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the Kenyon Collegian

Serving Gambier, Ohio Since 1856

A Presidential Reunion



CALEB BISSINGER

Last weekend focused on the future as the trustees descended on Gambier to celebrate the inaugural exhibit at the Gund Gallery and the completion of “We Are Kenyon,” the College’s \$240 million capital campaign. This week, the College has been looking back at three presidents who helped shape it.

For the full feature, see pages 8 and 9.

Candidate Supports Religion in Schools

MADELEINE THOMPSON

Six Mount Vernon Board of Education candidates will contest three seats in the local election on Tuesday, Nov. 8. The candidates, Margie Bennett (incumbent), Jeffrey Cline, Marie Curry, Cheryl Feasel, Jolene Goetzman (incumbent) and Stephen Kelly, are all non-partisan, but some of their campaign promises have become controversial.

Cline’s support for teaching religion and creationism in the schools’ science curriculums and Kelly’s desire to let students “decide for themselves which evidence seems more convincing” have sparked a movement of concerned Mount Vernon parents and community members.

The movement includes several members of the Kenyon community, including Kachen Kimmel, wife of a Kenyon employee; Professor of Political Science Michelle Mood, and philanthropic advisor Kent Woodward-Ginther ’93. “It feels like some kind of old-fashioned time to hear these people and to experience their naiveté about these issues,” said Kimmel, who is also running for Gambier’s Village Council. “I’m a Christian of a certain sort, and I’m offended that I can’t have my own understanding of Christianity.”

Many citizens who remember the 2008 John Freshwater incident especially object to creationism entering school curriculums. Freshwater taught science at Mount Vernon Middle School until it came out that he burnt a cross into the arm of a student during a science experiment and gave extra credit assignments like watching pro-intelligent design documentaries.

He was officially fired in January of this year, though his case is still in court.

At a “Meet the Candidate” event in Mount Vernon on Oct. 27, Cline addressed the importance of teachers put-

ting their Christian values into their lessons despite the risk of another expensive lawsuit like Freshwater’s, which has now cost the schools almost \$2 million.

“As it stands today, with the separation of church and state, the law is that you can’t preach religion from the classroom,” Cline said. “With that law, as bogus as I think it is, we have to agree with it for now. But I think as people in our communities we need to start challenging that.”

Kelly, who has worked balancing budgets for the Salvation Army for 20 years, would not confirm his position on teaching creationism. “I find it very interesting that this question keeps coming up,” Kelly said. “I have my own personal beliefs on the subject, but that’s not what I’m running on.” In a recent email to Woodward-Ginther, Kelly stated that he believes there is “considerable scientific evidence that challenges the assumptions of the old earth/evolutionary model.”

“Intelligent design is not science. It’s already been proven and litigated, and we don’t need to spend any more of the school’s money litigating that,” Knox County Democratic Party Chair Meg Galipault said. “That’s our biggest fear. If one of those individuals gets voted onto the board, we’re going to end up sinking more money into something that’s already been decided.” Knox County Republican Party Chair Chip McConnville declined to give his opinion on teaching creationism in schools.

Woodward-Ginther, a Mount Vernon parent and Kenyon employee, strongly disagrees with the platforms of any candidates who do not speak out against teaching creationism in schools. “In my opinion, there is no scientific evidence of creationism or so-called intelligent design,” he said. “[The

see **BOARD**, page 2

Schools Face Levy and Funding Issues

MARIKA GARLAND

In the midst of recent spending cuts for local schools, the upcoming Nov. 8 election will include a renewal levy for Mount Vernon school funding as part of the ballot. If passed, this levy will not add any new taxes for Mount Vernon citizens but will renew the \$846,000 allocated to schools from property taxes every year since 1981. “One of my concerns is that people will not understand that a renewal levy is not an increase, because there has been a trend of not supporting increases in the tax base,” Knox County Democratic Party Chair Meg Galipault said.

Mount Vernon has voted to renew this levy every five years since it began and must continue to do so for it to remain in place. This year, however, the levy has taken on new significance. Due to the recent end of stimulus money, Mount Vernon schools have lost \$2.5 million in state funding. “There have been a lot of cuts already, so we really need this funding to continue, and eventually we’re probably going to have to go back and ask for more help too,” Chair of the Committee to Support Our Local Schools Moreen Helser said.

Every year, Mount Vernon schools receive money from the levy in two halves, one in November and one in

May, according to Mount Vernon City School Superintendent Stephen Short. If the City votes against the levy next week, it could appear on the ballot again in May, but schools would lose the first half of this funding. “That loss would be devastating to the school district,” Short said. “We would see the cut of personnel. We would see the cut of programs and the opportunity that maybe a building would be closed.”

In addition to lost state funding, Mount Vernon schools have also grappled with missing tax money. “Traditionally, all of our school funding from the community is from property taxes, and then there are people who don’t pay their property taxes,” Helser said.

“All of those things create this kind of perfect storm,” Galipault said. “Either we’re going to survive or we’re going to let it take the schools under.”

Even if the levy passes, several cuts will remain in place. The City has already had to cut high school busing. “Truancy is a problem anyway, and I’m sure that hasn’t helped the truancy problem,” Helser said. “I certainly have heard from many a parent, just word of mouth, that it’s a hardship on a lot of people.”

Several school employees have lost their jobs, and the teachers and administrators who remain have had to take over their duties. “You’re going to see our administrators, our principals doing more,” Short said.

“I see the added hours and stress and the hard work that people are putting in,” Helser, who works in the school system and has two children in a Mount Vernon elementary school, said. “A lot of the work is just getting divided up and added onto everybody’s current jobs.” The number of art, music and physical education teachers has been reduced as well, resulting in the cancellation of this year’s elementary school holiday music program.

High school students now must pay \$200 to participate in sports, music and other extracurricular activities, an increase in the former \$25 fee. “That’s hard on kids, especially if you’re in more than one activity, which a lot of them are,” Helser said.

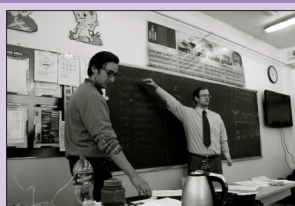
“A lot of people are concerned that money isn’t being managed well, but ... our spending is lower than it’s been in the last three years, and that’s amazing because usually there’s a 3 percent increase in spending for things like heating and things that you can’t control,” Helser said. “I think the school has done a great job in trying to compensate for that as well as all the other cuts.” Mount Vernon citizens pay a lower percentage of their income (2 percent) toward schools than 13 of the 14 surrounding school

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Responses to “Between the Sheets, Communication is a Two-Way Street.”



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An alumnus recounts his experience with the Peace Corps in Mongolia.



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It’s a Hard Knox Life brings Broadway favorites to the Black Box Theater.

Kenyon Celebrates the Opening of New Apartments

Construction on two more North Campus Apartment units ended in time for this fall's trustees' meeting.

REBECCA DANN

Members of the Board of Trustees, professors, deans, students and President S. Georgia Nugent convened around the new North Campus Apartments this past Friday, Oct. 29 to watch the cutting of the purple ribbon and listen to the vast list of benefits that this new housing option will bring to Kenyon College.

At 4:15 p.m., North Campus Apartments resident Karuna Ramcharran '12 cut the purple ribbon and the dedication began. Dean of Students Hank Toutain spoke first. Four new apartments are now already open and in use by Kenyon students, he said.

By the end of January, they expect to have two new housing units available for student applications, and by the fall of 2013, a total of 21 houses should be ready, completing the construction project.

Toutain explained to the

audience why the addition of the new and improved houses would benefit Kenyon's ranking in comparison to other institutions.

As Kenyon continues to gain respect for its academic programs and opportunities, its housing should continue to improve at the same rate, according to Toutain. Kenyon should not only offer challenging opportunities, but also stellar facilities, especially housing, he said.

"Kenyon should not lose students because its housing options are not as nice as various other institutions," Toutain said. "In addition to adding a competitive advantage, increasing housing capacity would result in less density in other housing institutions."

As the College continues to expand its student population, it will need to accommodate this greater influx. With these new houses, Kenyon will appeal to a greater



DAVID HOYT

Karuna Ramcharran '12, who lives in one of the North Campus Apartments that opened at the beginning of the school year, cut the ribbon at Friday's ceremony.

number of prospective students, Toutain said.

In addition to Toutain's welcoming speech, Head Community Advisor Georgina Leslie '12 spoke to the audience on behalf of the students who currently reside in the new houses. "We get to have a different living experi-

"We get to have a different living experience than the rest of the students."

Georgina Leslie '12

ence than the rest of the students," she said. The houses are like no other residential building or house offered on the Kenyon campus.

The houses look, on the

inside and out, like "real houses" — nothing like a typical college dorm, Leslie said. Instead of small apartments located within the houses, large rooms are available, along with common rooms, utilities and a kitchen. Leslie said that people walk into the houses, take one quick scan around the first floor and say, "This is a real house!"

After Leslie spoke, Toutain stepped up again to thank the various contributors that made this new housing project possible. He said that this construction could never have happened without generous financial support from Kenyon's alumni, parents association and trustees.

Once Toutain made his concluding remarks, he invited several students to go up to the podium and cut the large purple ribbon that hung in front of one of the new houses.

The audience applauded, and Toutain invited all the guests inside to explore the newly decorated houses, where the residents offered tours.

LEVY: Committee Hopes to Increase School Funding

continued from page 1

districts, according to the website the Committee to Support Our Local Schools created in support of the levy.

"There has to be some way to communicate to the community that the schools are not wasting money. They're barely surviving on what they've got, and we keep punishing them," Galipault said. "If you're not willing to invest 2 percent of your income in your

kids' education, I think as a community we need to really come to grips with that concept."

Helser said her committee plans to work toward increasing school funding in the future rather than sticking to the \$846,000 levy. "We will probably have to figure out some way to go back and ask for more money by next year," she said. An emergency levy to restore some of the lost state funding appeared on the ballot last May, but citizens voted against it.

The current levy has been in effect since 1981 and has not been increased despite rising inflation. "Imagine if we all had to go back to the wages we earned in 1981. Many of us would not be able to afford our homes, let alone care for our children," Galipault said.

Galipault and the Knox County Democratic Party actively support the levy and the addition of further school funding. "We felt we needed to step up and offer our support," she said. "We're talking

about all of our children. They're not Democrats or Republicans. It's a non-partisan issue."

"We do not take positions on school levies," Knox County Republican Party Chair Chip McConville said. "We have no position on the levy."

Helser said she is confident the levy will pass. "Traditionally, this has passed, so we're really hoping it will," she said.

Galipault and Helser both urged Kenyon students to vote

in next week's election. "I cannot emphasize how important it is for Kenyon to vote," Galipault said. "It is an off-year election, and people think that it really doesn't matter, but it is hugely important. It affects Kenyon students [because] the ability of Kenyon to attract good faculty is based on the environment, and if a faculty person wants to come to Kenyon but sees that the schools are terrible, they're going to choose someplace else."

BOARD: Kenyon's Role

continued from page 1

evangelical protestants] have no interest in including creationist theory from Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism or other religions. This narrow approach is a thinly veiled attempt to have a Christ-centered curriculum, which has no place whatsoever in public schools."

Mood, who recently set up a Political Action Committee (PAC) called Concerned Mount Vernon City School District Citizens, of which she is the treasurer, agreed. "Teaching our kids non-science will be damaging to their ability to grasp the appropriate intellectual foundations and tools necessary to advance intellectually and in employment," she said. "Americans are already falling behind in science; it is damaging to hold children back further in this area. We just came off three years of distraction, dissension and expense related to the many lawsuits connected to our John Freshwater case."

The Concerned Citizens PAC is not affiliated with any party, but it is

supporting incumbents Bennet and Goetzman. "We are completely across the political spectrum, probably with the exception of Tea Party-ists ... but we are 100 percent united on making this a better district," Kimmel said. "We are supporting Goetzman and Bennett ... because they have lived through the Freshwater incident and helped the district do the right thing."

Kimmel, Woodward-Ginther and Mood stressed the issue's relevance to Kenyon. It affects students, parents and teachers alike, they said, and everyone who can should vote. "The quality of the schools already has an impact on the location of faculty. Our children are bearing the brunt of our choice to live near campus; you students are the prime beneficiaries of that," Mood said. "I earnestly believe that the least you can do is help us out by going out and voting for school board candidates who will uphold state standards."

"Kenyon students can really make a difference," Kimmel said. "This isn't Occupy Wall Street. In this kind of area, small numbers of voters are huge."

VILLAGE RECORD

- Oct. 26, 11:08 a.m. — Vehicle accident outside Ascension Hall. No injuries.
- Oct. 26, 7:41 p.m. — Medical: student injured in Kenyon Athletic Center pool. Student transported to Knox County Hospital.
- Oct. 28, 11:12 a.m. — Burglary and forced entry of vehicle in Kenyon Athletic Center parking lot. Safety officers contacted.
- Oct. 29, 12:19 a.m. — Intoxicated student in Lewis Residence Hall. Student assessed and treated by Safety officers.
- Oct. 29, 11:10 p.m. — Intoxicated student in Old Kenyon. Student assessed and treated by Safety officers.
- Oct. 30, 12:07 a.m. — Intoxicated student in Mather Residence Hall. Student transported to Knox County Hospital.
- Oct. 30, 12:25 a.m. — Intoxicated student in Leonard Residence Hall. Student assessed and treated by Safety officers.
- Oct. 30, 12:31 a.m. — Vandalism in Leonard Residence Hall. Incorrect use of fire extinguisher. Glass broken. Wall written on with marker.
- Oct. 30, 12:47 a.m. — Intoxicated student in Old Kenyon. Student assessed and treated by Safety officers.
- Oct. 30, 12:51 a.m. — Intoxicated student in Bushnell Residence Hall. Student assessed and treated by Safety officers.
- Oct. 30, 12:59 a.m. — Misconduct in Old Kenyon. Student yelling threats. Student ceased yelling at Safety officer's request.
- Oct. 30, 1:12 a.m. — Intoxicated student in Old Kenyon. Student assessed and treated by Safety officers.
- Oct. 30, 1:26 a.m. — Harassment in Old Kenyon. Student reported threatening letter pushed under door. Safety officers contacted.
- Oct. 30, 2:26 a.m. — Intoxicated student in Norton Residence Hall. Student assessed and treated by Safety officers.
- Oct. 30, 5:16 p.m. — Medical: student in Crozier Center for Women assessed by Safety officer.
- Oct. 31, 4:58 a.m. — Vandalism in Peirce Hall. Pumpkin found with multiple holes and an arrow in it.
- Oct. 31, 5:33 p.m. — Suspicious person near Brown Family Environmental Center. Non-student walking with crossbow. Safety officers contacted.

Local Politics

Several of the more controversial issues on the ballot next Tuesday, Nov. 8 are covered in fuller detail in this week's News section. Here, we've covered the other candidates and issues Gambier voters will see on the ballot.

The Candidates:

Kirk Emmert for Village Mayor

Tom Stamp for Gambier Village Council

J. Kachen Kimmell for Gambier Village Council

Doug McLarnan for Township Trustee

Martha M. Rambo for Fiscal Officer, College Township

Previous experience: I've been the mayor for eight years and I was on the Council for the better part of a year.

Emmert

What's the biggest issue facing Gambier? We want to continue to maintain our good fiscal position. We also want to make sure we're on top of the water leak problem. Our other newer projects are continuing to finish our park down by the community center and also South

Park down by the Gundersen Sculpture. We're also looking at general maintenance and installing new sidewalks.

Strengths: I have experience and knowledge of the problems and issues and I work well with our staff. It helps that I know people at the College and people in the Village and I'm able to bridge that gap. I don't think it's a very big gap now, but it has been in the past.

How will your work in this position affect Kenyon students? The degree to which the Village is

more attractive, I think it's a nicer place to be.

