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## Kenyon Collegian - October 23, 2014

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COURTESY OF ROB GLUCK

## Letter from Leopoldo López, Pg. 6

Serving Kenyon College and Gambier, Ohio Since 1856

# The Collegian

10.23.2014  
VOLUME CXLII  
NO. 8  
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## Revised Clery Act numbers released

MADELEINE THOMPSON | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Yesterday, the College released a revised version of the Clery Act statistics on campus crime, which most higher education institutions are required by federal law to report for each calendar year on Oct. 1 of the following year. The reassessment was a response to allegations last week by Feministing.com, accusing Kenyon of non-compliance due to its failure to report statistics related to dating violence, stalking and domestic violence mandated by the 2013 reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). Though it appears that Kenyon was and remains in compliance with the Clery Act, the updated numbers posted on their website reflect some significant changes.

Originally, Kenyon reported zero incidents of sexual misconduct in any category, either forcible or nonforcible. Now, they have reported three counts of forcible sexual misconduct in residential facilities and five counts in a non-campus building or property. Reports of non-forcible sexual misconduct remain at zero. “We went back and did a comprehensive review of all of our data,” Chief Business Officer Mark Kohlman said. “There were items that we found that either were miscategorized in the system or had not been translated from [the] Student Affairs data to incident reports.”

Though the statistics required by the Clery Act cover acts from hate crimes to arson, most of the confusion last week arose from the discrepancies between the initial reports of zero sex offenses in the Clery Act and the much higher

►page 2

## Hidden class costs burden students

Some find class costs aren’t always face value — extra supplies add up.

NATHANIEL SHAHAN  
STAFF WRITER

The price of tuition at Kenyon is \$45,500 per year — not including the \$13,390 in combined costs for room, board and student fees, nor the added costs of school supplies. At the beginning of each semester, students generally expect to spend several hundred dollars on books, but the exact prices remain unknown until the start of the semester when professors announce reading lists.

Elizabeth Norman ’16 is currently enrolled in Installation Art and Printmaking — two classes that require students to purchase their own materials, though no textbook is required. In Printmaking, students purchase their own ink and supplies from the College. Knowing that a single



CORA MARKOWITZ | COLLEGIAN

“*[Art] is what I would like to do ... [but] if I can’t do it in a way that is cheap, I don’t want to do it.*”

Elizabeth Norman ’16

mistake could cost a significant amount of money, Norman explained that it can be nerve wracking to use materials she paid for. For Printmak-

ing, students have the option to supplies through the Kenyon Bookstore, with the money being deducted from their K-Cards. In Installation Art,

students create two installations throughout the semester and must purchase their own construction materials. Norman estimates she spent about \$90 on materials for her first piece, and expects to spend a similar amount on her second. Some academic textbooks can run as much as \$200, but Norman said that buying materials all semester is a different feeling than swiping a K-Card once at the beginning of the semester, and that it is “weird” to spend cash on cash materials in comparison to the ease of using a K-Card.

Norman said that, when planning projects, students have to bear in mind the cost. Sometimes students think, “This is what I would like to do ... [but] if I can’t do it in a way that is cheap, I don’t want to do it.” she expressed that, going into the class, she

►page 4

## When in Rome? CGE pulls program

Kenyon in Rome OCS program suspended for the 2015-2016 academic year.



COURTESY OF MARISSA MORTE

LAUREN ELLER | STAFF WRITER

“For my art history class, when we study the ancient Romans, we are not just looking at slides,” Olivia Lloyd ’16 wrote in an email to the *Collegian*. “We physically get to stand in the Colosseum, feel rain drip down through the oculus in the Pantheon and touch 2000-year-old bodies preserved in volcanic ash at Pompeii.”

For students passionate about art, the Kenyon in Rome study abroad program is the chance of a lifetime. The program, which has been sponsored by different departments since its inception, brings students and a Kenyon professor to Rome to study in one of the world’s oldest cities.

►page 3

## STUDENTS FIGHT FLAMES, PG. 11



CORA MARKOWITZ | COLLEGIAN

INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE

P.3 Activist’s sister brings awareness to campus

P.9 *Kenyon Review* celebrates 75 years

P.12 Students introduce art journal

P.16 Swimming off to a winning start

LIFE ON THE HILL AS IT HAPPENS: [WWW.THEKENYONTHRILL.COM](http://WWW.THEKENYONTHRILL.COM)



NEWS

EDITORS: EMILY SAKAMOTO  
AND VICTORIA UNGVARSKY

Sexual Misconduct Advisor Charlie Collison '15 on the revised Clery Act statistics:

“It makes total sense that everyone that is a part of safety at Kenyon shows up on our annual safety report. ... I think the [revised the numbers are] a big step in transparency with regards to sexual misconduct here at Kenyon. Both members of our community and people from outside of our community can now see a more accurate representation statistic-wise of what happens at Kenyon. Because it’s obviously not only important to be transparent, but it’s important to let people know that these things happen here.”

Clery discrepancies addressed

Continued from Page 1

numbers reported by Student Affairs in the Student Handbook. The handbook numbers counted 13 incidents of non-consensual sexual conduct, 18 of non-consensual sexual intercourse and five of sexual harassment, among others. “Clery is a narrower band of [definitions],” Dean of Students Hank Toutain said, who specified that the numbers reported in the handbook are not legally mandated. “I think what people noticed, and what was accurate, was that we had not adequately captured all the incidents that we should be reporting for Clery.”

The Clery statistics also now include the good faith statistics for 2013: two incidents of dating violence on campus, zero incidents of domestic violence and eight incidents of stalking.

In response to the confusion surrounding the original Clery Act numbers, a committee consisting of several administrators — including Kohlman, Hooper and President Sean Decatur — will meet monthly to discuss the numbers collected by both the Office of Campus Safety and Student Affairs. They are also considering establishing a singular

point person to coordinate more effective collaboration.

Another contributing factor to the confusion may have been that each department reports based on a different time span — Safety on the calendar year and Student Affairs on the academic year.

Hooper also described the Clery Act’s definitions of various offenses as “vague,” and said Safety planned to broaden their definitions in order to report more incidents. “If [an incident] meets one of the criteria, then we’ll report it,” Hooper said. He said that Safety had already received more reports of sexual misconduct this year compared to last year, attributing the increase to VAWA’s protection of those who come forward.

Several administrators kept in touch with the Department of Education (DOE) throughout the last week. According to Kohlman, they were slated to participate in a conference call with the department yesterday afternoon to discuss the new numbers, but were unable to get through. The DOE also finalized the requirements of the Clery Act only three days ago, on Oct. 20 — 20 days after higher education institutions were required to submit their statistics.

The uncertainty surrounding these regulations reaches as high as the federal government and can be attributed to a number of factors, but Interim Title IX Coordinator Linda Smolak expressed concern that the revision of the original Clery numbers sends a worrisome message. She acknowledged that the increased Title IX training for students and faculty this year was a step in the right direction, but said there was still room for progress. “I would like to see us doing more ... outreach,” Smolak said. “More that students themselves can be involved in to let us know what you need to make this a safe and comfortable campus for everybody.”

Decatur, on the other hand, characterized the revised numbers as a step toward transparency. “For me, the key message is that our intent is certainly to have a complete collection of data and to make those data available to the community,” he said. “The fact that the Student Affairs office had numbers that actually go beyond what the Department of Education requires ... I think is a demonstration that our intention is correct in terms of the significance of this data for the community is correct.”

New trustees elected

ERICH KALETKA  
STAFF WRITER

The Board of Trustees has elected three new members: Ruth Fisher, a parent of a Class of 2017 Kenyon student, Chris Toft '89 and Todd Leavitt '73.

