

Dear Advice on my mans,
In CMJ 102, we learn that all interpersonal communication (communication between people) starts with inTRApersonal communication, or self-talk. So, we recommend that you first get clear with yourself about what you want in this relationship and what you want to talk about with him. If you really like this guy and want a dating relationship, then be direct about that instead of joking around or hinting at your concerns or what you really want to talk about. If you find that you're both aligned in what you want in the relationship, that's great. If you find that you're not aligned, then you would need to decide if you are willing to compromise on what you first decided in the self-talk you started with: I want X. He wants Y. This is/isn't still worth it to me. Communicate accordingly. But at least you'll have more clarity, which it sounds like you don't have yet. So we recommend honest self-talk and a great relationship with yourself first, followed by honest, clear communication with him.

CMJ 102

Dear CMJ 102,
There is this really cute guy and we talk and get lunch just about everyday. We always have a great time and he has been staying over at my dorm about 3 times a week. We aren't dating but I honestly couldn't say enough good things about him. **However he is also a commuter student and i'm worried he's just using me as a place to stay when he has to work late.** I've jokingly brought it up before and he's always just laughed me off. But like I said he's so handsome and I really do like him a lot. What should I do? Should I talk to him or just keep enjoying what we have going right now? Thank you for any advice!

Advice on my mans

SCAN THIS LINK TO
SEND IN QUESTIONS!



SCAN THIS FOR OUR
INSTAGRAM!



Haroscapes 9/29-10/5

BY JESSICA A WOLFE

Aries: March 21 to April 19

The Ram Ruled by Mars

Hi, Aries! You are ruled by Mars and the Ram. This week transiting Mars is in the zodiac sign of Scorpio. A Mars in Scorpio may be easily triggered and may react quickly without much thought. Aries, this week, like much of the zodiac signs, you may benefit from taking time alone to avoid any impulsive reaction(s) that you may regret. This is not to say that you are not valid in your feelings. Rather, plan your reaction if you can. This week it may be wise to play the long game.

Taurus: April 20 to May 20

The Bull Ruled by Venus

Hi, Taurus, my friend! How are you? This week you may benefit from honoring the part of you which is ruled by Venus. Venus is a more feminine planet. Can you call on the parts of you that feel feminine? Venus allows herself to accept rest and abundance. Imagine lounging in a chair, eating berries and not being bothered by the noise of our society. Can you create a moment of rest this week?

Gemini: May 21 to June 20

The Twins Ruled by Mercury

Hi, Gemini! This week you may be teetering back and forth on something, trying to decide between 'this or that.' As a Gemini, this is probably not a new experience for you, however, this is a week to allow yourself to go back in time and meditate on closing out a life cycle, so in the next few months, you may begin something new. This is a week to not make new choices yet, instead meditate on your choices and how you want your life to change for the better. In the next few months the planets will be more open to starting something new. This is a week to rest and daydream! Enjoy!

Cancer: June 21 to July 21

The Crab Ruled by The Moon

Hi, Cancer! Cancer, did you know that transiting Jupiter is in your zodiac sign till June 2026? This is an aspect that happens around every 12 years. Jupiter represents abundance. Abundance sounds like a great thing, but is an abundance of anxiety a good thing? Probably not. Jupiter may expand anything for us. When transiting Jupiter is in an aspect with someone, they may experience a desire to eat more, sleep more, want more, more, more of something. Now that you have this knowledge, you have the chance to use this to your advantage. Create a contract with Jupiter this week and ask Jupiter to bring in an abundance of something you want. This way you're not accidentally having an abundance of thoughts, anxiety or large plates of pasta to the point it's harming you. This is a very positive aspect in someone's life, when they work with this energy.

Leo: July 23 to Aug 22

The Lion Ruled by The Sun

Hi, Leo! Leo, you are ruled by the Sun and the Sun offers creation! This week you are invited to meditate on what you want to create for yourself. This is not the week to act on your life goal, unless you really feel called, but to spend intentional time asking yourself "What do you want in life? What is your favorite way to create?"

Virgo: Aug. 23 to Sept. 22

The Maiden Ruled by Mercury

Sweet Virgo! Hello, darling! Virgo, you are great at doing things and solving people's problems. This is a skill for you. Virgo, this week please be mindful not to overdo anything. Have you heard of the mythological figure of Icarus who flew too close to the sun due to being reckless and pushing boundaries? This week may be a good week to avoid pushing boundaries and doing too much.

Libra: Sept. 23 to Oct. 22

The Scales Ruled by Venus

Hi, Libra! Libra, as the scales, you prefer balanced relationships. Unfortunately, sometimes this may be hard to come by. Libra, this week your sun sign is in an aspect with the asteroid Chiron, who is named "the wounded healer." When we are in an aspect with Chiron, one may feel a deep inner wound come to the surface. This may feel uncomfortable to look at, however, this a wonderful opportunity to heal the wound, so you can help others overcome the same wound in the future. If you or others are feeling a wound pop up this week, just know it's right on time and an opportunity to heal it. What coping skills do you have in place for when you or a friend is feeling a wound? It's safe to ask for help. This energy may be strongest on Friday, Oct. 3.

