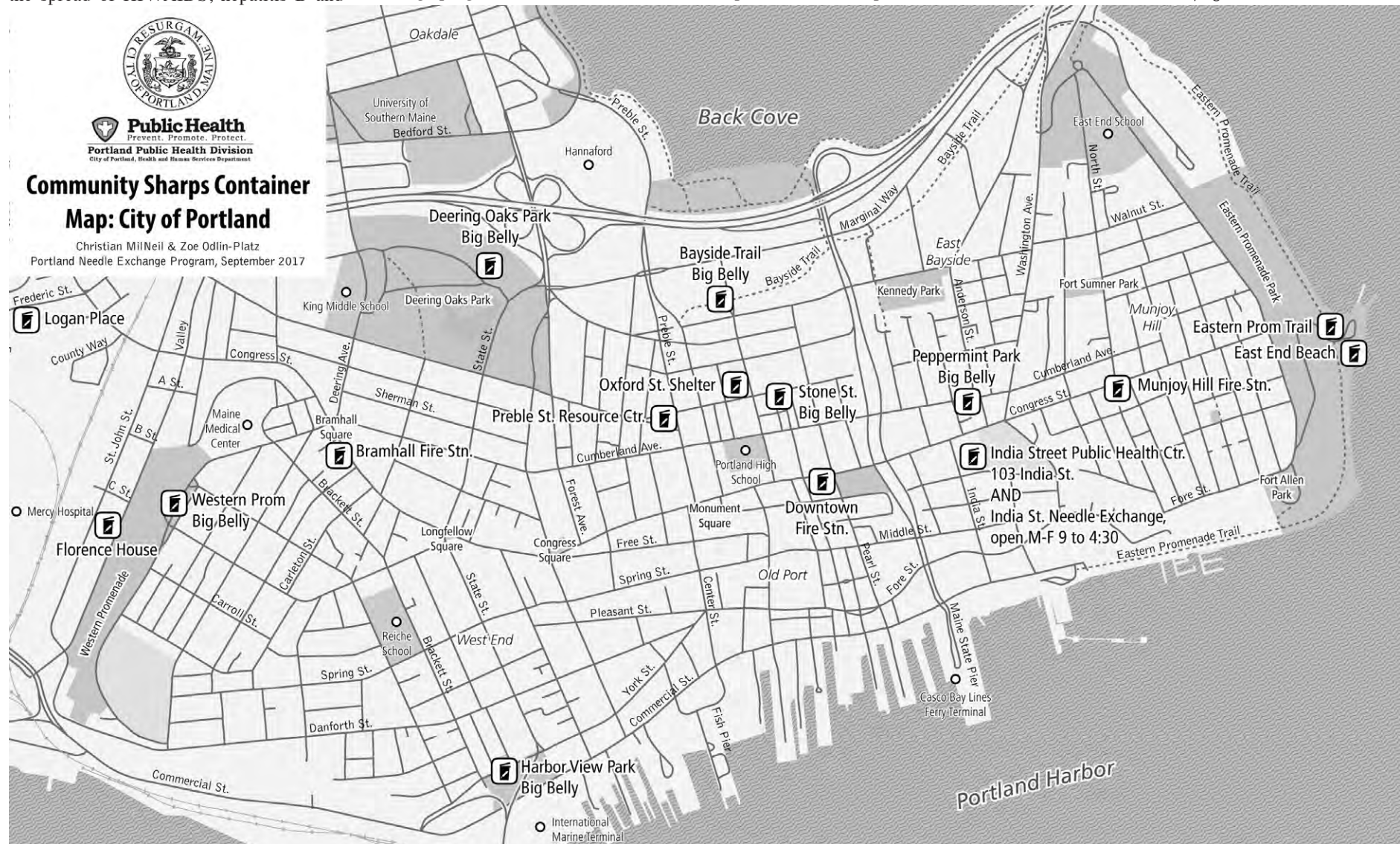
C, and other blood-borne pathogens. In addition to providing clean needles, NEPs generally provide HIV/AIDS education, STD testing, as well as abuse treatment referrals. However, the use of federal funds for needle exchange programs has been banned since 1988, with a brief period of reversal between 2009 and 2011. Although federal funding is not available, in 2015, 16 states and the District of Columbia had provisions explicitly authorizing needle exchange programs, while there are a num-

ber of states with laws that either decrease barriers to the distribution of clean needles or altogether remove syringes from the list of drug paraphernalia. The U.S. is the only country in the world to ban the use of government money for NEP's and currently has one of the lowest rates of NEP's availability in the developed world.

Maine is one of the 16 states to authorize NEP's. The first program started in 1998 as part of Portland's public health initiative

and new way of offering HIV prevention. The Portland NEP is the largest in the state, with Bangor close behind. There are also NEP's in Ellsworth, Machias, Augusta, and until recently Lewiston, which has since closed. Because Portland's NEP is the largest program, arguably the best funded and has a knowledgeable, and dedicated staff, they continue to see people from all over the state. They are the southernmost ex-

See **NEEDLE** on page 6



## Detailed location information:

Logan Place- 52 Frederic St., boxes located in medical areas and common area bathrooms  
Florence House- 190 Valley St., boxes located in common area bathrooms  
Western Prom - attached to Big Belly solar trashcan

Bramhall Fire Station - 784 Congress St., inside station

Deering Oaks Park - attached to Big Belly solar trashcan at playground

Preble Street Resource Center - 5 Portland St., inside day room bathrooms

Oxford Street Shelter- 203 Oxford St., in courtyard

Bayside Trail- at Chestnut Street and Somerset, attached to Big Belly solar trashcan

Stone Street Playground- Oxford Street and Stone, attached to Big Belly solar trashcan

Peppermint Park- at Cumberland Avenue and Smith, attached to Big Belly solar trashcan

India Street Public Health and Needle Exchange Program- 103 India Street, inside exam rooms

and needle exchange program

Munjoy Hill Fire Station- 134 Congress Street, inside station

East End Beach- at entrance to beach, attached to Big Belly solar trashcan

Harbor View Park- Tyng Street, attached to Big Belly solar trashcans

Graphic courtesy of Portland Public Health



From **NEEDLE** on page 5

change program, where the majority of Maine's population is located. In 2009 there were approximately 400 people in Portland's program; that number doubled by 2011 and today there are over 3,000 individuals in the Portland program, which sees around 1,000 annually.

Scientific evidence indicates that NEP's are effective. Seven federally funded studies during the 1990s, conducted by the Government Accountability Office (GAO), the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), all reached similar conclusions that NEPs work in reducing HIV spread among IV drug users, their partners and children. It was also concluded that they do not encourage increased drug use. A more recent study by the World Health Organization (WHO) compiled the results of over 200 such reports from around the world and came to the same conclusions. WHO also went on to say that NEP's are most effective when paired with additional resource and support programs.

From an economic standpoint, the cost of supplies alone at the Portland clinic ranges from \$15,000 to \$18,000. This is inexpensive when compared to any health care program that serves 1,000 people a year.

"The alternative to needle exchanges is

paying for HIV treatment, which can cost about \$20,000 per patient annually," said Clinical Programs Director Dr. Caroline Teschke, MD in an interview with the Portland Press Herald. "Drugs to treat hepatitis B and C are among the costliest on the market – as much as \$1,000 per day over a 12-week treatment cycle."

Community Health Promotions Specialists Zoe Odlin-Platz, who has worked for the Portland Needle Exchange Program since 2009 says,

"We want to give people helpful information to keep them safe and empower them to make some positive changes in some of their use. Sometimes changes are small, like coming in more often, sometimes they are huge, like talking about treatment, housing, or getting linked up with primary care."

People like Zoe work tirelessly to make the Portland NEP a priority as part of individuals drug use, safety and health. This includes exchanging for their friends or family, also known as secondary exchanging. The NEP is part of Portland's public health division. The city helps pay for supplies and grants fill in the gaps. The Portland NEP has an STD clinic, a collaboration with Maine Center for Disease Control, free testing, and a new collaboration with Maine-Medical, which will give residents valuable education experiences and provide increased medical care at the

NEP in . Over 70 percent of the individuals who access the resources at the NEP are uninsured.

Odlin-Platz and the other staff there have done lots of community outreach to ensure the surrounding communities they are an asset and increase public safety. They do this through going to community forums, giving educational presentations, setting up community sharps containers, and organizing clean up days. And she wasn't kidding when she said it was a place with no closed doors. They go above and beyond to help anyone with all the resources they can access,

"We do the best we can, methadone treatment, medication assisted treatment, counseling, or the most successful is linking people with primary care. Primary care doctors are becoming suboxone subscribers. So we do a lot of referrals."

Suboxone is a medication prescribed to help individuals curb their use.

Odlin-Platz and many in her field embrace the practice of harm reduction. She explains that harm reduction professionals have been asked to come to the table for the first time in a long time. From her perspective the state is at a point now with substance abuse where everyone needs to work together. There needs to be a link between those who are actively using and the community to keep things safe and help everyone get what they need. The ex-

change can be a hub to get things done, from a simple exchange of clean needles to housing applications or paper work.

Harm Reductionist try to encourage and empower people to do things that are safer for their bodies and minds but only as far as they are ready and willing to do so. Harm reductionist recognizing that people are going to use substances. Odlin-Platz explained "As a provider, it's not about pushing your agendas, not telling people what to do, or making people feel bad about the decisions they make. It's about presenting information, offering suggesting, creating a space where people don't feel they are being further shamed or stigmatized and allowing a mutual space for further conversation."

She noted how harm reduction can be applied to so many different things, like smoking cigarettes. For example, asking someone if they can smoke one less cigarette a week. By building on things little by little in a way that someone doesn't feel like they are doing something wrong, individuals are often able to make dramatic changes. Zoe says her biggest goal each day is "Trying to making people feel comfortable, respected and safe, there is no power and control, you are equal in this space." For her, it's about having people leave with a smile.

FP

# USM course enrollment no longer requires pin number

## *Advisors no longer mandated to approve MaineStreet wishlists*

**Ben Theriault**  
Staff Writer

As students know, signing up for classes can often be a process that can take days. USM required advice from advising prior to enrollment. Academic advisers used to review courses, ensuring that they properly correspond with the student's intended major, and then they granted the student a pin number giving them access to official enrollment.

Failures in advising can bring large consequences, often unseen by our students. "Summer melt" is a phenomena where aspiring college students enroll in a university in the late spring and then by the time the fall semester is in session, they back out. This is an issue that is particularly prevalent amongst low-income students, affecting a national average of about 1 in 5 potential students.

