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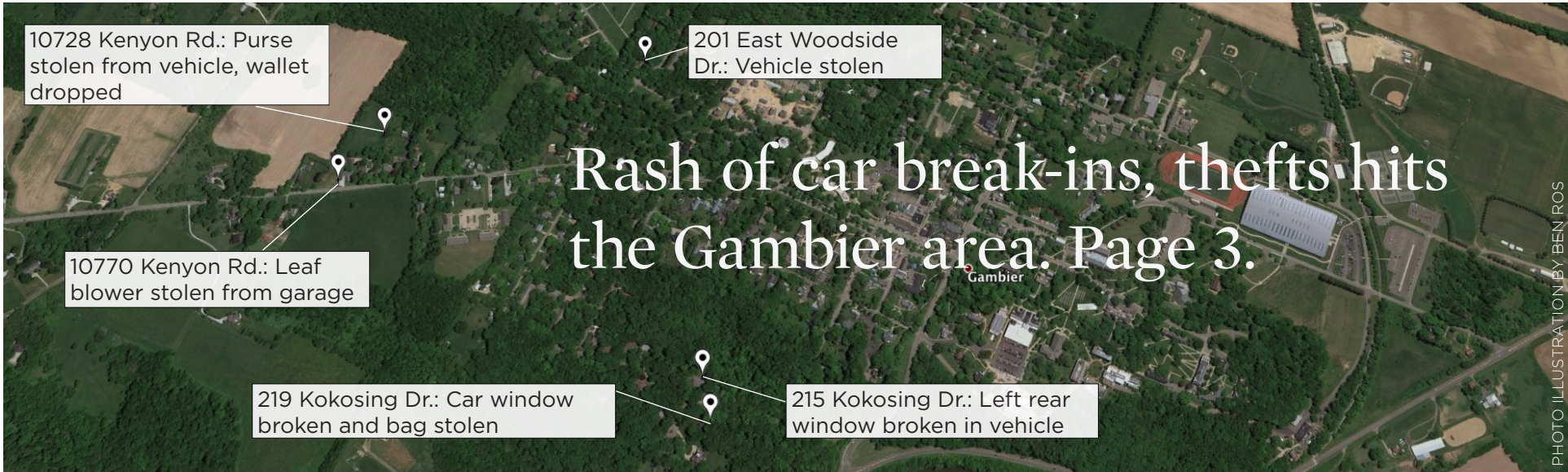
Kenyon Collegian - September 5, 2013

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Serving Kenyon College and Gambier, Ohio Since 1856

The Collegian

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VOLUME CXLI
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Admissions nixes essay supplement for '18 class

Kenyon's application will no longer feature College-specific questions.

GABE BRISON-TREZISE
NEWS EDITOR

The Office of Admissions has eliminated its supplemental application essays for the 2013-2014 academic year.

"The goal was to remove a barrier for students who found the writing component a barrier to applying," said Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Jennifer Delahunty. She added that recent changes to the Common Application, including the expansion of its essay word limit from 500 to 650 and the introduction of new essay prompts, also contributed to Admissions' decision to cut its supplement.

Previously, Admissions posed three supplemental questions for applicants to answer. One of them was Kenyon-specific and asked what students thought made them a good match for the College. "That was such a vanity question, you know. Tell us about ourselves," Delahunty said. "They had to go do some false research" [page 3](#)

Kenyon Welcomes the Class of 2017



HENRI GENDREAU | COLLEGIAN

The first years and transfers, who gathered on the steps of Rosse Hall on Aug. 28 for off-key singing, make up Kenyon's largest incoming class ever.

The Class of 2017, according to Dean of Admissions Jennifer Delahunty, holds the distinction of being unusually "sticky" and disinclined to "melt."

In admissions lingo, "sticky" means that fewer stu-

dents deferred for a year. Last year, 16 students deferred. This year, nine did. On top of that, fewer students "melted," meaning that fewer students chose another school after being accepted off of that school's waitlist. Delahunty said that Admissions will aim for a smaller Class of 2018, meaning today's high school seniors can expect a slightly more selective Kenyon.

About the class: [Page 3](#) | Convocation: [Page 4](#)

Students, administrators turn wary eyes to Syria



Kenyon-approved OCS programs (red markers) near Syria include those in Israel, Jordan and Turkey.

SAM COLT
SENIOR NEWS EDITOR

Rarely does the possibility of armed conflict weigh into study-abroad decisions.

But last week, President Barack Obama suggested the U.S. punish Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's alleged use of chemical weapons, a decision that could directly affect Kenyon students with aspirations to study in the Middle East. While Obama waits on congressional approval for a limited military en-

gagement, the College is monitoring the situation in case violence spills over into one of Syria's neighbors.

In a conference call on Labor Day reported by *The New York Times*, Secretary of State John Kerry expressed concern about the threat Syria posed to Israel, Jordan and Turkey, all countries that the Center for Global Engagement (CGE) has approved for off-campus study.

"When any interna-

tional incident happens, we trust our providers," CGE Director Marne Ausec said.

The CGE says its approach to crisis management reflects the vetting each program undergoes before receiving College approval. "There is no way we can know the exact details of what's going on in every country at any time," Ausec said. "The folks who are on the ground, they know better than we do what's going on. So we trust them." [page 5](#)

NEWS

SENIOR EDITOR: SAM COLT
EDITORS: GABE BRISON-TREZISE & SARAH LEHR

Dean of Admissions Jennifer Delahunty on admissions trends

Jennifer Delahunty, dean of admissions and financial aid, this week discussed trends in Kenyon admissions, such as a rise in interview appointments. “More people have visited, more people have interviewed. I think we’re riding a mini wave. These things are cyclical,” she said.

“The Class of 2007 was amazing; it was close to 4,500 applications. It was the most diverse — everything worked in the Class of 2007. Then we suffered a slight downturn in applications and we’ve been trying to rebuild interest in Kenyon since then.”

Rugby team mourns Andrew Pochter '15



Religious studies major Andrew Pochter '15 passed away in June.

PHOEBE ROE
STAFF WRITER

Andrew Pochter '15 died during mob violence in Egypt this past June. Two months later, 60 of his close friends and teammates walked down the hill to the Brown Family Environmental Center (BFEC) to celebrate his life.

The men's rugby team, of which Pochter was a member, hosted the memorial. Colin Finnegan '15 roomed with Pochter during his sophomore year at Kenyon. Finnegan remembered meeting Pochter at the ice cream social during First-Year Orientation. “I feel like I just talked at him about [rugby] for a while and I'm thinking, you don't have to flatter me; I met a ton of people today and I'm

sure I'll never talk to you again, but lo and behold on Monday when rugby started he was there,” Finnegan said.

At the memorial, attendees sat around the bonfire and one by one stood and shared their favorite memory of Pochter. “Talking about Andrew and thinking about Andrew, it was emotional, but it was a happy time. It was something that we all enjoyed doing,” Finnegan said.

For those who missed the rugby team's memorial, there will be a campus-wide event remembering Pochter in the Church of the Holy Spirit on Nov. 10 at 4 p.m. Finnegan hopes these memorials will provide some closure for students. “Everyone needs to move on in their own way. I know Andrew would have wanted that.”

Faulty sprinkler floods NCA

ROSALYN AQUILA
MANAGING EDITOR

In early August, an accidental sprinkler detachment caused significant water damage in North Campus Apartment (NCA) unit 10A, postponing student arrival and forcing new construction on several parts of the apartment.

On Aug. 7, Chief Business Officer Mark Kohlman heard something outside the unit, according to Director of Campus Planning and Construction Steve Arnett.

On the third floor in one of the bedrooms, the head of a water sprinkler had separated from the sprinkler pipe. “Those lines have water in them all the time, so when they're called upon to spray water [in case of a fire] there's no hesitation,” Arnett said. “So when [the water] hit the carpet, it started finding the floor registers and any other way downstairs. We had water coming down the stairs.”

All campus buildings are required by code to have a water flow detection meter set up in Campus Safety in order to immediately signal officers of any sprinkler activity and allow for prompt response. However, “in this particular case,” Arnett said, “because we were finishing up the buildings, that wasn't all hooked up yet.”

Still, the entirety of the water damage likely occurred in less than an

hour, according to Arnett, who had, coincidentally, visited the unit about 45 minutes before receiving Kohlman's call.

After shutting off the water, Kohlman and Arnett hired SERVPRO, a fire and flood damage restoration company. Workers arrived that evening with dehumidifiers and fans and conducted several moisture tests to determine what could be saved and what needed to be replaced. Likewise, workers also tested the attached apartment units and the contractor checked the tightness of all the NCA units' water head sprinklers the next day. Arnett characterized the incident as a fluke and is confident it will not occur again.

Fortunately, the living room furniture did not get wet, and the bedroom furniture had not yet arrived, according to Assistant Director for Housing and Residential Life Lisa Train. Still, all of the outlets and emergency devices needed to be replaced, as well as the sound insulation above the ceilings, the damaged ductwork, some drywall, the interior trim, the carpet and the third-floor heat pump.

At press time, Arnett was unsure of the monetary cost of the damage, explaining it was difficult to estimate. “If that was a new room, we'd be hanging full sheets of drywall,” he said. “[In this case], in some in-

stances it's patching drywall; some of its full sheets. So we'll know when it's all done what the cost is. I just don't know yet.”

The four seniors expected to live in the unit — Robbie Sellers, Carter Walker, Perry Minella and Ben Kress — were all notified of the water damage promptly, according to Sellers. Since then, he's been happy with the communication between ResLife and his housemates, who have all been placed in temporary housing throughout North campus. “I was really happy with the way we were informed and it was totally clear that it wasn't anyone's fault, and that they were doing the best they could in the situation that was given,” Sellers said.

According to Arnett, his team hopes to finish the unit in early October, ideally before October break. At press time, they still need to paint the drywall, replace the trim, install the carpet and replace the heat pump. Additionally, the unit will undergo another series of inspections before opening to students.

Overall, Arnett is happy with his team's response to the unprecedented situation. “When events like this happen, you're not measured by the event because you had no control over it,” Arnett said. “You're measured by how you respond. And they responded quickly.”

VILLAGE RECORD

Aug. 28 – Sept. 4

- Aug. 28, 10:40 a.m. — Non-student reported vehicle glass broken in McIlvaine Lot.
- Aug. 28, 10:45 a.m. — Student(s) admitted to using illegal substance. Substance and paraphernalia confiscated and turned over to Safety.
- Aug. 29, 4:36 p.m. — Student injured leg in Hanna Residence Hall. Squad contacted and student transported to Knox Community Hospital (KCH).
- Aug. 30, 12:28 p.m. — Vehicle accident outside Leonard Residence Hall. Vehicle struck fire hydrant, rendering hydrant unusable.
- Aug. 30, 3:48 p.m. — Student found with false ID, which Safety confiscated.
- Aug. 30, 11:14 p.m. — Intoxicated student hit head in Mather Residence Hall. Squad contacted and student transported to KCH.
- Aug. 31, 12:57 a.m. — Intoxicated student found in Old Kenyon Residence Hall. Squad contacted and student transported to KCH.
- Aug. 31, 1:02 a.m. — Intoxicated student found in Norton Residence Hall. Safety escorted student to residence.
- Aug. 31, 1:05 a.m. — Intoxicated student found in Norton Residence Hall. Safety escorted student to residence.
- Aug. 31, 1:17 a.m. — Intoxicated student found in McBride Residence Hall. Safety escorted student to residence.
- Aug. 31, 10:02 a.m. — Student's wallet with false ID turned in to lost and found. Safety confiscated ID.
- Aug. 31, 11:27 p.m. — False fire alarm sounded in McBride Residence Hall. Alarm reset.
- Aug. 31, 11:52 p.m. — Student's registered gathering in North Campus Apartment shut down by Safety due to over-capacity at two different times.
- Sept. 1, 12:19 a.m. — Intoxicated student found in Old Kenyon Residence Hall. Safety escorted student to residence.
- Sept. 1, 2:33 a.m. — Intoxicated student found on ground outside Church of the Holy Spirit. Safety escorted student to residence.
- Sept. 1, 3:11 a.m. — Student found with false ID, which Safety confiscated.
- Sept. 1, 4:29 a.m. — Intoxicated student found on bench outside Mather Residence Hall. Safety escorted student to residence.
- Sept. 1, 10:03 p.m. — Visitor injured after tripping on Middle Path. Individual transported to KCH.
- Sept. 3, 5:39 p.m. — Student experienced seizure at rugby field. Safety and squad responded.
- Sept. 3, 5:56 p.m. — Gate post snapped at rugby field. Safety officer injured when pulled to ground by fallen gate.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Sunday, Sept. 1

- In its first meeting this fall, Student Council listened to a presentation about SOS “safe space” housing, discussed promotional strategies and goals for the year and evaluated the state of its various subcommittees.
- Student Council President Kevin Pan '15 opened the group's first meeting of the year by having all attendees introduce themselves.
 - Alicia Dugas, assistant dean of students for housing and residential life, presented on SOS “safe space” housing. The program is intended to provide an “alternate temporary housing assignment” in the case of a serious health-related issue, roommate conflict, etc. Students can inquire about living in SOS housing by contacting Campus Safety. Four housing units are currently operational, with a fifth to be added this fall.
 - The Council discussed potential strategies for reaching out to students, both to inform them of the Council's activities and to solicit feedback. “Couch time” last year was not as successful as the Council had hoped.
 - The Council reviewed its roster of subcommittees and their faculty advisors. Additionally, the Business and Finance Committee, the Buildings and Grounds Committee and others are actively seeking new members. Pan asked that committees finalize their memberships within two to three weeks.
 - Pan reported that President Sean Decatur wants to invite the Council over for dinner.
 - The Housing and Dining Committee is going to resend its survey about changing AVI hours to create extendo on Saturday. Insufficient survey results, coupled with the departure of former AVI Resident District Manager Damon Remillard, stalled the initiative to change the hours.
 - The Council is considering a proposal to make all single-stall College bathrooms gender-neutral. Vice President of Academic Affairs Kaylyn Talkington '14 reported that the two bathrooms at Wiggin Street Coffee — a College-owned building — are identical and thus have no reason to be gendered.
- Student Council meets at 4 p.m. every Sunday in Lower Peirce. Meetings last roughly an hour and are open to the public.*
- Gabe Brison-Trezise

Gambier on alert after break-ins, thefts

HENRI GENDREAU
OPINIONS EDITOR

A recent string of car break-ins and burglaries in the Gambier area has residents on their toes and locking their doors.

