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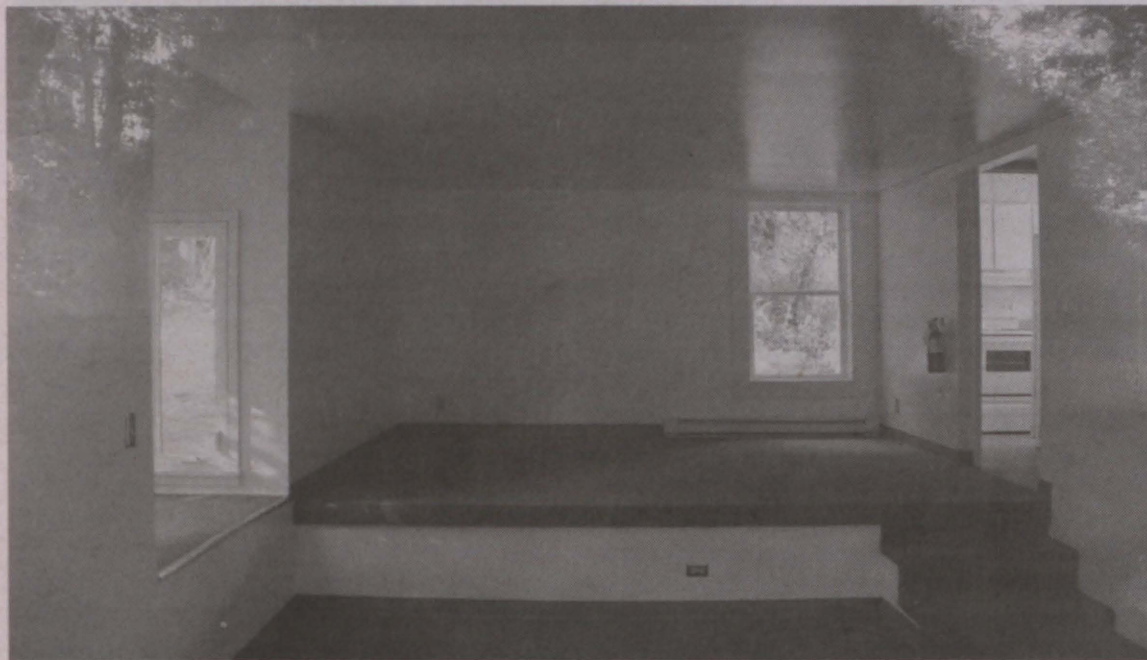
Milks Renovated, House 'Honors' Seniors

BY IRENE WILBURN
Lead Copy Editor

In early August, Kenyon College purchased the Morgan Apartments on Duff Street, formerly known as the Duff Street Apartments and nicknamed "Milk Cartons" due to their appearance. The residences were renovated in preparation for the academic year, and five of the ten are currently occupied, according to Assistant Dean of Students for Housing and Residential Life Alicia Dugas.

Last spring, the *Collegian* reported that the former owner of the Duff Street Apartments, Robert Rauzi, would not rent to Kenyon students for the 2009-10 academic year ("Milk Cartons Not Rented to Students," April 16, 2009). With more students living on campus this year and the largest first-year class in Kenyon history, the College faced a housing crunch over the summer, according to Dugas.

"Around early July ... there were more than 20 students who did not have housing," Morgan Apartments Community Advisor Mo Hamad '10 said. College officials began discussing



The interior of a Morgan Apartment, formerly "Milks 10."

WESLEY KEYSER

the purchase of the property in June, but it was not until late July, "when the College saw how tight the housing crunch still was [that] the talks were brought back to the table," Hamad said. The official decision and legal paperwork was completed about five weeks ago, after the College obtained a cost assessment

that included remodeling and safety measures and received approval from the Board of Trustees, according to Dugas. "Many people from the Business and Finance Offices as well as the President's Office ... decided the best option was to purchase the Morgan Apartments to ensure plenty of spaces for all of our stu-

dents," she said. Each apartment offers two single rooms and one double.

According to Dugas, upon purchase, most apartments were in need of a transformation. "Most apartments received ... new kitchen cabinets, some new kitchen appliances [including a] fridge and full stove, new carpet, new

drywall, all new paint, new windows, new doors and brand new bedroom furniture. The finished apartments are in great shape," Dugas said via e-mail.

"There is no resemblance between the 'Milks' and the Morgan Apartments," Hamad said. "Obviously, these apartments were not built from scratch. However, thousands of dollars have been spent ... on renovations."

The apartments' quick purchase and last-minute remodeling and repairs left work still to be done as the academic year began. "We are simply working with Maintenance to finish some last-minute facilities concerns like screens for the windows and adding air conditioners to the third floor rooms in each apartment," Dugas said. "Finally, the path leading up to Acland Street from the apartments is getting steps installed for safety."

Currently, four apartments are occupied by students and one is occupied by Marjorie Trueblood-Gamble, assistant director of multicultural affairs and admissions, and her family. Trueblood-Gamble had already moved into the Morgan Apartments when

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Health Center Prepares to Treat H1N1 Virus

Ill Students Told to Self-Isolate

BY LINDSAY MEANS
News Editor

The Kenyon College Health Center has already identified and treated several cases of the H1N1 strain of influenza A and is preparing for many more. According to Nurse Practitioner and Director of Health Services Kim Cullers, the first few cases on campus occurred in mid-August. "Now that we are aware that the virus is on campus, we will no longer be testing individuals for H1N1 per CDC recommendations," Cullers said. "[We] are assuming that those students who suddenly develop fever, cough, chills and headache are likely experiencing H1N1 and [they will be] treated accordingly."

David Gold '10, one of the first students to be diagnosed with "swine flu," arrived at Kenyon on Aug. 17 and tested positive for H1N1 on Aug. 19. Gold said he discovered he had swine

flu when his friends told him about the Health Center's e-mail concerning an infected student.

Cullers said that the flu has been mild so far, especially in comparison to last year's flu outbreak. "The seasonal influenza ... during the months of January and February was far worse in terms of severity and recovery times," Cullers said. "Most students [with H1N1] are feeling well enough to attend classes and resume normal activities within three to four days."

The Health Center is preparing for a large increase in

"The seasonal influenza ... was far worse [than H1N1] in terms of severity and recovery times."

- Kim Cullers

cases "now that all the students have returned and are living in such close quarters," Cullers said. "We have been working with other departments — administration, residential life, faculty, athletics and maintenance, as well as local health officials — to be well-prepared."

After his positive test for the

see FLU, page 4

Market, Kenyon Inn Accept K-Card

BY AUGUST STEIGMEYER
News Editor

Starting this academic year, the K-Card can be used at two additional venues on campus: the Village Market and the Kenyon Inn. Expanding the use of K-Cards, which were already accepted by the Kenyon Bookstore and Kenyon Athletic Center's Xtraction, "gives students more payment options," and "when students use the K-Card with Gambier merchants, it helps to support the local economy," said Chief Business Officer Mark Kohlman.

"Since now you can use it at the Market — get Market Dogs with your K-Card — you don't have to worry about having actual cash," said Jonathan Meyers '10, president of Student Council.

The K-Card cannot be used to purchase alcohol, cigarettes or lottery tickets.

"It was a conscious decision on our part to make the switch," said Bob Tier, owner of the Village Market. "We did it to help out you guys, the students, during these tough economic times."

For some students, the switch has not been entirely desirable, however. When Trudy Andrzejewski '12 went to the Market last Sunday evening, "the [checkout] line went all the way around to the deli counter, and the guy at the register was saying that it was because the new card reader takes so long," she said. "It seems like [the Market] would

be making more money with the K-cards, but I think if I had to choose between a shorter line and being able to use my K-Card, I'd go with the shorter line."

"Merchants make the decision to sign up," Kohlman said. "There is a cost to the merchant for signing up, just as there is a cost when they accept credit cards. I have invited all Gambier merchants and will continue to offer them the option. It is a simple process, so if they decide they want to participate, it only takes about two weeks to get fully set up."

MiddleGround is one business in downtown Gambier that has not signed up for the program, but owner Margaret Lewis said it is a possibility for the future. "If it's something that is going to impact us or impact the students, then we would certainly consider taking the K-Card," she said.

Lewis said that MiddleGround's decision not to join the K-Card system was not a conscious one. "When

the College had the meeting on it we weren't around, so we couldn't attend the meeting and we weren't approached outside that meeting to join in," she said.

"The K-Card has been around for several years, but it hasn't been something that students have been using well," Lewis said. She said she did not think it was vital to have a K-Card option at MiddleGround, which already allows students to open an account.

Last November, when Kohlman started the process of K-Card changes, he received several inquiries from students about expanding the K-Card. Kohlman selected Off-Campus Advantage, a company that manages the use of student account cards with outside vendors, to support the new K-Card program. "When I got the details about how this [Off-Campus] program worked, I made a proposal to several Gambier merchants and they were interested

see K-CARD, page 4

"If I had to choose between a shorter line ... and my K-Card, I'd go with the shorter line."

- Trudy Andrzejewski

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Milks: College Spends 'Thousands' to Redeem 'Bad Reputation'

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the College decided to purchase the property, but she said she is optimistic about the situation. "I don't foresee too many problems living with the students," she said. "I know that they were handpicked, and I also have Res-Life experience in which I lived in the residence halls with students for three years. Students are the reason why I chose the job that I have, so hopefully it will all work out." She said, however, that she is glad a community advisor will also be living there so she will not "have to be the nagging neighbor."

Dugas said that Trueblood-Gamble "has agreed to help provide a professional staff presence in what traditionally was a non-College-owned space used for large, all-campus, unregistered parties."

When and how the five apartments still under renovation will be filled has not been decided. The College will reserve "one or two apartments ... in case of emergencies," Hamad said. "There is a chance the other apartments will be filled in the spring semester, since there is a larger group of Kenyon students going abroad in the fall. Nothing has been set in stone."

According to Dugas, the Morgan Apartments are currently senior-only "honors" housing, though the specific application process and factors on which selection will be based are still undetermined. The Housing and



The exteriors of the Morgan Apartments have been refurbished and repainted.

WESLEY KEYSER

Dining Committee will advise Housing and Residential Life on how to fill the remaining apartments this year and on an organized way of selecting residents for future years, she said.

"An idea was to provide the Morgan Apartments as an incentive for students pursuing honors in their field," Hamad

said. Dugas suggested that selection would be based on lifestyle as well as on academic achievement.

