

Clinton is not more equal than others. At least I hope not.

“E quality before the law.” A beautiful sentiment. It speaks to a development in thought where power was not derived from heavily mandate or martial prowess, but rather the consent of those citizens governed. It embodies the ideal where both the meek and the powerful are held to account, not by status, but by their actions.



MICHAEL CIANCHETTE

This week, America failed to live up to that high calling. The Hillary Clinton email scandal was never going to be simple. When federal agents are investigating someone who has a strong chance to become the next president of the United States, they will tread very carefully. That is especially true when the suspect's reputation, according to former Secret Service personnel, is both vindictive and abusive. And their investigation was

colored from the outset; some Republicans muddied the water with over-the-top attacks on Clinton. Merely having a private email server represented poor judgment, but was not — by itself — criminal. It led to reflexive defense of Clinton from those on the left, such as Bernie Sanders' dismissal of the matter with his famous quote that he is “sick and tired of hearing about your damn emails!”

To paraphrase many of his supporters today: oops.

The reason the email scandal dogged Hillary Clinton is because it plays into all the worst perceptions about her. Aloof, amoral and dedicated to winning *uber alles*, it demonstrated a lack of regard for the normal operations of government. A private server wasn't set up for convenience, but rather to give her unfettered control over her email account without fear of the “vast right wing conspiracy.” And when it became time for her to comply with the law and provide official records to the National Archives? She sent around
See Cianchette, Page D3



BDN FILE

Chemistry major Andrew Kiezulas stands on the University of Southern Maine's Portland campus recently before heading to a student recovery group meeting. In August, USM will launch an on-campus recovery center, the first of its kind in Maine.

What it's like trying to stay sober in college

BY ANDREW KIEZULAS
SPECIAL TO THE BDN

Some years ago I recall watching movies such as “Animal House,” “American Pie” and “Old School” and thinking that the quality of my college experience hinged upon how hard I could party.

The best colleges were the ones that threw the biggest and best parties. My high school friends and I accepted the challenge.

We tried to win the approval and admiration of the upperclassmen during parties that lasted all night. In that world, reputations and relationships were forged after hours or on athletic fields, not in the classroom or on campus. If you couldn't do one or both, you didn't fit in and no one seemed to care about you.

This kind of partying can ruin reputations, relationships and academic careers, but if there were another way to be accepted and fit

in or just live in general, it certainly wasn't clear on campus, nor was it even talked about. The accepted fact was this: College is a party, and relief from the stress comes in a bottle.

Before I knew it, I had failed out of two colleges, I had been fired from numerous jobs, I barely managed to get a year done at a local community college and moved half a dozen times. By a stroke of good fortune, a friend from high school somehow got me a job selling fitness equipment with him. It was the most confident I had felt in a long time — until disaster struck.

A severe back injury at work left me on disability for nearly four years, horribly depressed, and led me to a serious opiate and heroin use disorder. Dying became more appealing than living, and it was the only real relief I could foresee in my future.

When I finally got sober, just
See Sober, Page D3

Just how far off are Trump's free trade claims?

BY GREG WRIGHT
AND EMILY BLANCHARD
SPECIAL TO THE BDN

Donald Trump has been bashing free trade for much of his campaign. But in recent weeks he's taken his anti-trade tirades to a whole new level in lashing out at the Trans-Pacific Partnership, a deal that was signed by its 12 Asia-Pacific members but has yet to be ratified.

On June 22, he told a crowd in New York City that the TPP would “ship millions more of our jobs overseas — and give up congressional power to an international foreign commission.” Six days later, he claimed it would not only “undermine our economy, but it will undermine our independence. The TPP creates a new international commission that makes decisions the Ameri-

can people can't veto.”

If that weren't enough, he upped the ante in a campaign stop in Ohio later that day when he declared: “The Trans-Pacific Partnership is another disaster done and pushed by special interests who want to rape our country, just a continuing rape of our country. That's what it is, too. It's a harsh word: It's a rape of our country.”

As researchers on the economics of trade and trade agreements, we wanted to zero in on a few of Trump's claims and assess whether there's any truth to them. In particular, will the TPP destroy millions of jobs and result in the loss of U.S. economic independence?

The impact on jobs

First of all, trade agreements
See Trump, Page D3



GEORGE DANBY | BDN

Trash Talk

A competition for your garbage has left Maine's solid-waste landscape fractured

BY CHRISTOPHER BURNS
BDN STAFF

MAINE'S solid waste landscape is undergoing profound changes. A competition between two waste-to-energy companies for the trash from more than 180 municipalities has left the solid waste landscape in the region fractured and uncertain.

The region's primary waste processor, Penobscot Energy Recovery Co., will face a major financial change when its contract to sell electricity at rates above market prices expires in 2018. Faced with this uncertainty, the Municipal Review Committee, an organization that represents the interests of its more than 180 member municipalities in dealings with PERC, decided to look for other options. It chose to work with Maryland-based Fiberright LLC, which plans to build a facility that will recycle waste and produce biogas in Hampden.

Given the region's limited amount of municipal waste, it is unclear whether the two trash-to-energy operations can both operate successfully.

More than 100 towns have committed an estimated 100,000 tons of trash to the Fiberright project, short of the facility's original goal of 150,000

tons, according to a Bangor Daily News analysis.

Only 21 towns with about 22,000 tons have decided to remain with PERC, which falls short of the company's goal of securing at least 50,000 tons. As of noon Thursday, 32 towns with about 17,800 tons of trash in play have not made any commitments, meaning it is unlikely either facility will reach its goal.

Further complicating the situation, many towns went with neither facility, opting to send their trash elsewhere in the state or to Canada. The division among towns in the region over trash disposal has left a great deal of uncertainty about the future of waste management in Maine.

PERC's uncertainty

Only a handful of towns will continue to send trash to the PERC facility after a contract between MRC member towns and the company expires in March 2018, when a lucrative power-purchase agreement with Emera Maine that has guaranteed PERC above market rates for electricity produced from burning trash ends.

Town officials raised concerns that PERC could no longer operate profitably with the end of the power-purchase agreement, setting up a split that has played out over the spring and summer.
See Trash, Page D3