The new trustees will serve on the board as the College continues to try and preserve its identity as a bastion of the liberal arts and sciences and increase its national image and recognition. Toft is eager to start his term as a trustee. “I love Kenyon both for what it was during my time as a student and for the bold path that it is on now,” he said. “Kenyon has a distinct place in higher education and, as our world becomes more transactional and less introspective, the value of a liberal arts education increases.”

Leavitt has been actively involved with Kenyon since he graduated in 1973. He makes yearly donations, has represented Kenyon at college fairs as well as other events and has served as the president of the Alumni Council for many years.

As a trustee, he hopes to have “one more opportunity to repay the debt [owed to Kenyon], using whatever life skills I may have available to assist in determining, at board level,

actions that will benefit Kenyon.”

All three of the new trustees mentioned the value they see in Kenyon and the hopefulness they have for the College’s future. Fisher, in particular, described herself as “very eager to find a way to help support Kenyon in its continuing mission of offering a wonderful educational experience to a diverse group of students.”

The new trustees will be formally instated into four-year terms during the October board meeting, which begins today and continues until this Saturday, Oct. 25.

Trustees will discuss the development of the 2020 strategic plan, efforts to enhance the first year experience and the 2015-2016 College budget. The Board will also be hearing updates on the Class of 2018 and the building of the Class of 2019.

President Decatur reiterated the importance of the 2020 plan at this week’s meeting. “I’ve been giving updates on campus to the faculty and to student council and to staff council, so I’ll be giving an update to the board on where we are with Kenyon 2020,” Decatur said. “I’d say that’s the biggest goal that I have for this that conversation - to catch up the trustees with the conversations that are going on on campus.”

FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL



The Knox County community celebrated fall with apple cider, llamas and horse cart rides at this year’s Harvest Festival.

VILLAGE RECORD

Oct. 16 – Oct. 20

- Oct. 16, 9:14 a.m. — Student reported unknown individual took photographs without consent.
- Oct. 18, 2:05 a.m. — Intoxicated student. Office of Campus Safety responded.
- Oct. 19, 3:20 a.m. — Intoxicated, underaged student in McBride Residence Hall. Admitted to using illegal substance. Safety responded. No transport needed.
- Oct. 19, 9:48 a.m. — Student found in possession of false identification. ID confiscated.
- Oct. 19, 10:19 a.m. — Damage received to window in Leonard Residence Hall by unknown individuals.
- Oct. 19, 12:32 p.m. — Intoxicated, underaged student receiving assistance from fellow student in Mather Residence Hall. Community Advisors responded. Safety responded.
- Oct. 20, 2:55 a.m. — Safety responded to an alarm in Peirce Hall. Checked area, no one found in building. Officers questioned two individuals on bicycles outside

BRIEF

Serial defecation strikes residence halls, art

In the last few weeks, there have been multiple instances of people defecating in various public locations on campus. Community Advisor Stephanie Cordonnier '15 first informed her residents in Bushnell Residence Hall of the issue via email last Thursday. In response, Bushnell resident Bridget Murdoch '17 said, “Pooping in communal places should not be a problem [for] 18- to 22-year-olds, so the entire situation perplexes me.”

Defecation has been reported in Bushnell as well as both Mather and Caples Residence Halls.

Additionally, an art piece created in the Installation Art course, which was positioned over the post in the Gates of Hell on Middle Path, was destroyed and defecated on. This prompted a response from the Kenyon College Public Art Commission, who decried the act of vandalism in an email sent to the community.

In response to the issue, the Office of Hous-

ing and Residential Life (ResLife) passed the issue along to the Housing and Dining Committee. Jill Engel-Hellman, Director of Housing and Residential Life, presented the issue to the committee in their meeting last Thursday, according to Housing and Dining Committee Chair Phoebe Roe '16, who is also a *Collegian* staff writer. “ResLife told the Housing and Dining Committee about it and we decided we definitely want to do something about it,” Roe said. “Not just about this, but about the general lack of respect we’ve seen on campus recently. And I think a lot of it has been directed towards [the] Maintenance [Department] and [the Office of Campus] Safety workers. We’re asking Campus Safety officers and custodial workers to write letters anonymously, which are then going to be distributed to the student body. We’ll put them up in Peirce, in bathrooms and around campus.”

— Jack Quigley

CORRECTIONS

In “Backstage pass: behind the scenes of a main stage production” (Oct. 16, 2014), the *Collegian* incorrectly reported that the rugby players involved in *The Ballad of Bonnie Prince Chucky* were participating in their first Kenyon College Dance and Dramatic Club (KCDC) production. Several of them are members of KCDC and have participated in productions before.

In “College complies with Clery Act, despite conflicting stats” (Oct. 16, 2014), the *Collegian* incorrectly reported that Sexual Misconduct Advisors (SMAs) are mandatory reporters of incidents of sexual misconduct. SMAs are confidential resources, though the number of incidents they report is communicated to the Counseling Center, which then reports the tally to the College’s Title IX coordinator.

The *Collegian* regrets these errors.



# Sister of Venezuelan activist Leopoldo López visits Rosse

DEBORAH MALAMUD  
STAFF WRITER

On Feb. 18, 2014, Leopoldo López '93, founder of the Voluntad Popular (Popular Will) party and former mayor of Chacao, a subdivision of the Venezuelan capital Caracas, was arrested wearing a shirt that read "el que se cansa, pierde (he who tires, loses)." Since then, Venezuela's political situation has gained international attention. Yesterday evening, the Center for the Study of American Democracy (CSAD) and the Office of the President sponsored a talk by Adriana López, Leopoldo's sister, in Rosse Hall about her brother's involvement in politics and fight for Venezuelan freedom. In an interview prior to the talk, Adriana told the *Collegian* that Leopoldo has, from early adolescence, "had a very clear sense of public service." She described her family's reaction to his unrelenting commitment to activism as "always supportive," in part due to their father's and grandfather's own dedication to public service.

Adriana, who owns an arepa kitchen in San Francisco, has "been able to exchange letters" with her brother, and feels his profound faith as a Catholic has served as "a tool he uses on a daily basis to endure the journey that he's in right now."

Adriana described Leopoldo, who originally intended to attend Harvard Divinity School but instead ended up at Harvard's Kennedy School for Pub-

lic Policy, as the most religious member of her traditional Catholic family. His ability to use religion in order to connect with his constituents points to the interdisciplinary nature of Leopoldo's story.

A vast array of groups and majors on campus "have an investment in this talk," Andrea Lechleitner, administrative assistant for CSAD, said. Leopoldo's story takes place "so far away from Gambier, and yet it's still so closely connected to it. It's about standing up for the qualities you believe in, that you feel are worthy to uphold."

Maya Street-Sachs '17, a sociology major, was inspired by the knowledge that López was a sociology major, too. "The change you make ... here in Gambier can be picked up and brought to a [larger] cause ... and you can start to see real change happening," she said.

Leopoldo's case "may undermine some of the popularity Chavismo has enjoyed in parts of Latin America," Assistant Visiting Professor of Political Science Nancy Powers wrote in an email to the *Collegian*. Chavismo is a left-wing ideology spearheaded by former Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez. His imprisonment "has garnered a lot of attention from the UN, from international human rights organizations, and here in the U.S.," Powers wrote.

Adriana noted that many of her and her family's efforts to incite action

from other countries' governments, which have occurred largely through Venezuelan embassies, have been successful — for instance, the United States government, Club Madrid and several European countries have condemned Leopoldo's imprisonment. However, she said that many "Latin American countries have been very quiet about it."

"The opposition to President [Nicolás] Maduro is diverse," Powers, whose areas of expertise include Latin American and grassroots politics, wrote. "Some favor negotiation and building an opposition movement that can win the next election. Others, like [Leopoldo] López, favored a more activist stance."