According to Dugas, another change the College considers necessary is the "bad reputation of 'Milks,' especially with the surrounding community members. However, with the proper

title — Morgans — the para- and professional staff members living there now, and with [the Office of Housing and Residential Life's] diligence in the upkeep of these apartments, we are confident the adjustment in attitude regarding the Morgan Apartments will not take very long," she said.

"These apartments, once fully renovated, will actually be one of the nicest housing options available to any student," Dugas said. "They are far enough away from campus while still being close to important areas for students: academic buildings, Peirce, the KAC. ... These apartments offer large common rooms, large bedrooms, the largest kitchens on campus in each apartment, storage, great closet space, nice bathrooms, new carpet, large windows for natural light, outdoor patio space and nearby parking."

"I am really enjoying living here," said Samantha Turner '10, a resident of the Morgan Apartments. "It's nice to be away from dorm life."

According to Hamad, all current Morgan residents are of legal drinking age. He said that although he anticipates "some partying," he expects that party hosts "will respect the residents of Gambier who live in very close vicinity."

In Morgan Apartments, students can host closed parties with "as many people as will fit in the apartment," said Turner.

Still, some former residents of the apartments resent the College's decision. Bryan Yelvington '09, who lived there from 2007 to 2009, said, "Milk Cartons allowed students to gain independence on a level that you can't get living in dorm housing." He called the purchase an "ignorant decision by the administration" that took away "an important part of [his] Kenyon experience."

Gund Commons Lounge to Replace Pub, Grab-n-Go

BY LINDSAY MEANS
News Editor

Changes to campus for the 2009-10 academic year include the College's removal of the Grab-n-Go program in Gund and AVI's decision to no longer serve food in the Peirce Pub.

Grab-n-Gone

According to Student Council President Jonathan Meyers '10, Grab-n-Go was "a temporary solution for when people would eat in Ernst and needed something North." Now that Grab-n-Go is gone, however, North Campus will not be without dining options for long. A student lounge in Gund Commons nearing completion will have several vending machines with a variety of more substantive

food options, including salads and sandwiches pre-made by AVI. The lounge, which will be located in what was formerly Gund Served, will be "a fully-functioning open space on North Campus — a place to study, grab a snack or hang out with your friends," according to Meyers. In addition, the lounge should be open nearly 24 hours. "Twenty-four hours is ideal, but it will at the very least be open later than other spaces on campus," said Meyers.

"The space has completely been repainted and will hopefully be up and running within a month," Meyers said. "The furniture's been picked out, and now it's just a matter of when it gets delivered. ... Then we're just looking at what vending machines we want, in terms of food options."

Bree Payne '11, a Caples resident, said she is looking forward to

having a lounge available.

"The computer lab is fine if you're just doing work, but if you want food, or if you want to hang out, there isn't a lot on North Campus," she said. "It'll be really nice to have something that's open later, but where you won't distract people who are trying to study."

Philander's Pub

Philander's Pub, which reopened last year, after a long period of construction and renovations, will no longer serve food; instead, it will function solely as an open space.

"I know for a fact that it's going to be utilized a lot more," Meyers said. "Now student groups can bring in their own food and not have to cater through AVI. We mistakenly said that groups can bring in their

own alcohol, but if you want alcohol, it still has to be through AVI.

"[AVI] is offering a party menu, which will have things like chips and dip and quesadillas, and they will also provide bartenders, so it'll be fairly easy to host events there," Meyers said. There is no longer a facilities fee, so the process for reserving the Pub will be the same as reserving a residence lounge or Weaver Cottage, according to Meyers.

"I think you'll see a lot more events happening in Peirce itself," he said. "It was built to be our student center and hasn't really been used that way, so hopefully it'll be used

more frequently."

"I had a couple of meatball subs there, but other than that, I didn't really go," Victor Nininger '12 said. "I don't know that I'll go now, but I guess it's good that they aren't wasting money."

"I feel like the Pub has no purpose anymore," said Nick Loud '11. "Before, I feel at least they tried, and some people used it. Now, if it's just

"I feel like the Pub has no purpose anymore."

- Nick Loud

a place to hang out, what purpose do you have to go down there other than watching TV and playing pool? I think organizations might use it for things, but I don't know if more students will use it, especially now that there isn't food."

Your Article Here.

E-mail meansl@kenyon.edu

College to Charge for Weaver Bedroom Rentals

BY AUGUST STEIGMEYER
News Editor

The College is instituting a new room fee policy for Weaver Cottage that will earn money to pay for upkeep costs. Under the new policy, each bed in Weaver will cost 40 dollars per night, according to Coordinator of Campus Events Scheduling Lorie Shults. "We're going to try and recoup some of the monies that have been spent on the laundry, linens, wear and tear on the furniture and cleaning service."

Shults said the College is working to repair damage and prevent future problems at Weaver. "Many years ago, Weaver was a special place and we kept it in tip-top shape over the years," Shults said. "When Peirce went down and we didn't have enough space for students, then Weaver got [more use]. Now we're going to try and go back to keeping it more pristine and keeping it in better shape."

Despite an increased focus on the restoration of Weaver, nothing has changed regarding its use for parties, according to Shults. "There will be times when there is an event going on there and we will close off the bedrooms, but as of right now, unless things get out of hand, there will be parties in there."

Weaver has suffered damage over the past few years, but large numbers of people using the building frequently prevented the College from linking the damage to any particular person or group. Repair costs so far have come out of the Weaver budget, Shults said.

The College aims to restore Weaver to its original use, Shults said. "Originally it wasn't [used] so much unless we had a special guest come in from out of town or ... for special dinners, more formal things," she said. "We're going to keep a little better eye on it, returning it to the splendor it once had."

"At one point there was a policy that you couldn't have an alcoholic party in there unless it was wine and we kind of moved away from that, especially since Peirce went down," Shults said. "Now that Peirce is back up, we're going to try and control it a little better. ... I'm not saying that we're going to stop there being beer in there, but we're going to try to make sure the people in there are doing it a little more responsibly."

Some physical changes have already been initiated. Over the summer, Maintenance cleaned Weaver and repainted the inside. "I foresee [renovation] down the road if we can prove [to the College] that we can maintain it and restore it to its original uses," Shults said.

If the College decides to renovate Weaver, money would come out of the Weaver budget, which "has been in the red for some time," according to Shults. "We sent out all the sheets to be cleaned; they are not cleaned [by Kenyon staff]. We wanted to make sure that they were good and clean and we still want to keep that service but the price of that, like everything else, has gone up."

In order to reserve the Weaver bedrooms, students should contact Shults and provide basic information, including the names of guests and their contact information, an account number, cash or check payment and dates of arrival and departure.

— Lindsay Means

News Briefs

Bookstore Manager Resnick '91 Resigns

Hugh Resnick '91, former general manager of the Bookstore, resigned effective Aug. 27, according to the Office of Public Affairs.

"Nobody has been appointed as interim manager yet," said Bookstore Operations Manager Yvonne Farson. "We're expecting that [Chief Business Officer Mark Kohlman] will appoint someone soon." While it is currently one of the Bookstore's busiest times of the year, things are still going smoothly, according to Farson. "There were three

managers that reported to the general manager, so everyone is still reporting to their normal manager. Right now, we're just trying to get through the rush," she said. "Other than that, everything the Bookstore staff knows is what the rest of the school was told in that e-mail."

The school has not released a reason for Resnick's departure. In an e-mail, Kohlman said that he could not comment on "personnel matters," and President S. Georgia Nugent was unavailable for comment.

— Sarah Friedman

Mount Vernon Resident Arrested on Charges of Public Indecency, Trespassing

On Saturday, Aug. 29, around 5:00 p.m., a Mount Vernon man was arrested outside the Kenyon Bookstore on charges of public indecency and trespassing, according to an all-student e-mail sent by the Office of Campus Safety that evening. According to Director of Campus Safety Bob Hooper, the man had "a history of inappropriate behavior" and had been previously arrested.

"He'd just watch women walking up and down the sidewalk" while sitting in his van, Hooper said. According to Hooper, Campus Safety reported the man to Sheriff David Barber, and Deputy Sheriff Courtney Biggs arrived on the scene to arrest the man. He was held in jail overnight, Hooper said.

The Knox County Sheriff's Office could not be reached for comment.

— Sarah Friedman

MiddleGround Cuts Dinner Hours

Understaffing Temporarily Limits Dining Options



In MiddleGround, Kenyon students enjoy beverages but no food after 4:00 p.m.

WESLEY KEYSER

BY SARAH FRIEDMAN
Editor-in-Chief

MiddleGround, one of Gambier's few non-industrial dining venues, has continued operating on its summer schedule into the academic year, resulting in a significant decrease in its regular food-serving hours. The café, which in past academic years has served coffee, specialty drinks, baked goods and meals until midnight, now closes its kitchen at 4:00 p.m. After that time, only drinks, baked goods and soup are available.

The new schedule, which provoked surprised and often hostile reactions from Kenyon students, is a necessary but temporary change, according to Joel Gunderson, MiddleGround owner.

"It wasn't a strategic decision," he said. "We just honestly got caught in a crazy numbers crunch at the end of the summer. ... For us to run our schedules fully, we need eight cooks. Right now we have three."

According to Gunderson, regular hours will return as early as next week "if everything falls in line accordingly."

The struggle to staff

"My employee workforce has an almost constant turnover," Gunderson said.

According to Gunderson, many cooks work one-year stints at MiddleGround, and this year, in addition to the usual employee turnover, one woman who had been working at MiddleGround since its inception suddenly stopped working due to health problems. Vit Streska, a former cook, left MiddleGround during the summer to become manager of the Gambier Grill.

MiddleGround has hired several Knox County residents as cooks, including two last spring, but their experience has been in restaurants very different from MiddleGround and they "can't exactly get the job done here," according to Gunderson. "I've had some people that have showed up with five different Knox County restaurants on their resumes and literally do not know how to dice vegetables," he said.

Scheduling also makes hiring locals difficult because to accommodate student demands, MiddleGround must have longer hours during the academic year; during breaks there are fewer shifts

to go around.

Gunderson said he feels "terribly guilty" when there is not enough work for employees who rely on their MiddleGround paychecks.

Despite the current understaffing, "we're very hopeful that we can go back to our regular hours soon," Gunderson said. One new, experienced cook is scheduled to arrive Sept. 3 from Pittsburgh. He is a student taking a year off from school and was looking for a job in Gambier, where his girlfriend lives, according to Gunderson. "He called right at the time when I'm desperate."

In the past, Gunderson has hired Kenyon students as cooks "and it's worked out great," he said. "It's always good for me to have some people who operate on the Kenyon calendar." Cooking experience helps, he said, but "I've taken some blank-slate people and gotten them up to speed very quickly."

