

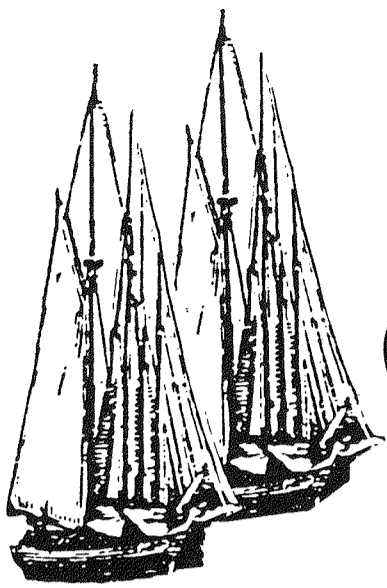
11-24-1986

**Currents, Vol.5, No.6 (Nov.24, 1986)**Robert S. Caswell  
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# University of Southern Maine CURRENTS

Volume 5, Number 6

November 24, 1986

## What's Inside

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### Unearthing the Mysteries of Earthquakes

At the southernmost point in Maine, in the town park at Kittery Point, lies one of the most unique geological sites in the world — at least when it comes to earthquake faults.

Mark T. Swanson, USM assistant professor of geology, is studying the site to help give scientists a better understanding of earthquakes. Swanson recently received a second research grant from the U.S. Geological Survey to continue a study of the site that he began in 1985.

Swanson is studying the rocks in the park which are known as psuedotachylite; melted rock formed by friction. Four hundred and fifty million years ago these rocks were located about 10 miles under the earth and were formed by a very active fault line. Today, the area poses no danger of earthquakes.

The ancient rocks have been exposed by erosion, and today offer scientists a fossilized view of what happens deep within the earth at the earthquake focus point. Only in western Greenland does a similarly exposed site exist.

The rocks at the site have been studied since the 1800s but only in 1981 were they recognized as an unearthed fault structure by Arthur M. Hussey, a geology professor at Bowdoin College.

The funding for Swanson's research comes from the 1987 Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program which is attempting to prevent loss from major earthquake disasters through a more detailed understanding of earthquakes. The information will be used in earthquake predictions, architectural engineering, seismograph monitoring, and structural fault zone studies.



Mark Swanson is pictured with a 450 million-year-old collection of rocks at Kittery Point that will tell scientists more about the causes and effects of earthquakes. (Hughes photo)

### Community Mourns Mark Shedd

Mark R. Shedd, director of our Public Policy and Management Program since 1983, died last Monday, November 17, at a Portland hospital following a long illness.

Before coming to USM, the 60-year-old educator served as superintendent of schools in Englewood, N.J., in Philadelphia, and as commissioner of education for the state of Connecticut.

While in Englewood, he instituted the first public school desegregation program in the Northeast. His five-year tenure in Philadelphia was highlighted by curriculum reforms and alternative education programs. The Philadelphia Black Educational League named him Man of the Decade in 1972. As Connecticut's commissioner of education, he inaugurated a grant program that provided poorer towns with the money they needed to improve their schools.

A Massachusetts native, Shedd graduated from Bangor High School, the University of Maine and Harvard. He began his career in Maine, working as a teacher, principal and supervisor in Bangor, Caribou and Auburn public schools. While in Auburn, he initiated the state's first team teaching program for local schools.

"I first became aware of Mark in the late 1960s and he became a real hero of mine," said Chancellor Robert L. Woodbury, "so it was a privilege to see him join the University of Maine System in 1983. We at the University have lost not only a great friend and colleague but our community has lost an educational leader of true national distinction. Mark's concern for people and his values were rare in public life."



Mark R. Shedd

President Harlan A. Philippi said USM "is deeply indebted to Mark Shedd for launching our Public Policy and Management Program. Maine was fortunate that Mark Shedd, a man concerned for not only what could be done in public life but also what should be done, established this first program of its kind in our state."

