

WHAT'S HAPPENING The band Ashelin will return to Maine on June 11. **INSIDE**



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SOFTBALL PITCHERS

The invaluable Tigers' players Brittany Rollins and Krystal Smith are worth even more than their pitch. **C1**

68°
Sunny skies
WEATHER, A6

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JIM WESCOTT

Wescott a model for Colby coaches

Colleague praised as knowledgeable, caring mentor

BY TRAVIS LAZARCZYK
Staff Writer

WATERVILLE — Jared Beers didn't plan on running for the Colby College track and field team, but a few weeks before he was to report to campus for preseason football workouts in fall 1997 as a first-year student, Beers, a Kittery native, took a call from Jim Wescott.

"I doubt it was on purpose, but he a little bit, sort of insulted me. I told my times, and he said, 'Those are OK times,' and in my mind I'm like, 'Those are great,'" said Beers, now the men's cross country and track and field coach at Colby. "He definitely challenged me. It was a very effective strategy, because I was like, 'Oh, I have to prove myself now.'"

On Wednesday, members of Colby College's athletic staff remembered Wescott, who coached cross country and track and field at the school for 25 years, from 1978 to 2003.

Wescott, 71, of Belfast, died Tuesday when he drowned in a Camden lake.

Wescott was sculling with a friend on Megunticook Lake Tuesday morning, when, authorities believe, he suffered a medical emergency and fell in the water. His body was recovered Tuesday night about 12 hours after he fell in.

Wescott was the father of Seth Wescott, of Carrabassett Valley, who won the Olympic gold medal in snowboardcross in 2006 and 2010.

Those who knew and worked with Wescott at Colby remembered him as a kind man who fit in perfectly on the small Colby campus.

"He had good life perspective,"

WESCOTT, PAGE A4



Maya Angelou touched hearts on her visit to Augusta in 2010

BY SUSAN MCMILLAN
Staff Writer

AUGUSTA — The Augusta Civic Center was packed to near capacity when Maya Angelou spoke there in 2010.

When the University of Maine at Augusta brought the author and activist to share her stories and poetry in Augusta, nearly 5,000 people attended the event at the civic center.

Yet to UMA English professor Ellen Taylor, the atmosphere felt similar to the time when Taylor previously saw Angelou speak to a much smaller crowd in the late 1980s.

"Each time I was just struck by this extraordinary charisma and passion that she can communicate even to a crowd of thousands of people," Taylor said Wednesday. "It felt like she was talking directly to you."

Many of the thousands of people who were at the civic center that day reflected on the experience Wednesday after hearing of Angelou's death in Winston-Salem, N.C., at the age of 86.

Angelou wrote poems, autobiographies, cookbooks and screenplays. She also was an actor, a singer, a civil rights activist and a professor, probably best known for her first autobiography, "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," published in 1969.

UMA's student government association organized her well-attended ap-



TOP: Maya Angelou, left, greets the crowd at the Augusta Civic Center with a song April 26, 2010. At right is sign language interpreter Margaret Haberman. Angelou died Wednesday.

ABOVE: Maya Angelou, second from right, greets Brenda Schertz, right, Marissa Zastrow, left, and Margaret Haberman, second from left, before Angelou's presentation in 2010, in Augusta. UMA sponsored the poet's visit. **Watch the video at kjonline.com.**

Staff file photos by Andy Molloy

pearance in Augusta, at which students read a handful of Angelou's poems to the crowd and Mayor Roger Katz presented Angelou with a key to the city.

It was Angelou's first appearance in Maine in more than 15 years, and it was a major event for UMA. American studies professor Sarah Hentges taught a semester-long course on Angelou's work, and Hentges, Taylor and UMA's

ANGELOU, PAGE A4

Teacher to plead guilty to child porn

Patrik Arsenault accused of sexually exploiting children

BY BETTY ADAMS
Staff Writer

BANGOR — A former Wayne school teacher plans to plead guilty to federal charges in connection with allegations of possessing child pornography and sexually exploiting children.

During a federal court hearing Wednesday morning, the attorney representing Patrik Ian Arsenault told a judge that his client plans to enter a plea to the charges.

"There will be no need to set this for a trial, your honor," Arsenault's attorney, Donald F. Brown, said in U.S. District Court in Bangor.

That statement followed a brief hearing at which U.S. District Court Chief Judge John A. Woodcock Jr. found that Arsenault, 27, of Norridgewock, was mentally competent to consult with his attorney, stand trial and accept the consequences of being sentenced.

At Brown's request, Arsenault underwent a psychiatric evaluation resulting in a report by the federal Bureau of Prisons, which is not public and was placed under seal on Wednesday.

Brown had sought the evaluation and the hearing, saying he had concerns "about the



ARSENAULT

ARSENAULT, PAGE A4

RSU 18 choice for voting day lambasted

Critics say district 'strategically' planned to reduce voter turnout

BY MATT HONGOLTZ-HETLING
Staff Writer

A low voter turnout and a narrow margin of victory Tuesday for a 4.5 percent increase in the Regional School Unit 18 district budget has left some crying foul.

Only 1,053 people, about 7 percent of registered voters in the district's five towns, cast votes Tuesday on the \$33.75 million budget, an increase of 4.55 percent over last year's budget.

Critics accused the district of intentionally depressing the turnout by holding it the day after the end of a three-day weekend.

"I think it was strategically planned to have a weird date to vote," said Kelly Couture, a Sidney selectwoman who opposed the budget.

But RSU 18 Superintendent Gary Smith said administrators made a significant effort to get out the vote and said the day's near-constant rain was a factor.

"I feel strongly that it's important to get out to vote," Smith said.

The budget passed 559-494, with two towns — China and Sidney — opposed and three towns — Belgrade, Oakland and Rome — in favor.

It isn't the first close budget vote in the district in recent years.

In June 2012, the budget failed by 39 votes, touching off a budget battle that ended when

RSU 18, PAGE A4

Ethics panel fines gay marriage opponents

National Organization for Marriage fined \$50,250 for concealing operations, donors

BY STEVE MISTLER
State House Bureau

AUGUSTA — The state ethics board voted unanimously Wednesday to impose a \$50,250 fine on the nation's leading organization opposing gay marriage, a decision that could affect how nonprofit organizations attempt to influence Maine elections.

The vote follows an investigation by the Maine Commission on Governmental Ethics and

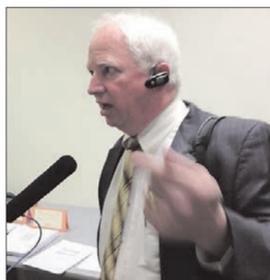
Election Practices that found the National Organization for Marriage concealed its operations and donors during its successful bid to repeal Maine's same-sex marriage law in 2009.

The vote also means that the state will require the National Organization for Marriage to register as a ballot question committee and disclose its donors from the campaign more than five years ago.

NOM executives, two of whom

were present for the hearing, vowed to fight the ruling and protect the anonymity of the organization's donors. John Eastman, the attorney and board chairman for NOM, said revealing the donors would put them at risk of threats and harassment while hindering the organization's ability to raise money. Eastman said NOM would appeal Wednesday's ruling.

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STILL FIGHTING:

John Eastman, attorney and board chairman for the National Organization for Marriage, said NOM would appeal Wednesday's ruling.

Portland Press Herald photo by Steve Mistler

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