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Collegian

KENYON COLLEGE
VOL. CI, NUMBER 15

GAMBIER, OHIO
FEBRUARY 21, 1974

Ryebucks tonight and tomorrow night

by Thomas Ehret Utescher

It is reported that one summer's day in post-depression Ohio, a construction worker ran to the top of Kenyon's hallowed hump bearing a banner emblazoned with the word "Ryebuck". Although they could not at first determine the meaning or the origin of this mystical word, a group of confused but determined young college students were so inspired by the hardhat's display that they took it upon themselves to establish The Ryebuck Society at Kenyon College. It was soon discovered from reliable, but certainly not other sources, that the word "Ryebuck", translated from the original Arabic, means "play hard". The young Ryebucks devoted themselves to playing with a vengeance, and mighty cries of the society's mottoes, "Ryebucks Forever", and "Ryebucks tonight and tomorrow night" rebounded across the quad during the infamous 180-proof Ryebuck "teas". Alas, these joyous affairs were only to last several short years. A little matter of war came up, and President Roosevelt sent many of the lads off to Europe, realizing the need for a little Ryebuck spirit up on the front lines. The Ryebucks answered their country's calling unhesitatingly, as they had always preferred Paris over Gambier as a spot conducive to Ryebucking. Unfortunately, with most of their compatriots engaged in giving old "Dolf" Hitler a taste of Ryebuck muscle, the few bucks remaining at Kenyon found it impossible to continue their boisterous activities, and the once proud society fizzled out of existence.

We pick up our tale thirty years later. Carl and Eric Mueller and David Newell were going over their genealogy charts in the Pierson Hall lounge when, in the course of conversation, it came up that the Mueller boys' father and two of young Newell's uncles belonged to a mysterious organization at Kenyon back in the days when it was still a "fine young college". After gathering more information about this society (called, strangely enough, The Ryebuck Society), and recognizing in themselves a hereditary tendency towards inane behavior, these three lads gathered ten of their more "unhinged" acquaintances around them with the intention of reforming the Ryebucks at Kenyon. These thirteen vagabonds wasted no time in drawing up "The New Charter of the Ryebuck Society", in which the new official position of Sobriety Indicator was added to the traditional offices, which include such titles as: Locker room Attendant, Curate of Manuscripts, and Bottle Opener. The signing of the charter took place in the east wing of Old Kenyon early in the evening of January 17, 1973, and was followed by a party which nobody had thought to tell Dean Edwards about. The Charter Party, as all Ryebuck parties are, was open to everyone; frat men, independents, faculty and several strays from Mt. Vernon High School. The

unexpected throng of rowdy Ryebucks and Ryedoes and the carnage they left in their wake in the east wing necessitated that Ryebuck representatives meet twice with the Dean, after which one Ryebuck senior was placed on alcoholic probation until his graduation.

Since the initial fiasco, the Ryebuck Society has held three more parties to date.

The legendary Railroad Car Party took place on April 21, 1973 in Professor Horwitz's luxuriously appointed railroad car down near the late Gambier Co-op. Never had Ryebucks played so hard. The Sobriety Indicator estimated the assembled bucks and does smashed through the top of the ten-point "sobriety scale" at about 12:45 a.m., and the party roared on far into the morning of the

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Taplin holds press conference

by Matthew Winkler

In a press conference last Wednesday, February 13, Mr. Frank E. Taplin, the Energy Businessman and Woodrow Wilson Senior Fellow discussed the Energy Crisis and the problems related to the funding of the Arts.

Mr. Taplin began by saying that "We are well out of era of cheap oil prices." He believes that prices "will be settled at a reasonable level in the near future." However, Americans will have to get used to the idea of paying more for gas.

He said that not only will "the higher price of crude oil stimulate a further search for funds in research, but it will also stimulate the coal industry as well. 'No doubt' he added, this will have 'an ecological impact'. Presently the U.S. has 800 billion tons of coal out of which 200 billion (25 percent) is recoverable. Taplin holds the view nevertheless, that coal can be mined in such a way, that it would not have serious effects on the environment. By removing the top soil before the mining operation begins and putting it back later, the used land can be made suitable for farming. Taplin went on to

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Ryebucks at the site of the Railroad Riot of the Spring of '73

Ryebucks

Play hard

Cont. from p. 1

22nd. The Southern slope of Gambier resembled a recreation of the conquest of Mount Suribachi on Iwo Jima as scores of marvelously wasted students struggled up the Hill towards their dormitories.

The two Ryebuck parties that have taken place in the current school year were both held in the Archon lounge in Hanna Hall. The first was a bag-hat party, during which all those present were required to wear small grocery bags on their heads for the entire evening. The second was held on the anniversary of the signing of the New Charter, and at midnight everyone raised their voices and sung, bellowed, and mumbled an inspired rendition of "Happy Birthday to You" while facing the portrait of the society's mascot, a thoroughbred race horse named Ryebuck.

Some fine points of Ryebucking:

1. Anyone may attend a Ryebuck Party.
2. The parties are planned and set into motion by the thirteen Ryebuck officers, who also provide the first keg of beer for each party, as well as musical entertainment.
3. There is no charge to attend a Ryebuck Party; Ryebuck officers circulate through the crowd accepting contributions from guests in order to purchase additional beer, pretzels, etc. YOUR contributions, both in coin and character, are what keep the parties going.
4. Any individual at a Ryebuck party who appears in the estimation of the Ryebuck officers to be so inebriated so as to be completely out of control, will be given another cup of beer and will be toasted by the entire company.

STAY TUNED FOR YOUR NEXT RYEBUCK PARTY, COMING UP SOON AT A PLACE NEAR YOU!

