University students wary after persistent Bible study scare

By Jacob Dawson & Ian Lenahan
STAFF EDITORS

At the start of November, UNH senior musical theatre major Amanda D’Amico posted to Facebook regarding her experiences with religious solicitors on campus outside of the Paul Creative Arts Center on Halloween day. Her November 1 Facebook post detailed approaching the two female solicitors and her conversation with them regarding their religious motives. The two women, affiliated with the World Mission Society Church of God, were recruiting women on campus to join a Bible study group they were forming. Through a series of questions masked by a fake curiosity, D’Amico’s findings have put the University of New Hampshire (UNH) campus on alert ever since.

The post, now shared nearly 250 times in the month since being uploaded, went into detail about the implications behind the Bible study group. Writing she had heard about representatives from the Church of God on other college campuses throughout the country, D’Amico noted that the group gave off implications of sex trafficking in their recruitment tactics.

In her post, D’Amico wrote, “I asked them a series of questions under the impression that I was interested in joining their group. They did not have any pamphlets, flyers, or anything of the sort. I started by asking what they intend to do at these Bible study sessions. They told me they would ‘first evaluate us girls and divide us into four groups from there.’ Weird, but I needed more.”

With its headquarters located in Bundang, South Korea, the World Mission Society Church of God (referred to as the Church of God, for short) believes in “God the Mother.” In context, members of this religious body believe that God exists in the modern world, specifically in the form of a woman in South Korea. Founded by Ahn Sahng-Hong in South Korea in 1964, it is believed that “God and female solicitors and her conver- 

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continued on page 3

Selig said he hopes news

of the holiday tree in the form of at least 10 voicemails from people outside of Durham, according to Foster’s Daily Democrat. Selig told Foster’s “You might not know this, but apparently I’m a piece of [expletive].” on Tuesday.

Durham received a request prior to the November 26 meeting to place a Menorah alongside the holiday tree in Memorial Park, according to Selig. The request from Durham’s Rabbi Berel Slavaticki was to place a nine-foot tall Menorah in the same park as the tree for eight days. Selig said he denied the formal application request after speaking with Durham Police Chief David Kurz about potential risks of vandalism by “inebriated young people” regarding the Menorah.

A one-night Hanukkah celebration was allowed to take place as long as everything was removed from public property at the celebration’s conclusion. The Seacoast Chabad Jewish Center held the small celebration on its lawn on Main Street with a 10-foot Menorah. Discussion of Rabbi Slavaticki’s request led to a discussion of the holiday tree which was the main focus of the Durham HRC’s meeting.

The commission was joined by former Durham resident of 30 years and applied social psychologist Kenneth Sole. Sole, 73, a current Lee resident, said he has been trying to reach someone in Durham’s administration to talk about the holiday tree for 42 years but has been ignored until now. The first day he drove up Mill Road and saw the holiday tree Sole felt he “had been slapped in the face.”

Sole said a sectarian symbol shouldn’t be paid for by a group of diverse tax payers, including himself, a secular Jew. He said his concern is for people similar to him who don’t celebrate Christian traditions. Sole said those Durham residents may feel unwel come to the celebration in their own community and have to pay for it as well.

He said the issue is about equality of opportunity. A public celebration is given to Christmas but residents with other traditions do not benefit from that opportunity. He said “inclusion comes from a sense of equality,” and

Student Senate Update

Menora lighting on Main St.

TNH revisits 1996 holiday submission

“Before I Die” project at UNH

Gymnastics kicks off season

continued on page 3
Since 1911
What’s the Weather?
INDEX*

Dec. 6
37/26
Mostly Sunny

Dec. 7
32/13
Sunny

Dec. 8
26/18
Mostly Sunny

Dec. 9
32/22
Sunny

Dec. 10
32/22
Mostly Sunny

Dec. 11
34/22
Mostly Sunny

Dec. 12
37/26
Sunny

Weather according to weather.com

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CONNECT

Executive Editor
Bret Belden | TNH.editor@unh.edu

Managing Editor
Ian Lenahan | TNH.me@unh.edu

Content Editor
Jacob Dawson | TNH.news@unh.edu

@THENEWHAMPSHIRE
FIND US ON FACEBOOK
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The New Hampshire
132 Memorial Union Building
Durham, NH 03824
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Emily Duggan / TNH Staff

Maker’s Expo

Dunbar leads Wildcats past Dartmouth

Review: Best 2018 hip-hop albums

With a 2-0 win, UNH gets its sixth win of the season.

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The next morning, the same post that appeared in the local newspaper caused a stir among the students. Several accounts shared similar descriptions of the events that took place on campus. Some girls described being approached by members of the Church of God, while others mentioned feeling uncomfortable or threatened by their presence.

A articulated her story: “I was walking in the Norris Museum when I noticed a group of women standing close to the entrance. They called me over and asked if I wanted to talk about the Bible. I explained that I had no interest in discussing religious matters, but they persisted.”

The church denied any wrongdoing, stating that their members were simply trying to share their beliefs and promote a positive message. However, many students were concerned about the potential for manipulation and pressure tactics used by the group.

The New Hampshire College student newspaper also covered the story, interviewing multiple witnesses and conducting their own research. They found that the church had a history of similar incidents on other campuses, leading to protests and investigations by local authorities.

In response, the Church of God released a statement, defending their right to proselytize and stating that they would continue to engage with students on campus. However, many students and faculty members expressed their concerns, calling for a more inclusive and welcoming environment.

The situation continued to receive attention from local media outlets, leading to a series of community discussions and forums on how to address such incidents in a proactive and inclusive manner.

In the end, it was a lesson in the importance of vigilance and communication. The students worked together to raise awareness and demand accountability, while the church responded by adapting their tactics and seeking to understand the students’ perspective. It was a moment that highlighted the ongoing challenge of creating a truly safe and welcoming campus environment for all.
The final confirmation of its next executive officer and debate surrounding a top-down report on the state of UNH led the Student Senate in its tenth and second-to-last meeting of the fall 2018 semester. At the core of Sunday’s agenda was the pending approval of a university Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (S.W.O.T.) Analysis, a report conducted by the Senate requested by UNH President James W. Dean, Jr. The report was the centerpiece of Resolution 40.11—entitled “Approving a University S.W.O.T. Analysis” and introduced by Student Body President Ethan McClanahan, Student Body Vice President Jake Adams, Student Trustee Christian Merheb, Senate Speaker Nicholas LaCourse and Deputy Speaker/Parliamentarian José Calvo.

The motion stated that senators involved in the analysis were to ask direct “in-and-out” and feedback” from their constituents across four categories through a form via Qualtrics, a national management company known for their online survey software, created by the Senate’s executive board, with results being ultimately analyzed and compiled by the committee into the final report presented before the body. Student Senate was one of several organizations on campus that was asked by Dean to conduct the report. Among the report’s “strengths” included “opportunities for personally-tailored growth and education,” significant student involvement in academic and extracurricular activities on campus and the number of available avenues students can use to “provide feedback or make of those within its modern elections that resulted in new Democratic majorities in both its House and Senate— and increased support for the creation of more “innovative solutions to University issues” by taking advantage of the campus’ “great diversity of thought” among its students, faculty, staff and administrators.

However, a number of present and looming “threats” that could hurt UNH in the long-term future also made its way into the report and the minds of student senators, ranging from falling enrollment—a post-secondary education part of a nationwide decline—and projects that could negatively affect student housing to concerns over sentiments that members of UNH administration feedback and the increasing frequency of “bias-related” incidents involving racism and general discrimination, according to President McClanahan.

Vice President Adams, when asked about how certain “areas of student life” have allegedly “begun to stray away” from the needs of students, stated that “elements of the quality of certain services have gone down due to certain funding restrictions of the past couple years,” leaving students “less content” with the output as a result despite rising prices, consequently leading to the sentiment that, per Adams, “students are getting less for the same price.” McClanahan cited UNH Dining as an example, saying that their current services do not reflect their rising dining fees.

Over the course of the discussion, the body amended the motion with new “weaknesses,” and “threats,” with the former related to a “myriad of issues” regarding student parking and transportation and the latter concerning the aforementioned “bias-related” incidents. In addition, Sen. Marinda Weaver (USNH) called for the creation of a “Spring 2019 Recruitment + Retention Plan” that would encourage greater and fairer participation in Student Senate through, among other means, a cleaner office, the end of the “Senator of the Month” award—Dunkle linked it to a “participation trophy”—increased utilization of the body’s internet resources ranging from Facebook groups to direct messaging to encourage increased recruitment and urging senators to write up and hand out weekly recaps of their progress and ac to give their constituents.

“This semester, I have been working on a research project about Student Senate and its power dynamics, and I just feel like I really like to interact with people, and I feel like I’m not doing that as Director of Public Relations, and I feel like the exact executive officer’s the perfect position to blend those [experiences] together,” Dunkle said she urged why she is best for the role. “The Senate at length approved of Dunkle’s nomination as the bill passed with four abstentions.

In addition, the Senate welcomed Dr. Shari Robinson, the director of Psychological and Counseling Services (PACS), who introduced the department to the body and spoke positively of increased visits from students in terms of overall and individual and group counseling sessions, as well as high marks in a recent “client satisfaction survey” featuring stats showing that 69 percent of respondents, for example, feeling that they have “made progress toward my goals.” Robinson also touched upon PACS’s efforts to diversify its staff to best reflect the increasing diversity of the student body it serves. In other senatorial business, the body unanimously voted to remove Sen. Sarah Scheinemann (Gables 4) from the Senate, and ultimately adjourned at 7:38 p.m. after delayed communications.

Follow Benjamin on Twitter @benstrawnh for the latest news.
Main Street lights a menorah for Hanukkah

By Zach Lewis STAFF WRITER

The first night of Hanukkah was Sunday, December 2. The University of New Hampshire’s Hillel chapter, along with the UNH and Seacoast Chabad Jewish Center, held a public menorah lighting on the Corner of Pettus Brook Lane and Main Street to usher in the holiday. The eight-day celebration, also known as the Festival of Lights, was kicked off with speeches from Rabbi Berel Slavaticki, UNH President James W. Dean Jr. and Hillel’s chair Jordan Haine. All in attendance were glad that the rain stopped just before the ceremonies began outside.

President Dean thanked the Rabbi for inviting him to speak and stated, “I’d like to extend my very warmest wishes for Hanukkah to all of you and to the entire Jewish community here in Durham, at UNH, and in the Seacoast.” He went on to talk about the significance of light in the holiday. “I hope that these holy days will remind us to be part of the light for others.” Rabbi Berel then introduced Jordan Haine to speak.

“This is a holiday for me that has always been very special,” Haine stated. “I am very grateful to have this amazing menorah lighting here.” Jordan Haine, a student majoring in English/ Journalism and International Affairs, brought up the issue of how Jewish holidays are seemingly ignored by the university. “Hanukkah fell early in the year so I will not be able to go home and celebrate with my family and it’s hurtful but that’s how the UNH calendar works out.” She went on to express how excited Hillel was when the menorah lighting. “I never thought I’d see this here. This is a blessing for the Jewish community here and all of the Jewish students on campus.” After robust applause, Rabbi Berel spoke.

Rabbi Berel stated that, “as we prepare to light these holy candles, we pay tribute to the story of the Jewish people to continue to practice our faith. We are here today in Durham, New Hampshire, standing strong and proud. Today we stand here, free to celebrate our cherished traditions, not only in our homes but out in our community.”

