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Bowdoin students ejected from Bush event

by James D. Baumberger
ORIENT STAFF

Two Bowdoin students were ejected from President Bush's campaign appearance in Bangor yesterday on suspicion that they planned to protest inside the event. Another Bowdoin student, who worked at the event, was involved in the removal.

Bree Dallinga '06, co-president of the Bowdoin College Democrats, and Ashley Cusick '05, both self-described liberals, said they planned to attend the event to observe and possibly protest by wearing anti-Bush t-shirts. According to Dallinga, after successfully passing through security, Dan Schuberth '06 spotted the two students and requested their removal from the event.

Chris Averill, executive director of the Maine College Republicans, said Schuberth played a role in the ejection. Averill said, as head of volunteers at the event, "Schuberth had the

Festival celebrates hope, joy, and colors



Ryan Boutin, *Bowdoin Orient*

Amy Ear '07, Shrinkhala Karmacharya '06, and Miriam Sopin-Vilme '07 were covered in colors after the Holi cultural event last Friday.

discretion to have [potential protesters] checked out by security."

Schuberth, Chairman of the Maine College Republicans, is on leave from Bowdoin this semester to work

full-time with the Bush campaign in Maine. The Orient made repeated unsuccessful attempts to contact

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Voters create tight race for BSG offices

Four candidates win by less than 10 votes

by Haley S. Bridger
STAFF WRITER

Bowdoin Student Government saw four tight races in its Fall election, which ended Wednesday.

The newly-elected senior class president, junior class president, first-year class president, and sophomore class treasurer, won by less than ten votes. Vice President of Student Government Affairs DeRay McKesson '07 called the results the closest in recent history.

McKesson attributed the tight races to this year's "36-hour election." In previous years, the online elections polls have been open for 12 hours, but this year Student Government kept the polls open from 8:00 a.m. Tuesday until 8:00 p.m. Wednesday.

McKesson, who monitored the election results throughout Tuesday and Wednesday, described this year's race as a "roller coaster."

"Imagine a race coming down to

eight votes," said McKesson. "That's amazing."

BSG had trouble attracting juniors to run for class offices. Candidates running for any office must submit petitions in order to have their names placed on the ballot, but no juniors submitted petitions by the BSG's deadline. According to McKesson, this is unheard of BSG reopened deadlines and tried to encourage juniors to run for office.

"We sent out emails to the junior class explaining that no one was running," said McKesson. "It was frustrating."

David Friedlander, the newly-elected junior class president, said he recognizes the challenges that his class will face this year.

"Junior year is a busy year for people," said Friedlander. "People are trying to figure out a major, if you're pre-med, you are looking at grad schools and studying for

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President rallies fans in Bangor



Evan Kohn, *Bowdoin Orient*

President George W. Bush speaks before thousands of supporters in front of a hangar at Bangor International Airport on Thursday afternoon. This could be Bush's last visit to Maine before the election.

by Evan Kohn
and Adam Baber
ORIENT STAFF

President Bush almost didn't come to Bangor yesterday afternoon, unsure if he'd be welcome after a recent weekend at his family home in Kennebunkport.

"I forgot to make my bed," he said soon after taking the podium. But this didn't stop him from rallying thousands of supporters outside a hangar at Bangor International Airport.

Possibly his last stop in Vacationland before the election, a relaxed President Bush came "to ask for the vote." Support in the area was clear as Bush/Cheney '04

bumper-stickered cars came to a stand-still in traffic outside the airport three hours before Air Force One touched down. Even the local Exxon Station gas price sign replaced its advertisement for Coke six-packs with letters spelling out "Welcome President Bush."

The audience needed tickets for the event, attainable only from an online form that required people to submit their social security numbers and drive to one of six ticket distribution centers in the state.

Despite the time-consuming ticket acquisition procedure, thousands of cars lined the fields surrounding the hangar where a spirited crowd awaited the President's arrival. To get to the hangar one had to go

through a series of checkpoints, the last of which included airport-style metal detectors.

Just outside the entrance was a dumpster with a poster saying "Protesters here." While some protesters managed to heckle the President during the event, most remained in a designated area outside the first security checkpoint.

Flanked by billboard signs reading "4 More Years" and "Leadership Matters," and a Maine state flag the size of Massachusetts Hall, spectators included mothers and fathers with young children on their shoulders holding signs like "Veterans for Bush" or "Sportsmen for Bush," and seniors sitting in the bleachers. Dominating the entire scene was a mammoth American flag draped behind the stage.

Three security agents stood high atop the hangar roof, scanning the crowd and horizon with foot-long binoculars. Clearly armed helicopters circled the airport at low altitude.

While waiting for Bush the crowd was entertained by a country music group and the band, chorus, and cheerleaders from Bangor's John Baptist Memorial High School. The cheerleaders repeatedly pumped up the crowd with cries of "Red, white, blue!" The band provided interludes including an unusually heavy rendition of "God Bless America."

Then it was go time. As the speakers blared the stirring theme from Rudy, a sharply-dressed assistant placed the presidential seal on the podium, further fueling the audience's increasingly tense anticipation.

In what was, given all of the orchestrated build-up to Bush's

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Neighbors voice complaints

Local residents, students address alcohol prevention grant

by Priya Sridhar
ORIENT STAFF

Although Bowdoin students may enjoy their Friday and Saturday night festivities, local neighbors do not share the same level of excitement. On Monday, members of the Bowdoin and Brunswick communities met to discuss community relations, especially regarding weekends and noise levels.

Twenty-five people attended the discussion. It was open to the programming chairs and presidents of social houses, the Brunswick Police, Bowdoin Security, and 100 residents whose homes border the campus.

Among the participants in the discussion was Andrew Gestrich '06, the student coordinator for the Higher Education Alcohol Prevention Program (HEAPP). The program is intended to help colleges address the issue of high-risk drinking.

Bowdoin is one of nine Maine colleges that has partnered with the Office of Substance Abuse and is receiving a federal grant of approximately \$20,000 to carry out the strategies discussed in HEAPP conventions. "I was really excited to have the Inter House Council and College Houses take the initiative in contacting the neighbors, although not a large number of neighbors attended," Gestrich said. "I hope the gesture helped to improve the relations with them."

HEAPP hopes to use the money to help organize a police ride along program, alcohol education programs, and enforcement around campus. A group of students meets monthly to discuss how the grant should be used. Gestrich also hopes to start a mailing list of Bowdoin neighbors to increase communication between the school and the residents.

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