10-30-1997

Casco Bay Weekly : 30 October 1997

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Plotting a course through the complex state and local issues on the Nov. 4 ballot. The trail begins on page 10.
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**Counting Crows**

**Recovering the Satellites**

Special guest: Dog's Eye View

**Tonight!!**

OCTOBER 30 8PM

CUMBERLAND COUNTY CIVIC CENTER

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**In Their Own Words: Writers Read at the PMA**

Thursdays, Oct. 30 & Nov. 6, 7 p.m.

Free with Museum admission!

The exhibition A Legacy for Maine—featuring visual artists who have been inspired by the State of Maine—features visual artists who have been inspired by the State of Maine. The exhibition is free with Museum admission.

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**Talk**

A CONVERSATION WITH RON STARKEY

**Ron Starkey, a.k.a. Bobo the Clown**, is a 50-year-old Biddeford resident who has entertained at kids' parties in the Greater Portland area for 17 years. Recently we spoke with Starkey about his up and down in life as a clown, and what keeps him going despite the sometimes hostile reception of his clients.

Does Bobo have a distinct persona?

Well, I've been evolving throughout the years. Just this summer I just started to change my image—I changed myself into a purple clown. I've got the purple hair and a purple costume, I've got a purple truck, and it all matches. Kids seem to like purple—they're fascinated by it.

Tell me about these kids' parties.

The first thing I do is do a little bit of silly magic and get the kids to interact with me, and so everyone is talking and the kids aren't afraid of me.

Is there something particular about clowns that's frightening to kids?

Well, I don't think they've ever come close to a clown, that's the thing. They've seen them in circuses far away, but when they get close up it's a different feeling, you know. I think the biggest question I get is, 'Are you a real clown?' If they seem to think I'm fake, they lose respect for me.

So what are some of your best experiences as Bobo?

I think it's kids that don't have a lot of money and don't get to do the things the real rich kids do, you know. You bring somebody special in just for them, I think it means a lot. You know, kids need somebody that can deal with them personally, a one-on-one type situation where they feel special because they have a special person at their party. That's something that they're going to remember.

What about some of the worst experiences?

I've had some real bad ones. I had people tear my costume apart—it's happened two or three times. It's hard because you're in their house and they have control over what you do. I've had a couple parties where I've almost left.

I had one little kid come to me once. I think it's the most important thing I remember in the years I've done this. The kid comes up to me and says, 'I hate you, clown.' Right to my face. And I looked at his face and I said, 'You know kid, I hate you too.' And after that he's my friend.

Do you plan to continue being Bobo?

Yeah, I think that's my calling.

Interview by Jonathan Adams; photo by Tony Harbert
The good ship THE STEAMER TRUNK has sailed into Portland and has docked at 484 Congress St. It's full of orange clothes for men & women, fabulous jewels, accessories, housing & cookbooks.

Casco Bay Weekly
Women's Quality Consignment Fashions
FEATURING:
• The Limited
• Liz Claiborne
• L.L. Bean
• G40

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The good ship THE STEAMER TRUNK has sailed into Portland and has docked at 484 Congress St. It's full of orange clothes for men & women, fabulous jewels, accessories, housing & cookbooks.

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Barbara Hager within the halls of her Congress Street office. Photo by Laura Conaway

She's down with the downtown
Portland's Downtown District's Barbara Hager in her own colorful context

PORTLAND'S DOWNTOWN DISTRICT

Barbara Hager is the executive director of Portland's Downtown District (PDD). She is the public face of the district, working closely with businesses, residents, and visitors to create a vibrant downtown. Her role is to promote the downtown as a destination for shopping, dining, and cultural events. Hager is known for her energy and enthusiasm, which she uses to engage the community and make the downtown a more welcoming place.

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Mink is right. It's time to do something. We need a mayor who will lead us on the path to a safe, green, and sustainable future. Portland deserves a mayor who will prioritize the well-being of our community and our planet. Let's vote for a mayor who will make Portland a model for the world.
Will the Compact REDUCE Clear-Cuts?

