StormReady designation celebrated

OFFICIALS WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE AT PRESQUE ISLE AND THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE gathered on Thursday, Jan. 17, in the Campus Center to celebrate with the community the University’s recent designation as a StormReady University and to announce the latest developments in efforts to implement the program. About 70 people attended the event.

The campus was named a National Weather Service StormReady University in December, making it the second campus in New England and the 21st campus in the nation to receive this designation. Established in 1999, StormReady helps arm communities with the planning, communication and safety skills needed to save lives and property before and during storm events. Program “communities” can include cities, towns, universities, Indian Nations, and government and private entities.

“The University is proud to be the first campus in Maine to implement this life-saving weather alert program,” President Don Zillman said. “It allows us to get out warnings about severe weather almost instantaneously to our entire campus so we will be prepared when severe weather arrives. We hope this serves as a catalyst for establishing a very important program in communities and campuses across the state.”

Thursday’s event included presentations on the collaborative efforts that the National Weather Service office in Caribou and the University undertook to implement the program. Greg Daniels, the University’s security and safety coordinator, and Tony Sturey, Warning Coordination Meteorologist from the National Weather Service office in Caribou, worked with campus, weather, and local emergency management officials to meet the StormReady requirements.

As part of the program, officials have installed NOAA Weather Radios in every building on campus and at

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Campus implements warning system

WITH UNIVERSITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY tightening their security procedures, University officials have announced the implementation of a new emergency notification system for the campus community.

The University will use the system – known as e2campus – to notify students, faculty and staff about various kinds of emergencies and important notifications, from weather emergencies to school cancellations to incidents of violence on campus, according to Chris Corsello, the University’s Dean of Students.

“Given the tragedies that have happened at universities across the country, we wanted to make sure that we implemented a system that provided us with a number of ways to notify the campus community,” Corsello said.

E2campus is a universal notification system that delivers time-sensitive messages – within seconds – to the mobile phones, PDAs, email inboxes and pagers of its subscribers, no matter where they are geographically. The University is encour-

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University supports Momentum

THE UNIVERSITY IS ONE OF THREE entities that will lend support to a local organization dedicated to providing exceptional professional, cultural and social opportunities for the younger members of the Aroostook County workforce.

Momentum Aroostook Board Chairman Nathan Berry announced that MMG Insurance, Northern Maine Development Commission, and the University of Maine at Presque Isle are the organization’s first major sponsors.

Northern Maine Development Commission will serve as the organization’s host, providing administrative and grant writing services, while MMG Insurance and the University will serve as a corner sponsor by providing Momentum with a $1,250 sponsorship each.

“We are deeply appreciative to all three of these entities for putting their support behind the Momentum Aroostook initiative since day one,” Berry said. “With the administrative and financial support on top of that, we have the tools and the funding we need to effect some really positive change for the local area and our age demographic.”

Momentum Aroostook is an organization that offers younger members of the County workforce the opportunity to use their talents, skills, enthusiasm, and high energy to further their own growth and career interests while seeking ways to support community needs. The County-wide networking group, geared toward the 20- to 40-year-old population, is working to shape the economic, social and recreational future of the area.

“When we heard Momentum Aroostook was looking for sponsorship, we signed on immediately,” UMPI President Don Zillman said. “We are excited about the professional opportunities this organization is creating for young people in the area, which potentially could serve as a catalyst for in-migration for the area. We’d like to do whatever we can to help Momentum Aroostook grow.”

Momentum Aroostook is working on several projects to effect positive changes in the area, such as applying for a grant – with the help of NMDC – to establish a business professional internship program. Other efforts, such as organizing a year’s worth of professional, cultural and social programming, are made possible because of the organization’s corner sponsors.

Momentum Aroostook is part of a statewide initiative called REALIZE!Maine. REALIZE, managed by the Maine Development Foundation, aims to help strengthen the network of young people in their professions and workplaces and to help entice more young professionals to locate in the state.

