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Bowdoin community mourns loss of King '07



Drew Fulton, The Bowdoin Orient

King celebrates with a teammate after winning the NESCACs against Williams College this fall. According to her coach, King was the “ultimate team player.”

by Beth Kowitt
ORIENT STAFF

Bus loads of students will head to Lowell, Massachusetts, today and Saturday to mourn the loss of Bowdoin junior Taryn King, who died last Thursday while studying away for the semester in Ireland.

According to Athletic Department Administrative Secretary Debbie Miller, about 90 people will be using the bus services provided, while others will drive themselves to the visiting hours and funeral.

King, 21, who grew up in Georgetown, Massachusetts, and had been attending a Butler University program at the National University of Ireland in Galway since January 3, died of a “sudden illness,” according to Dean of

Student Affairs Craig Bradley. The University of Galway’s Administrator in the Office of the Registrar and Deputy President Michael Kavanagh said one doctor described it as “an overwhelming infection.”

According to Kavanagh, King took ill at about 9 a.m. local time on January 26. Her roommates, who had been taking care of her, grew concerned and reported King’s status to the management of student accommodations at about 11 a.m., Kavanagh said. A member of the management went to the apartment and decided to call for an ambulance, which arrived about 10 minutes later. King died later that day at University College Hospital Galway, Kavanagh said.

“In an environment that is so

vibrant, vital, and so much about growth, relationships, and community, to have someone die, to have someone taken from us in this way just shocks us,” said Bradley. Bradley said he would be driving to today’s funeral with President Barry Mills.

After King’s closest friends, including those studying abroad, were informed of her death, Bradley said over 300 students met for an impromptu gathering last Thursday evening at the Chapel.

“There was a sense that we needed to get people together,” said Bradley. “It wasn’t a memorial service, but a chance for people to get together and reflect.”

“It was a wonderful, spontaneous

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Plan would close two schools near campus

by Nat Herz
ORIENT STAFF

A contentious proposal to reorganize the Brunswick elementary school system would give the residents of Howard Hall a chance to sleep in on school days.

The proposal, drafted by Brunswick’s superintendent James Ashe, would create a new intermediate school for children in grades three through five, close two of the four current elementary schools—including Longfellow Elementary, which sits directly behind Howard Hall—and leave the other two operating for kindergarten through second grade.

Associate Professor of Government and Asian Studies Henry Laurence is concerned with certain aspects of the proposal, and said that changes to the school system could impact the College.

“A big attraction for coming to Bowdoin for professors is the excellence of the elementary schools,” Laurence said. “Private school is not an option for a lot of Bowdoin professors. A lot of professors are concerned that this current proposal will sacrifice educational quality and that’s bad news for Bowdoin.”

Ashe’s proposal comes at a time when some residents are unhappy about what they perceive to be inequities in the elementary school system.

“Some people feel that there are some inequities,” said Bob Morrison, an at-large member of the Brunswick school board. “Such as, certain schools have the children who might be in the special education program and others don’t because of building issues that don’t

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Endowment growth above par

by James Baumberger
ORIENT STAFF

Despite missing the boat on Google, the rate of return on Bowdoin’s endowment last year far exceeded the average return of the 746 schools that participated in this year’s survey by the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO).

The survey, issued in late January, reported an average investment return of 9.3 percent for the 2005 fiscal year. According to Vice President for Investments Paula Volent, Bowdoin’s rate of return was 13.6 percent.

Volent was pleased by Bowdoin’s performance.

“For our peer group we did exceedingly well,” she said.

Volent explained that natural resources, emerging markets, and internet powerhouse Google were the three primary drivers of collegiate

endowment performance this year. While she said the College had good exposure to oil and gas as well as emerging markets such as South Korea and India, Bowdoin had no venture capital money in Google, which has made significant gains since its initial public offering in 2004.

Volent attributed the College’s growth to success in picking talented fund managers to invest with.

“We don’t invest in stocks and bonds here, we invest in managers. Everything that Bowdoin invests in is run by external managers who are experts in their fields,” Volent said.

“My job is to do tons of research on the big picture, on what the opportunities are like, and where are there inefficiencies where Bowdoin can come

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Security confiscates contraband over break

by Steve Kolowich
ORIENT STAFF

The Bowdoin Department of Safety and Security confiscated a pellet gun and a stolen construction sign from the room of a Coles Tower resident over Winter Break. They discovered the pellet gun, which is banned under the College’s firearms policy, and the sign, which was stolen from a construction site on campus, during a sweep of all dorm rooms that were supposed to be vacant during the break.

Security reported the policy breach to the Office of the Dean of

Student Affairs. Dean Craig Bradley would not comment on the name of the student who was implicated in the violation.

Security conducts these sweeps in conjunction with the Office of Residential Life at the beginning of each break to make sure that all doors and windows are secure, candles are extinguished, and safety hazards are neutralized.

Director of Bowdoin Safety and Security Randy Nichols estimated that officers spent between 30 and 40

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BSG endorses formation of new Academic Bias Incident Group

*Academic Bill of Rights
rejected in vote*

by Cati Mitchell
ORIENT STAFF

After several months of debate, Bowdoin Student Government (BSG) narrowly passed, 12-10, a resolution proposing the creation of an Academic Bias Incident Group, which would respond to allegations of academic bias on campus.

The statement, called the “Declarative Statement Endorsing the Principles of Academic Freedom,” was originally a section of the Academic Bill of Rights proposed by Alex Linhart ’06. Although the larger bill failed in BSG with only Linhart’s vote in favor, many members felt it was important to create an outlet for students who believe they have been discriminated against in the classroom.

Ninety-eight Bowdoin students

said that they have felt discriminated against in an academic setting because of their political, religious, or sexual beliefs, according to an unscientific, self-selecting survey of 649 Bowdoin students distributed by BSG.

“I am incredibly happy that we have voted to endorse the [statement],” Linhart said. “Finally students who feel that they have been discriminated against have a mechanism that they can turn to to seek relief.”

The proposed group would be created by the college administration and be chaired by the dean of academic affairs. It would be made up of at least two students.

At press time, it was unclear whether the administration would support the proposal.

Vice President of BSG Affairs

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Af-Am dinner warms the body and soul



Drew Fulton, The Bowdoin Orient

The African-American Society sponsored a soul food dinner Thursday night.

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See how Watson Fitness Center measures up to the other gyms of NESCAC

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