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Concealed investments worry some

Administration expresses confidence in ethics of endowment investments

by James D. Baumberger **ORIENT STAFF**

As Bowdoin boasts high returns on its half-billion-dollar endowment-which provides nearly a quarter of its budget annually-a small number of students have been meeting informally with President Barry Mills over the past year about concerns over whether the College's money is invested in socially responsible companies.

Among the students' concerns have been environmental degradation, child labor, human rights violations, and genocide-particularly in the Darfur region of Sudan.

The conflict in Sudan has led several colleges and universities in recent years to take up the issue of investment in companies that deal with the Sudanese government. A government-supported militia is widely considered responsible for the deaths of thousands in the western Sudanese region of Darfur that the Bush administration and the U.S. Congress have termed genocide. (See related story, page 3).

In April of last year, the governing body of Harvard University decided to divest from PetroChina, a Chinese company known for its partnership with the Sudanese government in oil production. Dartmouth College, Stanford University, and most recently Amherst College have also addressed the issue of Sudanese investment.

Ben Kreider '05, one of the students who met with Mills, said the

Bears leap into NESCAC playoffs



Mike Ardolino, The Bowdoin Orient

Justine Pouravelis '06 helped the Bears maintain the nation's longest homecourt winning streak at their game against Conn. College. See story, page 9.

Dean McEwen says BSG proposal would do 'enormous harm'

BSG clarifies recent call to create an Academic Bias Incident Group

> by Nat Herz **ORIENT STAFF**

After passing a resolution that some took to be an endorsement of the Academic Bill of Rights Bowdoin Government (BSG) worked quickly on Wednesday to distance itself

Following a visit to BSG from Dean of Academic Affairs Craig McEwen, who said the College will not create a proposed Academic Bias Incident Group (ABIG), and a discussion in which many of the members of BSG expressed disappointment and anger in the way the resolution had been construed, the body passed two subsequent resolutions intended to clarify its intent.

BSG clarified that its endorsement of the ABIG was not intended as an assault on professors' academic freedom and was in no way an adaptation of the ABOR.

Last week, after four months of debate, BSG overwhelmingly rejected a proposal to endorse the ABOR, a bill intended "to secure the intellectual independence of faculty and students and to protect the principle of intellectual diversity" in a 1-19-4 vote.

After rejecting the ABOR, BSG passed a different resolution, the "Declarative Statement Endorsing the Principles of Academic Freedom," that supported the creation of the ABIG. It was to be chaired by McEwen, if created.

McEwen addressed BSG himself at this week's meeting to state that after consulting with the faculty and President Barry Mills, he decided not to create the ABIG.

"That group would do enormous harm to the freedom of expression in classrooms on campus," McEwen said.

"It would have precisely the opposite effect that one might intend by creating essentially a surveillance group for any comments that are made in classroom, and that is going

Please see BSG, page 3

College needs to be more active in avoiding investment in companies that he believes are not "socially

"If the college is always going to talk about the common good, then it should practice it. Right now there is no way of knowing whether we're not funding companies that do any number of horrible things, and that's something that I think really needs to be addressed," Kreider said.

responsible."

Please see INVESTMENT, page 2

Board to vote on tenure candidates

by Anne Riley **ORIENT STAFF**

The Board of Trustees will meet this weekend in order to consider recommendations for tenure and to review the preliminary budget, upon which board members will vote in May. The College's newly revised intellectual property policy and the naming of one of the new first-year dorms are not on the agenda, according to Secretary of the College Richard Mersereau.

Mersereau said the Executive Committee voted to move forward

with the names of nine faculty who were up for tenure. One candidate's tenure recommendation is still "in progress," and may or may not be considered at this weekend's meet-

The names of faculty that come before the trustees are rarely denied tenure because by the time they reach the board, they have been approved at every other stage, including the trustees' Academic Affairs Committee.

"Usually the amount of time taken for tenure votes at trustees meetings is relatively concise because the process is so thorough up until this point," Mersereau said.

"It's not that there's not been a lot of discussion leading up to the votes, but by the time the board votes, it's more of a celebration of the names,'

Tenure vote is not the only element of this weekend's meeting that will appear streamlined, according to Mersereau.

The full board received a copy of the preliminary budget over a week ago so that if any board member

Please see TRUSTEES, page 2

Bowdoin rated a top Peace Corps producer

by Emma Powers ORIENT STAFF

The growing participation of graduating Bowdoin seniors in the Peace Corps has not gone unnoticed. This year, the College entered the top 25 list for small schools generating the most Peace Corps volunteers. Bowdoin is ranked 20th.

Currently, there are 17 Bowdoin alumni serving overseas as Peace Corps volunteers. These men and women are working in Bolivia, Guinea, Guyana, Kyrgyz Republic, Mali, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Panama.

Peru, Romania, Samoa, Thailand and Togo, and are engaging in a variety of environmental, educational, business, and urban-planning proj-

Peace Corps Regional Recruiter Christopher Lins said Bowdoin's movement up the list is not a surprise since the College has always graduated highly qualified candidates.

"Bowdoin is usually in the top 20—it's always been right up there," Lins said. He also noted that if the

Please see PEACE, page 3

Security radios in WBOR show

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

by Steve Kolowich ORIENT STAFF

It is the job of the Department of Safety and Security to keep the Bowdoin community safe. This year, Security has also made it its job to keep the Bowdoin community entertained.

On their WBOR 91.1 FM show "Listen!" which airs from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursdays, Director of Safety and Security Randy Nichols and Assistant Director of Safety and Security Mike Brown try to do both. Their show combines music, guest interviews, and discussion linked by a common theme of educating listeners about issues relating to their safety and well-being.

"Every single show do...there's a major safety theme to it," Nichols said. "But we don't bludgeon people with it or lecture



Mike Ardolino, The Bowdoin Orient

Nichols and Brown mix music and interviews with safety education.

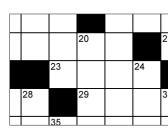
people about safety, because that's a major turn-off."

"We mix up the content of the show quite a bit," he said. "We play a lot of music, we have some

laughs, we have a lot of guests in, students come in...we try to have a local flavor to it."

Please see WBOR, page 8

INSIDE



Features

Try your hand at the Orient's very own crossword puzzle Page 4