"The best case scenario for me is I hire a freshman and they cook for me for four years part-time," Gunderson said.

Reactions

In person and by e-mail, students have responded to the change. An all-student e-mail sent Tuesday urged students to e-mail MiddleGround "because the more outrage they see, the more likely they are to relent and realise [sic] that this is simply a BAD idea."

"People have made it very clear that they would like to have food later," Gunderson said. "Some of the responses have been passionate, to say the least. ... I would be horribly embarrassed and appalled if my child ever spoke to any other human being that way. ... I'm not certain how people think they can enact positive change by insulting people."

Customers were "screaming profanities when there were small children at the counter," he said.

Misinformation about MiddleGround's decision fueled anger and confusion among students, some of whom used all-stu to denounce the move as a ploy to increase business for the Village Inn, which Gunderson and his wife, Margaret Lewis, partially own.

"I was told [of the reason for the change] so recently that I assumed what everyone else thought, that they were trying to promote business at the VI,"

said Cody Shankman '12, a MiddleGround employee since the spring. "It was a kind of rumor that even some of the workers here were mentioning to each other."

Gunderson informed his employees of the scheduling decision on Tuesday, Sep. 1, according to Shankman.

Other students also assumed MiddleGround was facing financial troubles. "It seems like the VI is being favored in the business plan," said Brian Henderson '10, a frequenter of MiddleGround. "I thought it was recession-based."

Gunderson denied financial trouble, however. "I think the Gambier economy is within a bubble and somewhat insulated from the larger economy," he said.

He also denied the accusation that he was sacrificing MiddleGround business to promote the VI.

"We run [MiddleGround and the VI] as completely separate businesses," he said, "and at the VI we have partners too, so we can't just lump everything together. We have to run as completely separate corporate entities."

Without MiddleGround dinner...

"It's definitely not something people should be annoyed about because you can't do anything," said Kyra Mirante '10, another frequenter of MiddleGround. Nevertheless, she said, "It sucks because the food [at MiddleGround], I think, it's better than at the VI, at least from what I've experienced. It's different; it's organic; it's fresh."

That MiddleGround is now closed for dinner is "a huge deal because the hours [at Peirce] are so early," said Mirante. "The deli isn't open for dinner [past Peirce hours]; we could go to the VI, but that's more of a sit-down [place]."

"I think they'd probably make more money off dinner than lunch," she said. "I eat here way more for dinner than for lunch."

Gunderson did not consider starting serving food later instead of stopping earlier, he said. "I feel like we're a coffeehouse-café. We have to do coffee in the morning. It would be a little incongruous if we weren't open in the morning."

"We are actively working on it, so people should not get their knickers all bunched up," Gunderson said.

Flu: Cullers offers precautions

From page 1

virus, Gold was given a flu kit and told to stay “in my room and away from others, until a day after my body temperature returned to its normal level,” he said. “The quarantine process was pretty short — I felt better the next day and was allowed to leave my room the day after that.”

According to Cullers, the Health Center’s preparations include procuring empty student housing in order to provide a quarantined area for students to be isolated while recovering; mounting hand-sanitizer dispensers around campus, including in residence halls and academic buildings; and updating the Health Center Web site with information on the virus and procedures for students to follow if they suspect they have the virus.

According to Cullers, students can best protect themselves from the flu by washing their hands frequently, avoiding shared drinking glasses and utensils, avoiding touching their faces, noses and mouths, eating healthy food, exercising and getting the right amount of sleep.

For Sara Nash ’11, these precautions may not be enough. “I tend to get sick really easily, even when I follow all the instructions — washing my hands, drinking lots of water, getting sleep. Even though it’s basically a regular flu virus, the fact that it’s so contagious is scary,” she said.

While the usual seasonal flu and H1N1 share many similar characteristics, according to Cullers, the H1N1 strain tends to affect those who are not as susceptible to the seasonal flu.

“H1N1 influenza is affecting younger, healthier people,” she said. “The symptoms are often the same — fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue — however, a significant number of people with H1N1 are also reporting vomiting and diarrhea, which usually isn’t prevalent with regular flu ... Also, seasonal flu is usually around from November until April, [but] the H1N1 flu is coming in waves, each one lasting about two months.”

According to Cullers, students who think they may have swine flu must “self-isolate.” Students who suspect they have swine flu should stay in their rooms and notify their professors as well as the Health Center, but they should not go outside, Cullers said.

“A lot of my professors have



Hand sanitizer dispensers have been installed around campus. WESLEY KEYSER

said they’re waiving their usual attendance policies,” Logan Donaldson ’10 said. “Even some of the stricter professors, who usually need a note from the Health Center at the very least, have just said to stay in our rooms if we think we’re getting sick. Everyone’s pretty serious about swine flu.”

According to Cullers, the Health Center will “try to arrange alternate living arrangements, provide flu kits that contain temperature strips, Tylenol, Motrin, hand sanitizer and tissues and monitor the status of the stu-

dent via telephone calls and e-mails as they are recovering.” On the Health Center Web site, there is a “Symptoms and Self-Care Strategies” link that provides further recommendations.

According to the Center for Disease

Control, whose recommendations the Health Center is following, an H1N1 vaccine should be available this fall. “We will have the H1N1 vaccine as soon as it becomes available,” Cullers said. “When available, we’ll send campus e-mails alerting the student body and staff of where flu clinics will take place.” Until then, she recommends being immunized for the normal seasonal flu virus as well; this vaccine will be available in October, about a month before the H1N1 vaccine

is due.

Cullers also mentioned the prevalence of rumors and misconceptions surrounding H1N1. “One common misconception regarding H1N1 is the notion that students ... will need the drug Tamiflu to recover,” she said. “Most students who come down with the flu will recover without the need for antiviral medications ... only those people who are at high risk of complications from the flu ... or those who are hospitalized should be offered Tamiflu.” In addition, the widespread use of Tamiflu may cause virus mutation and drug resistance, Cullers said.

Despite the many precautions the College is taking, Cullers said she encourages students not to worry. It may be too late for some students, though: “I’m pretty freaked out,” Carl Kriss ’10 said. “It probably doesn’t help that every other e-mail is about how if we feel sick at all, we should lock ourselves in our rooms and not have any contact with everyone.”

According to Cullers, “government officials are preparing for possible worst-case scenarios ... [but] the public does not need to expect the worst. Studies show that the annual seasonal influenza is more severe than the H1N1 flu.”

In the few H1N1 cases that have been fatal in the United States, Cullers said, “the people affected were already battling a life-threatening illness ... I encourage members of our community to keep things in perspective and remain calm.”

Village Council

- Council reviewed and approved bills paid.
- Gambier residents gave the Council input on plans to build more sidewalks and trails in the Village and discussed how it would affect those living near the planned paths.
- The Village Maintenance Crew fixed two service-line leaks in Gambier last month, one on Wiggin Street and one on Duff Street. Unaccounted-for water in Gambier decreased this quarter from 17 percent to 15 percent of total water usage.
- The Village resurfaced North Acland Street from Bexley Place to E. Brooklyn Street. Some cleanup still needs to be completed.
- The two Knox County Deputies assigned to Gambier will begin switching shifts every three months.
- Fall Dumpster Day, on which Gambier residents may easily dispose of large items, will be Saturday, Nov. 7, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The dumpsters will be located at the Gambier Maintenance Barn at 141 Meadow Lane.
- Council decided to host a Village Halloween party.
- Council approved plans to build a sidewalk and stairs from Duff Street to Morgan Apartments.
- Council discussed a request for a sidewalk outside Weaver Cottage and decided it was unfeasible and unnecessary.
- Council approved fund transfers.
- Kacken Kimmell, the chairperson of planning and zoning commission, and Mark Kohlman, chief business officer of Kenyon College, spoke on behalf of the College’s request for rezoning of the Morgan Street Apartments and Meadow Lane Housing. Council debated the necessity of this rezoning and decided to table the debate until the public hearing.

— August Steigmeyer

K-Card: New Venues

From page 1

in giving it a try.”

Tier said the Market is leaving room for change. “We’ll try it out for a year, then re-evaluate it,” he said. “We’ll be checking on the effectiveness of the system at intervals throughout.”

Kohlman and Off-Campus Advantage are currently working to convince Campus Auto and Tire and the Mount Vernon CVS to accept the K-Card. “I do not have a timeline for when [CVS] will sign up,” Kohlman said. “The gas station expressed interest over the summer but has not signed up yet.”






Kohlman said he wants stu-

dents to suggest other businesses in Mount Vernon where they would use their student account on a regular basis. “I am open to enrolling merchants from Mount Vernon but need to know where students frequent,” he said. “I have heard that Bombay Gardens is a place where students go, so I will be going there to explain the program and see if they have any interest.”

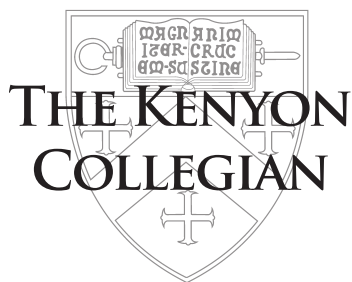
Kohlman “sent out letters and has been coaxing different vendors,” according to Meyers. “It was really him that convinced all these different vendors to use the K-Card, which was really helpful.” According to Meyers, the vending machines coming to Gund Lounge will also accept the K-Card.