**Collegian**

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**LETTERS****Christopher's fight nihilism**

Recently in the news, about the murder of an innocent fourteen year old girl, was reported the cause—a "joy killing."

The murder dramatically points out the wide spread nihilism and negativism of our era. Thus it is time for an organization dedicated to stressing the positive and the sane. This organization is none other than the Christophers. The latter seeks to raise all standards of human endeavor and encourages everyone to show personal responsibility and individual initiative in doing as much good as possible. Good is defined as that which is in the better interest of the whole man—both body and his soul. It could cover everything from counseling to programs to feed the needy.

The word Christopher comes from the Greek "Christophoros" meaning "Christbearers." Positive, constructive action is the key to our programs and philosophy. We feel that little is accomplished by complaining or criticizing. Thus our saying is it is "better to light one candle than to curse the darkness," which is our motto. Or as St. Paul put it: "Be not overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." (Romans 12:21.)

The out reach ministry of the Christbearers reaches millions through programs broadcast 52 weeks a year over

That air of dignity

Prehistoric Ryebucks at play, circa 1942.

3263 radio and TV stations, and through printed word, the Christopher "New Notes" sent out 7 times a year to 1.25 million persons. Over 10 million of these are distributed each year. Some of the topics are how to be a leader, Relating The Bible to modern life etc.

Further information on the Christophers from me:

DOUGLAS KEITH
4297 Main St.
Perry, Ohio 44057

Lord of the Ring-Dings

Having just read the compelling, interesting article by Steven Lebow on Dr. Haywood's lecture at the new student center, I felt drawn to my typewriter by an irresistible force (perhaps an "evil Force") to delineate some of the ramifications on Lebow's brilliant exposition.

It is indeed the rare lecture that possesses ideas of "enormous universality, yet a direct personal value" and it is even rarer to be presented by the ever ubiquitous "dichotomy between physical gratification and spiritual salvation"; why just the other day I confronted just that very dichotomy when my "continual desire to embrace and urged some pseudo-libidinous force within me to crave a Ring-Ding, whilst my desire to exert some control over (my) world and (my) fate" urged me, in no uncertain tones, to forsake the material temptation of the Ring-Ding, and to utilize my coppers in pursuit of more worthwhile expenditures leading more directly to self-actualization.

Indeed, this internal struggle, nay, this sub-conscious altercation is what I see as a symbol of all driven thoughts and all troubled lives motivated by a wish to understand and comprehend. Indeed Mr. Lebow has conveyed to all his readers a true sense of vision, a dedication to the very quintessence of the spirit of what the Faustian legend is all about, namely man's continual efforts to seem more grandiose of spirit and thought than he actually is. I am looking forward to more of these uplifting efforts from your periodical.

MARK SANDSON, JR.

P.S. You may refer to my famous English 111 paper of 1969 for a further examination of the philosophical underpinnings.

Junior Miss coverage "fantastic"

I have received a copy of your January 24, 1974, publication of the Collegian and I want to personally thank you for the fantastic coverage you gave our 1974 Ohio Junior Miss Pageant. We sincerely appreciate your continued support and assistance in this endeavor.

Thanking you again for the tremendous acknowledgement of the Ohio Junior Miss Pageant I am,

SINCERELY YOURS
NORMAN DeHAVER
PRESIDENT, OHIO JUNIOR MISS INC.

Commentary

Senate proposal unjustified

EDITOR'S NOTE: This letter was submitted to the Senate mailbox on February 12, though it was not collected from this box for one week. It was resubmitted to the Senate president's mailbox on February 18, and a copy was also submitted to the COLLEGIAN for publication.

by Fred Tiffany

I am writing this letter in response to the request for written statements on the housing proposal that was made at the Feb. 9 question and answer meeting in Rosse Hall. It is my firm belief that the proposal, as I have come to know it through that meeting and the explanatory article in the Collegian (Feb. 7, 1974), does not have sufficient justification to be put into effect. There seems to be a general consensus that this proposal entails a significant departure from the present system, yet the goals it is supposed to serve, for any one of several reasons, do not justify its enactment. I shall attempt to show you that each of the goals falls into one of the following categories: 1) it simply cannot be achieved, 2) it could be met with minor modifications of the present system, or 3) it will not be met by the proposed House system. There are, in fact, cases where the proposal will probably have the opposite of its intended effect or create disadvantages.

From the Collegian article I am able to ascertain three goals of the House system: 1) to relieve anxiety due to the present lottery system, 2) to provide a "social unit on which a student has a claim", and 3) to provide for increased student-faculty interaction. Beyond these goals there are two other rather vague concepts which have floated to the surface both at the Feb. 9 meeting and in conversations with students. They are 1) to somehow give the student body greater unity, and 2) to enhance the social life of non-affiliated students.

Returning to the first goal we see that it encounters a significant problem. The Senate was asked at the Feb. 9 meeting about the possibility of conflicts for rooms in a particular House, either between new fraternity members and established House independents, or among a number of applicants for a particular House in excess of its vacancies. The response was that such "minor" problems had not been worked out yet but that in the first case some kind of compromise would be reached, and in the second, the house government would establish adequate procedures. Any procedure or compromise will necessarily require some students to forego their choice of housing and leave them with an uncertainty of housing and the resultant anxiety. Dean Edwards admitted that the problem of such conflicts was a real possibility. If it appeared to a large number of students that they might not get their choice of housing, the same type of anxiety as exists presently would seem inevitable. The House system, therefore, will not be able to achieve one of its major goals.

