UMPI’s Coach Sotskov heads to Vancouver Olympics

UMPI’s Nordic Ski Coach Alexei Sotskov is heading out on the trip of a lifetime this month when he travels to the 2010 Vancouver Olympics to serve as the Head Coach of the New Zealand Cross Country Ski Team.

Coach Sotskov will depart for Vancouver on Feb. 10. The 2010 Vancouver Olympics begin with the Opening Ceremony on Feb. 12 and end on Feb. 28. The last race for Sotskov’s team will be on Feb. 28.

As Head Coach for the small New Zealand team, he’ll be overseeing everything from travel logistics and race entries to ski waxing and his athletes’ physical and mental preparation. The members of the New Zealand Cross Country Ski Team are 23-year-old Ben Koons of Dunedin, New Zealand, who has been training with the Maine Winter Sports Center and has been on the New Zealand national team for two years, and Katie Calder, 29, of Tauranga, New Zealand, who has been on the New Zealand national team for four years.

“I’m very excited about this. Like any athlete or coach, it’s the pinnacle of your career to go to the Olympics,” Coach Sotskov said. “I’m hoping to gain some of the latest knowledge on what other coaches and teams are doing, how they ski, and how they prepare for races of this caliber.”

Sotskov calls this opportunity to coach at the Vancouver Olympics the result of a lot of hard work.

Lackner to speak on carbon air capture technology

The University is pleased to present Dr. Klaus Lackner – the Ewing-Worzel Professor of Geophysics at Columbia University, the Chair of the Department of Earth and Environmental Engineering, and the Director of the Lenfest Center for Sustainable Energy at the Earth Institute at Columbia University – as its first Distinguished Lecturer of the Spring 2010 semester.

Dr. Lackner will deliver his talk, Innovations in Sustainable Energy: Capturing Carbon Dioxide Directly from the Air on Thursday, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. in the UMPI Campus Center. A snow date has been set for Friday, Feb. 12.

During his talk, Dr. Lackner will give an overview of the environmental challenges facing our world, the importance of carbon dioxide capture and sequestration, and the budding technology behind the capture of carbon dioxide from ambient air using ionic exchange resins in the form of artificial trees.

Dr. Lackner received his Ph.D. in 1978 in Theoretical Physics from the University of Heidelberg, Germany. After postdoctoral positions at Caltech and Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, he joined Los continued on page 2
The Northern Maine Museum of Science and Aroostook C.A.N.C.E.R. will be taking a stand against some of the worst things that fate hands out – bitter, cold weather; loss of hair; and Cancer – when it hosts the Fourth Annual Planet Head Day on Saturday, Feb. 27 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Gentile Hall, and everyone is invited to attend.

Since 2007, Planet Head Day has been held to increase awareness of NASA’s mission to Pluto and to serve as a fundraiser for the local organization C.A.N.C.E.R [Caring Area Neighbors for Cancer Education and Recovery]. Each year, participants from Maine and Canada have donned theatrical bald caps or had their hair shaved off, and then had their heads painted to look like planets, moons, asteroids and comets.

“The purpose of this event is to provide science education while acknowledging our friends and neighbors who are fighting cancer,” Kevin McCartney, museum director and one of the event’s organizers, said.

Planet Head Day provides science education while serving as a fundraiser for a local cancer organization. pictured: Josiah Washington

The event also serves as a way to celebrate the discovery of Pluto (Feb. 18, 1930). Barber Patrick Coughlin of Parsons Street Barbershop, three hairdressers from the local beauty salon Great Beginnings, and an assemblage of planet head painters will be available for the occasion.

The event provides an important science education opportunity. The Northern Maine Museum of Science is an educational outreach participant in New Horizons, the NASA mission that, in January 2006, launched a spacecraft that is scheduled to reach Pluto in July 2015. Related exhibits and educational materials will be on display in the Gentile Hall lobby.

As it has for every Planet Head Day so far, Pizza Hut will be contributing pizza for the event. Beverages and a “Happy Birthday, Pluto” cake also will be served.

For more information about this event, contact Kevin McCartney at 768.9482. Donations to C.A.N.C.E.R. can be sent to P.O. Box 811, Presque Isle, ME 04769, or delivered during Planet Head Day.

Museum, local cancer group host Planet Head Day

Sotskov in Vancouver

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work and a little bit of luck. It all started two years ago when he was invited to spend a summer in New Zealand coaching a small group of very determined Nordic skiers. (Summertime in the U.S. is when New Zealand has its winter.) Originally, he was invited to coach the junior development team, but when he arrived at Snow Farm, a training center for cross country skiers, officials asked him if he wanted to help out with the national team as well. So, Sotskov worked with both teams. Because of the success of the athletes and the team, and after two team members qualified for the 2010 Olympics, New Zealand Olympic Committee officials asked Sotskov to serve as the New Zealand Cross Country Ski Team’s head coach.

Coach Sotskov has the support of his team, his colleagues and his University behind him. A Maine Winter Sports Center staffer will oversee UMPI’s Nordic Ski Team while Sotskov is in Vancouver.

“We are very excited to see our Nordic Ski coach participate at this most auspicious international level,” President Don Zillman said. “When we weighed this rare opportunity against the temporary loss of our excellent coach, a very important element was brought to our attention – the students on our ski team vocalized very strong support of their coach’s participation at the Olympics. Several of them indicated how honored they would be to be coached by an Olympic coach.”

Coach Sotskov said he’s very excited to bring back his experiences and what he learns to his UMPI Nordic Ski Team.

“As a modern sport, Nordic skiing is very technical,” he said. “I want to bring all the advantages of current techniques, waxing, training, race preparation – and provide this, pretty much, secret information to our athletes so they can take advantage of this in their race preparations.”

Coach Sotskov is writing a blog about his trip to the 2010 Vancouver Olympics. To view or subscribe to the blog, visit http://wp.umpi.edu/ski/.
Modular Origami comes to campus

This spring at the University, the founder of the Maine Origami Society presents an interactive modular origami display and offers a series of workshops to teach community members about the art form that combines paper folding and geometry.

Eva Szillery – who also serves as the Director of the Maine Junior Engineering Technical Society and the State Director of the American Mathematics Competitions – has presented similar exhibits and workshops at sites across Maine.

