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## Kenyon Collegian - February 21, 2008

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# THE KENYON COLLEGIAN

GAMBIER, OHIO

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2008

12 PAGES

## In Sports: Ladies b-ball finishes season undefeated



COURTESY OF LAURA GOEHRKE

See page 12 for the full story.

## Retention rate hovers around 85 percent

BY TEDDY EISMEIER  
Staff Writer

College admission officials have said that Kenyon's retention rates remain stable even as larger classes are admitted. Over the last five to ten years, Kenyon's four-year graduation rate has hovered around 85 percent.

"That's been pretty stable," said Robin Cash, director of special projects in enrollment and student affairs. "There's nothing that's glaring as the reason for changes in retention rates."

"Retention is an indicator of academic health and the success of the admission process," said Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Jennifer Delahunty. "Kenyon's frosh-sophomore [from the first to sophomore years] and four-year retention rates have held steady within a narrow band in the recent past."

Admissions officials treat retention as an important measure because it reflects the number of admitted students within each class who are asked to withdraw or decide to leave.

Delahunty said that monitoring retention is a "shared responsibility at Kenyon between Student Affairs, Admissions and Academic Affairs."

Cash works with the registrar's office to track retention rates of Kenyon students. Each year, at the end of the second week of classes, the registrar's office takes an enrollment census of each

class. This census establishes what admissions refers to as a "cohort," or a group of students that arrives at Kenyon together as a first-year class.

The cohort is different from a class. If a student withdraws for a semester and needs an extra semester to graduate, his enrollment status will affect the retention rate of his cohort even if he is counted in a different Kenyon class.

The College does not include students who transfer to Kenyon in its numbers, so incoming transfers do not affect the retention rate.

Zach Shapiro '08, head tour guide and admissions fellow, said that Kenyon is simply not the right choice for some students who end up enrolling.

"Personally, I think that Kenyon has a pretty unique environment that either clicks or doesn't click with students," Shapiro said. "It may be difficult to retain those students who realize a small rural community just doesn't fit with them."

Cash confirmed that transfer students often cite the College's rural setting and social scene as a reason for changing schools. Students who transfer out often say that they would prefer the social environment of a city over Gambier.

"Location has come up a number of times," Cash said. "Some kids come and, after a year, they don't like it."

Kenyon's high early decision admission rate might contribute to the stable

see RETENTION page 2

## Questions fielded at panel

BY NICK MOHAR-SCHURZ  
Staff Writer

On Monday evening, President S. Georgia Nugent, Dean of Students Tammy Gocial, Senior Advisor to the President Howard Sacks and Chief Business Officer David McConnell hosted a question-and-answer session with students.

President Nugent opened the meeting by asking, "What do you want to talk about?" Bryn Stole '11 asked the first question of the evening: "Where do you, as the administration, see Kenyon

going?" Nugent said that her primary goal is for Kenyon to maintain its own standards of excellence, especially in the key areas that make up "Kenyon's essence," citing the school's community, faculty-student relationships, focus on collaboration instead of competition and literary background as some examples of the aspects that make Kenyon unique.

She went on to say that she is not trying to model Kenyon after other institutions but is merely interested in the schools whose applicants overlap with Kenyon's, an analysis which shows "how are students are voting," she said.

The College of Wooster, after about five years, she said, no longer overlaps as much with Kenyon, whereas Yale University, for example, has "moved up a little bit." She said that, like a person, Kenyon does not "want to be someone else," but she is interested nonetheless in borrowing interesting projects from other places.

Gocial then responded to a question about changes in residential life, saying that Kenyon has looked specifically at schools such as Middlebury College, Williams College, Bates College and Carleton College, since these are schools

see PANEL page 2

## Students, admin benefit from SAO/SAC division

BY MARENKA  
THOMPSON-ODLUM  
Staff Writer

At the beginning of the school year, the Student Activities Office moved from the Student Affairs Center to its own building on East Brooklyn Street primarily to facilitate the hiring of two new staff members.

Although Student Activities is currently housed separately from Student Affairs, it remains under the jurisdiction of Student Affairs and Dean of Students Tammy Gocial. The Student Affairs Center ran out of office space due to the addition of Assistant Director of Multicultural Affairs and Admissions Marjorie Trueblood-Gamble and Assistant Director of Student Activities Kathleen Kieper, and thus the split in office housing occurred.

Although they were previously housed together, the Student Activities portion of Student Affairs served a different purpose from that of the rest of the center. "Students come to the SAC for more serious stuff, such as personal problems, while the activities office tends to be more fun," said Associate Dean of Students Tacci Smith. The activities of-



Students can relax at the SAO's new location.

BOB DORFF

office is in charge of student organizations, funding, co-sponsorship, Greek Council, Social Board and other student activities, "which made it [an] easy move because they need a fun space to accommodate all the student traffic" said Smith.

The running of both the Student

Affairs and Student Activities offices has become more efficient after the split due to the enlargement of staff, "but more important than [efficiency] is that the new space of the activities office fits with the personality of what they are trying to accomplish," said Smith. Likewise, the

Student Affairs Center provides a more calming environment for students who seek help for more personal issues.

"I still miss the student traffic that was generated by Student Activities," said Gocial. In order to keep up interaction between the SAC and students, a \$300,000

grant is being put toward a leadership and entrepreneurship program, and the Greek Council along with Gocial's office is sponsoring a Greek meet-and-greet.

The SAO staff is less concerned with their happiness in the new building. "It is more a matter of do the students like it; the building is really theirs," said Administrative Assistant Jody Vance. The staff of Student Activities has tried to create an atmosphere where students feel comfortable hanging out by adding comfortable couches, computers, a television and board games.

"It has been fun to create the atmosphere with student input," said Director of Student Activities Brent Turner. "We want students to come in and play music, study or even go on Facebook."

The only problem with the transition seems to be that a lot of students are still unaware that the Activities Office has been relocated. "We still get students coming into the SAC looking for \$2 Friday night movie tickets," said Gocial. Although there is still slight confusion over locations of the offices among students, Turner said, "students are finally realizing that we are here, and are now utilizing the area."



# Retention: high rate sustained in '08

From page 1

retention rate, Shapiro said, with more students applying who are confident in their choice of Kenyon.

"If students decide to apply early decision for that reason, then yes, you would expect that they will stay," Shapiro said, "but anecdotally speaking, some students apply early decision to a school in an attempt to gain an advantage in admissions."

Students who apply early decision for competitive reasons may not end up as happy with their decision, Shapiro said.

Retention rates take into account students who are asked to withdraw for academic or disciplinary reasons as well as personal reasons, such as a medical condition or family issues.

Students who withdraw for a semester can affect year-to-year retention but many plan to return and stay on the normal graduation track.

According to Cash, who helped lead Kenyon's diversity taskforce, retention statistics of minority groups can be misleading because one person leaving causes a large jump in percentage with small numbers.

## Retention affects housing

Kenyon has shown unusually high first-year to sophomore retention rates in the past, which have factored into Kenyon's ongoing housing crunch.

Cash said that administrators were surprised by the first-year to sophomore retention rate of the class of 2007. Four hundred and thirty-seven out of 454 members of the class of 2007, around

96 percent, returned after their first year in 2003. The frosh-sophomore rate was high again last year; around 95 percent of the class of 2010 returned this year.

As Kenyon admits larger classes, high retention rates between the first two years have caused Kenyon's student body to exceed its housing capacity, forcing the College to "summer house" a number of students after each year's lottery.

Although the housing squeeze has upset affected students in recent years, summer-housed students always end up with housing eventually because a number of students withdraw over the summer months.

"They don't necessarily tell us the reason," Cash said. "Many of them leave during the summertime, so Student Life has no contact with them."

# Panel: Nugent answers questions

From page 1

where Kenyon's applicants most likely also visited or at least took interest in during their college searches.

Another issue discussed was the future of middle-eastern studies at Kenyon, including Arabic language, which, according to Nugent, "we know is a problem." She said that while the College is still working out contractual issues with current Arabic instructor Sadika Ramahi, the College is doing everything possible to keep her. Nugent said that she does not want to go backward in this area, "especially in today's world."

Other languages at Kenyon are without full curricula right now, she said, but Chinese, Japanese and Russian also suffered rough beginnings as "one-person languages" and now have more developed programs.

According to McConnell, Peirce Hall is still projected to be open for senior dinner, but Nugent said that much of the delay, such as the late arrival of steel, has been out of the administration's control. As of now, Peirce's hours will be 7:15 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., McConnell said, but the administration intends to collect data that would help it decide what times and foods best match students' eating habits.

Sacks said that Kenyon is consulting Brown Family Environmental Cen-

ter staff about the possibility of turning some of its surrounding farmland into a source of food for Kenyon. Although this would be an exciting educational opportunity for students, he said, he would not want this school-run farm to compete with the local farmers that the Kenyon community has always striven to support.

Philander's Pub in Peirce will serve alcohol but must be strict with IDs because any problem with underage drinking would force Kenyon to be a dry campus, McConnell said.

In response to the rumors that lounge parties are somehow related to Kenyon's reaccreditation, Nugent said, "Kenyon's reaccreditation is not going to hinge on a lounge party," but that the reaccreditation team last time did mention that Kenyon had an unusual number of lounge parties. Gocial said that the administration is, nonetheless, looking at lounge parties, and that Peirce will offer "lots of different spaces for lots of different kinds of parties."

Once O'Connor House is built, Nugent said, the school plans to salvage parts of Wing House and then tear it down to make room for the new art center. Walton House will also be torn down, which will temporarily displace some of the English and Kenyon Review staff, she said. Sunset and Bailey cottages, however, are to remain intact, as inspectors have said that these buildings would not likely

survive a move.

At the recent board meeting, Nugent said, the trustees authorized the construction of a dorm on the west side of Old Kenyon, with the intention of another being built on the other side of Old Kenyon at a later date to prevent disruption on that side of campus. The trustees also agreed to look into more "cluster-type" housing, but not in the middle of the Village, she said. Mather and McBride residence halls and the New Apartments are some of the first candidates for renovation. Nugent said that Bexley Hall's future, as a student residence or academic department, for example, is still being discussed.

Tori Spencer '11 asked Nugent what the trustees had decided about proxy cards. The President said that the trustees, when the concern was brought to their attention in the fall, said to Student Affairs that "doing nothing is not a viable option," and asked the students to do some research on the topic. Building and Grounds Committee, she said, came up with a report that revealed the school's total preference to be no action whatsoever but offered recommendations concerning this inevitable change; the trustees agreed to these recommendations, she said. The locks will be installed over the summer, and the cards will be proxy cards like the Kenyon Athletic Center's system, not swipe cards, Gocial said.

# College reviews misconduct policy

BY NICK MOHAR-SCHURZ  
Staff Writer

The recent poll regarding sexual misconduct at Kenyon was part of a policy and not the result of escalated worries, according to Judicial Affairs Coordinator Samantha Hughes, whose job includes an annual review of Student Handbook Policies. The Internal Review Board, which oversees research proposals that deal with human subjects, permitted the sexual misconduct poll, but forbade the publishing of its results.

The Student Handbook states that the Campus Senate must "review this policy and evaluate its effective-

ness every fourth year." Hughes said she is trying to improve the Sexual Misconduct Taskforce that has become less active over the past few years; it now includes administration and students, but lacks faculty members, she said.