Scorpio: Oct. 23 to Nov. 21

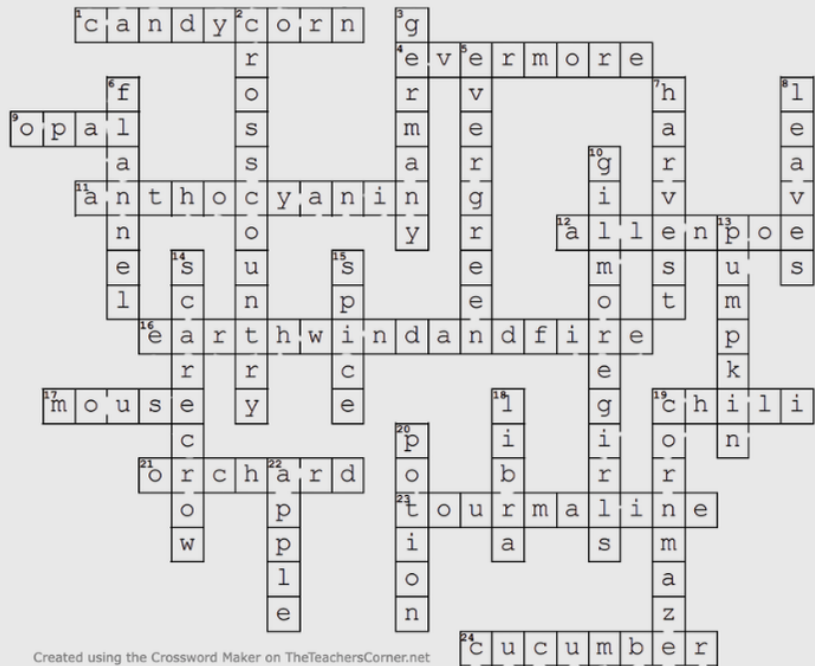
The Scorpion Ruled by Pluto and Mars

Hi, Scorpio! Woo! This week transiting Mars in Scorpio is in an aspect with the asteroid Hygeia. In astrology, Hygeia represents, you guessed it, hygiene! This is a wonderful week to focus on your hygiene and self care. Are you creating enough time for yourself? The asteroid Hygeia can represent self care, your routine, eating habits, your home life and mental health. This week, you are invited to spend time on yourself to make sure you are cared for in a way that supports you. The UMaine counseling centers offer free services to students if you seek therapy this week or in the future.

Sagittarius: Nov. 22 to Dec. 21

The Centaur Ruled by Jupiter

Hi, Sagittarius! This week you are invited to spend time observing those around you. Move slow in your partnerships this week. Sagittarius, you are known as the philosopher, teacher, counselor. Do you have boundaries set in place for when others may word vomit their trauma on you? It is okay to want to help others but it is also okay to have boundaries in place so you don't over extend yourself or experience secondary trauma. This week, the planets invite you to evaluate your boundaries and observe others to ensure they have your best interest in mind too.



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Vol. 150

ORONO, MAINE, SEPTEMBER 29, 2025

No. 2

The grand opening of the New Balance Complex and renovated Alfond Arena

BY AMANDA CLAUZEL

On Saturday, Sept. 27, the New Balance Track and Field and Soccer Complex was officially unveiled along with the renovated Shawn Walsh Hockey Center and Alfond Arena. These new additions for University of Maine athletics will be transformative to the athletes and future of the programs.

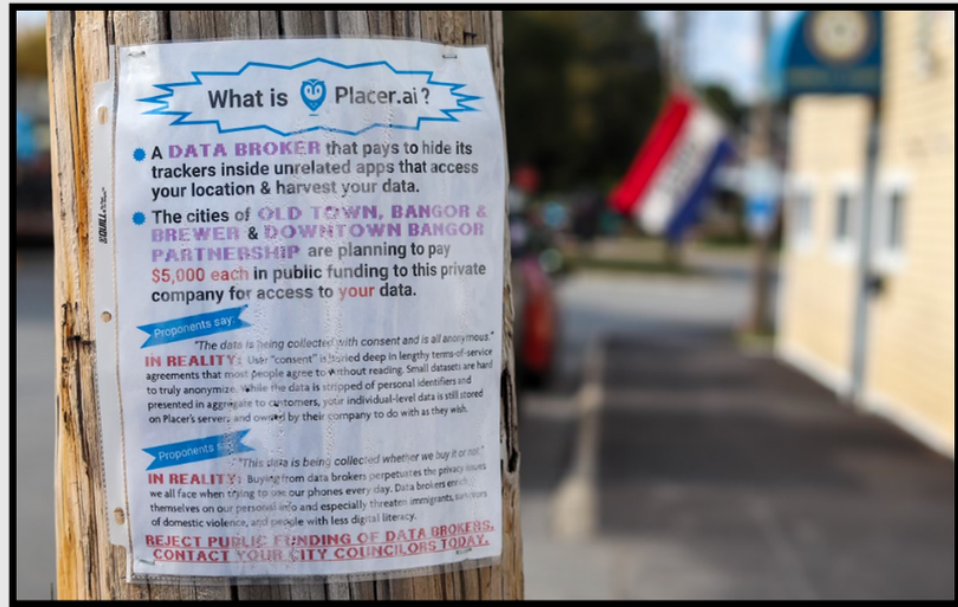
"With support from the Harold Alfond Foundation, New Balance, U.S. Sens. Susan Collins and Angus King and countless supporters, these modernized facilities will elevate the state's only NCAA Division 1 athletics program while creating new opportunities for the people of Maine, especially youth," said UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy.