GAMBIER GRILLIN'

Grand Total:
Students: 5 Faculty: 5

Questions	 Caroline Eichler '11	 Ethan Bernstein '12	 Sarah Friedman '10 Editor-in-Chief	 Nina Clements Library & Technology Consultant	 Karen Hicks Associate Professor of Biology	Correct Answer
Who is the most frequently portrayed character in film history?	James Bond	King Arthur	James Bond	James Bond	Mickey Mouse	<i>Sherlock Holmes</i>
Who is the most cited author living today?	J.K. Rowling	I'm stumped.	P.F. Kluge	Billy Collins	Richard Dawkins	<i>Noam Chomsky</i>
What is Kenyon's oldest building that still has its original construction?	Rosse	Bexley	Bexley	Ascension	Bexley	<i>Bexley Hall</i>
What government position also doubles as President of the Senate?	Vice President	Vice President	Vice President	Vice President	Vice President	<i>Vice President of the United States</i>
What is the one kind of bird that can have a heart attack?	Hummingbrid	Hummingbrid	Hummingbird	Pidgeon	Hummingbrid	<i>Turkey</i>
Name one of the six counties that is adjacent to Knox County.	Licking	I simply don't know that one.	Franklin	Coshocton	Licking	<i>Richland Ashland Holmes Coshocton Licking Delaware Morrow</i>
The umbilicus is more commonly known as what?	Belly button	Umbilical Cord	Umbilical Cord	Umbilical Cord	Umbilical Cord	<i>The belly button</i>
What is the world's largest media conglomerate?	Disney	Associated Press	Associated Press	Bloomberg	I don't know.	<i>The Walt Disney Company</i>
Number Correct	<i>Three</i>	<i>Two</i>	<i>Two</i>	<i>Two</i>	<i>Three</i>	

Another academic year, another chance for students and faculty to embarrass themselves or prove their brilliance through Gambier Grillin'. Notice the word *embarrass*. Is it in fact embarrassing to not know some of this largely irrelevant information? No. That's why they are called trivia questions. They're supposed to be hard. The point of Grillin' is not to test common knowledge, but to test whether people know random tidbits that are, for the most part, unapplicable to actual life. Many times professors refuse to participate because they are worried their reputations as pillars of knowledge will be tarnished. This is silly. Don't be scared of Grillin'. See it as a honor if you are one of the few people who are picked to participate. For the first official issue, we've added extra questions and also grilled our own editor-in-chief.

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

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

Why the *Collegian* Sucks and What You Can Do About It



BY MATT CROWLEY
Guest Columnist

From those bright-eyed first years experiencing it for the first time to the world-weary upperclassmen who can barely remember a time before they knew it, there is a common truth that is understood by all on our fair campus: the *Collegian*, the very newspaper you now hold in your hands, sucks. Oh, does it suck. The words “the *Collegian* sure sucks” can be heard echoing through Peirce every Thursday morning as students rifle through the paper’s pages. It can be heard by alumni sweeping the newspaper into their wastebaskets, unread. The *Collegian* just sucks.

I have long been a *Collegian* apologist. I’ve written for the Arts & Entertainment section for three semesters and whenever I’d hear the inevitable grumblings, I would defend our college’s paper, noting that charming, gifted people put their blood, sweat and tears into it each week, that the paper can serve as a pulse for the student body, that it’s not that bad, really. But I can no longer ignore the truth: it is that bad, really. Articles are weak and ill-informed, spelling and grammatical errors are ubiquitous and the pages are peppered with incorrect information, clunky prose and the occasional offensive or just downright insane editorial.

Kenyon Athletics Deserve Support

BY NATE CRIST
Guest Columnist

What human activity has stood the test of time better than friendly competition? Sports have been a pastime since there was free time; they are a connection to our feral roots, a remnant of days when struggles against neighbors were dire. Over the thousands of years of civilization, society has become more complex, and we exert ourselves less for purposes of survival and more for recreation.

Most Kenyon students, if not all, are familiar with the scene in *The Iliad*

Our newspaper is a particular discomfiture for a college that prides itself on its literary prowess. Kenyon’s English program is considered one of the best in the country, but our most pervasive student publication does not reflect this. “Please don’t judge Kenyon based on the *Collegian*,” I’ve heard tour guides warn prospective students. “It doesn’t do us justice.” Our college newspaper, which should be a source of passion and pride, has become an embarrassing mess that’s swept under the carpet when company arrives.

So why did I write this opinion piece? Was it just to get a chance to gratuitously ridicule the very publication I’m writing for? No (although that has been fun). I’m writing this because, ultimately, the reason the *Collegian* sucks — and never forget that it *does* suck — is that students aren’t invested in it, that students have let it wither and fade.

I don’t know when this began, but we’ve become caught in a vicious cycle in which the *Collegian* is terrible because no one contributes, and no one contributes because the *Collegian* is terrible. There are few who take the time to make our newspaper happen each week and even fewer who put any real care into their work. I speak from personal experience. The *Collegian* is so understaffed that I knew I could flout deadlines, renege on commitments and hand in minuscule, poorly-researched articles and still be a

valued member of the team. The bar is set so low that it’s difficult to do more than the bare minimum required of you, if that.

Every year, the most talented and creative first years eagerly turn to the paper and then, a few months later, turn back in disgust. Those few who remain are often the least qualified and the least knowledgeable, leaving the *Collegian* with an A&E section staffed by pretentious, verbose snobs (such as myself), news that no one is really excited about and an opinions section overflowing with vitriol by whatever crackpot is incensed enough to throw together a few paragraphs (again, yours truly) — the whole sordid thing assembled by a handful

If we want our newspaper to be something we can be proud of, we need to *make* it something to be proud of.

of editors who forgo sleep each week to stitch together whatever mangled sentences have been handed to them at the last minute.

So please, let’s start anew this year. If you write for the *Collegian*, give it your all. If you don’t write for it, sign up. There are hundreds of amazing linguists at the College, and there is no good reason for our paper not to showcase their creativity and brilliance. Though complaining is easy (and, again, pretty fun), it ultimately doesn’t do anything to help the problem. If we want our newspaper to be something we can be proud of, we need to *make* it something to be proud of. Only then can we totally reverse the paper’s long history of sucking and, once and for all, make sure that it blows. Wait.

beloved college.

As always, it is delightful to apply lessons learned at Kenyon to the world at large. Athletic competition, like art and war, is an important part of nationalism. “As is often said, athletics provide an outlet for the same martial spirit that is found in war,” said Taylor Somers ’12. “The same senses of bravery, heroism, cooperation and community that are prized among comrades in war are valued on the proving grounds of the athletic fields.”

But to tone it down a bit after all that big-time scary talk, I ask you to gather your posse and attend a sporting event. Get caught up in school spirit, however weak or lame such a force is amidst the contemporary popularity of apathy in all things. Kenyon is — surprise — good at a lot of sports other than swimming. So go check out a game or two and watch your fellow students tear up the turf, court or whatever, and feel some pride in your school. This message may pertain especially to all you confused first years who are still wondering whether Kenyon is where you want to be.

Basically, take notice, because sports are way cool.

Collegian Cries Over Spilled Milks

Marjorie Trueblood-Gamble, assistant director of multicultural affairs and admissions, said the students living in Morgan Apartments this semester are “handpicked” (see “Milks Renovated, House ‘Honors’ Seniors,” page 1).

The apartments, better known as “Milk Cartons,” were once rented to students approved to live off-campus. This summer, however, the College purchased and refurbished the apartments and selected to live there a small group of

seniors who meet an ambiguous definition of “honors students.”

We, the editors of the *Collegian*, believe the very concept of honors housing — based on either academic achievement or clean disciplinary records — contradicts the College’s stated reason for limiting off-campus housing, which was to create a diverse residential community. Though the seniors chosen to live in the Morgans are qualified and deserving of recognition, the

process by which they were chosen was unprecedented and unjust in the context of Kenyon’s commitment to a residential system determined by an impartial lottery. Sophomores who were summer-housed should have been the first considered for new housing. Instead, the elegantly-renovated apartments were offered to a handful of students who had already chosen housing through the lottery system.

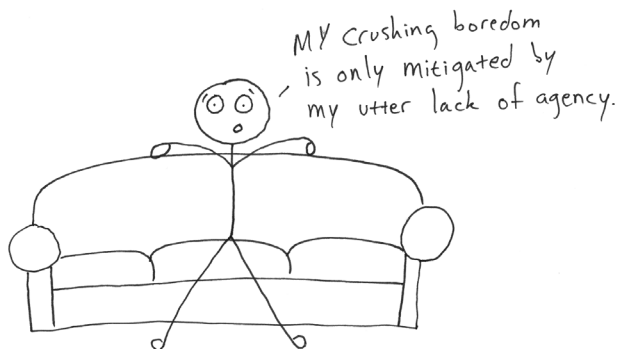
Collegian editors who attended a UCC orientation meeting were appalled by Assistant Dean of Students for Housing and Residential Life Alicia Dugas’ comment that the Morgans would likely not be available to all students in the Housing Lottery next year.

If, however, the Morgans, like some Acland Apartments, are to be special-interest housing, let there be one consistent standard for qualification. They could be for seniors writing honors theses or for upperclassmen who wish to live in a Wellness Floor-like environment. It is important that the administration make clear to students that only those who merit — based on whatever objective standard the administration decides upon, preferably after seeking student input — what Dugas called “one of the nicest housing options available to any student” will be housed in Morgan Apartments.

Five of the 10 apartments in question are still under renovation, and the administration plans to use them for students returning from fall semester abroad and for emergencies. We believe this solution is the best available on such short notice, but we urge the administration to implement an objective standard to decide who lives in the Morgans.

The renovations create an environment more conducive to an academic lifestyle than to the rambunctious, party atmosphere that has typically characterized Milks. Nevertheless, the sketchy procedures — in which already-housed students were re-housed into brand-new apartments and summer-housed students remained unaware of housing developments — do nothing to bolster the administration’s reputation of lacking frankness with the student body.

Tickle Me Jell-O by Bob Dorff



New Dean of Students Sets Up Shop

BY SARAH QUELLER
Editor-in-Chief

A new dean of students is in town, and the *Collegian* sat down with him to learn about his track record, his position on Greek life and how he met his wife.

The Kenyon Collegian: What was your most recent position before you came to Kenyon?

Dean of Students Henry P. Toutain: I was a dean of students and vice president for student affairs at Gustavus Adolphus College in Saint Peter, Minnesota.

TKC: What attracted you to Kenyon and what makes this school different from other institutions at which you've worked?

HT: I think what attracted me to Kenyon may well be similar to what attracted you to Kenyon, or what attracted faculty or other staff members to Kenyon. I found it to be an intellectually lively place. Well, I suppose maybe I should start at the beginning and say that the kind of institution that it is — a small, residential, liberal arts college — that environment is a very attractive one for me. I think it's a robust context for learning. I have worked in similar kinds of institutions for a long time; I really enjoy that, and within that relatively small cluster of schools, Kenyon ranks very highly. It is an excellent example and an excellent representative of that small group of colleges, and so that in itself is very attractive. Also, one of the things that was clear as I was interviewing, that I have seen confirmed here is the nature of the community [is] that people seem to be very invested in the community. There's a commitment to this place that it seems relatively easy to move around within subgroups of people — that connections, relationships seem to happen well and fairly naturally, and that's attractive, too. I came from a community — where I lived for the past 19 years — that was very much that way. It was a wonderful community of people and I enjoyed that and I anticipate enjoying this one as well.

TKC: What were you told about the state of student affairs here before you accepted the job?