On Aug. 27 and 28, one vehicle was stolen, two car windows were smashed in and several personal items disappeared. On Saturday, Aug. 24, two laptops and some cash were stolen from rooms in Norton Hall, with a third laptop taken from that hall the following Monday.

As of Tuesday, Sept. 3, Knox County Sheriff David Shaffer said there were no suspects in the Gambier cases, and that a resident's missing 2009 gray Toyota Matrix was still reported as stolen.

Maureen Tobin, graduate school and preprofessional advisor, had a rude awakening Wednesday morning when she found a side window of her locked car broken, and some of her daughter's cross country gear missing.

"It's pretty bold," Tobin said of the theft. "[The car was] not far from our house. I'm surprised we didn't hear it, to be honest."

Two doors down from Tobin, Assistant Athletic Director Amy Williams also had her car broken into. In an email, Williams said nothing appeared to have been taken.

"I think everybody feels, you know, you feel violated, you're upset, you're frustrated," Tobin said.



HENRI GENDREAU | COLLEGIAN

Emma Welsh-Huggins '17 had to replace her laptop after it was stolen from her dorm room.

Just outside the Village on Kenyon Road, Beth Hillier, who works in the Health and Counseling Center, said her husband's expensive leaf blower had been stolen from their garage. She also said a neighbor family's wallet and empty purse had been taken out of their car, but that the wallet dropped was intact.

"I have lived here all my life and we have never had to lock anything, but the world is changing and it's time to realize these things can happen anywhere," Hillier said in an email.

"We've had a string of auto thefts and burglaries within the county all summer," Campus Safety Director Bob Hooper said. But Hooper said those thefts are not related to the stolen laptops and cash that occurred during first-year move-in day.

When Emma Welsh-Huggins '17 returned to her room around 10 p.m. from a

mandatory hall meeting Saturday, she noticed nothing amiss. She then left, making sure to lock the door behind her, and returned about an hour later. That was when she noticed her laptop was gone.

"It just did not seem like a possibility to me that someone would have actually walked in and just taken it," she said.

She later discovered another laptop and cash had gone missing from a hallmate's room. That student was later contacted by an employee at the Apple Store in Columbus, who said a man had come in to have the laptop "unlocked." His request was denied, and according to Hooper, the laptop is currently in evidence. Shaffer said he is waiting for Apple's assistance in the case. A manager at the Apple Store declined to comment.

Because K-Card access to the dorms was disabled to ease the move-in process, Welsh-Huggins believes it was easier

for the thefts to occur.

"The outer doors were unlocked the entire night. That definitely was something that was very frustrating to me," she said.

"It was when we got the report of the first laptop, we went ahead and relocked everything," Hooper said.

The campus was put on heightened alert last December when three laptops were stolen from the library. Hooper said he did not know of any new policies the College had put in place to prevent future thefts. Hooper said the cases were unrelated, and that the thief is "familiar with the schedule" surrounding move-in day.

"We have not had this issue happen before during move-in weekend," Assistant Dean of Students for Housing and Residential Life Alicia Dugas said in an email. "We will have to continue to balance student safety and ease of move in."

Some upset over supplement cut

continued from page 1

and then they had to sort of spit back to us what we put on our website, which we saw a lot of," she added.

Associate Professor of English Ivonne Garcia wrote in an email that "writing is essential to the Kenyon curriculum and to the lives of students beyond Kenyon." She added, though, that she favored the change because she felt the supplement "may be a barrier to students who had to attend schools that did not provide them with strong writing instruction."

Avery Tishue '17, on the other hand, is wary of the move. "Change is not a bad thing, but I'm not sure it's necessarily a positive thing to remove the individuality involved in the process." The supplement, he said, "allows students to express themselves in an interesting and creative way that isn't possible through SAT and ACT scores and one Common App essay."

Kenyon is following the lead of Middlebury, Colby and Trinity Colleges, among others, who have dropped their supplemental admissions essays in recent years.

Trinity was among the other schools to which Will Goodwin '17 applied last year. "They had zero supplemental anything," he said. "They didn't even ask

what are you interested in subject-wise. Legitimately my impression of that school was, okay, it's a small liberal arts place. They really didn't care. Am I really going to matter here, you know?"

Delahunty, however, said she's unconcerned that removing the supplement will depersonalize Kenyon's admissions process. "There are other ways you can express your love for Kenyon," she said, before adding, "You learn a lot about a student who writes you an email. You know, that's a little bit less formal. You see a lot about their personality and also their facility with language."

As with Goodwin, the news elicited a strong negative response from Daniel Cebul '17. "I feel like I'd be really sad and really disappointed if I went to a school that didn't require supplemental essays," he said. "I'd feel like they didn't care about who I was."

Wesleyan University, one of Kenyon's top overlap schools, provides an optional supplement on its application. Delahunty opted against doing the same, saying, "We decided just to make it the same level playing field for everyone."

She also denied that Admissions' main aim was to increase application numbers. "Of course we want to have a strong market position and applications are an indication of market position in some way. ... But I have to say, none of

the Trustees say, go get more applications," she said, adding that the move was meant primarily to make the application process easier and simpler for students.

The fact that Kenyon had supplemental essays did not affect Aaron Katzeaman '17's and Haley Eligio '17's decisions to apply to the College. They also both said they could not think of an advantage to eliminating the supplement.

An interaction with another student, however, solidified Delahunty's desire to lose the supplement. "I was talking to a young man who was applying to Kenyon who was a really top student," Delahunty said. "[The student said,] 'Toward the end of my application process, I was just looking for any school that didn't have a supplement.' And I thought, oh man, we almost didn't get you. We almost didn't enroll you because we had a supplement; there's something wrong with that."

"We are a school that is intensive in the writing arena, but not everybody loves it, and I think we, in some ways, we're over-branded as a writing place, especially with our supplement."

"This is a challenge to us to be more incisive with less information," Delahunty said. "And you might ask, why would you want less information rather than more information? We'll find out. This is an experimental year."

Meet the Class of 2017

SPENCER KAYE | DESIGN EDITOR

At Convocation, administrators trumpeted the diversity of the Class of 2017. Some of that diversity can't be quantified, but numbers do tell part of the story. The incoming class stands at 47% male and 53% female. 19% are domestic students of color and just under 14% qualify as international students. "We've seen a slight decline in domestic applications, but we've seen an increase in international applications," Dean of Admissions Jennifer Delahunty said.

Class Size

493

1557 Accepted Applications

180

Students from Ohio, New York and California, more than the next 13 states combined

Students in the top 10% of their class

66%

11 Students from China, the highest number ever

27.6%

Percentage of students from the Mid-Atlantic, the most represented region

42%

Percentage of students with a GPA of 4.0 or higher

Benediction and biochem: dignitaries welcome first years

GABE BRISON-TREZISE
NEWS EDITOR

"I am a first year as well," President Sean Decatur said during Convocation two Sundays ago. The ceremony, which welcomed nearly 500 first-year Kenyon students, represented a striking departure from the traditions Decatur experienced over the last five years at Oberlin College, where he served as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

There is no comparable welcoming ceremony at Oberlin, no regal procession or majestic presidential chair; many graduating seniors even reject wearing caps and gowns at Commencement in favor of going hatless and wearing a jean jacket or fleece. "I think it's a great thing to have to have [those] moments that say, 'You're starting something new,' or 'We're marking something important,'" Renee Romano, Decatur's wife and an associate professor of history at Oberlin, said about Convocation. "And this is a way as a community we recognize the importance of this moment and we formally give you welcome. So I'd love if Oberlin did something like this."

Decatur said he began preparing his remarks earlier in the week: "[I] came up with a bunch of ideas and drafts that pretty much all got thrown away at some point." Ultimately, he borrowed from his background in biochemistry to draw parallels between the laws of thermodynamics and college life.

"The application of work or ef-

fort," he said in his speech, referring to the second law, is necessary "to hold off inevitable decline." He also reiterated the need to "bridge the abstract and the concrete," to "dwell in the realm of the abstract while also rigorously observing and analyzing the real."

"I really liked the thermodynamics-related speech. It was kind of artfully done," Vincent Femia '17 said. Femia's mother, Karen, chimed in, calling the ceremony "just very impressive and beautiful."

Decatur closed by again reminding the audience that he, too, is a fresh arrival to Kenyon. "I like how he put us in the same boat, like how he said he was a freshman, too, and we're starting in the same place," said Adam Rubenstein '17, who added that he appreciated that Decatur did not use "just the professorial tone."

Busola Olukoya '15 served as the event's head flagbearer, a position that entailed hoisting a Kenyon banner while leading both the procession to Samuel Mather Lawn and the recessional away from it following Convocation. Olukoya assumed the chief spot after serving in other flagbearing roles at previous College ceremonies. "For me it's like an event of pride, because I'm usually carrying one of the flags, and it's like, 'I love Kenyon,' and I get to really show that," she said.

From the gowns to Decatur's address to the benediction, the event was steeped in ritual. "It was so traditional. I just, like, felt the academia oozing," Kayla Glazer '17 said. "That's



HENRI GENDREAU | COLLEGIAN

President Sean Decatur spoke to the Class of 2017 at Opening Convocation on Sunday, Aug. 25.

so gross," she added with a laugh.

The magnitude of the ceremony struck a chord with Glazer's fellow first year Evie Kennedy. "I didn't expect it to be such a big deal, because, like, we just got here and we haven't really done anything yet except get in," she said. "So, I was honored that it was such a big event."

As she has every year since she arrived a decade ago, Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Jennifer Delahunty spoke at Convocation about the profile and accomplishments of the incoming class. She said her staff in the Admissions Office helps her put together her annual

Convocation address by "comb[ing] through all the application write-ups in which we note all the notable things about kids."

At the post-Convocation reception, Tennessee Sundermeyer '17, one of the many students Delahunty highlighted in her speech, approached her. "Did you hear me mention you today?" she asked. "I thought I was going to die," he joked in reply. As he was leaving, Delahunty said, "Okay, don't be a stranger. My office is right over there."

As much as Delahunty seemed impressed by the first-year class, they seemed just as moved by the Convo-

cation festivities.

"When [my friend] Bailey and I were walking down, we were like, this is like Hogwarts, all the professors. I got kind of emotional, 'cause I was like, 'Wow, this is such a community,'" Glazer said.

Romano quipped that her son, Owen, was "theoretically" on hand to witness the ceremony. He and some children of faculty members were playing soccer nearby. While some students listened with rapt attention to Decatur, Romano said that Owen "had very little interest in seeing his dad wear a purple hat or give a speech, I'm afraid."

Nugent avoids DOJ investigation into aid

DAVID MCCABE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Over the summer, the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) considered opening an investigation into whether presidents of several private colleges — including former Kenyon President S. Georgia Nugent — violated federal antitrust laws when they discussed how to reform their institutions' financial aid practices at a conference earlier this year. The agency told the presidents and the colleges last month that they would not open a formal investigation.

While a panel at a conference of college presidents held last year was mentioned by the DOJ when they notified schools and presidents of their inquiries, that session was part of a larger conversation in the higher education world regarding how financial aid is awarded to students — and particularly the role that merit aid should play in helping students pay for college. Last academic year, Nugent and other presidents began to make the case to the public that the use of merit aid, which is given to students based on their academic records, rather than fi-



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The DOJ's interest in Nugent centered on merit aid policies.

nancial need, should be reassessed.