The day consisted of a ribbon-cutting ceremony on the soccer field with the women's soccer team and the track and field team. The two teams then headed to the Alfond Arena to join the men's hockey team where sponsors, New Balance executives, staff and fans were given a tour of the newly renovated arena. Another ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on the ice for the Shawn Walsh Center grand opening. The first official game on the new soccer field will be on Oct. 2 at 6 p.m where the women's soccer team will battle with Bryant in their second conference game.

[CONTINUES PAGE 4](#)

CONTENTS

POLICE BEAT.....	PAGE 2
NEWS.....	PAGE 3
SPORTS.....	PAGE 4
CULTURE.....	PAGE 5
OPINION.....	PAGE 6
ILLUSTRATION.....	PAGE 7
ADVICE.....	PAGE 8



Following the announcement of Placer.ai being introduced to Old Town, Maine, signs began appearing warning residents of data theft. PHOTO BY ELORA GRISWOLD

Old Town partnership with Placer.ai draws attention from UMaine students and community

BY ABIGAIL BEAUCAIRE

In late August, Old Town made headlines across Maine after releasing plans of their new partnership with the location analytics company Placer.ai. This artificial intelligence (AI) software will

ultimately "be used to create more personalized marketing in communities and will give the city more information about what people are interested in downtown," says E.J. Roach, who was

quoted in a recent article from Bangor Daily News and works as the director of economic and community development in Old Town.

[CONTINUES PAGE 3](#)

Black Bears secure first win of the season against North Carolina A&T

BY MADIE MACAULAY

[READ PAGE 4](#)



University of Maine's defense Chris Bacon (94), Christian Thomas (11), and Bryce Purnell (96) Stand waiting for the game to resume. PHOTO BY OWEN BULMER

UMaine WGS to host domestic violence awareness event

BY AIDAN LIVIGNI

Relationships are complicated – how many times have you heard that? It seems very easy to define the 'good' and 'bad' signs, green and red flags, etc. As you get to know someone, your perception changes and suddenly things feel so undefinable. When this happens, it can feel hard to ask for help. Questions of "Is this actually bad?" "Did I do this to myself?" and "Can I solve this alone?" float around in our heads and put off the help that we really, truly need.

[CONTINUES PAGE 5](#)

Road Safety is a Shared Responsibility for Drivers and Students

BY ALEXA ROSE PEROCILLO

EDITORIAL: The number of times I have seen students jaywalk, specifically on Long Road, the busiest road on campus, is unbelievable. Drivers, on the other hand, lack patience and speed past crosswalks without a second thought for pedestrians. The University of Maine is also responsible for the insufficient enforcement of existing road safety measures. The fall semester has just started, and so far, two pedestrians have been hit by vehicles on campus. The first incident happened on Sept. 9 when a student hit a university employee. The second incident occurred on Sept. 16 when an employee struck a student. These two accidents are tragic, and sadly, they are not the only ones to have occurred on campus. [CONTINUES PAGE 6](#)





Police Beat

BY ELORA GRISWOLD

9/15:

At 9 a.m., a property damage crash involving two student vehicles was called in from the Hitchner parking lot near Nutting Hall. According to the University of Maine Police Department (UMPD), no injuries were reported.

Around noon, a property damage crash causing personal injury was reported on Rangeley Road. The crash involved two vehicles that collided head-on at a low speed near a stop sign. One person sustained minor injuries but declined transport to the hospital.

9/16:

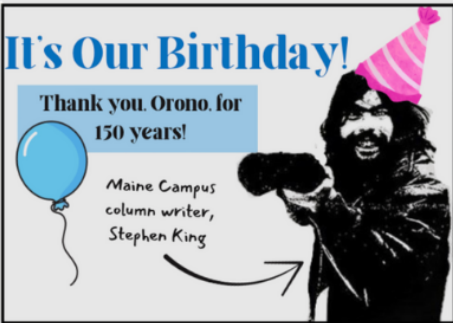
At 1 p.m., a property damage crash causing personal injury was called in from the Collins Center for the Arts parking lot. The driver reportedly hit a parked vehicle while leaving the lot. UMPD said the driver had incurred minor injuries, but declined transport to the hospital.

At 2 p.m., a disorderly conduct report was filed after staff at the UMaine Parking and Transportation Services office located in the DTAV Community Center called in about an irate student who was “very unhappy about a parking ticket.” UMPD responded by speaking with the student and the matter was resolved.

At 3 p.m., a property theft was reported at the Maine Bound Adventure Center on Sebago Road after a staff member told UMPD a rented kayak had not been returned on time. UMPD attempted to contact the renter by phone, but received no response. The case remains open.

9/17:

At midnight, a suspicious complaint was reported from the Mahaney Dome after a caller told UMPD they heard possible gunshots or fireworks outside the building. UMPD searched the area and contacted the Orono Police Department to check for similar reports. Nothing was found and the case was closed.



At 10 a.m., a property damage crash was called in from Munson Road near Balentine Hall. The caller shared that they had struck a parked vehicle. There were no passengers in the parked vehicle and no injuries were reported.

9/18:

At 9 a.m., a disorderly conduct report was filed after several callers reported a loud argument between a man and a woman in the Hotel Ursa parking lot. The pair left in a vehicle heading towards Old Town before UMPD arrived, so the Old Town Police Department (OTPD) was contacted to attempt a stop. OTPD was unable to locate the vehicle and the case was marked closed.

