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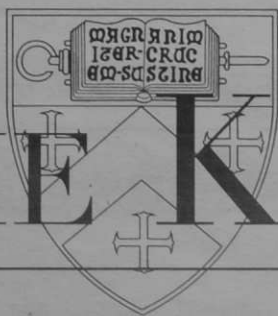
Kenyon Collegian - November 3, 2005

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THE KENYON COLLEGIAN

Gambier, Ohio

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2005

12 Pages

Capital campaign to double endowment and fund construction projects

BY WILLOW BELDEN
Editor-in-Chief

Last weekend, the Board of Trustees authorized Kenyon to launch an approximately \$200 million capital campaign aimed at doubling the College's endowment, funding the construction of new art facilities and student housing and financing extensive renovations of Peirce Hall, which are scheduled to occur next year.

Unlike Kenyon's previous capital campaigns, the largest portion of this five-year fund-raising effort will be aimed not at physical improvements on campus but at increasing Kenyon's endowment from the current \$150 million per year to \$300 million.

"Kenyon is very under-endowed relative to the colleges we compare ourselves to," said President S. Georgia Nugent. "Colleges of our type and quality would typically have an endowment of \$400 to \$600 million. Some have over

\$1 billion."

According to Board of Trustees chair William Bennett, "the increase in the endowment is primarily to support the faculty ... and also to help with financial aid for students."

Vice President for College Relations Sarah Kahrl explained that Kenyon currently "devotes a significant part of its operating budget to funding financial aid, and we want to change that so that those resources are freed for the academic program and other priorities. ... We won't be able to accomplish the entire goal, but it's a priority to address that."

The same goes for faculty salaries, which, as of now, are also paid through the College's operating budget.

Furthermore, said Director of Financial Aid Craig Daugherty, an increased endowment might "enable the College to expand both its need-based and merit-based financial aid programs."

Kahrl said the College is not planning to use endowment money to hire additional faculty members, but rather to support existing faculty in their research and professional endeavors.

In addition to increasing the endowment, the College hopes to raise money for several physical improvements on campus. At last weekend's meeting, the Board of Trustees authorized the College to

begin designing new art facilities and new student residences, as well as approved the massive renovations of Peirce Hall that have been in the planning stages for some time.

The Peirce renovations, which will involve demolishing and replacing Dempsey Hall, enlarging the server, remodeling Philander's Pub and installing an elevator, are estimated to cost between \$18 and \$20 million, \$8 million of which

is covered by an anonymous donation.

The construction of new art buildings and student housing are part of the first phase of the Master Plan, which was revealed a year and in spring 2004 and provides a rough outline of how the physical campus should change and grow over the next 30 year.

see TRUSTEES, page 3

Administration: College should shrink

BY MEGAN SHIPLEY
News Editor

Parties at the "Milk Carbons" and other off-campus student residences may become a thing of the past if the recommendations of a faculty committee on student enrollment are put into effect. The ad hoc enrollment committee, chaired by Provost Greg Spaid, presented their study on the optimal size of Kenyon's student body at the Board of Trustees meeting last weekend.

The committee recommended a target on-campus enrollment of 1,575 students, allowing for a fluctuation of 25 students above or below that number, said Spaid. Kenyon's current on-campus enrollment is 1,639, with 1,593 students living in Kenyon-owned housing and 46 living off campus with permission, according to Dean of Residential Life George Barbuto. Including students studying abroad, Kenyon's total enrollment is 1725.

"We looked at every advantage we could imagine that would result from growth and every disadvantage," said Spaid in describing how the commit-

tee determined the target size. "Our conclusion was that the disadvantages [of increasing the number of students at Kenyon] far outweigh the advantages, both financially and in the qualitative measures of the quality of life in Gambier for all who are here."

"[1,575 students] is a figure above what we have traditionally considered, but for many years, we have not been at that traditional number," said President S. Georgia Nugent.

One factor that the committee considered in their study was the "overcrowding of residential facilities," according to Nugent.

The number of students housed off campus this year is the highest ever at 46, up from 30 students last year and 12 three years ago. In addition, many students are living in "alternate spaces" such as College-owned houses, former lounges and former staff apartments in residence halls, said Barbuto.

"Off-campus housing creates another set of issues for the students, the Village and the College," said Barbuto. "We

see SIZE, page 3

BRING OUT YOUR WASTE!



Kevin Guckes

Members of R.E.E.L. collect compost and non-compostable food scraps from students' plates in Peirce Hall on Tuesday. R.E.E.L. is working with College administrators and food service providers to initiate a composting program on campus. The total weight of the discarded food from Tuesday was over 280 pounds.

Faculty committee seeks to disseminate information about rising grades

BY CHARLOTTE NUGENT
Editor-in-Chief

It's a national trend: in colleges and universities, average student GPAs and the average final grades given in classes are rising. Some call this phenomenon "grade inflation," implying that, for scores of reasons, high grades are increasingly given to undeserving student work.

In an effort to examine how this trend operates at Kenyon, the faculty Committee on Academic Standards (CAS) plans to introduce legislation that would require extensive data on College-wide grading practices to be distributed to each faculty member every semester. The statistics available are numerous: grades given in

individual classes, departmental averages and grading differences between departments.

A quick glance at these statistics shows that the "gentleman's C" is a thing of the past: last semester at Kenyon, 46 percent of all final grades given were A's. Around 37 percent were B's and only 7 percent C's. The average GPA of Kenyon students has also risen over time: while in the 1950s a GPA of around 2.5 was the norm, the average GPA of students last semester was 3.28. The numbers get higher every year.

Yet this information will be given to the faculty in the midst of a debate about whether rising grades and GPAs are actually a problem, and if so, what to do about it.

"It's not clear whether anything needs to be done or can be done [about grade inflation]," said Associate Professor of English Jesse Matz, the chair of the CAS. "We'll continue

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YEARS AGO



November 3, 1994

D-Phi Car-bash for Charity

The Delta Phi fraternity sponsored a car-bash on Peirce Lawn this week eleven years ago. Students could pay \$1 to "take four whacks at a car with either a sledgehammer or an aluminum baseball bat."

November 2, 2000

Rugby team busted after high speed chase

Five years ago this week, the *Collegian* reported that Safety and Security officers pursued members of the men's and women's rugby teams "through the intramural athletics field and the surrounding cornfields and woods" after breaking up the teams' initiation party. The teams had been celebrating "their new rookies" with alcohol and songs when a security officer approached the unauthorized gathering. The team members fled in all directions, and several leapt a nearby fence. "It was like throwing a firecracker at an anthill," said Director of Safety and Security Dan Werner. "They just went in every direction." Eleven team members were eventually caught and faced disciplinary action, but the captain of the men's team said the chase did much to bring the men's and women's teams together.

November 5, 1992

Strange Apparatus Sparks Bomb Threat in Gund

Gund residence hall was evacuated thirteen years ago this week after the discovery of a homemade explosive outside the boiler room. The "alleged bomb" was a plastic two-liter bottle containing "an unknown green liquid" and a piece of metal. The College Township Fire Department removed the bottle, which was eventually forwarded to the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation.

- Megan Shipley

VILLAGE RECORD

Oct. 26 - Nov. 2, 2005

Oct. 26, 5:50p.m. - Report of harassing phone calls at Leonard Hall.
 Oct. 27, 12:52a.m. - Underage possession of alcohol at Caples Residence.
 Oct. 27, 2:01a.m. - Pull station pulled on fire alarm at Leonard Hall
 Oct. 27, 2:00p.m. - Theft of bicycle from Mather Residence bike rack. Report filed with sheriff's office
 Oct. 28, 9:38a.m. - Fire alarm at Taft Cottages - activated by steam from shower.
 Oct. 28, 10:47p.m. - Vandalism to paper towel dispenser/fire extinguisher discharged at Leonard Hall.
 Oct. 29, 12:53a.m. - Vandalism/picnic table overturned on Middle Path.
 Oct. 29, 4:06a.m. - Medical call regarding ill student at Taft Cottages - College physician was notified.
 Oct. 30, 1:18a.m. - Underage consumption of alcohol at Lewis Hall.
 Oct. 30, 1:23a.m. - Underage consumption of alcohol at Old Kenyon.
 Oct. 30, 3:01a.m. - Underage consumption of alcohol at Old Kenyon.
 Oct. 30, 6:02p.m. - Possible theft of items from construction site.
 Oct. 31, 8:14p.m. - Theft of item from locker at the Ernst Center.
 Oct. 31, 10:27p.m. - Medical call regarding a student with a cut hand. Student was transported by a friend to the hospital.

GPA: Faculty questions grading

Are rising grades becoming problematic?

CONTINUED from page 1

to research the phenomenon. What we're most concerned about now is doing the fact-finding necessary to determine the situation at Kenyon and provide faculty with the information they need to do the grading they want to do."

Those with opinions on rising grades tend to split into two camps, and it is clear that at the heart of the debate are different philosophies about the utility of grades. Harry M. Clor Professor of Political Science Fred Baumann believes that rising grades are a serious problem and that Kenyon must do something to combat the trend.

"It's systemic, like inflation of any kind," said Baumann. "I think you can at best slow it down. If you don't, pretty soon everybody will be getting As and grades will become worthless."

Baumann believes that the data the CAS wants to make available will be a baby step toward slowing the trend of rising grades at Kenyon. "I think the more awareness [faculty] have, the more likely they are to say 'Gee, look where we're tending and this isn't so good,'" he said.

On the other side of the debate are faculty members like Professor of Women's and Gender Studies Laurie Finke, who is unconcerned about rising grades. "I don't think grade inflation is a problem because I don't think grades are at all relevant," said Finke. "Grades are a way to keep students working. ... Everyone has to prioritize what they can get done in a day, and a grade moves it up higher onto the priority level."

Finke also said that the "rising grades" debate takes faculty attention away from issues she considers more important. "I'm much more concerned about what students are learning than whether or not I'm giving them an A, a B or a C," she said. Faculty learn this "by actual contact with the student, by reading what they write, by talking to them, by having interactions with them."

Though Baumann agrees that personal contact with students is crucial to learning, he still believes grades play an important role. "What I think grades are is a kind of shorthand," he said. "A long discussion that doesn't at some point say, 'You're doing very well,' 'You're doing pretty well,' or 'You're doing pretty badly' isn't very helpful. That's the basic message you want to get across, and then [written comments and personal contact with students] explains how to come in line."

Most students asked about rising grades seemed to be concerned about the trend. "I think the biggest losers from grade inflation are the very top students," said Mike Zabeck '08, a member of the Student Council Academic Affairs Committee (AAC), which has been reviewing the issue of rising grades. "It becomes more and more difficult to see when someone

is really excelling academically. ... I think the measured approach we have of studying the problem and alerting people to it will work effectively. ... I especially think the problem is under control, as Kenyon students seem to have a great respect for good teaching, and I think a part of good teaching is awarding accurate and un-inflated grades."

Liz Lopatto '06, also an AAC member, believes that Kenyon might be better off without grades. "While it's the solution I'd be most inclined to

"I don't think grade inflation is a problem because I don't think grades are at all relevant."

—Laurie Finke

recommend ... I imagine it would be shot down immediately by those who are very conscious of our US News and World Report rankings," she said. "That being said, if Kenyon were to abolish grading, I think we'd attract students interested in knowledge for knowledge's sake. ... As long as we maintain a consumer attitude about higher education ('I paid \$40,000 a year for this school, so Johnny deserves all A's'), it will be difficult if not impossible to combat grade inflation."

AAC member Kate Gunby '09 offered a first-year's take on rising grades. "I think that figuring out grading at Kenyon can be especially tricky for freshmen," she said. "Intro language classes have freshmen who just missed passing the proficiency test despite years of study, and others who have never taken a foreign language before. ... It would make sense for teachers to want to reward the students who are working hard to grasp the new materials with a B and to deny anything better than a B to those who aren't really trying."

Part of the impetus for the CAS's move was a pair of letters, one each from the economics and political science departments, which were submitted to the faculty last fall and expressed concern about rising grades at Kenyon. The letters were signed by all of the professors in each department.

Though the letter from the political science department could not be immediately obtained, the letter from the economics department mentions the "grade compression" that accompanies rising grades in which the range of grades available to give student work shrinks. The letter says that "grade compression erodes the quality of information conveyed to students, almost surely leading them to make poorer choices."

