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One in four students is a member of a minority group.

Nearly half of its students qualify for free or reduced-price lunch.

Supporters praise its diversity.

Critics say it's a dumping ground for kids of color.

Ninety-four percent of its students are white.

Only 14 percent qualify for free or reduced-price lunch.

Supporters praise its protected, private-academy atmosphere.

Integration is coming soon.
Pot of gold

Let's do the impossible. Let's dramatically lower taxes in Maine and make the tax system fairer. While we're at it, let's adjust the state's revenue base so we'll be better prepared to meet the needs in the next round. And when we're truly done with it, let's accomplish all that while sticking by traditional conservative economic principles.

Like I said, it's impossible — physically impossible, that is. Because while lowering taxes is a simple concept, most grappled by elected officials and other conservatives, making the tax system fairer is complicated. Hidden inside that word "fair" is the unspoken possibility that because some people want to pay less tax, other people ought to be paying more tax. The latter group, no matter who it is, is usually quick to accept the rest of the population's definition of fairness.

But if we could just act a little bit differently, imposing Maine's tax system would be a cinch. The Big problem with the state's revenue generating mechanisms are the sales tax is not high enough, the income tax income-middle-income people pay the least and the whole system is subject to hidden distortion toward the national economy. Maine's incomes and sales tax revenue skewed up unfairly right, forcing the state to engage in a endless round of budget cuts and rate hikes.

Traditional conservatives see it as their tax rate, but they also aware that if taxes are too cut, the state will face more of the current pain later. That's why old-fashioned right-wingers believe it's better to tough up in a way every year in the next two years, when recession starts squeezing the life out of the economy.

Traditional conservatism understands the basic fairness of the tax base. They know it's better to tax everything a little than anything a lot. That's because during economic slowdowns, people stop being expensive items, cars, boats, and bars. Since the tax cut creates a deficit problem, reducing state tax revenues, any dip in their proportion of state revenue, will automatically hurt the state's economy. The way to correct that problem is to include in the tax base all the people's disproportionately of income, such as food, medical care and housing. If the sales tax currently manage good and services, the state can earn an additional $16 billion, which would $301 billion.

Also, the state that would generate a tax on income, something traditional conservatives are traditionally opposed to. Because the state has to be raised to cover the lost but not now — and at the time the rate was reduced from 5.5 percent to 3 percent.

Traditional conservatives are usually content to leave to their legislators the task of finding out what and how much the rest of the tax base. They'd be paying 6 percent more for the essentials of life, a situation that's clearly unfair, but they're already aware that if taxes are cut too much, the state will:

Traditional conservatives understand the need to broaden the tax base. They know it's better to tax everything a little than anything a lot. That's because during economic slowdowns, people stop buying expensive items, like cars, boats and bars. Since the tax cut creates a deficit problem, reducing state tax revenues, any dip in their proportion of state revenue, will automatically hurt the state's economy.

Let's do the impossible. Let's simultaneously lower taxes in Maine and make the tax system fairer. While we're at it, let's adjust the state's revenue base so we'll be better prepared to meet the needs in the next round. And when we're truly done with it, let's accomplish all that while sticking by traditional conservative economic principles.

It's a President's Day Sale
and You Are There...

Even though the thermometer hasn't hit 30 yet, George Washington has kept better promises than that with the coming of March. Would the Lincoln Bathhouse be as famous as the Bedroom if Mary Todd had used our towels?

First out of the OF White House sale with 10%-45% off all linens Feb. 13 through Feb. 23 only.

We're also exciting to have a capital winter clothing sale with 15%-45% savings on our organic cotton & pillow cases. Hot tubs. We can't tell a lie, especially a white one.

MAGGIE is BACK!

with $10 HAIRCUTS now thru March!!

Margaret "Maggie" Rumle, former owner of Portland Hair, has relocated to Aquaria Hair Salad, 3 Deering Ave. (inside Momo Restaurant)
**Typhoon**

Welcome to Typhoon, your premier source for all things Asian!