Around noon, a suspicious complaint involving fraud was reported after a student told officers someone had accessed private banking information and withdrawn money from a personal account. UMPD helped the student call his bank and the withdrawal was frozen. The case is closed.

9/19:

At 1 a.m., a warrant arrest was made after a non-student approached officers outside the Memorial Union, claiming to be a former student who wanted to go inside. UMPD denied access but offered the man a ride to the Alltown gas station.

After running his name, officers found an active warrant and he was transported to the Orono town jail.

At 2 a.m., an alcohol offense was responded to at Garnett Hall after officers received a tip that two students were drinking in the hallway. UMPD made contact and confiscated the beverages. Since the students are under 21, a report was completed and they were referred to student conduct.

At 7 a.m., a theft complaint was filed from Penobscot Hall after a caller reported their bike missing from the rack outside the hall. The bike was not secured with a lock and still has not been located.

At 2 p.m., an alcohol offense was called in at Somerset Hall. UMPD shared that four students under the age of 21 were found drinking in a room. After removing the beverages, all four students were referred to student conduct.

At 10 p.m., a drug offense was responded to at the Buchanan Alumni House after a caller noted the smell of marijuana inside. Officers searched the building and found a large group of students sitting where a faint odor was present, but all denied smoking when questioned. Due to inclusive evidence and a lack of cameras, no referrals to student conduct were made and the case is marked closed.

At 11 p.m., an alcohol offense was called in from Somerset Hall after two male students were spotted drinking in the hallway. UMPD made contact and discovered the students are under 21 years of age, so the beverages were confiscated. The students were then referred to student conduct.

9/20:

Around noon, a harassment complaint was filed from Somerset Hall following a loud argument between two students living within the building. Officers spoke with students about appropriate behavior within the hall. The two were then referred to student conduct.

At 1 p.m., a property damage crash was reported from the Hilltop parking lot after a moving vehicle struck a parked car's side-view mirror. The struck vehicle was unoccupied and no injuries were reported.

At 8 p.m., a theft complaint was filed from Knox Hall after a student reported that a significant amount of clothing had been stolen from their hamper in the laundry room. UMPD is currently reviewing security footage and the case remains open.

At 9 p.m., an alcohol offense was responded to at Androscoggin Hall after a large group of students were spotted drinking in a room. Responding officers discovered that all nine students are under 21 years of age, so all were reported to student conduct after the beverages were confiscated.

9/21:

At 11 p.m., a drug offense was responded to at Garnett Hall after UMPD received a call about a strong marijuana odor in the building. A student was located in their dorm smoking and officers confiscated the substances on hand. Since the student is under 21, a report was completed and they were referred to student conduct.



COMIC BY KATIE FLETCHER



COMIC BY TABITHA DEAN

Campus Crossword

BY QUINN D'ALESSIO

Down

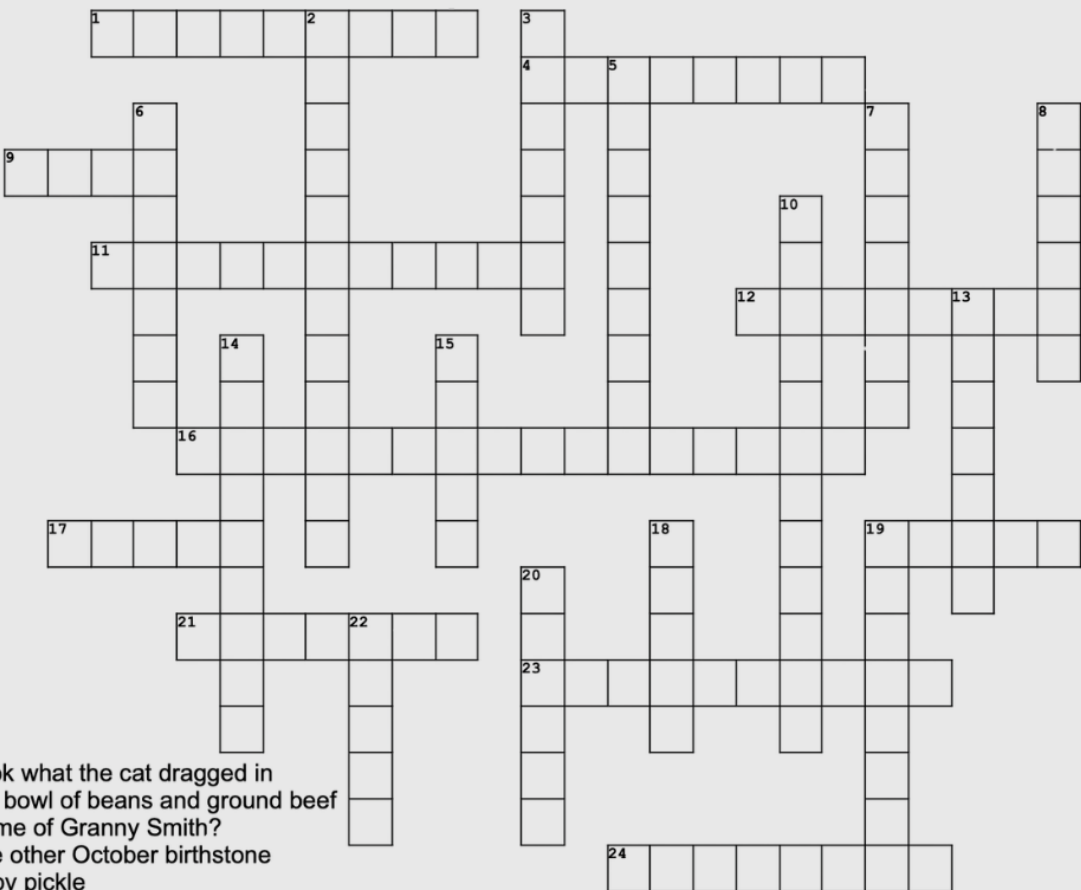
- What track runners do in the fall
- Oktoberfest country of origin
- The only green amongst the red, orange, and yellow
- A shirt you'd wear to the pumpkin patch
- BIG orange moon
- Spring is to mud as fall is to ____
- La la la laaaaaa