Nancy Griffin, Vice President of Enrollment and Student Affairs, advocated for the creation of a Summer Melt Committee to help curb this issue. With new policy implementations at advising in regards to Freshman integration, the USM summer melt rate had dropped from 25% in 2015 to 13% in 2016 and now 11%

in 2017. Through this committee and through communication with advisers, a conclusion was reached about the way USM students enroll: the pin system is incredibly unpopular.

The pin has been deemed a "barrier" to efficient scheduling and has been eliminated, meaning students now have the choice to be solely responsible for their own schedule and can enroll immediately after creating their course wishlists without approval from their adviser.

Over the summer, the change was approved by the Office of the Provost, the Office of Enrollment and Student Affairs, President Glenn Cummings and the Faculty Senate. Fall 2017 is the first semester where students have not been required to input a pin number passcode into their MaineStreet accounts prior to registering for the Spring 2018 semester. Director of advising Elizabeth Higgins speculated that this change could create a lot of positive change. She mentioned that prior to this new method, the pin system had loopholes. Two to three weeks before the last enrollment deadline all the pins would be lifted and students could enroll without advising consultation. She believed that this encouraged students to

wait until the last minute to enroll.

Waiting until the last the last two weeks for the pin to be lifted often resulted in students not receiving desired classes or certain essential criteria being ignored. Higgins hopes that with this change, students will select their courses in a more timely manner and be more satisfied overall with their schedules.

Higgins is optimistic about this new situation but she notes that it is an experiment that could yield a variety of results. Though she is happy that advising policy is bending to the wishes of USM's students, she has a couple reserves. With the pin lifted, it is expected that the immediate enrollment process will be easier. However it may prove to lead to more complications in the future. She acknowledged some concerns regarding students' overall knowledge of their major. If the advising process is skipped, certain special, lesser known classes may go unobserved or classes may be selected inefficiently, making meeting graduation requirements more difficult for students in the long run.

"The office is still just as busy with back to back appointments still being scheduled," said Higgins. She noted that while this change may

have some issues, such as requiring students to become more knowledgeable about their majors, it encourages personal responsibility and engagement in students' path to success.

Higgins thinks this will change the way students view advising. Instead of just being a mandatory step in receiving schedules, it will be seen as an essential step in future planning.

When asked about the enrollment process and the lifting of the pin system, USM freshman Scott Bertolini stated that "The process [of enrollment] was still confusing so I'm glad a step I didn't even know about was lifted." Despite this step being lifted, he had not enrolled in classes until he had met with his advisor.

USM sophomore Jason Cooney mentioned that he did not even know that this change had occurred. He said, "While I think this new process is definitely easier, I worry that unforeseen issues may arise if an advisor is not met with. Regardless in the end it is up to personal responsibility of students."

With this change, the USM administration hopes that students will redefine their value of advising and academic planning.

FP

# Election exemplifies historic results

**Sarah O'Connor**  
Staff Writer

In the past, Maine has had notoriously high voter turnout, with 72.8 percent of eligible citizens voting in the 2016 election, according to US News. This election cycle has included several polarizing topics, so it is no surprise that the Portland Press Herald reported that the number of early voters has doubled in the state of Maine since 2015.

The Nov. 7 ballot had several controversial topics ranging from, a proposed casino opening to Medicare expansion in Maine. The highly discussed Question 2 passed, but not without pushback from Republican Governor Paul LePage.

Question 1, which outlined the opening of a casino in York County, did not pass. 83 percent of voters voted no on the referendum. The question was designed to authorize the Maine Gambling Control Board to allow for a license to operate slot machines or a casino. It means that Shawn Scott, the majority owner of Bangor Raceway, will not be the only eligible person for the license. Shawn Scott got question 1 onto the ballot, which was worded so that he would be the only one eligible for the license.

Question 2 passed with 59 percent of Mainers voting yes. It requires the state government to provide Medicaid through MaineCare for people under 65 whose incomes are less than approximately \$20,000 for an individual, or \$33,000 for a household. Maine is the first state in which this vote has occurred.

LePage previously vetoed the Medicaid expansion five times. He released a statement after the vote saying, “Credit agencies are predicting that this fiscally irresponsible Medicaid expansion will be ruinous to Maine’s budget. Therefore, my administration will not implement Medicaid expansion until it has been fully funded by the Legislature [of the Department of Health and Human Services]...I will not support increasing taxes on Maine families.” Therefore, there could be an extended delay of the implementation of Question 2.

Question 3 passed with 72 percent in favor of issuing \$105 million in bonds for transportation infrastructure projects. The bond issue also includes an estimated \$137 million in federal and other funds.

Question 4 passed with 63 percent of voters in support of increasing the time from 10 years to 20 for the state to pay off the the Maine Public Employees Retirement System’s unfunded liabilities. These liabilities were creat-

ed by experience losses, meaning losses from expected outcome versus realized outcomes of investments. People saw the state as liable to pay into the pension program.

In Gorham, the three-year seats of the school committee were filled by William Benson, Kate Livingston, and Jennifer Whitehead. Dennis Libby won the one-year term seat on the school committee.

In Portland, Jill Duson won the city council at-large seat. Timothy Atkinson won the school board district 4 seat, Marnie Morrion won the school board district 5 seat, and Mark Balfanz won the school board at-large seat. The seat of the city council district 4 was taken by Justin Costa and for city council district 5 by Kimberly Cook.

64 percent of voters voted no on the Portland rent limits, which would make Portland the first Maine city to cap rents, according to the Press Herald. 53 percent of the voters voted no on the neighborhood approval for zoning changes. Both motions for the elementary school renovations in Portland passed.

On a larger scale, the Nov. 7 election was a big win for the Democrats, as both of the newly-elected Governors of Virginia and New Jersey are democrats. Doug Jones won the senate seat in Alabama, meaning that the senate now

has a democrat majority.

History was made this election as Vi Lyles won as the first African American female mayor in Charlotte, Virginia. Lyles won 58 percent of the vote, according to CBS News. She said in a press release following her win, “It’s an incredible honor to be elected Mayor of Charlotte in such a historical election.”

Danica Roem is the first openly transgender person elected and seated in a state legislature in the United States, according to the Washington Post. She defeated Bob Marshall, one of the state’s longest serving lawmakers, who was sponsoring a bill that would have restricted where transgender Virginians could go to the bathroom. Roem kept her gender identity in focus during her campaign, and made it a priority to change the culture in Richmond, Virginia.

Roem was just one transgender candidate elected on Nov. 7 because Tyler Titus, also openly transgender, won a seat on the western Pennsylvania school board, according to the Washington Post.

With high turnout from Democrats and Republicans alike, this election season proved to be a historic moment in Maine and U.S. history.

FP

# Veterans celebrate their community at USM

**Sam Margolin**  
Staff Writer

This past week, Veterans Day was observed through different events and ceremonies sponsored by the Office of Veterans Affairs at USM. In 2016, USM was listed in the top 25 military-friendly public universities in the country by the publication Military Friendly. The Office of Veterans Affairs helps veterans, service members and their families assimilate and navigate the combat-to-classroom progression. Student veterans at USM may utilize this resource on campus, as well as participate in the numerous events held to honor their service.

The Husky Veterans hosted 5th annual Thanksgiving Lunch Fundraiser, held in the Woodbury Campus Center last Thursday. There, members of the group served turkey, stuffing, and mashed potatoes to raise over \$1000 for the six student veterans who were selected to attend a national conference hosted by the Student Veterans of America (SVA). 10 percent of the profits will also go to the local chapter of Veteran Inc., a resource for homeless veterans. According to their website, the SVA’s national conference, or NATCON, is the largest annual gathering of student veterans, and advocates in higher education in the world. This year’s conference takes place in

San Antonio, TX Jan. 4-6. The conference helps student veterans collaborate nationally and connect with more than 2,000 peers and advocates.

A flag raising ceremony on Gorham, Portland and Lewiston campuses to honor those who have served took place this week, as well as a veteran grave identification event that took place at Evergreen Cemetery in Portland. A parade on Saturday involving the whole state starting at Longfellow Square will unite Maine’s Veterans in a display of honor and remembrance.

Attending this year’s conference and serving food at the Thanksgiving lunch was Melissa Chason, a student veteran graduating later this year at USM. In the Army, she was an all-wheeled vehicle mechanic and administrator. Chason says that events like the fundraiser help veterans connect with other students on campus, which is a common problem.

“This event is also our way of being able to give back to the community that so graciously helps us. Whether it be helping with homelessness, mental needs, and even financial needs at times,” Chason said.

Chason also outlined the importance of veterans services here at USM. She, along with many other student veterans, find comfort in the fact that USM can assist directly in the needs of its veteran students and their families.

“Trying to navigate educational benefits for

veterans and family members can be so overwhelming sometimes. Being with people that have lived and experienced similar life situations is amazing and our veterans group here on campus is like a big family,” Chason said.

The Office of Veterans Affairs is located on the second floor of Luther Bonney and seeks to help student-veterans and their dependents navigate their educational and financial benefits. Stephen White, an MBA student graduating in 2019, is one of the team leaders in the office. White served in the Air Force from 2000 to 2005 and retired with the rank of Staff Sergeant. White says it is important for Universities to help their veterans become more involved.

“Student veterans are an important and valuable asset to USM, in our communities, and for our country. When they are unsupported or impeded in their efforts to apply their substantial expertise in an academic setting, veterans tend to withdraw,” White said.

Many student veterans who return might have trouble finding the services that they need in order to transition from military service to college. Aaron Lewis, a history education major graduating in 2019 and an Infantryman in the Army from 2011 to 2016, said that the Office of Veterans Affairs guided him through his return home very easily.

“USM has great Veterans services. I have never had an issue with them and any ques-

tions I’ve had they have been super helpful and prompt answering. They do a lot to help veterans connect with other veterans and the university.”

The Veterans Services Office intends to continue to expand its support of USM’s student veterans by continuing to partner with organizations across the state, but many challenges still face these students. White cites that a major challenge for USM’s student veterans is the tendency for them to be treated as if they have no professional and real-world experience.

“A common critique among student-veterans is that they feel that their past experiences are not held in high value in the classroom.”

Green Zone trainings help familiarize people on campus with the unique characteristics of student veterans as a group. For student veterans with visible and invisible trauma from combat, Green Zone helps to train faculty to treat student-veterans with dignity and respect regardless of their disability status.

