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Administration Considers Changes to Sendoff, Party Policy

LILI MARTINEZ
News Editor

Summer Sendoff: most Kenyon students would agree that it is one of the most enjoyable days of the year. But it is also inarguably one of the drunkest — a full day of drinking on South Quad, followed by an evening dancing to an expensive band. But all of that might change soon.

In recent years, the excesses of Sendoff have caused concern among administrators. According to Tacci Smith, associate dean of students, “We’re doing the review of the party policy and that’s where a lot of the conversations started about Sendoff because as we look at the party policy ... we realize that Sendoff is a day [when] we don’t work within the party policy much at all.” Although the alcohol-free zone in front of Ransom Lawn remains controlled, the South Quad, where most of the drinking occurs during Sendoff, has become a



A scene from South Quad during Sendoff 2010. Pictured: Old Kenyon and revelers.

problem, according to Director of Student Activities and Greek Life Christina Mastrangelo and President S. Georgia Nugent.

“The whole thing is just a free-for-all. It is an instance where we just kind of look the other way and on the whole that’s not a good thing,” Nugent said. Mastrangelo, who is new to Kenyon this year, said her impression of Sendoff

is that “there is a ‘free-for-all’ mentality regarding alcohol use during Sendoff ... the drinking behaviors of the day are resulting in lower attendance at Sendoff and taking away from what Sendoff is truly about.”

“A lot of times South Quad feels like each group has a section and clearly people are floating around, but it sometimes feels like there are almost

mini parties happening within the main lawn,” Smith said. She emphasized that the main concern is security on South Quad. “If this is the way we like it and we want to keep it, then how do we make sure that safety is going on?”

Smith, Mastrangelo and Dean of Students Hank Toutain have met in recent weeks with students on Social

Board to discuss the changes to the party policy and potential changes to Sendoff. A main question has been the College’s liability toward the heavy drinking that occurs on South Quad. “Sendoff isn’t this horrible day of millions of people going to the hospital, but there is this day of binge drinking. The conversation has been: how can Sendoff be fun and do the things it’s supposed to do?” Smith said. According to Mastrangelo, “Administrators from Student Affairs are meeting with students, organizations and the party policy committee to examine the event, in general, and how we can make it safer. Rather than applying the party policy as is, we are exploring the possibility of a policy specific to Sendoff and outdoor events similar in nature.”

Students have expressed reservations about changing the policy towards Sendoff this year, especially in light of the

changes that will go into effect next year. “It feels like because we are going to make changes to the party policy that will go into effect next year, there’s a conversation about whether we wait and do everything under that new part for next year,” Smith said. “I suggested that to Social Board and some of the Greek leaders because they are the ones that throw the majority of the parties and know the party policy very well. Is there something we could try to do during this year’s Sendoff, almost as a trial basis for the party policy?”

Sendoff is different from normal events sanctioned under the party policy because most, if not all, of the drinking happens outside. While the administration, Social Board and other organizations have some experience with outdoor events involving alcohol, the scale of Sendoff makes it a very different

see SENDOFF, page 2

Panel Discusses ‘Egypt in Tumult’

SARAH QUELLER
Senior Editor

“There are a number of futures open to the Egyptian people,” Professor of International Studies David Rowe told a standing-room only crowd of students and faculty interested in better navigating the mass protests in Egypt. Rowe moderated the faculty-led “Egypt in Tumult” panel on Tuesday, Feb. 8 in Peirce Lounge.



Rowe opened the panel with background information on Egypt’s sociopolitical context and framed the panel as one aimed at “understanding our interaction with this corner of the world” with greater “intellectual sophistication.” Rowe noted that “Egypt in Tumult” was likely the first in a series of discussions about the uprising.

Assistant Professor of History Nurten Kilic-Schubel discussed the “long history of popular mass protests” in Egypt and in the region. Kilic-Schubel said the revolts in Egypt were sparked by the collapse of the Tunisian regime, but that there was already a growing tension in Egypt, and there have been a string of mass demonstrations there over the past few years. From a historical perspective, she argued that building dissatisfaction with President Hosni Mubarak’s rule could be traced back to dissatisfaction with Anwar El-Sadat’s economic reforms in the 1970s.

Pamela Camerra-Rowe, associate professor of political science, cited poverty, inequality, corruption and repression as the foundations of Egyptians’ demands for political change. A specialist in democracy, Camerra-Rowe stressed the dangers of protesting an authoritative regime, especially one with control over the military. “What happens from here out?” she asked. “There is no guarantee of an orderly, peaceful or successful transition to democracy.” Camerra-Rowe argued the desires for order and security are paramount, but noted that the protestors are diverse, and though they may stand united against Mubarak, they may not agree on the ideals for a new order.

The tumult in Egypt, according to Religious Studies Professor Vernon Schubel, has little to do with religion. Policy makers looking for the “right explicatory narrative” have

see EGYPT, page 3

Ice Storm Cuts Electricity for 13 Hours



DAVID HOYT

Last Wednesday, Feb. 2, Kenyon experienced a blackout rivaling the fabled September blackout of ’08, which many juniors and seniors still remember fondly. Combined with an ice and sleet storm and a comparatively small snowstorm, Wednesday saw the cancellation of all classes and a mass migration of students to Peirce Hall, where natural light and packaged food provided warmth and sustenance. According to Chief Business Officer Mark Kohlman, Kenyon began preparing for the storm on Monday. “We started mapping out a plan for addressing the storm on Monday when it was clear we would be getting bad weather,” he said. “The Maintenance department moved generators into key locations on Tuesday so that if the College lost power, it would be fairly easy to get the critical places hooked up.” AVI workers at Peirce were preparing in advance, too: “They moved water and supplies into Peirce from storage anticipating loss of power. While the generator in Peirce provides electricity for essential functions, it does not make the building fully operational.” Students munched on packaged cookies, sandwiches and bottled water on Wednesday. Power was restored at around 3:00 p.m. for many buildings, and by Thursday, things were back to normal in Gambier.

—Lili Martinez

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Phling Photography: Fashions to Beat the February Blues
Students Investigate Knox County’s ‘Fox Hole’
Kenyon Squash Continues to Close Gap on Denison

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Sendoff: Party Policy in Consideration

From page 1

ent situation. “Bexley [Apartments] has tried to throw a block party the last several years. Out of the four years that we’ve done it, in this policy, one year has been good — I wouldn’t even say great. The other three have kind of been horrible and gotten out of hand and shut down,” Smith said. “The same thing [happens] with Aclands and how that spills out onto the lawn and into the street. The policy we have is pretty decent when you do Old Kenyon lounges or Weaver [Cottage]. But it doesn’t work as well for outdoor [events].” Smith has suggested creating an outdoor policy for parties on a smaller scale, such as the ones at Acland Apartments, and adapting that policy on a large scale for Sendoff. Specific changes, however, are still forthcoming.

Another major concern at Sendoff has been funding. While the Ransom Lawn activities are funded by the Budget and Finance Committee and the ODADAS grant from the State of Ohio, these resources stipulate that only alcohol-free events can be hosted using their funds. There have been discussions about moving all the events to South Quad, where, historically, they were always held. “We’ve done some research into when [Sendoff] first started. [Just] 25 or 30 years ago, it happened on South Quad ... with games, fun competitions, music and food,” Smith said. “I suggested ... a throwback to the original and we’ll do it all in one space.” In this case, however, the liability increases regarding underage drinking, and new controls and security have to be established. Smith is optimistic, however. “Maybe there’s a bar set up, or it’s done through AVI or students who have gone through the training as bartenders ... some schools call it a beer garden,” she said. “There [are] lots of options; we’re just getting

started.”

Questions of funding also arise when considering the Sendoff band. Many students spend all day on South Quad, drinking and socializing, and never see the band, which costs up to \$23,000 to book. “I’ve been here seven years and one of the things I noticed was there are some students who hang out on the lawn all day and never come down to Ransom Lawn, or they only come down to hear the band,” Smith said. “You’re all spending a lot of your Student Activities money on this one day and in reality, the amount of people that attend and come and really enjoy it fully is really small.”

Discussions about re-allocations of funds have raised issues, including whether it would be more advisable to spend less on activities and more on the band, or whether the entire event should be shortened. “Is it that maybe we do less stuff and get a \$30,000 band, or ... maybe Social Board [can] cut back on what’s being spent and think creatively about a new way to spend it, like adding something different. Maybe the event is from 2:00 in the afternoon until 6:00 or 7:00,” Smith said.

Moving Sendoff to Friday has also been discussed, according to Emory O’Dell ’14, a member of Social Board. “It was brought up in a meeting to move Sendoff to Friday, but we haven’t discussed it further,” he said. “That’s mostly the school who wants it moved, but most likely Sendoff will remain on a Saturday. So far we plan to move the festivities, like tattooing, to South Quad right in front of Sam Mather. Of course, we invite community members and we’re worried that those activities will be too close to all of the drinking on South Quad.”

And what events should occur on South Quad, if any? “What some students said was they would really like [to have] something in South Quad for

people to do,” Smith said. “Last year, the Motown band ... didn’t participate in the Battle of the Bands competition. They usually [win] and then [would] be opening for Sendoff. Because they didn’t get to participate ... they did an impromptu concert on South Quad and it had more people at it than what the Sendoff band lawn area had. In some people’s minds, this could be one event.”

All in all, however, Mas-trangelo said students have been eager and willing to help work out proposed changes: “Overall, our discussions with student groups have been positive. I think student leaders understand the risk and liability behind the event and are willing to examine Sendoff.” O’Dell said, “The administration’s goal is to make sure that Sendoff is safe. They haven’t put too much pressure on us. But Sendoff is very far away; there may be additional pressure in the future.”

Nugent emphasized the general desire for Sendoff to become a more communal event, not just for Kenyon students, but for the entire Gambier community. “There was a sense, coming in part from the faculty, that it would be nice if it was a campus-wide fair that would be fun and [you could] even bring a family to, instead of being a drunken free-for-all, which is not the best idea,” she said.

Smith said that whatever changes are discussed, the administration, working with students, wants to have a list of options by March. “We would like, by spring break, to have at least some concrete options,” she said. “Maybe come up with two or three viable options. I know students are going to say don’t change it at all. Unfortunately, in the time that we live in, I don’t see that as a possibility because it makes the College and individuals liable. We must follow our policy. Safety is our number one goal and the policy helps us better achieve that.”

Bookstore Implements New Textbook Policy

ERIC GELLER

Staff Writer

Late last semester, Bookstore Manager Jim Huang sent an email advising students of changes to the Bookstore’s textbook system that would begin after winter break. With the start of classes a few weeks ago, these new policies, which include online K-Card use, electronic textbooks and rental options, are now in effect.

The Bookstore has partnered with Cengage to provide e-book versions of popular textbooks that are cheaper than their print counterparts. In addition to print versions available for purchase or rental, these textbooks will now be available to download in full or on a per chapter basis. “We welcome this opportunity to offer you more options and save you money,” Huang wrote in his email. “There are many different systems for the delivery of electronic texts, and your Bookstore is looking for all the input we can get as we evaluate them all.”

Huang also sent out an email with a list of nine titles eligible for their guaranteed buyback program. “We’ve worked with faculty to identify a few titles that

we’re selling for Spring 2011 that we already know will be used on campus again in Fall 2011,” he wrote. The Bookstore will buy these texts from students at the end of the Spring semester for 50 percent of the title’s cost. “If your verdict is favorable,” Huang wrote to students, “we’ll look to expand this to more titles next semester.”

Students who don’t need to buy their textbooks can use the Bookstore’s rental site at kenyon.rentsbks.com. Huang reported that many students rented textbooks in the Fall using this option, which provides free shipping on orders of over \$100.

The Bookstore has also added the option for students to buy and rent school materials using their K-Cards.

How have these policies affected students’ decisions so far? “The [rental] numbers aren’t overwhelming,” Huang said. “Rental is at 128 transactions for 211 books, fall and spring semesters combined.” He also mentioned that textbook sales were not currently as high as he’d like them to be. “The bottom line is that new text sales continue to fall here,” he said. “Used text sales are up, but those additional used dol-

lars fall far short of covering what we’re losing on the new side.”

Besides these recently-introduced policies, Huang has several ideas to revitalize the Bookstore. Currently, he and his staff use “an internal price comparison tool that allows us to look at our prices in relation to other campus stores and to online competitors. We have made adjustments based on this data, and will continue to work with these numbers.” He also said the Bookstore was currently focused on “better technology for rentals, affiliate arrangements with more text publishers for more digital options, working with our faculty to apply the guaranteed buyback and multiple semester buyback programs to a wider range of titles [and] looking at some unconventional sources for used texts.”

Huang added that partnerships with e-book providers for non-textbook purchases might be on the horizon. “We’ve been working on this and hope to be able to announce something soon,” he said. “Right now, we understand the importance of getting this done. It’s just a matter of finding enough time and resources to make it happen.”

VILLAGE COUNCIL

Feb. 7, 2011

- Council approved Jan. 10 meeting minutes.
- Council approved bills paid.
- Mayor’s Report:
 - Financially, the Village is “very healthy.” There are adequate funds for regular programs and maintenance as well as funds for future projects.
 - Plans for improvements to the Community Center park are “well-advanced,” but the sidewalk plans are less so. The Council is considering a sidewalk on Acland Street connecting Brooklyn and Wiggin Streets. There is also discussion about a combined sidewalk and storm water project on the hill on West Woodside Drive that will include a sidewalk continuation to Brooklyn Street.
 - Damage from the recent ice storm was minimal. The Community Center was prepared to be an emergency center if the power did not come on by Wednesday night.
- Village Administrator’s Report
 - The Spring Dumpster Day for the Village will be Sat., May 7 from 8:00 a.m. to noon. The Fall dumpster day will be Sat., Oct. 1 from 8:00 a.m. to noon. The dumpsters will be at 141 Meadow Lane, the Gambier Maintenance Barn.
 - The Village is up in water usage, so crews have been checking for leaks. They have not found anything yet but will continue looking.
- Council approved 2011 budget.
- Council approved ordinance to add a handicap parking space on Gaskin Avenue.
- Council approved ordinance to update sections of the parking ordinance. Any handicap spaces added since 2002 were not added into the penalty section of the parking laws. Therefore, the Village had no power to enforce these restricted spaces. Council declared an emergency and suspended the normal rules to immediately append the legislation.
- Council approved a resolution to participate in the State of Ohio Purchasing Program.
- Council approved expenditures to Laser Technology, Inc. for \$2,595 for Laser Law Enforcement.
- Council approved the Community Center park trail plans.