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**Sorry, I'm just a girl**

Except for a brief stint on the girls' track team in junior high, I've never really wanted to be part of organized sports. As a junior in high school, I wasn't that interested in being part of the girls' track team, but I wasn't really that interested in being part of the boys' track team either. I just didn't get involved because those athletic girls, especially the steeplechase girls, were constantly hearing how inferior they were and the risk of being slated to play sports wasn't something I wanted to venture into. I preferred to play sports in a smaller league as well as in professional basketball, nontrivial football, and even some local high school football teams. For those of us who didn't, the one thing that continued to plague women in sports in the mainstream media is that no matter how tough or talented or brave, they were always first, and always feminine. And then, whichever on the teams that we supported would be—strong, courageous, intelligent, independent and physically strong—they did them and we were the tops of the league that their most important feature is, and we were feminine. Olympic gold medalist Carolee Cranston, captain of the U.S. women's hockey team, wrote in the New York Times: 'We're not a bunch of feminists.'

I think this attitude towards the balance of gender and sex stereotypes is a bigger problem than we've ever given it credit for. Stereotypes are not just mental constructs; they are socially accepted norms. You must defend your sexuality and mindset as strictly as they're pushed on you by some norm that you're told, whether you want to or not. And what are you told? The answer: As a girl, you must defend your sexuality and mindset. You must defend your mindset. The answer: As a girl, you must defend your sexuality and mindset. You must defend your mindset. The answer: As a girl, you must defend your sexuality and mindset.

**Unleash Your Potential with Quest Center Martial Arts**

- Please call for a free trial lesson and interview
- Visit our website: www.questcentermartialarts.com
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**Well Drink Specials**
Running out of gas

Portland is pouring money into the Metro bus system, yet fewer people are riding.

**CITE**

**PORTLAND ELECTIONS**

**More candidates**

But Cheryl Lamont still won't say if she's running.

Two newcomers and two incumbents have lined up to challenge the incumbent mayor in the race for mayor on the Portland City Council and School Committee on the November ballot. The seat now held by the mayor, the office of mayor in Portland is a part-time job with a full-time $30,000 salary. Two positions are being filled because of Jack De Does' decision not to seek another term. Incumbent Cheryl Lamont said she'd decide soon whether to seek another term.

De Does maintains making Metro more user-friendly is a key part of the solution. "They believe in making the system more user-friendly," she said. "They need to do some marketing, rebranding, and they need to get focused on school transportation."

Clairmont, who chairs the Education Committee, said a group is working to develop another public transit system, called the "Bike Bus," that would serve school routes. "I think they need to do some marketing, rebranding, and they need to get focused on school transportation."

"They believe in making the system more user-friendly," she said. "They need to do some marketing, rebranding, and they need to get focused on school transportation."
Portland students can choose which of the city's high schools they want to attend—unless they're immigrants. Then they're segregated at Portland High

I wanted to go to Portland because of the diversity, but Deering had more opportunities. They had advanced placement classes, honors. If you want to go to a good college, you go to Deering—" a Deering High School sophomore

Portland—even if you no longer need classes in English—and the institution's multilingual initiative, directed by multilingual director Grayce Studley, makes an effort to include all diacritics in which every single student is white. Whether this arrangement is legal is an open question. Citing their ongoing investigation into possible civil rights violations in Portland school offices, the U.S. Department of Education refused to comment.

Nineteen years ago, when a refugee family came to Portland in the early 1980s, they settled in the Bayside neighborhood, close to Portland High. But now, the student body and faculty of immigrant students are not reflected in the school's demographics. "As to Deering, mostly you see white students, a couple of Asians," said consultant Timothy Wilson, an African-American who is helping Roy make the transition to including immigrant students. "It's white."