- Orange and round, sometimes serving face
- Always so nonchalant out in the field
- A little bit of pumpkin, a little bit of ____
- Early October zodiac sign
- Don't get lost
- A witches brew, or a Djo song
- A Charlie XCX song, also the main ingredient in cider

Across

- The worst candy every invented
- Taylor Swift's fall sister album to Folklore
- October birthstone, one of two
- Turns the leaves red
- Poet Edgar
- They were dancing on the 21st night of September

- Look what the cat dragged in
- Big bowl of beans and ground beef
- Home of Granny Smith?
- The other October birthstone
- Baby pickle



The Pale Maiden

The next morning when the landlord returned to the cottage, the girls parents refused the his proposal. The man left in a rage and in the weeks following treated them so poorly that they could no longer stay.

Frequently the farmers family heard an persistent scratching sound from behind the cook stove. They often figured the source of the strange noise to be mice. But on the day they meant to leave, the noise behind the stove became particularly grating.

Suddenly, just as the farmer was clearing the last of their sparse possessions, out from behind the stove sprang a thin pale maiden. What Devil is this. Cried the farmer in shock.

I am no devil, wailed the pale apparition, But I am your poverty. Wherever you go, I will come with you. You cannot lose me.

A Folk Tale from Poland
Illustrated by Tilia Baratta



Road safety is a shared responsibility for drivers and students

BY ALEXA ROSE PEROCILLO

CONTINUED FROM COVER

I remember a similar incident on April 19, 2024, during my first year when I witnessed the aftermath of a student who was hit by a van belonging to the University of Maine Printing and Mailing Services on Long Road.

Although the individuals in these accidents only suffered minor injuries, failing to adhere to these safety precautions in the future could lead to more serious consequences such as death or hefty fines.

Now in my third year, I have noticed that the number of pedestrian collisions has continued to rise. What is going on with both drivers and pedestrians? What happened to staying alert and aware of your surroundings?

When I cross the street, particularly on Long Road during rush hour or at night, I always use designated crosswalks, carefully check for any incoming vehicles such as cars, bikes or scooters from all directions, put my phone away to minimize distraction and remain patient if drivers don't immediately yield for me to cross. I recommend that others do the same.

Despite the possibility of unforeseen circumstances such as a momentary lapse in judgment, extreme weather conditions, sudden vehicle mechanical failures or unexpected road work, it is critical to consistently follow road safety measures by maintaining safe driving and crossing behaviors to the best of your ability.



The door opens to Wells Central, the former dining hall turned Bar and Event Center. PHOTO BY NOAH FUTRIS

Wells Dining is a relatively new addition to the campus food scene. It had been a traditional dining hall along with York and Hilltop for years. Unfortunately, the summer before the Class of '26 moved in, the University of Maine Dining made the decision that Wells Dining would not be open the following year. After Sodexo took over during my freshman year, rumors and promises regarding the future of Wells Dining circulated for about two years. My sophomore year, we found out that Sodexo was planning to turn Wells Dining into a 'virtual dining concept' and create a 24/7 market with Amazon's Just Walk Out technology. This was received with mixed opinions.

However, the kiosk wouldn't let me order with my dining dollars. I was told I could do it through the app, but it automatically stops taking orders roughly an hour before the kitchen closes. There was also an option on the kiosk to use dining funds by scanning a badge, but like most students, I don't have a physical Mainecard. There was a keycard reader much like the ones used in the union attached to the machine as well, but it simply didn't work.

Wells Dining needs to recapture the glory it had last year as a functioning pub. The goodwill that they had earned is going to be squashed by the inability to order food through a real person and to pay with dining funds. The kiosks that barely work and the app that cuts off orders early are only hurting Wells Dining and undermining the promises made by Sodexo.

A simple solution to address this issue and reduce the likelihood of another accident is essentially using common sense: Both drivers and pedestrians need to look both ways before proceeding.

It is also crucial for drivers to remain sober, have patience and drive within the speed limit. Pedestrians need to use designated crosswalks and can also signal their intention to cross by making eye contact with drivers to ensure they are seen so they have the time to stop.

UMaine must also reassess current road safety regulations because they are inadequate. Additionally, there needs to be stricter enforcement of rules regarding jaywalking and speeding.