According to the Student Handbook, sexual misconduct includes sexual assault, inappropriate sexual touching, endangering the health of another person and sexual harassment. The Clery Act, signed in 1990, requires all colleges and universities to keep and disclose information about crime in the proximity of their respective campuses. According to Hughes, there have been no reports of sexual misconduct at Kenyon so far this year, but it is difficult to tell how much

sexual misconduct goes unreported.

Hughes said she and others involved are looking into a more relaxed alternative to a formal judicial process in an effort to make the situation as comfortable for victims as possible. This option would enable the victim to work face-to-face with a licensed counselor. A majority of students showed interest in some form of mediation as an alternative to the more inflexible judicial process, Hughes said.

She said the sexual misconduct policy has steadily improved throughout her time at Kenyon, and that the College's emphasis on verbal consent makes Kenyon's program "cutting-edge" among those of other American colleges.

# Greek Council

Feb. 18, 2008

- To improve Greek image on campus, the Council decided that the Greek community should show positives; independents, faculty and administration only see negatives like Work Week and media portrayals. One representative suggested that organizations do community service on and off campus during Work Week. Another member suggested publicizing accomplishments of individual Greeks, perhaps an "I am Greek" campaign that demonstrates why Greek life is important to the Kenyon experience for some individuals. When the new vice president for rush and public relations is selected, he or she will handle this initiative.
- This semester there will be an audit of each organization. Presidents must fill out and return a form they will receive by e-mail.
- Each organization must have ten members or 50 percent of its members, whichever is greater, trained as party monitors. Party monitor training will take place Thursday, Feb. 21 at 10:45 p.m. and 11:15 p.m. in Gund Ballroom; party host training will take place at 10:15 p.m. on the same day and place.
- Representatives from only eight organizations were present; nine organizations are required for the Council to be able to vote. Representatives cannot vote the week after they miss a meeting.
- Relay for Life representatives Kyle Packer '08 and Alex Stoyel '08 spoke to the Council about involving Greeks in the April 11-12 relay, which coincides with Greek Day of Service and benefits the American Cancer Society.
- Representatives signed up their organizations to work at the Feb. 19 blood drive.
- Dean of Students Tammy Gocial will speak to the Council next week about lounge parties.

—Sarah Friedman

# Village Record

Feb. 13 – Feb. 19, 2008

- Feb. 13, 11:17p.m.**—Medical call regarding ill/intoxicated student. Student transported by squad to the hospital.
- Feb. 14, 1:24a.m.**—Tampering with fire equipment/pull station panel cover removed at Hanna Hall.
- Feb. 14, 9:48p.m.**—Fire alarm at Watson Hall caused by burnt food. Alarm was reset.
- Feb. 15, 8:16a.m.**—Medical call regarding ill student at McBride Residence. Student transported to the Health Center.
- Feb. 15, 9:15p.m.**—Suspicious vehicle on Wiggin Street/occupants throwing something out windows. Officers unable to locate vehicle and no damage found in area where vehicle was sighted.
- Feb. 16, 1:04a.m.**—Medical call regarding student experiencing allergic reaction. CA provided Benadryl for the student.
- Feb. 16, 4:36a.m.**—Vandalism/broken bottles at Leonard Hall.
- Feb. 16, 8:26p.m.**—Fire alarm at Watson Hall activated by burnt food. Alarm was reset.
- Feb. 17, 1:42a.m.**—Damage to microwave by burnt food at Manning Hall.
- Feb. 17, 4:49a.m.**—Suspicious person asleep on steps at Rosse Hall. Officers unable to locate person when he ran away.
- Feb. 17, 12:32p.m.**—Fire alarm at Mather Residence activated by burnt food. Alarm was reset.
- Feb. 19, 3:40a.m.**—Fire extinguisher discharged at Old Kenyon.

# News brief: possible Student Council legislation

BY SARAH FRIEDMAN  
News Editor

Student Council is considering passing new legislation that would require each student organization to collaborate with another to host one all-campus event each academic year to be eligible for re-registration.

"People were concerned that there are so many new groups every year and there's a lot of overlap," said Vice President of Student Life Ann Shikany '08. If several groups are similar and require similar budgetary funds, "then we'll run out of money, basically," she said. Organizations will be more likely to be granted funds if

they apply together, said Shikany.

The goal of this change would be to use money better and thus have fewer, but higher-quality, events at the College.

Some groups, such as literary magazines, would be exempt from the new legislation, said Shikany.

"The budgetary situation isn't bad enough to warrant actually passing anything right now, but if things get worse in the future we may put it up to a vote," she said.



View this week's Student Council minutes online  
[kenyoncollegian.com/quicklinks](http://kenyoncollegian.com/quicklinks)



# Kenyon revels in Year of Rat



WESLEY KEYSER

The Ohio Chinese Arts Troupe performs during Kenyon's Chinese New Year celebration.

BY ABBY COMSTOCK-GAY  
Staff Writer

The Chinese New Year fell on Feb. 7 this year, but here at Kenyon we ushered in the Year of the Rat ten days later on Sunday night, Feb. 17. The celebration, held in Rosse Hall, began at 7:00 p.m. Before the event began, traditional Chinese music was already playing, the traditional red decorations and lanterns decorated the stage and raffle tickets were being handed out. Students involved in planning the event rushed around to finish up last-minute preparations.

The event was sponsored by the Kenyon Chinese Program, the Chinese Club, the Asian Studies Program, the Chinese Immersion House, the Kenyon Campus Community Development Fund and Hunan Garden. Visiting Assistant Professor of Chinese Jie Zhang and Professor of Chinese Jianhua Bai, along with Thomas Au '08, Elizabeth Gee '08 and Ashleigh Chin '08 were the coordinators.

Kenyon has been hosting a Chinese New Year celebration for six years now. Bai started it by bringing visiting performers for a show, but in the last three years it has turned into a combination performance with visiting performers, students, faculty and community members.

"This is more fun," said Zhang. "It is designed and still remains a cultural activity for students. ... But it also aims to bring cultural diversity to our community and foster interest in China in our community."

Jackie Li '08 and Teresa Girolamo '08 were masters of ceremonies for the event. They welcomed everyone and introduced the Ohio Chinese Arts Troupe, the main feature. The Troupe performed throughout the show and provided a professional and especially festive and traditional side to the otherwise amateur performances. Though the event lasted over the planned one and a half hours, there was generally positive feedback.

"I think it was a very fun community event," said Andrew Upjohn '10. "I'm looking forward to next year." The whole night had a happy and relaxed atmosphere, he said.

The first act was a short and sweet song titled "Two Tigers" from the introductory Chinese class. The song follows the tune of the traditional French song "Frère Jacques." The intermediate Chinese class went next, singing two considerably longer and harder songs: "Pray" and "Songs and Smiles."

"If we make a mistake," Zhang said, "we'll smile at you." There were plenty of smiles, but the audience enjoyed their humor and they eventually came together for a nice song.

Girolamo next introduced two "music prodigies." Lauren Butterfield, age 13, on violin, and Ziyue Guo '10, on piano, played "Polish Dance." Guo recently won first place at the Young Musician Competition. They played confidently and beautifully—it was an energetic and impressive piece.

The Ohio Chinese Arts Troupe's first performance of the night, the Tibetan Dance, was beautiful and mesmerizing. Five women posed on stage, waiting for the music to begin. When the music started and it was not Tibetan music, but the high-pitched voices of children reciting poetry to music, the group and the audience shared a laugh. The relaxed response from the group continued throughout the night.

The women wore red boots with elaborate gold designs on them. The color red symbolizes luck for the New Year. The sleeves of their shiny and ornamental dresses went to the ground and were central to the dance. Their long braids and sparkly make-up added to the ornamental style.

Separated by the Peking Opera, in which Fengqin Yin and Xudong Jin sang and Jundao Chen played a huqin instrument, were two groups of students who performed skits. The first, narrated in Chinese by Stephen Politzer-Ahles '08, was an Aesop-like fable called "Fox and Tiger," featuring Li as the clever fox and Robby Ingersoll '08 as the "world's first

plaid tiger," as Politzer-Ahles introduced him, wearing a plaid shirt.

The next skit was performed by members of the Chinese film class—Justin Wiesenfeld '09, Carl Jackson '08 and Zach Shapiro '08. The group performed a section of the classic *Ah Q* by the famous Chinese writer Lu Xun. "This section is appropriate for Kenyon," said Jackson, "because Ah Q is afflicted by what so many of us have been afflicted by—scabies." The skit had the audience laughing, especially when Shapiro paused to read lines from his hand.

Following Troupe member Yan Zhao's performance of a Wa folk dance came Alex Zhao, '10. He sauntered up to the microphone wearing a big sweatshirt with the hood up. An Eminem song began playing and Zhao began lip-syncing. The recording stopped. "Wait no," it said, "I'm here to perform Kung Fu, not rap." Zhao took off his sweatshirt and shoes and displayed his skill—his moves were graceful, strong and flexible. Alex Broder '09, Kaitlyn Myers '10 and Karen Singerman '08, of the Chinese Martial Arts Club also performed martial arts earlier in the night.

Other performances from the night included a shortened presentation from international studies major Nick Papa '08 entitled "Comrade Rockstar: Rock Music in the Mainland," showing a video clip of his rock concert during his time in China.

Because of time limitations, the Chinese fashion show had to be cancelled.

Not everything performed was Chinese, however. Kevin Gerstle '11, a

first-year Chinese student, played "Linus and Lucy" on the piano. Later, he, David Pantaleoni '11 and Wesley Keyser '11, also first-year Chinese students, performed the Abbott and Costello skit "Who's on First?"

"It has absolutely nothing to do with Chinese history and/or culture," Pantaleoni said, "but we thought it would be funny." Further straying from China, Pantaleoni surprised the audience and the masters of ceremony with an unplanned display of Korean martial arts.

"Moving back to China..." said Li, as she introduced Matthew Qi '11 and Joey Lee, '09. They sang the Chinese pop song, "Lonely Season."

Ending the night appropriately, as most people's stomachs were growling in anticipation for the Chinese food from Hunan Garden, Nick Mohar-Schurz '11, Riley Roche '11 and Caitrian Boucher '11 did a shortened Chinese food demonstration. They taught the audience that egg rolls symbolize wealth, chicken is a symbol of happiness and marriage and dumplings are shaped like ancient Chinese coins to symbolize money. With that, reflecting the heightened hunger brought on by the presentation, Roche ended the night telling everyone to "go eat!"

"It is designed and still remains a cultural activity for students. ... But it also aims to bring cultural diversity to our community."

- Jie Zhang

## Like cars, computers need regular service

BY ANDREW CUNNINGHAM  
Managing Editor

Raise your hand if you have driven a car before. Yes, you in the back, too. Do not be embarrassed. Wow, that is quite a lot of you. Well, since you seem to be pretty familiar with cars, allow me to employ an extended metaphor: a computer, like a car, is a machine that sometimes needs maintenance in order to continue running well. A vehicle that is poorly tended can stop working as it is supposed to, or at all, and in the case of a computer, the situation is even more worrisome. If your computer has contracted a virus or something else from the seedy back alleys of the Internet, someone else could take control of your computer to perform illegal activities or steal your credit card information and other data.

