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the Kenyon Collegian

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New Sorority Proposal Rejected

By **MADELEINE THOMPSON**
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

A proposal to establish a new sorority, Kappa Sigma Alpha, was rejected seven to five in a vote by Greek Council on Monday, Dec. 3. Adriana Olivares '15 and Karina Cruz '15, both of whom rushed sororities last year but did not pledge, are the leaders of the group, whose proposal they hope to put to a vote again next week. If approved, they plan to begin the process of becoming nationally affiliated, which typically takes at least a year and would make Kappa Sigma Alpha the only national sorority on campus.

"Because Kenyon just has more women than men, we wanted to create another option for women who didn't feel like they fit in with the other sororities," Olivares said.

The 12 girls interested in joining are already involved in diverse activities, clubs and sports that Olivares said would separate them from the three sororities already on campus.

Rekha Mohan '15, a Kappa Sigma Alpha hopeful, looks for-

"I'd be pretty shocked if they were not accepted the next time."

*Andrew Tint '13,
Greek Council President*

ward to the opportunity to be in a national sorority. "I always wanted to be in a sorority," Mohan said. "One of the reasons I wanted to come to Kenyon was that out of all the liberal arts colleges, they actually had sororities. When I rushed I felt like ... I personally didn't really fit with any of them, so I'm excited to have one that we can build from the ground up."

A national sorority differs from a local sorority in that dues are typically higher, members are held to stricter rules and its alumni base is more extensive. Once Kappa Sigma Alpha has started on campus and upheld national sorority standards, representatives from national

see *GREEK*, page 4

TAKING THE PLUNGE FOR A LOCAL CHARITY



COURTESY OF DYLAN KAYE

Last Saturday, about 75 Kenyon students supported a good cause by taking a dip in the Kokosing River. From 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Beer and Sex advisors took donations for the Kno-Ho-Co Ashland Community Action Commission, a local group that provides healthcare products and housing opportunities to residents of the surrounding four counties. Overall, the advisors raised \$1,008.55. This year's Polar Plunge marked the second in the group's history, following a hiatus after last year's event was cancelled due to unseasonably warm weather.

— *Rosalyn Aquila*

Despite Aid Pinch, Debt Below Average

On average, Kenyon students receiving financial aid face \$20,000 of debt after graduation.

By **CALEB BISSINGER**
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In March, while seniors reveled in their final weeks at Kenyon, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau broke startling news: the outstanding student loan debt in the United States now exceeds \$1 trillion. According to the Institute for College Access and Success, "Two-thirds of college seniors who graduated in 2011 had student loan debt, with an average \$26,600 per borrower."

At Kenyon, the average debt burden hovers around \$20,000.

"That's not nothing," President S. Georgia Nugent said. "But that's \$20,000 for a four-year period. And the federal government estimates that your premium in earnings for having an undergraduate degree is at least \$1 million over a lifetime ... so I think some of the obsessing over the debt is a

"I'm deciding between entering the work force or following my dream. ... Is that even a choice I can make?"

Luke Frisher '13

little misplaced."

According to Nugent, soon to be released institutional data says 80% to 85% of recent Kenyon grads are employed, and a fair number of other alumni are willingly unwaged — going to graduate school, for example, or joining the Peace Corps.

Even so, debt is a decisive factor in many seniors' post-grad planning. "I'm deciding between entering the work force or following my dream as a musician and DJ and producer," Luke Frisher '13 said, "and obviously the latter route is going to provide less stable or consistent, and possibly smaller, income. ... Is that even a choice

I can make?"

Frisher estimates he'll have \$30,000 in student loans come graduation. "It's intimidating," he said.

As soon-to-be grads budget for an uncertain future, the College will be doing something similar. The class of 2016 needed \$678,859 more need-based financial aid than budgeted. That increase in need will follow the class for four years.

While administrators say the need was lower than expected for all other classes, Caitlin Barker '13 claims she felt the shift this year. "They decreased my grant and increased my

loans," she said. "They also increased my family contribution rather substantially this year. My family income also went up a little bit, but not in the proportion that you would expect from the amount of increase."

The changes weren't enough to affect Barker's enrollment status, but they took her family by surprise. "My mom did write a letter to the financial aid office, and they essentially said, 'we're really stretched thin this year.'"

Kenyon, like many of its peer institutions, faces a great challenge: supporting socioeconomic diversity in the student body while keeping the College's net revenue up.

"For a place like us, in order for there to be access for people who can in no way afford it, you have to also have a certain percentage of people who can pay the full tuition," Nugent said. "Something's got to give, but I have never seen a good solution

see *DEBT*, page 3

Football Defies Expectations

By **RICHARD PERA**
STAFF WRITER

The Kenyon College football program was in a tailspin. At the end of the 2011 season, the Lords were on a 23 game losing streak — the longest active losing streak in Division III football. A change was clearly needed, and Head Coach Ted Stanley resigned on November 14.

Stanley left the program with a 20-70 record, including two winless seasons (2010 and 2011) in which the Lords were outscored 666-195. The constant diet of defeats — some painfully lopsided and some excruciatingly narrow — crushed the team's spirits week after week.

"Doubt was always in the back of my mind," said quarterback Dan Shannon '13, who was winless in 20 career starts going into 2012. "It was almost like this sense of failure. How could we not have pulled one game out? It really was tough."

Less than two months later, the team filled the Kenyon Athletic Center theater to meet Stanley's replacement. The newcomer's intensity startled the players: "I'm Chris Monfietto, your new head football coach," he said. "I'm just going to get right to it. I'm not here to talk about the past. If any person in this room has any doubt that we can't win every game on our schedule, then there is no room for you on the team."

This was a watershed moment for Kenyon football. The players who lacked Monfietto's confidence would quit in the coming days and weeks, but those who were excited by his words could not wait

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LIFE ON THE HILL AS IT HAPPENS: WWW.THEKENYONTHRILL.COM

Students Go Green With Help From Sustainability Grants

By **CAROLYN FLEDER**
STAFF WRITER

With new Sustainability Action Program (SAP) grants, intended as a grass-roots component of the College's environmental overhaul, Kenyon has been making strides toward more environmentally friendly practices.

The SAP grants are awarded to members of the Kenyon community in order to "cultivate a culture of sustainability" and increase consciousness within the community, according to the Sustainability Initiative website. This October, the Sustainability Committee awarded the inaugural SAP grants to two student-directed projects.

The first grant was a collaborative project, proposed and directed by People Endorsing Agrarian Sustainability (PEAS) and Environmental Campus Organization (ECO). The grant will fund the construction of a new hoop house near the

ECO garden in the North Campus Apartments.

A hoop house is a wood and plastic structure used for sustainable farming. It works in the same way a greenhouse does, by trapping heat within the structure to maintain a higher temperature, while protecting the plants within from the elements outside. Hoop houses expand the growing season into the winter months, allowing for year-round growth.

"Having a hoop house built allows for continual exploration of the garden we already have," said Tim Jurney '15, a member of PEAS who co-wrote the grant proposals. "We do have this garden, which is awesome, but we can't really use it because so much of the time we're here, it's winter."

The grant, worth a combined \$2,000, will fund the entire project from beginning to end. This includes the purchase of the wood and plastic necessary for the construction of the main

hoop house structure, as well as smaller hoop houses within it that will house the actual plants. The grant also covers the costs of the seeds, soil and tools necessary to complete the project. Members of PEAS and ECO will construct the hoop house themselves.

At the beginning of next semester, they will begin to build the basic structure. At the end of spring break, members of the two organizations will return to campus early to raise the hoop house. "It's going to be great, a hoop-house-raising bonanza," Jurney said. The project will continue to be pieced together throughout the year, with the hoop house expected to be fully functioning next fall.

"This project is not just an ECO and PEAS project. ... The goal was to be able to talk about sustainable agriculture hands-on. And not just talk about it, but do it," Jurney said. "This is something you can share with

"The goal was to promote awareness to students about where the products they use come from, and about their afterlife."

Jason Kass '13

your friends. Anyone can get involved, and the construction times will be open for anyone who wants to help build."

A second grant was awarded to the College's sustainability intern, Jason Kass '13. He proposed to subsidize the purchase of a new product called the Incycle cup, which is a more eco-friendly alternative to the plastic Solo cups popular among college students. Kass declined to comment on the amount of his grant.

According to Kass, about 25 billion plastic cups are thrown away every year in the U.S., and college campuses are a major culprit. Since Solo cups are made

from number six plastic and therefore hard to recycle, all of those cups are destined for landfills.

Incycle cups, which have been on the market for less than a year, are made from 50 percent post-consumer recycled material, use 50 percent less plastic than solid plastic cups and are made from number one plastic, which is the easiest plastic to recycle.

In addition to using fewer resources and being more sustainable than a Solo cup, the Incycle cup is much more durable and can be crushed without cracking, a feat that earned it the nickname "indestructicup" from several members of ECO. This "indestructicup" is available in

the Market and the Bookstore in packs of 50, at \$4.95 per pack, slightly cheaper than Solo cups.

"The goal was to promote awareness to students about where the products they use come from, and about their afterlife," Kass said. Through his project, Kass identifies the ecological impact of frequently used items, like Solo cups, and provides an alternative.

Kass, with the help of ECO, plans to promote awareness of the cups using such green advertising methods as painting signs on recycled cardboard. In addition, he hopes to convince Greek Council to start using the cups at school-sponsored events. By drawing attention to the problem and providing a simple, cost-competitive alternative, Kass believes that the choice will be easy for students to make.

And, if the cups do well, the project could expand to include sustainable hot cups as well.

VILLAGE RECORD

November 26 – December 5

- Nov. 26, 2:41 p.m. — Ill student fainted in Horvitz Center for the Visual Arts. Safety officers assisted and transported to Health and Counseling Center.
- Nov. 26, 10:44 p.m. — Student reported coat stolen from Peirce Hall.
- Nov. 27, 8:47 p.m. — Ill student in Manning Residence Hall assessed by Safety officers.
- Nov. 29, 12:43 a.m. — Ill student in New Apartments assessed by Safety officers. Student spoke to Health Center on the phone.
- Nov. 29, 11:20 a.m. — Window broken in North Campus Apartment.
- Nov. 30, 7:39 a.m. — Student received injuries to face during bike crash on public property. Safety officers assessed and transported student to Knox Community Hospital (KCH).
- Nov. 30, 2:16 p.m. — Student reported personal items stolen from the Kenyon Athletic Center.
- Nov. 30, 5:57 p.m. — Student in Leonard Residence Hall found awake but unresponsive. Transported to KCH by Safety officers.
- Nov. 30, 8:13 p.m. — Intoxicated student in Storer Hall assisted by Safety officers.
- Nov. 30, 8:26 p.m. — Guest at Kenyon Inn injured hand in door. Safety officers assessed and bandaged hand.
- Nov. 30, 9:00 p.m. — Unknown person(s) forced entry into Gambier Grill Apartments and stole several items.
- Dec. 1, 2:40 a.m. — Student at Gambier Grill Apartments received citation from Safety officers for underage alcohol consumption.
- Dec. 1, 4:33 a.m. — Ill student in Mather Residence Hall assessed by Safety officers.
- Dec. 1, 12:50 p.m. — Two students in Manning Residence Hall reported that their door had been hit with raw eggs.
- Dec. 1, 8:57 p.m. — Student in Peirce Hall reported theft/loss of cell phone.
- Dec. 2, 2:49 a.m. — Intoxicated student in Caples Residence Hall assessed by Safety officers.
- Dec. 2, 10:10 a.m. — Unknown person(s) broke window in foyer of Caples Residence Hall.
- Dec. 2, 10:20 a.m. — Staff member reported damage to emergency exit sign in Old Kenyon Residence Hall.
- Dec. 2, 12:12 p.m. — Student reported theft of clothing from Farmhouse.
- Dec. 2, 5:10 p.m. — Student reported theft of iPhone from Crozier Center for Women.
- Dec. 2, 6:00 p.m. — Student in Hillel House had a seizure. Student was not transported to KCH.
- Dec. 2, 6:33 p.m. — Student at Duff Street 119 requested to leave premises for not following policy.
- Dec. 2, 11:26 p.m. — Student in Old Kenyon Residence Hall found in possession of drugs/paraphernalia, which were confiscated.