Paired with his style of dialogue, which Adriana describes as being "very black and white," López's desire to spur immediate change, rather than craft a deal, has received criticism from both supporters of President Maduro's and members of other opposition factions for being too radical. Adriana's response to critics is that her brother is "not radical, but bold," and that his urgency to push for change stems from his belief that "there's no better time than the present to correct what's not right."

"The only radical thing about him is that he felt the time to act was now," Rob Gluck '93, a close friend and classmate of López, said. "If you consider what he's speaking for, it's human rights — the right to free speech,



INDIA AMOS | COLLEGIAN

Rob Gluck '93 and Adriana López praise Leopoldo López's efforts in Venezuela.

basic economic freedoms. Those are far from radical positions."

"[López] organized a lot of ... protests," Gluck said, "but he also threw a lot of the best parties." López, who, in addition to politics, was passionate about surfing, boxing and staying out late, sought to understand the beliefs of his fellow classmates during his time at Kenyon. He used his social abilities to develop himself as a "man of dialogue," according to his sister.

"During college, there are a lot of people who have a viewpoint and that's their world," Gluck said. "But for Leo, if you had an opinion, [he'd ask], 'Is it informed? Could you defend it?' And then he embraced that."

Adriana admired López when they were growing up, but, like many

younger sisters do, found her older brother to be "really annoying." She believes it is his "good, [albeit] dark sense of humor" that allows him to seek dialogue even in situations where "everyone is wearing red, supporting Chavez, and on the other side, everyone would be wearing white [supporting López], and he'd cross the divide and say, 'Let's talk this out.'"

Alexa Simic-Hachmann '17, who was born in Venezuela, wrote in an email to the *Collegian* that "conditions in Venezuela are proof that democracy is fragile. We cannot tire in our quest to regain it."

Even as the struggle for Venezuelan freedom continues, López refuses to rest. As his T-shirt said, "el que cansa, se pierde."

## Kenyon in Rome takes hiatus

Continued from Page 1

However, those looking to hone their fine art skills in the world's oldest capital may be disappointed with the cancellation of the Kenyon in Rome abroad program for the 2015-2016 academic year.

Marne Ausec, director for the Center of Global Engagement (CGE), shed some light on the suspension of the program, add a general description of program here, in an email with the *Collegian*. "It's not that it's cancelled [permanently] — it's that we're not running it next year [2015-2016]," she said. "We're reformulating it [and] I think the plan is to actually do [a] studio art and art history combo [program]," she said.

When the program began in 2005-2006 academic year its focus was art history. In the years since, professors from different departments including psychology, drama, art history, and studio art have joined students on the program. But during one of the early years, there was no professor in that department available for the trip. "We didn't have anybody in art history to run it, so then it moved to sort of a general Humanities, opening it up," Ausec said. "What we found was that

it didn't work."

According to Ausec, it was much easier to develop a following when the program was focused on Art History. "We had students who would come to Kenyon because of the program." Although she praised the different departments who sponsored the program, she acknowledged that it presented other challenges. "I think it's an amazing program no matter what discipline. But when you move disciplines, it makes it really hard to recruit."

To remedy the staffing problem, the CGE is considering running the program every other academic year instead of every year, according to Ausec.

Lloyd, who is currently in Italy as part of this year's program, said the program provided her with experiences she never could have had in a Kenyon classroom.

Libby Gardner '15, who participated in last fall's semester program, had similar stories to share. That semester's was film-intensive and she took two classes with Assistant Professor of Film Jonathan Sherman, "Rome Through the Eyes of the Filmmaker" and "The Screenwriter in Rome."

"He used Rome as a backdrop for both those classes," Gardner said.

Sherman purportedly told the class that students cannot study film without studying the lighting of every Caravaggio painting. Gardner was skeptical at first, but then when the class journeyed to the galleries where the paintings were held, she realized how true Sherman's statement was. "We got there and I was like, 'Nope, he's totally right!'" she said.

Lloyd contended there were a few potential issues with the program. "While I can't speak to the administration's official reasons for ending the program," she said, "it is my understanding that there are three major issues with Kenyon in Rome: lack of applicants, expense and the contract between ACCENT [the host program] and Kenyon."

She mentioned that the cost of living in Rome was much higher than that of living in Gambier. Granted, as Ausec said, "the cost of living in many places is higher than that of Gambier."

In the meantime, the CGE says it will help students who were hoping to participate in the Kenyon in Rome program next year seek other options. The CGE, according to Ausec, is already assisting at least one such student with choosing another trip.

## Kenyon fails gen ed report

KATHERINE KING  
STAFF WRITER

Kenyon received an F in the recent "What Will They Learn?" report by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni (ACTA). The report rated colleges based on their general education requirements, focusing on seven types of requirements: composition, literature, foreign language, U.S. history, economics, mathematics and science.

Kenyon did not meet the criteria for any of these seven, but received partial credit for mathematics and science. Many of Kenyon's peer institutions, including Vassar, Oberlin and Grinnell Colleges, also received Fs. However, most at Kenyon seem unfazed by these reports.

Provost Joe Klesner argued that there are multiple valid approaches to general education. "Part of ... your education is to learn how to make those sorts of choices," he said. He also stressed that there is depth provided by the rule that students must fulfill their distribution requirement in two classes in the same department. "We're working with this notion of providing opportunities rather than imposing requirements," Klesner said.

"I like the idea of choices,"

**"A core curriculum that fails to require most of the seven key subjects outlined in this report will not satisfy the basic demands of general education."**

"What Will they Learn?" website

Professor of American Studies Peter Rutkoff said. Rutkoff agreed with Klesner that Kenyon's general education requirements did not need to become more restrictive.

ACTA's report justifies its criteria, arguing that its model for general education requirements creates students who are "proficient in reading and writing." However, Rutkoff argued that his students were proficient in these areas without specific required courses. He also disagreed with ACTA's claim that a U.S. history or government class is necessary to provide "sufficient working knowledge of the history and governing institutions of this country to prepare [students] for informed citizenship."

"We spent a long time as a faculty thinking about this stuff and we tended to fall on skills and competency rather than on subject matter, so hence the requirement on quantitative reasoning ... and that makes much more sense to me," Rutkoff said.

President Sean Decatur believes that Kenyon's distribution requirements promote the

general knowledge that other schools hope to teach through core requirements. "We provide a mechanism where students get a diverse exposure to the fields of the liberal arts, which I think are important," Decatur said. "We empower students to be able to make decisions and navigate their way through the curriculum as opposed to having preset dictated courses. ... I actually think that works well."

Several students expressed satisfaction with Kenyon's current requirements. "I'm able to avoid taking math like ever again because I can just take psych instead and it covers the same core," Amanda Simpkins '18 said. Although the leniency of Kenyon's general education requirements did not influence Simpkins' decision to attend, she believes that they are comprehensive. Ben Marakowitz-Svig '17 echoed Simpkins' statement. "I think the best thing to do is to create an environment that promotes being informed about, you know, current events in the world, if that's what you're going for," he said.



# New phone antennae ring in a new era in Peirce Hall

Eleven signal-boosting antennae will improve reception for cell phones on campus.

PHOEBE ROE  
STAFF WRITER

Stroll down Middle Path and you're likely to see a student or two wildly waving his or her phone through the air, searching for cell phone service. Kenyon is notorious for its faulty cell phone reception. To address this problem, Kenyon is installing new cell signal-boosting technology in Peirce Hall.

"Cell phone reception around campus, in general, is less than desirable," Director of Information Technology Services Niranjana Davray wrote in an email to the *Collegian*. "Due to the location of various cell phone towers in the area, Verizon coverage is perhaps better than AT&T and Sprint. T-Mobile perhaps does not work at all in Gambier."