After the speeches, President Dean lit the torch that Rabbi Berel used to light the menorah. Amongst cheers and singing, Rabbi Berel lit two candles on the menorah. Once the menorah was lit, everyone went inside the Chabad Jewish Center to continue the celebration. There was food, fun and laughter. A fire dancing group entitled Fire Amusement, comprising of two students from Salem State University, performed for all of the attendees. The fire was replaced with LED bulbs due to the indoor nature of the event.

Various UNH students attended the Hanukkah event and gave their thoughts on the lighting as well as the Jewish community on campus.

“I think it’s beautiful, especially Jordan’s speech,” Sophie Pollock, a Hillel member and psychology student originally from Singapore stated. She discussed the issue of holiday observance from the university.

“I’m a senior now and there hasn’t been anything last this event in the last three or four years that I’ve been here. It’s nice to see more of a presence on campus because we are such a small minority here,” Leonard said. He went on to talk about the holiday observance issue.

“I don’t expect to have six or seven days off for Hanukkah, it wouldn’t be realistic, but it could be much better though.”

As for SCOPE itself, the university does not officially observe any Jewish holiday. The menorah will be absent from its Main Street location for the rest of Hanukkah because the town of Durham will not allow it to stay. The reason given to Chabad Jewish Center, in operation for about two months at its UNH branch, was that they had not given the town enough notice, but that next year Durham will allow the Menorah to be raised for the entire duration of the holiday. Rabbi Berel stated that they will move the menorah to the Mall at Fox Run in Newington.

"We're going to place it there for the entirety of Hanukkah. Next to the Christmas area by Sears. We'll also have a ceremony there this Thursday at 5 p.m."

The Festival of Lights can occur anytime between late November to late December. This year Hanukkah is observed from sundown on December 2 until nightfall on December 10.

Jordan Haine is a staff writer for TNH.

UNH Police, SCOPE discuss arrests following concert

By Lena Touzous STAFF WRITER

The University of New Hampshire (UNH) fall concert was presented by the Student Committee on Popular Entertainment (SCOPE) this year on November 17. The performers hosted included Cheat Codes, an EDM group, opened by Lil Skies, an up and coming Soundcloud rapper.

But with an annual event like the UNH SCOPE concerts occurring every fall and spring semester, the excitement of students leads to often underage, excessive amounts of drinking.

For only $25, undergraduates at the university were able to purchase a student floor ticket. Over 3,000 people were in attendance of the fall 2018 concert.

With no alcoholic beverages being served inside the Whitmore Center where the concert took place, many students began binge drinking before trying to enter the concert when the doors open at 6:30 p.m.

As a result, the UNH Police Department confirmed that 21 people were arrested in connection with the concert this night. The police department also confirmed that the majority of students arrested were not of legal age to drink.

The main cause for the arrests at the concert were underage alcohol consumption, yet also included disorderly conduct, internal possession and unlawful possession of alcohol. Chief Paul Mountain Security members there.

Chief Paul explained, “which it has been going to be the case for the last 10 years.” Chief explained, “which it has been going to be the case for the last 10 years.”

At the concert, the UNH Police Department explained that collaboration is done with SCOPE in preparation for the concert.

“The UNH Police works very closely with SCOPE to ensure a safe venue,” Chief Dean said.

“We accomplish this by speaking with other recent venues that host the selected artist and designing the floor of the arena to be safe for all.”

As for SCOPE itself, the physical arrests are somewhat out of their control, so the team works with law enforcement to regulate the out-of-hand behavior of students as much as possible.

“We do the best we can to promote an alcohol and drug free experience but college kids are still going to do that stuff,” SCOPE production director Daniel Efraimson said. "We have a large presence of cops and Green Mountain Security members there to help maintain interactions.”

Along with this, SCOPE also takes other necessary precautions to ensure that students are aware of what is expected of them at the concert.

“We advertise our rules and promote that we want to have a safe concert experience for everyone who attends,” Efraimson said. “We post on our social media the rules: like no drugs, alcohol, weapons, bags, vapes, etc. And you can find those on our Twitter, Facebook, Instagram. We want all the people attending to have a safe concert experience and to enjoy it and have a good time.”

Students arrested at the concert are processed at the UNH Police Department and a bail commissioner, who is a part of the Dover Circuit Court, assigns them a court date.

The majority of students arrested will have to return to New Hampshire during finals week to attend their court date. According to Chief Dean, court dates are mandatory when students engage in “underage alcohol consumption or other violations of NH Law.”

“We aim for less and less arrests each show,” Efraimson explained, “which it has been going that way.”

Spilling the tea since 1911
The University of New Hampshire Lecturer’s Union, a chapter of the American Association of University Professors (UNHLU-AAUP), has been in negotiations for a new bargaining agreement with UNH for nearly two years.

Major issues of disagreement between the two parties have been job security and compensation. For lecturers, job security has been the top priority, said Catherine Moran, president and lead negotiator for the UNHLU.

“We feel like we’ve given them a range of proposals that would simultaneously allow for flexibility for the administration and stability for us...there are a number of different ways this could be achieved,” Moran said.

One way of achieving this that would be best for the university, the lecturers, and the students, Moran said, is “an expectation of a continuing term of employment, particularly after you’ve proven yourself;” rather than an unexpected end of contract, similar to what happened in 1995 when the two parties reached a contract at the time. That means UNH would be allowed to renew lecturers.

Since then, six of those lecturers have filed discrimination complaints against UNH with the New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights on the basis of age. The investigation is ongoing, but UNH has said that there was no discrimination involved in the decision to non-renew lecturers.

John Wallin, lead negotiator for the university and assistant provost for contract administration, said he could not give details on the discussions held in mediation due to confidentiality purposes.

Negotiations began in January 2017, a few months before the contract would expire in June of that year. That means UNH lecturers have been working off the provisions of the expired contract for over a year, and because it has not been updated, they are not eligible for pay raises, Moran said.

The union and the university officially declared impasse on December 6, 2017, exactly one year ago Thursday, and proceeded to the second stage of contract negotiations: mediation, in which a neutral party mediates discussions between the two groups individually with the end goal of reaching a resolution.

A pair of mediation sessions were held in May, followed by another two throughout the summer without immediate success. The two negotiating teams have continued to meet without the presence of a mediator this fall, according to Moran and Wallin.

“We (the union) felt like the work with the mediator was diminishing in its role,” Moran said. “The mediator did help us clarify some places where we were very far apart and seeing things quite differently. So, the two teams then decided that we would have some meetings and had some dialogues without the mediator.”

Negotiating a collective bargaining agreement is a long process undertaken in good faith to ensure that the agreement reached can be ratified by both parties and provides ample time to address both parties’ concerns, Wallin wrote in an email correspondence. “I cannot speak for UNHLU, but our team believes we continue to make good progress towards a contract both parties can ratify.”

Wallin was not available for a phone or in-person interview. Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Wayne Jones—who has been involved with the process and has been in touch with both parties—did not respond in time for publication as he was traveling at the time.

It’s not uncommon for the bargaining process to be lengthy, Wallin said, citing previous contract cycles between UNH and the tenure faculty union, the AAUP. According to articles in The New Hampshire’s archives, the AAUP was in contract negotiations with the university for nearly two years, from July 1995 to April 1997.

Moran hopes to get another contract proposal from the university before winter break, she said, and Wallin noted that he will meet with Moran next Monday “to update each other on the status of our positions.”

State labor law mandates that “mediation shall continue as long as the board determines mediation is necessary considering the likelihood of resolution.” If successful progress is not made soon, the parties could revert back again to the first phase, good faith negotiations, and begin the bargaining process all over again.

Moving to that final stage will depend on the university’s next contract proposal, Moran said, and she hopes it will be a successful one.

“It sounds like I’m being sarcastic, but I mean it very seriously—I would love nothing more than to be spending some time before spring semester hammering out a contract, a fair, reasonable contract, that we can bring to our membership...but I mean, who knows,” Moran said.
**UNH Dining hosts Winter Celebration Dinner**

By Zach Lewis

Long lines and smiling faces were decorating all three of the universities dining halls; Holloway Commons, Philbrook and Stillings, for the Winter Celebration Dinner Wednesday night, an event that ushered in the season of giving and finals. Holloway Commons sported a hot chocolate and eggnog bar for students. A multitude of treats ranging from peppermint marble bark to yule logs to a cinnamon babka. The university provides healthy options for students and has been ranked as having some of the best food at a college in the nation.

The culinary staff made all of the pasta by hand for the festivities. Each dining hall had its own particular menu on top of a selection for those with specific dietary needs as well those with food allergies or other restrictions. Assistant Director of Culinary and Executive Chef Todd Sweet makes it his duty to know that all students are provided for at the dining halls, especially for the Winter Celebration Dinner. He went over how the university prepares for such an event.

“We try to get everything ready as close to the event time so we have the freshest food for school. We just got done prepping the brownies and other goodies here for the Winter Celebration Dinner.” Sweet said.

Dining Services wants to make the experience as wonderful as possible.

“First we start with the goal of ‘Wow!’ people and make sure that it’s a celebration,” he said.

Chef Sweet understands the predicament students are in as finals week draws closer.

“The end of the semester, students have been working hard and we want them to be able to blow off steam and this is a great opportunity to put our best foot forward,” he said.

A lot of thought and effort go into creating the menus. “We work off what has been popular before,” Sweet stated. “Certain things like crab rangoons are very popular, people love them, so we definitely want to offer these.” The menu creation process is a team effort. “We also have every chef from each dining hall come up with their own offerings as well.” The menu is expansive enough to deal with the large number of hungry customers, even on non-event days. “We feed six to 7,000 people a day out of one dining hall,” he said. The menu is not the only aspect that will be transformed for the night. “We change around the set up for the celebration,” Chef Sweet said. “At HoCo there’s a community table in the back that will have crudités, hors d’oeuvres, cheeses, olives and fruits. It’s very popular and is tough to keep stocked.”

Chef Sweet brought up an idea coined by Executive Chef Johnathon Saff, Holloway Commons’ main chef, for the event. “French onion soup baked in a bread bowl with swiss cheese on top will be coming out fresh for everybody out of the pizza station.” There are entrée choices that include beef tri-tip, salmon, and vegan garlic linguine. Other stations are undergoing transformations as well. “An awesome hot chocolate and eggnog station, out of the stir fry area, with all of the trimmings and crazy candy ready as garnishes.”

Chef Sweet also mentioned the star of the show. “Obviously the dessert station is a big draw for the Winter Celebration,” he said. “I’ll have a lot of eye appeal and filled with old favorites and will also include more out of the ordinary choices like chocolate-dipped pretzels.”

The university expected a substantial turn-out. “We’re preparing for anywhere between 2,500 to 3,000 students at Holloway Commons.” Chef Sweet goes on to say that the load is not as large as some events, “because the Winter Celebration Dinner will be at all three dining halls.”

Students were extremely satisfied with the Winter Celebration Dinner.

“It was definitely worth waiting in line. The food’s really good and we’re always really excited when they have themed meals,” Jackie Sampson, a junior English major from Plaistow, New Hampshire, said.

Her friend held similar sentiments and talked about the entire feel of the event.

“I think the decorations help to accentuate the meal and holiday spirit.” Maddy Cyr, a junior occupational therapy major from Plymouth, Massachusetts, added.

