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Serving Kenyon College and Gambier, Ohio Since 1856

The Collegian

2.14.2013
VOLUME CXL
NO. 18
12 pages

Welcome
to our new
Look.

We've redesigned.
For more
information see
our staff editorial
on page 10.

College endowment rises over year

While many endowments shrank last year, Kenyon's increased.

HENRI GENDREAU
NEWS ASSISTANT

Of the Five Colleges of Ohio, Kenyon was the only one that got a little richer last year.

The market value of Kenyon's endowment rose from \$179.9 million in 2011 to \$184.8 million in 2012, according to a study by the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO)—Common-fund Institute of Endowments.

While colleges across the country saw their en-

dowments' investments drop 0.3 percent on average, compared to a 19.2 percent gain the year before, Kenyon saw a 2.7 percent increase in 2012, after a 13.3 percent increase in 2011.

"In our terms, if your endowment is relatively small, it's almost impossible to move the needle in any major way," President S. Georgia Nugent said.

While Kenyon had the lowest endowment in 2011 among the Ohio Five schools — Kenyon, Oberlin College, [page 3](#)

20
PERCENT

Twenty percent of the international student applicants were admitted. The nine accepted hail from eight different foreign countries.

Early admission pool shrinks, but diversity on the rise

GABRIEL BRISON-TREZISE
CHIEF COPY EDITOR

Kenyon's Early Decision (ED) applicant pool fell by 9.8 percent this year. "[It] was a little smaller this year, but that's okay," Dean of Admissions Jennifer Delahunty said. "There's a lot of interesting kids in the group, including great diversity of geography and great diversity of interests." The College admitted just

over 200 students into the class of 2017, for a total ED acceptance rate of 58 percent. The last batch of ED acceptance letters went out at the beginning of the month. 16.5 percent of those accepted are domestic students of color, an all-time high, according to Delahunty.

Furthermore, the number of applications from prospective first-generation college students, whom Ad-

This year, 34 students of color were admitted. The number of students of color who applied early increased to 64 from last year's 50 applicants.

34

missions, at the behest of President S. Georgia Nugent, has actively recruited in recent years, increased slightly over last year.

"I believe Early Decision is an excellent process for those students who desire to come to Kenyon," Provost Nayef Samhat said in an email. Delahunty, however, indicated that some students who want to come to Kenyon might opt against [page 3](#)

Shutt to deliver Baccalaureate

LAUREN TOOLE
NEWS EDITOR

During Fandango on Friday, Feb. 8, the Senior Class Committee announced that Professor of Humanities Timothy Shutt will deliver this year's Baccalaureate address, which will be held on the day before Commencement.

Senior Class President Ryan Liegner '13 said that Shutt was selected through a polling process. "As a council we spend a couple of weeks gathering names on our own, and we compile those into a list and turn that list into a poll in which members of the senior class could select three individuals who they thought would be good Baccalaureate speakers," he said. "The person who had the highest number of votes — their name was passed onto President [S. Georgia] Nugent." "I think he'll be great," Nu-



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Professor of Humanities Tim Shutt has delivered the Baccalaureate twice before.

gent said. "He's always fun to listen to."

Shutt has delivered the Baccalaureate address twice before, but remained tight-lipped on what this year's speech will contain. "You'll have to wait and see," he said.

"The Baccalaureate address is supposed to highlight Kenyon's academic mission and the broader campus community," Liegner said. "Shutt's done it before, so I'm pretty sure he'll be able to find something suitable to say given his experience with that particular address."

For those anxious to know Shutt's plans for the speech, he did make a suggestion to point eager seniors in the right direction. It will have to do "presumably" with "things that are in some way related to what I was teaching since that's my form of contact with [the senior class]," he said.

While the speech's content remains a mystery for now, Shutt said he is "honored and grateful" to be chosen, and that he will be taking into account "the audience [and] the occasion" and will try "to say something worth hearing."

Trustees hold retreat on campus

CALEB BISSINGER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On retreat in Gambier last weekend, the Board of Trustees approved a budget, heard lectures on finance and technology and the East Coasters among them made it home before winter storm Nemo came to bear.

While next year's tuition and fees will not be finalized until this spring, the Board plans to approve a 3.75 percent rate of increase, bringing tuition and fees to approximately \$56,813 for 2013-2014.

"To contextualize, the average rate of increase for all colleges last year was 3.77 percent," President S. Georgia Nugent said. "So we're consciously trying to rollback that rate of increase." Within five years, the plan is to have the annual tu-

ition bump down to three percent, she said.

Next year's budget also includes changes to staff compensation. The Board created a two percent salary pool for non-faculty and non-unionized employees. "Salary pool means what's available overall," Nugent said. "It doesn't mean that every person will get exactly two percent. In effect, though, it's likely that most people will see ... approximately two percent."

This is the third consecutive year the exempt and nonexempt staff salary pool has risen by two percent, an increase that was met with ill will last spring; not only was staff salary growth outpaced by the annual increase of the Consumer Price Index, it also paled in [page 2](#)

NEWS

EDITORS: MADELEINE THOMPSON
AND LAUREN TOOLE

Nugent on College Scorecards

Yesterday, the White House unveiled College Scorecards, a tool for evaluating schools based on cost, graduation rate, debt burden and alumni earnings.

Big surprise: Kenyon's cost is high. On the other hand, the loan default rate is low among Kenyon grads.

"What's troubling is that all of college education is being reduced to what your first paycheck is going to be, and I think that's just insane," President S. Georgia Nugent said.

"The Obama administration hasn't changed a bit from the Bush administration in focusing solely on competitiveness and paycheck."

Trustees gather to discuss current College issues

continued from page 1

comparison to the seven-to-10 percent faculty-pay boost.

"Students don't choose Kenyon for the president, or the registrar, or even business services," Nugent said at the time. "They come here for the faculty." In a *Collegian* article published last April, a non-exempt employee rebutted: "I was a little shocked that they think we should be happy with a two-percent raise when others on campus are getting way more than that."

Next year's budget will include action on a compensation study making an additional \$400,000 available for salaries. As a result, 30 percent of exempt employees — those on non-hour-

ly wage — are likely to see some adjustment. For non-exempt employees, "That entire pay scale has been moved up," Nugent said. "When we did the market comparison, we found that we weren't really as competitive as we wanted to be. So that whole pay scale is shifting upwards, and about 55 percent of those non-exempt employees will likely see adjustments. Some of them are major."

With the budget squared away, the retreat turned didactic. Administrators brought in three speakers. "The first segment was about the challenges facing liberal arts colleges in general," Nugent said. "There are sort of varied degrees of familiarity with higher-ed among the trustees, and of course we have

“When we did the market comparison, we found that we weren't really as competitive as we wanted to be. So that whole pay scale is shifting upwards, and about 55 percent of those non-exempt employees will likely see adjustments. Some of them are major.

S. Georgia Nugent,
President

some new trustees, two, for whom this was their first meeting. ... I think that a number of people learned things about small, private colleges that they hadn't known. For example, the average family income is higher at public universities than it is at private colleges. The average debt burden is about \$23,000 and a lot of that runs counter to what you hear in the media. So I think a lot of people were interested to sort of be apprised to the facts on that."

The next speaker, who recently published a study on academic finance, walked the trustees through the challenges facing Kenyon, a college with a low student-faculty ratio but limited resources.

The third and final portion of the retreat looked at

Kenyon's development in technological services and resources. "I think it was an interesting conversation for them to have, because I think it's something that they will have to think about in the future," said Nugent.

Over the weekend, the administration gave the trustees an internal report on blended learning — technology-based pedagogy.

A dozen faculty members contributed to the report, whose main drafter was Assistant Professor of Chemistry Simon Garcia.

On the subject of massive open online courses (MOOCs), which are gaining ground in the academic sphere, it remains to be seen if Kenyon will join the bandwagon. Nugent

warned that MOOCs have the power to bring teaching to an expansive audience, but they are also costly. As head of academic technology at Princeton University, Nugent helped put together a web-class on John Forbes Nash, Jr., the Nobel Prize-winning economist and subject of the film *A Beautiful Mind*. "It cost us between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000 to produce it," she said. "And that's what they cost."

But here at Kenyon there is still no consensus as to "what kind of significance this is going to have," Nugent said. In the meantime, this past weekend's retreat may prove integral to the Trustees' spring visit — a date swiftly approaching — and key to the College's growth.

Sexual misconduct advisors provide open forum

HENRI GENDREAU
NEWS ASSISTANT

There were not enough chairs for the roughly 60 people who filed into the Horn Gallery on Wednesday evening for a conversation on sexual misconduct.

The forum included a panel of seven students, including representatives from the Sexual Misconduct Advisors (SMA), Beer and Sex, Peer Counselors and Discrimination Advisors.

One of the panelists, Paul Dougherty '13, an SMA Co-Manager, said the various groups had spent about two weeks organizing the event. "[SMAs] have always been committed to an on-campus dialogue about sexual violence," he said.

"Nothing really inspired [the forum]. We're just doing what

“[SMAs] have always been committed to an on-campus dialogue about sexual violence. Nothing really inspired [the forum]. We're just doing what we're supposed to be doing.

Paul Dougherty '13, Co-Manager of Sexual Misconduct Advisors

we're supposed to be doing."

"I think in particular, this semester [there] has been a rise in some of those discussions [on sexual misconduct]," said Nikki Keller, a counselor in Kenyon's Health and Counseling Center. "And so we were hoping to have an open forum for students to come in a safe place and share concerns, share ideas and potentially leave with some ideas about how to support someone who's been involved in any form of sexual misconduct on any end of it, any end of the spectrum."

In addition to student represen-

tatives, the panel included Patrick Gilligan, director of counseling services, who started the meeting by praising the efforts of Dean of Students Hank Toutain, who was in attendance.

"We have the best Dean of Students in the Universe ... [but] he can't fix this. It can't get fixed this way," Gilligan said, motioning his hands from the top down and implying the solution can't come from the administration alone. "It gets fixed this way," he said, opening his arms to the audience and raising them from the bottom up.

The conversation shifted from remarks by the panelists to a back-and-forth between the panel and audience. The open discussion was guided by questions submitted anonymously by audience members at the beginning of the forum.

"How do we talk about rape culture constructively?" was the first question brought up at the gathering. After an initial discussion, one of the panelists asked the audience if everyone was familiar with the term "rape culture," clarifying that such a culture was one that "allows sexual assault to occur" as a normal part of society.