One of the biggest problems facing computer users today is vulnerability to spyware. This software, also sometimes called adware or malware, often comes in the form of toolbars and pop-ups that users may install separately or as part of another program. A spyware application is similar to but distinct from a virus. Both do some of the same things, but the anti-virus software provided by Kenyon will not find and remove spyware for you. Thus, much like motorists who keep track of when it is time to change their car's oil, it is necessary for users to take their computers' respective safeties into their own hands.

Some of the most common symptoms of a spyware infection include slow system performance and excessive pop-up advertisements, as well as high processor and memory usage, even when the computer isn't doing anything. If you notice any of these things, it is best to take care of it sooner rather than later. A deeply-rooted spyware infection can literally be impossible to completely remove and could necessitate a complete re-installation of your operating system and software. Going back once again to our car metaphor, this is roughly equivalent to your car exploding due to neglect.

Luckily, there is an abundance of free software that will detect and remove most spyware for you, much like anti-virus software. Windows Vista users have the benefit of having some software already installed—Windows Defender is a decent solution which updates automatically via Windows Update, which Kenyon requires be turned on by default. This program is provided as a free download for Windows XP systems, and is an okay option with which to start.

Because of the invasive nature of spyware, however, many recommend running more than one program in order to eradicate as much of it as possible. If we are to continue with our car metaphor, this would be like if you went to get your oil changed, and after it was done the guy told you

to get it done at a couple other places just to make sure that it was really changed—our metaphor is, admittedly, getting a little stretched at this point. Other popular and completely free spyware programs that you can use include Lavasoft's Ad-Aware and Spybot — Search and Destroy, which are both frequently updated and very effective programs and are much less costly than multiple oil changes.

In trying to protect your computer from spyware, however, you must be careful only to download actual anti-spyware software, and not spyware that is simply masquerading as anti-spyware software. Known examples of such programs include Spy Sheriff and WinFixer, though many others exist. Downloading any of these programs to alleviate a spyware infection will only make it worse. Since, for better or worse, we are now firmly entrenched in our comparison of computers to cars, this is like going to get a tune-up, except the people running the garage bash your windshield in with a lead pipe, knock you out and steal your wallet.

Sound confusing? Well, if you do not want to have to deal with eradicating spyware, then it would be best to be proactive. Try to avoid downloading software from unsafe places—sometimes you can tell an unsafe site from a safe one just by looking at it. Also, avoid downloading programs that are known to have spyware bundled with them—file sharing programs such as Kazaa, Bearshare, EDonkey and others are notorious for their bundled spyware, which they often do not ask to install. In our metaphor, this is the equivalent of getting your tires rotated at a place which will also cut your brake lines for free, without telling you about it first.

So, as we have demonstrated, computers are exactly like cars. Well, except for Macintoshes. Mac users, thanks in part to their allegedly superior operating system and their relatively small market share, do not have to deal with most of the virus and spyware problems that are commonplace in the life of the Windows user. Never fear, patrons of Microsoft. With these tips, you may just be able to survive the school year without having your computer pass to the other side.

### Useful links

- Windows Defender: <http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=435bfce7-da2b-4a6a-afa4-f7f14e605a0d&displaylang=en>
- A surprisingly informative look at spyware: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spyware>
- Spybot — Search and Destroy home page: <http://www.safer-networking.org/en/spybotsd/index.html>
- Lavasoft, the makers of Ad-Aware: <http://www.lavasoft.com/>



# Construction at Kenyon



Pierce photos by Jay Galbraith

BY SARAH QUELLER  
*Staff Writer*

During this academic year, Kenyon's campus has seen many visual changes, such as Peirce being renovated and the construction of the new O'Connor House. As the semester comes to a close, we will see construction projects coming to a close and others just breaking ground.

## Peirce Hall

Construction to Peirce Hall, which began in the summer of 2006, and "was supposed to be done by the beginning of this semester," according to Director of Facilities Planning Tom Lepley, will "definitely be ready... for the beginning of the College year of 2008-2009."

President S. Georgia Nugent said that "at this stage... it's impossible to predict" when Peirce will be ready. "We're looking at anywhere between June and July," she said.

"At this stage of the project," Chief Business Officer Dave McConnell said, "every week it could change dramatically." However, Lepley said the College is shooting for a late May or June occupancy, "even if it's temporary occupancy."

Nugent acknowledged the seniors' wish for their senior dinner to be held in Peirce Hall, stating that, "we are sticking to our promise that somehow the senior dinner will take place in Peirce." Lepley echoed Nugent's sentiment, saying the

seniors could probably have their senior dinner in Peirce even if the building is not completed. "We're hoping to do that," he said. "Students are the number one priority."

There are many reasons why the construction on Peirce Hall has taken longer than was expected. McConnell said Peirce is a "very complex mechanical building," and that "you don't know what you're getting into when you're renovating a 1929 building."

Lepley agreed, adding, "there [were] a lot of things we didn't know until we actually tore the old building down so we could investigate further. Any time you do renovation on any building, there [are] issues that you don't know. Well, then you couple that with a building as beautiful as Peirce is, and we don't want to move ahead until we're sure what we're doing is going to be okay." Lepley also cited design problems, "tying it into the existing historical structure," delays with steel and with the architects "redesigning things as they were going." Also, he noted that the new addition "has to abide by today's codes, and the old building obviously didn't. That doesn't mean it's not safe," he said, "it just means it's a different type of construction."

When Peirce is completed, however, "it will be a spectacular building," Lepley said. "It's so many improvements."

The outside of the building "will mimic the old, existing Peirce," said Lepley, who noted that "the stone actually came from the same quarry." Other

efforts to maintain the historical feeling of the old building included matching windows, maintaining the Great Hall and, according to McConnell, working with interior designers using archival photos to restore Peirce Lounge to its original setup.

According to Lepley, the building will be "totally handicap accessible," with three elevators: one in the old building and two in the new building. There will be "nothing old left in the building: no old electrical wiring, no old plumbing; all of the things that people don't see that make things work are all being replaced," Lepley said. Restroom facilities will also be greatly improved, according to Lepley, and will exist on every level. The entire building will be completely air-conditioned, as well. According to McConnell, the servery will be four times its original size, at 5,000 square feet. According to McConnell, Peirce Hall, not including the pub on the lower level, can now hold 942 students.

The lowest level of Peirce, according to McConnell, will now include a 160-seat pub with a bar that should stay open until 1:00 a.m., a game room and a stage. The lower level will also include the new location of the grab-and-go service, a pizza oven, four private dining rooms, a beverage room, dining service offices and storage space.

Upstairs, "the old west door that everybody comes in," Lepley said, "will be the main entry, and you'll go through a wonderful glassed-over atrium that

will take you to the servery." According to McConnell, the atrium will hold soft seating and two plasma televisions. The new room will have more modern seating, with chairs instead of benches. The upper level will hold student program spaces, such as the offices of the Collegian and the Student Council, as well as the Black Student Union lounge.

The dining hall will include about seven stations, according to McConnell, which will include a pizza oven, tandoori oven, Mongolian grill, deli, grill and salad station. He also said an upcoming challenge will be understanding students' dining habits and trying to adjust the program to fit those needs.

When Peirce is completed, according to McConnell, Gund Dining Hall will probably be open for continental breakfast and possibly for a late night study café. Once the dining facility is vacated from Ernst, it will be demolished. "We'll try to recycle everything we can out of it," Lepley said. "And with the large pile of dirt that came from the KAC, we'll put the hillside back the way it was before Ernst was built."

McConnell estimates that the overall project will cost \$28 million, and Lepley estimated the construction cost to be about \$25 million. For comparison, Lepley said the construction cost of the KAC was about \$62 million.

Lepley described Peirce as "the jewel of the campus" because "it's right in the middle of campus and everybody, anybody associated with Kenyon will

at some point visit Peirce Hall: parents, students, prospective students, trustees, visitors, everybody will be there." He said the construction is "very well done" and "anybody that's seen the old Peirce will really appreciate the new Peirce."

Though the date of completion is still uncertain, Lepley said "precious Peirce will be worth the wait."

## New Residence Hall

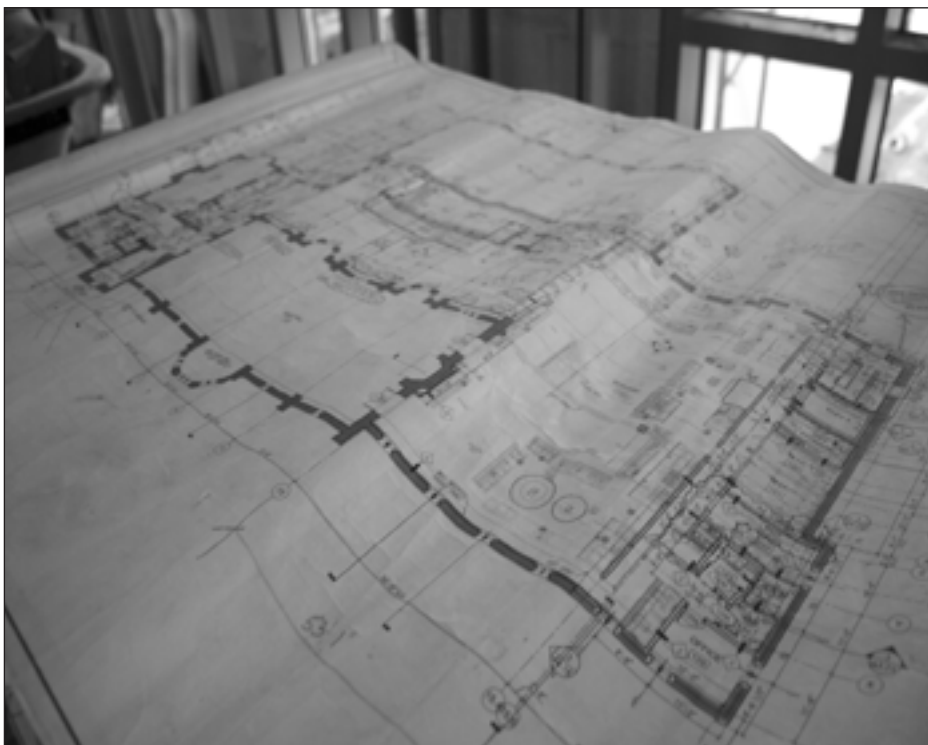
Construction on a new South Campus residence hall was approved at the February Board of Trustees meeting, according to Chief Business Officer Dave McConnell. The "Master Plan," according to McConnell, calls for two new dormitories, to be designed by Gund architects, but so far only one has been approved.

"They're still in the planning stages," said Director of Facilities Planning Tom Lepley before the meeting. "There's not a definite design yet as to how we're going to build or what we're going to build, but there's been a lot of research done on it."

McConnell said the hope is to begin the foundation by late fall. Lepley also said the goal is to begin the new residence halls "simultaneously with the art buildings, which will start this spring and summer." He said construction on the new dorms "could start before the art buildings are completed. There's about an 18-month proposed construction period for the art buildings."

The proposed design for the dorms include common spaces and study rooms





on the lower level, and single or double clusters of about six students. According to Lepley the buildings will be handicap-accessible with elevators and will meet today's standard safety and fire codes.