To rectify the situation, Kenyon has been working to install cell phone service-boosting technology around campus. The improvements started with a pilot program in Olin Library in the 2013-2014 school year.

"After testing this in the library for a few months in spring 2014, over the past summer, this technology was implemented in

*"Often times I have trouble contacting people in urgent situations, such as being late for class [or] determining whether or not there is practice."*

Chris Stevens '17

Eaton Center, Lewis, Norton, Gund and McBride residences," Davray wrote. "Students should already have better coverage in those buildings compared to a year ago."

The basic idea behind the technology is that if a cell phone has four to five bars outside of a building, it should also have four to five bars inside of a building. Keeping this in mind, the technology works to boost reception within a building to the level it is outside of the building. However, if someone has one bar outside of a building, the technology won't help them have more bars indoors — that's in the hands of the cell service provider.

The decision to install the technology in Peirce comes as more and more students complain of dropped calls and ser-



CORA MARKOWITZ | COLLEGIAN

New signal-boosting technology will make communication easier in Peirce.

vice issues within the building.

"My contention about the service in Peirce is that it is quite faulty and often times I have trouble contacting people in urgent situations, such as being late for class, determining whether or not there is practice in the afternoon," Chris Stevens '17, a Verizon user, said.

Nate Epstein '16, an AT&T user and a sports fact checker for the *Collegian*, said, "Of course I have no reception in the server. I also have almost no reception on Old Side. In the dorms, it's

equally shitty; it might even be more shitty. Old Kenyon, you get no reception, none at all."

However, some students have never noticed any problems.

"I have good reception," Furqan Dar '16, a Verizon user, said. "I've never had a problem with reception. Maybe in the basement of Hayes, but that's the basement of Hayes."

The 11 different antenna locations in Peirce were installed on Wednesday, Oct. 22. Kenyon can now move forward with plans to expand the technology

to the rest of campus. However, according to Davray, this may be more easily said than done.

"There are several things to consider, location of an external antenna, location of internal antennae, etc. to ensure best possible coverage," Davray wrote. "Each location has its own challenges and the solution requires custom design per location."

Exactly when the full-campus upgrade will be finished remains unclear. For now, all we can do is hold our phones to the sky and wait.

## Kappas may go national

KATHERINE KING  
STAFF WRITER

Kappa Sigma Alpha (Kappa), a sorority that became official at Kenyon in 2013, may go national in the near future. Staff members from the national Alpha Sigma Tau sorority came to campus on Wednesday, Oct. 15 to meet with them, but no formal decisions have been made.

"We've been interested in going national since our founding, because we recognize that the structure and support would be really beneficial to us," Syeda Showkat '15, president of Kappa, wrote in an email to the *Collegian*.

Director of Student Activities and Greek Life Laura Kane recounted Kappa's search for nationalization. "Last spring, the [Kappa] women formally requested affiliation with a national sorority, and that process is getting a letter of support from Dean [of Students Hank] Toutain sent to the National Panhellenic Conference ... soliciting interest in who would like to come to Kenyon to present to us," Kane said.

Rumors circulated throughout Greeks that the

*"[W]e recognize that the structure and support would be really beneficial to us."*

Syeda Showkat '15, Kappa President

Kappas' decision to go national would raise dues for all Greek organizations on campus, but Kane said the two are "completely unrelated." The increase in dues that may occur would be a result of a proposed policy that would require Greek organizations to purchase increased insurance.

"The previous director [Christina Haas] was asked to look into what the cost would be for other local groups with the intent that if you're in a local group, you will have to have insurance," Kane, who became director of Greek life this summer, said. "I am picking up that initiative and doing that research." The potential raise in dues is unrelated to the Kappas' decision except for the fact that national organizations have insurance already built into their costs.

The Kappas' decision to go national would not change the structure of Kenyon's Greek Council, unless another sorority decided to go national as well. "If there are two national

sororities on campus, they have to be governed by a Panhellenic council, which is for women groups," Kane said. It is currently unclear whether what consequences the shift, should it happen, would have on Greek Council as a whole.

Manjul Bhusal Sharma '16, president of Greek Council, expressed positivity about the Kappas' potential decision. "I don't think there's need for anyone to be concerned," he said. "I wish the Kappas best of luck. ... This is a good thing for Kenyon Greek life in general."

Bhusal Sharma did not foresee the decision affecting current Greeks in any significant way, but suggested the change would be felt most by first years. "For ... freshmen this year who might want to join sororities, it's like Peirce having one additional item of food because they now have an option of choosing between a national sorority and a local one, provided that Kappas go national," he said.

## Classes cause sticker shock

Additional course expenses frustrate students.

Continued from Page 1

was not aware how expensive the projects would be, though even if she had, she would have still taken the course. She also believes that worrying about costs associated with your work makes the experience feel less collegiate, and more like working as a professional.

Emma Brown '17 enrolled in Photography I last semester, for which she had to purchase photo paper and film. In an email to the *Collegian*, Brown called the costs "significant," saying she had to purchase around 125 pieces of photo paper at \$1 per sheet and over 10 rolls of film, which cost between \$7 and \$8 per roll.

Visiting Assistant Professor of Studio Art Emily Zeller '08 said the photography faculty is upfront about the high costs, but said that these costs are not potentially unreasonable.

This is Zeller's first year teaching the course but said that none of her students dropped the class when they learned about the costs, though some expressed concerns. "It's unfortunate that it can be limiting to some students," Zeller said.

In language classes, many students must purchase both a textbook and an access code to

an online site that accompanies the text. Matthew Williamson '18 felt lucky when a friend who had taken Intermediate French last year gave him his book, but he soon learned he would have to spend between \$80 and \$120 on the accompanying online materials. "I didn't really save any money beyond what I was expecting to spend," Williamson said.

Visiting Assistant Professor of French Monica Garoiu's view is that the online "super-site," which is more expensive than the physical workbook students used in the past, gives students more access to materials. While the textbook and site code run over \$200 per semester, Garoiu notes that, "it's a fair price if you compare them to other books," Garoiu said. "I feel that they are high prices, but that's the market."

Director of Financial Aid Craig Daugherty says that the price of books is factored into student's financial aid packages and that the College works with the Kenyon College Bookstore each year to determine a fair amount. In most cases, they estimate in around \$1900 for the academic year, which is considered into to the total cost of Kenyon when financial aid packages are determined. Students students

request additional money for a course only "a couple of times" and "it doesn't happen a lot," according to Daugherty, but "if a student can document that they have spent additional monies on books and supplies, over and above the \$950 amount that is budgeted [per semester], we can allow them to take out additional loan dollars."

The hidden costs of many classes are significant, but students contended that they are not outrageous. Garoiu pointed out that the additional materials can be used longer and provide a better educational experience. Zeller also noted that Kenyon students actually have a decent deal, as the College purchases the chemicals for film development and students doing prints for digital photography buy ink and paper from the College at the same price the supplies are purchased for. And Norman also added that there are options to reduce the price of sculptures by purchasing cheaper materials but she said that going in, "you don't realize until you get there how much that [the materials] is going to cost" and this seems to be the biggest issue for students, not realizing when registering, what their classes will cost them.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Dear Kenyon Community,

The Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (ODEI) is proud to support and celebrate LGBTQ History Month, and specifically those members of the Kenyon community who identify as LGBTQ. We also recognize the many contributions made by members of the LGBTQ communities that have resulted in making the world a better place for us all.

To the LGBTQ community, we are your allies! We celebrate and raise awareness this month for you — those who are out and those who are not. The ODEI encourages campus and community members/allies to join us in supporting LGBTQ History Month.