The conversation shifted from last year's gang rape in New Delhi that sparked protests across India and garnered international media attention, to how the gender aspect of the issue unfairly targets males.

"The flippant answer," said one of the panelists, "is 'get over it.'"

Keller said the kind of forum held last night is a vital way to discuss such a widespread issue as sexual misconduct. "It's unfortunately an ongoing issue that's not just unique to Kenyon, but across all college campuses," she said. "Unfortunately, sexual misconduct exists everywhere, and so there's always been a need [for such discussions]."

"What affects Kenyon is also affecting the rest of the country and vice versa," Dougherty added. "We don't exist in a vacuum and we're just trying to do our part here, with this community, as part of an overall dialogue."

Sexual Misconduct Advisors are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, through an anonymous hotline at 740-358-1544.

VILLAGE RECORD

February 7 – February 13

- Feb. 7, 11:56 a.m.** — A student parked improperly caused damage to another vehicle in the South Lot.
- Feb. 8, 12:44 a.m.** — Student found using illegal substances in Watson Residence Hall. Paraphernalia confiscated and turned over to Safety officers.
- Feb. 8, 1:20 a.m.** — Student dislocated shoulder in Leonard Residence Hall and transported to Knox Community Hospital (KCH) for treatment.
- Feb. 8, 5:42 p.m.** — Village Market employee turned in false ID of student attempting to purchase alcohol. Student cited by Safety officers.
- Feb. 9, 12:46 a.m.** — Intoxicated student on public property assessed and transported by squad to KCH.
- Feb. 9, 1:41 a.m.** — Student complaining of ongoing illness at Mather Residence Hall transported to KCH for assessment and treatment.
- Feb. 9, 4:54 a.m.** — Student found using illegal substances in Old Kenyon Residence Hall. Paraphernalia confiscated by Safety officers.

- Feb. 9, 8:14 a.m.** — Illegal substance found at Peirce Hall. Substance tested before being turned over to Safety officers.
- Feb. 9, 9:04 a.m.** — Window broken in Craft Center.
- Feb. 10, 2:30 a.m.** — Intoxicated student(s) arrested for disorderly conduct and obstructing official police business behind Farr Hall in the parking lot.
- Feb. 10, 2:38 a.m.** — Students involved in illegal gathering in Gambier Grill Apartments.
- Feb. 10, 11:45 a.m.** — Burned food in New Apartments caused fire alarm to go off. Safety officers responded and alarm was reset.
- Feb. 10, 4:32 p.m.** — Damage to floor by paint at Old Kenyon Residence Hall.
- Feb. 12, 2:53 p.m.** — Contractor witnessed student take product from delivery truck without paying at Mather Residence Hall.
- Feb. 12, 9:11 p.m.** — Student complained of flu-like symptoms at Lewis Residence Hall. Assessed by Safety officers.
- Feb. 13, 12:08 a.m.** — Ill student at Norton Residence Hall transported by friend to KCH for assessment and treatment.

Early admits reflect Admissions' outreach efforts

The number of male and female applicants in the Early Decision pool decreased slightly, with 157 male and 198 female applicants. Ninety-nine men and 107 women were admitted.

18

Out of 55 first-generation applicants, 18 were admitted. Last year, 51 first-generation students applied and 21 were admitted.

This year, 93 private school students and 98 public school students were admitted.

Private to Public

31 Among accepted students, the same number of states/territories were represented this year and last: 31.

99:107

26 of 52

Early applications from Ohioans decreased from last year's 67 to this year's 52. Twenty-six of them were accepted this year.

There was a 12.62 percent increase in admitted legacies, from 26 last year to 33 this year.

12.62 PERCENT

93 98

continued from page 1

applying ED due to cost concerns. Because the ED program requires those admitted to enroll, unless doing so would be prohibitively expensive, students "have to feel fairly confident about the fact that Kenyon is going to be affordable to them," Delahunty said. She also said that using Kenyon's two-year-old, federally mandated net price calculator, which gives students an estimate of what attending the College would cost them, might have dissuaded some students from applying. "[It] might be that some students are doing that net price calculator and they're figuring out, 'This is not going to be affordable to me, so I'm going to back away from it,'" Delahunty said.

The decrease in ED applications also reflects the College's attempt to recruit varsity athletes more selectively. "The coaches and the admissions office are really

"The coaches and the admissions office are really working hand in glove to admit students, not too many, not too few, for each of the athletic teams because, as you can imagine, if a team admits too many students and there's too many bench-sitters, that's a problem."

Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Jennifer Delahunty

working hand in glove to admit students, not too many, not too few, for each of the athletic teams because, as you can imagine, if a team admits too many students and there's too many bench-sitters, that's a problem," Delahunty said. To achieve a smaller group of student-athlete applicants, Admissions has limited its early notification program, in which officers give interested high school athletes a "pre-read" before encouraging, or discouraging, them to apply.

While ED applications to the College declined in number, an increase in Regular Decision (RD) applications resulted in a two-percent

larger applicant pool overall. RD applicants will receive their admissions decisions in late March.

Several statistics from this year's RD pool excite Delahunty: there was a six-percent increase in applications from males, a growth in applications from international students and a 22-point leap in average SAT scores, which she characterized as "stunning, really stunning." Three percent more RD applicants applied for financial aid than did last year, however, a year in which the College overspent its financial aid budget for the incoming first-year class by \$700,000. The num-

ber of ED applicants to apply for financial aid held constant at 58 percent.

To account for the apparent increase in student financial need, the Board of Trustees voted last week to add \$400,000 to the financial aid budget, a move Delahunty deemed "a recognition of a changing situation." She added, "With the additional money that we'll receive from the trustees in the budget this year, I think we'll be able to continue to do a really good job of admitting students, regardless of financial need, who are talented."

Kenyon, however, remains need-aware in its admissions process, and Delahunty said the College would need to double its endowment before it could feasibly adopt a need-blind admissions policy, one in which ability to pay is not a consideration in admissions decisions. The reality of the College's need-awareness might be seen most acutely in its acceptance rate for interna-

tional applicants, which for ED this year was just under 20 percent, nearly 40 percent lower than the overall ED acceptance rate. "We're very, very cautious and need-aware with international students," Delahunty said, citing the limited number of scholarships the College can offer students from abroad.

In contrast to Kenyon's abated number of ED applications, athletic rival Denison University, in Granville, Ohio, experienced a 15-percent jump in ED applications this year.

"I think we can say we've had a successful Early Decision campaign," Perry Robinson, the University's director of admissions, wrote in an email. Other peer institutions have also recorded increases in ED applications. Middlebury College and Wesleyan University, two of Kenyon's top six overlap schools — schools to which last year's Kenyon applicants also applied — drew increases of nine and 10

percent, respectively, in ED applications.

The *New York Times's* Jacques Steinberg and Tanya Abrams wrote in December, "One obvious theme that emerges ... is that many binding early decision and non-binding early action programs continue to record double-digit increases in applicants when compared with the previous year." Kenyon is an exception, and Delahunty is not entirely sure why: "I wish I did know. It's always such a mystery to me," she said.

Since she and her colleagues are busily reading and evaluating thousands of RD applications, Delahunty hardly has time to dwell on this year's ED results. She also recognizes that some facets of admissions are beyond her grasp: "Who knows what this year's going to bring? It depends on what the competition is doing in terms of scholarships. ... There's so many variables we can't control."

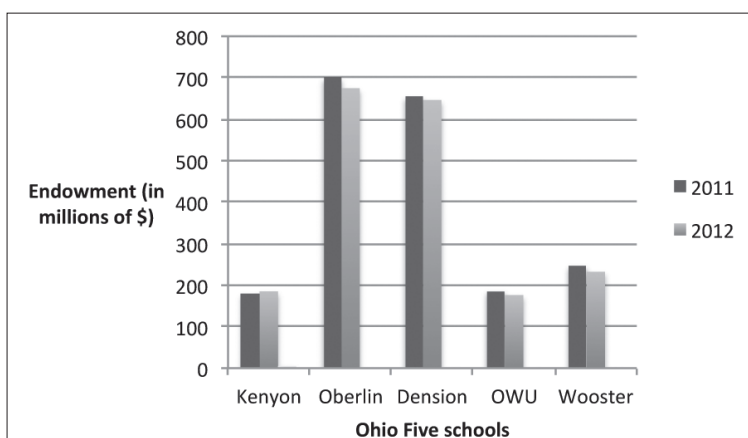
Kenyon's endowment increases while other institutions' stagnate

continued from page 1

Denison University, Ohio Wesleyan University (OWU), and the College of Wooster — it was the only institution to see its endowment's market value rise between 2011 and 2012, to eclipsing OWU's drop from \$186.7 million in 2011 to \$175.9 million in 2012.

Kenyon's fairly stable increase caused its rating to climb to 281st on the list of 843 U.S. and Canadian institutions in the NACUBO study, far below Oberlin's 107th and Denison's 112th, but just above OWU's 291st.

Unlike these private institutions, however, public schools in Ohio made great strides. Ohio State University (OSU) saw its 2011 endowment of \$2.12 billion increase by 12 percent to \$2.37 billion. Other notable increases include the University of Toledo's 58-percent increase from \$197.4 million to \$310.9 million, and Ohio University's 22-percent increase from \$336 million to \$409 million.



GRAPHIC BY HENRI GENDREAU

While the market value of Kenyon's endowment rose, it was the lowest increase since a 19.9 percent drop from the 2008 to 2009 fiscal years, when the College's endowment market value plummeted from \$188.7 million to \$151.1 million.

"For about 20 years, I would guess, we have followed a pretty aggressive investment policy," Nugent said. The College uses an investment strategy known as the Yale Model. Popularized by Da-

vid Swensen at Yale University, it was adopted at Kenyon by Joseph Nelson, the current vice president for finance, when he was the chief financial officer. "We've modified [the policy] recently with the downturn in 2008," Nugent added.

"It involves hedge funds and some somewhat riskier investments, and we've taken risk off the tables in recent years, but still we've tended to be more aggressive than many of our peers," she said, "and that has paid off for us."

Student Council invites community to attend meetings

TIM KOTOWSKI
STAFF WRITER

Citing scant attendance, the Student Council will formally invite students to attend Council meetings. It has also considered holding an open forum to hear students' voices.