“The desserts were my favorite part of the meal,” Hailey Campbell, a sophomore nursing major appreciated the celebration, saying, “It’s very festive.”

**Maker’s Expo shows students’ creative side**

By Emily Duggan

Last Friday, The University of New Hampshire (UNH) hosted its annual Makers Expo, which gives faculty and students the chance to sell their art.

Around 40 members of the university participated in the event that took place at the Memorial Union Building (MUB) from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The Granite State Room had four rows of seven tables, each displaying art widely different from the next. Clothing, jewelry, pottery, woodwork, and even bread were amongst some of the products.

Senior civil engineering major Tim Murray was selling the bread he made in the kitchen of his dorm, Peterson Hall. “I really like baking, it’s my passion,” Murray joked. He has had his business “Pin & Roller” for around seven months now, and the Maker’s Expo was his first time ever selling his bread; despite carting his bread through Peterson to go out to fellow residents.

“There’s one stove,” he explained. “It can do four loaves at a time. So, you multiply that by 100 loaves, and that’s roughly how much you get.”

Murray had an array of bread on his table, displaying his creations (which took two days to complete in the tiny dorm kitchen) ranging from sourdough to cinnamon raison, all selling by the loaf, or mini-loaf, for $6-$10.

“It’s more specifically by students for students,” Murray said. “Cause a lot of us have meal plans, we don’t have time, but a lot of us can enjoy a fresh loaf of bread.”

Another set of students under the business name, Bottle Kaps, were selling different images (in this case, a map of the United States), using various colored bottle caps with a bottle opener next to the picture.

Resident Hall Director (RHD) Brittany Cotton showed her jewelry business she started before going to grad school. She made colorful bracelets and bold earrings, selling them alongside another RHD who was selling knitted scarfs and hats.

For a different creative approach, junior marketing major Nola Hesby sold buttons made by her and her mom and greeting cards painted with her art on them. She also sold 87 of her stickers which featured her designs that varied from puns such as “Market Casket,” “Stoke Palace,” and a New Hampshire collection of state and motto stickers.

Hesby has done art her whole life and has sold her art at the Makers Expo for two years now after finding out about it through Facebook.

“It honestly makes me so happy,” she said about the event. “It’s a kind of way to showcase a talent that might not be apparent in your major.” Hesby said. “I’m a marketing major, and not that it’s the best fit, but I don’t get a chance to sell my own stuff all the time, so this is really fun for me.”

The event costed as little as $20 to reserve a table. In fact, the event is so popular that people even had the chance to already sign up for next year’s Makers Expo.

By the end of the day, the list was already full.

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By Emily Duggan

Last Friday, The University of New Hampshire (UNH) hosted its annual Makers Expo, which gives faculty and students the chance to sell their art.

Around 40 members of the university participated in the event that took place at the Memorial Union Building (MUB) from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The Granite State Room had four rows of seven tables, each displaying art widely different from the next. Clothing, jewelry, pottery, woodwork, and even bread were amongst some of the products.

Senior civil engineering major Tim Murray was selling the bread he made in the kitchen of his dorm, Peterson Hall. “I really like baking, it’s my passion,” Murray joked. He has had his business “Pin & Roller” for around seven months now, and the Maker’s Expo was his first time ever selling his bread; despite carting his bread through Peterson to go out to fellow residents.

“There’s one stove,” he explained. “It can do four loaves at a time. So, you multiply that by 100 loaves, and that’s roughly how much you get.”

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Civil Discourse Lab aims to give students outlet for discussion

By Jessie Stelter
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After Cinco de Mayo in 2017, a forum was held among students and administration to discuss the controversy surrounding cultural appropriation and racial tension on the University of New Hampshire’s (UNH) campus.

However, many students left feeling unsatisfied with the discussion, and felt like their voices were unheard. A new organization on campus may be the solution to making important conversations such like this more productive.

Renee Heath is a communication professor who co-founded UNH’s first Civil Discourse Lab, an organization based on facilitating healthy and productive conversations about difficult topics, among people from different backgrounds and viewpoints.

This isn’t a model for a debate or persuasion, rather a philosophy that prioritizes telling and listening to different stories, rather than prioritizing debate, Heath said.

Jocelyn Vierzen, UNH senior and assistant director of the Civil Discourse Lab (CDL), said it is an organization focused in educating and training students to facilitate conversations with the principles of civil discourse. This entails students designing questions and formats of discussion that enables the sharing of stories.

In the communication department, the curriculum is very focused on teaching dialogue, especially within diverse contexts, Heath said.

“We think language matters, and that it shapes the world around us. Our students were tasked with the table top and the walls around the room, but we wanted to build an experiential learning arm of our curriculum that allows students to take the practice out of the classroom,” Heath said.

The CDL has three main components. The first is teaching students how to become a facilitator, the second is the research aspect which entails looking into how to have the most productive conversations, and the last is the experiential aspect, which is where student facilitators work inside and outside of the university to design and facilitate dialogue events, as well as dialogue decision making in the community, Heath said.

The CDL was introduced for the first time in the spring of last year, yet its students have already facilitated a variety of discussions and events at UNH.

Examples of these are a discussion among local scientists about the repercussions of the arctic ice sheet melting, as well as contributing to a Portsmouth-based film called “Becoming American,” which discusses issues on immigration in the U.S., Vierzen said.

“We were approached by students who wanted to have a discussion on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and given how controversial and deeply personal the subject matter is, wanted to have trained facilitators making the discussion flow in a respectful and productive manner,” Vierzen said.

In these sorts of discussions, facilitators ask participants to sit away from friends, who may have similar opinions, and create icebreakers unrelated to discussion topic, to enable ease and connection among participation before the discussion.

From there, facilitators lay out discussion guidelines, explaining civil discourse philosophy that promotes respect and understanding.

“One of the things we take on as a philosophy is, we ask people to not use the word ‘politically correct’ because usually when that is brought up, it’s not sincere. When we are talking about things being political, we aren’t talking about sincerely engaging one another—it’s not about offending people, it’s about understanding people, and why something might hurt them or not,” Heath said.

Eva Ford, a UNH senior and fellow of the lab said another way to open up the conversations is to make everyone’s perspectives heard, when they are otherwise may not be.

“This can be as little as asking someone in the conversation that has been quiet what their thoughts are,” Ford said.

In the lab, students also help to design programs providing non-bias, non-partisan information reviewed by experts that is provided at the discussions.

These programs are strategically made to give context that moves the conversation forward, that word shuts down conversation on misinformation, Heath said.

In these discussions the goal isn’t to reach common ground, as that would be unrealistic, but to learn about different perspectives, and that in turn may enable those to make decisions or come up with solutions based on the understanding of everyone’s experiences, Heath said.

“In feedback, the people who have the most positive experiences, are always the people sitting at the table with the most diverse realm of opinions, experiences, backgrounds, and stories,” Vierzen said.

“If everyone has the same viewpoint, the conversation won’t be very rich,” said Vierzen.

The lab has over 80 affiliated students, 45 of whom have attended or facilitated events this semester. Although the lab is currently comprised of mostly communications students, it is available to students of all majors, Heath said.

Students are getting trained in and practicing skills that they can go into the workplace with, Heath said.

“College students now are about to enter one of the most diverse workforces ever. They are getting trained to plan, design, and run discussions in the workplace, that are completely applicable in all work contexts, whether it be workplace conflict or conversations on diversity,” Heath said.

“This lab has already given my students internship opportunities and employers said they were intrigued by CDL and valued these sorts of skills,” Heath said.

The lab’s next project will be facilitating a free and open forum on New Hampshire’s issues and stigma around opioid addiction, a follow-up to informational lectures about the issue being held on campus prior.

The lectures will inform the civil discourse forum, and will be geared towards asking how the different community members feel about how to combat the issue, Heath said.

The forum will be open to students as well as the general public.

It will be held by not only CDL members, but the communication department’s Public Dialogue class, which is a course highly correlated with the principles of civil discourse.

Future goals for the lab include working on grants and initiatives to bring this model across the department’s curriculum. They plan to build the research side of it, so they can do bigger projects in the community, where they hope to capture more data on the effects of the civil discourse model when they facilitate, Heath said.

“The lab has very quickly exceeded our goals, we blew up with attendance, and we’ve been able to bring in outside speakers every semester that are experts in this area that are doing this sort of work outside of a university context,” Heath said.

“This model has been tested in other universities in other states around the country, so we know students are building skills they can take outside the walls of the university. Families, marriages, partnerships, roommates: civil discourse is so applicable,” Heath said.

“We’ve even had our own facilitators feel completely vulnerable because they encountered a difficult conversation, but this is life. Most everyone that participates in these conversations have a feeling of fulfillment,” Heath said.
December 3 through Thursday, December 6, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., University of New Hampshire (UNH) students and faculty are able to donate blood during a blood drive hosted by the American Red Cross in Memorial Union Building’s Granite State Room.

It is an easy process that can make a difference.

The first step before donating blood is eating a healthy breakfast. After that, you can register for donation at the front desk or online. Make sure you have at least an hour before you start the process. Upon arriving to the room at your scheduled time, you are required to read through the pre-donation materials which contain important information regarding eligibility, safety and the donation process. Alternatively, you can complete the RapidPass form on the Red Cross website on the day of donation and read the materials beforehand.

Next, you will receive sticker with you name on it; after a short wait, a medical assistant will take you to a booth where you will have to answer a series of questions to ensure that blood donation is safe for you and for the potential recipient. Completing the questionnaire online with RapidPass will allow you to speed up the process. Your blood pressure and body temperature will be measured and a quick blood test will be carried out to determine the concentration of iron in your blood. If everything is in order, at this point you will be all set for donation.

When donating blood, you will be sitting (or lying) down on a specialized bed with an armrest. In order to locate your vein, the assistant will ask you to squeeze a stress ball multiple times. They will then mark the vein with a marker if necessary, prepare the bag and the test tubes, disinfect your arm and insert the needle. Although the moment of insertion is unpleasant for some people, the process itself rarely causes discomfort. You will be asked to squeeze the stress ball every five to 10 seconds to make your blood flow, and you will be done in about three to 10 minutes. The time varies for every donor, but the donation time cannot exceed 20 minutes.

After a pint of your blood has been taken, the assistant will collect some of your blood into test tubes; it will be tested to ensure safety and compatibility with a potential recipient. After that, the needle would be removed, you will have to hold your arm vertically for about two minutes, and, after a piece of cotton is taped to where the insertion point was, you will have officially donated blood. You hand might be numb, but that sensation is normal and will pass soon. Medical assistants will advise you to avoid demanding exercise, and to pass by the snack table on your way out. You will also be encouraged to take a free T-shirt with the Red Cross logo.

So, how can you find out what happens to your blood?

“There is an app that you can download and you can follow where your blood goes,” Vicki Braun, a team supervisor at the UNH blood drive, said, “It doesn’t tell you who it goes to, but it tells you if it was used and which hospital it could have gone to.”

Many students at UNH participate in blood drives, and for many, this week’s blood drive is not the first one.

“This is probably eight-ish [donations],” junior civil engineering major Matt Bean said. “It’s duty, I guess. It’s something that’s needed, something that I can do.”