Wells Dining took a turn for the worst

BY JORDAN THOMPSON

I was one of those students who were very skeptical about the concept and the failure to deliver on promises by Sodexo, who kept moving the opening date back further and further. During my third year, Wells Dining opened for good, and I was pleasantly surprised by the services offered. The ghost kitchens were certainly there, but there was also the option to order pub-style food and softer alcoholic drinks like beers and seltzers. Although the pub food was decent at best and wouldn't be considered high-quality in a proper dining establishment, it was still one of the better options available on campus.

I've told multiple friends about the glory of Wells Central Poutine and how it was a great space to meet up with friends and order some decently edible pub-style food. Then, one day, it went away.

Towards the end of last year, Wells Dining stopped serving pub food. I heard multiple reasons for this, but a common trend seems to be related to staffing and Sodexo not wanting to pay staff at the pub full-time. I was distraught when I went to Wells Dining and wasn't able to order any food for the first time last semester, and I had the same experience going this semester. I had assumed that the new year meant that Sodexo would've had it sorted, but this was not true.

Artistic rendering of a car crashing into a lightpost.
ILLUSTRATION BY TILIA BARATTA



Old Town partnership with Placer.ai draws attention from UMaine students and community

BY ABIGAIL BEAUCAIRE

Despite Roach and many residents' optimistic outlook on the new partnership, some students at the University of Maine have expressed concerns about what AI-powered location tracking will look like in a small community like Old Town. Questions of privacy, effectiveness and need for this software have been raised.

The main goal of this partnership was outlined in a Sept. 8 article by The Maine Monitor: "Generative AI systems and other specialized tools are helping businesses and governments accomplish a growing list of basic and complex tasks," as stated in the article.

Though the potential benefits of the software seem promising, many residents and students are not aware of what these "tasks" are that the city of Old Town hopes to accomplish, the exact details regarding the location-tracking itself and how that will impact daily mobile device usage.

Funding comes from the Greater Bangor Recreation Economy for Rural Communities (GBRERC) group, part of Eastern Maine Development Corporation (EMDC). Lee Umphrey, President and CEO of EMDC, elaborated on the group's role in the partnership.

“EMDC supports the community efforts of GBRERC. Their community steering committee decided to use the Placer.ai and we were unaware of that decision. EMDC is familiar with Placer.ai being used in economic development decisions and sees it as one more tool to determine who is visiting an area to better inform decisions on business or recreational activities,”

said Umphrey. When asked to address concerns raised by students at UMaine, including data privacy, Umphrey suggested the data collected is not tied to individuals, but acknowledged that residents had valid concerns because of how the plan was explained to the public.

"The collected data is broad and not narrowed down to individuals. Still, residents were correct to raise concerns because it's unclear how intrusive the system can be. A better public explanation about its usage would have alleviated these concerns. As an organization, we are at the early stages of evaluating AI and developing policies on how best to use it and when it should be known to the public," said Umphrey.

Umphrey's emphasis on the worry residents have expressed about personal privacy seems to align with student concerns. After a survey put out to multiple students at UMaine, the consensus from those polled is that most find the partnership to be a good idea, but there is

some uneasiness with the uncertainty of how intrusive this software could be.

Fiona Wood, who is a third-year student studying communications at UMaine, shared her thoughts regarding Old Town's partnership with Placer.ai.

“The push for AI usage in Old Town can create a sense of uneasiness for residents. Regardless of the intention behind the software, all the public is understanding is that there is going to be heavy surveillance in their public spaces and that can strike fear and a sense of militarization in residents,”

Said Wood. For some, using location data is seen as a tool to reinvigorate downtown areas and shape them around the needs of the people who spend time there. For others, it sparks deeper concerns about consent and autonomy in an age when our movements can be tracked and analyzed without us even realizing it. Old Town and Placer.ai are projected to officially start their partnership at the end of the year.

Students concerned after recent pedestrian collisions

BY IZZI STUBBS

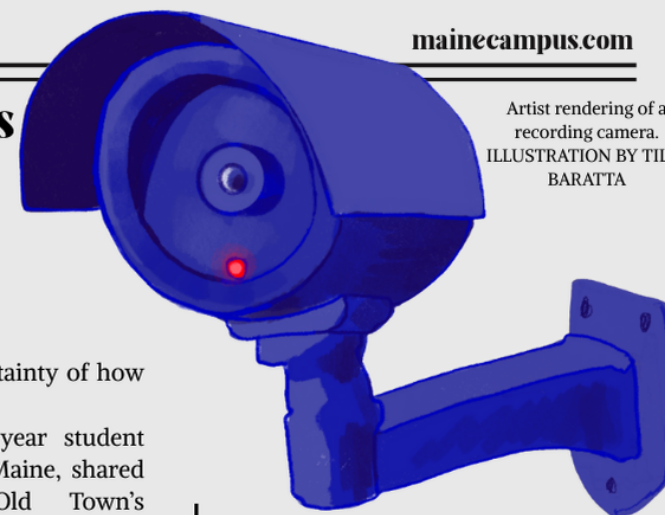
A University of Maine student struck an employee with their car on Sept. 9, according to Marcus Wolf, who works as UMaine's director of news and media relations. A week later, on Sept. 16, another car hit a pedestrian. This time, it was a student who was struck by a UMaine employee.

A statement made by Wolf in a Sept. 17 Bangor Daily News article provided more context on the most recent vehicle and pedestrian incident at UMaine.

"The student involved in the incident was treated for minor injuries and released from a local hospital. The student's parents were notified... [and] the UMaine Police Department (UMPD) investigated the incident," said Wolf.