We don't have a direct effect on student life, as long as everything in the Village is functioning well. Last year, for example, we replaced part of the water main on Meadow Lane. The thing had blown three times, and when the water main blows, there's no water at the College. As long as everything's working well, nobody notices the work we do and nobody's bothered by the work we do. That's an important part of our job, keeping everything working well.

Previous experience: Master's Degree in School Administration; 38 years in public education, school finance and grant administration.

Rambo

What's the biggest issue facing your position? The biggest issue currently facing our township is shrinking state of Ohio resources to support local grass roots government.

The biggest issue that pertains specifically to Kenyon is fire protection.

We are a locally-staffed, volunteer emergency operation. Kenyon supports the Township with financial aid annually as well as students that volunteer. In return, College Township provides the funding for training emergency personnel who choose to become fire fighters, EMT's and medics.

Passing the replacement levy for fire in College Township is essential as there are no other resources to pay for the quality of service currently provided to Kenyon and the greater College Town-

ship community.

How does the Kenyon community influence you? The Kenyon community greatly influences me. My family has lived in College Township for 20-plus years. We feel connected to and a part of the College, her students and faculty. It is my home.

What strengths would you bring to the position? I am a "life-long" learner. This attribute is necessary for a Fiscal Officer as every day brings new challenges to local government and our dedicated Township Trustees.

Previous Experience: I have been on the Village Planning and Zoning Commission since 2007 and Chairman since 2008.

What are the biggest issue facing this position? Infrastructure issues are a concern. We are repairing and maintaining roads, installing sidewalks, improving

parks, bike trails and green space, and fixing serious problems with the water system. Of course Kenyon is involved in many of these situations

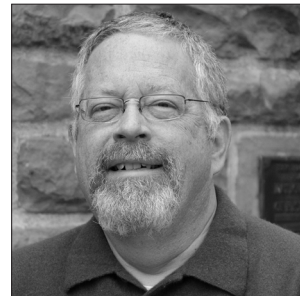
- constructing new buildings, building, repaving and replacing parking lots and sidewalks, and consuming Village services, including water.

What strengths do you bring to this position? I have lived here for six years this February, five years in the Village. I have worked with many, many people in the Village on all sorts of projects — these relationships are very helpful in a small town like ours.

How has the Kenyon community influenced you? Kenyon is of course the reason I live here. My husband is Kyle Henderson '80, director of de-

velopment and planned giving. Kenyon's activities and the Kenyon community make the Village of Gambier what it is, but Kenyon also wouldn't be the same without the Village, if you can follow that. I advocate an independent but strong, positive relationship between the two.

How will your work in this position affect Kenyon students? A great Gambier, on solid financial ground with good services, clearly benefits Kenyon students in all kinds of ways because those things benefit the institution of Kenyon College.



COURTESY OF KENYON COLLEGE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Three members of the Kenyon community, Professor Emeritus Kirk Emmert, College Historian Thomas Stamp and longtime BFEC-supporter Doug McLarnan, are all running for local office this year.

The Issues

1. Proposed Ohio Constitutional Amendment: "To increase the maximum age at which a person may be elected or appointed judge [from 70 to 75], to eliminate the authority of the General Assembly to establish courts of conciliation, and to eliminate the authority of the Governor to appoint a Supreme Court Commission."

Newspapers including the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, *Toledo Blade* and *Akron Beacon Journal* have endorsed the amendment; the *Athens News* as well as the Ohio Democratic Party oppose it.

2. Referendum on Senate Bill 5: "Referendum on new law relative to government union contracts and other government employment contracts and policies." A vote of yes supports S.B. 5; a vote of no opposes S.B. 5.

S.B. 5 has been highly controversial in Ohio. "Supporters say the law is vital to curb labor's power and to hold down state

and local compensation costs during an era of increasing budget deficits. But opponents ... say the law unfairly scapegoats public employees, and weakens unions," according to the *New York Times*. The *Cleveland Plain-Dealer* and the *Columbus Dispatch* endorse the bill (while admitting its flaws); the *Toledo Blade*, *Akron Beacon Journal* and *Athens News* oppose it. Ohio Gov. John Kasich supports the bill; President Barack Obama, the Ohio Democratic Party and the Kenyon Democrats oppose it.

3. Proposed Ohio Constitutional Amendment: "To preserve the freedom of Ohioans to choose their health care and health care coverage."

This amendment would affect Ohio's implementation of the national Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2009 that was signed by President Obama. The amendment contradicts a key provision of the health care law — the individual mandate — by stating that "In Ohio, no law or rule shall compel, directly or indirectly, any person, employer, or health care provider

to participate in a health care system." In essence, voting yes on the amendment opposethe Affordable Care Act, and voting no on the amendment supports the Affordable Care Act. Many Ohio newspapers oppose the amendment, as do the Ohio Democratic Party and the League of Women Voters.

4. The ballot also includes two tax levies, the text of which is below.

"Shall a levy renewing an existing levy be imposed by Mount Vernon City School District for the purpose of providing for the emergency requirements of the school district in the sum of \$846,000 and a levy of taxes ... which amounts to \$0.138 for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for a period of five years?"

"A replacement of a tax for the benefit of College Township for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, appliances, buildings, [etc.] ... at a rate ... which amounts to \$0.40 for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for five years."

— David Hoyt

What's your previous experience? I've been a trustee for 12 years, and previously when I lived in the village. I spent a couple of terms on the village council.

What's the biggest issue facing this position? It's undoubtedly maintaining our

Although the Collegian could not meet with Stamp to discuss his race, we wanted to include his responses. He gave us permission to use these answers, which were previously submitted to the Mount Vernon News.

Previous experience: Three previous terms on Gambier Village Council. I also serve on Gambier Planning and Zoning Commission.

What's the biggest issue facing your position: Like many other communities, Gambier has an aging infrastructure. This has been especially problematic with regard to water loss, but it

fire service, and possibly maintaining the independence of our township. Financially, we're in very good shape at the moment. We've been really careful with the money.

What strengths do you bring to this position? In this particular township, one of the strengths I have is the knowledge of how the fire department works. I've been in gover-

nance and local efforts to improve the community virtually since I've come back to town after the army, after college.

How will your work in this position affect Kenyon or Kenyon students? We see ourselves as a filter, to keep this a rural community. Maintaining the community atmosphere that we have is one of the biggest things.

also extends to our parks, sidewalks and streets. We are also faced with trying to maintain a healthy balance of commercial, educational, and residential areas and interests in the village.

How would you address this issue: We need to continue efforts to control water loss, and to research and implement new ones. As our budgets permit, we also need to build sidewalks throughout the village; deal with maintenance, safety, and traffic problems on our streets; and continue to develop our parks, with special attention to refurbishing athletic fields and playgrounds.

What strengths would you bring to the position:

My previous experiences as a member of Village Council and the Planning and Zoning Commission have given me a thorough knowledge of the Village's assets and liabilities. As a twenty-seven-year resident of Gambier, I have an awareness of the interests of the many different constituencies within our small population.

Other ideas/plans: I hope to bring to fruition the Village Council's plans to install trash and recycling containers in highly trafficked areas throughout the Village, and to begin to develop a nine-acre village-owned parcel in the southeast corner of Gambier into a new park.

Kimmell

Local Schools and Children Deserve Our Support

In next week's election, a renewal levy for Mount Vernon City schools will be up for vote. This funding is essential to the future of these schools and the children who attend them. We at the *Collegian* believe all voters should support this levy.

Kenyon students often debate whether or not they have the right to vote in an area where they do not pay taxes, but local schools affect the College's future as well as the lives of full-time citizens. The current state of local schools will seriously hinder the College's ability to attract potential faculty members. No parents want to move to an area where they know their children will receive a sub-par education. Kenyon students are lucky enough to attend a school with excellent academics, arts programs and faculty. The elementary and high school students we learn and live beside deserve the same.

If only for four years, Kenyon students are a part of this community. We become a part of local children's lives every time we hold kid-friendly events or volunteer at Wiggin Street Elementary School. Whether we like it or not, we are role models for children who grow up in this area. It's easy to get caught up with academics, sports, music and other extracurricular activities, but these kids deserve our attention, too. It's not enough to simply be present — we need to show them that their futures matter to us. Kenyon students are rarely shy about their opinions, and the future of local schools should not be an exception.

Furthermore, both the College and the community at large should support an increase in funding for local schools if and when it appears on the ballot. Part of the reason we were admitted to Kenyon is that many of us attended high schools where we were able to grow academically and free to participate in extracurricular activities without worrying about hefty fees. Imagine how your high school experience would have suffered if you lacked basic services like a bus to school and had to pay \$200 for every sport, musical group or club you joined. Local schools should help, not hinder, the ability of students to get into colleges like Kenyon, but they cannot be effective without funding.

Twenty-Five Feet is Far Enough: Student Council Should Stub Out Smoking Ban



SAM COLT

I smoke. I don't smoke cigarettes. I smoke loose tobacco from a pipe and I enjoy it. I'm not living in a fantasy world; I understand the health risks and I'm aware that smoking affects those around me.

The Campus Senate is currently debating a smoking ban for the entire campus that would go into effect in 2016. The preamble clauses of the proposed ban can be distilled into three main points:

- Smoking is bad for your health, and the College should promote healthy behavior.
- Smoking and smokers negatively affect nonsmokers with secondhand smoke.
- Smoking is an unfortunate blight on a widely acclaimed beautiful campus.

On the first point, I think a ban on smoking represents the College overreaching into student life. As a Community Advisor for a hall of first years, I am concerned with encouraging healthy behavior among my residents. But I am aware that they will make their own choices, regardless of what I tell them, and that's okay. If a student chooses to begin smoking in college, they do so knowing the potential consequences. Like smoking, drinking is an activity with definite short- and long-term health risks, but these risks are common knowledge.

The resolution's second clause reads, "The Goals and Objectives

of the College include the provision of an environment that is aesthetically conducive to study and is safe and secure." Here, the resolution implies that smoking is an aesthetic danger to studying and that it endangers the safety and security of the student body. Neither of these is true. How does smoking directly affect studying? The second point is an issue of sensationalist writing; smoking is not a security threat, just a minor health risk to nonsmokers. Most nonsmokers view smoking as an annoyance, because smokers usually congregate outside the library.

I would never argue that secondhand smoke isn't a health risk. I would, however, question just how much of a health risk it is. How often do you encounter secondhand smoke on campus? I doubt it's very often. Smoking has been correlated to a laundry

list of terrible cardiovascular, oral and other diseases. But the studies that suggest this focus on long-term habitual smokers. The same research has also indicated that occasional smokers are not that much more likely to develop smoking-related disease than nonsmokers.

It comes down to exposure. The population of Kenyon students who smoke is so small that exposure to nonsmokers is limited and does not pose severe danger. One study suggests that it takes about 20 pack-years (that is, for a smoker to smoke one pack of cigarettes a day for about 20 years) before a smoker will be likely to develop cardiovascular disease. Similarly, occurrences of lung cancer in nonsmokers are rare.

I think this problem falls to the smoking community at Kenyon. Smokers can be more cognizant of how they affect others and do everything possible to avoid bothering nonsmokers. If the administration allows us to continue smoking at Kenyon, they should hold us to this standard. Those who disregard others' health don't deserve to smoke and smear the reputation of considerate smokers who consciously attempt to mitigate the effects of secondhand smoke.

As for the third point, the notion that smokers blemish Kenyon's campus is misleading,

ernment and the administration are capable of fixing both of these problems. I also agree with Linda Dactyl, who wrote a column in an earlier issue of the *Collegian* ("25 Feet Rule Nonexistent," 10.13.11) about the "25 foot rule," a nonexistent section of the Ohio code that has thus far been falsely leveraged against the smoking community.

The strongest argument against a smoking ban is the difficulty of enforcement. Would Campus Safety be required to patrol the campus for lone smokers outside? Surely doing so would detract from other vital duties of Safety and the College. Smokers would move onto Village property, where the ban would not apply.

Furthermore, the proposed policy of deducting a housing point from those caught smoking is harsh and unreasonable. This consequence would put a student at the bottom of their class for housing selection.

Another frustrating loophole of the resolution is its lack of impact on staff or faculty, who could smoke at their leisure after the ban's implementation. Surely this double standard would create undue tension between faculty and students and strain the relationship between the student body and the administration.

We don't have to incur the consequences of a smoking ban. Instead, we should take the productive elements of the resolution and move forward with a new resolution that mitigates the impact on the smoking community without casting them out of the Kenyon community. The College should make smoking cessation resources available. We can even emphasize the health risks to incoming first years. But what we shouldn't do is ban smoking outright.

"We don't have to incur the consequences of a smoking ban. Instead, we should take the productive elements of the resolution and move forward with a new resolution that mitigates the impact on the smoking community without casting them out of the community."

Quick Complaints

"My pen was out of ink, but I solved that problem."
Bella Stachowski '13

"I counted 23 Asian beetles in my room."
Becky Gorin '14

"I'm frustrated that SMAs still don't have proper funding — any funding."
Monty Clark '13

"I wish AVI would post an accurate menu online, slash have grilled cheese and tomato soup all the time."
Jennifer Quach '12

"The general scene."
Nicholas Alimam '14

"The library needs better Internet service. And everyone needs to shut up."
Adrienne Glascock '14

"It's never, ever warm enough."
Yukiha Maruyama '12

"My hall smells literally like shit."
Sam Del Rowe '15

"Wiz Khalifa ... he sucks."
Armand Hernandez '15

the Kenyon Collegian

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The opinions page is a space for members of the community to discuss issues relevant to the campus and the world at large. The opinions expressed on this page belong only to the writer. Columns and letters to the editors do not reflect the opinions of the *Collegian* staff. All members of the community are welcome to express opinions through a letter to the editor.

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

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In Response to “Between the Sheets”

On Oct. 20, 2011, the *Collegian* published “The Importance of Asking: A New Definition of Consent,” followed by “Between the Sheets, Communication is a Two-Way Street” on Oct. 27. Below, the campus community responds.

Consent May Be Complicated, But Anyone Can Remember to Ask

The anonymous author of the Oct. 20 article “The Importance of Asking: A New Definition of Consent” responds to last week’s “Between the Sheets,” citing College policy and clarifying her situation.

Readers should be aware that this article uses explicit language to discuss the issue of sexual assault.

First of all, I want to thank the author of “Between the Sheets, Communication is a Two-Way Street” for taking the time to read about my experience and formulate a response to it. Truly, it meant a lot to me. Part of the reason I wrote the original article was because I did not know how to feel about Kenyon’s definition of rape.

Seeing arguments for the other side of this controversy is useful for me, because they help sort out my own beliefs. I would also like to acknowledge that “Between the Sheets” was based on the vague descriptions I gave in my first article.

Here, I endeavor to shed more light on my situation, and I want to stress that I do not fault

the author for drawing any inaccurate conclusions from the ambiguous nature of my original piece. Nor do I fault her if she continues to stick by the conclusions she drew in the first place.

As it stands, I still am not sure what my opinions are, but let me clarify some things. “Between the Sheets” takes issue with Kenyon’s definition of rape on the grounds

Kenyon’s policy makes it quite clear that both partners are responsible for obtaining consent, but:

“In situations where one student clearly is the initiator of sexual activity and the other student is clearly the responder, then a greater burden falls on the initiator of the sexual act(s) to ensure that verbal consent has been granted by the re-

unreasonable. I also don’t think this policy in any way deprives a woman of her right to speak up.

Kenyon’s Sexual Misconduct Policy (which I highly recommend reading) repeatedly encourages open dialogue and stresses that consent can be withdrawn at any point. As far as I can tell, obtaining explicit verbal consent does not unfairly shift the burden of responsibility, nor does it belittle a woman’s right to say ‘yes’ or ‘no’. It simply ensures beyond a reasonable doubt that both parties are okay with what is going on.

The author of “Between the Sheets” also argues that if you aren’t capable of saying ‘no’, you shouldn’t be having sex in the first place. This I want to address very carefully. I think it is an excellent point. Looking at a situation like mine, it is very easy to wonder why I didn’t just say ‘no’.