The second goal is stated as providing students with a type of home social unit. The problem here deals with the desires of the students. Apparently the Senate feels that a large number of students who desire such a unit are presently being denied it. There are

two significant arguments here. First, if so many students wish to belong to such a unit, why are fraternities supposedly starved for members and why were so very few such opinions raised at the Feb. 9 meeting? As I saw it, the greatest amount of comment from independents dealt with the disadvantage they saw coming from being essentially restricted to a particular House for three years. The House system would create this disadvantage. Remember the fact that changes in House will be only granted "when necessary". But secondly, options are currently open for those who wish to have such a social unit. Fraternities do exist and the College makes it a policy to grant adjacent housing to common interest groups that are formed. The proposed Spanish housing is a good example. The argument is advanced that women have no organizations "comparable to fraternities." There is no structural barrier against starting such organizations. The fact that they have not been formed perhaps indicates that there is no desire for them. It may also indicate a dislike for the typical "sorority", but Kenyon fraternities are known for being quite different from the average "fraternity". There is no reason why Kenyon sororities could not follow this example. The present system contains adequate mechanisms to meet whatever desire for "social units" exists. At least some independents prefer not to be tied down for three years, perhaps that is why they are independents. To force them into a House is a disadvantage. What is needed is increased advertising of the mechanisms of the present system.

The third goal of providing increased student-faculty interaction is rather vague. As I see it there is presently no great lack of adequate communication in this area, a view which received support at the Feb. 9 meeting. Nor is there any guarantee that the House system will improve or even change the present level of student-faculty interaction which has not even been demonstrated to be inadequate.

As far as those goals which are more implied or mentioned by students than actually mentioned by the Senate, the first, to increase the unity of the student body, runs into an immediate problem. Many people pointed out at the meeting that restricting students to a particular House for three years will actually have the opposite effect, by compartmentalizing the entire student body rather than simply those who currently desire to live in a group and express that desire by joining a fraternity or forming a common interest living group. It is, in fact, easier to de-pledge a fraternity than to change Houses.

The second goal, to enhance the social life of non-affiliated students, does not require the imposition of the House system to be achieved. Presently there appear to be two rather flimsy barriers to increased independent social activity, organization and money. The Social Committee has not done its job this year in providing adequate activities. But this is not a structural defect, rather all indications point to incompetent management. This problem is solved by picking a competent chairman. If no one volunteers, perhaps there is not the need for more activities that was at first perceived.

Recall that under the House system not one social chairman, but eight will be needed. Recall also that even without the House system, several non-fraternity dorm parties have occurred this year. If the argument is advanced that there are currently not sufficient funds for non-fraternity social activities, it is easily answered by noting that we are promised adequate money next year through the House system. If money and organization are the problems, why not simply give the amount that would have been

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Taplin on Art and Business

Cont. from p. 1

say that the Alaskan Pipeline, "having gone through the necessary precautions... will be extremely important". It will provide "two million barrels of oil a day" to the center of the U.S. He would like to see an end to the production of "gas guzzlers" and hopes Detroit may begin to turn out internal combustion engines in their automobiles.

Taplin would be against gas rationing because he feels "it does not really control prices". "The price mechanism itself, is one of the best ways to reduce consumption." In addition, he believes it would force people to become more dependent upon public transportation, i.e.: trains and buses.

As far as the Arts are concerned, Taplin hopes the government will consider the possibility of subsidizing the Fine and Performing Arts. "Private philanthropy" he stated, "cannot cover the gap in funds." Expenses have risen to such a point where it is becoming impossible according to Taplin, to minimize the costs without eliminating a number of projects. He cited as an example, Lincoln Center in New York whose "costs have gone up a million and a half a year."

Taplin's concern for the Arts stems from his interest in music. He is an accomplished pianist who practices at least an hour a day. He considers the marriage between business and the Performing Arts a good one as it has enabled him, through business, to sponsor and assist many cultural institutions such as the Metropolitan Opera and the Cleveland Orchestra.



Taplin at Feb. 13 press conference.

The Exorcist and Arbus

Threshold of the terrible

Diane Arbus

edited and designed by Doon Arbus and Marvin Israel
Aperture monograph, 1972.

The Exorcist

directed by William Friedkin
screenplay by William Peter Blatty

By Mark Block

A new zeitgeist of modern visual art (i.e., film-photography) seems to be running successfully rampant in America these days. I am referring to our new-found fascination with art that shocks, that makes us feel uncomfortable—with the freak show. The visual arts have found new purpose in expanding the boundaries of sensory queerness, in "lowering the threshold of what is terrible" (Susan Sontag, "Freak Show", in the *New York Review of Books*, Nov. 15, 1973). For many, viewing art has become a masochistic experience, a self-inflicted torture test, a test of mental toughness and emotional sensitivity (or lack thereof). We have just experienced an artistic breakthrough—one which may result in a new way of looking at things, in a liberation from restrictive, blinding taboos, or which may work, as Sontag would have it, "as a subtraction from the self, . . . making people less able to react in real life."

The portrayal of beauty and/or truth has lost much of its appeal for both artists and viewers. Pornography provided an easy transition, a smooth path leading away from these old concepts. Sex in art is beautiful and truthful, but popular because it is titillating and shocking; it makes you squirm. Pornographers naturally then eliminated the former in favor of the latter. Carrying this progression a step further, serious filmmakers and photographers have discovered that art can be titillating simply because it makes you squirm. The twin goals of beauty and truth have been gradually forsaken, replaced by ugliness and distortion.