Faith McDuffie, a senior elected to a one-year term, cited the efforts of many on the council to attract participation, but said that ultimately she "will take accountability for" the council's latest initiative. "Part of our role is to run the government effectively," McDuffie said. "We cannot do that without student involvement. This is our government — all 1,600 of us."

McDuffie cited the possible implementation of an honor code as an issue in critical need of student input. "There have been many violations [of college

regulations] this year. ... Just because it happens doesn't mean it's okay," she said.

McDuffie clarified that an honor code would not create new regulations; rather, it would serve as a reminder of the community's values. But McDuffie was clear that the council needed input on what exactly those values are. "I don't want to make decisions on my own," McDuffie said. "Part of being a representative is hearing voices."

She did, however, express frustration at students who voice concerns in private, but fail to bring them to the council. "Students can complain all they want," she said, "but what are they doing about it?"

Student Council holds meetings every Sunday at 1:00 p.m. in the Leach Dining Room in Lower Peirce.

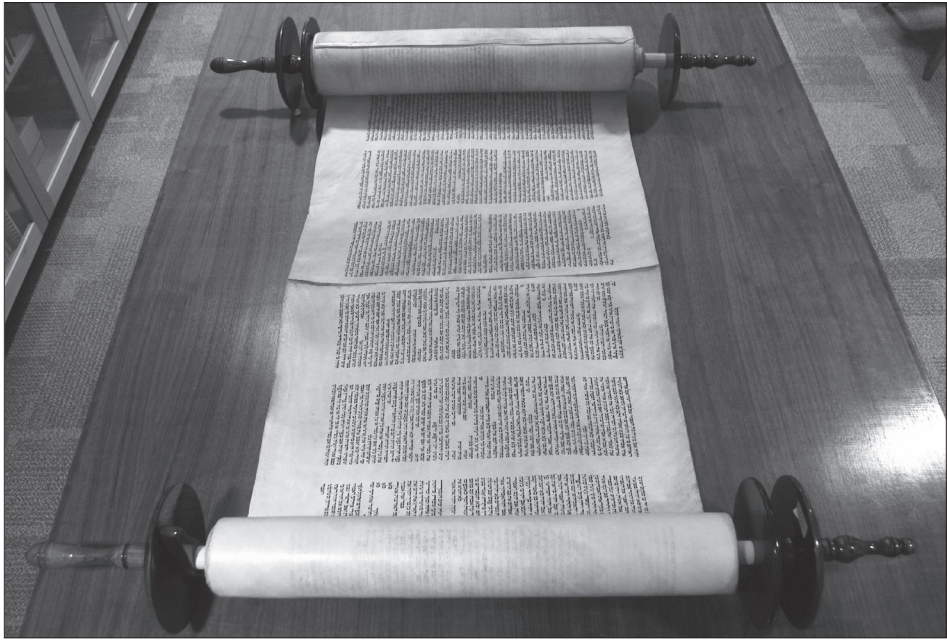
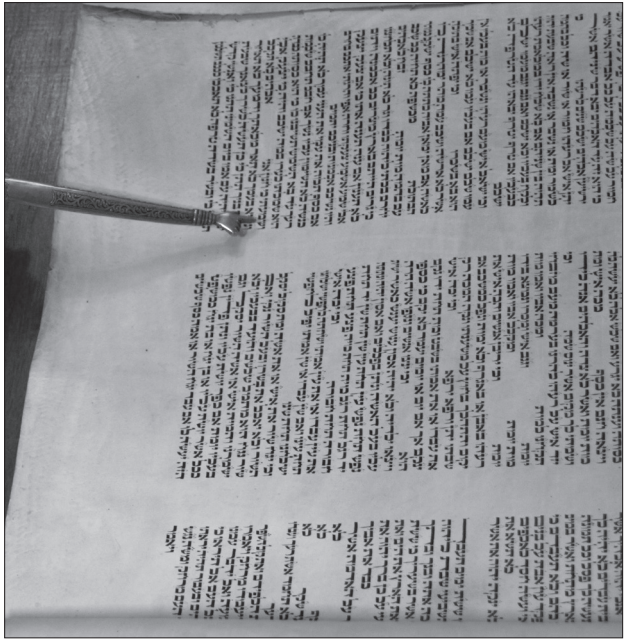
Torah with mysterious background remains kosher

**MADELEINE THOMPSON
AND ERIC GELLER**
STAFF WRITERS

In the fall of 2011, the origin of Kenyon’s Torah, which was donated four years earlier by Michael and Deborah Salzberg P’09, was called into question. The Salzbergs contributed the funds to acquire the holy Jewish text from Rabbi Menachem Youlus’ Save A Torah foundation, which claimed to have recovered Kenyon’s Torah after it was lost in the Holocaust. But Youlus was arrested in August 2011 on several counts of fraud, and it became uncertain whether Kenyon’s Torah had the history the Salzbergs thought.

Still, a Torah with questionable origins is a Torah all the same. On Tuesday night, at an event in Gund Gallery’s Community Foundation Theater, Abba Hillel Silver Professor of Jewish Studies at Case Western Reserve University Peter Haas, encouraged the Kenyon community to embrace the Torah itself despite its uncertain past.

“I tried to distinguish, first of all, the holiness or the sacredness or the importance of the Torah scroll itself as a legitimate, kosher Torah scroll that was of use to the worshipping community, and then this odd story of its provenance and what happened,” Haas said. While origin controversies are common in the art world, Haas said he had never heard of a situation involving a Torah. Despite its checkered background,



COURTESY OF GREENSLADE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES

Kenyon’s Torah was donated by trustee Deborah Salzberg and her husband Michael in 2007. It was purported to have been lost during the Holocaust and recovered by Rabbi Menachem Youlus, but its history became uncertain when Youlus was arrested for fraud. Peter Haas spoke on Tuesday about the conundrum.

though, Haas supported the Kenyon Torah’s legitimacy.

“My basic message was that the Torah scroll is still a kosher Torah scroll and deserves respect and honor for that reason alone, but now it has a very unusual story attached to it as well,” Haas said. He called the story surrounding the Torah’s background “a teaching moment ... about the importance of memory, the importance of survival, why it would be important to have a Holocaust-surviving scroll.”

Donald L. Rogan Professor of Religious Studies Royal Rhodes found Haas’ description powerful, because it “provides an opportunity for people to actually talk about ... the connections between the sacred and the everyday.”

Jessica Lieberman ’14, who has been involved in Jewish life on campus

since her freshman year and co-managed Hillel House last year, is adamant that having a Torah at Kenyon is a necessity. “It is crucially important for Kenyon to have a Torah,” Lieberman said in an email. “Every Jewish community requires one to operate. The Torah is the absolute core of the Jewish tradition, textually and symbolically.”

After charges were filed and the controversy became public, Professor of Religious Studies Miriam Dean-Otting began searching for an artist who could design a new cover for the Torah. “The Torah scroll does not become less sacred without a cover, but the [old] cover advertises an organization that is under suspicion,” Dean-Otting said in 2011. As the *Collegian* reported at the time, documents filed in court indicated that Youlus had never been to the sites of his Torahs’ al-

“The [Kenyon Torah] is still a kosher Torah scroll and deserves respect and honor for that reason alone, but now it has a very unusual story attached.

Peter Haas, Abba Hillel Silver Professor of Jewish Studies at Case Western Reserve University

leged recoveries. Dean-Otting’s Judaic Tradition class participated in the sacred process of restoring some of the letters of the “restored” Torah under Youlus’ instruction in 2007, and on Tuesday she gave the introduction to Haas’ talk. “I thought [Haas] had a good approach to talking about it,” Dean-Otting said. “It has a history in the sense that it’s used here and also we had a lot of ritual and celebration when we had it come into the College.”

Rhodes added that, in a way, the mysterious nature of Kenyon’s Torah echoes the theme of brokenness that pervades the Jewish tradition, calling it “part of

the narrative.”

“[The Israelites] worshipped the golden calf and then that’s broken,” Rhodes said. “Then the tablets of the law are broken in the process of removing that impure corruption, and when the Arc of the Covenant was carried around later it contained the broken fragments.”

In the question-and-answer session that followed Haas’ remarks, students and faculty discussed the importance of looking at the situation in a positive light. Haas suggested that the Torah could serve an important educational purpose. “I thought it gave Kenyon a very interesting artifact that could become part of its general conscious-

ness,” Haas said. According to Rhodes, the audience seemed to agree with Haas’ conclusion that the Kenyon Torah’s dubious background was ultimately just a chapter in its story.

“Nothing can detract from the sacredness of the Torah. It is in and of itself a sacred object quite apart from the story that was concocted about it,” Rhodes said. “Some people in the audience said, ‘Well didn’t finding out that [Youlus] was an embezzler ... diminish in some way the special status of it?’ But by and large [the answer] was no.”

Andrew Pochter ’15, one of the heads of Hillel House, said, “It’s good for the Kenyon community. ... I think treating it like any other Torah is really important. As long as there’s a Jewish community, I think that there should be a Torah at Kenyon.”

New Kenyon website to launch over the summer

Kenyon’s redesigned web page will include new features and be compatible with more electronic devices, including iPad and iPhone.

HENRI GENDREAU
NEWS ASSISTANT

Kenyon is about to get a fresh face.

A new web page designed to showcase the best the school has to offer is expected to be up and running by late June or early July.

A committee in charge of the redesign recently approved the home page created by Fastspot, a Baltimore-based web design company that has helped such schools as Tufts University, De-

Pauw University and Indiana University revitalize their Internet presences. The company also designed the web page for the Kenyon Institute, the College’s program for adult learning. All told, the redesign is expected to cost \$200,000.

“We did a lot of research in looking to find what we thought would be the best fit for Kenyon to design our site,” said Shawn Presley, associate vice president for college relations.

“Probably the feature that is going to be the biggest change is this news aggregator site that we’re calling, ‘Along Middle Path,’” Patty Burns, director of new media, said.

Along Middle Path will allow everyone from the Gund Gallery to the *Kenyon Review* to the *Collegian* to submit news articles, videos and photographs.

While Along Middle Path will have its own page, much of the content

will be available on the Kenyon home page. “By having this Along Middle Path, we can present a really fuller picture of what life at Kenyon is all about,” Burns said.

The new website is designed to work on a host of electronic devices. “The fact that it’s fully responsive means that it will adapt to a smartphone, to an iPad, and without having to look different,” Presley said. The web page will also boast a new content management system (CMS), meaning those without tech skills will be able to easily upload content and maintain pages.