For more information about Momentum Aroostook, visit www.momentumaroostook.com.

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StormReady
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

...the local police department. Points of contact are responsible for monitoring the radios and getting warnings out to others. Warnings also will be disseminated to the campus community through email, computer dialog pop-up box, voice mail, and radio stations.

Daniels announced the installation of large video monitors at six strategic locations around campus – including Folsom/Pullen Hall, Gentile Hall, and the Campus Center – to increase the ability to provide warnings to as many members of the campus community as possible. These video monitors are capable of transmitting important warning information just minutes after it is received. This information also will be broadcast in residence halls on cable channel 8.

During the Jan. 17 event, representatives also read letters on behalf of Senators Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins, and Congressman Michael Michaud that praised the University and the weather service on their work to prepare the campus in the event of inclement weather. The program capped off with the formal presentation of a plaque and two StormReady signs by Hendricus Lulofs, meteorologist-in-charge at the National Weather Service office in Caribou, to President Zillman.
**Upward Bound seeks computers**

*TRIO UPWARD BOUND OFFICIALS ARE LOOKING* for community donations of used computers for a project that they believe will help high school students get to college and succeed once they get there.

The organization, dedicated to supporting high schoolers as they prepare to enter college, is looking for about 30 used computers so students can both participate in new online mentoring and tutoring services, and better prepare for college-level work. Upward Bound already has collected 30 used computers from the Universities of Maine at Presque Isle and Fort Kent and is hoping to secure about 30 more for its students in need.

“We just started our online mentoring and tutoring, but I have students who can’t participate because they don’t have access to computers and Internet connections at home,” Tammy Smith, the AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer for TRIO Upward Bound in Presque Isle, said.

The new services are meant to provide the area’s 120 Upward Bound students – many are from economically disadvantaged households and will be first generation college students – with more resources and support. This is especially important because of the “distance barrier.” Students attend 16 area high schools and live from Katahdin to Fort Kent, making it hard to get tutors in all those different areas. However, even with the online services, students can only participate during their study halls or after school.

“With the computers, our students will have the access they need at home, which means they won’t have to cram the mentoring and tutoring into their class schedules, stay late after school, or pay for the extra gas to travel back to school in the evening,” Smith said.

Officials hope to have a total of 60 computers in hand by March. They also are looking for funding or business support so they can provide internet connections for their students.

“All of this will help students gain the most from their high school experience, allowing them to achieve their dream of a college education,” Smith said.

For more information about TRIO Upward Bound or to donate a computer, contact 768.9544 or e-mail tammy.smith@maine.edu.

**Planet Head Day approaches**

*THE UNIVERSITY’S NORTHERN MAINE MUSEUM OF SCIENCE* is preparing for its second annual Planet Head Day. The event is held on the weekend closest to the anniversary of Pluto’s discovery [Feb. 18, 1930], which this year will be Saturday, Feb. 16, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Folsom Hall, where the museum is located.

According to Dr. Kevin McCartney, museum director, the event serves two purposes: it’s a celebration of Pluto and a unique activity to increase cancer awareness. The Northern Maine Museum of Science is an educational outreach participant in New Horizons, a NASA program that has launched a spacecraft scheduled to reach Pluto in 2015. The museum’s Coordinator of Museum Outreach and Curator of Collections, Jeanie McGowan, is

**Blood drive to be held**

*THE UNIVERSITY WILL HOST* its annual spring semester blood drive on Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2008. This blood drive is sponsored by the UMPI Residence Life Office, the Brothers of Kappa Delta Phi and the Sisters of Kappa Delta Phi NASA.

The blood drive is scheduled from noon until 6 p.m. in the Campus Center’s Multi Purpose Room. If donors wish to reserve a time, they should call 768.9585 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome.

The University regularly holds two blood drives per year, and has records of blood drives dating back to 1987. Since that time, the University has collected over 2,300 pints. Stepp said the University hopes to collect 80 pints of blood during this drive.