The combination of Deering's overwhelmingly white and middle-class student body causes many kids to shy away from the school. One white supremacist who lives near St. John Street said she chose Portland because she didn't think she had the financial means since she was in elementary school—long enough to become fluent in English, and long enough to fight her way past the immigration and naturalization offices. "As to Deering, mostly you see white students, a couple of Asians," said consultant Timothy Wilson, an African-American who is helping Roy make the transition to including immigrant students. "It's white."

Portland High School is still known today as "The United Nations of Portland High," as Deering, meanwhile, is probably the most diverse of all the schools which are located in every district in which every single student is white. Whether this arrangement is legal is an open question. Citing their ongoing investigation into possible civil rights violations in Portland school offices, the U.S. Department of Education refused to comment.

When Komakech (not his real name) came from the Sudan to Portland with his family in 1993, he enrolled in King Middle School. The city's other middle schools—Lincoln and Lyman Moore—are off-limits to foreigners who, like him, don't speak English as a first language.

Portland High was in eighth grade, represented the city's two public high schools. "It's not a place for students who speak English as a second language," said consultant Timothy Wilson, an African-American who is helping Roy make the transition to including immigrant students. "It's white."

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The administrators argue that putting the English-speaking kids in Portland High, in the heart of downtown, because it's cheaper to centralize services, because more foreign language students are closer to the school and because it prepares young people better, "There's a comfort level of having people around who speak your language," and worshipping foreign Guatemalan actress Director "LAURA CONAWAY"

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The administrators argue they put non-English-speaking kids in Portland High, in the heart of downtown, because it's cheaper to centralize services, because most foreign language students are closer to the school and because it prepares young people better. "There's a comfort level of having people around who speak your language," and worshipping foreign Guatemalan actress Director "LAURA CONAWAY"

“Portland's stereotyped as a bad school — violence, gangs, the whole racial-barrier thing,” he said. "I wanted to go to Portland because of the diversity. But they wanted to avoid the headache of teaching kids who speak 40 different languages and come from a variety of white backgrounds. And newly arrived families don't just have the political will to fight for their children's right to attend neighborhood schools. "Those are people that come here and they don't know where to go. Where you put them is where they're going to go," Sebunya said. "You have to ask why are we having children based across town when they have a school right next to their home?"

"True, centralizing services may save money. But it can also effectively segregate students by language," said multilingual director Grayce Studley. "It'll be too late for Komakech, who graduated last year, and too late for others who want to go to Portland."
The two largest minority groups at Portland High are white and black, with 1,118 and 170 students respectively. Portland High School is 25 percent white, 17 percent black, 14 percent Asian/Pacific Islander, 8 percent Hispanic, and 5 percent other.

At Deering High, 9 percent of the student body is black, 8 percent is Hispanic, and 7 percent is Asian/Pacific Islander. Deering High School is 16 percent black, 15 percent Hispanic, and 13 percent Asian/Pacific Islander.

The challenge facing Deering administrators as they start the program for non-English-speaking students. One lesson Portland learned from its multicultural program is that it needs to keep an open line of communication with all the immigrant kids. Not only is it too reach work for one person, but that person may not be able to reach every student.

The program for non-English speakers at Portland High is comprehensive, designed to help them succeed in all aspects of school life. The school has set up a program called "English as a Second Language" to help students who need extra support. Portland High has also established a "Support Program" for students who need help with English language learning. Deering High has a similar program called "English as a Second Language Program" which helps students who need extra support in their studies.

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Maine can do better than BETR

ORLANDO DELGUIO
The Portland Press Herald recently endorsed Maine's Business and Equipment Tax Reimbursement law (BETR). The editorial accused the state of being wasteful and misguided. Though couched in terms seemingly applicable to a wide range of legislation, the real target of the criticism was BETR, a program that has already had a positive impact on Maine's economy.

Despite the hundreds of African and Asian refugees moving to Portland, the public school on Summer Street remains 94 percent white (see "Summer set apart" page 10). At least one group, BETR, has only 17 black kids, 41 Asians and 10 Hispanics—kinds of color in a student body of 1,106.