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Debt: College Losing Full-Pay Students to Other Schools

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to the problem.”

The class of 2016 has the highest number of students of color, of first-generation students and of international students in the College’s history. “We over-achieved on our institutional priorities last year,” Vice President for Enrollment and Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Jennifer Delahunty said. “Can we afford to continue to do that? No. But did the board give us \$400,000 more for the freshman aid budget? They did.”

While the trustees acknowledge the need for additional aid resources, fundraising initiatives have fallen short in the past. The “We Are Kenyon” campaign raised \$60 million for financial aid, doubling the College’s aid endowment, but it still missed its goal by more than \$10 million.

Meanwhile, tuition climbs higher. For 2012-2013, full freight at Kenyon is \$54,760. If tuition continues to rise at its

current rate — roughly double the rate of inflation — a Kenyon diploma will cost more than \$500,000 in 20 years.

“It’s going to be harder ... from here on out. There’s no doubt about it,” Delahunty said. “Those jobs didn’t come back. People are not confident about the future. Investing in college is a four-year act of faith.”

“Last year marked a real change in tone in parents. They used to come and we’d talk about whether the son or daughter should get a merit scholarship, and last year some of my conversations were uncivil,” Delahunty said. “The anxiety’s amped up about the price.”

It’s not just Kenyon that’s facing challenges. Cornell University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology both recently announced they are converting some of their student grants into loans. This fall, Wesleyan University reneged on its promise to admit students regardless of financial status.

“Last year marked a real change in tone in parents ... last year some of my conversations were uncivil. The anxiety’s amped up about the price.”

Jennifer Delahunty,
Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid

And as other schools scramble to raise revenue, Kenyon sometimes pays the price. “We got all these kids plucked off our waitlist at schools that I was stunned took them, [but] they were low on net revenue and they wanted our full-pay kids,” Delahunty said. “We had an inordinate growth in what we call ‘summer melt’ last year. We lost a lot of students who had resources to other colleges.” Just two weeks before first-year Orientation, Kenyon lost an incoming student to Pomona College.

“There were years when I first started here, when you had room on the waitlist with dollars for students,” Delahunty said. “You could call a student up and say,

‘I got a spot, and I got a scholarship for you.’ That was so beautiful, and those days are probably gone.”

In the meantime, Kenyon has expanded its merit aid offerings. Already, 15 percent of the student body receives merit aid.

This year, the College rolled out five full- and five half-tuition merit scholarships. And while Delahunty is glad to see the College rewarding strong students, she admits merit aid can be a kind of “discount” for full-pay students. “We have to fix the needs analysis system if we’re going to get rid of merit aid,” she said. “Needs analysis — all the forms that families fill out to say how much they can contribute

— you’ve got families that are barely making six-figures that the federal methodology’s expecting them to contribute a fourth of their income to college. The system is broken and merit aid is just a Band-Aid on that system.”

Whether there will be substantive change remains to be seen. “What I wish we could do is institute something that would really be like the G.I. Bill was,” Nugent said. “That we would have a national service program that would have people coming out of high school, putting a couple years into national service when our country needs infrastructure desperately, gaining some maturity and job experience, and then getting a meaningful grant from the government to complete their education.”

While the College figures out its financial future, Barker isn’t too worried about her own. “Going into life after Kenyon I honestly haven’t thought too much about my loan debt,” she said. Her parents have offered to help

her pay down her debt, which is between \$20,000 and \$25,000. “They also see it as a really good way for me to build up credit, and both of them had good experiences paying off their student loans,” she said.

Frischer, however, wonders if the cost of Kenyon has colored his opinion of the place. “I can’t embrace [Kenyon] because I feel like it’s put such a burden on my family,” he said. “This place is all about community and being able to really embrace Kenyon as this idealistic place that I love, and [that] I’m going to have all these nostalgic memories about for the rest of my life. And I feel like I’ve been a little unable to do that, primarily for financial reasons.”

At the same time, he concedes, “I’m getting the same education [as someone who pays full tuition] for a fifth of the price. Maybe I deserve to have to fill out some forms and go through a little hardship. Maybe I should be more grateful to this place, because I am able to go here.”

VILLAGE COUNCIL

Monday, December 3

- Chief Business Officer Mark Kohlman reported the College was focusing the Middle Path Restoration Project on the sections between Brooklyn Street, Bexley Hall, Wiggins Street and Old Kenyon. He also reported that the laundromat in Farr Hall will be divided into a print shop and will have half the number of machines. Kohlman said that seasonal lights are in the process of being added to the trees of Middle Path, though not on newly planted ones, and that the College had identified 20 or so trees on the Path that may need to be replaced.
- The mayor reported that the sidewalk under construction on Brooklyn Street has been completed.
- Some of the parking blocks for the Community Center Park have arrived and will be installed after the completion of leaf pick-ups.
- The committee in charge of exploring the future of the College Township Fire Department discussed establishing an independent fire district as a possibility, but determined that insufficient funding made this option unlikely. The committee will meet in January to discuss merging with the Mount Vernon Fire Department as another option. The mayor reported that whatever course of action they take, the participation of Kenyon student volunteers would remain integral to the department.
- The Council approved the second reading of an ordinance that would create a four-way stop at the intersection of Woodside Drive and Brooklyn Street for safety reasons.
- The Council approved the second reading of an ordinance providing two-hour parking for the six parking spots at the end of Brooklyn Street east of Ward Street.
- While signs indicate it is a school zone, the Council approved the second reading of an ordinance that would officially create such a zone on East Brooklyn Street.
- Since several fire hydrants have been tapped for construction purposes, which the Village administrator noted is theft of utility, the Council approved the first reading of an ordinance regulating cross-connection control of the Village’s water system, imposing a \$500 initial fine and \$100 a week after notice, with the perpetrators being billed if damage is incurred or replacement is necessary.
- The Council approved the first reading of an ordinance amending the storm water utility ordinance.
- The Council passed a resolution strongly opposing the passage of a bill by the Ohio General Assembly which would allow for taxes to be levied only for residents and not for citizens who work in a municipality.
- The Council passed a resolution entering into an Automated Clearing House (ACH) origination agreement with First-Knox National Bank.
- The Council approved a 12-month contract with Champion Energy Services for the Village’s electricity needs to save \$11,270.33 for the year.
- The Council approved additional construction costs to Bird+Bull Inc. of approximately \$1,500 for the East Brooklyn Street sidewalk and road improvement project.
- After much deliberation, a first reading was approved of the revised zoning ordinance.
- Canyon Construction Company was informed of the core samples from the East Woodside Drive paving issue. The company is discussing the matter with the asphalt company and the president of Canyon reported that action to correct the issue would likely take place in the spring of 2013.
- AT&T will upgrade the cell tower antennas on the Gambier water tower site.
- The Village administrator expressed the need to receive proposals from Bird+Bull Inc. for several roadway improvement projects over the next few years.
- It was reported to the Council that thus far in the hunting season, nine deer have been shot.

— Henri Gendreau

STUDENT COUNCIL

Sunday, December 2

- The Student Life Committee reported that 14 groups did not submit an end of the semester evaluation. This week, the Committee will review new student organizations, any groups that did not submit evaluations and groups whose evaluations raised concerns.
- Based on the findings from the evaluations, many groups need to increase their publicity. One solution the Student Life Committee is considering is purchasing advertisement space with the *Collegian* on a weekly basis and allowing groups to apply for the space.
- Campus Senate will meet with the Maintenance Department and discuss issues surrounding its revised smoking policy, which includes how to go about removing ashtrays from trashcans and relocating them 15 feet away from buildings.
- The Academic Affairs Committee had a representative meeting with senior staff to discuss a range of issues, including: that this year, there have been no new cases in front of the Academic Infractions Board (AIB); whether faculty are comfortable reporting infractions, due to the long process they would have to undergo; the possibility of creating a mandatory two-hour class for first years, which would cover using appropriate research methods and avoiding plagiarism; offering a stress management class, which could potentially prevent seniors from committing plagiarism; whether international students should receive the same treatment in terms of academic infractions; allowing the Committee to take into account intent when giving a double zero (where a student fails the assignment and consequently the class); whether the process of appearing before the AIB should be public.
- The Housing and Dining Committee re-examined a themed house that failed to report a judicial violation. They also discussed extending dining hours on Saturdays, which will not affect cost if hours are cut elsewhere in the week. The Committee plans to send a survey for student input. As it stands, the Committee will probably end extended hours at 4:00 p.m. during the week instead of 4:30 p.m. to get the extra hours needed to extend Saturday hours. The Committee will also send out a survey on the types of soda Peirce Dining Hall currently offers. Once it receives the results, the Committee may look into replacing a current soda with Mr. Pibb.
- Greek Council will host a safety forum after break.
- Buildings and Grounds reported that the Board of Trustees approved the Wilson Apartments demolition replacement, and the College will not raise the College Gates due to the findings of their excavation.
- Seniors are voting on their baccalaureate speaker through a survey in which they pick three of the 16 possible options.
- Juniors sold all their snapback hats and will continue their fundraising efforts by hosting the Junior Class Auction, which concludes on Monday. It will use a school-wide Google Document to make up-to-date bids visible to the entire college.
- The sophomore class had hoped to sell tank tops before break. They ran into licensing issues with the College, however, because of the use of the Kenyon logo.
- Student Council will update its bylaws and article three of the Student Government Constitution, beginning next week. Student Council has not changed article three since 2008, and Campus Senate must ratify the changes for them to be official. Student Council has also not updated the bylaws since 2003. Student Council hopes to have all the revisions in place by Feb. 1, so that Senate can approve them in time for elections.

— Grace Hitzeman

Correction

Last issue’s article “A Night on the Graveyard Shift” (Nov. 15, 2012) incorrectly stated the starting hourly rate of pay for a full-time Campus Safety officer. It is \$11.09 an hour. This works out to roughly \$23,000 a year. For shift supervisors, the hourly rate is \$12.20. The *Collegian* regrets this error.

Lights Return for Holiday Season

By ROSALYN AQUILA
NEWS EDITOR

Upperclass students and community members alike can let out a sigh of relief — the white LED lights lining the trees in the Village will return this week, according to Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds Greg Widener. “Putting the lights on has become a Kenyon tradition,” he said. “People like to see them, especially this time of the year.” Maintenance will have them completely installed by the end of the week.

In the past, the College used the lights beyond the winter season. But after two years, the current set of lights had deteriorated. “They’re not made to be outside year-round,” Widener said. “You buy them around the holidays. You put them up. You take them down. We typically have not done that, so they had deteriorated enough that we could not salvage the last set that was up.”

Likewise, for the price of the lights — which translates to about \$1,360 in materials and another \$1,000 in labor — updating the lights was not sustainable, according to Widener. “They’re not designed to be out,” he said. “No lights are designed to be out like that. They’re seasonal.”

The new set of lights



SAM COLT | COLLEGIAN

Maintenance workers hang lights on the trees lining Middle Path in the Village. The lights will stay up until January, according to Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds Greg Widener.

“Putting the lights on has become a Kenyon tradition. People like to see them, especially this time of the year.”

*Greg Widener,
Superintendent of Buildings
and Grounds*

will not be on the trees year-round as in years past. Instead, they will likely stay out during the holiday season and come down sometime in January to “get more life out of them,” according to Widener.