We all agree Maine's forests are in trouble. Too many destructive clear-cuts, too much toxic aerial spraying, careless jobs. What should be done? The Compact for Maine's Forests, appearing on the November ballot as Question 1, claims to reduce clear-cuts. Opponents say the claims are deceptive. One thing for sure, the Compact is an accomplishment. It represents a particular set of interests, and a majority of Maine voters rejected it in the last election. Before you decide this time around, get some basic answers about Question 1. Then ask yourself: If Maine can do better... YOU WANT TO PUT THE BRAKES ON DESTRUCTIVE CLEAR-CUTTING.

Does the Compact REALLY DO THE JOB?

SUPPORTERS of the Compact say it prevents clear-cutting from the minimum size of a clear-cut of 250 acres to 75 acres.

OPPONENTS of the Compact say it will result in the towns with the largest clear-cut areas getting to cut 11% of their acres.

ONLY ONE OUT OF THE TOP 15 FOREST CORPORATIONS WILL ACTUALLY HAVE TO REDUCE CLEAR-CUTTING IF THE COMPACT BECOMES LAW... AND THEN ONLY BY 1/10 OF 1%. SOUND LIKE A "COMPROMISE"?

Water and tires

Have what you’d be asked on the ballot: “Do you favor a $7,000,000 bond issue, which will match $15,000,000 in federal funds, to construct water pollution control facilities, to clean up tire stockpiles and to make drinking water improvements?”

ISSUES

I. What are fantasy votes?

WHAT SUPPORTERS SAY

The law is antiquated and unfair. Those who are mentally ill and under guardianship are excluded from voting. People with mental illness vote and don’t have guardians over them. This is one group of people who are purposely denied their voting rights.

WHAT OPPOSERS SAY

The law assumes mentally retarded people under guardianship know how to vote. Why not the mentally ill?

WHAT NOBODY SAYS

Only 200 people in Maine fall into this group, barely enough to swing most ballot questions.

Interest rates are expected to rise by the end of the year, which would boost the cost to $100,000 or more.

Large construction projects have traditionally been considered an appropriate purpose for bonding. The reasoning in this case that the results will be around for years, it makes sense to spread the tax burden of paying for them out over a long period of time. But the kind of funding we see for these bonds and projects is not.

Before the state ran into financial difficulty this year, a sizable budget surplus, it would make sense to pay for many of these projects out of available funds, instead of bonding. Some environmentalists have complained that the sewerage projects is taking too long, and that the bond issue is a rush job in order to wrap up the task in the next decade.

ISSUES

I. How much is it going to cost in interest payments?

Before the state ran into financial difficulty this year, a sizable budget surplus, it would make sense to pay for many of these projects out of available funds, instead of bonding. Some environmentalists have complained that the sewerage projects is taking too long, and that the bond issue is a rush job in order to wrap up the task in the next decade.

ISSUES

I. Would it be better to pay for the cost out of the state's annual budget, rather than borrowing the money?

Using a series of short term bond issues to pay for the improvements is an efficient, effective way to handle a huge job.

ISSUES

I. What does this bond issue do?

The compact of this referendum issue would always first meet public objections and goals of sustained yield (as defined in the Forest Protection Act of 1978). It would award money to towns and cities and towns with water quality problems.

WHAT SUPPORTERS SAY

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WHAT NOBODY SAYS

Only 200 people in Maine fall into this group, barely enough to swing most ballot questions.
Balance of power in South Portland

**LAURA CONWAY**

Advocates in South Portland have an opportunity to capture a city council seat held for 17 years by staunchly conservative City Councilor Robert Fortin. Fortin is performing well in the city's mayoral race, which is expected to win easily over Paul LeConte, who's running as an independent.

Esty also wants the city to offer more support to youth activity programs like Mission Possible. "You can't just keep throwing people in jail without providing services to them," he said.

As a councilor and school board member, LeConte established an erratic pattern of voting, according to sources. He also opposes closing neighborhood schools, but doesn't yet know whether he'd back a plan to close and replace an elementary school.

Like Fickett, Fortin leans heavily on folksy appeal, recounting stories of building a pedestrian ramp at the University of Southern Maine.

A change at the top in Westbrook

**LAURA CONWAY**

Westbrook is known for its politically progressive public schools, but this year's race for mayor is rousing little excitement. Don Esty, the Democratic candidate, is expected to win easily over Paul LeConte, who's running as an independent.

Esty also wants the city to offer more support to youth activity programs like Mission Possible. "You can't just keep throwing people in jail without providing services to them," he said.