The site will continue to host a photograph mosaic, or photowall, an aspect of Kenyon’s current site that staff, faculty and students praised during their meetings with Fastspot. The web page will also feature roll-over navigation, meaning users will be able to see specific areas of interest under a headline by scrolling with their mouse and without clicking on the page.

“People are going to be able to really get to what they need,” Burns said.

“Probably one thing that may not be well-known about this site is

that it’s going to be hosted off-campus,” she added. “Most of the main part of the site will actually be in a different location, so when there’s [a] big power outage, wind comes through, trees go down, we should still be live to the world.”

“We’re really, really excited about it and think it’s hopefully going to be one of the best websites around and be just great for recruiting, great for alumni, great for everyone,” Presley said.

A PowerPoint document featuring the new design can be accessed at documents.kenyon.edu/publicaffairs/design.pdf.

Social Justice Week facilitates discussion on campus

CAROLYN FLEDER
STAFF WRITER

What started in 2009 as alumna Megan Connolly's senior project has grown into an annual event to raise awareness about social justice. Last week was Kenyon's fifth Social Justice Week, featuring events hosted by student groups including Not For Sale, WKCO, the Horn Gallery, Canterbury Kenyon, and the Discrimination Advisors.

Since its first year, the organization of the annual events has fallen to whichever Kenyon students stepped forward. This year, James Plunkett '13 and Tyann Jacobs '14, working with the Christian student organization BE:, were those students.

"There aren't a lot of outlets for action in the College community, so it's a great opportunity for campus organizations to come together," Plunkett said.

This year's Social Justice Week events brought attention to and opened dialogue about issues including human trafficking, resistance music, and discrimination. Not For Sale, an organization that fights human trafficking and modern-day slavery, participated in the Red Thread Movement, selling bracelets made by women rescued from slavery.

The women are given appropriate wages for their work and additional proceeds support anti-trafficking border units and safe houses for rescued women. The bracelets themselves are a way to raise awareness about human trafficking, which is the fastest growing criminal indus-

try in the world.

"I think it's important to know that these issues may seem so big and you may think you can't make a difference, but the truth is, even one person just talking about human trafficking is making a difference," said Claire Dutton '14, president of Not for Sale. "And when words become effort, like the Red Thread Movement, which was started by a college student, it shows that one person can make a difference in the world no matter how big or intimidating the issue."

Dutton added that she supports Social Justice Week as a way for different groups on campus to draw attention to issues of which students might not normally be aware.

"If you're looking for one thing you can do in the next five minutes to make a difference, just educate yourself, look it up, do some research." Dutton suggested an easy way to start getting involved would be to attend Not For Sale meetings in Bemis Music Room at 6:00 p.m. on Mondays. The meetings are open to the entire campus.

WKCO hosted an event at the Crozier Center for Women about music's role in resistance movements, with a discussion led by Professor of International Studies Stephen Volz and Chair of the American Studies Department Peter Rutkoff. Volz, who specializes in South African history, discussed the role of music in the anti-apartheid movement.

Rutkoff opened his discussion by asking the students in the room what they thought social justice



REBECCA DANN | COLLEGIAN

The community gathered to talk about issues like human trafficking and discrimination during Social Justice Week.

meant. Students defined social justice as "the pursuit of an enlightened community," "a group effort, trying to restore or give a group a voice that it didn't have before." The students agreed the greatest distinction between charity and social justice is that charity is a temporary solution, while social justice is permanent.

Rutkoff then urged the students to work within their own communities, where he said they all have the ability to make visible and immediate change. "It has to be about the world you can act on," Rutkoff said. He encouraged students to become involved in direct action in their communities.

Mary Hollyman '14, who helped organize the WKCO event, saw Social Justice Week as an opportunity to use the radio as an outreach tool. "It's cool for the radio to branch out

and have different kinds of broadcasting," she said. "Radio is the biggest student organization and it's great to use it as a go-between to increase communication within the Kenyon community."

During Social Justice Week, Dutton said, "I think it's very important, it's issues that every group on campus should be a part of because it's all about human rights and it encompasses a wide range of issues around the world. It should be longer than a week, social justice month, semester, everything."

Although the week is meant to draw attention to social justice issues and raise awareness, as the groups that participate are on campus and active all year long. The Discrimination Advisors, who sponsored a social justice discussion in Peirce Lounge during the week, work year-

round to keep the College informed about discrimination and diversity issues, and to foster an environment of diversity and openness. Both the Discrimination Advisors and Not For Sale will continue to be active in the projects they highlighted and goals they set in Social Justice Week. The Discrimination Advisors collaborated with Crozier to host a documentary on Monday, and the Red Thread Movement bracelets will still be available from Not For Sale.

Connolly commented on the event's Facebook page, saying, "The continuation of this longtime dream of mine has given me so much pride in my alma mater. I am so proud of the passion Kenyon students have for the world and it makes me so happy to see us take a week to learn from one another and stand up for social justice on our campus."

LBIS survey seeks feedback on technological services

The MISO survey is sent out every three years to assess LBIS resources.

ERIC GELLER
STAFF WRITER

Sample groups of Kenyon students, faculty and staff received emails last week asking them to participate in a survey that serves as a periodic feedback mechanism for Library and Information Services (LBIS). The Measuring Information Services Outcomes (MISO) survey is used at educational institutions that have combined their libraries and IT departments, and is sent out to Kenyon students roughly once every three years.

The MISO survey began in the early 2000s at Bryn Mawr College, which had just merged its library and IT department. "They did a pilot in 2004, and we signed on in 2006 because the results seemed to be really positive," Vice President of LBIS Ron Griggs said. "They got real data that really helped them improve things."

In the past, Griggs said, feedback from the surveys has helped Kenyon improve its technological offerings. He said the most important resource to students, as expressed in the results of the 2009 survey, was wireless Internet access. This information, as

well as feedback on the quality of the wireless access, led Kenyon to upgrade its network infrastructure and purchase more bandwidth, which refers to the maximum rate of information units in a network or Internet connection. "Since 2009, we've replaced every single [wireless] access point in the residence halls with higher-performing ones with different antennas," Griggs said.

Previous MISO surveys were sent to all students, but this year's survey will be sent to a random sample of approximately 700 students and select faculty and staff. According to Griggs, this change avoids overwhelming students with surveys, since this led to decreased response rates. Griggs said that past MISO surveys received "great response rates from faculty, okay response rates from students and bad response rates from staff."

"[LBIS is] trying to make a better effort at explaining to people why [participating in the survey] benefits them," Griggs said.

MISO survey results from 2009 and 2006 are available on the Kenyon website. Both surveys include questions like "Which LBIS ser-

vices have students used during the most recent semester?", "How important or useful do students find these services?" and "Are the structure and schedule of LBIS conducive to students' support needs?"

Because the Bryn Mawr researchers used consistent wording for the questions in both surveys, it is possible to use the questionnaires to track technology trends at Kenyon. For example, in the 2006 survey, 75 percent of Kenyon students owned computers running Microsoft's Windows operating system, while only 26 percent had computers running Apple's Mac OS. That gap narrowed significantly by 2009: 52 percent of students completing that year's survey used Windows and 50 percent used Mac OS. Use of the open-source operating system Linux rose from one percent to 2.6 percent.

A MISO statistic about electronic device ownership reflects the changing nature of personal computing. In the 2006 survey, 20 percent of Kenyon students said they had a desktop computer in their dorm, while 80 percent owned laptops. Just three years later, the number of students using desktops here dropped precipitously to 3.9 percent, while laptop ownership shot up to 98 percent.

The ice rink cometh

HENRI GENDREAU
NEWS ASSISTANT

Last week, students slid and skidded up and down the sheet of ice that blanketed Middle Path. Soon, however, students may have the opportunity to slip and fall on an actual skating rink in Gambier.

Tom Stamp, chair of the Building and Grounds Committee, College historian and keeper of Kenyoniana, reported on the progress of the committee's discussion at this month's Village Council meeting on Monday, Feb. 4. "The skating rink idea has come up occasionally in the past," Stamp said. "Now I think since we're working on various other projects down at the [Gambier] Community Park, we're hopeful we can make some actual progress toward having a skating rink down there this time around."

The committee plans to create the rink by flooding an asphalt area, that will be convertible into a parking lot and basketball court during the warmer months. A liner would be placed over the asphalt to protect it, and curbs surrounding it would hold in the ice. Actual groundbreaking will not

occur in the immediate future, though.

"Of course, it may take awhile," Stamp said. "It's not something I would expect to see immediately. Well, definitely not this winter, maybe next winter. We'll see."

One possible location for the outside rink would be east of the gym at the Gambier Community Center on Meadow Lane. According to Stamp, the Village "might even allow community organizations to sell hot chocolate and things like that." Patrons will, in all likelihood, have to bring their own skates.

The Village always sets aside funds for improvements to the Gambier Community Park, but since most of this year's have already been used up, Stamp said the money for the rink "will have to go into next year's budget."

"I don't expect it's going to be particularly expensive, but we'll need to see just how much it is going to cost," Stamp said. "The mayor really likes the idea. The council really likes the idea," he continued. "It's probably something that has a very good chance of happening. ... We're just trying to have activities down there that attract as many segments of the community as possible."

FEATURES

EDITOR: JANE SIMONTON

**KENYON
RETWEETED**
'ON THE POPE'

@THOMASHAWKS
Nice to see that the pope gave two weeks notice. He must be hoping for a good reference for his next job.

@JONGREEN8
Richard Dawkins at 666/1 to become next pope @Oddschecker.

@TWINKLETOES116
the pope starts tweeting. the pope resigns. the distractions got to be too much, I guess.

@DBAUER64
Didn't know the Pope could just quit whenever he feels like it.....

@WYN_EVANS
@Kenyon_Features Please see my previous tweet(s). I'm calling for my election as pope. #EvansforPope2013

Pupil to Professor: conscription kept Locke in class

JULIE FRANCE
STAFF WRITER

"Most people have strong friendships from college, but I was just too weird. 'Too weird for Oberlin' sounds really weird, ... but I'm not in touch with anyone from my undergraduate days," Benjamin Locke, Robert A. Oden. Jr. professor of music, said.

"I wasn't a druggie and I know that drugs were pretty prevalent. It was hard to build close friendships when so much of it was the drug culture. I didn't go into the rooms where people put towels under the door and smoke the marijuana and it was pretty prevalent. In most of the dorms, there wasn't a night where you didn't smell marijuana," Locke said.