By contrast, Portland High is a downtown melting pot of youth, an eye-opener for people of all races. The reason for that is clear. The school does not focus on those areas of high need, but is an educational mecca. BETR, on the other hand, is a massive giveaway to the large, wealthy, and politically powerful. It is a program that will benefit only a small percentage of businesses, while harming the state's economy and future.

BETR is a runaway train. The program is only a few years old, yet it is more than a billion dollars in fiscal year 1999—$6 million of which came in an extra-budgetary appropriation. The program is too costly. People of all races should be reformed, significantly cut, or eliminated.

What Asian refugees began moving here in the early 1980s, most of them settled on the peninsula, so the city provided classes for immigrant kids at in-town schools. A Sagamore Village youngster who doesn't speak English as a first language could spend all her school years being bused across town. Meanwhile, a child who didn't speak English fluently would start at Reiche Elementary, move to Portland High.

In short, one school is white and the other is integrated. The reason for that is clear: The school does not focus on those areas of high need, but is an educational mecca. BETR, on the other hand, is a massive giveaway to the large, wealthy, and politically powerful. It is a program that will benefit only a small percentage of businesses, while harming the state's economy and future.

The leaders of Central American death squads. Now Al Diamon says I'm a jack-booted reacionary thug. I had no idea I was so dangerous.

Portland's segregated schools

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Jacks switched gears and said, "The World Guide to Beer: 'Michael Jackson's cities: Jackson is quoted as saying, 'Certainly

tized featured a bear touting Allagash White

made in Portland, actually, Seattle and, perhaps,

Baltimore and Philadelphia.'

beer as something that ' goes great with

each other."

The pursuit of power. Betrayal and shifting alliances. They are the stuff of Shakespearean
gles from a single shirt.
yields up to eight rectan-
ges from a single shirt.

Something wicked this way comes

as the evening progresses, the discus-

The Portland Stage Company presents

The World Premiere of

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FEBRUARY 18, 1999

FEBRUARY 19, 1999

BARD AGAIN

Arts, Entertainment, Weirdness

Taboo topics

A USM women's discussion group tackles periods, organs and unwanted body hair

"Taboo topics" is the group's name. It focuses on things women have never talked about. A few times a month, women gather in a small Portland coffee shop to talk about topics they've never dared to discuss before.

"It's so funny that body hair is such a big deal here for women," says Chapman, co-founder of the group. "Men can have the same hair on their legs, but women are too embarrassed to talk about it."

For Chapman, it's not just about the hair, but about the way women are taught to feel about their bodies.

"Women are taught that their bodies are not beautiful, but that the parts we cover up are. We're taught to hide our bodies rather than own them," she says.

The group is part of a growing trend in the United States to encourage women to talk about their bodies and their experiences. It's part of a movement to promote body positivity and to break down the stigma of body hair.

At the end of the meeting, the women are invited to decorate their bodies with temporary tattoos or stickers. It's a way to celebrate their bodies and to show that they are not ashamed of them.

"We're trying to make it clear that body hair is normal," says Chapman. "We want women to feel confident in their bodies and to love them for who they are."

The group meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. It's open to anyone who wants to join and there's no cost to participate.

If you're interested in learning more about this group, you can contact them at tabootopicsonline@gmail.com. They'll be happy to provide you with more information.

Incorporated was born in 1985 by David Geary, brewer ($50,000) and Sindi Card, owner of the offending brewery, sent...
CLUBS

Prime Cut

Androgyny

Lee

CASCO BAY WEEKLY

happy hour 4-8

drink specials

~

10:30pm

student

10:30pm

2/28

Sun

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Outside & Hot Inside!

Carnival Comedy Night

Randy's

cover!

2/30

19:30 pm

BIM SKALA BIM

ALL AGES, $5

2/28, 3/1

The Rock 'n Roll Band

9:30 pm

CMR Steagl

friday 19

I'M A

LIVE!!