VILLAGE RECORD

Feb. 2 — Feb. 9

- Feb. 2, 8:09 a.m. — Vehicle accident in New Apartments lot. Tree struck student vehicles. No injuries.
- Feb. 5, 12:14 p.m. — Hate crime: vandalism to dormitory room in Bushnell Residence Hall.
- Feb. 5, 11:38 p.m. — Medical: intoxicated student at Bexley Residence. No transport.
- Feb. 5, 10:40 p.m. — Medical: intoxicated student in Peirce Hall. Squad contacted and student transported to Knox Community Hospital.
- Feb. 6, 12:06 a.m. — Medical: intoxicated student in Peirce Hall. Student transported to dormitory.
- Feb. 6, 3:14 a.m. — Drugs/paraphernalia in Peirce Hall. Items turned over to Knox County Sheriff and report written.
- Feb. 6, 8:50 a.m. — Theft of student property in Gund Commons.
- Feb. 6, 10:42 a.m. — Theft of student property in Peirce Hall during Phling.
- Feb. 6, 11:10 a.m. — Theft of student property in Peirce Hall during Phling.
- Feb. 8, 4:01 p.m. — Medical: Village Inn employee injured. No transport.
- Feb. 8, 10:35 p.m. — Medical: student injured in Mather Residence Hall. Safety officers treated student.
- Feb. 9, 12:41 a.m. — Medical: ill student in McBride Residence Hall. Squad contacted and student transported to Knox Community Hospital.
- Feb. 9, 1:35 a.m. — Ill student in Farr Residence Hall. No transport.

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DAVID MCCABE

Staff Writer

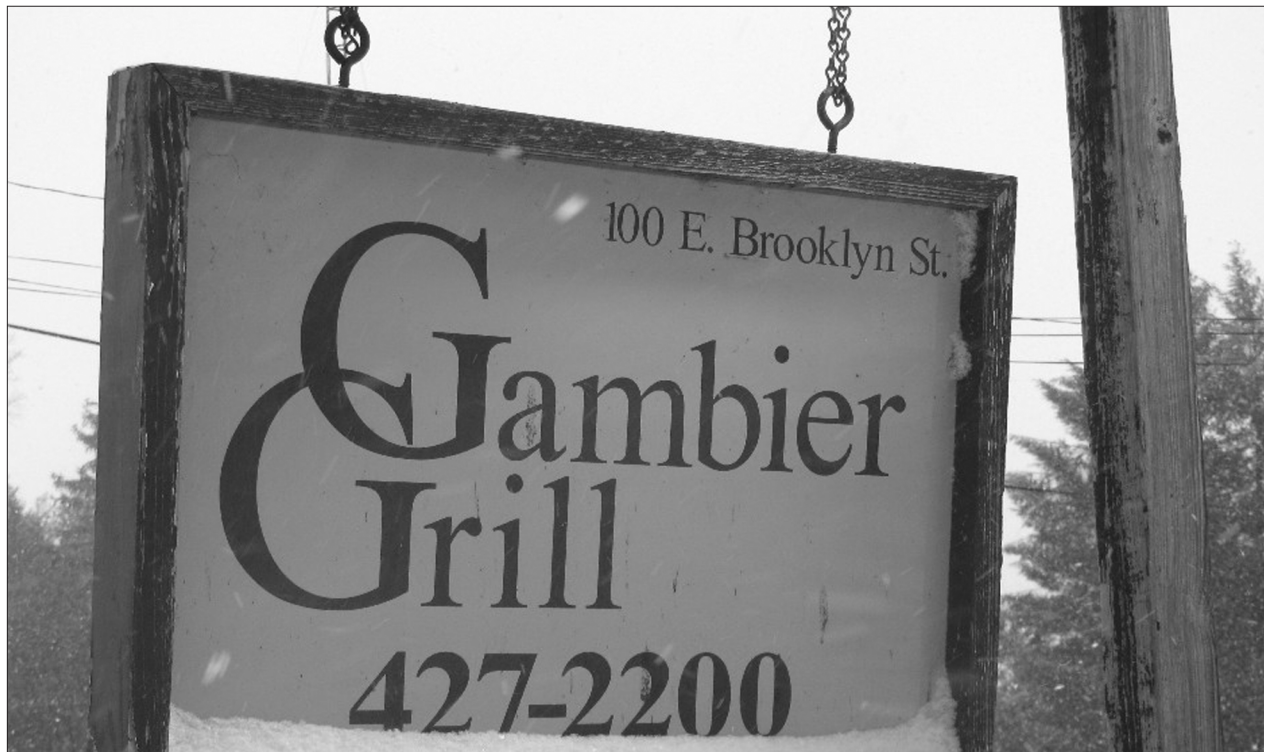
Knox County Sheriff's Officers conducted a surprise ID check on the night of Wednesday, Jan. 26 at the Gambier Grill, according to eyewitnesses and the owner of the establishment, Andy Durbin.

The Sheriff's Office was contacted, but representatives were unable to comment on any aspect of the incident.

The evening of the 26th was a standard night at the Grill — loud music and flowing taps — until around 12:30 a.m., when the officers — an eyewitness says there were three — entered the restaurant, asking everyone to stay where they were and not to try to leave out the back.

The lights were turned on. The music stopped.

According to Durbin, the officers checked approximately 20 IDs, and found



The Gambier Grill, familiarly referred to as The Cove, received a surprise visit from the Sheriff on Wednesday, Jan. 26.

DAVID HOYT

one student who was underage.

Durbin, who pays a doorman to check IDs on Wednesday, Friday, and Sat-

urday nights, said the student must have used a fake ID to gain entry, and that the doorman he employs has been working at the Grill for

more than four years and has never been cited for letting in underage drinkers.

When the officers left, they told Grill management

that they could turn the music back on, but by that point, no one was really in the partying mood, according to Durbin. "It lost us

money," he said.

"In some ways I'm not surprised that they found [first-years] in there," President S. Georgia Nugent said.

The Grill was not the only liquor-serving establishment to come under scrutiny that week. The following night, the Ohio Investigative Unit (OIU), which enforces liquor license violations, among other roles, conducted a "compliance check" at the Village Market, according to OIU spokeswoman Julie Hines. The Market is the only grocery venue on campus that sells alcohol, and President Nugent said that "occasionally we hear something from the sheriff about the market needing to watch more closely for underage students buying alcohol."

Records obtained from the OIU indicate that the Market was cited for "selling beer to a minor" and "furnishing beer to a minor."

Library Hosts Community Events

ZOË ERDENEILEG

Features Assistant

The library is partnering with Wellness Housing and the Kenyon Film Society to host its second game night of the school year on Friday, Feb. 11 at 7:00 p.m. Game Night is another initiative the

library has carried out to improve the use of Olin and Chalmers facilities.

Students will run the event in order to

"In general, we want the library to be more usable to students."

- Nina Clements

create "more of a space for faculty, staff and student interaction," explained Nina Clements, a library and technology consultant. There will be a viewing of *Finding Nemo* in Olin Auditorium and plenty of board games and snacks will be provided. All members of the Kenyon community are invited. "On the first game night, a lot of first years came. This time, we're hoping that there will be more of a diversification," Cle-

ments said.

Moreover, on Wednesday, Feb. 16 at 4:00 p.m., the library and the History Department will be co-sponsoring a reading and reception in the Greenslade Special Collections and Archives Reading Room.

"Writers of the African Diaspora" will be an opportunity for students, faculty and staff to read from their favorite writers

of the African Diaspora. The library has made several changes this year in order to better serve students and faculty. The New Instructional Technology Center, located in what used to be a quiet study area, teaches film cutting, instructs more sophisticated usage of Moodle pages and features editing stations. "It's still study space," Clements said, "but is especially useful for people working on projects utilizing multi-

media technologies." The third floor of Chalmers, where old science periodicals could once be found, now is a comfy study area. The current magazines and periodicals are still there but are placed on new shelves, allowing more light into the space. The science periodicals have been moved to the first floor.

Student input is very important as the library continues to reorganize and plan events. Clements and Julia Glynn Warga '96, also a library and technology consultant, described the flexibility of the library to respond to students' needs: "We heard some students say during finals week that their carrel was taken ... it seems that everyone has their own space that they like to study ... [so] we've been trying to create more [areas] for that. ... In general, we want the library to be more useable to students."

"When the Gallery moves over to the new art history building, we'll have to rethink that space," Clements said.

Trustees Discuss Locks, Tuition

AUGUST STEIGMEYER

Editor-in-Chief

Last Friday, Feb. 4, the Kenyon Board of Trustees approved the College's budget for 2012, along with several other projects, including a plan to update the locks on apartment-style campus housing. Mark Kohlman, chief business officer, created a plan that would adapt the new K-Card lock policy recently implemented on the dorms for the New Apartments and Bexley Apartments.

The Board approved the change and allocated approximately \$150,000 to the project. The College will install the new locks over spring break.

The regular trustee meetings in New York were canceled last week due to inclement weather across the country, but the Budget and Finance Committee spoke by conference call on Thursday to approve the College's 2012 budget.

The full Board, which spoke by phone on Friday, took the committee's recommendations and approved the budget.

Tuition and fees and the salary pool for employees will both be increasing next year under the new budget. Tuition fees

are increasing by 4.5 percent, which is "the typical increase last year across the country," according to President S. Georgia Nugent.

The employee salary pool will be two percent higher. The Board also allocated 1.2 percent of the budget to a pool that pays for faculty merit-based raises. Every seven years, faculty members are eligible for a merit raise after an evaluation of their teaching, research and service.

The College reported that the financing plan for completing the studio art building is "on track," according to Nugent. Natalie Marsh, director of the center for the arts, presented a plan for a "statement of permanence" that many academic galleries are now adopting.

There have been past incidents in which colleges have sold art collections to balance their budgets. "It has long been the ethical practice of museums to not do that," Nugent said. "When someone has given you a piece of art, it's not fungible assets." Under this commitment, the Kenyon art gallery can sell art, but the funds have to go towards supporting art through buying new pieces or otherwise

benefiting the gallery.

Jennifer Delahunty, director of admissions, gave the Board an admissions update. Early admissions pools "were very strong" and the overall number of applications is up seven percent from last year.

Kenyon's Capital Campaign is on track to meet its \$230 million goal. So far, the campaign has raised \$221 million. Donations to the Kenyon annual fund and parents fund are running ahead of last year's number.

"Our parents' fund is the largest of schools of our type in terms of participation and dollars raised," Nugent said. "Kenyon parents are very fond of Kenyon."

Last year, the Trustees raised \$1 million for a matching fund if a donor increased his or her gift or gave for the first-time. 56 percent of donors increased gifts or made new gifts this year.

Several topics were tabled until the May meeting because of the inability to meet in person this month. These include a presentation on the current state of *The Kenyon Review* and a discussion about bringing back a chaplaincy to Kenyon.

Egypt: Professors Discuss Possibilities for a Peaceful Transition in Government

From page 1

turned to religion because it is an interesting and convenient angle for covering a foreign conflict, he said. "There is an assumption that all problems in Arab countries are related to Islam or the Arab-Israeli crisis," Schubel said.

The final panelist, Provost Nayef Samhat, explored

the United States' interests and role in the region, first emphasizing the importance of controlling the oil routes there. Samhat noted three major United States policies in the Middle East — the containment of Arab nationalism, the exclusion of other nations from shaping the region's politics and the pursuit of maintaining stability by supporting

key states, most importantly Saudi Arabia and Israel. The outcomes of democracy are uncertain, he said, adding that the U.S. tolerates democracy in the Arab world only "when we can control it."

Following the professors' presentations, attendees were urged to ask questions. Dara Frank '11 asked whether Egyptians harbored resentment

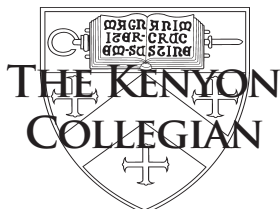
toward the U.S. for supporting Mubarak's government. Schubel said the protestors are victims of the "daily humiliations of corruption" and are aware that Mubarak's regime has been upheld by U.S. support, but said President Barack Obama's administration is unsure of where to stand. "Regime change has risks," Camerra-

Rowe said, adding that some protestors have said the U.S. is not supporting them enough, but the nation is going to look after its own interests. Samhat, however, said Mubarak could have "crushed" or "eliminated" the movement, so these "quiet signals" suggest that he is aware of American sentiment.

Bryan Kurtzman '12 asked how the United States could have been so "blind-

sided" by the outbreak of protests, to which Rowe offered that "political opposition to authoritative regimes is very dangerous" and there are "powerful incentives to be untruthful."

Other attendees raised the role of social media, the model of democratization in Iraq and the future of Egypt's relationship with Israel.



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FACE OFF

Daniel Packard: Just Stupid



SARAH KAHWASH
Copy Editor

On Friday, Jan. 28, comedian Daniel Packard delivered a Social Board-sponsored show titled "Live Group Sex Therapy" centered on the themes of relationships, sex and dating. Not, however, before a lengthy verbal battle via the ever-dramatic all-student email system, involving several perspectives on the heteronormativity of Social Board's advertisement that advertised a "fun and adventurous crowd-based conversation" featuring the "scary secrets we're not supposed to tell the other sex."

The first reply quoted Social Board's original e-mail, asking, "Only members of the opposite sex have sex together?" One student proceeded to assert that the advertisement for the show was misleading: "It's billed as 'therapy.' It's supposed to be instructive," to which another responded, "There's a difference between the title of an act, and what the act actually is. [Packard] is a comedian ... he is not, in fact, a sex therapist. *Invisible Man* is also not about a man who is invisible."

But this controversy grew beyond the accuracy of Social Board's word choice, rapidly spreading to the scheduled performance itself. "Upon viewing the attached YouTube videos [of Packard's previous comedic performances]," wrote one student, "it is apparent to me beyond all reasonable doubt that Daniel Packard has nothing but contempt and hatred for homosexuals." Needless to say, several Kenyon students had formed an opinion of this comedian prior to his arrival on campus.

Last Friday evening, I entered Rosse Hall having no familiarity with the aforementioned all-stus. I had not heard of Packard before then, nor had I watched any of his previous shows via YouTube. I was under the impression that my friends and I had gone to see a comedian—hopefully, a good one. Not once during the show did Packard claim to be a certified sex therapist. He also openly

acknowledged his own political incorrectness — in fact, he shamelessly poked fun at straight, gay, black and white stereotypes alike. And while many continue to complain of his insensitivity, I think it's important to note that none of what he said seemed mean-spirited; indeed, some of the generalizations he made were meant to flatter, such as deeming black women exceptionally confident.