Locke grew up in Toledo, Ohio and decided to go to Oberlin College in 1968 for his undergraduate degree.

"It was an Oberlin graduate that heard me singing in a community group in Toledo who said that I should



ELLEN KAUFMAN

In addition to being a professor of music, Locke, bottom right, directs Chamber Singers.

look at that school. So, basically, I did. I didn't even visit the campus; I applied kind of cold. So, for whatever reason, they did accept me," Locke said.

Starting off in the College of Arts and Sciences as an art major, Locke thought he would dabble in Oberlin's

prestigious Conservatory of Music.

"I auditioned for their top choir in my first year and was fortunate enough to be accepted. It helped that I was the tenor," Locke said.

"I thought ... I wouldn't be good enough to be in the Conservatory, ... then I real-

ized, 'Hey, I can do just as well as these other voice majors.' So, I switched into the Conservatory and became a music education major," Locke said.

As a member of Oberlin's top choir, Locke worked with world-renowned choral conductor Robert Fountain, whose photo Locke displays

in his office.

"He is, in my opinion, the world's best choir director, and that imprinted me quite heavily and so, going to Oberlin, you have to say I majored in choir," Locke said. "For all those other shifts, choir was the main thing."

Second only to choir's importance in Locke's undergraduate years was Fountain.

"Singing with Robert Fountain, I loved it. I think if I could have I would have sung for him for years. In fact, I did; I went to graduate school later and worked with him again," Locke said, speaking of his graduate experience at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Locke spent four years at Oberlin, from 1968 to 1972, but he did not receive his undergraduate degree.

Locke changed his major from music education to voice during his senior year in order to continue his education and avoid the Vietnam War, given his low draft number of four.

Locke left Oberlin with-

out a diploma and spent two years working at the Toledo Public Library.

"It was a tumultuous time," Locke said. "The '70s were very difficult, had lots of upheavals and rejection of institutional ideas. I have to say, I was sort of caught up in that idea of, 'Why do I have to be certified as a human being?' Except, people couldn't hire me if I didn't have that degree."

Realizing this problem, Locke entered Mary Manse College in Toledo and finished his degree one year later in 1975.

"The professor knew that I had transferred from Oberlin, so their expectations of me were quite high. Like it or not, that was the truth and it was sort of this expectation. Actually, because of that, I worked harder at that school than I did at Oberlin," Locke said.

Mary Manse College is no longer around. "It had closed its doors a month after I graduated," Locke said. "So I have no alumni dues."

Local restaurants suffer in recession, stay positive

JULIE FRANCE
STAFF WRITER

With deer heads looking at you from every angle and comfy booths hugging the walls, Peggy Sue's Steak & Ribs of Newcastle has the down-home country feel down to a tee. It is missing one thing, though: customers.

I walked into Peggy Sue's Steak & Ribs on a Saturday around 2:30 p.m. Granted, this was not the prime lunch hour, but for a place whose specialty is their mouth-watering pies, I would say pie is a treat for any hour.

Only three people were there, one of them for a job interview. Yet, all of them were focused on what they came there for: the food.

"It gets very slow in the winter-time, we'll just leave it at that," said the owner, Peggy Sue Wilson.

Wilson bought the then-50-year-old restaurant in 1999 after working as the Director of Operations for the East Central Ohio District of McDonald's restaurants.

"My dream was always to have my own restaurant and, of course, McDonald's wanted to send me away and wherever and my thought was that I'm a hometown girl. I was born and raised in Warsaw, Ohio," said Wilson.

Wilson got her wish of familiarity rather than fame. "Lunchtime, breakfast-time, my waitresses know almost 85% of the



JULIE FRANCE | COLLEGIAN

High Restaurant, above, strives to stay afloat through the recession.

customers that walk in the door," said Wilson.

But lack of outside business comes with a price.

Wilson said, "The economy has changed it a lot. Gas prices have definitely affected the sales because, you know, when the gasoline reaches up to the four-dollar mark, people don't want to drive and I'm 22 miles from almost anything. 22 miles from Coshocton, 22 miles from Mount Vernon. So, we're right directly in the middle. I think that's changed it a lot."

"I went from 35 employees knocked down to 12," said Wilson.

Though the recession has been tough on Peggy Sue's, Wilson was kind enough to give my friend and me each a slice of pie, an act of hospitality that could not be found

at any chain restaurant.

Looking for innovative ways to bring in more business, Wilson looks to Kenyon students in need of a hearty piece of black-bottom pecan pie or a sizzling steak.

"I've often thought about what if I do a little taxi back and forth, ... maybe like two times a month or something," said Wilson.

"I just think the economy, in general, is to blame 'til it flips back around, you know. I'm hoping to hang in there long enough to see the flip," said Wilson. "I'm not ready to sell yet. My goal is to sell when I turn 55, which isn't too far off."

In comparison to Peggy Sue's, where location is partly to blame for the decline, High Restaurant, located on the Mount Vernon

square, has also had its fair share of hardships.

"The restaurant business is notorious for being a tough business with small profit margins and taxes and food and everything else continues to increase. So it's a tough business, but most people really know that going in," said Korby Bricker, owner of High Restaurant.

High Restaurant has been a feature of the Mount Vernon square since 1938 and went through four owners before Bricker bought the diner in December 2011 after the previous owners shut it down.

"My original plan wasn't to open it myself, but the money invested kept on increas[ing] that I decided, 'Well, I'll try it for a while and see if I can get the business to go back up,'" Bricker said.

"When the restaurant was shut down, I gutted the place and remodeled it and took it back to the original tile floor, tin ceiling, because it was carpeted and had a drop ceiling and paneling. ... I changed it all back to what its original look would have been."

The Knox County Renaissance Foundation honored Bricker's renovation last year with its Award for Outstanding Architectural Restoration or Contribution to the Community.

Now with the atmosphere restored to its original, the menu follows suit with gyros and Greek

salads, items the restaurant's original Athenian owners placed on the menu.

However, these old-fashioned accents are not enough to keep the business up.

"We got a big mass of people at first, but then it kind of tapered off. ... Right now it's just kind of leveled out. It is what it is, you know," Bricker said.

"I've been trying to get my Facebook page a little bit more regular," Bricker said. "We're just getting started with that. I mean, I've had it but I haven't been updating and using it like you young people do. So, I'm trying to get that going ... at least two or three times a week so people can get a little more notification."

Bricker said, "I'd like to say, someday, we'd have some later hours. But, I'm not positive when we'll be doing that."

Though trying to attract customers from other local diners with such changes, Bricker falls back on High Restaurant's rustic feel.

Bricker said, "This is the last true diner left and the only one on the square, of course. With the stainless steel and the hoods and all that, it has that true diner look, where other places call themselves a diner, which Barb's does and R&M's does, but I'm not going to say they have the look of a diner like we do."

Can't buy me love: \$10 Valentine's Day in Mount Vernon

SUSANNAH GREEN
STAFF WRITER

Today is Valentine's Day, which for some students means dinner for two while gazing adoringly into the eyes of their special someone. While a night of candlelit romance may sound like the perfect respite from Ohio in February, between drinks, flowers and the meal, the average Valentine's Day date can get pretty expensive — especially on a student budget. In honor of V-Day and broke college students everywhere, the *Collegian* recently challenged me to go on a \$10 date. Read on for a step-by-step breakdown of my ultimate budget date.

The Dinner

Having assumed there was nowhere in either Gambier or Mount Vernon where I could feed two people dinner for \$10 (I neglected to look into Bob Evans, more on this later), I opted to take my date — my lovely friend Rebecca Spradlin '13 — to Peirce. While this may not sound that romantic, Rebecca and I were able to spice it up by wearing V-Day-appropriate colors: she wore a flowy pink shirt and jeans with black fringed boots, while I went with a red polka dot dress, blue blazer and layered gold necklaces. If you and your date don't feel like coordinating pink and red hues, try bringing a fake candle or some fancy place mats to Peirce in order to create a more date-like ambience. And if you're legal, consider bringing a thermos of wine. Nothing says (college) romance like pesto turkey burgers and some Franzia on old side.

The Activity

Like any good date, I wanted



COURTESY OF ASHAN RODRIGUEZ

Green and Spradlin, both '13, peruse the magazine section in Walmart on their \$10 Mount Vernon date.

to couple dinner with a fun activity, while still trying to keep things cheap (read: free). Rebecca came up with the idea of paying homage to the infamous IKEA scene in *500 Days of Summer*, when Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Zooey Deschanel run around everyone's favorite Swedish furniture store and exchange sardonic banter in the style of a boring married couple. With that as our inspiration, we headed to Mount Vernon's answer to IKEA, Walmart. Once inside the brightly lit superstore, we started off by zanily skipping through the clothing section, à la JGL and Zooey. We then proceeded to model the many neon miniskirts and shredded animal-print T-shirts, in which Walmart currently specializes. Rebecca

contemplated buying an off-the-shoulder sweater with a leopard's face on it, but ultimately decided against it. To carry on the *500 Days* theme, we kept up a running dialogue pretending to be a boring married couple (while actually being two weird college students who were attracting a lot of stares). It was around this time that a Walmart employee informed us that we were not allowed to take pictures inside the store (she probably wasn't too thrilled about the skipping either), so I hid the camera in my purse and we relocated to the toy section. There, we continued being cheap free spirits, playing with toys ranging from a bouncy ball to what appeared to be a skateboard/scooter hybrid. Rebecca described this part of the

Walmart adventure as a highlight, noting, "that scooter thing was fun." After we tired of the toys, we headed to the magazine section to catch up on our celebrity gossip. This proved to be the best part of the Walmart trip, mainly because we learned that Taylor Swift is a tease who "just kisses for hours" and that Justin Bieber and Rihanna are having an affair.

The Dessert

Nearing the end of our date, I decided it was finally time to break out the big bucks and treat us both to sundaes at Cold Stone Creamery. In the words of my date, "The highlight of the evening was definitely Cold Stone." When we got inside, the two high-school-aged boys working the counter fought over who would make Rebecca's

"birthday cake remix," an event she described as "awesome" because "[she] felt like a celebrity." I made the mistake of ordering their new "ice-cream-on-a-warm-cookie" thing, which no one fought to make because they had no idea how to make it. The resulting creation appeared to involve a partially uncooked chocolate chip cookie smothered in French vanilla ice cream, stale-tasting whipped cream, and three kinds of sugary syrup. In the future I would definitely go with the birthday cake remix — cake batter ice cream, a brownie and rainbow sprinkles combined in one perfect cup. In the end the two dishes came to \$9.62, just under budget. Cold Stone also boasts a friendly, low-key ambience and appears to be a Saturday night date hotspot — there were at least four other couples present during our date. Leaving the store and heading back to Kenyon around 9:00 p.m., Rebecca gave the overall quality of the date two thumbs up: "The date was a lot of fun."