The letter describes a situation in which "Jill" and "Jack" earn an A- and a B- in Arabic, respectively. Jill becomes an English major and Jack an Arabic major. "Prior to the recent compression in grades, the gap in their grades between English and Arabic would have been larger,"

the letter reads. "They [are] deprived of the information with which to accurately weight the tradeoff between their interests and talents."

The letter advocates making data on College-wide grading available to all faculty members as a solution to grade compression.

But it is unclear how faculty members will use the grading data that the CAS wants to make available. Registrar Ellen Harbourt said that during the first two years she worked at Kenyon, "reams and reams of paper" with grading data were sent to department chairs. "No one looked at it," she said. "We stopped sending it for about three years and no one asked about it."

Finke thinks the data will be unhelpful. "I think it is pointless information because it doesn't have context," she said. In her classes, Finke sometimes gives the entire class the same high grade for well-executed group projects. "That's very different from a chemistry class where students take exams and everyone does their own work and gets their own grade," she said. "I get back my statistics and it says my GPA for that semester is 4.0. What does that mean?"

Professor of Mathematics Carol Schumacher was also skeptical about the utility of the information. "I got some data like this last year," she said. "The information was interesting ... but it made absolutely no difference to the way that I grade."

However, some faculty members thought the data might be useful. "It helps all of us to grade more fairly," said Professor of Biology Joan Slonczewski. "It is particularly important for new faculty to learn the actual grading practices of their department, so their grades 'fit in' with the Kenyon norm. New professors have run into trouble at second reappointment because they graded on the scale of their previous institution, instead of the 'hidden' Kenyon scale."

Schumacher and Slonczewski also thought that the issue of rising grades affected the natural science departments differently from the rest of the College. "I think that, in general, courses in the sciences and mathematics are less susceptible to grade inflation than are many courses in the humanities," said Schumacher. "I think this is because it is so much easier to quantify when something is right [in the natural sciences] and when it is not."

"The consensus of the biology department, and probably most of the science division, is that we need to roll back grade inflation," said Slonczewski. "We would like Kenyon to take a leadership role on grade standards. ... But it needs to be done nationally so as to avoid penalizing our students applying to graduate and professional schools."

Trustees: New art facilities, student housing planned

CONTINUED from page 1

As laid out in the Master Plan, new art facilities would be situated behind the library where Sunset Cottage, Bailey House and Walton House are currently located, and the cottages would move farther north, near Palme House.

Plans have changed, however, and, according to trustees and College administrators, the location of the new art buildings is undecided.

It is also unclear where the proposed new student housing will

be located, although the Master Plan calls for the construction of both town house-style student residences in the middle of Gambier and new residence halls near Old Kenyon.

Several projects are definite, though. The new art facilities will not only house the studio art and art history departments but will also provide gallery space, replacing the Olin Gallery. According to Nugent, there may be as many as two new art buildings, one of which would be exclusively devoted to gallery space.

The other definite project is that Bexley Hall, which currently houses the art department, will be converted to student housing once the new art facilities are built.

• The design process: a community effort?

Kenyon has already commissioned Graham Gund '63 of the Gund Partnership to design the new art facilities, and the College will work to decide on an architect for the new student housing. However, Nugent said exact plans for the location and design of these buildings

will depend, in part, on the wishes of donors.

"There's a kind of a double process between the College's identified needs and the potential donors' identified interests," she said. "That's one reason why it's not so easy to say, 'We're absolutely going to do this,' because if no one steps forward with an interest in that, we wouldn't be able to carry out the project."

Nugent added that student and community input in the design process would be welcomed. "For each project we undertake," she

said, "there will be some kind of ... advisory committee or consulting committee. ... There will be input from all the relevant constituencies."

• Assessing and addressing Kenyon's needs

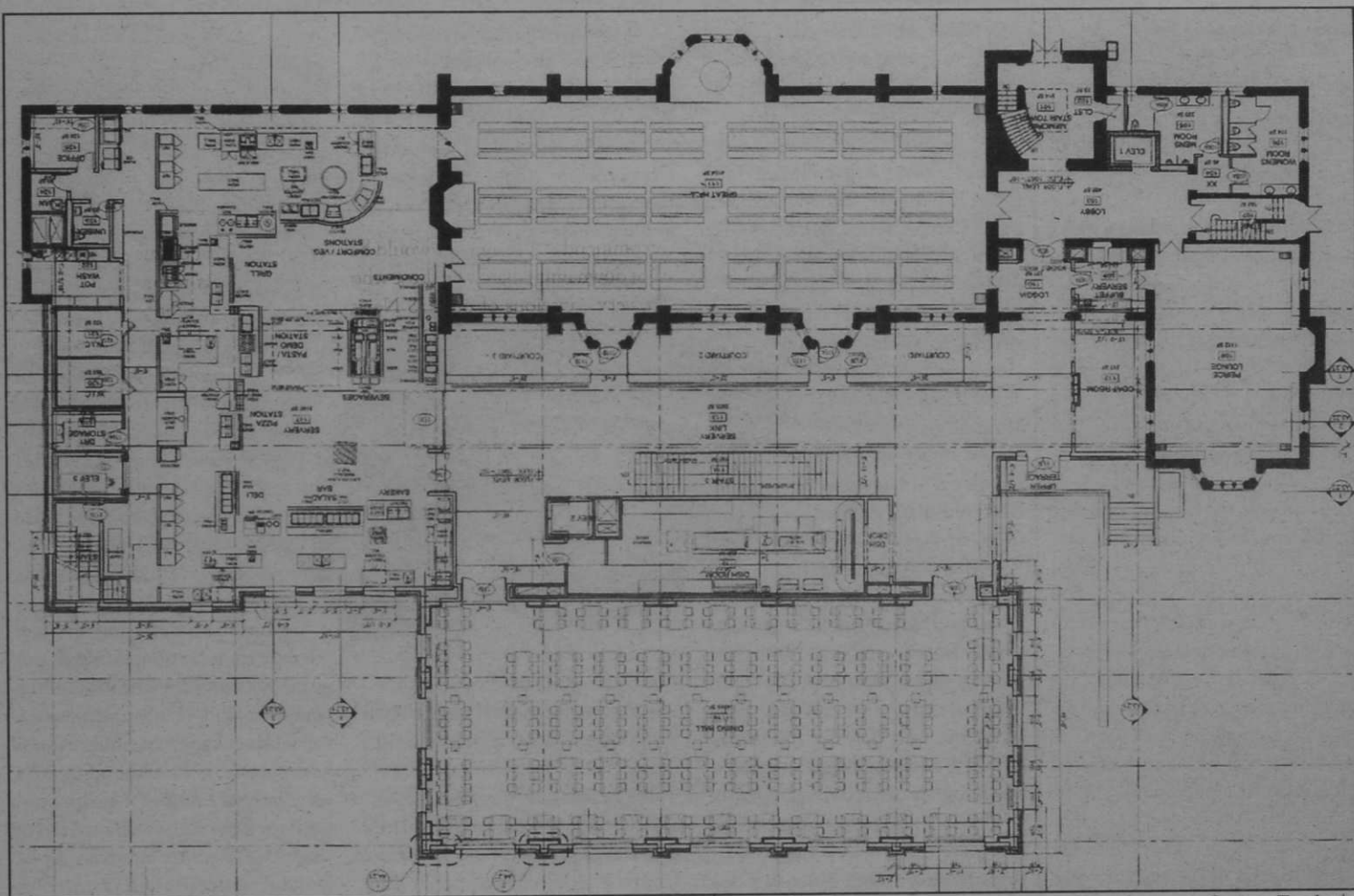
Before beginning the capital campaign, the administration set out to determine the College's most pressing needs, garnering input from students, faculty and alumni, among others. Written surveys were distributed to more than 100 alumni and friends of Kenyon last year, and five committees consisting of faculty, administrators and students were formed. The Board of Trustees then created a campaign steering committee, which synthesized the suggestions of these various parties.

The committee determined that Kenyon was deficient in several areas: endowments for scholarships and faculty, student life, art facilities and student residences.

According to College administrators, the capital campaign, which should raise between \$200 and \$230 million, is aimed at remedying all of these deficiencies. An exact goal for the amount of money to be raised will not be publicly announced until 2007.

Currently, the capital campaign is in the "quiet phase," during which the College talks with donors and trustees to determine their levels of commitment. According to Kahrl, the final, definite goal for the capital campaign will be "based on the commitments that [donors] make."

College administrators did not comment on whether donations for specific projects have already been promised; however, Kahrl said, "We have had a very supportive, strong start from the first donors to the campaign."



Courtesy Tom Lepley

The Board of Trustees approved the plans for major renovations of Peirce Hall, including the demolition and replacement of Dempsey, expansion of the servery and installation of an elevator.

Size: Committee decides Kenyon is over-enrolled

CONTINUED from page 1

would ideally not want students living off campus." He cited noise complaints from Gambier residents and increased student run-ins with the sheriff's department as issues caused in large part by off-campus housing.

In addition to proposing an on-campus enrollment target, the committee recommended that the enrollment assumption for the College's yearly operating budget also be set at 1,575 students, said Spaid.

"It is important to note that when we started our study the actual, on-campus enrollment was 1,611 and the budgeted enrollment assumption was for 1,520 [students]," he said.

Money received from the additional students above the enrollment assumption is designated as surplus, which "can only

be used for one-time expenses," according to Spaid.

"Surplus does not go into the yearly operating budget of the College, which means, for instance, that on-going expenses, such as the hiring of new permanent faculty members—or staff in the health and counseling service—cannot be accomplished with those funds," said Spaid. By increasing the enrollment assumption, money that would currently be designated as surplus could be used for ongoing costs.

Spaid added that the decrease in the number of students would not affect the number of permanent faculty members but that there could be a decrease over time in the number of part-time teachers hired to teach over-enrolled courses.

Spaid also emphasized that the committee's recommenda-

tions "have not yet been fully endorsed or implemented."

"[The recommendation] has been accepted by senior staff and trustees," said Nugent. "What has not been done is the planning for 'How will we do that?'"

The committee recommended that the College take about four years to decrease on-campus enrollment to 1,575, said Spaid. A decrease in enrollment will require a decrease in the number of admitted students each year. Spaid said that the process of reducing class size has already begun; the class of 2009, with 441 students, is smaller than the current sophomore and junior classes.

Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Jennifer Britz, who was on the committee, could not be reached for comment about how the admissions office plans

to reduce class size.

According to Spaid, the enrollment committee was formed in January 2005 at Nugent's request. The question of the optimal size of the College was last addressed in 1998, he said.

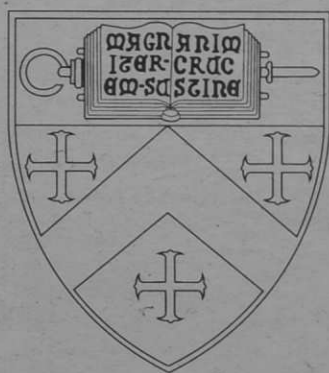
The committee was made up of Spaid, Britz, Dean of Students Don Omahan, Vice President for Finance Joe Nelson, Assistant Professor of Economics Jay Corrigan and Director of Institutional Research Glen Turney.

Did you know that a "hangover" is really mild to moderate Alcohol withdrawal?

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A smaller College?

With on-campus housing bursting at the seams and with 46 students living off campus (in a college that is purportedly 100 percent residential), Kenyon has finally made moves to address the issue of over-enrollment.

In January, administrators formed an ad hoc enrollment committee to determine the optimal size of the College and came to the unsurprising conclusion that the student body is too large. Kenyon, they concluded, should ideally have 1575 students on campus (not including students who are off campus for study abroad programs), plus or minus 25—as opposed to the roughly 1725 that are currently enrolled (1639 of which are currently on campus).

This is a fine goal. But it remains to be seen whether the College will actually follow through. Every year, the administration expresses a desire to reduce the size of the student body. Yet until this year, enrollment numbers have been steadily increasing.

To reach its goal, it seems that Kenyon's enrollment would have to drop by roughly 75 to 100 students. But President S. Georgia Nugent said that no concrete plans have yet been made about how to make that happen.