It would be wrong to insist that audience members shouldn't have felt offended; everyone, obviously, is entitled to their own reactions and feelings. What I have to say to those who feel that way, however, is that being unappealing or offensive has its natural consequences. A friend of mine visiting Kenyon for the first time said of the show: "While [Packard's] act was highlighted by funny jokes and shock laughs that I enjoyed, it also came across as distasteful. What could have been an outstanding show was instead average and at times awkward for the audience."

Whatever audience members expected, and whether or not humor can justify abrasiveness, Packard paid for his own objectionable material simply by dealing with the reactions he got: when he was funny, people laughed, and when he was too inappropriate, he was forced to deal with either uncomfortable silence or vocal audience members unafraid to share their discontent.

Aside from the offensiveness issue, most people agree that he didn't give a brilliant performance. I, for one, did not pee myself from laughter. I did not learn how to seduce an attractive mate. And, like many of my friends, I certainly did not appreciate that the show dragged on for more than two full hours.

I have yet to hear the opinion that Packard was wildly successful, so I ask: why waste our time picking apart the unfortunately phrased advertisements and the limit-pushing lines of a comedian who had little impact on his audience anyway? I have no intention of glossing over the controversy surrounding some of Packard's insensitive material, but perhaps we should reserve our energy for discrimination that isn't as disputable — true instances of intolerance, not of quick email writing or ineffective stand-up comedy.

Daniel Packard: Offensive



STELLA NAULO
Guest Columnist

In Daniel Packard's world, "guys are wired for humping" and women use echolocation to plot against them. On Friday, Jan. 28, students filled Rosse Hall to hear a comedian speak about "Love-Life Epiphanies," but many did not stay to hear the end of his indoctrination.

Much of Packard's material instructed women that they must not be so judgmental and "just say yes," though they may not be head over heels for the gay-looking, skinny, balding Jewish guy. After describing himself and polling the audience to see whether they thought he was gay, he explained how he met his most recent ex-girlfriend. She was dressed in an electric blue cat suit and pulling a wedgie out of her butt and he asked if he could help. At this point, the crowd was engaged and even laughed when he shocked everyone. Ms. Cat Suit was not trying to get the wedgie out, but further in.

After some racy material — and I say racy because of Packard's borderline racism — he switched to schooling Kenyon's student population on why it is that women are at fault. According to him, the reason that women are always looking out for their Prince Charming is because of our mothers.

In a zen-like fashion, he told the crowd to close their eyes and imagine themselves as a three month old baby, hungry and in a dirty diaper. Our crib, he inferred, is a cage, and the woman who rescues us from it is our savior ... with breasts. This is part of the fault of women. This woman holds us and teaches us that we do not need to care for ourselves. We can't always wait around until someone comes and saves us from the cage and changes our diaper. An easy fix for this? Mothers should stop feeding their children and start wearing

cat suits.

Another problem with women, he suggests, is their obsession with *Cosmopolitan*. Mocking the popular magazine, he said, "14 steps to make you never get hurt again? Really, 14 steps? How about a life that is unpredictable? All those in favor of painting your nails and not stressing out, say aye." Opposite the stereotype of females, Packard suggested that all men must find their "inner Lance."

Lance is Packard's African-American friend, who rolled down the window of his car and commanded the woman in the car next to his to give him her number. She submitted after being called derogatory names, finding this "sexy." After Packard's interestingly parallel-to-*Cosmo* advice, he moved on to tell the ultimate true story of his Mexican love.

Singling out women of color as behaving aggressively in comparison to meek white women, Packard describes a woman he met on his trip to Mexico. Her name was Eva Luna and she said yes to him. They walked along the beach, she followed him wherever he went and they made love under the stars. While he told this story passionately, most will agree that the Spanish-language tele-novela was better.

As a last and final accusation, he blamed the female body for being too irresistible to men. From an evolutionary standpoint, he explains that before humans walked upright, men stared at a woman's behind. Now, women have evolved to have a behind on their chest as well. (This isn't for feeding children, but for making life hard for men.) In ending his tangent on the terrible things women do, like use cosmetics and expect men to communicate with them, he assured the audience that while women's mouths may look like vaginas, they can use them for more than just sex.

Women can say yes. After a date with an undesirable man, it's important to follow him to his basement and see his model train set. If she's lucky, they might get married. That, or she'll be a pretty attractive corpse in Jeffrey Dahmer's freezer.

Sendoff Changes

Social Board, Student Activities, Greek Council and other organizations on campus are currently discussing changes to the party policy and Sendoff and this process will undoubtedly have mixed results. Tacci Smith has made it very clear that no decisions have been made and administrators do not have an agenda that they are trying to force on students. They've consulted the student body to get ideas and create an air of cooperation to benefit both sides. The party policy could benefit from a few additions, but Sendoff should not (and probably cannot) be completely restructured.

This discussion originated from a plan to amend the party policy. The party policy as it is works great for Old Kenyon parties, but does not really work for outdoor parties. Applying indoor rules to an outdoor party gets them shut down too early. Updating the policy to include outdoor events could be a great benefit to students, allowing these parties to last longer than they do. But this won't work for Sendoff.

Every year, several students go to the hospital for drinking too much or cutting their feet. These issues could easily be solved if friends watched each other and people wore shoes (or better yet — didn't throw their glass bottles into the grass). What concerns the administration is the binge drinking — students drinking from the early morning until the late evening (something that defines Sendoff, but is pretty much limited to it).

Some students are taken to the hospital but, as Smith said, "Those numbers look okay." Sendoff hospital runs may be slightly higher than on the average weekend, but they are not ridiculous, especially considering how open and widespread the drinking is. Sendoff is a day when students cut loose, play beer pong on the quad, take "breaks" to go back to their rooms and drink, then head back out, while the administration "looks the other way." In this atmosphere, it is a credit to students that injuries and overconsumption are relatively low. Students have adapted to Sendoff and know how to be safe. Changing the format of the event or trying to restrain it could upset that balance.

If South Quad were more structured than it is now, the free and open environment would form somewhere else. Students may move to the dorms and behind closed doors there is a far greater chance that students in danger would go unnoticed. Sendoff has taken on a life of its own and cannot be contained. Sendoff breaks free, expands to new territory, and crashes through barriers, painfully, maybe even dangerously. Sendoff finds a way.

staff editorial

Middle Path Should Be Open to All



GAVIN MCGIMPSEY
Guest Columnist

On Feb. 1, I introduced to Kenyon's Campus Senate a resolution that encourages the Board of Trustees to address the inaccessibility of Middle Path. Since neither I nor the Senate has any expertise in landscape architecture, the resolution does not call for paving, bricking or any other specific solution. But it does urge the Board to do the right thing: make Middle Path something that can bring everyone in our community

together. Conversations about the nature of Middle Path have been ongoing for decades, as have conversations about the accessibility of campus. The construction being done on and in Ransom Hall is aimed at making campus resources more accessible, as is the installation of numerous buttons to automatically open doors. Neither of these, however, have the symbolic importance to Kenyon that Middle Path does.

It is that very importance — as a place where people come together, where friends nod and wave and where professors and students stop to chat — that makes universal access so critical. Middle Path is Kenyon's central artery, and relegating some to the periphery is not in the spirit of the Path or

of Kenyon's emphasis on community. Kenyon is committed to offering the opportunities and benefits of campus life to all members of the College, and to diversity in its student and faculty bodies. Most importantly, it is committed to promoting the relationships that form here, which are one of the most appreciated aspects of the Kenyon experience.

Feedback to the resolution has so far been almost entirely positive. Many students have expressed how important they feel it is for Middle Path to be shared with all members of the community, and some have suggested that options such as cobblestones might even increase the aesthetic appeal of the Path. This positive response is likely motivated by the fact

that discussions about accessibility are not new: Kenyon has been improving the accessibility of campus for quite some time. Middle Path must, of course, be a part of those improvements, and it is encouraging that students recognize the important role that inclusiveness plays at Kenyon.

It is my hope that the character of Middle Path will be maintained regardless of what changes come in the process of making it more accessible — and given how many members of the Board of Trustees are Kenyon alumni, I am confident that it will be. But we should not settle for maintaining the status quo: the time has come to move forward towards a more inclusive, more accessible Middle Path.

Potential CAs Miss Out on Benefits

Applicants Fall Through Financial Loopholes



BEN ROS
Opinions Editor

At a Community Advisor information session, I was advised to speak to the Office of Financial Aid to inquire as to whether or not applying and taking a position would negatively affect my financial aid. The gracious staff informed me that if I were accepted as a CA, a significant amount would be taken away from my aid package; so much, in fact, that I would end up paying more tuition next year than I am now. In effect, I would be giving money to Kenyon in order to work for them. There is certainly a slew of intangible benefits to the CA position aside from the economic incentive, but at the risk of sounding callous and mercantile, there is no way that I'm going to pay any amount of money to work an estimated 20 hours a week — no student in the still-recovering economic landscape would for any

intangible benefit. That is to say, several sane students have indeed found themselves in this exact position and were denied the CA benefits, both monetary and otherwise.

The community advisor position offers a \$1,400 stipend and the cost of a single room (estimated to be approximately \$6,000). The accumulated savings of three years of CA duty, then, amounts to no small sum: \$22,200. In recalculating a student's financial aid package, however, this figure becomes less impressive. This normally doesn't mean much: the cost of the room is used to pay an amount of the direct federal loan money most students with financial aid need to take. This works out well, because if a student owes Kenyon \$10,000 in loans, they can immediately pay off \$7,400 of that figure and avoid years of accruing interest. Likewise, for those who do not need any financial aid, both the stipend and the cost of the room come directly off of their total tuition cost, no questions asked.

For those students who are in need of financial aid but who have not taken much money in direct loans, how-

ever, the situation is different. Kenyon can only award each student a certain total amount of money through loans (to be paid later), "self-help" (programs like work study) and outright grants (to never be paid back); they are bound by federal law to not exceed the maximum amount for which each student is eligible. Thus, when a student has no direct loan, they are obliged to change that student's package to account for the CA benefit and readjust according to the total eligible aid (see graph for example). For this middle demographic (less than 20 percent of students applying for the CA position), the amount of grant money they receive changes to such a significant degree that they end up paying the same amount of tuition or more per semester than they did previously.

It is important to note here that the Office of Financial Aid is in no way at fault; on the contrary, they are more than willing to provide the students with as much aid as they are allowed to give. It is simply an unfortunate circumstance that federal law ties their hands in reams of red tape, barring all the viable options

for realistically helping the students who fall into this situation. Nevertheless, the circumstances for students like Olivia Sabik '14 remain both dismal and frustrating. "I think it's silly that the school operates this way," she said, "It deters kids who would be good CAs from being good CAs. I realize it's part of the federal system, but I feel like they could find a way around it."

The role of the Community Advisor within the framework of the Kenyon infrastructure is essential. Especially for first years, the CA is the first accessible point of contact with College regulations and administration and an invaluable asset in ensuring that they integrate smoothly into the Kenyon community. Furthermore, Kenyon's reputation for being such a tight-knit community is largely to their credit; they are key to fostering the highly personal, small school feel for which we've come to be known. The admissions staff down the hall, I might add, benefits from and relies heavily on this reputation. As such, it is an honest shame that not everybody is in the same position to give back to Kenyon in this way.

Quick Complaints

"I haven't seen anyone fall on the ice."
- Nick Loud '11

"All the salt is in the Peirce food and not on the sidewalk."
- Madi Kim '14

"The third-floor bathroom on the DKE side smells."
- Jamie Samuel '13

"Why are there so many Muggles in my classes?"
- Carrie Brody '11

"This isn't Hogwarts."
- Shannon Kelley '14

"I hate when I get lightnined before the jump in Wario Stadium."
- Tom "T-Bone" Nolan '11

"As Kat Powers says, 'Put your peanut butter, cream cheese, butter, etc. on your plate and then use your own knife to spread it. I don't want your bagel crumbs on my food.'"
- Catherine Lloyd '14

"Falling etiquette — no one knows how to act when they fall or when they watch someone else fall ... we need a more open discourse about falling."
- Natalie Karic '12

"We need a washing machine in the Morgan Apartments, A.S.A.P."
- Maya Rabia '11

"There should be north campus dining."
- Erika Thorn '14

"Seniorst weren't given enough information about North Campus 'Village.'"
- Thea Goodrich '12

"I wish the middle door in Lewis had a K-Card swipe."
- Anna Vogel '14

"Black ice. It's just dumb."
- Chelsea Borgman '12

"No one knows we have an equestrian team, but we do."
- Natalie Staples '14

"The portraits in Peirce don't move."
- Julia Billings '11

"Gambier should legalize marijuana."
- Daniel Solway '14

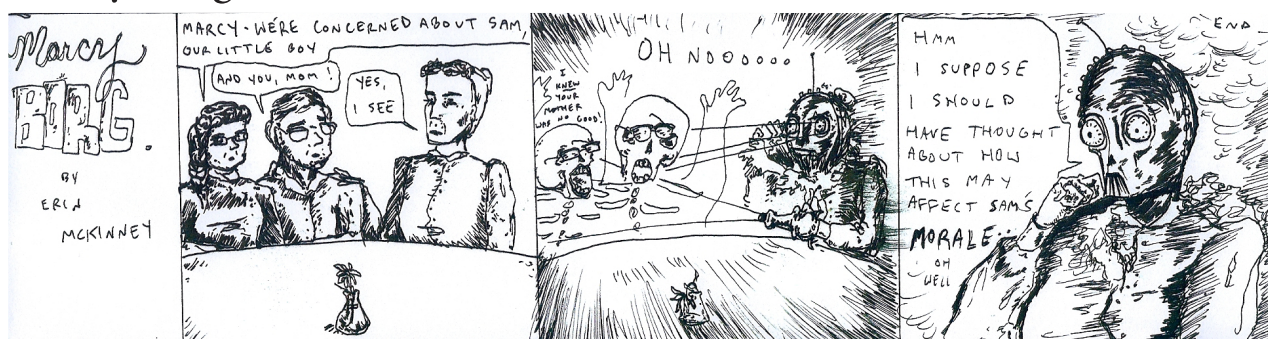
"Someone took all of the Sour Patch Kids out of the Manning vending machine."
- Sophia Kahn '12

"My tummy huwts ... owie."
- Sarah Kahwash '14

"No one reads my blog."
- Caroline Pearl '14

Have a complaint in 30 words or less?
E-mail meansl@kenyon.edu

Marcy Borg by Erin McKinney



Students Voyage Into the Infamous Fox Hole

SAM COLT
Features Editor

We turn onto Route 229, eastbound in pursuit of the infamous Fox Hole strip club. Driving to the Fox Hole is simple: David, Cat and I just ride the twists and turns of 229 until David suggests that we should be arriving soon. Coming from Gambier, I can't imagine going anywhere more desolate; surely the Fox Hole is in a relatively bustling area of New Castle, a town in next door Coshocton County. I am soon proven wrong.