Modular origami involves several identically folded paper units (or modules) assembled into a finished model. Szillery’s Interactive Modular Origami Exhibit is on display at the University’s Library and will remain up throughout the spring semester.

Members of the community are especially invited to take part in the free Modular Origami Workshop series Szillery will be offering at the University this spring, scheduled for Wednesdays from 3:5:30 p.m. and 5:30-8 p.m. The classes are open to everyone ages 10 and up. Students who are 10 and 11 should be accompanied by an adult.

Students will learn the basic principles of modular origami as the group proceeds through models of varying difficulty. An exciting component of the workshops will be to create a large-scale modular origami model to be donated to the Wintergreen Arts Center.

Szillery has been folding modular origami for 10 years. She obtained her Ph.D. in Mathematics in Hungary at the prestigious Eotvos Lorand University.

CEUs [continuing education units] are available for this workshop series. For inquiries, please contact Szillery at evaszillery-mmsets@me.acadia.net. For more information about the exhibit, or to sign up for the free workshop series, contact Susan Pinette at 768.9452 or susan.pinette@umpi.edu.

UMPI Alumni Accomplishments Wall unveiled

University officials, distinguished alumni and members of the campus and community were on hand Jan. 25 for the ceremonial unveiling of the newly installed Alumni Accomplishments Wall in the Preble Hall front entryway.

The Alumni Accomplishments Wall, meant to showcase recent alumni who have made important contributions and realized impressive achievements since graduating from UMPI, serves as a way for the University to applaud the work that UMPI graduates are doing all around the country and the world.

“We are so pleased, through this installation, to be able to shine a spotlight on some of our younger alumni and recognize them for their outstanding achievements,” President Don Zillman said.

Several of the alumni featured in the installation were on hand to witness the unveiling. They included: Robert Tarpey, who works as an Athletic Trainer for the Toronto Blue Jays organization; Erika Valtinson, a Physician Assistant practicing family medicine in Caribou; Scott Boucher, partner in the statewide financial services firm Barresi Financial; Jennifer Whitcomb, a speech pathologist who served as a primary consultant in one of America’s premier Early Reading First projects; and Evan Graves, a physical education teacher in the region who recently placed third overall in the Philadelphia Marathon.

Other alumni featured as part of the Alumni Accomplishments Wall include: Said Mammadov, an international investment banker working in Moscow, Russia, with Kazimir Partners; Jerrod Rushton, owner of the event management company Rushton Sports; and Andrew Murphy, a United States Secret Service Special Agent who works in Washington, D.C. and has provided security for several Presidents.

More outstanding young alumni will be added to the Alumni Accomplishments Wall in the coming months.
**Faculty Noon Seminar Series returns for the Spring 2010 semester**

The University’s Faculty Noon Seminar Series returns with four presentations on a wide range of topics.

Seminars will be held on Thursdays from 12:30-1:30 p.m. in the Normal Hall Faculty Lounge. Those attending are welcome to bring their lunches and join in the discussion.

The series kicked off with a presentation on Jan. 28 by Dr. JoAnne Putnam titled “Native American and First Nations: Cultural Context and Student Success.” According to Putnam, national data show that students from ethnic minorities are less likely to succeed academically and are overrepresented in special education in the nation’s schools. Putnam explained the multifaceted reasons for this disproportionality and explored strategies for providing culturally responsive curriculum and instruction.

On Feb. 11, Dr. Bonnie Wood will present “Serendipity: Student-Led Teaching Models.” Wood will discuss how she stumbled upon a teaching method that has become the foundation of her biology and genetics courses and has led her to publish her book *Lecture-Free Teaching: A Learning Partnership Between Science Educators and their Students,* published in 2009 by National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) Press.

On March 11, Dr. Tomasz Herzog will deliver his presentation “University at the Crossroads: Hopes and Challenges for Higher Education.” Dr. Herzog’s talk will focus on the unprecedented changes affecting higher education due to the recent economic crisis. Dr. Herzog will argue for a reexamination of the role of the University in its mission to remain a vital contributor to democracy and not fall prey to the forces of market-driven discourse.

On April 29, Dr. Ray Rice will present “Capitalism and Schizophrenia: Or Why Zombies are Radicals and Vampires are Neo-cons.” Dr. Rice’s presentation examines how two popular horror film genres embody conflicting ideological positions within contemporary American culture.

For more information, contact Lynn Eldershaw at 768.9749.

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**Wednesday, Feb. 10, 24, Mar. 3, 10, 17**

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Check out the full OAPI Spring Calendar at www.umpi.edu/oapi

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**Lackner to speak**

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Alamos National Laboratory in 1983, where he held various positions including Acting Associate Director of Strategic and Supporting Research until 2001.

Presently, he is developing innovative approaches to energy issues of the future focusing on environmentally acceptable technologies for the use of fossil fuels, which include the use of tracers in geological carbon storage, power plant modeling, carbon capture membranes for use at high temperatures, gravitational carbon storage, advanced fossil fuel technologies, and scaling and automation, among others.

Dr. Lackner has been instrumental in forming the Zero Emission Coal Alliance which is an industry-led effort to develop coal power with zero emissions to the atmosphere. He pioneered the concept of carbon dioxide air capture as a means for abating emissions of fossil carbon to the atmosphere. He has co-founded Global Research Technologies in Tucson, Arizona, and leads a team in designing and producing a prototype machine that mimics trees in taking CO₂ out of the atmosphere. After sequestering the carbon dioxide, the machine releases it and turns the CO₂ into a liquid that can be stored and managed.

Carbon footprint reduction and renewable energy have become increasingly important issues for the University.

In 2007, UMPI President Don Zillman joined the American College and University Presidents’ Climate Commitment, an effort to move campuses across the United States toward carbon neutrality. Last May, the University commissioned its 600 kW wind turbine – the first mid-size wind turbine to be installed on a University campus in the State of Maine.

The University Distinguished Lecture Series was established in 1999. Each year, the UDSL Committee sponsors five to six speakers who come from Maine and beyond, representing a range of disciplines and viewpoints. The speakers typically spend two days at the University meeting with classes and presenting a community lecture.