 “[Blood] is no good for me, might as well give it to someone else,” sophomore biomedical science major Haley Smith said. “I think it’s my fifth [time]… my second time at UNH. People need [blood]. It’s just a pint, it’s like giving a piece of your liver. It comes back, so why not?”

The blood drives at UNH are hosted four times a year, in September, December, February and April. The blood drive ends today at 3:00 p.m.
Revisiting a submission from 1996 with an excerpt from the author

December 3, 2018

Twenty-four years ago, a UNH cop changed my son’s and my lives forever when I was a student and single mother pursuing a bachelor’s degree in political science. That cop was none other than UNH Police Chief Paul Dean. Thank you, Chief Dean, for being a shining example of all that is good in law enforcement. UNH is lucky to have you at the helm. Full disclosure: I was actually parked illegally on the sidewalk in a part of Forest Park that no longer exists (high dorms are now there). Also, my son had minor dental surgery for an abscessed tooth. Hilarious that I minimized the events for rhyming effect and self-preservation. Five years after this event, I became a UNH cop where I proudly served until 2005 when I resigned to concentrate on law school. I now work at a non-profit in Massachusetts. I’m proud to share that this Christmas Tale has come full circle. That little boy who looked up to all those cop “elves” is now grown and a federal law enforcement officer aka cop himself.

Last year, I received the most precious gift from my son: a picture of him with Santa and a little boy that looked up to my son the same way he looked up to Chief Dean all those years ago. I am grateful, blessed, and overjoyed to share the side of law enforcement that is not often enough illuminated, its heart. Happy Holidays to all! Enjoy.

By Sabrina R. Bohun, Esq.
UNH Alumna

A Durham Christmas Tale: The surprise visit from the ‘elves’

By Sabrina Alby

Two days before Christmas, when suddenly I woke realizes I’d forgotten all my luggage in the car hourly checked. My son Christopher and I at the end of the semester took no time to wait the sixteenth of December. Teams complete, now school was done. We packed the car and we were gone. Off to my fisher’s for a Breall, we relaxed and made merry and reconnected our smiles.

On the 21st we broke for home, after my son Christopher’s dentist appointment where he left with a grin. He needed a filling and with that said, we returned home exhausted and went straight to bed. A note was in the door upon our arrival requesting Forest Park tenants to move their cars for snow removal. I looked at the date on the top of the note, saw the day of the 20th was what someone wrote. Without reading the note any further, I grabbed my jacket put on my boots and threw a hat on my head. I opened the door and看清 what was visible. My eyes linked once, twice but to my surprise I was not dreaming and no reality true, my son was missing and everyone else’s too. I stood in the snow trying to figure out why. The date at the top of the note usually doesn’t lie. Cold and confused, I returned to the apartment and called the dispatcher of the University Police Department. She had a sweet voice and was very understanding. Immediately she sent a police officer to my apartment to deal with my missing misunderstanding.

Not 10 minutes passed and was there, I invited him in and then took a deep breath of his, the officer, the note and he said, “If you read further you would have found out the 21st is correct and true.” Humbled him and asked “What am I supposed to do?” He explained how to pay a $25 ticket not to mention a $75 towing fee, Jimmy Cricket!

Frustrated now, my pride completely diminished, I said, “Look around my place, there’s not a whole lot here that needs collecting.” Before me was a couch and a chair.

With a sly one of the door I thought was finished. I used to make calculations for school, but my car was something I just couldn’t lose.

As he promised he returned and this is what he said, “I’m going to get your car and park it over by Zain Hall. Have a Merry Christmas. Now why don’t you go back to bed.”

The floor and was amused, yes I’d say that. There on the floor just a trash can, the remnants of the officers all around the tree. I laughed at this sight and then laid down for the night.

When morning sneaked through the cracks of the blinds, I arose and checked on Christopher to see he was fine. He opened his eyes and smiled at me and said, “Mom when you were cops in our living room with a Christmas tree!” That I said, “Come with me.” He crawled out of bed and onto my arms, I walked into the living room and it didn’t take long for him to notice all the wonderful surprises then he looked at me and asked, “Who were all those guys? At first I didn’t know what to say, then I thought myself and Santa are made this way, I told Christopher Santa knew I was sad and went into a tizzy, he wanted to send some elves to help but they were all busy. So he added upon his most trusted and capable elves which were as it was his special guard elves. Christopher was so honored and dazzled, he wouldn’t let me vacuum the floor for days. Later that morning food was sent for our cheer. Boy, did Christopher think Saint Nick had surely been there! This is my story all tried and true, and this is my message from me to you: The next time you see a UNH cop on the fly, look into his eye. You can see a twinkle deep, the stuff that magic made of, you might see his eyes really one of Santa’s even in blue — at least that’s what one little boy who writes know, he believes in magic extend to all, and all to good others and Merry to all of those ‘elves’ and Wildcat Santa.

Who can offer college graduates solid work experience, management opportunities, travel to exotic places and the opportunity to make a difference in the world?

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To learn more about Peace Corps will put your knowledge and skills to work, visit campus representative Kent Smith at 204 Fyfe Hall or call (603) 862-1880.
UNH arrest logs from 11/15/18 - 11/17/18

11/15/18 5:26pm Nicholas Molinaro 18 37 Cold Spring Rd Westford MA Campbell 12/6/18 Yes Warrant for Reckless Conduct
11/15/18 7:27pm Ryan Tapphy 18 11 Bay Dr Sudbury MA Anthony 12/6/18 Yes Warrant for Criminal Mischief
11/15/18 7:27pm Jacob Jenneh 19 37 Country Corners Rd Wayland MA Anthony 12/6/18 Yes Warrant for Criminal Mischief
11/15/18 8:30pm Colin Bourgeois 19 39 Stuart Rd Rochester MA Anthony 12/6/18 Yes Warrant for Criminal Mischief
11/15/18 7:30pm Anthony D’Amato 19 376 Elliott St Beverly MA Anthony 11/29/18 Yes Warrant for Criminal Mischief e 6, Interfere with Fire Alarm Apparatus; Reckless Conduct
11/15/18 8:29pm Jack Olczak 18 63 Clinton Rd Glen Ridge NJ Anthony 12/6/18 Yes Warrant for Criminal Mischief
11/16/18 12:52am Ryan Boari 22 14 Raymond Rd Burlington MA Campbell 12/6/18 Yes DWI
11/16/18 9:36pm Jonathan Weimert 18 3 Delaware Ave Daniels MA Cochran 12/13/18 Yes Unlawful Possession of Alc.
11/17/18 7:03pm Raissa Lima 21 6 Freshwater Dr Hanwich MA Neely N/A Yes Protective Custody
11/17/18 7:20pm Kathleen Hickey 18 63 Main St Essex MA Cochran 12/13/18 Yes Internal Possession of Alc.; PC
11/17/18 7:00pm JeanMarie Fallon 19 8 Stanton Rd Milton MA Cochran 12/13/18 Yes Unlawful Possession of Alc; PC
11/17/18 7:07pm Cole Harnois 18 233 Main ST Sandown NH Guilbault 12/13/18 Yes Internal Possession of Alc.; PC
11/17/18 7:26pm Kattlin Gabbett 18 34 Tuette Rd Thornton NH Lee 12/13/18 No Possession of Fake ID; Internal Possession of Alc.
11/17/18 7:30pm Olivia Smith 19 93 Edgewater Dr Hull MA Weeks 12/13/18 Yes Fake ID; Unlawful Possession of Alc.
11/17/18 7:25pm Emory Bayer 19 5 Clough St Bow NH Guilbault 12/12/18 Yes Internal Possession of Alc.; PC
11/17/18 7:34pm Katherine Cone 19 286 Orchard St Boone NC Weeks 12/13/18 Unlawful Possession of Alc.
11/17/18 7:40pm 168 Woodcrest Dr Melrose MA Weeks 12/13/18 Yes Open Container; Internal Possession of Alc.
11/17/18 7:55pm Sophia Madonna-Lenival 18 92 Rumford Ave Mansfield MA Weeks 12/13/18 Yes Unlawful Possession of Alc
11/17/18 7:49pm Kelsey Glidden 20 215 Salmon Falls Rd Rochester NH Neely 12/13/18 Yes Unlawful Intoxication
11/17/18 7:54pm Ryan Barrett 18 28 Piccadilly Way Westbrook MA Hinton 12/13/18 Yes Unlawful Possession of Alc.; PC
11/17/18 8:10pm Zoe Robertson 18 1188 Brook Rd Milton MA Blanding 12/13/18 Yes Unlawful Possession of Alc.
11/17/18 8:10pm Isabella Couto 18 1 P4 Snow Circle Nashua NH Davis 12/13/18 Yes Internal Possession of Alc.
11/17/18 8:10pm Ryan Harrington 19 67 Cross St Hingham MA Neely 12/13/18 Yes Unlawful Possession of Alc.
11/17/18 8:00pm Cassandra Jennell 20 343 North Rd Freemont NH Weeks 12/13/18 Yes Unlawful Possession of Alc.
11/17/18 8:34pm 317 Beach Ave Pasadena CA McKenna Dunmyer 20 MD Davis 12/13/18 Yes Unlawful Possession of Alc.; Internal Possession of Alc
11/17/18 8:05pm Thomas Farrellly 19 18 Gray Ct Rye NH Guilbault 12/13/18 Yes PC & Internal Possession of Alc
11/17/18 12:40am Michael Hannon 19 33 Linscott RD Hingham MA Anthony 12/13/18 Yes Unlawful Intoxication
11/17/18 8:48pm Ryan Beighay 18 4 Brantwood Dr Halfmoon NY Weeks 12/13/18 No Criminal Trespass
11/16/18 1:25pm Patrick Waters 18 6 Woodland Dr Cohasset MA Cochran 12/6/18 Yes Unlawful Possession of Alc
11/17/18 9:00pm Christopher Arsenault 18 15 A St Redding MA Cochran 12/3/18 No Unlawful Possession of Alc.; Resisting
11/17/18 9:15pm Tyler Martin 20 18 Orchard Lane Lynnfield MA Guilbault N/A Yes PC
11/18/18 8:50pm Daniel McCullough 18 52 Auburn St Saugus MA Cochran 12/13/18 Yes Disorderly Conduct
11/18/18 9:41pm Marco Bernasconi 18 32 Devonshire Ct Avon CT Cochran 12/13/18 Yes Disorderly Conduct x2
11/18/18 9:50pm Brian McNeil 18 9 Cold Spring Rd Westford MA Cochran 12/13/18 Yes Disorderly Conduct x2
11/18/18 1:07am Shannon Guiney 18 15 Franklin St Peabody MA Campbell 12/13/18 Yes Unlawful Possession Alc
11/18/18 1:52am Colin Browne 19 197 Judson Rd Fairfield CT Bourn 12/13/18 Yes Unlawful Intoxication
11/17/18 7:37pm Olivia LeClerc 19 2343 Elm St Manchester NH Hinton 12/13/18 Yes Unlawful Possession of Alc.; False ID
This day in *The New Hampshire* history

Chemistry Department asks senate to ban in-class smoking

By Jackie Gagnon

The chemistry club of the University Senate is investigating a motion to prohibit smoking in University facilities.

The motion stems from a letter from the Chemistry Department requesting that the senate revoke the present rule concerning smoking and recommending that smoking be prohibited.

Professor Alexander Abel, chairman of the chemistry department, explained that the letter was a result of a faculty meeting when members expressed concern over the safety factor of smoking in class.