Soon I notice a well-lit area up ahead on the left-hand side of the road. The backlit road sign is unmistakable. We have arrived.

Pulling to the side of the road in the tiny town after a 25-minute drive from Kenyon, we see a stark, gray, shed-like building sitting by the street, the peace of the night disturbed only by the strobe lights casting lightning strikes and shadows over the door. When we step out of the car, we are immediately struck with muffled yet booming music coming from inside the establishment, generally known at Kenyon as "the place with the one-armed dancer."

Despite what I have heard about the dubious quality of the club, I am nonetheless shocked by how decrepit it is. The Fox Hole is a wooden, rectangular building about 20x40 feet. The white walls, neon lights and blaring music are bold and unforgiving. This establishment is not trying to blend in. We take



SAM COLT

A view of the Fox Hole from the street. The establishment's flashing strobe light, designed to aggravate local protesters, can be seen from a distance. A few yards from the club's entrance, local Christians gather around a space heater and attempt to dissuade patrons from entering.

it in for a few minutes.

As we gather a camera, notebook, IDs and cash, two middle-aged men bundled in cold-weather garb who have been staring at us from the meager parking lot begin to approach us. My first thought is that they must be drunken patrons, wondering why three college students would visit their favorite spot. Curious and slightly worried, we listen as they ask us what business

we have at the Fox Hole. We reply nervously that we are just visiting, but they keep pressing. To ward off their inquisitions, Catherine says that we are here to write an article for our school newspaper. The men visibly relax and one asks if we are from Kenyon. (Is it that obvious?)

The two then introduce themselves as members of a local church that protests against the strip club. Members stand outside in an attempt to talk to

its customers in hopes of deterring them from taking part in what they see as an evil activity.

The men wear overalls and strike a balance between intimidating and calm. Now that they know we're journalists, the pair are eager to lead us over to a group of around eight or nine men and women huddled around a heat lamp on this freezing night so that we may talk to the man in charge, Pastor Bill Dunfee of "New Be-

ginnings Ministries" in nearby Warsaw. We have heard of the Christians who had raised such a conflict over the Fox Hole, but had no idea that we would actually run into them. Still, we are excited at the prospect of hearing their views straight from them rather than through diluted news sources.

Before Dunfee begins speaking, I am immediately impressed by what is going on: these men and women protest

outside the Fox Hole every night, even during bone-chilling weather such as tonight's. Dunfee begins his well-rehearsed speech by detailing their cause.

"We're Christians, and we've come out into our community to just spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ outside of the strip club," he says. "You know, when we take a look at Coshocton County, this place right here ... is the embodiment of evil that reveals the most evil in our community. A little over four years ago, the Lord impressed upon my heart that we needed to deal with it — bring the Gospel ... and see about getting some souls saved, see if we couldn't salvage some marriages, and at the same time lift up the standard in our community."

Dunfee speaks with a predictable conviction, saying, "The men that go into this place isn't what men ought to be doing, and the women that dance in this place isn't what our young ladies ought to be doing." As David continues listening to and recording the pastor, Catherine and I walk away to examine the signs that the Christians had put up near the club in protest. There are many, colorful and bold. Designed to evoke shame, one sign shouts "KEEP YOUR MARRIAGE VOWS." Another, which depicts a little girl frowning, reads "Sexually Oriented Businesses Breed Predators & Pedophiles." Clearly the Fox Hole doesn't

see *FOX HOLE*, page 7

STUDENTS

Gambier Grillin'

Anna Krause '12

Devon Donohue '14

Bob Minikel,
Professor of Mathematics

Ashley Bottger,
Assistant Swimming Coach

FAC/STAFF

Totals so far:
Students: 63
Faculty: 65

How many bells are in the church tower?	Nine	Nine	16	Four	10 (F major scale plus Eb and high G)
Who is the new White House Press Secretary?	Lady Gaga	Kanye West	I knows Gibbs leaves soon...	Jay Carney	Jay Carney
In what decade was the Coca-Cola Co. established?	1890s	1910s	1890s	1880s	1890s (1892, although the origins of Coke reach back several years)
What is the world's fastest land animal?	Cheetah	Cheetah	Cheetah	Aaron Weddle	Cheetah
What artist painted "The Starry Night"?	van Gogh	van Gogh	Vincent van Gogh	van Gogh	Vincent van Gogh
Total Correct	Three	Two	Three	Two	By DAVID HOYT

Fox Hole: Tanning, Nails Are Tax-Deductible

From page 6

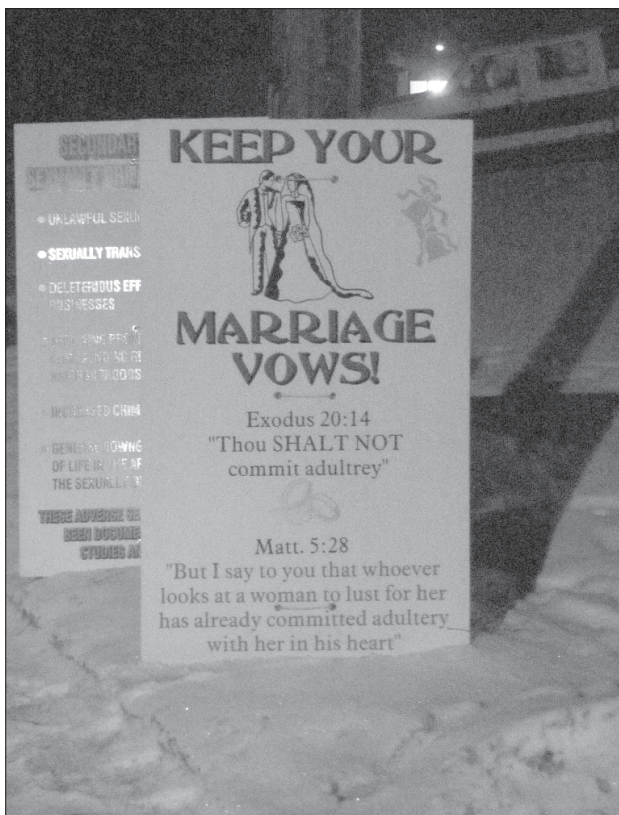
have to do much to attract patrons; the burden is on the protestors to turn visitors away.

While we take in the signage, sure that the night could not become more bizarre, a full-sized John Deere tractor pulls up behind David's Honda Civic. It is equipped with a glass cab and tires as tall as our entire compact sedan. From the cab emerges a Christian Mennonite with CDs proclaiming the word of the Lord, and he gives us two as a gift. As Catherine and I approach Dunfee, still preaching to David, he mentions that, since they began protesting, most of the Fox Hole's patrons now come from Knox County and the Mount Vernon area. I ask him how busy the club can get. Dunfee replies, "A good night anymore is in the neighborhood of 10-12 people," adding that when the protests began, patrons often numbered over 100 each night. I'm surprised by how few customers can keep the establishment operating. We politely tell the group that we need to go inside, and they resume their casual banter.

The door to the Fox Hole is not visible from the road and is marked by a large sign, but most of the letters have fallen off. I open the door, allowing two drunken men to exit before we enter. Upon entering, I see two curtains hung from the

ceiling on my right. Between the two curtains is an opening through which I am able to make out two saggy, disgusting couches. Above is posted a paper sign that reads "VIP Room." As I walk down the dark, smoky hall, I see a dancer tugging along an inebriated patron into the main room. Further down the hall, a chubby, bearded man behind a counter tells us that the cover charge is ten dollars. While we pay, he asks to see our IDs. Patrons of the club can be as young as 18, but beer is also served, so orange wristbands are provided for drinking-age customers and green ones for younger visitors. Obviously drunk, the manager hands us back our IDs and asks, "You guys are 21, right?" Catherine tells him that we're underage, so he asks to see my ID a second time. Apparently satisfied, he hands me back my ID and gives me an orange wristband reading "Over 21; Age ID Verified," giving David and Catherine green ones.

Finally, we step into the main room of the Fox Hole. On the left hand side I see the main attraction: a small rectangular stage with one dancing pole and a mirrored rear wall. Across from the stage, chairs surround small tables and line the black, dirty back wall. We sit and take in the atmosphere. Abrasive death metal assaults our ears while we attempt to talk over it. David notes that the dancers



SAM COLT

One of the many signs outside the Fox Hole placed by local Christians who have actively protested the club for four years.

not on the main stage are drinking. Despite a sign that restricts physical contact between dancer and patron, I think that rule is overtly broken. David comments, "She probably knows what she's doing," as we watch the main dancer bend over to get close to a customer. I am distracted by a TV on the wall playing, of all things, the Discovery Channel.

After a few minutes, a blonde woman walks up to us

and asks, "Would you guys like a three for 30?" She is referring to the standard deal at the Fox Hole: three lap dances for \$30, as opposed to one for \$25. We politely decline the dancer's offer. The pastor described the crowd accurately. About 12 to 15 men, ranging in age from around 20 to 70, sit and watch the main dancer. Most patrons are respectful to the dancers. I suggest that they probably have drunk themselves into sub-

mission. A few minutes later, Catherine gets up and goes to talk to the dancer that spoke to us earlier. She comes over and joins our table.

The first thing we learn about the women is that they don't use the word "stripper"; they call themselves dancers. This dancer, Candace, is tall, with long, wavy, blonde hair, and she is conspicuously tan considering the season. She tells us she's been dancing at the Fox Hole for seven years, though she's worked all over Ohio since entering the field a decade ago. By now, she's become one of the club's senior dancers. According to Candace, the Fox Hole employs seven dancers, who are required to work at least two eight-hour shifts a week. Candace works the weekends.

Her cousin got her into dancing, she tells us. She needed a job, and was reluctant at first. But after spending an evening with the DJ at another club, she decided to try it. We had heard that the Fox Hole was fully nude. Candace tells us that it used to be, but it is now only topless because of Ohio state law, which often changes. I ask her what she thinks of the protesters, and she quickly tells us that she doesn't want to discuss it; she later mentions briefly that the protesters hurt business, which takes away from dancers and their families. Holding a bottle of beer in each hand, Candace describes her job

in detail. She makes \$300-\$400 on a good night. Although her income, tips included, is taxed, business expenses are exempt. These include nails, tanning and hair. This isn't her only job; Candace also does scheduling for her husband's business, which is why she works part time. She has no children of her own, but some of the other dancers do.

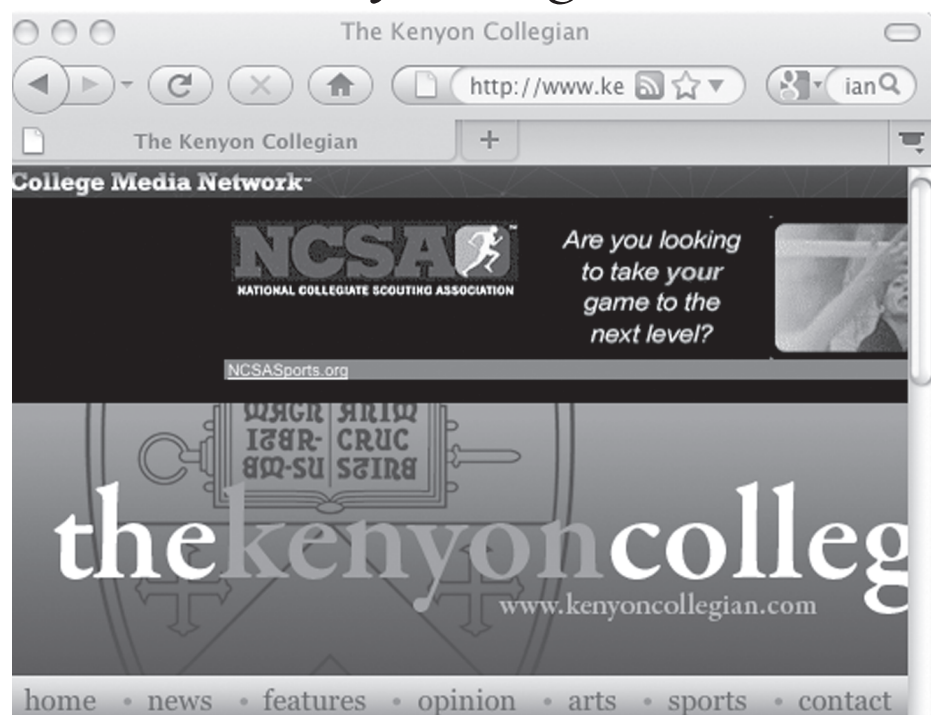
And now for the big question: I tell Candace that the Fox Hole is ubiquitously known at Kenyon as "the club with the one-armed stripper." Does she know anything about this? Candace replies, "We all have all of our limbs. How could you dance with one arm?" We nod. Satisfied at having busted the myth of the one-armed dancer (hopefully) for good, we thank Candace for talking to us. She wanders off and begins chatting up another patron.

On our way out, we thank the drunken manager and the protesters outside for speaking with us and then head back down the dark and foggy highway toward Kenyon. Although it's just a few miles down the road, we've found the Fox Hole to be another world: a place at once foreboding and welcoming, where all the classic elements of the American heartland converge, briefly, in the cold midwestern night.

Additional reporting by Catherine Weitzel and David Hoyt.

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PHILANDER'S PHLING: A NIGHT OF PHANTASTIC PHUN

I heard it was
the best phling
in years
- Olivia Sabik '14



Frigid temperatures and ice-covered paths did not keep Kenyon students from attending Philander's Phling last Saturday evening, Feb. 5, in Peirce Hall. For one of the most anticipated celebrations of the school year, Student Activities spent about \$18,000. This year's theme, "A Red Carpet Affair," brought a plethora of casino style gambling, delectable food and exciting music to campus. It also brought numerous scantily dressed and high-heeled Kenyon ladies, some arriving by shuttles, others by trudging through the February weather. Kenyon Lords busted out their ties and jackets, making Phling at least appear classy.

In accordance with the theme of the night, Peirce was decorated to maintain the illusion that Hollywood had moved to Gambier. Before reaching the dance floor, students walked down a red carpet where, in true celebrity fashion, they could have their picture taken. In Lower Dempsey, students could try their hand at games such as blackjack, poker, roulette and slot machines. Novice gamblers could learn about the rules of the games from helpful casino workers. The stakes were not very high, however — play money was distributed upon entry. The money may not have been real, but the prizes certainly were. The top prize of the night was a 32" flat screen television.