For more information, contact Jim Stepp at 768.9560 or email james.stepp@umpi.edu.
Students, staff to perform Vagina Monologues

IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE 2008 V-DAY CAMPAIGN, the University will present a benefit production of Eve Ensler’s The Vagina Monologues, to be performed at Wieden Auditorium on Tuesday, Feb. 12 and Wednesday, Feb. 13 at 7 p.m. Tickets are $5 for the public and by donation for UMPI students.

Hailed by The New York Times as “funny” and “poignant,” The Vagina Monologues, which was first performed off-Broadway by Ms. Ensler, dives into the mystery, humor, pain, power, wisdom, outrage and excitement buried in women’s experiences.

While past local productions have featured local women reading their monologues, this show brings a new twist – cast members will perform their monologues from memory. The University’s 16 cast members are a mixture of staff and students, whose ages range from early 20s to late 50s. Producer Michelle Gillis and Director Sarah Spires are Canadian teacher certification students who are strong supporters of the V-Day movement.

“We felt it was time to bring back The Vagina Monologues to this campus,” Gillis said. The production hasn’t been performed at the University since 2003. “I am so pleased to be able to make the most of my American experience by getting to know so many talented actresses and helping to support a local charity.”

The proceeds of each production of The Vagina Monologues are typically split between a local charity and V-Day, a global movement which strives to empower men and women to demand an end to the violence that affects one in three women in the U.S., and around the world. For UMPI’s production, 90% of the ticket sales will be donated to the Battered Women’s Project, and the remainder will support the V-Day Campaign. In 2007, more than 3,000 V-Day benefits took place in the U.S. and around the world, raising more than $6 million through performances of The Vagina Monologues. This year marks V-Day’s tenth anniversary.

To learn more about UMPI’s production of The Vagina Monologues, call Michelle Gillis at 540.1807 or e-mail at michelle.e.gilles@maine.edu. To learn more about V-Day and its campaigns, visit www.vday.org.

Campus hosts College Goal Sunday

The week before the Super Bowl and all the festivities surrounding it, the University hosted an annual party of its own for high school and college students – College Goal Sunday.

Staff members were on hand Sunday, Jan. 27 to assist students in completing and filing their FAFSA [Free Application for Federal Student Aid] forms. The free event was open to the entire community. High school seniors and parents were especially encouraged to attend, along with currently enrolled college students needing assistance.

The purpose of the event was to help students and families in completing the FAFSA form – the first step in receiving monetary help for college, and a step that is repeated every year that a student is in college.

Financial aid experts were on hand to assist. Tammy Holman, Customer Service Associate and financial aid expert from the Finance Authority of Maine (FAME), served as the University’s FAFSA program presenter.

The University of Maine at Presque Isle served as one of three host sites in Aroostook County. Other participating Aroostook County sites included the Houlton Higher Education Center and the University of Maine at Fort Kent.

College Goal Sunday was sponsored by FAME and coordinated by TRiO Upward Bound at UMPI.

Campus community members need to self-register for participation in this system. To register, visit www.umpi.maine.edu and click on the “Help Us Keep You Safer” link at the top of the page.
Sports!

Owls lose two despite a solid effort overall
Jan. 5 - Sophomore Guard Ronald Spencer tossed in a career-high 22 points in the 95-55 Owls’ loss to the University of New England Nor’easters in the opening round of the Jim Beaudry Classic. Freshman guard James Gregory chipped in with 14 points and four assists. Senior forward Michael Latchford registered team highs with nine rebounds and five steals. In the consolation game, the Owls battled to a 102-72 loss against the Thomas College Terriers in a game that was much closer than the score indicated. Leading the way for the Owls was guard Ronald Spencer with 26 points, followed by James Gregory with 24 points and nine rebounds. Rounding out the scoring effort was freshman forward Felix Agboola with 11 points. Newcomer Ronald Spencer was selected to the All-Tournament team, posting a 48 point scoring effort over the two day event.