Moreover, the College is sending contradictory messages: 1575 students will be living on campus, yet Peirce Hall, when renovated, will seat 1800 students, 225 students more than would be on campus at any one time.

According to College administrators, there are no plans to close the Gund dining hall any time soon. It seems unwise to spend an estimated \$20 million on unnecessary seating. Both Peirce and Gund will feel empty and awkward if their capacity so greatly exceeds the size of the student body. Administrators will have to develop a concrete strategy if they hope to achieve their target.

Forgotten Soviet-era bioweapon threatens Kenyon's idyllic milieu



BY JOHANNES M. L.
VAN DER TUIN
Staff Columnist

When I first arrived on campus in late August of 2002, Gambier was very similar to the town described by Rachel Carson in "Silent Spring."

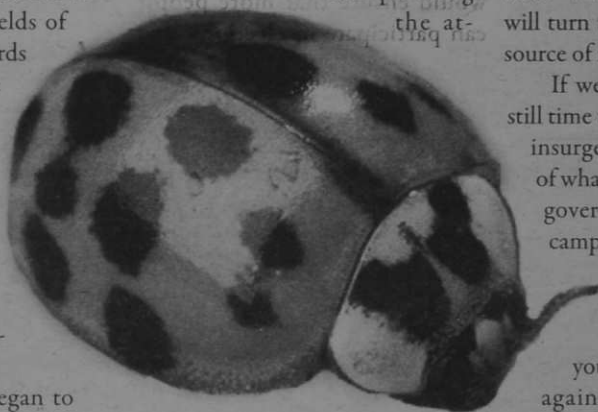
"There was once a town in the heart of America where all life seemed to live in harmony with its surroundings," Carson writes. "The town lay in the midst of a checkerboard of prosperous farms, with fields of grain and hillsides of orchards where, in spring, white clouds of bloom drifted above the green fields. In autumn, oak and maple and birch set up a blaze of color that flamed and flickered across a backdrop of pines."

That was, until the invasion began.

The ladybugs first began to appear in September of 2003; one autumn night, a warm-weather spell swept across campus. When dawn broke the next day, our world had changed. Every building on campus was inundated by ladybugs. Eventually, every building (no matter how well defended) was infiltrated by the demonic insects. Since that day, nothing has changed. Every warm fall day is sure to include a barrage of ladybugs.

In fact, the insect under question is an Asian beetle masquerading as a ladybug. Its actual name is the Asian Ladybird Beetle, and until recently it was considered beneficial. The ladybird beetle has been used over the past 100 years as a way of protecting crops against aphids. Furthermore, since the adult ladybird has few natural predators, it has thrived in Ohio. According to the OSU Horticulture and Crop Science fact sheet, the ladybird is so popular among farmers that the native species became Ohio's official state insect in 1975.

However, the ALB is an invasive species, and the current ladybird infestation is a remnant of the Cold War. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s Soviet spies posing as wholesale farm suppliers attempted to disrupt American ecosystems by introducing non-native species, the most famous example being



tempted introduction of Belgian Endives by a high-level Soviet agent who infiltrated the Carter administration.

The theory was that by disrupting our agricultural industry, the Soviet Union could force the United States to divert capital from defense spending to farm subsidies. As a result, the Soviets would then be able to gain a military edge over

the United States. The program was instituted under the Soviet Leader Leonid Brezhnev, under the code name 'Operation Nesting Doll' the origin of this name is still unclear.

The time has come to dismantle the machinations of war. Like Russia's aging Soviet-era nuclear infrastructure, the ALB pose a growing and hidden threat to America's security; as the hazard is forgotten, it may become more dangerous. The ALB differs from its North American counterpart in one significant way: its teeth. ALBs have an ability to gnaw flesh in a way that ladybugs cannot.

Furthermore, the warming trends of the last decade have caused an ALB population explosion across North America. It won't be long till the ALB population has reached a critical mass, driving aphids to extinction. When that day comes, ALBs will turn to mammals as their main source of food, including humans.

If we all do our part, there is still time to fight the ladybird beetle insurgency. The obvious answer of what to do is kill, kill, kill. The government needs to launch a campaign forcefully advocating the hunting of the Asian Ladybird Beetle.

What weapon do you wield in the eternal battle against the devil bugs? Mere hands are not enough to win this war. My recommendation is to equip yourself with a hand vacuum and a roll of duct tape. Masking tape is less effective, but it works. For extra security, you can install a high-voltage floor lamp with an upward facing shade; satisfactory models can be found at any local 'MART' store. Just remember: be creative, stay vigilant, and happy hunting.

(Psst: this is a joke).



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Ohio elections deserve attention

Important, controversial amendments will be put to vote



BY ELLEN PIERSON
Staff Columnist

Are you registered to vote in Ohio? It's that time of year again. Election Day is just around the corner, and while I understand that many of you may never want to see the inside of the community center again, there are some compelling reasons to consider casting a vote this year.

Four out of the five Ohio ballot initiatives focus on voting reform, and in general, these initiatives promote a progressive plan for alleviating some of the most pressing problems with Ohio elections. To summarize in brief: proposed Amendment Two makes it easier to vote early or absentee; Amendment Three puts caps on donations to campaigns from various parties; Amendment Four establishes a non-partisan commission to handle re-districting; and Amendment Five takes the power of overseeing elections away from the secretary of state and establishes a non-partisan board to handle elections.

I set out to write this column unequivocally in support of all voter-reform efforts but realized that these issues are actually quite complicated. Contrary to the many signs around town saying "Reform Ohio Vote Yes Issues 2, 3, 4 & 5," these four amendments should not be treated simply as a block in which it is impossible to agree with one and disagree with another. Rather, each amendment deserves individual attention and should be considered on the basis of its individual merit.

Reading Amendment Two, I immediately flashed back to a memorable event from canvassing for the 2004 election. An elderly woman from Mount Vernon commented that she would vote "if it didn't rain." This may seem a little crazy to you and me, but let's face

it—elderly people are nuts about weather, and it isn't only rain that keeps voters from the polls. People have jobs and families, and everyone is busy. There are many instances where people who want to vote just don't get around to it.

If Amendment Two had been in effect last November, this woman would have been able to vote early simply because she didn't want to vote in the rain. This amendment would ensure that more people can participate in elections, and the opposition's insistence that it would result in increased fraud is an exaggeration. Instances of voter fraud are relatively infrequent as it is, and there are already safeguards in the system preventing people with absentee ballots from voting twice.

For Amendment Three, the opposition's charge that there is a loophole allowing labor unions to contribute more money than corporations seems to be a legitimate critique. Nevertheless, it is not unreasonable for labor unions' influence to reflect that demographic reality. Furthermore, it seems likely that "Big Money" is going to influence politics no matter what. This amendment would at least give interest groups like labor a chance to be on equal footing.

Congressional districting, the issue of Amendment Four, is a notorious problem throughout the country. In 435 U.S. House races last year, only thirteen seats changed party. In Ohio specifically, every incumbent Congressman and state senator up for election was re-elected. This is probably not because everyone loves their hometown representative but rather because representatives draw districts to ensure that they or their party will be re-elected.

Again, the opposition does not offer a convincing reason to vote no. The main objection seems to be that an independent commission would be unaccountable to the voters. A system where district-drawers are unaccountable to the voters, however, is exactly what we have now, since representatives fix districts so that they are always re-elected. This is a glaring problem, and it is obvious that districts should be drawn by parties who are at least theoretically disinterested.

Amendment Five also addresses conflict of interest. Ohio Secre-

tary of State J. Kenneth Blackwell is at least ostensibly planning to run for governor in 2006—at which point he will still be responsible for overseeing elections. This is not the first time a secretary of state has been in this position. Current Ohio governor Bob Taft (recently indicted for accepting lobbyists' gifts without reporting them) was also secretary of state during a successful bid for governor. The lines between Blackwell the candidate for governor and Blackwell the secretary of state are already being blurred. According to his blog, Blackwell openly opposes Amendments Two and Five, a completely inappropriate public stance for someone who is in charge of election procedures.

The idea of conflict of interest absolutely needs to be addressed, and, although I would like to support Amendment Five, I am not convinced that its solution is the best one. Overseeing elections is the main role of the secretary of state, and this amendment would significantly change the way Ohio government works, adding a layer of bureaucracy that may not be necessary.

There are also some specific stipulations in the amendment that I am unsure about. For instance, "The governor and members of the general assembly must appoint equal numbers of men and women and take into consideration the geographic regions and racial diversity of the state." This is a legitimate interest, but affirmative action belongs in the realm of legislation, not in the Constitution. Restrictions on at least the stated political aspirations of current secretaries of state might better serve to remove the conflict of interest than to create an independent panel.

This is one of many political situations where there is no ideal choice. The problems that the ballot initiatives address are very serious, but in some cases the proposed solutions may be problematic as well. The biggest problem of all is that it is extremely difficult to find accurate information about the issues. I think Amendments two through four are absolutely worth voting for, but if you are going to vote, please take the time to read these amendments yourself, to sift through all the misinformation out there and to make the most informed decision possible.

Ratemyprofessor.com rankings lack validity



BY KATHRYN CHIASSON
Opinions Assistant

As an avid reader of (but never a contributor to) Kenyon's allstu threads, I have been only mildly amused by the latest one, titled "Who's the sexiest professor on campus?" People sent out responses, mostly nominating their own favorites and some in the humorous vein. One student pointed to "ratemyprofessor.com" to augment the debate.

At ratemyprofessor.com, professors are rated on "easiness," helpfulness, clarity and rater interest, along with a small space for comments. My favorite part is the chili pepper option to indicate "hotness." When I converse with my friends about which classes to look for I *always* ask about the professor's relative hotness.

How engaging a professor is may have some bearing on a class, but in the end I am not going to voluntarily take a chemistry class from the most engaging and prolific professor at Kenyon if my level of interest in chemistry ranges from distaste to pure fear. Ultimately, I will look at a course description and a list of material covered throughout the semester as a true judge of the class.

Unfortunately, ratemyprofessor.com provides one of the only aids for picking courses to students whose friends have never taken a class from a given professor. Incoming freshmen are given UCCs (upper-class counselors) to help them pick out their courses, but these students act as just another friend who has his or her own opinions about the myriad of courses and professors available. Older students don't even really have that; depending on your academic advisor, he or she may help, but usually just with courses within their own department. I have seen an occasional allstu sent out asking about a professor, but, in general, students do not have any other options. The course evaluation forms filled out at the end of the semester are not publicly released. (Not that I am arguing that they should be—I would be far less likely to give a less-than-positive evaluation if I knew the entire Kenyon community would have to feel that professor's embarrassment. That would just be cruel.) How else other than ratemyprofessor.com should we be able to figure out which classes and professors to push for and which to avoid at all costs?

If ratemyprofessor.com is to be considered a viable option, we must consider: How helpful can these evaluations actually be? It says something about this Web site that the first quality listed is "easiness." This Web site

seems to cater to the type of student who looks for the easy way out. Also, a professor may only be rated by one or two students, which can yield misleading results.

One of my favorite professors at Kenyon got a pretty negative evaluation on ratemyprofessor.com, and I was almost personally offended by it. How could they say something like this about a professor I adored and give such positive evaluations to a professor I considered an embarrassment to the teaching profession? If I had read the negative evaluations of my favorite professor before taking her class, I would have missed out on not only a great class but a good relationship with her.

As Assistant Professor of American Studies Kevin Britz pointed out, "I think students should always be wary of such public expressions. Remember that one person can hate a teacher (or fellow student or boss or parent) while another can love the same person. In other words, a professor's teaching style may be perfect for you but wrong for another person. Either extreme can skew the evaluation."

Ratemyprofessor.com is an affiliate of ratemyteacher.com, a Web site my high school friends and I rediscovered every year or so and had a good laugh about. In the years since my high school graduation, I've found this practice is increasingly immature. As I skim through the evaluations on ratemyteacher.com, I find two of the best teachers I had were given some of the few frowny faces on the roster. I loathed the two of them in my freshman and sophomore year of high school. Now, however, I know I would be half the student I am today if I hadn't had them pushing me. Sure, I didn't get the best grades in their classes, and I hated them at the time. But I realize that what I learned from them is invaluable.