Further, the ODEI supports the missions of the following student organizations at Kenyon College: Unity House, Athletes for Equality, Queer Women’s Collective, and Queer Men’s Society. We recognize these organizations and these student leaders for their continued support and dedication to the LGBTQ community.

**Unity House**

Student Leaders:

Emily Green, Gabriella Cooper

**Athletes for Equality**

Student Leaders:

Avery Anderson, Samuel Lagasse

**Queer Women’s Collective**

Student Leaders:

Madeline Thompson, Alice Stites

**Queer Men’s Society**

Student Leaders:

John Foley, Johnny MacNeil



Strengthened by Support,  
Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



# OPINIONS

EDITORS: MATTHEW ELEY AND  
ANNIE SHESLOW

The Kenyon Collegian welcomes your opinions  
@KenyonCollegian. Share your thoughts: #QuickComplaints.

Write to us! Submit letters to the editor at  
kenyoncollegian@gmail.com.

## STAFF EDITORIAL

# Trustees should mix more with students

Beginning today, Kenyon's trustees will meet, mostly behind closed doors, to discuss big-picture priorities and plans for Kenyon's future, including President Sean Decatur's 2020 plan and ways to make Kenyon more economically accessible. This year and last, the Office of the President invited a few students to have lunch with members of the board. Such opportunities are valuable, and we wish the College organized more events like it.

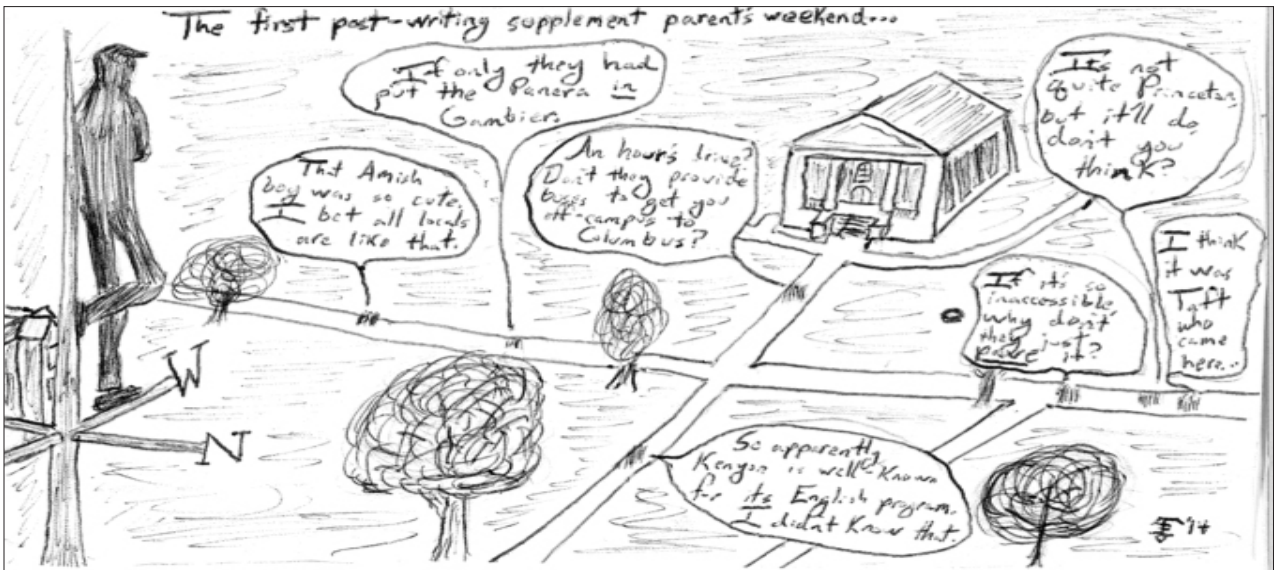
After all, many trustees are Kenyon alumni themselves, yet many students know nothing about these individuals and do not realize the substantial influence they hold over Kenyon's future. Admittedly, some of this ignorance is simply due to students' failure to read their emails and educate themselves on College affairs, and thus cannot be blamed purely on a lack of effort by Kenyon's administrators or the trustees themselves. Nonetheless, both sides — students and trustees — could do a better job of reaching out and meeting each other in the middle.

A positive step in this direction was the trustees' recent pledge to match every Kenyon senior's donation to the College with \$50, as long as the original donation was over a dollar. This fundraising effort is commendable, especially since it's collaborative. However, such efforts are not enough.

While donation-matching and the occasional shared lunch are good starts, they do not address the core problem of a student body and a board of trustees that are largely estranged for the majority of the students' four years. Trustee donations to the senior gift are beneficial, but perhaps more beneficial would be increased interest in how the student body would like to see that money spent by the board.

We saw some collaboration last year when President Decatur invited students to participate in three 2020 focus groups and communicate their concerns directly to him. The input from these programs was included directly alongside that of faculty and staff and will be part of what the board considers this weekend. Why limit these focus groups to years when the board is deciding on a 10-year plan? If it were done annually, it would be a valuable barometer for campus sentiment from year to year. Additionally, we'd like to see some of the student-trustee meetings occur without administrators present, since we believe this will encourage students to speak more candidly. Lastly, although we're sure the trustees will be extremely busy during the coming weekend, we encourage them to approach us students just to chat. We promise — we won't bite.

## EDITORIAL CARTOON



CARTOON BY MATTHEW ELEY

# A letter from Leopoldo López '93

Dear students, faculty and members of the Kenyon community,

When I heard that my sister Adriana would be visiting with you I was filled with joy, as it brought back so many good memories of Kenyon and the ways that it contributed to the work in progress that I am today. From my earliest days as a freshman living in Lewis Hall, to building my mind in the classroom and expanding my world outside of it — and making lifelong friends along the way — the time I spent in Gambier was one of the richest, most rewarding periods of my life.

As many of you know, I am writing this letter from a military prison in Venezuela, where I am being held for the simple act of speaking and protesting against a political, social and economic catastrophe.

Today in Venezuela, we have a health system that does not cure the sick; an educational system that does not teach; a social system that does not care for the vulnerable people in society; police, judges and prosecutors who do not protect; an economy that produces neither employment nor wellbeing. As a result, Venezuela has one of the worst homicide rates on the planet; the highest inflation in the western hemisphere; severe shortages of basic necessities; and growing social instability.

Our people are being strangled by a

regime that wants to control everything, wants to ration food, marks people with numbers in order to purchase ingredients, tells people what they must listen to, read or see: in other words, a 21st-century dictatorship. Civil institutions such as the electoral system, judiciary and media have been thoroughly corrupted by the ruling political party, which has ruthlessly persecuted all forms of disagreement.

At the beginning of 2014, we prepared a roadmap for change, which combined non-violent protest with a legal and constitutional process to allow people to vote for a new government. La Salida is the name we have given to our plan to exit from today's terrible circumstances to a better life for all Venezuelans.

When we began protesting, the government issued a warrant for my arrest, in a clear attempt to criminalize dissent. I was faced with three options: I could leave the country or continue in hiding, as many other good people have chosen to do. The third option was to present myself before an unjust justice system voluntarily, and that is what I did.

I made this choice because I believed it would create an opportunity to more directly confront the lies, abuses of power and the need for change at the very root of the system. I have now seen firsthand the decay of Venezuelan justice being suffered by thousands of Venezuelans. Manipulation, the delay of process, and political

control of judges and prosecutors in their provisional roles makes them dependent, vulnerable servants of a system and not of justice. For me, these are now more than mere facts and figures, and knowing this infuses me with an even greater moral and patriotic urgency to pursue change.

To those who are reading this, I urge you to follow these events, learn more and ask others to do the same. The perpetrators of this injustice can only win if the world turns a blind eye. But if people speak, act and shine a spotlight on what is happening, change will come.