LaConte declined to be interviewed. "I'm not sure how many people are left in the Portland police, but one said he wants to see more people in jail without providing alternatives," he said.

LeConte plans to add more teachers to the city's schools, according to sources. He also opposes closing neighborhood schools, but doesn't yet know whether he'd back a plan to close and replace an elementary school.

Like Fickett, Fortin relies heavily on folksy appeal, recounting stories of building a pedestrian ramp at the University of Southern Maine.

Sand and gravel

This highway improvement bond issue question reads, "Do you favor a $66,850,000 bond issue for improvements to municipal and state roads, state and local bridges, airports, state ferry vessels and terminals and rail and marine facilities that make the State eligible for approximately $120,740,000 in matching federal funds?"

**WHAT SUPPORTERS SAY**

This bond would fund a number of projects, including $20 million for the Maine Turnpike Authority to improve safety and capacity, $5 million for the Maine Department of Transportation to improve safety and capacity, and $5 million for the state's transportation bond issue to fund improvements at the Portland airport.

**WHAT OPPONENTS SAY**

No organized opposition has surfaced, but if it did, it might target the measure's lack of a clear plan for how the money will be spent. Opponents also argue that state transportation bond issues are heavily concentrated toward cars and trucks, with almost nothing for alternative modes of getting around.

**WHAT EVERYBODY SAYS**

Transportation bond issues are always opposed by transportation advocates, who view them as a way to avoid investing in other transportation modes. Opponents also argue that state transportation bond issues are heavily concentrated toward cars and trucks, with almost nothing for alternative modes of getting around.

For more information, contact the Maine Transportation Agency at 207-287-8000 or visit www.maine.gov/mot.
Endorsements

The Forestry Compact. The Compact represents our best — and probably last — chance to get a law on the books protecting our main forests. It is not a perfect guarantee against clear-cutting and brush burning, but it provides a framework within which we can hold the paper companies accountable for their actions. And, unlike the "Bus Corridors" measure advocated by our opponents this year, the Compact addresses forestry throughout the state, not just in the unincorporated territories. If provisions for compliance need to be strengthened later, we can do that; but, if this question doesn't pass, you can be sure the worst environmental offenders will walk away from the negotiating table laughing — never to return. Yes. 

Water-quality bond issue. This is the issue in a series of multi-million bond issues that address the huge task of cleaning up Maine's drinking water and coming into compliance with federal standards. It's money well spent. Yes. 

Accessibility for people with disabilities bond issue. The only argument against this bond issue is that improving accessibility for people with disabilities at the University of Maine and the loan program for adaptive equipment could be funded out of the state's budget surplus. The reality is that they haven't been done, and the time provided for in this bond issue is too important to quibble over the way we pay for them. Let's get the job done, and soon. Yes. 

Roads and bridges bond issue. While we wish this bond issue included some funding for alternative transportation, we think improvements to crumbling bridges and roads are important, too. Yes. 

Voting rights for the mentally retarded bond issue. The problem of the mentally retarded is a complex one. It's high time Maine gave the right to vote back to those who, as a group, have been denied it unfairly. Yes. 

Handicapped-veterans bond issue. It's time to start solving the problems faced by our disabled veterans. Yes. 

Voting-rights bond issue. The right of all citizens to vote is sacred. Maine has a long history of restricting the voting rights of citizens of certain classes. Yes. 

Rocking the boat

Comment

For a municipal bond, just where is the money going to come from? 

Our region was in balance this budget season by cutting employee benefits, and we hope the regionals will continue to do the same. We just have to make sure that the cuts are not too deep. The board of directors has asked for more money from the state to cover our losses, but we have to make sure the monies needed are not being used to cover other problems. But all the people, and when they do, Portland will do well. 

A. Rachel Howland 

San Francisco, Calif. 

Penguin actionogan issue

Why is there no bus route number 7 in the Portland area? 

On Aug. 5, only one of Portland's three new routes began operations. However, the City Council's decision to cancel the third route, a trip from the Casco Bay Island Terminals to Yarmouth, has drawn criticism from several quarters. Some have called for the cancellation of the third route, while others have praised the city's decision. The only waste of taxpayer money going on here is the referendum campaign aimed at killing our jobs at BIW. 

The incumbent mayor of Raleigh is popular and has a high approval rating. He has served for four years and is likely to be re-elected for another term. He is so popular that he has raised $325,000 for his re-election campaign. None of his four challengers has raised much over $10,000. 

