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Legacy remains a plus for applicants

by Evan S. Kohn
ORIENT STAFF

Proponents say special consideration for legacy applicants enhances loyalty among alumni; critics maintain that it gives some an unfair advantage.

The practice has been controversial for years. In the 2004 presidential campaign, President George W. Bush—a third-generation legacy himself—joked about following his father's footsteps to Yale University, but he and Senator John Kerry opposed legacy status as a factor in admissions.

Bowdoin and many other schools honor legacy status, considering it one of several "plus factors" that can tip the scales for applicants.

Interim Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Dick Steele said in an interview with the Orient that calling legacy applicants' families with bad news is not something he exactly enjoys.

"One of the most difficult things I have to do as a Dean of Admissions is to tell a loyal Bowdoin family that this is not the place for their son or daughter. I had to make quite a few

Track team makes a splash at NESCAC championships



Drew Fulton, The Bowdoin Orient

Katie Mevorach '09 splashes through the water pit in the women's 3000-meter steeplechase. The event was part of the NESCAC track and field championship, held at Bowdoin last Saturday. See story, page 13.

College considers renewable energy buy

by Anna Karass
ORIENT STAFF

President Barry Mills gave some students additional homework this week.

After meeting with members of Clean Energy Now (CEN), Mills and Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration and Treasurer Katy Longley have asked the group to provide the administration with additional details about options for purchasing 100 percent of its energy from renewable sources.

Almost a dozen members of CEN met with Mills and Longley last Friday, urging the College to adopt a policy for the purchase of clean-energy electricity. In addition, the group presented Mills with a petition signed by more than 700 students and faculty, who supported the initiative to buy electricity from renewable sources. Although both sides felt that the meeting was productive, administrators have not yet made a decision.

"It was, I thought, an excellent meeting. They were passionate, thoughtful, engaged, and serious," Mills told the Orient on Wednesday.

"I asked a lot of questions. They're going off to do some more investigation based on my questions. We're going off and doing some investigating based on some of the issues we talked about," Mills said.

At Monday's faculty meeting, Mills expressed concern about the students' analysis of the complex issue.

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Coleman residents protest construction

by Miranda Yaver
ORIENT STAFF

For many Coleman residents, the current campus construction is hitting too close to home.

Campus construction has affected the entire student body this year. The simultaneous renovations of the Walker Art Building, the former Curtis Pool Building, and Appleton and Hyde Halls are obstructing pathways and creating noise. Many Coleman students' frustrations peaked, however, when they found the majority of their dorm fenced in.

The College prepares to begin renovation of Coleman as soon as students move out.

In response to the construction surrounding Coleman Hall, a group of the dorm's residents—first years Shelley Barron, Aspen Gavenus, Jordan Agusti, Sara Griffin, Nick Norton, Liza Shoenfeld, and Dzenana Lukovic—made "Free Coleman" shirts in protest.

"We've dealt with noise, we've dealt with the water main being shut off, or the electricity going off unex-

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Baldacci: Bowdoin should lead state in clean energy

by Nat Herz
ORIENT STAFF

In an interview with the Orient, Maine governor John Baldacci called on Bowdoin and other schools to strive for the use of clean energy.

"It would be wonderful to have an institution of higher learning that could be a role model for the rest of the state and be 100 percent clean energy," Baldacci said.

"I think that's where I'm going to be striving with the University of Maine...and I think this is where our higher institutions of learning and knowledge can be role models for the rest of the state," he said.

The interview followed a town hall meeting in Moulton Union Monday sponsored by the Bowdoin College Democrats. At the meeting, Baldacci, who is running for re-election, spoke emphatically about health care, education, and the economy, in addition to reiterating his plea for energy independence. In a

speech that preceded a question-and-answer session, he attempted to explain his complex Dirigo health insurance plan and discussed the need for energy-independence on a local and state level.

"We're looking at the expansion of solar and wind energies," Baldacci said.

"We need to declare that we're going to become energy independent. Maine is in a position to demonstrate to the rest of the country what it should be doing," he said.

Speaker of the Maine House of Representatives John Richardson introduced Baldacci and used the opportunity to thank the Bowdoin College Democrats for helping with his re-election campaign last fall. Richardson said that out of his winning margin of 1,000 votes, 900 of them came from Bowdoin students, and he credited the Democrats with garnering the turnout.

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Stowe House renovation pending

by James D. Baumberger
and Mary Helen Miller
ORIENT STAFF

The house where Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote her famous novel, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," currently lies vacant on Bowdoin-owned property.

But if the College can raise the money necessary, it intends to restore the building to its former condition.

"We feel an obligation to keep it and restore it said," said Senior Vice-President for Finance and Administration and Treasurer Katy Longley, who is directing the project.

In 2001, Bowdoin bought the house at 63 Federal St. in a \$1.3-million purchase that also included a newer building, which was formerly operated as a hotel and was subsequently converted into college dormitories.

Stowe lived in the house between 1850 and 1852 while her husband taught at Bowdoin.

Historians cite "Uncle Tom's Cabin" as contributing to the mobilization of the abolitionist cause

prior to the Civil War. Abraham Lincoln famously referred to Stowe as "the little woman who wrote the book that started this great war."

U.S. Congressman Tom Allen '67, D-

Maine, last year helped Bowdoin get a \$99,000 federal appropriation to fund a feasibility study for the house restoration.

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Construction a step closer to completion



Drew Fulton, The Bowdoin Orient

While construction will not be finished until spring 2007, the Walker Art Building stairs are set for completion in time for graduation on May 27.

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Relive the most important stories of the College's 204th academic year

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