If you would like to learn more about how to help, please visit the website that my Kenyon classmates have established, FreeLeopoldo.com.

The truth is that I do not know how long I will be here, but I do know that for as long as my imprisonment lasts, I will be calm, serene and clear on my principles and my convictions.

I know that one day — may it be one day soon (although time is something I have learned to master and not allow to torment me) — I will leave in freedom and with even more strength to fight for change, and for a clear democracy for Venezuela.

And when that happens, I can't wait to walk down Middle Path on a return visit to Kenyon.

— Leopoldo López '93

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

The Kenyon Collegian reserves the right to edit all letters submitted for length and clarity. The Collegian cannot accept anonymous or pseudonymous letters. Letters must be signed by individuals, not organizations, and must be 250 words or fewer. Letters must also be received no later than the Monday prior to publication. The Kenyon Collegian prints as many letters as possible each week subject to space, interest and appropriateness. Members of the editorial board reserve the right to reject any submission. The views expressed in the paper do not necessarily reflect the views of Kenyon College.



# Persistent vandalism of campus unbecomes Kenyon

The most recent bout of vandalism has taken a turn for the sinister, with the targeting works by specific students. Is it really something we should accept?

KATE RIDLEY  
CONTRIBUTOR

I make my way down the many stairs of Old Kenyon to the first floor, exit the stairwell and head toward the main door. It's been a long night, and I don't notice anything until my hand is on the doorknob and something seems wrong. And something is — the glass normally present in the small glass window of the door is, well, not present. I assume it's been broken by a revelrous student, shrug and leave, hardly thinking twice.

But, after the incident of the broken art installations a few weeks ago, maybe it is time to think twice. Maybe it's time to think about the numerous cases of Kenyon vandalism as something more serious than "a little drunken fun."

Because, to be honest, it's not that funny. It's not funny to the students who are made uncomfortable by it, and are no longer able to

feel like Kenyon is a safe place. It is not funny to the administration, who have to spend extra time and money cleaning it up. When it happens in residence halls, it's not funny for our CAs who have to deal with it and it's not funny for all the other residents who have to help pay for it. At the end of the night, what are we left with? No declaration of celebration or good times, nor even a spark of wit: just a scribbled piece of writing on a wall, a smashed mirror or a demolished expression of another student's voice.

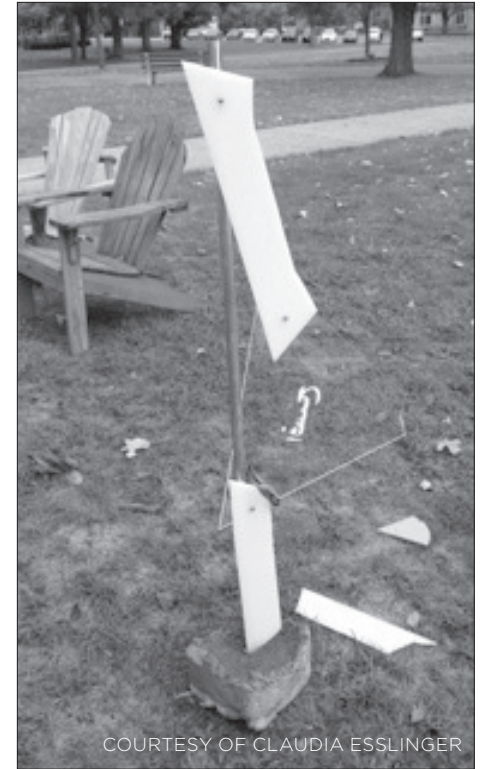
I am by no means on a crusade against drunken revelry or the many parties that are thrown on campus. On the contrary, —I think that, when done safely and responsibly, they can be great ways for us to relieve the stress Kenyon unquestionably places on us. When done safely, I might even go so far as to say that partying can improve one's mental health. The problem isn't the drinking itself, but

what seems to be our attitude toward it: that it gives us an excuse.

I say "our" knowing that the majority of the student body probably doesn't participate in the acts of vandalism of which I'm speaking. However, when the identity of the vandal remains anonymous, they do essentially become "our" acts, as we have a shared responsibility for them and a shared responsibility to tackle the problem. Yes, we all know that drinking severely impedes one's cognitive reasoning and decision-making skills, but does that make it any more right to deface another's property? Does being drunk give one an excuse to break the law, make someone else's life harder or cause another student discomfort?

No, of course it doesn't. By simply accepting the destruction that goes on each weekend, we're both disrespecting ourselves and disrespecting this beautiful school we are all

**"By simply accepting the destruction that goes on each weekend, we're both disrespecting ourselves and disrespecting this beautiful school we are all privileged to attend ... We can think of better ways to have fun when we're drunk than by damaging campus property."**



COURTESY OF CLAUDIA ESSLINGER

privileged to attend. Kenyon students are creative and resourceful, and I know we can think of better ways to have fun when we're drunk than by damaging campus property. Even if what you're about to do

seems funny at the time, I'm sure that that hilarity will have dimmed by the next morning, and will definitely be gone within a couple days. Kenyon doesn't have to be the kind of place where one long weekend means

valuable artistic statements get obliterated. But that choice is yours.

*Kate Ridley '18 is undeclared from Piedmont, Calif. She can be contacted at [ridleyk@kenyon.edu](mailto:ridleyk@kenyon.edu).*

# Online homework detracts from learning experience

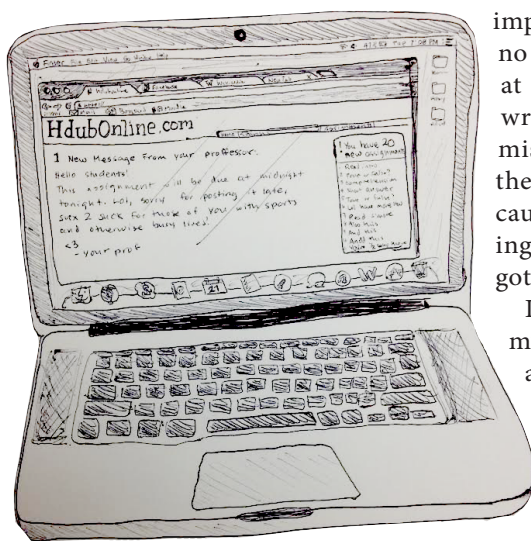
Do online components of courses make them easier or take away from the personal element critical to our academics?

GRIFFIN BURROUGH  
CONTRIBUTOR

When I look at Kenyon, I think, "You know, we could be better. We should be more like the University of Phoenix." It makes sense. The university has many esteemed alumni, such as basketball star Shaquille O'Neal (who earned a master's in education in 2005), Harold Hurt and Peter Sperling.

Yeah, I have no idea who those last two are either. But if we're not trying to be more like the University of Phoenix, then why is Kenyon trying to shove robotic online programs on us? Didn't we all come to Kenyon so we could actually know our professors?

Every Wednesday for my econ class — without fail — we have a graded homework assignment through a website called Applia. My professor (whom I adore) says this is for convenience, and he's right. With Applia, he doesn't have to sit down and grade all of our assignments by hand and then give them back to us two weeks



KELSEY OVERBEY

later after we've forgotten the material. With Applia, we know at midnight on Thursday what our score is. That sounds great, right?

I'd say no. We're being graded by a machine and a machine can't understand our methods or intentions, or give personalized feedback. With Applia, our answers are right or wrong; there is no partial credit, no follow-through points for a slight miscalculation and, most

importantly, there is no feedback showing at what point I went wrong. If I make a mistake identifying the deadweight loss caused by a price ceiling, I only know that I got the answer wrong.