The clearest examples of this new trend can be found in the striking success of *The Exorcist* (which opened last week in Westerville, and is well on the way to becoming the biggest moneymaking film in history), and in the unprecedented popularity of Diane Arbus' photographs. In the three years since her suicide, Arbus has become the most popular—and the most imitated—photographer in the world. Sontag observed that "back in 1967, when the Museum of Modern Art first exhibited some of Arbus' photographs, some staff members hesitated, worrying about the photographs of transvestites, and particularly about showing nudity. Only five years later, such hesitation was unthinkable." To a great extent, movies laid the groundwork for this attitude change: from the amateurish but surprisingly effective *Night of the Living Dead* to the Morrissey Warhol film *Trash* to the Fellini Satyricon freak parade. But perhaps the first precursor of this artistic breakthrough was Tod Browning's *Freaks* (1932), whose scariest moment, as Sontag points out, "is the wedding banquet scene, when a table full of pinheads, bearded women, Siamese twins, and living torsos dance and sing their acceptance of the Wicked Cleopatra, who has just married the

gullible midget hero. 'One of us! One of us! One of us!' they chant as a loving cup is passed from mouth to mouth to be finally presented to the nauseated bride by an exuberant dwarf."

This theme of "one of us" pervades Arbus' work as a whole. At first glance her photographs seem naively straightforward and un gimmicky; many of them are lit with a flash—not artistically tip at all. And yet this gives her photos a frightening directness; it serves to eliminate completely all distance between the subject of the photograph and the viewer. Sontag warns that "the photographs make a compassionate response irrelevant. The point is not to be upset, to be able to confront the horrible with cheerfulness." But one does not confront Arbus' work with cheerfulness; any signs of it are mere attempts at covering up and avoiding (in consciousness only) one's more deeply felt emotions. In Arbus' monograph one finds, interspersed with pictures of transvestites, midgets, nudists and retardates, rather normal looking middle-class people who, in context, look positively deranged and freakish. When viewing these photographs, the squeemishness stems not simply from the unpleasant looking subject matter, but from the realization that my own image, if shot by Arbus, could very easily be included in her portfolio without looking out of place. I am one of them. This has resulted in a public perception—and expectation—of the camera as an artistic tool for selective distortion; it does not reveal reality, the whole truth, but only that aspect of reality that is ugly and pathetic; it has become a tool for making people look foolish, sad, or horrifying.

The Exorcist is the first film to bring the full potential of this trend to the screen. Within this framework the film succeeds absolutely; it is the most terrifying movie ever made, and, perhaps, little else. But that itself is enough to make it the most important movie of the decade so far. Sheer perfection technically, it unflinchingly depicts an event that is, as the advertisements rightly point

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Senate debates alcohol and housing proposals

by Kim Straus

The February 13 meeting of Senate focused on two primary topics: a change in the rules governing the purchase of beer, and the House system.

Tom McGannon introduced a proposal to allow the purchase of 3.2 beer with College administered funds. Presently, the College regulations forbid the purchase of any alcoholic beverages with funds from money paid to the College. This includes the Student Activity Fund handled by Student Council and the funds of Freshman Council. The proposal also called for the serving of non-alcoholic beverages when 3.2 beer is served and stipulations for when, where, and under what conditions beer can be served.

The main problem in the proposed rule change is legal responsibility; in other words, can the College be held legally responsible when its funds are used to buy the beer. The legal matters are to be investigated and reported back to Senate before action is taken.

Attention to the Housing proposal centered around the community reaction in the large and small discussion groups. The Senate will continue to hear suggestions and make necessary adjustments in the plan, with the final report probably not ready for full Trustee presentation before May. Senators stressed again that the report in the February 7 Collegian is an interim document.

Mr. Omaha presented two suggestions for amending the report. One was to put the apartments, Farr Hall, Health Service and Dorm III six person suites in an open lottery rather than on a per capita basis with a House. The other was that students could have the option of remaining in a House from one year to the next or could go into a lottery for available space in other Houses. Implementation of the proposal will be the topic of several future meetings.

Campus Gold

Service program initiated

by Linda Angst

In response to a recent Newscope article, interested persons attended a Campus Gold organizational meeting this past weekend at the home of Mrs. Frank T. Lendrim. Because previous attempts to become an established and functioning group received virtually no response from the community, this was the first gathering for the group and many possibilities were discussed.

Although no directive or purpose has been decisively formulated for the organization as yet, those attending seemed primarily interested in creating some sort of service group or social service for nearby areas. Possibilities include working with youth groups, such as the Girl Scouts, or working with handicapped children or the elderly. These were only possibilities, and the group is open for further suggestions from the community. In addition, they voiced hopes of holding social activities, such as camping

trips, for their own pleasure. All of this is feasible under the sponsorship of Campus Gold.

The framework of the organization is very flexible and allows the members to devise guidelines to their own liking. Undoubtedly, the group holds great potential and is sure to provide a challenge to anyone interested in initiating a service program for next year.

Campus Gold has recently been established at Denison, and Wooster has had a successful program going for the past few years. Having taken a small but definite first step, the group awaits further response from other interested persons. A second meeting is planned for this Sunday afternoon, February 24, at 4:00 at the home of Mrs. Johnson, 102 North Ackland Street. For further information about the group, contact Betsy Carson at PBX 519, Natalie Schroeder at PBX 541, or Martha Moorehouse at PBX 431.

Best play of the year

Ernest Allen

Not having written under the baleful and grinding stare of a deadline for some time, and anyway having already missed this year, I'm sitting in front of a typewriter trying to induce the vague and pinwheeling arms of thought into a single brilliant galaxy of critical insight into last season's Drama 100 production of *Black Comedy*.

Well, language and thought are a funny couple—Mister Inside and Mister Outside. I can write a whole lot with some verbal pulling guards, but the feet-footed thought knives through the secondary.