Wolf closed by noting that "the university and a University of Maine System safety specialist will work together to promote pedestrian safety on campus further."

Artist rendering of a recording camera.
ILLUSTRATION BY TILIA BARATTA



On Sept. 9, UMPD responded to a prior incident in which a student driving a car struck a university employee who was crossing the road on campus. According to a Sept. 17 article by WABI 5, "...no charges will be filed and there's no indication on what caused the crash [on Sept. 16]."

Many students have become concerned over the frequency of collisions. Sydney Dirga, a second-year communications sciences and disorders student, expressed alarm over the news. "I was surprised that this has happened more than once in the short time we've been here," said Dirga.

“I think people aren't considering their speed. There have been multiple times when driving on campus that a car came up on me quickly and I thought I'd be hit. I think it's also a mix of distracted driving... there has to be accountability for both drivers and pedestrians to be paying attention,”

Dirga continued.

Sam, a first-year student who requested to be referred to by his first name only, recently experienced a collision during which his parked car was hit by another vehicle.

"[I] think the root cause is just people not paying attention," said Sam. "[I was] just mad no one left a note on my car because there was nothing I could do about it."

Both Dirga and Sam expressed a desire for stricter safety measures. In response to student concerns, the UMaine Student Government plans to address these incidents by implementing speed tables on Long Road and Sebago Road, where the pedestrians were hit.

"I think the campus should focus less on ticketing for parking and more on ticketing those speeding or driving recklessly," said Dirga. "What will happen when a reckless driver skids on ice in a popular walking area?"



The grand opening of the New Balance Complex and renovated Alfond Arena

BY AMANDA CLAUZEL

CONTINUED FROM COVER

Although the track and field complex is not finished yet, construction will be completed in late October, and they will host their first event during the Spring 2026 outdoor track and field season. The first competition in the newly renovated Shawn Walsh Hockey Center and Alfond Arena will be held on Friday, Oct. 10 where the women's ice hockey team will host St. Anselm at 2 p.m., and the men will face Holy Cross at 7 p.m.

Black Bears secure first win of the season against North Carolina A&T

BY MADIE MACAULAY

CONTINUED FROM COVER

On Saturday, Sept. 27, the University of Maine football team welcomed the North Carolina A&T Aggies to Alfond Stadium, looking for its first win of the 2025 season. The Black Bears dominated all four quarters, securing their first win 37-30 and officially ending the four-game losing streak.

North Carolina won the coin toss and chose to kick. The Black Bears were strong on the opening drive, and fifth-year quarterback Carter Peevy and the offense took the field. With two rushes, third-year running back Sincere Baines got the Black Bears to score the game's first touchdown. Redshirt first-year kicker Samuel Tremblay secured the 7-0 lead with a good field goal attempt.

On their first drive, the Aggies gained 31 yards and 11 plays but could not get past the Black Bear defense. The Black Bears had one more drive in the first quarter but could not get past the Aggie defense.

The second quarter started like the first: the Black Bears began with the ball. Peevy rushed the ball into the end zone for another Black Bear touchdown. Tremblay completed the drive with a good field goal. Maine led 14-0.



Wide Receiver Daniel Batch playing at home game.
PHOTO BY OWEN BULMER



Construction being done on the new track and field at UMaine on Sept. 26. PHOTO BY OBIE CASPERSON

Redshirt second-year quarterback second-year Kevin White and the Aggies' offense were productive in this drive; a touchdown pass caught by redshirt fourth-year running back Wesley Graves and an extra point by redshirt fourth-year kicker Andrew Brown made it a one-score game. The Black Bear offense was not as productive on this drive, however, Tremblay completed a field goal on fourth down and the Black Bears still held onto the lead 17-7. The Aggies did not score on their next drive, not getting past the Black Bear defense.

The Black Bear offense came back onto the field. Peevy, on the second play of the drive, threw a touchdown pass to second-year running back Rashawn Marshall. The Black Bears are adding to the lead, 23-7. The Black Bear defense kept the Aggies off for another drive.

Peevy and the Black Bear offense returned onto the field ready for more action. Peevy threw an 81-yard pass to redshirt second-year wide receiver Nick Laughlin for a touchdown, and once again, Tremblay capped off the drive with the Black Bears leading 30 to 9.

The Aggies' offense came back onto the field motivated. White completed a 34-yard pass to wide receiver redshirt second-year Jayvonne Dillard for a touchdown. Brown finished the drive with a field goal, and the Black Bears still led 30 to 15.

This stadium will be transformative for the soccer program in recruiting and is earning the title of one of the finest venues in the Northeast. The back-to-back America East champions are finally getting what they deserve after ten long years of competing on a baseball field.

"We finally have something you can have a lot of pride with," said Scott Atherley, the Women's Soccer Head Coach. "It's just like wow it's finally here and the players can enjoy something that all of the people before them didn't have, because they suffered. And that's what's really cool, that people coming forward will have that experience."

These renovations and projects, which were possible because of New Balance and Harold Alfond funds, will strengthen and maintain athletic excellence in Maine's only Division I program and strengthen the Orono community by providing top experiences for all fans.