Discounts provided through merit aid, Nugent and others argued, had grown wildly out of control. Colleges, they said, were forced to take money out of their budgets for need-based aid in order to compete with their peer institutions on merit aid.

Early in 2013, at the conference of college presidents, Nugent and others presented a session on the broad idea of colleges backing away from merit aid. In a letter to the schools and presidents, including Nugent and Kenyon, sent in May and obtained by the *Collegian* through a Freedom of Information Act request,

the DOJ asked them to preserve any materials related to the discussion.

Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Jennifer Delahunty indicated this week that the DOJ's actions had ruled out any partnership between schools on merit aid. She said that schools will need to find ways to change the federal system for determining need-based aid, which she said sometimes leaves parents desperate for merit aid in order to pay for the cost of college.

"I would like to see colleges bind together to look at the needs-analysis system," she said. "Let's just leave the merit aid discussion behind for now."

Zingarelli acquitted

A Knox County judge found former student Stephen Zingarelli not guilty of sexual assault.

SAM COLT
SENIOR NEWS EDITOR

Stephen Zingarelli, 22, a former Kenyon student, was found not guilty in June of rape and gross sexual imposition. Another Kenyon student brought the charges against him, alleging that the crime occurred on College property.

Zingarelli waived his right to a trial by jury. His case was decided by Judge Otho Eyster.

The *Mount Vernon News* first reported Zingarelli's acquittal. The *News* cited Zingarelli's attorney, Jim Giles '78, who initially claimed that Campus Safety and the Knox County Sheriff's office "rushed to judgment" in their response to the incident, a comment he later clarified to the *Collegian*. "My client was drummed out of school, arrested and charged before anybody knew all the background facts," Giles said.

The assistant prosecutor who handled the case, Jennifer Springer, who has since left the prosecutor's office, denied rushing to judgment.

"It is our job to then take the evidence that we have

"We certainly think the College should come up with a plan for getting this young man a Kenyon diploma."

Jim Giles, Zingarelli's Attorney

and prove Mr. Zingarelli guilty of every element of each charge beyond a reasonable doubt, which is the highest burden of proof that must be met," Springer wrote. "We were unable to do this at the bench trial of this matter." Springer noted that a grand jury found probable cause to indict Zingarelli.

Springer said circumstantial evidence and a lack of eyewitnesses make cases like this one difficult to prosecute. She advised Kenyon students who believe they have been the victim of a crime to immediately contact both Safety and emergency services.

The case became controversial soon after Zingarelli was indicted in December. Toutain said, during the summer, that he did not expect the case's resolution to bring about a change in the College's sexual misconduct policy, but that it could change the information first

years receive during sessions related to sexual misconduct at the beginning of the year.

Giles said he hopes to work with administrators to find a way for Zingarelli to complete his degree and had set up a meeting with Dean of Students Hank Toutain. "We certainly think the College should come up with a plan for getting this young man a Kenyon diploma," Giles said when interviewed in July.

It appears unlikely that Zingarelli will return to Kenyon in the near future. Giles told the *Collegian* last Tuesday, "I spoke to Dean Toutain once. Instead of working with us directly, he had the College's lawyers contact me," he said. "They contend that Kenyon policy and Title IX require Stephen to complete the College's disciplinary process before anything can be discussed. I have referred Stephen to counsel with expertise in this area."

Budget cuts halt Gambier Head Start programming

HENRI GENDREAU
OPINIONS EDITOR

The halls of the Gambier Community Center were filled with the giddy sounds of children yesterday morning, as they made their way to the first day of Head Start classes.

Or, at least, they would have been. The Gambier Head Start program has been eliminated due to sequestration, the automatic spending cuts that kicked in last spring when Congress failed to agree on a deficit reduction plan.

The federal program, which provides low-income families and their preschool-aged children with comprehensive educational services, previously served 18 students in Gambier. With 10 children moving up to kindergarten, eight students will now have to attend classes in Mount Vernon or Danville, according to Knox County Head Start Executive Director Peg Tazewell.

"No child lost services in the sequestration, which is kind of unusual," Tazewell said. Across the country, 57,000 children will now be without Head Start or Early Head Start programming because of the budget cuts, the Office of Head Start projects.

"This year, we were able to absorb the children and the families into other centers. If there's another cut we won't be able to do that," Tazewell said. "And because we cut every possible place we could this



HENRI GENDREAU | COLLEGIAN

The Gambier Head Start program was phased out due to federal budget cuts this year. Officials hope to reopen it.

year, in order to absorb the children, the cut will hit us almost doubly hard if it happens again."

"Programs like Head Start are essential for helping kids who are not in family environments or economic environments where they're being prepared for kindergarten," said Associate Professor of Psychology Dana Krieg, who teaches Psychology in Context, a class in which students volunteer at a Head Start center in the area.

"It's been more of a logistical issue trying to figure out how we

can get funding to get students to centers that are not in walking distance. We have always had students go to that center because it is conveniently located, but there are many other centers that can use a helping hand," Krieg said.

"I am disheartened to see cuts to an already underfunded national program," said Ben Kress '14 in an email. He volunteered at the Danville Center last year, describing the Knox County Head Start program as "well organized and staffed by truly amazing individuals."

"I have personally seen these teachers, over the course of a school year, change the lives of these children for the better. These centers are a necessity," he wrote.

Tazewell said Knox County Head Start had to cut \$125,111 of its \$2.37 million budget, resulting in the termination of three employees countywide and the elimination of door-to-door bus services, which puts a burden on children whose parents have spotty access to a vehicle or no bus stop close by.

"It is very shortsighted to make

a cut like that," Tazewell said. "I'm appalled. I'm appalled at our Congress."

The single Head Start classroom at the Gambier Community Center, which provides a half-day program for preschool-aged children, is continuing to be rented out by Head Start for parent and teacher training.

But possible state funding to expand preschool slots would allow the center to once again serve children. "It would be our hope that we would be able to reopen it at some point," Tazewell said.

At the nearby Gambier Child Care Center, which mostly caters to children of professors, the children funded through Head Start and Early Head Start will not be affected by the cuts.

Still, Tazewell and other administrators are gearing up for another, potentially more harmful, round of cuts.

"There's another potential sequestration that could happen in October if they don't get their act together in Washington," Tazewell said. "And it would be devastating." The future of Gambier Head Start is largely contingent on the results of impending budget cuts, the outcome of which Tazewell says she's through guessing.

"I've been doing this for almost 15 years and I've stopped attempting to predict politics," she said. "It's a crapshoot."

Advisees praise Decatur's help

GABE BRISON-TREZISE
NEWS EDITOR

When Amelia Loydpierson '17 learned that her faculty advisor was President Sean Decatur, one thought entered her mind: "Is that good or bad?" But only a couple of weeks later, she has a schedule that accommodates both her varsity swimming demands and her pre-med ambitions. She can also now say that she has eaten ice cream with the president — bragging rights few others possess.

"He was just really invested in how we were doing and how everything was going on campus, and ... he just brought kind of an overview of college," she said.

Loydpierson is one of three advisees Decatur took on this year. Jackie Hsu '17, a fellow advisee, credited Decatur with helping her craft a manageable class schedule. "I was thinking about doing bio lab with my chem lab. ... But he convinced me not to do my bio lab and save it for next year. ... That was a good plan, because I already think I'm overbooked," Hsu said.

The advisees did most of their initial course planning with their Upperclass Counselor, Darko Gligorovski '14, who spoke glowingly of his experiences with Decatur. "[At] first I was kind of scared, but once I got to know him, he's amazing," Gligorovski said.

In advising students, Decatur is resuming a practice that past College presidents Robert Oden Jr.

"If you walk on the Middle Path and you see him, he will stop and talk with you, which wasn't the case with the previous president.

Darko Gligorovski '14

and Philip Jordan Jr. followed, according to College Historian Tom Stamp. Decatur's immediate predecessor, S. Georgia Nugent, did not take on advisees.

"If you walk on the Middle Path and you see him, he will stop and talk with you, which wasn't the case with the previous president," Gligorovski said. The three advisees also all noted that Decatur has been highly accessible and visible in their few weeks on campus.

"I've seen President Decatur most days that I've been here," said Ian Edwards '17, Decatur's third advisee. "Not even because of a meeting. It's like, oh, I just see him on a jog or I just see him around. ... He's a nice guy, very easy to talk to, very easy to be around," he added.

Gligorovski echoed Edwards' sentiments, saying, "When you meet [Decatur] and you talk to him, you don't get the impression that you're speaking to the president of the College. He's very, very down to earth, very close with people, and he wants to get to know you as a person, as a student, as a friend, you could even say."

Decatur wrote in an email that he thought advising "would be a great way to get to know a small group of students well, and to expe-

rience at least a piece of the faculty perspective at Kenyon." He added that being an advisor motivated him to familiarize himself with the specific requirements and processes of registration.

After registration ended, Decatur followed up with his advisees to see how it went. "Short emails, but just kind of touching base with us," Loydpierson said.

Decatur and Gligorovski met roughly five times for planning purposes before meeting with the advisees as one group. When they met at Cromwell Cottage, Decatur "did a lot more listening, I would say, than advice-giving," said Loydpierson. "He definitely pushed the ice cream."

"He was so into knowing us that he forgot his ice cream," said Hsu. She added that 45 minutes passed before Decatur noticed his ice cream had melted.

"A couple of hours of discussions with the first years was all I needed to see that Kenyon students are exactly as advertised: excited about academic work, interested in a broad range of subjects, mature and relaxed in conversation," wrote Decatur. "I'm looking forward to getting to know them even better over the year."

CGE monitors Syria, regional tensions

continued from page 1

Three Kenyon students are studying near Syria this semester: two in Jordan and one in Turkey. The same number of students will be in those countries this spring.

Molly Halberstadt '15, who plans to study in Jordan next semester, is guardedly optimistic about studying there. "I'm nervous because I'm a young Jewish woman in an [Islamic] area, and because of the turbulence of the region and the Syrian refugee spill into Jordan that could bring Jordan into the conflict," she said.

If violence in Syria spilled over, the CGE might employ a strategy called shelter-in-place, which holds that staying put during crises can sometimes be safer for students than an expedient evacuation from their host country.

"In Paris, when there are student protests and people are throwing tear gas — that's a limited version of shelter-in-place. You tell students: don't go here, don't go there. You don't immediately send them home," Ausec said.

Students on campus and abroad have also been following

the news coming out of Syria. Halberstadt supports a limited engagement. "I think it's more dangerous to do nothing than to do something," Halberstadt said. "I wouldn't support an all-out invasion, because no one wants another Iraq, but I think that inaction will show that we condone the blatant human rights violations and will encourage Assad to continue gassing citizens."

Some students have developed nuanced opinions since Syria's civil war began two years ago. "There are sound arguments for the proposed air strikes and there are sound arguments against further escalation," said Jon Green '14, an editor-in-chief of *The Kenyon Observer*. "There are even sound arguments that we should have put boots on the ground 18 months ago."

Regardless of what the Obama administration and Congress decide, Ausec says the CGE will need to monitor the political climate in the Middle East for the foreseeable future. "Things change on a daily basis," Ausec said. "So the plan you had yesterday might not be the plan you have today based on new information."

OPINIONS

EDITORS: REBECCA DANN AND
HENRI GENDREAU



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EDITORIAL

Admissions: Don't dumb it down

"What does it say at the edge of your map, and why does it say that?" asked one of Kenyon's supplemental essays on the Common Application. Apparently, Kenyon no longer cares.

The College has decided to eliminate supplemental Common App essays — questions that individualize Kenyon's application and let students voice their taste for particular schools.

The supplemental essays provide a critical opportunity for students to further express themselves and better articulate why Kenyon is the best fit for them. If we eliminate that space for prospective students, we not only stifle the voices of applicants but also fundamentally change the character of the student community that makes Kenyon, Kenyon.

By striking the supplement, Admissions is denying students of the prime mechanism for conveying their enthusiasm for the College.

Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Jennifer Delahunty said on Tuesday that an "emphasis on the personal is really part of our stock and trade." Removing the supplement will curb the commendable level of personal attention Admissions deploys and harm Kenyon's reputation for fairly and fully evaluating its applicants.

"You're given a block of stone, a hammer and a chisel. What would you carve and why?" A purple thumbs down to this new policy.

Congress: Don't dumb kids down

The Head Start program at the Gambier Community Center, which served 18 students, officially shut down this year due to sequestration — the mandatory, across-the-board cuts to the federal budget that went into effect after Congress and President Obama failed to reach a deal on spending. The closure probably went unnoticed by most members of the student body. Each of us went about our day-to-day activities — unaffected by the elimination of an important resource for those families who need it.