Dean of Academic Advising Jane Martindell said, "I think it is acceptable to discuss and advise students based on a professor's particular style—are they more of a lecturer, how much class discussion is involved in their classes, the type of homework that is usually required. This type of information can help students match their learning styles and also help them balance their course work effectively. Actually making judgments about good or bad is not very helpful. All students are different, and what you may like in a professor, may not be what another person likes so you just have to be very careful."

A problem with the anonymous nature of the ratemyprofessor.com evaluations is that you never can tell where the evaluations are coming from. You know nothing of the student rater's study skills, personality, or overall intelligence which—let's face it—has a lot to do with how we do in our classes and, therefore, how we look at them in their wake. Ratemyprofessor.com makes it impossible to know from where these evaluations are come and on what grounds the students make these claims.

GAMBIER ELECTIONS 2005: ISSUES ON THE BALLOT

ISSUE 1

Construction and Research Grants

Issue One, the first of six Ohio constitutional amendments being put to a vote this Tuesday, was proposed by the Ohio General Assembly to "be for the purpose of creating and preserving jobs and stimulating economic growth in all areas of Ohio by improving local government public infrastructure." The improvements mentioned would include building roads and bridges, expanding research and development capabilities and preparing sites for development.

The amendment would declare that development of industrial infrastructure is a public purpose and would allow the General Assembly to provide bonds to fund local governments for the purpose of improving local infrastructures to attract new business development. The amendment would also allow the state and other state-funded or state-assisted universities to provide financial assistance to researchers.

The amendment would authorize grants of up to \$1.35 billion in bonds for local governments, \$500 million for research and development and no more than \$150 million for site and facility development.

If this amendment is approved by a simple majority of

the voters in the State of Ohio, the plan would be effective immediately and would allow the General Assembly to pass laws for its implementation.

—Dayne Baughman

ISSUE 2

Absentee Balloting

Issue Two, an amendment to the Ohio Constitution proposed by petition, is the first in a series of voting reform issues to go before voters on this year's ballot.

Issue Two deals with the right of citizens to vote by absentee ballot. The amendment states that any citizen qualified to vote in an election could cast a ballot during a 35-day period prior to the election. This ballot could either be cast in person—at the board of elections or some other location designated by that board—or by mail. If sent by mail, the county board of elections would be required to provide postage paid envelopes in which the voter could return his or her ballot. The voter would not be required to give a reason for his or her decision to cast an absentee ballot.

In the case that a voter chooses to cast his or her ballot by mail, the county would be required to accept that ballot up to 10 days after the election, provided that the ballot is postmarked by the date of the election. If the mail ballot

is not received by the county board of elections before the day of the election, the voter would be allowed to vote by provisional ballot on the day of the election.

ISSUE 3

Finance Reform

Issue Three is a proposed amendment to the state Constitution dealing with campaign finance, which would "establish revised limits on political contributions, establish prohibitions regarding political contributions and provide for revised public disclosure requirements campaign contributions and expenditures."

This amendment would limit the amount any individual could contribute to candidates for state executive positions as well as candidates for General Assembly positions, political parties and political action committees to \$25,000 in a single year. Limits would also be established for amounts that political action committees can give to candidates.

Although the amendment would not limit how a candidate spends his or her money, it would require candidates to publicly disclose contributions and expenditures and would make it necessary for a candidate to electronically file reports about contributions over \$1,000 in the 30-day period preceding an election.

The amendment would also put limits on candidates in connection with other entities. Candidates would be prohibited from soliciting

contributions for more than one political action committee or like group in a calendar year, from soliciting funds for a committee supporting or opposing a state ballot issue and from appearing in advertising pertaining to a state ballot issue, unless the candidate pays all costs in connection with that advertisement.

Limits would also be placed upon contributions from labor unions, committees registered with the federal Election Commission, out-of-state political parties and political actions committees in which the candidate has decision-making abilities.

—Dayne Baughman

ISSUE 4

Congressional Redistricting

State Issue Four, an amendment to the Ohio Constitution proposed by initiative petition, would "provide for the creating of a state redistricting committee with responsibility for creating legislative districts." In order for an amendment to be made by initiative petition, signatures must be collected equaling three percent of the number of votes cast in the last gubernatorial election. In addition, these signatures must be gained from 44 of Ohio's 88 counties in numbers equal to 1.5 percent of the votes cast for governor in the county where the signatures are collected.

This amendment would take the power of the General Assembly to draw legislative districts and give it to a five-member commis-

sion. The commission would be composed of two members chosen by sitting judges. The remaining members would be chosen by the seated members or by lot.

Once seated, the commission would draw legislative lines so that they are competitive. The amendment outlines a mathematical equation by which the committee will determine that a district is in fact competitive.

The committee would also be charged with putting into effect a plan for those legislative districts whose senator's terms do not expire on the first even numbered year after the committee adopts a redistricting plan.

The amendment also states that the State Supreme Court would have jurisdiction over this committee but would hold sway over it only insofar as to order the committee to comply with the particulars of the amendment.

If the issue passes, the first redistricting will take place in 2007 and then will occur every year ending in one (e.g. 2011) after the federal government's decennial census.

—Dayne Baughman

ISSUE 5

Administration of Elections

State Issue Five is an amendment to the Ohio Constitution proposed by initiative ballot which would create a board to administer elections in the State of Ohio, eliminating the responsibility of the Secretary of State to do so.

The new board of election administrators would consist of nine people and would oversee the existing boards of elections in place in each of Ohio's 88 counties.

Four of the members of the board would be chosen by the governor, four by the members of the General Assembly who are not of the same party as the governor and one by the unanimous vote of the members of the Ohio Supreme Court. The choices of the governor and General Assembly must be evenly divided between men and women and "must take into consideration the geographic regions and racial diversity of the state. The members of the board can have no affiliation with a political party and cannot hold any other public office.

The board of election administrators would be responsible for hiring an administrative director to prescribe uniform procedures to be followed by the county boards of elections as well as all other administrative duties of running an election.

The General Assembly would be given the task of allotting sufficient funds to the board so that they can complete their work and pay their staff.

—Dayne Baughman

Board of Education candidates



Charles Waugh

Charles M. Waugh, an eight-year veteran of the Mount Vernon Board of Education, is running for a third term as a representative to the board.

Waugh, a resident of Knox County since 1968, said he believes that the main problems facing the Mount Vernon school district is the funding received from state and the antiquated schools.

"Our school has got to be brought into the 21st century," Waugh said. "We are teaching kids

in hallways."

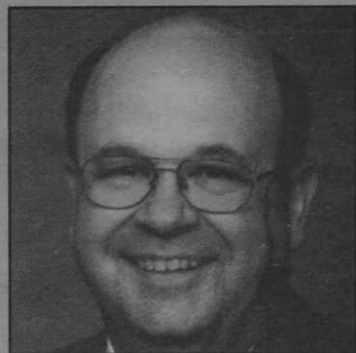
Waugh said that the lack of adequate buildings can hurt the community in the long run. "I think that schools are the foundation for any community," he said. "If we don't have good schools, we're not going to have good businesses come in; we're not going to have people take pride in the community."

Waugh said that passing a levy to ameliorate the school situation is a pressing issue facing the school board. According to Waugh, al-

though the levy was rejected by the voters when it was last on the ballot, it must "come back to the forefront" because some of the district's elementary schools are nearing their centennials.

Waugh said he believes he is a good candidate not only because of his eight years of experience on the board but also because he is "honestly ... attempting not only to better the school system [but] ... looking at it in the long term."

—Dayne Baughman



Ian Watson

Ian Watson, a life-long resident of Knox County, hopes to win a position on the Board of Education so that he can give back to the community. "I went through school [in Mount Vernon] ... somebody provided for me, and I think it's my turn to help provide [a quality education] for someone else," he said.

Watson said he believes that state funding is "certainly an issue" with which the Board of Education must deal in the

near future. Watson said that the district is entering "one of those situation where funds are certainly going to be [more scarce] than what we've been used to."

Watson believes that his strengths are in the area of budget and finance. He has worked for the First Knox National Bank for over thirty years and holds a bachelor's in economics and a master's in finance, both from Michigan State University.

According to Watson, many

good things have been done in the Mount Vernon school district recently. "Our school system has been participating ... in state-wide achievement tests and ... state grade cards and we have improved considerably over the past couple of years," he said. Watson hopes to continue the upward trend shown by the Mount Vernon district as a member of the Board of Education.

—Dayne Baughman

A third candidate for Mount Vernon Board of Education, Stephen R. Hughes could not be reached for comment.

VILLAGE COUNCIL CANDIDATES



Audra Cubie '01

Audra Cubie, a 2001 Kenyon graduate, said she is running for a second term on Gambier's Village Council in order to continue the work she has started in the past four years.

Cubie said she enjoys being on the Village Council because local government is "really [her] passion," a place where she says she feels effective. Cubie said she is involved in the day-to-day business of the Village. During windstorms, Cubie said, she and her husband, council member Lee Cubie, take their truck

and chainsaw and help the crews remove debris. She said she is at the Gambier Community Center at least four times a week, and regularly attends committee meetings for committees she is not on.

Cubie said her four-year term went quickly, and there are still things she wants to accomplish. She said the Village is currently in the position of "putting out fires," particularly in the area of water.

Water is an issue because Gambier buys water from Mount Vernon for the whole town and then

resells it to individual residents. The problem has been that the Village has been able to recover less than 60 percent of cost of water purchased from Mount Vernon. According to Cubie, the Village has been effectively subsidizing water in Gambier by not raising rates to cover the total cost charged by Mount Vernon.

This has caused financial problems for the Village, according to Cubie. But she said new avenues of revenue are being explored.

—Sean Ryan



Lee Cubie

Lee Cubie, a long time Gambier resident, is running for a second term on the Gambier Village Council.

Cubie said he is interested in "promoting good community." When he was asked by a previous mayor to run for council, Cubie said he had a "sense of community responsibility" to participate in local government.

During his four years in office, Cubie said he was instrumental in the repeal of the previously strict jaywalking ordinance, which provided for penalties including jail time and a

\$100 fine. Cubie said he rewrote the law so that there is no effective law against jaywalking in Gambier.

Lately, Cubie said, as Chair of the Streets and Utilities Committee, he has been working to pass legislation to establish a storm water enterprise utility. Cubie said this grew out of a desire to "come up with a rational plan" for dealing with storm water that often floods the southeastern quadrant of the village as well as the low-lying area around the Brooklyn Street and Quarry Chapel Road intersection.

It is "not unusual" for cities and villages to have a storm water enterprise utility, Cubie said, pointing out that Cincinnati and Wooster have had one for some time.

The ordinance, if passed, would allow the Village to charge residents for shared usage of the storm water system and needed upgrades to the system. Cubie does not foresee that the charge would be onerous to residents, saying that it will likely be between \$2.00 and \$4.00 per month per resident.

—Sean Ryan



Liz Forman '73

Elizabeth Forman '73, a write-in candidate for Village Council, is running for her third term on council.

Forman said that her service on council has been a way to know better a place she loves. She attended Kenyon and now works in the admissions office. Her mother lives here and her grandparents lived in Gambier for many years. She said it has been "eye-opening" to see what small villages deal with on a regular basis.

Over the last eight years, For-

man said, the Council has been able to work with putting together a new zoning code, something that had not been previously updated in years.

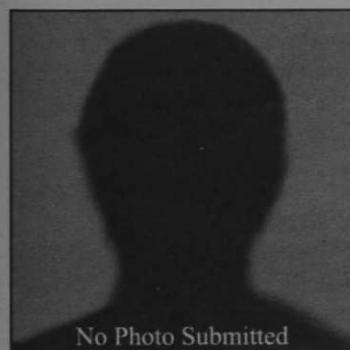
Forman also highlighted that work on the Village's infrastructure has been important, including working with an area that will eventually serve a dual purpose as a park and an area to handle excess storm water that currently floods many homes in the eastern part of town.

In her eight years on council, she has worked with different Vil-

lage Administrators and different mayors. Forman said she has "much respect" for the current mayor, Professor of Political Science Kirk Emmert, Village Administrator Rob McDonald and the village's employees, whom she praised at length. Forman said she looks forward to another four years working with them.

In addition, Forman said she wants to "see projects I am involved in come to completion or close to completion."