UMaine WGS to host domestic violence awareness event

BY AIDAN LIVIGNI

CONTINUED FROM COVER

"What we are trying to do is to confront domestic violence as a whole, trying to raise awareness," said Casper Cowan, a fourth-year Psychology and Women & Gender Studies (WGS) student and president of Triota, the WGS Honor Society and service organization on campus at the University of Maine. Cowan speaks to the heart of why this issue is so pervasive it is hard to confront. It is an uncomfortable topic that is a conversational taboo.

"I think trying to make it not scary is a big piece," said Jen England, the Confidential Resource Advisor. "More so than with sexual assault, with dating violence and relationship violence, there is this idea that this is still elsewhere." While sexual assault has had a spotlight put on it on college campuses in recent years, other forms of domestic violence are harder to pinpoint. Every situation is different and not every person has a specific moment or instance to point to as the crux of their issue.

"Domestic violence doesn't always look the way we think it does. If a relationship or situation just doesn't feel right, reach out. You're not alone, there is a whole community for you that wants to see you in safe, healthy relationships,"

England continued.

"The fact that we all have this platform to kind of have our own hour, two hours, three hours, is really cool,"

WMEB 91.9 has been a campus staple since 1964 and has continued to deliver the very best in local and non-local underground musical talent and student-born entertainment. But who are these people behind the voices? Last week, we spoke to Benji Kuebler at WMEB 91.9 and were guided through his fabulous film criticism program, "Cinemasclapes."

This week, we went back and spoke with another voice, Liz Dunn, Vice President of All Maine Women, Team Maine Student Ambassador and President of the Hammock Club, who hosts her show "Downeast Cadence."

Dunn's program is a fabulous showcase of Maine-borne talent, as she highlights solely local bands from Maine and songs that are about Maine. Each week features the best the state of Maine has to offer, with artists like the 'Oshima Brothers,' 'Louisa Stancioff' and 'Chris Ross and the North.' That is exactly how she likes it, being a very proud and passionate Mainer herself.

A real All-American Mainer, she attends hockey games with her friends, concerts featuring local bands and engages in all sorts of outdoor activities. "People say that I'm, like, a very stereotypical Mainer," Dunn said, "Like I'm into outdoor stuff, I ski, fish, all that stuff."



Her words ring even more true on a college campus where people are being newly thrown into independence and complex relationships with others. It can be dizzying to make sense of the tornado winds of college relationships while still inside the storm. Groups like Triota and people like England try to ground students from the outside.

The UMaine WGS organization will be hosting a conversation event on October 17 in the Bangor room of the Memorial Union. It is here that students who feel confused, skeptical or in any way unsure about their relationships can hear from those who know what is happening and have helped countless other students.

"It can feel bleak at our events when we are reading a lot of statistics,"

The Vibe Check with WMEB: DJ Liz Dunn

BY BENJAMIN LOCKETT

Liz Dunn grew up in the town of Hebron in Southwestern Maine with her parents. Her music tastes were fostered through listening to the radio with them and going to live concerts. "There's a garage in my house, and growing up, the radio was always on while my dad worked on cars," said Dunn, "and mom always had the radio on in the car. Mom and I also went to concerts together." Since becoming a DJ at the station, Dunn says that it has given her the ability to further connect with her family despite being so far away. "My parents still listen to the radio a lot of the time, so they would always listen in and they still do," Dunn said.

However, her passions do not lie within music, as Dunn's true passion lies in middle school education. "I've always liked working with kids," said Dunn. "I think they're fun. My first job growing up was a camp counselor." Dunn had initially been studying a STEM field at the University of Maine before transitioning to education and doing observations for student teaching at the Leonard Middle School in Old Town. She expresses a deep desire to work more with people and share the thrills of science with the youth.

England said, commenting on how it is hard to know what to make of abstract numbers. "But when we have speakers like Casper who can talk to the crowd — like student to student, it becomes more human." But while their voices are strong and certain at events like this, they underlined the fact that they never wanted to push students too hard.

"Trust your gut. If you feel like you are not ready for this you do not have to go through it right now. Everyone's healing experiences are different," Cowan stressed. The people who are here to help know they cannot force change on others. And there is no shortage of new opportunities to have your voice heard or yourself informed.

"Title IX usually has plenty of events every single week of October. Triota will be tabling in the Union the week before our event with a bake and craft sale with Partners for Peace," said Cowan.

"There's a lot of good resources, such as the National Domestic Violence Hotline, Partners for Peace, and many more resources. They are definitely out there for those who need them," England added. These are people who are truly out to help others, and to spread a feeling of welcoming community; one that accepts people as they are and does not define them by what they have gone through.

"You have a community. There are people out there like you who have experienced similar things. The best way to make a difference is to step outside of your comfort zone. Maybe you are not super comfortable with going to campus events — go to this one, take a chance, make a difference with a little step every day," were Cowan's final remarks.

Though she has only been with WMEB for a year and a half, Dunn looks upon her experience positively, especially with the staff and other DJs with whom she has interactions.

"It's really nice to get to know them," Dunn said. "Because then I would see them around campus and it would be like a new familiar face." Dunn has attended many events conducted by the station, including their concerts and collaborations with the student government. As Dunn herself has stated, "It's been really fun."

Be sure to catch Liz Dunn's show, 'Downeast Cadence' every Wednesday evening from 6-7 p.m., only on WMEB 91.9 FM.



WMEB DJ and Program Director Henry Hill playing music on 91.9 FM. PHOTO BY OBIE CASPERSON