I slept with this guy for nearly a year — why on earth did I stay silent for that long? How can I hold him to such standards when I lacked the maturity to express what I was feeling?

And how can anyone call me a victim of rape when there are women so much braver than I, stronger than I, who did speak up and were assaulted anyway? It is easy to conclude that a person in my position just isn’t mature, comfortable or communicative enough to be having sex. But I don’t think that’s the case.

I’ve had a lot of sex. I’ve been sexually active on a regular basis since I was 17. I can say quite happily that all of my sexual relationships (whether with boyfriends or one-night stands) have been pretty healthy. I’ve had consensual sex with and without explicit verbal acknowledgement. I have asked for consent. I have given consent. I have said “no” before without any hesitation.

But the situation I addressed in my first article was different. I felt powerless — something I was totally unaccustomed to. I’d ask him to use a condom and he’d ignore me. I’d tell him I was sad or tired or out of it and he’d

We must all learn to live with our decisions, but we shouldn’t have to learn how to live with abuse.

My interest in Kenyon’s policy does not stem from my desire to get former sex partners

“Believe me, I’ve had sex and regretted it afterwards. But I would never accuse someone of rape just because I was embarrassed to look at them in Peirce the next morning.”

have sex with me anyway. He’d invite me over “just to talk” and I would end up sore and crying. I felt disregarded.

Perhaps I felt that even if I said “no,” nothing would change. Does that exempt me from blame? No. I am a coward. I didn’t speak up. I didn’t leave. I don’t know why. Maybe, as the author of “Between the Sheets” suggests, this was just a really unhealthy relationship.

But *it felt like rape*. I cannot quantify it. I cannot prove it. And, honestly, I cannot bring myself to charge him outright. I tried to express that in my first article. Calling someone a rapist (such a heavy, heavy word) seems wrong when the rape itself is so hard to define.

Many men — perhaps rightly so — express concern about explicit verbal consent policies because they seem to give a woman the license to lay blame on a partner if she regrets having sex with him at any point in time.

I hope those accusations aren’t as common as that argument makes them seem. Believe me, I’ve had sex and regretted it afterwards. But I would never accuse someone of rape just because I was embarrassed to look at them in Peirce the next morning. That sort of behavior is reprehensible and immature.

in trouble. I wrote to the *Collegian* because when I came across the concept of explicit verbal consent, it struck a chord in me. I realized that if more people knew about asking for consent, experiences like mine would be less common.

I am certain that if he had asked, I would have said no. It seems a silly distinction to make, but if I had been asked for my consent — not just expected to fight back on my own — I would not have given it. And I might not have been raped.

The relationship that started this debate felt sinister. I felt like a victim. I felt violated and hurt and utterly empty. But how do you account for those feelings in policy-making? How was that experience measurably different from the other times I’ve had sex? Who the hell am I to accuse someone of rape when I cannot produce any sort of hard evidence to support that accusation?

This is the problem with the explicit verbal consent movement. I hope very much that eventually it won’t be a problem, because asking for consent every step of the way will be a universal practice. But right now it is a problem, and I don’t have a solution.

Except that you ask. Please. Ask.

From the Collegian

Last week, we published “Between the Sheets, Communication is a Two-Way Street” (Oct. 27, 2011), written by Holly Anderson, a response to “The Importance of Asking: A New Definition of Consent” (Oct. 20), a narrative of acquaintance rape written by an anonymous survivor.

Some of the negative response to this article, reflected in the letters printed on the following pages, has centered on our decision to publish it in the first place. The *Collegian*’s opinion section has always served as an open forum for the community, and we moderate articles only for obscenity and factual inaccuracy. Holly Anderson’s article contained neither of these, and we stand by our decision to publish it. Though we edit the grammar of opinions pieces, we keep original language to preserve authorial intent.

This article hurt many survivors of sexual assault. For this, we are sorry.

In the coming weeks, we will consult experts on journalistic ethics and develop a clear, consistent policy to address such matters should they arise in the future. We have already discussed placing disclaimers on articles with the potential to distress some readers.

We hope our efforts will help restore any lost faith in this paper. Thank you for your continued readership.

Respectfully,

Rosalyn Aquila ’14
Caleb Bissinger ’13
Elizabeth Brand ’12
Sam Colt ’14
Marika Garland ’12

David Hoyt ’14
Sarah Kahwash ’14
Spencer Kaye ’14
David McCabe ’14
Erin Mershon ’12

Mara Pottersmith ’12
Ben Ros ’14
August Steigmeyer ’12
Lauren Toole ’14
Nina Zimmerman ’14

As always, the *Collegian* will accept letters to the editor until midnight on the Sunday preceding publication. Our formal policy can be found on our masthead on Page 4.

Letters to the Editors

This week, the *Collegian* received 11 letters to the editor. We have printed them in the order in which they were received.

To the Editor —

While I applaud the *Collegian* for upholding the right to free discourse and dialogue by publishing “Between The Sheets, Communication Is A Two-Way Street,” I was appalled by the sentiments the article expressed. Although the author claims she agrees with an increase in the practice of verbal consent, it seems she does not actually feel this way, as she implies that both “what your body tells” your sexual partner and “your body ending up in his dorm room” are acceptable replacements for consent. In fact, neither sexual arousal nor the agreement to go back to someone’s room represent permission for sexual activity of any kind. The flippant discussion of “double standards” between men and women completely ignores the fact that the overwhelming majority of rapists are men, while simultaneously ignoring that many victims of rape are themselves men.

Most importantly, it is not Ms. Anderson’s right to “acknowledge [the initial piece’s author]’s experience as rape,” as it is entirely up to the victim of sexual assault to define the experience for herself. It is astonishingly disrespectful that Ms. Anderson felt the need to publish an article dedicated to taking away the victim’s right to name her own experience and heal herself, and I hope that she will continue to learn and think about rape culture and consent at Kenyon and in our culture at large.

—Beth Hyland ’13

Dear *Collegian* Editors,

I was excited when I read the headline of this week’s editorial, “Between the Sheets, Communication is a Two-Way Street.” Yes, it is! Both partners should communicate what they want and what they are comfortable doing. Then I read on, and my excitement turned to anger. The writer seems to believe that mere presence in someone’s dorm room constitutes consent to

any and all sexual activities, and that if a victim fails to kick and scream and yell, “Rape!” then no rape has occurred. This writer is subscribing to the model victim fallacy — the belief that all rape victims behave a certain way, and that if they don’t behave that way, it wasn’t rape.

I can only assume this writer did not attend the Take Back the Night Speak Out. If she had, she would have heard stories of men and women who experienced all kinds of sexual assault, and who almost all felt that they couldn’t, for whatever reason, say no. Many described being frozen, or feeling scared for their lives, or simply feeling like, since they were already naked in someone’s bed, they had ceded all right to say no. Yes, it is important to tell people that they have the right to say no, but knowing that isn’t always enough to gather the strength to say it in the moment.

And yes, “putting all the burden on men” isn’t fair. First of all, men are not the only ones who commit rape. (For that matter, women are not the only ones who are raped.)

But more importantly, consent shouldn’t be a “burden.” Sex shouldn’t be about doing everything you can without getting sued. This principle is what enthusiastic consent is all about: rather than stopping just shy of the rape line, we should all strive to have positive sexual experiences that we and our partners enjoy together. Instead of asking if your partner “is okay with it,” ask them if they want it, and if they don’t seem that into it, stop and play Bananagrams. And despite what this misguided writer may think, if someone doesn’t respect your boundaries or even care to find out what they are, that person is an asshole, and it is not your fault.

Be nice, people.

— Eve Asher ’13

Dear Editors-in-Chief,

I’m emailing you in regards to the recent

opinion article titled “Between the Sheets, Communication is a Two-Way Street” that was published on Thursday, Oct. 27 in the *Collegian*. I’m very concerned by the fact that someone wrote this article, but also by the fact that the *Collegian* allowed it to be run the way it was written. While there were some relevant points brought up, particularly about creating a culture of open communication regarding sex and about being sexually aware, the article quickly became offensive, hurtful and misunderstood.

I feel personally attacked and extremely angered by the opinions expressed by this author. I know that I’m not alone in this regard. In a community where 23 percent of students have experienced sexual misconduct on campus and 30 percent have experienced sexual misconduct off campus, it is irresponsible to run an article this misinformed and insensitive.

The author claims that “I sympathize with your pain in allowing this to happen to yourself,” and in doing so, completely invalidates the reality of the pain that this person feels as a victim. One of the most difficult steps in recovering from instances of sexual misconduct is learning to remove the blame from the victim. In fact, many victims spend years learning to stop blaming themselves, while others are never able to do so. The pain caused by this tendency for victims to blame themselves is immense.

Psychologically speaking, sexual misconduct is a crime of control, empowering the assailant while also taking away all sense of power from the victim. Victims of sexual misconduct tend to blame themselves because it gives them a sense of control over the situation. Whether or not the victim’s experience meets this author’s definition of “rape,” she must understand that no victim of sexual misconduct is ever “complicit in an act” only to “rethink it a year later and retroactively label it

as a terrible crime.” No victim blames their perpetrator because it is “easier” than blaming themselves, because it’s not.

The author is also unclear about what constitutes coercive sexual misconduct. Coercion occurs when an assailant pressures a victim to engage in sexual acts that she is not comfortable with. This could be through the use of threat, either physical or mental, misuse of power relations or manipulation. Most commonly this occurs when an assailant asks for consent and is rejected, but continues to ask for consent until the victim agrees. The fact remains, however, that when a victim says “no,” she has not given her consent. Saying “yes” later, after being manipulated, does not constitute a valid consent.

My final complaint with this article is that the author’s words validate all that is wrong with the hookup culture. The sexual misconduct policy states: “verbal consent is given when a student clearly indicates by spoken words his or her willingness to engage in a particular form of sexual relations.” The author fails to take this into consideration when she says, “In your silence, all he knows is what your body tells him, and your body keeps willingly winding up in his dorm room.”

I know that as an SMA, a Beer and Sex Advisor and a UCC that, whoever “he” is, “he” most certainly knows more than what a woman’s body tells him. He knows what verbal consent is and he knows what “no” means, whether or not he decides to respect that. Whatever our author thinks a man or woman’s body “tells” someone is inaccurate. Our bodies don’t “tell” anything, only our voices do. And when those voices don’t say “yes,” they are saying “no.” Period.

— Julia Steinberg ’12

Let me preface this article by saying that I am a fan of the *Collegian*. *The Thrill* is a huge step in the right direction and I appreciate all the work

that goes into trying to create a trustworthy, yet thought-provoking publication.

That being said, I think publishing “Between the Sheets” in the form in which it was printed was almost inexcusable.

This article is one of the most brash and crude things that I have ever read. Who is Holly Anderson to comment on this woman’s (the author of “The Importance of Asking”) extremely personal account and then suggest that she is wrong in her interpretation of it? It is clearly spelled out in the original article that Kenyon’s policy regarding sexual assault requires consent. There was no consent in this case. This is sexual assault. This was acquaintance rape. This was rape. It doesn’t require force, just a lack of consent. Ms. Anderson is wrong. This article is telling the author that the violation and pain that she was and is currently experiencing is not valid? That is absurd. How dare she call this incredibly brave author out? She is not saying men should be totally accountable, but “just as accountable.” The author even seems to hold herself partially accountable (which I would totally disagree with as sexual assault is never the fault of the victim). According to Kenyon’s policy, the author is a victim. Anderson is attacking a victim. Classy.

The author’s choice was taken away. She was never asked if she was okay with sex. She was never given an out. The assailant acted under assumptions, not facts. Complicit does not mean consensual.

The simple point is that she feels violated (so what if it is a year later?) and she is talking about it. She sees this as an opportunity for change. She is not suggesting that all men are “rapists and idiots.” These words are taken entirely out of context.

Kenyon is trying to educate both sides here. The message is trying to get people to ask for consent, and when there is no

consent, to talk about it and figure out what went wrong. As a Beer and Sex advisor and an SMA, I try my hardest to educate the Kenyon way of doing things. But sometimes the old adage is true: you can’t teach an old dog new tricks, especially if that dog thinks he knows all the tricks in the book. We don’t get these kids in high school, or in grade school when we should be teaching these views. I believe it’s better late than never, however.

Guess what, it looks to me like the original “Importance” article is actually doing some good: did you see the Village Record? Two reported sexual assaults, both called in long before this op-ed had been published.

Clearly, Anderson doesn’t have a problem speaking out when she is uncomfortable. And should our society be a little more like her? Maybe. But that doesn’t change the fact that when an individual’s body, trust and soul feel violated, some people simply can’t bring themselves to talk about it.

Of course, with topics this sensitive there are plenty of grey areas, but I hope I got my point across. I’m not a writer, clearly, but I do think it is important that people know that this is not as simple as the anonymous author nor Holly make it out to be. Thanks for listening.

— Harry Hanson ’13

To whom it may concern,

As a member of this community, I am disappointed by the *Collegian*’s publication of the article “Between the Sheets...” While I think it is important to have a dialogue about sexual assault and/or misconduct, it is never appropriate to refute a survivor’s experience:

“I cannot acknowledge your experience as rape.”

Rape takes the choice away from consent. You had a choice. You had a choice the first time, and you had a choice every time you went back to him.”

Letters to the Editors, Continued

continued from page 6

As someone who has dedicated her time to spreading awareness about and combating sexual assault since arriving at Kenyon, I understand that not everyone has the same experiences with it.

I do not know what the author's personal experiences are, where she is writing from. From someone who deals with sexual assault on an almost daily basis (as an SMA and one of the co-chairs of Take Back the Night for the past two years), however, I feel it is ignorant and hurtful to the community at large.

With such potential for damaging survivors in their healing process, for disempowering them, it should not have been published.

Kenyon now has the opportunity to create a productive dialogue around this issue and educate the community about sexual assault and misconduct on campus. I urge the *Collegian* to address these issues and participate in the discussions that will hopefully follow. Thank you for your time.

— Rebecca Ogus '14

Dear Editors,

The article, "Between the Sheets, Communication is a Two-Way Street" published in last week's *Collegian* made me feel so disrespected and violated.

The author argues that communication is a two-way street and that girls have the same amount of responsibility to say yes or no as guys, but as an SMA and victim of sexual assault, as a friend and sister of victims of sexual assault, I say the author clearly has no idea what they are talking about.

This article is denying victims of acquaintance rape the right to call their experience rape or sexual assault, which in my opinion is abusive. Holly Anderson clearly does not understand the trauma a victim goes through. It is not that black and white.

What particularly stuck out to me was when the author said, "When two people are naked in bed together, it's fairly clear where the situation is headed."

When two people are naked in bed together, they are not consenting to sex. If a girl goes back to a guy's room, she is not giving consent to have sex. If she gets naked, she is not giving consent to have sex. If they are making out and naked in bed, she is still not giving consent to sex.

I understand the impor-

tance of communication, but I also understand how coercion can give someone a false sense of security, or convince someone to do something unwillingly, which is what happens in most situations of acquaintance/date rape. I'm not talking about a boy/girl forcing him/herself on a boy/girl, using violence or physical pressure.

Coercion carries a lot of weight that no one would understand unless they were in that situation, in bed, naked, not wanting to have sex, but being coerced, convinced that it was something they needed to do.

I understand that the author's opinions are her opinions and do not represent Kenyon or the *Collegian*; the article was extremely hurtful and abusive, however, and I think you need to be much more careful with what you include in this section. Thank you.

— Abigail Westcott '12

Dear *Collegian* staff,

This is a letter to the editor in response to "Between the Sheets." I think you are absolutely right that it is important to have an open dialogue. I am comfortable with this article being published in the paper. Thank you for your consideration.