Although administrators have managed to shuffle affected students into other programs for this year, we should not allow the program to face further, more serious challenges in the future. Even though most of us are individually unaltered by the Gambier Head Start's closure, as a community we have suffered a loss that detrimentally affects our neighbors, friends and peers. We hope that our representatives in Washington will work to reverse automatic cuts and restore funding to this crucial program.

EDITORIAL ILLUSTRATION

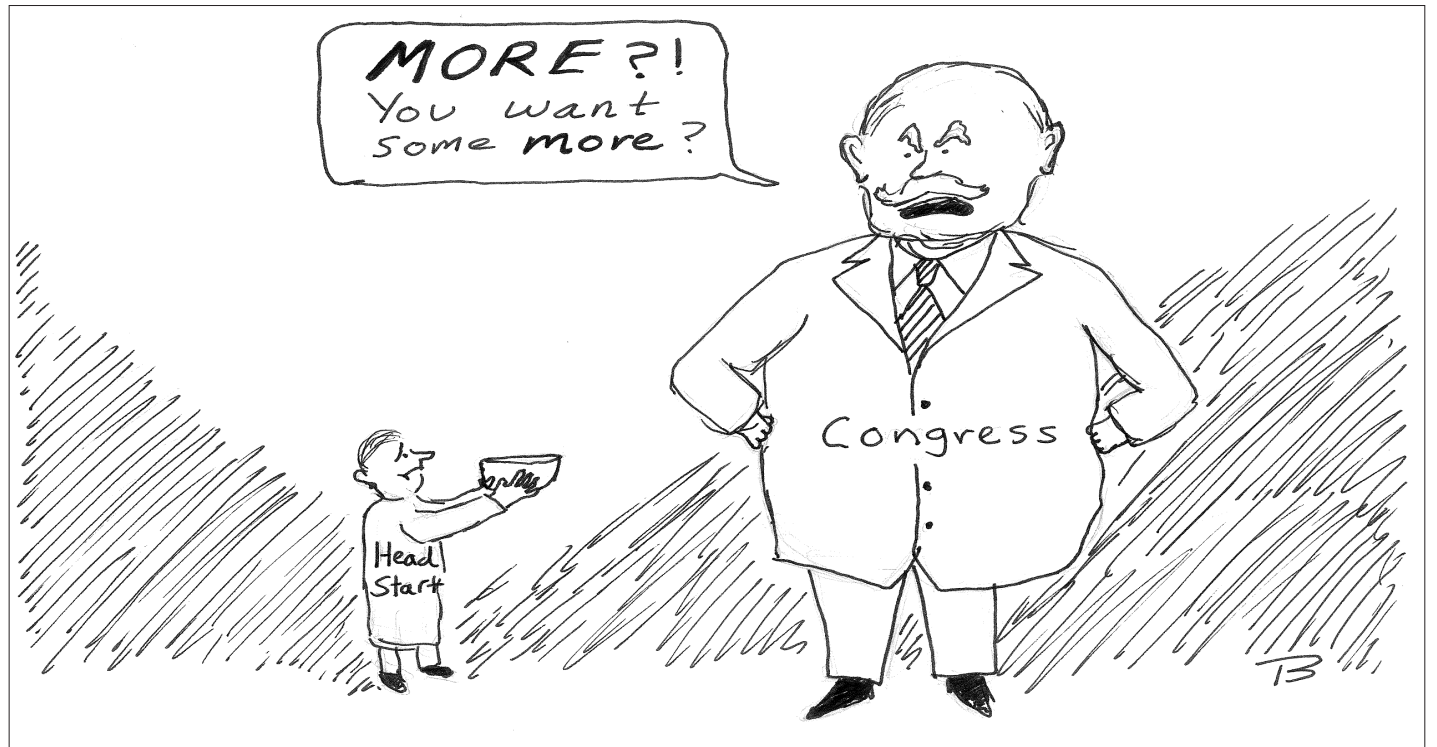


ILLUSTRATION BY HENRI GENDREAU

HOME ON THE HILL

May first years make their own *querencia*

ALEXANDRA BRADNER
CONTRIBUTOR

"Home" is one of those cloying words like "mother." They're supposed to warm you up, but they preoccupy and sting when you aren't sure you have a good one.

Kenyon asks first-year students to make a college residence hall into their new home. This is pretty optimistic. Most new students know not a single soul on campus, and their dorm rooms look nothing like the personalized spaces they left behind. Whether home is a community of people or a place, first years no longer have theirs.

I sat in my own residence hall apartment last week, looking at the plain cement walls and borrowed furniture — fully functional, but not mine — feeling kind of lonely, much like I felt the first few nights of my own college career, as the only student from my high school. I walked the empty halls, reimagining what the first-year students

soon would be thinking — only just recently the reigning kings and queens of their hometowns, now here, at Kenyon, fully invisible.

Perhaps there's a more promising sense of "home," one requiring neither a particular place nor a particular community. I first encountered the untranslatable Spanish-language concept of *querencia* as a high-school writing prompt, assigned just before I had to leave home for the first time. *Querencia* identifies home as the source of your courage and strength, the place where you feel safe, where you are most authentically yourself, where you recharge. We can make these places, I believe — construct and reconstruct them, even in the absence of loved ones and childhood bedrooms.

A few doors down from my 1989 college dorm room lived a classmate who kept a detailed scrapbook of the furniture, flatware, carpeting and wallpaper that she eventually

wanted to own. She would use special scissors to clip pictures and advertisements out of high-end home design magazines like *Elle Décor* and *Architectural Digest*, and paste the items into her giant book, which was organized into sections with names like "entryway," "master" and "pool house."

I thought this was completely ridiculous. In fact, I was pretty harsh on her, deriding her premature domesticity to my more feminist friends. What a way to spend the little time you have on this planet: obsessing about the look of your own private space. Aim reasonably for the functional and clean — no bugs, no vermin — but anything more than that is precious and wasteful. Didn't she have anything better to do?

As it turns out, I was pretty naïve. There's a difference between being smart — knowing lots of theories — and being wise — being able to judge when to let those theories go.

I decorated my Norton apartment with a series of giant photos of my two daughters and partner of more than 20 years, using the same sticky blue clay I had used as a first-year student to hang posters of Chicago and the Beatles in my first college dorm room. Despite the fact that I don't know anyone here, and despite the fact that my visit will be brief, I began to feel like myself, like I had the strength to start, yet again, meeting new people and making new friends, like I had reconstructed my own artist's multiple — the latest in a long line of homes.

May our first year students reinstall their own fondness here — *la querencia*.

Alexandra Bradner is a visiting assistant professor of philosophy who will be living among students this year as the faculty-in-residence. She will occasionally be reporting her experiences in this column. She can be reached at bradnera@kenyon.edu.

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New year, same rules: consent is crucial

DEREK DASHIELL
COLUMNIST

First, let's look at some important facts: Most rape survivors knew and trusted the perpetrator. Most rape occurs somewhere the survivor thought safe. In the most statistically common scenario, a female survivor was too intoxicated to resist, or a male perpetrator exerted physical or mental force. And most upsetting, the mostly male perpetrators don't recognize their actions as rape, but instead as just forceful.

That last part is a problem that keeps getting glossed over. Let's step back for a moment from "don't wear revealing clothing" and really look at this.

Our society focuses on the fact that a survivor should say no. But even if "no" isn't explicitly said, that's not definitely "yes" either,

“Our society needs to promote that confidence does not mean intimidation, and that, as Kenyon's policy states, consent should be enthusiastic.”

and that's a huge, somewhat obvious point that gets ignored. Why are there so many situations where, in its most common form, a guy will keep going when a girl doesn't want to?

For example: Last year, at a small party I attended, John liked Jane. Every time Jane changed seats, or spoke to someone else, John followed her, and continued to come on to her. I doubt he ever would have forced anything, but his actions speak to a much deeper problem.

Jane was clearly and politely giving signs that she wasn't interested, by moving away and conversing with others, but John was either in denial about the signs because

he didn't want them to be there, or he didn't even know to look for them. Why is that societally okay? Why do we teach men that it's perfectly fine to search for personal gratification without regard for the person we're gratifying ourselves with? A real man should know to look for those signs and, if in doubt, to ask her or slow down.

And if a girl rejects a guy, that reflects on her tastes, not his worth, and he has no right to get mad at her or force something. No one has the right to sexually assault someone else, let alone over a bruised ego.

Our society needs to promote that confidence does not mean in-

timidation, and that, as Kenyon's policy states, consent should be enthusiastic, not merely inaction or a drunken make-out. While many people know and support this position, the fact that so many don't means something is wrong.

First years are given *Real World: Gambier*, and Beer and Sex advisors, and yet Kenyon still has sexual misconduct in the exact ways that these programs try to prevent. There are still people who believe inappropriate forcefulness is acceptable, and those who know better can't just know better. We must make sure we see it happening — or when it's our friends in the wrong.

Derek Dashiell '16 is a prospective English major. You can contact him via email at dashiell@kenyon.edu.

Quick Complaints

“It's the first week of school and Peirce has already run out of orange juice. And Gatorade. And chocolate milk.”
— Regan Fink '14

“Why are there so many parking spots open in Peirce Lot and South Lot 2 is so full.”
— Jenna Willett '14

“Why do people keep opening the seminar room doors on first floor Ascension?”
— Gwen Lloyd '16

“It's just been too darn fun.”
— Noah Winters '15

“The Farr apartments cost the same as the NCAs. Plus there is no air circulation.”
— Nikhil Idnani '14

“I'm upset that they never served Bananas Foster. The Market Dog costs too much. The Cove should lower the price of their pizza. I receive too many emails about common hour.”
— Joey Cordle '14

“There's nothing to drink in Peirce: no ice, no chocolate milk, no Gatorade, no cranberry juice. So you know what I got: watered down lemonade.”
— Ryan Rosen '14

Convocation: a rite of passage for first-year students

SUSANNE UNGER
CONTRIBUTOR

Amidst the rustling sounds of heavy gowns, professors and administrators sporting official college regalia form two lines along Middle Path. Summer sandals, dress shoes and, yes, even a kilt can be spotted from underneath a sea of dark robes.

A trio of faculty marshals guides participants into their appropriate places in line, based on seniority. Faculty and administrators are awaiting the procession of incoming students on their journey from Wiggin St. toward Samuel Mather Hall, where an important ceremony is about to take place.

These future students are about to undergo an important ritual: a rite of passage that will render them into full-fledged members of the Kenyon community. For many, this has meant a spatial and social separation from their families and friends. Through their participation in Convocation, they are becoming incorporated into the larger Kenyon community, and will be recognized by that community as members of the Class of 2017.

While the term “rite of passage” has become common parlance in American culture, we don't consider the specific forms and elements of such rituals. They are often more complex and surprising than we might expect at first. The work of the

late anthropologist Arnold van Gennep (1873-1957) provides a framework for analyzing the similarities and differences in ceremonies across the world that mark transitional stages in the lives of humans.

Convocation at Kenyon College represents a textbook example of an important ritual in the lives of many young people, a rite of passage. Other examples of rites of passage include rituals as diverse as baptisms (transforming individuals into members of religious communities), weddings or commitment ceremonies (transforming two individuals into a couple) or basic training for military service (transforming recruits into soldiers).

All rites of passage are divided into three distinct phases: separation, transition and reincorporation. During the first phase, participants are spatially separated from the rest of their social group. Their separateness is marked both through their spatial separation prior to the event and by being bordered by flag bearers holding the American and Ohio flags as well as a sign announcing the arrival of the “Class of 2017.”

Some of the incoming students are dressed casually in t-shirts and shorts, while others wear button-down shirts, formal dresses and, in at least one instance, a Kenyon t-shirt. Some avoid eye contact, others smile shyly at acquaintances and onlookers,

while a group of young men strides down the path in confident nonchalance, chatting loudly, perhaps in an attempt to diffuse the intensity of this highly formalized ritual.

The new students' spatial separation from the faculty and staff also serves to downplay and level any existing differences among members of the incoming cohort: their diversity as a group (and this class has been hailed as one of Kenyon's most diverse incoming classes) is momentarily eclipsed by their shared status as newcomers to the community.

Through the separation from the larger group, the incoming students enter a transitional phase. They become members of a liminal group, belonging neither to their groups of origin (families, friends, high school graduates) nor to the group whose membership they seek to obtain. The incoming freshmen literally have to pass through this phase by walking down Middle Path.

The formal and unusual attire of Kenyon's faculty, administrators and admissions staff members highlights the event as a special occasion and emphasizes the special nature of the community that the incoming class is about to join.