Other events and ceremonies planned for the coming months organized by the Office of Veterans Affairs and the Huskey Veterans are taking place at USM. Both offices plan to continue to partner and expand with USM and other organizations across the state. To become involved and for a list of events, the Husky Veterans’ Facebook page.

FP



# Breakdown of student activity fee

## Distribution of funds split between groups

Jess Ward  
News Editor

Every semester, college students everywhere take on the task of paying their school bills. Between tuition, housing, meal plans and transportation, students are 31 percent more likely to require loans than they were in 2007, according to USA Today. Despite financial aid packages and scholarships, students are often left burdened with debt. Harvard University conducted a study on student debt, and found that 42 percent of millennials are impacted by student loans, along with 58 percent of all college graduates.

Each cost created by a university affects its students, however, these fees may seem ambiguous in their purpose, leaving students unaware of where their money is being spent.

USM's bill features one such item, called the Student Activity Fee. The fee is determined by the program

and the amount of credits the student is enrolled in, with full-time students at the Gorham and Portland campuses paying the most at \$55 per semester. The USM website describes the fee as helping to “support various educational, cultural, and social activities.”

The fee itself is used to fund student organizations and events both on and off campus. However, the website does not specify what process is used to determine the allocation of the funds, or what administrative office is responsible for overseeing its use.

Jeffrey Ahlquist, Student Senate Treasurer, says the Activity Fee is controlled by the Student Senate, which distributes the funds to student groups and entities at USM.

“We don’t have a say in whether or not it gets raised,” he says, “That’s all stuff that’s done by the University itself.” However, other than altering the specific cost of the fee,

Ahlquist says the University can do little to control where the money is spent.

Entities, such as the Board of Student Organizations (BSO) and the Gorham Campus Activities Board (GCAB), oversee various groups on campus. Ahlquist clarifies that “There’s a difference between student groups and the student government entities... [entities] get their budget directly from us, and then they get to decide what to spend it on.” Student groups not overseen by entities, on the other hand, submit their budgets directly to the Senate.

FoA budget must be submitted and voted on by the senators after a student representative makes a case for their request at a formal meeting. Entities that run various groups and are raising money for a specific event may also submit these requests, as GCAB did this October for its upcoming National Association for Campus Activities Conference.

is reserved for the individual group appeals.

During election cycles, in which students run for senate positions and polls are conducted, Ahlquist says that he tries to hear the students’ opinion on the Activity Fee.

“We can get a rough idea from students, by putting up polls during the election season we have,” Ahlquist explained. “Last year we asked the question ‘would you be interested in raising your student activity fee ‘x’ amount of dollars, if it meant you didn’t have to pay directly for printing?’” These polls are intended to shed light on the needs of the student body, as to insure that funds are allocated according to those needs.

However, Ahlquist said they are mostly unsuccessful in garnering attention from students and that “not a lot of people vote in our elections... last year during the cycle, I think it was less than 300.”

This suggests that the students who supply the Activity Fee each year are not giving input effectively, and Ahlquist is not sure how to fix that. He expresses a desire for increased student involvement, but as of now does not have a particular plan to make that happen.

“If we had more testimonials from students who use our resources, I think that would incite students to come forward,” says Ahlquist.

Students who are interested in proposing projects on campus, or are interested in hosting events, can find resources on the Senate website. After filling out the necessary forms, students may submit them for approval and advocate for their ideas before the Senate.

	G-CAB	CSA
Advertising	250.00	150.00
Car/Van Rental	800.00	
Conferences	1,000.00	
Equipment	500.00	
Food	300.00	1,500.00
Lodging	1,000.00	
Performers	11,000.00	500.00
Police and Safety	175.00	
Prizes/Awards/Gifts	4,000.00	650.00
T-shirts, Stickers, etc	1,200.00	1,000.00
Rental Fees	1,000.00	
Special Events	13,150.00	11,500.00
Travel	500.00	
Total:	34,875.00	15,300.00

Data by Jeffrey Ahlquist, graphic by Eliza Bachkovsky



## Police Beat

Selections from the  
USM Department of  
Public Safety police log  
Sept. 27 to Oct. 10

10/10/2017

**When the muse calls, art students must answer**  
Unwanted person, Robie Art Department. Officer advises that there are people in the Art Department after midnight asked to leave. No crime, Closed.

10/07/2017

**What's an unusable amount?**  
Drug violation G8 parking lot. Summons issued for possession of a useable amount of Marijuana by a minor. Cleared and closed.

10/04/2017

**Forward this to three people in three hours**  
Harassment complaint, Report of harassing emails. No crime.

9/27/2017

**Too many late fees**  
Disruptive person, Glickman Library. Officer warned a subject not to return to the library. No further issues. Closed.

Police Beats are edited for grammar and style.



# Arts & Culture

## Trip of a lifetime: a student perspective on culture

**Liz Trudel**  
Contributor

A few summers ago, I traveled to Guanacaste, Costa Rica, on a mission trip with Global Leadership Adventures (GLA). GLA is an organization that mentors high school students on service-learning trips to developing countries. Each mission trip is focused on humanitarian and conservation initiatives. I traveled solo to Liberia,

Costa Rica, where I was met by twenty-three student strangers and five mentors, all of whom became family to me in a short span of time. We lived in a small, underserved community, two hours outside of Liberia and an hour from the closest city of La Cruz. We lived among the Tico people. We faced the poverty, the social, the political and the environmental issues of Costa Rica firsthand. We spoke with local leaders and worked with community members to complete several projects that

improved infrastructure and created more jobs. I journeyed to Costa Rica in the hope of making a difference in the lives of a community less fortunate than mine. Wanting to enrich my knowledge amidst a new culture and language, the children, especially and members of the community changed my life immensely. Volunteering abroad completely turned my life upside down, teaching me valuable life-lessons. It also taught me a lot about myself as a human being.

The community needed a safe place for children to play and grow; we refurbished a run-down playground, making it vibrant and safe. We built a small kiosk for local women to sell snacks and handmade crafts to earn extra money. The playground was renamed Conciencia Cuidemos—Park of Dreams. I engaged with a multitude of young children, who taught me how to play the Latin American version of many beloved childhood games. I learned that we don't have to fully understand words, that even though there is a language barrier, two cultures can still form meaningful bonds and friendships through smiles, laughter,

and body language. Collaboration taught me that if my generation can come together as like minded individuals, we can launch meaningful initiatives whether social, political, or environmental and solve many world problems faced today.

Traveling from the USA, a fully industrialized nation, to an underprivileged community in Costa Rica, I experienced distinct cultural differences that changed my entire outlook on life. The United States has become a nation focused on and obsessed with tangible objects, driven by greed, making money and consuming products. We compete with our neighbors to have the latest smartphone, the most expensive car, the trendiest clothing and the largest home. Costa Ricans live by the motto, "Pura Vida," or "Pure Life." Costa Rican citizens value the conservation of wildlife and the preservation of the natural wonders of our earth. They value one another and help others in any way they can—including strangers. Most importantly, they value the creation of meaningful bonds and relationships with their peers. I learned that money truly can't buy happiness; the best things in life come free to us, and richness cannot be gained by wealth. The most valuable thing in life is not a sports car or a diamond ring, but it is the people that we share our lives with, and the beautiful memories which we create.

A local refugee camp in the region housed over 300 families together in one building. The refugees came from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cuba, Honduras and Somalia. Families had been fleeing corruption in their home countries and were desperately seeking to enter Nicaragua when that country sealed its borders, refusing them entry. Playing with the children here opened my eyes. They owned so little, yet found so much joy in what they did have.

I've learned to truly value the privileged life I live and to be grateful for the limitless opportunities I was born into, opportunities that some children may never see in their lifetime. Traveling to Costa Rica gave my life purpose and meaning. My heart aches knowing that I am here in the USA while people are suffering in other places of the world. As human beings, we know that there are human crises and suffering elsewhere, but it doesn't truly affect our hearts until we personally know the people who suffer.



Photo courtesy of Liz Trudel



Photo courtesy of Liz Trudel

Liz Trudel made many friends during her trip to Costa Rica. She especially enjoyed looking after some of the children. (Left) Trudel sits with one of the little boys outside. (Above) One of the little girls poses with Trudel for a photo.



# Time of remembrance

*The forgotten aspects of Thanksgiving*

**Kate Rogers**  
Staff Writer

Thanksgiving is right around the corner and elementary schools around the country are pulling out their turkey themed activities and Native American history lessons. Center pieces made of inedible corn and squash are going to decorate tables in celebration of a legendary coming together of two cultures. But Native Americans aren't just history lessons, and Thanksgiving isn't the whole story--or even the true story, depending on who tells it. When they are caught up in the holiday spirit, are people remembering that? Do they even know?

The first Thanksgiving--though it wasn't called that, and was not repeated or celebrated as a holiday until decades later--was in 1621. The Wampanoag tribe came together with the pilgrims in Plymouth to celebrate a first successful harvest after the tribe had assisted the pilgrims in growing it. There were at least 140 men present, with women and children not counted in the primary sources. They ate venison, not turkey and certainly not pumpkin pie. The three day event did symbolize peace between the two groups of people, and the peace did continue on afterwards.

But only for about 10 years. More settlers came to America and a plague brought with them wiped out nearly half of the Native population. There was grave robbing, treaty-breaking and mass-murder by English settlers. This animosity continued well into the 20th century, with Native American land being claimed and stomped over with little regard. The Native Americans were eventually funneled into reservations and left with only small fractions of what they once had, and with their population severely depleted. Even today, reservations on average are some of the poorest areas in the country because it is so difficult to achieve economic growth.

Most Native Americans today see Thanksgiving as a day of remembrance and mourning. To others, like Jacqueline Keeler, a member of the Diné Nation and the Yankton Dakota Sioux, it is a celebration of survival. Keeler told Time Magazine for an article about the true origins of the holiday, "Thanksgiving tells a story that is convenient for Americans...I recognize it as a chance for my family to come together as survivors, pretty much in defiance."

According to the website for the Manataka American Indian Council, the "contemporary mix of myth and history about the "First" Thanksgiving at Plymouth developed in the 1890s and early 1900s. Our country was

desperately trying to pull together its many diverse peoples into a common national identity." Like a lot of public views on Native American history, Thanksgiving is a glossy romanticized version of the story meant to represent America's diversity and supposed inclusivity.