—Sean Ryan



No Photo Submitted

Betsy Heer

Betsy Heer was appointed to fill a Village Council vacancy in January 2004 and is standing for election to that seat.

Heer said she has a unique perspective of being "one of the few merchants in the village." Heer is the owner of the Gambier House bed and breakfast on East Wiggan Street.

Heer said that she has management and budget experience and has worked with non-profit organizations for 20

years. Heer is also the Chair of the Finance and Income Tax Committee, as well a member of the Shade Tree Commission and the Cemetery Committee.

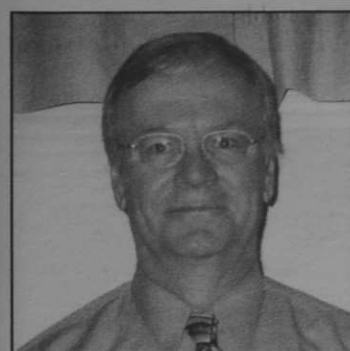
According to Heer, the biggest issues facing Gambier are "water, water and water." She said the Village's water problems are threatening the fiscal health of the Village.

Although Heer was quick to note that she regretted having to do so, she did vote for

the increase in water rates, which she said was needed to help make up the shortfall between what Mt. Vernon was charging Gambier and what Gambier was bringing in.

Heer said council is doing a number of things to address the problem. For one, Heer said, council is "vigorous with leak detection activities," and appreciates the public alerting the Village to leaks.

—Sean Ryan



Jim Lenthe

Jim Lenthe, Gambier's former Village Administrator, said that he is running for Village Council because "I feel I have a lot to offer."

Lenthe, who holds a masters in public administration, served on the City Council in Huron, Ohio. Lenthe said that he has "always gotten involved in [his] community" and he has lent his experience wherever he has lived.

Lenthe was hired as Gambier's Village Administrator in March 2001 and served in that capacity until July 2004, when he said his

"contract was not renewed."

During his tenure as Village Administrator, Lenthe said, "several major projects were completed," including upgrades at the Village's wastewater treatment plant, an "extensive paving project" and parts of the storm water project.

Lenthe called the Village's water loss problem "a fairly major issue," saying that nothing was done about it before he arrived as Village Administrator. He said that as Village Administrator, he helped identify the problem and took steps

to correct it. In the future, he said the Village might have to replace the water infrastructure, which would require new revenue sources to be investigated.

Finally, Lenthe said that he will be receptive to the views of Gambier residents. His view is that council members and the mayor "should represent the constituents" and "do their bidding." Lenthe said that he welcomes questions and comments from Village residents.

—Sean Ryan

VOTE!

**Tuesday,
Nov. 8**

7:00 a.m.

to

7:00 p.m.

**Gambier
Community
Center**

LEVIES

**Replacement levy for the Mount
Vernon School District**

The Mount Vernon School District is seeking renewal of a tax levy providing for the emergency requirements of the district. The \$1.65 million dollar levy would commence in 2006, first coming due in the 2007 calendar year and continuing for a period of five years. The \$3.34 million levy, which is already on the books, would mean the owner of a house worth \$100,000 would pay \$33.40 a year in taxes.

**Joint County Mental Health
and Recovery Board proposed
replacement levy**

This proposed levy would replace the current Community Mental Health and Recovery Board (CMHRB) levy, which is set to expire in December 2005. The CMHRB funds agencies that provide services to people dealing with mental illness, substance abuse issues and domestic violence. Agencies in Knox County that receive funding from the CMHRB are the Alcohol and Drug Freedom Center, the Recovery Center, Moundbuilders Guidance Center and New Directions. This levy is a 1.0 mill property tax levy and would be in effect for ten years starting in 2006; it would cost the owner of a \$100,000 house an additional \$10.85 per year.

**"Vote early and vote
often."**

—Al Capone

Well, maybe not the "often" part.

But do vote.

The lines will be shorter
than last year.

The Tao of Hawke

BY RYAN MERRILL
Staff Columnist

A series of haikus, describing my theoretical encounter with Ethan Hawke at a Cinnabon across the street from the Charles Playhouse in Boston, Massachusetts; Tuesday, July 21st at 10:00 a.m. (Autobiographical)

Can I have a large
coffee, with a cinnamon
bun? I ask the wind.

"Three eighty-nine," says
counter man, eyes
shining like stars in the
heavens.

It takes too long; I
wait and look around
the shop. My eyes fall
like snow.

"Ethan Hawke is here!"
I gasp with delight,
watching his russet hair
sway.

I must speak to him.
I find an excuse (Splen-
da) to go over there.

"Ethan Hawke?" My
voice shudders like the
pine. "That's me,"
his wry smile gleams.

"I loved *Gattaca*,"
I gasp through parch'd
desert throat watching
him sip chai.

"Thanks, glad someone
did." O, master of wit!
How you bedevil my
soul.

"What are you up to
later?" He asks, coy as
the blossom that loves
spring.

"Nothing," I say, shy
to Ethan's advances and
scared as newborn fawn.

"Wanna see *Saw II*?"
he queries, and all I can
say back is "DO I?"

We leave Cinnabon;
new friends, inseparable
as cypress branches.

But I forgot my
cinnamon bun, and *Saw
II* was hackneyed and
trite.

Ethan was cool, though.
He owns a dirt bike
and said we could ride
sometime.

First recital of year has something for everyone

BY TED HORNICK
Senior A&E Editor

This weekend features a recital by two of Kenyon College's most accomplished vocalists, as juniors Lauren Hauser and Adrienne Boris bring a concert to campus featuring selections from Handel, Bizet, Schubert and others. Hauser and Boris, who are great friends and talented performers, began preparing for the show last semester but are building on work they have done with specific composers since freshman year.

"You know that if people are bored, it's because of you," Boris deadpanned. But she urged curious students not to be intimidated by the program. "Don't go into it expecting to be bored and confused. ... [There's] a lot you can relate to."

Boris and Hauser's backgrounds in singing are rooted in their high school experiences, where each performed recitals before graduating (Hauser describes hers as "the scariest thing I've ever done"). Boris noted that she made sure Kenyon had a program where she could continue vocal training. Currently, they both sing with the Chamber Singers and the Opera Workshop.

Speaking about the difficulty in performing some of the selections, Boris explained that she must be careful "not to distract from the music," while Hauser expressed a frustration in the difficult task of "find[ing] something to grab onto" while working on some of the "Impressionist" French selections in their program.

When asked to single out the most difficult parts of the show,

Hauser noted that "Rorem is much harder than it looks or seems," and Boris added that singing in Russian "is deceptively not simple."

The two singers carefully prepared their performance material even during the past summer, when the duo would watch *Carmen* arias at Boris's house and brainstorm. Boris notes that she spent sixty hours on vocal rest before the mandatory hearing each vocalist is required to attend before staging a recital. Hauser and Boris are excited and ready for the show but are also quite nervous. Hauser said that despite not usually getting apprehensive about performing, "On Saturday, the nerves are gonna be 'AHH!'"

Hauser hopes that their performance, as the first recital of the year, will serve as an effective indoctrination "for somebody who has no idea what the music life is like" on campus, and she encourages the nervous to recognize how they may participate in future events.

Boris encourages attendance by re-inforcing that all of the works have been translated for students. She also promises that "there will be plenty of time for other activities - trust me" on the night of the show.

That night is Saturday, Nov. 5, at 8:00 p.m. in Brandi Recital Hall. Students are highly encouraged to attend what will surely be an informative, exciting and wonderful night of what the performers think of as "just beautiful music." Boris and Hauser are capable performers whose performance will begin what we can hope will be a year of great music at Kenyon.

Ubu breaks tradition

BY JESSICA FREEMAN-SLADE
Staff Writer

This past weekend's production of Alfred Jarry's *Ubu Enchained* served as an entertaining reminder that not all theater need be Aristotelian. GREAT (Gambier Repertory Ensemble Actors Theater), the group that sponsored the production, should be praised for sponsoring a non-traditional show for Kenyon audiences; the choice to produce *Ubu* demonstrates a faith in Kenyon's audiences to understand complex theater. It is unfortunate, therefore, that so much of the production left this reviewer in the dark.

The cast should be commended for making the most of their caricatured roles. Ryan Merrill '07 shone in his bombastic yet sympathetic portrayal of Pa Ubu, only slightly outshone by the radiant Cait Watkins '08 as Ma Ubu. Watkins, resembling Judy Garland at her most medicated, was fantastic to watch, and her scenes with Merrill brought to mind a Sweeney Todd-Mrs. Lovett villainy. In addition, Anthony Fischer '07 delighted in the role of the nebbish control freak Corporal Pissweet, and Anna Stevens '08 excelled as the Victorian trollop Eleutheria, complete with heaving corset and Marilyn Monroe breathiness.

Special attention should be given to Adrienne Boris '07 for her portrayal of Eleutheria's Uncle Pissale: Boris generated the most laughs of the show with her carefully measured old-man delivery. Of all the cast, she made the cleanest, clearest choices and consequently was the funniest.

The trio of freemen, as played by first-years Ken Worrall '09, Kari Jennings '09 and especially Catherine Norbeck '09 should also be noted for strong Kenyon theater debuts. I look forward to seeing them in future roles that will make better use of their brilliant physical comedy.

The technical prowess of the show should also be commended: the use of a large fabric panel facilitated

extra entrance possibilities and effectively divided the space. The costumes were exceptional, particularly those of Ma and Pa Ubu, complete with arched-eyebrow makeup and padded posteriors. This was one of the most fluidly teched shows I've ever seen in the Black Box, which makes my final comments about the show all the more unfortunate.

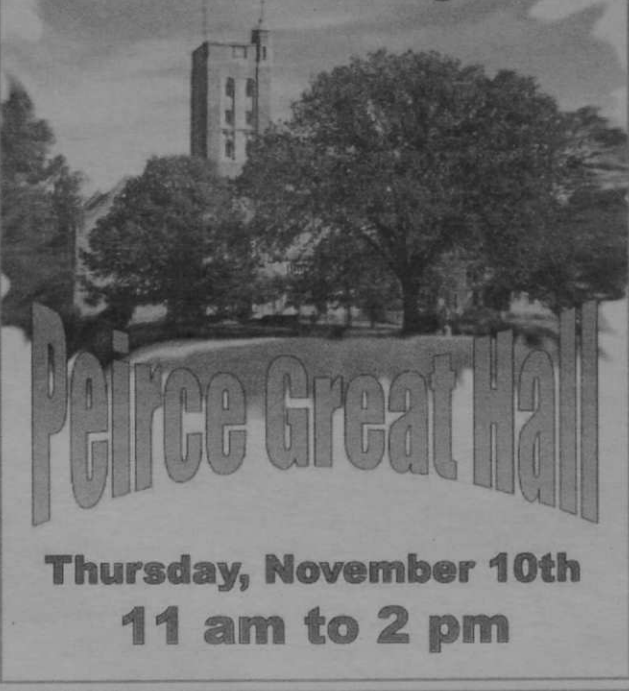
The problem of this production was not so much the efforts of the talented cast, or the peculiarities of the script. Rather, director Chris Basile '07 failed to coordinate all of these efforts into something coherent for audience consumption.

Though each actor gave his all, the audience was never successfully acclimated to the logic of Freedonia. Consequently, we were left to ask ourselves why we should care about the story; the biggest laugh in Saturday's performance came not from the play itself, but from an audience member asking, "What?"

Even though absurdist theater is not based in Aristotelian forms, the audience still must have some things presented as Aristotelian simply for a basic understanding of what occurs onstage. Aristotle's poetic theory dominates thinking at Kenyon with its emphasis on specific conflicts, spectacles and resolutions coming together with the goal of "giving delight" to an audience. Kenyon theater recognizes this: drama courses such as "The Actor" and "The Director" instruct students on how to make absurdist theater audience-friendly.

The absence of communal laughter at Saturday night's performance was a sign that the audience was lost—someone should have clued them in as to what was meant to be funny versus heartbreaking. What the show needed was a guiding hand, with an eye both on celebrating the story's insanity and on maintaining the audience's support. This guiding hand would have done the fabulous cast and crew justice and given Aristotelian drama a real run for its money.