Shortly before moving to USM in April of 1983, Shedd told the Connecticut news media, "My new position offers the challenge and broader perspective I have been looking for. It will provide me with one of my greatest satisfactions which is to work with bright, talented, able young people who are on their way to positions of leadership. At the same time, I will be able to tackle some of the broad, critical issues of public policy that are important at the state and local levels."

Richard H. Silkman, associate professor of public policy and management, has been named acting director of the program.

Mark is survived by his wife, Shirley Greene Shedd, and six children.

### "It's beginning to look a lot like . . ."

USM's Fifth Annual Children's Christmas Party, replete with Santa and his elves, clowns and performers, is on tap from 1 to 3 p.m., Saturday, December 6 in the Portland Gym.

The free event is planned for USM students, faculty, staff, alumni and their families, and will include face painting, parades, entertainment, balloons and plenty to eat and drink.

The Christmas Party has become an annual tradition at USM since student Joe Cowie instituted it in 1982.

The success of the Christmas Party can be attributed to the coordinated efforts of: Student Senate; Employee Health and Recreation Program and Child Care Services of the Division of Human Resource Management; Classified Staff Senate; Office of Student Activities; Nontraditional Commuter Student Board; USM Alumni Association; and Interfraternity and Panhellenic Councils.

For more information, call Student Activities at 780-4090.

# The Warm Heart of Africa

by Gloria S. Duclos

**Editor's Note:** Gloria S. Duclos, professor of classics, spent the 1985-1986 academic year as a Fulbright lecturer at the University of Malawi Zomba, Malawi. Here she shares with us news of cultural, political and academic life in this country of 8 million.

Malawi advertises itself as "The Warm Heart of Africa" and I and my daughters found that, for once, an ad told the truth.

A small country in southeastern Africa, about as large as Louisiana with a population of 8 million and counting, it boasts the eleventh largest lake in the world. In fact, Lake Malawi occupies well over half the land mass of the country. Malawi has had a colonial past: it became the British Protectorate of Nyasaland in the late 19th century and was forced into a short-lived union with Southern and Northern Rhodesia in 1959. It finally won its independence in 1965 and promptly changed its name.

Officially known as the Republic of Malawi, it has a president-for-life: Ngawzi His Excellency Dr. H. Kamuzu Banda, and is a one-party state; all important decisions are made by His Excellency, presented by him to the Malawi Congress Party, which in turn passes on measures to the Parliament for pro forma ratification.

I am personally grateful for this system, for otherwise I would never have gone to Malawi as a Fulbright lecturer. A few years ago, the Malawi Congress Party officially decreed that there should be a Classics Department in the University, acting upon the wishes of His Excellency who felt that his people should know about the ancient world, as he did. (Rumor has it that his bedtime reading is Cicero and that he fancies himself another Caesar Augustus.)

A Classics Department was officially established in the spring of 1985, and consisted of myself and two colleagues, one an American, the other, an Australian. The curriculum is much as it would be in any college: Latin, Greek, classics in translation, prose composition, ancient civilization and archaeology.

The University of Malawi was founded in 1964 and consists of four units, all located in different places: the Polytechnic (a cross between a VTI and a College of Technology), a School of Nursing, an Agricultural College, and Chancellor College, the liberal arts component where I taught. Chancellor has about 1000 students and a staff of over 200, about 70 percent of whom are Malawians, the rest "ex-pats," mostly British but with a smattering of Americans. It is located on a beautiful new campus in the town of Zomba, the former British colonial capital, and the seat of Parliament and the occasional home of His Excellency (when he is not occupying one of his other 14 official residences).

Chancellor is organized on the British system: separate faculties; prescribed courses extending throughout the three terms of the academic year; no distribution requirements or electives; external examiners who "vet" courses and examinations; a four-year program with an additional honours year in select disciplines. Grades primarily depend upon performance in the end-of-year examinations, which become traumatic for all concerned. The average age of the student body is much like that of USM, in the mid-20s; all students live on campus; men outnumber women six to one.



