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## Kenyon Collegian - April 19, 2012

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# the Kenyon Collegian

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Student Council May Host Saturday Cookout

## CASTAWAY



DAVID HOYT

### Future of Event Uncertain, Council Still Negotiating

LILI MARTINEZ  
AND THOMAS MATTES

In an emergency meeting last night, Student Council conditionally approved a proposal to host an event on Saturday, April 28 following the official Social Board Sendoff on Friday. The approval was contingent upon the fulfillment of several requirements, and administrators present at the meeting expressed genuine concern, citing issues with planning and time constraints. At the end of the meeting, seven Council members voted in favor, none opposed and five abstained.

A five-member Student Council subcommittee, led by Ryan Liegner '13 and

Charlie Fine '12, has been working since the announcement of Sendoff's date change to plan a Saturday event including food, a fenced-in drinking area and a contract with an outside security company to check student IDs and enforce school policies and state law. Student Council would host the event with volunteer support from Kenyon Student Athletes and student and Greek organizations volunteering their time. The event will be called Castaway.

Student Council approved the proposal on the condition that organizers resolve several issues raised during the meeting before the body's next meeting on Sunday afternoon. Some Council members and administrators at the meeting were concerned about

training for proper and safe handling of food, the layout for the fenced-in and cookout areas and limiting the amount of alcohol of-age students can bring into the area. They also asked the subcommittee to clarify rules for cleanup, the role of Maintenance and how they would recruit and train volunteers. The Council additionally required a contingency plan for the possibility of the event's shutdown and asked the group to more fully consider liability issues with the outside security company contracted to work the event.

Liegner said the proposed timeline is reasonable, given the last-minute nature of the meeting.

see CASTAWAY, page 3

## Campus Safety Moves Forward With Union Plans

DAVID McCABE

A week after Campus Safety officers voted to unionize, both the administration and the officers are looking ahead to negotiating new contracts.

"From my perspective, we are committed to negotiating a contract with the [Security, Police, Fire Professionals of America] and doing that in the least contentious way possible," Chief Business Officer Mark Kohlman said.

Officers echoed Kohlman's cautious optimism in interviews this week.

"I know that everyone here is really anxious to have communication across the table," said Safety officer J.P. Downes. "I'm hoping that open communication comes back to us and we can have a good faith agreement that's fair and beneficial to both sides."

Director of Campus Safety Bob Hooper remains tentatively supportive. "It was their choice to move this direction, and they have the right to do that and we'll respect that and we'll move forward," he said.

Officers hope the new union will improve morale and build camaraderie.

"But it's also about having a voice, within the department and within the College," Downes said. "That is the main reason that we're doing

the things that we're doing."

The decision to form a local chapter of the SPFPA came after the officers first tried to organize under the banner of the United Steel Workers (USW), according to officers and College officials. Because the USW is not authorized under federal labor law to represent safety officers, however, they could not ask the College to recognize the results of an election.

Instead, they sent a letter to College administrators, including Kohlman and President S. Georgia Nugent, asking that Kenyon voluntarily recognize a union formed under the banner of the USW.

"We said, 'No, thank you,'" Nugent said.

The officers then turned to the SPFPA, which has a right under federal labor law to represent security professionals and therefore would have the backing of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). Unlike the USW, the SPFPA does not have a chapter in Ohio. Its closest office is in Michigan. After gathering a petition showing support for unionization, Safety officers filed it with the NLRB. Kenyon administrators first learned of the officers' intentions to organize

see UNIONS, page 3

## Shaka Smart to Speak on Campus

NINA ZIMMERMAN

Basketball fans on the Hill can rejoice this spring before the stress of finals takes hold. Virginia Commonwealth University Head Men's Basketball Coach Shaka Smart '99 will return to his alma mater for the first time in several years to give a talk on May 3.

Before leading the Rams to the Final Four in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I March Madness Championship Tournament, Smart was a four-year starter as point guard for the Lords' basketball team and served as captain for three of those years. In his time at Kenyon, he embodied the dual spirit

of Division III athletics, named all-conference and winning the North Coast Athletic Conference Scholar Athlete of the Year award. In 1999, Smart graduated *magna cum laude* with a degree in history and won the Outstanding History Student award. Smart's visit is sponsored by Student Lectureships.

## College to Buy Farm for Student Use

LILI MARTINEZ

Gambier may seem stuck in the middle of a cornfield, but for a handful of Kenyon students, that cornfield will be coming closer to home.

The College plans to purchase a nearby farm on Zion Road Monday where students will live and grow produce for use in Peirce, according to President

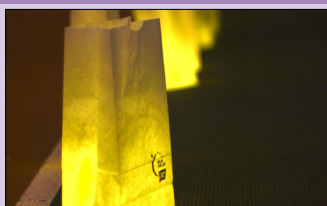
see FARM, page 4

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CSAD's conference draws a variety of renowned speakers.



Pages 8 & 9

Relay For Life celebrates and remembers those affected by cancer.



Page 12

Kenyon College Wind Ensemble celebrates the American dream.



## VILLAGE RECORD

April 11 — April 18

- April 11, 9:54 p.m.** — Theft/larceny: student reported wallet stolen from coatroom in Peirce Hall.
- April 11, 10:17 p.m.** — Medical illness: student in Manning Residence Hall had allergic reaction to which Safety officers responded.
- April 14, 1:34 a.m.** — Medical injury: student complained of infected blister on foot in Gund Residence Hall. Assessed by Safety officers.
- April 14, 11:42 a.m.** — Medical injury: student complained of possible concussion. Assessed by Safety officers and transported to Knox Community Hospital (KCH).
- April 15, 2:29 a.m.** — Alcohol: intoxicated student in Morgan Apartments. Assessed by Safety officer.
- April 15, 2:34 a.m.** — Theft/larceny: student reported damage to bike and locking mechanism in North Campus Apartments.
- April 15, 7:50 a.m.** — Vandalism: broken lamp and pizza crust strewn on the floor in Weaver Cottage.
- April 15, 9:59 a.m.** — Vandalism: broken chair and beer bottles reported in New Apartments.
- April 15, 11:19 a.m.** — Medical injury: non-student injured ankle at Mavec Field. Treated by Kenyon trainer and transported to KCH.
- April 16, 8:39 p.m.** — Theft/larceny: students reported stolen property from Peirce Hall lounge. Safety officers contacted.
- April 16, 9:01 p.m.** — Vandalism: student reported damage to bicycle outside of North Campus Apartments.
- April 17, 10:13 p.m.** — Fire alarm went off in New Apartments. Officers found no fire. Alarm reset.

### Corrections

The article "Five New Themed Houses to Join Campus Community" (April 12, 2012) incorrectly stated that the Food Co-op will live in Murnen House next year. Though originally placed in Murnen House, Food Co-op was approved in a location appeal and will be placed in Morgan Apartment No. 2. Likewise, the Bike Co-op also appealed its housing and will be placed in Murnen House instead. In addition, in the article "Safety to Unionize After Vote," The *Collegian* incorrectly stated there were four existing unions on campus; there are three. The *Collegian* regrets the errors.

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## STUDENT COUNCIL

Sunday, April 15

- First-Year Council passed out sweatshirts this week and discussed baking desserts for the first-year class during finals.
- Sophomore Class Committee sold T-shirts and pinnies this week. Members will continue selling them, along with soda koozies, today and tomorrow. They are also continuing work on a website with a map showing where students are going abroad.
- The Buildings and Grounds Committee will talk to the trustees at their spring meeting this week and discuss changes to lighting on campus with the Village.
- The Business and Finance Committee (BFC) held a supplemental budget hearing, and Student Council approved its funding decisions, allocating \$635 to the Fencing Club for expenditures, \$17 to *The Kenyon Observer* for its domain name and \$2,076 to the Kenyon Ultimate Frisbee team's trip to Nationals.
- The Student Life Committee had a club sports meeting to approve Philander's Chase (a running club) and the Modern Ballet Fusion. Members have not yet approved Club Soccer and the Rowing Club; they want those teams to talk to Grant Wallace, intramural/club sport coordinator.
- The Academic Affairs Committee is drafting a paragraph on plagiarism to appear on professors' syllabi.
- Junior Class Committee will host a barbeque for students at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 21 on the South Quad. The Junior Class is still searching for a representative to Student Council for its senior year. Committee members are currently considering Kelsey DeLaney '13, who is studying in Budapest, but she had not yet sent in a letter of intent at press time. Student Council will wait to appoint someone until it has a letter of intent from at least one candidate.
- Student Council President Ryan Motevalli-Oliner '12 presented an end-of-semester evaluation form for student organizations meant to help Student Life to reapprove groups.
  - This form would potentially fix a problem Student Life has been facing this year — currently, some well-functioning groups are not receiving reapproval because they neglected some required duties.
  - The Student Life Committee and Director of Student Activities and Greek Life Christina Mastrangelo will examine the form more closely.
- The Saturday after Sendoff will be a Student Council event. Many Student Council members view it as a tremendous public relations move. There was, however, contention regarding whether Student Council should host events and if this would set an unwanted precedent.
  - Student Council will draft a clear explanation of this exception to regular policy to share with the student body, as it does not want to create the impression that Student Council receives special treatment.
  - Currently, the event on Saturday, April 28 consists of about five student-operated booths making and serving hotdogs, quesadillas, grilled cheese sandwiches, vegetarian wraps and possibly kabobs and grill-fired pizzas.
  - AVI will also serve food outside from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Student participation will occur from 12:45 p.m. to anywhere between 4:00 and 5:30 p.m., depending on when the food runs out.
  - The fencing on South Quad will be open from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
  - The BFC had its last supplemental budget meeting last Tuesday, but called an emergency supplemental meeting Tuesday for the Student Council's Subcommittee to present Saturday's events budget, which currently consists of:
    - In-house security: \$800
    - Maintenance: \$400 (or less)
    - AVI Lunch: \$1,200
    - Menu: \$1,380 (or more)
    - Outside Security: \$1,600 (approximation)
  - The Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services (ODADAS) funds will most likely cover only food. The BFC does not allocate money for food unless it is essential to the organization or for any purpose involving the consumption of alcohol, according to the BFC bylaws.
  - Student Council also held an emergency Student Council meeting yesterday at 10:15 p.m. to approve the BFC allocation so the Student Council Subcommittee could enter contracts with outside firms on time.
- At the spring meeting of the Board of Trustees, Student Council will discuss the new smoking policy, the changes in North Campus Apartments and housing, funding for the shuttle and the future of Bexley Hall.

— Grace Hitzeman

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# Castaway: Council Conditionally Approves Saturday Event

*continued from page 1*

"It seems like an acceptable timeline for Student Council — of course it's an exceptional timeline — but it seems like something they're ready to work with," he said.

Some are less confident, given the gravity of the issues left to resolve and the short timeline.

"Right now, if you're asking me as an individual, I'm not absolutely convinced that it's possible to do this and to abide by regulations and be safe and responsible," Dean of Students Hank Toutain said. "What happened this evening, I think appropriately, is that approval of the event and funding for the event was made contingent on a variety of requests. They have to do with following rules, how you can do this safely and responsibly, and we'll see later on whether it can happen or not. It won't be for lack of trying."

## A Food Court on South Quad

Castaway, as proposed, centers on a picnic held on South Quad from 11:00 a.m. to roughly 4:00 p.m. AVI would cater an outdoor lunch followed by volunteers serving local hot dogs, quesadillas, pizzas, ice cream, wraps, snacks and candy. People Endorsing Agrarian Sustainability (PEAS) will help with the food.

Students 21 and over will be allowed to bring alcohol into the event, in keeping with the party policy used last year. Fences, with four entrances manned by an outside security firm, will contain the area in which drinking can occur.

Liegner and the rest of the subcommittee hope to preserve the Sendoff of past years. "To not have Sendoff on Saturday would lose the camaraderie and tradition that Sendoff — Sendoff on Saturday — represents. With nothing on Saturday, we run the risk of students resenting those who make decisions like this for them," he said.

Liegner also said the subcommittee aims to show the student body that student government listens. "[That we are] making this effort to make sure something happens on Saturday says something about what our school can do when we have a difficult and complex situation and turn it into something beneficial — wanting to show that student government can do something good, something important for the sake of the students we're meant to represent," he said.

## Contesting the BFC's Bylaws

The night before the emergency meeting, the Business and Finance Committee voted to approve the subcommittee's emergency budget request, sending the entire proposal to Student Council. The request, which totaled \$3,194.40, included \$1,130 for food and catering and \$1,814.40 in security fees for both an outside firm and Campus Safety.

Perhaps the most complicated issue concerns the potential presence of alcohol at the event and whether the committee can reconcile that with BFC bylaws, which prevent it from allocating funds to events involving the consumption of alcohol.

Though students responded well to Liegner and Fine's presentation at the BFC meeting Tuesday, Director of Student Activities and Greek Life Christina Mastrangelo strongly opposed the BFC's decision to go against their bylaws regarding alcoholic events.

Fine explained that the event was given a BYOB permit, allowing students to consume their own alcohol, but not for it to be served. "[Associate Dean of Students] Tacci Smith extended this permit because of the special circumstances of the event, seeking to replace a tradition that was lost," he said.

Mastrangelo took serious issue with the BFC's decision.

"There is never a question as to whether or not we should fund an event with alcohol. We don't even give time and energy to those types of requests," she said. "And they don't come our way because it is clear that that's not something the BFC funds ... I don't agree with the money being used in the way that it is being used and I think it is really unfair to groups that have come to the BFC all year for things that follow the bylaws 100 percent."