Among the performers at Phling were Detroit Groove, Our Name is Jonas, Runny Babbits, DJ Slaptop and Motown. Some questioned the use of live band music, but all seemed to be unanimous in the opinion that the mozzarella sticks were delicious.

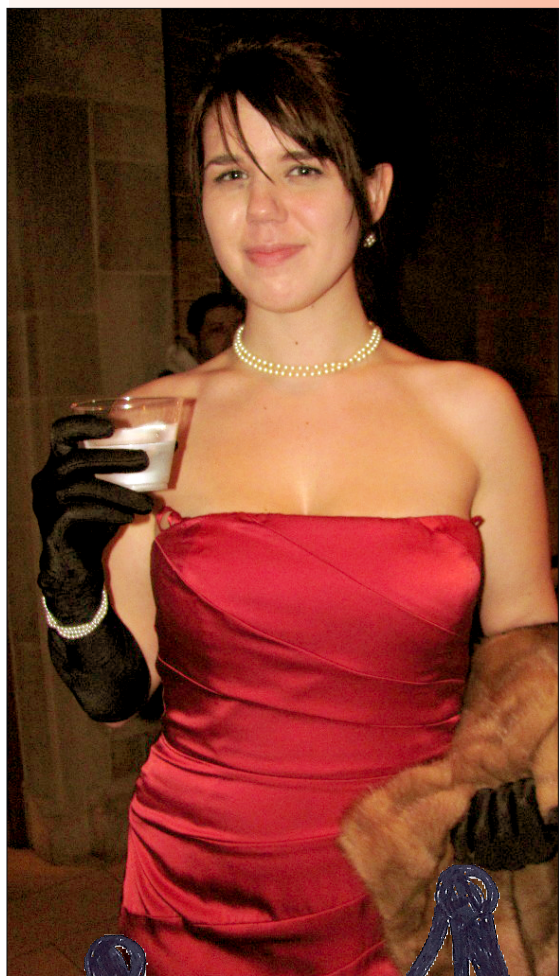
Concerns were raised the week preceding Saturday night about the lack of volunteers for the event. Amidst speculations about a possible cancellation, a series of emails were sent to the student body urgently requesting that a few good Samaritans step forward. At the last minute, all positions were filled and Phling was ready to commence.

Alcohol presented and issue at the event, according to Director of Student Activities and Greek Life Christina Mastrangelo. "While there is no alcohol allowed at the event, students drank so heavily prior to the event that there was an outstanding number of alcohol-related incidents," she said. "Custodial staff said that it was the most vomit they have seen in 25 years."

Motown was great,
and I loved the
balloons! I also loved
having space to dance
in, unlike old Kenyon
parties.

— Margaret Tilson '14

Everyone kept
trying to dance
with my date!
— Anna Zie '14

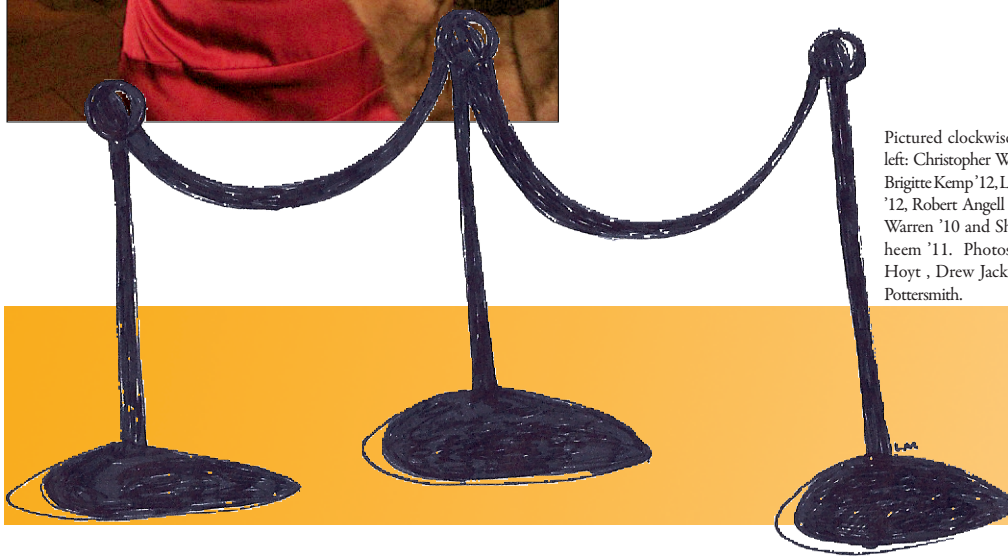


"Big bouncy balls
on the dance
floor... Solid."

— Conner Karakul '11



Pictured clockwise from top left: Christopher Wert '12 and Brigitte Kemp '12, Lexie Martin '12, Robert Angell '13, Sasskia Warren '10 and Shaakira Raheem '11. Photos by David Hoyt, Drew Jack and Mara Pottersmith.



Top Kenyon: Students Cook in Budget Competition

Limitations Highlight Steep Market Prices

MEREDITH TYMA AND
ZOEY EDERNEBILEG
Staff Writers

How can a resident of Gambier make a quality three-course meal on a student-sized budget? Before we can even consider food preparations, we have to know how to shop. This week, the Collegian challenged two writers to make the most grandiose meal possible from products at Wal-Mart and The Village Market — with only \$20. Meredith Tyma '11 and Zoey Erdenebileg '14 faced off to create their own personal recipes, addressing the time, effort and materials needed for culinary success.

Zoey Erdenebileg '14

As a first year without a car, taking the shuttle to go to Wal-Mart is an adventure to me. Waiting in the chilly January air next to the bookstore, I found myself paralleling the situation in *The Fellowship of the Ring*, my posse and I ready to weather the bumpy ride, the occasional Amish sightings and the myriad of strange and awesome offerings of Wal-Mart. I soon remember, however, that I am only going to buy groceries, and my vision of Frodo disappears. I feel more like a third-grader waiting for the bus.

After 15 minutes of waiting with a reddened nose, I enter the bus, informing the kindly bus driver that my destination is also Wal-Mart, along with the ten students that boarded ahead of me. We arrive at Wal-Mart 20 minutes later and are given one hour until pick-up time.

With a half-thought-out grocery list in hand, I roll into the grocery section. I planned to make chicken fettuccine alfredo and cheesecake. First on my list — chicken breasts. I admit I giggled a little. The Good Value brand indeed proves to be a good value — a whole pack for only \$5.98. The Good Value brand is one I use throughout the project, including the fettuccine, which is only \$1 per pack. Originally, I wanted to make the alfredo sauce myself, but buying the packet is cheaper, easier and, frankly, probably tastes better than anything I could make from scratch. The packets are \$1.56 each. I need milk to make the sauce. A regular half gallon costs \$1.35. Baking has never been a talent of mine, nor have I ever possessed an interest in it. So I choose a “No Baking Needed” cheesecake mix for \$1.58, which could either be genius or a dubious choice. The graham cracker crust also costs \$1.58. By the time I have all my ingredients and have had a chance



MEREDITH TYMA

The ingredients for this meal, prepared by Meredith Tyma '11, were purchased on a \$20 budget at the Village Market in Gambier. Tyma went to Peirce for items such as salad dressing.

to dip into the \$5 DVD section, my one hour is almost up.

Out of fear of being stranded at Wal-Mart for far longer than I care for, I rush to self check-out and hurriedly scan my items. I quickly grab the bags and speed-walk out, only to find that the shuttle is not there. Not only that, it fails to arrive for another 20 minutes. Again, the reddened nose, the cold hands, the waiting. The bus service is great, and I deeply appreciate it, but I can't help lamenting my lack of a car. Especially since after the shuttle finally comes, it takes another 20 minutes to get back to campus. So the entire journey to Wal-Mart is about two hours. The total amount of money spent on ingredients is \$17.77.

Crozier allows me to use their impressively-equipped kitchen. It is available to anyone who reserves it at a time when there is no planned event in Crozier. The total amount of time that it takes me to prepare the meal is about 40 minutes. The chicken takes some time to cook, while the pasta and the sauce are ready in very little time. Likewise, the cheesecake is surprisingly easy. Just mix, pour and chill for one hour. When we finish dinner, dessert is ready to serve.

All in all, I think I made a pretty decent meal. I do not know how grandiose it was, and I skimped on appetizers because I didn't have enough money. I am sure that someone more skilled and creative than me could be more successful, however. Thankfully, my dinner partners enjoyed their chicken fettuccine alfredo and cheesecake. Moreover, I discovered that making a meal with friends and for friends is a simple pleasure, and their company was very much appreciated. If you have the time and \$20 and want to have a nice evening, I would recommend it.

Meredith Tyma '11

Making a hardy meal from ingredients found in Gambier may be a feat for students who, like me, don't want to fork up wads of cash. When it comes to food shopping, a quick drive to our friendly neighborhood Wal-Mart or Kmart sounds, honestly, preferable. The products are cheaper, the options are overwhelming and the multitudes of fresh spices and produce are almost intoxicating. But is indulging an international corporation filled with items of questionable origin truly better than supporting our local supermarket? Does \$20 at the Village Market get you... well, anywhere? My flatmate and I got the chance to test it out and eat a great meal in the process.*

Course 1: Refreshing salad
1 bag of Dole Packaged Salad, extra crunchy: \$2.50

Prep time: 2 minutes. This mixture of crisp romaine and iceberg lettuce, crunchy radish and thinly sliced carrots provides a light and easy start. Just wash and dry. No science behind it. If you like to slather dressing on top, a quick trip to Peirce to grab your favorite topping will suffice. I suggest staying classy with ranch.

Course 2: Juicy steak topped with grilled mushroom, onion and garlic

1 loin steak: \$6.21
1 carton of baby bella mushrooms: \$2.50
1 medium onion: \$1.34
1 clove of garlic: \$0.40
Salt and pepper for seasoning (optional: thyme)

Prep time: 20 minutes. Wash the meat and sprinkle very generously with seasonings. Throw the chopped onions into a non-stick pan with the heat on high, stirring occasionally until brown. Add the diced garlic and mushrooms along the way. Slap the steak onto a larger pan with

the heat on medium-high, and flip after about three minutes. If you like your meat medium rare (as all decent people should), cut into it after four minutes to check. Toss the vegetables on top of the steak.

Note: Don't forget to scrape the fond (the brown remnants left in the pan after grilling or sautéing a dish) onto the top for extra flavor.

Course 3: Giant Ice Cream Cookie Sandwich

1 stick of Hillandale Farms Margarine: \$0.31 (package of 4 is \$1.25)

1 egg: \$0.25 (half a dozen is \$1.50)

1 package of Betty Crocker Oatmeal Chocolate Chip Cookies: \$2.70

1 pint of Velvet Cookies and Cream ice cream: \$3

Optional: powdered sugar
Prep time: 18 minutes. Follow the mixing directions on the package, except divide the batter into two super cookies. Bake for 16 minutes, or until they're gooey but still considered solid masses. Scoop ungodly mounds of ice cream in between them and on the top, dusting with powdered sugar. Prepare yourself for a sugar overkill.

Total: \$19.21. While we could sit here and ponder how one would buy just one egg or just one stick of margarine to keep the receipt under \$20, I think we have better things to do. Despite higher prices, the Market offers a lot of options for great meals, some that you can pair with Peirce items like dressing or seasoning. Or you could go ahead with the Market's Hidden Valley Ranch dressing and spend an extra \$2.60. But let's be honest — we're in college.

*Big thanks to Reena DeLanerolle for her help with the cooking and eating.

Style Profile: Hayes Sports Vintage Look

DAVID MCCABE
Staff Writer

This week *The Collegian* chose Michael Hayes '14 for a style profile. Michael is an associate at *The Kenyon Review* from Mount Vernon, Ohio who will likely major in Political Science.

Q: How would you describe your personal style?

A: I would say that my style is liberal arts chic. Style is really about being a part of your environment, but also standing out. It's like, “Hello, Carrie Bradshaw? We're not in New York anymore.” People either look like they think they're walking down 5th Avenue or they just rolled out of bed. I would say that they should aim for something in between. My rule of thumb is super simple — three words: “accessorize, accessorize, accessorize.” A little coffee dribble on your t-shirt, raging chin stubble and a certain eau d'all-nighter can go a long way to rounding out your overall appearance.

Q: Who are your style icons? Or any other sources of inspiration?

A: Marc Jacobs has a tattoo of Spongebob on his right bicep. Clearly.

Q: Where do you shop?

A: I steal most of my

clothes from my nigh-deaf German grandfather, let's be honest.

Q: How many sweaters do you own?

A: A few more than half of his.

Q: What is the greatest fashion challenge you have had to overcome recently?

A: I had this really great pair of 7 for All Mankind Jeans. You know the kind where one of the back pockets is expertly distressed and the other one is intricately embroidered? Yeah, well, the slight boot flare at the ends of the pant legs got salt-stained by the snow, so I turned them into jorts [jean shorts]. Greatest idea. Winter wardrobe to spring wardrobe in T-minus a pair of scissors, if you will.

Q: Do you follow any style websites?

A: I find that latfh.com is a really good one. From what I can surmise, the hot style this year is '80s retro. Away with the blogs, I say: let's go right to the source. I often peruse fan sites for television shows like *Miami Vice* and *The Cosby Show*. Quick tip from me to you: invest in pastel polos, white and chino sport coats and screamin' loud sweaters. Nothing yells “hip” as loud as your father's yacht clothes.



MICHAEL HAYES

Michael Hayes poses with friend Katie Gourley. Hayes describes his style as “Liberal Arts chic.”

Professors, Students Collaborate in Sophocles' Tragedy 'Antigone'

SHANNON KELLEY

Staff Writer

This past weekend, Feb. 3-5, as students prepared for the liveliness of Phling, The Kenyon College Dance and Dramatic Club put on a production of Sophocles' *Antigone* at the Bolton Theater, an event that was more somber but nearly as popular. Students may have read and studied *Antigone* for a class, but the actors' powerful performances gave the ancient tragedy new relevance. Tickets sold out quickly. Students and actors alike were enthusiastic, making it an emotional and profound production.

Emma Farnsworth '11, who played Antigone, said: "This production was truly epic, from the huge doors to the amazing music to the sheer energy of each person's performance. I've never been a part of such a strong, united ensemble; everyone gave their all to this show, and the result was a production that was much greater than the sum of its parts. I've always known that I love acting, but doing an ancient play reminded how truly powerful the the-



ALLY SCHMALING

Emma Farnsworth '11 as Antigone bemoans her fate and angrily reproaches Creon for his decree against burying her brother, Polyneices, one that ultimately causes her downfall.

ater can be."