"Some of our lecturers, who are in a terrible mess, students use the Boom and the arms of chairs for their safety," Abel said.

In the chemistry department, Abel works with highly flammable and toxic substances which can cause explosions.

The letter and recommendations were brought to the chair of the senate of the university in the middle of November and immediately turned over to the executive council.

Professor Arthur Borror, chairman of the executive council, said that the university is not accumulating information about student and faculty safety and the laws "that may be legal to restrict these policies further," said Borror.

Frank Olson, senate secretary, said that they are "studying the issue and that it is being considered by the senate and the department of safety.

However, he said that "this is a non-partisan issue and does not expect a separation from the council below second semester.

If the motion is deemed expedient and should pass through the senate there could be a vote on the final approval.

"The biggest problem," said Borror, "is how who is going to enforce this.

The rule will only apply to faculty, but who will have the authority to enter a classroom in session to check and see if people are smoking?"

Another point is that there are state laws which already govern smoking in public places by specifying the number of ashtrays and ventilation requirements.

Borror, who said the motion is not a human issue, expects that one of these things would happen: "We either could decide the motion is non-partisan and let it be left to the senate as given, amend it, or put it a special senate committee for further investigations.

As it stands now in the Declaration of Students Rights and Responsibilities, student rule 2.310(f) reads, "No smoking is to be allowed in University classrooms, except at the discretion of the instructor in courses which are held in classrooms provided with adequate ashtrays.

The recommended revision would simply read, "No smoking is to be allowed in University classrooms."

The majority of students interviewed felt that classroom smoking was the teacher's decision. Professor Eddie Foret said, "If it's up to the teacher, he doesn't like it, nobody should smoke."

As far as the new smoking, it's no good."

Mugnet Sipe, a sophomore art major, said that she wouldn't argue with the decision, "but I'd be awfully disappointed.

I don't think it should be at the discretion of the teacher.

"I don't smoke during lectures," said junior Amy Jones, "I'm too busy taking notes."

But David Makarenko, a junior in pre-med, thought it was "works.

It's annoying to sit next to someone who smokes especially if it's been proven that the person sitting next to a smoker is in just as much danger as the smoker."

Faculty Members Reveal Unusual, Witty Opinions In Recent Clothes Poll

It seems that the faculty had some original and witty responses to the questions asked in the recent clothes poll conducted by the Home Economics Club.

One or two of the faculty members were unfamiliar with the term "heels.

Is it possible that they had the slang word in mind?

"When asked "Do you like a natural-looking lipstick?" one clear-thinking faculty member answered matter-of-factly, "Why wear it if it's natural looking?"

Others expressed their preference for brilliant lipstick, and a surprisingly large number stated a dislike for any lipstick at all.

So you see, girls, you can't please all the people all the time.

"Do you approve of dresses above the knee?" brought the most varied responses. One shy professor said "This embarrasses me," while another not so shy professors said that "It depends upon the knees." One exacting instructor wanted to know just "How far above the knee?" before attempting to answer the question. Still another answered the question and consingly with the word "AND HOW!"

One rationalizing faculty member approved of knitting in class because he or she, resignedly admits that "it's better to do something useful than just sit!"

One member left no doubt in one's mind about how she felt about many dangle bracelets worn at the same time by replying "only for Indians."

Sex in the MUB

A symposium on sexuality held in the Memorial Union Wednesday was designed as "an education on sexual issues," according to its coordinator Marcia Gray.

Approximately 500 people attended the all day seminar that was sponsored by the UNH human sexuality program.

Two guests included Dr. Ron Fentech, a clinical psychologist in Boston, and a sex educator from Northeastern University.

Some of the topics discussed were "The Joy of Pregnancy," "What Being Gay is All About," "Sexual Decision-Making," and "Sex in the Future."

Durham Goes Wet

In a close referendum vote held Tuesday, a motion that the sale of beer be permitted in the town of Durham was passed.

The referendum question reading: "Do you want the sale of beer (beer) to be permitted by the State Liquor Commission in the town of Durham?"

Five hundred ninety-four ballots were cast, while 571 voted no.

Another referendum question disagreed with the local liquor board vote and state liquor store in Durham has been closed for more "no votes than yes."

The approval of beer sales in Durham comes as no surprise to most residents. This same question has been passed on many past ballots and every year the gap between "no" and "yes" votes has narrowed.

Yes

Finally on Tuesday, the "yes" votes carried the question by a majority of 28, 571 votes to 543.

How long will it take for the local brewery to open beers? Beer is currently in doubt. Most Durham businesses are taking a cautious attitude.

John Neville, owner of the local brewery, said, "We will inquire about selling beer.

If we are able, we will sell.

The manager of the local brewery said, "We are planning to begin selling beer within the next few weeks.

The town's line of beer will be the Community Market place to "check into the store" before taking any action.

None of the local businesses contacted by The New Hampshire expressed great interest in opening a bar. Bar would, however, be permitted by the referendum vote.

Easy To Get License

According to George Tantum, State Liquor Commissioner, it is relatively simple for a grocery store to obtain a license for the sale of beer. The store owner must have proof of ownership and carry $1,000 in grocery stock.

In addition, a routine application form must be filed out.

After these steps, it is a few weeks before the store is titled. After this, the store is allowed to sell beer.

Before the State Liquor Commission can issue any licenses for the sale of beer in Durham, the ballots will be officially counted by the office of the Secretary of State. If the recount does not alter the results, the Secretary of State officially notifies the Liquor Commission that Durham has gone wet.

Appropriate Place

What effect the referendum vote will have on UNH is not clear. G. Robert Keamy, Dean of Students, does not want to see that the change will cause any additional problems.

"This will provide an appropriate place for students to serve and drink beer," he said.

"The tendency to drink for effect will probably be much less noticeable."

Reports from The New Hampshire visited many of the bars in Dover yesterday to ascertain how these establishments might be affected.
Not Too Sharp Presents: A December To Remember

By Cale Owen Graham
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Last Saturday night, University of New Hampshire (UNH) a capella group Not Too Sharp (NTS) put on their winter show, “A December to Remember.” The hour-and-a-half show started at 7:30, with audience members filling nearly every seat in the Memorial Union Building’s Granite State Room.

As the lights dimmed and the looped slideshow introducing Not Too Sharp’s members faded to black, the concert’s opening group stepped on stage. Before NTS had their turn, Maiden Harmony, an all-female a cappella group on campus, performed Kings of Leon’s classic alternative rock hit “Use Somebody,” Wham’s! melancholy “Last Christmas” and Dua Lipa’s “Be the One,” which was emotionally belted out by the group.

After impressing the crowd, Maiden Harmony took a collective bow and noted that next time, NTS would be opening for them. Maiden Harmony then cleared the stage for the next act: NTS’s video skit, titled “Secrets 2: Sockappella.” The skit was a reference to a similar video from 2014.

“Our a cappella group did an intro video called ‘Secrets’,” Matt Derrick, a junior NTS member, said of the skit. “It was basically a parody of everyone in the group getting together and sharing their deepest darkest secrets." Between the smiles on stage and the audience clapping on tempo, a case could be made that this was the fan favorite.

Pulling caroling songbooks into view, the group provided an authentic winter experience with the mellow and pleasant “O Holy Night.” However, NTS quickly changed pace afterward, with one member describing themselves as a “closet country fan” before singing Josh Turner’s “Your Man,” accompanied by western dance moves.

Following this was Laur’s emotional “The Story Never Ends,” along with NTS’ alumni song, James Taylor’s “Lonesome Road.” As over a dozen NTS alumni joined them on stage, the group explained that back when they were founded in 2002, their business manager had cancer and survived. She asked NTS to sing “Lonesome Road” for her. In honor of her battle, “Lonesome Road” became the NTS alumni song.

Greg Hatfield, a 2016 NTS alum, said that coming back to NTS is fun but also jarring. “It’s a total time warp. I look around at some of the older members and I’m like ‘Wow, I remember auditioning some of these guys.”

After the alumni song, NTS wrapped up with a cover of the indie rock band Bastille’s “Icarus.” With the groups signature beatboxer shining brightly once again, NTS had a touching final song. However, the crowd could not get enough of Not Too Sharp as they secured an encore with a classic chant of, “One more song!” Caving, NTS ran a lap around the audience before climbing back on stage for They Might Be Giants’ humorous song “Doctor Worm.”

After the show, NTS member Matt Derrick explained that everything from set up and scheduling to social media presence is up to the group. Derrick described the struggles an a cappella group might face when choosing songs. “Not only do we have to find songs that sound good as a cappella, but we have to find songs that sound good with our voices.”
Boston comedians bring laughs north

By Benjamin Strawbridge
NEWS EDITOR

Students and visitors to the Memo- rial Union Building (MUB) Entertain- ment Center received four times the laughs and an increased campus involvement Saturday night with the spring Comedy Club presented three Boston-based comedians and one student act on Friday, Nov. 30.

The 9 p.m. performance marked the club’s fourth offering of the semester, having previously welcomed the likes of Jake Rush and Ben Smith on Sept. 29, LeClerc Andre on Oct. 6, and Sam on Nov. 9, each accompanied by student openers. The event, on top of its feature presenta- tions, offered free admission and hot cocoa for guests.

As the lights dimmed, comedian Alex Giampapa was the first to em- brace the spotlight as the night’s host, tasked with providing his own bits and introducing the other three acts. For his part, Giampapa, aside from talking roommate stories, dealing with obsolete family traditions and trying to bridge the comic world with the real world in daily life, embraced his inner Bostonian—“how Boston am I? I’ve worked at threeDunkin’ Donuts, and they’re like, ‘Hot or cold?’ And we’re like, ‘Iced, I feel nothing.’”

Scraping the ice off the windshield: in central New Hampshire, Giampapa, UNH alum Carolyn Riley, a former women’s studies major and the night’s featured comedian, remembered her “weird” and “sad” experiences at a conservative religious school growing up— including having to attend a chapel service every Mon- day while also in high school taught by a Mumford and Sons-like pastor attempting to act cool and hip.

“My god,” Giampapa told the audience. “And he backpedalled and was like, ‘Don’t have sex!’ And we’d be like, ‘And we’re like, ‘Yes you f***ing did! You are such a liar... Everyone is like really making this worse!’”

After a brief introduction from Giampapa, UNH alum Carolyn Riley, a former women’s studies major and the night’s featured comedian, remembered her “weird” and “sad” experiences at a conservative religious school growing up— including having to attend a chapel service every Mon- day while also in high school taught by a Mumford and Sons-like pastor attempting to act cool and hip.

Giampapa, UNH alum Carolyn Riley, a former women’s studies major and the night’s featured comedian, remembered her “weird” and “sad” experiences at a conservative religious school growing up—including having to attend a chapel service every Monday while also in high school taught by a Mumford and Sons-like pastor attempting to act cool and hip.

“Don’t be like, ‘You know what’s dope, kids? And he’d be like, ‘Jesus’ love for us,’ and we’d be like, ‘We’re not listening,’” Riley said. “And then he’d lecture us to like, not to do things we already weren’t doing: he’d be like, ‘Don’t have sex!’ And we’d be like, ‘You guys make us wear straight- legged pleated khakis with tucked-in polo shirts, so no one’s trying.’”