Portland's best beer bars (10.23.97), even though I can't remember the number 6. 

Recently, the BiW has announced that it will add a new 500-ton plant to its existing facilities. The plant will be used to manufacture additional Aegis cruisers. This is a significant accomplishment for the BIW and the state of Maine. 

The referendum for widening the turnpike is one of the hottest issues in Maine today. 

The referendum question calls for the widening of the turnpike from six to eight lanes, with a projected cost of $550 million. The opponents of the referendum argue that the turnpike is the safest, easiest part of my commute. 

The proponents of the referendum argue that the turnpike needs to be widened to accommodate the increasing traffic. Without the modernization, it is likely that the turnpike would be closed. 

The referendum question is one of the hottest issues in Maine today. 

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Portland City Manager Bob Ganley -

"Portland-Portland high school football game - Oct. 31. In a game that is being played on the Casco Bay Bridge for a winter."

"Everybody in Portland was saying you'd have to be crazy to make that deal."

Ganley said he tried to arrange a friendly game between Portland and Falmouth, who are both long-time rivals. Unfortunately, Falmouth was unable to participate.

"We had a Bonanza deal with them, but it didn't work out."

The two teams agreed to play on the bridge once a year, but Falmouth was not able to join Portland in playing the game this year.

Ganley said he was hoping to work out a deal with another team in the future.

"We're working on it," he said. "Hopefully we'll have something lined up by next year."
HALLOWEEN BALL
Oct 31 $5 cover
Costume Contest - Huge Cash Prizes

HOOKER'S BALL
Registration begins 10pm
Nov 2 • 10:30 Show
$3 cover

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31
Zootz' Halloween Ball (3-6 am)
Free, cover, costume, get the groov & move!

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3
Help Dominate the Species Celebrate Halloween
11 pm - 2 am

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5
Ultra Lounge Party: martini & manhattan specials
11 pm - 2 am

Binary System
Eye Hate God. Today in the city. Rare Form & Playhold Simshow
11 pm - 2 am

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14
Cerebus Show
Mid-Atlantic 10:30 pm - 2 am
Big Meat Hammer • Nov 15 • All Ages
Testament • Nov 16 • All Ages

Jill Sobule • Nov 20 • "I Kissed A Girl"
In for the long haul

Outside of Portland, country music is king in Maine. Local musicians have only recently begun to break free, and many are encouraged to find a niche, or at least a following, for their music. Perhaps the best and brightest of this new wave of urban cowboys (which includesможно. K.C. the Face and The Lovellites) is Diesel Doug & the Long Haul Truckers, who have recently released their debut CD, "An Angel Not a Saint," on Sad Bird Records.

Diesel Doug & the Long Haul Truckers' "An Angel Not a Saint" is available at Strawberries & CDs Authentic. The CD is a collection of songs that showcase the band's eclectic sound and style. While the music itself is unimposing, allowing the songs and melodies to shine, the band adds a knowing wink to their lyrics, a trait that true country fans will appreciate. The band's debut album has been well-received, earning praise for its pure, down-to-earth fun.

The band's debut album, "An Angel Not a Saint," has been well-received by critics and fans alike. The album features a mix of traditional country music and modern rock influences, creating a unique sound that has earned the band a growing following. The CD is available at Strawberries & CDs Authentic, and the band is currently touring in support of their debut release. If you're a fan of country music, don't miss out on this opportunity to experience one of the up-and-coming acts in the genre.
THURSDAY 30

**CROWNS CROSS**

Peter and Alice doesn’t always make you happy – the San Francisco band Crowns Cross can attest to that. At the venue prompted by the late 1990s album, “August and Everything Else,” American Atmospheres guitarist Elton Benley assembled a new wave of artists to write, record and tour. With the band back in Brooklyn (though in the absence of lead singer’s “Morning Song”), an evening just as beautiful and indulgent as “August.” “San Francisco” writer who once Crowns Cross to Stable in the fine place – forty words found and what Bronte calls “unconditional consuming.” At the Cumberland County Civic Center, at 8 p.m. Delicatessen View again. Tix: $25-35.