Black Comedy comes about as close to the variety of bedroom farce as anything in English, and therefore is difficult to talk about in the measured and pompous manner a reviewer almost can't help but assume. He can't talk about the influence of Aristotle, the avant-garde, Brechtian fictions, and what-not, nor draw the line and judicious line between the play itself and a particular production, a technique that comes in handy when reviewing something less than entrancing enough.

Black Comedy is the best thing I've seen at Kenyon this year. This judgement, unqualified, I hope makes up for the running I've looked at it. And now that fine and obvious line: The play, written by Peter Shaffer, is extraordinarily funny, and is so, in a large part, because of one basic premise. We see the play through a curious kind of glass: When it is light for the actors, when we assume from their words and actions, that they can see, it is dark for the audience. When the actors are assumed to be operating in darkness, the stage is lit. It is in any sense a one-joke play, merely a play that upside-downs a perspective, or convention, then superimposes it on a fairly conventional domestic farce.

Brindsley Miller, a sculptor, and Carol, his fiancée, are awaiting Carol's father, (A. B. Miller type) and Georg Bamberger, a German Howard Hughes sort who slinks out for private viewings of art collections. The latter, of course, has emerged to commission Brindsley's sculptures. Well, naturally, the fuses blow, the London District Board is in its usual state, and Brindsley and Carol are left in the dark—though we see them stumbling around like the clowns, falling over tables and down stairs. This sort of thing could quickly pall. But one by one—Carol's father, the timid, timorous Miss Furnivall; Harold Corbridge, the fey next-door neighbor whose furniture Brindsley has borrowed to impress his prospective Father-in-law; Brindsley's ex-girl friend, Clea; a Nobel-prize-trained electrician, (who is a million, of course, for the millionaire) and, finally, the millionaire himself.

Mixed identities, confusion, running up and down stairs, a drunken Miss Furnivall, a C.O.C. going on, revelations, twists, accidents—well, you get the idea. It is a very physical play, demanding a gradually increasing quotient of chaos that can only be played with very tight direction, and which Cohen does a marvellous job of. The actors bumping into one another, (it just sounds easy). The cast is marvellous,

and says it will actively encourage members will have House constituencies; that faculty members be encouraged to join the



Mike Mann, Kathlene Hume and Carol Bauman in "*Black Comedy*." (Photo by M. Block)

though I would single out Wilder Guttererson and Kathlene Hume, who play Brindsley and Carol, Nancy Monelli, who plays the potted spinster absolutely convincingly, and Francis Osborne, who does a fine little cameo as Franz Schuppanzigh, the electrician. The rest of the cast is just about as good. The consistency in all the roles must be due in part to Cohen, the director, so once more I bow in that direction.

Only one carp—and I dredge this out to give the impression of a balanced view—many of the actors, faced with laughs in

unexpected places, did not ride them out as well as they might. Consequently, I lost a lot of lines.

A fine show all around. Why the hell must something like this only run two nights? It deserves to be seen by more than a couple of hundred people. I am sure there are perfectly good reasons, but it seems a shame. It would also be nice if the reviews could come out before the play closed. Ah yes, educational theater—time and priorities. Again perfectly good reasons... but a pity.

OVER THE HILL

by Kevin Fitzgerald and Dick Smith

Drama 100? . . .

Ashland College, for reasons unknown to us, is sponsoring lectures on bombs, of all things. Members of the Mansfield Bomb Squad (Mansfield?!) are appearing at Ashland to demonstrate various bomb types and how to defuse them. If the *Ashland Collegian* uses "demonstration" as would we, the lecture series should be exciting.

Pennies from whom? . . .

It appears that as tuition costs rise for private institutions across the country, Congress may soon consider various means of assistance to private schools and their students. One type of aid which seems more likely to be eventually made law, is the tax-credit type first introduced before the 92nd Congress in 1971. If such a system were implemented, as aid directed specifically to private students and their families, a graduated percentage of tuition payments could be written off federal income tax payments. The average savings would be between \$300 and \$500.

Comprehensive comprehensives . . .

Of the six hundred odd faculty at the University of San Francisco one hundred fifty responded to a questionnaire survey by that school's student newspaper. The survey, dealing with student-professional sex relations, revealed that 40 of the faculty had had affairs with students. Another 40 said that they would if the occasion presented itself. The rest who responded regarded the survey as "unwelcome interference", etc.

Ribbit . . . ribbit . . .

At Georgetown University, a frog has announced his candidacy for the student government presidency. The frog, Mr. Toad, and his running mate Jorge Bordello, a flea of Spanish-American descent, are running on a platform designed to "stay one jump ahead of student government." Sources close to the Toad-Bordello ticket claim that their organization has the funds and grass-roots support to win, if the students at Georgetown are open-minded enough to cross the species barrier. Spokesmen have declared that Mr. Toad is ready to debate "any candidate at any time and in any pond." Toad's organization, T.O.A.D. (Thinking Organisms for Amphibian Democracy), are concerned that their frog's candidacy will not be taken seriously; as one member put it, "If Toad is elected, student government will croak!" Toad has certainly proved to be the most outspoken candidate, but only at dusk.

FILMS

THE HUNT (1967) Directed by Carlos Saura; with Jean-Pierre Kalton, Pierce Barouh, Amidou. Spanish dialogue with English subtitles. Color. 85 minutes.

Three old comrades meet at a cafe before setting out on a rabbit hunt, accompanied by a young nephew of one of the men. Now middle-aged, the three fought together in the Civil War—and enjoyed it. As the men handle their weapons and talk fondly of the excitement of the impending hunt, it becomes obvious that we are about to see a symbolic re-enactment of the war. The hunt proceeds, and tension mounts as the men gun down small animals and become increasingly aware of their changed relationship to one another. Bitter hatred breaks from beneath the surface, and the conclusion finds the nephew left alone to fathom the mystery that the three comrades have enacted.