For a long time, the American education system taught very little about the atrocities committed against Native Americans. Generally, it focuses on the 'good' parts. Kids learn about Squanto, who helped create an alliance between settlers and the Pokanoket tribe. They learn about how Native Americans helped the early pilgrims by teaching them how to plant corn and working alongside them. They learn about Sacagawea who helped Lewis and Clark, and watch the Disney movie Pocahontas (which is not in any way historically accurate). Topics like the Trail of Tears were touched upon, but not much else was required. Problems with Native Americans were discussed as a thing of the past.

Thanks to mass-media, Native Americans have been in the public eye lately. The Dakota Access Pipeline protests started conversation about respect for Native American land. Bernie Sanders during his campaign made a point to give voice to Native American activists. Viral speeches from activists spread awareness of America's history of breaking treaties with Native Americans and the existence of sacred land that was taken and never returned. Lies perpetuated by tradition are being spoken out against, like the calling for Columbus day to be Indigenous People's day. Teachers are becoming more aware and trying to teach Thanksgiving more accurately and respectfully. More and more, Native American voices are being heard.

But every November, Americans stuff themselves and watch Punkin Chunkin on the science channel and go Black Friday shopping and many of us still forget two very important things. The first: that Native American blood was spilled in order for the civilization that allows us this decadence to come into being. The second: that Native Americans are still marginalized communities in America, still real people who still hold true to their culture and traditions and are not just a caricature or gaudy decoration.

In conclusion, this is not all to say that Thanksgiving shouldn't be celebrated. The season and the holiday are a good opportunity for remembrance and respect. Take time to learn about your fellow citizens and your nation's history, connect with those around you, and have a wonderful holiday.

FP

# A show of resilience

**Cara DeRose**  
Copy Editor

With the right director, a low-budget film can pack a big punch. Haley Depner, a 22-year-old biology major and aspiring filmmaker at USM, proved that last Tuesday, Nov. 7, when her short film "I'll Be Your Man" was screened at the juried Nasty Women Film Event in New Haven, Connecticut.

"I'll Be Your Man" was one of 17 films selected for the event, which took place at an "old" house near Yale University, according to Depner. Around 70 people attended the reception and opening screening on Nov. 7, Depner included, and the films were shown in two rooms on different floors of the house. The 17 films were selected from a pool of undergraduate and graduate New England student talent, and each one contended with the racism, sexism and homophobia the worst of America has reared.

A fleeting minute and thirteen seconds, "I'll Be Your Man"'s brevity allows its story to pierce like an arrow without the viewer ever feeling like a target. Rather

than a lecture about prejudice, the film is a concise expression of a sadness familiar to most. Depner stars as the film's unnamed leading woman, who manipulates her appearance in order to win the girl who'd rather have a leading man.

The lead binds her breasts. To the tune of Nat King Cole's "L-O-V-E," she cuts her hair short, gels it down. She dons a fitted smoky brown jacket. With these few adjustments, she transforms from a smitten college student into a suave 1950s playboy.

The spitting image of classic Hollywood masculinity, and a lilac bouquet in hand, she knocks at a door, which the girl, Danielle, opens. Danielle is unimpressed and deems the effort "childish."

"You said you needed a man!" the lead says. "Why can't I be your man?"

Nothing penetrates more than a tale of unrequited love, especially in a film made for no more than three dollars. As president of the USM Film Club, she recruited two students from the club to help produce "I'll Be Your Man" on such a small budget. Colin Cundy, a senior communication and

See **FILM** on page 11

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# Super Slimey, product of a quality collaboration

## *Young Thug and Future work together on their new mix tape*

**Bradford Spurr**  
Photography Director

In a release that came relatively out of the blue, Atlanta rappers Future and Young Thug have created a collaborative effort that should squash all of the rumors of ‘beef’ and strife between the two. Both artists have put out projects this year, Future came out with two projects HNDXXX and FUTURE, Young Thug releasing a full length album Beautiful Thugger Girls and a joint release with producer Carnage, Young Martha.

A trademark of both rappers, regardless of their seemingly self-referential styles, is that they both have a pretty astounding rate of output. Both men are tirelessly working on several projects of their own while also being heavy hitters as features on others work. This point became the center of the alleged dispute between the two after one of the biggest producers in the game right now, Metro Boomin, said that his and Future’s sheer volume of work was greater than everyone else’s saying that, in a series of tweets, “All I’m saying is, I wish that everyone would put out more quality music over the quantity. It’s a marathon not a sprint.”

Now although Future has made the perpetual release of projects his “thing” that is hardly something that one can associate or give to an individual. There are plenty of other rappers that value quality over quantity. Long before Gucci Mane made his incredible reemergence into the mega-machine of Hip-Hop popular culture he was putting out several fair to middling efforts a year that featured an array of local producers and talent that helped to put the Atlanta trap rap scene on the map following in the tremendous footsteps left in the wake of rap super group Outkast. What Andre 3000 and Big Boi did for rap music alone, forget about Atlanta rap, could be the topic of an entire post alone, but their presence is always felt no

matter where you go.

Nonetheless the native Atlanta duo have created a pretty cohesive project in SUPER SLIMEY. 13 songs, 40 minutes, one feature. Long gone are the days of epic albums, unraveling over hour plus run times. Maybe it’s the culture of instant gratification, but albums nowadays seem to be more easily digestible consumed in parts, while plugging and unplugging your phone from your car, constantly connected. So first things first, standouts from the album are definitely substantial enough to carry the project as a whole. “All da Smoke,” a Future heavy track stays steady with a simple beat and few breakdowns. The line from “All da Smoke” that plays best is Future’s “Pyrex, cook it up like Kyrie, trade you off (let’s go)/ Green and white like Celtics, don’t play with me, play with a fork (play with a woo).” Next, “Cruise Ship” sees a pretty natural sounding Thugger go sans significant auto tune to craft one of the best choruses on the entire project. The chorus starts with Young Thug quickly spitting “Dip and dab out the bag (dab out the bag)/ I got crips on Old Nat/You want problems for somethin’,” and then transitions into talking about the places he came from and how he’d still be alright if he didn’t get big from rapping, “If I wouldn’t have rapped, I’d still be rich (still rich)/ Three million dollar house, came from evictions (hood rich).” Directly following “Cruise Ship” is the album’s standout single, “Patek Water,” featuring the nimble Offset of Migos fame. Offset’s second half of his verse is incredible, he switches his flow in a matter of seconds between his line delivery, “Hop on the wave and drown, my mama been Cartier bracelet down (mama)/ Uh, face it down (hey), dirty my soda, I hate the brown (oo)/ Hold it down ‘cause the plug is illegal (plug)/ Ridin’ ‘round with a dub and a eagle (brtt)/ I heard the money get evil, prayin’ to God to keep me from demons (God).” “Drip on Me” is another highlight, a cut that shows the strengths of both artists and



*Photo courtesy of Epic/300/Atlantic Recording Corporation*

is a great example of how these two rappers work well when collaborating. My personal favorite track is a Young Thug heavy piece in “Killed Before.” He starts with “Everyone know I’ve been killed before/ I’ve been bent like a centerfold,” Thugger has been beaten and abused, he knows what it’s like to be down and out. But he persevered and found success. He has money now, he has his cars, and that’s enough to squash the haters and people trying to detract from his good fortune. Young Thug and future might not be in the same league as Big Boi and Andre three stacks but they work well together and they put out a new project practically every other month. So sometimes quantity can outshine quality, sometimes it helps if the music is great too but that’s just an added bonus.

**FP**



*Photo courtesy of Haley Depner*

*From FILM on page 10*

media studies major, helped with camera work, and former USM student Kristina McDermott played Danielle. While not a member of the club, Jordan Stowell, another communication and media studies major, did sound.

Other filmmakers at the Nasty Women Film Event had bigger budgets and seasoned actors. But Depner had something equally personal and universal to say, based on a love lost during her childhood at a homeschool co-op in New Hampshire. An assignment for a visual storytelling class last fall was an opportune excuse to make this memory into screen-worthy art.

“There was this girl in high school I liked, but people were making really nasty comments to her about how she was nice to me,” Depner said. “They were saying she shouldn’t be nice to gay people, people who were going to hell.”

These comments, according to Depner, ultimately prevented them from having a

relationship.

“She couldn’t handle the comments, so it didn’t work out,” she said.

The memory inspired Depner’s fascination with the idea of people changing themselves to become desirable to another person. “I’ll Be Your Man” is a film about cross-dressing to be what another person wants you to be, and how wanting to be loved informs the process.

The Nasty Women Film Event in New Haven was one of 50 exhibitions across the United States scheduled for this year. In the wake of Trump and growing intolerance, Depner saw the event as critical to the resistance movement against the present administration.

“It was cool to be screened alongside those other films,” she said. “The message [of equality] really matters because of Trump and the pain he’s caused.”

**FP**



# MOVIE TALK

## Third in the series hits theatres

### *The movie we've all been waiting Thor*

Daniel Kilgallon  
Staff Writer

(Contains Spoilers)

For better or worse, the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) has been continuously dominating the global box office and it doesn't look like that is going to change anytime soon. With three feature films released this year and another three scheduled for next, the powerhouse franchise will contain a whopping twenty movies by the time that 2018 comes to a close. *Thor: Ragnarok* marks the seventeenth installment of the series and the third chapter of what has become the Thor trilogy. Despite exceptional performances by Chris Hemsworth, I believe that this particular character has suffered from some of the weakest standalone movies of the franchise. 2011's *Thor* is an average origin story at best and 2014's *The Dark World* is a forgettable film which I think stands out as one of the few bad movies that the series has to offer. Heading into the theater last weekend, I had high hopes that *Ragnarok* would function in providing a fresh story for the shared universe and much needed justice for "the God of Thunder."

With the exception of a mid-credits appearance in last year's *Doctor Strange*, Thor has not appeared in the MCU since *Avengers: Age of Ultron* (2015). He left Earth to search for Infinity Stones but has not been successful in his endeavors. At the beginning of this movie, we see Thor captured in the lair of a demon named Surtur, who threatens to destroy his home planet of Asgard in a catastrophic



Photo courtesy of Marvel Studios

event known as "Ragnarok." Managing to escape and take the crown that grants Sulfur power, Thor decides to return to his home planet. During his absence, Thor's brother, Loki (Tom Hiddleston) has been ruling Asgard while assuming the appearance of their father, Odin (Anthony Hopkins), who has relocated to Earth.

