



# THE BOWDOIN ORIENT

Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine  
The Oldest Continuously Published College Weekly in the United States

January 26, 2007  
Volume CXXXVI, Number 13

1st CLASS  
U.S. MAIL  
Postage PAID  
Bowdoin College

## New sex assault policy launched

*College adds third alternative of structured meeting with staff*

by Kira Chappelle  
STAFF WRITER

Bowdoin has adopted a new Student Sexual Assault and Misconduct Policy that aims to make it easier to address matters of sexual assault and misconduct on campus.

"In my 10.5 years at Bowdoin, the Sexual Misconduct Board has handled only two cases," said Dean of Student Affairs Tim Foster. "Each year, however, we receive a handful of reports, some anonymous, of assault, but the alleged victim is unwilling for a variety of reasons to take any formal action."

The new policy, adapted from the University of Virginia (UVA), now offers three different ways to handle a sexual assault case. The old policy listed only two alternatives: mediation and formal hearings. The new policy provides the additional option of a structured meeting with staff from the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs.

"It seems to be key to have a kind of middle road in between the other two options," Associate Dean of

*Please see ASSAULT, page 4*

### HANLEY DENNING 1970-2007

*"She believed in each child...and fought for them with strong conviction."*  
Tam Do '06



*"I think Hanley's legacy is one of deep commitment to serving the common good."*  
Sarah Mountcastle '05



Courtesy of Jake Stevens

Families, seen in the distance, scavenge the Guatemala City garbage dump for food and clothing. When Hanley Denning '92 saw the scene, she was moved to launch the Safe Passage organization. Denning died last week.

## Activist alum dies in crash

by Anne Riley  
ORIENT STAFF

When Hanley Denning '92 arrived in Guatemala in 1997 looking to learn the language, she did not expect to find her life's calling—especially not in an open-air garbage dump in the slums of Guatemala City.

But after a friend brought her to the dump to show her the dozens of families scavenging newly deposited trash for items to eat and sell, Denning knew that she had found a place where she was truly needed. Within the week, she sold her computer and her car for money to rent a room in a run-down church and began what would become her life's work.

Denning was killed in a car crash en route to Antigua, Guatemala, on January 18. She was the founder of Safe Passage, an organization that provides local children the hope and support they need to continue their educations and

*Please see ACTIVIST, page 2*

## Friends remember King one year later

*Student's memory to be honored on the one-year anniversary of her death*

by Emma Powers  
STAFF WRITER

A service to honor Taryn King '07, a student who suddenly died while studying abroad in Ireland one year ago today, will take place in the Chapel this evening at 5 p.m.

An involved member of the Bowdoin community, King was described as a devoted and talented field hockey player, a member of the lacrosse team, and a diligent, passionate student.

Seniors Burgess LePage, Ashley



**King '07** died while studying abroad in Ireland one year ago today.

Conti, Becca Ginsberg, and Sam Cohen, have planned the service to reflect upon King's remarkable character.

A deacon from Portland will lead a short service, which will begin with opening prayers and songs, with Marc Donnelly '07 playing the piano. The remainder of the service will offer individuals the opportunity to share words and stories about King.

The service will resemble the one held on campus following her death

*Please see KING, page 2*

## Students create eavesdroppers' forum

by Steve Kolowich  
ORIENT STAFF

Bowdoin students may want to think twice about what they say out loud this semester, because if they're not careful, it might end up on the Internet.

Liberal Media, an unincorporated production company founded and operated by juniors Will Donahoe and Clark Gascogne and seniors Frank Chi and Dotan Johnson, has launched a Web site where members of the Bowdoin community can post amusing snippets of conversation that they overhear on campus.

Overheardatbowdoin.com went live on January 16 and has received a dozen posts and hundreds of visitors since.

One post documents this alleged exchange between two female students reading a newspaper:

"Who's that—is that Nancy Pelosi?"

"I think that's Condoleezza Rice."

"My mom made me watch the news over break. It sucked! She says I need to be more informed..."

Another user reports hearing a student in Sills Hall declare, "I would never go to the South because all Southerners are prejudiced."

### OVERHEARD AT BOWDOIN

- Four students have launched a Web site that allows members of the Bowdoin community to post clips from amusing conversations they have overheard on campus.
- As of Thursday afternoon, 565 visitors had viewed the site.
- The site can be accessed at [www.overheardatbowdoin.com](http://www.overheardatbowdoin.com).

Though many of the posts appear to expose ignorance within the student body, the Liberal Media

*Please see FORUM, page 4*

## Dr. Jeff Benson leaves Bowdoin post

by Anna Karass  
ORIENT STAFF

After seven years at the College, Dr. Jeff Benson is no longer serving as college physician and director of the health center.

In an e-mail sent to students, Dean of Student Affairs Tim Foster discussed Benson's contributions to the campus, but did not elaborate on Benson's departure.

Foster highlighted Benson's commitment to the health of students, as well as his willingness to talk to staff

members about their personal health concerns. Foster also emphasized Benson's role in making Bowdoin smoke-free and in planning Bowdoin's response to public health emergencies.

In a later e-mail to the Orient, Foster offered no additional information regarding Benson's departure.

"Dr. Benson is leaving the College to pursue other professional opportunities," Foster wrote.

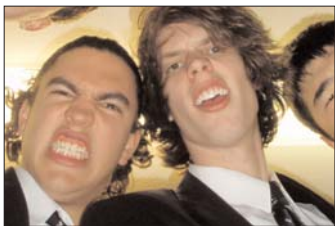
A staff member at the Dudley Coe Health Center said she was unaware of further information regarding the

physician's departure. A phone call to Benson's home found that his phone number was no longer in service.

Foster's e-mail also discussed the current arrangements at the Dudley Coe Health Center in light of Benson's leaving. Foster assured students that they will continue to have access to the "highest quality care." For the spring semester, Benson's duties will be shared by Dr. Jeffrey Maher, who was Benson's back-up, and Dr. Tim Howe, who served as Bowdoin's contracted physician for 10 years.

*Nat Herz contributed to this report.*

### INSIDE



**A&E**  
A cappella groups strike a chord with out-of-state audiences  
Page 10