A relaxing view of Lake Malawi, eleventh largest in the world, and the Hala motor vessel, the transportation for cargo and passengers around the lake. (Duclos photo)

Education in Malawi is neither free nor universal: about 60,000 children are enrolled in primary school, for which a small fee is charged (although too large for many families); about 6000 go on to secondary school; and about 2000 are enrolled in the university system. Tuition, room, board, and book money are provided by the government for university students, although two years ago a "contribution" began to be levied. A few university graduates are given permission each year for post-graduate study abroad, usually in Britain or the States, but the majority go on to teaching or government positions.

A few comments about living in Malawi: a surpassingly lovely country; primarily agricultural, small plots worked with the hoe; poor in mineral resources; inadequate roads but efficient telephone service; year-round

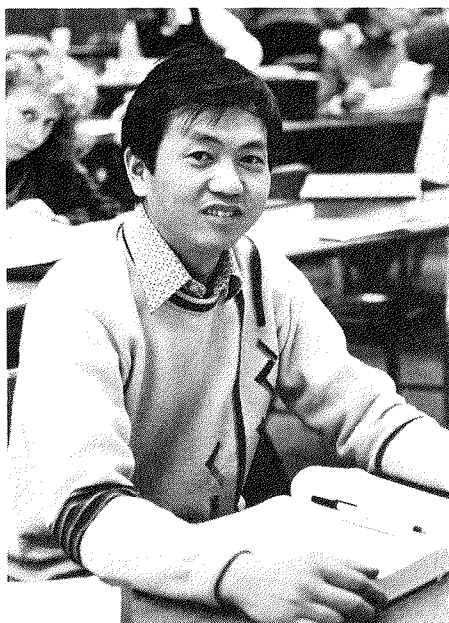
abundance of fresh fruits and vegetables; inordinately expensive canned goods, paper products, spare parts, etc. which are all imported, primarily from South Africa.

The people are friendly and polite, although they do love to stare at whites; there is little or no overt racial animosity. Malawians are thin (except for the portly politicians!), partially because of an inadequate diet and because they walk everywhere, cars being prohibitively expensive. Press and radio are government controlled, and one must watch what one says.

In the late 70s, for instance, several students and faculty were whisked away to prison for three years; there are known student informers at the College. Malawi is probably best known in the world community for two things: television is illegal and all women must wear skirts!

## Shanghai Attorney Studies at Law School

by Hannah Holmes



Yu Genrong, with his ever-present law books, in the classroom at the School of Law.

(Caswell photo)

Yu Genrong, a 37-year-old lawyer from the People's Republic of China, sits at his work-study job monitoring the lobby of the University of Maine School of Law. A law text four inches thick is open in front of him, in English. He talks carefully, searching for the perfect word.

"I don't want to go to a big law school," he said. "This is a law school where I can contact people more personally. This law school is very kind to me."

He said also that the School of Law was the quickest to respond to his application and was "very encouraging" of his attendance. This is his first semester here.

Yu, a Shanghai native, left behind his wife, his 6-year-old daughter, and the Shanghai Maritime Institute to pursue a degree at the School of Law — a three-year undertaking. He graduated from that Institute in 1985 with a

degree in maritime law, and has worked there as an instructor and attorney. Chinese maritime law is similar to the United States' and Britain's "common law" system, so Yu wanted to understand the system first-hand through studies at an American law school.

"I never thought I'd come to the United States," he smiled, eyes shining. His arrival in Portland was a long time coming.

During the Cultural Revolution, Yu was sent to work on a farm instead of to college. After two years there, he was placed in the Huangmei Opera Troupe of Anging City. It was not until 1979 that he was able to study English.

"I had a strong foundation in English, and I imagined I wanted to be a translator," he laughed. Yu finds Portland is a good place to study.

"People here are very kind in general to foreign students, and here it is more quiet. Portland is a beautiful

city. A lot of trees have different colored leaves. It is very new, very fresh to me."