**CARMEN**

S sighting wrong set-blond haired by the San Francisco Western Opera Theater production of Bizet’s popular opera, “Carmen.” Portland Center Stage is Ideal in fully staged and orchestra play of “Carmen” performed by and around Portland Auditorium. Tix: $40-60.

FRIDAY 31

**“THE LIFE AND MAGIC OF HOUDINI” ILLUSION SHOW AND SEANCE**

If you think an altered state always involves alcohol, put your imagination to the test by attending “The Life and Magic of Houdini.” Master of ceremonies Andrew Ferreira and other professional magicians will perform some of the most mind-bending tricks of the master himself, Harry Houdini. The madness of Houdini’s most famous tricks, along with a few of their own. Finally, Houdini himself may make an appearance at the Portland Museum of Art’s “In Their Own Words: Writers and Artists.” Tix: $10. 772-0606.

**THE GREAT PUMPKIN BALL**

The great novelist’s favorite novel, “The Great Pumpkin Ball” is a costume party and dance extravaganza featuring top area DJs, the Shoestring Theater, costume prizes and the master himself, the Great Pumpkin. He might make an exception for the Great Pumpkin Ball, a costume party and dance extravaganza featuring top area DJs, the Shoestring Theater, costume prizes and the master himself, the Great Pumpkin. He might make an exception for the Portland Symphony Orchestra’s Halloween concert, “The Great Pumpkin Ball.” Tix: $13 ($10 advance). 773-6974.

SATURDAY 1

**NICHOLAS PAYTON QUARTET**

He’s only 23, but up-and-coming New Orleans-style jazz trumpeter Nicholas Payton already has a墙上 of gold – and two albums to prove it. Payton and his quartet perform music from their latest release, “One and One,” as well as works by the St. Louis-based Branching Out Ensemble. At Lawrence Middle School Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Tix: $12. Presented by U.S. Arts. Tix: 812-1800.

TUESDAY 4

**THE FLYING KARAMAZOV BROTHERS**

Can four men juggle and play Beethoven’s Ninth at the same time? Mere mortals may not be able to, but The Flying Karamazov Brothers can. Watch them knock each other senseless as they perform like and other “music” in “Sharps, Flats and Accidentals,” a combination of juggling, music, movement and comedy. Presented by Portland Concert Association. At Merrill Auditorium, at 7:30 p.m. Tix: $20 ($15 for students). 842-0800.

**THE GREAT PUMPKIN BALL**

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**CARMEN**

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**PAT METHENY GROUP**

**NOVEMBER 1, 1997 8:00 P.M.**

Merrill Auditorium, Portland ME

$31.50 $28.50 $24.50

Tickets available at the Box Office or call 207-842-0800
to charge and for more information

Presented by Jack Utick

*Portiaig by AAI*

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**PORTLAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

Fredrick Schmalz • Music Director & Conductor

**Dance Rhythms**

**SATURDAY, NOV 8 8:30 P.M.**

**MERRILL AUDITORIUM** (Portland)

Richard Vendelan, guest conductor

Elisabeth Poirier and Fernando Duran, dancers

**STRAUSS - A Night Waltz**

**TCHAIKOVSKY - Swan Lake Selection**

**GERSHWfn - An American in Paris**

**COPLAND - Appalachian Spring**

**GERMAN - Morris Dance**

**NORIS - Here Come the Band**

Tickets $21, PortTix: 842-6800 • Fax: 842-0810 • Mon-Sat, Noon-6

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**STRAUS**

**NORRIS**

Tickets available at the Box Office or call 207-842-0800
to charge and for more information

Presented by Jack Utick

*Portiaig by AAI*

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**In the lush highlands of Costa Rica, Montes de Oro is hand-picked and solar-dried, offering a medium-bodied, clear, clean taste with a rich, lingering finish.**

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**Nicholas Payton Quintet**

Saturday, November 1, 1997 @ 8pm

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Reserved seating $10/$8 adults & seniors / $5 children & family

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**Yellow Tree**

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**Arts & Entertainment**

**April 11, 1997**

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**SANTUR**

**Tree of Life**

**earrings**

**d·colejewelers**

15 Exchange St., Portland

Tix: $6 ($5 seniors/students)

www.portland.com/santur
**Art, an exhibition of minimalism, Harvard. Opening reception Saturday, Nov 7 from 7-9 pm, in the Wall Street Works, 775 Congress St, Portland. Shows through Dec 31. Paintings and drawings by Victor Romanyshyn and Lucy White. Shows Ongoing. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-5:30 pm. For info, call 773-9660.**