UMaine Presque Isle Women lose two
Jan. 5 - Senior guard Dawn Ross and senior forward Josealee Daniell each scored 12 points to lead a balanced offense as the nationally-ranked University of Southern Maine Huskies defeated the UMPI Owls 76-33 in a second round game of the USM Invitational Tournament.

Freshman guard Megan Korhonen led the Owls with a game-high 14 points, while junior guard Erica Davis added 11 points and six rebounds. In the consolation game, junior forward Erica Davis led her Owl team with 11 points and six rebounds, despite the 68-44 loss to Maine Maritime Academy. Junior forward Anna Lenentine and freshman guard Mindy Dolley each added eight points in the Presque Isle loss. Lenentine also grabbed a team high of seven rebounds. Freshman point guard Megan Korhonen scored seven points and had a game-high of six assists. The Mariners used a run-and-jump defensive set to unsettle the Owls, forcing them into 27 turnovers and only 34.3% shooting from the floor. In other news, junior forward Erica Davis was named to the All-Tournament Team.

UMPI Lady Owls earn big win over MMA
Jan. 14 - The UMPI women’s basketball team was back on their home court as they hosted Maine Maritime Academy. Junior forward Anna Lenentine and freshman guard Megan Korhonen combined for 17 of those in the second half to hold off the Mariners. Freshman guard Megan Korhonen contributed with eight points and six assists, turning the ball over only three times against the Mariners’ aggressive run and jump full-court pressure.

Brittany Hunt’s 12 points paced MMA, Tatum Welch, Kaitlyn Leeman and Amethyst Cousins had eight apiece, and Welch had five rebounds.

UMPI Men defeat rival UMFK
Jan. 16 - The men’s basketball team picked up their second win of the season as they defeated rival UMaine Fort Kent 81-68 on Wednesday evening. It is the Owl’s first win over the Bengals in the past several years.

UMPI opened up strong in the first half, gaining and maintaining the lead throughout the first 20 minutes; they headed into the locker room at half with a 36-30 lead. The Owls were able to keep the momentum in the second half of play, building a good enough lead over the Bengals to seal the victory in the closing minutes of play.

Leading the way for UMPI was sophomore guard Ronald Spencer who tied the game high with 30 points, draining six beyond the three point arch. Freshman forward James Gregory showcased his athleticism while picking up a double-double with 22 points and 10 rebounds. Big man Allan Stroud provided a solid inside presence for the Owls helping his team with 13 points and seven rebounds. Doing a solid job at the point was senior captain Thomas Wire who led his team with a game high of nine assists, turning the ball over only once during the entire contest.

Top scorers for UMaine Fort Kent were Jimmy Lopez with 30, including seven three pointers. Teammates Billy Russo and Yair Gal added 12 and 10 respectively for the Bengals.
As an Outstanding Future Professional from the Eastern District, Wescott also is in the running for the national Outstanding Future Professional Award, presented by AAHPERD, the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. According to Dr. Christine Standefer, professor of physical education, this is only the second time since at least the early 1990s that an UMPI student has received this award.

“This [award] shows that Julie is...
Planet Head Day
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3
also a cancer survivor.

During the event, participants either have their heads shaved, or don elastic swimming caps, which are then painted to look like one of the planets in our solar system. Local barber Patrick Coughlin and an assemblage of planethead-painters will be available for the occasion. Astronomy and cancer organizations also will have displays up during the event.

Last year’s Planet Head Day saw participation from about 30 planetheads. All planetheads and several moons were represented.