Looking ahead, Yu said, "I have a lot of plans. I want to be a lawyer and deal with the legal problems between the United States and China." Increasing international trade will mean increasing legal problems, he said. He would like to set up a law firm in China to address that need. He wants also to translate some U.S. law into Chinese, and to teach Chinese students what he learns about U.S. law.

Yu looks at the law text, taps it lightly with his pen. "I must grasp every minute to work. It's really hard work." But he added, "I have confidence. I think I can achieve my goal and I can learn this."

# Last Year on the Sidelines

by Al Bean

When the buzzer sounds in the final game of the 1986-87 basketball season, it also will mark the passing of an era in New England intercollegiate sports.

At the end of the season, USM's Richard A. Costello will leave behind a 34-year coaching career. Costello, who coaches women's basketball and serves as director of intercollegiate athletics, will give up the coaching reins to meet the steadily increasing duties of directing USM's 13-sport program.

"Dick Costello has been the most successful and respected coach in the history of this institution," said William B. Wise, executive assistant to the president. "He has received countless awards and honors throughout his coaching career and is ranked as one of the most productive college coaches in the nation. The University has been fortunate to have had his services as a head coach for this period of time. He'll certainly be missed on the sidelines but the duties of the athletic director are substantial and continue to increase."

## Came here in 1953

Costello's long and illustrious career at USM began in 1953. He was hired as assistant coach of both men's basketball and baseball, the school's only two intercollegiate sports at that time. He remained in that position for two years before taking over as the school's athletic director in 1955. He was promoted to head coach status in both basketball and baseball that same year.

Under his guidance, the program increased from two sports in 1953 to today's 13-sport program. Last year the Huskies took on an exclusive affiliation with the ECAC and NCAA, and added women's soccer and ice hockey. Thirty years ago, Costello started the first soccer program in Maine.

## First Soccer in Maine

"The development of soccer is something I'm really proud of," said Costello. "We were the first school at any level to play soccer in Maine. In a way, I feel we played a great part in the success that the sport now has in Maine's high schools and colleges."

He coached the Huskies' soccer team from 1957 to 1968 and collected a career mark of 63-67-12.

The Burlington, New Jersey native coached the men's basketball team from 1955 to 1971. In his 17 years at the helm, USM compiled an impressive mark of 220-148 and gained recognition throughout New England. He also coached USM's golf team from 1962 to 1986.

## Women's Sports

Costello has been a particularly strong supporter of the development of women's sports. In 1977, he began his tenure as head coach of USM's women's basketball program.

This season marks his tenth and final one on the bench, and he admits to having mixed emotions about his decision to give up coaching.

## A time for . . .

"There's a time for everything," explained Costello. "There are steps that must be taken along the way, but I have to admit, this won't be an easy one. I'll definitely miss the daily contact with the kids, it's very special to me. Coaching women's basketball has been as pleasant an athletic experience as I've ever had. That and the soccer have been very special."

Costello's years as women's coach have yielded 188 wins, four NAIA District Five Championships, one NAIA Area Eight Championship and one trip to the NAIA National Championship in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. His work on the bench has earned him coach of the year honors on three occasions.

## Administering Athletics

Like his coaching skills, Costello's talents as an administrator are highly regarded. This year, he is serving as commissioner of the newly formed Little East Conference, a six-team New England Division III grouping confined to basketball for this season.