Riley also touched upon her dating life and time at UNH, her thoughts on the current culture, drugs— especially when she ends up alphabetizing her family. One moment, one of her cousins propositioning a prohibitively expensive $75 Secret Santa scheme for Christmas. The next, Sharp recalls dealing with his grandfather and his frustrating attempts to educate him on the current culture, drugs— especially his notion that “only killers do pot” — and the present nature of politics.

“I got him to admit that Trump is a crook, so achievement unlocked,” Sharp, a member of UNH comedy troupe Improv Anonymous, recalled. “And he backpedalled and was like, ‘I didn’t vote for him,’ and we were like, ‘Yes you f***ing did! You are such a liar... Everyone is like really making this worse!’”

In addition, Dunn recalled his feelings on accidentally running over animals—including one beaver that could have been the best or worst beaver ever—and his hesitation to become a parent because he does not want to be “the leader of a cult.” In break- ing down families into cults, he said that one can place everyone under the same roof and “make up all the rules” and call meetings while under a vague name like “mother.”

“It’s kind of a cliche, but making people laugh makes me feel rea- lly good,” Giampapa told The New Hampshire after the show about what drives him as a comedian, “and so, the fact that I get to do the thing that I love the most as my job is the most important thing in the world to me.”

Open mic spotlights addiction and recovery

By Sophia Kurzius
STAFF WRITER

The University of New Hamp- shire (UNH) club Changing Lives for Those Who Changed Ours host- ed an open mic event called “The Impact of Addiction on Our Local Communities” on Saturday, Dec. 1 in the Memorial Union Building Entertainment Center.

President Riley Dionne, a sophomore social work major, and vice president Lauren Welch, a ju- nior health management and policy major, founded the club last spring originally as “Change Lives for Lilli” following the death of their classmate and friend, Lilli Pease.

“Lilli is why we started this club. She had just turned 18 when she overdosed on heroin. It’s just so sad. We lost four classmates in less than four months,” Dionne said.

Dionne and Welch filled the room with photographs of their classmates, meaningful notes and tea lights.

This open mic will be a place where people can come who have been affected or could even be in active using and they can read a poem, play a song, or talk about their struggles. And we want people to be educated. We want people to know about the Good Samaritan Law. Lots of people don’t even know what it is and it could have saved Lilli’s life,” Dionne says.

The New Hampshire Good Sa- maritan Law provides legal protec- tion for those who believe someone is in real danger of overdosing. It was created to dispel fear of being arrested for drug consumption so the person in danger can receive the help they need.

The open mic featured guest speaker Charles “Chucky” Rosa. Rosa runs Chucky’s Fight, a charity focused on raising money to help provide funds for people entering rehab.

Rosa, off the cuff, opened with “I know everyone has a story and it’s not like I’m anything special. But something happened to me and I want to tell you all about it today because I know my story isn’t too different than what lots of people deal with every day.”

Rosa lost his two sons to drug overdoses and the tragedy has driven him to speak publicly about what he wished he could have done differently when it comes to paren- tial intervention and enabling.

Following Rosa, multiple UNH students and community members took the stage, singing music and sharing stories about their own per- sonal experiences.

The open mic was the Chang- ing Lives for Those Who Changed Ours first big event and they decided that not only would attendees learn more about the opioid crisis, but would also get the word out to increase campus involvement in the club in hopes of creating a bigger impact across the community for those who need help.

Tables filled with snacks and drinks lined the walls, as people could grab some food on their way out as well as club flyers.

We want to make resources accessible for everyone. We are handing out fliers and stapled to the back of the flier is a bunch of resources if someone needs help. Someone can take those without feeling like anyone is judging them, and that’s important,” Dionne says.

Changing Lives for Those Who Changed Ours hopes is planning on a series of future events featuring different guest speakers.
Hatfield agreed with Derrick and elaborated on the extra difficulties this year’s group is facing: “I’m really impressed. Usually they have 12 members. That way two people cover each part and if someone makes a mistake it’s hidden. But now, with only seven guys, the margin for error is much smaller than before.” As far as the audience reaction went, NTS hit the nail on the head Saturday night.

The livestream of Not Too Sharp’s Dec. 1 performance is available on Not Too Sharp’s Facebook page. Not Too Sharp’s next performance will be at the Step for St. Jude fundraiser on Dec. 7. Held at UNH’s Paul Creative Arts Center, the show will be $5 for students and $8 for non-students.

“Before I Die” project lands in Durham

By Douglas Rodoski
STAFF WRITER

Contemporary anxieties have a formidable adversary. On Wednesday night, the Memorial Union Student Organization (MUSO) presented participatory public artist Candy Chang to the University of New Hampshire (UNH) community. Chang uses public space, such as abandoned buildings, as canvases of hope. Her global “Before I Die” project allows people to write in responses with chalk on public murals.

Chang spoke about how her own life experience inspired her work. “As I prepared to graduate from college, I was interested in many things,” she said. “I had the impression that I did not know where I was going, and that I was running out of time.”

Her initial work included urban design, and work with the New York Times. She discovered inspiration in Susan Orlean’s book “The Orchid Thief.”

“There is a real-life character in the story, a gardener by the name of Joseph Paxton,” Chang said. “Paxton was enthralled with the sturdy construction of the giant [Victoria] waterlily leaf. When he had his daughter and other children stand on it and it did not sink, he learned something from the design.”

Paxton incorporated what he learned from the waterlily to the design of the Crystal Palace, a cast-iron and plate-glass structure that housed the Great Exhibition of 1851 in Hyde Park in London.

“This showed me the importance of finding your curiosity and sticking with it!” Chang said. “Paxton was a gardener who became an architect; you can make your own disciplines.”

Chang spoke to how the loss of a friend and mentor caused her to experience a period of grief and depression. “I lost someone I loved very much,” she said. “Her name was Joan and she was a mother to me for 15 years. Her death was sudden and unexpected, and there were still so many things she wanted to do: Learn to play the piano, live in Paris, and see the Pacific Ocean.”

Chang noticed at the time that there was an abandoned building in her New Orleans neighborhood that mirrored her depressed mood. She decided to do something about it.

She made a homemade stencil that said, “Before I die I want to _____,” and provided chalk for passersby. “I had no idea what the level of response would be,” Chang said. “As it turned out, by the next day the building was covered in comments.”

The neighborhood came together, leading one resident to say she felt safer now that there was a community gathering point. “I found that by servicing others, I ended up servicing myself,” Chang said. As part of the Before I Die project, 4,000 walls have been created in 71 countries and 35 languages. Each wall is a tribute to living an examined life.

“The responses to the Before I Die projects share common themes, regardless of borders,” Chang said. “These include meaningful work, loving and being loved, travel, the bonds of family and personal well-being.”

The second Before I Die wall was set up locally in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Chang encouraged opening dialogues about death to alleviate anxiety. She also acknowledged how anxiety is on the rise with millennials and all age groups. UNH Durham offered NURS 535 (02) - Death and Dying this semester. The course encompasses people’s responses to death throughout the lifecycle; theories of death, dying and grieving are discussed. The program facilitated the Before I Die wall now on display on the third-floor entrance to the Memorial Union Building.

UNH students weighed in on Chang’s inspiring presentation. “A lot of what Candy spoke to, we can all identify with,” said sophomore undeclared student Emma Cail. “She showed how common it is, to hide anxiety and depression.”

What would Cail like to write on the Before I Die wall? “I want to be part of a documentary that impacts others in a positive and meaningful way,” Cail said.

Olivia Potenziano is a junior English/journalism major. “This presentation was very relevant and touched on themes from my anthropology class,” Potenziano said. “My entry would be: before I die I want to adopt a child from another country and culture. I would want to have the child benefit from our world here, but also learn about the country and culture that they came from.”

Chang will be following up her visit to Durham by going to New York City for the Monument for the Anxious and Hopeful project. More on her life and projects can be found at beforeidieproject.com.

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Not Too Sharp continued from page 13

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Mondays at 8 in MUB 132
Twists, turns, ups and downs… to say the least, “Sorry to Bother You” is a wild ride. This is not the movie you expect to watch after you see the trailer or even the first 30 minutes of the film, but that is not to say that it’s disappointing. In fact, this movie might be the most interesting, if not the most bizarre, that you have seen in a long time.

You may ponder over this film for weeks before you fully understand the main message that writer and director Boots Riley is trying to make, but honestly, that was probably his intention.

Most viewers, after watching the teaser, expect to be seeing a film that makes social commentary about a young African American man who must assimilate into a white person’s world and adopt quote-endquote white mannerisms in order to succeed in his new profession: telemarketing. But it’s definitely about more than that. In a way, the film does comment on certain aspects of black culture, on modern life in an urban area for young, economically struggling Americans, on existential crises and on the desire to make an impact on the world. However, the plot becomes gradually more allegorical and less realistic, making it a little harder for viewers to fully grasp what the main point of the film really is.

The alternative reality depicted in the film is an uber-productive and maximum profit kind of world where many humans are subjected to working long and hard hours, comparable to slave labor. Riley seems to be making fun of the extremity of productivity levels in society today through an exaggerated version of the world that we live in.

Riley also portrays the complexity of people’s choices and career decisions through the main character, Cassius’ struggle to do what is morally right. He’s very successful at his job, but his job is selling the slave labor of humans. The film shows how Cassius gets caught between a life of comfort and what he feels is a sense of purpose, and what he knows deep down to be the “right” thing to do. Riley uses Cassius’ character to show how many life decisions are not clear-cut, making it easier to understand why certain people may get wrapped up in organizations or other situations that aren’t seen as honorable.

The characters in “Sorry to Bother You” are original, funny and powerful. Cassius’ girlfriend, Detroit, is an inspirational female character who is a feminist, an activist and a supportive partner for Cassius while also having dreams and aspirations of her own. Riley makes this strong female character fiercely independent and smart, which was a refreshing twist on a supporting female role.

The latter half of “Sorry to Bother You,” put quite simply, is weird. This at-first relatable film quickly becomes shocking and unexpected, which is not common in a lot of movies that make social commentary today. The way that Riley ends up making his statements about the negative effects of an uber-productive society are dramatic to a point where they are almost laugh-out-loud comical, yet jaw-droppingly frightening.

The ending of the film may shock you, anger you, or straight up horrify you. Although potentially confusing or strange for some, you have to give credit to Riley for his originality and creativity. There aren’t many allegories that will make you laugh, cry and scream as much as his will.

**Movie Review: “Sorry to Bother You”**

By Adrienne Perron

STAFF WRITER

The ending of the film may shock you, anger you, or straight up horrify you. Although potentially confusing or strange for some, you have to give credit to Riley for his originality and creativity. There aren’t many allegories that will make you laugh, cry and scream as much as his will.
The best hip-hop albums of 2018 ... in my opinion

By Caleb Jagoda
ARTS EDITOR

Since deciding to release solo material as of this year with his “Streams of Thought” series, Black Thought has only further shown off his ability to pen some of the most mind-ripping verses known to man. Throughout listening to “Streams of Thought, Vol. 2,” all I can imagine is Black Thought sitting in a throne, stoic and unperturbed, smoking a cigar and sipping a rare scotch as he reads a book written in Swahili about the history and psychology of being black. Thought is probably the most scholarly individual rap has ever seen, regularly stringing together five and six syllable rhymes while referencing ancient documents and obscure texts. “Streams of Thought, Vol. 2” finds Thought displaying both his insane ability to interject wildly intellectual braggadocio (“Wonderin’ how I can evolve to prestigious and less vicious / A more visceral individual, best wishes / Just on principle, I been answerin’ death wishes / What the Lord giveth is a king, long liveth” from “Long Liveth”) and his aptitude for introspection and dissecting the human condition (“I wish the man in the moon had a seminar / And gratitude for the wishes I granted you” from “Conception”). At the end of the day, Black Thought is one of the most intelligent people ever to grasp a pen, and this album only further proves that. As he says on “Conception,” “I checked in as the monarch of melanin / The elephant, my body is a shell I’m in.” It truly seems as if on “Streams of Thought, Vol. 2,” his body is just a vessel, a vessel to deliver thought-provoking knowledge to the masses.

