

PORTLAND™

■ MAINE'S CITY MAGAZINE ■

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THE 10 MOST

INTRIGUING

People

IN MAINE

Deirdre Nice
William POPE. L
Travis Roy
Wiscasset Mummy
Molly Sinclair
Peter O'Donnell
Robin Alden
Julio Dicent
John McKernan

INTERVIEW:

**WAYNFLETE'S
LIV TYLER**





PHILIP CARUSO, 20th Century Fox

Former Waynflete student and Portland resident Liv Tyler

THE 10 MOST INTRIGUING People IN MAINE From Staff & Wire Reports

Actress Liv Tyler, 19

Imagine growing up in Portland, Maine. It's pretty easy for a lot of us. But then imagine walking down Exchange Street in the Old Port for some shopping and seeing your face up on movie posters as the feature actress in *Stealing Beauty*, the award-

winning Bernardo Bertolucci film where you play opposite Jeremy Irons; *Heavy*, James Mangold's masterpiece of low-tide dolor that is delighting the critics with its ambition, understatement, and charm; and *That Thing You Do*, the sensational big-box funfest where you've stolen the show as the lead female performer in a movie written by and starring Tom Hanks.

Imagine for a second that you're actress Liv Tyler, 19.

By the time Liv comes home to Portland "this Thanksgiving or Christmas—I can't wait," her career will be rocketing so fast she'll probably suffer from re-entry burn when she touches down here in the city she loves. We've reached her by telephone at New York's Ritz-Carlton for this interview, where her publicist has instructed us to ask for her as "Mrs. Fogg."

Now that you know your way around Cannes, New York, and Hollywood, how do you know when you're in Portland?

LT I know I'm in Portland when I'm going over that little bridge by the airport and you can see the planes on one side and then up on the hill you can see the Western Promenade. I absolutely consider Portland my hometown.

So there's a big emotional connection here?

LT Yes.

Heavy takes place in a raw New England setting. Did you draw upon your Maine experience to come up with your waitress character? The place reminds me of Portland, but somewhere along the coast, outside the city.

LT My character in *Heavy* is maybe who I would have been if I'd never left Maine. I felt like here she was, livin' here and keepin' it together. So there was a lot of Maine in that. When I read that screenplay, I just cried and cried.

We saw *Heavy* last night.

LT Oh, did it play in that little place that shows the movies on Exchange Street? I love that place! We used to go in there all the time. I was hoping that was the place.

I tell her that Steve and Judy Halpert, owners of *The Movies on Exchange Street*, say that *Stealing Beauty* did more business than any other movie last summer, and she seems definitely happy about that.

LT Pardon me, but I'm going to have a cigarette.

She self-mockingly breathes the words as if we're in old Hollywood and she's part of the Studio System. I'm distracted by someone in our office pointing to the television screen: "Hey, Liv's the new Pantene girl!"

LT I just kind of felt like smokin' a cigarette.

What originally brought you and your mom to Portland in 1980?

LT To be near my aunt, Anne Noyes (of Yarmouth, who is married to Ted Noyes of Noyes & Chapman Insurance,