The play opened with sounds of howling winds and barking dogs as Antigone makes the fateful decision to disobey the new ruler of Thebes, Creon (played by Professor of Drama Jonathan Tazewell), and bury her brother Polyneices. As the story continued, the Greek

chorus remained on the stage and chanted haunting melodies, warning both the audience and the characters of imminent tragedy. When Creon punishes Antigone, the horror unfolds as Antigone, Creon's son Haemon and Creon's wife Eurydice commit suicide in succession. By the time Tiresias,

the blind prophet, explains the tremendous effects of Creon's decision, it is too late.

At the end of the play, Creon is left with the dead bodies of both his wife and son, begging for someone to take his own life. As audience member Natalie Thielen-Helper '14 put it,

"It's a really intense play ...and they brought a lot of humanity to it. That was really impressive; I was fairly emotionally drained after seeing it, so I can't imagine what it would be like to actually act it all out three nights in a row plus rehearsals. Oh, and the music — the musical element

was amazing. Same with the crowd scenes. Whoever put that in was genius, because I got goosebumps every time."

The director, Professor of Drama Ben Viccelio, also commented on the powerful effect of the story. "These ancient texts — the Greek tragedies, in particular — are not museum pieces," he said. "They are living, breathing works of art. They have been performed and passed on for two and a half millennia. I find something beautiful and hopeful in that thought."

Many of the main performers are seniors who have a lot of experience with the Kenyon drama department (including Farnsworth and Shelley Fort '11, who played Antigone's sister Ismene). This aspect gave their roles an extra layer of emotion that comes with preparing to leave Kenyon. Farnsworth said, "As a senior, I felt like I didn't have to act in my final scene at all — I love this college and Kenyon's theater community, so I truly felt the pain of saying goodbye to a home."

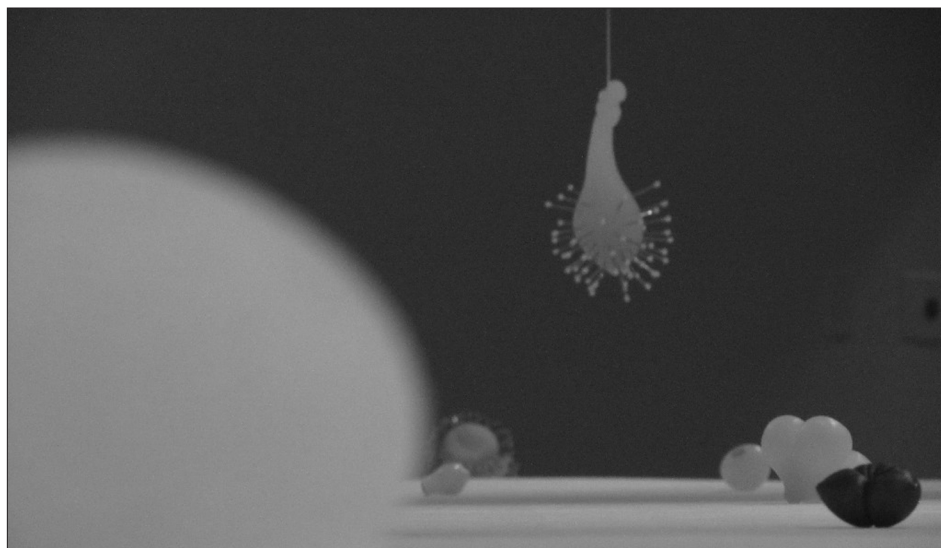
Artist Kate Budd Transforms Olin Art Gallery into House of Wax

GRANT JOHNSON

Staff Writer

The collection of sculptures assembled in Kate Budd's *Talisman* capitalizes on an abstract, material minimalism in order to softly meditate on the limits that demarcate the natural from the artificial. The show, now on display in the Olin Art Gallery, presents over 30 sculptures, none larger than the human hand and all made primarily of wax. The pieces astutely seize on the subtle principles of design that govern the natural and human-made worlds to produce a show rich with sensory immediacy and figurative surprises.

The many forms of *Talisman* immediately conjure a sense of familiarity in the viewer. The visceral reaction produced suggests they may indeed have sprung from the strange depths of nature. Of course, each is the unique products of Budd's artistic hand, though it is indeed in the space, between natural and artificial, between made and born, that they experiment and ponder. All are certainly indicative of the natural world. They are sculptural abstractions that seem to modulate formally on everything from belly buttons to dried figs. Seashells, jel-



DAVID HOYT

The *Talisman* Exhibit features Kate Budd's collection of wax sculptures. It opened January 27th and will be on display through February 26th.

lyfish, wombs, seedpods, sphincters, boobs, butts and balls are all here. Also present are more mechanical forms, pointing not to the spirited craft of nature, but the handiwork of civilization. It is as if the many springs, cogs and wheels of some monumental, grandiose Victorian clock have been carefully sorted out and presented along with some more ancient wonders of archeology — scraps of pottery, terse twines of jewelry and forgotten beadwork — in an effort to preserve the most precious gems imagined by the human hand. No matter their reference point, the effect of Budd's forms is honest

and convincing. The more mechanical pieces correctly suggest a forgettable kind of weight, the kind that reminds us we might have a nut, a bolt or maybe a wrench in our pocket, whereas the more natural forms feel truly animate, as if with their many folds, curls, cups and pores, they might indeed be breathing. It is in the space between these two binary poles that *Talisman* finds its entertainment and electricity. Moving from piece to piece, the viewer must define them (in a search for some kind of biological or mechanical function) one against another. In the end, we assemble an imaginative myriad

of origin stories to account for this small world's astute play of formal harmony and variation.

This harmony, the stylistic unity that holds *Talisman* together, certainly begins with Budd's eloquent and articulate use of only one dominant medium. Simple, familiar wax becomes a myriad of variant forms. They are often detailed — again — with basic, yet well-chosen, additions; gold or silver embroidery thread, sewing pins and miniscule black beads add soft-spoken textural variety to Budd's limited material toolbox. In the more mechanical pieces, Budd covers the wax with metal-

lic hues that suggest brass or steel. The more natural pieces are comparatively left unpainted, which allows the translucent wax to capture light and be softly permeated by it, suggesting more natural tissues like skin or a butterfly chrysalis. Just as in the story of evolution, where the basic building blocks of biology lead to the proliferation of the natural world, from Budd's careful selection of elements apparently much sculptural variety can result.

The show's effect owes much to the immense negative space that has been carefully preserved in the gallery through sparse display and meticulous lighting. Each piece is allowed plentiful breathing room, insisting that each work receives careful attention from the viewer and is free from cluttering distractions. The long, linen-covered tables suggest the serious displays of museum curation, though with the protective glass removed they provide a space that is more fresh and lively for the artifacts, like the receptive tables of an archaeological dig site or some strange kind of dinner party. The white linen also ushers in the strange formality and seriousness of mortuaries or medical examination rooms, making

the forms like aliens ripe for the poking and prodding of careful inspection. No matter the possible connotations, the careful display allows for contemplation of each sculpture's unique textures, folds and articulations of form.

In *Talisman*, Budd makes ingenious use of a tenuously stretched sculptural vocabulary to yield a precious field of produce that is at once unified and immensely diverse. Though the pieces are certainly diminutive in scale, the pleasures of *Talisman* are plentiful and many. They are the simple surprises of a coat pocket turned out in the spring after a long, hard winter, or the fleeting joy of a child's full plastic pail when it returns from the beach, rich with sea glass and shells, a hopeful hermit crab or snail.

Kate Budd's *Talisman* will be on view in the Olin Art Gallery until Feb. 26. The gallery is open Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. through 8:00 p.m. and weekends from 10:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. Budd will return to campus on Thursday, Feb. 17 and give a talk at 7:00 p.m. in Olin Auditorium with a reception to follow in the gallery, both open to all.

Kokosingers Finish Two-Week Tour, Release New CD, Host Fundraiser

LAUREN TOOLE

Arts and Entertainment Editor

With a newly released CD and coming off a successful two-week tour to a benefit concert that raised over \$600 for charity, the Kokosingers have a lot to be proud of, but they couldn't be more humble about their accomplishments. They are also in the process of launching a website, www.kokosingers.com, where fans can buy CDs, read a brief history of the group and read journal entries from the tour. Did we mention the "super secret alum page" that only past Kokes can access? Good luck hacking, readers.

The Kokes tour began in Boston, its traditional starting point, at the home of Nico Hargreaves-Heald '12, whose "parents [were] very gracious and let us rehearse," according to Joe Lerangis '12. They then traveled to northern Connecticut, Maine, back to southern Connecticut, New York, Balti-

The concert featured singles from the Kokosingers' new album and a variety of newer arrangements.

more and finally Washington D.C. — around 20 gigs total. In Baltimore, they'd sometimes have up to four gigs in one day, according to Lerangis. "We'd start with a workshop with the lower school, then a concert for the lower school, a workshop with the upper school and then a concert for them."

Before the group left for Maine, a snowstorm hit the Northeast and caused many schools to cancel engagements. Riley Scheid '11 said he was sending emails to as many schools as possible in the Maine area and after that "we kind of had to piece together the tour as we went," said Lerangis.

"[The tour] was hectic — this [year] more than last year," Scheid said. "There were a lot of last minute and early morning gigs."

Halfway through the tour, the Kokes performed at Madame X, a bar they visit partway through the tour every year. Scandalously tag-lined "New York's sexiest bar and lounge," the club, located in SoHo, is owned by Kenyon alum Amy McCloskey, who invites the Kokes (and previously the Owl Creeks) to sing there every year.

In Baltimore, the Kokes worked with some girls' choirs, much to their delight. After the workshops, "we did get some Facebook friend requests," Lerangis said. "[But] we just made a group decision to just turn them down or put on limited profile."

The Kokes' final stop was in Washington D.C., where they were given tours of Capitol Hill and performed at a concert in the Senate building. The father of member Taylor Hartwell '14 is a railroad lobbyist, and he invited the Kokes to sing at a dinner that included his clients and fellow lobbyists.

One week after the tour, the Kokes followed with a benefit concert, held on Friday, Jan. 21 in Brandi Recital Hall. All proceeds raised were matched by the Kokes and went to the Mount Vernon Women's Shelter. According to Zach Barnett '11, treasurer of the group, they were able to raise \$335 and (after the Kokes' contribution) will be donating a total of \$670 towards the shelter.

"We do a different charity every year and try to make it topical," Scheid said. Last year, the group made contributions to Haiti and the year before that to the Susan G. Komen breast cancer foundation. "We wanted to act more locally this year," Scheid said.

The concert featured singles from the Kokosingers' new



PHOTOS BY SAM COLT

All photos are from the Kokosingers Benefit Concert, performed on Friday, Jan. 21. Above, Joe Lerangis '12 takes the solo while Cody Shankman '12 sings "Tearin' Up My Heart" to the side. The concert was relaxed, incorporating improvisation and comedy into the arrangements.



album and a variety of newer arrangements. some that were brought to the Kokes as far back as the mid-'60s. It gave "Kenyon a taste of what we do on tour," Lerangis said. "We're at these high schools every morning and these kids are falling asleep, so we really need to step it up," he said. During interludes at the benefit, the Kokes would keep

up banter with the audience and keep them engaged with certain comedic acts. Kevin Holloway '11 tossed a Frisbee around during his performance, and during "Little Red Corvette," sung by Cole Dachenhaus '11, background members incorporated catcalls and booty slapping effortlessly into the song.

"This is our homecoming

concert," Scheid said. "On Parents' Weekend we have to get it right, but at this concert we get to perform and have fun."

All Tied Up is the first CD that the Kokes have released in two years, and mum's the word on the story behind its title. Released just in time for Parents' Weekend, the reason for its naming falls under "Kokes-

code" — stories that cannot leave the Kokes' inner circle. It's "a little bit secret society-ish, but it's all in good fun," Lerangis said. Riley assures listeners that "it's not what you think."

CDs are currently on sale in the bookstore for \$10, and look out for the Kokosingers' spring concert (the date has not been set yet).

Kenyon Film Society

THIS WEEK IN THE KENYON FILM SOCIETY

GREAT DATE MOVIE WEEK!

Friday, Feb. 11 — *Finding Nemo*

Named the tenth Best Animated Film of All Time by the American Film Institute, *Finding Nemo* is one of the most delightful movies ever made, and currently holds a 98 percent approval rating on Rotten Tomatoes. It won the Academy Award for best animated feature, and is the second highest grossing G rated film of all time, second only to *Toy Story 3*. While *Finding Nemo* can be written off as a dopey animated film about fish, it is actually a touching story about a father trying to reunite with his son at all costs. Plus, like many animated films, it features an all-star cast that includes Albert Brooks, Willem Dafoe, Brad Garrett, Stephen Root, Geoffrey Rush, Elizabeth Perkins, Eric Bana, Dame Edna, John Ratzenberger and our own Kenyon alum Allison Janney. Most notable, however, is Ellen DeGeneres, who steals the show as the forgetful Dory. This film will be shown in the Olin Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. in conjunction with the library Game Night.

Saturday, Feb. 12 — *The Notebook*

All right, we know we're going to get a lot of criticism for showing *The Notebook*. Is it the greatest movie? No. After all, it is based on a novel by Nicholas Sparks, whose last cinematic adaptation starred Miley Cyrus. I just shuddered as I wrote that. To all of the cynics out there though, you should give this movie a chance. It is incredibly emotionally manipulative, yes, but it is undeniably effective. I still don't know anyone who was not bawling by the end of the movie. It is a beautiful love story, and there is nothing wrong with that. Besides stars Rachel McAdams and the Oscar-nominated Ryan Gosling. It was well-received by critics; Roger Ebert gave it three and a half stars out of four. At the very least, this movie should surprise you. This screening will be at 7:30 p.m. in the KAC Theater.

We hope to see you at these wonderful films!

-Miles Purinton

American Poet Charles Fort Invited to Kenyon for Guest Reading

First Author Speaks in the Kenyon Review Reading Series for Spring 2011

DAN KIPP

Staff Writer

The Cheever Seminar Room played host to guest poet Charles Fort, American poet, on Thursday, Jan. 27. As Kenyon's guest poetry readings often are, the event was well attended by Kenyon students, teachers and Knox County community members. Fort read a number of his original poems and afterwards fielded questions from the audience. Fort's sense of humor and artfulness blended together, creating a warm atmosphere for the reading.