"It's always nice to get off campus for awhile, especially in February. I think that if I could do it again, I would skip Peirce. I would absolutely do another \$10 date. ... Next time we should get Bob Evans." Taking this advice into consideration, I googled Bob Evans and discovered that you can get a three-course meal there for \$9.99. So in case none of the above sounds appealing (and you want to skip Peirce), just head to Bob Evans and treat yourself to three courses for two. Candles and tablecloth included.

CLASS CLASH

COMPILED BY PHOEBE LEWIS



Senior Class Total:
10
Kelsey DeLaney '13
Melissa Straus '13



Junior Class Total:
11
Abe Nelson '14



Sophomore Class Total:
7
Emily Smith '15



First-Year Class Total:
9
Lucy Evert '16

What sign do some people think Beyoncé flashed at the Superbowl?	<i>Illuminati sign</i>	Illuminati sign	Peace sign	A peace sign	Illuminati sign
Who will be the Commencement speaker for Kenyon this year?	<i>Michael Bloomberg</i>	Bloomberg	Bloomberg	David Foster Wallace from the grave	Beyoncé
What famous athlete is being sued for millions of dollars over a recent scandal?	<i>Lance Armstrong</i>	Lance Armstrong	Lance Armstrong	Beyoncé	Lance Armstrong
When did/will President Obama give the State of the Union address?	<i>Feb. 12, 2013</i>	Feb. 28, 2013	Feb. 12, 2013	Feb. 12, 2013	Feb. 12, 2013
Weekly Scores		3	3	1	3

Fedorko '13 excels in *Thom Pain*, a one-man diatribe

TORI HOOVER
STAFF WRITER

Out of the darkness, Thom Pain's voice comes to us. "Do you like magic?" he asks sullenly. "I don't."

Thom Pain (based on *nothing*), Will Eno's Pulitzer-nominated play and the Kenyon College Dance and Dramatic Club's most recent production.

Thom Pain is just that — a man in pain. The one-man show is stream-of-consciousness style. The protagonist recounts his disappointments, dwells on his love life, recalls tales and asks questions of the audience without ever giving answers.

The play is back-and-forth, in turns both darkly humorous and terribly heart-wrenching, but the writing could easily be read as pretentious, and one gets the impression that it would all feel like too much without the venerable Kenny Fedorko '13 at the helm.

Fedorko, a sociology major, has made numerous appearances on Kenyon stages this year, and



COURTESY OF ALLY SCHMALING

Sociology major Kenny Fedorko confronts the audience on the minimalistic set of *Thom Pain* (based on *nothing*). Sarah Blair Jenkins '13 directed the 75-minute, one-man play written by Will Eno.

Thom Pain owes its success almost entirely to him. In the hands of a lesser actor, the character could seem whiny, overly existential, a bit crazed.

But Fedorko handles the twists and turns of an injured, hurting man with deft grace. What could seem like an over-

long 75 minutes passes rather quickly as Fedorko, alone onstage, shifts from anger to grief to wistfulness and brings the audience along for the ride. His performance is striking.

The direction of Sarah Blair Jenkins '13, done as a partial fulfillment

of her senior exercise in drama, is sharp.

At times the play seems less like a performance and more like a conversation, man-to-man. The bare-bones decoration of the Hill Theater's stage, the few props in Fedorko's suit-pocket and, in fact, the

suit itself — every aspect of the play — is minimalistic, focusing the attention on the actor. The lights leave Pain only when he enters the audience, which is not altogether an infrequent occurrence.

The play requires quite a bit of audience

participation — in fact, its cast list features not only Fedorko but the "Audience," as played by "You."

Thom Pain searches the audience for the winner of a fake raffle, asks for volunteers, even notes that he has the same shirt as someone in the front row. This is unsettling and deeply personal, perhaps meant to forge a deeper-than-normal bond between viewer and character, blurring the line between performance and reality.

Much like the character, however, the play folds in on itself by the end, seeming tired and uninspired. Yet, the audience never fidgeted, nor did its attention waver, and for this all credit is due to Jenkins and Fedorko. In the end, Pain beseeches his audience not to think of him as "some smart-mouthed nobody working himself up into a frenzy" but rather "as someone who was trying."

Try he does. Does Pain succeed? Perhaps not. But Jenkins and Fedorko do.

Singer-songwriter first year releases *Fragile Chances*

SARAH LEHR
A&E EDITOR

When first-year Caroline Fenn's parents finally let her quit piano lessons, she took up guitar. "I remember thinking, 'What can I do that will make me seem cool even though I'm not?' Guitar seemed like the answer," she said.

Fenn also writes lyrics and sings, though singing was never her first love. "I didn't make the junior choir in middle school," she said. "I never really thought of myself as a person who would sing. I started [singing] out of necessity when I started writing songs."

A few years ago, she played one of her original songs, called "Hiding in the Attic," for her guitar teacher, David Cloyd. To Fenn's immense surprise, Cloyd told her that he was starting a new label called Hook & Ladder Records and that he wanted her to be the first artist on it. Hook & Ladder Records would be a subset of an already-existing company called ERC Music Group.

Fenn gladly accepted

“When you're in the recording studio you're so self-aware. You're just so conscious of every breath and it's such an internal experience.

Caroline Fenn '16

and, on Jan. 22, 2013, she released her first album, which she called *Fragile Chances*, on iTunes. Releasing *Fragile Chances*, a 10-song album, made Fenn herself feel fragile.

"It makes you feel vulnerable to have all these people hearing your lyrics because they're your inner thoughts," she said.

Fenn hopes to release another album at some point, but she doesn't necessarily plan to pursue music as a career. "I'm a first year, so it's hard because everything seems appealing," she said. A potential English major, Fenn said that she loves playing with the poetic side of lyrics.

"It's always fun with the lyrics to see what other people interpret lyrics as," she said. People tend to assume that every song is a love song and sometimes take songs more seriously than she intended for them to be taken.

She may not think of herself as a singer, but Fenn has an affecting voice. Because the melodies in *Fragile Chances* are simple, the beauty of her vocals stands out all the more. Her sound is clear, innocent and definitely not flashy. Fenn draws inspiration from low-key artists, including the Avett Brothers, Coldplay, Jason Mraz, Norah Jones, Jack Johnson and Iron and Wine.

Fenn said, "[*Fragile Chances*] is pretty calm. It's not get-up-and-jam kind of music. It's kind of reflective."

She spent about eight hours recording the guitar and voice for each song on *Fragile Chances*. After that, people had to take care of the editing and a myriad of other technical aspects.

"It's really complicated," Fenn said. "They are a lot of people involved who I don't even know about — secret people



COURTESY OF CAROLINE FENN

Caroline Fenn '16 poses with her debut album *Fragile Chances*. With the help of her former guitar teacher, Fenn released the album through Hook & Ladder Records.

helping me."

For Fenn, recording felt intensely introspective. "When you're in the recording studio you're so self-aware. You're just so conscious of every breath and it's such an internal experience," she said.

Fenn, who played at the Village Inn in January, said that performing, on the other hand, "is such an external experience. You're so fo-

cused on the audience."

Fenn's most memorable performance took place last summer in her hometown of Buffalo, New York, after she released the hard copy of her album.

"When I was singing 'Can't Handle This,' I looked out in the crowd and one of my friends was crying," Fenn said. "All of these people I love were out there sup-

porting me."

Fenn's parents have faithfully supported her, even though they're not musical.

"They're a little confused as to where my music came from," Fenn said. "If I was working on a chord progression and I was just playing the few chords over and over they'd come in and be like, 'That's not the whole song, right?'"

OPINIONS

EDITORS: BEN ROS AND KIM SELWYN



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STAFF EDITORIAL

Out with the old, in with the new: redesign explained

Every few years it falls on the editorial staff to evaluate the *Collegian's* design. While circulation rates would suggest that print media may be moving toward antiquity, they are not immune to change.

So we asked ourselves: can we improve the way we present our content? Although the *Collegian's* previous look was only two years old, we were persistently bothered by it. The old body font was hard to read. The cluttered layout prohibited rich visuals, like infographics and photo illustrations. And the five sections — news, opinions, arts, features and sports — were not clearly delineated.

To our eyes, the new look is crisp. We've updated our entire font library. Caslon, our new body font and Benjamin Franklin's typeface of choice, is brawny and legible. We've shifted to "down-style" headlines, capitalized like sentences. This is a trend started by the Associated Press and followed by the likes of the *Washington Post*, which argues sentence-style headlines are less stuffy and easier to read.

We've also created space at the top of each section for new content, and we're using that space to integrate social media and record campus voices on national issues. For example, each of our sections now has an individual Twitter account. We urge our

readers to take advantage of this new communicative tool.

Our goal is to broaden the *Collegian's* scope of interest while giving our readers new ways to interface with the paper. The new look is meant to make the newspaper easier to take in at a glance. We want to be more accessible to our readers, and we hope the new design will achieve this goal.

With the new design we have more freedom with our graphics and visual representations. We will be able to create more complex designs that not only echo the content of the articles they accompany but also offer new information. Visual aids need to be clean and concise. They are the quickest way our readers can glean information from a story while thumbing through a section.

In addition to these print changes, the *Collegian* will be rolling out a new website in the next few weeks.

The intent here is not to be radical or to alienate our readers. The *Collegian's* decidedly modern, new look may seem like a sudden shift, but we will remain devoted to covering what matters to you, our readers.

The *Collegian* has served the Gambier community since 1856. While our style may have changed, our commitment to solid reporting has not.

Memo to the Board of Trustees: A RESPONSE TO "ON DIVESTING"

As a climate change activist and an alum, I was encouraged to read Jonah Allon's "Memo to the Board of Trustees: On Divesting" in the Jan. 31, 2013 edition of the *Collegian*. One might think Mr. Allon's call for Kenyon to divest its endowment from companies involved in fossil fuel production is the product of youthful idealism or a lack of appreciation for economic or political reality. The scientific reality of climate change, however, supports Mr. Allon's call for change. The challenges Kenyon may face from diminished investment returns pale in comparison to the challenges we all will face if action is not taken to address climate change now.

