November 4, 2005 Volume CXXXV, Number 8

### Merton charms crowd in 1920s comedy



Drew Fulton, The Bowdoin Orient

Michael Wood '06, as Merton Gill, and Jacqueline O'Hare '06, as Tessie Kearns, perform in the Department of Theater and Dance's fall play, Merton of the Movies. See related article, page 6.

## Students prepare for referendum vote

by Nat Herz ORIENT STAFF

The Bowdoin campus has become a battleground for groups fighting on both sides of Maine's upcoming referendum on gay rights, Question 1.

The ballot question reads, "Do you want to repeal the law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation?" The measure is on the ballot as a response to a law passed earlier in the year by the Maine Legislature that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.

Numerous student organizations are involved in the debate, and many are planning Election Day activities. Organizations that have mobilized include the College Democrats and Republicans, the Bowdoin Queer-Straight Alliance (BQSA), the Bowdoin Women's Association (BWA), the Democratic Socialists, and the newly-formed Queers and Allies group (Q&A).

According to Professor of Government Chris Potholm, the key to the campaign is convincing rural Mainers that discrimination is a problem.

"You and I might think there's discrimination based on sexual orientation, but a majority of people who live in small towns do not believe that," Potholm said in an interview. "They genuinely do not believe that there is a problem."

Potholm said that the most recent polling of definite voters had the "Yes" vote leading by a margin of seven to eight percent. However, Potholm said that confusion with the wording of the measure would give the "No" side an extra five percent.

Campus groups are mostly focusing on getting Bowdoin students and community members to the polls. While acknowledging that the College Democrats had been doing some phone banking over the last two

Please see REFERENDUM, page 3

# Schuberth retracts criticism of Cornell du Houx's service

Leaders of College Democrats not satisfied with apology

> by Anne Riley ORIENT STAFF

After publicly questioning the "logic and motivation" of U.S. Marine and Maine College Democrats President Alex Cornell du Houx '06 for his military service, Secretary of the College Republican National Committee Dan Schuberth '06 has issued an apology. Schuberth called Cornell du Houx, who is leaving for a tour of duty in Iraq in December, "one of the most vocal opponents of...our country."

In a letter to the Orient, Schuberth wrote, "In my attempt to deal a blow to a political opponent, I made the mistake of questioning his patriotism and motivation for choosing to fight

"While I strongly disagree with Alex in terms of his political beliefs and his demeanor towards those who disagree with him," Schuberth continued, "it was inappropriate of me to question his patriotism and motivation for joining our armed forces. As I stated before, I have nothing but the highest degree of respect for any

Please see APOLOGY, page 3

# Field hockey finishes season undefeated, looks to playoffs

by Burgess LePage STAFF WRITER

For the first time since its inaugural 1972 season, the Bowdoin Field Hockey Team finished undefeated in its regular season with a 14-0 overall record, making it fourth in an NCAA Division III ranking. Bowdoin trounced Wesleyan University 7-1 in its final game of the regular season on Saturday.

At the end of the game, Coach Nicki Pearson pulled her team aside to congratulate them on their win.

"I think of this game as being the end of the first chapter of our season," Pearson said. "You have the rest of today and tomorrow to reread that chapter as many times as you like," she said. "And believe me, it's a great read."

But after that, she said, it is time for the next chapter—the playoffs.

For Allyson Craib '06, Pearson's guidance has been an integral component of the team's success. "She has had an amazing impact on us this year," Craib said.

"She has really focused on team unity, and it has proved to work. This is the closest team I have been on and Nicki has had a great impact on our ability to work as a whole," she said.



Drew Fulton, The Bowdoin Orient

Lindsay McNamara '09 assisted the Bears in a 7-1 victory against Wesleyan last Saturday, securing the team a spot in the DIII top four.

Reflecting on the season, Val Young '08 described the Middlebury game as one the season's highlights. "Middlebury is always a huge

game for us and after a disappointing overtime loss last year, this win was

Please see HOCKEY, page 12

### Federal regulation may ease digital wiretapping

by James D. Baumberger ORIENT STAFF

A new regulation may soon give the government the ability to monitor user communication on the Bowdoin network without the College even knowing about itand requires the College to pick up the several-hundred-thousand dollar tab for the system upgrades needed to make it possible.

Several groups have already mobilized to fight the new rule.

In a regulation issued earlier this month, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) reinterpreted a 1994 wiretapping law known as the Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act (CALEA) to encompass digital communication facilitated by broadband service providers like Bowdoin and other colleges.

Originally, CALEA forced telephone-service providers to re-engineer their systems to allow the government to remotely wiretap traditional telephone lines. The new interpretation expands this requirement beyond conventional telephony to other forms of digital communication such as email, video conferencing, and VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol). VoIP utilizes an internet connection to place telephone calls.

Civil rights organizations and

Please see WIRETAPPING, page 2

### INSIDE



#### **Features**

Fifty Bowdoin security cameras monitor campus at all times.

Page 4

#### Voter Guide

Learn about the issues and locate your polling place for Tuesday's election.

Page 13