

# YESTERDAY

## YESTERDAY ... 10 years ago — March 17, 2006

(As reported in the Bangor Daily News)

BANGOR — University of Maine assistant professor Diane Hoff was puzzled about why there are so few female school administrators in Maine. After all, women make up the majority of classroom teachers as well as participants in UM's educational leadership program where Hoff teaches.

Yet, based on recent numbers in Maine and across the country, women make up only about 18-20 percent of superintendents and high school principals — positions that carry the most responsibility and influence.

So, Hoff and Sidney Mitchell, another UM assistant professor of educational leadership, conducted a two-year survey of more than 400 male and female superintendents, principals, curriculum coordinators and special education directors in Maine.

Now they have issued a draft report identifying some reasons for the dearth of women in upper administrative roles as well as ways to turn the numbers around.

According to their findings contained in "Opening the Club: Overcoming Gender Barriers in School Administration," factors that could deter women from becoming superintendents or high school principals include: family obligations; late entry into administration; feelings of isolation and an absence of support systems; and prevailing images of masculine leadership.

The issue is about more than gender equity, said Hoff, who plans to present the study at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association in San Francisco next month.

School leaders are drawn from a talented teacher pool which happens to be composed largely of women, she said recently. "If we can't make these jobs attractive to women, we'll face a huge shortage of leaders in the state and the country."

According to the analysis, women across the board said that family responsibilities fell disproportionately on their shoulders and that they were concerned that the long hours and many evenings associated with being superintendent and high school principal would interfere with these obligations.

OLD TOWN — Potential buyers of the Georgia-Pacific Corp. mill are expected to meet today with state officials in an attempt to save more than 400 jobs at the

## PICTURE FROM THE PAST



BANGOR DAILY NEWS FILE PHOTO BY SPIKE WEBB  
**Union Station on Washington Street dominated downtown after opening in 1907 until its demolition in 1961. The brick structure served Maine Central Railroad passengers, as well as the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad. Its grand illuminated bell tower clock was visible for many miles as seen in this 1960 file photo.**

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facility, which is facing permanent closure once again.

The Old Town pulp and tissue mill ceased production Thursday, and employees began the shutdown process.

G-P officials told employees Thursday morning that the pulp and tissue paper manufacturing and associated tissue shipping operations would stop immediately.

"The mill's tissue and pulp manufacturing assets are no longer required to service our customer base," Ted Sapoznik, G-P vice president of consumer products manufacturing, said Thursday.

Sapoznik, along with Gov. John Baldacci and state Economic Development Commissioner Jack Cashman, appeared at a press conference at the mill's training facility in Old Town to announce the closure.

In addition to the closure of the Old Town site, wood chip mills in Costigan, Milo, Portage and Houlton that supply raw material to the mill also were shut down Thursday. The chip mills employed approximately 30 people.

## 25 years ago — March 17, 1991

ORONO — Rescuers were back on an old trestle Friday morning retrieving a dog that had been stranded on a nearby island in the Stillwater River since the night before.

The canine rescue — earlier

reports that the animal had made it back to safety Thursday evening were erroneous — ended an episode that included the rescue of its master and two other men from the island late Thursday.

Fire Chief Robert Burke said Friday that that morning, rescuers went across the trestle with lifelines, dropped to the island, put the dog into a canvas bag to keep it warm, strapped it into a stretcher and got it back up to the walkway.

The Thursday evening escapades of the dog, reportedly named Space, touched off several hours of drama.

When it became stranded, its master sought help from the Orono Fire Department, which hesitated to attempt a rescue in the dark — weighing the danger to human life against the danger to the dog — and urged the owner to wait until daylight. But the owner and two friends tried anyway, and went out to the island by the trestle.

They decided it would be too dangerous to try to get back safely the same way, however, and called for help.

Assisted to shore around 11:45 p.m. Thursday were William Stavenhagen and Joseph Shaboa, both of Hill Street, and Mark McKelvey of Water Street, all in Orono. Which of the three owned the dog was unclear Friday afternoon.

## 50 years ago — March 17, 1966

BANGOR — Should signs in Bangor be regulated?

... signs advertising a product, monogramming a business, heralding a circus of a candidate?

... billboards bordering a superhighway, topping a building?

... neons flashing, spelling, pointing, running, spotlighting, even blowing smoke in a case in one city?

Many communities have done this. Bangor municipal designers and administrators feel it should be done here for the sake of attractiveness or aesthetics, and for motoring and public safety.

An ordinance has been drawn up. First it carried tough language that has been softened in conferences with merchant and sign company representatives; later watered down upon the complaints of a service state realty lawyer.

But planners and administrators here, with the Chamber of Commerce support now, point out that the proposed law is still a good one and should be enacted.

"We started off with a tough law, knowing that we would have to compromise," the city manager said recently. "It's still a good ordinance with many provisions that should be adopted."

The ordinance has kicked around on the City Council agenda here for several months. Three weeks ago, it got initial action with a favorable vote. Monday, it could not be passed because of insuffi-

cient support. The outcome of the law is still in doubt.

Generally, it gives citizens three years to conform with the law.

## 100 years ago — March 17, 1916

From cattle ranch to city mansion, from western barroom to New York roof garden, the vigorous drama filmed from Will Lillibridge's successful book Ben Blair, to be seen at the Park Theatre on Friday and Saturday is filled with action, dramatic moments, and scenes of exceptional interest. The beauty of the cattle country and the splendor of fashionable city life are shown in an admirable manner by the excellent quality of the camera work. The standard set for Pallas Pictures is worthily maintained.

Scott Winthrop has to go West for his health. His wealthy father buys him a ranch and he takes his wife and little daughter, Florence, to live in the cattle country. The neighboring ranch is owned by John Rankin, a typical westerner. Rankin's wife Jennie had deserted him for Tom Blair, a former sweetheart.

Tom Blair is a heavy drinking rowdy. He comes home after a spree and finds Jennie in bed sick, shakes her so violently that she dies from shock. Ben Blair, Jennie's boy fearing for his life eludes Tom and speaking safety in his dog's dugout, escapes the fire started by Tom Blair to destroy the shock and its evidence.

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