Student Council President Ryan Motevalli-Oliner called the event difficult to categorize. "It's a BYOB event," he said. "So we're telling students they can bring alcohol, but the event is not that ... we could have had a barbeque anyway on the South Quad without anything else. ... We could have just had the cookout, and students would be out there."

Funding an event that promotes drinking treads a fine line, according to Smith. "I struggle personally about whether or not this is exactly how that money should be spent and more importantly about how much time and effort is going to be spent basically for students to spend a day drinking," she said. Smith has been working with Liegner and the subcommittee to make this event happen "and to make it happen safely, because that is my first priority," she said.

Student Council's debate negotiated delicate territory Wednesday night for another reason. In voting, the Council chose to fund an event planned, essentially, by itself. Motevalli-Oliner '12 said, "One [concern] was Student Council voting what they want as students rather than in their role as Student Council." Still, "the decisions that were made were based on what is our role as Student Council," he said.

Toutain argued that the complicated funding situation warranted special consideration.

"I don't agree with the money being used in the way that it is being used and I think it is really unfair to groups that have come to the BFC all year for things that follow the bylaws 100 percent."

*Director of Student Activities and Greek Life Christina Mastrangelo*

"In this case, you're both the petitioner and the granter," he said. "... Student Council is asking for the money and Student Council is giving the money, so if you are another organization on campus that may already think that this is just a club for a select group of people, they may not think that you're being fair to their group [by funding your own initiative]."

## Providing Safe Alternatives

Before Student Council debated the proposal Wednesday, the BFC took it up in an emergency Tuesday meeting. There, the debate focused more on justifications for funding the event and less on logistics.

One BFC member, Alexandra Kline '12, argued at the BFC meeting Tuesday that without the Saturday event, parties will take place, hosted by student organizations and Greek organizations "running the risks of dangerous behind-closed-doors binge drinking trying to make up for the loss of Saturday," she said in the meeting. "Is it worth running those risks, just so that the school doesn't need to worry about precedent or liability for what goes on over on the quad?"

Another member of the BFC, Sam Baker '13, expressed additional worry about students skipping class for the Friday event. "Knowing that the event on Saturday will happen, [students are] a lot less likely to skip class on Friday preparing for Sendoff, since they know it will be going on the next day, too," he said.

Kline said event organizers should make the student body aware of the potentially greater presence of the Sheriff and the state liquor board at the event on Saturday.

After roughly three minutes of discussion without Liegner and Fine in the room, the BFC members voted on the proposal. With eight members present, five voted in favor, none opposed and three abstained. The following night, Liegner and Fine took the proposal to Student Council.

## Logistical and Liability Concerns

Despite the BFC's go-ahead, Wednesday's Student Council meeting brought several logistical issues to the fore.

In addition to Toutain's concern that the event will violate BFC by-laws, Mastrangelo questioned the liability that hiring an outside security company would create. In previous years, the College has assumed all liability for underage drinking citations on South Quad during Sendoff — a move that a professional security company will almost certainly not replicate.

Mastrangelo said at the meeting that Campus Safety, whose officers will be present to monitor the event, will implement a "three-strike" policy for underage drinking: if three students are caught drinking underage, the event will be shut down. Some students felt this strategy contrasted with past Sendoffs, when Safety officers seemed to be more lenient on students than they would have

been the rest of the year.

Others at the meeting raised concerns that the proposal did not address important issues like providing utensils, training students and coordinating efforts with Safety and Maintenance.

"A lot of [these] logistics you would typically plan months in advance, not a week in advance, and it feels, as much as they've put a couple of weeks into this, they couldn't answer any of their questions with specific responses. And that concerns me," Mastrangelo said.

The subcommittee plans to present such details to Student Council at their regularly scheduled Sunday meeting.

## Setting Precedents

Smith and Mastrangelo also both brought up the possibility that holding such an event and receiving funding for it from the BFC would set a precedent.

"It is setting a really bad precedent for the BFC," Mastrangelo said. "You know, what does this mean for the future? We say that we're making an exception now, who's to say that we won't continue to make exceptions when it is convenient in the future?"

Smith also said Sendoff itself — even in past incarnations — doesn't have a positive reputation among administrators. "In some people's eyes — some administrators' eyes — this looks like a joke," she said. "It looks like the students' excuse for an event so that in the end students can sit on the quad and drink. I don't tend to see it that way, but some do."

For now, Liegner stressed that this event is necessary and will do more than provide a fun Saturday afternoon. "We want students to be proud of attending Kenyon, because those helping to run the school have their interests at heart both in routine happenings and in spectacular events like this one," he said. "Also, we just want students to have a good time."

# Unions: Admins, Officers Cautiously Optimistic After Vote

*continued from page 1*

under the SPFPA from the NLRB.

After the administration was notified, Kohlman met several times with officers to hear their concerns and argue on behalf of the College that forming a union would not be in their interest.

"I took the position that I think that the working relationship between [the Safety officers and] the college is a good one," Kohlman said. "We have lots of processes in place

for dispute resolution, for issue resolution. In our handbook, we have all of these guidelines for how we deal with discipline and we deal with all kinds of personnel things that one would typically find in a union contract but that we already have in place."

Negotiating a contract may be a lengthy process, according to Nugent.

That uncertainty is exacerbated by the necessity of building the contract essentially from scratch.

"[You] enter into contract

negotiations, which can be lengthy. Especially when you're establishing the first contract, everything is on the table, in essence," Nugent said. "You start from scratch about what will be the benefits, all the conditions of employment. I have no idea how long that process will take."

Safety officers interviewed said the newly unionized group would seek an increase in compensation, but other concerns included improving grievance procedures and establishing themselves as contracted em-

ployees who cannot be fired at any time.

Currently, Safety officers, like all non-union employees in the State of Ohio, are employed on an at-will basis.

Under this classification, their employment may be terminated at any time, with or without cause.

Representatives of the College, likely including Kohlman, and a group of Safety officers selected by their colleagues will conduct negotiations. Representatives from the SPFPA will advise the officers during nego-

tiations.

In addition to selecting members of a negotiating team, the Safety officers will elect a president, vice president and treasurer for their local chapter. These elections, however, will occur only once the NLRB officially certifies the results of the vote to unionize.

Even without that certification, officers said morale amongst their ranks has greatly improved since the vote.

"We are a more tight-knit unit than I've ever seen," Downes said.



## Faculty Plan Summer Retreat

MADELEINE THOMPSON

Provost Nayef Samhat and the Center for Innovative Pedagogy will hold a faculty retreat in August thanks to a \$750,000 grant from the Mellon Foundation. The retreat will focus on centering Kenyon's curriculum on six essential skills: writing, oral expression, language and culture, scientific and quantitative reasoning, visual literacy and new media, and geography and spatial phenomena.

Attendees at the last faculty retreat in the summer of 2010 chose these areas of concentration, but they may expand in the coming months.

"One of the things we thought about was, 'How can we connect these skills across different disciplines? ... And how can we do so in a way that's explicit and intentional?'" Samhat said. "It's not that we're not teaching writing — we know we're teaching writing ... but can we be more explicit about the connection that goes on with writing between, say, English and biology?"

President S. Georgia Nugent said that the connections between these six "skill sets" will be integrated throughout a student's four years at Kenyon. "The notion is to think of these things not as sort of first-year general education requirements but as things that ... as you go into more and more advanced and sophisticated courses, these skills should also be infused into them," she said. "Thinking about it vertically through the Kenyon career and also horizontally, we immediately think, well, quantitative skills belong in math and economics, but where does that show up in art or sociology or literature?"

A committee of faculty members wrote a proposal for the upcoming retreat and sent it to the Mellon Foundation, which supported the plan.

"This creates an opportunity for us to foster really deep and enduring conversation about our teaching and the delivery

of essential skills to our students through our teaching," Samhat said. "What really is transformative in the experience of students is not so much a curriculum as it is the pedagogy, the teaching going on inside the classroom."

Associate Professor of Physics Timothy Sullivan, one of 60 faculty members currently planning to attend the retreat, is particularly interested in the language and culture component. "The two issues that I'm most interested in are global engagement, which should be an important part of a liberal arts education ... and [quantitative reasoning]," Sullivan said.

As a physics professor, however, incorporating cultural aspects in his curriculum is a challenge. "Unfortunately, there aren't that many programs that combine sciences with study abroad," he said. "On the other hand, it's perfectly reasonable for a science major to spend a semester not studying science at all. It's a general goal for our majors to be more aware of what's going on in the world."

Associate Professor of Mathematics Bob Milnikel, who also plans to attend the retreat, has volunteered to join the team that addresses quantitative reasoning skills. "There's no student on this campus who doesn't have some interest, academic or otherwise, that doesn't require some level of quantitative skill," Milnikel said. "Right now our quantitative requirement is very broadly written, and I think that's fine ... but we might also consider some sort of placement exam."

For the most part, Milnikel believes Kenyon students graduate with a well-rounded education, and any changes to the curriculum will be fairly small-scale.

"The beauty of these areas is that they're universal," Samhat said. "... A Kenyon student should be able to recognize [any issue that arises] as an opportunity and have the ability to engage it. Then you can be a productive member of society."

## Farm: Students to Live, Work on New Property



DAVID HOYT

Next fall, four or five students will be able to live in a college-owned farm, located on Zion Road.

*continued from page 1*

S. Georgia Nugent. Kenyon will make the purchase in conjunction with the Philander Chase Corporation.

"Students will live there, but we will also involve a local farmer so that students don't have the total responsibility," Nugent said. "They will be involved to the extent that they want to be involved."

The local farmer will not live at the farm, Nugent said, but will likely be contracted to help out with farm work. As many as four or five students will live on the farm beginning this fall, Nugent said. The details, however, still need to be worked out with Housing and Residential Life.

Students who live on the farm will still be able to walk to classes because "the farm

is right out on Zion Road. ... That was one of the great advantages to it — it's really walkable," Nugent said.

The purchase has been in the works since last semester, according to Nugent. It currently belongs to John Marsh, AVI sustainability director. Marsh declined to comment for this article.

Kohlman said the College may work out some details at the spring meeting of the Board of Trustees, set for April 19-21, so he declined to comment in an official capacity before then.

Nugent lauded Marsh's efforts to advance sustainability at Kenyon, saying the farm could be an extension of that mentality. "The thought has been that John has really dedicated himself to this local foods project," she said. "This is a way of that being carried on."

## Poetry Reading Honors Holocaust Remembrance Day

MADELEINE THOMPSON

Jacqueline Osherow's poem "Orders of Infinity" inspired Jess Lieberman '14 to put together today's poetry reading to honor National Holocaust Remembrance Day.

"I remembered I went to this poetry reading in the fall and one of the poems was about Treblinka. I had actually visited there before, and I had such a strong emotional response to the poem that I started sobbing," Lieberman said.

"Remembering that really inspired this event because poetry is a really powerful vehicle for conveying emotion and memories. ... I want people to see [the Holocaust] as something personal that happened to communities, to families, to people, some of whom are still living."

Recruiting professors, including Visiting Profes-

"This event is really great because it takes the best part of Kenyon and applies it to the Jewish experience."

*Jess Lieberman '14*

sor of Creative Writing Daniel Epstein, Professor of Religious Studies Royal Rhodes, *Kenyon Review* editor David Lynn and Assistant Professor of German Leo Riegert, for the poetry reading was Lieberman's first step in organizing the event.

After finding professors, "the program just kind of filled out," she said.

Other participants include Professor of Psychology Allan Fenigstein, Professor of Religious Studies Miriam Dean-Otting, Professor of Women's and Gender Studies Laurie Finke and Daniel Solway '14, head of Hillel House.

Epstein, who grew up in a predominantly Jewish neighborhood, was honored to be asked. "When I was a boy, people were reluctant to talk about [the Holocaust]," Epstein said. "I think it's interesting to see that the memory of the Holocaust has become institutionalized, in a good way, by remembering that we will not repeat the mistakes of the past."

As a professor of poetry, Epstein feels especially connected to the use of poetry in conveying emotion. "One of the ways that poetry is defined is as memorable speech," Epstein said. "One of the ways we remember important things in our lives is

through poetry. But there are certain themes that even poetry has trouble addressing, and the Holocaust is one of them."

Riegert, who teaches a class on the Holocaust, hopes the event will keep memories and discourse alive. "The sad fact is that this happens again and again with genocide and ethnic cleansing," he said. "That's what is more important for me personally — that students become aware of the atrocity that is happening in the world today and begin to understand that they have a responsibility to intervene."

As an active member of Hillel House and of the Jewish community at Kenyon, Lynn helped Lieberman choose a time and place to host the reading and decided to have *The Kenyon Review* sponsor the remembrance event, calling it a "good opportunity."

Finally, Rhodes agreed to offer a non-Jewish perspective.

"I thought it was important for this event that there be a non-Jewish voice," Rhodes said, "especially when looking specifically at the moral dimension of recognizing the bystanders. Not everyone was silent. ... There were some [who spoke out], but there were too few."

In addition to the poetry reading, Columbus resident Murray Ebner, a Holocaust survivor, will speak next week in accordance with the Holocaust Remembrance Day.

"It's a really special and unique experience to be able to hear someone tell a personal story of what happened," Lieberman said. "Over the next 10 years, that opportunity is going to be lost. It's something that's unique to our generation."

Epstein, too, recognizes the significance of hearing a survivor tell his story.

"There will be fewer and fewer [survivors] as time goes on," he said.