"All construction projects are sensitive to green habits," McConnell said. "We try to do everything with energy in mind," added Lepley. McConnell said the new residence halls will include insulated glass, low wattage lighting and 100 percent recycled carpeting. Lepley said the aim is to acquire Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design [LEED] certification, which will be easier for the dormitories than for the art buildings because there are fewer air changes.

According to both McConnell and Lepley, it is too early to determine a budget for the dormitories. McConnell, however, said the College would be will-

ing to spend more money to maintain the aesthetic of South campus, noting that any construction "really has to have the historic feel."

Additionally, McConnell said he is working with architects to cite other housing projects because the College "needs to update and replace housing," especially the New Apartments, which he said were built in 1969. McConnell said the College is looking into new townhouses and apartments.

#### O'Connor House

The O'Connor House, which will house the departments currently held in the Wing Center—American Studies, Women's Studies and International Studies—and the new Center for the Study of American Democracy, will "definitely be open by next school year," said to Director of Facilities Planning Tom Lepley.

Lepley said construction on the building began in late October, and Chief Business Officer Dave McConnell said the building should be occupied by the beginning of June. Lepley said the project was originally projected to be finished in the spring, but the date has been set back to June, which is still "contingent upon weather conditions."

The O'Connor House, which is situated on College-Park Street north of Horowitz House, will replace the Wing Center. Lepley said the College hopes to "recycle what they can from Wing, but if scheduling becomes a problem then it will just be torn down."

Lepley said the project has remained inside its projected budget, which he estimated at around \$550,000. McConnell, however, said the project will probably cost about \$660,000. McConnell said the College raised funds

for O'Connor and that it received gifts toward the house's construction.

McConnell said construction on O'Connor is "not disrupting parking much." Lepley said the major loss has been that of a second entrance to the South Ackland street parking lot, and he estimated the parking lot is surrendering about ten spaces during construction. Once the project is finished, he estimated there will be a total loss of only four parking spaces, and that there will "be more spaces in the north lot of Peirce when that's completed." Lepley said that depending on "how everything comes out, we may be able to reclaim those spaces that we lost, but we don't want to destroy the look of the building."

#### New Art Building

Construction on the new art buildings should begin this summer, according

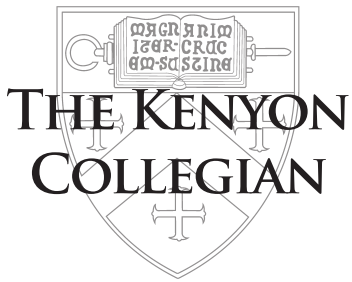
to Director of Facilities Planning Tom Lepley. Chief Business Officer Dave McConnell said the Wing Center and Walton House must first be vacated before construction begins on the art buildings. According to McConnell, the studio arts building will stand south of Sunset Cottage, where the Wing Center is now, and the gallery will be between Chalmers Library and Cromwell Cottage. Lepley said he will "work very closely with the library folks and Rosse folks ... because we have to maintain accessibility."

According to McConnell, the art history building will have geothermal heating and cooling, and Lepley said one of the art buildings will hopefully attain a silver LEED certification.

"When you all return next fall," Lepley said, "hopefully you'll see big holes in the ground, construction fences, and there will be disruption to that area."







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The Kenyon Collegian reserves the right to edit all letters submitted for length and clarity. The Collegian cannot accept anonymous or pseudonymous letters. Letters must be signed by individuals, not organizations, and must be 200 words or less. Letters must also be received no later than the Tuesday prior to publication. The Kenyon Collegian prints as many letters as possible each week subject to space, interest and appropriateness. Members of the editorial board reserve the right to reject any submission. The views expressed in the paper do not necessarily reflect the views of Kenyon College.

## Letters to the Editor:

To the Editors at the *Collegian*:

In the *Collegian's* staff editorial on Feb. 21, the writers argue that Kenyon has changed for the worse by becoming "average" by losing the "odd eccentric people who had more to offer than a 2300 SAT score." I disagree with this notion that Kenyon has lost its values. Kenyon was a college of privilege with a student body composed almost exclusively of white males until the late 1960s. What about the first-year class of 1969—were they "un-Kenyon" because there were women and did not meet the Kenyon ways of shaving and pledging fraternities? Thankfully, women were admitted to the College even though it was a controversial decision at the time.

So we have lost the tradition of what Michael Rabenberg '10 calls "the idyllic Kenyon, meant to tailor to quirky, leftist, hyper-liberal-artsy kids." Michael's status as a sophomore obviously means that he has seen Kenyon transform before his eyes in his one and a half years on campus. What does this categorization even mean? Was Kenyon completely full of "quirky leftist, hyper-liberal-artsy kids" last year? Two years ago? Five? The truth of the matter is that Kenyon has always been composed of a mix of students from different backgrounds for as long as I have been here, ranging from athletes to intellectual, conservative thinkers and to, you guessed it, a handful of those quirky, leftist, hyper-liberal-artsy kids. But they certainly have not been the majority as long as I have been here.

There are certainly more students from my hometown of New York City at Kenyon now than when I arrived on campus in August 2004, as Kenyon has received much more attention from both the national media and school college counselors who were previously unaware of our little enclave atop the Hill. I apologize to those who feel it is selfish of me to be proud that the college I attend is recognized as being one of the country's best in one of the world's most populous cities. What a shame it is to be recognized for excellence by others.

I do not excuse the actions of the administration on a number of issues. There are certainly problems with the campus' 30-year plan and insufficient dorm space, and relations between the administration and students have currently hit a nadir in my time here at Kenyon. Is this where that vaunted Kenyon logic finally comes in handy—we blame the administration for the intelligent student body that really is not Kenyon because they do not fit a narrow stereotype? You tell me who is the liberal—the one who accepts change to the campus along with the passing of time or the person who screams and hollers when things are not exactly the way they see in their mind because it is not "tradition"? If the Kenyon student is changing—and he or she really isn't that much in my mind—then why do we refuse to accept ourselves changing with it instead of going on some legend of years past?

I chose to attend Kenyon because of a student body that was open to new ideas and discussion about anything and everything. Maybe that is what has changed about Kenyon in my time. We have become so obsessed with our infallibility that we have lost our ability to adapt to the opinions of others and shut them out along with change.

Max Goldman '08

To the Editors of the *Collegian*,

I was appalled and deeply dismayed by your staff editorial, "Kenyon should redefine success" (Feb. 21, 2008). By labeling the newer members of the Kenyon community as "cell phone wielding, text-messaging clones with little more to offer than a 2300 SAT score," you have effectively shown that "the idyllic Kenyon" of which you fondly speak is, indeed, gone. The last time I checked, "the idyllic Kenyon" prided itself on being a community dedicated to promoting friendship and understanding, and your offending blanket statement has violated that dedication.

As a senior and a leader of Pre-Orientation, I have been honored with the experience of seeing three distinct groups of first years enter Kenyon with purpose and intelligence. What I have seen are not grade-grubbing, materialistic clones, but individuals. These are interesting, quirky people who have a commitment to making a difference wherever they go, and I am so proud that I have been a part of their experience. At the beginning of every year, I worry that perhaps the rest of the first years will not be as amazing as my Pre-Orientation students, but I have never been disappointed—Kenyon continues, and will continue, to accept people who are more than just numbers and SAT scores.

The underclassmen are undeserving of the scorn you so generously heap upon them. By making your generalization, editors, you are both unfairly judging these people and showing that you, yourselves, are unworthy of the "idyllic Kenyon."

Julia Rowny '08

## Cartoon for the *Collegian*!

*email streicherd@kenyon.edu*

Due to editorial error, Assistant Professor of Economics Jaret Treber was incorrectly identified as Jaret Trebet. His name is indeed spelled with an r.

Due to editorial error, the portrait of Susannah Byrd was credited to Dain Williams. The portrait was drawn by Ellie Jabbour. Two other portraits were not credited. The portrait of Michael Rabenburg was drawn by Dain Williams.

Due to editorial error, the portrait of Kathleen Someah was uncredited and visually distorted. The original portrait was drawn by Hannah Carlson and the image was distorted as the result of a production error.

The *Collegian* apologizes for any inconvenience.

## Lottery changes

With new administrators Assistant Dean of Students for Housing and Residential Life Alicia Dugas and Assistant Directors for Residential Life Jason Block, Matt Troutman and Bryan Shelangoski making up the Res-Life team since the beginning of the academic year, many students have been eagerly awaiting the changes these new administrators might make to the often-dreaded housing lottery. In this week's article "Logistical changes to housing lottery," it seems the new Res-Life staff has instituted many changes that should make an inherently stressful and challenging day run much more smoothly.

The automated e-mailing system should benefit students by answering all of the questions that students usually ask when looking at their number: where am I in the lottery, where am I in my gender and where am I in my class? It reflects an intimate knowledge of the way that Kenyon students think, and shows how much these administrators have taken the desires of students into consideration. This system is bound to make the students with the top 25 lottery numbers breathe a sigh of relief. Regardless of the number we get, we find ourselves looking up with at least some amount of bitter jealousy at the people with those top numbers, who can choose from any number of cozy Farr singles and Taft apartments. We respect the privacy of those individuals who were lucky enough to get those numbers, though we would probably run up and down Middle Path singing about our lottery number to the tune of "I've Got a Golden Ticket."

We also feel that putting breaks in between the lottery sessions will be a great way to cut down on students waiting idly in the KAC, debating whether or not they can leave without have their number called. It was disheartening that rising sophomores were not allowed to pick their housing until hours after they had previously anticipated.

The best part of the proposed lottery process may well be the new technology that is being incorporated, from the two overhead projectors that will make it easier for people to see which rooms are still available to the real-time Web feed which will make finding housing so much easier for students who are currently studying abroad—not to mention the proxies who have taken on the task of helping them find housing.

We at the *Collegian* are interested in seeing where the discussions of cheating will lead, and how the Housing and Grounds Committee will define cheating. We are hesitant to agree with imposing a roommate switch ban until Oct. 1, considering how many students truly need to take advantage of the policy that currently allows them to switch roommates much earlier, but we trust that Res-Life will be able to discern between those students and students who are implementing the final stage of yet another housing lottery scam.

staff editorial

# Why Nugent's absences do not actually matter



BY MICHAEL RABENBURG  
Guest Columnist

I wish to defend President Nugent against the silliest and most common accusation leveled at her: that she is not sufficiently involved with the students.

My response to this is, so what? Over Christmas break I caught up with some of my old high-school friends, many of whom go to Washington University (I'm from St. Louis). One told me that, shortly before the semester ended, he saw Wash U's chancellor—their stuffy presidential title—at an on-campus eatery. This story was related as if the person sighted was David Letterman. He was *just there, eating, among students*. It was a cause for surprise, a special occasion. You just don't *see* the chancellor around—he's the chancellor, for God's sake. I asked this friend of mine how often he had seen the chancellor since the beginning of school. Sightings were very rare, and most consisted of the chancellor's striding from one meeting

to another. I pictured an image of delighted students pointing across a quad, whispering, "Look, it's the chancellor!" The same held true for my other friends and their respective schools' head honchos. So Kenyon students, in complaining about their presidents not being omnipresent, are in the minority.