Sarah Kahwash '14 said of the reading, "Fort often mentioned the previous names of each poem, which I appreciated. It kind of brought the audience along with him during the creative process." For example, Fort began with a poem originally titled "To Spring," then "Winter Kill" and finally, "To Winter."

Fort has two daughters tied to Kenyon, Claire Fort '07 and Shelley Fort '11. A series of the poems he read were written about and addressed to them. In these poems, Fort's belief in trusting "making the memory of imagination" is particularly prevalent. One excerpt was particularly moving: "Your birth arrives like a morning tide, / Like wings alive in a jar."

He read a variety of forms



COURTESY OF CHARLESFORTPOETRY.COM

Poet Charles Fort is the father of Kenyon students Claire Fort '07 and Shelley Fort '11 and a series of his poems were written and addressed to them at the reading.

of poetry, including librettos, verse meant to be set to music; sestinas, poems structured with six stanzas of six lines and a final triplet; sonnets; villanelles, nineteen-line poems with two rhymes throughout; and, surprisingly, prose poems — what Fort called "proems."

"I write with a range of styles and subjects. I cannot be limited. Memory and imagination require full attention to language," Fort said. "They are all magical and alive on the page."

Many audience members asked Fort how he bridged the seeming divide between such

structured poems and free-verse proems. Fort didn't see the dichotomy as distinctly as his inquisitors. "Poets should enjoy form; own the masters," he said.

For Fort, writing poems is "a reductive process," wherein he begins by writing flowing prose,

then going back through and paring it down considerably. The process is the same, no matter what type of poetry Fort writes.

Either way, Fort says, the essence of poetry is consistent: "the best words in the best order." Fort also adheres to T.S. Eliot's belief that a writer should trust intuition rather than reason.

Indeed, Fort's philosophies seem to be effective. Fort has a number of successful compilations of poetry published, as well as a running website: charlesfortpoet.com.

Fort's poetry ranges in topic as widely as it does in form. Part of this is due to the fact that Fort has lived a number of places, including but not limited to Connecticut, New Orleans and Edinburgh. These places, as well as the people in his life, influence and often manifest themselves in his writing.

Years prior to the levees breaking in New Orleans, Fort wrote a poem entitled "Something Called A City" about New Orleans. In it, he proves premonitory, writing of "streets of water" and other apocalyptic parallels to Hurricane Katrina's destruction. Perhaps an example of intuition trumping reason?

Fort also writes in response to novels, film and music. One poem he read, "Born on the River," is a reference to Same

Cooke's "Change Is Gonna Come," which itself was a response to Bob Dylan's "Blowin' in the Wind."

Most notably, Fort read a series of poems that utilized a character called Darvil. Fort enigmatically described Darvil as being "based in part, on the Yeats figure Leo Africanus ... perhaps his daemon. Darvil is my secret sharer, more importantly perhaps, the Other, a three foot character with odd appendages over his entire body and webbed feet and a six-foot-long, red tongue."

In one of these, a "proem" entitled "Darvil Meets James Brown in Harlem and New Orleans," Fort capitalized on "the pleasure of arriving at a musical refrain." Amid a deluge of blues and spectacular vernacular, from a sea of social commentary and character development, the line "Ain't no potato like blackberry jam" continually surfaced as one such bookending refrain.

When Fort first started submitting poems, he often received responses from editors at the bottom of drafts reading, "What is this?" Now, Fort says with more good humor than bitterness, "I'll send them my books."

Fort is currently working on his first novel, *The Last Black Hippie From Connecticut*.

Psychological Thriller *Proof* Hailed as 'Finest Senior Thesis' This Year

JAMES DENNIN

Staff Writer

Part mystery story and part family psychological drama, David Auburn's *Proof* opened Friday Jan. 28. A deft and witty play about family, academia and the alleged burdens of genius, the play provided the groundwork for one of the finest senior theses of the year.

The play, directed by Will Arbery '11, centers on Catherine, a disturbed and gifted young woman who leaves school to care for her ailing father — a once great but extremely unstable mathematician. In the wake of his death, Catherine must reconcile herself to her own psychological disposition (she talks to dead people, fights policemen and solves mathematical conundrums).

Though the bulk of the dramatic action centers on Catherine, a burden that Eliza Logan '11 handled with considerable poise, *Proof's* success is contingent on the strength of its ensemble. In a play where sanity is at best relative, a lot rests on the family dynamic. In this case, that was provided by Rachel Sachnoff '12, Catherine's annoyingly



KATIE POINSATTE

Proof, by David Auburn, opened Jan. 28 and starred Eliza Logan '11, Rachel Sachnoff '11, Reed Stokes '11 and Kevin Holloway '11. It was the senior thesis of Logan and Holloway.

pragmatic sister, and Reed Stokes '11, who played her father, Robert. There is also the love interest, Hal (Kevin Holloway '11), an idealistic former advisee of Robert who has volunteered to sort through Robert's old notebooks in the hopes that something great might remain buried in his volumes of mathematical gibberish.

It goes without saying that *Proof* is an exceptional choice for a senior thesis, both for its playful digs at academia and its utter mastery of theatrical formula. Auburn's characters are rich, his language is nimble and his jokes are quality; the whole play moves with the brisk and effortless pace of a great film noir. Holloway

was bookish and affable, and his graceful trajectory from the comic relief to a pivotal influence in the future of the family was central to the play.

As the sisters, Sachnoff and Logan are beautiful foils — Claire the practical success and Catherine the dysfunctional genius. The effect of genius on the

sibling dynamic is a central question of the text. This is illuminated by the way both women wear their insecurities — Catherine for having inherited her father's genetic gifts, and Claire for having not. It is an interesting treatise on the way our parents impact our own destinies and it forces us to consider whether the ques-

tions about Catherine's sanity are merely hypothetical projections from those who knew her father.

Though not without its moments, Stokes's performance sometimes fell short of what was needed of the erratic patriarch. He was less at home in his role than the other characters and certain decisions (like his "gray" streak) called unnecessary attention to his age. He did, however, shine in his final scene with Catherine — the heartbreaking one in which the ailing father asks his daughter to collaborate on his nonsense. It is at this moment that Catherine decides to leave school and we wonder for the first time whether Robert is not insecure himself at the prospect of being outshone.

Still, the play is really about Catherine. Logan's fiery cynicism was unflinching, her paranoia palpable and her vulnerability affecting. It is why she was so much better in the role than many of her counterparts (if you've ever seen the film *Proof*, you will know exactly what I mean). In *Proof* it is true that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

Kenyon Squash Falls in Nail-biter to Denison

NINA ZIMMERMAN

Sports Editor

In front of a zealous and supportive crowd, many of whom had never seen a squash match before, the Kenyon College Squash Club whacked strong and hustled hard against the Denison University Squash Club.

Unfortunately, the effort was not enough, as their top athletic rival vanquished the Lords by a score of 5-4 on Thursday, Feb. 3, at the Kenyon Athletic Center's pristine squash courts. Despite the loss, the final score of 5-4 has great significance, according to Head Coach John Knepper '62.

"That's the best performance Kenyon's ever had against Denison," Knepper said. "We've never defeated Denison. Never. In fact, we'd never won a match until last year."

Four-year team veteran Peter Nolan '11 agreed with Knepper. "It was a great effort," he said.

Several other aspects of the match also stand out positively. Though the Lords fell to the Big Red by an overall score of 5-4, the Lords actually won more individual matches with 17 compared to Denison's 15.

"We've never defeated Denison. Never. In fact, we'd never won a match until last year."

- Coach John Knepper

The Lords were also boosted by a strong performance from Nolan, who reinforced his role as the Lords' number-one seeded squash player by swiftly knocking out his opponent by decisive scores of 11-7, 11-4 and 11-4 to win the three necessary games to claim the match. Knepper said he could hardly see Nolan's performance because it was so quick.

"Somebody told me he'd gone on and I didn't get down there because I was so concerned with these other matches [happening at the same time]," Knepper said. "And I headed down there, next thing I knew it was over. I never got down to his court."

Nolan's skill, experi-

ence and thorough understanding of Kenyon's athletic rivalry with Denison helped fire him up for his match.

"Every time we play Denison, I take it upon myself to prove to them that they are inferior to Kenyon in every way, shape or form," Nolan said. "And I think I did that [on Feb. 3] in about 15 minutes. And if you were to ask Ron Ongaro, the other guy playing, I think he'd agree with me."

Both Knepper and Nolan also lauded the performance of Michael "Geo" Marting '14, who battled his way back from being behind several times and outlasted his opponent, winning the match in the maximum of five games.

As the match wore on, the tension radiated through the crowd, causing an increase in cheers of "Go Geo!" Knepper is very proud of Marting's performance and the willpower he demonstrated.

"[In] two of those games, he was down by two points at the end of the games and came back and won those games," Knepper said. "Including in the last game, the fifth game of the match he was down 10-8. He was at game point for his opponent ... and he came back and tied it and went on to win the games. That's pretty impressive stuff. I mean that's really hanging in there. It makes coaches happy. He probably wishes he didn't get there in the first place but the fact that he would come back from that and hang in there and not cave was, I thought, pretty impressive."

Nolan was equally impressed, especially because he knows Marting's opponent and the ability he possesses on the court.

"It's best of five, so [Marting's] was a marathon match and he beat a junior who I've known for a very long time from Denison who's a good player," Nolan said. "He beat someone older and probably better than he is just based on the fire in his belly, which is great to see."

Another Lord who showed great perseverance in his match-up was Rohit Sudarshan '11. Sudarshan lost his first game 4-11 but later came back to defeat his opponent by similarly dominant scores of 11-7, 11-9 and 11-3.

"Rohit lost the first game, but look what he



NINA ZIMMERMAN

Denison and Kenyon meet before the match this Saturday in which the Big Red beat the Lords by a score of five games to four games.



NINA ZIMMERMAN

Michael "Geo" Marting '14 prepares a shot in Saturday's game. He outlasted his opponent to win his game against Denison. Spencer Carlson '13 (Right) returns a shot in his game against the Big Red.



NINA ZIMMERMAN

did the last game, the last three games," Knepper said. "He's a focused player. He knows exactly what he's doing and when he has a game playing, he follows it. Once you get through that first game and get the nerves under control, you get the job done."

Knepper cites depth as a particular strength of the team, but notes the importance of having Marting and Pete Heck '14 as a strong push for the continuation of squash in the future.

"We have two [first years] I'm very happy with, Michael Marting and Pete Heck," Knepper said. "And they're very important to Kenyon squash, moving forward. They've done very well in their first year. We have a nice team, we're pretty strong at the bottom of the team. We've got some nice depth on the team. That's our real strength."

"I think a lot of the [first years] have come through brilliantly," Nolan said. "[Heck] didn't win his match but he's developing beautifully. He's going to be a good player."

The Lords will probably face the Big Red again in a practice match or two before they head to Harvard University for the national championships later this month.

"It'll be a great day, obviously, the day we first beat Denison. But I am very happy. It's a great advancement for us. Two years ago we would lose to them 9-0. To have a better [score], I mean, that's our best result ever," Knepper said.

Both Nolan and Knepper agree that while that the Kenyon squash program has experienced dramatic change manifesting itself in paramount success in recent years, the program and the sport of

squash both face challenges in the future. Squash is geographically more popular in the northeastern United States, but it is spreading to the Midwest.

The lack of nearby competition hurts the Lords in terms of their national ranking while adding fuel to the fire of the Kenyon-Denison rivalry.

"There are only two intercollegiate teams in Ohio, and that would be Kenyon and Denison," Knepper said. "It's a strong rivalry, I guess because any Kenyon-Denison thing is a big rivalry ... but the truth is we're both really fortunate and happy we have each other because otherwise we don't have anyone to play in Ohio."

Nolan credits Knepper with cultivating and supporting the success and growth that the squash team has experienced since Knepper became an integral part of the team.

"John Knepper really has taken the program by the reins and done a tremendous amount for us, he said. "We're very fortunate to have him. He's very passionate and he organizes everything. He's just a godsend to the program, and I'm sure without him we would not be where we are today."

Nolan notices a difference even in the four years he has been on the team, noting increases in athleticism, sportsmanship and more of a serious attitude towards squash as a sport.

"I came here and things were not what they are today, to say the least," Nolan said. "We didn't have a full roster; people weren't fully committed. Throughout the years we've gotten better, better players who are more committed, who are more athletic, who have competitive mentalities, and it's manifested itself in our results."

Kenyon Vaults Back into Diving After a Decade of Rest

KALI GREFF
Senior Editor

Too often, the diving team is overlooked as a mere add-on to the iconic Kenyon swimming team's title: Kenyon Swimming & Diving Team. The team is overlooked, in fact, that the program has not had a consistent coach in recent years, and as a result, not enough of a consistent influx of recruits to build a successful program.

Beginning in the 1930s, the Kenyon College archives document Kenyon diving as the same entity as Kenyon swimming. The swimming coach in those days, Chuck Imel, was a Jack-of-all-trades — in addition to coaching swimming, he coached diving and basketball and served as the College's publicity director. Imel did his part to start the ball rolling on the success of the program but faced major setbacks as many of his star athletes were drafted, including two of his ace divers, Dick Brouse and Howard Davis. These two showcased "the best bit of diving ever shown here by a college diver" at an Ohio Wesleyan University dual meet, despite the dangerously low ceilings of the OWU pool at the time (*Columbus Dispatch*, Jan. 25, 1937). The divers left to carry Davis' torch for the remainder of the '30s were Ned Brouse, Johnny Long and Dick Olin.

As the swimming program began to seize multiple consecutive Ohio State Conference championships, some real diving legends were increasingly drawn to Kenyon during the 1960s. As current Head Men's Swim Coach Jim Steen said, "Kenyon established a good tradition of diving in the late '60s with Greg Offenburger." Offenburger, a



COURTESY OF KENYON COLLEGE

A photo of an unidentified Kenyon College male Diver from the 1950s. This year is the first time since the 1990s that the Kenyon Swimming and Diving program has had a consistent coach.

young diver who shocked the squad on in his collegiate diving career with his early ability to be a "definite contender for the diving championship" as just a sophomore, proved to be one of the Kenyon greats throughout his career, a "pleasant surprise" to head coach at the time Dick Russell.