Lackner’s lecture at UMPI is free and the public is invited to be a part of this special evening. For more information, contact the University’s Media Relations Office at 768.9452.
Young Professionals Institute begins March 3

Momentum Aroostook, MMG Insurance and the University are teaming up for the third year in a row to provide the area’s young professionals with a one-of-a-kind leadership development opportunity. The three entities will host the Young Professionals Institute, a professional development short course designed specifically for emerging leaders looking to hone their professional skills. The program will be offered on Wednesdays from 4 to 6 p.m. on March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 and April 7, 14 and 21 in the Alumni Room, located on the second floor of the UMPI Campus Center.

Officials are pleased to be partnering again on this project and hope to build on the successes they realized during the 2008 and 2009 courses. “We’re very excited about this continuing collaboration,” Rachel Rice, steering committee chair, said. Momentum Aroostook is a group of highly motivated Aroostook County young people connecting for career, social and community betterment. “Together, we are helping to provide the area’s young people with the skills they need to be successful in professional workplaces, whether they are in government fields, with non-profits, or in traditional office settings.”

Participants in the Young Professionals Institute will learn through role-playing scenarios and hands-on activities how to write eye-catching proposals, deliver successful oral presentations, and work effectively with the media.

“Our goal is to further connect and strengthen one of The County’s greatest assets – its young professional community,” President Don Zillman said of the collaboration.

The Institute will be facilitated by University officials, members of Momentum Aroostook, several local business and community leaders, and graduates of the first and second Young Professionals Institutes.

There are only 12 seats available in this running of the course. Young professionals interested in taking the course must submit their name for nomination or have their business employer nominate them. The nomination deadline is Feb. 22. Selections will be announced Feb. 23. A $100 registration fee, paid by course participants or their business sponsors, is due by March 2.

For more information about the short course, which is not being offered for academic credit, contact the College of Professional Programs at 768-9740 or e-mail linda.mclaughlin1@umpi.edu. To download a registration form, visit www.umpi.edu/ypi.

Gentile Hall installs $60,000 in equipment

More than $60,000 in new equipment has been installed at Gentile Hall thanks to the Legacy Gift given to the institution in 2009 by the late Caroline D. Gentile, the University’s longest serving faculty member. The equipment is helping to increase energy efficiency in the campus building and provide more options for exercise facility patrons.

A $50,000 pool cover system and about $13,000 in exercise equipment were put in place at the health and wellness center last fall. The pool cover for the Gentile Hall pool is automatic and deploys and retracts at the touch of a button. “It’s easy enough for one person to operate and can be used multiple times on a daily basis, which is going to allow us to cover the pool whenever it’s not in use,” Gentile Hall Director Dick Gardiner said.

The pool cover is expected to save an estimated $16,000 annually in energy costs, or about a three-year payback. Gardiner said the cover is creating savings in terms of the heating of the pool water, chemicals, and the replenishing of water from evaporation.

The exercise equipment includes a new addition to the highly popular elliptical cross-training machines, two new treadmills and two refurbished treadmills. Gardiner noted that the new machines seem to be a “little quicker,” which is especially beneficial for those looking to maximize their workout experience.

Miss Gentile served the University for 59 years. She was hired in 1946 by Dr. Clifford O.T. Wieden to teach at the then Aroostook State Normal School, and build its Health, Physical Education and Recreation program (HPER). Through her extraordinary long range planning abilities and her more than a half-century as a classroom teacher, she created a physical education program that continues to serve The County, the State, and regions beyond.

For information about Gentile Hall or memberships, call 768.9772 or visit www.umpi.edu/gentile-hall.
The University will present Judy Wicks – the founder of the White Dog Café in Philadelphia, the co-founder of the Nationwide Business Alliance for Local Living Economies and the founder of the Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia – as its Distinguished Lecturer in March.

Wicks will deliver her talk Local Living Economies: Green, Fair and Fun on Wednesday, March 10, at 7 p.m. in the UMPI Campus Center. Responding to the challenges of climate change, resource depletion, and the global financial crisis, Wicks will discuss the growing localization movement that is transitioning from an economy dominated by multinationals and long distance shipping to local living economies that produce basic needs at home while working in harmony with nature.

With her roots as an entrepreneur and activist, Wicks will address the flawed paradigm of continuous growth, and how businesses can grow deeper in their communities to build local self-reliance while creating greater happiness and long term security.

Wicks started the White Dog Café as a simple muffin shop on the first floor of her house in 1983 and grew it into a “Philly institution,” with over 100 employees including the adjacent retail store, the Black Cat. In 2009, Wicks sold the business through a unique exit strategy that continues the White Dog’s sustainable practices through a “social contract” and insures local independent ownership.


Wicks’ lecture at UMPI is free and the public is invited to be a part of this special evening. For more information, contact the University’s Media Relations Office at 768.9452.

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Classically trained baritone Phillip Mentor presented a concert titled “A Spiritual Odyssey” at the Campus Center on Jan. 26, and generously offered to have the performance serve as a fundraiser for the American Red Cross Haiti Relief efforts.

Mentor, who hails from Trinidad and Tobago, delivered a “narrative concert” – intertwining stories about his homeland and nearby Haiti with the spirituals he performed, including Deep River; Swing Low, Sweet Chariot; and Go Down, Moses.

Community members had the opportunity to participate in the special fundraising concert in two ways. A donation jar for cash and checks of all amounts was set up at the door. Community members who were unable to attend the show in person were able to join the concert online through a live webcast available at www.presquillian.com. Visitors were encouraged to make a donation to the American Red Cross through its official website before joining the live webcast. While figures are still being processed, the concert raised about $200.

“Phillip Mentor was so generous to provide this opportunity to the region and we are grateful to presquillian.com and the Pine Tree Chapter of the American Red Cross for helping to make this fundraising concert happen,” Carol Ayoob, UMPI Director of Cultural Affairs, said.

Phillip Mentor is a classically trained opera singer, who studied at Montclair State University as well as with teachers and coaches from the New York City Opera, the Metropolitan Opera and the New York Philharmonic.