Dr. Chunzeng Wang, assistant professor of earth and environmental science, recently served as the single representative from Maine at the STEM [science, technology, engineering and mathematics] Summit organized by the Federal Department of Education and the National Science Foundation, held in Washington, D.C. The national summit – which took place Dec. 11-12 and included addresses from DOE and NSF administrators, keynote presentations, and panel and group discussions – was the first of its kind to be held in the U.S. Wang was nominated to represent all Maine higher education institutions by the Maine Department of Education due to his involvement with the Central Aroostook Math and Science Partnership. Through the partnership, which is administered by the Central Aroostook Council on Education [CACE], Wang and GIS specialist Burt Pelletier have conducted hands-on workshops and projects that bring GPS and GIS technologies into local high school classrooms. Wang had the opportunity to share his experiences in working with K-12 teachers and students during the summit, which was held specifically as a forum for promoting student success in math and science-focused learning.

Information
Amanda Morin
768.9401 or amanda.morin@umpi.edu

Friday, Feb. 1
SNOWSHOEING
Aroostook State Park, 2 p.m. Free transportation and snowshoe use for students, faculty, staff. Leave Gentile Hall 1:30 p.m., return 5 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 4
MEN’S CLIMBING NIGHT
6 – 9 p.m., Gentile Hall, $10 non-members, members free.

Tuesday, Feb. 5
WOMEN’S CLIMBING NIGHT
6 – 9 p.m., Gentile Hall, $10 non-members, members free.

Wednesday, Feb. 6 & 13
Big Rock DOWNHILL SKIING
4 p.m., return 9:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 8
ICE SKATING at the Forum, 7 p.m.
Transportation is free, $3.50 fee for students/ $4 all other community members. Leave Gentile Hall 6:40 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 10
Weekend Warm-Up ICE FISHING TRIP
Leave Gentile Hall 8 a.m., return 5 p.m.
Maine fishing license required. Transport provided. Fee is $7/students, $10/faculty, staff and community. Bring bag lunch, warm clothes, any fishing gear available.

Sunday, Feb. 17 – Thursday, Feb. 21
WINTER CAMPING TRIP
Big Eddy Campground. Explore Baxter State Park & North Maine Woods on skis or snowshoes.

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an outstanding future professional, and it shows that students in our program are not only getting the academic piece, but that they’re getting the opportunity to get out there and work in a professional setting,” Standefer said. “All of those things add to a student’s ability to be involved in the major and give back to the community.” Wescott was nominated and chosen because of her 3.35 GPA, and proven leadership abilities. She has served as president of the PE Major’s Club, vice president of the Student Athletic Advisory Council, captain of the women’s basketball team, and attended the NCAA Student Leadership Conference in October 2007.

Wescott, who is completing her student teaching this semester, will receive her award during the Eastern District Alliance’s conference in Rhode Island at the end of February.
Aaron Goldberg Jazz Trio to Perform
Aaron Goldberg, a young pianist and composer who has been featured in the bands of both Wynton Marsalis and Kurt Rosenwinkel will play at the Campus Center when he brings the Aaron Goldberg Jazz Trio to town tonight at 7:30 p.m. Goldberg will join Reuben Rogers on bass and Eric Harland on drums to offer up an exciting and inventive evening of improvisational jazz. Tickets at the door are $10 for adults and $5 for students; UMPI, NMCC and SAGE students free with ID.

Coffeehouse Wednesdays
Every Wednesday during the spring semester, the University’s Cultural Affairs office will host a Coffeehouse and Open Mic Night for the campus and community at 6 p.m. in the Owl’s Nest. All are invited to attend. For more information, contact Carol Ayoob at 768.9462.

Meditation Sessions offered on UMPI campus
The University of Maine at Presque Isle will host free, ongoing Meditation Sessions for members of the campus and community. The informal workshops, facilitated by Dr. Lynn Eldershaw, assistant professor of sociology, will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday evenings from Jan. 17 through May 1 in South Hall, room 311. According to Eldershaw, meditation is especially helpful in improving focus and concentration. “It is ideally suited to help manage our busy lives and help clear the clutter of our frantic days,” Eldershaw said. Each meeting consists of two brief meditation sessions interspersed with a reading and discussion. All are welcome and meditation instruction is available. For information call 768.9749 or email lynn.eldershaw@umpi.edu.