— Leigha Grosh '12

Dear Editors-in-Chief,

I am writing with regards to the opinion piece, "Between the Sheets, Communication is a Two-Way Street" printed on Oct. 27. While I appreciate the discussion that formed in the wake of Holly Anderson's article, I find the piece itself objectionable. No one knows what happened in the relationship between Anonymous and her boyfriend, and speculation of any sort is inappropriate. Instead of targeting Anonymous, we should shift the focus to her assailant and the power structures that might have made her unwilling or unable to speak out. I will confine my discussion to a major concern I have with the article: confusion about what constitutes sexual misconduct.

Evidently, there is a great deal of bewilderment as to what sexual misconduct is. The term "sexual misconduct" refers to a lack of verbal consent from both parties during sexual relations. This can occur between a male and a female, two people of the same sex, strangers, friends and people in a relationship. The fact that Anonymous dated the boy who

raped her, or returned to him after the rape, does not annul the crime. Relationships do not protect against rape. A victim may leave a shelter or hospital to return to his or her abuser. Going back does not make future instances of abuse less of a crime. Traumatized victims frequently return to their abuser, rationalizing the situation by any means possible. This is known in psychology as the "Cycle of Abuse." Victims often blame themselves for abuse suffered at the hands of the attacker. Relieving the sense of culpability can take years of therapy. Even then, the victim may continue to blame him or herself.

In her allstu, Holly Anderson writes, "By no means do I want to perpetuate a culture of 'blaming the victim.'" Unfortunately, that may be the legacy of her article. The line "So while I sympathize with your pain in allowing this to happen to yourself, I cannot acknowledge your experience as rape" places the blame on the victim, promoting a rape culture on our campus. In our society, and specifically at Kenyon, sexual misconduct is viewed at the level of the individual. Under no circumstances does the victim's appearance, amount of alcohol consumption or sexual history justify physical assault. Rape culture is a societal issue and in no way the responsibility of the individual victims, but rather the assailants.

There is a clear misunderstanding in the article of sexual misconduct with regards to coercion. Pressure and manipulation following a "no" to a request for sex is sexual misconduct. Despite the absence of physical violence, which is often associated with rape, an abuse of power can be utilized by one party to force the other into having sex and therefore is rape. The distinction between forcible and non-forcible rape is an important one. Nevertheless both are indeed rape.

There is no doubt that Anderson's article promoted a dialogue on Kenyon's campus. I am concerned by the nature of the current debate, however. A male student approached me just yesterday saying, "I don't understand what the problem is with Anderson's article. I feel like I don't know if the first article was an instance of rape either." For students who might have been unsure of what determines sexual misconduct, Anderson's article successfully convinces them of Anonymous' culpability.

The blame is placed on the victim instead of the assailant. I hope that we can work together to correct misconceptions surrounding rape on our campus. The notion that the victim has a choice in rape is an enormous obstacle for our society.

— Emily Rhoda '12

To *The Kenyon Collegian*,

As a Sexual Misconduct Advisor (SMA) and personal friend to more than one survivor of sexual assault, I'm writing in response to Holly Anderson's "Between the Sheets, Communication is a Two-Way Street."

Anderson's language is unnecessarily pointed; her stance, uninformed. The writer begins her op-ed with this proclamation: "When two people are naked in bed together, it's fairly clear where the situation is headed." This is one of many moments, in my opinion, where Anderson falls short: she completely ignores the principle of enthusiastic consent.

Enthusiastic consent belongs to the "positive sex" campaign, encouraged, by the way, by Kenyon's annual Take Back the Night week, which traditionally involves adorning the upside-down tree with "thank-yous" for good, consensual shags. "Positive sex" celebrates what a College Candy article titled "Sexy Time: Enthusiastic Consent" calls "situations where both parties aren't just going through the motions, but are rather going into sexual activity with enthusiasm." Each partner, man or woman, is encouraged to ask questions, avoid assumptions and assess his or her partner's ability — affected, commonly, by level of sobriety — to decide what he or she truly wants in bed.

This is sexy: making 100 percent sure the other person feels as good as you do.

This past Saturday night, during Kenyon's celebration of Halloween, my roommate and I respectively disguised ourselves as Enthusiastic Consent Superhero and her sidekick, Yes Means Yes Girl. We did this not so much to respond to Anderson's op-ed as to promote awareness of the importance of communication and understanding — both verbal and non-verbal — in sexual encounters.

I hope that members of the campus community can take this opportunity to educate themselves not on how to avoid calling something "rape," per se, but on how to promote respect for each other.

From the op-ed page of the college newspaper to between the sheets, the Kenyon community can certainly do better.

— Lily Barrett '12

The campus conversation on rape is often dominated by the loudest voice in the room. We are all anxious to shout that rape is a serious crime, and we are generally fond of expressing the opinion that, as a community, we should communicate more effectively. The anonymous author published in the Oct. 20 issue gave voice to a side of the debate that we hear infrequently. I applaud her courage in this. Whoever this author may be, I will not say that I sympathize with her pain for allowing this to happen to her. I will say only that I sympathize with her pain.

Let's have this difficult conversation, Kenyon. I'm writing to encourage every one of you to speak up, but please remember who is listening. When you talk about rape here, you are speaking to an audience that contains men and women who have been raped. It contains women and men who have been assaulted and people who may not know if they have been raped. It also contains countless brothers, sisters, friends and lovers who remember the day they held someone they loved in their arms and said a thousand times that somehow, everything would one day be all right again. Speak loudly, Kenyon, but speak gently.

— Lexie Martin '12

This is not a reaction, but a response framed within the context of clarifying official Kenyon College policy as found in the Student Handbook and on the Kenyon College website. We are responding as Sexual Misconduct Advisors, whose mission states that we are "available to listen to allegations, provide information regarding policy and options, link students to appropriate resources if desired, and most importantly provide support."

Last week's article "Between the Sheets, Communication is a Two Way Street" misrepresented the policies in place on campus and what the college means by "verbal consent." The official Kenyon College Sexual Misconduct policy defines sexual assault as "when a student engages in sexual relations with another student without the person's verbal consent." This definition "includes the sexual conduct known

as rape, whether forcible or non-forcible." Further, the policy states, "Verbal consent must be given for each form of sexual relations that take place, and this consent must be given immediately before each form of sexual relations occurs. For example, a woman who consents to vaginal intercourse and cunnilingus has approved participation in these forms of sex, but she has not consented to participation in other forms of sex such as anal intercourse or fellatio." Simply put, body language and assumptions do not imply consent.

While mutual consent and openness of communication are highly important and ideal procedures, ambiguities may persist and these ambiguities were obscured further by the language of the article. Ultimately, the goal is to move forward in dialogue to a greater understanding of not just Kenyon College Sexual Misconduct Policies, but of our responsibilities as members of such a small and unique community — 22 percent of respondents to the SMA survey experienced sexual assault on Kenyon College campus and 83 percent of respondents are close to someone who has experienced sexual assault.

As a community, we need to approach sexual misconduct with the mindset that unless you are involved, you do not have the right to label experiences for other people. It would serve us well to remember Miriam Perez's speech from Take Back the Night: "Combating sexual violence is not simple, and its elimination is going to require a big picture strategy that takes into account all of the factors that contribute to its existence."

We hope that concerned students join us next week as the Sexual Misconduct Policy Review Committee and Sexual Misconduct Advisors will co-host two forums. These forums will discuss complex issues surrounding the definition of consent and victim blaming and also synthesizing the information from the SMA survey. This is in conjunction with changes in the current sexual misconduct policy, which is up for review this year. The Forum dates are Tuesday, Nov. 15, from 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. and Thursday, Nov. 17, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., both events in the Bemis Music Room.

— Charlotte Woolf '12,

Emily Rapp '12,

Callie Gruman '13

and Paul Dougherty '13

3 Presidents

When two jack-o'-lanterns were stolen from the porch of Cromwell Cottage, then-President Phillip Jordan got even.

"[The thief] joined a fraternity," Jordan said, "and as part of [his] hazing [his brothers] blindfolded him, took him out into the country, drove him around and brought him into Cromwell Cottage. [They] took the blindfold off and I said, 'Aha, the pumpkin thief!'"

His successor, President Robert Oden, shared fond memories of living at the heart of campus.

"If you want to be a part of a college you want to be a part of the college, so we liked living in the middle of it," he said.

But despite its charms, the cottage lacked privacy and attracted nocturnal visitors. "There were lots and lots of bats, so I would often be caught with a fishing net — I'd be walking outside with a bat and see students," he said.

Students, too, made nighttime visits. "There are things that are done on the porch. That's all I'm gonna say," he said.

The job came with other perks. "One of the great things about being a Kenyon president when I was here was you got to hang out with Paul Newman, like all the time," Oden said. "He used to call me

2002, joined S. Georgia Nugent for a series of events.

Nugent was quick to praise her predecessors.

"If we are in a good place today, it is certainly a case of standing on the shoulders of giants," she said in a Monday night panel in the Gund Gallery's Community Theater.

But the three presidents didn't always lead Kenyon in the same direction.

Jordan, who entered office shortly after the college went co-educational, worked to fully integrate the campus. "There was a very male atmosphere," he said of his early years as president.

"That could be discouraging, so trying to move away from that towards full inclusion and full opportunity was a very important thing to do."

As president, he also oversaw the establishment of new interdisciplinary departments like Women's and Gender and American Studies.

Oden, who developed the Philander Chase Corporation, worked to preserve Kenyon's vast land holdings. A gifted fundraiser, he led a \$116,000,000 capital campaign that spurred campus-wide construction that has carried into Nugent's administration.

When asked about her accomplishments as president, Nugent said, "In my mind, it is not the buildings." She pointed to the Gund Gallery and Horvitz Art Center as physical manifestations of her dedica-

tion to the arts, but she cited improved quality of life for students, faculty and staff as the chief source of her presidential pride.

Her Kenyon career is still unfolding, but Nugent will likely be remembered for establishing the Presidential Advisory Communications Team (PACT), which first facilitated communication between administrators and employees at a time when buildings came at

the expense of staff salaries. Her other laurels include her time on the Amethyst Initiative, a coalition of over 100 college presidents working to lower the drinking age.

Despite their reluctance to be labeled brick-and-mortar presidents, these leaders reshaped the campus more than almost all of their predecessors. Of all the academic and residential buildings along Middle Path, more than half have been constructed or altered during the last three administrations.

Much of that building took place during Oden's presidency. Professor Emeritus of English Perry Lentz, for whom 2008's Lentz House is named, said, "He reenlisted the enthusiasm of Graham Gund, a graduate of the college in 1963."

Jordan and his predecessor, William Caples, worked to bring the college out of debt. The new financial stability enabled Oden's enthusiasm for construction. "[Oden] taught us that we had been penny wise, and that had been necessary," Lentz said, "but [that] it's possible to be penny wise at the expense of showing the pride and enthusiasm one has in an institution."

Oden discovered Gund during a visit to Mt. Holyoke College. He made a note of Gund's architecture, discovered he was an alumnus and enlisted him to design Storer Hall, the Eaton Center and the science quad.

"I think he's the best architect in America," Oden said in an interview this week. Oden, who left Kenyon to become president of Carleton College, has spent the past few years accrediting similar liberal arts colleges across the country. Kenyon, he said, "has the finest facilities of any undergraduate college in America. Swarthmore and Williams may have more money per student, but these are the best [buildings] right now."

Jordan was more reserved in his assessment of the campus' new look. "Graham Gund is a most distinguished architect," he said. "I think that he does good contextual architecture. That is, architecture in a particular setting where there is a relationship among the building that he does and the things around and the landscape around."

"My own view is that good

architecture changes lives," Jordan added.

"Good architecture enhances the life of students and faculty. And it's a dimension of your education." But he noted that new architecture, especially on a campus that worships tradition, can be hotly debated. "There is often controversy about something that is a little different [than] what they had before, and concern about 'is this a break with tradition?'" he

In my mind, it is not the buildings.

S. Georgia Nugent on her legacy.

said.

Jordan's most prominent addition to campus, the Olin Library, came under fire from his successors on Monday night.

When moderator Mark Ellis, news director of public affairs, asked, "Do you see the Olin Library being altered in a significant way in the near future?" Nugent said, "I wish."

"Our library has not yet entered that era of being a welcoming, warm, exciting kind of space that many other colleges are managing," she added.

Elsewhere in the program, the presidents failed to find common ground.

When asked about the Bookstore, Jordan and Oden supported its maintenance as central to the character of the campus.

Nugent was less keen to lend her support. "Independent bookstores are not surviving," she said. "So it's unclear to me what the Bookstore should be or should become. A part of me would like to see, if we had the resources, our library become more a center of intellectual energy and gathering."

Oden wondered in a later interview if it wasn't time to slow the building trend he started and put a new library on hold. "It's got to be time soon to stop building and get more money for financial aid and the like," he said.

That business of getting more money has become a primary task for the liberal arts president. "Any president has to be a fundraiser," Lentz said. But despite raising nearly \$400 million between them, all three presidents cautioned the rising cost of college as a threat to Ken-

nyon and similar institutions.

The problem may not be new, Jordan said. "Over the course of my time here, from time to time, we said, 'We can't possibly raise the tuition more than \$15,000 dollars. People won't be able to pay it.' So we have faced this notion of a critical threshold before," he said.

None of these presidents served at Kenyon without controversy.

Much of that controversy

arose from academic decisions.

"Out of Jordan's wonderful presidency, the thing that I'm struck by is something that I don't think many people recognize, because it doesn't involve bricks and mortar," Lentz said.

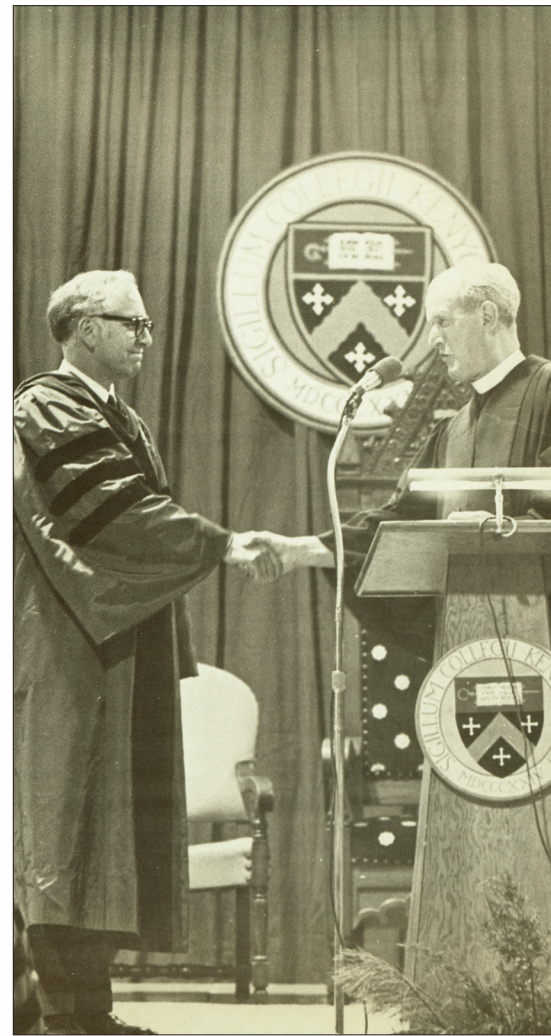
"In 1976, or so, [Jordan] challenged the faculty in an address that he entitled, 'The Lectern and the Lamp.' And he said the faculty here was superb at the lectern in the class but were neglecting the lamp, their presentation of their work to the wider world, their research."

This issue was picked up by Jordan's successor, Oden picked up this issue who some professors believe be sent the pendulum too far in the direction of publication. Professor of English William Klein, who has been at the college since the '60s, said Oden informed the faculty, "Now, at this point we can see that ... the quality of your teaching is the quality of your scholarship and there's nothing else outside of that," Klein said.

"The whole issue that is repeatedly pronounced is publish or perish," Professor Emeritus of Psychology Charles Rice said of latter years of his tenure here. "It isn't an either/or. You can publish and you can teach and you can do both well."