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PREMIERE THEATERS

Movie Schedule for November 4-10

CHICKEN LITTLE	5:00, 7:00, 9:00 (also at 1:00 and 3:00 on Sat/Sun)
JARHEAD	4:40, 7:10, 9:40 (also at 1:20 on Sat/Sun)
DREAMER	5:00, 7:15, 9:30 (also at 12:30 and 2:45 Sat/Sun)
SAW II	5:30, 7:30, 9:30 (also at 1:30 and 3:30 Sat/Sun)
LEGEND OF ZORRO	4:20, 7:00, 9:40 (also at 1:30 Sat/Sun)
DOOM	5:00, 7:15, 9:30 (also at 12:30 and 2:45 Sat/Sun)
ELIZABETHTOWN	4:30, 7:00 (also at 1:00 Sat/Sun)
NORTH COUNTRY	9:40

The Rock is amazing, but can he save *Doom*?

PAUL NARULA
Staff Columnist

**** out of five

Making a movie out of a video game isn't as easy as you might think. The pre-established fan base (the very reason these movies are made) becomes the downfall of the movie itself. Fans lose all interaction with the story, a major portion of the fun of a game to begin with.

One can't take a game whose storyline is supposed to span a period of at least ten hours and condense it to two without losing something, and this loss enrages people. It also means massive gaps in plot, character development, and just about everything else. In the end, you're left with an awful movie that nobody is happy with and that quickly flops out of theaters.

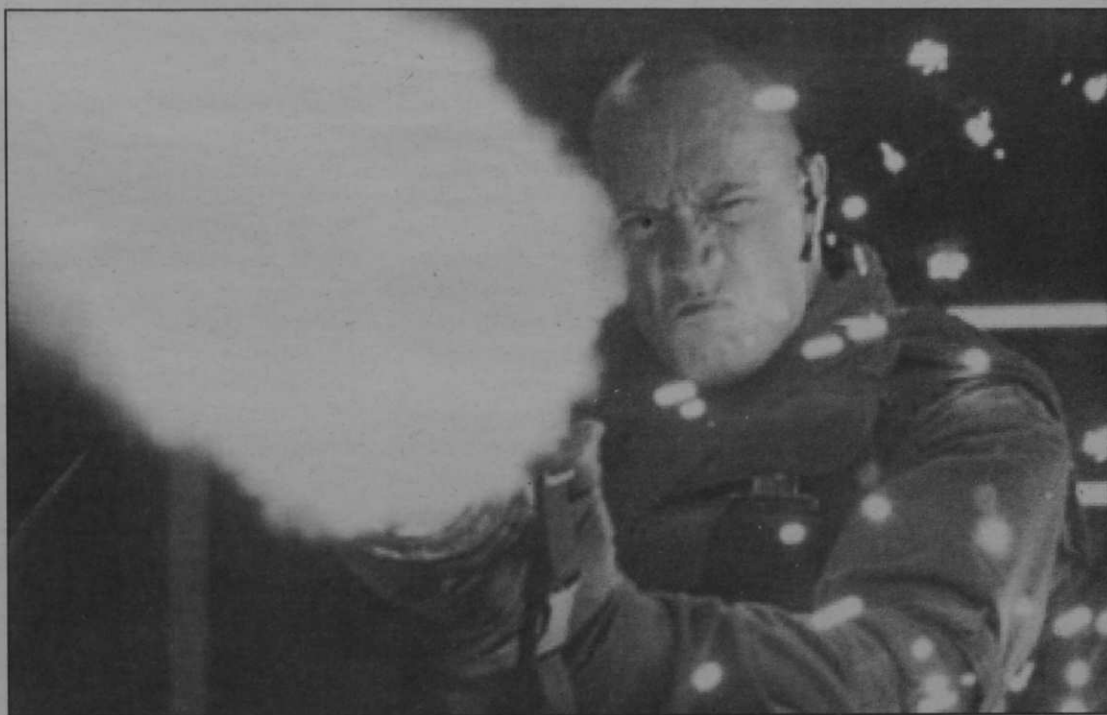
That's why making a movie out of *Doom* was a great idea. There is virtually no plot in the video game it is based on and there are few characters to which the story must stay true. Throw in a few of the fans' favorite guns, a familiar-looking monster or two, and include a few really impressive explosions. Then do whatever the hell you want. Sure, there's work involved in actually having to think up

a script, but at least no one can complain that you messed up the plot, as it didn't exist in the first place.

There is nothing new in this movie. The characters are stereotypical soldiers: the religious fanatic, the bad drug-dealing guy, the new kid. There is a lot of shooting, a lot of one-line throwaway jokes and a lot of false scares before anyone dies. The body count is incredibly high, and there isn't much in the way of plot twists either.

But so what? This is a video game movie. *Doom* is unapologetically visceral and rightfully so. The game was popular for both its style and its gore, and the movie sticks tightly to at least those portions of the game. There are references to the original game throughout the movie, from using the names of programmers as characters to the presence of everyone's favorite BFG (the Big "Force" Gun) to an appearance by the series' most annoying monster to date.

If you've seen the previews, you've noticed a glimpse of a scene actually shot in first-person perspective, designed to look like the game itself. I'll say now that that scene was one of the most remarkably satisfying moments of cinema I've ever seen. It completely justifies all the bad acting



imdb.com

He IS emoting: The Rock in *Doom*!

and pitiful dialogue.

Make no mistake, the acting is sub-par. The writing is bad. The saving grace of this film's cast is Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, because The Rock is a great actor. I've yet to see a movie that doesn't benefit from the addition of "The Rock." He's a great

nemesis, he's a great hero and he can pull off both roles rather well. Yes, I know he's a professional wrestler and yes, he does have a ridiculous face. But if we can accept Marky Mark as an actor, I think it's fair to give The Rock his shot, and I can't say I've ever been displeased with his work.

I'm giving this movie four out of five because it did what no other video game movie has ever done—it is entertaining on its own terms and to the fans of the game. And frankly, if you're the type of person who willingly sees this movie, you're probably going to like it no matter what I say.

Existentialism and the French rock Kenyon theater

BY HILARY FRANKE
Staff Writer

"Hell is other people." This is one of the central themes of *Huis Clos* (No Exit) by Jean-Paul Sartre, a show that will be performed on Friday night at 8:00 p.m. in the Hill Theater. The Claude Beauclair Company will be performing the play in its original French.

Friday is the 100th anniversary

of the birth of the playwright Jean-Paul Sartre. *Huis Clos* depicts Sartre's modern existentialist belief that people are not good or bad because of who they are, but rather what they do. The "judgment of whether people are good or bad comes from other people, not God," added Professor of French Mort Guiney.

The play takes place in hell. Three actors, two female and one

male, are trapped not in the traditional "fire and brimstone" setting, but a rather unusual "bourgeois living room," said Guiney. This suggests a frightening possibility of recognizing hell on Earth. Guiney plans to send out an e-mail with a synopsis of the play in English so that students can become familiar with the plot and know to look for significant themes beforehand.

Over the course of the play,

the three actors reveal their sins to each other and to the audience. Their true punishment is "spending eternity with the other two people watching and judging," said Guiney.

Claude Beauclair, who will be performing Friday, has been touring with his theater company since 1971. His company is based in Paris but travels worldwide, including stops to visit various colleges and

universities. In 1999, they came to Kenyon, and they have also made stops at Denison and Wooster. Beauclair and his company perform at colleges and universities because they want to expose American students to French theater.

Guiney plans to send out an e-mail with a synopsis of the play in English so that students can become familiar with the plot beforehand.

KFS PREVIEW

Chinatown

(Friday, Nov. 4, Higley Auditorium, 8:00 p.m.)

Last week, the Kenyon Film Society showed Roman Polanski's *Rosemary's Baby*. This week, we bring you *Chinatown*, Polanski's 1974 recreation of 1940s-style film noir. The film stars the legendary Jack Nicholson as Jake Gittes, a private detective in Los Angeles. A woman known as Evelyn Mulwray hires Jake to investigate her husband Hollis, whom she suspects of adultery. Jake gets more than he bargained for when he is ensnared in a plot involving corrupt government officials and Hollis's mistress.

There was a renaissance of gritty, independent-minded films in the 1970s, of which *Chinatown* was at the forefront. The script, by Robert Towne, is carefully constructed, slowly peeling back layers as Jake uncovers more secrets and cover-ups. Polanski is renowned as one of the greatest directors of his

time, and *Chinatown* shows why he is deserving of that reputation. The film is styled after older film noirs, and in Polanski's capable hands, *Chinatown* drips with that classic sinister atmosphere.

Speaking of masters, Jack Nicholson is his usual brilliant self, turning in one of his best in a long line of great performances, inhabiting the character of Jake Gittes and communicating much to the audience, even when he's not speaking. *Chinatown* is not only an important film, but a hugely entertaining one, and the twisting plot, combined with the great work from all involved, make it a truly unique and memorable film.

The Third Man

(Saturday, Nov. 5, Higley Auditorium, 8:00 p.m.)

One of those films that *Chinatown* is styled after is Carol Reed's 1949 film, *The Third Man*. One of the all-time greats of the

noir genre, *The Third Man* follows Holly Martins (Joseph Cotton), an out-of-work author who is invited to post-war Vienna by his friend, Harry Lime (Orson Welles, *Citizen Kane*). Vienna is in disarray, and a black market is thriving. When he arrives, Martins is told that Lime is dead, but when he receives conflicting versions of the story, he sets out to find what really happened to his friend.

The Third Man was ahead of its time in many ways. The film noir conventions it established can still be seen in films today, and stylistically, it does not feel all that far removed from the present. Though Welles did not direct it, there are some similarities with his own *Touch of Evil*. The screenplay, by revered novelist Graham Greene, adeptly juggles political intrigue, romance and a dark crime story without missing a beat.

The film is best remembered today for Welles's performance as

the mysterious Harry Lime, but Cotton is equally good in the lead, and the movie features gorgeous black-and-white cinematography. *The Third Man* is in many ways responsible for creating the film noir genre as we know it, and very few have done it as well as Carol Reed did in 1949.

The Weather Underground

(Wednesday, Nov. 9, Higley Auditorium, 10:15 p.m.)

Not at all a film about meteorology, *The Weather Underground* is a fascinating documentary about the radical activist group of that name who opposed America's involvement in Vietnam, sometimes with disastrous consequences. Formed from the more peaceful and mainstream Students for a Democratic Society, the Weathermen believed the peaceful approach was ineffectual and so violently opposed the U.S. government by starting riots and even bombing government targets.

The film covers their politics and actions as well as their confrontations with the FBI.

Most notable about *The Weather Underground* is the way in which the filmmakers manage to take an objective and unbiased look at a very provocative chapter in America's history. Directors Sam Green and Bill Siegel include interviews with key members of the organization—including at least one who disavows their methods—along with key figures from the other side of the conflict.

All viewpoints are given equal representation, and the film is in no way an apologia for the more horrendous acts of the group. Ultimately, *The Weather Underground* provides an informative look at a volatile time and a refreshingly clear-eyed look at radical politics, at a time when most attempts to address such topics were little more than propaganda for one side.

-Jason Smith

Ohio according to Fingerhut

BY STEPHANIE REICHES
Staff Writer

Ohio Senator Eric Fingerhut, D-Ohio, engaged in a lively discussion with students, staff and members of the surrounding community last Thursday in Higley Auditorium. Fingerhut, who lives in Cleveland, expressed his opinion about the "No Child Left Behind" act as well as current local issues, such as the "Reform Ohio" issues (2, 3, 4 and 5) on the ballot for the Nov. 8 election.

Kenyon College Hillel sponsored the event, as Fingerhut is a Conservative Jew himself, but the discussion was open to all. About 30 students, professors and community members attended the event.

Ohio Senator David Goodman, R-Ohio, was also invited to speak that night but was unable to attend due to a last-minute conflict.

"It's national news tonight that the fundraising in Ohio was essentially illegal for the Bush-Cheney campaign," said Fingerhut.

In light of current scandals in the political arena, Fingerhut continually stressed the importance of voting, whether one's party identity is Democrat, Republican, independent or other.

"You all know that the state is in a crisis in a number of areas—our economy, our education systems in particular—and this is the most important time for us to debate and discuss and propose what we would do to fix it," said Fingerhut. "Because next year, 2006, is a gubernatorial election in Ohio. All statewide offices ... are up for election."