HT: My understanding kind of evolved along the way, so I think, initially, when I was approached about the position, my understanding of student life and student affairs was a very, very positive one — that this was a place where students were engaged, where students were much more participants than they were spectators, where students had leadership roles and were involved in decision-making and governance structures. That came through also when I was in the middle of interviews. And now that I've been here, I think that also has been confirmed. But there's something else that I have learned actually in the past couple of weeks, sort of seeing students back on campus, and I think what I've seen

is a great degree of imagination and creativity in what I've seen students doing — whether it's performing in various groups or taking leadership roles in certain organizations or activities. There seems to be a degree of self-confidence and also I think an appreciation for difference as a positive thing.

TKC: Can you think of a specific example?

HT: I was struck by the cabaret toward the end of New Student Orientation and what struck me there ... [was] that these groups appear to be entirely student-driven. I think that's terrific — the idea that the students have taken charge of that, that they're creating something on their own and that they're exercising their passion, their creativity, their interest. It's terrific. I just love it.

TKC: Have any of your experiences been contradictory to the expectations that you had?

HT: I don't think so. ... It's a difficult question to answer because I'm still learning, so I may answer one way today and then tomorrow I'm going to run into something which makes me a liar, but I think ... that I was really impressed ... that the search committee [for a dean of students] represented the school accurately. I think they went out of their way to portray the institution as it is, not as they would like it to be, not as it was in the past, but as it is — assets and liabilities together.

TKC: What has your reception been like so far?

HT: It's been great. I've been saying this repeatedly: folks have been really warm and welcoming. I have felt that, whether it's students or staff or faculty, that people have gone out of their way to introduce themselves to me and to offer their help and assistance. ... There's been a great degree of hospitality, as well as what I have sensed is a genuine desire to collaborate and to work together.

TKC: What is the most important change that Kenyon's student life or student affairs needs, in your opinion?

HT: Again, I'm sort of growing into a knowledge of the place, so this shouldn't be a definitive answer, but the thing that immediately comes to mind for me is an improvement, enhancement of student residential facilities.

TKC: I think students will be glad to read that.

HT: That's critical.

TKC: Are there any buildings in particular that you'd like to see replaced?

HT: I don't think I would identify any in particular, but, in fact, I think, in a way the whole system needs to be ramped up. I just think we are at a competitive disadvantage vis-à-vis our peer institutions — that the floor of expectation has risen with regard to housing. ... We don't have as much diversity in housing as I think we might, the age of our [facilities] is an issue. ... I don't have as detailed

help — directly or indirectly — help those organizations have that positive impact. So I think I approach those organizations from that point of view.

TKC: The party policy — I'm sure you're aware or well-informed about the party policy — was a controversial change implemented under the former dean's office. Do you foresee any changes to the policy in the near future? What's your perspective on the party policy?

HT: I think I would respond to that by answering it maybe as a broader question, which is [that] my inclination is not to implement changes in policies and procedures as I'm coming through the front door. I just don't think that's very smart. My approach tends to be to ask questions, to do more listening than talking and to figure out how things are working or how things aren't working. And if certain policies and procedures don't seem

to be accomplishing their objectives, then I think it makes sense for the community to reexamine to see if we can do it in a better way. So, at this point it's sort of a reconnoitering operation for me to try to get the lay of the land, somewhat, and to ask — I've asked faculty and I've been asking students as well as staff — to help me put a lot of information that I'm getting into context so that I can move from information to understanding as quickly as possible, because that's what I'd like to do.

TKC: What do you see as the biggest challenge at the outset of assuming this new position?

HT: I think in part it's what I just mentioned: trying to absorb a lot of information, trying to establish some relationships, because I think a mutual understanding of trust, building respectful relationships is critical, and so one of my objectives is to try to develop positive and strong relationships with members of the faculty, with students, with other staff because I think that's critical to doing the kind of work that I hope I've been invited to do here.

TKC: For 469 Kenyon students, this is their first week on a college campus. What advice would you give the first years about getting involved in campus life?

HT: I gave them some advice already at the Opening Convocation and it was actually advice that I'm trying to heed myself, and that is to not shed some of the characteristics of being a beginner too prematurely because I think we do have some advantages because we see things differently. We see things that people who have been here for a while may no longer see because they've become

accustomed to them, so I think there's an advantage there. I think it's also fair though, in response to your question, to — and I'm saying this also as a newcomer — to look around, to try to take advantage of what this environment has to offer without overextending oneself. Because I think there are so many opportunities that it would be easy to do — it certainly would be easy for me to do — because there are athletic contests to observe, there are things for me to do off-campus and on-campus. It's really easy to fill one's day, so I think being judicious and making good choices and reminding oneself of what one's priorities are is important, too.

TKC: What activities were you involved with or what groups were you a member of when you were a college student?

HT: Wow, we're going back a long way.

TKC: Well, where did you go to college, first of all?

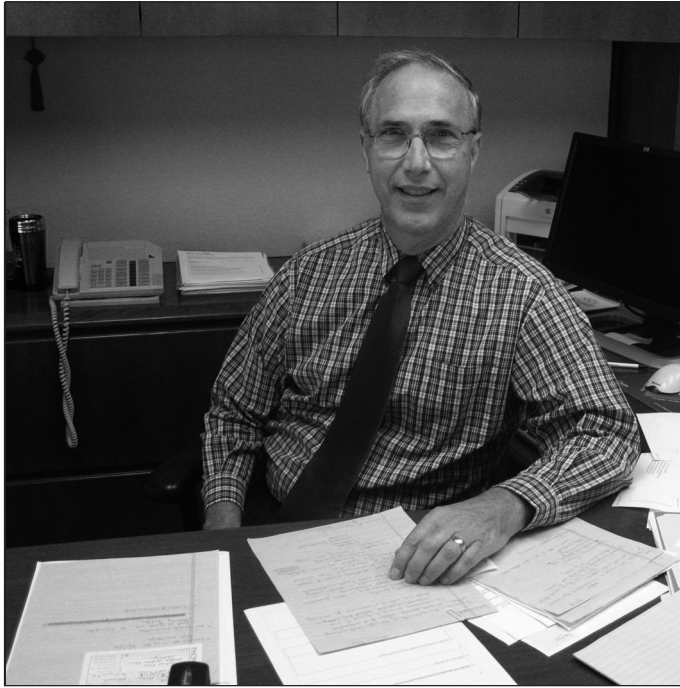
HT: I went to Providence College, a four-year liberal arts college in Providence, Rhode Island. I was involved in some community service groups while I was there; I was involved in some musical groups as well. I also took a couple years off while I was in college to explore some other personal options, too, so for me it was very much a time of exploration. ... I was for a time a commuting student, for a time a residential student. ... It was an entirely different environment, because at the time that I was in Providence College, it was an all-male school. ... I graduated a long time ago. ... I think the year I graduated was the first year that women were admitted to Providence College, so it was an all-men's school during pretty much my entire enrollment. I think in retrospect the best thing that happened to me while I was at Providence College is that while I was a junior, and spent my entire junior year abroad, I ended up meeting the person who would become my wife, so it was a wonderful experience for me.

TKC: Where did you go abroad?

HT: Switzerland. My wife and I were from two different schools that were part of a consortium in Fribourg, Switzerland.

TKC: And our last question is: What's something you'd like students to know about you?

HT: I think I would like students to know that I am someone who enjoys getting to know students and I welcome opportunities to interact with students in a variety of different ways. I find some of the relationships I've developed with students over the years to be some of the strongest that I've developed. I've maintained relationships with students that I worked with at the University of Chicago a million years ago, or at Gustavus [Adolphus College], and those mean a great deal to me. So I hope students find that I'm approachable, willing to listen.



Toutain works at his desk in Gund Commons.

RICHARD WYLDE

Event No Longer Mandatory, but First Years Opt to Sing

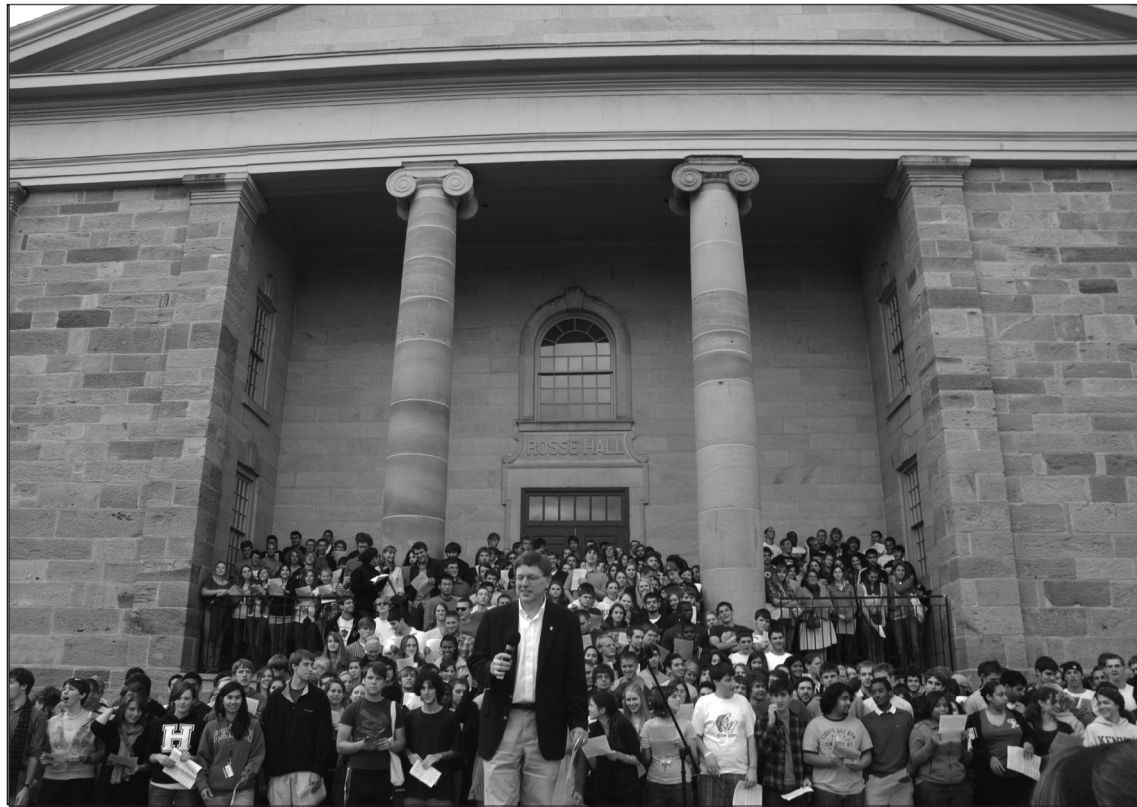
BY SUSANNAH GRUDER &
RICHARD WYLDE
Features Editors

The steps of Rosse Hall were filled with first-year faces — some wide-eyed, others calm and a few a bit uneasy — on Sunday, Aug. 30. All of them, however, were there by choice, taking part in the traditional and, as of this year, completely voluntary First-Year Sing. According to Professor of Music Benjamin Locke, who has led First-Year Sing since 1985, the last rehearsal before the performance was just as full as the first.