As co-manager of Hillel, Lieberman noticed a lack of interest in ritual observance among Jewish people on campus, but believes this event will be well-received among all religious backgrounds.

"This event is really great because it takes the best part of Kenyon and applies it to the Jewish experience," she said, "because no one can do a poetry event better than Kenyon College and *The Kenyon Review*."

Today's poetry reading is at 4:10 p.m. in the Community Foundation Theater in Gund Gallery, and Ebner will speak on April 23 in the Bemis Music Room in Peirce Hall at 4:10 p.m.



# Conference on Democracy Promotion Provokes Discussion

ERIC GELLER

Democracy is the best form of government, and other countries should aspire to the same standard America has achieved — right? Participants at the second Center for the Study of American Democracy (CSAD) conference last week tackled this question, with varied conclusions. The conference brought together policy-makers, diplomats and students in a three-day discussion of foreign policy, economics and history.

The conference opened on April 12 with a keynote address by Zalmay Khalilzad, the former U.S. ambassador to Iraq, Afghanistan and the U.N.

On Friday, following morning remarks by former veteran diplomats Nicholas Burns and Elliott Abrams, members of the community attended panels like “Assessing the Arab Spring and Democracy in the Middle East” and “Is Democracy Promotion in America’s Interest?”

While panelists remained

civil, there was one memorable argument at Friday’s Arab Spring panel. Responding to a comment from the audience challenging his description of various Afghani factions, John Agresto, a member of the Board of Trustees of the American University of Iraq, briefly argued with James Zogby, founder and president of the Arab American Institute, about the need for American humility. Zogby said America has never been and still is not a perfect nation, and that democracy promotion efforts should be conducted with its own shortcomings in mind. Agresto disputed Zogby’s assertion that the history of civil rights in America was comparable to the turmoil and illiberality in other countries like Afghanistan.

Reactions to the conference were generally positive among students and faculty. “We got to hear from people from a wide variety of backgrounds, as well as a diverse array of ideological perspectives,” Jacob Smith ’12 said. “The receptions were also

very good in that they were open to the campus community. It was very interesting to have the chance to talk to participants one on one.”

Jonathan Green ’14 was impressed by participants’ thoughtfulness in answering the conference’s central question.

“The panelists, for the most part, did an excellent job of acknowledging that their answer to the CSAD’s question depended on what they meant by ‘democracy’ and what they meant by ‘promote,’” Green said.

One noteworthy reaction to the conference came in the form of a brief all-student email argument between Professor of Religious Studies Vernon Schubel and Professor of Political Science Fred Baumann. Schubel sent an allstu reflecting on what he considered the harmful effects of Straussian neoconservative thinking, as advocated by some conference speakers like Abrams and Agresto. “Do the neoconservatives really believe in promoting democracy?” he



DAVID HOYT

**Zalmay Khalilzad, former U.S. ambassador to Iraq, Afghanistan and the U.N., gave the keynote address on April 12.**

said in the email.

Baumann responded by calling Schubel’s email an “effort to rekindle the culture wars at Kenyon.” He also said Schubel’s criticism of Straussian policymakers implicitly accused other proponents of that philosophy of dishonesty in their support for democ-

racy promotion.

Director of the CSAD and Assistant Professor of Political Science Thomas Karako was pleased with the Kenyon community’s reaction to the conference.

“It went very well,” he said in an email. “We were very pleased at the sustained overflow atten-

dance, the interaction by speakers with faculty, staff, students and the community — and by the buzz of a conversation that we saw before, during and after the conference. A number of speakers remarked on their interactions with students and how much they enjoyed visiting Kenyon.”

## Building a Team: Division III Recruiting in Rural Ohio

SARAH LEHR

Anxiety-ridden high school seniors might imagine the scene in Ransom Hall when Admissions considers their applications. Perhaps collegiate people in tweed jackets sit around a conference table, tallying up AP classes and frowning at ACT scores. For prospective athletes, such deliberation, on the part of Admissions, actually begins before a formal application is even submitted.

Admissions usually engages in what is known as a “pre-read” of prospective athletes. Pre-reads determine which students Kenyon will recruit to play sports.

Admissions officers typically look at athletes’ full junior-year transcripts, their ACT and SAT scores and lists of their senior-year courses before they even receive a full or finished application. If a prospective athlete doesn’t seem to meet the academic standards required for future Kenyon admittance, “Admissions will be upfront with coaches, so that [the coaches] can concentrate their recruiting resources elsewhere,” said Associate Director of Admissions and liaison to the Athletics Department B. Noble Jones.

Once coaches begin to wrap up recruiting, they use a ranking system based on athletic talent to give Admissions an idea of a prospective athlete’s skill level and how valuable that athlete would be on a particular Kenyon roster. Admissions uses a similar ranking system, involving grades assigned by faculty, to assess students with talent in music or studio arts.

“Sometimes you can get stars in your eyes,” Jones said, referring to the temptation to admit students for extraordinary athletic prowess. “I’m a competitive person. This is my alma mater, and I want to win.

At the same time, talent on the field cannot trump academic rigor.

“First and foremost, I don’t want someone to come and have a bad experience because they’re not prepared for the rigors of the classroom,” Jones said.

“I think the worst thing we can do as an admissions office is to send somebody home after a year or semester ... to face their community as a ‘failure’ because they weren’t able to cut it.”

Pre-screens for athletes explain the disparity between acceptance rates for athletes versus non-athletes. Last year, Admissions admitted 1,429 students out of the 4,272 who applied, a 32.7 percent admittance rate. In contrast, the five-year average for athletes is 311 admits out of 612 applications, a 50.8 percent admittance rate.

Because Admissions provides coaches with an indication of an athlete’s academic standing, coaches will discourage athletes who will likely be rejected on academic grounds from applying to Kenyon, and thus the pool of athlete applicants tends to be more qualified than the pool of general applicants, according to Jones.

A higher percent of accepted athletes accept their admissions officers than accepted students generally, which helps Admissions predict class size more accurately. Athletes are also more likely than non-athletes to remain at Kenyon, perhaps because of their relationships with their coaches, according to Noble.

“Our boss Jennifer [Delahunty, Dean of Admission and Financial Aid] likes to say that we [Admissions] work hand and glove with the Athletics Department, with regards to recruiting,” Jones said.

In recent years, Division III recruiting has intensified.

“When people think of a coach they just think of someone blowing a whistle to get an athlete to run faster or to lift more. Recruiting is actually around 75 percent of what we [as coaches do],” Assistant Track and Field Coach and Recruiting Coordinator Craig First said.

Each individual sports team has its own recruiting budget, which varies between roughly 5 and 10 percent of the team’s overall budget, according to Smith. Teams use much of this money

to travel to large events and showcases where they can observe many athletes at once.

“There’s this misconception that we don’t recruit,” said Suzanne Helfant, head women’s basketball coach and senior women’s administrator. “If we didn’t, we wouldn’t be allowed to be competitive. We have to recruit nationally.”

Another misconception, according to Helfant, is that Kenyon is not restrained by any recruiting guidelines. The NCAA [National Collegiate Athletic Association] does impose restrictions on Division III recruiting, but these are not as stringent as Division I and II restrictions.

A prospective athlete cannot participate in an official visit to a potential college until his or her senior year of high school, though unofficial visits are unrestricted, according to Division III rules.

Official visits cannot last for more than 48 hours and occur when a college pays for an athlete’s transportation, meals or any entertainment besides admission to a home game.

Prospective Kenyon athletes can participate in any college-wide admissions program and can receive the same travel grants that non-athletes are eligible for.

“Most of our visits are termed, by the NCAA rules, [as] unofficial visits,” Smith said.

A coach cannot engage in in-person, off-campus contact with an athlete until the athlete’s junior year of high school. There are no restrictions, however, on when coaches can begin sending recruitment materials, including mail or emails, to prospective athletes.

Division III requirements also prohibit Kenyon from offering athletic scholarships and from providing preferential financial aid to athletes.

The only non-academic scholarships Kenyon offers are for music and studio arts, and to receive these scholarships students must submit a supplementary application. Kenyon does not offer schol-

arships for “leadership,” though other Division III schools sometimes give leadership to athletes.

“Students don’t get admitted to Kenyon just because they’re athletes,” Jones said. But, “if you had two identical students, which I don’t think ever happens ... and one had an athletic hook that the other student didn’t have, the student with that hook would likely receive an offer should we only have one spot left.”

Kenyon’s academic reputation draws athletes, but academic standards also limit the pool of recruits.

“Our [academics are] so competitive in comparison to all the schools we compete against, with the exception of Oberlin [College], that we lose out on a lot of students looking within our conference,” Helfant said. “We don’t give out a lot of merit scholarships either.”

Cost can also deter prospective athletes. Kenyon’s yearly tuition for 2011-12 averaged \$52,650.

Particularly in light of the economic recession, “oftentimes the bottom line is the bottom line ... The sticker shock oftentimes just scares people away,” Helfant said, “Trying to reel them back in and getting them to understand the value of this place has become more and more difficult — not that it’s not worth the value, because it certainly is.”

Kenyon’s high tuition also affects the types of sports it can recruit from.

“A lot people hate this [distinction], but you have so-called blue collar sports, like football, basketball and baseball, and then white collar sports, like lacrosse and soccer. It seems that Kenyon ... attracts more athletes from sports that more affluent kids participate in and sports that tend to be offered more at prep schools instead of public schools,” Helfant said. “I think football is by far the most difficult sport to recruit for at Kenyon by far ... in part because of [Kenyon’s] cost.”

Football at Kenyon requires around 60 or 70 players, and recruiting is more difficult for larger teams. Teams like tennis or basketball that require fewer play-

ers, “probably would be more focused in their recruiting,” Smith said.

It also tends to be easier to recruit for successful teams. Kenyon football suffered 23 consecutive losses last season. In contrast, men’s swimming and diving placed second at the NCAA Division III championship and the women’s team placed fourth. Men’s tennis is an Elite Eight team, and women’s basketball made it to the semifinals of the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC).

Kenyon’s rural location poses another recruiting challenge. Smith said Kenyon recruits against schools that try to capitalize on urban environments, such as Denison University (which ties Granville, Ohio to Columbus) and Washington University in Saint Louis.

First encourages prospective athletes to visit campus. “Especially if they’re from the East Coast or California, they think the Midwest is just a bunch of cornfields, [but] they come here and they see the campus is so much more,” he said.

“It certainly helps when your college is considered the most beautiful college in the world,” Smith said, referring to a 2011 Forbes ranking.

The site of the six-year-old, \$70 million Kenyon Athletic Center (KAC) might similarly impress prospective students.

Although the KAC “makes a strong statement when students visit,” Jones said, “it hasn’t really been the closer [in students’ decisions about whether to come to Kenyon], in the way a lot of people hoped it might be.”

Helfant urges prospective basketball players to interact with Kenyon students. “You can listen to me give a presentation, but I’m obviously very biased about the program and want to sell it,” she said. “For me, our student athletes are our best and most honest ambassadors.”

First praised students’ treatment of prospective athletes. “Hats off to the student body, because high school athletes tell me how friendly Kenyon students are to them,” he said.



## Funding Castaway: An Irresponsible Decision

Hoping to address concerns within the student body about Sendoff's date change, Student Council approved a subcommittee to delve deeper into planning a Saturday event for Sendoff weekend. In an emergency meeting last night, members conditionally approved a subcommittee's plan to fund an event for that day, April 28. With Sendoff a mere 10 days away, the proposal suffered a lack of logistical clarity and precision, failed to address liability issues and contradicted student government bylaws.

In fact, Student Council as a whole approved the funding only on the condition that the subcommittee address a list of more than eight issues before their next meeting Sunday. Administrators with experience planning similar events registered considerable concern at how much work would have to go into organizing the event in time.

The Budget and Finance Committee should not have approved this event without demanding that the planning subcommittee more thoroughly research logistics and liability. The organization does have a duty to allocate funds in the interests of students, and no one can deny how popular this event would be with Kenyon students.

But the BFC also has a mandate to award funding responsibly. Allo-

cating for requests that are unlikely to succeed is irresponsible.

Despite individual desire for a Saturday Sendoff event, the members of the Budget and Finance Committee should have urged the subcommittee to put forth a more coherent proposal before agreeing to allocate the funding. Luckily, Student Council as a whole picked up the slack and asked the appropriate questions. But such oversight isn't always possible, and the BFC needs to recognize that.

The decision by the student treasurers to convene an emergency session of the BFC was also irresponsible, since they were essentially giving preferential treatment to their student government colleagues. If any other student organization had submitted a programming-related request after the final supplemental hearing was held, they would have been summarily rebuffed. Most student leaders work hard to meet these deadlines, and Student Council should be expected to abide by the same rules as everyone else.

There are more than 30 years of tradition behind Kenyon's Summer Sendoff, and its Saturday celebrations have been a part of the event since its inception. Naturally, students are looking to replace the event they had anticipated. But the BFC's decision to approve this event was given too little thought. This is not an event that is ready to be funded, and logistically speaking, it's unlikely to become one before April 28.

## New Housing Process Impedes Kenyon's Culture of Inclusion



DAN LEVY

By demolishing the Bexley apartments this summer and replacing them with North Campus Apartments, Kenyon is taking a step toward providing superior, quality housing to its students. In doing so, however, the school is walking a dangerous line. With the demolition of the Bexleys, two of the five apartment complexes on campus are now application-based housing. Add that to themed housing, and less than half of the school's apartments are decided through the housing lottery.