PAT AND MIKE (1952) Directed by George Cukor; with Spencer Tracy, Katharine Hepburn, Raymond Ching, Jim Backus. Black and white. 95 minutes.

The smooth-working team of Tracy-Hepburn sparks this adult comedy about a seedy promoter who signs up a dignified college physical education teacher and makes her a star attraction as an all-around professional athlete. Woven into the script (by Ruth Gordon and Garson Kanin) are some mirthful adventures with petty racketeers who own part of her contract and want her to throw a golf tournament.

THE DEVIL IS A WOMAN (1935) Directed by Joseph von Sternberg; with Marlene Dietrich, Lionel Atwill, Cesar Romero, Edward Everett Horton. Black and white. 83 minutes.

Foreseeing that this would be his last film with Dietrich, director Joseph von Sternberg threw caution to the winds and created his most extreme exercise in style. The result has been hailed by many critics as the most beautiful of Sternberg's films, and its

Freak show art

Cont. from p. 4

out, "beyond comprehension." The graphic visual descriptions achieve an effectiveness that has never been matched—and probably never seriously attempted—in cinema. It transcends comprehension visually because it deals thematically with issues that are already beyond comprehension: Job and the theodicy—the problem of God's justice and the existence of evil. The director takes great pains to portray the young girl as innocent and loving (although I won't go so far as to say lovable). She is "one of us", maybe even better than any of us, and it is senseless that she should have to undergo the horrors of demonic possession. She is "one of us," and for her there is no justice. She is a puppet, sometimes literally, controlled by unknowable forces. She is a pawn in a cosmic chess game between Good and Evil, but it is not her soul that is at stake. At stake is the faith, will and endurance of the exorcist—and ultimately the audience itself.

Audiences, however, do not merely endure this horror, they relish it. For people in our culture it fulfills a need, evidently a strong one, similar to Arbus' own need that was satisfied by her camera. Arbus, the product of a moralistic, well-to-do Jewish family, wrote that "One of the things I felt I suffered from as a kid was that I never felt adversity. I was confined in a sense of unreality. . . And the sense of being immune was, ludicrous as it seems, a painful one." Perhaps we feel

intense pictorial beauty is overwhelming. The story, based on the novel *Woman and Puppet* by Pierre Louys, tells of a femme fatale and the men who destroy themselves for her in 19th-century Spain.

Friday night: *Pat & Mike* at 8:00; *The Hunt* at 10:00.

Saturday night: *Devil Is A Woman* at 8:00; *Pat & Mike* at 10:00.

Sunday night: *The Hunt* at 8:00; *Devil Is A Woman* at 10:00.

"Chicago Abyss" premieres

Ray Bradbury's first dream in life, ever since he was summoned onto the stage at the age of ten to help Blackstone work his various illusions, was to be a magician. At nineteen, however, his work on the stage was with Lorraine Day's Wilshire Players guild in Los Angeles. He wrote several three act plays while a member of this guild but quit playwrighting when "I sensed my own



Chip Gould stars in "Chicago Abyss."

mediocrity. . . I vowed never to return to the theatre for twenty years, until I had seen and read most of the plays of my time."

Bradbury fulfilled that vow while simultaneously producing some of the best science fiction stories of our time. Among the great list of his writings are *Fahrenheit 451*, *Dandelion Wine* and *The Martian Chronicles*.

With the writing of *To The Chicago Abyss*, a play where "in the bleakness of the future, an old man remembers the little pleasures of yesterday, Bradbury has blended his love of magic, drama and science fiction. This play, to quote the author, "was written because sociologists, amateur and professional psychologists, and grand intellectual thinkers bore, distract, or irritate me to madness. I do not believe, and never have believed, that mediocrities hurt people. I have loved all the mass media, looked down on by intelligentsia, as I grew up. I wanted to do a play about a man who could not recall great quality but only quantity, and that of such dumb stuffs as to be beneath consideration. The boy in me remembered Clark Bars and their bright circus wrappings, and I was off!"

guilty that we are so lucky.

It is interesting to note that psychologist Leon Festinger developed his theory of cognitive dissonance after considering the bizarre rumors that sprung up in India after a major earthquake in 1934. The rumors were recorded in an area that experienced tremors but did not suffer any real damage. The rumors predicted major calamities: the near future—earthquakes, cyclones and the like. This seemed to contradict the accepted notion that people tend to avoid anxiety and the prospect of disaster. Furthermore, those areas of the country heavily damaged by the earthquake had such rumors at all. Festinger explained the situation in terms of dissonant cognitions. The people who experienced the earthquake without suffering any damage naturally had strong fear reactions and yet could find nothing to fear. This feeling of fear in the absence of any adequate reason produced dissonance; the rumors served, then, to justify this psychologically incongruous feeling, resulting in a state of cognitive consonance.

America is now out of Vietnam, far from the Middle East War, and experiencing fuel problems that are minor compared to Western Europe. Perhaps "The Exorcist" is the kind of invented Natural disaster that provides us with a psychologically satisfying test of toughness and adversity.

(Part two of this review, which will contain a more detailed analysis of *The Exorcist*, will appear in a future issue of the Collegian.)

Commentary

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allotted under the House system to the committee, appoint competent people, and perhaps give it the added responsibility of organizing regular dorm parties. The House system is not needed to solve this problem.