Earl Sweatshirt is rap’s prodigal son who has always had a very special way with words. After catapulting into fame at age 16 and the ensuing tumultuous familial strains that led to his exile to Samoa at a center for at-risk-youth, Sweatshirt returned much matured with a new eye for contemplation. The result has been beautifully artistic and impressively smart; with the release of 2013’s “Doris” and 2015’s “I Don’t Like S***, I Don’t Go Outside” and “Solace,” the Los Angeles rapper has shown an artistic evolution and way of expressing the mental fraying of adolescence like no other. “Some Rap Songs” only further this narrative. We find Earl creeping further away from the spotlight, opting for a disorienting, fuzzy, underground-loop-based style that’s even more averse to the mainstream than one could imagine for such a big-name artist. The result is a confoundingly personal journey through the psyche of a former child star who watched his father and a close friend (Mac Miller) pass away in the same year. In extremely abstract fashion void of traditional song structure or hooks, Earl twists and turns his way through thoughtful confessions in short songs (almost all of them two minutes or less) that bring out the best in his writing. Here are just a few of the deep ruminations littered across the album: “Say goodbye to my openness, total eclipse / Of my shine that I’ve grown to miss when holding s*** in / Open my lids, my eyes said my soul is amis” from “Eclipse,” “I revisit the past / Port wine and pages of pass / Momma say don’t play with them scabs / I’ll safe to say I see the reason I’m blessin’ out” from “Ontheway!” and “My cushion was a bosom on bad days / There’s not a black woman I can’t thank” from “Azzaar.” “Some Rap Songs” sounds like a collection of bitingly personal poems scrawled on top of used napkins, stained with the blood necessary to dump such painful sentiment out. But this shouldn’t be taken as a slight; instead of being messily assembled or thrown together, “Some Rap Songs” sounds urgent and devastatingly honest in the face of grief, depression, substance abuse and existential dread. The result is a dizzying dissection of gorgeous and worthwhile some reflection wrought from the wrung out soul of a man wire beyond his years. “Peace to every crease on your brain,” he says in “Veins.” Hopefully, Earl worked out some of those creases on “Some Rap Songs.”

Sing melodies and articulate a thousand color palettes that’s as versatile as it groovy. Smino’s “Nor” truly proves him to be a craftsmen of sound; whether rattling off exceedingly witty (and usually sexually charged) remarks, such as “She said you Rafiki (real freaky), you a lion (lying) Mufasa / Baby ain’t nothing ‘bout me PG, rated X for extraordinary” from “L.M.F.O.,” or creating a late-night funk so infectious it might as well turn off the lights and light the candles itself (see “MF Groove”), the St. Louis native continues his artistic evolution while carving out a musical niche all his own. If you need a silky, hypnotic listen for a late night, look no further than Smino’s “Nor.”
Letter to the Editor: Hidradenitis Suppurativa-what?

Dover High School alum responds to KKK jingle

There are conditions and diseases in the world that many doctors have never even heard of. How is it that people are supposed to seek help when no one can help them? Those who suffer from conditions, such as the autoimmune disease referred to as Hidradenitis Suppurativa (H.S.), are left wondering when doctors turn them away.

Many with symptoms of H.S. are unable to have access to proper treatment. "Blessed are the forgetful, for they get the better even of their blunders." Tahernia said. Because of its rarity, not a lot is known about it, said Dr. Amir Tahernia, M.D.

"It is not well-known in the general medical community. Therefore, many with H.S. are frustrated by not having access to proper treatment," Tahernia said. Tahernia is a professional in the field of plastic and reconstructive surgery and has extensive experience in dealing with patients with H.S.

Few things are known about it, for example: it affects primarily females over males, it can be more significant with more weight, it often shows up in early stages of life, and it is a reaction in the sweat glands triggered by some medical condition entering the body. Even though it is not a well-known condition, medical sources estimate it affects roughly 1-4 percent of the global population.

The primary understanding is that it is an unhealthy, painfull reaction that causes distress to the skin of the person.

H.S. is a reaction that can be triggered by many things. For some people, such as Lasell College student Amanda Mitchell, it is triggered by most nightshade vegetables: tomatoes, potatoes, eggplants, and bell peppers.

Mitchell spent over a year living with this condition, being told by various doctors that it was, perhaps, her weight, her diet, or puberty. The unfortunate fact of the matter is that they had no idea what they were seeing and refused to admit that, ultimately leading her to doing the research on her own. After a few days, she found out the scientific name for her condition as well as the causes of it.

The reaction, when triggered, is similar to an allergy — it’s not fatal but it should not be ignored as it can cause irritation of the skin and semi-to-permanent scarring.

"Like all autoimmune diseases, your body just thinks that there’s something wrong. But in this case, it’s with your skin, so you get cysts because your antibody bodies are kind of going crazy," Mitchell said.

The reaction is an inflammatory response to something that has entered the body. Mitchell, for example, experiences the reaction just 24 hours after eating any of the mentioned foods. Unfortunately, after consumption, there is no way to undo the reaction, leaving her to let it run its course. The condition of the affected areas of skin, she admits, are unhealthy and have made her feel unattract-ive because of it.

Although uncommon, H.S., likely because they don’t know what it is, and no one will tell them. Local dining employee, Jess Morresaca, also admits to having a similar case.

"I found out on Google that it was H.S. So, I just stopped eating the foods on the list and it seemed to help. It’s just like—how did I find out so easily when doc-tors couldn’t?" It can be noted that there is plenty of information at the hands of the consumer to find out, yet professionals and experts struggle to find solutions.

Those who are affected, like Mitchell and Morresaca, have to live their lives similar to those with allergies. They find that they constantly have to check food labels, ask food preparers for ingredient lists, and oftentimes miss out on meals because there’s nothing available for them to eat.

"It’s not a main allergy—like peanuts—so no one really cares about it. So, when I say I can’t eat tomatoes, everyone’s like, ‘what?’" Morresaca said. She also made the point that it is not as black and white as not eating the veget-ables—potato starch and tomato extract are commonly used as pres-ervatives in many foods, which trigger the reaction as well.

Because it is hard to avoid, H.S. has a significant impact on the life of those who suffer from it.

Advice given from both in-terviewees reads a similar mes-sage: do not take "no" as an an-swer from a professional—if there is something wrong, seek help.

By Casey Kimball-Marongelli CONTRIBUTING WRITER
Tree lighting debacle one of many to come

The Union Leader reported Tuesday that the longtime tradition of decorating a tree in Durham’s Memorial Park may soon come to an end because of its exclusory nature. The town has made no official decision on whether they’ll light the tree next year in lieu of the pushback.

The conversation started when Rabbi Berel Slavaticki of the UNH & Seacoast Chabad Jewish Center requested a nine-foot menorah be lit adjacent to the Christmas tree but wound up facing red tape. Town Administrator Todd Selig denied Slavaticki’s permit request, claiming concern over vandalism and public safety, per The Union Leader.

While Slavaticki and Selig came to a mutual agreement, it involved relocating the menorah to a different public park and limiting its display to one night. Our “Merry Christmas” treatment has dipped considerably in the last decade for the same reason this might be the last time we see Durham’s tree decorated. Department stores have coined the term “Happy Holidays” as a Band-Aid fix for those of us who recognize a separate religion from Christianity.

This tree situation is a bit harder to walk back. You could argue that the menorah stands as a religious symbol where the tree with lights is just a tree with lights, but that’s a product of exposure. Christianity makes up about two-thirds of the United States’ religious preference according to a survey of over 35,000 Americans by the Pew Research Center.

Widespread exposure to Christmas decorations has normalized the holiday and led to its severance from the religion it precedes. It’s also why Selig referred to the tree in Memorial Park as a nonreligious symbol but hesitated to put a menorah on display.

Ask yourself whether that’s the right decision. Focus on the fact that a Rabbi was denied an opportunity to celebrate the first night of Hanukkah in town, to represent his beliefs, to avoid risk of vandalism. No one wants to decimate a Christmas tree because it’s a massive rooted piece of wood, and perhaps more relevant, because most of the students on campus are Christian or atheist and have no reason to do so.

Removing the tree isn’t the biggest issue but it contributes. Instead of focusing on what might make people feel uncomfortable and eliminating it, strive to include those who feel marginalized by providing the opportunity. All you’re doing by ending the ceremony is silencing more voices.

We’ve reached a point in this social environment where everyone’s afraid to step on toes. Maybe the public’s voice has gotten louder, and maybe the Internet contributes, but the underlying theme remains “do not offend me, or else.”

I get annoyed with both the offended and offending parties. The former because the world isn’t out to get you and you should know that. The latter because your mother taught you better. But both persist and the result manifests in controversies like this Christmas tree lighting. If silencing parties is the answer, we’re going to live in an especially grey world soon enough.

Bret Belden
Executive Editor

Letters policy

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By Zach Schneeloch

STAFF WRITER

The gymnastics team has high hopes for the season after finishing second in the EAGL championship for the fourth straight season last year.

Fittingly, the motto of the team this year is “Unfinished Business” as the team hopes to win the championship.

The team opened up in the pre-season poles ranked second with 28 points and tied with North Carolina State for first place votes.

NC State had the most points, earning them the top spot with 32 points. Closely behind UNH, George Washington came in third for the poll with 25 points. Later in the season, UNH will host the EAGL championship at the Whittemore Center.

The ‘Cats gymnastics team has won the past two championships, in 2003 and 2014, when hosted at the Whitt.

This season the team has three All-EAGL competitors returning for last season.

On the Vault, Nicole O’Leary looks to finish her senior season with her first title.

Also a senior, Danielle Mulligan competes on the uneven bars and balance beam.

Lastly, Sophomore Lauren Diggan will be one of the ‘Cats top members as she competes on the bars. New to the team, first-year member Hailey Lui will look to make an impact for her squad.

The University of New Hampshire Gymnastics team started their season this past Saturday with their first event, mock-matching a blue and white game. The event titles “Meet the Team” was an intra-squad competition among members of the team.

The event was held in Lundholm Gym. Team blue consisted of gymnasts Danielle Mulligan, Nicole O’Leary, Courtney Bon-danza, Ava Watkins, Lexi Calandra, Clare Hampford, Hannah Roderick, Hannah Baddick and Ally Cucich. Team Blue was coached by Head Coach Lindsey Ayotte.

Team white consisted of gymnasts Danielle Doolin, Erin Carroll, Mimi Traore, Riley Freehling, Emma Winer, Lauren Diggan, Kylie Kratchwell, Mariella Miele and Hailey Lui. Team white was coached by Assistant Coach Sunny Marchand. Team blue came out on top of the competition with a 24-14 victory.