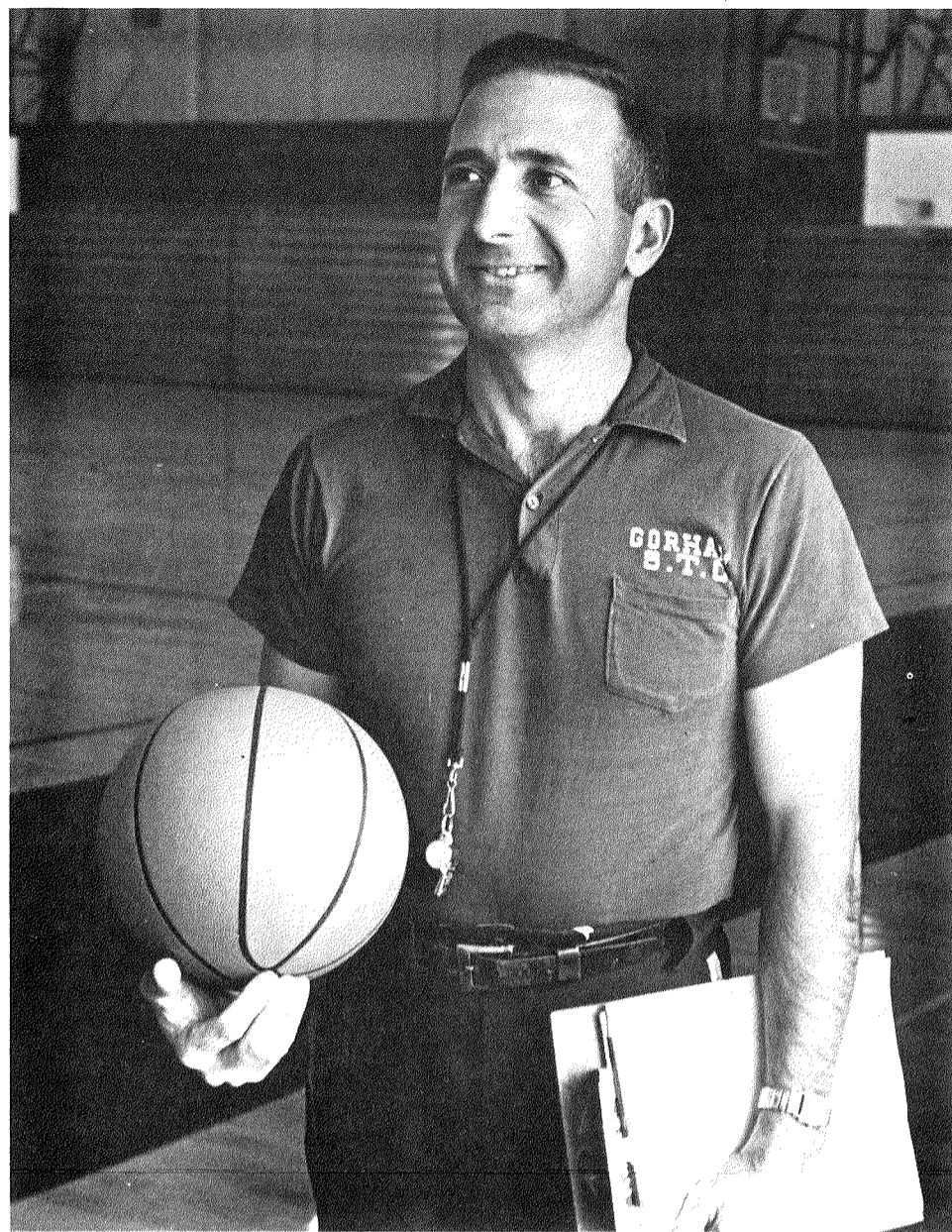
"There's much that needs to be done," explained Costello. "It will not be as glamorous as the coaching but a commitment needs to be made. We've always been a leader within our conference affiliations with regard to organization."

USM, under Costello's direction, also became a leader in the NAIA. Costello served as vice chairman of NAIA District 32 from 1970-1972. In 1973 he was selected to serve as chairman and held that position until 1985 when USM dropped its longtime affiliation with the NAIA for the ECAC and NCAA.

## Hall of Famer

Last March, Costello was inducted into the NAIA National Hall of Fame for his work as an administrator and a coach, the first time anyone from this part of the country had been so honored by the national organization. "It's a tremendous honor," said Costello, "one I'll always cherish. I wish the organization continued success, but for USM, it was time to move on."

For the next five months, Costello will concentrate on getting his squad back to the NCAA Tournament and working to capture the first seed in the Little East Tournament. "We've got a real good club," he said. "There's a good chance we'll be in the thick of it again and I hope we can end this thing on a positive note. We've got four seniors, too, and I guess I'll just graduate with them."