This concert was presented by the UMPI Cultural Affairs Office in collaboration with the Office of Student Activities. To learn more about Phillip Mentor or to view a forum about the Caribbean islands, visit www.phillipmentor.com.

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Judy Wicks to speak on local living economies

Mentor hosts Haiti Relief fundraising concert
Reed Gallery presents The Art of Tim Finnemore

The University’s Reed Fine Art Gallery will present the exhibition The Art of Tim Finnemore from March 7 through April 9, providing an up-close look at the paintings and drawings of the northern Maine-based artist.

Tim Finnemore (1951-2001) was born and raised in Aroostook County, growing up on a potato farm in Limestone, Maine. His love of art came early – he drew since childhood – and stayed with him throughout his life. He earned his Bachelor’s degree from the University of Maine at Presque Isle.

During his professional career, Finnemore worked independently as a graphic designer – he did quite a bit of free-lance work for Loring Air Force Base during its heyday – and later as a designer for the Northern Maine Development Corporation.

“Finnemore’s great love of nature and the natural beauty of Aroostook County inspired his vast body of creative work,” Sandra Huck, Reed Art Gallery Director, said. “He created precise wildlife drawings, vivid landscapes in acrylics, portraits in watercolor, as well as exploring a variety of other media. We’re very pleased to offer an exhibition filled with the work of one of the University’s alumni.”

A reception will be held in the Reed Fine Art Gallery on Sunday, March 7 from 3-5 p.m. with the family of Mr. Finnemore. The public is invited to attend. There is no charge and light refreshments will be served.

The Reed Fine Art Gallery is open Monday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The gallery is closed Sundays and university holidays. For more information about this event, please contact Huck at 768.9611.

Recent Acquisitions on display through Feb. 20

The University’s Reed Fine Art Gallery is presenting as its first exhibition of 2010 a show titled Recent Acquisitions, presenting several newer pieces from the University’s art collections. Many of these pieces – including works by Fred Lynch, Chenoweth Hall, Risa Ehrlich and Gretchen Luchessi – have not yet been seen by the general public or campus community.

The University has been the beneficiary of many works of art over the years as gifts from artists as well as bequests. Sandra Huck, Reed Gallery director, said that she is “pleased with this new work as it enriches the University’s collection through its diversity of styles and mediums.”

These additions include two- and three-dimensional pieces. Some of them were acquired by the University very recently. For example, Fred Lynch of Saco had an exhibition in January 2008 and very generously gifted one of his works to the University, as did New York ceramicist Risa Hirsch Erhlich after her exhibition in October 2008. Several photographs, stone sculptures and ceramics pieces also will be on display as part of the exhibition.

Each work will be accompanied by a statement indicating how it came to be included in the University’s collections as well as denoting the acquisition and artist information.

There is no formal reception planned for this exhibition, which runs through Feb. 20, so please stop by the gallery in the Campus Center at your convenience during gallery hours. The Reed Fine Art Gallery is open Monday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The gallery is closed Sundays and University holidays. For more information, please contact Sandra Huck at 768.9611.
Both Owl teams victorious over Paul Smith’s College

UMPI’s men’s and women’s basketball teams both earned home wins on Jan. 23 over Sunrise Conference opponent Paul Smith’s College of New York at Wieden Gymnasium.

On the women’s side, the Lady Owls earned the 84-26 victory over PSC improving to 4-10 on the season and 4-1 in conference play. Freshman guard Kallie Pelletier (Madawaska, ME) had a career and game high night in scoring with 28 points in a 13-for-21 shooting effort; K. Pelletier also finished with 5 steals in the game. Emily Moore (Lisbon, ME) added 12 points, grabbed 8 rebounds, and dished out a career-high 9 assists, while committing no turnovers in her 25 minutes of play. Emily Pelletier (Fort Kent, ME), Taylor Ussery (Montclair, CA), and Kayla Fleming (Costa Mesa, CA) each chipped in with 10 points in the Owl win; Ussery also finished with 5 assists and 4 steals, while Fleming pulled down 8 rebounds on the day. Julie Peers (Caswell, ME) and Logahn Walker (Strong, ME) each added 8 and 6 points respectively; Walker also finished with 5 steals in the game.

The Owls shot 52% in the game and earned a season high of 28 assists in the win. Presque Isle native Chris Coffin (Presque Isle, ME) earned a double-double on the day, scoring 18 points, including a 6-for-21 shooting effort from the floor, earning his second double-double of the season with 12 rebounds. Chris Coffin (Presque Isle, ME) scored 18 points with a 7-for-12 shooting night, including two from behind the arc; Coffin also earned 5 assists. Ray Mitchell (Cleveland, OH) finished the game with 15, while teammate Devon Peaslee (Woolwich, ME) added 13 points in the win. Point guard Kyle Corrigan (Caribou, ME) dished out a career-high 10 assists in the game, while committing only one turnover, and finished with 11 points on the night including a 6-for-8 effort from the charity stripe. The Owls shot a solid 54% from the floor and out-rebounded their opponents by a one-point margin, 36-35. UMPI also finished with 23 assists in the game.

UMPI defends home court in win against Roos

The UMPI’s men’s basketball team earned a key 94-90 win over SUNY-Canton in a Sunrise Conference match-up on Jan. 22. With the win, the Owls improved to 3-9 on the year, and 3-2 in conference play. The Owls placed an impressive five players in double-digit scoring; Patrick Manifold (Great Yarmouth, UK) led all scorers with a 24-point effort from the floor, earning his second double-double of the season with 12 rebounds. Chris Coffin (Presque Isle, ME) scored 18 points with a 7-for-12 shooting night, including two from behind the arc; Coffin also earned 5 assists. Ray Mitchell (Cleveland, OH) finished the game with 15, while teammate Devon Peaslee (Woolwich, ME) added 13 points in the win. Point guard Kyle Corrigan (Caribou, ME) dished out a career-high 10 assists in the game, while committing only one turnover, and finished with 11 points on the night including a 6-for-8 effort from the charity stripe. The Owls shot a solid 54% from the floor and out-rebounded their opponents by a one-point margin, 36-35. UMPI also finished with 23 assists in the game. The Owls also earned a positive assist to turnover ratio, earning 18 assists on the day.

