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News Release

Contact:
Sue Bernard
Development and
College Relations Office
33 Edgemont Drive
Presque Isle, ME 04769
Phone: (207) 768-2808
Fax: (207) 760-1101
sbernard@nmcc.edu

John Martin Roast Benefits NMCC Scholarships

Aroostook County - A who's who in the world of Maine politics gathered Saturday, August 24th for a dinner roast of the Honorable John L. Martin of Eagle Lake to raise money for Northern Maine Community College scholarships. Some \$14,000 was raised to endow a scholarship in his name and for other NMCC programs.

Among the speakers at the fundraiser held at the Crow's Nest Event Center was Congressman Michael Michaud, former Governor John Baldacci and Maine humorist, Gary Crocker. Messages of congratulations and good-natured ribbing were also sent from Senator Angus King, Senator Susan Collins and former Senator George Mitchell.

Martin was singled out for the dubious honor because of his nearly 50 years as a legislator and due to his tireless work on behalf of northern Maine and education in particular.

"John has been a true force in the legislature for decades and we owe him a great deal for his help in the growth and development of Northern Maine Community College," according to Tim Crowley, NMCC President.

"When my son was young, he once marveled about the John Martin building located on the NMCC campus," said Senator Troy Jackson of Allagash. "Do you suppose they could name a broom closet after you, Dad?"

"As a young legislator, I had heard about the wrath of Speaker John Martin. Wanting to test it, I went to his office to tell him I couldn't agree with him about a certain bill. John told me he was informed by the clerk of the House that I had already voted along with him on the measure," Congressman Michaud told the audience of 160. "What John did not know is, the clerk was out sick that entire day, so I learned you couldn't always believe what came out of his mouth."

Former colleagues from as far as York County were on hand to participate in the roast and support the cause of student scholarships.

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Former Governor John Baldacci and the Honorable John Martin chat during the social hour prior to the roast held Saturday, August 24th to benefit student scholarships at Northern Maine Community College. About \$14,000 was raised.