**Desert Island: Maine artists, Ongoing. Hours: Wed-Sat 11-5:30 pm, Sun noon-4 pm. Where there's only a hint of the organic in Ross' work, White's five works are obviously inspired by plant life.**

**Children's Alliance seeks ACTS, 341 Cumberland Ave, Portland. For a schedule of workshops, call 775-4121.**

**Family Workshops in the Arts, at Pleasant Street Collective, 6245 Forest Ave, South Portland. For a schedule of workshops, call 780-1500.**

**Maine History Gallery 489, Building 5, Maine State Pier, Portland. "Form & Function: Early 19th century ship models," through Nov 23. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun noon-5 pm, admission: $7.**

**Painted Furniture Pieces, 'Paintings from Mt. Desert Island: Du Bois, ' Saints' Stories,' Paintings by Victor Romanyshyn, Ongoing. Hours: Wed-Sat 11-5:30 pm, Sun noon-4 pm, admission: $7.**

**Reindeer Theatre Co. Presents: CEMETERY CLUB Oct 31, Nov 1 & 2 RESERVATIONS: 781-2465 at the Full Moon Cafe.**

**Brewpub & Eatery, "Almost Edible: paintings by Tessa Lea, real beer. real food. real people.**

**Kaleidoscope: Toys, Inc. Grand Opening Celebration on November 8th! Free Gifts! Great Entertainment! Located in the Heart of the Old Port! 180 Middle St, Portland 772-1515 See what all the hub-bub's about! www.coscobayweekly.com**
The play's the thing

The new, leaner, meaner Mad Horse opens its season with a "Hamlet" full of soul

MARY STAMATEL

Prior to opening night, the last night of a play's run, in which the actors usually simulate supreme effort and their performances accordingly. But in another way, every night is preview, right next to, or just before the act. That's what makes live theater so dynamic that we call it TV. Even knowing this, I was quite surprised for the way the actors in Mad Horse's production of "Hamlet" brought their characters to the stage and made the audience feel like we were part of the rehearsal, the race and the off bear.

The first two acts are separated, except that Price doesn't find his groove for the first few scenes. Hamlet's humorous side shows in both comic relief and gangly

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Logistics

performing arts

auditions

The Bath Municipal Band is seeking new members. This winter. For more info, contact Frank McMahon by phone: 675-3458.

Dark Water Theatre seeks two female actors, one age 20 to 30 and one age 50 or older. The Society of American Magicians will hold a seance on Tuesday, Oct. 28, at the Pavilion, 188 Middle St, Portland, from 6-11 p.m. Tix: $15-$20. Proceeds benefit the Partners for the Homeless.

Oriental Dance and Belly Dance Baraka will host its annual recital and master class on Sunday, Oct. 26, at the Masonic Hall, 3rd floor, Main St, Portland. Tickets: $15 ($12 seniors/students); recital only $10 (seniors/students); master class observer $5. The Portland Wednesday Players will rehearse for a fall program on Wednesday, Oct. 22, at the Maine State Museum, 133 State St, Augusta, from 1-4 p.m.

African drumming, theater class and painting workshops will be offered at the Portland Community Recreation Center, 1600 Forest Ave, Portland. Cost: $15 per month. Sponsored by Portland Parks and Recreation.

Caporal Master Beck teaches two multilevel classes a month. The classes begin at 10 a.m. and end at 2 p.m. The Wednesday classes are for adults and the Thursday classes are for seniors. The classes are held at the Maplewood Dance Center, 383 Warren Ave, Portland, each week. Cost: $8. 871-9056.

USM Open Mic Night Thursdays through Oct. 30. The Delta Knights and theUSM Chamber of Commerce will host the open mic at the Portland Performing Arts Center, 217 Congress St, Portland, from 5-7 p.m. Tix: $9-$13 ($5 for students). At Temple Beth Israel, 192 Forest Ave, Portland, at 6 p.m. Tix: $10.

Peace Vigil at BIW The Peace & Justice Center of the University of Southern Maine will host a peace vigil at Bath Iron Works, Commercial St, Portland, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Oct. 22.