Why is this problematic? Like so many other students at Kenyon, I was taught that equality, fair treatment and respect were some of this community's virtues. By having a committee decide the validity of applications for the campus's finest apartments, we students are submitting our entire records, both academic and disciplinary, for review. This process is unfair.

As students, should we be punished for being less intelligent than our peers? Why should students

with the best GPAs be treated as first-class citizens, while struggling students who could benefit from choice housing are relegated to other options? Suppose I took difficult classes when I was a freshman and sophomore because I wanted to challenge myself and get out of my comfort zone. Should I be punished for getting bad grades in those classes? I think this idea is directly contradictory to the idea of a Kenyon education. What about judicial infractions — should we be constantly punished for that mistake we made freshman year? It's like the administration saying, "Do the judicial punishment we've allotted you, but we'll still hold it against you for the rest of your Kenyon career."

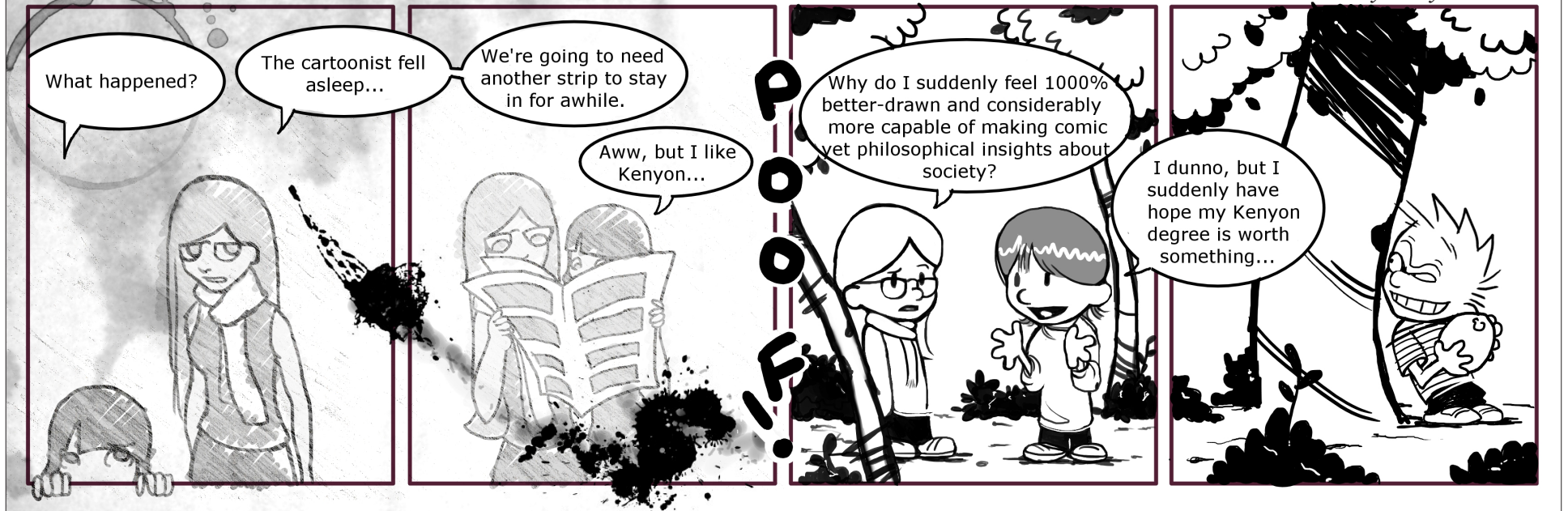
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Combine the difficulty of being approved for off-campus living with the exclusive, preferential system that currently exists on campus, and you get a housing system that is very much the opposite of an inclusive, nurturing community.

My final point concerns Greek division housing. Sophomores who live in Greek division housing and those who live in themed housing lose a point in their next housing lottery. The issue for many Greek organizations is that we members are often forced to have all or most of our sophomores live in division housing; if we don't fill our allotted rooms by a certain date, the school will take away all of a group's division housing. So essentially, by joining these groups as freshmen and fulfilling their duty to help their group survive, these new members are punished by the College in the next housing lottery.

Some would contend that these sophomores have access to preferential housing on South campus. I would offer that this is the housing that we have occupied for decades, and that there shouldn't be a punishment for upholding tradition. Also, most division rooms are no picnic: they lack air conditioning, have poor cell phone service and can be loud. As Greeks, we have all gone through long, arduous pledge processes and regularly pay expensive dues. Quite simply, I do not think we should be punished just for being who we are.

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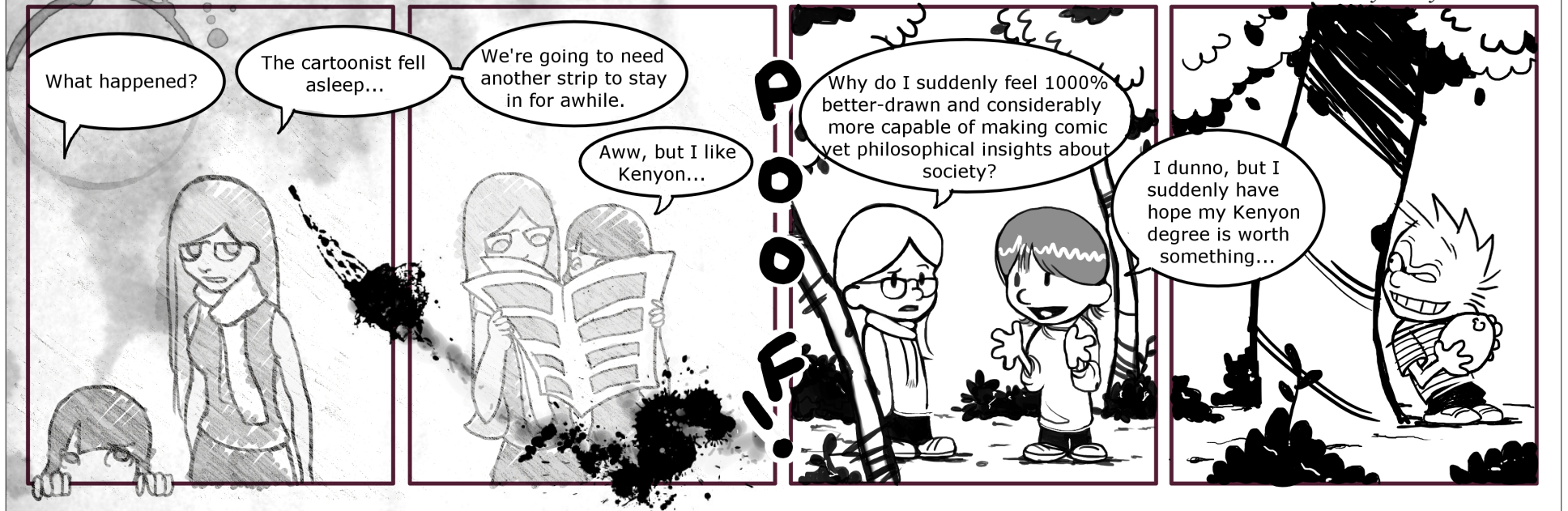
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Savannah Provine '12 and Rachel Walsh '12, who planned Kenyon's Relay for Life fundraiser, share a moment on the Kenyon Athletic Center's Toan Track.

Savannah Provine '12 went round and round in a never-ending circle, thinking of her mother's fight against cancer, the words "Celebrate. Remember. Fight Back." running through her head. That was in 2000, at a Relay for Life event in her small town of Greencastle, Ind., where she cracked glow sticks, lit luminarias and pledged to raise cancer awareness in the Closing Ceremony.

When Provine was 18 months old, her mother was diagnosed with brain cancer. Provine grew up in a household that was constantly aware of this disease. This led Provine to Relay, which was already a powerful event in her hometown, in 2000.

Three years later, Provine again attended Relay for Life. This time, nearly 15 luminarias were lit, all dedicated to her mother and symbolizing the end of her decade-long battle with cancer. Her mother's funeral was held the same morning as her town's annual Relay for Life, but Provine still attended the event later in the day. She found solace in the Relay that night, and became dedicated to promoting its message. She joined the Relay committee at Kenyon as a first year.

"It's something I can do for my mother to remember her," Provine said.

In December of her senior year of high school, Rachel Walsh '12 discovered that her mother's cancer had come out of remission. A few weeks later, her favorite teacher's 12-year-old daughter was diagnosed with leukemia. She joined a community Relay team to support her teacher and all loved ones affected by this disease, and was incredibly moved by the event.

"It was just so beautiful to watch my school get behind this cause," Walsh said.

This dedication to Relay persisted into Walsh's first year at Kenyon, where she met Provine during Theta Alpha Pi pledging. It was during this pledging process that Walsh discovered Provine had lost her mother to cancer and felt an immediate connection. Dealing with the newfound knowledge that her own mother's cancer had metastasized, Walsh asked Provine if she needed any help with Relay.

"She talked to the committee, and they were like, 'Yeah, just come volunteer,'" Walsh said. "So I went to the event at Kenyon and was just really amazed by seeing it at college ... and all the college students behind it."

That summer, Walsh lost her mother to cancer. She joined the Relay for Life committee at Kenyon, where she could change the way the disease is understood. By her junior year, Walsh found herself running the event singlehandedly.

Provine, who had a year of experience on the Relay committee as luminaria chair, left to go abroad to the Turks and Caicos in the British West Indies, and the rest of the committee members had graduated the spring before. This left Walsh, the only committee member with any sort of experience, and four other members to plan and run the event.

Relay for Life is the most prominent volunteer-driven cancer fundraising event of the American Cancer Society (ACS), dedicated to raising funds to fight cancer, spreading awareness about the disease and honoring those who have either died from or are currently fighting against cancer. The event takes months of planning and organizing, with the end goal of raising funds toward research grants and programs, prevention programs, community and patient support programs, detection and treatment programs and other fundraising events geared toward raising awareness.

The event itself lasts 24 hours, with participants, part of eight to 15-person teams, walking around a track with a pledge to raise a certain amount of money toward the ACS. Relay often includes a Survivor Lap and Dinner, "Celebrate"; a Luminaria Ceremony, "Remember"; and a concluding Fight Back Ceremony, "Fight."

A member of the ACS usually works in conjunction with the organization that hosts Relay in order to help establish and publicize the event, but Walsh and her four-person committee weren't lucky enough to have that kind of assistance. Kenyon's ACS staff member had left the ACS earlier that year, and no replacement was offered.

Walsh took the "deer-in-headlights" approach to cope.

"I started going through the process and trying to piece things together," she said. "Doing my best not knowing what I was doing. I began to kind of fall in love with it and really feel like I was focusing my energy toward something that is positive and good. ... It is an incredible feeling to work with ... people who also have that passion for Relay."

This year, Walsh and Provine brought that incredible passion to the 18-hour Relay for Life event held at the Kenyon Athletic Center on Saturday, April 14 — a culmination of a year's work as heads of the Relay committee and a lifetime spent in the shadow of cancer.

This year's Relay, the sixth in the event's tenure at Kenyon, surpassed both their goal of \$40,000 and the standing fundraising record of roughly \$41,000, met in 2008. They currently have \$45,978.43, and donations will be accepted until the next Relay season.

Provine, who's been part of four out of the six Relays, said there has been significant growth in Relay, both as a committee and an event, during its time here, but it has not been a straight trajectory of success.

"There's only so much we can do without the students getting into it," Provine said. "It takes some time to build that relationship with the students with the event."

Attracting committee members has often been a struggle for Relay in the past, with usually no more than four to six people joining. This year saw a higher turnout (13 members) and enough people to fill all the positions — a first in Provine's memory of Relay.

"We cannot speak highly enough [of the committee members]," Walsh said. "They're an extremely dedicated group of students."

They began planning Relay as soon as the year began, with weekly meetings with

the committee and their faculty advisor, Director of Student Activities and Greek Life Christina Mastrangelo, as well as conferences with their ACS partner. In addition to planning the actual event, the Relay committee also did fundraising in the fall during Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October. Members passed out pamphlets, sold t-shirts and took part in the Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk in Columbus.

As Relay drew closer, the committee extended even farther to raise awareness about the event.

Efforts included a "Paint the Campus Purple" week in October, where the committee tied ribbons around trees as part of its effort to get more teams signed in and more students conscious of the event. In the week leading up to Relay, the committee partnered with the Village Inn for a trivia night. The V.I. created a purple drink for the event and donated all the proceeds. Chelsea Farco '12 did a round of cancer facts for trivia education.

"It was just about putting in the [work]," Walsh said, "putting the word out to the Kenyon community that Relay was happening."

The success Walsh and Provine brought to Relay this year sprang from dedication to the cause and years of personal struggle and intimate loss. They gave the community a chance to share in their grief and celebrate in the love of the fallen or fighting. Through Relay for Life, Walsh and Provine created a space to remember lives lost and a place to fight back against what we cannot touch — a single flame for the forgotten, captured in a paper bag.