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Lady Owls earn big conference win over SUNY-Canton

UMPI’s women’s basketball team placed four players in double-digit scoring to earn the 79-74 conference win over the Roos of SUNY-Canton on Jan. 22. The game was a re-match of the 2009 semi-final contest between the two teams, where UMPI earned the same result. With the win, the Lady Owls moved to 3-10 on the season and 3-1 in Sunrise conference play. Freshman shooting guard, Emily Pelletier (Fort Kent, ME), led all scorers with a career high of 19 points, shooting 5-for-11 from behind the arc. Junior captain Megan Korhonen (Littleton, ME) finished with 16 points and 6 rebounds in 38 minutes of action, while teammate Julie Peers (Caswell, ME) continued her solid play with 16 points, 12 of those coming in the first half. Peers also pulled down 6 rebounds. Emily Moore (Lisbon, ME) added a season high of 15 points and dished out a game high 5 assists. Logahn Walker (Strong, ME) and Kathy Kilfoil (Johnville, ME) each chipped in with 7 and 6 points respectively; Walker also finished with 4 assists. The Owls continued to improve on the offensive end, shooting a solid 43% from the floor in the game, but were out-rebounded 55-25 by their opponents. UMPI cut down on turnovers and committed the fewest of the season with 8; the Owls also earned a positive assist to turnover ratio, earning 18 assists on the night.

Despite a slow start, the Owls caused some trouble with their full-court pressure and were able to push the tempo, earning a 38-33 halftime advantage. The Roos got to within two on a couple of occasions in the second half, but UMPI made big plays and knocked down key foul shots in the closing minutes of play to earn the win.

Coaches versus Cancer

UMPI’s men’s and women’s basketball teams participated in the Coaches vs. Cancer Suits and Sneakers awareness weekend, a collaborative initiative of the National Association of Basketball Coaches and the American Cancer Society, which occurred throughout the nation during the weekend of Jan. 29-31. Participating UMPI coaches, Terry Cummings and Tracy Guerette, wore white sneakers instead of dress shoes with their usual game attire during the Owl home contest on Saturday, January 30, against the University of Maine at Machias to demonstrate their support for the American Cancer Society’s fight to save lives from cancer. To show support of Coach Cummings’ and Guerette’s effort in the fight against cancer, fans were invited to wear their sneakers to the game, too. Both visiting coaches from UMaine Machias also participated in the effort and sported their sneakers on the sideline.

Thanks to the dedicated efforts of college
and high school coaches across the country. Coaches vs. Cancer has been helping the American Cancer Society save lives since 1993 by helping people stay well by educating and empowering people to avoid cancer or find it early; helping people get well with free programs and services when they’re facing cancer; by finding cures by conducting and investing in research that yields ground-breaking discoveries into cancer’s causes and cures; and by fighting back by helping pass laws that fight cancer and keep our communities healthy. To learn more, visit coachesvs-cancer.org or call 800 227.2345.

### Three Owl basketball players receive conference weekly honors

Three Owl basketball players earned Sunrise Conference Players of the Week status for the week of Jan. 19.

- **In Women’s Basketball**, Julie Peers (Junior, Forward, from Caswell, ME, and an accounting major) was named the Player of the Week. She was honored for the first time this season, and in her collegiate career, after leading the Owls to two Sunrise Conference wins. Peers averaged 11.5 points, 7.5 rebounds, 1.5 steals, and 1.0 assists while shooting a tremendous 73 percent (11-for-15) from the floor in two games. She went a perfect 8-for-8 from the field, scoring a career high 17 points, including 8 rebounds, in a 78-39 win over the College of St. Joseph Vermont. After spraining her ankle in the CSJ game, Peers played 8 rebounds, 2.5 steals, and 2.0 assists in the two games. Peers had six 3-pointers and shot 43 percent from the floor, including a 6-for-9 shooting night, including 4-for-7 from behind the arc for 16 points in the 78-39 Owl win over CSJ Vermont. In the game at Fisher, she added 11 points, 3 assists, and 4 steals in the Owl win.

- In Men’s Basketball, Patrick Manifold (Freshman, from Great Yarmouth, UK) was named the Rookie of the Week. Manifold was honored for the third time this year after helping the Owls pick up two conference wins. Pelletier averaged 13.5 points, 3.0 rebounds, 2.5 steals, and 2.0 assists in the two games. Pelletier had six 3-pointers and shot 43 percent from the floor, including a 6-for-9 shooting night, including 4-for-7 from behind the arc for 16 points in the 78-39 Owl win over CSJ Vermont. In the game at Fisher, she added 11 points, 3 assists, and 4 steals in the Owl win.

- In Men’s Basketball, Korhonen led her team in scoring in both games, combining for a 27-point week-long stretch, he had a hit in the 14 straight plate appearances. On the week, he had compiled 15 RBIs, scored 16 runs, smashed four doubles, four triples, and four homers while slugging 1.800. He also went 3-for-3 in stolen base attempts. Congratulations, Tyler! For more information, visit http://baseballdeworld.com/2010/01/02/10th-annual-all-canadian-college-baseball-team/.

### Go UMPI Owls! Home Basketball

- **Women vs. College of St. Joseph**
  - Fri. Feb. 12 - 12 p.m.
  - Fri. Feb. 12 - 2 p.m.

- **Men vs. College of St. Joseph**
  - Sat. Feb. 13 - 2 p.m.

- **Men vs. Fisher College**
  - Sat.-Sun. Feb. 27-28

Sunrise Conference Tournament
Spring Blood Drive set for Feb. 10

The University will be holding its annual spring blood drive on Wednesday, Feb. 10 from 12 p.m. - 5 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room, Campus Center. The blood drive is sponsored by the University’s Residence Life Office, the Brothers of Kappa Delta Phi and the Sisters of Kappa Delta Phi NAS.

Walk-ins are welcome and door prizes will be given away during the drive. If donors wish to reserve a time in advance, they should call 1-800-GIVE-Life or log onto www.givelife.org. The University regularly holds two blood drives per year. For further information call 768.9587.