The Great Pumpkin Ball Oct. 31. The Maine Tourism Association will host a costume ball at the Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Fore St, Portland, from 8-11 p.m. tickets: $20. Proceeds benefit the Partners for the Homeless.

Two videos focus on the impact of poverty on kids. "Sophie's Choice" Screenings are held in Smith Hall, 822 Congress St, Portland, from 4-6 p.m. on Tuesday.
movies

**Review** "A Life Less Ordinary," directed by Dennis Quaid, staring Keanu Reeves, Cameron Diaz, and Miranda Richardson.

"A Life Less Ordinary" is worth seeing, immediately. The movie, directed by Dennis Quaid, features Keanu Reeves and Miranda Richardson among its stars. The story, set in the realm of corporate America, is a sympathetic embarrassment. But the fantasy elements - a phone booth that takes you to another world, for example - will be disappointing to those looking for more straightforward fare. The film's protagonist, played by Keanu Reeves, is a man who can convince his attorney of his innocence, thanks to a phone booth that takes him to another world. He tracks down a serial killer who may have been involved in the murder of his wife, played by Miranda Richardson. A spoiler-free review of the movie can be found here: [link]

*Reviewed 7/31/97.*

**also**

"Alterations," William Hurt

William Hurt reaches for the power of the mind. The film, directed by David Mamet, stars William Hurt as a man who sets out to unearth his Chinese-American heritage. Hurt's character is a natural-born invalid, a mannered teacher whose life is turned upside down when he discovers his family's secret. A review of the movie can be found here: [link]

*Reviewed 6/26/97.*

**times starting friday**

- "A Life Less Ordinary," Hoyts F-10

"A Life Less Ordinary" continues to be worth seeing, immediately. The film, directed by Dennis Quaid, features Keanu Reeves and Miranda Richardson among its stars. The story, set in the realm of corporate America, is a sympathetic embarrassment. But the fantasy elements - a phone booth that takes you to another world, for example - will be disappointing to those looking for more straightforward fare. The film's protagonist, played by Keanu Reeves, is a man who can convince his attorney of his innocence, thanks to a phone booth that takes him to another world. He tracks down a serial killer who may have been involved in the murder of his wife, played by Miranda Richardson. A spoiler-free review of the movie can be found here: [link]

*Reviewed 7/31/97.*

"Ordinary People," directed by Robert Redford, starring James Marshall, Mary Steenburgen, and Marsha Mason.

James Marshall, along with his wife and children, face the challenges of living with a developmentally disabled son. The film, directed by Robert Redford, stars James Marshall as a man who can convince his attorney of his innocence, thanks to a phone booth that takes him to another world. He tracks down a serial killer who may have been involved in the murder of his wife, played by Miranda Richardson. A review of the movie can be found here: [link]

*Reviewed 6/26/97.*

"Blast from the Past," directed by Harald Zwart, starring Tea Leoni and Cameron Diaz.

"Blast from the Past" is a lighthearted romantic comedy that explores the idea of time travel. The film, directed by Harald Zwart, stars Tea Leoni and Cameron Diaz as a couple who, through a time machine, are transported back to the 1960s. A review of the movie can be found here: [link]

* Reviewed 7/31/97.*

"Switchback," directed by John Sturges, starring Cameron Diaz and Claire Oates.

"Switchback" is a science fiction thriller that follows a man as he searches for his missing sister. The film, directed by John Sturges, stars Cameron Diaz and Claire Oates as a sister and brother who are searching for their missing sister. A review of the movie can be found here: [link]

*Reviewed 6/26/97.*

"The Matchmaker," directed by Charles L. Haid, starring Claire Oates and Tate Donovan.

"The Matchmaker" is a musical comedy that follows a man as he tries to find love in a world of rapid-fire romance. The film, directed by Charles L. Haid, stars Claire Oates and Tate Donovan as a singer and a dancer who are trying to find their way in a world of romance. A review of the movie can be found here: [link]

*Reviewed 6/26/97.*

"Seven Years in Tibet," directed by Martin Scorsese, starring Adrien Brody and Jason Patric.

"Seven Years in Tibet" is a historical drama that explores the experiences of a British soldier who is held captive in Tibet. The film, directed by Martin Scorsese, stars Adrien Brody and Jason Patric as a British soldier who is held captive in Tibet. A review of the movie can be found here: [link]

*Reviewed 6/26/97.*