Additionally, Widener and David Boughter, manager of technical

trades, are investigating more efficient ways to install the lights. One idea is to run a 35-foot strand extending the length of the branches, as opposed to wrapping the trunk of the tree. This solution would limit installation and upkeep time. “If one of [the lights] burned out ... we can get to them and service them a little easier,” Widener said.

As it stands, it takes two electricians and about three days to install the lights, and two or three strands of lights need some kind of upkeep during the winter. Ultimately, Widener expects these changes will reduce costs by extending the lifespan of the lights.

Though the LED lights will not be year-round, the College does have plans to keep Middle Path bright. Last spring, the Board of Trustees approved a plan prepared by Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates Inc. that includes updating the lamp posts, benches and trees lining Middle Path to better aesthetically unify the campus, according to Widener.

Since then, the firm has begun surveying Middle Path’s surface and tested different lighting options throughout campus. Any changes, however, likely won’t occur until after the firm submits a final plan to the Trustees in the spring.

College Adopts Online Statements

By GRACE HITZEMAN
STAFF WRITER

Following in the footsteps of many peer institutions and other businesses, Kenyon’s billing process is heading into the 21st century with new digital student account statements. The College has switched to electronic invoicing for the convenience of students and parents and as a cost-saving measure, according to Todd Burson, assistant controller and director of special projects for the Accounting Office. He projected the switch will save the College about \$15,000 a year on paper, envelopes and postage.

Initially, the College experienced some difficulties integrating its billing practices with its existing technology and software, which contributed to the delay in transitioning to electronic statements.

The Accounting Office will email a PDF version of a bill every month to each student’s Kenyon email account. Students who want bills sent to their parents’ email addresses as well will need to update the email addresses on their Personal Access Pages. They must follow a series of steps outlined in an email sent by the Accounting Office to accomplish this.

These steps ensure that “the students control who gets that bill,” Burson said. As of press time, about 300 students have updated their billing email addresses. Additionally, “if somebody, such as a relative, who doesn’t have an email account still wants to get that bill ... [the student] can contact us and we will still send them a paper bill,” Burson said.

Along with the new emailed statements, the Accounting Office will also likely send any additional notifications via email.

Overall, student response has been positive. Mary Shannon ’15 said the change “makes billing in general more accessible,” and Conrad Jacober ’15 said, “Thank the Lord! I like [the change] a lot.”

Eventually, the Accounting Office plans to expand the online billing feature to a completely digital payment system. Currently, the office is looking at several options for online payment transactions. According to Burson, they will likely work with a third-party vendor that would host a payment site. Ideally, the College would offer multiple payment options including credit cards, Automated Clearing House and e-checks. “It’s a fairly simple process,” Burson said. “And that’s the key: we want to make it simple for everybody.” Burson expects the new payment system to be implemented by the end of the fiscal year, on June 30.

Sorority: Will Revise Plans

continued from page 1

sororities will visit the campus to determine whether they are willing to support Kappa Sigma Alpha. As of now, Olivares and Cruz are hoping a sorority with headquarters nearby — like Kappa Kappa Gamma in Columbus — will adopt them.

One of the challenges involved will be gathering enough members to become national and then maintaining the number necessary to stay that way — around 45-50 women. “Kenyon is a small school, and we’re going to need a lot of girls to become national,” Olivares said. Kenyon’s first sorority, now known as Theta Delta Phi, was part of national sorority Delta Gamma until its membership dropped to six women and it no longer met national requirements.

“With [being] national comes a lot of benefits that we’re all very excited about,” Cruz said. “But then again [the national organization] also has their own ideas as to what this sorority should look like. We’re going to have to be a bit flexible

to make sure we not only fulfill Kenyon requirements but fulfill the ideas we have of ourselves and the ideas of the national sorority.”

Director of Student Activities and Greek Life Christina Mastrangelo and President of Greek Council Andrew Tint ’13 worked with Olivares and Cruz to get their idea off the ground. “I think ... [Greek Council members] felt like they needed to do a little more in terms of creating an identity,” Tint said. “They also unfortunately went two weeks after the new fraternity, Sigma Phi Tau, which is [also] working with national, who helped them out a lot.”

Olivares cited Mastrangelo as one of their biggest supporters, saying, “She’s all for it. I think she’s pretty excited about it.”

President of Phi Kappa Sigma Tommy Brown ’13 voted yes to the sorority’s proposal at the meeting on Monday. “From strictly an organizational perspective there was no reason for us to not vote in favor,” Brown said. “It doesn’t hinder any of

our own interests, but I think there’s a pretty widely accepted sentiment among sorority members that I’ve spoken with that there’s concern in those groups of them getting too big.”

Tint added that with the recent addition of a fraternity, it was likely that fraternity members were more eager to have a new sorority. He cited the “huge division between eight fraternities and only three sororities ... which is actually a gap that we want to close.”

Olivares and Cruz met with members of Kenyon’s current sororities to discuss their intentions and received a “welcoming” reaction, according to Cruz. “It was very nice to have them give us advice at the end,” Cruz said. “That’s something that we’re really looking forward to, just collaborating with them. ... But change is hard to deal with.” Tint added that he and Mastrangelo are hopeful the group will have its plans together within the next few weeks. “I’d be pretty shocked if they were not accepted the next time,” Tint said.

SHAWN KELLY MEMORIAL HOLIDAY PARTY



SAM COLT | COLLEGIAN

On Wednesday, Nov. 28 and Thursday, Nov. 29, Delta Kappa Epsilon (DKE) hosted its annual Shawn Kelly Memorial Holiday Party in Gund Commons, partnering with Headstart, a leading organization in early childhood development and education. The DKEs provided dinner, cookie decorating and other Christmas-related activities for the party, which is in its 22nd year. Excited children also received a visit and gift from Santa. The event honors the party’s namesake, one of the College’s all-time best swimmers and a brother of the fraternity.

— Lauren Toole

Dancing With the Kenyon Stars Swings for Charity

By TORI HOOVER
STAFF WRITER

Last Friday, employees and students teamed up to raise money for charity at Kenyon's second annual "Dancing With the Kenyon Stars."

The competition raised \$1,050 for the Kno-Ho-Co-Ashland Community Action Commission, a Coshocton-based non-profit service organization dedicated to reducing local poverty. While admission was free, a two-dollar donation allowed attendees to vote on their favorite pair of dancers.

Kim Blank, assistant director of student activities for programming; Bob Milnikel, associate professor of mathematics; President S. Georgia Nugent and Professor of Anthropology David Suggs judged the event. As master of ceremonies, Professor of Music Ben Locke provided often comedic commentary.

Each faculty/staff dancer paired off with a member of the Kenyon Ballroom Dance Club, who chose a song and choreographed the duo's dance. Professors and students spent several weeks practicing and preparing for the competition.

The Ballroom Dance Club, which hosted the event, kicked things off with a showcase cha-cha to Aqua's "Barbie Girl," which elicited ample laughs and applause from the audience. Four student-professor teams followed: Katherine Baker '14 and Assistant Professor of French Pierre Dairon performed the quickstep and Johanna Klinman '15 and Professor of Biology Christopher Gil-

There was something good to say about every [dance] team.

S. Georgia Nugent,
Competition Judge

len changed up the tempo with the swing. Thomas Hite '16 and Marne Ausec, director of the Center for Global Engagement, danced third. They were joined onstage by Ausec's daughter Marisol and a quartet of Kenyon students, who had painted a large rainbow on their chests — an apt design for the dance, a waltz performed to the Muppets' "Rainbow Connection."

Blank said Hite and Ausec's dance was successful because, "like in any good movie, special effects and children go a long way."

The Ballroom Dance Club again took the stage for a Viennese waltz to Jason Mraz's "I Won't Give Up," and they were followed by Mia Barnett '15 and Provost Nayef Samhat dancing the American tango, Bradley Raynor '16 and Professor of French Mary Jane Cowles dancing the cha-cha and Brandylyn Arredondo '14 and Assistant Men's Lacrosse Coach Gary DiClementi dancing the jive.

Nugent, who participated last year and was originally scheduled to dance the foxtrot with Luke Kresslein '15, sustained a knee injury earlier in the week and was unable to participate in the competition. She was happy to judge,

though.

"As I was coming out tonight, I thought the most challenging thing would be that if it isn't great you don't want to hurt their feelings," Nugent said. "Tonight it wasn't very challenging at all because everybody was good. They were all creative, and there was something good to say about every team."

While judges gave every team individual scores, it was the audience that had the final say. In the end, Arredondo and DiClementi took home the competition's disco ball trophy, designed by Executive Assistant to the President and Provost Pamela Faust.

Arredondo, who is president of the club, praised every pair's dedication.

"I think we did pretty well," she said. "After I saw everyone together at the end I was talking to my ballroom officers, and they thought they had perfect matches with their professors. They created really good bonds."

DiClementi noted the challenging time commitment, but also acknowledged his lacrosse players, many of whom showed up for the performance.

"I really appreciate their support," DiClementi said. "They showed up for something they may not have before, and I'm happy because that donates a lot of money to the cause. They were really supportive."

"They'll probably give me a hard time about it," he added, "but in the end I think they thought it



DAVID HOYT | COLLEGIAN

Assistant Men's Lacrosse Coach Gary DiClementi and Brandylyn Arredondo '14 took home the competition's top prize for their jive.

was pretty cool."

Kresslein, Nugent's would-be partner, participated in last year's show as well.

"I think [this year's show] looked a lot more formal," he said. "I think it worked better as a show, and I think it was more efficient, as far as running the program. It took a long time to count the votes, but we're getting better. It was really

fun to see the professors come out and see their hard work. We really appreciate everything they do and how they support the club."

Nugent agreed with Kresslein. "It's just great," she said. "It's very fun to see everybody. Some have incredible talent, and some employ creativity and humor, and that's great too. It was very entertaining."

Slonczewski Pushes the *Frontier* of Sci-Fi With Latest Novel

By JANE MERKER
STAFF WRITER

Professor of Biology Joan Slonczewski has her own Wikipedia article, because in her spare time, she doesn't read novels — she writes them. Last Friday in Peirce Hall Lounge, a number of Kenyon faculty led a community discussion on Slonczewski's latest book, *The Highest Frontier*.

The book, published this year, follows the life of a first-year who attends a small college owned by the state of Ohio.

It sounds like Kenyon, but the college operates out of a space satellite 100 years in the future, and things are complicated by invading space aliens.

Both *The Highest Frontier* and Slonczewski's earlier work, *A Door Into Ocean* (1986), have received the John W. Campbell Award for best science fiction novel.

Slonczewski said her time at Kenyon helped inspire *The Highest Frontier*.

"In general, my works are inspired by my experiences in biology and my experiences with students, and the kind of questions students

In general, my works are inspired by my experiences in biology and my experiences with students.

Professor of Biology Joan Slonczewski

raise," she said. "For instance, a student might ask whether plants can feel, or whether plants can experience life the way humans do."

Thinking about plants in this way might seem ridiculous, but biology is often surprising.

"We can look at the fact that plants and humans have a shared ancestry," Slonczewski said. "Well, there are certain things you can study in plants that are relative to humans, such as stress resistance, resistance to oxidation and resistance to virus infection. In my book, I imagined that I actually engineered a plant to have human-like neurons and behavior."