Faculty Lounge renovations to be celebrated during open house
The newly renovated Normal Hall Faculty Lounge is ready for its grand opening and a first look by the campus community. An open house to celebrate the lounge’s recent upgrade will be held Thursday, Feb. 7 at 3:30 p.m. As the result of support from the University’s 2007 Annual Fund Drive and a generous donation from the KeyBank Foundation, the room was fitted with new flooring, lighting fixtures, window treatments, furnishings and a fresh decor to create a more welcoming campus gathering place. The campus community is invited come view the improvements.

Campus seeks RAs
The Residence Life Office is looking for Resident Assistants for the fall 2008 semester. Qualifications include achieving and maintaining a minimum GPA of 2.25 prior to being hired and being in good judicial standing. Requirements include attending a group interview on March 9, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.; attending an individual interview between of March 12 and March 26; and attending fall training beginning Thursday, Aug. 21, 2008. Responsibilities include acting as a positive role model; developing floor/building programs; documenting violations of University policy; assisting in the opening and closing of the residence halls; and desk duty as assigned. Benefits include leadership and experience; a stronger resume; a stipend of between current value of $1,700); and a single room, if available (current additional value of $340-$425).

To apply: attend one of the following meetings: Monday, Feb. 25, 9 p.m., Park Hall TV Room or 10 p.m., Merriman Hall TV Room; Tuesday, Feb. 26, 9 p.m., Emerson Hall TV Room or 10 p.m., Skyway Day Room. After Wednesday, Feb. 27, 10 a.m., in the Emerson Hall Annex or Don Gibson in the AC office in the Merriman Hall Lobby. Application deadline is Wednesday, March 5, 2008 at 4:30 p.m. If you have any questions call Jim at 768.9560 or Don at 768.9706.

Two-day Wilderness First Aid course offered
Back country accidents and injury can happen at any time. The University is offering an intensive two-day course in Wilderness First Aid designed to prepare groups, group leaders, and individuals for handling remote emergency situations. It will be held on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 9 and 10. Deadline for paying the non-refundable tuition deposit is Feb. 6. To sign up, call Gentile Hall at 768.9772. For course information contact Dr. Anja Whittington at 768.9537 or anja.whittington@umpi.edu.

UMPI/Community Band to perform
The UMPI/Community Band, directed by Kevin Kinsey, will present its 9th annual Winter Concert on Monday, Feb. 11, at 7 p.m. in Wieden Auditorium. The approximately 50 band members are students, alumni, and community members from throughout Aroostook County. The program – which features the familiar Light Cavalry Overture

The Community Card is here!
If you’re a community member and you make use of Gentile Hall and the University Library, this new card has been made for you! This photo ID card will allow you to sign in for a workout at Gentile Hall or check out books from the Library. To get your new card, which all community members need to obtain by this summer, visit the front desk at Gentile Hall.
by Franz Suppe, the ‘rediscovered’ Black Jack March by Fred Huffer, a Disney-tune medley, and a Concerto for Drum Set and Concert Band directed and performed by Patrick Bragdon – promises to be entertaining. Washburn band director Larry Jenkins will also guest-conduct. Admission is free and the auditorium is handicapped accessible.

FEBRUARY 1
★ Sabbath candle lighting, 4 p.m., Alumni Room.
★ Aaron Goldberg Jazz Trio, 7:30 p.m., Campus Center.
Tickets $10 adult, $5 Students. UMPI, NMCC, and SAGE admission free.

FEBRUARY 5
★ College Democrats meeting, noon, Alumni Room.
★ Coffee with the Dean of Students, 8 a.m., Owl’s Nest.
An informal gathering with coffee and pastries. Students and others welcome.

FEBRUARY 7
★ UNE Masters in Social Work Informational Session, 5:30 p.m., Alumni Room.
★ Student Organization of Social Workers (SOSW) weekly meeting, 12:15 p.m. CC 118.