Business faculty provide job seekers with technology help

With changes in the economy, many people are in transition and need a refresher on technology skills to be able to navigate online sites for job and school opportunities. In response to a request from the Presque Isle CareerCenter, UMPI business faculty JoAnne Wallingford and Carolyn Dorsey developed a technology class for Career Center clients. With assistance from Career Center consultant Zachary Smith, they delivered a Jan. 7 pilot session filled with hands-on activities that ranged from basic computer technology to web navigation. Feedback from participants was so positive that UMPI business faculty plan to deliver the program on a regular basis.

VITA Tax Assistance offered on UMPI campus

Area residents will be able to receive assistance with tax preparation this spring as the University serves as the site for VITA Tax Assistance sessions each Saturday through April 10, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Volunteers coordinated through the AARP Tax-Aide Program – part of the VITA/TCE – will be on hand in the Campus Center Room 118, to help in preparing returns. Drop-ins are welcome. For further information, contact Lowell Glidden, area coordinator, at 769.7651 or at logme@mfx.net.

Trevor Hews honored as Outstanding Future Professional

Trevor Hews, a senior Physical Education major from Van Buren, has been named as an “Outstanding Future Professional” by the Maine Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (MAHPERD). He was nominated by UMPI physical education faculty and chosen for the award based on academic performance, professional involvement, campus and community activities, and leadership. This month he will travel to Rye, New York, to attend the Eastern District conference where he will be honored and his name put forward as a candidate to represent the organization on regional and national levels. He is only the second UMPI student to receive this recognition. Congratulations, Trevor!

Campus groups organize support for homeless shelter

During the fall semester, several campus groups stepped up to help meet the needs of one area social service organization – the Sister Mary O’Donnell Homeless Shelter. Two campus-wide collection drives were organized. The Student Organization of Social Workers (SOSW) set up boxes located across campus to collect personal hygiene products to donate to shelter residents. Delta Dental joined in with the donation of a case each of toothbrushes, dental floss and toothpaste. With the approach of winter, UMPI’s Pride Committee initiated a “Coats for The County” campaign, locating donation boxes throughout various buildings. Dean Corsello reports 123 coats, as well as, many hats, mittens, gloves and scarves were collected and delivered to the shelter. Many thanks to all who contributed for their kindness, generosity and ongoing support.

Lance Masse awarded MeHEAF scholarship

UMPI Accounting and Business Management Major Lance Masse recently was awarded a $1,000 scholarship by the Maine Higher Education Assistance Foundation. Masse is a graduate of Limestone High School. The Maine Higher Education Assistance Foundation was established in the 1950s to support a guarantee fund for student loans. The founders included a wide range of banks, businesses, community organizations and individuals. In 1990, the MeHEAF trustees, to continue the original intent of the founding members, initiated a scholarship program funded by the return on the original loan guarantee funds. Previous scholarship recipients from the University of Maine at Presque Isle include Tory Bradbury in 2008; Katie McNally in 2007; Jessica White in 2006; and Linda Gover in 2005.

Leah Finnemore named Maine Policy scholar

The Maine Community Foundation has announced the Maine Policy Scholars 2009-2010 class. One student from each campus of the University of Maine System has been selected to pursue a year-long program of applied research in the area of Maine public policy. At UMPI, Leah Finnemore, a senior Recreation and Leisure Services major, will conduct research and recommend policy solutions about who should pay for backcountry evacuations. Currently, there is no policy addressing this issue in Maine. Finnemore hopes to build upon a policy suggestion by Rep. Thomas Saviello of Wilton in 2009, which failed to gain congressional backing. As of now, backcountry evacuations are primarily funded by the Maine Warden Service and volunteer organizations. During the course of the academic year, Finnemore will work with Dr. Anja Whittington, Assistant Professor of Recreation, on her project. After conducting extensive research, she will
produce a final report in the form of a memo to government officials that outlines the issue and the data available, and recommended policy solutions. In the late spring, she and the other Maine Policy Scholars will present their reports in the form of a briefing to a panel of policymakers.

Zillman participates in Bermuda races
In January, President Don Zillman traveled to Bermuda to take part in the 35th Annual Bermuda International Race Weekend. President Zillman participated in three races over the course of three days – a one-miler on Jan. 15, the Bermuda International 10K on Jan. 16, and the Bermuda International Half-Marathon on Jan. 17. The President enjoys running in his spare time and over the years has completed 15 marathons, nearly 60 half-marathons and hundreds of shorter races. He was pleased with his race times in Bermuda.

Sonntag published in The Open Psychology Journal
Michael Sonntag, UMPI Vice President for Academic Affairs, has just had the article he co-authored with colleague Jonathan F. Bassett – titled “The Effects of Mortality Salience on Disgust Sensitivity Among University Students, Older Adults, and Mortuary Students” – published in The Open Psychology Journal. The paper examined “the effects of experimentally inducing thoughts of death on disgust sensitivity among university students, older adults, and mortuary students (students preparing for careers in the funeral service industry).” The goal of the study was to further clarify the debate about whether disgust is “best conceptualized as an evolved mechanism to avoid biological threats” or as “a culturally constructed mechanism to avoid psychological threats that remind people of their animal nature and consequently their mortality.” Sonntag and Bassett said the results of their study suggest that terror management defenses played a limited role in the experience of disgust in response to stimuli that remind people of their animal nature.

Writing Center staff attends conferences
The staff and director of UMPI’s Writing Center hit the road recently to attend two conferences. On Nov. 21, Writing Center staffers and director Dr. Deb Hodgkins joined with individuals from writing centers from across the state at the University of Maine for a one-day conference. Neal Lerner of MIT gave the keynote address at the conference. Lerner’s book on teaching tutors how to be tutors is used by many writing centers, including UMPI’s. In the afternoon, participants took part in group activities. Also in November, Writing Center staffers Laura Hunter and Meg Lightbown traveled with Hodgkins to Massachusetts to attend the National Conference on Peer Tutoring in Writing at Mount Holyoke College. During the conference, Hunter and Lightbown gave a presentation titled “What Leaders Look Like: Post-colonialism and the Role of the Writing Tutor.”