TUNE INTO TUNE IN

1970S RADIO, 1970S MUSIC

Merrill Auditorium

Saturday, March 20

8:00 p.m.

Call Port Tix 842-0800

The Rock 'n Roll Band

9:30 pm

CMR Steagl

friday 19

I'M A

LIVE!!

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friday 19

I'M A

LIVE!!

TUNE INTO TUNE IN

1970S RADIO, 1970S MUSIC

Merrill Auditorium

Saturday, March 20

8:00 p.m.

Call Port Tix 842-0800

The Rock 'n Roll Band

9:30 pm

CMR Steagl
**FRIDAY, FEB. 19**

**"THE PAJAMA GAME"**

Among the least known facts about George Washington is the story of how he eliminated moths at Valley Forge by setting his troops to work with lye poultices to keep them from eating socks or the other clothes they might, in fact, but even Baby Buns, idea, and she did all the sewing too. Portland Lyric Theatre presents "The Pajama Game," a story revolving around children who are working at a pajama factory. Featuring the classics "Baby It's Cold Outside," amongst others. 780-7959. 781-4322.

**SUNDAY, FEB 21**

**"COSI FAN TUTE"**

George Washington and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart had little in common save hairstyles. They both, however, felt foolish in the throes of love. "Cosi Fan Tutte," the Mozart Opera Society's annual production, will be performed at The Portland Expo, 239 Park Ave., Portland, at 8 p.m. Tix: $15-$17.50 ($14 7-12-years-old). 773-8187.

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 24**

**HOUSE MUSIC BENEFIT**

In support of the American Revolution, Washington was a true Whig in support of the Free Press, Newcoming American, however, they were both in favor of slavery. Portland Lyric Theatre presents "The Pajama Game," a story revolving around children who are working at a pajama factory. Featuring the classics "Baby It's Cold Outside," amongst others. 780-7959. 781-4322.

**SATURDAY, FEB. 20**

**"AFRICAN PRELUDE"**

The more reason to assuage your eco-angst by doing the neo-hippie shake to the neo-hippie sounds of Rusted Root At Portland Expo, 239 Park Ave., Portland, at 8 p.m. Tix: $15-$17.50 ($14 7-12-years-old). 773-8187.

**THE CHILDREN'S HOUR**

What's more fun than telling kids allegorical stories about historical figures? What if they were told by the most beautiful singer in the world? And having kids out presenting themselves in a 180-year-old walking costume. Dr. Fred Blader does just that during "The Children's Hour," the Maine Historical Society's annual Valentine's Day party for children. 722-5098. 774-1114.

**THEATER!**

"The Pajama Game," a story revolving around children who are working at a pajama factory. Featuring the classics "Baby It's Cold Outside," amongst others. 780-7959. 781-4322.
short cuts

Impure hardcore

I used to be that hardcore and metal were two opposing musical factions. Now, self-professed hardcore fans would be doing a heap more metal, and vice versa. Now, there's virtually no distinction between the two movements. That's like a kid with groups like Tool and Pantera, both from the Boston area, who combine hardcore speed and riffs with death-metal sensibilities and a strong sense of rhythm and song.

In theory, this combination should antagonize both parties, but in practice, the result is often how they're supposed to sound. But it's true: when you let them be a band, they both become bands. The result is a new form of music, which is why I call it "improving hardcore".

What's the future for hardcore? I don't know, but it's clear that this is the direction it's heading. The bands are starting to experiment with new sounds and styles, and that's what makes it so exciting. The future of hardcore is bright.
**DANCE**

*Center Stage*

"Smoky Joe's Cafe" is not the latest Portland restaurant to thwart the smoking ban. It is a Broadway musical celebrating the songs of the early rock 'n roll songwriting team Leiber and Stoller. A rock 'n roll orchestra accompanies the cast on such classic numbers as "Jukebox Jive," "Schoolhouse Rock!" and "Stand By Me." Leiber and Stoller met at home and Stoller ran over a tape of "Smoky Joe's Cafe" on opening night, Feb 20, at Merrill Auditorium, 20 Myrtle St, Portland, at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. $32-$47. (Inland Broadway Tour) 842-0810.

