



THE BOWDOIN

Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine
The Oldest Continuously Published College Weekly in the U.S.

ORIENT

February 25, 2005
Volume CXXXIV, Number 16

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

A mini Michelangelo makes his mark



Karsten Moran, *Bowdoin Orient*

Dima Chambers of Portland readies his palette at the Walker Art Building Thursday. The Museum of Art invited the public to paint the walls of the Boyd Gallery through today at 5:00 p.m. Professor Mark Wethli's Painting I class will complete the design, and the mural will be open to the public until July. See story, page 4.

Plan could create special co-op dorm

Interest high among some, but administration's support is non-committal

by Joshua Miller
ORIENT STAFF

A group of students could create drastic changes in the College's residential life system as it proposes to create Bowdoin's first cooperative residence within the next few years.

The College administration has yet to agree to any concrete plans, however, Interim Director of the Office of Residential Life Kimberly A. Pacelli said a co-op at Bowdoin is "an interesting idea." She added that she is "working with [the interested students] to achieve their goal."

For over a year, a group of students—spearheaded by Ruth Morrison, Katherine Kirklin, and Mike Taylor, all class of 2007—has been crafting a plan for a cooperative living arrangement in Burnett House. Currently Burnett is one of the 19 official upper-class residence halls.

At an hour-long informational

meeting on Monday, the co-op planners enthusiastically shared their ideas with about forty interested students who attended the meeting. The presence of that many people, mostly first and second-year students, was, for Morrison, "incredibly encouraging."

The cooperative at Bowdoin will incorporate a number of key values: communal living, consensus voting, environmental friendliness, and a reduced reliance on the College for services.

The manifestations of this increased self-reliance include residents cooking their own meals and cleaning their house without the help of Bowdoin-provided housekeeping.

Cooperative living is not new. "In history," Morrison said in a telephone interview, "there's a lot of precedent for this [idea] of communal living." Many colleges across the country have co-ops, she added.

The plan for the co-op house is to have no house officers or majority rule. Although consensus voting can be time-consuming, it has many

Please see CO-OP, page 2

One-half of campus reports Rx drug use

by Krystal Barker
ORIENT STAFF

Forty-six percent of Bowdoin students take a prescription medication, according to Director of Health Services Dr. Jeff Benson. This figure is similar to the national percentage of all Americans taking one or more prescription—44 percent—according to a government report released in December.

Slightly more than 34 percent of Americans between the ages of 18 and 44 are on medications. Nearly 17 percent of Americans of all ages take at least three prescription drugs.

These figures did not surprise Benson.

"In this era of managed care, increasing patient 'consumer' self-advocacy and aggressive drug company marketing, increasing numbers of Americans are prescribed increasing numbers of medications," he said. "I would have expected the numbers to be even higher."

The report revealed that most of the medications are used to treat diabetes, depression, high cholesterol, and to lower risk of heart disease.

Also, 49 percent of American women take prescription medica-

tions, while 39 percent of men do.

At Bowdoin, 48 percent of women at Bowdoin are taking hormonal contraceptives, making these medications the most heavily used by Bowdoin students, according to Benson.

Psychotropic medicines such as those to treat depression make up 22 percent of the medications taken by

Bowdoin students. Sixteen percent of the student body takes these drugs.

Allergy medications account for 20 percent of the most used prescriptions with 14 percent of the student body on these drugs. Stimulants like those to treat Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) make up three percent of

the usage with two percent of the student body taking these drugs.

"Bowdoin students, on the whole, are a pretty healthy group of people," said Benson.

However, the statistics the health center provides only show those that are self-reported by students and those that have been prescribed by the college health center. Moreover, there are some students who do not



Hans Law, *Bowdoin Orient*

Colby offers diners beer, wine

Popular program lets Mules drink \$1 bottles in campus dining hall

On most Friday nights this semester, Colby students will be able to enjoy an alcoholic beverage or two—in their dining hall.

Colby's new drinking policy allows students over 21 years old to purchase up to two alcoholic beverages, beer or wine, on Friday evenings for one dollar apiece. The program, began by Colby Student Government and Colby Dining Services, aims to teach students how to drink moderately and responsibly.

Director of Colby Dining Services Varun Avashthi said the program teaches students that there are options other than abstinence and heavy drinking. "Students can drink in moderation. They don't need to be binge drinking."

Avashthi also said there are positive externalities associated with the program. "This program sends a message to [underage students] as well—have a drink or two, but you don't have to have too many. That's the whole point."

Not surprisingly, the program has



Brian Dunn, *Bowdoin Orient*

A server at Colby College gives a glass of wine to Colby senior Nick Snyder. On Friday nights, alcohol is available in the dining hall.

been well-received by Colby students. Senior Nick Snyder said, "So far the program has worked extremely well. I mean you can't complain about cheap alcohol and good company."

Each Friday night, wine representatives speak about their product, and if the beer is a Maine microbrew, representatives from the company will speak to students. Last Friday, representatives from Shipyard spoke to students about

their Brewer's Choice and Export brands, both of which were available for a dollar. The program's debut in November featured representatives from Allagash Brewing Company.

The program began as a trial and was implemented three times last semester. Now, due to its popularity, Dining Services plans to serve alcohol on most Friday nights throughout the semester. Colby Dining

Please see COLBY, page 2

INSIDE

Features

Cell phones promote the dangers of "drunk dialing"

Page 5

Sports

Women's basketball wins first game of NESCAC tourney

Page 13



Please see DRUGS, page 3