The most notable performance for team white was newcomer Hailey Lui, winning all three of her head-to-head events in her college debut. Lui competed in the bars, beam and floor portion of the competition and had the judges favor all afternoon.

Team Blue’s best performer was Junior Ava Watkins, who also had a good afternoon winning two of her three events.

While the event was competitive in nature, it was nice to see the team cheering on all of their teammates regardless of their side.

It was not difficult to see how the team has been so successful in the past. They were constantly pushing each other to do their best and cheering on teammates regardless of event or team.

The event was also filled with fun facts and trivia about members of the team. The whole afternoon was fun and exciting for the fans, especially the younger crowd that was drawn to the event.

After the competitive portion of the night concluded, young fans were encouraged to go down to the floor to meet the team members as well as show off some of their moves to the college athletes.

This was a great kickoff event for the women’s gymnastics team filled with a positive environment and energetic crowd, they will look to carry and improve on this great start to their home opener when they take on Iowa on Jan. 13, once again in the Lundholm Gym.

FIRST-YEAR GYMNAST HAILEY LUI (ABOVE) COMPETES IN THE MEET THE TEAM EXHIBITION ON SATURDAY AT UNH.
Wildcats woes continue versus South Florida

By Bailey Schott  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The University of New Hampshire women’s basketball team had a slow week schedule-wise, playing only one game Friday night against the University of South Florida (USF) Bulls (5-2).

The ‘Cats traveled to Tampa, Florida looking for their second win of the season.

New Hampshire redshirt junior center Ashley Storey continued to lead the team in scoring with 16 points, but it wasn’t enough as the Bulls took the game 79-36.

The Wildcats fall to 1-7 on the season and sit in last place in the America East Conference.

The ‘Cats took an early 5-4 lead after a three-pointer from sophomore forward Maggie Ahearn followed by a mid-range jumper from Storey. That would be their only lead of the night.

South Florida pulled back from behind in the final five minutes making it 21-7 at the end of the first.

The Bulls carried the momentum into the second quarter and extended the lead to 38-11 at half on a 17-4 run.

Storey came out of the half hot, offensively, but the Bulls continued to pour onto the lead making it 60-22 with one quarter remaining.

The Wildcats registered their best offensive quarter in the fourth, scoring 14 points in the period, but the game was already well out of reach at that point.

Storey led the team in scoring for the seventh straight game, going seven of 16 from the field. She entered the game ranked second overall in conference scoring, averaging 16.9 points per game.

First-year guard Kari Brekke also tacked on six points on two of six shooting from behind the arc. New Hampshire has recorded 28 three-pointers on the season, 15 of those coming from Brekke.

The ‘Cats start off December with back-to-back home games. They will take on the University of New England out of Biddeford on Dec. 6 at 7 p.m.

The following game on Dec. 9 the Wildcats will host Holy Cross for a 1 p.m tipoff.

Former 1981-82 Wildcat captain, Jackie MacMullan, now author and ESPN personality, will be signing copies of her new book “Basketball: A Love Story” before the Holy Cross game from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Lundholm Gymnasium.

The Wildcats have five games in December before closing out the calendar year.

Please Recycle

WINTER BREAK SCHEDULE

HOME GAMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNE</td>
<td>12/6</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HOLY CROSS</td>
<td>12/9</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>DARTMOUTH</td>
<td>12/21</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PRINCETON</td>
<td>12/29</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>BINGHAMPTON</td>
<td>01/5</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>STONY BROOK</td>
<td>01/12</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
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AWAY GAMES

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<tr>
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<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAINE</td>
<td>01/02</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>UMASS LOWELL</td>
<td>01/09</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>STONY BROOK</td>
<td>01/12</td>
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By Tim Knightly
STAFF WRITER

The UNH Wildcats continued to keep the ball rolling on Tuesday night as they skated to their fourth straight win in a battle against fellow New Hampshire rival, Dartmouth.

The ‘Cats were powered by the pairing of junior forwards Nicole Dunbar and Taylor Wenczkowski, as they both tallied goals in the second period to take down the Big Green.

The first period was a battle as both teams traded chances, but neither side was able to find the back of the net.

In the second, UNH went on an early power play and the woman-up unit took advantage. Just four seconds into the power play, Dunbar received a pass from junior forward Carlee Turner off the faceoff, and delivered a straight shot through traffic and into the back of the net.

Minutes later the Wildcats would stretch their lead to two when Wenczkowski capitalized on an even strength goal. Wenczkowski received the puck on the right side of the boards from fellow junior forward Meghara McManus and Wenczkowski took the puck straight to the net and rang one off the post and in. The two goals in the second period was all UNH needed to secure the win, as Dartmouth was unable to capitalize on any scoring chances in the third period.

The Wildcats once again received a special performance from senior goaltender Kyra Smith. Smith made 31 saves for the first shutout of the season. After starting the last seven games, her record is now 5-4-1, with a save percentage of .935.

“Kyra has played great,” Head Coach Hilary Witt said. “She has stepped up time and again to help this team. She is a leader, hard worker, talented and driven. I am really proud of her.”

The Wildcats will look to extend their winning streak to five games when the take on Harvard University before winter break. After this weekend, the ‘Cats will be on break until Jan. 5, when they face off against Boston College here in Durham.
Losing streak reaches five for UNH

By Michael Mawson
SPORTS EDITOR

The Wildcats continued their early season struggles this week, losing both of their matchups versus Bryant University (2-5) and Seton Hall University (5-3), respectfully. UNH is now 2-7 overall, and their losing streak has reached six games.

The ‘Cats battled the Bryant Bulldogs in Smithfield, Rhode Island on Saturday afternoon, dropping the game 75-65. The Wildcats controlled the game at halftime with a 39-29 lead but did not execute in the second half. UNH surrendered their double-digit lead and was outscored by 20 points in the final 20 minutes.

First-year forward Jayden Martinez continued to look like one of the best players on the court for UNH, leading the team with a career-high 16 points on 7-11 shooting from the field. He also led the ‘Cats in rebounds (six) and blocks (two).

Martinez helped the Wildcats get out to a quick start in the first half. After going back-and-forth early on, Bryant got ahead 11-8 seven minutes into the contest. UNH answered with a 10-1 run, where Martinez scored the first six points of the run. The Bulldogs fought back once again and regained the lead at 14-13 midway through the half.

New Hampshire went on their biggest run of the game over the next three minutes, 11-0, to take a comfortable 39-27 lead with one minute to go in the half. The Wildcats extended their lead to 14 early in the second half after a Martinez jumper and a pull-up from junior guard Mark Carbome. That would be the biggest lead of the afternoon for UNH. After that, things started to go downhill for the Wildcats.

Bryant pulled within three points after a 11-0 run of their own early in the second half. The Bulldogs were led all afternoon by redshirt-senior guard Bryon Hawkins and junior guard Adam Grant, who each scored a game-high 20 points. The Wildcats had no answer defensively when it came to trying to contain the underclassmen duo.

The Bulldogs took their first lead in over 20 minutes with just 4:01 left in the game when Hawkins drilled a 3-pointer to put his team ahead 61-59. It was a lead that the Bulldogs would hold onto for the rest of regulation, outscoring UNH 14-8 over the final four minutes of play.

It was a different story on Tuesday night when the ‘Cats faced off against the Seton Hall Pirates, although the result was similar. New Hampshire trailed for the majority of the game, and once again came away with a loss, this time 77-57. The loss to the Pirates brings UNH to 0-5 on the road this year.

UNH failed to close the half strong, and Seton Hall took a 31-19 lead into the locker room at the half.

UNH looked like it could make a game out of it after Jordan and junior forward David Hall made back-to-back threes, cutting the deficit down to seven with more than 15 minutes remaining. Over the next 10 minutes, though, Seton Hall separated themselves from UNH, going on an impressive 28-18 run to put them ahead 63-43 with less than five minutes left.

The two teams would trade buckets in garbage time, eventually leading to a 20-point road loss for the Wildcats. UNH will conclude its three game road-trip this Sunday when they will take on Niagara University (3-4) in Niagara Falls, New York at 12:30 p.m.

Grant, who each scored a game-high 20 points (six) and blocks (two) in the game, stopped the run with 11 minutes to go in the half when he nailed a jumper from the baseline. The 12 points were a career high for the junior forward.

Senior guard Jordan Reed then connected on a three-pointer to cut into the Seton Hall lead, making it 19-13 midway through the first half.

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New Hampshire went on their biggest run of the game over the next three minutes, 11-0, to take a comfortable 39-27 lead with one minute to go in the half. The Bulldogs were able to get an easy layup to close the gap within 10 at the break.

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By Sam Eggert
SPORTS EDITOR

The UNH men’s hockey team (2-7-5, 1-4-3) had another home and home series this past weekend, facing off against Hockey East foe #10 Providence College (8-4-3, 5-2-1).

The Wildcats tied the Friars 1-1 in the game Friday in Providence, and lost 3-1 Saturday in Durham.

It didn’t take long for the Friars to get on the board in the opening game, as Providence sophomore forward Jason O’Neill broke open the scoring 20 seconds into the game. O’Neill hit a shot from the side of the goal that scammed into the back of the net.

Providence outshot the Wildcats 15-6 in the first period, yet only held a one goal advantage. Both teams had two power play opportunities, but the penalty kill units prevailed in each of them.

At 7:24 in the second period, UNH scored the equalizing goal. Junior forward Liam Blackburn assisted junior forward Brendan van Riemsdyk, who shot a one-timer from the faceoff circle into the back of the net. This was a shorthanded goal, the first of his career. This was the first shorthanded goal for UNH since Shane Eiserman scored one in a 6-4 barnburner against Maine on Dec. 30, 2016.

The game was tied 1-1 going into the third period, and strong goalie play from both sides kept the match a stalemate.

Overtime was uneventful, as neither team could convert. This ended the game in a 1-1 tie.

Robinson played well, recording 32 saves and holding a vicious Friar offense to only one goal. The Friars average 3.62 goals per game, which is the second best in the hockey east.

In Saturday’s game, the Providence offense looked more like itself, although it took some time for them to get there. The first period was scoreless. Providence won the shots battle, outshooting UNH 6-3.

UNH had one power play but failed to convert.

Things picked up in the second period, as Providence had a plethora of scoring opportunities during a power play that were fended off by UNH’s Robinson.

At 8:14 in the period, O’Neill had a one-on-one opportunity, yet Robinson made a key save on his lower glove side to keep the game scoreless.

Senior forward Ara Nazarian scored the first goal of the game at 14:46 when he sent a wrist shot to the upper glove side of the net. This was Nazarian’s team leading sixth goal of the season.

Early in the third Providence held a two-man advantage, yet still could not get the puck past Robinson.

The shot out did not hold up as Providence tied the game 1-1 at 0:59 in the third period. Senior defenseman Vincent Desharnais scored on a wrist shot to tie the game.

At 17:28, first-year forward Jake O’Brien gave the Friars a 2-1 lead on a breakaway wrist shot.

UNH could not stop the bleeding as Providence extended their lead to eventual final score of 3-1 with a goal from junior defenseman Spencer Young.

This upcoming weekend UNH has another home and home series, this time with Dartmouth (4-3-1, 4-2-1). Friday’s game will be at Dartmouth in Hanover, a 7:00 p.m. puck drop. The Wildcats will return home on Saturday for a 7:00 p.m. faceoff in the Whittemore Center.