With the throne of the Asgard vulnerable, a new threat emerges in the form of Hela (Cate Blanchett), the Asgardian goddess of death. As seen in the trailers, she ends up breaking Thor's hammer, Mjolnir, and proceeds to send him and Loki through a wormhole. They find themselves on a planet called Sakaar, which is ruled by "the Grandmaster" (Jeff Goldblum). Thor becomes imprisoned here and is forced to partake in a gladiatorial contest in which he faces his former ally, the Hulk. With Hela poised to ruin Asgard forever, Thor must overcome the challenge

of escaping Sakaar so he can return to his homeland and save his people.

I had a blast with *Thor: Ragnarok* from start to finish and the strong use of humor really stood out to me here. Up to this point, I would have considered *Ant-Man* (2015) to be the funniest movie in MCU, but I can confidently say that has changed. *Ragnarok* is practically a straight comedy, handling it's ridiculous subject matter in a way that was quite self-detrimental. This is something that the first two *Thor* movies failed to do, taking the content way too seriously for it's own good. *Ragnarok* avoids this completely, largely through the use of sarcastic dialogue from new and returning characters. For example, Thor explains the loss of his hammer to the rock warrior Korg, who responds by saying, "It sounds like you had a pretty special and intimate relationship with this hammer and that losing

it was almost comparable to losing a loved one." All of the characters play their part in successfully maintaining this tone throughout the entire film. In my opinion, this was completely necessary in accurately portraying the particularly obscure world of the titular comic book character.

Overall, I would say that *Thor: Ragnarok* was a home run for Marvel, as it was absolutely hilarious and full of fresh, exciting action sequences. This film understood what it's universe has become; an episodic series of movies that exist to entertain. *Ragnarok's* lighthearted approach really worked here and the result was one of, if not, MCU's funniest movie to date. Fans of this series can't miss out on this flick and I can happily say that Thor finally got the movie he has deserved for a long time.

FP



## A&C Listings

### Monday, November 13

Book Discussion: Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks  
USM Portland Campus  
Glickman Library 325  
Starts: 4:00 p.m. / Ends: 5:30 p.m.

### Tuesday, November 14

USM Vocal Jazz Ensemble  
USM Gorham Campus  
Corthell Concert Hall  
Starts: 7:30 p.m.

### Wednesday, November 15

Let's go to Japan: Culture Talk  
USM Portland Campus  
Wishcamper 102  
Starts: 4:00 p.m.

### Thursday, November 16

Language Express  
USM Portland Campus  
Woodbury Amphitheatre  
Starts: 11:30 a.m. / Ends: 1:30 p.m.

### Friday, November 17

Béla Fleck and Abigail Washburn  
State Theatre  
609 Congress Street  
Starts: 8:00 p.m. / Ends: 10:00 p.m.

### Saturday, November 18

Twelfth Night (or What you Will)  
USM Gorham Campus  
Russell Hall Main Stage  
Starts: 7:30 p.m.

Want to submit an event?  
maryellen@usmfreepress.org



# Perspectives

This Week at Winchester

## Traveling Tips

Julie Pike  
Staff Writer

After my trip this past weekend to Rome, I've realized that every time I travel something has to go wrong. I suppose that is just a part of travelling to a foreign country, but so far every trip I've taken has fallen in that pattern. Whether it be a delayed flight, a cancelled flight, or difficulties just getting to the airport, there's always been some part of my journey that has been stressful.

So far I've taken all of these experiences as a lesson learned. Every time something goes wrong I will know how to prepare for it in the future. With my experience traveling around Europe I've learned some tips to make the journey easier, and I want to share these with you.

First of all, don't have the expectations that everything is going to go perfectly as planned. It's hard to make sure everything happens on time, as public transportation can't always be trusted, and there's always a chance for a delayed flight. If you don't have high expectations than it can make it easier to deal with problems as they arise.

Make sure you arrive at the airport with plenty of time to spare, for that chance that something could go wrong. For most flights it's a safe bet to arrive two hours in advance. This means make sure whatever transportation you are taking to get to the airport there will get you there on time.

Make yourself familiar with where the bus or train stops are, and where they will depart from or arrive at the airport. Take it from me who has spent an hour trying to find a bus stop for a bus that was supposed to take me to the airport. That happened to me in Rome where I missed two buses to the airport because I couldn't find the stop. No one at the station knew where it was or simply didn't speak English and couldn't help me.

Although it may be old fashioned I've always found it easier to have a paper copy of everything I need, instead of relying on a ticket on my phone. Phones can be faulty, sometimes they won't scan properly so it's a good idea to print it out beforehand. This includes bus or train tickets, as not every bus driver will accept an electronic ticket. I've come close to being kicked off of a bus before for not having my ticket printed out.

If you're travelling internationally it helps to bring a copy of your passport, birth certificate, and social security number with you. I haven't had to resort to using any of these luckily, but you never know if something could go wrong and you lose your passport. Passport checks at the airport doesn't always go smoothly. Some passport control officers have needed extra proof from me to show that I'm a student in the UK, and have asked to see my acceptance letter, which I now know to always bring with me.

As far as things you should bring with you on the plane, there's a few items that are an essential for me: a sweat-shirt, gum, a book, headphones, a portable phone charger, an extra piece of clothing you can ball up into a pillow



Julie Pike / Staff Writer

(because who wants to buy an actual travel pillow?), hand sanitizer, sunglasses, tissues, hair elastics, and lots of snacks. Sometimes you won't have a chance during your journey to stop for food, so it's a good idea to have something to fall back on. I'd also suggest bringing an empty water bottle, to fill up once you get through security.

When I travel I like to plan and find out as much as I can about where I'm going ahead of time. I'll make a list on my phone of any important addresses, the times of my flights, and figure out how and when I need to get to the airport.

I also like to make a general plan of different places and sights to see, just to make sure I get to see everything I want to. It's also helpful to find out what everything costs that you plan on doing, as well as the times that places are open. The more time you spend ahead of your trip doing this research, the less you have to do once you're there.

This way of traveling however isn't for everyone, it's just something I suggest to make things less stressful and more enjoyable. I know many people who like to travel without any plans, and just figure out what to do once they get there, and that way can work out just as well, I'm just an organized person who enjoys planning my trips.

A lot of my research that I do beforehand is taken from the Let's Go guidebooks. The only book that I brought with me from the states was the Let's Go Europe 2017:

The Student Travel Guide. It's a great option for students who are looking for the most affordable options. The book covers every major city in Europe, outlining the major attractions, affordable hostels and hotels, and cheap places to eat.

One more thing that is super important to be aware of before your trip is how the public transportation works in whichever city you're traveling to. Every city is different and takes some time to figure out how to get around using buses, trams, or the underground. Most major cities usually offer a one day pass, for one or multiple days, which is often the most affordable option, especially if you plan on using public transportation often. Most day passes include unlimited travel on any of the modes of transportation within the city.

These are just some of the tips that I've picked up on in my experiences so far. I'm sure I'll experience more trouble in the future trips I have planned, but at least now I know to expect it. Although I speak of how stressful some of my trips I've been on, the experience I've had in new places completely outweighs the negative side to traveling. Not many people can say I was sitting in front of the Trevi Fountain just a few days ago.



## Student Perspective

# One Canadian's favourite differences between two countries

**Maverick Lynes**  
Staff Writer

I am a Canadian living in the United States of America and when people ask me if it is any different, I say no. To be honest, I say no because I don't feel like going into detail about how our two countries vary. In reality, it is different.

To start off, yes, I say words differently. However, I do not have the stereotypical Canadian accent Americans think all Canadians have. Different parts of Canada have different accents. It would be like me assuming everyone in America talks like they are from the deep south. With that being said, yes I say, "eh" sometimes and I have come to embrace it.

For those of you who do not know, in Canada, we do spell words differently, such as, favorite/favourite, color/color and neighbor/neighbour. Basically we like using U's or maybe you just like neglecting them? This change has been really fun for me since I am an English major. To my professors, it is not that I don't know how to spell, it's just that I'm foreign. Thank you for being so understanding through this very drastic culture

shock.

For the past few weeks I have been dealing with an elbow injury that has highlighted a certain reason I am missing home: Canadian healthcare. I know America is divided on this issue, but speaking as a Canadian, I love it. I'm not saying our universal healthcare is perfect because it is not. However, in Canada nobody dies because of their lack of health insurance. It provides people who may not be as fortunate as you the care that they deserve as human beings, which is something I hope everyone can support. Yes, the average wait times for medical care in Canada are much longer, which is a downfall, but when I went to the emergency room at Maine Medical Center, I still waited from 10 p.m. to 3:30 a.m. for stitches that only took fifteen minutes. I thought the wait times in America were supposed to be shorter! I was very disappointed. Everything I thought I knew was a lie.

As a Canadian at USM, I have also been asked if I speak French, which I do not. Quebec is the main province that has French Canadians and they are very far away from where I live.

While we are on the topic of where I'm

from, I'm from Edmonton, Alberta. The most baffling question I have been asked is if Alberta is its own country. Now, I do not pride myself on my American geography knowledge by any means. However, if you told me you lived in one of the fifty states, I would not be confused enough to ask what country that is.

Some of the people I have talked to at USM have asked me if Canadians are as nice as everyone says. Yes, they are very nice, not all of them, but most of them. In Canada it is illegal to use hate speech, which I believe helps promote being genuinely kind to one another. I think it is favorable because it provides the realistic view that your actions and your words can be truly menacing. I would also say it gives the community more strength to stand up for each other when they see such unjust acts.

One of the biggest differences I have noticed is that when you're driving in Canada and somebody lets you into their lane, it is a country code that you wave to thank that person. WHY DO PEOPLE NOT WAVE HERE? Just a wave to say thank you, it takes little energy and only a second. Maybe that's the Canadian in me aggressively coming out,

but I thought that was just common courtesy.

Let me extend a thank you to everyone for not asking me questions such as, "Do you live in an igloo?" or "Do you own a polar bear?" You may laugh in disbelief but I assure you that somewhere, someone has that idea in their mind.

It's cold in Canada. That is a fact. It is not live in an igloo cold. However, it is cold nonetheless. I hope you all are not taking the weather we are experiencing in Maine right now for granted. Back in my hometown, it started snowing a month ago. It has also been consistently -20 degrees Celsius. For those of you who do not know, is -4 degrees Fahrenheit, which means it is really cold back home and I am grateful to be here. The other day it snowed here on campus, for only a little while and at night...people still went into a bit of a panic. Just be thankful you are not a little further north.

Like many of you, I am proud of where I come from. Though I chose to move across the border for my education and the ability to play NCAA college hockey, that doesn't mean I don't love my country, because I do and I have a tattoo on my back to prove it.