One will obviously object that this is Kenyon, not a several-thousand-student research university, and therefore our president should operate differently from other ones. Again, my response is a question. What would you have her do? Stand outside of Cromwell Cottage for an hour every day, shaking hands and signing autographs? Host twice-weekly cosmic-bowling tournaments? Bi-, tri-, or quad-locate? If you want her to come to, say, poetry readings or KFS showings, then I'm afraid you're out of luck. Nugent can attend or not attend whichever readings or movie showings she pleases. These complaints about the Nuge's detachment always strike me as very vague. If someone wants to draw my attention to a more substantiated one, though, I'd be pleased to hear it.

The fact is, as far as I can tell, Nugent is doing the only thing a college president is supposed to do: she is raising lots of money. And she seems to be succeeding; our current capital campaign has so far raised over \$100 million. This is why the current Wash U

chancellor is more or less deified in St. Louis—over the course of a couple of decades, he turned his institution from a second-rate, overpriced private university into an inordinately rich, tremendously well-regarded one. Wash U has more money than the University of Chicago, and the University of Chicago is where the first self-sustaining nuclear reaction took place.

So money counts. With our newfound millions, we will be able to do some nice things on campus. We will be able to tear down our hideous dormitories, erect handsome new ones and serve edible food. We will be able to spend more money on talented low-income students. Student life will improve, and the students themselves will improve. These will be changes for the better, and we will owe them largely to the Nuge.

"But," my detractors will say, "Kenyon isn't supposed to *care* about money as much as community. Kenyon is supposed to be an isolated intellectual village in central Ohio with only a contemplative atmosphere and quirky students going for it. Big money is a big school concern, not a Kenyon concern." This is the best possible response, the best possible reason to want a cosmic-bowling president. To a certain extent, Kenyon *is* supposed to care less about money and prestige and whatnot than about its ideals—you are supposed to come

here for idiosyncratic reasons and have your idiosyncratic friends. Your post-collegiate connections and your improved chances of being admitted into prestigious graduate programs should be irrelevant. This is supposed to be a liberal arts college, where you learn for eudaimonia's sake and eudaimonia's sake alone. You get four years here to be molded by books and ideas, and your teachers are supposed to care exclusively about teaching well, and the president should be no exception.

I agree with all of these sentiments. They are more or less why I came here. But here's why we would do best to forget them: the idyllic Kenyon, meant to tailor to quirky, leftist, hyper-liberal-artsy kids with no concept of the future, money or prestige, is gone, and it will never return. That place was vanishing long before Kenyon was named a New Ivy, and that designation, which Professor of English Judy Smith correctly called "the worst thing that has ever happened to Kenyon College in my memory," only broke the camel's back. People now apply here because it is garnering attention, not because they would like to study in a shire. It is getting richer and better known. It is a place to apply to alongside Boston College and Vanderbilt University and Georgetown University, because it is good to go to high-ranked schools.

Of course, there are precisely zero similarities among Kenyon,

BC, Vanderbilt and Georgetown. Kenyon is in Nowheresville, Ohio; BC, Vanderbilt and Georgetown are in major cities, with night-clubs, multiplexes and five-star restaurants. So the kinds of people who would rather spend their college careers in a major city than in Nowheresville—in other words, almost everyone—often end up in Nowheresville anyway. They do not know what they are getting themselves into. We can see this fairly clearly in the various atrocities that have occurred this year: sofas sailing through windows, kids having sex in faculty lounges, the Caples vending machine broken open and looted, the anti-Semitic drawings, etc. People aren't happy here, because they came here for the wrong reasons. Might as well treat it like garbage, right? It's okay; the cleaning ladies will pick up after us, anyway.

This digression was meant to prove one thing: Kenyon is different now. Its students are not very different in character or interests from students elsewhere, and they will only get more and more generic. (Think I'm pessimistic? Just wait until next year, when the vandalism gets even *worse*.) Kenyon's administration, attitudes and aspirations must reflect these changes. It must become more like other places, and pumping up its measly endowment is a good way to start. If President Nugent has to cut back on the bowling tournaments to do that, then fine by me.

## How far is too far for free speech at Kenyon?



BY KATHLEEN SOMEAH  
Guest Columnist

College is notoriously a haven for free speech. Whether it is through student-run organizations, lecture forums or simple publication advertisements, students use the First Amendment to its fullest potential. Kenyon is no exception. Here, where campus clubs organize to convey a particular message, and sometimes arguably offensive all-stu

wars flood inboxes, freedom of speech is exhibited. But, when have we crossed the line?

Two weeks ago, Kenyon hosted its version of "Last Comic Standing." Funded by the Social Board, "Last Comic Standing" was intended to be a Saturday night alternative to the usual Old Kenyon lounge party. While students may have been spared Sunday morning hangovers, their inboxes were not spared from the all-stu war concerning offensive jokes made that evening.

According to attendees, student comedians cracked jokes that breached the line separating what is and is not considered socially or politically appropriate. Students did not only make debatably offensive comments about race, they also touched on another sensitive topic: physical disabilities. As mentioned in the

Sunday morning all-stu titled "I'm not laughing," student comedians made derogatory remarks concerning people with dwarfism. They referred to such individuals as "midgets." I am not someone who freely throws around the phrase, "that is so not P.C.," but I do have an appreciation for those who make a conscious effort to speak with some sense of boundaries, especially at the risk of offending students in the audience, who have their own personal struggles.

The "Last Comic Standing" incident is only one of many occasions where one could argue that the right to free speech has been taken to an extreme. Yet, if we chose to institute speech standards, future "Last Comic Standing" events will not be the only thing that is affected. Kenyon has several well-known

outlets where students can freely voice their opinions. At the most basic level is the all-stu. Some students may take for granted their right to e-mail whatever thought creeps into their mind at 3:37 a.m. to the entire campus. Can you really claim that you do not enjoy those witty distractions when you are procrastinating? It is fair to say that all-stu e-mails do not generally exploit minorities or other individuals with disabilities. Occasionally there is the drunken, outlandish message bashing a fellow student, but if we use the incident two weekends ago to define what students may say publicly, we are doing ourselves a disservice.

Improvisational groups on campus would have to be censored. Does that not defeat the purpose of an improvisational group all together? While such

groups are generally respectful in their comedy sketches, they do run the risk of the occasional racist comment. Part of the enjoyment in attending comedy events is that you never know what the performers are going to say.

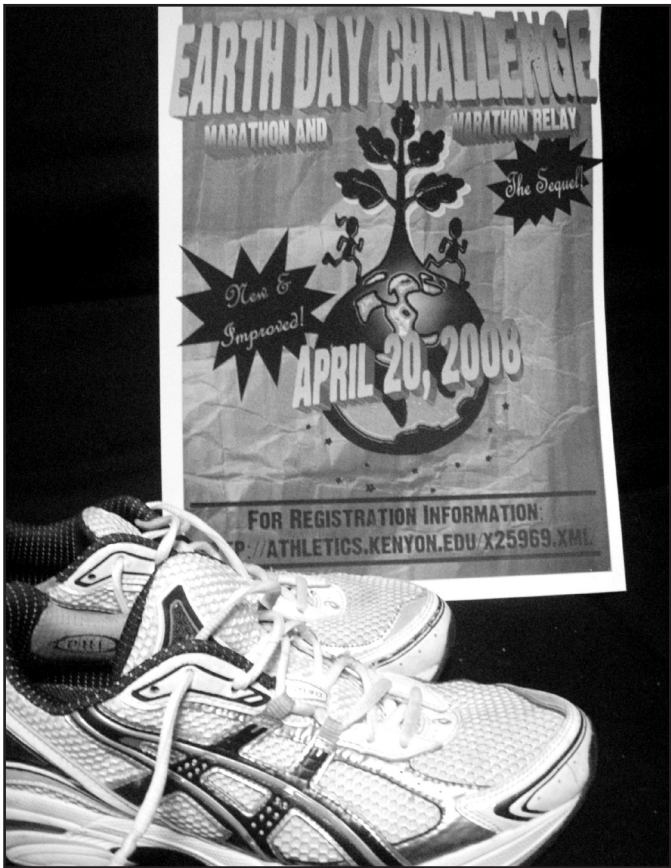
Just as students have the right to voice their opinions about uncouth comedy sketches, student comedians have the right to tell jokes that may border on what is politically correct.

These four years at a liberal arts college are one of the only opportunities for young minds to freely express themselves, to test society's limits and learn the consequences if necessary. A speech code would rob some students of the reason they chose to attend a liberal arts school: the chance to express themselves in an individualistic manner.

*Interested in writing for the Collegian? It's not too late.  
E-mail collegian@kenyon.edu for more information.*



# Earth Day brings second-annual marathon



KATHLEEN WEBER

BY CAROLINE EICHLER  
*Staff Writer*

On Sunday, April 20, runners will take to the road for the second-annual Earth Day Marathon. Emily Mountain, coordinator for lifetime fitness and physical education, who co-organized the event with David Heithaus, BFEC facility manager, said the race is part of Kenyon’s “out-door fitness initiative.”

Although prizes will be awarded for the top three men and women and the top weight-group and age-group

runners, “Participants of all abilities are invited to walk, run or a little of both,” the Earth Day Challenge Web site states. “Hey, as long as you’re out there having fun and challenging yourself, we don’t care if you’re setting a new world record or crawling across the finish line.”

The race is a fully-registered marathon certified by USA Track and Field, but “not everyone wants to run 26 miles,” said Heithaus. Runners can choose to run two- or three-person relays. Because of the Track and Field certification, runners who do run all

26 miles can use this race as a qualifier for bigger races like the New York and Boston marathons.

The course is essentially a tour of Knox County via the Kokosing Gap Trail. According to Kenyon Fit’s Earth Day Challenge Web site, “You’ll run 26.2 miles, traversing some of Ohio’s most scenic countryside on the Kokosing Gap Trail.” Runners will start in Mount Vernon and end on the track, working their way through Gambier to Danville and back.

While the race itself is a physical challenge for the runners, the planning and execution of the race is a logistical challenge for its organizers. With 80 volunteers scattered throughout the course and “100 people running 26 miles all over the county,” organizing can become something of a nightmare, said Heithaus.

Mountain said that last year, she was working 70 to 90 hours each of the two weeks before the race, and that she got virtually no sleep in the 72 hours between Saturday morning and Sunday evening when the race took place. “It’s a lot of work, but it’s worth it,” said Heithaus.

He and Mountain have learned a lot since last year’s inaugural run. “Last year was entirely experimental” in terms of logistics and time commitments, said Heithaus. But all of last year’s efforts are paying off with this year’s “streamlined” race.

Instead of the manual times that were given last year, this year’s runner will wear microchip anklets that give them their exact time. Use of the microchips also makes the finish line much less hectic and enables runners to see some of their split times, such

as the half-marathon split.

Also new this year is the race’s certification as a “green marathon,” an initiative co-sponsored by Runner’s World magazine and Nature’s Path. To meet this requirement, Mountain and Heithaus will “recycle everything.” The post-race food will be all organic, as will the goodie bags, which will include information on living a greener lifestyle and Compact Fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs). Nike’s “Reuse-a-shoe” shoe recycling program will be available courtesy of the BFEC.