A leading climate scientist at NASA, Dr. James Hansen, has called climate change "the predominant moral issue of the 21st century." He has written that our "fossil fuel addiction, if unabated, threatens our children and grandchildren, and most species on the planet." Hansen has been sounding the alarm for over 30 years and cites the role of money in politics as the reason for inaction on climate change. In his 2009 book *Storms of My Grandchildren*, he describes the powerful sway the fossil fuel industry has over Washington and the lengths to which it has gone to distort the scientific evidence that humans are in fact changing the climate. Corporations such as Exxon and BP, Hansen argues, have never been forced to internalize the true costs of fossil fuel production and Earth's climate and natural ecosystems are suffering as a result.

In his *Rolling Stone* piece

"Divestment from fossil fuel interests alone will not solve the climate crisis, but it is a first and necessary step in the process."

"Global Warming's Terrifying New Math," climate-change activist Bill McKibben describes the problem in numbers even a poet can understand. Global leaders, he writes, recently came to an agreement based on the scientific understanding that a global temperature increase of 2 degrees Celsius would have dangerous consequences for the future of humanity. In order to raise global temperatures to this threshold, the world would have to release 565 more gigatons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. The problem, according to McKibben, is that fossil fuel companies currently have 2,795 gigatons of carbon dioxide in their reserves and their business model depends on that carbon being extracted, processed and burned. At current rates of consumption, the world will surpass the 565-gigaton threshold in only 16 years. If President Obama approves the Keystone XL pipeline and the Athabasca oil sands in Canada are tapped, that could add another 230 gigatons to the equation.

The World Bank's 2012 report "Turn Down the Heat" describes the devastating impact of a 4-degree-Celsius increase in global mean temperatures, a circumstance almost certain to occur before the end of the century if carbon emissions continue at projected rates. In this warmer world, the level of the sea will rise by up to three feet, wiping some island nations off the map

and flooding cities in Mexico, Vietnam, Bangladesh and India. Drinking water will become even more scarce and crop yields will decline, exacerbating hunger and poverty. Intense heat waves will become the norm and cover broad sections of Earth's surface. The combined effects of all these changes are hard to predict and scientists are uncertain whether humans and natural ecosystems will be able to adapt to such harsh conditions. While all nations will suffer the effects of a 4-degree-Celsius warmer world, the report concludes, it is the world's poorest countries that will be hit hardest by rising seas, famine and drought. The humanitarian crises that will ensue are not difficult to imagine.

As Mr. Allon points out, climate change is already having significant impacts on this and other countries: 2012 was the hottest year on record in the United States, glaciers are retreating at alarming rates, arctic sea ice is melting faster than projected and extreme heat waves and drought have hit the United States and Russia several times in the last decade. Superstorm Sandy can indeed be linked to climate change. The economic consequences of these extreme weather events include higher insurance premiums and the increasing expenditure of public funds on disaster relief and mitigation.

There is no shortage of evidence regarding the impacts

of continued carbon dioxide pollution of Earth's atmosphere. There is, however, a shortage of action. The United States and other countries need to pass legislation that puts a tax on carbon and invest the revenues in renewable energy sources such as wind, geothermal and solar. A binding international treaty imposing progressive reductions on carbon emissions must be signed. And individuals and private companies must find ways to reduce their daily energy consumption.

The political will to implement these large-scale changes — which will likely involve short-term economic sacrifices — will not come easily. It will only arise if individuals and institutions alike take bold action to raise awareness of our planet's precarious position and demand policies that enable long-term sustainability. Divestment from fossil fuel interests alone will not solve the climate crisis, but it is a first and necessary step in the process. Kenyon should strive to be a moral leader in the community of higher education and take steps to ensure that its investment practices promote a sustainable future.

I join Mr. Allon in urging the Board of Trustees to begin the process of divesting from those companies that endanger the future of the very students Kenyon is entrusted to cultivate.

— Rudy Verner '96 is a member of the Berg Hill Greenleaf & Ruscitti LLP's commercial litigation and appellate practice groups representing clients in commercial cases including matters involving oil, gas and other natural resource issues.

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

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

SPORTS

EDITORS: ANNA DUNLAVEY
AND NINA ZIMMERMAN

MEN'S BASKETBALL

FEB. 13
VS DENISON UNIVERSITY
GAMBIER, OHIO
W 73-61

SCOREBOARD

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

FEB. 13
AT OHIO WESLEYAN
DELAWARE, OHIO
W 69-48

INDOOR TRACK

FEB. 9
AT ALL-OHIO CHAMPIONSHIP
WESTERVILLE, OHIO
MEN: 16TH, WOMEN 15TH

MEN'S TENNIS

FEB. 10
AT UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
CHICAGO, IL
W 9-0

Men's indoor track breaks record at All-Ohio meet

4x200-meter relay
team sets a new mark.ESTEBAN BACHELET
STAFF WRITER

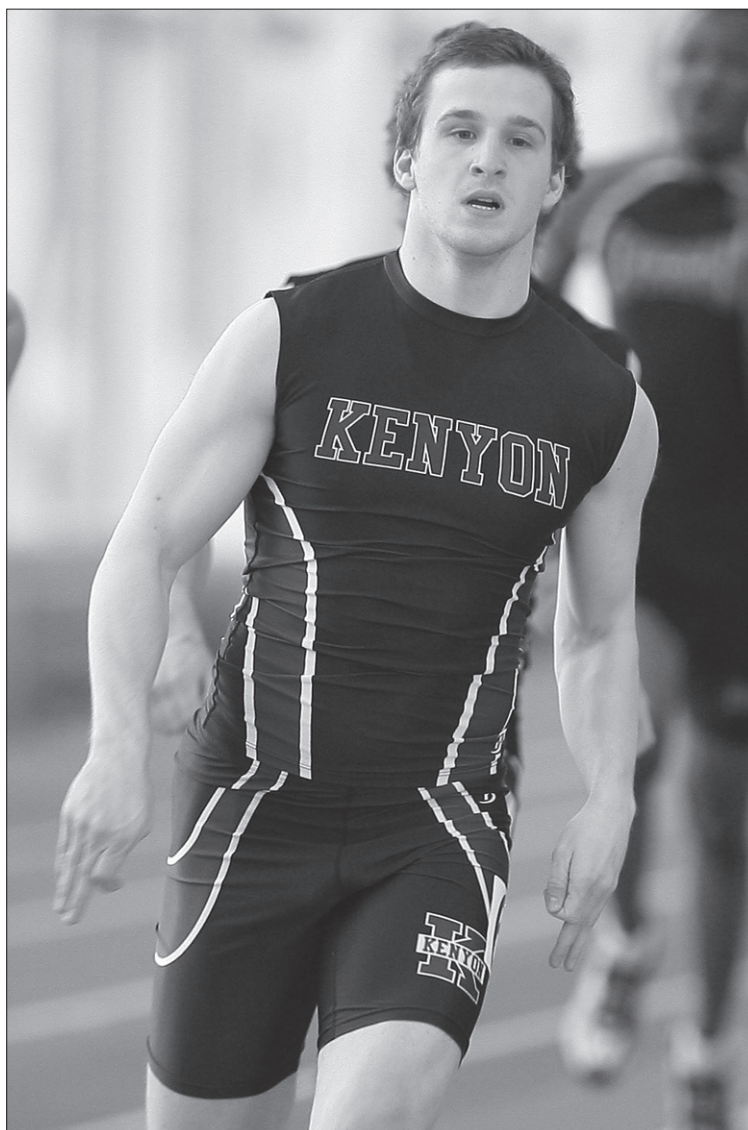
As men's track and field co-captain Jake Fishbein '13 said, "In Kenyon track and field, every year you have a chance to make history." At the All-Ohio Division III Indoor Track and Field Championship this past weekend at Otterbein University in Westerville, Ohio, four Lords did just that, setting a school record in the 4x200-meter relay.

The Lords track and field team slotted into 16th place out of 18 teams competing, earning a total of eight points. The meet was an invitational: the season's top individuals and top relay teams across the state competed.

The University of Mount Union (111.50 points), Ohio Wesleyan University (73 points) and host Otterbein (49 points) picked up spots one through three, respectively.

Kenyon only sent 12 athletes total to the meet. "We didn't have a ton of qualifiers," Sam Lagasse '16 said. Lagasse ran the individual 5,000-meter race and finished sixth out of 16 runners. "In terms of team scoring we didn't have a runner in every event, so our team score was not really a priority."

The meet was more a gauge of progress and potential, according to Head Coach Duane Gomez. "You want to compete really well and show that you do belong there," Gomez said.



COURTESY OF MARTIN FULLER

Noah Winters '15 participated in the Lords' record-breaking run.

Lagasse earned his keep in the 5,000-meter, a 25 lap race that he finished in 15:33.47, dropping 18 from his previous best time. "I knew [the race] would be close. I just wanted to remain within the

top half for at least the first two miles of the race and then see how much I had left for the last mile," Lagasse said. "Where I am at now is definitely where I wanted to be at this point in the season."

The distance medley relay team finished seventh in the 4,000-meter event with a time of 10:45.89, improving on their last outing by about three seconds. Willy Friedlander '14 ran 400 meters, Ulises Arbelo '16 ran 800 meters, Nat Fox '16 ran 1,200 meters and Sean Smith '16 ran the mile. Fox said that the young team has room for improvement. "We are definitely not at our peak potential yet. I am 100-percent certain that nobody is at their peak potential," he said. "I see myself making very small improvements, but improvements nonetheless. I see myself as about to turn the corner. ... I think that is also something the rest of the team will see."

Gomez was genuinely pleased with the distance medley team. "For three [first years] to run like that under pressure of higher competition," he said, "I am very impressed with them. We have a good future with those guys."

The 4x200-meter relay team — Fishbein, Carlo Gagliardo '13, Joey Cordle '14 and Noah Winters '15 — went into the meet ranked 10th. The Lords left in sixth place with a Kenyon record-breaking time of 1:32.77, shattering the old record of 1:33.16 set two seasons ago.

"Everything on the day of the meet seemed to be going wrong," Fishbein said. "We were all very tired. I wasn't expecting much when we got on the track."