*Additional reporting by Jane Simonton.*

Funds Raised (By Team)	
Relay Committee:	\$8,001.66
ResLife:	\$3,926.57
Weight Watchers/Dog Walkers:	\$3,747.00
Social Board:	\$2,731.00
Epsilon Delta Mu:	\$2,595.00
Eta Sigma Phi (Classics):	\$2,495.00
Zeta Alpha Pi:	\$2,109.00
Team Biology:	\$2,050.00
Theta Delta Phi:	\$1,410.00
The Archon Society:	\$1,348.95
Frisbee:	\$1,285.00
KC Football:	\$1,160.00
Track and Field:	\$1,112.00
Circle K:	\$1,091.00
AVI:	\$1,029.57
BE: Fast:	\$994.50
Lady Ballers:	\$923.00
Delta Tau Delta:	\$876.00
Volleyball:	\$723.00
Gundians:	\$722.00
Beta Theta Pi:	\$680.00
Softball:	\$675.00
Women's Soccer:	\$616.00
<i>The Kenyon Review:</i>	\$495.00
Ladies Swimming:	\$460.00
Field Hockey:	\$435.50
Phi Kappa Sigma:	\$255.00
KAC Heads:	\$240.00
Purple Pride ACS:	\$168.45
Lords Swimming:	\$120.00
Wellness:	\$65.00
Alpha Delta Phi:	\$50.00
Delta Phi:	\$35.00
Men's Rugby:	\$20.00
Additional Donations:	\$1,333.23

Total Raised: \$45,978.43



# Wiggin’ Out Over Gardening: The Birth of Garden Club

Kenyon students plan to rebuild the Wiggin Street Garden.

JULIE FRANCE

The future peas are currently growing at Wiggin Street Elementary — the future PEAS members, that is. The Wiggin Street Garden Club has been gardening with the elementary students at recess since 2009, when Matt Riley ’10 founded the club.

“It’s like the baby of PEAS,” said Co-President of the Wiggin Street Garden Club Haley Abing ’13.

In the fall of 2011, the Wiggin Street garden was claimed to be hazardous by the elementary school’s Parent Teacher Organization for safety reasons. The garden beds were rotting and were in an utterly decrepit state.

“Materials were just kind of degenerating with nails and [there were] splinters in the wood [that made up the beds],” Abing said.

Initial failure didn’t prevent Abing and other gardeners from pursuing their horticultural interests, though.

Kenyon was awarded the McGregor Fund in 2010 — a \$248,500 grant to launch a three-year program intended to help shape rural sustainability and foster local economic development. Through this grant, the Garden Club was able to restart.

Professor of Sociology Howard Sacks founded and directs Rural by Design —

funded through the McGregor Fund — a program dedicated to nurturing rural sustainability in Knox County. Sacks allocated money toward the Garden Club so that it could rebuild the Wiggin Street garden. The club received \$700, but if it needs more, within a reasonable amount, members can request more funding.

“It was really awesome that first time [in 2009]; it’s just that time took its toll on the structure and integrity of it and the weather,” Abing said. “I’m really glad that they let us rebuild it instead of saying that we just couldn’t do it anymore.”

The club had two demolition days two weeks ago, and this past week tackled a five-hour rebuilding day to revamp the beds.

“We just tore everything down ... and we weeded everything because it was not a safe place. We took all the fences out and all the beds out except one,” Abing said.

Not only is the Wiggin Street Garden Club making brand-new garden beds, but it also bought a new compost and toolshed for sustaining its garden.

Along with the rebirth of the Wiggin Street Garden and all its new fixtures, the club hopes to attract more volunteers to help the children of Wiggin Street Elementary get an exceptional hands-on



DAVID HOYT

Kat Goodwin ’15 and Daniela Acker ’15 work to rebuild the Wiggin Street Garden. The club has seen a resurgence through the leadership of Haley Abing ’13 and a grant from the McGregor Fund.

learning experience. The goal is to add to the club’s six steady members with a number of part-time members.

“A lot of kids, though we live in a rural area, don’t grow up with gardens anymore and they don’t know about cultivation, compost, etc.,” Garden Club Co-President Lauren Faccinto ’14 said. “It’s just an appreciation for nature, and you can’t learn that in school.”

When the former garden still existed, the volunteers were not as intense as this generation of Garden Club members.

“[Previously, the club] was

really casual. They had recess every day so the club members would just go when they felt like it,” Abing said.

With the club’s fresh start, however, volunteers will have time slots within the week, and will undergo a training process to further improve the children’s experience.

The elementary students heard the news that the club would restart at a recent Parent Teacher Organization meeting, and they are excited to get their hands dirty beginning next fall.

“When we were gone in the winter, they made post-

ers on how to make your own gardens at home, and it was so cute,” Faccinto said.

The new garden will consist of the classic plants of the former garden.

“Every year, we do carrots and radishes because they’re really fun, colorful and easy to eat after pulling them out from the ground,” Faccinto said.

The club intends to cultivate new sprouts as well, according to Abing.

“[We want to plant] baby pumpkins, large pumpkins, watermelons, tall sunflowers and green beans,” Abing said.

Luckily, the club was able to save some of its produce from the former garden, such as strawberries, carrots and some herbs.

The club plans to keep up its reconstruction work this summer with the help of a summer intern, thanks to funding through the McGregor Fund grant. With this in mind, Kenyon students can look forward to seeing the garden flourish this coming autumn.

“[We] will be in full swing next fall,” Abing said, “It’s just been really exciting starting it up again.”

STUDENTS

Gambier Grillin’

Ryan Eick ’13

Maddie Davis ’12

Vs

Andrew Reinert, Associate Professor of Drama

Adam Serfass, Associate Professor of Classics

FAC/STAFF

Totals so far:  
Students: 99  
Faculty: 108

What is the name of the man recently arrested for the murder of Trayvon Martin?	Zimmerman	Begins with a George	Rodriguez	Zimmerman	George Zimmerman
In which country was there a Secret Service scandal involving prostitutes this past week?	Italy	Hungary	All I know is it made people long for the days when the Secret Service was watching over the president and his prostitutes.	Colombia	Colombia
Which Republican candidate recently dropped out of the presidential race?	Rick Santorum	Santorum	Santorum	Santorum	Rick Santorum
A Denver artist recently created a portrait of George Zimmerman using what unusual medium?	Blood	Cake Frosting	Butter	Pasta	Skittles
What was the last number assigned for the 2012-2013 student housing lottery?	Mine	621	947	1563	800
Total Correct	2	1	1	3	By JANE SIMONTON



# What Facebook Won't Tell You About: Paul Bisagni '12

JANE SIMONTON

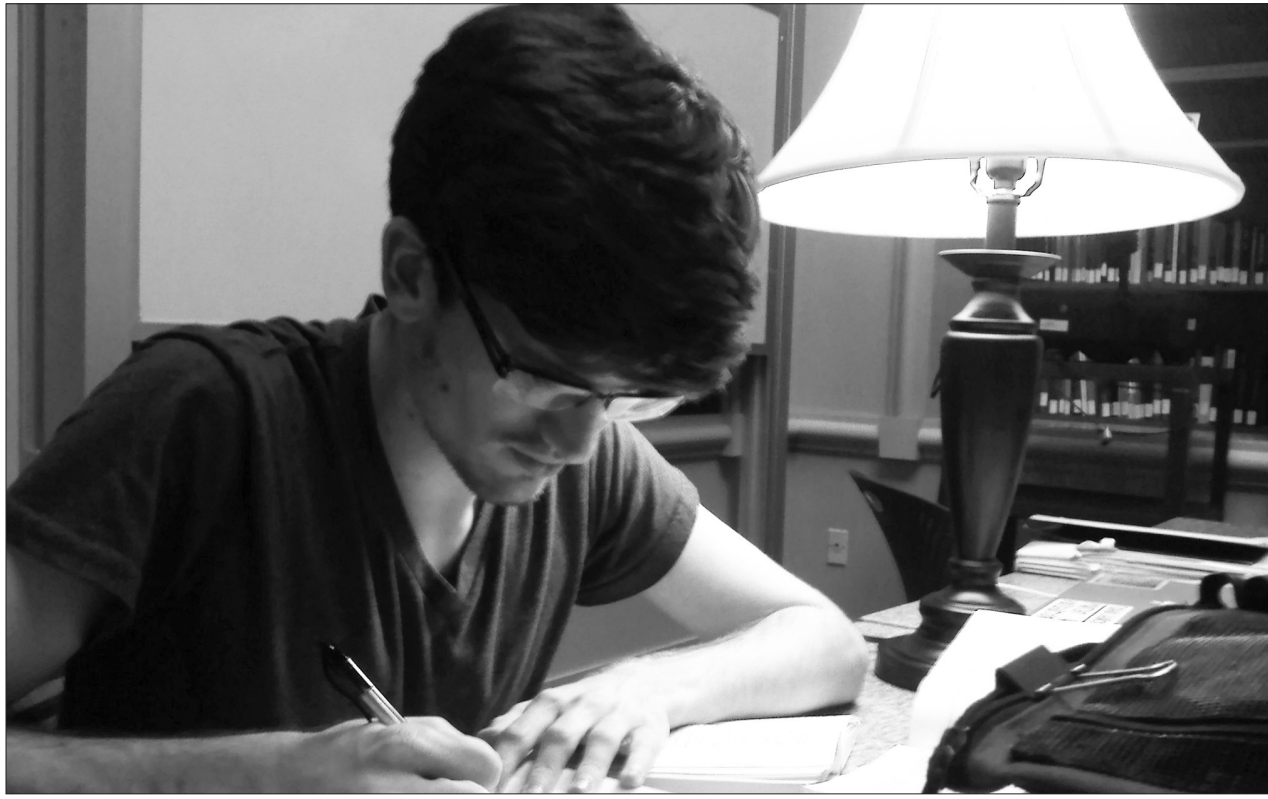
*As much as we love Facebook, its shallow profiling and lack of specificity will never reveal everything about its users. So who is the man behind Paul Bisagni's profile picture?*

*The Kenyon Collegian:* What is your most defining characteristic?

**Paul Bisagni:** Probably my lack of concern for what others think of me. Before, I struggled with self-confidence, but now I've reached a certain stage of life ... where I'm very comfortable with myself. That manifests itself in flamboyant clothing choices, but more [as] a [self-]comfort [thing]. Also, my love for languages, particularly ancient languages, and my impracticality. Like, I struggle with keys and locks on doors. I think it's important to admit your weaknesses.

**TKC:** So what's your real relationship status?

**PB:** Well, I'm currently in a relationship. It's only my second actual relationship, so I think it's more mature than my previous one, and therefore healthier. ... We're both named Paul. Some people think we look alike, but our faces are actually very different once you ignore [our] wearing glasses and [having] brown hair and being thin. ... We're very different; he's got a drier sense of humor. ... I'm enjoying [the relationship] so much.



JANE SIMONTON

Paul Bisagni '12 works on his Classics comps while in the Parnassus Classics Reading Room of Olin Library.

**TKC:** What won't your "about" page tell people about your accomplishments?

**PB:** I think my "about me" section right now says, "I love men, not cauliflower," which is a quote from *Mrs. Dalloway* ... and "loquacious but eloquent," which is what someone said when I gave a tour for admissions over the summer. It doesn't say that I was recently awarded a Fulbright [Fellowship] to teach English in Bulgaria, so I'm not compulsively checking my email every 30

seconds anymore, which I've been doing for the last three weeks. ... Also, I've become much less judgmental than I used to be. It was pretty problematic because my high school environment ... was pretty antithetical [to] my beliefs. Especially since being in college, I still have that tendency, but I definitely developed the ability to bridle it and not let it cloud my opinions and impressions of people. ... I don't have a filter, so this may be gauche, but I don't care. I used to have severe

anxiety, and although it's still present, I have been able, in recent years, to restrain it, and to not let my irrational compulsive thoughts restrain me. I think those are the best kinds of accomplishments, ones that are not static.

**TKC:** What is a big part of your life that isn't apparent in pictures in your page?

**PB:** There are a few pictures, but, for most of my life, I was a very dedicated musical theater actor. Up until I was about 14 or 15, I was deter-

mined to be a Broadway performer as my main vocation. [There's a picture] where I'm wearing sheepskin chaps and a gold vest and hat; it's very outrageous. ... Not many people know that I was very dedicated from when I was six up until I was 14.

**TKC:** If you could rewind or fast-forward to any part of your life, what would you choose?

**PB:** I would definitely not rewind, because as much as I loved my childhood ... I

wouldn't want to go through all the struggles again. I guess I would fast-forward to after graduate school ... [because] I'm done with my education and I'm on track to start an actual, professional life in the real world. But I do look forward to what the next eight or 10 years may bring. It will also have a good effect on me, but there's a 300-page paper I'll have to write if I want a Ph.D., which is unfathomable right now.

**TKC:** So — the infamous socks. What can you tell me about them?

**PB:** Well, almost all of them come from one hosiery company in New York. I got my first batch Christmas of my junior year of high school, because my prep school had a very strict dress code, and my mom bought them for me as dress socks, but they were more zany. My penchant for wearing really bright colors started here. I incorporated them into my high school prep school outfit, and I couldn't leave them when I went to Kenyon. They're a bit more restrained; they still have zany designs, but not as bright as usual. I'm also very averse to being barefoot, so I always wear socks. I think they're a really underappreciated garment. I love my socks. I have a whole drawer full of socks. I probably have at least 20 pairs. I think it's funny that people know me by my socks.



ROWAN KURTZ

It all began on a Friday night in Kigali, Rwanda, where I'm studying abroad.

My friends and I were out at the club, heating up the dance floor in Gisenyi. After dancing our hearts out, we stepped outside for some fresh air and to take a break from getting hit on by Rwandan men. We were all chatting and sipping on our drinks when, out of the blue, a man pulled my friend Maura and me aside, saying, "She is your wife." A little confused, we decided to play along. We sat down, I threw my arm around Maura, she gave me a peck on the cheek and we started to talk with this guy.