Fingerhut said he feels that it is critical to the survival of Ohio in the global and national economy that Ohioans, particularly elected officials, recognize the state's faults instead of denying them or merely ignoring them.

"This is a state that needs to figure out if it really cares about

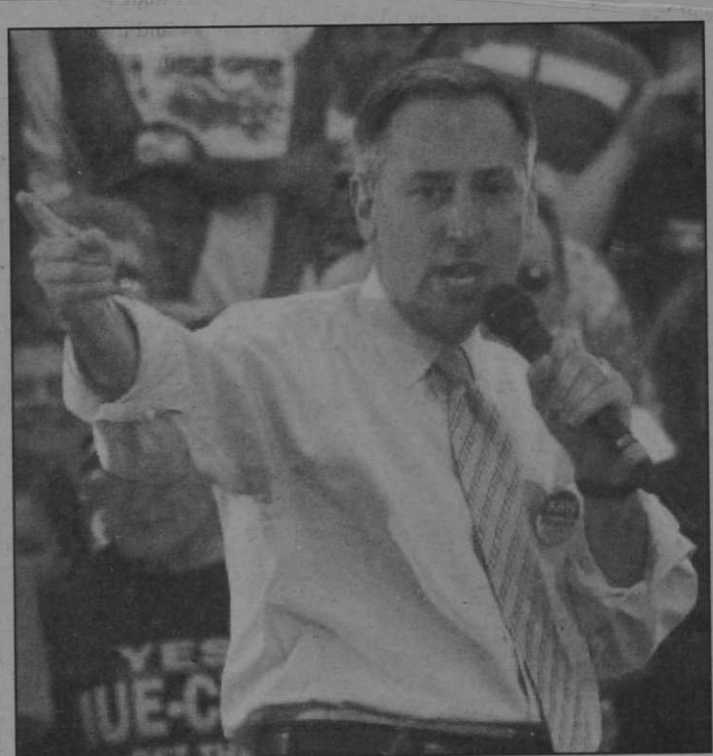
competing with the global economy in the 21st century, period," said Fingerhut. "If we are going to do that that we have to understand what the standards for education are that are required of our young people to be able to compete in the world. We cannot pretend, we cannot keep our heads in the sand ... [and believe] that we are in fact preparing our young people at the level they should be—we're not."

Fingerhut continued, saying, "Not everyone is going to Kenyon College in the state so not everybody has access to the education which is constantly being monitored against standards around the world. You can be confident when you're here that your faculty, your president and others are making sure that you are keeping up with the cutting edge in your field around the world. We are not doing that in our high schools, we are not doing that in all of our

institutions and we're going to fail as a result."

Fingerhut also compared California's use of ballot initiatives to Ohio's informal policy on the matter. "The practice of using ballot initiatives to try to really make changes that the legislature or the elected officials have been unwilling to make is not new in this country, and I mentioned California because they probably have the most active use of ballot initiatives," he said.

Fingerhut elaborated on the nature of politics in Ohio. "It's frankly harder to get things on the ballot in Ohio," he said. "The fact that a group of citizens have taken the time to put such far-reaching measures on the ballot as issues 2, 3, 4 and 5 is an indication, I think, of the growing level of frustration and a desire to do something to try to reform the political system. I don't know if they are going to pass."



Picture courtesy of www.senatorfingerhut.com

State senator Eric Fingerhut engages the crowd at one of his rallies.

Sex & the Country

Skiing up and down the Hill



BY ELIZABETH DEXHEIMER
Staff Columnist

Relationships are like skiing. After spending a considerable amount of time preparing and putting on all the equipment necessary, you hop on the chair lift and ride it to the top. Once on top of the mountain, you can decide whether you'll ski the green square or risk the black diamond. On the way down, you may hit an ice patch, but that's not a problem. You can just take the chair back up and try again.

Each part, from putting on your mittens to parallel turns, fits together to make the whole thing work. You can't have one without the other. Can you?

Here at Kenyon, there seems to be something missing on our ski slope. The dating scene is criticized for consisting of people who "hook up" and people who are "married." It is as though there are lots of people drinking hot cocoa in the base lodge and lots of others making snowmen on top of Mount Everest. But why is there no one riding the chair lift? And for that matter, why is no one skiing down the hill? What is it about Gambier that makes for extremely intense relationships or no relationships at all? What has happened to the steps in-between? Why is there no casual dating at Kenyon?

One reason for Kenyon's extreme relationships or lack thereof is our location. As one girl put it, "Unlike schools in big cities, there are no bars and very few restaurants here. There are limited options of places to go. Therefore, it is hard to actually go out on dates."

Our social scene seems to be based in the valley of the ski hill. Casual hooking up at parties and occasional one-night stands shape how many people begin relationships with each other. For some, that is exactly what they are looking for, while others feel trapped gazing up at the mountain top, wanting a more fulfilling relationship.

A problem for many is that Kenyon can sometimes feel like a giant fishbowl. Because of the small size, everyone seems to know everything and everyone. As one student put it, "Kenyon is extremely incestuous. Everything people do is visible to everyone." Because of this, people are quick to assume things about couples they see together. For example, one student stated, "When you see two people with each other a lot, going to meals together, studying together, hanging out, you quickly assume they are dating." Another girl put it plainly, "Sometimes people label you before you can even tell what's going on in a relationship."

When either partner does decide he or she wants more than just a hook-up, the two people seem to shift immediately to a serious relationship. As one student said, "They quickly jump from hooking up to being married."

Once established in one of these marital relationships, people appear to stick to each other like glue. As one guy put it, "It's really weird to see how intense some couples are. Some people are together all the time." Another girl emphasized how some will give up many things to spend every waking moment with their significant other. "People stop spending time with and can sometimes lose their other friends. They only spend time with each other," said another student.

However, those in serious relationships should try to keep a balance. One girl emphasized, "It is important to still be independent in a relationship. You need to find middle ground in your relationships, and that is difficult to do at Kenyon." Another said, "My boyfriend and I were able to maintain separate friends and activities, but it took a lot of work. And we were very unique in that we were able to do that."

Some here at Kenyon believe the threat of breaking up is scary enough to keep couples together. As one student put it, "When people break up here at Kenyon, it is a divorce. There is a separation of stuff, division of friends and constant drama. People don't want to do that, so they stay together."

Regardless of your situation, whether you're snow-plowing on the bunny slope or admiring the view at the top of the mountain, enjoy skiing for what it's worth. And if at all possible, make sure to lower the safety bar on the chair lift up.

RANDOM MOMENTS

What was your best Halloween moment?



Beth Winchell '08 & Laura McDowell '06
"Drinking punch with a freshman in a dog suit."



Andrew Irvin '08
"Being on duty and taking care of drunk kids in my room."



Lily Moore-Coll '07 & Shannon Deoul '08
"The EDM party!"

Kenyon Fun Facts

- 660 toilets, 396 showers, 250 tubs, 133 urinals, 903 sinks and over 107 water fountains are cleaned daily throughout campus.
- 1,394,250 pounds of trash and 412,500 pounds of recycling are picked up yearly.
- 1,800 gallons of paint were applied throughout the campus last year.

Interested in writing for Features? Contact Editor Jenny Lu at luj or Assistant Kirsten Reach at reachk!

Lords cause Quakers to tremble

BY CHARLIE KELLEHER
Sports Editor

"This game was nothing new for us. Every game has been a dogfight," said Lords football captain Casey McConnell '06. "We need to approach the rest of the season as any other week. We can't stop because it's the end of the season."

This past weekend the football team (4-4) faced the Earlham College Quakers (1-8) at Earlham. The Lords defeated the Quakers in overtime 16-13. The game was scoreless throughout the first quarter. In the second quarter, Earlham put the first numbers on the board by kicking a 31-yard field goal. The Lords quickly answered back with a 41-yard run by Rafael Sanchez '08, which gave the Lords the lead 7-3. During the third quarter, Chad Rothschild '07 kicked a 24-yard field goal to put the Lords ahead 10-3. Earlham answered back in the fourth quarter by scoring a touchdown to tie the game at 10-10.

"We came out pretty flat against them at first," said team captain Andrew Hammack '06. "I think we picked up our intensity as the game went on. We can't rely on pulling it out in the end when we're in close games. We absolutely cannot look

past Hiram; they're going to be motivated, and they beat us two years ago. We need to treat them the same as we treated Wooster and Allegheny; as a team we're going to have to outthrustle to beat."

The Lords were unable to respond during regulation time, but when overtime started, the Lords took advantage of the situation. Earlham had the ball first and kicked a field goal to put them ahead 13-10. When the Lords got the ball back, Sanchez used the opportunity to convert an 11-yard run into a touchdown for the Lords.

This is the Lords' fourth win in five games. This game also ended the seven-game, seven-year winning streak of Earlham over Kenyon. This is the first season since 1998 that the Lords have had at least four wins in their season.

Sanchez was named the North Coast Athletic Conference Player of the Week. He also received this award last season in the game against Earlham. He is ranked second among all players in the conference, with an average of 269.1 yards of total offense per game. He led the way in rushing yards with 118 and had the only two touchdowns of the game.

Javier Arbolaez '09 was second

in rushing yards, earning 70. On the receiving end for the Lords, Andrew Hammack led the way with 68 yards on eight catches. Phelipe Johnson '08 had six catches for 76 yards.

"The season has gone pretty well so far," said Joel Parker '09. "We have pulled off close games. In the end of the game we pulled together and overcame tough things."

The Lords' defense had a good day. Mike Chase '08 led the way in tackles with 14. Jordan Kircher '09 was next with nine tackles. Joey Furnari '09 had six tackles and three breakups. Nick Fanning '08 also had a breakup. Dan La Noue '06, David Cicetti '07 and Ben Van Horrick '07 provided the three sacks that the Lords had. Donovan Ortega '08 provided the one interception of the game, which he carried for 16 yards.

"As the game was wearing down, Hiram was fighting pretty tough," said Dave Cicetti '07. "I was completely confident in our team. Every game will be tough; we need to play like every game is our last."

Wabash College (8-0, 6-0 NCAC) leads the way in the NCAC. Kenyon (4-4, 4-1 NCAC) is tied with Wittenberg University (4-4, 4-1 NCAC) for second in the conference. This Saturday the Lords travel to face Hiram College.

Volleyball finishes with loss to Hiram

BY PHILIP EDMUNDS
Staff Reporter

Kenyon Ladies volleyball faced their toughest opponent in the North Coast Athletic Conference on Saturday, finishing out the season against top-ranked Hiram College at home. The Hiram Terriers took control of the game, winning in three games: 30-11, 30-11, 30-21. The win secured Hiram's first-ever conference title in volleyball.

Although the Ladies improved their play with each game, the Terriers

were able to run away with a victory after three. Hiram dominated the NCAC all season long, compiling an 8-0 conference record. The win against Kenyon will send Hiram to the conference tournament with the No. 1 seed.

Although the Ladies ended with disappointment, the season saw many accomplishments and improvements from last year's team. Kenyon finishes out the season with a final record of 9-16 and 2-6 in the NCAC.

"The season was tough," said Sam Hoeffler '09. "We had some

setbacks, but also some high points, especially the three-game win against Allegheny. That match was definitely a glimpse of what Kenyon volleyball can achieve in the future."

When asked about the future of the program, veteran Patrice Collins '07 said, "We are a relatively young team, so I look forward to building onto an already great foundation with plenty of potential for the season to come. While our record doesn't reflect our skill, with a little focus and hard work we can definitely become a serious competitor in our league."

Meet the Players

Molly Mickinak and Sarah Brieschke

BY CHARLIE KELLEHER
Sports Editor

Molly Mickinak is a senior on the Kenyon Ladies field hockey team. She is a Spanish area studies major, as well as a member of the Archon Society, Gospel Choir, Student Lectureships Committee and Community Choir.

"My Kenyon field hockey experience has been really fun," said Mickinak. "My teammates couldn't be replaced! My experience wouldn't

have been as wonderful without them. I will really miss everyone once I graduate. I don't know what I will be doing after graduating. Hopefully, I will find a job, and later pursue grad school."

"Our team is closer than it has been since I have been here. This is the season that I will remember and miss the most," said Mickinak. "Our new coach, Chrissy, taught me a lot."