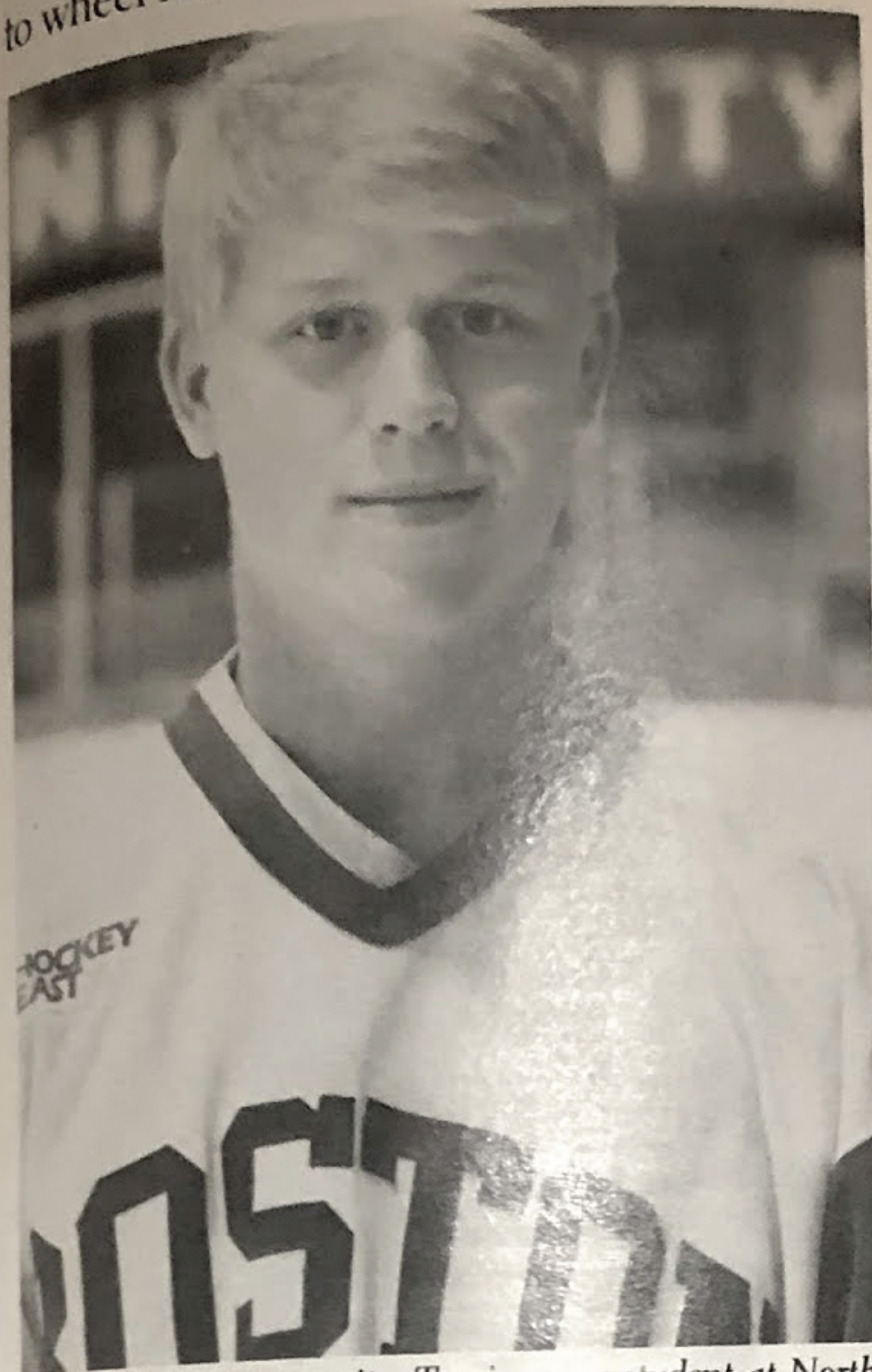
since he was at the center of the uproar. "I told the board of directors I felt I needed to move on because I was too attached to the charges our critics are still bringing." Specifically, O'Donnell points to former Portland West consultant Bruce Reeves, ousted two years ago by O'Donnell in a nasty public fight over Reeves' pay. "There were legitimate concerns about how much Reeves was getting compensated, but Mr. Reeves continues to write negative letters about me to agencies Portland West raises money from." Reeves bitterly refutes O'Donnell's claims his pay was exorbitant, but the spat among leaders of an agency dedicated to fighting poverty damaged Portland West's credibility. So, O'Donnell will step down this fall and is already talking with potential employers. What's next for the former star of the Portland city council? Maybe more of the same, since O'Donnell loves politics and is ever ready with a stump speech. "If you look at the facts, Portland West served 1,000 low-income working people this year—teaching high school dropouts to read, helping delinquent teens make restitution, and giving a voice to single mothers overlooked in the welfare reform debate." He still believes local government can play a big role if it's more flexible. O'Donnell uses the same logic in his job search, suggesting potential employers "give me a call, I'm listed!"

—By Richard Rose

Travis Roy, 21

"When I'm asked about the accident I try to tell people how well I'm doing now—I'm not dwelling on the past." Yarmouth's Travis Roy is a marvel of determination a year after the horrifying crash into the boards which paralyzed him in his first hockey game for Boston University. Travis is on a level with actor Christopher Reeve as a spokesman for the disabled, mostly because everyone admires the way he has never allowed himself time for pity. Instead, Travis prefers to portray his life as typical. "I'm going through the normal college experience all the students at BU are!" Of course, he stands out from his classmates: he's spoken to the U.S. Senate about the need for more spinal cord medical research, he's set up a foundation to help thousands of handicapped people, and he's now writing a book about his experiences. Travis lives on campus at Boston University and continues to make

steady progress. He has some movement in his right arm and can now feed himself with a velcro-attached fork. He's also able to wheel himself in and about BU's hand-



The pride his community, Travis was a student at North Yarmouth Academy, where his father works today.

icap-accessible complex of buildings. Typically, he keys in on the thrill of meeting hockey superstar Wayne Gretzky, and he's not the least inclined to warn young athletes away from the hard-driving game he so loves. "Hockey is a very safe sport! My accident was a fluke—I am the only Division One hockey player in history to have this happen. In fact, I'll encourage my children to play hockey if that's their wish!"

Why is Travis intriguing? The easy way out for him would have been to disengage from life and stay in the safe haven built next to his parents' house through the generous donations of his community, but though he's grateful and glad to visit, proof of his mettle is that Travis is a freshman once again at B.U.