He opened by sharing his family's experience with the

genocide. I can't speak for my temporary wife, but I was completely unprepared. Fortunately, he left me no time to sit with my discomfort as, in slurred words and broken sentences, he started to share his story. He told us that his father was a Hutu and his mother was a Tutsi. He explained that his father had killed his mother, his brothers and sisters. He had over 10 siblings before the genocide. This man was the sole survivor.

He asked us to imagine our fathers killing our mothers and our families and how that would feel. I didn't know what to say: my words were stuck in my throat. After he had finished his story, he baptized me as his new father and Maura as his new mother, saying, "You,

you are my father. And you, you are my mommy."

At this point, all I could think about was how this man had lost his entire family to the genocide. Hopefully, in a drunken emotional catharsis, he had found some sort of solace. Maura and I were leaning close as our group organized to leave for the night. With my hand on his shoulder and Maura's on his knee, I tried to express my admiration for him, telling him how strong and incredible he is to have gone through such hell and to be forging a path for himself in the wake of such a horrific beginning. We stood and hugged goodbye as he continued to tell me, "You are my father. You are my papa."

While he illustrated the



COURTESY OF ROWAN KURTZ

Rowan Kurtz '13 is currently studying post-genocide reconstruction and reconciliation in Kigali, Rwanda.

horror he experienced during the genocide, he kept asking us to promise to share his story with everyone we knew. He wanted to educate people about the reality and horrors of genocide, but knew he couldn't. He needed us to repeat and share his experience with the world for him.

So here you go: I will not forget you, Emanuel. I will try to tell people your story, not to garner pity, but to educate. No one should ever have to go through what you did, and although it isn't fair, by sharing your story you have taken the first step in saving another from pain. I will

bring back my experience from Rwanda and do my best to explain and to share everything I learned, including your story, in the hopes that maybe, once more, we shall say "Never again," but this time, we'll mean it.

Peace be with you. *Mugire Amahoro.*



# Wind Ensemble Celebrates the American Dream

WILL QUAM

When Visiting Assistant Professor of Music Claudio Re thinks of the American dream, he remembers his 16-year-old self, dreaming of riding a Harley Davidson from coast to coast on Route 66.

Re expressed his love for traditional American images like his former dream musically this past Saturday, April 14. In a concert entitled "O Beautiful America," Re led the Kenyon College Symphonic Wind Ensemble and paid homage to the soaring melodies and eternal optimism that characterize traditional American music.

With consistent dynamics and articulation across sections, the band members proved themselves capable caretakers of these American musical masterpieces. The instrumentalists played with a confidence that came across best in sections when the whole band played together.

The concert began, surprisingly, without Re at the podium. Anchored by the percussion section, the ensemble launched into one of John Philip Sousa's famous marches, "The Washington Post." A piece built upon countermelodies and repeating themes, "The Washington Post" can often sound stale, but in the hands of the Wind Ensemble, the piece was stirring.

Afterward, Re took the stage and moved on to a band arrangement of Jay Unger's "Ashokan Fare-

well." Famous as the main theme in Ken Burns' documentary *The Civil War*, "Farewell" is a distinctly American piece, a plaintive portrait of a not-so-distant past. "Farewell" allowed the band to demonstrate its ability to convey powerful music without overpowering dynamics.

The ensemble's next piece was titled "The American Dream," a concept that Re felt would be more familiar to those members of the audience "with grey hairs like mine," he said. The piece hearkened back to an earlier time, with an opening reminiscent of the celebrated American composer Aaron Copland. This "Dream" was spirited, full of energy and drive, and the ensemble executed the shifting motifs beautifully.

The optimism of "The American Dream" carried over into Ben Haemhouts' "11th of September." Despite the horror and tension surrounding the attacks memorialized in this piece, Haemhouts paid homage to the victims and their families with hope rather than despair. In this piece, soloists announced themes then taken up by other instruments, until the ensemble joined together at the end of the work.

Similarly, David Holsinger's "On a Hymnsong of Lowell Mason" utilized the timbre of the whole ensemble, creating an image of a powerful, resilient America. Both "September" and "Hymnsong" demonstrated Re's trust in the ensemble;



DAVID HOYT

The Ensemble played music from composers including Sousa, Unger, Haemhouts and Bernstein this past Saturday.

the conductor never acted as a timekeeper for the musicians, occasionally lowering his baton in order to convey emotion through stillness.

Perhaps the most highly-anticipated work on the program, Assistant Professor Ross Feller's "Quixotica, a Pasticcio for Claudio," began with the sound of wind blown tunelessly through the brass. Isolated bursts of sound became more frequent until the ensemble erupted into a single dissonant chord. So audience members would not feel lost in Feller's field of sound, Re asked his ensemble members to demonstrate the

various themes before playing through the entire piece, providing the audience with a helpful musical roadmap.

Feller's ritualistic rhythms in the opening and closing of the piece were particularly well-executed. The ensemble seemed to find the thinner musical textures more difficult to master, however, occasionally needing a second to regain its musical footing and confidence. Still, the excitement of Feller's composition received a round of well-deserved applause as the composer took the stage to congratulate the conductor and ensemble.

The ensemble concluded the programmed music with Leonard Bernstein's famous "Overture to Candide." Calling the late composer "a mentor for us in music," Re characterized the piece as "aggressive," a quality that drove the performance. As in most overtures, "Candide" features a variety of melodies and themes that trade and intertwine. This multiplicity led to occasional confusion in the band concerning the location of the melody, and brought on a few hiccups. The piece was a strong concert-closer, however, and demonstrated Re's great ear for countermelody

and the power and precision of the French horn section, two characteristics present throughout the concert.

Upon mentioning that the band's previous concert had not featured an encore, Re led the ensemble in two additional pieces that were welcome additions. The first was a moving rendition of "America the Beautiful," the second an Italian-style march, "Florentiner March," written by Julius Fucik. In a concert that married the traditions of American music with the interpretations of an Italian conductor, it was the perfect finale.

## Creative Casting, Unusual Setting Frame *Doctor Faustus*

PAIGE SHERMIS

Despite some staging issues and occasional acting stumbles, Brave Potato Productions put on a reputable, sufficiently-chilling version of Christopher Marlowe's classic cautionary play *Doctor Faustus* this past weekend.

The hubristic drama, helmed here by Jane Jongeward '14, focuses on Doctor John Faustus, a brilliant scholar of humble origins well-versed in the fields of medicine, philosophy and theology, and his doomed foray into the realm of dark magic.

Sarah Macdonald '12, in an impressive gender-bending casting move, starred as Faustus. Macdonald seemed to hold back emotionally at the outset of the narrative, perhaps seeming too pleasant and even mildly cheer-

ful for one about to attempt to summon Lucifer himself.

Macdonald quickly gained confidence, however, and throughout the play exhibited humor, dread, lust, greed and a chilling acceptance with believable ease. The role required memorizing a good-sized chunk of dialogue that was not only in antiquated English, but also contained complex Latinate spells, and her success must be lauded.

The plot follows Faustus as he, consumed with greed for both knowledge and power, conjures the demon Mephistopheles (played by scenery-chewing, hammy Charles Lasky '12), a denizen of Hell.

Through the demon, Faustus makes a pact, written in his own blood, with Lucifer: for 24 years, he will live on Earth with

powerful Mephistopheles as his servant, after which he will be taken, body and soul, into Hell for eternity.

The story spans the 24 years of glory relatively quickly, with various actors dizzily changing in and out of multiple secondary roles as needed.

While all these actors were remarkably effective at differentiating between their characters and scenes, some deserve particular commendation.

Robert Angell '13 provided fresh comic relief as Faustus' dopey yet power-hungry servant Wagner. He was often teamed with the hilarious S.J. Liegner '15, who played Wagner's partner-in-mischief Robin. Eddie Baxter '15 was the perfect choice for Lucifer: outwardly charming and confident, but with a subtle hint of malice.

Furthermore, Chey-

enne Davis '15 and Julia Greer '15, as a Good Angel and Evil Angel, respectively, emoted excellently; Davis' honest pleading was juxtaposed perfectly against Greer's seductive chaos.

One of the most amusing scenes of the play occurred as a group effort: Lucifer's presentation of the Seven Deadly Sins to a gleeful Faustus, with Pride embodied by a flamboyantly silly Nischay Bhan '14, Gluttony by a candy bar-eating, thin JP McElyea '14, and so on.

Another highlight came after a brief intermission, during the scene in which Faustus, escorted by Mephistopheles, wreaks havoc among the pope's St. Peter's Day services in Vatican City. Faustus appeared to be having genuine fun in this scene, even using the pope's white hat

as a hand puppet.

The end of this performance, in particular, exuded a poignancy difficult to ignore or forget.

Contemplating but ultimately ignoring pleas from the Good Angel and his scholar friends to repent for his sins and turn to God for salvation, Faustus came to the end of his allotted time period with a mixture of acceptance, solemnity and utter terror.

Eerie to say the least, the moment when a horde of demonic entities finally dragged Macdonald's Faustus to Hell was the performance's high point in terms of acting, staging and emotional richness.

The presence of an old clock on the stage, whose hand moved slowly throughout the play, gave this spooky sequence further punch.

When Faustus met his

eternity, the clock struck midnight, an action made only more powerful by the bell ringing distantly in the steeple of the Church of the Holy Spirit.

Some squabbles in the play were merely technical. Although the outdoor location of the cemetery (used only for the Friday performance) was novel and appropriate, the crew thus relinquished control of sound, lighting and seating. Though there were no major problems with these factors, the downhill slope on which many were seated was mildly uncomfortable to sit on for such long stretches of time. Ambient noises also intervened occasionally.

Still, none of these issues derailed the production, which declared Marlowe's theme: associate with the Devil at the risk of your own damnation.



# The Book of Liz's Whimsical Absurdity Bolsters Show

MILES PURINTON

Religion, recognition and revelation — these themes run through *The Book of Liz* by Amy and David Sedaris, presented this past weekend by the Kenyon College Dance and Drama Club's Dessert Theater. In true Sedaris fashion, whimsical absurdity, buoyed by the enthusiasm of the capable cast, made for an enjoyable evening of theater.

*The Book of Liz* follows Sister Elizabeth Donderstock (Heather Crowley '12), an underappreciated member of the Squeamish Community, a clear parody of the Amish. Sister Donderstock is a hard worker, but newcomer Brother Nathaniel Brightbee (Ryan Drake '14) joins the colony and takes over her duties, undermining her cheeseball-making expertise. Determined and rebellious, Sister Donderstock runs away from home to discover the world with a newfound sense of confidence.

There is a basic semblance of plot, but it doesn't really matter — this is a show driven by the off-the-wall humor and commentary of the Sedaris siblings. *The Book of Liz* features a variety of wacky characters, with most of the cast playing more than one role.

Due to this aspect of the production, *The Book of Liz*



From left, Elizabeth Gambal '14, Ryan Drake '14, Wyn Evans '12, Meg Sutter '13, Heather Crowley '12 and Steven Zingarelli '13 portray members of the Squeamish Community and beyond in KCDC's Dessert Theater production of *The Book of Liz*.

DAVID HOYT

relied on a strong ensemble directed by Sam Barickman '13 and Casey Griffin '14. Standouts included Drake, who brought endearing charm to his portrayal of the hard-working but ultimately flustered Brightbee; Steven Zingarelli '13, who seamlessly shifted between a rough "Ukrainian" man and a kind employer who takes Sister Donderstock under his wing; and Meg Sutter '13, who stole humorous scenes as the chatty Sis-

ter Constance Butterworth. The true standout, however, was Crowley, who, despite an exaggerated accent, kept her portrayal of the naïve Sister Donderstock incredibly human even in the satirical environment, making her a comical yet endearing character.

A clear hand from Barickman and Griffin accompanied the talented cast, who utilized the difficult space of Peirce Pub well and created some fantastic mo-

ments, finding a clear narrative through the somewhat jumbled and off-kilter scenes.

Much of the play revolves around Sister Donderstock's cheeseballs and the inability of anyone else to replicate them. Even with all the right ingredients, the cheeseballs lack the extra spice and pizzazz that make Sister Donderstock's truly exceptional. The cheeseballs serve as a metaphor for KCDC's production

as a whole — despite commendable efforts from all involved, the show lacked a certain oomph to truly make it exceptional. All the elements were there, but the show rarely took off. While it was calmly entertaining and certainly enjoyable, it never reached the fever pitch of absurdity it certainly could have.

*The Book of Liz* was a victim of time. During a busy semester, the entire rehearsal process of the show

spanned less than a month. For a show that relies on comic energy and wacky characterization, there was simply not enough time for the performance to truly reach its peak. Despite strong individual performances and good chemistry, the show still seemed underdeveloped. A majority of the cast members occasionally stumbled with their lines, and although the play had strong moments, the cast lacked a certain level of comfort and refinement.

The play's final reconciliation between Sister Donderstock and the callous Reverend Tollhouse (Wyn Evans '13), for example, fell flat because their relationship wasn't given time to mature. *The Book of Liz* highlighted one of the pitfalls of theatrical schedules at Kenyon — after a lot of work goes into a show, it usually runs for only two or three performances. Had *The Book of Liz* been allotted another week of performances for the cast to work together and play with the material, it would have been an exceptional production. Instead, it was an enjoyable outing that I wish could have lived up to the evident talent of the cast and crew. *The Book of Liz* almost reached that point, but like the Squeamish's signature cheeseballs, just required that little extra something to truly take off.