During the course of the next hour, a number of Kenyon representatives, most of them in college regalia, take turns giving short speeches to welcome the members of

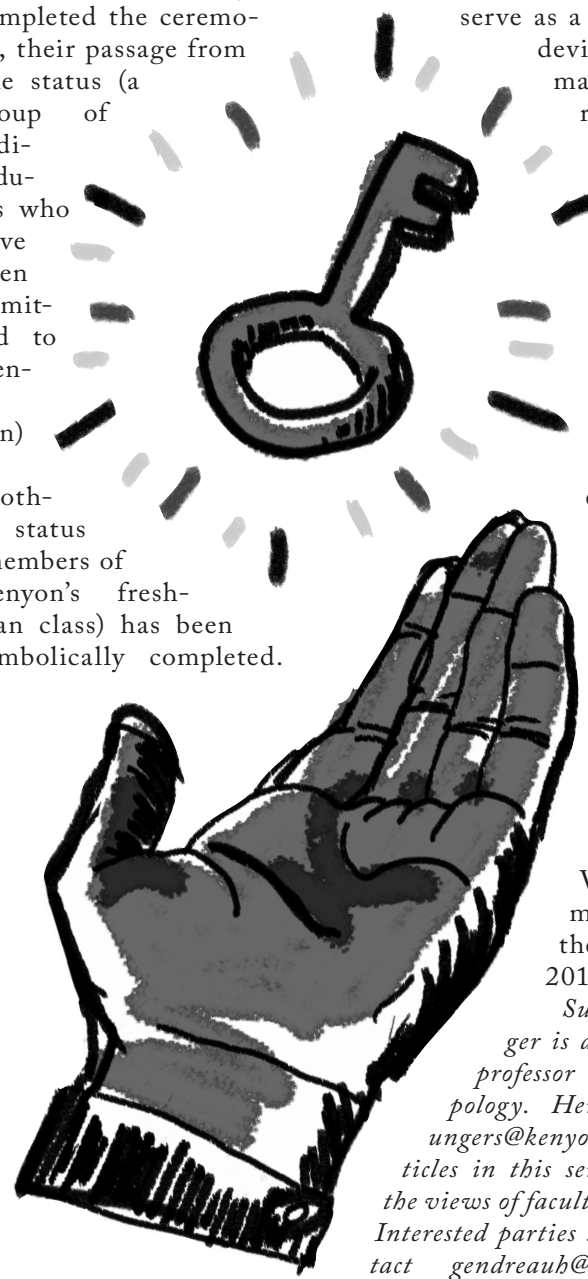
the Class of 2017 into their new lives at Kenyon. The 484 freshmen join a group of age mates and become members of the same cohort, the Class of 2017. Once they have completed the ceremony, their passage from one status (a group of individuals who have been admitted to Kenyon) to another status (members of Kenyon's freshman class) has been symbolically completed.

Members of the entire community celebrate this new status by participating in a picnic on the lawn in front of Cromwell Cottage.

Rites of passage serve as a regulating device to both maintain and reproduce the social order. Every fall, convocation allows all participants, new and old, to experience a shared sense of belonging and to bring into existence a new cohort of Kenyon students. Welcome, members of the Class of 2017!

Susanne Unger is an assistant professor of Anthropology. Her email is ungers@kenyon.edu. Articles in this series feature the views of faculty and staff. Interested parties should contact gendreaub@kenyon.edu and dannr@kenyon.edu for consideration.

ILLUSTRATION
BY NICHOLAS ANANIA



A Summer In Gambier

By Rachel Dragos

Think nothing happens in Gambier after you're gone? Think again.

Some Kenyon students took the summer months to research frog kidney cells, shoot video for the Office of Public Affairs, lead tours for hopeful high schoolers and study Supreme Court case law — all without ever leaving town.

Bennett Stephens '15 (left) spent his summer working in the Office of Admissions as a tour guide and office assistant.

"Usually I would give two tours a day, and in between I would be in the office, sending mailings," he said.

He admitted that at times it felt like "a lot of paper-pushing." In general, however, Stephens enjoyed giving tours and working with the people in Admissions.

As for life on the Hill in the summer,

One of 42 summer science scholars in the anthropology, biology, physics, mathematics, psychology and chemistry departments, Eric Engelbrecht '14 conducted biological research under the direction of Professor of Biology Wade Powell.

Engelbrecht's project dealt with frog kidney cells, which contain two different kinds of a protein called the Aryl Hydrocarbon Receptor, whereas humans only have one type. Engelbrecht worked to find the mo-

Seven eager fellows were chosen to participate in the John W. Adams Summer Scholar Program in Socio-Legal Studies. Amongst these seven was Elizabeth Cheever '14 (second from left).

"I was a summer legal scholars fellow ... on the research track. There were some people who were doing internships who were research assistants, but I was doing independent research," Cheever said.

"My focus, generally, was diversity in

Katie Low '16 spent her summer in Gambier working for the Provost's Office, a job that involved both typical receptionist work, as well as moving the offices of professors and administrators. "If a professor retired, I would end up packing up a lot of their things," Low said.

While the job may appear tedious, Low felt it allotted a certain amount

Grant Carney '15's (second from left) favorite part of his summer at Kenyon was when one of his apartment mates invited President Sean Decatur over for dessert.

"One night [Decatur and his wife, Renee Romano] came over with their dogs, and we talked for an hour, hour and a half, at the Acland Apartments about life at Kenyon, hoping to introduce them to some of the students," Carney said. "President Decatur is a very per-

This summer, Mia Barnett '15's internship with the Office of Public Affairs expanded her knowledge of the technical aspects of video. Barnett worked to capture and edit footage for events that happened over the summer.

"There were a lot of reunions going on," Barnett said. "We would interview [the alumni] to see what their Kenyon experience was like and how they enjoyed being back on

Stephens said, "It was fun."

Still, he was not a fan of preparing meals. "Living in a New Apt, trying to cook for yourself all summer, was not fun. There's no kitchen."

At the end of the summer, the Admissions Office took all six summer workers up Peirce Tower as a reward for all their hard work. "Campus Safety has to unlock a spiral staircase that goes all the way to the top," Stephens said.

lecular difference between these two proteins, and therefore to deduce the function of each.

"I was trying to mutate that protein by essentially breaking it inside of these kidney cells," Engelbrecht said.

Engelbrecht enjoyed the time he spent with other students on campus. "I made a lot of friends with people I didn't talk to so much throughout the year. We would all cook together, alternate cooking on differ-

education," she said. "What role does diversity play in education environments? How do you create it?"

These thoroughly researched inquiries ultimately lead Cheever to take an in-depth look at the Supreme Court.

"What I was looking at specifically was the legal standard that the Supreme Court applies to any law that treats people differently on the basis of race, which includes affirmative action programs,"

of adventure. "I got to explore Kenyon, in general, because I was working in all these office spaces and I got to go into all the houses here," she said. Low also had the opportunity to meet many professors and administrative assistants.

Living in Gambier for the summer allowed her to venture off-campus, experiencing scenic trails in the area. "I

sonable guy and very down-to-earth."

Carney was on campus at the beginning of summer as a class liaison for the 15th reunion of the class of 1998. He lived with alumni in Hanna Hall, acting as a guide for the group.

"It was great getting to know all the people from 15 years ago, seeing what their Kenyon experience was like, and seeing what I need to take away from [Kenyon] while I still have a chance to," Carney said.

campus."

For the opening of the Kenyon Institute, the College's summer programming for adults, Barnett filmed a variety of interviews that will play a key role in advertising for next year.

"I took a class last year that involved a lot of editing, but I definitely got a lot better with this internship," Barnett said.

"I'd say the best part was that I got to meet

Bennett Stephens '15

Office of Admissions

Stephens and Joe Walsh '15 (right) created another end-of-summer event that involved matching outfits. "Joe Walsh and I figured out that we had several outfits that would have been the same, but we never wore the same clothes on the same day. So ... there was one week where we matched outfits."

Overall, Stephens urges everyone to consider spending a summer on campus, saying he might pursue it again next year.

Eric Engelbrecht '14

Summer Science Scholar

ent nights, buy groceries together," he said.

With a group of other students, Engelbrecht visited the Knox County fair, and watched the fair's famous figure-eight bus race.

"They get two cinder blocks and then they get a bunch of dirt on a dirt field," Engelbrecht said. "They cover the dirt field with water, so that it is mud, and then they race in figure eights around the cinder blocks."

Elizabeth Cheever '14

Legal Scholars Fellow

Cheever said.

Cheever enjoyed the experience of living and working for the summer in Gambier. Outside of Cheever's scholarly accomplishments, the best part, for her, was meeting people that she otherwise wouldn't have met.

Cheever urged anyone who may consider spending the summer on campus to try it. "I would recommend it. I had a wonderful time."

Katie Low '16

Student Worker for the Provost's Office

finally went to the Caves," she said.

The worst part of summer life in Gambier, according to Low, was the quietness. "In the beginning it was hard to get used to the quiet — nobody was here on the weekend; sometimes it was hard to keep yourself busy. " Now that everyone is back on campus, she feels a little "claustrophobic," but assures she is adjusting.

Grant Carney '15

Alumni Weekend Class Liason for '98

After his work for Alumni Weekend, Carney stayed on campus for the rest of the summer for Kenyon's Summer Science Program, working alongside Associate Provost Brad Hartlaub on a statistics project dealing with well-water pollution in West Virginia.

"The best part about living in Gambier in the summer was getting involved with the community," Carney said. "You really get to develop relationships with people on campus."

Mia Barnett '15

Video Intern with Public Affairs

a lot of alums that were back on campus attending some of the events," she said. "There was a Chasers reunion; I went to a concert, which was awesome. I definitely wouldn't have gotten to do that during the year."

Barnett admitted that though the quietness of campus sometimes surprised her, it was also a nice change of pace. "It was relaxing to be here and, of course, campus was gorgeous this summer," she said.



Photo courtesy of Bennett Stephens



Photo Courtesy of the Office of Public Affairs



Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Cheever



Photo courtesy of Katie Low



Photo courtesy of Grant Carney



Photo courtesy of Mia Barnett

FEATURES

EDITORS: JULIE FRANCE
AND HANNAH STEIGMEYERTHE GREATEST TWEETS OF
@SEAN_DECATURI've donned the big floppy
purple hat — ready for my first
convocation @KenyonCollege.@GundGallery Yes, a shout
out to my new next door
neighbor!Yes, President Sean Decatur does have a Twitter. What would
you expect the president of a small liberal arts college to share
on social media in 140 characters or less?@KenyonCollege Class of
2017 — welcome to Gambier!
You're going to love it here.

Swiss and Singaporean students serve their nations

PHOEBE LEWIS
STAFF WRITER

Last year, while most members of the class of 2017 were in the throes of senior prom, college acceptances and graduation, Tristan Biber '17 was on track to become a sergeant in the Swiss Army.

As an armed neutrality, Switzerland upholds a mandatory period of service for all males. But while all men must complete this service, they do not necessarily spend it in the army; some choose to work in social services, while others opt to be taxed until their time of service would end.

Born and raised in Geneva, Biber chose the "traditional" route, enlisting promptly in the Swiss Army after his high-school graduation. After an initial informational day, and a two-day intensive period of psychological, physical and medical tests, he was stationed in a Swiss-German part of Switzerland.

His unit consisted of 50 French and Italian speakers, and was part of a larger, 400-soldier barracks.

Biber underwent boot camp for around two months. While boot camp typically lasts a few months longer, Biber was promoted early in order to pursue Under-Officer School.

"The first week or two, even three weeks, they will make your life intentionally miserable," Biber said. "Two hours of sleep for a week. A lot of psychological things; 'You're not at home any more'



Chris Kwan '16 (left) and Tristan Biber '17 (right middle) both served in their countries' armies — Kwan in Singapore and Biber in Switzerland — before attending Kenyon. They both plan to continue their service.

type of things."

But once the recruits settle into a routine, they learn the fundamental skills of any soldier.

"Everyone does the same thing — basic hand-to-hand fighting, rifling skills, discipline, marches," Biber said. "I learned basic electrical things, so I helped wire my house with the skills I learned in the army, so it's stuff I could bring back into the civilian life."

At Under-Officer School, Biber was training to become a sergeant, but an unexpected accident quickly changed his trajectory.

"I broke my leg coming back from an exercise, not seeing the black ice. It turns out that when you've got 90 pounds of gear on your back, when you go, you go," he said with a laugh.

With a fractured tibia and destroyed ligaments in his an-

kle during his deferral, Biber was unable to continue training before coming to Ohio.

So with the Swiss Army's permission, Biber enrolled instead at Kenyon, joining the class of 2017. He will complete his sergeant training — 10 weeks total — next summer.

Eventually, after graduating from Kenyon, Biber plans to continue his service as a lieutenant — a training commitment of 52 weeks.

Biber explained that most people complete their service in one shot. "Clearly I've had a couple setbacks so I haven't been able to do that," he said. "But because the army is more relaxed now, I will have a job once I graduate Kenyon, in the Swiss Army."