I have no idea why my answer is wrong and because of this, I'm not learning much. Had I done this by hand, my professor would have marked off

points but he also would have been able to teach me based on my mistake. A computer can't teach me specifically why I'm wrong; it can only give me a red mark and show me the right answer.

My second transition to becoming a Phoenix is my French class. In French, all of our homework is on our textbook's supersite. The exercises are usually straight out of the book, which is nice, but do you know what's not nice? Yep, the red marks from the computer.

**"With Applia, our answers are right or wrong; there is no partial credit, no follow-through points for a slight miscalculation and, most importantly, there is no feedback showing at what point I went wrong."**

I'm not complaining that I'm bad at French. I'm complaining because most of us get marked off for things we don't need to know in French. In one unit of French, we have probably 50 exercises. Of these 50, 40 are very easy and are good practice to make sure that we know our stuff — but the other 10 are a clear example of the problem with putting everything online.

These 10 exercises are the most important and relevant to our curriculum: writing complete sentences based on listening. In my own experience this is pretty straightforward — but do you know why we all get zeros on this? Because we misspell people's names. Because there is an extra "r" or "s" in someone's name, the entire class got a zero. If we had homework that we turned in,

our professor would have seen the name misspelled, but also seen that the verb conjugation and adjective agreement were right. A computer doesn't see this; a computer is just trained to match your answer against the correct one.

Am I complaining too much? Probably. But I'm complaining because I came to Kenyon to have a close interaction with my professors. I came so that I would be Griffin Burrough and not number six on the roll call list. Having online class components may be convenient but from my naïve freshman point of view, they go against what makes Kenyon, Kenyon.

*Griffin Burrough '18 is undeclared from Summit, N.J. He can be reached at [burroughbe@kenyon.edu](mailto:burroughbe@kenyon.edu).*



# Family Weekend: an opportunity for students and their parents to reflect on their time (and growth) apart

Family weekend means for many the first time they’ve seen familiar faces since the first few days of orientation. Take advantage of the unique perspective.

**BRIANNA LEVESQUE**  
CONTRIBUTOR

The College has a clever knack for planning Family Weekend so it falls on the exact moment when campus is the pinnacle of postcard perfection. Friday, especially, had an exuberant, blustery beauty about it, an exuberance only matched by the enthusiastic reunion of loved ones evident throughout the day. But now that the diminished whirlwind of excitement seems to have taken with it the majority of the orange and yellow from the trees, we can observe the bareness of the limbs and take time to reflect upon the effects of our visitors.

I have a slight disclaimer to offer up: I am a sophomore who has twice gone stag during Family Weekend.

As much as my family would relish the opportunity, when weighing the pros and cons of my family making the trek from Oregon, both years it was mutually decided that the cons won out. However, though I’ve not experienced familial visitation firsthand, I have observed the family-student dynamic and become fascinated by the interactions I have seen, and found parallels to my remembered experience of navigating the end of the initial “freshman eparation.”

For many this weekend, for many, marks the first in-person exchange since the I-guess-this-moment’s-actually-here momentousness of the orientation drop-off. In many ways, the time between these events feels undeniably like “before” and “after.” Family Weekend, or whenever

that first reunion with our family occurs, brings to light the latent growth that has unknowingly shaped us and forces us to acknowledge we have been distanced: in time, space, and understanding.

I remember the startling strangeness I felt

as a first year coming home for Thanksgiving. I saw my family’s expectant faces through the revolving glass doors of our comparably pathetic “international” airport, which was peppered with only a handful of arrivals and their families. It was wonder-

ful to see them, truly, because it should always be a blessing to see once again the faces of those you care for most in the entire world.

I knew this on one level, yet I couldn’t deny the unswallowable feeling of their foreignness — or was it my own?

Could I possibly have outgrown my home? This situation causes a person to reevaluate the very meanings of “home” and “family.” Did growing to love a new place and group of people mean, consequently, that I loved my past any less?

“This situation causes a person to reevaluate the very meanings of ‘home’ and ‘family.’ Did growing to love a new place and group of people mean I loved my past any less?”

I have since realized that this phenomenon is not a matter of changed love, but a matter of changed perspective. This first reunion is an occasion inevitably laden with an implicit awkwardness. It may be alarming to feel this way with one’s own family, but I’ve come to believe it is a natural part of the mind-boggling process commonly known as life.

Ultimately, it is not only the students who must grapple with these changes: the parents, too, are forced to come to terms with the new chapter of their child’s life in which they are cast in only a supporting role. There were likely quite a few parents posing for a soon-to-becherished picture with their child on Middle Path, wondering if the man or woman they had their arm around could possibly be the same creature whose diapers they had once changed and whose milk mous-

taches they had once lovingly wiped away.

This weekend I observed many folks grappling to understand change, which inevitably leads to moments of frustration, confusion, and disconnect: just do not allow these emotions, as fleeting as the seasons, to become permanent. I saw many beautiful colors and much affection on campus this weekend; however, the beauty of parent’s and student’s mutual striving to love in spite of change far outweighed any temporal beauty of Middle Path’s fall foliage. The turning of the leaves and the limbs they eventually leave bare is not cause for sadness if one only remembers the snow, a different kind of wonder, which the winter will bring.

Brianna Levesque ’17 is from Medford, Ore. She can be reached at [levesqueb@kenyon.edu](mailto:levesqueb@kenyon.edu).

## EDITORS’ CORNER



ANNIE SHESLOW



MATTHEW ELEY

I did not come to Kenyon because of the rave reviews from alumni, the insistence of my college guidance counselor or the bombardment of Ascension-embellished postcards. I finally made my college decision when I heard a story from my student host combining Evangelicalism and nudity. As told to me as a prospie, a man on Middle Path protesting the teaching of evolution got a very visual reminder of the origins of the species when my host’s ex-boyfriend lost a bet and then had to streak across campus. By chance, he ran past the creationist and his sandwich boards — stark naked. When my host ensured that bizarre events this didn’t happen every day (but certainly could), I knew Kenyon was where I wanted to spend the next four years.

The magic of Kenyon doesn’t reside in its ghost-ridden dorms, but in the potential for weirdness that is this place hemming 1,676 bright minds in this land of cornfields. As Eley noted, the College should strive to keep this uniqueness in its 2020 plan. With that in mind, I think the only way to maintain Kenyon’s character in the future is to have students involved with the trustee meetings. So, get to know us, trustees. Most of the time we are not defecating on or breaking our campus, but chatting excitedly about the fascinating things we learn, or reveling in the majesty of the campus’ latest absurd guest, a 2,000 lb pumpkin named Gourdzilla.

This weekend finds our trustees gathered in Peirce for their fall conference. Steering the college is daunting, I imagine: when the board sits down to review the new proposals, it is joined by 190 years of tradition and countless more of future expectations, and it must plot out a course in the intervening present.

Kenyon’s past and future do sometimes seem at odds. The year we became coeducational, they no doubt appeared to part ways altogether, but time passed and a divisive season became Kenyon canon. But Kenyon’s ability to assimilate its choices calls for even greater care by the trustees, for we might assimilate a bad decision with equal ease.

The Board should avoid a decline into a generic “academic excellence” that tempts similar colleges. The arms race for rankings suggests that we become known for everything instead of our writing, to lower acceptance rates by increasing application numbers, to build quaint, drywalled housing and scheme to become more like the Princetons that populate the top five. But an identity of any meaning comes by excluding some traits over others, choosing to be something instead of wanting to be everything. Kenyon will evolve as it always has, but it should not be in blind imitation of others.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear *Collegian* and student body,

The Business and Finance Committee (BFC) is happy to announce the approval (through Student Council) of a new by-law with regards to our funding process. The creation of By-Law 25 provides the BFC the ability to assist student organizations in their fundraising efforts through a loan program. Previously, the committee was limited to only funding all-campus fundraising events (e.g., Relay for Life) without the ability to help groups with the front-end expenses of direct fundraising efforts (e.g., selling T-shirts or other items) that directly benefit the group or a charitable organization. Through the program, groups can apply as a part of the normal supplemental funding process for a short-term loan. The BFC now has the opportunity to provide the initial capital to fund a fundraising event. Following the fundraiser, the group will then return the initial amount to the BFC and keep all revenue above that initial amount (i.e., profits). The BFC is excited about this new opportunity to provide groups another avenue to be able to raise funds themselves, as well as provide goods and programming to the campus.