Interactions with Kenyon staff have also influenced Slonczewski's writing. She recounted asking an administrator if there were any current Kenyon students who were "illegal aliens." The ad-

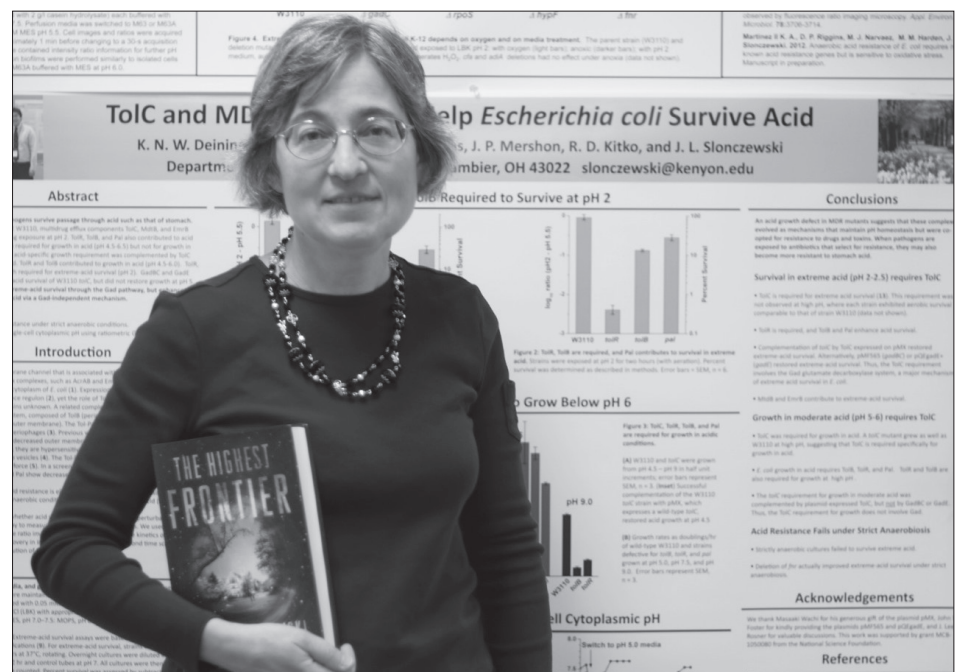
ministrator replied, "No, we don't have illegal aliens at Kenyon, we have undocumented students."

After this conversation, Slonczewski decided to include a character who is a literal alien.

"In the book, there is one student who is very obviously a space alien," she said. "People have complained to me about how obvious it was, that this student was an alien in the book. And I asked one of the deans, 'What would you do if you thought one of the students was a space alien?' and they replied, 'Um, I don't know. Is there something we should know?'"

Slonczewski has always had an interest in science.

Her father is a theoretical physicist who has won several international awards for his studies on magnetism, which might explain why Slonczewski gravitates toward writ-



SAM COLT | COLLEGIAN

Professor of Biology Joan Slonczewski poses with her latest novel, *The Highest Frontier*. The book, Slonczewski's first in over 10 years, takes place in the future at fictional Frontera College.

ing science fiction.

"The ideas that I have could not be contained in mainstream fiction," she said.

A Door Into Ocean (1986), is about an all-female planet.

Another, which Slonczewski's Biology in Science Fic-

tion class is currently reading, is called *Brain Plague* (2000) and deals with the issues that arise when people connect their brains to the Internet.

Slonczewski offered words of encouragement to Kenyon students with liter-

ary ambitions.

"My editors are always looking for new writers, and I am very interested in reading the work of students," she said. "If I see work that looks publishable, I will pass it on to my editors."

Correction

In the last issue, the article "Oleanna Rich With Complex Acting, Charged Physicality" (Nov. 15) misidentified Harry Hanson '13. It also incorrectly stated that the show served as partial fulfillment of the senior exercise in drama for Doug Healy '13. The *Collegian* regrets these errors.

Greek Council Should Approve New Sorority's Proposal

This week, Greek Council rejected a proposal for a new sorority on the grounds that it lacked a cohesive identity. The students behind the sorority have vowed to reapply, and we urge Greek Council to approve their request. Earlier this semester, the Council approved another fraternity's request for member status. Unexpectedly, Greek organizations are gaining prominence at a school whose admissions office has long told students that Greek life is there for those who want it, and a non-entity for those who don't.

We have some concerns about these new developments. For one thing, Greek organizations already dominate the underclass student social scene. Some of them have spotty disciplinary track records. Within the last four years, two fraternities have been put on probation (one for two violations of the College's hazing policy in two consecutive years). Another was banned from campus for five years. Clearly, a growing Greek community comes with its own challenges.

Despite our concerns about how an increase in Greek life will change the character and culture of this campus, we commend the students who are seeking to form this new sorority for a number of reasons. First, there are more than double the number of fraternities than there are sororities. This gender inequity should be corrected. Second, if those founding the organization are to be believed, there are some who feel they don't fit in with any of Kenyon's established sororities.

If Kappa Sigma Alpha can foster openness and diversity in their membership, that is a good thing. Ultimately, both of those qualities are necessary for organizations whose primary goal is to build the character of their members.

Greek life is embedded in Kenyon's culture. The campus chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon is older than this newspaper, and some of the Village's oldest structures are fraternity lodges. The addition of residential sororities several years ago was the right move for this campus, expanding Greek life in a positive way. We believe the addition of this new sorority will improve the Greek community in a similar fashion. We hope Greek Council will come to agree with us.

staff editorial

Memo to the Next President: ON BLENDED LEARNING

"Memo to the Next President" is a series featuring campus experts and the issues that matter to them.

By **MADELEINE THOMPSON**
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Of the various studies and assessments of Kenyon life that cycle through our collective consciousness each school year, the blended learning project stands out.

Blended learning is a hot topic in academic circles around the country of how best to incorporate various aspects of technology into the classroom and use it to enhance learning. I hope our next president won't let blended learning get lost in the crush of interesting projects Kenyon considers around the clock.

Blended learning tools include webinars, Skype, Moodle and Google Drive, among other more complicated options. Some of these have already been implemented in Kenyon classrooms, and Kenyon is beginning to embrace the concept of blended learning through its Kenyon Unique program (a series of recorded lectures given by Kenyon faculty), but we need to go further.

Moodle, a crucial feature in some curricula and an after-thought in others, can be incredibly frustrating for professors who want to do more, but don't know much about coding. With a little bit of training, professors could take advantage of Moodle's multifaceted educational uses, like quizzes that give students feedback and more chances to succeed.

Instead of being used to get quizzes back on time or grade essays without the opportunity to provide detailed feedback, Moodle can foster better communication between students and professors. Instant response technology, like the kind used to poll audiences in *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?*, can help professors get a feel for how well their class is following a lesson.

Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) are on the rise because anyone can enroll

"The digital revolution is underway — it's just a question of how and when Kenyon decides to participate."

for free — though not for any credit — in courses at many universities, and learn about topics as diverse as science at Stanford University and risk management at the University of Washington. Obviously, MOOCs are problematic in that they are a purely digital pursuit of knowledge with little to no interaction with the professor or anyone else in the class.

But wouldn't it be a cool project for a class or even a club to take on? The University of Virginia fired its president, Teresa Sullivan, over the summer, citing "a rapidly changing and highly pressurized external environment in ... academia," and the necessity that the school be at the "forefront of change."

The board of visitors responsible for Sullivan's ouster (she was ultimately rehired) mentioned specifically that UVA was falling behind in the development of online course options. The image of a quaint, quiet liberal arts school managing to slip by unnoticed under piles of chalk dust and leather-bound volumes is romantic, sure, but it may not be in our best interest.

Kenyon aims to keep up with, if not lead, the ever-changing academic universe in teaching methods and educational content. Faculty conferences such as this summer's retreat are evidence of our devotion to relevance. The digitally decisive moment is approaching quickly. Kenyon will soon have to either catch the wave or watch from the beach.

That said, I would hate to see the Kenyon spirit go by the wayside. We like our dusty, ancient books and Wiggle-Ground office hours. We like using notebooks and pens in class, saving our MacBooks for the library. I am, above all, for the preservation of our per-

sonality as a school. But this is the new age, and in order to be preserved, our personality must adapt. I consider myself behind the curve. Only recently did I discover the magic that is Google Drive, and it completely revolutionized my digital world.

Google Drive is a convenient, user-friendly way to share edits, collaborate on projects and access work from different locations. So I'm advocating for a little research and development.

The Center for Innovative Pedagogy at Kenyon was given a grant by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to sponsor professors who want to study blended learning or perhaps add a technological arm to their curricula. A project undertaken with money from the

Mellon Foundation could be the launchpad for some interesting classroom experiments that could put blended learning into orbit around Kenyon academics.

The digital revolution is underway — it's just a question of how and when Kenyon decides to participate. I ask that the next president and Kenyon students be open to the positive impact that blended learning could bring us. Let's not allow this project and its potential to fall through the cracks.

Madeleine Thompson '15 is a political science and modern languages double major. She became interested in blended learning after reading and writing several articles about it. Her email is thompsonm@kenyon.edu.

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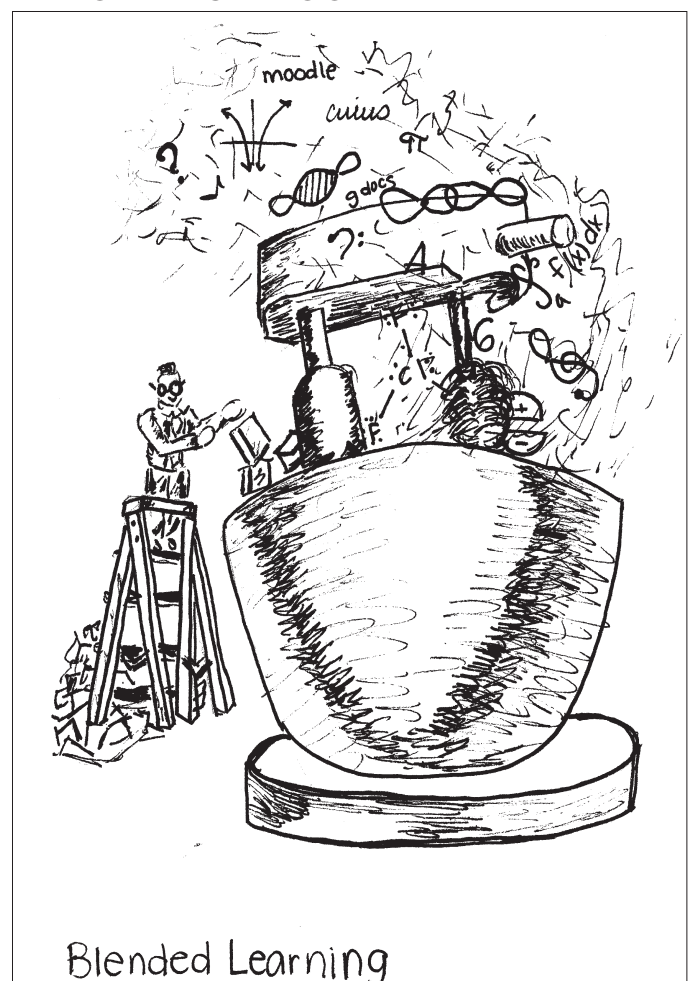


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Mental Illness Poor Artistic Standard



By DEREK DASHIELL
COLUMNIST

I'm going to try my best to only write this from what I know, and not to speak for anyone else.

In terms of the well-being of a permanent percentage of the population, I don't think there's any trope as prevalent and damaging as this: that the best writers, and artists of all kinds, are the depressed and damaged ones.

I'll begin with my own experiences. In middle school, puberty brought with it self-awareness, idealism and an unhealthy dose of depression for me. But by the time I realized this, I found that it was a competition. At the time, I carried a sketchpad instead of a notebook, but the concept was the same: the poets and painters of the time talked about their problems and divorced parents, their anger and sadness as a show of bravado.

Just look at Kurt Cobain and David Foster Wallace. Their mythic public statuses are only amplified by their relatively young suicides. Their art gets even more glorified; it was all genius to begin with, perhaps, but mysterious, tragic deaths create a power-

ful narrative, even outside the art itself. The idea, it follows, is that the tortured souls have more experience, have more to say, know more and are more pure because they're fighting a harder battle than anyone else.