When asked about additions they'd like to make to the curriculum, the presidents gave answers that reflected their administrative agendas. Oden called for more shared reading across disciplines, a wink at the purest liberal arts institution, Plato's academy.

"History matters at Kenyon because Kenyon matters to history," Oden said, pointing



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: President S. Georgia Nugent at her inauguration. President Phillip Jordan teaches a seminar in Cromwell Cottage. Nugent welcomes Sen. John Kerry, Kenyon's 2005 commencement speaker. President Robert Oden delivers a speech at his inauguration. Oden runs through Gambier with students. Jordan at his inauguration. Jordan speaks with students at a picnic.

to the noted alumni the small school has produced, many at a time when the college enforced a stronger core curriculum.

Nugent, who has championed the arts, spoke of her desire to incorporate the study of design in the curriculum. "Design conceived as everything from the beautiful to how do cities and populations work," she said. "I think there is a very interesting field out there that is increasingly broad and meaningful and might cohere with our sense of humanity here at Kenyon."

Jordan and Oden may have something to say about the

College's future, but they won't be back to visit anytime soon.

"I love this place, but you

Jordan echoed the sentiment. "My wife Sheila and I are very grateful for the 20 years we

One of the great things about being a Kenyon president when I was here was you got to hang out with Paul Newman, like all the time.

Robert Oden

really, really, really want to stay out of your successor's way," Oden said. "I don't want Georgia to think, 'Well, Rob's lurking behind that building. What's he thinking?'"

had here, but we've moved on," he said. "Life is lived in stages. Yes, I look back with pleasure, but then again I'm doing other things and they're very rich and great."

"I don't miss what I had to do day-to-day," he said. "I miss the contact that I had with young people to think about what kind of educational setting do we need best for the lives that you will lead."

Oden defines the liberal arts as "beginning to think seriously about what it means to lead a worthwhile life," and he applied that definition as he led Kenyon. President Nugent is still working to establish the perfect academy. So will her successor.

"We all follow the fallacy that the College has reached its absolute peak when we

were there," Jordan said. Coming back, he knows the College grew immensely under his leadership, and continued to grow after his departure. Still, something about the place has endured since long before his time.

"The whole sense you have of the campus when you stand at the gates," he said, "it is really that that to me is the experience of Kenyon." From president to president, the path to the future remains to be paved.

Additional reporting by David McCabe and Erin Mershon.

Phillip Jordan

on my birthday, 'Hey, Rob ... you're another day older. You were never worth anything, you never will be.' He just gave me a good-natured hard time." Oden added, "[Newman] is the only extraordinarily famous, extraordinarily wealthy person I'd ever met who is completely authentic and not the slightest bit a jerk."

This week, Jordan, who served from 1975-1995, and Oden, president from 1995-

From Gambier to Mongolia: Teaching English for the Peace Corp

JANIE SIMONTON

Imagine trading your apartment single for a tent in the Gobi desert, 7,000 miles across the world. It was an exciting choice for Rob Galloway '09, who now works for the Peace Corps as a TOEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) teacher in Mongolia.

Galloway didn't graduate from Kenyon with the specific goal of joining the Peace Corps, but it was his best option.

"I knew I wanted to travel after graduation for a while, and I ... explored a bunch of English teaching opportunities," Galloway said. "I applied to a couple of different options immediately upon graduation, [and] Peace Corps was the one that got back to me the fastest, which was about a year after graduation. That's when I finally left."

Stationed in the Gobi Desert in south central Mongolia, Galloway's job primarily involves teaching English to Mongolian children.

"They have a really high demand for English teachers [in Mongolia]; they're very eager on a national level to learn English, so there are lots of TOEFL volunteers," said Galloway, who teaches at the local township high school. "My usual day is classes in the morning from 8:00-1:00 for secondary school kids, and then ... after that the primary students come, and I also teach English to fourth and fifth-graders, so I have classes in the afternoon as well."

In an effort to leave a stronger impact, Galloway has adjusted the teaching program he uses since he arrived in Mongolia 17 months ago.

Though Galloway spent his first year teaching alone, "this year, in an effort to kind of make my work here a little more sustainable, I started teaching with a Mongolian coun-

terpart and trying to develop their methodology in English skills," Galloway said. "[I'm] hoping that, after I leave, they'll be able to be more effective teachers because they will have either picked up some extra English language ability or some classroom ethics [and] ideas."

Galloway bridged the initial Mongolian-English language barrier through a training program in which all the volunteers took part. He learned Mongolian in a three-month intensive language program that began as soon as he arrived in the country, so he could better communicate with the children he would be teaching.

"The first three months of [the] Peace Corps are in-country training, so you live with a host family for three months; you do intensive language instruction, and you're with about ten or twelve other volunteers living in the same town, but you're all living with separate host families," Galloway said. "There [are also] technical sessions, which are training you to be a better teacher of ESL [English as a Second Language]. So, Peace Corps does a pretty successful job of training their volunteers in the language. At this point, I'm certainly not fluent, [but] I can hold a conversation."

In addition to learning a new language, Galloway said he was forced to take on an entirely different skill set in Mongolia than the one he practiced at Kenyon, although he found some unexpected similarities.

"There's nothing that can adequately prepare you for something like [the Peace Corps], because it's just so different [from what you're used to]. Do I find myself using skills I practiced at Kenyon every day? No. I'm not writing analytical essays," Galloway said. "To keep my sanity here, I have to find little projects and ideas to work on, just for myself, that



COURTESY OF ROB GALLOWAY

A traditional Mongolian yurt, or ger. Most Mongolians have lived in gers since Genghis Khan, according to Galloway.

I find personally stimulating and interesting, whether that's reading or writing or any of the other sorts of things. It's like a second liberal arts education. I live in the traditional Mongolian circular tent, so I have a lot of time by myself, spare time on my hands, so I'm reading a lot, and I'd say Kenyon prepared me to cope with the down time [and gave me] things to think about."

Not only has Galloway learned to adjust to a different workload since leaving Kenyon and going to Mongolia, but he has also realized the implications of living in a culture where he was the majority. He now better understands the implications of being a representative minority and how much influence one person can have.

"[I've] become far more realistic about one person's impact. When coming up against ... culture or ... 2,000 years of history, you name it, you get very good at picking your battles and learning your own limits," Galloway said. "Every time I step outside my door, I am a representa-

tive, for better or worse, of everything American, because I'm the only one here. It's been a very valuable experience for me, learning what [I'm] actually capable of and just how much [I] can handle."

Galloway doesn't think joining the Peace Corps has hindered his chance in the job market.

"I don't really feel the pinch of not immediately pursuing a job right after college," Galloway said. "Especially because, selfishly, I think employers and grad schools look fairly positively to the Peace Corps ... [which] gives me comfort to think that I'm not sacrificing career development by doing something I really want to do."

Although Galloway is unsure if the work he is doing now will impact him in the future, he is open to the possibility.

"Well ... it's ... an interesting situation, because Mongolia's a gigantic country with less than three million people in it, so how many people actually speak this language? Not many. It's not like learning Mandarin Chinese or something," Galloway

said. "Who knows how Mongolia is going to interact with my future. ... It is a country in transition, absolutely, right now, which is really cool, so, I suppose, it could have an impact on my future, but I just don't know how."

If he could give any advice to current Kenyon students looking to join the Peace Corps, Galloway said, "start [the application] early," "be flexible" and join for the right reasons.

"I don't think you should join the Peace Corps to test your limits," he said. "I think you'll find that's not something that's going to sustain you when you get 10, 12 [or] 13 months in, and you're like, 'Okay, I've done this for a year; why do I need to do it again?' Maybe if that's the original reason you got into it, that'll change and grow, but [make sure you're committed]."

More of Galloway's thoughts about the Peace Corps, finding sanity and adjustment to being 7,000 miles from home can be found on his blog, *SonoftheMidwestintheFarEast.wordpress.com*.

Finding Zen: Students, Faculty Meditate at Buddhist House



COURTESY OF JACK WHITACRE

Zac Zaremba '12 and Andrew Tripodo '12 demonstrate meditation.

JULIE FRANCE

On a campus where alcohol themed events are so popular, it takes a pretty remarkable group to earn the title of "club that holds the largest non-alcoholic events." Created in the spring of 2011 by five seniors, Andrew Tripodo, Jack Whitacre, Nikolas Tun, Noel Weeks and Zac Zaremba, the Buddhist Society recently received club status from Kenyon's Student Life Committee. The five co-founders are also on Kenyon's Board of Re-

ligious and Spiritual Life.

The friends had all shown interest in meditation and Buddhism and were "looking for a way to help the community," Zaremba said. They saw poorly-organized meditation groups around them failing, according to Tripodo, and wanted to create a successful meditation group that "had a central location like Acland 107C" and that "[cultivated] community," he said.

More than 50 people attended the first meditation of this year. "It was such a crowd that we had to

move the meditation to the Horn Gallery," Tun said. Since then, each meditation has attracted a fair crowd: about 25 for each session.

The Buddhist Society holds meditation every Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. and Saturday at 2:00 p.m. at Acland 107C. The five founders rotate leading each meditation. Once all attendees arrive and settle on their floor cushions in lotus or Indian style, the session starts with a quote for reflection. From there, the leader hits a gong twice to symbolize the start of the meditation, and then twice again to bring minds back from meditation. The actual meditation usually lasts for 20 minutes. The leaders highly recommend, however, that attendees stay afterwards to chat over fragrant tea.

Though the meditations are regular, the society also hosts special events such as a barbecue at the BFEC and varied styles of meditation. Such forms of meditation include walking, laughing, massage and drawing. The society also hopes to earn funding for an upcoming didgeridoo meditation

that will creatively use the indigenous Australian wind instrument to help facilitate meditation. Tun said that while all of these forms of meditation are quite unique, meditation "is about your state of mind." Thus, the different forms all have the same outcome.

The club includes students as well as faculty. Professor Joseph Adler of Asian Studies and Religious Studies and Assistant Professor of Cultural Anthropology Sam Pack have both attended sessions. In fact, the society has garnered so much respect that the Health and Counseling Center sent the group an email of gratitude.

On Oct. 29, the Gund Gallery opened a collection of 21st century re-imagings of medieval Buddhist poems in images and words called *Oxherding*. To celebrate and soak in the beauty of this art, the society encourages all of its members to see the collection and even meditate in the gallery if possible.

Lama Kathy Wesley of Columbus' Karma Thegsum Chöling Meditation Center is coming to Kenyon in the near future to give a talk as well as meditate with the

group. Wesley took an astonishing three-year vow of silence in one of the most social places on Earth, upstate New York.

As for future goals, the Buddhist Society aims to retain themed housing for five years in Acland 107C so that they can eventually have division housing. In addition, the club wants to plan a trip to a Columbus monastery to meditate. However, "everything depends on budgeting," Tun said, "Money is very hard to get."

Though money is a concern, the group is nothing without its members. "The best thing about this club is that it draws so many people from different places," Whitacre said. "[I]t's definitely a place that does care and is judgment free" in a campus surrounded with somewhat self-serving people, according to Tun.

"We really don't want the club to just be about getting your 'meditation fix,'" Weeks said. Better yet, the club is welcoming to people from all religious backgrounds. "To us, it's really more of a philosophy; none of us co-founders are devout Buddhists," Zaremba said.

Students Borrow Fashion Trends from Early, Mid - 1900s

JULIA HARTMAN

Cheyenne Cardell '15 sticks out in the crowd of bustling Kenyon students in Peirce Hall. Seated on a leather sofa, the first-year is illuminated by a bright rust-colored headscarf wrapped neatly around the base of her neck. The beige tones of her skirt and blouse are subtle and muted, but she still radiates color and boldness.

Cardell particularly notices color when admiring fine art, particularly the work of Dutch painter Jan Vermeer.

"He is a master of detail and directional light," she said. Michelangelo, who famously incorporated his passion for the study of human anatomy into his paintings is another favorite of hers, Cardell said. The complex inner design of the human body inspires her, as it affects the shapes and fabric textures that many modern fashion designers implement in their collections.

For her high school graduation in New Mexico, Cardell went so far as to create her own dress inspired by this extremely physical concept. She attached two separate appliques of a human heart and life-size lungs to the front and back of a chiffon frock she sewed with the help of her mother.

Cardell said she tracks the activity of successful high-fashion labels such as Alexander McQueen and

Philip Treacy, in addition to keeping up with the collections of several breakout Russian designers. These young designers, Cardell said, take inspiration from the dramatic hourglass figures popular in 1940s fashion and cinema. Fashion trends of past eras offer her further inspiration for her sketches. Vintage looks often find their way into her everyday wardrobe, as evidenced by Cardell's swishy, high-waisted 50s skirts, delicate Victorian tops, pastel-colored summer scarves and fabulous T-strap heels.

History and the natural sciences are not Cardell's only muses where her love of fashion is concerned — passionate novels like Nabokov's *Lolita* and imaginative books by author-artist Neil Gaiman also serve as her creative springboards. Blogs provide her with multiple perspectives on fashion and the fine arts, her favorite blogs being *Sartorialist* and *Fifi Lapin*. Her sister, an artist and musician living in Albuquerque, shares Cardell's appreciation for creativity, harmony and fun, she said.

"She's cooler than I'll ever be," Cardell said. This assertion was swiftly refuted by a female passerby, who said, "Cheyenne is the coolest person alive. She'll be world-famous one day for just being *Cheyenne*."

Issa Polstein

Issa Polstein stands at six feet, two inches, but most



Cheyenne Cardell '15 uses stong colors in her wardrobe to immitate designers like Alexander McQueen and Phillip Treacy. Issa Polstien '15 describes his influences as "Edwardian."

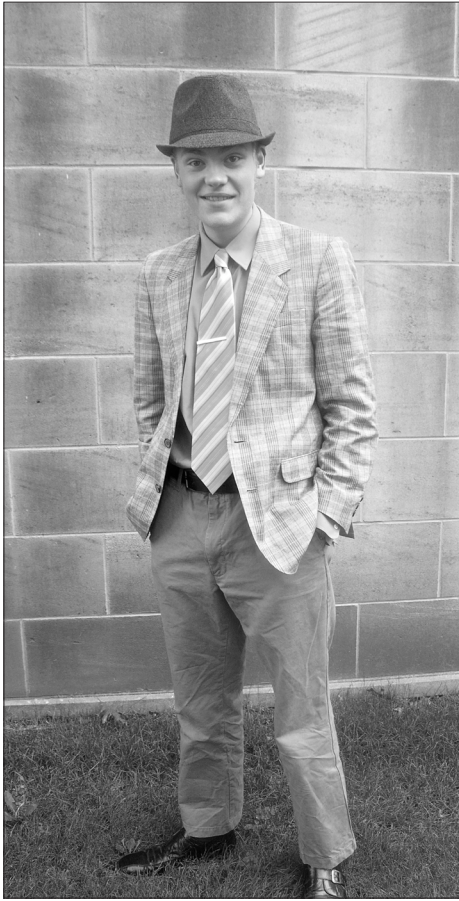
of the time he appears even taller than that.

A fitted jacket will do that for you. In fact, when asked which era in world history featured the classiest clothing, Polstein said, "Edwardian — that's my shit. Clothing just *fit* better."

Polstein makes his way around campus sporting a hat, dark slacks, suspenders, a pressed shirt and a tie. He enjoys the process of dressing up to go out, and claims that he dresses the way he

does because it feels more comfortable on him than would, say, jeans and an oversized Kenyon College sweatshirt.

Polstein was born in Canada as Isaiah Abraham Ben Simon Polstein, a complex yet remarkable name that stands as a testament to his character. After moving to the United States with his mother, Polstein attended high school in Maumee, Ohio, a suburb of Toledo, before coming to Kenyon.



JULIA HARTMAN

movie was life-changing for me," Polstein said. "But if we're going to talk about influences on me, we're going to talk about Rowan Atkinson."