"I'm definitely an advocate for required service," Biber said. "For me, I worked parts of the system, but it's



COURTESY OF CHRIS KWAN AND TRISTAN BIBER

also working with the system. The Swiss Army is the most direct, and one of the clearest, organizations I know — if you play by their rules. But the second you start making rules up is when they decide to play the game too, and they have been playing it a lot longer than you have."

Chris Kwan '16 also completed mandatory service for his native country, Singapore.

Kwan served two years in the Singapore Army before enrolling in the class of 2016 last year.

The Singapore Army has a minimum of two years' service, during which all men are required to enlist. Though currently ranked a specialist, Kwan was temporarily discharged on Aug. 14, 2012 to attend Kenyon. He is considering enlisting for an extra six months' service, which he would com-

plete over the summer.

Though the Swiss Army exists in order to defend its country's neutrality, "The Singapore Army exists to oversee complicated and wavering geo-political, cultural and religious tensions in the region," said Kwan.

Recruited in August 2010, two months after his high-school graduation, Kwan began a 19-week basic military training in Pulau Tekong, an island off the coast of Singapore. There he learned basic military training derived from the Israeli Army's, as well as training from the U.S. Marines and Navy.

Through specialized communications training, Kwan learned modern communication skills such as hacking and encrypting data analysis, and also trained to establish communication in the wilderness, to create smoke signals and

even to use the natural environment, such as tree trunks and roots, to enhance communication capabilities.

Under the overseas branch of the Singapore Corps, Kwan received further specialized training in advanced combat, jungle survival skills and military intelligence.

Once, Kwan was even tasked with smuggling his group and their weapons through Brunei under a time limit, all while blending in as civilians.

"Part of our training was blending into the natural environment — either the forest or the urban landscape," he said. "So we learned to conceal and disguise ourselves, and transport our weaponry across the capital city, back to our camp. That in itself was a challenge."

Though Kwan's experience had its struggles, overall it proved to be quite beneficial.

"When I first joined the Singapore Army, I thought I would hate it," Kwan said. "But now I view those two years as the best in my life, and I would do it all over again. There's so much stuff you get to experience in the army that you don't get to do anywhere else in the world, like throwing a hand grenade, jumping out of airplanes, jumping out of a helicopter, firing a sniper rifle. Flying to different parts of the world to do different training missions. You just can't do that in the daily world, as a civilian."

Passion for both parties: politics in Knox County

ESTEBAN BACHELET
SPORTS ASSISTANT

It has been 10 months and two days since Kenyon students flocked into the Kenyon Athletic Center (KAC) for First Lady Michelle Obama's speech last Nov. 3. "We've got three days. This is a weekend, Kenyon," Obama said, addressing a crowd of students packed into Tomsich Arena. "If you've got dates planned, bring them to the campaign office. Anyone trying to impress anyone, bring them over to the Obama office. ... You all could swing an entire precinct for Barack Obama."

During the final three campaign days that followed the First Lady's words, Kenyon students turned out in overwhelming support for the Democratic Party through

canvassing and volunteering. "Our precincts were the bluest in the district," Kenyon Democrats President Sydney Watnick '14 said. "While Republican presence is strong [in Knox County], the local Democrats here [at Kenyon] are enthusiastic."

Though Kenyon will not experience the thrill of a presidential election this academic year, the political momentum has not stopped in Gambier. Four seats for the Village Council will be on the ballot for General Elections that will be held on Nov. 5. Students registered in Ohio can vote at the Gambier Community Center behind the KAC or vote early 30 days before the election at the Knox County Board of Elections in Mount Vernon.

"The campus tilts heavily to the left, and this is reflected in the relative size of the Kenyon College Republicans as opposed to the Kenyon College Democrats," Kenyon Republicans President Andrew Gabel '15 said. "While there is a gap in the raw numbers, I'd submit there is not a gap in enthusiasm." Republicans on campus employ an open-door stance to facilitate discussion and integrate ideas into the community.

This student participation from both sides of the political spectrum played a large role in the 2012 presidential election. "Kenyon students did an incredible amount of campaigning out in Knox County [and other surrounding areas]," Professor of Political Science John Elliott said.

"People were willing to talk to [canvassing students] and that is sort of important about the county as well," Elliott said.

Knox County has voted primarily Republican for the past 70 years and this trend will most likely continue. "The simplest point is that Knox County is a very conservative area," Elliott said. The 2012 election was no exception. More than 60 percent of the population voted, with 37 percent supporting the president in Knox County. Republican candidate Mitt Romney claimed the rural areas while Obama won the urban centers. In the end, Obama claimed victory in Ohio, edging out Romney by 166,214 votes while holding a slim margin at 50.67 percent to 47.69 percent.

Outside of Gambier, which is generally more Democratic, Knox County is likely to remain in the same political alignment. "Since [the political makeup] of Knox County has stayed the same for 70-plus years ... the odds are they will stay the same for another 20 or 30. Obama is seen by rural Americans as being urban. He's a Chicago guy. He is a city person; he has a city style. Rural America resists that."

As in the 2012 election, energized students helped pass the May 2013 tax levy to fund education projects. "Turnout was very high in the May emergency levy election — Kenyon students came out in droves during finals week to support their community and faculty," Watnick said.

Student involvement, while overwhelmingly Democratic, does have some Republican backing. "It's a bastion of liberalism in a sea of conservatism," said Gabel on the political tides in Gambier and the Knox County area. "We tried our best to go out, get people excited... [we] got to see a different side of Mount Vernon. It was ultimately a defeat for Romney, but it was a victory for the Kenyon College Republicans."

Despite holding different views, Democrats and Republicans on campus said they agree on being passionate and active community members, a staple of the Kenyon education. Ultimately, all of these factors will make for a strong political year at Kenyon.

Professors share memories of first-year experiences

NINA ZIMMERMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

The University of Bologna, the world’s oldest continuously operating university, was founded in 1088. Nearly 1,000 years later, the college experience has changed a lot. But the cliché that the more things change, the more they stay the same rings true in the memories of some members of the Kenyon faculty.

While attending Bryn Mawr College, Professor of Biology Joan Slonczewski also took classes at nearby Haverford College, where she met her future husband Michael Barich, now an assistant professor of classics. “Today’s students are more engaged with society because they have the Internet and are more connected with what’s going on,” Slonczewski said.

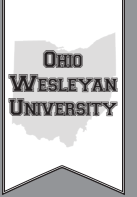
Professor of Humanities Tim Shutt spent his high school years at the rigorous Hotchkiss School, where students regularly spent six to seven hours per night on homework.

When he attended Yale University as an undergraduate, Shutt said he wanted to “kick his heels up” a bit, but his initial arrival in New Haven, Conn. proved less than ceremonious. “They sent me in July

“I wrote my first essay and it was just covered with red marks, and I’m sure it was a horrible grade attached to it, and I was just devastated by that. ... But that has become ... the foundation of all of my writing...”
— PROF. GLENN MCNAIR

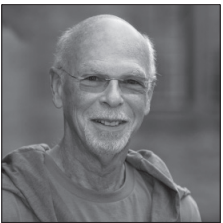


“I didn’t go to college right out of high school. I had spent most of the next year teaching scuba diving down in the Virgin Islands. So I’d been living on my own in a little hut on the beach all winter, and I came back and I went to school.”



— PROF. ROBERT MAUCK

“I hadn’t visited the college, because people didn’t visit colleges back then. I had to take a train from Grand Central [Terminal] that left at like 12 o’clock at night ... I have two big suitcases ... and the college is a mile and a half down the road...”



—PROF. PETER RUTKOFF

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

a course catalog, and a form to fill out, which I did, and showed up on the train, 45 years ago, at 11 o’clock at night,” Shutt said. “It was deserted. I walked from the train station carrying my suitcase, roused security to let me into my empty room, and that was welcome to Yale.”

Shortly before Shutt arrived at Yale, Professor of American Studies Peter Rutkoff had a similar experience when he left his home in New York City to head upstate to St. Lawrence University, a school that calls Montreal, Canada the nearest big city. Rutkoff said he had no idea what he

was getting himself into when he began his journey. “I hadn’t visited the college, because people didn’t visit colleges back then,” Rutkoff said. “I had to take a train from Grand Central [Terminal] that left at like 12 o’clock at night, and my two best friends took me to the train. And so I got off the train, I have two big suitcases ... and the college is a mile and a half down the road, there’s nobody there. I schlepped my suitcases down the street, and I go to some desk in a dorm, and I’m given a key to a room, and I walk into the room, and it’s this single room that’s the size of a

prison cell with a bed on one side and a little teeny sink on the other. And I don’t know a soul. I sat down and I started to cry, thinking, ‘holy shit, what am I doing here?’ So that was my first moment of college; it was the most forlorn experience I’ve ever had.”

The Lords recruited Ohio native and Associate Professor of Biology Robert Mauck to play football. Mauck said he almost went to Kenyon, but deemed the campus too small for him after visiting it. He instead attended Ohio Wesleyan University, where he spent four years on the gridiron for the Battling

Bishops. Football shaped Mauck’s college experience, from the first day he set foot on campus. “I didn’t go to college right out of high school,” Mauck said. “I had spent most of the next year teaching scuba diving down in the Virgin Islands. So I’d been living on my own in a little hut on the beach all winter, and I came back and I went to school.”

Certain classes can have a lasting impact, according to Associate Professor of History Glenn McNair. McNair attended Savannah State University, where he cycled through four different majors and

took three years off to be a police officer before graduating. One English course he took his first semester had a lasting impact. “In high school I thought I was a good writer, like high school students think they actually are,” McNair said. “And this class was just a class of basic composition. ... I wrote my first essay and it was just covered with red marks, and I’m sure it was a horrible grade attached to it, and I was just devastated by that. ... But that has become ... the foundation of all of my writing; from essays straight through to books, I remember the stuff from that class.”

CLASS CLASH

COMPILED BY JULIE FRANCE

Senior Class Total:

1

Junior Class Total:

4

Sophomore Class Total:

1

First-Year Class Total:

3

	Answer	Nicki Krzeminiski '14	Kelsey Hamilton '15	Mark Boniface '16	Morgan Thompson '17
Who is under scrutiny for her performance at the Video Music Awards?	Miley Cyrus	Miley Cyrus	Miley Cyrus	Miley Cyrus	Miley Cyrus
Where did President Decatur attend college?	Swarthmore College (undergrad) and Stanford University (doctorate)	I don't know, but he's really into chemistry.	Stanford	Cornell	Yale
Where will the 2014 Winter Olympics be held?	Sochi, Russia	Beijing	Sochi, Russia	Rome	Russia
Who is the president of Syria?	Bashar al-Assad	I don't know	Assad	I don't know	Assad
Weekly Scores		1	4	1	3

A+E

EDITORS: EMILY SAKAMOTO
AND PAIGE SHERMIS

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPT. 5 | 4:10 P.M.
SPEAKER
DR. REBECCA ABBOTT
THE CAMBRIDGE
MOVEMENT
BEMIS MUSIC ROOMSEPT. 5 | 5:15 P.M.
SPEAKERS
ISMET PRICIC &
BENJAMIN BUSCH
CHEEVER ROOM, FINN HOUSESEPT. 7 | 11:00 A.M.
CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS
STUDENT ACTIVITIES
FAIR
RANSOM LAWNSEPT. 11 | 7:30 P.M.
SPEAKER
RICHARD A.
ROSENGARTEN, K'79
OLIN AUDITORIUM*Real World: Gambier* dramatizes real campus predicamentsEMILY SAKAMOTO
A&E EDITOR

A mandated stop on the First-Year Orientation journey, *Real World: Gambier* attempts to provide key insights into handling different campus situations.

Real World's 2013 production consisted of a 16-person cast that collaboratively wrote their script from a base taken from the previous year's production. The show was staged on Aug. 28.

This year's topics ranged from drug use to roommate dilemmas, though several themes have remained constant throughout the years.

"We're required to cover only the sexual misconduct policy and the Good Samaritan policy," said Greg Cully '14, student co-coordinator of the event.

Though at times cloaked in humor, the gravity of some of the situations was apparent to first years as they rehashed what had stuck with them from the performance.

"I thought it was very funny and they were able to approach some big questions," Lewis

Turley '17 said. "It was a nice segue for the [hall] meeting we had after."

Community Advisor (CA) Elizabeth Norman '16 agreed that her residents understood the severity of the implications that arose onstage as well as the benefits of the resources listed afterwards.

"They thought it was funny ... and they did take it seriously," she said.

First years also said that while at times cheesy and overdramatic, *Real World* portrayed plausible college events.

"I thought the situations were pretty realistic," Jack Clayton '17 said.

That being said, some first years voiced concern that certain issues were skipped.

First year Holloway Cushman '17, for example, expressed disappointment that eating disorders were not covered in the skit.

Since many college students struggle with choosing their own meals day in and day out, at least one student felt this was a necessary topic to be dealt with.