In middle school, was I already depressed? Yes. But did this mythos exacerbate my depression? Absolutely. What was once private self-abuse became as public as possible. Pain was a commodity. You showed the cuts on your arm, and people listened, or cracked open their sketchbooks.

Now, here's the distinction: admitting this doesn't make me a strong person. It does not qualify me to write about this, but it does show that I'm calling my own BS.

Let me be clear, I am in no way criticizing people who struggle with mental illness. How I've managed to handle it doesn't reflect at all on how anyone else does. But what I can say, from friends admitting it to me and from me admitting it to myself, is that the belief that you have to rely on pain is the worst misconception about being an artist.

Yes, it could be argued that art from tortured souls is often beautifully intense. Look at Cobain, Wallace, Sylvia Plath and Vincent Van Gogh. Yes, some of art's biggest icons had their share of mental illnesses. But what is missed is that those problems *aren't* what made them great artists.

One of the best writers I've ever known was raped at

“One of the hardest things I've ever done was admitting I needed help, and getting over the fear that becoming 'healthy' would take away from my art.”

11, got cancer at 15 and became infertile at 16. But she never spoke openly about her past. Her writing was intense, in your face and honest. It simply did not tolerate falsehoods, but it also celebrated people's ability to improve.

What made her writing great wasn't the pain; it was what she had to say about the pain, the world, relationships, people, herself and how hard she worked to express those things. Those famous artistic geniuses' tortured souls aren't what make them great; it's what they do about it. The artistic community glorifies violent, powerful emotions in art, but the idea that they're good is a myth, and an unhealthy one at that.

What so many young people don't realize, and need to, is this: no matter how influential you become one day, you aren't a martyr giving your message to the world before you burn up in a brilliant display.

Don't fall into the trap, Kenyon. Don't idealize mental illness. It's not beautiful, it's not poetic, and it's not the only way to creativity. Just because we have a writing culture on this campus doesn't mean we need to fall prey to its every failing.

Another one of the best

writers I've ever known has had her fair share of problems, although none have truly damaged her life. And she doesn't have a mental illness. But she can describe things in a way that no one else can, and it's not from mental illness, it's from an unbelievable amount of practice and talent.

And those with mental illnesses need to realize something: using that mental illness as a crutch, as I once did, is not the answer. It's horribly detrimental to yourself to do so. Screw societal glorifications of mental illnesses. Don't think that you need it. One of the hardest things I've ever done was admitting I needed help, and getting over the fear that becoming "healthy" would take away from my art.

It didn't, and doesn't. I only hope that if anyone else thinks this way, they won't hesitate to contact the Counseling Center.

If you have a mental illness, forget what artist culture thinks. It doesn't make you a good artist. You do. Well, you, and lots of practice, of course.

Derek Dashiell '16 is a prospective English major and math minor. He's been an artist of one sort or another since the third grade. His email is dashiellld@kenyon.edu.

Quick Complaints

“This is my senior year, and this is the first time I've been asked for a quick complaint.”

— Kendra Mabie '13

“Hitchhiking to and from the KAC needs to be a thing.”

— Liza Mackey '16 and Lucy Evert '16

“Papers.”

— Matthew Metz '13

“I had the foresight to bring my umbrella, but not my coat.”

— Mary Allen '13

“My stomach isn't big enough.”

— Edek Sher '13

“Peirce cups always stick together.”

— Mattie Mayer '16

“Who is blowing leaves outside my window before noon?”

— Nathan Huey '13

“It's soggy outside.”

— Melissa Nigro '13

“Why are people always shitting on Peirce?”

— Brett Miller '15

“Too much angst.”

— Andrew Gipson '13

“All my booze is gone.”

— Karen Huntsman '13

“Where did Ben Jacoby ['14] go?”

— Charlie Collison '15

“It should snow.”

— Kushal Rao '13

“Pantyhose.”

— Libby Panhorst '13

“I don't know what's in [Professor of Humanities Tim] Shutt's water bottle.”

— Colleen Damerell '13

“The rain. And the cold.”

— Greg Culley '14

“The spring housing lottery is too much like *The Hunger Games*.”

— Elise Shattuck '14

“We only have soft serve ice cream, and I like hard ice cream.”

— Olivia Frey '16

“I wish the showers in Gund would be hot every once in a while.”

— Anna Gomez '16

“There's no ceramic mugs for tea.”

— Phoebe Lewis '16

“The forks in Peirce have weirdly unpredictable curvature.”

— Audrey Nation '15

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Nugent MMAP Response Disappointing

First let me state that though I alone am ultimately responsible for the content of this letter, many with whom I have consulted about the letter in recent days share the sentiments expressed therein.

As a member of the Kenyon Community Alliance, I found President Nugent's comments in the recent *Collegian* article “MMAP Defers to Administration” confusing and worrisome. When President Nugent says that this report “turn[s] the decision back over to the administrator who made it in the first place,” she simply seems to state the well-established fact that the MMAP was an advisory panel that did not have the power to make a binding decision on any of the matters its members considered.

I also found it especially troubling that President Nugent so publicly cast doubt upon one of the options that the panel said should be considered by the administration (specifically the option proposed by Union members). Why this proposal was singled out for criticism before it has been formally presented to the administration is baffling.

Furthermore, President Nugent's continued defense of Sodexo, despite the strong public backlash against it and the panel's official recommendation to reject contracting with that company, is also worrisome. In fact, I am concerned President Nugent's remarks give the impression that the administration will proceed with its plans to outsource Kenyon staff with no regard for the MMAP's carefully researched and balanced report.

I very much hope that this is not the case, but, as they stand, President Nugent's comments come across as disrespectful to the members of the MMAP, all of whom volunteered many hours of their valuable time to what must have often seemed a thankless task. The comments are also disrespectful to all of us who continue to educate ourselves about and respond to this issue.

The point of a liberal arts education is to improve the world by learning to question it. It is certainly not easy to be critical of the leaders of a community that we all cherish so much. But it is important, as so many have shown by speaking out about this issue in recent

“Should it really be enough to simply prevent Kenyon from physically ‘falling into rubble,’ as President Nugent puts it?”

months, to continue to hold our community and its leaders to the highest standards.

Should it really be enough to simply prevent Kenyon from physically “falling into rubble,” as President Nugent puts it? What about the human aspects of this place? What about the well-being of all those who work here, and the moral character of this institution? Shouldn't we be doing our best to prevent those from “falling into rubble” too?

For the sake of everyone at Kenyon, no matter what role each plays in the college, I urge President Nugent to consider her comments more carefully and to respect the legitimate concerns of all members of the Kenyon community.

— Lydia Shaban '15

Synoptic Majors: Worth the Work They Require?

With the extra work synoptic majors require, current majors weigh pros and cons of declaring.

By **EMILY SAKAMOTO**
STAFF WRITER

“What’s your major?” This oft-asked question sparks either a bout of nerves at the inability to decide or a dull response to the everyday query. Walk around Kenyon for a day and hear all about the English majors reading Chaucer and the biology majors drowning in lab work. Go to any college as a prospective student and expect the daunting question at the start of a tour.

While many college students are ready to declare a major or intended major at the start of their four years, many are not. And while searching out schools with specific majors may seem adequate, there’s always the possibility that life will change and, in the process, dictate one’s intended major.

Enter synoptic majors. A path few attempt to take, synoptic majors are a blend of many disciplines.

Take Elizabeth Myers ’14, a performing arts administration and community development major.

“I came into Kenyon, and I was going to be a classics major, but I kind of figured out that wasn’t working out for me,” My-

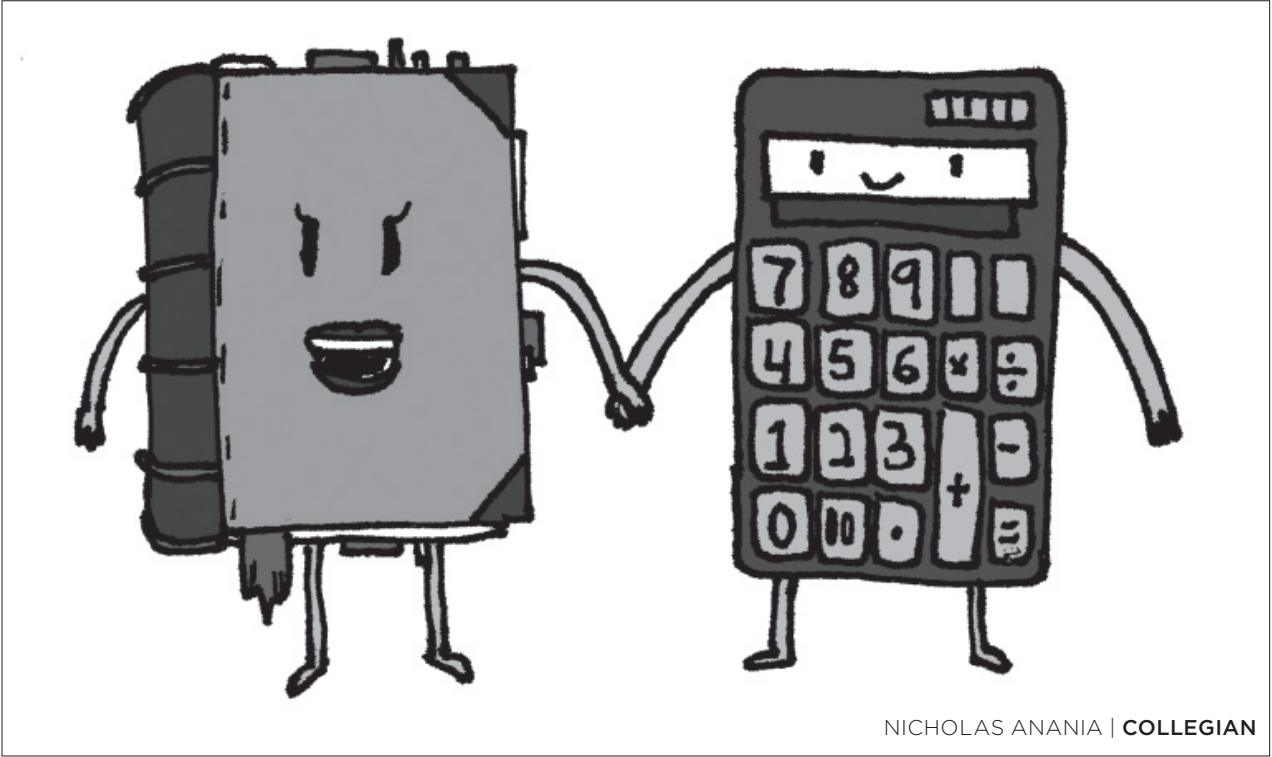
ers said. “[To be a synoptic major], you have to have a clear concept of what you want to do and where that’ll take you after Kenyon.”

Many students wonder and worry about where their major will take them after graduation. The synoptic majors may have an advantage, since they’ve taken the road less traveled.

“I think I’m a good candidate because I took the initiative to design my own major,” said Sara Carminati ’13, a senior comparative English and Spanish with creative writing and translation concentration.

Carminati also clarified just how much more work goes into designing one’s own major, a feat not known by those who follow the slim boundaries of a standard major. “I do think that it’s a difficult major; it’s 16 units and you design your own senior exercise. I’m constantly tugging on ... various advisors all the time and you’re reliant on what [course] is being offered at what time.”

The process of getting approval for the major is



a lengthy one. But according to Carminati, “It was a pretty natural process, although it took a lot of work.”

On the flip side, Grace Molloy ’14, a comparative literature major with an emphasis on poetry in English, Spanish and religion, explained, “The application process is pretty tedious. It takes a while. It’s very detailed. You have to outline all the courses you plan on taking at Kenyon, and so that was hard, but they require you to take a total of 16 classes towards your major, more than regular majors.”