Rowan Atkinson, or "Mr. Bean," as he is popularly known, is a British actor and screenwriter known for his physical comedy, an interesting blend of slapstick and deadpan delivery that Polstein did not hesitate to stand up and imitate for me. The impression was dead-on.

Polstein insists that eccentric characters do, in fact, make the world a better place. He himself sought inspiration from diverse people and places throughout his childhood — first, from classic movies like *Citizen Kane* and *Monty Python's The Meaning of Life*, and then from books like Lemony Snicket's *A Series of Unfortunate Events*, a series he said created much of his adult vocabulary.

"My honest feeling in regard to personal style is *do what makes you happy*," Polstein said. He does, however, believe that "people don't wear enough hats." Polstein himself owns an impressive collection of caps, beanies and bowlers, plus a single Stetson cowboy hat. While his favorite color is brown (because it is "underappreciated"), Polstein encourages people to wear whichever colors most express themselves. "Be comfortable," Polstein said. "Be you."

STUDENTS

Gambier Grillin'

Alex Urist '15

Julie Freedman '15

Vs

Connie Whitcraft, AVI Foodsystems

Donna Bell, The Village Market

FAC/STAFF

Totals so far:
Students: 43
Faculty: 46

What was Rosse Hall originally built to serve as?	Science lecture hall	Auditorium	I don't know	A gym	A chapel
What school refused to play Kenyon's football team in 1949 because of its black players?	Ohio State	Vanderbilt	I don't know	No clue	University of the South (Sewanee)
Who was the first female justice on the U.S. Supreme Court?	Sandra Day O'Connor	Sandra Day O'Connor	Sandra Day O'Connor	I don't know	Sandra Day O'Connor
Who was the first sportsman to have a larger salary than the President of the United States?	Babe Ruth	Babe Ruth	Babe Ruth	Babe Ruth	Babe Ruth
Who lived at 221B, Baker Street, London?	Sweeney Todd	Sherlock Holmes	Sherlock Holmes	Sherlock Holmes	Sherlock Holmes
Total Correct	2	3	3	2	By ASA NELSON

Brave Potato's *It's A Hard Knox Life* is Easy to Enjoy

Kenyon's foremost student theatre group enjoys continued success with their most recent production, *It's A Hard Knox Life*, a musical cabaret.

NOAH HEINRICH

It's A Hard Knox Life opened with two songs from the hit Broadway musical *Avenue Q*: "What Do You Do with a B.A. in English?" followed by "It Sucks to Be Me." This selection illustrates the character of *Hard Knox*: a musical, amusing and surprisingly dark look at life. Directed by Sarah Blair Jenkins '13 and Madeline Jobrack '13, the show, which went up Friday and Saturday in the Black Box Theater, featured an ensemble cast singing an hour of musical numbers from across the theatrical spectrum, ranging from *Chicago* to *The Music Man* to *Next to Normal*. Its sheer scope distinguished *Hard Knox* from previous Brave Potato Productions.

Brave Potato's shows over the last few years have been ambitious but intimate, featuring casts of maybe no more than a dozen. *Hard Knox*, however, featured 27 actors performing 20 musical acts. For a show of this size by an independent theater group, the results might have been catastrophic. In spite of a few hiccups, though, *Hard Knox* was a wildly entertaining

success.

The most striking feature of the show was its selection of musical pieces. Better-known musicals such as *Avenue Q* and *Chicago* have already been mentioned, but the overwhelming majority of the songs were drawn from lesser-known musicals, such as *Edges*, *The Black Suits* and *See What I Wanna See*.

This choice was simultaneously a strength and a weakness. On one hand, the song list shows daring on the part of Jobrack and Jenkins in choosing music both good and unexpected. They might easily have filled the show with music from *Wicked* and *Phantom of the Opera* and drawn a huge crowd on name recognition alone, but instead chose to stick with the unified vision that appeared on stage.

On the other hand, this lack of famous music also took some of the excitement away from the audience. It's hard to get psyched up to hear a song you've not heard of before. Still, the songs chosen were irresistibly catchy and engaging.

The singers themselves presented more of a mixed bag. There were no bad songs, but

there was certainly a range of quality. Highlights of the show included Rachel Cunningham '14 with her operatic rendition of "Glitter and Be Gay" from *Candide* and Jenkins performing "I Miss the Mountains" from *Next to Normal*. Both displayed absolutely stunning singing voices that filled the Black Box and left the audience entranced.

On the other hand, Peter Corrigan '15 and Melissa Hart '12 fell short in "You're The Top" from *Anything Goes*; their voices, for some reason, did not carry far beyond the second row. Ben Kress '14 also delivered a sadly off-key rendition of "Go The Distance" from Disney's *Hercules*. Jaime Cohen '15, who accompanied the entire cabaret on piano, deserves special mention. The fact that she managed to play so many different songs so well for an hour straight is no less than mind boggling.

A few directorial decisions in the show were a bit puzzling. The songs were clearly meant to follow a sort of narrative arc: the show began with "It Sucks to Be Me" and ended with *Chicago*'s cheerfully melancholic "Nowadays." Though the latter was perfectly rendered by Ellen

Blanchard '12 and Angie Bryan-Brown '14, its role as the finale of the entire cabaret was a bit disappointing.

With so much talent confined in the small space of the Black Box, a larger, bombastic song would have been a fitting end. This moment was in a few ways indicative of *Hard Knox* as a whole: the production was surprisingly low-key for a musical cabaret. As they say in *Chicago*: "Give 'em the old razzle dazzle." The razzle dazzle was not quite there as much as it could have been. Jenkins and Jobrack tried to strike a balance between Brave Potato's trademark no-holds-barred sense of humor and genuine pathos. On the whole they succeeded, but there were a few moments throughout the production where the momentum of the show vanished and audience enthusiasm stalled.

Despite its drawbacks, *It's A Hard Knox Life* kept me entertained and interested throughout. Even when the singing was a bit lackluster, it was clear that the actors were having a good time, so the audience could not help but have a good time too.

I was initially skeptical of the chances of a musical cabaret succeeding, especially in the soul-crushing space of the Black Box, but Brave Potato has once again



CHARLOTTE WOOLF

Just one month after staging *Stephen King High School: The Musical!* Brave Potato returned last weekend with a musical revue. Above, Tess Waggoner '13 performs "Coffee."

Osherow Shares Her Obsessions Through Poetry

LAUREN KATZ

On Wednesday Oct. 26, Jacqueline Osherow, Professor of English and Creative Writing at the University of Utah, joined the long list of talented poets who have read their work in the Cheever Room at Finn House, home of the *Kenyon Review*.

Osherow awed the audience with her words on topics ranging from beautiful architecture to the Holocaust.

Poetry has always been a major part of Osherow's life. "I always had a passion for poetry," she said. "As a child I loved nursery rhymes and I loved the psalms in the synagogue even

though I didn't understand them."

Poets like Emily Dickinson were major influences in Osherow's early years as a writer, but psalms and the Jewish culture became major inspiration for her work.

Osherow writes poetry about her obsessions, which tend to take the form of events in history and cultural phenomena. "If I have to go looking for subject matter, that's not going to be a very interesting poem," she said. "The poems find me." Osherow said her goal is "to deal with the world as it presents itself, not to make stuff up."

She met her goal at the po-

etry reading on Wednesday.

Osherow read 10 of her poems including a few from her new book of poetry, *White Thorn*. She slowly eased the audience into her work with her first poem of the afternoon, "Poem for Jenny."

The poem talked of larkspur and delphinium flowers growing outside a window, and included a reference to a psalm about King David.

The reference provided a perfect transition into Osherow's next few poems, centering on the ideas of psalms and Biblical sonnets. These first few poems were about light and cheerful topics such as love and forests,

but did little to soften the blow of Osherow's next poem.

Osherow's sixth poem of the afternoon, "Orders of Infinity," began as a cheery portrayal of a child learning about certain subjects such as the idea of infinity from her father. The innocence of the beginning of the poem only heightened the audience's shock when it realized that the whole poem was in reality a metaphor for the Holocaust.

It soon became clear that the child in the poem was Osherow, and she was the one who never understood the true meaning of infinity until she visited the concentration camps in Germa-

ny that were responsible for so many deaths. The audience was absorbed in Osherow's first few poems, but "Orders of Infinity" brought out a level of focus and tears that left the room in complete silence when the poem ended.

Osherow quickly transitioned from darker topics back to cheery as she read her poems from various trips to European countries which included lighthearted anecdotes.

When she introduced her poem "Unexpected Ferry Ride to Spain," she said, "If I was going to spend two days on a boat, I was going to get a poem out of it."

"If you are interested in delivering a specific message, then poetry is not your medium," she said. The goal is not to force an audience to react in a certain way, but rather to give them "a new way of understanding a complicated world" and the ability to "make unexpected connections."

"I am a very lucky person. I got to do what I always wanted to do," she said.

Through Osherow's poetry, the audience can take away many new thoughts and ideas. Osherow also teaches us the important lesson that the only life worth living is one that we are passionate about.

KENYON FILM SOCIETY

FILM SHOWINGS THIS WEEK

Friday, Nov. 4 — *Tootsie*

Named the Second Funniest Film of All Time by the American Film Institute, *Tootsie* tells the story of Michael Dorsey (Dustin Hoffman), a notoriously difficult yet talented actor. Unable to get a role because of his reputation, Dorsey disguises himself as a woman named Dorothy Michaels. He is cast on a soap opera, where, as Dorothy, he falls in love with his co-star Julie Nichols (Jessica Lange). Antics ensue. *Tootsie* is a fantastic comedic showcase for Hoffman, who was previously known for dramatic work such as *Kramer vs. Kramer*. Hoffman's performance in *Tootsie* snagged him an Academy Award nomination. The film was also nominated for Best Picture, Best Supporting Actress (Teri Garr), Best Director (Sydney Pollack, who also appears in the film as Dorsey's agent), Best Original Screenplay and more. Lange won an Oscar for her performance. Critics adored the film, and Roger Ebert gave it a four-star review. *Tootsie* still has one of the highest box office records for a comedy and was second only to *E.T.* as the most popular movie in its release year.

Saturday, Nov. 5 — *Victor Victoria*

If you think Hoffman looks good in drag, he has nothing on Julie Andrews in *Victor Victoria*. One of the most iconic musical comedies in film history, *Victor Victoria* also focuses on a performer (Andrews) who can't find work. In this case, Andrews is a singer who pretends to be a drag queen to make her act more popular. It's the *Inception* of drag films: Andrews plays a woman playing a man playing a woman. The movie works for two reasons. First, the music is fantastic. The score is by Henry Mancini, who has written numerous famous pieces of movie music, such as "Moon River" and *The Pink Panther* theme song. Second, the cast is fantastic, and includes the always-endearing Andrews, Robert Preston, Lesley Ann Warren, James Garner and John Rhys-Davies, with the first three performers earning Oscar nominations. It's a film that's tough not to love, thoroughly enjoyable and at times incredibly heartwarming.

Both screenings start at 7:30 p.m. in the KAC Theater. We'll see you there!

— Miles Purinton '12

Artist Finds Her Voice Painting with Chinese Philosophy

KATHERINE BAKER

Early in her career, painter Elisabeth Condon faced a dilemma: “Western language had no name for what I wanted to paint,” she said.

In a talk on Sunday night, Condon, a recipient of the Pollock Krasner Foundation Grant and the Florida Individual Artist Fellowship, described the challenges of developing a style and the influence of her work on her personal philosophy.

As a method of recreating her childhood, Condon said she painted dolls in her earliest professional work. These paintings, Condon explained, also allowed her to explore “the boundaries between decoration and distortion.”

When Condon moved to Tampa, Fla. to fulfill an artist residency there, the sense of childhood remained in her work, but grew less explicit. The atmosphere of Florida reminded her of her childhood in L.A., Condon said, and introduced in her an interest in landscape painting.

Condon said she was still frustrated,

however, because she felt an inability to paint what was on her mind. Her solution was a simple one: when one system of art failed her, she began to search for another.

“Western painting was rule-bound, but with rules I couldn’t access,” Condon said. “Chinese painting felt like a big answer to me ... [because it] is philosophically based. The form is created from gesture. It’s all about the quality of line. In western art, it’s all about volume.”

Chinese painting and philosophy preceded a new era in Condon’s work. The influence of Chinese work allowed her to step away from a structured way of painting.

Condon uses layering methods in her process to create landscapes that are not only composed of a literal image, but also layered with inward perception. This sense of creating a landscape image composed of both feeling and observation comes directly from the philosophy of China’s Tang Dynasty, Condon said.

Condon’s creative process is inextricably linked to the philosophies and



COURTESY OF ELISABETH CONDON

In a talk on Sunday night, abstract artist Elisabeth Condon discussed her inspiration and the influence her work has on her personal life.

motifs she has developed from life experience. Even the initial pouring of paint onto the canvas holds meaning for Condon.

“The idea of the pour as violent and sudden and the reconstruction out of that shock echoes the concept of modern travel,” Condon said. “Your whole

ethos is impacted by where you are.”

Whether she is at her home in either Brooklyn or Tampa or on a residency in Spain or China, her environment and atmosphere often expresses itself in the colors and shapes Condon uses in the process of creating the work.

She produces an average of two dis-

tinct bodies of work per year, according to Condon.

“I become empty when I come to the end of a body of work,” Condon said, showing the audience a particular painting marked by more white space than color.

In the Q&A session after the talk, one student asked Condon whether she ever felt a painting was complete simply after the initial pour of paint.

After a moment of thought, Condon shook her head.

“I create art from my own experience,” Condon said. “This world is jammed full of material, and I don’t think that I can accurately represent my experience of that material without adding to the initial pour.”

Condon’s art is an amalgamation of childhood fantasy, Chinese philosophy and tempered improvisation. The view she has is entirely her own, made from a lifetime of observation, experience and epiphanies. Condon creates art according to the rules (or lack thereof) and philosophies she has found that suit her personality and experience.

Profile: Persimmons

KATHERINE BAKER

If, on a Wednesday night at 9:00 p.m., you wander into the seminar room of Timberlake House, someone will probably hand you a packet, sit you down at the large conference table and ask you to judge poetry. Don’t panic. No experience is needed, and there is no application process to participate. You don’t even have to be an English major. All you need is an appreciation of poetry.

Participants in the student-run literary magazine *Persimmons* meet on Wednesday nights to read and evaluate poetry, prose and art submitted to the magazine by their peers. The pieces that make it through the judgment process are published together once a semester.

The magazine was established in the early ’90s, said *Persimmons* spokesperson Kureston Armada ’13.

“*HIKA* was currently in a slump, and people were very dissatisfied with it,” Armada said. “We were established to up the ante when it came to literary magazines on campus. We came out and we were much better than the *HIKA* of the day.”

The success of *Persimmons* prompted *HIKA* to bolster its selection process. “Now [they are] equal co-existing literary magazines,” Armada said.

The cover of each *Persimmons* magazine features a piece of student art submitted over the semester. On the back cover of every issue is the *Persimmons* motto: “I am go-

ing to be victorious because a large persimmon has fallen into my hand,” a quote by the Japanese feudal shogun Tokugawa Ieyasu.

The club chose the name *Persimmons* because of the divine meaning often attached to the persimmon fruit, flower and tree.

“The Greek name for the persimmons tree means ‘fruit of the gods,’” Armada said.

Looking around Timberlake seminar room on a Wednesday night, though, you would not immediately think any of the students there were about to take on the seemingly arduous task that the name of the group implies.

The students seated around the conference table joked together loudly as they surveyed the poems the student body had submitted to the magazine over the past week. The atmosphere in the room was casual and friendly.

Each student read a piece aloud in turn, followed by a short discussion and finally a vote. The upperclassmen in the group were not shy about expressing their opinions. Armada often asked students who hadn’t spoken out for their opinions on the poem.