This rite of passage, which is associated with the beginning of students' time at Kenyon, began in 1956, when Acting President Frank Bailey developed a way of introducing first-year students into the College's traditions and lore. Although heckling is still a part of the First-Year Sing experience for upperclassmen, it has gone through various incarnations, from innocuous to outright violent.

Locke gave a speech about the history of Sing at this year's convening dinner for first years.

"Former Dean of Students Tom Edwards recalls that the absence of faculty leadership, combined with an increased presence of upperclass students on campus during Orientation activities in the 1970s,



Professor Locke speaks to the crowd outside Rosse Hall before First-Year Sing.

RICHARD WYLDE

created a situation in which negative behaviors became more and more evident," Locke said.

After the College changed the date and time of Sing in 1984 to prevent upperclassmen from throwing food from the all-campus picnic (which was previously held before the Sing) at the first years, there was some built-up resentment

among students. Locke watched the First-Year Sing, an event he described as "remarkably serene," when he arrived at Kenyon in 1984. When leading Sing the next year, Locke was hit in the shoulder with a beer can that flew out from a mob of upperclassmen behind him, "the second I turned my back to the crowd," he said.

"I recall rehearsing the first years in [Peirce Dining Hall], and through the open windows behind me, under what seemed like unusually dark-gray skies, a low and ominous hum emanated from the masses assembled in front of Rosse Hall," Locke said. "When we made the trek over to the steps, I felt as though I was leading 400 hobbits to the Gates of Mordor."

In 1989, the administration decided to cancel the public portion of Sing due to the negative energy it fostered. After the final rehearsal, however, a first-year student named

Kelley Wilder stood up on a table in Peirce Hall and announced that she would not be the first student in decades not to sing the Kenyon songs on the steps of Rosse, and the tradition has persisted ever since.

A few hours before taking the stage, or in this case, steps, for Sing, first-year student Joumana Khatib said, "I was actually intimidated about [First-Year Sing] at first just because I've heard, more from administrators than students, that it's kind of hazing a little. But once we went to our first rehearsal it was so much fun."

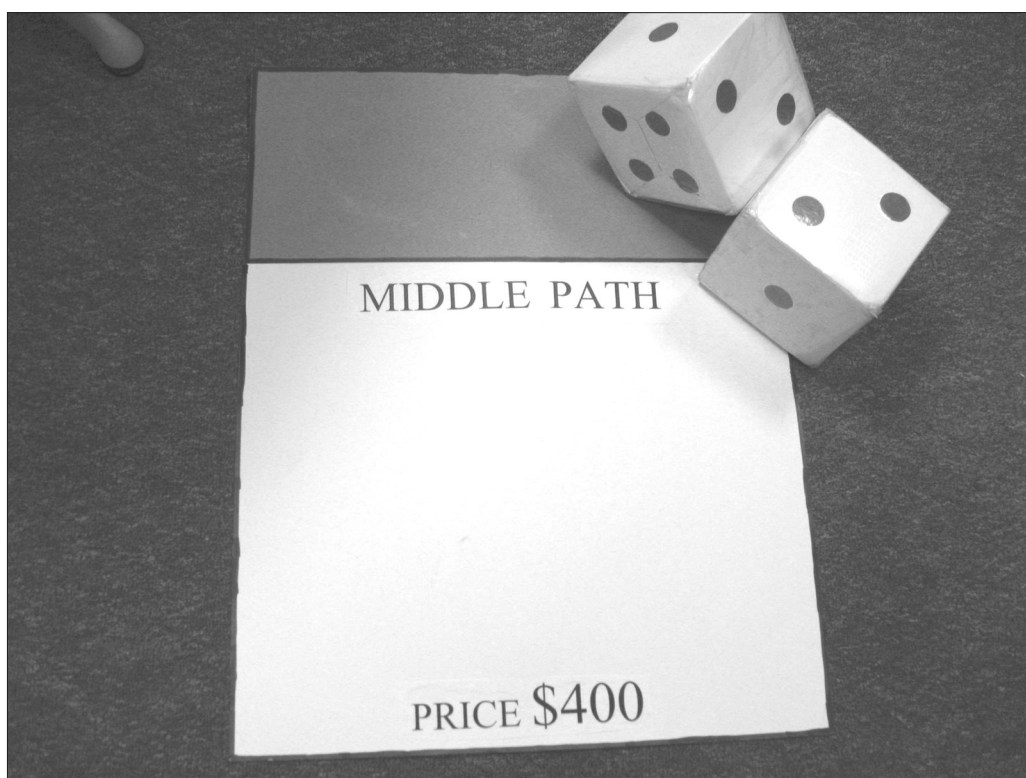
After Sing, Khatib said, "The booing didn't really bother us — we just thought it made it more fun to try and 'compete' with [the upperclassmen]."

Locke described this year's Sing as "very successful" but noted that "apparently students continue to not read their e-mails," referring to an e-mail that was sent to all students asking them not to heckle.

In addition to being involved with First-Year Sing longer than anyone else at Kenyon, Locke also arranged "Kokosing Farewell," using text by Orville Watson, who attended the Bexley Seminary in the 1850s, and the melody to an Episcopal hymn.

"I love this event," Locke said. "It's an important introduction to the nature of what Kenyon is all about. It connects generations. Hearing the alumni sing these songs is the most moving thing I've seen at Kenyon. ... [Students] may not remember me, but they'll always remember their [First-Year] Sing."

Library Game Night



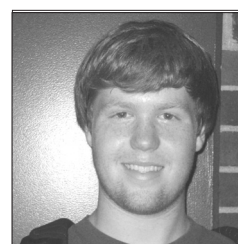
This Saturday, Sept. 4th, Olin Library is holding a special event from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. called "Game Night at the Library." The event is a welcome for faculty, staff and families.

"Some people might not realize what the library has to offer," said Librarian and Technology Consultant Nina Clements, who organized the event with fellow Library and Technology Consultants Aimee Jenkins and Julia Glynn '96. "It might not be on their normal path. We are here to serve the whole community."

In addition to a life-sized game of Kenyonopoly — which was created by a group of students in the '90s (the Middle Path property is pictured above) — there will be the chance to play Rock Band and Mario Kart on a big screen and dine on Papa John's pizzas and Peggy Sue's pies. Other options include an assortment of board games and a scavenger hunt throughout the library and "much, much more."

— Richard Wylde

Meet the First Years



Maximillian (Max) Elder

Hometown: Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA

What's the weirdest thing about Kenyon so far? The hallways in Mather and McBride.

What's the best advice you've gotten about college? My pre-orientation leader told us not to take ourselves too seriously.

What did you forget to bring? A beach towel.



Lydia Winkler

Hometown: Summit, NJ

What's the weirdest thing about Kenyon so far? I live in Mather, and to do the laundry we have to go upstairs to go downstairs.

What's the best advice you've gotten about college? Be confident but not arrogant.

What did you forget to bring? Rain boots.



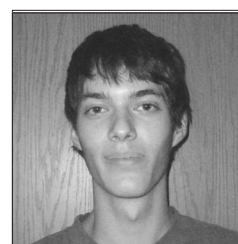
Hildy Joseph

Hometown: Fitchingham, MA

What's the weirdest thing about Kenyon so far? The ghost stories.

What's the best advice you've gotten about college? Find a balance.

What did you forget to bring? Sheets.



Ben Pfister

Hometown: Carlisle, PA

What's the weirdest thing about Kenyon so far? Gambier has two main streets.

What's the best advice you've gotten about college? Be good.

What did you forget to bring? Posters.

—Erin Mershon

Contra Dance Aims to Rekindle Interest in a Long-Lost Art

BY KUSHAL RAO
Staff Writer

What is “contra dance?” Whether you believe it to be a salute from a Nicaraguan rebel group in thanks for financial backing from Ronald Reagan or you are simply curious, I direct you to Gund Ballroom on Saturday, Sept. 12 from 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Contra is an American folk dance and a close cousin of square-dancing, and, according to Telecommunications Coordinator Bev Actis, it is not only a unique form of entertainment, but also an opportunity to foster closer relations between the participants.

According to Actis, contra dance, another name for “country dancing,” can trace its origins back to the eighteenth-century United States. Contra had faded into obscurity, but a recent resurgence, fueled by the Internet, brought it back into the limelight.

Contra dancing is lively and set to a variety of music. Traditionally, Irish music is the tune of choice, but modern day contra incorporates a wide variety of rhythms to move the dancers. Contra dance also uses a “caller” to tell dancers what steps to use. The live band for Kenyon’s contra dance, Pocketful o’ Gimmick, and its caller, Susan English, are Wooster-area residents who have extensive experience performing at contra dances. English starts the night with slower, simpler dances, so participants can become accustomed to contra before moving on to more difficult dances.

“The coolest thing about [contra dancing] is [that] it’s like a really intense square dance, and it’s overly sexualized,” Adrian Galbraith-Paul ’12, an experienced contra dancer, said. “I’m so excited about it. It put a big smile on my face when I found out we had contra dancing [at Kenyon].” Even less-informed students are intrigued. “Contra dance is more like square dancing, right?” Chauncey Harrison ’11 said. “I

would love to do it.”

“The music is so lively and compelling, it is difficult to sit on the sidelines and watch,” Actis said, “You must dance.”

“It would be nice if there could be a yearly tradition at Kenyon to introduce new students to this wonderful, communal dance tradition,” Actis said.

And if the contra dance at Kenyon on Saturday is not enough for you, there are also monthly dances at St. Paul’s Parish Hall in Mount Vernon on the fourth Sunday of every month. The next dance will be on Saturday Sept. 27 from 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., including a half-hour of instruction.

This eighteenth-century antiquity still provides the thrills and spills you can expect from any other dance, but it is the sense of community that exists among the dancers that makes contra uniquely rewarding.

“Come out and join us. Experience the joy of contra dancing,” Actis said.