CACE helps to secure USDA grant for area schools
USDA Rural Development recently awarded nearly $500,000 in funding for the purchase and installation of Tandberg telecommunication equipment at about 20 schools in central Aroostook County, including UMPI. The Central Aroostook Council on Education, which put together the grant on behalf of the Caribou School Department (the official grant applicant), is a PK-16 partnership consisting of MSAD #1, MSAD #20, MSAD #32, MSAD #42, MSAD #45, Caribou, Easton, Limestone, and UMPI. CACE, which maintains its office space at UMPI, has been in existence for more than 15 years. According to David Ouellette, CACE Executive Director, the equipment will be used to connect classrooms in different parts of the state or even the world for educational purposes and to bring students on “virtual field trips” to museums across the country. Because some of this equipment will be located at the University, it will also open the door for area high school students to take early college courses remotely as well as provide for recertification and graduate course opportunities for local teachers.

UMPI Professor’s art installation transforms downtown storefront
In December, travelers on Main Street noticed a unique happening in one of Presque Isle’s downtown storefronts – a wall of calendars and a young man crossing out day after day of calendar squares. UMPI Art Professor Renee Felini, together with her husband Tim Bair, created the art installation performance piece called “Is This the Way Life Should Be?” Installation art is an artistic genre of site-specific, three-dimensional works designed to transform the perception of a space. The piece depicted Bair wishing away his life, as he was at a previous job. According to Felini, it also served “to remind ourselves that’s not where we, as a couple, want to be. We want to enjoy every day.” She hopes to create a short film based on the installation.

37th European Fine Art Study Tour travels to Italy
For those who would like to experience the beauty and culture of Italy first-hand, the Fine Art Department will once
Those on the “Italian Dream Tour” will spend two days each in Rome, Florence, Venice, and Sorrento; and take excursions to Pisa, Pompeii, Assisi, Padua and Capri.

Among the many highlights are stops at Giotto’s Arena Chapel and the famous glass-blowing region of Murano. Three college credits are available, and this year’s trip offers a special discount on the purchase of two tickets. Complete prices and details are at www.cliftonboudman.com. For further information, call 455.8096 or 768.9448.

Students learned proper dinner etiquette and how to dress for a job interview during the 10th Annual Etiquette Dinner and Fashion event.

Social Work major Angela McGillivary holds an afghan made by her mother Linda McGillivary, representing the tartan of her family’s native Newfoundland. It will be raffled on Feb. 11 to help fund the Student Organization of Social Workers’ NYC Trip exploring issues of immigration and refugees. For information contact Shirley Rush at 768.9427.

Blistered Fingers brought their fast-moving sound to Wieden Auditorium on Jan. 30 for a night of traditional Bluegrass music. The concert was sponsored by County Bluegrass, WCXU-Channel X Radio and the UMPI Cultural Affairs Office.

Angelina Jackman, who is working through the Houlton Higher Education Center (which is administered by UMPI) to earn her Associate’s Degree in Criminal Justice from UMFK, recently returned from five months of U.S. Border Patrol training at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in New Mexico. She is now a Border Patrol agent stationed in Houlton and said that the staff at the Houlton Higher Education were very helpful and supportive. “Here, it’s like they want to see you succeed no matter where you go,” she said.
OAPI offers slate of spring events

With winter in full gear and warmer weather in the future, the University of Maine at Presque Isle’s Outdoor Adventure Program International (OAPI) is offering a series of spring adventures for campus and community members to enjoy, including a winter mountain climb, cross country and alpine skiing, snowshoeing and rock climbing.

- Activities kick off on Wednesday, Feb. 10 and again on Feb. 24, March 3, March 10 and March 17 when OAPI offers free rides to Big Rock Ski Area in Mars Hill. The mountain offers free Wednesday night lift tickets and OAPI provides the free transportation to the site. Rentals are available at Big Rock. The shuttle departs from Gentile Hall at 4 p.m. and returns by 9:45 p.m. Organizers will cancel if driving conditions are unsafe and if the campus is closed.

- Outdoor enthusiasts are encouraged to enjoy the natural light of the full moon on the snow as OAPI explores the trails at the Nordic Heritage Center in Presque Isle during a free Full Moon Snowshoe and Potluck on Friday, Feb. 26. No experience is required. After the snowshoe, participants can warm up near the fire with homemade goodies. Meet at Gentile Hall at 5:30 p.m. to join OAPI for this event.

- On Friday, March 12, OAPI will experience the peace and quiet of Aroostook State Park as they explore the woods on cross country skis. The park has great trails that provide an awesome workout. Equipment will be available for free and there is no experience required. Those interested should plan to meet at Gentile Hall at 2:15 p.m.

- OAPI ventures out for its Winter Ascent of Mount Katahdin from Saturday, March 13 to Sunday, March 14. Hiking experience is recommended and some level of physical fitness is required. On Saturday, the group will leave campus and travel to Abol Bridge near Baxter State Park on the West Branch of the Penobscot. From here, with the professional guiding service of Mountain Sense Guides, the group will snowshoe into Abol Campground. Weather permitting, Sunday is going to be a long day of snowshoeing and mountaineering as the group attempts to summit Maine’s highest peak. Cost for UMPI students is $160; $175 for non-students. Registration deadline for this trip is Friday, Feb. 26. A mandatory pre-trip meeting will be held on Thursday, March 4 at 7 p.m.

- From Monday, March 22 to Thursday, March 25, OAPI will lead its Mont-Sainte-Anne Downhill Skiing and Snowboarding Spring Break Trip. Ski or board the slopes of Quebec’s jewel of ski resorts. With over 65 trails, numerous quad chairlifts and a vertical drop of over 2,000 feet (625 m) this is more than your average mountain. The registration deadline for this trip is Friday, Feb. 12 with a $100 deposit due at time of registration. Cost is $220 for students, $250 for non-students. Trip price includes 3 nights lodging, 3 day lift tickets, food and transportation. Participants may also choose to cross country ski (reducing the price for that person).

- A Wilderness First Aid Certification will be offered on Saturday and Sunday, April 17 and 18. This certification covers CPR and First Aid plus advanced skills for outdoor emergencies. Registration deadline is Monday, April 12. Cost is $100. For more information, contact Anja Whittington at 768-9537.