“I like everyone to be outspoken in the group,” she said. “I like when we get comfortable together.”

Persimmons President Jordi Alonso ’14 said that in considering each piece, the club tried to be as constructive as possible with its criticism.

Sometimes the process straddled that precarious line between mockery and constructive criticism. Lines

inspired giggles or guffaws from the group, but a poem rarely left the table without someone pointing out an element of it they liked. The students debated the meaning of a title or the imagery in a certain line. Even when a piece caused some laughter initially, students settled down to pick apart its meaning.

The discussions sometimes moved beyond the immediate piece at hand to a discussion of the nature of the magazine. At one point Armada asked the group, “What is the line we draw with *Persimmons*? Do we accept things of a graphic sexual nature?”

“If it’s done artfully,” another student said after a hesitation.

After discussing the poem, the students voted on whether the poem should be included in the magazine. While the students applauded some of their more undisputed decisions, especially the poems that received a unanimous yes from the group, no one appeared disappointed when a poem caused disagreement.

Persimmons’ goal on campus, Armada said, is to show a “real reflection of the student body’s talent” in poetry, prose and art.

“These poems may not have the most polish, but they show our potential,” she said. “We tend to go off our gut ... we want poems that mean something.”

Persimmons’ submissions deadline for the Fall 2011 magazine is Nov. 8. Poetry, prose and art submitted after Nov. 8 will be reviewed for the Spring 2012 magazine.

Artist Talks Collaboration, Technique and Zen

MOLLY BONDY

Max Gimblett’s Japanese teachers often visit him as he sits on the radiator in his studio, imparting their artistic insight while Gimblett creates calligraphic paintings. In reality, these instructors, such as Torei and Bankei, are long deceased, but their mastery still influences Gimblett’s work, on view now at the Gund Gallery.

Oxherding is a series of Gimblett’s calligraphic works, paired with descriptions and poems by Kenyon Professor of Creative Writing Lewis Hyde. On Saturday, Oct. 29, Gimblett presented a lecture in the Community Foundation Theater covering his artistic career and the show itself.

Though Gimblett is a native New Zealander, an Eastern sensibility has clearly influenced both his art and his approach to creating it. His “visiting” teachers are only one example of how Gimblett has taken on Japanese artistic traditions as his own: in the East, one must copy the Master rather than attempting originality (a Western concept). *Oxherding* is an 11th-century Zen Buddhist parable about the discovery of the self that is often explored in Japanese art. A follower and monk of the Buddhist faith himself, Gimblett incorporates many Zen concepts into his work while maintaining an awareness of Western customs.

The talk was primarily about art, but the experience was almost religious, as Gimblett expressed the ideas about life and death conveyed through his work. His process spontaneously forges both the concept of the

inner figure, or the unconscious, springing forward onto the page, and the respective traditions of abstract expressionists like Jackson Pollock, Willem de Kooning and Zen masters. Gimblett expressed this spontaneity through sharp hand gestures, waking up the crowd and demonstrating how most of his work is done within seconds. Gimblett captures the inner figure on the page in much of his early work, including a portrait of Lewis Hyde himself, where death is explored and “caressed.”

The series *Oxherding* began after Hyde and Gimblett met in Italy in 1991. The two became close friends, often visiting to discuss art, poetry and Buddhism. Gimblett had long been interested in this ancient parable, because it combined his interest in Carl Jung’s theories on psychology and his religious faith.

Each painting illustrates a different part of the story, beginning with seeking the ox and ending with Hotai (a bodhisattva) entering the marketplace with helping hands. Hyde’s commentary and poetry, placed to the left of the paintings, explains each part. Essentially, *Oxherding* follows the life of a person from his or her early 20s through his or her death and return to nature. The ox represents the self as well as the ego, which must be captured and disciplined. Gimblett first showed a famous oxherding series by Master Gyokusei Jikihara, whose illustrations in comparison to Gimblett’s are much less abstract.

Though Gimblett incorporates numerous Japanese motifs into his work, such as the enso (a perfect circle indicating mastery)

and tracings of his hands, it is evident that he is more interested in conveying the essence of the ideas rather than showing them as literal representations. The last three are particularly abstract because they explore post-death experiences; to accomplish these, Gimblett had to recognize the fact that he is not a person, but rather a flow of being. Even so, he emphasizes the main components of painting, in his opinion — image and field, figure and ground, mass and line — in each piece.

Gimblett has work in collections around the world, including the Guggenheim Museum in New York and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. He is currently working on three giant sculptures to be placed in a sculpture garden in New Zealand (where acclaimed sculptors such as Richard Serra are exhibited) that will take the form of a square, a triangle and a circle, the Chinese symbols of the universe. Gimblett also recently took his orders at the San Francisco Zen Center under Michael Winga to become a Buddhist monk. Religion and art are one and the same for Gimblett, who spends 24 hours meditating before creating.

The small show is beautiful, not to mention an edifying and transcendent experience. While the other side of the gallery bursts with new technology, computerized artworks and electronic music, Gimblett and Hyde bring the viewer to earth and back to an awareness of the self. The two shows complement each other: *Oxherding* creates a calm after the fantastic storm of *Seeing/ Knowing*.

Lords Soccer Defeats Wabash



DAVID HOYT

The Lords soccer team ended their 2011 campaign on a positive note, beating Wabash College 1-0.

MEREDITH BENTSEN

Though the Kenyon men's soccer team did not reach the North Coast Athletic Conference tournament, it ended its season with bang. They beat the Wabash College Little Giants 1-0, outshooting their opponent 20-12.

Andrew Parmelee '14 scored Kenyon's only goal in the 36th minute of the game. Parmelee said their offense could have been more dominant, but was positive overall about the game.

"It was a good win for the team to end the season. We were a bit unlucky not to score more goals, but any win is always nice," Parmelee said.

Head Coach Chris Brown agreed. "Ultimately, the 2011 season was undermined by our profligacy in front of goal," he said. "Quite frankly, we do not have a natural goal-poacher on our roster."

Even without a "natural goal-poacher," the Lords managed to score 19 goals in 17 games during the season for an average of 1.12 goals per game.

Parmelee may have been the impetus behind the two saves during the 80 minutes goalkeeper Tyler Schatz '12 was on the field. With Kenyon's only

goal coming early in the match, the win rested on the defensive end for the remainder of the game. Jared Kunze '12 took over for Schatz in goal and made a key save, preserving the chance at victory. Kunze positioned himself to cut off a large angle for Wabash's shooter and extended his arm to deflect the ball.

The Lords' defensive end was not only successful in the Wabash win, but also in their season as a whole. In their 17 games, the Lords only allowed 17 goals, finishing with 1.03 goals against average. The Lords ended the season with six shutouts and a place in the top four in the NCAC for the fifth year in a row, an accomplishment Brown applauded.

"Clearly, everyone on the team was hugely disappointed that we didn't make the NCAC tournament this year because of our goal differential," Brown said.

Though the Lords did not make it to the postseason, they managed to claim seven victories and two ties, including four NCAC wins and one NCAC tie. Brown called the final win against Wabash a "good win" and was "pleased for the seniors that the season ended on a high note."

Volleyball Ends Best Season in Years

The Ladies ended the season with a record of 14-17, their best overall finish since the 2003 season.

BRETT WILLIAMS

The women's volleyball team finished its season with a two-day road trip that put a split outcome on the scoreboards but bolstered their overall triumph for the season.

The Ladies lost to Denison University on Friday, Oct. 28, but defeated Oberlin College on Saturday, Oct. 29 to bring their final record to 14-17 overall and 8-8 in the NCAC. This outcome is the best final mark for a Kenyon College volleyball team since the 2003 campaign, when the team went 14-22. More remarkably, the eight NCAC wins are the most ever for the Ladies volleyball team, and it was the first time since the 1999 season that the Ladies posted a .500 in-conference record.

Against Denison, it looked like the Ladies had the match won for their second victory against the Big Red both for the season and since 1996. After beating Denison the first two games 25-22, the Ladies dropped the next two 25-18 and 25-21. The last set of the match was tense: Denison built up a 14-12 lead, but the Ladies rallied back and tied at 14-14 and 16-16. In the end,

however, Denison came away with an 18-16 win and the match.

The match was close throughout, but Kenyon kept it closer than necessary, committing 39 hitting errors. Offensively, however, Mary Jo Scott '14 led the Ladies with 10 kills. Mary Myers '12 and Sierra DeLeon '14 were right behind her, both contributing eight. Laura Harris '12 led the defense with six of the Ladies' 18 blocks. Again, Myers, DeLeon and Ana Maricic '14 were just short of the team lead, posting five blocks apiece.

In the season finale, the Ladies topped Oberlin for the second time this year, 3-1. The Yeowomen jumped out to an early 1-0 lead, winning the first set 25-22, but the Ladies were able to overcome this initial setback and took the next three sets 25-12, 25-20 and 25-15 to win the match. Scott continued her solid weekend, leading both offensively and defensively with 13 kills and 12 digs. DeLeon and Maricic contributed nine and eight kills, respectively. On defense, Crystal Piras '12 matched Scott's total of 12 digs in a solid performance in her last match as a Lady.

Two Ladies played their way into the Kenyon record books in their final collegiate match. Myers' 3 kills put her at 962 for her career, good for fifth-most in school history. Kelly Heilman '12 added 25 assists, which brought her to 1,300 in her career and sixth place all-time.

Perhaps even more notable than their places in the record books, however, is where this senior class of 2012 leaves the Kenyon volleyball program. In 2007, the season before the class of 2012 arrived on campus, the Ladies could only field a team for nine matches of the season, shutting down play afterwards.

The 2008 season was a near total reboot of the program, according to Ciara Sanchez '12. "My freshman year there were eight of us [freshmen], two sophomores and one senior," she said.

The Ladies lost every match that year, finishing 0-28. Prospects could only improve from there, though, and soon, they did. The Ladies came away victorious after their fifth match of 2009, and continued to improve.

The end of their career as Ladies, then, is bittersweet for

this class. This year is the first since that initial 2008 season that the team has any seniors.

"There are six of us left out of the original eight, and our first year was pretty painful and pretty tough," Sanchez said. "But each year got better. Our class especially has gone through a lot these past four years, but I think we're happy with what we're coming away with. I think we're all really proud that we can say that we were a part of something bigger and we got the program started again now that we're done. We started out as little immature freshmen who had never played a collegiate game, never won a collegiate game until we were in the middle of our sophomore year, and now we have the best record that Kenyon has had in conference since 1999."

"A successful season for us isn't necessarily the same as it is for someone else," Myers said. "It wasn't successful in the sense that we won all our games or made it to the conference tournament, even though we'd have really liked that. For us right now, it's more important [the program we made] from where we start[ed] the season to where we finish[ed] it. We're proud of how we did and where we're leaving the program."

Swimming Beaten by OSU Buckeyes

ROB WENNEMER

Seeking stronger Division I competition, Kenyon's swimming and diving teams headed to Columbus and took on the Ohio State University this past Friday, Oct. 28 at the McCorkle Aquatic Pavilion. Neither the Lords nor the Ladies could outdo the Buckeyes, falling by scores of 174-84 and 176.5-83.5, respectively.

"On the whole, we made a pretty good accounting of ourselves at OSU; they are a very good [team], one of the top 15 in the nation," Men's Head Coach Jim Steen said. "We had a lot of personal best performances. Any time you compete at your best against a team that is better than you, you've done well."

One of these performances came during the 200-yard freestyle relay, a distance the Lords covered in just 1:21.64, marking the best time of the event. Ian Bakk '12, Zack Turk '12, David Somers '12 and Ian Richardson '14 made up the team of first-place finishers.

"A majority of guys on our team enjoy racing against top competition, as it often brings out the best in us," Steen said. "In the last event of the meet, the 200-yard freestyle relay,

"Any time you compete at your best against a team that is better than you, you've done well."

Lords' Head Coach Jim Steen

the Lords won with a time that currently ranks as the third best in the country over all divisions."

In addition to being a nationally recognized time, the group's pace was below the NCAA's standard for provisional qualification into the national championship, a meet that is no stranger to Kenyon swimmers.

Turk and Ian Stewart-Bates '13 also posted times that cleared the NCAA's provisional standard. Turk's 20.69 time during the 50-yard freestyle, which earned him second place behind Ohio State's Jason Schnur, as well as his 45.79 runner-up finish during the 100-yard freestyle both proved to be worthy times.

Stewart-Bates' qualifying mark also came during the 100-yard freestyle, in which he placed fourth with a time of 46.01.

This meet marked a promising start for the Lords, who are looking forward to their 2011-2012 season.

"Our team has started the year off strong, and we look forward to building up on each week, and each meet," Turk said. "We look forward to further competition in the upcoming meets."

The Ladies also kept it competitive with the Buckeyes, placing within the top two spots in half of their events.

"Overall, the Ohio State meet was an accurate reflection of where we are in our training. That is a good thing," Women's Head Coach Jessen Book said. "We identified small things in each race to focus on, to strive for, and to eventually evaluate."

The Ladies set a strong tone for the meet when their 200-yard medley relay team posted a 1:48.14 runner-up finish in the event.

Nikki Kett '12, Meghan Quinn '12, Rachel Flinn '14 and Hannah Cooper '15 made this mark possible.

Hannah Saiz '13 brought home an impressive first-place finish for the Ladies in the

200-yard butterfly, thanks to a time of 2:04.58. Ohio State's Angela Severn posted a second place mark of 2:05.63 in the event, still a full second behind Saiz's NCAA provisional qualifying time.

Kellyn Caldwell '12 also provided a key individual performance, placing second in the 200-yard IM event with a mark of 2:10.49.

Just like the Lords, the Ladies are optimistic about their season, identifying team unity as a crucial ingredient for success in the upcoming meets.

"As a team, we are moving in the right direction. We are supportive of one another, loud in cheering, and we are getting behind the blocks ready to compete," Saiz said. "Improvements in time will come with the progression of the season. Team cohesion will only grow stronger with each passing meet."

Both the Lords and Ladies will dive into familiar waters this Saturday, Nov. 5 for a 10:00 a.m. match up with Denison University at the Kenyon Athletic Center.

The highly anticipated meet features a Big Red squad that just barely squeaked by the Lords to win the 2010-2011 Division III National Championship.

Kenyon Club Squash Trounces Illini

NINA ZIMMERMAN

Gourdzilla isn't the only type of Kenyon squash growing and gaining recognition around the Hill. After finishing last season with a record of 6-3 and placing third in the Chaffee Cup Tournament, the Kenyon Club Squash team enters into the new season ranked 35th in the nation. The team has no intention of losing steam, according to co-captain Danilo Lobo Dias '13.

"We've all made that decision that we're going to work hard and try to have a really good season," Lobo Dias said.

The club saw its first action of the season this past weekend, beating two branches of the University of Illinois in a round-robin tournament this past weekend at the Kenyon Athletic Center's pristine courts. The Lords first defeated the Fighting Illini of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign by a score of 6-3 before squashing the University of Illinois-Springfield 9-0. Head Coach John Knepper was satisfied with the team's first shot at competition.

"We did do well. I was very happy [with] what I saw," Knepper said. "I



DAVID HOYT

The Kenyon club squash team had a successful weekend, beating the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and the University of Illinois-Springfield in a home tournament.

think we have a dedicated team."

"We were a little bit nervous at the beginning of the match, but once we realized we're better than [them] we won pretty easily after that," Lobo Dias said.

The sport of squash is still growing and expanding, and as it does, the Kenyon team has gained recognition as a powerful from other schools with strong programs. This year, Knepper said the team put together its strongest schedule ever, particularly in terms of

the high caliber of competition they will face.

"[Our schedule this year is] the strongest schedule we've ever had, by far. It's a very ambitious schedule," Knepper said. "Each year I think Kenyon squash has become far more recognized as a squash program by other institutions that have been playing squash for a long time. The fact that we're invited to play in this event at the Naval Academy [in two weeks] is a pretty significant. We clearly have an opportunity to do something there,

for the first time in our history."