Some first years may



HENRI GENDREAU | COLLEGIAN

Asha McAllister, '15, Carolyn Sowa '16, Tim Jurney '15, Christopher Wilson '16 and Will Quam '14 display stereotypical party behavior during First Year Orientation's *Real World Gambier* production.

have found the experience a little too informative.

"[It was] definitely a lot of information thrown at you at one time," Max Pescherine '17 said. "But I thought it was actually pretty useful."

"I think they do a very good job of balancing humor and seriousness and showing what can happen," CA Ster-

ling Nelson '16 said. "[The first years] got a really good taste of all the resources that are available to them."

Already, some first years have begun to utilize the advisors mentioned during the production.

Hannah Gilman '17, for instance, has already connected with her Peer Counselor (PC). "I talk to my PC all the time.

She's really cool, I like her a lot," she said.

Others simply felt confident in the knowledge that they had the contacts necessary for any situation that may occur.

"I felt like even if I needed to reach some specific person I could always go through my CA," Pescherine said.

While some thought the production re-

dundant or exploding with information, *Real World: Gambier* appeared to positively impact the class of 2017 and guide them into the hands of Kenyon's numerous advisors.

"They were pretty receptive," Discriminatory Advisor (DA) Jinexa Nunez '16 said.

Added Clayton, "By the end of it, I had actually warmed up to it."

MVNU professor to speak on Gothic art, medieval religion

PETER FROST
STAFF WRITER

For Dr. Rebecca Abbott, adjunct professor at Mount Vernon Nazarene University, what began as a summer stuck on campus turned into an introduction to one of her life's major passions.

Spurred on by an empty school and newly acquired free time, Abbott decided to make the most of it: "I went to the library and began looking up the original text of my favorite hymns, and I started noticing that many of the translations had dates from the late 19th century," she said.

Her interest piqued, and she investigated further, eventually leading back to a group of undergraduate students that began what we

"Worship is not just about learning facts about God, but having a particular experience."

Dr. Rebecca Abbott

know today as the Cambridge Movement.

Dr. Abbott's upcoming lecture, titled "The Cambridge Movement and the Reclamation of the Gothic in English Churches," explores the origin, expansion and meaning of the movement in today's society, examining the ways this 19th century dialogue about Gothic art and medieval liturgy can still be felt in modern worship.

The event, which will be held tonight in the Bemis Room of Peirce Hall at 4:10 p.m., will



PHOTO COURTESY OF DR. REBECCA ABBOTT

Dr. Rebecca Abbot, adjunct professor at Mount Vernon Nazarene University, will speak about the Cambridge Movement.

connect the movement to greater themes relating to the Sacrament, beauty and the role of the past in present-day religious expression.

Founded in 1839, the movement began simply as a shared interest among a group of

students in restoring Gothic churches. This project soon evolved into a major cultural moment in British history, marking a revived interest in the art, architecture and culture of the Middle Ages. Led by John Mason Neale,

the group began as an offshoot of the earlier Oxford Movement, individuals that identified themselves as "defenders of God's truth," with the subsequent Cambridge Movement choosing to identify themselves as "defenders of God's beauty."

Tracking the group's movements from 1840 to 1870, Abbott found Neale emerging as her primary area of focus. "John Mason Neale has been such an inspiration," Abbott said. "I've learned through his perseverance what a gift a person can be to the worship of the church."

Subject to persecution for his beliefs, Neale remained a steadfast believer.

Through copious research and readings of secondary sources as

well as Neale's letters, Abbott also discovered that the scholar's interests varied as well, uncovering that he also played a major role in translations of Christmas carols that are still popular today including "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" and "Good King Wenceslas."

"He had a real poetic sense," she said. "He was able to make such beautiful translations that people loved them and they endured."

For Abbott, the lecture serves as an entry point into a dialogue that began hundreds of years ago about the role of beauty and history in modern religion.

"Worship is not just about learning facts about God, but about having a particular experience," Abbott said.

BBQ, bluegrass and beats: music festival merges NC and OH

PAIGE SHERMIS
A&E EDITOR

Ohio and North Carolina are 485 miles apart, but share a distinct culture and culinary flavor.

To celebrate this, the Ohiolina (pronunciation is a portmanteau of the two states) Music Festival is bringing the music and food of the Ohio/North Carolina culture to Mount Vernon next weekend on Saturday, Sept. 14.

The festival was started by Sarah Trafford Koenig and her husband Chris Koenig, a young couple from Ohio who met in North Carolina.

According to Sarah Koenig, Ohio and North Carolina cultures are linked by Interstate 77, a similar history and growth patterns.

"Ohiolina is a folk and bluegrass festival that my husband and I, and a group of people who are passionate about music and this type of music, decided to put on," Sarah Koenig said. "My husband has done some bluegrass festivals in his life. He did two when he was in college — he worked for the Wexner Center for the Arts in Columbus, so he has a lot of experience with arts and putting on large-scale events."

The Appalachian-folk-infused musical lineup includes sets by the Ramshackers, Front Porch Revival,



PHOTO COURTESY OF SARAH KOENIG

The Ohiolina Music Festival takes place on an 85-acre family farm in Mount Vernon. The festival's goal is to combine the cultural traditions of Ohio and North Carolina, with Appalachian bluegrass music and a local barbecue dinner.

Buckles and Boots, the Twin City Buskers and the Mighty Troubadours.

"The different bands are pretty well known — they have great followings in their respective genres," Koenig said.

Buckles and Boots is comprised of Jessi and Brian Maxwell, a husband-and-wife duo who play soft-folk rock music.

"Buckles and Boots is a rugged, primitive, stripped down exploration of the full range of human emotion car-

ried by the powerful, often haunting vocals, melodic guitar and creative use of two-foot stomping and percussion from Jessi accompanied by the driving rhythm of [my] upright bass, banjo and mandolin," Brian Maxwell said.

Professor of Sociology and Rural Life Center Director Howard Sacks was also involved in the development of the festival.

"I met with the festival organizer early in the planning stage to discuss the concept, the reception it would receive

locally, possible artists and to provide some local contacts that might be useful," he said. "I think the festival promises to enrich life in Knox County, and I hope its success results in an annual event."

"[My husband and I] met in Winston-Salem, N.C., and we have quite a family affection for both North Carolina and Ohio," Sarah Koenig said. "We were both from Ohio and living in North Carolina at the time. We found that over time, we were running into

people with North Carolina and Ohio connections that loved barbecue and listening to music. They share a ton in terms of their culture and their growth patterns; if you think of economically, they both have a hugely robust and growing economy."

Tickets for the Ohiolina festival cost \$35 for students and \$45 for general admission.

Admission includes a barbecue dinner provided by the restaurant City Barbeque. Children under the age of 12

will gain free admission.

Koenig is already excited for the event's future.

"It's our 'beta test' year," she said. "This is obviously being built from the ground up. We are looking forward to seeing how it goes, and expanding it and improving it next year and onward."

The Ohiolina festival is sponsored in part by the Community Foundation of Mount Vernon and Knox County. Doors will open at noon, and musical acts run from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

A portion of the proceeds will go to the Community Foundation, which supports education in the arts.

Koenig is confident that the festival's combination of food, music and location will make it a success.

"This is a passion project for us. We are really excited about it. We think it's going to be a great group of musicians. It's a beautiful location — an 85-acre family farm. That makes for some really scenic things to look at and experience when you're listening to music."

The Ohiolina Music Festival will take place at 19260 Hopewell Road, Mount Vernon. For more information on the festival, please visit ohiolina.com, or facebook.com/ohiolina. Tickets are available at <https://ohiolina.ticketbud.com/ohiolina>.

Award-winning authors to read from unconventional works

PAIGE SHERMIS
A&E EDITOR

Ismet Prcic is a Bosnian expatriate whose acclaimed novel *Shards* rocked the fictional memoir genre. Benjamin Busch, a former Marine and actor on the show *The Wire*, took 43 years to write his memoir *Dust to Dust*.

United by their unconventional storytelling means and Great Lakes Colleges Association New Writers Award-winning prose, Prcic and Busch will give readings of their works today at 5:15 p.m. in the Cheever Room in Finn House.

Prcic (pronounced Pur-sick), who now lives in Portland, Ore., won in the fiction category for *Shards*, which was published in 2011.

"[*Shards*] is a complicated book," he said. "It's a story that starts off as a memoir. It's about a Bosnian guy who grows up during the war-time. He is 15 when the war starts, and he is supposed to go to war. He figures a way to get out ... and uses a theatre troupe to escape."

Prcic bends the line between reality and fiction by giving the protagonist his

"I kind of think all my books are about the nature of what is real and what is not. In [*Shards*] you think it's a memoir as a device for people to feel safe, when the fiction part comes in.

Author Ismet Prcic

own name.

"Also, that's how I escaped the war in real life. Most of the time when people start reading it, and when they notice when the character has the same name as the author, they assume it's a memoir," Prcic said.

In *Shards*, Prcic's protagonist starts writing his own memoir.

"His therapist tells him to write everything down. He starts writing his memoir, and he starts writing fiction, and he doesn't know the difference between his memoir and fiction. He creates a character that might be fictional, might be real. It's a parallel story of a person who escapes, and a person who stays in the war and fights it. By the end, you have no clue which character is real," he said.

Busch, of Reed City, Mich., won the award for creative nonfiction for *Dust to Dust: A Memoir*. Busch is also known

for his portrayal of narcotics officer Tony Colicchio on *The Wire* and served in Iraq as a Marine, where he earned a Purple Heart in 2005.

"*Dust to Dust* took me 43 years to write," he said. "It is my experiential manifesto on our passage through time and landscape, the life of memory and presence of the terrestrial elements in our collective story. I wrote it not as a celebration of myself, but to serve as a way for the reader to see their own journey through my eyes. It is a very visual book delivered by a single messenger hoping for transference. The book is about the reader and lays down a defiance of mortality despite the inevitability of death."

Both writers are working on their second books. Prcic's next work, like his first, involves the concept of reality versus fiction.

"I kind of think all my



PHOTO BY MELISSA PRICIC; PHOTO COURTESY OF BENJAMIN BUSCH

Ismet Prcic, left, escaped war-torn Bosnia as a teenager, which he relates in his work *Shards*. Benjamin Busch is a writer, former Marine and actor.

books are about the nature of what is real and what is not. In [*Shards*] you think it's a memoir as a device for people to feel safe, when the fiction part comes in. If I just told the story, people would go, 'Oh, this guy's fake, and I don't have to worry about him,'" Prcic said. "The second book is doing a similar thing — it tells the story about a woman who is a soldier who lost her children. She comes back from the front line and her mother, who was taking care of the children, suffered some sort of mental

breakdown. [The protagonist] is a woman who will never find out what really happened — that's how the real world works. It's this woman's struggle between real life and this story that she invents."

According to Busch, his next work is controversial.

"I am proposing a novel I think New York might be too frightened to buy, [and] finishing a collection of poetry that has eluded perfection for five years, and may best wait to be printed posthumously," he said.

FALL SPORTS PREVIEW

Last fall, the Lords and Ladies saw triumphs and failures, wins and losses, and record-setting finishes. This year, they are back with high hopes and strong team bonds. Here’s what to expect.

COMPILED BY: ESTEBAN BACHELET, JOHN BRAY, REED DICKERSON, BRIAN HESS, RICHARD PERA, ALEX PIJANOWSKI, IAN ROUND, DAISY VANDENBURGH, NINA ZIMMERMAN

MEN’S SOCCER

2012 RECORD: 9W 6L 3T 4TH IN NCAC



MIKE SERBANOIU

HEAD COACH: CHRIS BROWN
CAPTAINS: ANDREW PARMELEE AND LEWIS WILLIAMS-GRAY

After a 9-6-3 season that saw Kenyon men’s soccer place fourth in the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC), Head Coach Chris Brown hopes to cement a place in the top four once again. “We’ve finished top four since 2007,” he said in an interview with Kenyon Sports Connection. “Top four for us is the minimum.”

In the NCAC 2013 preseason coaches’ poll, Kenyon ranks third out of 10 teams. For the Lords, a successful season will depend largely on midfielder Andrew Parmelee ’14, who recently earned an All-Ohio first-team selection for his contributions as a box-to-box player last season. “He’s a force in the midfield,” Assistant Coach Darren Moore said. “When he forces forward, it’s hard for the opposing teams to match that [intensity].”

The Lords return a successful back four from last season but expect some first-years to fill in gaps up top and in the midfield. They continue their quest against Spalding University in Danville, Ky., on Friday, Sept. 6.