While a synoptic major may seem more time

consuming than the average major, many who have undertaken a synoptic major deemed it a worthy venture. As regular majors have a strict set of requirements for graduation within the confines of that department and track, synoptic majors create their own class schedules.

“You have to be kind of really internally motivated, like when next year I’ll have to do a senior exercise. I not only have to do it, but I have to design it, and that’s going to be tricky,” Myers said. “It’s more work after you declare your major regarding getting it set up and the

logistics figured out.”

While choosing a synoptic major may seem an equal mixture of difficulty and fun, the topic on every student’s mind after choosing a major is where it will take him or her in life. When asked about the future, in respect to jobs, graduate school and even the possibility of a Fulbright candidacy, those interviewed had different perceptions of how a synoptic major would work for and against them.

Carminati said the lengths to which one goes to become a synoptic major and to fulfill all of its requirements set synoptic majors apart from stan-

dard major graduates vying for the same jobs.

Myers was less apprehensive about the quality of her major.

“In designing my own major, it’s a lot of qualities an employer is going to look for: initiative and drive. In that respect, I’ll be okay,” she said.

Perhaps one day synoptic majors will be as prevalent as their more rigid counterparts. It’s the apothesis of a liberal arts college thing to do: designing one’s own major is innovative. With a mixture of so many different courses in various departments, one has the freedom to define one’s four years at school.

STUDENTS

Gambier Grillin’

James Neimeister ’13

Lauren Earls ’16

Katherine S. Corker,
Assistant Professor of
Psychology

Wade Powell,
Associate Professor
of Biology

FAC/STAFF

Totals so far:
Students: 59
Faculty/Staff: 51

Enrique Peña Nieto was sworn in as what country’s new president?	Spain	Mexico	Spain	Mexico	Mexico
What world religious leader recently opened a Twitter account?	Ayatollah Khomeini	The Pope	Dalai Lama	The Pope	The Pope
What country’s top courts adjourned indefinitely due to protests?	Egypt	Greece	Germany	Egypt	Egypt
What country experienced a 125-mile traffic jam on Sunday?	Russia	Russia	India	United States	Russia
How long is the Kokosing Gap Trail?	30 miles	26 miles	14 miles	14.2 miles	14 miles
Total Correct	2	3	1	4	By DAISY VANDENBURGH

We Go Together Like . . . Lower Norton Girls?

By JULIE FRANCE
STAFF WRITER

"Freshman year is very special, and I think people like to hold onto that by living with people you lived with your first year," Leslie Martin '14 said.

Martin speaks from experience. She is currently living in Caples Hall with five other suitemates from her first-year dorm, Norton Hall. Martin has lived with Emma Munger '14, her first-year hallmate, sophomore roommate and junior suitemate for three consecutive years, continuing the solidarity of the LoNo (lower Norton) girls.

"I really feel like especially this year, where I am living with five other girls ... that is my family at Kenyon," Martin said. "You know, we call it 'home' instead of 'coming back to the dorm.'"

Martin's experience in Norton Hall is not as unique as it seems. Apparently, Norton Hall has a history of unity. Laura Boniface '15, Kate Lindsay '15, Kelly Menzel '15 and Marge Tucker '15 continue this Norton Hall tradition by all having moved to Bushnell Hall this year. "Norton sticks together," Martin said. "I think it's just the way that it's set up."

Lindsay and Menzel lived in upper Norton, but they quickly became honorary members of lower Nor-

ton. "Me and Kelly really hit it off as roommates, and then we would see Marge and Jenny, who was her roommate, around and we thought that they looked fun," Lindsay said. "So, we literally, one night, slipped a note under their door saying, 'Hey, you wanna watch *Sex and the City* with us?' They did, and then from that, we met everyone else in that hall."

"There were a lot of times when we would start the night in someone's room and just end up not leaving because everyone that we wanted to see [was] right there," Boniface said.

Lindsay and Menzel are rooming together again this year, and live in the same hall as Boniface, though Tucker lives in a different hall in Bushnell. However, they had all hoped to live in the same hall with even more of their Norton Hall friends.

Lindsay said, "I think halls seem to be pretty hit or miss. I know some that are really close and some that just get along really badly." Fortunately for Boniface, Lindsay, Menzel and Tucker, their hall was a definite hit.

Perhaps the largest group to move together is Gund Hall '13. Kenny Fedorko '13 and 12 other of his now-senior Gund Hall friends — Adrian Kwong, Jimmy



Kelley, Lucas Ropek, Wyatt Riggs, Willie Plaschke, Stephen Raithel, Dan Katz, Kolin Sullivan, Zan Variano, Sarah Marnell, Katie May and Hannah Paige-Salisbury — moved to Manning Hall for their sophomore year. After a year, though, Fedorko decided that he needed a change of neighbors.

"After spending two years living with my close friends, I really started feeling a little suffocated by it," he said. "I wasn't really doing extra-curricular activities. ... And then I decided, okay, my friends are driving me crazy; if things are going the way they're going, I won't want to be friends

with them anymore. That's one of the reasons why I decided to become a CA [in McBride Residence Hall], so that I could be in a single," Fedorko said.

Fedorko's experience of living with 12 of his friends two years in a row, however, was not completely negative.

"Manning is like a ski lodge. It's just a beautiful lounge, great people and a lounge really makes a dorm atmosphere much more personal because you can just sit there in the lounge and people walk through and you meet them and start up conversations," Fedorko said. "The lounge atmosphere is something that I miss a lot, that I don't have



COURTESY OF KENNY FEDORKO AND SHIRLEY LU

Above: Kenny Fedorko '13 (second from left) poses with some of the original Gund Hall crew that went on to live in Manning Hall. Left: Norie Knipp '15 and Shirley Lu '15 lived together in McBride Hall as first years and are now neighbors again in Manning Hall.

in McBride."

Although Fedorko now has more distance from his friends, they remain tight-knit.

"We've all been really close the whole way through. Geography really doesn't change friendships that much, here at Kenyon, as much as people might think that," Fedorko said.

For sophomores Shirley Lu, Mesa Owen and Norie Knipp, living in the same hall again was purely accidental. Owen and Lu, first-year roommates, were planning on rooming together this year and ended up living next door to their good friend Knipp.

"I think it's nice that I

know someone in my hall because freshman year, you did all these introductions, meetings and everything," Lu said. "But, this year, we didn't do anything like that at all. So, I guess I don't know anyone else in my hall. Also, Manning has one CA, so we're technically all one hall. So, you just don't bond with them."

Lu recognized that the event is not that much of a coincidence at such a small college.

"I'm sure people move together, but I don't think it's a big deal when you're choosing a place to live since campus is so small," Lu said, "but it is nice when it happens."

Pupil to Professor: Payne Speaks Out About Diversity

By CELIA CULLOM
STAFF WRITER

Associate Professor of Psychology Tabitha Payne was used to living in different places. Growing up, her family moved all over the country to accommodate her father's job as an engineer. But it wasn't until she started her undergraduate career at The Ohio State University (OSU) that she expanded her frontiers to other parts of the world. One of the most influential experiences was studying abroad.

"I stayed in the Philippines for an entire semester studying sociology, biology and developmental psychology," she said. "These were great courses to take abroad. I made a lot of local friends and was able to observe differences in cultures that applied to all my course topics."

In Southeast Asia, Payne was exposed to some startling social practices. Upon arriving in Angeles City, Philippines, she saw human

heads mounted on fence posts outside Clark Air Force Base. It turned out that a group of protestors had tried to break into the base, but had been caught by a group of native headhunters, who decapitated the protestors and staked their heads on the fence, a supposed favor to the American military.

"It was kind of a shock to me to come to a country and see that kind of thing," she said. "I obviously was afraid of [the headhunters], but then I came to realize they were very, very friendly with Americans, unlike some of the protestors in Manila who really didn't want the American military there."

The protestors were a product of the political unrest in the Philippines, and during her time there, Payne had multiple run-ins with anti-American groups.

"There were coups against the current government, as well as violent demonstrations regarding

the presence of the U.S. military at that time," she said. "So, making some good local friends was key to staying safe and communicating, as the dialects varied quite a bit in this country."

She met and became friends with a native Filipino who was able to speak many Southeast Asian languages. Traveling with her — simply being on the road — became a way of learning about new groups of people.

"I remember at one point [my friend and I] sort of stopped along the road and these people kind of came out of the bush and they were wearing loincloths and had machetes and their hair was kind of messy," Payne said. "I think we scared them in this car that we had."

Despite not being able to speak the languages when she first arrived, Payne made do.

"When I got to [the Philippines] I knew no Tagalog, which is the lan-

guage," she said. "I really was shocked at how easy it was for me to understand what was going on with social cues and facial gestures. I was able to sort of pick it up and communicate quite well."

The culmination of all her experiences added a new facet to her studies in psychology. The questions that had interested her to begin with — "Why does this person do [something] differently than this person? Is it their experience? Is it their culture? Is it their inherent mental ability?" — took on a new meaning in the foreign context.

Payne's interest in culture carried over to her time at OSU. When she wasn't studying, drumming in a garage band, hiking or riding ATVs, she made a real effort to attend cultural events.

"I would regularly go to art exhibits and multicultural events — Russian folk singers, going to eat Korean pancakes, Japanese drummers," she



COURTESY OF TABITHA PAYNE

Associate Professor of Psychology Tabitha Payne poses, long-haired, during her college days at The Ohio State University. While there, she spent a semester abroad in the Philippines.

said. "I really wanted to immerse myself in experiences that were new and different to me."

The setting of OSU — a big, culturally diverse school — gave Payne the chance to engage in multicultural activities. But

even at a small school like Kenyon, she advises that there are ways to expand your awareness.

"Be open to different ideas," she said. "Experience different cultures and religions. Appreciate the diversity."

Lords: Football Turns Record Around

continued from page 1

to get out on the field.

"We hit the ground running from there," defensive back Will Clements '13 said. "[Monfiletto] was in attack mode from that moment on and everyone was fired up. It was intense, but it was encouraging."

The transition was not always smooth. Ten players walked off the team.

"It's heartbreaking, in a sense," Clements said. "Our class came in with 23 guys and nobody quit freshman year. I didn't think we would fold, and then this year, one-by-one, people started leaving. You're not going through your senior season with your best friends? It hurts. I've stuck it out for this long, not because I live and die by winning football games, but because I love being with my friends."

Most of the players never considered quitting. But for each man on the roster, the reason for staying was not a love for football, but respect for their teammates and the desire to prove others wrong.

"I didn't want to give up on the guys that stuck around," wide receiver Carlo Gagliardo '13 said. "I didn't want to go out 23 games being a loser."

Over the months of spring and fall practices, Monfiletto preached three core values: relentless competition, rigorous self-discipline and an embrace of accountability. The mantra of the team was to go "1 and 0" in everything it did – to win the day on the field and in the classroom.

With each practice snap, film review session and team meeting, the players began to trust in the system.

Despite the visible preseason progress, Monfiletto was unsure how the Lords would match up with their opponents. It took the first game, a 20-0 loss to Bluffton University, to get the offense rolling.

Kenyon finally killed its vicious losing streak in the second game, when the Lords blew out Earlham College, 31-14. Monfiletto was the victim of an icy Gatorade bath as time expired. Seniors jumped into the stands in celebration of their first victory since October 2009.

From then on, the team expected to win every game. The Lords were competitive in each contest of the 2012 season and steadily earned respect around the North Coast Athletic Conference. Kenyon avenged devastatingly close losses in consecutive years to Hiram College with a 24-7 win over the Terriers.