Heithaus and Mountain expect to have about 100 runners from near and far. Last year’s runners included students, faculty and Knox County residents. Heithaus and Mountain mentioned a bit of friendly competition between local doctor’s offices. Since the marathon is advertised nationally, it attracts runners from farther afield as well—last year, a man from Japan ran the race.

So far this year the farthest afield runner is from Colorado. Mountain said there is also “a small group of runners from Ohio that are planning to run every marathon in the state this year, and they are including the Earth Day Challenge on their mission.”

Heithaus and Mountain stress that the whole idea of the marathon is to get people outside and moving. If people want to get involved but do not want to run, volunteering to work on the course is a great alternative. The race will “need almost as many volunteers as runners,” said Mountain. Plus, the volunteers get t-shirts.

Professor of Biology Chris Gilen, a seasoned marathon-runner

who ran the race last year, plans on volunteering this time around because he “wants to give back,” he said. “What David and Emily did last year was truly spectacular,” he said. “[They] pulled off a first-class marathon here in Gambier, ... one of the best organized marathons I’ve ever run.”

He continued, “Everybody who runs [the bike path] has noticed it’s 13 miles out and 13 miles back—everybody has had the dream of a marathon, but David and Emily actually made it happen.”

The Earth Day Marathon debuted last year on April 22 as Heithaus’s brainchild. It was really a “half-assed attempt at flirting” with Mountain, he said. Although it started as a joke, the marathon was overwhelmingly well received by the community.

Heithaus’s efforts paid off in other ways, too. The Earth Day Challenge is probably “the only marathon to be followed by the race directors’ wedding,” said Heithaus. That’s right: Heithaus and Mountain plan to be married “at Lowdermilk Beach in Naples, FL on April 26, followed by an adventure honeymoon in Costa Rica,” said Mountain.

The race is limited to 150 participants. The deadline for signing up to run is Friday, April 11, and entry fees increase as the deadline approaches. Entry forms are available on-line, at the BFEC and at the KAC. Local sponsors include Jelloway Valley Builders, American Health Network/Dr. Nimeth, Hillside Veterinary Clinic, Fredericktown Veterinary Clinic, Printing Arts Press, Signline, Stability Fitness, Knox Family Footcare and Second Sole of Delaware.

STUDENTS

Gambier Grillin'

Jonah Auteri '11

Rachel Bucey '11

Jaret Trebet, Economics

Arian Sletner, Violin Instructor

FAC/STAFF

Totals so far:  
Students: 14  
Faculty: 15.5

Vs.

What are rats unable to do, making them more susceptible to poison?	Vomit	Taste the poison	No sense of taste	Vomit	Vomit
In the late 18th Century, Antonio Salieri was falsely accused of murder. Who was the victim?	A Duke	The Pope	(no answer)	Mozart	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
What substance generally takes the place of milk in cereal advertisements	Glue	Bleach	Colored water	Paint	Glue
Louisiana does not have counties but rather similar districts called what?	Distrits	Townships	Parishes	Parishes	Parishes
What kind of disaster struck Ohio, seven other states and Ontario, on Aug. 14, 2003, causing an estimated \$6 billion in financial losses	Blackout	Flood	Power outage	Tornadoes	Blackout
Total Correct	Three	Zero	Two	Three	

BY JON POROBIL



# Friends collaborate for *Godot*



James Miller '08, Drew Schad '08, Chris Guerrieri '09 and Matt Peck '09 in *Waiting for Godot*.

ALLIE WIGLEY

BY JENNY VILLANUEVA  
Staff Writer

*Waiting for Godot*, the thesis show for senior drama majors Craig Getting '08, Andrew Schad '08 and James Miller '08, premieres at Kenyon College's Hill Theater this Friday, Feb. 22 at 8:00 p.m. The play also features Chris Guerrieri '09 and Matt Peck '09. Written by Samuel Beckett, *Waiting for Godot* originally opened in 1953 and was instantly recognized as a "mystery wrapped in an enigma" by the *New York Times*, and, according to the *Massachusetts Review*, it is "the most significant English language play in the 20th century."

A classic and epic play that is a literary staple amongst the English crowd, Getting hopes to shed some new light on this well-known production. "I hope people will gain a new appreciation for a play many people think they already know," said Getting. "It's in the canon, so everybody reads it in high school or college and either really enjoys it or writes it off. Hopefully, people will

see that it isn't Godot's coming that is important, it's the journey these two attendees take while waiting."

Centered on two tramps, Estragon (Schad) and Vladimir (Miller), the play consists of them waiting for the arrival of the mysterious Godot, whom they admit they hardly know and would not recognize even if they saw him. The tramps are strongly reminiscent of the 1920s entertainer Charlie Chaplin or an American burlesque comedy team, adding to the atmosphere of the play. Several other characters join them shortly, including a master and slave who provide for the more comedic moments of the play.

Both acts of the play take place by a country road and a bare tree. Getting hopes that through this sparse scenery, he will be able to convey the dependency he believes to be the major theme of the play. "We've tried our best not to shy away from the theatricality of the piece," he said. "The characters perform for and with each other, which builds on the idea of dependence, [and] more importantly, companionship.

They cannot get through each day without each other, and that is what we're trying our best to convey."

Elaborating on his concept of dependency, Getting said, "Didi [Vladimir] believes that, upon his arrival, Godot will give them purpose. However, Godot never shows up, so I'd prefer to focus our attention on Didi and Gogo [Estragon]. For them, Godot is just a man for whom they're waiting."

Because of its acclaim, as well as the various interpretations available, *Waiting for Godot* is certainly an ambitious play to direct. Given the total absence of the character Godot, and the sparse scenery with little action, *Waiting for Godot* presents a challenge that Getting seems prepared to meet.

He is aided by the fact that his actors are by no means strangers to him. The entire cast shares a history of friendship that goes as far back as their first year on the Hill. Familiar with his actors, Getting has the luxury of working in what he refers to as "a bit of a boys' club."

# Horn, Grill sponsor multimedia evening

BY JAMES WEEKS  
Staff Writer

On Saturday, Feb. 23, the Horn Gallery and the Gambier Grill will host a two-part event spanning not only a large part of Kenyon College's campus, but a variety of art forms as well. At 9:30 p.m., the Horn Gallery will host a staged reading of *Fanfic: Out of the Blue* by Joey Boren, soon followed by the completion of the play at the Gambier Grill at 10:30 p.m., and a performance by the band Smooch. "I don't want it to be a play or a band," said Stephen Ellis '08, who has been heavily influential in bringing both the play and band to Kenyon. "I just want it to be a party."

The first part of the evening will be the staged reading of *Fanfic* in a less formally theatrical and more relaxed setting. The purpose of the reading is to bring Boren's work into an environment where it can be displayed, but also adjusted should the playwright feel that tweaking of the play is necessary. "We're doing a play, we just have our script in hand," said Ellis. "It's about anime porn, it's about prescription painkillers, it's about puking ... That's basically the major premise; if I told you any more, I'd ruin it."

Boren goes a little further, saying, "There are two boys that, because of a predicament, are stuck in a bathroom together, at a party that neither of them really want to be at ... we go on this sort of intergalactic journey through their hearts and their wills and their minds. And eventually we leave."

The piece has been brought to Kenyon through collaborations on the part of Ellis, Boren and several others, most connected through the National Theater Institute. Boren, a winner of the Young Playwrights Festival National Playwriting Competition at age 18, met Ellis and others at the National Theater Institute where he worked for a year, while writing some of *Fanfic*. The actual scheduling of the play has been one of the toughest issues to overcome for Ellis and the group. Finding itself placed opposite the senior thesis production *Sylvia*, Ellis tried to shuffle scheduling but

was unable to find a better time for the performance. "We tried to work it out, but we had to do it this night," said Ellis. "If people come to [*Fanfic*], I want them to go see *Sylvia* on Thursday ... It means a lot for me." But despite scheduling, Ellis believes heavily in the value of *Fanfic*. "It really is a play that resonates to our generation," Ellis said, calling it "the most uncontrived play about college people."

The event will move on to the Gambier Grill at 10:30 p.m., where the play will be continued, followed by the performance of Smooch. Ellis has been working with the manager of the Gambier Grill to allow entrance to those under 21, but was unable to offer any guarantees of working out a system by Saturday. While the two events may seem easily separated, "I think [the music] really complements the play, and I think the play really complements the music," said Ellis. Smooch, a band from North Carolina, play what member Peter More describes as "a mix of rock, hip hop, reggae, funk and folk," that should only enhance the experience for all who come to see the band's performance. "The biggest show we've played [before] was probably the NasheRevolution ... at Duke," said More, "where a couple thousand students and faculty came to celebrate a new art exhibit ... We hear Kenyon's amazing, so we're excited about checking it out."

"The play isn't what you may think it is at first glance," said Boren. But "it's written that way for a reason, and I think there is more of a pay-off if you embrace the play and its characters' potty mouths." For those who may not be convinced that a show and a band is their ideal evening, Boren said they should give it a chance. "If you don't like theater, you would love this play," he said. "I mostly don't like theater. I write plays that I think my friends would like, and just hope that that will apply to a few more people." Boren will be able to see how his newest piece works with more than a few people at Kenyon on Saturday night, offering an entertaining combination of diversions that will be extremely difficult to top. "It's going to be a fun night," said Ellis.

## MST3K Preview

Shown Friday at 6:30 in the Higley Auditorium

*Bride of the Monster* is, all things considered, a pretty run-of-the-mill pick for an MST3K movie. It's a science fiction film with bad production values. It's in black and white. It features the lumbering Tor Johnson playing a dimwitted lab assistant and Bela Lugosi as his sinister master, in two of the truest examples of typecasting that exist. Men with hats drive gigantic, old cars around. There's a big fake rubber octopus that gently holds people down and shakes them a little until they die. Nothing particularly special.

The movie does have a distinction that none of our previously screened films do: it is one part of a trifecta of movies by Edward D. Wood, Jr. dealt with in Tim Burton's 1994 film *Ed Wood*. Yes, this week's episode comes from the man Wikipedia refers to as "the ultimate 'bad' director of all time." Wikipedia also has an excellent, in-depth look at Mario's evil adversary Wario that comes highly recommended.

More interesting than the plot—of which there is, by the way, only a very small amount—is the sheer amount of MST fodder the movie's major players have been involved in: Tor Johnson puts in appearances in *The Unearthly* and *The Beast of Yucca Flats*, Ed Wood also directed *The Violent Years* and *The Sinister Urge* and Bela Lugosi had roles in *The Corpse Vanishes* and *The Phantom Creeps*, which were all featured as parts of episodes in the show's ten-year run. An impressive body of questionable work, all around.

Along with the film is the first installment of the two-part short film *Hired!*, which details the challenges one faces when employed by Chevrolet to sell cars door-to-door. It makes me yearn for the days when you never had to leave your house to buy things—people would just come right up and sell it to you. Cookies, knives, cars, you name it, some greased-up young high school drop-out would be knocking at your door, ready to drop it in your waiting hands! Those were better times. Nowadays, I have to get up and go to the Wal-Mart for everything.

—Andrew Cunningham

## This week in A&E

Thursday, Feb. 21:

*Sylvia*, Hill Theater, 8:00 p.m.

KC Chamber Wind Ensemble, Rosse Hall, 8:00 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 22:

*Mystery Science Theater 3000*, Higley Auditorium, 6:30 p.m.