Richard A. Costello — 21 seasons ago.

## Stress Is A Winner

by Hannah Holmes

"It was the runaway winner and all those involved should be very proud of the effort, an effort, we might add, not normally seen for this type of project in most markets. GREAT WORK."

That is what a panel of Connecticut judges in the first Maine Broadcasters Association contest had to say about a production by USM, and WCSH Channel 6 TV, Portland, titled "Work and Family Stress: A Question of Balance." The four-part series took first place in the "Public Service" division. Channel 6 aired the series last spring.

The Maine Associated Press Broadcasters Association gave the same production their "Best Public Affairs Award." The judges in this contest called the series, "A creative and well-organized approach to a problem of great concern to the community."

USM's Division of Human Resources, under executive director Beth I. Warren, proposed the series, wrote the script, and provided the expertise.

Fred Nutter, public affairs director for the Maine Broadcasting System (WCSH), was executive producer of

the four, one-hour shows.

The Maine Broadcasting Association judges praised the "wonderful vignettes" used in the broadcast to illustrate stressful situations. The family in the series contains a rising career woman; her husband who may lose his job; their son who may be using drugs; and a mother-in-law.

Panels of lay people and experts, led by local psychologist Jud Smith, addressed the questions raised by the vignettes, questions of apparent interest to many people.

In early October the national Center for Disease Control reported that "there is increasing evidence that an unsatisfactory work environment may contribute to psychological disorders."

After the program's tremendous success with viewers and then with the press associations, Nutter said that between now and spring the series will be entered in more contests.

Meanwhile, the shows are being edited into three, 12-minute tapes for use in stress-management workshops. Materials are being designed to accompany them.

## A Wacky Romp in Russell Hall

Christopher Durang's hilarious parody of Hollywood's favorite myths will brighten the Russell Square Players' stage Friday, December 5 through Saturday, December 13 at 8 p.m. in Russell Hall on USM's Gorham campus.

Under the direction of Professor of Theater Minor Rootes, "History of the American Film" offers audiences a departure from December's traditionally serious or classical fare.

In slightly over two hours, this comedic memorial to America's love affair with the movies serves up our entire cinematic history, from "Orphans of the Storm" to "The Exorcist," including almost everything and everyone in between. This wacky romp pokes fun everywhere, from the crazy comedies of the 1930s to Elizabeth Taylor giving Richard Burton what-for in the 1960s.

All the world, as Durang envisions it, is an evolving series of genre films

and ageless, interchangeable characters. The play's "stars" include a hopelessly innocent ingenue (Lorretta, played by Sherri McManus); a street-smart tough guy (Jimmy, played by Robert McGurn); a hard-bitten woman of the world (Bette, played by Kristen Hornlien); a wisecracking best friend (Eve, played by Andrea Booker); and a lanky, corn-fed good guy (Hank, played by Peter Thurrell).

Bitingly witty, "History of the American Film" shows the early impact of a major contemporary American playwright.

In its continuing effort to bring USM and the community-at-large quality university theater, The Russell Square Players are proud to produce "History of the American Film," a show that's guaranteed to please almost anyone.

For ticket information, including group rates, call the box office at 780-5483.

## Faculty Works On Exhibit

The annual Faculty Art Exhibit will be held Monday, December 1 through Thursday, December 11 at the Art Gallery on the Gorham Campus.

On display will be two and three dimensional works of 17 full and part-time members of the USM Art Department. Many of the works will be available for sale.

Michael Moore, associate professor of art and chair of the department, will have a special display of his pen and

ink drawings at the Center Gallery in Gorham.

Both exhibits will be open Sunday through Thursday from noon to 4 p.m. The Art Department and Convocation on "The Arts in Our Lives" are sponsors.

Everyone is invited to the closing reception from 4 to 6 p.m., Thursday, December 11 at the Art Gallery.

For more information, call the Art Department at 780-5460.

