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2016 Tuition Raffle Winner Interview

University of Maine Alumni Association

John N. Diamond

Christopher Pilch

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2016 Tuition Raffle Winner Interview

Date: May 13, 2016

Run Time: 00:02:00

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VgOp3XMQcA>

Christopher Pilch of Marlborough, MA, winner of the 2016 Tuition Raffle, is interviewed by John N. Diamond '77, '89G, President/Executive Director of the University of Maine Alumni Association.

Transcript is machine generated, unedited, in English.

0:04

so I found out by actually live

0:06

streaming it on my computer I just

0:09

gotten it's just in between having a

0:12

final and going to lunch so I was like

0:13

all right I'll check i know my name's

0:15

and for the raffle not gonna win but

0:18

sure enough and i was just it was crazy

0:21

was surreal I know what's my name but I

0:23

didn't want to believe it I was like

0:24

there's no way there's so many names in

0:27

there played it back again and then I

0:30

was definitely a little bit a little

0:33

more raucous than I probably should have

0:35

been oh and my room is right next to the

0:39

common room and everyone was out there

0:41

studying and they'll just kind of looked

0:42
at me when I came out in the victory
0:44
stats and I just like what just happened
0:45
in there it's a great thing that you
0:49
guys are able to do it and for my own
0:52
benefit it's good for me do it helps
0:54
with the student debt have you told any
0:56
of your friends so far oh yeah all my
0:57
friends know yeah my friends know my
1:00
extended family knows everybody knows
1:02
I'm a transfer student I just came in in
1:04
the fall yeah so you know I was able to
1:06
kind of get a little bit of big college
1:11
as it were I was able to go to all the
1:12
sporting events and a lot of the
1:14
different opportunities here on campus
1:16
just because my first year so I have to
1:17
do everything yeah and it's an awesome
1:21
university that yeah that's very
1:22
welcoming from the student to the
1:25
faculty everything in your major is I'm
1:29
a wildlife ecology major so the programs
1:33
they're very rigid but they're also
1:36
really challenging in the best sense of
1:39
the word great well we congratulate you

1:42

this is wonderful for you and I'm so

1:44

glad that it worked out for you can sell

1:46

your you kind of have this glow about

1:48

you now that you still find it hard to

1:50

believe yeah absolutely

The University of Maine in Orono is the flagship campus of the University of Maine System, where efforts toward racial equity are ongoing, as is the commitment to facing a complicated and not always just institutional history. The University recognizes that it is located on Marsh Island in the homeland of the Penobscot nation, where issues of water and its territorial rights, and encroachment upon sacred sites, are ongoing. Penobscot homeland is connected to the other Wabanaki Tribal Nations — the Passamaquoddy, Maliseet, and Micmac — through kinship, alliances, and diplomacy. The university also recognizes that the Penobscot Nation and the other Wabanaki Tribal Nations are distinct, sovereign, legal and political entities with their own powers of self-governance and self-determination.