In the 1970s, in the midst of the influx of women enrolling, Kenyon became the first school in Ohio Conference history with women participating in a previously all-male sport. Tamis Kaplan, both a diver and a breaststroker, and Linda Peacock were the first women athletes to benefit from the recent Ohio

Conference ruling allowing women to compete in all non-contact sports. Said Kaplan, "All the guys have been really great about it ... they haven't shown any resentment towards us" (Kenyon College Sports newsletter, Jan. 16, 1975). These were the lowly beginnings of the women's swimming and diving program at Kenyon — these Ladies were forced to change in the coaches' locker rooms and compete against the boys, some of whom they actually defeated. Said Richard Sloan, head coach at the time: "The women have been very well accepted and are supported 100 percent, even by our male diver who has

been beaten by one of them. What's more, we feel they will be consistent point winners in most of our meets."

Kaplan and Peacock continued to compete for the men's diving team, along with Ellen Mooer, even with the establishment of a women's club swim team that had its own divers. Self-described as "women's-libbers attempting to break the sex barrier" (*Kenyon Collegian*, Jan. 23, 1975), these women practiced and competed with the single male diver, Jake Layton, and carried the team with consistent performances. The "Swimmin' Women" soon achieved varsity status in 1975, establishing themselves with a bang as putting forth "the finest team effort I have witnessed in my 12 years' involvement with swimming," said first-year head coach Steen (*Kenyon Collegian*, Nov. 20, 1975).

It wasn't until the mid-1980s that the diving program really came into its own. "The diving team of the mid '80s up to the late '90s was better than any team in that time," Steen said. The reason? The hiring of the "best diving coach of all time," according to Steen — Fletcher Gilders. Gilders, an NCAA Division I record-setting national champion for Ohio State University, was one of the most successful divers in collegiate history. He was so successful as a diver that his national record, set while at OSU, was not overturned until Greg Louganis came along. After a very successful and decorated career as the swimming and diving coach at Ohio University (developing three Olympic divers and winning eight Mid-American conference titles), he came to Gambier to coach the diving

squad in 1985. During his 12 years coaching at Kenyon, Gilders produced three Division III champions and won three NCAA Division III Coach of the Year honors. Now deceased, he is remembered much fondness and respect.

The diving team took a turn for the worse after Gilders' retirement. Without such a dedicated, consistent and "high-caliber, absolutely adored" coach as Gilders, according to Steen, the program had since fallen into somewhat of a rut for the latter part of the '90s and into the 2000s.

"When I arrived this fall, there were two girls [Cambria Foden '13 and Perrie Grace '13] and one guy [Andrew Dunn '13] who had participated on a limited basis last year with [Professor of Humanities Tim] Shutt as the coach," said current Head Diving Coach Andy Scott. "[Foden] had a gymnastics background and some previous experience in high school with diving and wanted to see it offered here at Kenyon, so she really got the ball rolling after a hiatus of several years. There have been some very successful moments in Kenyon's diving past with national champions in the '90s and early 2000s, but it has been almost a decade since they have had a consistent coach to lead the program."

This lack of consistent leadership has hopefully been put to a halt by the resurgence of the diving program under the leadership of Scott, who was hired to head Kenyon diving in August of 2010. A grad of Ouachita Baptist University, he gained experience from five years of coaching at Springfield College and Duke University,

where he doubled the size of the program. His most recent coaching job was establishing the diving program at the Division II University of the Incarnate World, where he coached a total of three All-Americans and four NCAA national qualifiers. When he got a call to coach for the College, Scott said he had to seize the opportunity.

"I've told many people that getting a call to come be a part of the Kenyon swimming and diving program was like getting a call from the Yankees to coach for them," he said. "Anyone in the college swimming and diving world understands what an incredible history this place has and to be a part of it is a great honor ... I appreciate the sense of pride people take in being a part of the Kenyon community and the tradition that seems to be preserved in so many ways."

Now in Gambier and in the thick of the season on the eve of the North Coast Athletic Conference Swimming and Diving Championships, Scott has big plans for Kenyon diving in the future.

"Recruiting is where it starts," Scott said. "It will take some time, but I expect that in two to three years, the divers will be able to complement the success the swim teams have had over past 30 years. My hope is to have consistent Lord and Lady representation in the diving well at the national meet alongside the swim teams, year in and year out ... and from our perspective, the swim team has set a standard in work ethic and commitment to excellence that we strive to emulate on the boards. I believe with time, we'll learn how to be one big family of champions."

Lords and Ladies Indoor Track Takes Steps Forward

RICHARD PERA
Staff Writer

The Kenyon Indoor Track and Field team traveled to Otterbein College in Westerville, Ohio this past Saturday for the Greater Columbus Invitational meet. The Lords and Ladies, while competing for individual qualifying standards, finished fifth and fourth out of six teams, respectively.

"We were trying to qualify people for the All-Ohio meet," said Coach Duane Gomez. "For those that had already qualified, we gave them the weekend off or had them run in only one event, so it wasn't very intense."

Counting the times and distances from this past

weekend and prior meets, seven men and 11 women from Kenyon have qualified for All-Ohio. "We were very satisfied with the results from Saturday," Gomez said. "We had a number of individuals that ran their personal best and a lot of people scored very well. It was a good meet overall."

Gomez emphasized the efforts of Sierra DeLeon '14, who finished second in the 55-meter dash, and Willy Friedlander '14, who, besides participating in the 4x400-meter relay squad, clocked a career best in the mile. Gomez also praised Kirkley Doyle '13, who finished as the runner-up in the 800-meter event. "Doyle ran a fantas-

tic race, and now she's ranked third in her event among Division III schools in Ohio," Gomez said. "It was really impressive; she ran strong and confident. It was the best race she's had at Kenyon."

Kenyon's qualified track and field athletes had planned on returning to Otterbein for Saturday's meet, but fate had different plans. Many competitors at last weekend's Greater Columbus Invitational were fighting the surface of the Otterbein indoor track, prompting officials to question the venue for Saturday's All-Ohio meet. "I was slipping at the start of some of my events last weekend," said Joey Cordle '14, who competes in the hurdles,

on the relay squad and in the long jump. "I think it was caused from wear and tear."

"It was getting kind of slippery from being old, so the Games Committee called me [Monday] morning and asked us if Kenyon could host the All-Ohio meet this Saturday," said an ecstatic Gomez. "We'll have the best athletes in Ohio here on Saturday."

Saturday will be the first time that Kenyon has hosted the All-Ohio meet. It will be an excellent opportunity for Kenyon to showcase the Kenyon Athletic Center and the Sloan Track to the 23 other competing schools, which is an important opportunity because word of mouth can help with recruiting. The

change in plans also works well for the Lords and Ladies, who need only to descend the hill to the KAC instead of traveling. "We also have some seniors who've got comps this weekend, so having the meet here really helps them out," Gomez said.

The weather has proved to be a challenge for the indoor track team — even though their meets have been neither postponed nor cancelled. The snow and ice has prevented some long distance training, as the team usually practices outdoors. "They haven't been able to get outside much for their long runs," Gomez said. "That's been the only real challenge."

Despite the terrific qual-

ifying performances, Gomez remains confident that the team can continue to develop. "We can keep improving, and we have to stay healthy," he said. "When it comes down to the end of the year, sometimes the teams that are the healthiest do the best." Gomez will be looking for his Lords and Ladies to make competitive strides on Saturday. He expects the results to be somewhat misleading in regard to Kenyon's talent: "I think the women could probably place in the middle and the guys toward the end. We've got the women who can put up some points for us; the guys, not as many. But both teams are coming along pretty well, and I'm excited."

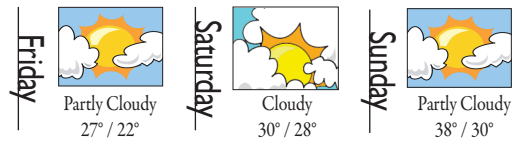
Lords Tennis
Friday, Feb. 11, at 7:00 p.m.
KAC
Kenyon hosts U Chicago

Lords/Ladies Track
Saturday, Feb. 12, at 12:00 p.m.
KAC
Kenyon hosts All-Ohio Meet

THE KENYON COLLEGIAN SPORTS

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Illustrations by Ellic Jabbour Upcoming Weather



Ladies Fall Short in Heart-Breaking Loss to Rival Big Red

Examining Kenyon's biggest Rival



DAVID HOYT

Maggie Boelter '14 #23 drives up the court against a Big Red defender in Wednesday's loss to Denison University. Boelter finished with three points and one assist on the night.

MELISSA HART

Staff Writer

The Kenyon women's basketball team played a hard-fought game, but ultimately lost to nationally ranked Denison last night, Feb. 9.

The Ladies, facing nationally ranked and undefeated number-nine Denison for the second time of the season, had already played Denison in a close away game, losing only by three in a 72-69 loss. The ladies are now 12-10 overall and 6-5 in the conference.

The game started out promising for the Ladies. Kayla Ernst '13 scored the first basket of the game for the team. Kenyon then proceeded to go on a 6-0 run for the first three minutes.

Kat Powers '11 scored eight out of the first ten points for Kenyon. While Denison went on a run, gaining a lead of 14 points, Andrea Pohly '12 hit four threes in the first half, including one to bring the game to within nine points at the half.

The Ladies put up a hard fight in the second half. With six minutes left,

the Ladies retook the lead but Denison reclaimed it with three minutes left. The final score ended up 67-74.

Earlier in the week, the Ladies squared off against Oberlin College on Saturday, Feb. 5, coming out victorious, with a final score of 70-60, several of the ladies had strong nights.

Pohly was six for eight from the field and five for six from the three-point line, giving her a career high of 17 points as well

"We are looking for people to come out... it's for breast cancer awareness and we have a limited number of T-shirts."

- Suzanne Helfant

the lead the team scoring for the game. Maggie Bolter '14 also had a strong night and managed to dish out eight assists.

While Head Coach Suzanne Helfant was hap-

py with the team performance, she said the team needs to learn to complete the game. "I loved the way we played, we just need to finish the game," she said.

As the team looks on toward the end of the season, the ladies play the Ohio Wesleyan University battling bishops next on Saturday, Feb. 12.

The ladies defeated Ohio Wesleyan 75-52 the last time the two teams met in Tomsich Arena. The ladies travel to Ohio Wesleyan for their final away game before the NCAC tournament.

Helfant said the team will be preparing for the game against the battling bishops the rest of this week. "We didn't see their best team last time and we need to be ready to play them in their gym," she said.

Their annual Pink Zone game is also coming up for the Ladies. Pink Zone is an initiative started by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association in an effort to raise breast cancer awareness in women's basketball and on college campuses.

Since the first year of

the initiative in 2007 and the 120 teams that initially participated, the yearly event has grown significantly. It now includes over 1600 teams and the event has raised over \$3.3 million. All money raised in the event goes to the Kay Yow Cancer Fund.

The Ladies play their home Pink Zone game on Wednesday, Feb. 16 against the Hiram College Terriers. While the ladies lost to Hiram in their first game in conference play, they now look toward this special event as a chance to turn the result around.

Kenyon has planned a special ceremony to honor survivors of breast cancer during the halftime and encourages survivors to attend the game. There will also be T-shirts and people taking donations at the entrance to the arena.

Helfant said the team is looking forward to their Pink Zone game.

"We are looking for people to come out, obviously it's for breast cancer awareness and we will have a limited number of T-shirts to give away," she said. "We are looking for a good game."

JAMES ASIMES

Sports Columnist

Kenyon College and Denison University. The Lords and Ladies against the Big Red. It is a rivalry that extends beyond the admissions offices and athletic competitions. As KACHEADS President Max Doshay '11 said: "The Kenyon (College) versus Denison (University) rivalry represents the classic battle of good against evil. On the one side, you have Kenyon, a bastion for a true liberal arts education, where athletics and academics have become one and flourish; on the other side, you have Denison, which I've been told hates puppies, freedom and your mother's cooking." As the voice of the Lords and Ladies on www.athletics.kenyon.edu and recently 91.9 FM on your radio dial, Doshay has seen firsthand the intense rivalry between the two bastions of higher education.

Even in the athletic department, there is a sense of rivalry between these intra-conference opponents. Head Women's Basketball Coach Suzanne Helfant sees that her players "get especially excited to compete against Denison because we typically are both vying for spots at the top of the conference." She also credits the close proximity and the overlap in recruiting across women's basketball between the two programs for furthering the rivalry. In the pool, Denison has also established itself as a worthy rival to the legendary Kenyon Lords and Ladies swimming programs. While the Big Red do not hold a number of national swimming championships nearly as high as Kenyon's, they have won their fair share of conference titles in recent seasons. This coming weekend, the two swim teams will square off yet again for the 2011 North Coast Athletic Conference Championships.

This week brought both campuses the first annual Kenyon versus Denison Spirit Challenge. The Student Activities Office has put together a valiant inaugural effort in formalizing the rivalry between both Kenyon and Denison. Assistant Director of Student Activities Anne Vleck championed the challenge, but attributes the idea to former Lords lacrosse standout and current assistant coach Bob Dignazio '08. "He had heard of events

like this at other schools, and we both thought it would be a fun thing for Kenyon. I know the rivalry between Kenyon and Denison runs deep, so I thought we could channel some of our energy into organized activities that support a good cause," Vleck said. The proceeds all go to aid New Directions, the domestic abuse shelter for Knox County, and Vleck hopes that the Spirit Challenge can evolve and grow in the coming years.

Highlighting the Spirit Challenge was Purple Pride day, held yesterday, Feb. 9; which encouraged students to wear purple and support Kenyon Athletics. The Lords and Ladies basketball teams squared off against their Denison counterparts in a Wednesday night doubleheader as well. The Lords, led by sharpshooter Kodey Haddox '11, were able to soundly defeat the undersized Big Red by a final score of 80-66 while the Ladies' rally fell just short of knocking off the ninth-ranked Big Red women's basketball team. The KACHEADS organized a "whiteout" for the basketball games, selling white Kenyon shirts to benefit the Kay Yow foundation. During the Ladies' game, there was a half time half-court shot competition as well hosted by Kenyon Student Athletes.

Overall, the Spirit Challenge also featured a coin drive and blood drive, as well as a banner competition. An *a cappella* sing off was planned at Denison but unfortunately had to be cancelled due to lack of participation by Kenyon's many *a cappella* groups. At the end of the week the school with the most overall points compiled in the Spirit Challenge will be awarded a trophy to display on its respective campus.

Although Vleck deserves the credit for the success of the new Spirit Challenge week, she is quick to credit the Kenyon Student Athletes, Social Board, Kenyon College Bookstore and Denison University with helping greatly with the events. As the school athletic nicknames show, the rivalry matches the great leaders of the feudal system against America's favorite cinnamon-flavored chewing gum, and any Kenyon supporter at Tomsich Arena last night could attest to the intensity of the rivalry as exhibited by the fan bases.