FP

## Editor Opinion

# How not to apologize for sexual assault

## Comedian Louis C.K. issues a statement about his past

**Johnna Ossie**  
Managing Editor

TW: Contains explicit descriptions of sexual violence

Amidst weeks of sexual assault and harassment claims against a variety of public figures, comedian Louis C.K. issued a lengthy "apology" last week addressing the New York Times story in which five women came forward accusing C.K. of "sexual misconduct." Specifically, that C.K. masturbated in front of women or requested to, and in one woman's case, began masturbating during a phone call in which she was inviting him onto her show. C.K. confirmed in his statement that the allegations were true.

The beginning of C.K.'s statement reads, "At the time, I said to myself that what I did was okay because I never showed a woman my [penis] without asking first, which is also true. But what I learned later in life,

too late, is that when you have power over another person, asking them to look at your [penis] isn't a question. It's a predicament for them. The power I had over these women is that they admired me. And I wielded that power irresponsibly."

There's a laundry list of problems with C.K.'s so called apology, starting with the fact the the words "I'm sorry" are never said within it. C.K.'s attempts to lessen the impact of his actions by adding that he never showed someone his penis without "asking first," is a disturbing attempt to imply some sort of consensual act. What happened between C.K. and the women who came forward is a clear abuse of power of privilege, and one that many women will recognize as common. As many (if not most) women already know, having any man, let alone a man in a position of power, suddenly ask to pull out his genitals is going to illicit shock, fear, confusion and likely a freeze response.

When I was 21, I was walking on Con-

gress St. at night with my roommate. I remember that we were laughing hard, as we often were together. A car pulled over, and a man called out to us. He was asking for directions to the interstate. I took a step toward his car to tell him which way to go, looked in and realized he was masturbating. I had no idea what to do. I looked at him and said, "Oh." He looked back at me, pulled away and drove off. I didn't think to get his license plate number or to remember what he looked like. I didn't think to write down what kind of car he was driving. All I could think was that this man had, for some reason, felt the need to manipulate me into seeing his penis. My friend and I kept walking home and didn't talk much about what had just happened. Things felt heavy.

When I told my mother what happened, she recalled a similar experience she had when in her 20s and travelling through Europe. She was alone, waiting for a friend to come meet her. A man in a car called to her to ask a question. When she approached

the car, he pulled away newspaper that was covering his lap to reveal that he was masturbating. My mom described being in shock, not knowing what to do or how to respond. As one woman who came forward said to the New York Times, "You want to believe it's not happening."

C.K. describes what the women experienced as a "predicament," which is one of the grossest understatement I've ever heard. What the women went through was abuse and lasting trauma. What women go through is years of trying to reconcile what happened to them. His need to mention several times throughout the statement how admired he is is equally queasy-making. Waiting to apologize for something until you're forced to doesn't imply remorse, it implies cowardice. Though some have praised C.K. for addressing the issue, this "apology" is no apology at all. It's a self-serving, desperate, last ditch attempt to salvage a sexual predator's public image.

FP



Student Perspective

# Medicaid expansion

Emma Donnelly  
Contributor

In 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted, the states were supposed to expand Medicaid. 19 states did not, and Maine was one of them. Despite passing Medicaid expansion five times in the state legislature, Governor LePage vetoed it every single time. This means 70,000+ Mainers have been left without health insurance because the governor refused to accept \$500 million from the federal government.

It is unacceptable to leave thousands of Mainers uninsured, so we got Medicaid expansion on the 2017 ballot.

Starting on November 8, 2016 (Election Day), I began working on this campaign with Mainers for Healthcare. It began by sitting at Kennebunk town hall for somewhere between 8-12 hours, I can't even remember, collecting signatures to get it on the ballot. We had volunteers all over Maine at the polls to get the 68,000 signatures we needed to put a citizen's initiative on the ballot. A few months later, I found out we got it on the ballot, and we were going to be Question 2.

Since August 2017, I've knocked doors, made phone calls, registered people to vote, gave out literature, done social media blasts, and more to make sure that we got out the vote for November 7, 2017. At the doors, folks would tell me their stories of being uninsured and the sacrifices they had to make to take care of their loved ones and keep them alive. Everyone I spoke to would benefit from Medicaid expansion or know someone who did. I was unsure how the turnout would be because it's an "off" election year, and in my mind, after

last year's election, people would either be more inclined or less inclined to vote, but after listening to these stories I knew I had to do to whatever it took to get people to the polls.

The turnout for the election was outstanding and exceeded my expectations. In Saco and Biddeford, where I knocked doors the last few months, Question 2 passed by thousands of votes. That was my first real feeling of victory before it was confirmed Question 2 passed. Then, when laying in bed refreshing my phone, my partner got the Associated Press notification that Maine officially became the first state in the nation to pass Medicaid expansion by ballot initiative. We passed by 18 pts, 59% yes 41% no. I was in shock for a few hours, honestly.

The next day when scrolling through Twitter, I saw people like Cecile Richards (President of Planned Parenthood Federation of America), websites like Politico and the Associated Press, and major news sources like the New York Times reporting about this campaign. I am so humbled, lucky, and proud to be a part of this groundbreaking initiative.

The reason I am writing about my experience with the Yes on 2 campaign is because it is just one example of the potential we have as voters to make a significant impact. We are able to overturn a governor's veto, and change the lives of thousands, just by exercising our right to vote and participate in our democracy. If you ever think that voting doesn't matter and your vote doesn't count, just look back on victories like these, and realize your potential for impact.

FP

To submit a letter to the editor  
please email your letter to  
[sarah@usmfreepress.org](mailto:sarah@usmfreepress.org)

Letters to the editor should not exceed 500 words and the Free Press reserves the right to edit for length. Content should not be harmful to the USM community. The Free Press reserves the right not to publish submitted letters.

## LET'S TALK ABOUT IT



Thanksgiving is coming up and honestly it's stressing me out. I'm excited to be home, see friends from high school and have a good time, but I'm also dreading the family meal more than usual. I love my family but they can be overwhelming, and for whatever reason, probably just the stress and commotion of the holidays, everyone gets so tense and I feel like I have to play peacemaker. There are always a lot of wonderful moments, too, but I guess I just feel extra aware of it because I've been so focused at school. Any advice with how to self-manage this?

Johnna Ossie  
Managing Editor

Oh, the joys of family. At my family's Thanksgiving dinner a few years ago, my aunt came up to me, looked me up and down, and said out loud to seemingly no one and everyone, "Johnna's got more tattoos and piercings because she never wants to get a job!" This isn't the first time my dearly loved aunt has something absurdly rude to me at a family gathering. My family is also known for cracking incredibly insensitive jokes at my expensive, conservative politics and in the past, I'm told, drunken brawls. I looked at my aunt and said calmly (I had learned at this point that fighting is useless), "I have a job, and I'm not really concerned about what you think about it." My aunt was flabbergasted, seemingly in shock that I had dared to respond to her criticism. She turned around and stormed into another room where I could hear her loudly complaining about how rude I am. My nana, the true hero of this story said, "You weren't a real gem when you were that age, either." At this point in the story, my aunt stormed out of the house and (I'm really not kidding) sat in a field where we could all see her through the window throughout the entirety of Thanksgiving dinner. When we were done eating she came in, took her food and left. At Christmas, she came up to me and hugged me like nothing had ever happened. This September, my aunt got her nose pierced.

You don't need to play peacemaker for your adult family. You just don't. It doesn't really matter the circumstances. If it's too much for you, let them fight their own battles. If your Aunt Sue and your Aunt Linda are fighting over the temperature a turkey needs to reach, let them. If your dad and grandpa are fighting about property rates in Portland, leave the room. Leave the house. Take a break.

I love my family very much, and I'm also incredibly stressed out by them. It sounds like you are in a similar boat. For some reason, the

holidays really stress people out. Everyone is on edge. Your aunt is mad at your uncle for not helping with the cooking, your teenage cousins are watching football too loudly, your mom keeps putting spit on her thumb and trying to rub off a freckle that you've had for 20 years. Your great uncle keeps saying some of the most bigoted things you've ever heard and when you try to intervene your dad tells you to leave poor Uncle Jim alone. I've been navigating holiday dinners for 26 years now and I'm barely an expert, but I will tell you some things that have helped me to survive.

The first thing I do when I get to my grandparent's house is hug my nana (because she's the best) and then ask her what I can do to help. If I'm hauling chairs up from the basement or mashing an obscenely large pot of potatoes, no one has space to ask me when I'm getting married or comment on the fact that I've gained weight since they last saw me. Staying busy is key!

If your family is white and, like me, you have a racist uncle Jim/Paul/Steve, it's a whole new ballpark. You're going to have to talk to Uncle Jim Paul Steve and you're going to have to say something when he says something racist. You just have to. It's hard. Your mom will be upset with you for "causing trouble" when "everything was going so well!" but you still have to. There's actually a lot of guides online for how to talk to your white family about racism that have been helpful for me in preparing for these kinds of conversations.

Next, if you have one, find your cousin that you really like. I'm lucky to have a cousin the same age as me who is pretty great, and if I can engage him in conversation people generally leave us alone, except to say "Look at those two!" and keep moving. If you can, grab that cousin and go for a walk. Rant about your fight with Uncle Jim Paul Steve. Get out of the house and get some fresh air that doesn't smell like roasting vegetables for a minute. It will help.