2012 RECORD: 7W 8L 2T 6TH IN NCAC

WOMEN’S SOCCER

HEAD COACH: KELLY BRYAN
CAPTAINS: LAUREN WOLFE, BECCA ROMAINE AND ANNA WALLEY

Lauren Wolfe ’14 will save the shots and Becca Romaine ’15 will score the goals. This was the theme of the 2012 season for the women’s soccer team and was of their first two games in 2013. Last season, Romaine scored 13 of the Ladies’ 25 goals, while Wolfe had 57 saves and saw time in the net in all but one of the Ladies’ 17 games.

The Ladies went 7-8-2 and finished sixth in the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) last year. The 2013 campaign started with 2-1 losses to both Wilmington College and Hope College on Aug. 30 and 31, respectively. Romaine scored the only goal against Wilmington and Maggie Smith ’17 scored against Hope. Head Coach Kelly Bryan emphasized, however, that the team is already showing signs of improvement toward the team’s goal of an NCAC championship.

“At the end of it all, we want to compete for the conference championship,” Bryan said. “We want to be competitive in every single game.”



HENRI GENDREAU | COLLEGIAN

FIELD HOCKEY

2012 RECORD: 8W 10L 5TH IN NCAC



HENRI GENDREAU | COLLEGIAN

HEAD COACH: JACQUE DEMARCO
CAPTAINS: SUSIE GURZENDA, SAMMY JOHNSTON AND MADDIE BRESCHI

After a 2012 season in which Kenyon’s field hockey squad went 8-10 overall and 7-7 in conference in Head Coach Jacque DeMarco’s first season, the Ladies look to improve with their added experience. “On-and-off the field, Coach DeMarco in her second year has taken the team to a new level with her emphasis on hard work and camaraderie,” co-captain Susie Gurzenda ’14 wrote in an email.

While the team is young — first years and sophomores comprise the majority of the team — the Ladies are excited about the fresh vivacity they’ve shown thus far. “The dynamic class of 2017 has added great energy and talent to this team, taking us to an exciting competitive level,” Gurzenda wrote. “We have super-talented players all over the field, and it is exciting to see the team working together so well this early in the season.”

Gurzenda’s comments ring true, as the Ladies’ most recent defeat was a 1-0 loss to No. 18-ranked University of Rochester.

“We played the best field hockey Kenyon has played since I’ve been here on Sunday [against Rochester]. We fought hard and were in the game the entire time,” DeMarco wrote. “I expect to see that play the rest of the season. We have a very dynamic and versatile group, and I have great expectations for this year.”

The Ladies hope their strong play will translate into some victories when they play next at the Frostburg State University tournament in Maryland on Sept. 7.

CROSS COUNTRY

WOMEN'S: 2ND AT 2012 NCAC CHAMPIONSHIP;
MEN'S: 8TH AT 2012 NCAC CHAMPIONSHIP



HENRI GENDREAU | COLLEGIAN

HEAD COACH: DUANE GOMEZ

CAPTAINS: TORY BRUCH, JENNA WILLETT, KERRY STRADER, BRYCE RAZ AND BEN TANOFF

As summer turns to fall, the Kenyon men's and women's cross country teams look to build off their successful 2012 seasons and carry that drive into 2013.

Head Coach Duane Gomez, who begins his 31st season as head coach of the program, said he expects great things from his teams this year. Both teams return the bulk of last year's key runners, and in 2012 the current sophomore class featured some of the best first-year runners in the program's history. Many seniors will also play important leadership roles.

The two teams opened the season Aug. 30 in a home tri-meet against Mount Vernon Nazarene University and Ohio Wesleyan University (OWU). Although the meet went unscored, Sam Lagasse '16 finished first in the men's division with his time of 16:22.4, and Natalie Plick '16 placed first overall in the women's field with her time of 14:32.4. Plick's top time set both a meet record and a course record, and earned her this week's North Coast Athletic Conference Women's Cross Country Runner of the Week award.

Both teams are scheduled to compete next on Saturday, Sept. 7 at the Great Lakes Colleges Association Championship hosted by OWU in Delaware, Ohio.

5TH AT 2012 NCAC CHAMPIONSHIP

GOLF

HEAD COACH: GRANT WALLACE

CAPTAINS: ALEX BLICKLE

Heading into a new season, the Kenyon golf team hopes to continue to build off of the experience its young members gained last year. The Lords played well last fall, finishing third in a field of 10 teams and fifth in a field of nine teams. Building upon the early success, the Lords continued their strong play during the spring season, putting themselves in the position to finish in second place at the Muskingum University Invitational, but were disqualified because of illegal scorecards. The Lords later completed their season by finishing in fifth place in the North Coast Athletic Conference tournament.

The Lords only lost two members from last year's squad and added three first years to the roster. While their roster includes newcomers, the Lords still enter the season with more experience.

"We expect our leaders from last year to improve their performance, show our freshmen what it takes to win, and ultimately keep improving on the program," Head Coach Grant Wallace said. "I expect to see us at the top of the conference, like last year."

Alex Bickle '15 and Jake Fait '16 are two of the returning leaders for Wallace. Both played well down the stretch last season and competed in tournaments throughout the summer.

The quest towards a conference championship begins this weekend in Lexington, Ky., where the Lords will compete in the Transylvania University Fall Invitational.



JOHN EVANS

FOOTBALL

2012 RECORD: 6W 4L TIED 4TH IN NCAC



JOHN EVANS

HEAD COACH: CHRIS MONFILETTO

CAPTAINS: REED FRANKLIN, DAVID BRACKETT AND SAM MCQUISTON

The Kenyon football program is coming off the greatest turnaround in its 122-year history. After snapping a 24-game losing streak last September, the 2012 Lords went on to finish 6-4, just a win away from a conference title and National Collegiate Athletic Association playoff berth. After the bitter season-ending loss to archrival Denison University, Head Coach Chris Monfiletto told his distraught players: "Remember this feeling, because it's never going to happen again."

The 2013 campaign represents a struggle to finish what last year's team could not. The team is out to prove that 2012 was no fluke, and it's a tall order. The North Coast Athletic Conference mandated that, beginning this year, all conference teams will face each other, and it will feel like the season is on the line each and every week — because it probably is. Kenyon will play perennial conference powerhouses Wabash College and Wittenberg University, both of whom the Lords did not play last season, in back-to-back weeks in October.

The great unknown is the quarterback position, where Monfiletto has not named a starter for Saturday's opener at Allegheny College. Transfer student Jake Bates '15 and last year's backup Max Boyd '16 have been competing for the starting job since the beginning of fall camp, but neither has ever started a collegiate game under center.

The Lords open their season this Saturday in Meadville, Pa. in a conference matchup against Allegheny College at 1 p.m.

2012 RECORD: 3W 19L 9TH IN NCAC

VOLLEYBALL

HEAD COACH: KATIE CHARLES

CAPTAINS: MARYJO SCOTT, SIERRA DeLEON AND HANNAH SHANK

After a tough 2012 season, the Kenyon College volleyball team began their fall season this past weekend at a tournament in Columbus hosted by Capital University and Otterbein University. The Ladies were not able to find the winning way, dropping all four matches during the two-day tournament. Despite the rough start, the Ladies showed some strength on the court last weekend, especially in their final match against Defiance College.

"We played really well, possibly the best we've had here at Kenyon since I've been here," Head Coach Katie Charles said.

This season, returning co-captains Sierra DeLeon '14 and MaryJo Scott '14 look to keep up their stellar play as the core of the Ladies' offensive capabilities, while fellow co-captain Hannah Shank '15 looks to remain the anchor of the Ladies' defense.

The Ladies also return Ana Maricic '14, the former North Coast Athletic Conference Newcomer of the Year, and Sandhya Bhasker '14, who was abroad last season. On Sept. 7, the Ladies will play next at the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology tournament in Terre Haute, Ind.



JOHN EVANS

The Collegian SPORTS

Thursday, September 5, 2013



HENRI GENDREAU | COLLEGIAN

Prof. Elly Smith ended up at the KAC because she wanted to play the sport she loves. Now, she's one of several community members helping Kenyon athletics soar higher this fall.

On the court, calculus and community collide

NINA ZIMMERMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

As soon as the clock strikes four, she heads down the hill from her classroom to the Kenyon Athletic Center where coaches and players alike notice her energy as she dives for volleyballs far out of her reach. No, she's not one of the players, but rather one of the coaches.

Calculus cannot compute the impact that Assistant Professor of Mathematics Elly Smith has made since she began assisting the Kenyon volleyball team over a year and a half ago.

Smith initially joined the Ladies in 2011 to serve as an extra player during scrimmages. This season she became an official coach, cementing her already powerful presence with the team. Smith's role on the team has transformed from passionate volunteer to volunteer assistant coach.

The daughter of a high school volleyball coach, Smith played both volleyball and tennis while earning her Bachelor of Science degree at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Wash. After relocating to Fort Collins, Colo. for graduate school at Colorado State University, Smith resumed playing volleyball in adult leagues while simultaneously playing on Colorado State's club tennis team.

After joining the Kenyon math department in 2010, Smith confronted the challenge of finding a place to play

the sport she grew up with. "Mount Vernon is a small town, so there's not a lot of volleyball going on, and so really I just came to the [Kenyon] team looking for some volleyball," Smith said.

Shortly after arriving in Gambier, Smith jumped at the chance to introduce herself to Head Coach Katie Charles and offer to help out with practices. Smith began helping the Ladies scrimmage during spring practices, when the team is usually undermanned because seniors no longer play and juniors go abroad. The two entities, professor and team, clicked in motion like a powerful serve. Smith said when she returned to the court with the Ladies, it really hit her how much she had missed volleyball.

Defining Smith's precise function is much like attempting one of the complex equations she teaches, especially when contextualized with the roles of Charles and Assistant Coach Calvin Bruce.

"It's a different perspective to have," MaryJo Scott '14 said. "She's not as vocal as our coaches obviously, but she does give encouragement and she works really hard, which makes all of us be like, 'Alright, if Elly's working that hard, we need to step our game up and work really hard in the gym too.'... She fills a role that [Bruce and Charles] don't fill. ... It's different because she's on the court with us."

"Her interaction with them is

definitely much more personal, and I think that definitely is one of the biggest pieces of why Elly is good for our program," Charles said. "Elly has that ability to kind of bridge the gap."

Co-captain Sierra DeLeon '14, a four-year starter who has watched Smith since she began playing with the Ladies, called Smith's presence in the gym "a breath of fresh air" in the midst of a rough patch for the team. "When she would come and play with us she would dive for balls and roll all over the floor and be really into it," DeLeon said. "And she'd be like, 'Guys, let's go.' She would go for everything and it was just like, wow, we haven't seen this in a while, like, this is something we need to model after."

"Like most faculty here, I find it a challenge to balance my professional life with my hobbies," Smith said. "And so it was really exciting to come back to something that I love that I hadn't seen in a long time."

While balancing her work schedule around volleyball practice, Smith felt the simultaneous enrichment of her own experience as a faculty member at Kenyon, which prides itself on its close-knit community devoted to cultivating the experience of its students.

Direct community involvement in athletics is not something that typically characterizes college athletics, even in Division III. Rather, it is a result of

small liberal arts colleges like Kenyon, which emphasize the all-around development of students.

Smith said her involvement in the Kenyon volleyball program is one example of faculty support for the on-field efforts of students. A group of professors, including Smith, occasionally scrimmages against the men's and women's tennis teams. Professor of Humanities Tim Shutt's involvement in the swimming program spans decades.

Shutt and Smith are just two examples of Kenyon community members who prove they aren't afraid to devote their time and energy. After swimming at Kenyon for four years, Associate Director of Admissions Adrienne Amador '09 joined the College's admissions team and spent some time volunteering with the Mount Vernon High School swim team before returning as an extra hand on deck for her alma mater.

"I think faculty and staff members are contributing to the greater community above and beyond clearly defined responsibilities in any of our jobs," Amador said. "That seems to be very 'Kenyon' to me, that people would want to join in and participate in ways that they find interesting and fulfilling. And for me, that's giving back to a swimming program."

Head Swimming Coach Jess Book has a lot of experience within the Ke-

nyon athletic community, from his days as a swimmer under then-Head Coach Jim Steen to his current role at the helm of the same program for which he once competed. In addition to Amador, Book named several other community members who have had an impact on the swim team with their time and presence, including Athletic Director Peter Smith and Director of Donor Relations Kristina Caldwell '84, whose daughter Kellyn Caldwell '12 swam for the Ladies. Book added that a few years ago, he branched out into the community by volunteering with the Outdoors Pre-Orientation program.

"The professors who choose to teach here and the staff that choose to work here, they do so in part because they believe in that kind of community," Book said. "And so when they have opportunities to give back in other ways, they're typically quick to jump at them. It's just nice to connect with people in different environments and share a different side of yourself."

Charles said that she sees the same spirit in Smith. "I think her energy and how much she cares about the students and how much she cares about the success of everything here from academics to athletics is really nice," Charles said. "It's been fantastic to have somebody who believes in the overall mission of academics and athletics, understands where it fits."