Finally, in connection with social activities, we come to what Dean Edwards called "the triad student." He is the one who studies, eats, and goes to class. The College expressed belief that the House system would draw this student into more of a social life. Recall, however, that the program stresses the student's ability to choose to participate only as much as he wants in House activities. Realizing that presently there are possibilities for non-academic activities, we can only assume that the triad student chooses not to avail himself of them. I know some of these so-called triad students. They make little or no effort to participate in the great number of social activities available both on the campus in general, and in my dormitory (Norton). I do not see a guarantee that the House system will change the triad student, nor that the system will. Perhaps this is because he does not want to be changed.

This letter has been long and complex, no more complex than the issues involved. There are other issues which I have not touched on, but I hope that my letter has revealed the problems inherent in trying to meet the above mentioned goals with a House system. Those problems which actually exist, and can be solved at all, can be handled by the present system with some modifications.

Lords in tourney tonight

Kenyon's basketball team ended one season last Saturday night and begin another. Over the weekend the Lords brought a regular season to a close on a triumphant note with a 91-74 win over visiting Rose-Hulman at the fieldhouse. Tonight, however, begins the "second season" for Ohio colleges—the OAC basketball tournament. The winner of this post-season tourney advances to the NCAA regionals.

Scots Tonight

Kenyon's hardcourtiers—owners of an 8-10 regular season mark—face Wooster in the opening round tonight at Baldwin Fieldhouse—site of the Northern Division competition. The Southern Division games are played at Denison. The winners of the divisions clash next Tuesday at B-W for the title and the NCAA bid.

The Lords beat Wooster in overtime during the regular season on a Dave Meyer layup just before the buzzer 61-60. But the Scots, coached by Al Van Wie, should be a tougher this time around. For several years players and their coach, there is a bitter memory of Kenyon's stunning loss to the tournament two years ago when a Bill Kozy hit a shot from out in the third quarter at the final buzzer. That year (1972) Kenyon advanced to the title game before being upended by Wittenberg—the team ranked as the favorite in this year's tourney.

Kenyon's unimpressive regular season record doesn't suggest that they should be a real threat to win it all. However, in a short series, anything can happen and the Lordcagers could surprise a lot of people if they play with the same kind of tenacity that they displayed in beating the Hoosiers of Rose-Hulman Saturday night.

Home Finale

The home finale for '74 was highlighted by several fieldhouse appearances by: Bill Rea, the Lords' senior captain (sidelined this season by a knee injury suffered in a game in November) who made his first appearance of the season in his last home game; announcer Gregg DeSilvio; the final performance of the artistry of the Lords' Richard and His Magic Keyboards; and a broadcast (can you stand the ecstasy) by the Spelers of WKCO's crack broadcasting team of Bill Slusser and Pete Kasper (who managed to cover everything but the game as usual).

Kenyon's defense by the Lords during the game half negated a consistently successful offense attack and allowed the 'Neers to score open shots and as a result, a 39-37 advantage. However, Jim Zak managed to correct this difficulty at the end of the first half and the Lords finally pulled away in the second half. The Lords simply played good, solid basketball—making good shots, hitting their shots and demonstrating some aggressive rebounding against a stiffer defense.

Late Game Surge

In the 15 minutes remaining in the game, Kenyon's Tim Appleton (the OAC's 3rd leading scorer with a 19.7 average) put the Lords ahead to stay on an outside jumper.

From that point, the Lords steadily put the game out of reach. Spearheading the late offensive thrust which gave the Lords a win in their home finale were Appleton, Bill Cooperrider and Dave Meyer. Cooperrider, in particular, was impressive, hitting 12 of his career-high 18 points during the last twelve minutes of the contest. Meyer (one of the most consistent Lord performers all season), led all scorers with 24 points, while Appleton added 19 points (and a game-high 12 rebounds), and Jim Wurtz contributed 16 markers.

As if the Lords hadn't provided their fans with enough entertainment by producing their most prolific scoring output of the season—and their first home win since December, freshman guard Evan Eisner gave the crowd an added treat with a drive through and by most of the 'Neer team, featuring some fancy behind the back dribbling—culminating in a layup just before the final buzzer.

Track splits tri-meet

by Jay Andress

Track split a triangular meet last Saturday against Oberlin and Wooster. Although all races were close, the Oberlin team, coached by Olympic champion Tommy Smith, was able to dominate the sprints and distance events. Oberlin sprinters Randy Robinson and Harry Bonner clearly have inherited the distinct style of their coach, and Al Smith set track records in the 1000 and the 2 mile. Wooster was strong in the middle distances, specifically the 600 and 880 yard dashes, but could not capture enough scoring places in other events to defeat Kenyon.

The tough competition of the entire meet was exemplified by the first two events. The top three efforts in the long jump were within five inches of each other with Dwight Hammond and George Letts of Kenyon taking first and second. In the 880 yard relay the Kenyon team was in third place at the final hand-off, but was able to catch Wooster and was closing in on Oberlin when the Wooster runner interfered. Even so the times of all three teams were within 2-tenths of a second at the finish. Other very close races were the 440 yard dash, the mile, and the 55 yard dash.

In contrast to previous meets this season, the field events provided the Kenyon team with a jump on its opponents. Led by the performance of Chet Hughey and Mario Orlandi in the shot put, the team was ahead with 16 points against Oberlin's 14 and Wooster's 11. The Kenyon team then built an auspicious lead: Hammond, Bill Rea, Marty Wagner, and Letts took second in the 880 relay; Jay Andress and Chris Mayne took a second and a fourth in the 600; Jamie Doucet and Rich Gordon pulled a third and fourth in the mile; and Chris Fleming and Bob Metzger turned in excellent performances in the 1000. But the results of the 440, two mile, and 55 high hurdles were in favor of Oberlin and Wooster. The final score of the meet was Oberlin 70½, Kenyon 46, and Wooster 39½.