*Waiting For Godot*, Hill Theater, 8:00 p.m.

Sex Workers' Art Show, Rosse Hall, 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 23:

Peaches Multicultural Concert, Rosse Hall, 4:00 p.m.

*Kenyon on Ice* Faculty and Staff Talent Show

Gund Commons Ballroom, 6:00 p.m.

*Fanfic*, Horn Gallery for the Arts, 9:30 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 24:

*Waiting For Godot*, Hill Theater, 8:00 p.m.



## Complex characters take the stage in *Sylvia*

BY LAURA BRISKMAN  
Staff Writer

Becky Ramsay '08 and Adam Petherbridge '08 will premiere their senior thesis, a production of *Sylvia*, at the Hill Theater on Thursday, Feb. 21, at 8:00 p.m., with a second showing on Saturday, Feb. 23 at the same time.

Originally written by A.R. Gurney, *Sylvia* is the story of Greg (Petherbridge), a financial trader experiencing a mid-life crisis, and the relationship that develops between himself and a dog—in the form of a woman—named Sylvia (Ramsay). "I was really excited to take on the character of Sylvia, because I've never done anything like it before," said Ramsay.

Because the character of Sylvia is one in which the lines between

woman and dog become blurred, her unexpected and significant presence in Greg's life brings turbulence into the relationship between Greg and Kate, his wife (Rose Proctor '10). "It's a hilarious look at different relationships and different kinds of love," said Ramsay.

Stage Manager Brianna Parry '11 explained that her favorite aspect of Gurney's script was the translation of "what you know dogs say into words humans can understand."

"The way the play is written, you have to wonder whether she is a woman playing a dog, or a dog playing a woman, and this leaves you with two distinct routes for the creation of her character," said.

The other actors also enjoyed the complexities of working with a character that blends human

and canine behaviors and communication. "Learning how to interact with a person as if they were an animal is definitely a challenge, one that necessitated a large amount of discussion of the issues and driving forces of the play," said Petherbridge.

Ramsay and Petherbridge have found the process extremely rewarding, and said they believe that it will be well received. "It has been great working with Adam, because we have been friends for so long and now we finally get to do a show together, a show that we got to pick," said Ramsay. "It's funny and anything but boring."

Adam Sonnenfeld '08 is directing the production. Performing alongside Ramsay and Petherbridge will be Drew Lewis '10 and Rose Proctor '10.

## Sex Workers' Art Show returns

BY KRISTY GAUSMAN  
Staff Writer

When one thinks of prostitutes and strippers, images of sketchy clubs, dark street corners and red light districts might crop up. The Sex Workers' Art Show is coming to Rosse Hall at 9:00 p.m. this Friday, Feb. 22 to dispel those existing images of prostitutes and strippers.

This will be the second year that the Sex Workers' Art Show has made an appearance here, brought to you by the Crozier Center for Women, the Unity House, the Art Department, Women's and Gender Studies and Student Lectureships. "It was a very enjoyable show," said Jessie Rubenstein '08 of her experience at last year's Sex Workers' Art Show. "There was a wide variety of talent, ranging from burlesque dancers to singers to spoken word acts."

It is hard to say what "wide variety" actually entails; images on the show's Web site include hot pink and white graphics of silhouetted individuals in provocative positions, rabbits with black boxes obscuring their eyes, the refrain "New Whore Order" scattered across the page and blond vixens with absurdly long false eyelashes.

Annie Oakley, the creator or "ringleader" of the show, and her talented traveling crew display the talents of those who work in the sex industry. The participants, according to the Web page, include "people from all areas of the sex industry: strippers, prostitutes, dommes, film stars, phone sex opera-

tors, Internet models, etc."

"It certainly was not something you ordinarily see on the Rosse Hall stage," said Laurie Finke, director and professor of women's and gender studies.

But do not be fooled by the deceiving display of glitzy avant-garde revelry. "The Sex Workers' Art Show demonstrates that one can be in the field of sex work and be amazingly talented ... [the] two are not mutually exclusive," said Rubenstein. "It was a pleasure to see that side presented, the side that says that you don't need a 'respectable' day job to be a valuable member of society, a member with talent, with something to offer."

"[The] show raised consciousness about the status of sex workers in our culture, an important topic for women's and gender studies students ... as the topic of our colloquium was representations of the female body, the female body as a cultural artifact," said Finke.

This is more than mere entertainment. The show spans various areas of interest and brings a voice that is not often given the opportunity to be heard, either because of cultural reluctance to look into this "taboo" industry or because people simply have not encountered such a revolutionary concept. Authors, entertainers, porn stars, comedians, playwrights, "musical theater mutineer[s]," activists and rappers are coming to Gambier to pull out all the stops in carving out new perceptions of their work.

## Concert is a mystery

BY PHOEBE HILLEMANN  
Staff Writer

Chances are, if you have eaten in Gund or Ernst lately and have been vaguely cognizant of your surroundings, you have noticed those enigmatic flyers posing the question "What color is a peach?" This may have left you feeling perplexed, or perhaps superior because you know quite well what color a peach is, thank you very much. Whatever your reaction, you were probably intrigued, and left wanting to know more. While the significance of its name will not be revealed until Saturday, the "Peaches" concert, which will take place from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 23 in Rosse Hall, may answer this and other questions you have, while simultaneously providing some entertainment.

The event, made possible by the Snowden Multicultural Center and the Office of International Education, will showcase a diverse group of more than 20 Kenyon students who will sing songs, perform dances and recite poetry from the cultures they represent. Audience members will be treated to songs from France, Ireland, India, Japan and China. There will also be poetry readings and dance performances featuring the Dance Team and members of the Ballroom Dance Club, among others. The dances range from hip-hop to salsa, belly to

swing, cha-cha to traditional Greek.

"It will definitely be mind blowing," said Diana Deoki '11, who came up with the idea for the event. "The great thing about this concert is that it's so diverse that every performance is unique, so the audience can't get bored."

Deoki, who began planning the event at the end of last semester, was able to make her vision a reality with the help of several of her friends, who took care of music, food, stage crew, budgeting and publicity, along with donations from Snowden and the International Office. Deoki said that the meaning of the peaches would be explained the day of the concert. "It has a good representation, or so I believe," she said. "As someone who enjoys writing short stories, I figured, why not be creative?" Whatever their meaning, it seems that the idea of a peach will undoubtedly be connected to the theme of multiculturalism.

A pizza dinner will be served following the show in Rosse. Deoki said that peaches will not be served. She acknowledged that peaches are more symbolic and most likely will not be provided for audience members. But, she said, "There will be crepes for dessert!"

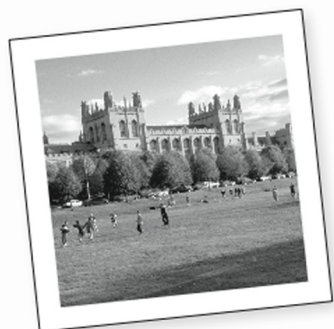
"Students are definitely in for a good time," said Deoki. "Everyone has been working so hard."

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# Track limps way to strong finish



WESLEY KEYSER

Nate Spagnola '10 vaults above the competition at the Kenyon College Invitational on Feb. 15.

BY ANALISE GONZALEZ  
Staff Writer

Although participating in an unscored meet and missing several runners due to illness, injury and other conflicts, the Kenyon College Lords and Ladies track teams showed their strength in all areas this past Friday in the Kenyon College Invitational.

"I felt we did really well despite the fact that many runners were out, especially distance runners," said Tracey Hutchings-Goetz '11. "Everyone felt happy about their performance."

For the Ladies, distance runners took the majority of the top places, primarily led by Anna Griffin '10 with her win in the 1,000-meter race, Hutchings-Goetz, who placed second in the 5,000-meter run and Hally Roberts '10, who placed second in the 500-meter run.

Both sprinting and field events were led by Shaakira Raheem '11, who placed first in the 55-meter hurdles and Alice Adebisi '11, who placed third in the triple jump.

In contrast to the Ladies, a majority of the top finishes for the Lords came in sprinting events. Brandon Balthrop '08 placed fifth in the 200-meter dash and third in both the 400-

meter dash and 55-meter hurdles. Eric Cameron '11 followed Balthrop in the 55-meter hurdles with a fourth-place showing. In the 500-meter race, Alex Rinehart '08 placed second and Dean Cooley '09 placed fourth.

There were notable top finishes for long distance runners and field events, as well.

Steve Politzer-Ahles '08 placed third in the 1,000-meter run, and Milen Kozarov '10, who has performed well throughout the season, placed third in the high jump.

On Saturday, Raheem and Matt Riley '10 were the lone representatives for Kenyon at the All-Ohio Invitational.

"Although it was neat to run at All-Ohio, it would have been more meaningful had there been more of us competing," Riley said. "It kind of revealed to me the fact that what I enjoy about track meets is less about racing and more about being with teammates. Had much of the team been healthy, we would have had several there."

Riley, who has had several top finishes in the 5,000-meter race this season, placed 13th. Raheem's time of 8.94 seconds in the 55-meter hurdles was enough for seventh place.

"I was really disappointed with

how I ran at All-Ohio," Riley said. "I was ranked third going in but I finished much worse. I was very nervous and that kind of stress really got to me."

Riley and his teammates will have one last meet before conferences to show their strength. Kenyon is hosting the Last Chance Meet, the final opportunity for runners to obtain an NCAA qualifying time, this Friday. It appears, however, that injuries will continue to plague the Lords and Ladies.

"As far as injuries go, this is probably the worst that Kenyon men's running has been in a very long time," Riley said. "We had such a great cross country season and I know it's tough for lots of the guys to see their expectations slip away. I imagine that many will run Last Chance as a sort of test drive for conference."

"Many injuries won't be healed until outdoor track," said Hutchings-Goetz. "[But] the competition this Friday should be fierce. We are up against some very good runners—especially distance wise from [the College of] Wooster. We'll see what happens. It should be exciting."

The Last Chance Meet starts at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 22 at the Kenyon Athletic Center.

## Lords make purses, pumps of Gators

BY CHRIS WILLOUGHBY  
Staff Writer

After a disappointing loss to the Earlham College Quakers (4-19) last Saturday, the Kenyon College Lords basketball team responded with two resounding victories this week over Oberlin College and Allegheny College. The Lords took advantage of a week-long hot shooting streak and strong defense to improve to 11-12 overall and an impressive 9-5 in conference play, building on their best record since the 1994-1995 season.

On Wednesday, the Lords came away from Oberlin's Phillips Gymnasium with a victory thanks to the efforts of guard Kodey Haddox '11 and forward Bryan Yelvington '09.

"Kodey and Bryan both got some great looks at the basket and in transition," said Head Coach Matt Croci.

Yelvington and Haddox, who scored 20 and 17 points respectively, led the Lords on a second-half charge that featured a renewed defensive effort by the Lords. They expanded a two-point lead at the half into a resounding 78-56 victory.

Saturday, the Lords hosted the Allegheny College Gators and looked to continue their momentum. The Lords dominated the first half and raced out to a 48-25 halftime lead.

Croci praised his team's offensive efficiency and relentless ball pressure. "Our guys were really ready for this game," he said.