- The spring events schedule wraps up on Saturday, May 8 with Outdoor Rock Climbing in Acadia National Park. Rain date is Sunday, May 9. Get outside and climb real rock with a certified rock climbing guide. No experience is required. The group will leave Gentile Hall at 5:30 a.m. and return by 10 p.m. Cost for UMPI students is $30; $40 for non-students. Registration deadline is Monday, May 3.

- OAPI now rents skis, snowshoes and other gear to campus and community; for details see their webpage at www.umpi.edu/oapi.

For more information about any of these events, contact Amanda Morin at 768-9401.
February 9
★ PE Majors Club Chili Feed Supper,
5:30 – 7 p.m., Alumni Room, 768.9604
★ UMPI/Community Band rehearsals, 6:30
p.m., Wieden Music Room, 473.7859

February 10
★ Campus Blood Drive, 12 – 5 p.m.,
Alumni Room, 768.9561
★ Prescott Island Student Ministries, 8
p.m., Campus Center, 768.9479

February 11
★ Faculty Noon Seminar Dr. Bonnie
Wood, 12:30 p.m., Normal Hall Faculty
★ Distinguished Lecturer Dr. Klaus
Lackner, 7 p.m., MPR. 768.9452

February 12
★ Deadline for Student Scholarship
Applications: FMI call Financial Aid
Office at 768.9510
★ February Snow Date: Distinguished
Lecturer Dr. Klaus Lackner, 7 p.m.,
MPR. 768.9452

February 15
★ President’s Day – campus offices closed
★ February Break – no classes

February 16 – 19
★ February Break – no classes

February 21
★ Young Professionals Institute registration
deadline: Classes begin March 3.
768.9740
★ University Senate/Faculty Assembly,
1 p.m., CC118, 768.9438

February 27
★ Planet Head Day
11 a.m. – 2 p.m., Gentile Hall Lobby,
768.9482
★ TRIO Upward Bound Dance-a-Thon,
4 p.m., CCTR. 768.9620

March 7
★ Art of Tim Finnemore Opening
Reception, 3 – 5 p.m., Reed Art
Gallery. 768.9611 ★ Junior Olympics XC
Skiiing Opening Ceremony, 3 p.m.,
Gentile Hall. Gentile facilities closed for
the day. 768.9771

March 10
★ Distinguished Lecturer Judy Wicks, 7
p.m., MPR. 768.9749

March 11
★ Faculty Noon Seminar Dr. Tomasz
Herzog, 12:30 p.m., Normal Hall Faculty
Lounge. 768.9749

March 12
★ Spring Ball Mardi Gras Night
Social/Dinner/Dance start at 6:30 p.m.,
MPR. 768.9568

Liberal Arts major Shayna DaCruz won the regional Maine’s Got Talent competition in Caribou on Dec. 5 with a lyrical dance performance to “Stand in the Rain.” Pictured with her are competition coordinator Erin Buck and Paul Hanson of the Miss Maine Scholarship Pageant board.

Best of luck at the April 10 state competition!

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The deadline for material is ten days before the date of publication.
★ Rachel Rice, editor • 207.768.9447 • rachel.rice@umpi.edu
★ Dick Harrison, design, layout & photography
★ Sue Pinette, administrative assistant

In complying with the letter and spirit of applicable laws and in pursuing its own goals of diversity, the University of Maine System shall not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, including transgender status or gender expression, national origin or citizenship status, age, disability, or veterans status in employment, education, and all other areas of the University. The University provides reasonable accommodations to qual-
ified individuals with disabilities upon request. Questions and complaints about discrimination in any area of the University should be direct-
ed to Barbara DeVaney, Director of A ffirm ative
Action and Equal Em ploymen t, 205 South Hall, 181 Main Street, Presque Isle
ME 04769-2888, phone 207.768.9750, TTY available upon request.

In a month full of mind-blowing activities, the students at UMPI have been kept busy. From interesting seminars to captivating plays, there’s something for everyone to enjoy.

Let’s take a closer look at the upcoming events:

February 9
- PE Majors Club Chili Feed Supper: Indulge in a delicious chili feed supper at 5:30 p.m. in the Alumni Room. Finish off the meal with some live music.

February 10
- Campus Blood Drive: Make a difference by donating blood at the drive from 12 – 5 p.m. in the Alumni Room.

February 11
- Faculty Noon Seminar: Dr. Bonnie Wood will be hosting a seminar at 12:30 p.m. in Normal Hall Faculty.

February 12
- Deadline for Student Scholarship Applications: Don’t miss out on scholarship opportunities. Call the Financial Aid Office at 768.9510 to find out more.

February 15
- President’s Day: Enjoy the day off with no campus offices closed.

February 16 – 19
- February Break: Take a well-deserved break from the usual routine.

February 21
- Young Professionals Institute registration deadline: Don’t miss your chance to join the Young Professionals program. Sign up by March 3 at 768.9740.
- University Senate/Faculty Assembly: Get involved in university affairs. The meeting takes place at 1 p.m. in CC118.

February 27
- Planet Head Day: Celebrate the day in Gentile Hall Lobby from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- TRIO Upward Bound Dance-a-Thon: Join the fun at the dance-a-thon from 4 p.m. in the CCTR.

March 7
- Art of Tim Finnemore Opening Reception: Meet the artist at Reed Art Gallery from 3 – 5 p.m.
- Junior Olympics XC Skiing Opening Ceremony: Witness the excitement at Gentile Hall starting at 3 p.m.

March 10
- Distinguished Lecturer: Judy Wicks will deliver a lecture at 7 p.m. in the MPR.

March 11
- Faculty Noon Seminar: Dr. Tomasz Herzog will be speaking at 12:30 p.m. in the Normal Hall Faculty Lounge.
- Spring Ball Mardi Gras Night: Boogie down at the social/dinner/dance event starting at 6:30 p.m. in MPR.

So, what are you waiting for? Get out there and enjoy the month of March!

The Electronic suggestion box is open and available for your ideas!

Please e-mail: umpi-suggestions@maine.edu with your concerns and ideas for solutions to make our campus the best place it can be to study and work. On behalf of the Campus Quality Improvement Work Group, thanks for your input!