## What We're Doing

CHERIE M. FOSTER, assistant professor of education, presented a paper "Brain Research: A Survey of Critical Studies" at the National Middle School Association annual conference in Atlanta, Ga.

FRANCES LANGFORD, secretary, College of Education, is hosting a radio program entitled "Unity In Diversity," which promotes world peace through cross-cultural understanding. Each program features an interview with an international student and music from the student's homeland. The program airs at 9 p.m., alternate Tuesdays on WMPG Radio, 90.9 FM.

WILLIAM H. SLAVICK, professor of English, has published a review of "Thomas Merton," a study of his writings by Victor A. Kramer, in the November 7, 1986 issue of "Commonweal."

RICHARD G. STEBBINS, associate professor of chemistry, recently presented a paper "The Analysis of JP-4 jet fuel in Aquatic Environments" at the 10th annual New England Association of Analytical Chemists Conference held at the University of New Hampshire, Durham, N.H.

CHARLES WELTY, associate professor of computer science, served at the discussant in the "Language Features" session of the International Conference on Computer Languages held in Miami Beach, Fla., last month.

MARGO WOOD, assistant professor of education, presented a paper at the American Association of Adult and Continuing Education convention in Hollywood, Fla., in October. Sponsored by New Readers Press, the presentation focused on teaching reading to adult beginning readers, and included a demonstration of the use of her reading series, "In the Know."

## JOB OPENINGS

Assistant Director, Summer Session, contact Susan Silvernail, 780-4076.

Development Director, School of Law, deadline November 24, 1986, contact Dean Wroth, 780-4344.

Production Center Director, School of Applied Sciences, deadline February 2, 1987, contact Brian Hodgkin, 780-4427.

## Campus Notes

• The following schedule will be in effect for the library during Thanksgiving week; 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Tuesday, November 25; 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 26; library closed, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, November 27, 28, and 29; 1 p.m. - 10 p.m., Sunday, November 30.

• USM Dining Services advises that the Portland Campus Center and College Room will close 9 p.m., Tuesday, November 25 and will re-open for breakfast at 8 a.m., Monday, December 1. The Gorham Student Center will close 2 p.m., Tuesday,



Adam Graham of F.T.W. Bodywise's Traveling Menagerie is pictured in a recent performance at Russell Hall, Gorham. This theatrical company uses puppets, actors and full sets to teach health care to students in grades K-6. Our 1986-1987 Convocation brought them in from Washington, D.C. for a series of shows in local schools. Although dates are not yet finalized, major writing and musical Convocation events are planned for the spring semester. (Caswell photo)

## Checking it Out

by Hannah Holmes

When John G. Hanna checks out a library book, he really checks out a library book. USM's professor emeritus of English recently returned to the Trinity College Library a book he took out 50 years ago.

"Frankly, in 1936, I don't remember getting an overdue notice," Hanna said.

The book was "Putnam's Word Book," and Hanna said, "I think maybe I was writing papers at the time, and it was my word-ward, my repository."

Hanna found the book on a shelf of his Portland home this spring and sent it back to Trinity with a check. That was shortly before his induction into the College's Half Century Club which honors graduates of 50 years ago or more.

"In a sense, I pretended they would be doing me a great favor if they took the book as contrition for my sin,

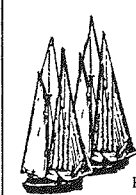
with the fine 1,000 times over," Hanna said.

But now the book is back on Hanna's shelf. Trinity College President James F. English presented it to him before 2,000 people at the Half Century induction dinner.

"It stands unused on the shelf," Hanna said. "There are better thesauruses." And besides, he said, "I broke the habit of using one. I believe a person can get enamoured of them. Then writing becomes fulsome, pompous, pretentious — far from being direct, plain, and graceful."

Hanna thinks the statute of limitations should have protected him from "punishment," but said he was elected money agent for the College's huge fundraiser, regardless.

"I think it was punishment," he said. "Or maybe they figured an English professor would be a good word-slinger."



University of Southern Maine  
**CURRENTS**

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