This Saturday the team goes against Muskingum. With a record of 3 wins and 3 losses, the outcome of this final event will decide whether the Kenyon team has a winning season.



Kenyon sprinter George Letts makes his final track appearance in Wertheimer Fieldhouse Saturday in a dual meet against Muskingum.

A three-year team captain from Chesterland, Letts is by far the most durable Lord thincad in years. He holds Kenyon's indoor records in the 55-dash at 5.9 (also a fieldhouse record), and in the 300-dash at 32.1, a conference winning time last year. He also holds the fieldhouse 300-dash record at 32.9. His outdoor records include a 9.8, 100-dash, and 21.7, 220-dash.

Kenyon track coach Don White called Letts "a coach's dream, because of his versatility." This is evidenced by the 5-4, 145, sprinter's participation in up to five events. Saturday will be local fans' last chance to see him long jump, and run the anchor leg of the 880 relay, run the 100, 300, and 440-yard dashes. The meet begins at 1

SPORTS



SCORES

Swimming 59	Youngstown 54
Bowling Green 77	Swimming 36
Basketball 91	Rose-Hulman 74
Wrestling 24	Otterbein 24
Oberlin 70½	Track 46
Wooster 39½	

Swimmers peak for 21

By Kevin McDonald

Last weekend, with two weeks to go until Conference, the Kenyon swimmers lost to Bowling Green on Friday night and then came back to narrowly defeat Youngstown State on Saturday afternoon. The Swimmers were obviously suffering from Thursday night's flu shots as they swam poorly and lost to the powerful BG team 77-36. The only firsts of the meet by Kenyon were two by Charlie Jones in the required and optional diving, and (of course) Rich James in the 200 backstroke.

On Saturday, Kenyon swam YSU, one of the most bush-league teams of the year, whose conduct can be described as rude and abusive (well, not only). They felt whichever team shouted the loudest would win, and thus would not stop even for announcements or for the starter to begin each race. It was with great satisfaction, therefore, that the fans watched as Jed Davis came from behind on the last lap of the last event, the 400 freestyle relay to win the event and the meet 59-54.

One of the outstanding performances of the day was by junior Bill Cassidy who swam three very tough events, taking first in the 1000 free (10:53.2), second in the 200 butterfly (2:21.5), and coming from behind to outtouch a Youngstown swimmer for a vital second place in the 200 breaststroke (2:30.1). Other firsts were by Rich James in the 200 back, Jed Davis in the 200 free and 500 free, and Jim Kuhn and Bill Montel who tied for first in the 50 free. Bruce Morton also turned in a good time for the 100 freestyle (51.9) and Dave Plunkett swam a strong 1000 freestyle (10:55.0).

The Swimmers have now begun their only taper of the season—the taper for 21. Everyone is urged to get their tickets for Conference by Friday the 22; it is doubtful that any tickets will be sold at the door. 21 begins one week from today, and we hope to see you then. This Saturday Kenyon will host Ashland for the final home meet of the year at 2:00 at Shaffer Pool.



Kuhn, James and Porter giving poolside support. (Photo by Bob Gibson)



Senior Jim O'Malia off the blocks in a butterfly event (Photo by Bob Gibson)

Wrestlers end on optimistic note

Rewards have been sparse this year for the Kenyon wrestling team, but they closed out the regular season last Saturday with their most promising and exciting performance yet. Although Kenyon only came out with a 24-24 tie against Otterbein, it was three Kenyon forfeits at the end of the match that brought the visitors back from a 24-6 deficit. Four of the ten weight classes were forfeited, (the other by Otterbein at 118) and Kenyon won four of the six remaining matches. Dan Weinburg, a sophomore at 134, decided his opponent 6-4, a score that belies Dan's domination of the match. Captain Dave Utlak won convincingly at 142, with a 10-5 score, and two Kenyon pins followed at 150 and 158. Freshman Todd Fans briskly disposed of his opponent, shooting for a fast takedown and then turning him over for a first period fall. Chuck Pariano fell behind 6-0 to one of Otterbein's best wrestler's but took advantage of his opponent's riding too high with a cross-body

to reverse him and put him on his back for a dramatic pin. Otterbein preserved a tie with Kenyon when their 167 lb. wrestler outmuscled Bob Kuzyk 8-3, but the Lords came away with the moral victory in the wake of their first truly inspired match.

Over the season, being down by at least 18 points from the start of each meet had an understandably discouraging effect on the team. Without the compensation of a consistent winner to rally around (the role departed heavy-weight Rick Szilagyi played for four years) Kenyon suffered through a painfully undistinguished winter. If this year's underclassmen all return and the team can fill out the upperweights, next season should be a marked improvement.

In the OAC tournament, this weekend the Lords figure to mainly play the role of spectators. Those with realistic chances to score in the competition include Dave Harblison at 118, Weinburg and Utlak.

Swim conference

Of primary importance in the Kenyon swimming team's quest for their 10th consecutive conference championship and an NCAA record, is fan support. Those of you who were at conference two years ago when Denison had been designated a strong pre-meet favorite, know what a difference the presence of a large number of Kenyon fans made and what an incredible experience it was as Kenyon, led by the return of Rich James, swept to an overpowering win. This year the competition from both Denison and Oberlin is intense, and Kenyon will probably be only a second or third favorite from the start. There is only one more day to purchase tickets here and then any that are unsold will be sent back to Oberlin. You are strongly urged to attend the meet, there are plenty of rides up and it only costs a dollar a night. Keep in mind that though Saturday night is the big show if Kenyon is still in the running, it is Thursday and Friday night that the team really needs your support. It will mean a lot to the swimmers if you go and believe it, you'll be glad you made the effort. 21 is a unique event.



SPORTS