Two weeks later, Kenyon dominated Oberlin College, 30-13. The Lords had been shutout by the Yeomen in 2011, 42-0. In less than a year, Kenyon was on the winning side of a 59-point swing.

"We started to buy into the things that are really important," Monfiletto said. "Winning the football game and doing whatever you can for the guy next to you compensates for some of your other deficiencies. And once we started playing with confidence, we started to win some football games against teams that we probably shouldn't have beaten."



SAM COLT | COLLEGIAN

The Lords celebrate their win over Earlham College on Sept. 8, the first win of six this season.

The Lords' roster was smaller than nine of their opponents, sometimes by 15 players or more. Many teams were larger and more athletic.

"We have the hardest-working coaches in the conference," Shannon said. "Just the hours they'd put in and how much they care about football made it easy for us to go to practice and compete every day. I don't think [Monfiletto] was outcoached all year."

The highlight of the season came in its penultimate game. Kenyon trailed the College of Wooster by four points with under five minutes to play. The Lords engineered an 18-play, 88-yard drive that was capped off by a game-winning touchdown pass with 10 seconds remaining. The Kenyon sideline rushed the field and the Lords were within one win of a conference championship.

"That [drive] means more to me than anything we had accomplished all year because it means that every-

“Winning the football game and doing whatever you can for the guy next to you compensates for some of your other deficiencies.”

Head Football Coach Chris Monfiletto

thing we had been talking about makes a difference and it really, really matters," Monfiletto said. "If you get kicked in the teeth, you put it behind you and play the next play. And we were able to do that in that series. It signifies how far the team has come."

The Lords hosted archrival Denison University in the season finale. A win would not only mean a share of the conference title, but a likely Division III playoff berth. Students organized a "Blackout" and packed McBride Field. Over 100 alumni returned to campus for the game. The atmosphere was electric, featuring crowd support that had been absent in past years.

But, Kenyon fell to the Big Red 22-13. The players were devastated, some even in tears. In the postgame huddle, Coach Monfiletto told his team to remember the feeling of defeat. Almost a month later, no one has forgotten that feeling.

“Coach [Monfiletto] talks about being hostile towards complacency and believing that what you've just accomplished is never going to be enough to sustain you.”

Will Clements '13

"It's awful," Clements said. "Coach [Monfiletto] talks about being hostile towards complacency and believing that what you've just accomplished is never going to be enough to sustain you. You have to always have that hunger for something more. To finish 6-4 is great, but I just wanted 7-3 and that conference championship so much more. We were there in that moment, had it in our grasp, and let it slip away. It's always going to linger over my head."

"I think that the team understands that 6-4 was good, but that's over," Monfiletto said. "You can al-

coaching staff came for being able to put all of the losses behind them. I'm proud that the younger players were able to learn from a senior class that taught them an invaluable lesson of being able to overcome any adversity."

After the final game of his career, running back Brett Williams '13 was congratulated by Kenyon football alumni, both recent graduates and older ones whom he had never met. While speaking with them, Williams realized that this season was more successful than what those alumni had ever accomplished in their collegiate careers. The 2012 Lords finished with a winning record for just the second time in 22 years.

For Williams and his teammates, the success of their season vindicated three years' fruitless effort.

"I didn't stay because I love football," offensive lineman Cam Ash '13 said. "But I did love this team and my teammates and I've seen the work we've put in. I would say that the guys who stuck with it knew that it was about more than just themselves. It's about this team, getting this program back on the map and earning respect. It's so that you can look back and say that you are proud to have gone to [Kenyon] and played football here. I can say 'That's my team; I played four years for that school.'"

In a pregame speech before the Lords faced DePauw University, Monfiletto told his team that the struggle ahead was about proving people wrong. They were a family, he said, sharing a bond that none of their opponents possess. The game ahead was about using that bond to play another game that only they believed they could win.

Moments later when Kenyon took the field, Gagliardo returned the opening kickoff for a touchdown. The Lords believed.

Promising Start For Ladies

By KEVIN PAN
STAFF WRITER

The women's basketball team is off to a strong start. After eight games, the team has a 7-1 record, with victories over teams such as neighbor Mount Vernon Nazarene University, Case Western Reserve University and, most recently, Wittenberg University. The team also won the Anderson Tip-Off tournament at the beginning of the season. The team's only loss has been against Ohio Northern University.

The team played in Anderson, Ind. on November 16 and 17 to start their season. They had two decisive victories, first on Saturday with a 78-58 win over Capital University and then again

on Sunday with a 74-42 win over Fontbonne University. The final win secured for them the Anderson Tip-Off title. On top of this ac-

complishment, the team recently obtained its 400th all-time win with a victory over Muskingum University.

Already this season, Kayla Ernst '13 and Maureen Hirt '14 have each surpassed 1,000 career points. Hirt also picked up the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) Player of the Week award with her recent out-break of 67 points in three games.

The team has earned its victories through strong defense and solid three-point shooting. Autumn Anderson '14 said the team has been successful partly because "we have a lot of different weapons on our team and on any given night anyone can step up, which has happened." She added, "I think the team has done really well. We need to put a few things in place to prepare for conference. We just need to keep getting better every day."

The Ladies will need to continue their current level of play to get conference victories. Anderson says the streak can be attributed to "the team's strong defense," but she added, "We need to continue to work on our team chemistry on the floor."

Their first conference game was a success, a 64-58 home victory over Wittenberg University to start conference play with a winning record. Ernst led the team with 31 total points, and Katie Adlam '13 and Maggie Boelter '14 both notched three assists.

With the season now in full swing, the team has some goals it would like to accomplish by the end of the season. Anderson said that they aim "to win the conference and to make it to the NCAA [National Collegiate Athletic Association] Tournament."

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL 7-1

DEC. 5
WITTENBERG
UNIVERSITY
TOMSICH ARENA
W 64-58

PLAYS NEXT:
DEC. 8 | 2:00 P.M.
AT HIRAM COLLEGE
HIRAM, OHIO

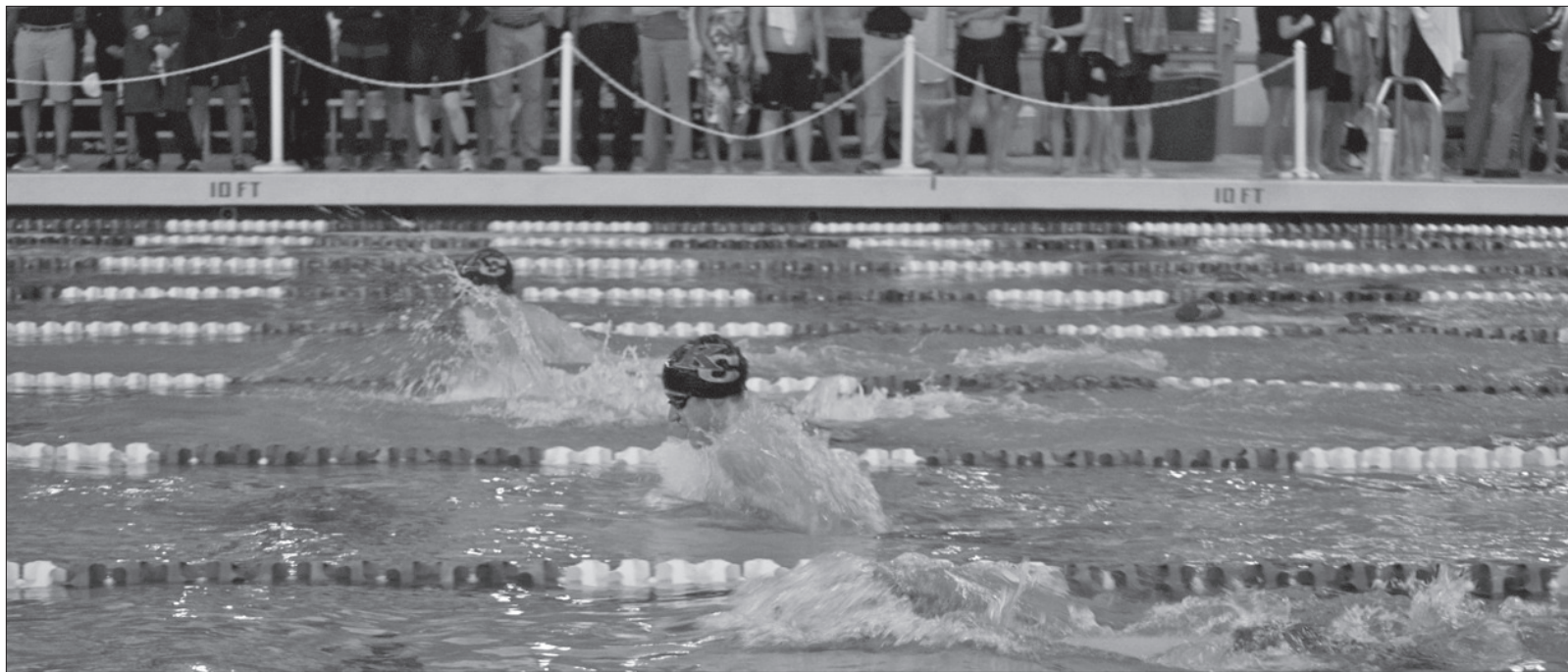
Despite Relay Domination, Lords Fall to Division I Quakers

By **REED DICKERSON**
STAFF WRITER

The Lords started off strong in the Total Performance Swim Camps Invitational (TPSI), hosted last weekend at the Kenyon Athletic Center. But they had to settle for a second place finish, with 1,396 points, to the Division I University of Pennsylvania Quakers, who finished with a total of 1,455.5 points.

Still, the Lords secured several championship qualifying times, and were able to win a number of individual events. “I think the team is headed in a very positive direction,” James Chapman ’13 said. “A lot of people had lifetime best swims over the weekend, and to do that after only three months of training or so ... that’s just a very good sign right now, and it seems like everyone has a positive attitude about how they swam.”

In the opening day of the meet, Andrew Chevalier ’14 finished the mile (1650-yard freestyle) in second with a 15:34.90, sliding well under the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) qualifying time of 15:42.52. The relay team of Austin Caldwell ’15, Ian Richardson ’14, Ian Stewart-Bates ’13 and Curtis Ramsey ’13 competed in the 800-yard freestyle relay, set-



SAM COLT | COLLEGIAN

The Lords came out on top in several of the races at the Total Performance Swim Camps Invitational this past weekend, and secured a number of cuts for the National Collegiate Athletic Association Championships this spring. However, they could not catch up to the Division I University of Pennsylvania.

ting a new pool record at 6:39.49 and automatically qualifying for the NCAA championships.

Swimmers who touch the wall in time for an NCAA “A” cut are automatically qualified for the NCAA Championships, which will be held in the spring. Swimmers who go fast enough to take an NCAA “B” cut time, such as Joe Guilfoyle ’15 in the 1650-yard freestyle, are not automatically qualified.

On the second day of competition, the Lords took first in the 200-yard freestyle relay, the 200-yard butterfly, the 200-yard freestyle and the 50-yard freestyle. Com-

peting in the first event was the winning relay team from the day before of Caldwell, Richardson, Stewart-Bates and Ramsey, who finished at 1:20.58 and just managed to hit the NCAA qualifying time.

In the very next event, Nick Charriez ’13 shattered the previous pool record and made a D-III “A” cut for the 200-yard butterfly with a time of 1:48.35. The Lords continued their winning streak by proceeding to take both first and second place in the 200-yard freestyle, with Caldwell and Stewart-Bates ending on a 1:38.32 and 1:38.97, respectively.

Finally, the Lords swept up the top three spots in the 50 free. Stewart-Bates took first with a 20.57, Richardson just barely missed out with a 20.60 and Ramsey took third with a 20.68. Caldwell placed fifth with a 20.66. All four times were well under qualification cuts. “I felt like the team performed really well; actually, I think the results are the fastest they’ve been in my four years at Kenyon,” Chapman said.