## KENYON FILM SOCIETY

Sadly, this weekend is the final screening of the year for the Kenyon Film Society. Despite this tragedy, we're going out in style by teaming up with Social Board to hold an outdoor screening.

Friday, April 20 — *The Artist*

What better way to end our season than with this year's Academy Award winner for Best Picture? The first mainly silent film to win Best Picture since the first-ever Academy Awards in 1929, *The Artist* also picked up awards for Best Director (Michel Hazanavicius) and Best Actor (Jean Dujardin) and has won more major awards worldwide than any other French film in history. It's not hard to see why the film has achieved such acclaim, as it is certainly one of the most delightful and original films of the year. *The Artist* follows silent film star George Valentin (Dujardin) as he struggles to find his place in the world of talkies after silent films become a thing of the past. As Valentin's career fails, we see the rise of Peppy Miller (a thoroughly charming Berenice Bejo), who tries to help the reluctant Valentin. There are solid performances from John Goodman as a film producer, James Cromwell as Valentin's dedicated butler Clifton and Uggie the adorable Jack Russell terrier as, well, an adorable Jack Russell terrier. The true standout, though, is Dujardin. A master of physical comedy and expression, Dujardin consistently gives us reason to root for Valentin's success despite his arrogance. While some have written that the film is merely a gimmick, *The Artist* is not just a silent film. It is a celebration of all silent films and of an era of entertainment that many have forgotten. Ultimately, it's a great story that is well told — a film that truly lives up to its hype.

The screening is at 9:00 p.m. on Ransom Lawn. As always, KFS screenings are free. We'll see you there!

—Miles Purinton '12

## Opera Workshop Honors Earth Day

LAUREN KATZ

Scandalous seduction, sibling rivalry, true love and cardboard coffee cups entranced the audience at *The Earth and Other Minor Things* on Sunday, April 15 in Brandi Recital Hall. Adjunct Instructor of Music Jennifer Marcellana directed the show, which featured a total of 14 singers from the Kenyon College Opera and Musical Theater Workshop. They performed pieces ranging from art songs and musical theater numbers to Italian arias, all centered around a celebration of Earth Day, April 22.

The performance was the final product of the workshop, a class that met once a week for rehearsals. After auditions in December, Marcellana assigned each student two songs to study, one operatic and one from the musical theater canon. Several were solos, others duets or trios.

The workshop attracted students from different musical backgrounds, all with

their own individual goals and reasons for joining.

"I chose to participate in it because I really love doing musicals, and I wanted to learn more about opera, also because I take voice lessons and I thought it would be fun," Megan Shaw '15 said. "There aren't all that many opportunities for musical theater on campus, so it was something I wanted to get into."

"I grew up around opera. My whole family sings, and I just wanted to get my experience around opera too," Hannah Foerschler '15 said.

Rather than simply putting on a recital to showcase what the students had learned, Marcellana created a "scenes program," which, according to Shaw, included scenes with dialogue as well as songs that stood on their own.

The show referenced both classical music and musical theater, separated into two acts. Opera pieces tend to lose the attention of audience members less familiar with the classical

“It was a wonderful experience to perform in ways I never did previously.”

Hannah Foerschler '15

genre, but the workshop made opera more accessible with entertaining costumes, set pieces and staging.

The third piece of the show, "Act I, Scene II" from *Don Giovanni*, featured Don Giovanni, played by Conor Dugan '15, attempting to seduce Zerlina, played by Rachel Cunningham '14. Though the song was in Italian, the performers captivated the audience with acting that brought the number to life. The applause that followed the scene proved the performers' success.

The subsequent scene, *Die Zauberflöte*, achieved a similar end. The song was a love story between a man and a woman: Papagena (Julia Dopp '13) and Papageno (Bryan Kurtzman '12). This song was in German and

could have lost the audience, but brightly colored, comical bird hats, which humorously referenced the bird-like sounds in the song, kept the interest up.

Like most musicals, the workshop concluded with a lively group number entitled "Coffee in a Cardboard Cup" from *70, Girls, 70*. The song featured seven performers complaining about drinking coffee out of a cardboard cup rather than sitting down in a café like the old days. In addition to the humorous lyrics, the scene presented choreography that, based on the audience's applause, created a celebratory end to a successful show.

"It was a wonderful experience to perform in ways I never did previously," Foerschler said.





# Eye of the. Entertainer

SAM COLT

When Jane Jongeward '14 earned permission to pursue her synoptic major, she responded with incredulity: "Are you sure?"

Professor of English Sergei Lobanov-Rostovsky, her advisor, told her, "Jane, I think when we get to this meeting, it means [the major] has been accepted," Jongeward said.

Jongeward's synoptic major, Renaissance Literature and Performance, synthesizes drama, English, history and even statistics to prepare her for the scholastic pursuit she enjoys most: reading Shakespeare and his contemporaries closely, analyzing the texts using multiple disciplines and interpreting them for stage performance.

Jongeward's proclivity for Shakespeare follows from her exposure to his works at an early age. "My hometown has a large Shakespeare theater, called the American Shakespeare Center, which performs early modern plays year-round, so I ended up seeing a lot of theatre at a young age," she said. In addition to attending the ASC's performances from sixth grade onward, Jongeward also

"I love the collaborative aspect of the theatre. The director is there to help facilitate that and make it easier."

Jane Jongeward

went to the ASC's summer camp during high school. At the camp, participants performed a truncated version of one of Shakespeare's plays at the end of each session. Jane enjoyed the camp so much that she participated in both sessions during her sophomore year of high school.

The ASC has not escaped her at Kenyon, however. Jongeward stole the name for her major from a collaboration between the ASC and a college near her home. "A lot of the students who worked at the [ASC] also worked at my high school running the drama department, so I ended up getting an emphasis in drama that translated into an emphasis in Shakespeare," she said.

Unlike some drama enthusiasts at Kenyon, Jongeward approaches theatre not by watching it or acting in it, but by directing it. This enthu-

siasm manifested itself in her directorial debut at Kenyon with Christopher Marlowe's *Doctor Faustus*, a play which originally debuted in 1529. *Doctor Faustus* follows a man who chooses to sell his soul to the devil in the pursuit of knowledge and power. It's no surprise that Jongeward directed the play, considering her focus on Elizabethan literature and drama. Appropriately, the play took place not in the Bolton or the Black Box, but in the graveyard behind Rosse Hall.

Directing had its share of challenges. "[*Faustus*] has a very thin plot, and that's one of the weaknesses of the show. ... You have to really dig to find relationships between the characters and deepen what little information you have," she said. That flimsiness is a double-edged sword. It gave Jongeward free range to suggest her own interpre-



COURTESY OF JANE JONGEWARD

Jane Jongeward '14 translated her lifetime love of theater into a synoptic major based on Renaissance Literature and Performance. She made her directorial debut this month with *Doctor Faustus*.

tations of the text, but often presented problems for her actors, who may have had a shallower understanding of the text and language than she.

Still, Jongeward unequivocally enjoys directing. "I like watching what the actors bring [to the play] and latching onto their choices. I love the collaborative aspect of theatre," she said. "The director is there to help facilitate that and make it easier." Jongeward usually gives her actors a stab at each scene on their own, providing only the entrances and exits beforehand. "Kenyon doesn't do a lot of

thrust staging, and [actors] are not used to that, so after the first stab I'll say something like, 'Okay, you need to come much further downstage,'" she said. Also known as open staging, thrust staging is a hallmark of Elizabethan theater, in which the stage juts out into the audience, placing the actors essentially in the center of the room. Thrust staging allows the audience to further scrutinize each actor's stage direction, which can be daunting for actors. Nonetheless, Jongeward often couches her constructive criticism with praise by adding, "I loved that instinct," or

"I like the way you threw that prop."

After graduation, Jongeward is all but certain she will pursue graduate school. "The synoptic is designed off of graduate programs I've seen, so it might mean a degree in Shakespeare or Renaissance literature. Some programs focus more on English or Drama," she said. "Teaching and directing are my favorite things, so working in a university or going to one of the Shakespeare festivals and working in their education department would be great. If I'm very lucky, I'd like to be an artistic director."

## Dead White Men Faces Controversy in Sensitive Topics

The play, written by Jamal Jordan '12 and inspired by current events, focuses on issues of race and violence prompted by current events.

MILES PURINTON

*Dead White Men*, as the title suggests, tackles heated issues of race and violence.

The play, written by Jamal Jordan '12 and performed last weekend, necessitated an announcement before the show's start from the show's assistant director and dramaturg Angela Coleman '12. She explained that the play was a workshop production and thus would continue to grow after that night's performance.

Jordan, who also directed and starred in the production, wrote the play

in response to the recent murder of Trayvon Martin. As with any play still in progress, there were imperfections, but the work was promising and showcased exemplary moments that made this play one of Jordan's more successful productions to date.

The play followed Marcus (Jordan), an ordinarily shy young man who wants to take drastic action against the policeman (Paul Dougherty '13) who killed his best friend Dom (Christopher Wright '14), who was unarmed and walking home. There was a lot of buzz concerning the play prompted by

an advertising all-student email featuring one of the main characters' more radical comments made by the main character: "If white people are the problem, I'll be the solution." Despite the disturbing actions of Marcus and of the policeman, the play was ultimately not about a shooting or a lynching, but about a man coming to terms with his own identity.

The play was at its strongest when it focused on the friendship between Marcus, Dom and Krista (an excellent Faith Servant '13). One standout scene features the three dancing to help Dom complete

a video project. Here, we see where Jordan excels as a playwright — in creating believable relationships between people. The characters portrayed on the stage were raw and believably human.

As a technical playwright, Jordan was less successful when focusing on the main issues of the play. Jordan has a lot to say about race and violence, and often these points resonated, but Jordan took on more than the 50-minute running time could contain. One scene between Krista and Marcus, for example, became a circular argument rather than a human interaction. The two exchanged themes and arguments without believable progression. It might have been better to examine certain

arguments to their fullest rather than trying to say it all, an easy trap to fall into.

The cast met the challenging material well, especially Servant and Wright. In his brief time on stage, Wright created a compelling, likeable character. Dougherty was serviceable as the policeman, but lacked the menace Jordan seemed to want.

Jordan himself took on the difficult role of Marcus and did not fully live up to the challenge he set for himself. Jordan usually works as a director, not an actor, and he came across as slightly uncomfortable onstage. Still, since he created the character, Jordan understood Marcus and brought a level of surprising affability to the role. While I have personally never met

anyone I felt would be capable of going as far as Marcus does to seek justice, I was glad to see a performance that refused to call Marcus either good or bad.

Despite the play's imperfections, it was ultimately a successful performance. Due to the nature of the piece, Jordan's heart was clearly displayed on both the page and the stage, and the raw energy was electrifying. Parts of the play made me uncomfortable (and I could tell others were uncomfortable as well), but it was impossible not to think about the play after leaving. One of Jordan's main assets as a director is his passion, which was on full display during *Dead White Men*. It was a refreshing, strong way for Jordan to end a prolific career in collegiate theater.



# Softball Loses Doubleheaders to Hiram, Allegheny

ANNA DUNLAVEY

Ladies softball struck out twice this week, losing doubleheaders to Hiram and Allegheny Colleges.

The Ladies lost their two games at Hiram 11-3 and 6-5, and they lost their home games against Allegheny 15-2 and 14-0. The Ladies are now 11-21 overall and 3-7 in North Coast Athletic Conference games.

For most of the first game against the Hiram Terriers, the Ladies stayed even. After the Terriers scored three runs off of pitcher Maddy Stark '15, the Ladies responded quickly in the next inning. Stark got on base safely on a fielder's choice, after which Jamie Samuel '13, Chelsea Delaney '15 and Toni Miller '15 smacked three consecutive doubles. The game stayed tied at 3-3 until the bottom of the sixth inning, when the Terriers blew the game wide open. They had eight hits, six of which were singles and two of which were doubles, and scored eight more runs to end the game.

During their second Hiram game, the Ladies tried to capitalize on Terrier errors. The Ladies' first run came when Stark

drew a walk with the bases loaded. Samuel hit a double in the third inning and came around to score due to a Hiram blunder. But because of two unearned runs, Hiram was still able to lead 5-2 going into the seventh and final inning. The Ladies were able to fight back — Liz Paterra '15 got the inning started with a walk and, after a double from Stark, Hayley Howard '15 brought Paterra home. Samuel and Miller both had RBI groundouts that evened the game at 5-5. The Terriers still had some fight left in them, and back-to-back doubles in the bottom of the seventh lifted them over the Ladies 6-5.

Head Coach Erin O'Neill was pleased with the team despite the losses.

"We played really well for the first six innings and then just had a terrible last inning, which obviously affected the outcome," O'Neill said. "I really felt like, except for the last innings, we had a chance to win both of those games, so I didn't feel like we played that badly then, although on defense we made a lot of errors."

The Ladies did not show nearly as much fight when they

played the Allegheny College Gators on Sunday. They were able to get only seven hits out of 38 total at-bats against Gators pitcher Caitlin Nealer. The only Lady to get multiple hits was Hannah Smith '13, and Delaney and Stark scored Kenyon's only two runs. Poor defense worked against the Ladies in this game. Nine of the Allegheny runs came from eight Kenyon errors. As pleased as she was with the Hiram games, the Allegheny losses were harder for O'Neill to take.

"I didn't feel like we played well at all this past weekend," O'Neill said. "That was really disappointing."

O'Neill said one problem area for the Ladies this season has been defense.