Fishbein added, "I was talking to Carlo [before the race], and he was like, 'We just need to go out and run our hardest, prove that

we can get through this adversity. It's not about breaking the record now; let's just run as hard as we can.'" In a 4x200, four runners each run 200 meters. The second runner has to dash to the cut line and reach the first lane, as that lane has the shortest distance. "We got [to the cut line] first, and we stayed in front the whole time," Fishbein said. "We say it every year that, in Kenyon track and field, every year you have a chance to make history."

Fox described the overall trend of the season in terms of the athletes' preparation for each meet, and the team's readiness for what lies ahead. "There's this peak and trough cycle, where you work hard and you go to the trough, but then when you come out of the trough and you rest, then you are just a little bit better than you were at the beginning," he said. "And then you go back down and then you go up again. Over the course of the season, you want to do this peak-trough cycle enough so that at the end of the season you are at your maximum potential. You are right on the knife's edge. It's a great feeling."

The Lords will next host the Kenyon College Classic in Gambier on Saturday, Feb. 16. "This meet is a really good milestone to get ready for Conference [Championships on March 1]," Gomez said. "You see the best in the conference competition and the best in Ohio. It gets you ready for that big atmosphere, the championship atmosphere."

Lords down Denison, rebound after Wabash loss

BEN PAYNER
STAFF WRITER

The Lords hit the road this past week, racking up a fourth straight conference win, 65-50, against Oberlin College on Feb. 6 before falling to Wabash College 45-58 on Feb. 9. At home on Feb. 13, though, the team rebounded with a key victory over Denison University.

In the Oberlin game, the Lords came out sluggish. Credit the Yeomen with staying competitive with the much-superior Lords for a half as the two teams entered halftime tied at 27. The Lords showed new life in the second half, though, cruising to a 65-50 victory. Ikenna Nwadibia '14 set the tone in the second half, in which he scored 15 of his game-high 22 points and snagged nine of his team-high 14 rebounds. Nwadibia



REBECCA DANN | COLLEGIAN

Ikenna Nwadibia '14 scored 12 points against the Big Red.

noted a huge difference between the team's play in the first half and its play in the second half. "We realized we weren't playing as well as we were capable of," he said. "[So] we focused our energies on playing together and for each other."

The results speak for themselves, as the Lords shot 53.6 percent from the field in the second half compared to 38.5 percent in the first. In addition to Nwadibia's efficient 8-12 from the field and 6-8 from the line, three other starters

"We focused our energies on playing together and for each other."

Ikenna Nwadibia '14

finished the night in double figures. Brian Lebowitz '14, John Bray '15 and Jon Amador '15 all scored at least 10 points and combined for 35 points on 15-30 shooting from the field.

Unfortunately Saturday was cruel to the Lords, as they saw their win streak come to an end with a 45-58 defeat at the hands of Wabash. The Lords stormed out to a 12-4 lead with 12 minutes remaining in the first half. At that point, the Wabash coaching staff implemented a zone defense that hampered the Lords' offensive flow. The 2-3 zone is meant to give up outside shots in order to better protect the paint, and after its implementa-

tion the Lords could never get it going from the field. They went 18-67 (26.9 percent) from the field and 3-21 (14.3 percent) from 3-point range. Factor in the free-throw disparity — 28-34 for Wabash versus 6-10 for the Lords — and it seemed like Saturday was not going to be the Lords' day. Thankfully it was not all negative against Wabash. The Lords played good defense when they weren't fouling, limiting Wabash to 14 total field goals made on 31.8 percent shooting, including allowing only four baskets in the second half. Also, Nwadibia had his fourth-straight double-double, posting 18 points and 12 boards. Starting point guard Julian

Pavlin '14 summed up the weekend performance best, remaining positive about the rest of the season despite the loss: "We didn't play well on Saturday as a team, but we are ready to finish the season strong with two wins at home and carry that into the postseason," he said.

One of those wins came Wednesday night, Feb. 13, in a big victory against archrival Denison University. The atmosphere in Tomsich Arena was loud and the crowd rowdy as the Lords squared off with the Big Red. The Lords jumped out to a 21-point halftime lead and coasted to a 73-61 win. The win improved the Lords to 14-10 (8-7 in conference play). With a win against Allegheny College this coming Saturday, Feb. 16, the Lords could have a home postseason game for the first time in many years.

The Collegian SPORTS

Thursday, February 14, 2013

Lords win two, lose one; Burgin matches record

ALEX PIJANOWSKI
STAFF WRITER

The men's tennis team began its 2013 season on the road this past weekend, with stops in Green Bay, Wis. and Chicago, Ill. In Green Bay on Saturday, Feb. 9, the Lords faced the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, whom they defeated 7-2, and the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, to whom they lost 0-7. The following day, they blanked the University of Chicago Maroons by a score of 9-0. The team now owns a 2-1 record, as well as a number-two ranking nationally and a number-one ranking regionally.

The Lords were in top form on Sunday, Feb. 10. Paul Burgin '13, playing number-two singles, defeated Chicago's Ankur Bhargava (7-6, 7-5). In doing so, he logged his 81st career singles win as a Lord. Burgin now shares the all-time singles record with Michael Greenberg '10 and William VandenBerg '10, his former teammates.



COURTESY OF MARTIN FULLER

Over the weekend, Paul Burgin '13 tied the College singles record with 81 career wins.

Michael Razumovsky '15 played number-one singles and overpowered Deepak Sabada (6-2, 6-2), recording his first victory at the top singles spot this season. Wade Heerboth '15, in number-three singles, battled

back from a 4-6 loss in the first set against Jake Crawford to win the next two sets, 6-4, 6-4. The number-one doubles team of Razumovsky and C.J. Williams '13 also defeated the top Chicago doubles team, 8-3.

Head Coach Scott Thielke was pleased with his team's performance. The team "played extremely well" in Chicago, he said.

Thielke lauded Burgin's performance, saying: "[Burgin will] obvi-

ously break the record, and probably add on an extra 15 or so wins on top of it. [Burgin is] an extremely good leader, because he competes very well — it's what has sort of put him where he is nationally. He's ranked number four in the country right now."

It is possible that another Lord will make a run at that same singles record in the future. Razumovsky went 18-6 in singles play last season — an exceptional record for a first-year player. Thielke plans to alternate Burgin and Razumovsky between the number-one and number-two singles spots for the duration of the season. It's the wins not the seed that matter to Razumovsky.

"The position doesn't really matter, you just have to mentally prepare yourself to win because at the end of the day, that's how you benefit the team," he said. "As long as [the team wins], that's what matters. If Paul's playing one and I'm playing two, we both

know we have to put two points up to put the team in a position to win, and vice versa ... As for preparation, nothing really changes because against the top-ranked teams you have to be ready no matter what position you're playing."

Razumovsky may enter the team's record books before he graduates, but for now his focus is dead-set on a successful finish to this season. His "number-one goal," he said, is for the team to claim the national title. Last year, the Lords finished second to Emory University.

"We came extremely close last year and the feeling of losing in the finals still stings," Razumovsky said. "If we get another shot at the national championship, that's all I can ask for."

The Lords are scheduled to hit the court next against North Carolina Wesleyan College at the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Indoor Nationals in Saint Peter, Minn. on Saturday, Feb. 22 at 11:30 a.m.

Ladies finish 15th at DIII All-Ohio Championship

Plick breaks College record in mile run.

REED DICKERSON
STAFF WRITER

The Ladies indoor track team competed this past Saturday in the All-Ohio Division III Indoor Track and Field Championship at Otterbein University. The Ladies finished 15th overall with a score of 14 points, while first and second place went to the University of Mount Union with 110.5 points and Ohio Wesleyan University with 97 points, respectively.

The team was prepared, according to Natalie Plick '16, who broke the College record in the mile run during the meet. "The whole team maintained their training leading up to the meet. We had some difficult workouts, but by the end of the week we were tapering ... to run faster on Saturday," she said. "We're going to try and keep improving, keep having fun, and hopefully find some meets where there will be good competition to get even faster."

Plick's record-shattering run was the best showing by a Lady at the meet. She dominated the



COURTESY OF MARTIN FULLER

Alexia Derkasch '13 placed fifth in the 400-meter dash on Saturday.

mile run, taking first place with a time of 5:04.73, sliding ahead of the competition by a lengthy five-second margin. Her time broke the previous Kenyon record for the mile, 5:04.82, set last semester by Jenna Willett '14.

"I had three goals: number one was to win, number two was to PR [personal record] and number three was a time goal

that I have for this race," Plick said. "The strategy was to run the first half, which was four laps, not in the lead, just sitting off the person who was leading, and at the halfway point, to get by them and pick the speed up so that would hopefully get a win."

Plick's mile time also netted her the North Coast Athletic Conference's Distance Run-

ner of the Week award. Additionally, it seeds hers as the 17th-best mile time in the nation and the second-fastest time for a first-year. Plick said that while she was very pleased with her record-setting mile time, it did come as a bit of a surprise to her.

"I was very shocked when I crossed the line and saw the time, because the first lap was so slow, it was really slow for a mile, so I was surprised I was able to pick it up so much," she said. "I was also surprised because the race itself was so consuming, so I wasn't focused so much on the splits so much as I was in the race. So to realize I had been running that was surprising. [The time] made me really excited and a little more confident about conferences and some of the competition."

Head Coach Duane Gomez also praised Plick's effort. "She's running really well, but for a freshman [she] is really incredible ... it was a good field; there were some pretty good runners out there," he said. "I don't think we've ever had a freshman win the mile before."

Other Ladies also found

success at the meet, including Alexia Derkasch '13, who finished fifth in the 400-meter dash with a time of 1:01.40, and Serena Glynn '16, who finished 10th in the 5,000-meter run with a time of 19:00.76, breaking her own personal record for the event. She was followed closely by Clara Heiden '15 in 14th place with a time of 19:18.41. In the relays, the women's distance medley team of Willett, Samantha White '16, Aisha Simon '15 and Lauren Bittrich '16 snatched 10th place with a combined time of 13:25.51 and the women's 4x200-meter relay team of Rammelle Brown '13, Alexia Derkasch '13, Emma Levant '16 and Leah Jacques '13 took 11th place in 1:52.66. "That's what these meets are for, to see what you can do and to get more confident in your racing. We're pretty happy. It was a good meet," Gomez said.

The Ladies' next meet is this Saturday's Kenyon College Classic here in Gambier. "We want to do really well, we want to get better times for conference, get better seeding and things like that," Gomez said.