Entertaining Your View of the Arts

BY BOB DORFF
A&E Editor

Dear readers,

As the new Arts & Entertainment editor for the *Collegian*, I had to make a number of decisions regarding the section’s direction. In the last few years, Arts & Entertainment has been more “EDU-taining” than ENTER-taining, and I feel that it is high time for a change. While I understand that the *Collegian* is obligated to cover all concerts, senior art theses and drama productions on campus, I do not view this obligation as a limitation. I want Arts & Entertainment to be a section that offers entertaining articles about the arts, regardless of how “art” is defined. While many believe that Kenyon students exist in a bubble far removed from the outside world, nothing could be further from the truth. Thanks to the Internet, Kenyon students have access to all types of media, and this section needs to reflect that. Movies, music, books and all other

mediums deserve coverage on these pages and, with your help, we will provide that coverage.

You see, there is a catch to this seemingly simple change. The *Collegian* cannot cover anything without the help of student reporters. Although this point is obvious, it is no less pertinent. If you have a viewpoint on an album, book, film or anything else that falls under the broad “Arts & Entertainment” umbrella, Kenyon students want to hear about it. Change can only happen with your help, and all that is required is an excitement about the subject material and a willingness to make deadlines. The *Collegian* comes out every week, so there is a lot of space to fill. This is our chance to make Arts & Entertainment informative and entertaining, but only if you help out. At least give it a thought, and if you think it might be fun, shoot me an e-mail.

Bob Dorff
Arts & Entertainment Editor
dorffr@kenyon.edu

Taking Woodstock Shot Through a Narrow Lens



Dimitri Martin stars in Ang Lee’s newest film, *Taking Woodstock*.

ROTTENTOMATOES.COM

BY GRANT JOHNSON
Staff Writer

I was not there, but Ang Lee’s new film *Taking Woodstock* reminds me that quite a few people — half a million unique perspectives — witnessed that legendary concert in 1969. Demonstrating this fact seems to be the aim of Lee’s release,

not by representing the endless characters that were there, but by clinging religiously to the perspective of one, finding the universe in main character Eliot Tiber’s grain of sand. This technique results in a movie that portrays a historic moment as an everyday moment, both momentous and meaningless, iconic and fleeting.

Taking Woodstock, an adaptation of Eliot Tiber’s memoir of the same name, follows his efforts to make the famous festival happen. Eliot was a law school graduate who turned his back on the urban lifestyle of twenty-somethings in the mythic New York City of the ’60s — self-discovery, lovers, liars and low-income housing — to save

his seemingly helpless parents and their dead-end motel in the sleepy town of White Lake, New York, in the Catskill Mountains. In a move that seems at once like an ingenious seizing of a rare opportunity and a stroke of dumb luck, Eliot made a call and became the historical lynchpin that gave a final destination — his neighbors’ cow pastures — to the festival that was kicked out of the original, geographic Woodstock. The savvy, smooth-talking, half-hippie, half-venture capitalists who made up the merry band of concert organizers descend upon White Lake (in a helicopter, no less), and the rest, as they say, is history.

What follows is exactly what you’d expect, and maybe a little of what you would not: small town bickering, black suit maneuvering, renovation, one-way transportation and lots and lots of people waving peace signs, saying “far out,” tripping on acid, taking their clothes off and generally living up to the expectations of Woodstock (and the decade) that all of us who weren’t there seem to hold in some psychedelic scrapbook of the cultural subconscious.

Amidst all the free-wheeling free love is Eliot, ensuring a nest-egg for his parents, playing peacemaker with the neighbors and finally indulging in all the love, sex and music Woodstock seemed to embody for all those concert-goers. Despite the massive crowd, it is his story throughout. We never see Janis Joplin or Jimi Hendrix, and when characters are not interacting with Eliot,

they seem to drop off the face of the Woodstock universe. At times like these, one certainly feels that parts of the story are missing, and the viewer wonders what everyone else is doing. But in this limitation and struggle of curiosity, Lee reminds the viewer of how experience works. No matter how crucial the moment may be deemed later, in the present, one only has one’s own perspective from which to see, and often one’s perspective is limited.

This only becomes truly frustrating (and ineffective) when it seems that parts of Eliot’s own story have been omitted. At one point in the film, he wakes up next to a man we have seen him flirting with and kissing in a bar, but Lee has neglected to portray any of the night before, when we may assume they entered the bed. *Taking Woodstock* is certainly a different kind of cinematic experience, especially as it deals with a moment in time that is generally recognized as historic and consequential. The movie one might expect about Woodstock would build toward and celebrate a central climax: a musical performance, a romance or a conflict that threatens the whole festival. *Taking Woodstock* does have these elements scattered throughout the film, but Lee does not stress one over the other. Rather, he gives each moment that passes an exact, conservative attention, creating a film that may be more like life as we live it than movies as we watch them, a story that gives a sense of the ordinary everyday to the far-out extraordinary of the decidedly historic.

Derivative Rap Music Remains a Scourge

At Its Peril, Jive Records Sends Three Current Rap Singles to an Unqualified Reviewer

BY BOB DORFF
A&E Editor

When the *Collegian* received three singles from the fine folks at Jive Records, I saw it as my editorial duty to review all three. While I cannot claim any expertise in the rap genre, the artists in question are all seeking mainstream acceptance, so I feel the “casual rap fan” point of view is surprisingly pertinent.

Many rappers have an interest, nay, an obsession with the part of the female anatomy often referred to as the “booty.” From “Baby Got Back” onward, women’s behinds have served as a powerful artistic springboard for lyricists who want nothing more than to make the masses dance. You might hope that the new GS Boyz single “Booty Dew” provides an exciting re-imagining of this well-worn subject matter. Unfortunately for the GS Boyz (and those of us who hear their music), “Booty Dew” is exactly the opposite. Like the GS Boyz’s previous release, “Stanky Legg,” “Booty Dew” follows the Soulja Boy method of songwriting, which means the dance comes first and the music comes second. While Soulja Boy’s “Crank That” is (for me, at least) a strangely ingratiating mix of steel drum beats, vapid lyrics and line dancing, the GS Boyz tunes lack the — dare I say — heart that made “Crank That” a fun song to love and hate. The group’s official Web site implies its music’s impressive lack of substance is an

artistic choice: “Looking to combat the escalating gang-related violence they witnessed daily, the GS Boyz focused on making positive, feel-good music that would move people to dance, not fight.” While I respect the group’s desire to bring peace through songs about sweaty rumps, I wish that those songs would display a sliver of artistic talent.

V.I.C. is another product of Soulja Boy’s legacy, though looking at the cover of his latest single, “Say Bow,” makes me think of Lil’ Wayne dipped in day-glo paint. He may dress like Wayne, and his laid-back flow definitely cops Wayne’s style, but one listen to “Say Bow” makes it immediately apparent that Soulja Boy should really start collecting royalties on songs that blatantly steal his hooks. Although V.I.C. learned which elements made “Crank That” a fiendishly catchy song, he did not learn how to implement them. “Say Bow” is a mess of vocal hooks stacked on top of beats that are already competing with a weirdly childlike call-and-response chorus. V.I.C. did have a hit with “Get Silly,” which naturally featured an accompanying dance, but because “Say Bow” lacks both a solid musical hook and a dance, its appeal seems limited to the tone deaf and terminally clumsy.

Our final record comes from the confusingly named 6 Tre G. 6 Tre’s MySpace page proudly proclaims that he went to prison for being a member of the infamous Gangster Disciples, a Chicago



JIVE RECORDS

The cover of the GS Boyz new single, “Booty Dew.”

street gang. The cover of his new single, “Fresh,” reinforces this tough image and features 6 Tre pointing at the viewer with a look that says: “You don’t know what you’re in for.” Surprisingly, listeners know exactly what they are in for, as the beat in “Fresh” bears an eerie similarity to the beat used in Kelis’ song “Bossy.” The lyr-

ics do not help matters and only communicate three things: first, 6 Tre is quite wealthy; second, 6 Tre enjoys wearing expensive accoutrements to clubs; and third, that the combination of owning and wearing nice things makes 6 Tre feel “fresh.” After listening to this song it becomes clear that 6 Tre should have told his producer,

“Stop me if you’ve heard this one before...”

Despite Jive Records’ kindness in sending me these records, I cannot provide kindness in return. These singles are derivative, cluttered and redundant. These are three loud records that defy their volume to remain boring, even as they demolish your eardrums.

A Capella Auditions

Kokosingers

Sign up at Activities Fair. Auditions on Sunday, Sept. 6, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Stairwells

Sign up at Activities Fair. Auditions on Sunday, Sept. 13, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Cornerstones

Sign up at Activities Fair. Auditions on Sunday, Sept. 6, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Take Five

Sign up at Activities Fair. Auditions on Sunday, Sept. 6

Company

Sign up at Activities Fair.

Pod Profiles



Nathan Spagnola '10

“The Hell Song”

Sum 41

Why: “It’s kind of a fun, summer song. Usually I go a little bit more hard-core. It’s a little punkier than what I usually listen to.”



Sophia Yablon '12

“Gotta Have You”

The Weepies

Why: “It’s really pretty. When I listen to it I think about driving around and going down the shore with my friends.”



Chris Brophy '10

“Thunder Road”

Bruce Springsteen

Why: “It’s the number one most-played song on my iTunes.”

Whether students are working out at the KAC, poring over their books at the library or chilling in their dorms, iPods are a part of this campus. We decided to find out what you are listening to on those little contraptions. As a recurring feature, we will ask three Kenyon students what they are listening to and why.

BY SUSANNAH GRUDER

Lords Tennis Wins Epic Playoff Match

VandenBerg Maintains Focus Against Carnegie Mellon, Vaults Kenyon Men's Tennis Team into the Elite Eight

BY MARK MOTHERAL
Sports Editor

At season's end, the Lords tennis team took a well-deserved trip to Claremont, CA. Due to the nature of the team's journey, however, the players and coaches did not have much time for surfing and sailing. The Lords were in the Golden State to compete in the Elite Eight of the 2009 NCAA Division III men's tennis tournament. If not for the heroic efforts of William VandenBerg '10, though, the Lords never would have made it out of Ohio.

The number seven-ranked Lords were given the honor of hosting their regional bracket starting Saturday, May 9, after finishing the regular season as one of the top eight teams. In the first round, Kenyon found little trouble in dispatching Mount Union College 5-0, losing only one set along the way. In the next round, however, the Lords were pushed to the brink of defeat against the number fourteen-ranked Carnegie Mellon Tartans. In doubles, Kenyon gained an early lead after Mike Greenberg '10 and VandenBerg easily defeated Jon Spero and Bobby MacTaggart 8-3. The Tartans recovered with wins at second and third doubles,

however, giving them a 2-1 advantage heading into singles.