"Defensively we could have been a lot better," she said. "I think the biggest difference between the more recent games and the way we were playing over spring break is over spring break we were making all the plays we were supposed to and only giving the teams three outs defensively. Lately, we've been making several errors in one inning, which gives them a lot of room to get extra hits and



SAM COLT

Liz Paterra '15 had a hit and scored a run in the Ladies' series against Hiram College.

things like that, so we're giving them extra outs, which is obviously showing in the score."

She also said despite the losses, the team's spirits have not fallen.

"I think we've proved over the course of this season that we're competitive and that we are in most games that we play," O'Neill said. "We're not

negative. We're done with those games and now we're moving on to the next. We're definitely not going to let what's happened affect us — we're going to move on and hopefully win some games."

O'Neill is still hopeful for the season, too.

"I go into every game thinking that we're going to win," she

said. "Those expectations aren't going to change."

Next Saturday, the Ladies will play the College of Wooster in their last home game of the season. Olivia Lott '15, who dislocated her elbow in a spring break game, is clear to return to the lineup for the next game. It will also be the Ladies' Senior Day.

## Baseball Sweeps Wittenberg Men's Ultimate Frisbee Team Wins Conference Title

NINA ZIMMERMAN

After April showers washed away Saturday's home games, Lords baseball came out on Sunday to wallop the Wittenberg University Tigers on Tiger turf. Thanks to an outpouring of offense, the Lords won game one 12-6 and game two 11-5. The team had only one bad inning among the 14 total innings played in Springfield, Ohio, according to Head Coach Matt Burdette.

"I felt it would be a really good test for us," Burdette said. "We had one rocky inning, which was the first inning of the first game. We got behind 5-1, and then the next 13 innings [were] just a really good performance by the team. That's probably about as thorough of a doubleheader as we've had in terms of playing well on just about every facet."

Jack Graham '12 fueled the victory in game one, hitting a solo home run in the fifth inning followed by a three-run shot two innings later. The Lords continued to use the long ball in game two, with Jesse Weiss '13 homering in the second inning and Nate Lotze '14 blasting one of his own to lead off the sixth inning.

Burdette is unsure what to think of his team's power surge. The Lords' 19 total home runs this year ties them with Kenyon's team re-

cord for most home runs in a single season.

"We have guys who are good hitters," Burdette said. "They're smart hitters, too. But they're not traditional power hitters. That's not been their forte. [Even so,] when they get ahead in the count, they look to do damage."

Strong pitching in both games supported the double-digit offensive explosions, with Tim Krahn '15 overcoming the Tigers' five-run first inning to pitch six more innings, giving up only one more run and walking none for his sixth win of the year. Tyler Dierke '13 earned his seventh victory of the season, giving up just three earned runs in six innings before Josh Jacobvitz '15 relieved him.

While there is no doubt that this year's team is strong, Will Clements '13 said the nonconference nature of games against teams such as Waynesburg University, who the Lords beat last Tuesday, and Wittenberg shows more well-rounded depth.

"It's exciting to be a part of. ... The fact that we're winning nonconference games, or games that don't matter in terms of getting into the playoffs at the end of the year ... shows how good this team can be because we're being aggressive and taking a winning mentality into every game," Clements said.

"Their mentality has been great," Burdette said. "I've been impressed with their preparation, I've been impressed with their professionalism and then, more importantly, I've been impressed with their productivity."

On April 17, third baseman Kyle Hardacker '15 earned an individual spot on d3baseball.com's Division III Team of the Week for the week of April 9-15. Hardacker hit .667 in the Lords' four games during that time span, with nine RBIs and a home run.

Next up for the Lords is a pair of crucial conference doubleheaders against Allegheny College in Gambier this Saturday and Sunday, April 21 and 22. Allegheny is mathematically ahead of the Lords in division standings, and the series should be an interesting one. A playoff spot is also within reach this weekend; if the Lords win three of the four games, they clinch a spot in the conference tournament.

"Everyone knows what's at stake," Burdette said. "But it's still the same baseball game that we played a month ago. ... We've still got to go out and throw strikes and make the plays and get hits."

"I'm excited for the end of the year and seeing how everything plays out," Clements said. "We don't want to count our eggs before they

NINA ZIMMERMAN

This past weekend, the men's ultimate Frisbee team pushed forward in the postseason, placing first out of eight teams at the U.S.A. Ultimate Ohio Division III College Open Conference Championships in Versailles, Ohio.

The tournament was another stepping stone in the team's strong season, according to Reilly Brock '12.

"This was part one of the postseason, and going into it we were feeling pretty good about it, because we've been working really hard in practice and really trying to be the best," Brock said. "I think, unlike a lot of teams, we showed a lot of mental strength out there, not really letting the conditions [bother] us and really fighting through some tough halves and games."

The team's play over the weekend exemplifies its development and maturation over the course of the season, according to Coach Brady Meisenhelder.

"They're a significantly more cohesive group across the depth of the team, and their knowledge of how the game is played at the high level is much deeper," Meisenhelder said. "We just do so many things more intelligently now than some other teams that haven't quite gotten [it] yet."

On Saturday, the first day of the two-day tournament, the team beat Xavier University 14-

9, John Carroll University 14-4 and Ohio Wesleyan University 14-5 to make it to the championship game. Jordan Rhyne '13 said field conditions were less than desirable.

"Even though we won pretty easily, it's just frustrating to play in 50-degree temperatures with 20-mile-per-hour winds and rain, especially when you're trying to throw a piece of plastic around," Rhyne said.

The championship game on Sunday against Ohio Northern University posed a challenge, according to Rhyne.

"[Ohio Northern] definitely came out stronger, and we were missing two or three people for the weekend either due to injury or other commitments," Rhyne said. "So considering that, we were happy we could pull out a victory."

The game did not begin well. Weather conditions remained poor, and Kenyon started the second half trailing 8-7. The team was making mistakes, according to Meisenhelder, and something had to change.

"The first half, I don't think we slipped too far away, but I think they realized there was a danger and adjusted," he said.

Rhyne called the second-half comeback the turning point of the game.

"We just came out of the half and I think a switch got flipped at some point, and we decided we really needed to win this game,"

Rhyne said. "And everybody clamped down on defense and forced [Ohio Northern] to make some bad decisions. I'd say in that comeback, which was about 15 minutes long, we decided we weren't going to lose that game."

The next step in the playoffs is the USAU Ohio Valley DIII College Open Regionals, which will take place Sendoff weekend, April 28 and 29, in Gambier.

"They could go really far this year, and that's a pretty amazing thing to have happen," Meisenhelder said. "We're definitely the odds-on favorite, and I think that's really special to do it here at Kenyon. There's a lot of strength there in terms of drawing on the community and wanting to play well at home. I've seen games where people just cheering for you does lift the spirits of a team and can make a difference, so I think home field could be big in a certain sense."

No matter what happens, Brock enjoys the team's high-caliber play and the strong foundation of Frisbee they have built at Kenyon.

"I'm really proud to be a part of the team, and the team has really come a long way since my freshman year," Brock said. "And it's really cool to see that kind of legacy starting to build. I think this is the best Frisbee team I've ever been on. This is the best team that Kenyon has ever had, definitely the deepest in terms of talent, which is really cool."



## Collegian Weekend Sports Picks

### Lords Baseball

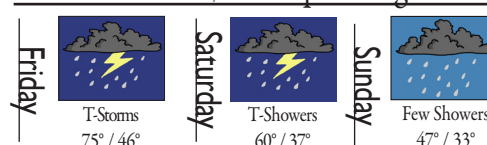
Kenyon vs. Allegheny College  
Saturday, April 21 at 12:00 p.m.  
(Doubleheader)  
McCloskey Field

### Ladies Lacrosse

Kenyon vs. Thiel College  
Saturday, April 21 at 2:00 p.m.  
Mavee Field

# the Kenyon Collegian SPORTS

## Upcoming Weather



Thursday, April 19, 2012

# Men's Lacrosse Overpowers Ohio Wesleyan University

KEVIN PAN

After a successful Senior Day victory, the men's lacrosse team is poised to finish out the season with a record of 8-3 overall and 2-0 in conference play.

In last Saturday's win over Ohio Wesleyan University, the Lords were down against the Battling Bishops 6-2 after the first quarter. They came back in the next three quarters, however, outscoring Ohio Wesleyan 9-3 to hold onto an 11-9 victory.

"I am very proud of the team," Head Coach Doug Misarti said. "We were down 6-2 after the first quarter, but the guys showed composure, character and intensity. This game means a lot, especially since it was on Senior Day."

The Lords took their first lead about halfway through the third quarter, though the Battling Bishops rebounded and the game was tied 7-7 going into the fourth. Undaunted, the Lords pulled away in



DAVID HOYT

The Lords beat the Ohio Wesleyan University Battling Bishops 11-9 in Gambier on their Senior Day, Saturday April 14.

that quarter, led by Will Lowe '14 with five points and Caleb Florence '14, who had a game-high four goals. Lowe was named North Coast Athletic Conference Player of the Week for his performance in that game.

Misarti is optimistic about the Lords' remaining games. The Lords are currently in sec-

ond place in the NCAC, behind Denison University.

"We are aiming high for the rest of the season," Misarti said. "We'd like to be conference champions and make the national tournament. It's been our goal from the beginning, and we've put ourselves in a good position."

Misarti said the Lords have

a mathematical shot at making it to the national tournament.

"Twenty-eight [teams] go to the national tournament, and it all depends on the other teams' wins and records. Ten wins might be what we need, but as many as possible is needed," he said.

The Lords are 8-3, but Misarti said their record barely

scratches the surface of their success and the intangibles that stand out to him the most.

"I am most proud of the team's chemistry," Misarti said. "It has been exceptional. There is a mix of classes getting playing time. I am proud of the positive feeling on the team, and it has helped us get us to where we are. When chemistry

is good, you feel it. The leadership has been very good, and the young guys have stepped up. Our leading scorer is a sophomore and our starting goalie is a sophomore. We have a starting freshman in defense and out of our top six middies, three are sophomores and one is a freshman."

The Lords have continued to grow and mature throughout the season, according to Misarti.

"The season has gone well. We are 8-3, but there are a couple games we'd love to have back," Misarti said. "We didn't play well against Adrian College, but we learn from our losses."

The Lords' next game is against the eighth-ranked Denison University in Granville on Saturday, April 21. The Big Red is a formidable force, and a win could mean a lot to the Lords.

"Denison will be hard, but if we win, conference champions could be a possibility," he said.

# Equestrian Team Ends Season Ranked Third in Region

NINA ZIMMERMAN

Despite the herd of cats in downtown Gambier and the occasional escaped tiger, animals rarely factor into the life of the average Kenyon student. There is, of course, one outstanding exception.

The Kenyon College Equestrian Team ended its regular season ranked an impressive third in the region, Intercollegiate Horse Show Association Region Six, Zone One, with a total of 102 points. The team placed behind the University of Findlay, in first with 255 points, and Lake Erie College, in second place with 221 points.

Comparing the Kenyon Equestrian Team to the equestrian programs at these two schools is like comparing an old book in Olin Library to an e-reader: same medium, different methods. These differences are paramount in considering the significance of Kenyon's placing, according to Coach Erica Parnisari.

"Both of those schools have equestrian programs as far as equestrian majors, and they have

very nice facilities," Parnisari said. "That's actually the two schools that host our horse shows, so ... I felt really proud of the [riders] that we did place as well as we did in the region."

"The fact that we are able to do as well as we do is pretty impressive given the circumstances," Dianne Thoensen '14 said.

After an uneventful show season last year, members of the team gathered and committed to becoming more serious about attending shows and trying harder to compete, according to Morgan Greer '14.

"We didn't even know where our placing was last year because we were less serious about it," Greer said. "It's really cool for us to have that third place because we've never done that before."

Thoensen added that, while the combination of the circumstances and the team's mentality last year served as a roadblock to achieving show success, strong leadership opened the door to more possibilities. "We didn't really have a shot at being good," she said. "We didn't really have any idea that we could do any better.

And then Erica [Parnisari said] ... we could actually do well. And so then we were a lot more committed this year and didn't miss any shows."

Parnisari called the ranking a testament to the progress and change the program has undergone recently, spearheaded by the dedication of its student leaders.

"The fact that we kind of have pulled it together in these last two years speaks a lot to the girls and their dedication to riding and just their enjoyment of competing against the other schools," Parnisari said.

Thoensen and Greer both emphasized the crucial role Parnisari played as a catalyst for the team's renewed success and in their growth as riders.

"She's amazing," Thoensen said. "She's such a good support system for us."

Parnisari hopes the team can continue to grow next season.

"There's a really good possibility that we'll have a rider in every single division, which would make us even more competitive," Parnisari said. "So I guess that personally my goal would be to



KATE FRAIMAN

Equestrian team member Lauren Amrhein '13 participated in one of the team's shows during the season. The team ended its season ranked third in the region.

move up a spot or two. We have such nice riders, and I really feel that that's something that's attainable."

But even with the team's new level of achievement, the supportive and cohesive team atmosphere is still what characterizes the equestrian program at Kenyon.

"It's cool that we're growing

so much, and that we've been able to have the success that we have while still staying true to the no-cut, everyone's welcome rule," Thoensen said.

Next Saturday, April 21, the team will host its annual Open Barn from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Hickory Hill Farm on Old Delaware Road. The event

will include a variety of activities ranging from pony rides to face painting to grilled food. "It's not only a fundraiser but also an outreach to the community," Parnisari said. "It's a nice opportunity for the people to learn about another aspect of Kenyon and another club that Kenyon has."

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