In other qualifying events, Chevalier set a new college record in the 400-yard individual medley. His time of 3:54.19 and second place finish (he was edged out by just 0.18

seconds) net him, in addition to the new record, an D-III “A” cut and a D-I “B” cut. Other qualifiers were Daniel Jurgens ’16 in the 100-yard backstroke with a 57.23, Chapman in the 100-yard backstroke with a 50.5 and three relay teams in the 400-yard medley relay.

On Saturday, the final day of the TPSI, the Lords took the 100-yard butterfly, the 100-yard freestyle, and the 400-yard freestyle relay. Chapman took first in the butterfly by the skin of his teeth, coming in with a time of 49.15 and netting him an automatic entry into the championships.

The Lords then pro-

ceeded to lock up the top two spots in the 100-yard freestyle, with Stewart-Bates coming in first with 44.24, Ramsey coming in second with 45.54 and Richardson taking a close fourth at 45.58. To close out the meet, Richardson, Ramsey, Stewart-Bates and Caldwell swam the 400-yard freestyle relay, taking the top spot with their time of 2:58.04, tying a pool record set by another Kenyon team in 2008.

This was the last meet of 2012 for the Lords, who will be heading to Sarasota, Fla. to compete in the Washington University Quad Meet on Jan. 10.

Strong Foundation Gives Solid Start to Lords Basketball

MEN’S BASKETBALL

4-3

DEC. 5
**OHIO WESLEYAN
UNIVERSITY**
TOMSICH ARENA
L 69-81

PLAYS NEXT:
DEC. 8 | 5:00 P.M.
AT **ALBION COLLEGE**
ALBION, MICH

By **BEN PAYNER**
STAFF WRITER

After last year’s 11-15 (5-11 in North Coast Athletic Conference play) record and first-round exit in the NCAC Tournament, the Lords basketball team is looking forward to a year of improvement under Head Coach Dan Priest. Only losing two players from last year, a core group of juniors and sophomores return to the team. With five first years entering the mix and no current seniors on the team, the Lords seem poised for a solid run through the NCAC for at least the next two seasons.

Leading the way are all-NCAC performers from last year Ikenna Nwadiibia ’14 and Brian Lebowitz ’14. Nwadiibia earned second-

team all-conference honors as a sophomore, averaging 15.2 points per game (ppg) and 8.8 rebounds. He is excited not only to get back to basketball but also to promote the program as a whole. “This year is one to look forward to: We’ve grown up a lot over the past few years and winning games isn’t the only thing we strive for,” he said. “We want Kenyon basketball players to be known for their success on the court and in the classroom.”

Lebowitz averaged 15.5 ppg and 8.0 rebounds to become an honorable mention as a sophomore. Both will be key players heading into the year, as Nwadiibia has already proven. Last week, he was named the NCAC Player of the Week after scoring a total

of 43 points and nabbing 24 rebounds over the course of two games.

This year the Lords will continue to emphasize defense. They look to improve upon their 67.6 ppg as a team. Priest stressed that rebounding would be key to improvement. “[Lebowitz] and [Nwadiibia] were both in the top eight in our league in rebounding,” he said, “but we were in the bottom half of our league, so we have to get some other guys who can rebound the ball. If we rebound better, we’ll play better defense.”

Priest said the group of sophomores, all of whom played often as first years last year, have matured, progressed and diversified their games. Priest thinks because the current sophomores have more well-rounded games, the overall team rebounding will improve, simultaneously improving the defense.

Also, for the first time in several years, Priest has the opportunity to develop some of the first years. “We hope

some of them will play, but we hope we’re finally in a position where they don’t have to play,” he said. Because of the high level of talent from upperclassmen — Nwadiibia, Lebowitz, Julian Pavlin ’14 and John Bray ’15 have all been fixtures in the starting lineup and are the top four scorers on the team thus far — it is likely that the first-year players will be able to ease into playing college basketball, instead of immediately becoming part of the starting lineup.

Six games into the season, the Lords are 4-3. Coming off two wins and an impressive NCAC road win against DePauw University, the team suffered a home loss to Ohio Wesleyan University 81-69 last night.

If the statistics are any indication of what’s to come, the Lords seem primed for a solid season. Priest’s emphasis on rebounding seems to be paying off as they have a 3.7 rebounding margin. Also playing a key role in the strong



COURTESY OF MARTIN FULLER

Julian Pavlin ’14 is one of the Lords’ top four scorers thus far.

start is the turnover battle. The Lords are averaging 11.3 turnovers per game while forcing 13.9, good enough for a -2.6 turnover margin. With

numbers like this, there is reason to believe the Kenyon Athletic Center will be home to some exciting and meaningful games this year.

the
Kenyon Collegian

SPORTS

Thursday, December 6, 2012

Swimmers Earn Qualifying Times With Second-Place Finish

By **DAVID McCABE**
MANAGING EDITOR

The women's swimming and diving team continued on the path toward the national championship meet with a strong performance at this weekend's three-day Total Performance Sports Camps Invitational.

In the team standings, Kenyon fell to the University of Pennsylvania, a Division I program, 1565-1159.5. Still, the meet was full of strong performances by the Ladies, who earned multiple "A" cuts, which qualify a swimmer for automatic entry into the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) meet in March, and broke several varsity records in the process.

"There were good swims all over the place," Head Coach Jessen Book '01 said. "It suggests that people are moving in the right direction."

Perhaps the most dominant swims in the meet came from Hannah Saiz '13, who stopped the clock at 54.85 seconds in the 100-yard butterfly — an "A" cut. In the preliminary rounds of the meet, Saiz swam the 100-yard butterfly in 54.36, which set a new school record and beat the D-I automatic qualification threshold. Hannah Cooper '15 finished second in the finals to her older teammate, clocking 56.06 seconds. In addition to Saiz's "A" cut, Cooper, Hillary Yarosh '14 and Jourdan Cline '15 all clocked "B" cuts in the event, which provisionally qualify them for the national meet.

In the 200-yard butterfly, Saiz put up an equally powerful performance



SAM COLT | COLLEGIAN

A number of Ladies secured NCAA "A" or "B" cut times at the TPSC Invitational, held at Kenyon last weekend.

with a time of 1:57.88, another new varsity record, in the prelims and 1:58.83 in the finals. The latter time is a D-I "B" cut, and well above the D-III "A" cut standard.

Diver Maria Zarka '16 once again delivered for the Ladies, winning in both the one-meter and three-meter events. Her score in the former event set a new varsity record and the latter a

pool record.

Kate Haller '13 and Celia Oberholzer '15 earned "B" cuts in the 100-yard backstroke. While both of their times fell below the D-III automatic qualifying standard, they are both two seconds faster than the D-III "B" cut time.

Anna Connolly '13 and Yarosh-picked up a D-III "B" cut in the 100-yard freestyle, finishing in the prelims

in 23.80 seconds.

A Kenyon quartet also came first in the 400-yard medley relay. The foursome, comprised of Haller, Katie Kaestner '16, Saiz and Yarosh, finished in 3:46.42, a D-III "B" cut. The automatic qualifying standard in the race is 3:46.34. In total, Kenyon's relay squads earned eight "B" cuts during the meet.

NCAA officials set "A" cut times

purposefully high, because the championship meet has a cap on the maximum number of swimmers who may participate. While relatively few swimmers qualify automatically, meet organizers draw the rest of the participant pool from those who have earned "B" cuts.

"The differentiation between making a cut and missing a cut is very fine. There will be a lot of people bunched into a very tight window of time where hundredths of a second do matter," Book said. "And so for many people who are very close, we will rest and shave again and go for a faster time at the conference championships."

The Ladies will not compete again until 2013, but will attend their annual training trip in Sarasota, Fla. over the winter break. It's an event that allows the team to come together as they prepare for the final dash toward the two most important meets of the season: the North Coast Athletic Conference and NCAA championship meets.

"For many swimmers, they feel like this is the moment that the team becomes the team," Book said. "And for most of the freshmen, they feel like this is the moment they become fully ingrained."

The trip also allows the team to return to their normal training regimen in an environment mostly free of distraction.

"It gets us all back on the same page. We'll reestablish some great tendencies and some habits," Book said, "and then we'll get to work."

Ladies Finish Phenomenal Season at Championships

By **ESTEBAN BACHELET**
STAFF WRITER

Many can say they have trekked through an occasional morning run, and some can say they have had the privilege of running for a collegiate cross country team. But few can boast that they were part of a nationally-ranked team. The Ladies Cross Country team placed 28th out of 32 teams at the 2012 NCAA Division III Women's Cross Country Championship in Terre Haute, Ind. Of the seven Ladies present, Jenna Willett '14 won an All-American honor — something no Lady has been able to declare in 17 years.

The most important ingredient in the team's unprecedented success, according to some, was bonding. "They just improved so much from where we were last year," Head Coach Duane Gomez said. "I think they came together as a really close family. And that's what it takes to be able to do something like that. They were more of a family. And, I think, everyone on the team who didn't go to Nationals still felt like they were a part of going there. That was the main thing, the chemistry. They were running for each other."

Willett finished the hilly six-kilometer course in 21:53.00, while fin-

ishing 29th out of 276 other runners — the top 35 runners earned an All-American honor.

"[The All-American award] was very exciting. It had been a dream of mine ever since I was in high school, hearing about being an All-American. I wanted it so much that to finally get it is unreal," Willett said.

Willett worked hard to achieve this dream. "She's probably one of the toughest runners I've ever coached," Gomez said. "That's all there is to it. She's just plain tough. She's had a great season. She broke the school record at regionals and she's done really well."

This was Willett's second straight appearance at Nationals. She earned an individual bid last season. This time, she had the Ladies for support. "We were able to go out there and relax and take it like any other race. I didn't have to warm up alone. We all had a great time. We were there for each other. It made all the difference," Willett said.

Kenyon's second-fastest runner was first-year sensation Natalie Plick. She finished the LaVern Gibson Championship Course in 92nd place, with a time of 22:41.80. Plick continued to make a name for herself this week — she was named Ohio D-III Cross Country Women's Freshman

Runner of the Year. "I think she'll be right [up there] with Jenna next year," Gomez said.

"The team is really strong. We have a good combination of runners," Gomez said. "All the women on the team had breakout seasons. I think everyone accomplished things that they never dreamed they would be able to do."

Carolyn Campbell '14 (23:29.30) crossed the finish line in 203rd place. "We were all really happy to be there. We just enjoyed the experience," Campbell said. "Inside of practice and outside of practice, we are each other's support system. It's an individual sport, but we need each one of us, all seven, to put it all out there for each other. When you have people counting on you, it really pushes you throughout the race."

Plick had a similar experience. "Personally, it helped me to feel a sense of responsibility to the team because I was battling an injury, coming off a poor Conference race, but to know that everyone on the team ran their best to go to Nationals, it made me forget all the stuff that was working against me," she said.

Willett echoed her teammate's words. "I think this season we were able to bring it together," she said. "We all really pushed each other in training,



COURTESY OF DUANE GOMEZ

The Ladies, led by Jenna Willett '14 (654), take off at the NCAA Division III Women's Cross Country Championship in Terre Haute, Ind.

It takes the whole team to win a race."

Rounding out the top five for the Ladies were Clara Heiden '15 (23:37.70), who placed 216th, and Tory Bruch '14 (24:03.70), who placed 250th. Kerry Strader '14 and Elizabeth Halper '15 also represented the Ladies. Finishing with a score of 584, the La-

dies matched their performance from 2007 at Nationals. Kenyon's best finish belongs to the 1995 team, which finished 19th. "Hopefully, this is a foundation," Plick said.

"You have to go back [to Nationals]," Gomez told the team. "Yeah, you have to go back," he said.