Displaying exceptional resolve, the Lords proceeded to turn their deficit into an advantage following routine wins by Greenberg (the 2008 NCAA Division III singles champion), Charles Brody '10 and Tomas Piskacek '11. After going in front 4-2, the Lords were poised to make their second consecutive trip to the Elite Eight, but the Tartans seemed to have other plans in mind. With their backs against the wall, the remaining Tartans played inspired tennis. Carnegie Mellon began its last stand with a win at sixth singles when Yirian Liu beat Daniel Becker '09 7-5, 6-2. Next, the Tartans evened the score at 4-4 after MacTaggart outlasted Jeremy Polster '11 in a seesaw affair, 6-3, 1-6, 7-5. With one match left to decide who

My match against Jon Spero was definitely one of the highlights of my tennis career

- Will VandenBerg

would move on and who would go home, all eyes turned to VandenBerg. Playing tennis commensurate to the moment, VandenBerg grabbed victory from the jaws of defeat and booked his team a spot in California after fighting from a set down and saving two match points in the second set to claim a 4-6, 7-6, 6-3 victory over Spero.

"My match against Jon Spero was definitely one of the highlights

of my tennis career at Kenyon College," said VandenBerg in an e-mail. "Knowing the fate of the team lies in your hands is something I think every athlete dreams about, and I was fortunately able to experience this situation. But unfortunately I found myself down two match points in the second set. I was able to rally and, with a few well-timed shots, fight my way back. I believe I wanted the match more to ensure our truly legendary seniors Daniel Becker and Robert Alef would have a chance to go again to California to compete for the title."

"Will handled the pressure much better than I did," said Scott Thielke, coach of both the Lords and Ladies tennis teams. "I could hardly watch the match points he had against him. He fought off those match points in the second set and then really turned his game up a level to win the match for us. Jon Spero had beaten Will earlier in April and is one of the top players in Division III."

Unfortunately, the Lords' trip to California was short-lived. In the team tournament, Kenyon met its match against nemesis Emory. After falling 3-0 in doubles, the Lords were unable to take control of the match despite solid performances in singles, and their season promptly ended with a 5-0 loss. Thielke said that although he wanted his team to go farther, he remains optimistic. "The returning players, along with a solid first-year class, should put

us in the middle of things again," he said.

Despite the fact that the Lords' season came to a premature end, Greenberg, Piskacek and VandenBerg had the opportunity to reclaim some pride in the individual competitions.

As a former national champion, Greenberg naturally entered the singles competition as one of the favorites to win the event. Unfortunately, Greenberg's campaign for a successive title was cut short in stunning fashion when he lost in

the first round to Emory's Mark Boren 6-3, 6-0. To make matters worse, Piskacek had one of the more ill fated draws of the championship. After winning his first match, Piskacek drew the eventual tournament champion, Emory's Michael Goodwin, and fell in straight sets. The Lords' last chance at a title came in the doubles tournament, in which Greenberg and VandenBerg were entered. "The Bergs" drubbed their first round opponents, Mary Washington's Kaz Murata and Randy Loden, 6-0, 6-2, giving Kenyon its first doubles win in the national competition since 2005. Regrettably, the Lords duo ran into one of the

hottest teams in the bracket, Bates' Ben Stein and Amrit Ruspasinghe. Although they fought valiantly, Greenberg and VandenBerg had their tournament hopes crushed, losing 7-6 (1), 6-2.

But, as Mike Greenberg explained, losing has its benefits. "Losing early in last season's tournament was a great disappointment for me, but has since proven, and I hope [will] continue to prove, to be a blessing in disguise. With that being said, I personally learned that winning an individual tournament takes a great deal of luck and psychological fortitude

- Mike Greenberg

individual tournament takes a great deal of luck and psychological fortitude, perhaps far more than I ever understood. Last season's tournament ... loss may prove to be the foundation for any success that comes my way this year." Greenberg went on to say: "In my junior and collegiate careers, losing has proven to facilitate my biggest growths as a player. Losing helps me understand very clearly what parts of my game I need to improve. More significantly, losing helps remind me how much I love to win and hate to lose. This is a healthy reminder that becomes the impetus for my desire to train and compete at my highest levels."

Predicting the Future: This Year's NFL Outlook

BY JAMES ASIMES
Staff Writer

With preseason concluding and the regular season set to kick off Thursday, Sept. 10, NFL fans should be ready for a wild ride this season. No team will have a perfect record as the 2007 Patriots did, and none will go completely defeated like last year's Lions. It looks like there will be a clear divide between the contenders and the pretenders this season.

New England's Tom Brady is fresh off a guest appearance on *Entourage*, Buffalo's Terrell Owens finished his reality show and Miami's Jason Taylor danced

his way into shape on ABC's *Dancing with the Stars*. With Brady back from injury, and the addition of Fred Taylor, the Patriots' offense could threaten to break the regular season scoring record they set in 2007 en route to another division title. The defending champions, the Pittsburgh Steelers, were able to keep together the roster that brought them a sixth Super Bowl ring, and this should be enough for them to take the division for a third straight season. While the Steelers should continue to have one of the top three defenses in the NFL, the Ravens will struggle with the loss of longtime Defensive Coordinator Rex Ryan to

the New York Jets. The Browns will again be living in the cellar of the AFC North unless golden boy Brady Quinn can lead them to mediocrity. Look for Indianapolis to take back the AFC South, as Peyton Manning will once again challenge Quinn and Saints Quarterback Drew Brees for the MVP award. The AFC South will be the deepest division in the AFC, as both the Titans and the upcoming Texans will earn wild-card berths. After being injury-riddled a season ago, the Chargers should cruise to a division title this year. LaDarian Tomlinson should return to the elite form he had shown before last season.

In the NFC East, the Giants will again set the bar for the division, despite their receiving core having a better chance of catching the swine flu than a touchdown. The Cowboys will grab a wild-card spot in their inaugural season in the \$1.15 billion-dollar Jerry Dome, and the Eagles will make a late playoff push if Michael Vick is reinstated after Week Six. Young guns Jay Cutler and Aaron Rodgers will push the immortal Brett Favre back into retirement after they lead the Bears and Packers, respectively, to the playoffs, and the Vikings will struggle, even with the NFL's best rusher, Adrian Peterson. Drew Brees and the high-pow-

ered Saints offense should lead that team to the playoffs as it beats out the Falcons and Panthers. In the NFC West, the Cardinals will run away with the division, as long as Larry Fitzgerald can avoid the pesky Madden curse and Kurt Warner's arm is still attached.

While Super Bowl XLIV is still months away, look for the Chargers to defeat the Colts in the AFC Championship game and the Cardinals to take the NFC again this season, dispatching the Giants. With Philip Rivers taking home MVP honors, the Chargers will take Super Bowl XLIV in a western shootout.

Love the Ladies? Write for *Collegian Sports*.
e-mail motheralm@kenyon.edu

Ladies Field Hockey Drops First Game of the Season to Conference Nemesis Wooster

BY NATE CRIST
Staff Writer

Ladies field hockey opened the Kenyon athletic season this past Tuesday with a home game against the College of Wooster. The Ladies faced the Wooster team that took the championship from them last year, but this time came they ready to redeem themselves.

The Wooster Fighting Scots attacked from the opening whistle, keeping the pressure on the Ladies and the ball in Kenyon's defensive zone. Two early corners for Wooster kept the Ladies back on their heels, but the defense held and slowly but surely Kenyon made forays into Scots territory. Many of Kenyon's early clears outpaced their own players and were intercepted by Wooster fullbacks, but the Ladies made many effective runs across the midfield line to threaten Wooster's defense. Maggie Gilligan '10 made a particularly exciting dash towards the Wooster goal before passing the ball to Meredith Yellen '13, who was then fouled, earning the Ladies a corner. Wooster regrouped and defended the corner, but this swift attack showed the Scots that the Ladies meant business.

The Scots were the first to get on the scoreboard with a blazing run down the sideline by Amanda Artman, who crossed to Maddie Hart for the goal



Ladies prepare to lead a drive down the field.

MARK MOTHERAL

with 24:25 left in the first half. Kenyon met the Scots goal with increased energy and determination, but Wooster struck again with another Artman goal, this time unassisted, with 15:24 to go until halftime.

The Ladies' constant efforts paid off as the Wooster defenders finally cracked. Holly Bacon '10 struck a magnificent shot through the air into the back of

the net to halve the Scots' lead. The players broke for halftime with Wooster and Kenyon 2-1.

Artman helped the Scots regain a comfortable lead just one and a half minutes into the second half. With a swift dash, she cut through the heart of the Kenyon defense and ended with a stultifying, unassisted goal. Again, Kenyon's intensity increased following the Wooster

score, and the Ladies took it to Wooster's half of the field. Earning four corners, the Ladies made the Scots lead seem tentative, but they were unable to convert their opportunities into points. Wooster's Eileen Barrer orchestrated an exciting give-and-go maneuver with Hart, but Hart missed her chance on the doorstep of Kenyon's goal and her shot went wide. Barrer redeemed

the play a bit later with an unassisted strike to extend Wooster's lead to 4-1.

Again, the Ladies responded well. Yellen breathed life back into the Kenyon side by scoring from inside a mass of Wooster defenders. Goalkeeper Jenna Klein '13 came up big with some spectacular saves, stifling the Scots and keeping the Ladies in the game. But Kenyon's offense had even more to show. In a stylish, thrilling play, Sarah McNeen '13 took the ball down the sideline before passing to Yellen, who dumped the ball off to Gilligan, then crossed the ball to Diane Staats '11, who slammed the ball past the Scots' goalie. Staats' strike put Kenyon just a goal behind Wooster, but time would run out before the Ladies could alter the 4-3 score further.

Though the Ladies failed to win their first game, they looked very strong against a formidable opponent.

"This was our first game," Sarah Grumman '10 said after the game. "We know what we need to fix."

She added, with determination, that she was sure the Kenyon field hockey team was in a position to challenge Wooster for the NCAC title this season. With such a tenacious showing from the Ladies in their first game of the season, Grumman's assertion may not be far off.

Upcoming Home Games

Show your school spirit by supporting the Kenyon Lords and Ladies.

Women's Soccer
vs. Medaille College

1:00 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 6

Field Hockey
vs. Denison University

4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 15

Football
vs. University of Chicago

1:00 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 12

Volleyball
vs. Mount Vernon Nazarene

7:00 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 17

Men's Soccer
vs. St. Vincent College

5:15 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 18