The team heads to Detroit this weekend for a transnational event hosted by the University of Western Ontario, located just across the Canadian border. Lobo Dias said the weekend should be a good one, since both of the teams they will face are ranked ahead of Kenyon.

"If you can compete with really good teams, it helps your case," Lobo Dias said. "That's the nice thing this year, is we're playing teams that are ranked above us."

Field Hockey Comes Close to Playoffs

Despite beating Ohio Wesleyan University, the Ladies will miss the playoffs because of tiebreaker rules.

ANNA DUNLAVEY

Despite ongoing struggles and mountains of adversity, the field hockey finished its season with a shutout win against Ohio Wesleyan University on Saturday, Oct. 29.

Unfortunately, it was not enough to keep post-season hopes alive. The Ladies finished 7-7 in the North Coast Athletic Conference games and ranked fifth in the conference, but they will not be included in the conference tournament. Overall, their record for the 2011 season is 7-11.

Saturday was a big day for Ohio Wesleyan's Battling Bishops, according to Ladies' Head Coach Chrissy Needham. "It was [Ohio Wesleyan's] home field, their last game and their senior day," she said. "There were a lot of emotional things on their side of it, so we knew they were going to come ready to play."

That didn't stop the Ladies from persevering, and,

accordingly, deciding the game in the first half. Alex Bair '14 scored the first goal, and only a few minutes later, Julie Freedman '15 scored, assisted by Annie Hulkower '14.

Although there was no scoring in the second half, Needham said, it was not an easy half to play.

"I knew [Ohio Wesleyan] would come out really strong in the second half, one, because they didn't want to lose on their senior day, and two, they wanted to send us home without any chance to be in the conference tournament, because their fate was already decided," Needham said.

The Battling Bishops were already out of the running for the postseason competition — they ended up finishing seventh, with only four conference wins. Both teams fought hard, but the half remained scoreless and Kenyon came out with the win.

Ohio Wesleyan outshot Kenyon 12-8 over the

course of the game. Eight of the Bishops' shots, four in each half, required saves by goalie Alex Britt '15. Needham said that Britt "came up with some very big saves in the second half to preserve the shutout."

By winning their last game, the Ladies' put their playoff hopes out of their hands. Kenyon was tied in fourth place with Wittenberg University in conference wins, and the tiebreaker came from previous games played against each other this season. Both times, Wittenberg won, therefore, Wittenberg advanced to the postseason.

Needham said the game was tough, especially because a different Saturday for Wittenberg would have meant Kenyon still had a chance for the playoffs.

"Wittenberg played Wooster on Saturday, and had Wittenberg beaten Wooster, we would have tied with Wooster and then we would have beaten them in a different tiebreaker,"

Needham said.

Needham also said the team did not make the most of the situation when they could have. "It's unfortunate to fall out of the playoffs because it's out of your control, but then again, at some point it was under our control," Needham said.

The Ladies will not advance this season, but Needham said she is still pleased and impressed with the team's growth and progress.

"A lot of new people came in, so at the beginning of the year we were disjointed and nervous," she said. "I think in facing some adversity throughout the season and just figuring out how to all be on the same page, we are a much different team than we were at the beginning of the season."

In spite of everything, Needham said she still has strong hopes for next year.

"I think the lessons that we've learned this season ... will pay off in the next couple of years, especially because we have such a young group," she said.

Grime, Glory for Mudman Runners

JANIE SIMONTON

A normal five kilometer does not include crawling through mud trenches, climbing through ropes, jumping over hay, sloshing through a creek, strapping on a headlamp to find your way in the dark, wearing glow sticks or tackling an almost entirely vertical climb. This past weekend's Mudman Triple race featured them all.

The Mudman involves three races, all of which take place within 18 hours of each other. Participants of this year's Mudman first submitted themselves to the "5K Night-time Time Trial" at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 29, then the "5K Super Steeplechase" at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 30 and finally the "10K Cross Country Challenge" at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday morning.

Participation in the Mudman has grown since its inception five years ago, and completing all three races is a commendable accomplishment, according to Coordinator for Physical Education and Lifetime Fitness Emily Heithaus.

"This year, we had about 60 [people] participate in all three races [and] completing all three races is not an easy task," Heithaus said. "The total distance is 20 kilometers, which isn't a huge amount for most trail runners, but the difficulty of the courses, plus the fact that your muscles get sore and tight between the races, makes the Mudman Triple a physical and mental challenge."

Tim Jurney '15, who placed third overall in all three races, said he viewed running all three races as much more rewarding than just completing one or two.

"At first, actually, I was only going to run two races — the two 5Ks — because a night race and a steeplechase are such fun, unique races. But then a few of my friends were running all three, and they convinced me that it was much cooler to have completed the triple than to have almost completed the triple," Jurney said. "A matter of rising to the challenge. Why not, right?"

Jurney said, however, that he felt a particular inclination towards the steeplechase.

"The steeplechase, [was] by far [my favorite]. Running is rarely considered edgy — it's honorable, maybe, to push past the pain and persevere, but not edgy," Jurney said. "The steeplechase, however, had us jumping into frigid water and leaping over obstacle courses. It also happened to take place in a dense fog, [with] the course

covered in frost. It was surprisingly badass."

Matt Davis '12, who placed first in both 5Ks and second in the 10K, said that while the nighttime 5K was his favorite, he had incentive to run all three.

"I just really dig the challenge of running and the various conditions (darkness, slop, hills, and loose-footing) that keep [the races] fresh and exciting; that's why I did the Mudman Triple," Davis said. "I ran all three for the cool hat that was awarded for running all three. I ran all three 'cause each one was uniquely exciting. I ran all three because part of me wanted to try to win all three. My favorite [race, however,] was the nighttime 5K time trial. The ability to see is such a significant guide in how we move through the world, and to have that to some extent taken away, to run hard into the darkness, was very exciting."

Heithaus herself said she could not pick a favorite race, and that they all had qualities she admired. Putting the event together, a process that she said takes lots of time and physical labor, was a greater challenge than deciding on a favorite.

"Starting several weeks out from the event, Dave [Heithaus] begins trimming branches and potential obstacles from the course. He walks all the race courses (9+ miles of trail) with an industrial strength leaf blower to clear the trails down to bare dirt, and then uses white paint to mark nearly all the roots, rocks, and holes that cannot be removed," Heithaus said. "After all that is done, the courses are marked in white paint [and] cones and orange caution tape to keep people from going off-trail. For the night race, we mark tricky parts of the course with glowsticks as well. Our trail preparation takes at least three full days of work by two to three people. We take our trail preparation very seriously to make the event fun and safe."

With all the preparation that goes into the event, Jurney said he thinks it is definitely an event in which more Kenyon students should participate.

"More people from Kenyon should run. Especially the night race; it's so unique, and it's at night, for the many Kenyonites who don't want to wake up early on a Sunday. The atmosphere is mostly laid-back, for non-serious runners, but the front pack of runners are serious enough to excite competitive people like me," Jurney said. "Plus, the courses are gorgeous. Why not celebrate Gambier's countryside and have fun while doing it?"

Collegian Weekend Sports Picks

Swimming and Diving
Saturday, Nov. 5, at 10:00 a.m.
Kenyon Aquatic Center
Kenyon vs. Denison University

Football
Saturday, Nov. 5 at 1:00 p.m.
McBride Field
Kenyon vs. College of Wooster

the Kenyon Collegian

SPORTS

Thursday, November 3, 2011

Illustrations by Nick Anania Upcoming Weather



Football Falls Again, Cannot Bounce Back Against Bishops

RICHARD PERA

For a while, it looked like a different football team had suited up in the purple and black on Saturday afternoon. The Lords came back after trailing against Ohio Wesleyan University 17-0 in the first quarter to lead 24-17 at half-time. In the end, however, the Lords fell to the Battling Bishops 44-24. The loss dropped Kenyon to 0-8 overall and 0-4 in the North Coast Athletic Conference.

The game started poorly for the Lords, as OWU (2-6, 1-3 NCAC) jumped to a 17-0 lead in the first quarter. But the momentum began to shift with the start of the second.

"The second quarter was probably the best quarter we've played all year," said Head Coach Ted Stanley. "I was very pleased with our effort."

For 15 minutes, Kenyon dominated both sides of the ball. A steady wall of three-and-outs stalled the Bishop offense, energizing the Lords to 24 unanswered points. Max Chodosh '12 started the scoring with a field goal, followed by a 19-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Dan Shannon '13 to Victor Progar '14, a 50-yard touchdown scamper by Shannon and a 17-yard touchdown run by halfback Brandon January '15. Kenyon's first touchdown was particularly beautiful. Shannon made the best of a broken pass play by hitting a gaping hole and running from midfield to the endzone without a single Battling Bishop in pursuit.

Unfortunately for the Lords, half-time came too soon.

"I was really disappointed with the way we came out of the half," Stanley said. "I thought there would be a little more energy and desire."

The OWU defense began making big stops on consecutive drives while quarterback Mason Espinosa tossed the ball at will, even throwing a 61-yard touchdown strike. The Bishops scored four more touchdowns before the clock ran out.

"Our players made mistakes; that is clear. But we made coaching mistakes," Stanley said. "That is clear too. Did we have the ability to win on Saturday? Yes, we did. But we didn't execute or play as well as we needed to in order to win."

The Lords had hoped to make four or more plays over 20 yards, but they didn't reach the mark. Stanley was counting on those big plays to keep the Kenyon defense off the field and propel the offense.

"We had a couple plays that would have been big that we dropped passes on," he said. "We need to reach that goal so that it will help stimulate the offense and create some excitement."

Stanley remains enthused about his younger players' continued effort.

"The exciting part of the offense is that we're playing with only one senior," he said. "These guys are young and trying to step up and make plays."

The defense, starting just four seniors, will also enjoy several returning



ELIZABETH BRAND

The Lords are scheduled to play their final home game of the season this Saturday, Nov. 5 at 1:00 p.m. against the College of Wooster.

starters next season.

"The guys coming back should be gaining valuable experience," Stanley said.

Aside from Saturday's game, much has been discussed about the future of the Kenyon football program. *The Collegian* reported the formation of a commission last month, sparking conversation within the Kenyon community about the viability of the team in the coming years. In an interview on Tuesday, Stanley was adamant that Kenyon that the football program will not be

scrapped.

"I want to address the issue of the future of football at Kenyon," Stanley said. "That has been done already and completed. Football will not leave Kenyon. The school wants football, and I think it needs it. There was never a discussion of dropping the program."

The purpose of the commission, Stanley explained, is to explore the ways in which the College can help the football team meet its goals.

"I do not see football leaving Kenyon," Stanley said. "I see the school

looking at it and asking itself how it can be better at football. Kenyon is proud of the fact that if it does something, it will be done in the best way possible. That is what the committee is trying to do."

Stanley, currently in his ninth season as head coach, is aware that much of the student body remains uninterested in athletics, particularly football. Nevertheless, he encourages students to see games as a social gathering to foster community enjoyment.

"Football here can be a unifying and community-building function," Stanley said. "Everyone can remember back to attending their high school games and having a good time. Even if students are not into sports, games can be a social event on campus. We lack school spirit at Kenyon, and there isn't really a place where everyone can meet up and hang together. Football on Saturdays in the fall can fill that role."

The Lords face the College of Wooster this Saturday, Nov. 5, on McBride Field, and Stanley is fired up for the game. He called on all Kenyon students, faculty and administrators to support the Lords in their final home game.

"I want everybody down here for this coming game," he said. "It might be the last sunny day of the fall, so make it a fun experience by eating some barbecue at a tailgate and watching some football. If you have a pulse, get your tail down here and support these guys. They deserve it, they've worked hard, they need your help."

Ladies Lose to OWU in Semifinals

JANIE SIMONTON

The women's soccer team lost to Ohio Wesleyan 1-0 Tuesday night, relinquishing the players' hopes of reaching the finals of conference play. Kenyon, ranked fourth, went up against number-one ranked OWU, and, according to defender Sarah Heminger '13, the game was a challenge for the team, including a first half absent of scoring.

"It was a hard-fought battle," Heminger said. "[The Ladies haven't] made it to the [tournament] since 2008."

The team viewed the OWU game was an adventure rather than a disappointment, according to Head Coach Kelly Bryan.

"We have a strong belief in our ability and what we can accomplish," Bryan said. "We relish[ed] the opportunity to play OWU again and [were] excited to play a great game."

Bryan said a lot went into the team's preparation to get to the semifinals and that all the teams were fairly equally matched.

"We've learned a lot in the last 2.5 months and [were] excited to put everything together for our run in the conference tournament," Bryan said. "We [had] the ability to make it to the

NCAAs. It's an honor and something we [would have fought] for if the opportunity [arose]."

The Ladies were the "underdogs" in a competition against second-ranked Allegheny and third-ranked Wooster, Heminger said. She said one of the team's primary obstacles in advancing to the finals was its tendency to alter its own game play to fit the other team's instead of playing the way Kenyon would play.

"We tend to become very defensive-minded," Heminger said. "We don't go in to make the other team to play us. We go in to try to adapt to the other team. We play their game; we don't try to make them play our game."

Bryan said that, despite the loss, she's incredibly proud of the team.

"I'm extremely proud of our team and know that we deserve[d] this opportunity," Bryan said. "Now we just want more out of it."

The loss against Ohio Wesleyan had a large impact on the team, but game losses do not always have such an effect. The team's 3-0 loss to Berry College of Georgia on Oct. 29 did not resonate negatively with the team, according to Bryan and Heminger.

"We kind of went into the [Berry] game knowing that it wasn't going to

affect us, [because Berry is a non-conference team]," Heminger said. "Having lost, we felt like we learned important lessons that [helped] us going into the tournament, so we're stronger coming out of a loss this [past] weekend."

The season may be over for the Ladies, with a final record of 11-7-1, but the OWU will host the NCAC finals this Saturday, challenging the Allegheny College Gators.

The winner of the championship will make it to the National Tournament, but it's possible for others from the conference to as well, according to Heminger.

"Whoever wins the conference tournament makes it into the national tournament. But, if there is an upset, when the [fourth-ranked] beats [the first-ranked] team, then the [first-ranked] team still has a chance of making it into the national tournament through an at-large bid," Heminger said. "There [are] a certain number of teams that make it into the national tournament, and then [tournament officials] leave spots open for teams that did well during the season and didn't make it into the national tournament. Then, they go through those teams and decide who should get a bid to the national tournament."

Cross Country Races NCAC Championship

KEVIN PAN

For both the men's and women's cross country teams, this past weekend was the North Coast Athletic Conference Championship meet. Both teams had runners that ran well against the competition. On the men's side, the team itself finished in 8th place, with Wabash College winning the entire meet. However, Willy Friedlander '14 came in 19th out of 116 runners and Patrick Meyers '12 finished right behind Friedlander at 21st place. Even though the team did not place well at the championship meet, Friedlander thought the runners did better than their placement indicated.

"The conference meet went about as well as it could have gone," Friedlander said. "We placed better than our initial ranking going into the meet and individually, there were several personal records."

In addition, Friedlander said "The team as a whole has improved quite a bit this year be-

cause most of us finally applied [our] coach's training methods." He also thought that this last meet was the best meet of the year because "the top five on our team all went out at sub 5:10 pace, which means that we were actually part of the race rather than just running in the race."

The team has left only the regional meet, the qualifier for the National Championships and Friedlander looks forward to that meet with optimism because "we are looking really strong going into it." He added, "I don't want to jinx anything, but Denison better watch their backs."

On the women's side, the team came in 4th place, with Oberlin College winning the meet. One of the bright spots of the meet was Jenna Willett '14, who placed 3rd out of 98 runners. On top of that, Nina Castelli '12 came in 21st place, Beth Dahlburg '12 came in 27th place, and Kerry Strader '14 came in 36th place. The Ladies' final meet of the season is at the Regional Qualifier.