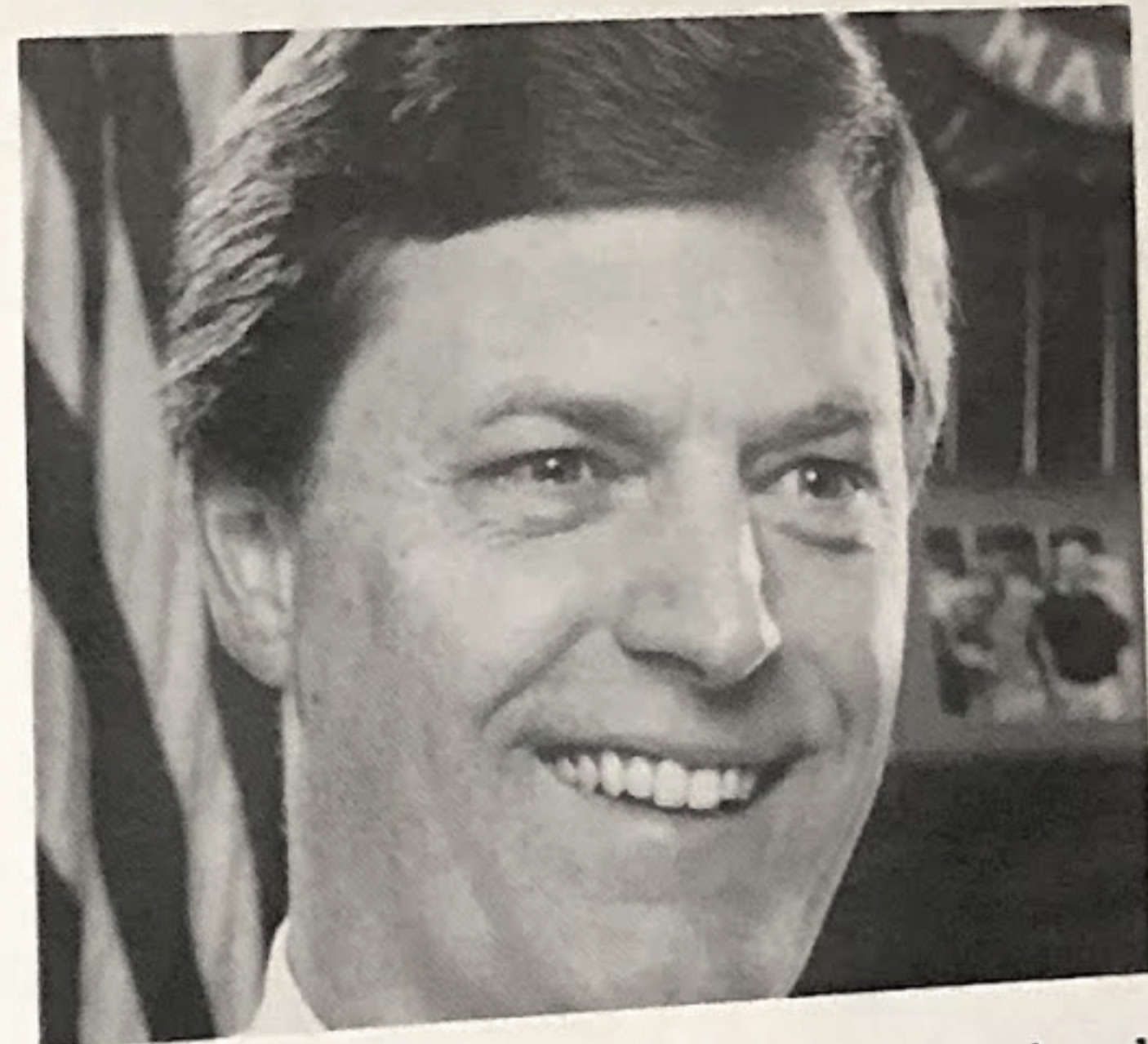
—By Richard Rose

Gov. John McKernan, 48

"It's getting there, although I'm sure it will come close to falling apart several times before it finally comes together!" Someone who'd been out of state the last two years might wonder if former Gov. John McKernan is talking about yet another precarious budget deal only to be pleasantly surprised to learn the former Governor is pitching a deal that may yet save 450 precious jobs in Waterville. It's

McKernan who stands at the head of the private effort to take over the C.F. Hathaway shirt company before the operation is permanently shut down by its corporate owners Warnaco. McKernan convinced Warnaco to hold off while he put together a group of investors to save Hathaway. A mix of federal and state grants has been pledged to finance McKernan's takeover, but there's still the sticky issue of worker concessions. "Ultimately, it's all going to come down to whether the unions want to be competitive." While there's grumbling about the call for lower pay, McKernan has mostly been credited with moving quickly to save a household Maine name from the corporate bottom line. "Perhaps we'll set the standard for what should be the new corporate ethic for the 1990s—that you can save jobs and still run a profitable business." If the deal goes through as expected, he will be chairman of the new Hathaway.

While he still holds out the possibility he'll return to politics in some future national administration, he is more than content to re-package the Hathaway



name, pointing out he's long been a loyal customer.

"Absolutely, I'm a Hathaway man! I can remember as a small boy when you'd have a Hathaway shirt for church!"

—By Richard Rose

Molly Sinclair, 27

Hers is a case in point of "damned if you do and damned if you don't." How many times have we all heard the deplorable state of public education in America lamented—or even bemoaned it ourselves, railing self-righteously against across-the-board lack of involvement on the part of teachers, students, and parents? Enter Molly Sinclair—a twenty-seven-year-old native of Springfield, Vermont with a whole-hearted belief in the intrin-