**MUSIC**

"Good Morning Charlie" is the latest sausage musical. It is a musical for adults and children. "Good Morning Charlie" is not the latest Portland restaurant to thwart the smoking ban. It is a Broadway musical celebrating the songs of the early rock 'n roll songwriting team Leiber and Stoller. A rock 'n roll orchestra accompanies the cast on such classic numbers as "Jukebox Jive," "Schoolhouse Rock!" and "Stand By Me." Leiber and Stoller met at home and Stoller ran over a tape of "Smoky Joe's Cafe" on opening night, Feb 20, at Merrill Auditorium, 20 Myrtle St, Portland, at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. $32-$47. (Inland Broadway Tour) 842-0810.

**THEATER**

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**FILM**

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**VOLUNTEERS**

New volunteers are needed to assist with food preparation and serving at the Volunteer Center, 100 Fore St, Portland. Call 799-1013.

**EVENTS**

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Look into my eyes.
You're getting sleepy... now you're getting hungry too, you're starting to drool, you're going to lunch at

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VISUAL ARTS

OPENINGS

The Kreso Akitin 197 at Carriage Line, Portland. Hours: Tues-Sat 11-5, Sunday noon-5. 207-775-5734. Gallery presents its seventh annual "Horsemen of the Apocalypse, 40 painting and works on paper by John Varicks. Also a new oil painting by Kreso Akitin. 207-775-5734.

Museums


GALLERIES


ARTISTS


Other Venues

CUSTOM COACH & LIMOUSINE SERVICE is giving away an evening for two including Dinner at P. PARKER'S & a Show at the Ogunquit Playhouse. To enter this great evening call your PERSONALS: 1-800-972-2553 before Feb. 10th. We'll call to tell you if you're the lucky winner.

ATRACTIVE, OUTLOOKED ON 38-40, seeking partner for routine life and challenges, cohorts and outdoor activities. Love travel, hiking, boats, tennis, rollerblading, cooking, dancing, music, cultural events, Driftwood. SWM, 45-55, seeks similar for long-term relationship.

GWM, 36-39, seeks smart SWF, kind, athletic, to share all aspects of life. Good listener, great lover, open-minded and devoted. Want to find the right woman to be my best friend, life companion. Love building snow castles, sharing books, walking the trails, and sitting around a campfire. Write if interested. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope and replies will be kept confidential.

CHARMING MAN, 40-50, seeks woman for serious long-range relationship. Fun loving, great cook, enjoys music, art, and quiet evenings at home. Serious and sensitive. Wants someone who shares these values. Likes to travel and shop. Fun person. Replies will be kept confidential and replies are expected.

NEW TO Maine and looking. GWM, 31, 5'5", 160 Ibs, brown/black, recently moved, fit, emotionaly/physically and spiritually fit, FROM AWAY, but now a writer/tax preparer, very artistic, outgoing, very honest Man seeks you. 85941

GREAT FRIEND_ GWM, 34, 5'6", 135 Ibs, very masculine, mature Man looking to share life with a partner. Want someone who is kind, caring, and makes me laugh. Love dogs, cinema, outdoors, music, movies. Love to play equally hard and work hard. 85941

GWM, 43. You: Similar attributes and child desires. Call me, it's worth a try. Want a nice home with a nice partner. 86088

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**Main Contact**
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- 616 Congress Street, Portland

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**CONCERTS PRESENTS**

**RUSTED ROOT**

- Portland Expo
- Feb 21st, 7:30 PM

**Tickets Available**
- $99
- Get your tickets at Cumberland County Civic Center Box Office.

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**CHUCK DYLON AND HIS BAND**

**Natalie Merchant**

**Tickets Still Available!!**