Led by J.T. Knight '11, the Lords made 70 percent of their first-half field goal attempts on offense while forcing 17 turnovers on defense. The half was filled with many highlights for Knight, including several slicing drives and a buzzer beating three-pointer. The Lords also benefited from the selfless play of Josh Klinger '08 and David Jolson '09.

During the second half, the Lords' sloppy play allowed the Gators to chip away at the lead. In the end, however, Knight's 19 points and sophomore David Knapke's 16 points and four rebounds proved too much, as the Lords marched to victory, 88-77.

The Lords host Wittenberg University on Saturday at 3:00 p.m.

## NCAA considers forming Division IV

### Part Two of Three: Athletics

BY RICHARD FREUND  
Staff Writer

*This article is the second in a three-part series that will consider the potential ramifications of the creation of a new NCAA athletic division. Kenyon, in conjunction with about 180 other post-secondary institutions, is exploring the possibility of creating a new athletic division as an offshoot of Division III that would better represent the primary athletic and academic interests of these schools.*

Many of the questions regarding the creation of a new NCAA division are concerned with the possible regulations and restrictions that a new division might have. A less restricted division carries the danger of allowing very different attitudes and practices to occur between colleges, leading to different kinds of athletes playing against each other. A more restricted division, in contrast, may interfere with the mobility of coaches and trainers and could detract from the ability of athletic departments to operate in a successful manner.

One possible implementation of the new grouping would not entail any new athletic restrictions, focusing instead on gathering together institutions of a similar academic nature. In contrast, the new division could be more heavily regulated than the current Division III, resulting in a shift in schools' athletic policies. Though a new division may lead to more balanced matches, it adds pressure to the coaches and may alter the very nature of competitive sports by creating an artificial equality of competition.

"Division III is already heavily regulated," said Ted Stanley, head coach of the Kenyon football team. "We have to be careful about restrictions, having much more in Division III might start taking away from the value of sports."

The merit of a new division could be either the greater independence and academic leeway offered or the increased equality and fairness between competitors.

The debate about creating a new division is so recent that it seems to focus not on what the division's policies and effects would be, but rather on the very reason for its purpose and founding.

Recommended workout times, for example, would likely remain the same in a new division, as would the existing Division III team dynamic, and practical daily behaviors would not change.

One issue at stake is sports training during non-traditional

seasons. At bigger colleges, off-season training can keep athletes in better game shape year-round.

"Permitting off-season training, practice or competition would discourage student-athletes from having any other extracurricular activity besides their chosen sport," said Bennett. "Even if participation in a nontraditional season was officially voluntary, coaches and teammates would surely apply enough pressure that it would feel required. Such increased focus on sports would discourage a wider, more-rounded experience for students."

The ways in which colleges recruit, or attempt to attract, prospective players may also change.

"Recruiting is very different by institution than rules about working out," said Stanley. "Those rules are governed by the NCAA and followed by everyone."

Some wonder if the new division would actually help the athletes themselves at all, as opposed to aiding just the academic institution itself.

Peter Smith, Kenyon's director of athletics, argues that the tumult in Division III can be seen as an attempt to try to change things for the overall division that would benefit schools independently.

"There are different philosophies," said Smith. "Some schools want expanded seasons, other schools want tiered sports."

A new NCAA division could take one of many forms, and the NCAA is just beginning to discuss what such a division could entail.

"They don't know how they want to [split the division]," said Stanley.

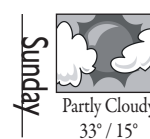
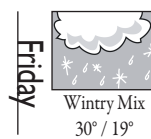
Douglas C. Bennett, the president of Earlham College, a member of the North Coast Athletic Conference, sees critical issues arising in Division III.

"What both unifies Division III and sets it apart from Divisions I and II is a commitment to treat athletics as an extracurricular activity instead of as a moneymaker for the institution or as a student's primary responsibility," said Bennett in an article published June 8 of last year in The Chronicle of Higher Education.

The issue ultimately remains that, in order to remain competitive in Division III, a school must retain a high level of athletic prowess and commitment.

"One faction wants to adopt certain Division I practices—redshirting, for example—that are often what good athletics requires," said Bennett. "But for the traditionalists, those practices don't fit with the philosophy on which Division III was founded."





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# Lords and Ladies swimming win NCACs

## Ladies swimming squeaks by



REBECCA SUNDLING

Ladies swimmers revel in their victory at the NCAC championships this weekend.

BY ELANA CARLSON  
*Staff Writer*

Last week, the Kenyon College Ladies swim team traveled to Canton, Ohio for the three-day North Coast Athletic Conference Championships. The Ladies did not come home empty-handed, capturing their fourth-consecutive NCAC title. Despite the Ladies' history of dominating the NCAC, the championship meet was filled with competition.

Heading into the final event, the 400-yard freestyle, Kenyon held a slim five-point lead, 1,566-1,559. The Ladies' fate hung in the balance, as Denison could still have emerged victorious with an event win. The race was neck and neck until anchor Brittany Hurd '09 shot ahead of Denison's swimmer in the adjacent lane and finished

the race ahead by a mere two-tenths of a second. The performance sealed a 1,630-1615 victory for the Ladies.

Throughout the meet, there were other standout performances. Kati Meirs '11 had an extremely impressive swim, winning the 1,650-yard freestyle and posting the nation's fastest Division III time of the season, 17:15.65. Jaime Straub '08 also placed in the event, finishing second with a time of 17:16.89. Both swimmers reached the qualifying time for the NCAA championships.

"A lot of the Ladies did an awesome job this past weekend," said Meirs. "In my opinion, the more impressive swims were [less publicized]," she said, referring to personal best times by Rachel Berger '11 and Emily Lewandowski '11.

The 200-yard backstroke also showcased impressive swimming, as the Ladies finished with the top four spots. Kati Coker '08 and Tina Ertel '10 finished first and second and earned themselves trips to the Division III championships.

The 800-yard freestyle relay team—composed of Meirs, Ertel, Coker and Danielle Arand '10—had a record-setting race.

"It was incredible to be a part of the record-setting [800-yard freestyle relay]," said Meirs. "Nationals is going to be very exciting; if we win it will be Kenyon's 50th national title."

First, however, the Ladies host the Kenyon Invitational Saturday at the Kenyon Athletics Center Natatorium. The Division III National Championships, hosted by Miami University, are held March 13-15.

## Lords swimming wins from behind

BY PETER FRANK  
*Staff Writer*

The Kenyon College Lords swim team was feeling confident heading into the NCAC championships last Thursday in Canton, Ohio, riding a win over conference rival Wittenberg University and looking for their 11th straight conference title. The Lords trailed the Denison University Big Red by 30 points going into the final day of the three-day tournament on Saturday. The Lords, however, dug deep and prevailed, emerging with a 1,633-1,597 victory over the Big Red thanks to four event wins and 17 top-eight finishes on the final day of competition.

"It was a real eye-opener, and one that we apparently needed," Kegan Borland '10 said regarding the highly contested nature of Kenyon's win. "We're glad that this happened at NCACs so that we can make the adjustments, both physically and mentally."

The competition was fierce from the start, as the Lords fell behind Denison early, finishing the tournament's first day behind, 557 to 452. Denison struck first with victories in the 200-yard freestyle relay and the 500-yard freestyle. The Lords, however, fought back, winning the subsequent two races. Blair Withington '10 won the 200-yard medley (1:53.83) and Josh Mitchell '08 followed suit, taking the 50-yard freestyle with an NCAA qualifying time of 20.61. The day ultimately belonged to Denison, as their four top-eight finishes in the 50-yard freestyle

event propelled them to a day-one lead.

The second day of competition told a different story, as the Lords were able to settle down and battle back to win four of the day's seven events and pull within 30 points of Denison. The leadership of Tom Irgens '08 and Josh Mitchell '08 fueled the comeback. Irgens led both the 200-yard medley relay (1:32.40) and the 800-yard freestyle relay teams (6:48.44) to victory. Mitchell also coasted to a victory in the 100-yard backstroke, finishing with the second fastest time in the nation this year (50.27).

The tournament's final day was the Lords' last chance to capture the NCAC title for the 23rd time in 24 years. Thanks to another four event wins, the Lords were able to make up the rest of the deficit and pull off a stunning victory.

In addition to two additional event wins from Irgens and Mitchell, standouts Borland and Douglas Huguenard '10 also came away with big victories. Huguenard took the 200-yard butterfly title for the second straight year (1:52.28), and Borland was victorious in the 1,650-yard freestyle with an NCAA qualifying time (15:50.23).

"Denison came to the meet far more prepared than we could have imagined," said Borland. "Being able to sneak a win on the last day was great, and a win is a win."

The Lords will host the Kenyon Invitational this Saturday, Feb. 23, as they prepare for Nationals in search of their 29th championship win.

# Ladies basketball wins regular-season title

BY KALI GREFF  
*Staff Writer*

The Kenyon College Ladies basketball team won the North Coast Athletic Conference regular-season title this week with decisive victories over Denison University and Earlham College. The triumph over Earlham marked the team's 15th consecutive win.

On Wednesday, the Ladies hosted Denison at home in the second meeting of the season between the two teams. In their first meeting on Jan. 23, Kenyon narrowly edged the Big Red 72-65. The Ladies jumped off to a strong start, playing evenly with Denison for the first half. Despite retaining

only a slight lead for most of the half, Kenyon was able to increase their advantage thanks to a 17-7 run and left the court at halftime with a 14-point advantage.

Denison's offense struggled against Kenyon's steadfast defense, lead by a career-high nine rebounds by Patty Hace '08. On the offensive end, Alisha Moreno '08 was the game's standout, with 20 points and five assists. Through their combined efforts, the Ladies finished off the game on top, 69-48, with the coveted NCAC title to their names.

"The team is so excited about our position right now," said Taylor Lenci '11. "Denison was a big win. [We are] happy with winning our

conference, but that isn't where we want our season to end, the tournament is our big goal."

The highlight of the game, though, was the history-making performance of Anne Dugan '08, who scored her 1,000th career point in the first half of the battle. She became only the seventh women's basketball player in Kenyon's history to accomplish the feat.

After cutting down the nets following their milestone triumph, the Ladies hit the road Saturday to face the Earlham College Quakers in their second match-up. When the two teams played previously, Kenyon left with a dominating win, 71-46.

In a contest where the usual

starters' minutes were limited, the Ladies stepped up to the challenge and carried the momentum of the game. Brittany Clair '08 matched her season high with 13 points, Hace chipped in ten points and seven rebounds and Moreno finished with 13 points and four assists. Despite the strong performances given by Kenyon, Earlham stayed within striking distance and closed out the first half barely behind the Ladies, 26-21.

Fighting for their lead, the Ladies pressed on after the intermission to top the Quakers. Earlham followed Kenyon closely throughout the second half, and came within five points with only five minutes remaining. A three-

point shot from Moreno, however, sparked a 15-6 Kenyon run and the Ladies emerged with a 60-46 victory.

"We've been feeling great for a couple of weeks now," said Moreno. "I feel like we are playing really well together and have been practicing hard to continue improving for the remainder of the season."

The Ladies will play host to the NCAC conference quarterfinals, though the time has not yet been established.

"I am optimistic for the remainder of the season because the attitude on our team has remained positive and energized, which is amazing after our long season," said Lenci.