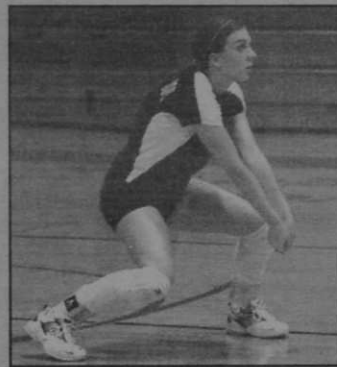
courtesy of Molly Mickinak

Sarah Brieschke is a junior on the Kenyon Ladies volleyball team. She is an international studies major with a Japanese minor and is considering a concentration in Asian studies. She will be studying abroad next semester at Sophia University in Tokyo, Japan.

"I knew I was going to like Kenyon when I enrolled, but I didn't realize how strongly I would

Zones at midterms and exams, as well as various service projects and retreats," Brieschke added. "Also, I am a part of the Kenyon Student-Athlete organization, a tour guide for admissions, and just started mentoring at Fredericktown Elementary through OAPP."

"Even with a small roster on the volleyball team, we were able to win some great matches," said Brieschke. "Early



courtesy of Sarah Brieschke

come to love it!" she said. "Volleyball, the teammates and the sport itself have been a big part of that since my first day on campus. Kenyon's a place where I can put time, energy and effort into the things that matter to me, and it's possible to 'do it all.' To me, it's the best of both worlds."

"I am a part of Koinonia, a Christian group that plans different events throughout the year, such as Comfort

in the season we beat Case Western in a tough five-game battle, and more recently we won against conference opponent Allegheny in three straight games, which is a team we lost to in the last two seasons. Those matches were my favorites; we played with high intensity, lots of energy, and never gave up on a play. That's the type of play and attitude I hope we can continue to build on next year."

Cross country teams meet with disappointment at Denison tournament

BY CHESTER LIWOSZ
Staff Reporter

"We were disappointed by the result, we were hoping for first or second," said Sam Nigh '06. "The vast majority of us didn't run as well as we normally do."

Of the nine teams competing in the women's 6k at Denison

on Saturday, the Ladies ranked fifth. The Lords fared a little better, ranking fourth of 10 teams that competed in the men's 8k.

Sean Strader '06 led the Lords' charge in the 8k event. Strader placed 10th overall with his time of 27:08. Jim Boston '09 ran a 27:24, earning him a 14th-place overall finish and sec-

ond for Kenyon's men. Kurt Hollender '06 placed third for the team with a 27:55 and 25th overall. Robby Molden '06 crossed the finish line 30th in 28:02 as Kenyon's fourth runner. Rich Bartholomew '06 filled the last scoring position for the Lords, ranking 33rd overall in 28:13.

Senior Amy Wilkins captured sixth overall for the

Ladies. Wilkins ran 23:30 in an event one kilometer longer than the 5k that the Ladies are accustomed to. Lauren Rand '06 ran a 24:12, finishing 15th. Third for the Ladies, Jess Francois '09 followed Rand and finished 16th in 24:20. With a time of 25 minutes flat was Jenna Rose '07, who finished 27th overall. Filling

the last scoring position for the Ladies, Emma Reidy '08 placed 40th overall, running a 26:04.

"This year one of our greatest strengths has been our pack running," said Wilkins on the running style of both teams. "We have been able to work together throughout the practices and especially races, which has been great."

Ladies field hockey ends well, but fails to gain spot in NCAC playoffs

BY HILARY GOWINS
Staff Reporter

Last Saturday, the Kenyon Ladies field hockey team came away with a commanding 5-1 win over Earlham College.

Five different players racked up goals during the course of the game. The first to strike was Julia Sivon '07 at the 6:27 mark in the first half. Within the next 15 minutes

of play, Molly Mickinak '06 and Kelly Adams '09 found the back of the net. The final two Kenyon goals of the game came from Jenny Stern '08 and Lauren Keiling '08. Keiling's goal was the team-high of eight goals for the season.

The win brought Kenyon to 6-6 overall in conference play, which tied them with Denison University for fourth place. Unfortunately for the Ladies, their two losses to

the Denison Big Red mean that Denison claims the fourth spot in NCAC tournament play.

Along with the win against Earlham, two players accrued individual recognition for their outstanding play. Senior co-captain and top defender Kate Flinner '06 received top honors by being selected to the National Field Hockey Coaches Association (NFHCA) Division III Senior All-Star team.

Only 19 players were selected for this team, and Flinner will be the only representative from the NCAC.

Sivon, along with Flinner, received recognition for her impressive play. She was named NCAC player of the week for her goal and assist against Earlham.

After lots of hard work and dedication during this season, the Ladies came away with a 10-7

record overall. They will return 17 of 19 on their roster, graduating co-captains Mickinak and Flinner.

Flinner said, "As I said earlier in the year, everyone was apprehensive about this season. Undoubtedly, we knew it was going to be a rebuilding year. We had lost a lot of seniors and we had gotten a new coach. However, I believe it was a great season."



Steve Klise

Elly Deutch '08 dribbles in the Ladies' 2-0 home loss to Allegheny College Saturday. The Ladies made the NCAC playoffs despite having lost their last two matches.

Ladies make playoffs for first time in NCAC history

BY DANIEL PRAGER
Staff Reporter

For the first time in history, the Kenyon Ladies soccer team will participate in the NCAC postseason tournament. The tournament has four teams, and the Ladies are the No. 2 seed. Since they are No. 2, they retain home-field advantage. The Ladies

earned their spot in the tournament by having a 10-6-1 overall record this season and a record of 5-3-0 in the NCAC. Kenyon, Wittenberg University and Ohio Wesleyan all tied for second in the league. Since the Ladies beat Ohio Wesleyan University and Wittenberg University during the regular season, they were able to beat out those two teams for a spot in the

tournament.

The Ladies are going into the playoffs with two straight losses and are goalless in the last 140 minutes of play. On Oct. 25 the Ladies lost to Oberlin College 2-1 at Oberlin and on Saturday, Oct. 29, the Ladies lost to Allegheny College at home 2-0.

While it might seem that the Ladies are going into playoffs in a funk,

Nora Cole '09 puts a positive spin on their recent losing streak: "This whole season we have been keeping everyone guessing," she said. "They never know what to expect when they play us."

Ohio Wesleyan averages 2.81 goals per game this season and has won five of the last six NCAC titles. The Ladies are in the role they have relished all season: the underesti-

mated underdogs ready to prove that they have what it takes to hang with the best teams in the conference.

"We aren't losing many seniors this year. At the beginning of the season, we weren't sure what to expect," said Amanda Drummond '08. "Next season we will be returning almost everyone and we will go further than we did this year."

Lords nipped by Terriers, lose 2-1

BY ERICK TAFT
Staff Reporter

The Kenyon Lords soccer team's season finale was a perfect example of their season, one filled with close calls and frustration. Their season ended in a loss. Kenyon outshot Hiram College 16-7 and dominated most of the game offensively, but they did not grasp the lead.

Hiram went ahead early, scoring after only 9:30 had passed in the first half. The Lords battled back in the second half, tying the game on a corner kick by Hans Wetzel '07 that was headed in by David Palchak '06. The goal was Palchak's sixth of the season and makes him the team leader in goals. Palchak said scoring the goal was "fun, for four minutes."

Palchak's goal was fun for only four minutes because the Terriers were able to get the lead back, going up 2-1 only four minutes after the Lords tied it. The second goal did not demoralize the Lords, who had seven seniors motivating the team to try to pull out a win for their final game. The Lords fought hard for the rest of the game, coming very close on several occasions to tie up the game.

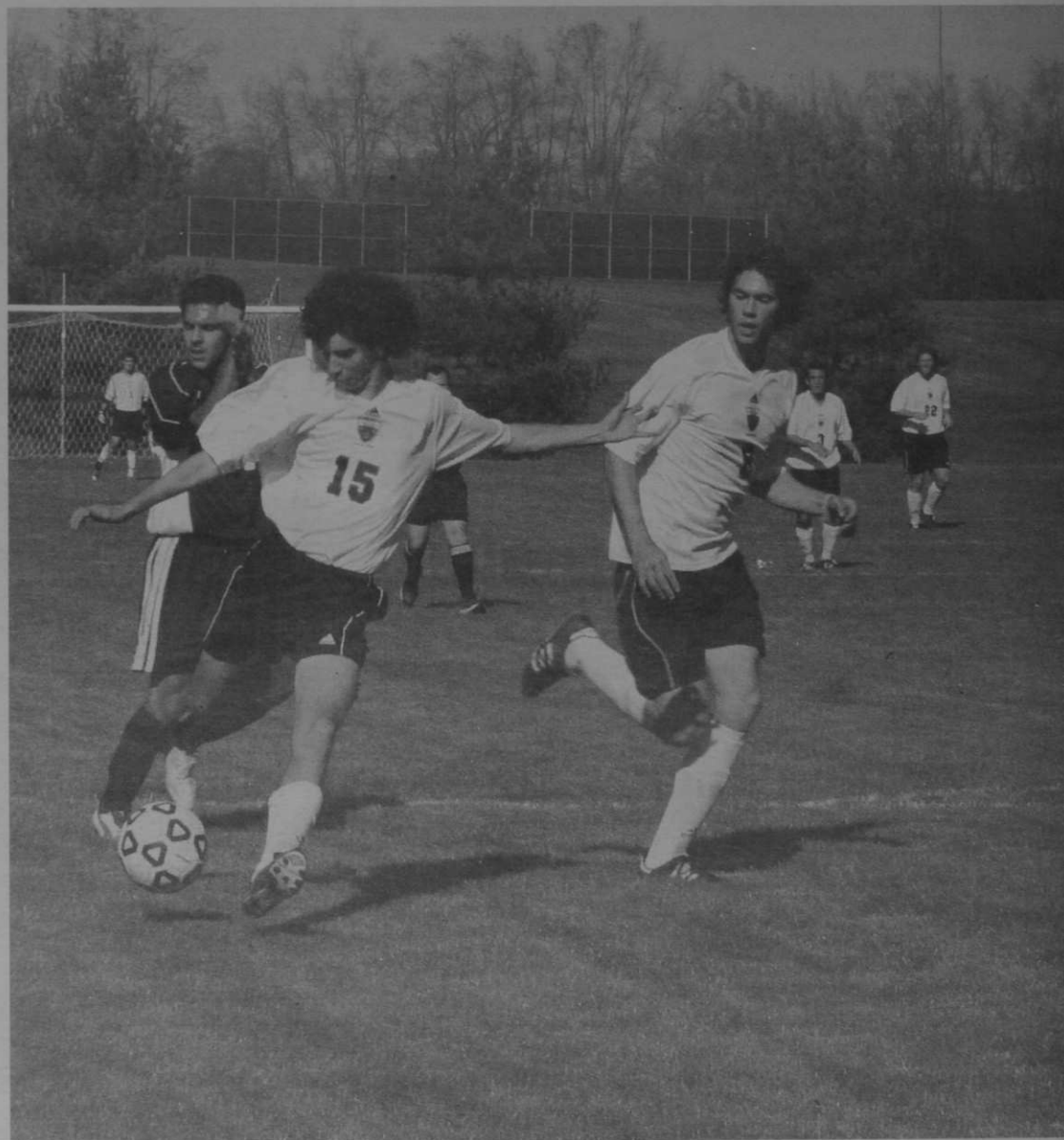
The final game of the seniors' careers was hard for many of them to take, including Robert Schrock who said that the Lords "outshot [Hiram], outplayed them, out-everythinged them. They were the poorer team, and they got lucky."

However, Schrock said, "Regardless of the outcomes of games or our overall records, I always enjoyed playing and practicing with the team every day."

Senior Rubin Miller said, "This team is built on friendships. Walking away at the end of this year will undoubtedly be much harder than it was to walk off the field."

Despite the end of a tough game and season, the seniors are still able to look at the progress they made this year with their new coach and their hope for Lords soccer teams for years to come.

Schrock summed up these feelings very well: "While I'm sad that our careers are over, I'm excited at the same time to watch the continuing improvement within the program with Coach Brown at the helm."



Steve Klise

Mike Dash '06 attempts a shot while Rubin Miller '06 looks on in the Lords' 2-1 loss to Hiram College.