Bathrooms make good hiding places. FP



## Crossword

## Across

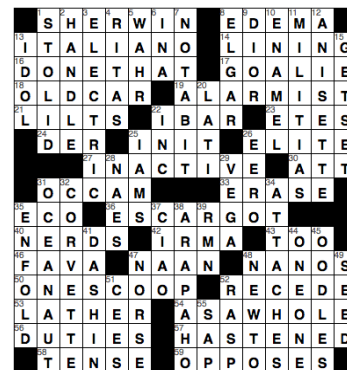
1. "...wing \_\_\_\_ prayer"  
 5. Web address abbreviations  
 10. Impertinent one  
 14. H.S. subject  
 15. Diva deliveries  
 16. First-rate  
 17. Unwillingness  
 19. Actress Drescher  
 20. Relieved  
 21. Opposite of "tis"  
 22. Punky of '80s TV  
 26. Cardio-boxing routine  
 30. Brainless ones  
 34. Mistake  
 35. Indian flatbread  
 36. Exhibition offering  
 37. Pungent cheese of northeastern Italy  
 39. Gran \_\_\_\_  
 42. Soft shoe, for short  
 43. Draft status  
 47. Nigeria neighbor  
 48. Seizing suddenly  
 51. Very wide shoe size  
 52. Feel assured  
 54. Joiner's cry  
 57. List  
 62. Haus wife  
 63. No longer charged  
 66. Or more  
 67. Faith that rejects supernatural revelation  
 68. \_\_\_\_ San Lucas (Baja resort)  
 69. Teaching method  
 70. "Golden Boy" dramatist Clifford  
 71. Heidi of "Project Runway"



## Down

1. Indian tourist mecca  
 2. Alice \_\_\_\_ (American portraitist)  
 3. Voodoo item  
 4. Rio filler  
 5. Rancorous one  
 6. Partial payment of a kind  
 7. Food container  
 8. \_\_\_\_-Man (arcade game)  
 9. Compass pt.  
 10. Firefox alternative  
 11. Purple seaweed  
 12. \_\_\_\_ instant (quickly)  
 13. Shut in  
 18. Part-human, part-machine  
 21. Sleuth, briefly  
 23. Microsoft audio format  
 24. Entrepreneur's org.  
 25. Circus sight  
 26. Lions, Tigers and Bears  
 27. Pyromaniac's crime  
 28. Susan Lucci soap role  
 29. Ostentatious neckwear  
 31. Frankie who sang "Mule Train"  
 32. Singer Ford from Tennessee  
 33. Peach pit  
 38. Cries of delight  
 40. Yes-man?  
 41. Ending for dec- or deg-  
 44. Something to pick?  
 45. Wind dir.  
 46. Vs.  
 49. Theatrical company  
 50. Corp. top dog  
 53. Poppy parts  
 54. Alfred Hitchcock's "Dial \_\_\_\_ Murder"  
 55. Rubik who created the Rubik's cube  
 56. Pulled tight  
 58. Baseball Hall of Famer Connie  
 59. Tilted type (abbr.)  
 60. Humped bovine  
 61. Land given to Esau  
 63. Tokyo, once  
 64. Signed, in a way  
 65. Goose, in French

## 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.

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

## Word Search

Theme: Thanksgiving

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

T M L F T V T K C P H M N O N W M M Z H  
 I U K T V P Q J K J O R I W M M J W Y X  
 E I R S C X Y S B K Z T V W J O J O G Z  
 R J Z K V T R G W G Z R A P Z B N M P I  
 N J O L E S P W S T U F F I N G K A G X  
 W P K C Y Y S B D Q R B T J Q U B D Y S  
 Q E G S D V R I Y K F X S T I Q B C I S  
 J A R B W H A R O J G P Q J O J K X K U  
 T S V S T O R R A C E R U C V Z T R N U  
 B A F J S E X M G N Y D A E R B N R O C  
 O S F Y B T H T O A R W S D C E R Z O Z  
 R Z V N Q A L R M W U O H A K X D J A R  
 I H A P Z Q V F R Y Z W C E O H E I P W  
 I R I A T K Z F W S O N W R S C N Z C I  
 C C P F V T T U R N I P C B X U K W J K  
 Z Q F M S B G P C K M A L Y L M G N H S  
 I R E F K A Q C P Y H N F Q F G P D E D  
 A H X A C O L M S C V Y G K S K H A K D  
 L N L U W E U A J E L O R E S S A C P I  
 C O N D Z P H Q D S E O T A T O P L B S

bread  
 carrots  
 casserole  
 cider  
 corn  
 cornbread  
 cranberry  
 gravy  
 peas  
 pie  
 potatoes  
 pumpkin  
 salad  
 squash  
 stuffing  
 turkey  
 turnip  
 yam

## Cryptogram

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

Q'GX ZXHPN DK H WPHSN SXA WHSU QS  
 FDIRZXPS BHCQKDPSQH USDAS HF FHS  
 HSNPXHF GHICR.

And here is your hint:  
 Z = H



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# USM Community Page

## Bowdoin professor deliberates over research

*Convocation continues as crowd fills Hannaford Hall for W.E.B Du Bois lecture*

**Sarah Tewksbury**  
Editor-in-chief

“What is the history of racism outside the south?”

Keynote speaker Dr. Brian Purnell posed this question to introduce his research. Spread out in Hannaford Hall Monday night, roughly a hundred students, staff, faculty and community members listened to the presentation. Organized by the Gloria S. Duclos Convocation committee as part of the continuing conversation about race and participatory democracy, Monday’s event was titled, *The Strange Careers of the Jim Crow North: Race and Participatory Democracy North of the Mason Dixon Line*. The evening was the second annual W.E.B Du Bois Lecture on Race and Democracy as well.

Purnell, the Geoffrey Canada associate professor of Africana Studies and History and Director of Africana Studies Program at Bowdoin College, was brought to USM to discuss the groundwork for the upcoming collection of original essays he has been working on. Its relevance to USM’s current Convocation topic brings a perspective that has not been delved into yet during the year long discussion. The perspective is of racism as being inherently rooted in the North

and West in the United States. Purnell, along with colleagues Jeanne Theoharis and Komozi Woodward, are calling their anthology of essays *The Strange Careers of Jim Crow: North and West*.

The driving question that Purnell has explored through his investigation has led him to look for the history and pattern of racial discrimination outside of the South. During his presentation, Purnell noted that so many scholars today have to get deep into the study of race in the U.S. before they arrive at the conclusion that the North was a place of origin for Jim Crow segregation. As defined by the Smithsonian Institute, Jim Crow is the term used which groups laws passed that were discriminatory towards black Americans at the close of the nineteenth century.

According to Purnell, six million blacks left the South between 1910 and 1970 in search of economic opportunity and class mobility. Traveling to the North and the West these citizens were reportedly legally restricted through segregation, regardless of their location in the U.S. Purnell provided examples of Northern extralegal racial violence such as the exclusion of blacks from the same public education that whites received in Boston during the late eighteenth century, which

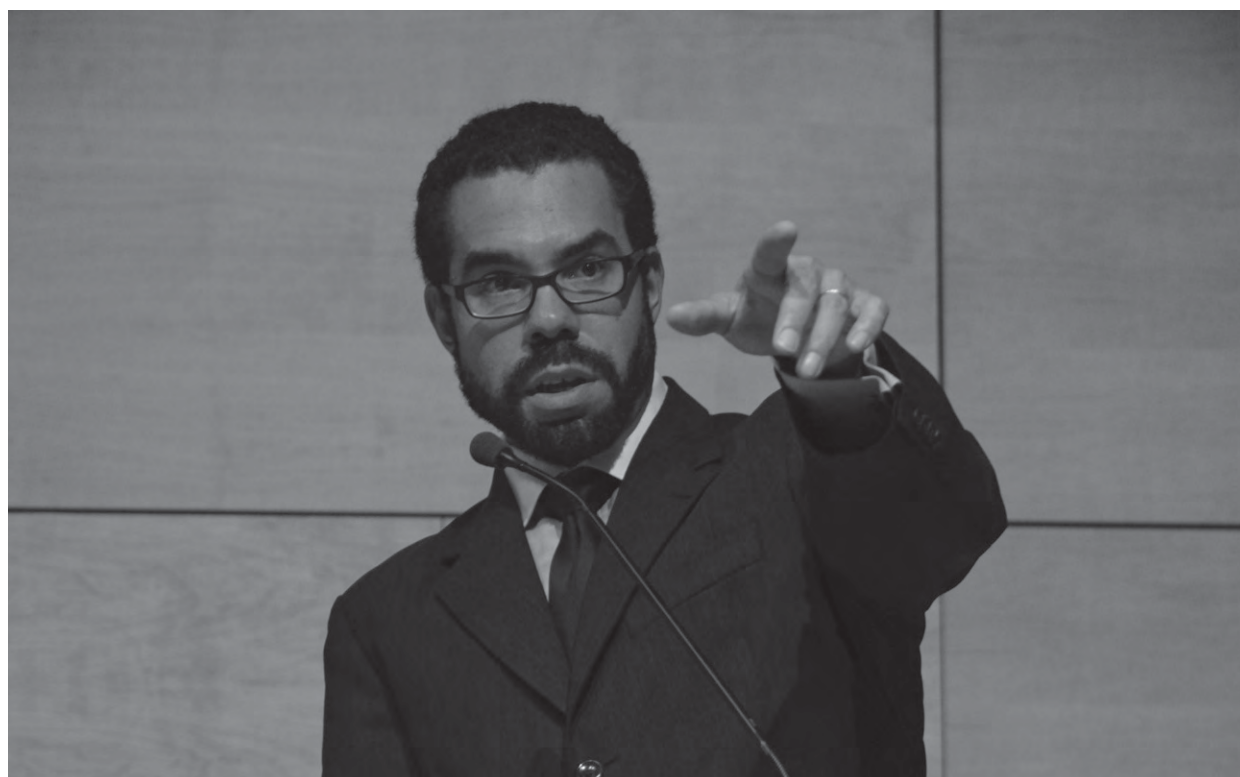
was challenged in the court case *Roberts v. City of Boston* in 1850. Ruling in favor of the City of Boston, the court set a precedent later cited by the Supreme Court in the ruling of *Plessy v. Ferguson*, which rooted “separate but equal” into American history.

Calling for a more intense scrutiny of the emergence of racial discrimination, Purnell asked audience members to intensify their curiosity and start to look deeper at the ways in which segregation was influenced by the North.

“Racism outside of the South is so hard to understand,” Purnell said. “Yet it is so important to study and research. We need to put American liberalism under an incredibly critical microscope.”

As a continuation of the discussion of the Convocation topic, the lecture fulfilled its purpose of providing historical context to the origins of racism. Bringing the notion of intersectionality through the study of race and democracy to USM is a core principle of both the W.E.B Du Bois lecture and Convocation.

FP



Dionne Smith / Community Editor

Brian Purnell, a professor at Bowdoin College, giving his W.E.B Du Bois lecture in Hannaford Hall, talking about Jim Crow in the north and its many forms of racism and segregation against the black community.