FEBRUARY 8
★ Sabbath candle lighting, 4:15 p.m., Alumni Room.
★ Spring Blood Drive, noon – 6 p.m. Campus Center.
Door prizes awarded. Walk-ins welcome or reserve a time, 768.9585.

FEBRUARY 11
★ UMPI/Community Band Concert, 7 p.m., Wieden Auditorium.
Admission free, handicapped accessible.

FEBRUARY 12 & 13
★ "The Vagina Monologues," 7 p.m., Wieden Auditorium.

FEBRUARY 14
★ Student Organization of Social Workers (SOSW) weekly meeting, 12:15 p.m. CC 118.

SATURDAY, FEB. 16
★ Planet Head Day, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., Northern Maine Museum of Science, Folsom Hall.

FEBRUARY 18
★ Presidents’ Day. No classes, offices closed

FEBRUARY 18 - 22
★ February Break. No classes

Scholarship Deadline
Friday, Feb. 15, 2008 (late applications not accepted) Apply for the scholarships that are awarded at Spring Convocation. Students with a GPA of 2.8 or greater are urged to apply. Make regular visits to the Financial Aid office, Preble Hall, to check on the arrival of new scholarships. There are many from which to choose!

Student artwork contest
Calling all student artists! Create a design for the cover of the 2008 University Day booklet and win a $75 prize!! Entry deadline is Friday, Feb. 8.
Contact Dick Harrison in the Media Relations Office at 768.9406 or richard.harrison@umpi.edu for details.

Financial Aid / FAFSA Deadline
Have you applied for financial aid for 2008 – 2009? If you’re eligible for federal student aid, go online to fill out an application: www.fafsa.ed.gov. Submit your FAFSA by March 1, 2008 — if you wait, you could lose out on available financial aid.

Upcountry online
The second issue of Upcountry: A Journal of Sights and Insights, UMPI’s online showcase of student talent, is now at www.upcountryjournal.blogspot.com. This is the Winter 2008 issue.
**English professor, Presque Isle native, publishes book of poetry**

One of the University’s English professors – who happens to have been born and raised in Presque Isle – is adding published author to her list of accomplishments.

Dr. Melissa Crowe, who returned to her hometown in 2004 and took a position in the University’s English Department, recently received word that her chapbook of poetry *Cirque du Creve-Coeur* will be published this April by Dancing Girl Press.

This is her first published collection of poems, though her work has appeared in poetry reviews, such as the Atlanta Review and the Crab Orchard Review. The chapbook [much shorter than a full length poetry collection] includes 25 of Crowe’s prose poems and short lyric essays.

Crowe recently read some of those poems to an audience of about 80 during the Harlow Gallery reading series in Hallowell. She hopes to bring her chapbook with her to her next reading.

“It’s exciting to know that you’re going to have a little book that you can put in people’s hands when you go to a reading,” she said.

Crowe began writing her poetry in a non-traditional sort of way – on a blog she started in September 2006. A few months later, in December 2006, she received a grant from the Barbara Deming/Money for Women Fund to complete her chapbook.

While she could have been anywhere in the world when she garnered her first book publication, Crowe said it’s fitting that it all happened in Presque Isle.

“I think the best part of coming home and teaching at the University of Maine at Presque Isle, and writing and publishing a book while here, is that it’s like joining the two parts of my life,” Crowe said. “It’s like my origins and my aspirations coming together to make me feel like one whole.” ★

**Immunization Notice . . .**

Due to recent outbreaks of mumps on college campuses across the country, the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention recently implemented an emergency rule requiring post-secondary students to have documentation of two doses of MMR immunization.

UMPI students must meet this requirement by Monday, April 7, 2008. Those failing to meet the deadline will have a hold placed on their fall 2008 registration and will be banned from campus. Please contact Health Services at 768.9586 or the Dean of Students at 768.9615 for more information. ★