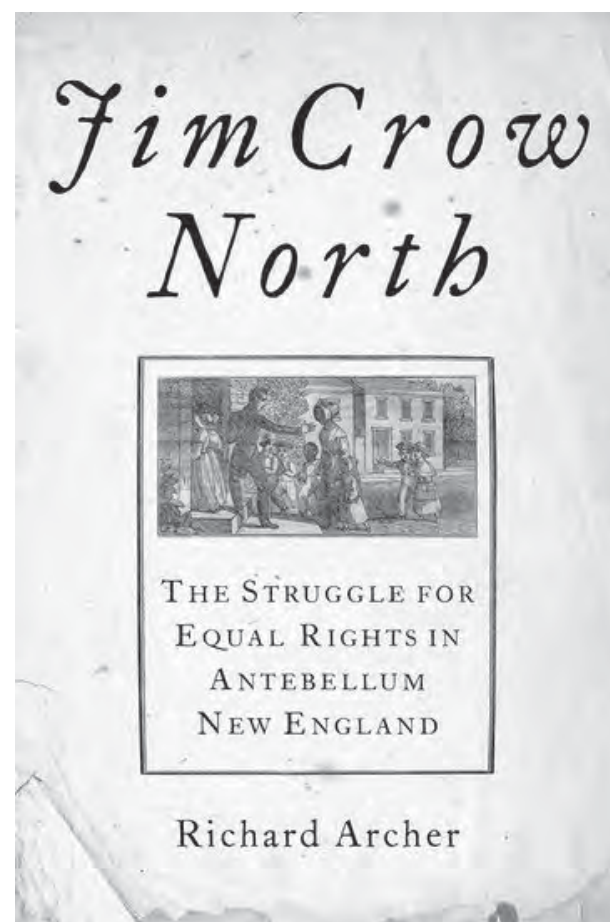


Photo courtesy of Oxford University Press



# Students talk about feeling safe on campus

## Administration gets criticism for responses of past events

**Dionne Smith**  
Community Editor

The halfway point of the semester has passed and these past two months have had their fair share of controversial events. So far there has been transphobic graffiti, Matthew Bourgault, the traveling preacher, arriving on campus to spread his hateful rhetoric, Glenn Cumming's use of derogatory slang during the first Convocation event, and a few weeks ago there was homophobic graffiti located in the Robie/Andrews elevator. Over these two months it feels like each week is something new, and according to some students, with each event comes with a lackluster response from our administration. So with these events, just how safe do the students feel while on campus, around their fellow students and how safe do they feel with the administration?

With the mixture of events, it is no surprise that there are students that do not feel completely safe while on campus. Jasmine DeMoranville, an 18 year old freshman majoring in general linguistics had no real relationship with the administration, but now feels that after the way the protest with Bourgault was handled, she mostly has a bad relationship with the administration. DeMoranville was a member of the group of

students who were present during the protesting on campus and stated that, "I don't like the way that the protest was handled, and it made me extremely uncomfortable that the man had a weapon, and nothing was done." She stated though, that she feels generally safe on campus around other students, though the thought that she could be targeted has crossed her mind due to being a lesbian and Hindu, though not frequently.

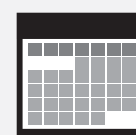
Michael Laforte, a 19 year old freshman who is currently an undeclared major, was also a member of the crowd during Bourgault's visit. Laforte feels that the administration needs to be improved based on how they handled the situation, but generally feels safe around other students. "Any amount of safety I have is from the students and not from the staff," Laforte stated. Laforte is a member of the Queer Straight Alliance where students talk about the events that have been happening on campus such as the transphobic graffiti, though Laforte feels that though there are definitely questionable people on campus, they tend to stick to the shadows and don't show any outward aggression except for vandalism and putting up the hateful graffiti.

Katie Muriel, a 25 year old senior double majoring in criminology and women and gender studies, states that she sometimes feels safe and

sometimes doesn't. Muriel doesn't feel like the administration has been giving good responses to the controversy on campus, pointing out that Cummings, with his lack of response to these events, and his lackluster apology for what he said during Convocation, is not doing as good a job as she wishes he would. Muriel said that she feels the safest when she is in a community of like-minded individuals and feels that she can relax and be herself, noting the Women and Gender Studies building as being one of those communities, referring to it as a safe space for her. While for herself she doesn't feel unsafe with her gender, sexuality or religion, she expressed that she feels worried for her friends and other people because they can be at risk to be called out or targeted with the seemingly frequent, hateful graffiti. "I'm not happy, to put it mildly," Muriel stated.

While there are a good amount of students who do not feel as safe as they could, there are also many students who do feel safe around the students and the administration, regardless of the events and what other students see as a lacking response from the administration. Gricia Bondonga, a 19 year old freshman majoring in finance, feels that she is safe on campus and doesn't feel that anyone will attack her or is talking behind her back. She believes that USM does a good job with inclusion for all students with areas like the multicultural center, and believes that both the students and the administration doesn't give her any unease. She says that she has yet to feel like she'd be called out for her gender or religion.

From the students, it seems that they feel most unsafe and mostly disappointed with the administration and how they have been responding to the various events that have been happening all semester. The students feel that the administration needs to be more involved by asking students and student groups what they would like to see from them. "Reach out to these communities that are being targeted, at the very least to get input," Laforte stated. The events that have transpired have seemed to not completely break the trust of the students, but they do wish that administration would step up and do more for the students of the USM community.



## Community Events

### Monday, November 13

Open Forum with President Cummings  
USM Portland Campus  
Freedom of Expression Space  
Starts: 3:30 P.M.

### Tuesday, November 14

Feed Hope: USM Hunger Banquet  
USM Portland Campus  
Glickman Library  
Starts: 5 P.M. / Ends: 7 P.M.

### Wednesday, November 15

USM Blood Drive  
USM Gorham Campus  
Brooks Students Center  
Starts: 11 A.M. / Ends: 4 P.M.

### Thursday, November 16

Language Express  
USM Portland Campus  
Woodbury Amphitheater  
Starts: 11:30 A.M. / Ends: 1:30 P.M.

### Friday, November 17

Winter Wonderland  
Maine Mall  
364 Maine Mall Rd.  
Starts: 10 A.M.

### Saturday, November 18

Season of Light  
Portland Public Library  
5 Monument Sq.  
Starts: 1 P.M. / Ends: 4 P.M.

### Sunday, November 19

4th Annual Back Cove 6 Hour  
Fun Run and Food Drive  
Back Cove Trail System  
Portland  
Starts: 8 A.M. / Ends: 2 P.M.

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

FP





# Sports

## Wednesday

### Women's Basketball

@ University of New England  
5:30 p.m.

## Wednesday

### Men's Basketball

@ University of New England  
7:30 p.m.

## Friday

### Women's Ice Hockey

@ Norwich University  
4:00 p.m.

## Saturday

### Wrestling

@ Springfield College  
8:00 a.m.

## Saturday

### Men's Ice Hockey

@ Norwich University  
4:00 p.m.

# Winter athletics preview highlights teams

*Intercollegiate athletes off to a shocking start for winter season*

**River Plouffe Vogel**  
Sports Editor

With this past Friday and weekend finally feeling like mid-November, it's time to look ahead at a winter packed full of USM athletics. 2017 has already proved to be a fantastic year for a number of our sports programs, and a rebuilding year for others. This year both men and women's hockey is underway, along with wrestling and soon to be followed by men and women's basketball. The cross country team's just finished up their season, hosting NCAA regionals in Gorham this Saturday. Behind 2017 LEC (Little East Conference) coach of the year Ryan Harkleroad, the men's team placed tenth out of 54 teams for an outstanding finish to the season. Along with cross country, the volleyball team lost in the postseason to Eastern Connecticut, finishing an outstanding season with a record to 20-10.

## Women's Ice Hockey

The women's ice hockey team is currently 2-3 in their young season, winning three of their last four games after dropping the first two of the season. Their most recent win came Saturday against Salve Regina. More importantly they are 2-2 in conference play and should be a force to be reckoned with for any team this season. The hockey season is long, spanning from November to February, and this team is young with no seniors and only four juniors, so we should only expect them to get better. The team is coached by John Lauziere, who is in his twelfth season with the team. Lauziere graduated from USM in 2002. The assistant coach is Cassandra Sherman, former USM standout who graduated in 2016. Their next game is Friday, Nov. 17 at Norwich College.

## Men's Ice Hockey

It has been a rocky start for the men's ice hockey team, losing their first two games by six points or more. This was followed by an exciting game against Skidmore, which ended in an overtime draw and finally a third loss this past Friday. This team has a lot of depth and a tough schedule. As previously mentioned the season is long as well, with plenty of time to turn things around. Often it's just about finding which lines play best together and developing the chemistry of the team. The men's ice hockey team is coached by Ed Harding and this is his fourth season as head coach.

## Wrestling

The USM wrestling team dominated its first match of the season winning 37-9 against Bridgewater College on Nov. 4. This team is crazy young, with over ten freshman on the squad and super talented. Last year the team had a National Champion in Dan Del Gallo, and we should expect to see a number of the wrestlers to be at nationals in March. Wrestling is incredibly demanding and the season



*Photo courtesy of USM Athletics*

*Women's ice hockey team beat Salve Regina 1-0 Saturday, Nov. 11. (Above) USM sophomore Grace Simmons.*

goes until March. This means there is plenty of time to make improvement and adjustments. The team is coached by former wrestler Mike Morin, who was a two time All-American at USM. This is his third season as head coach.

## Women's Basketball

The women's basketball season starts this Wednesday, Nov. 15 at the University of New England. The team had a subpar season last year and is hoping to turn things around and continue their winning ways. Over the years, USM women's basketball has won an incredible 21 Little East Conference Championships. The team has a lot of experience and a roster full athlete's. The team is coached by Samantha Allen, who is in her third season as head coach.

## Men's Basketball

The men's basketball team had a fairly successful season last year, finishing 10-16 but making it to the quarter-finals in postseason play. The team's starting five should look dramatically different this year, as it lost a lot of key players from last years team. This year there are only two seniors on the team, but it should mean we can expect this team to grow and develop over the following seasons. Karl Henrikson is in his fourteenth season as head coach of the men's basketball team.

## Indoor Track and Field

The indoor track and field seasons are technically underway, with athletes for both the men's and women's team already training. However the season doesn't start until mid-december. Those who participated in cross country are just finishing their season and rest is crucial. Both the men's and women's team have been nothing short of dominate in indoor track and field. Last year the men's team won the Little East Conference Championships, and the Alliance Championships. The women's team, behind coach George Towle, have won an unprecedented seventeen consecutive LEC Conference Championships, from 2001 to 2017. Truly an outstanding accomplishment and testimony to Towle's program.

As will all USM sports programs, the more support the better. The winter season can feel long and when the school and community show out for the sports programs, that usually return the favor with outstanding play. We can always expect our student athletes to perform in both the classroom and out on the field, court or in the arena, however our cheers and presence show them we care and appreciate their hardwork and effort on and off the field.





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