Sincerely,  
Kenyon College Student Treasurers  
Peter Lind ’15 and Garrett Stalker ’15



# FEATURES

EDITOR: INDIA AMOS

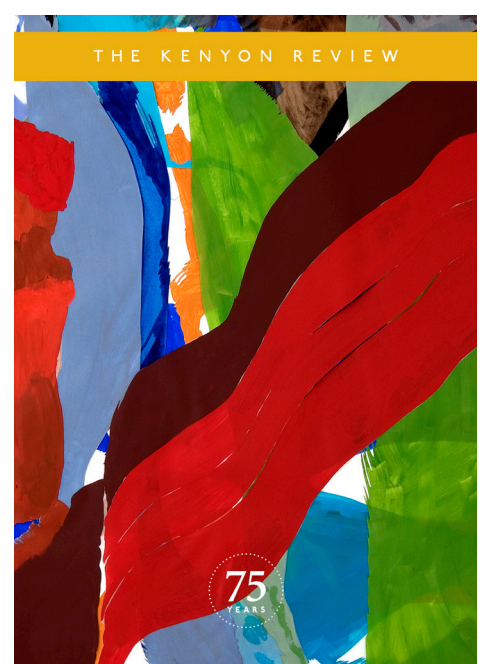
## ASK A PROFESSOR



Where is your favorite spot on campus?

"Samuel Mather, . . . looking at Ascension and seeing through its windows to the sky beyond. The building floats on the landscape in its Gothic Revival splendor."  
- Professor of Religious Studies Royal Rhodes

"A toss-up among a) the pool, b) the trails of the BFEC, and c) wherever Kenyon students are talking about the Middle Ages."  
- Professor of History Jeff Bowman



## Review celebrates anniversary by looking to the future

For the 75th anniversary of the respected literary journal, students and editors come together to celebrate its changing legacy and ensure its longevity.

**CORA MARKOWITZ**  
PHOTO EDITOR

Color and consolidation were the mark of changes for the *Kenyon Review's* 75th anniversary. This is also a special year for editor David Lynn, who is also celebrating his 20th year as editor of the *Review*. This year's celebrations begin with a birthday bash in the Gund Gallery Community Foundation Theater, which will feature readings by the *Review's* two new fellows, Melinda Moustakis and Jamaal May.

"We really do hope that the birthday party [tonight] will be a really big, fun event and people will want to come," *Kenyon Review* Managing Editor Abby Serfass said. "We will be having birthday cake, and both of our new fellows are really dynamic people and they're great writers and readers, so hopefully that'll be a draw as well."

Ellen Priest, who is in charge of designing the 75th anniversary covers for the *Review*, worked to make a special change to the magazine to help celebrate its milestone.

"We thought that that would be a fun way to commemorate the 75th, to break out of our black-and-white covers and make them all color," Serfass said.

Serfass has been with the *Review* since

2006 and initially served as associate programs director, working on the Young Writers program and other initiatives. These programs involve the *Review* working with a community of writers, going beyond just publishing literature in the magazine, and they have all been founded by Lynn.

"I think 20 years ago we were just a magazine," Serfass said. "With David's tenure, we've really become an overall arts organization. We do have the magazine still but we also have a huge online presence, we run all these programs for young writers and adult writers, we have this literary achievement award, we do the literary festival. . . . Our mission is much bigger."

Lynn began working at the *Review* 25 years ago and planned the 50th-anniversary issue in 1989, never expecting he would still be at the *Review* to celebrate its 75th birthday.

"When I was a writer-in-residence for one year, the then-editor of the *Review*, Terry Hummer, unexpectedly left for Middlebury and they asked me to stay on as acting editor for one year, and this was back in 1989," Lynn said. "I expected I would be leaving soon afterwards, but chance intervened, as it often does in life, and so I've been the editor since 1994." Lynn has now surpassed John

Crowe Ransom, the founder of the *Review*, in longevity as editor. He called the 75th anniversary a "big deal" both for him and for the magazine.

With 75 years behind it, the *Review* is embracing the future with a major change to the publication. Rather than publishing four issues a year, it will now publish six issues, in a smaller, more portable format, closer to the size of a novel than to the size of a coffee table book. The planning for this change coincided with the 75th anniversary purely by coincidence.

Tory Weber, associate director of programs and administrator of the *Kenyon Review* fellowships, said, "The timing is great, I think, because whenever you have a big milestone that you're celebrating, it is a chance to look back at all you've done and think about where you want to go."

Lynn had toyed with the idea of a change in format for years, figuring out the issues of cost and how this new, smaller size would appeal to readers.

The change from four issues of 200 or 220 pages to six issues a year of about 120 pages costs approximately the same, according to Lynn.

With this smaller size, he hopes readers will find the *Review* more accessible.

"I want people to be able to put it in their bag or their pocket and take it with them," Lynn said.

Despite these design changes, the *Review* maintains a connection to its past.

Weber, once a Kenyon student and KR associate herself, said, "When I was an associate, there were literally maybe a dozen students working for the *Review*. And now we have about 70 and they're students who continue to stay in touch with us, work for us, and come back years later to do things in our various programs."

Lynn believes that these programs are essential to Kenyon's character.

"Great writing and the study of literature are a part of Kenyon in a way that is not true of any other school I know," he said. "The fact that our English department is so strong and so large and that we've got the *Review* is a mark of how all of this really does matter to who Kenyon is and how it sees itself and how the students see themselves."

The *Review* welcomes the entire Kenyon community to join in celebrating this milestone at its birthday party today at 7 p.m., as well as at its annual literary festival, which runs from today through the weekend. The festivities end on Saturday with novelist Ann Patchett's book signing in Rosse Hall.

## List of festival events

Readings by  
*Kenyon Review* Fel-  
lows Jamaal May and  
Melinda Moustakis

Thursday, Oct. 23  
Gund Gallery  
Community Foundation  
Theater, 7 p.m.

Reading with E.J.  
Levy and Natalie  
Shapero

Friday, Oct. 24  
Finn House,  
Cheever Room, 4:10 p.m.

Sidewalk  
Book Sale

Saturday, Oct. 25  
Kenyon Bookstore  
12 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Panel Discussion:  
The Future of the  
Independent  
Bookstore

Saturday Oct. 25  
Kenyon Bookstore,  
2:30-3:30 p.m.



# Folktales with a twist: radio series embraces magical world

A group of students lets their imagination lead the way in new radio show about adventures throughout Knox County.

**EMMA WELSH-HUGGINS**  
FEATURES ASSISTANT

As is often said by tour guides, Kenyon's campus is comparable to *Harry Potter's* Hogwarts with the grandeur of the dining hall, the intricate antique woodwork of Ascension's Philomathesian Hall and the intriguing mystery of the woods along the Kokosing River. The campus can evoke a sense of wonder in all who traverse Middle Path. A group of students have recently taken these mythical associations to the airwaves with their new radio show. "The Magical History of Knox County", which airs every Friday at 9 p.m. on WKCO, is "like NPR's 'This American Life'", only with weird magical things going on," Chris Wilson '16 said of the storytelling program.

The inspiration for the show came from Knox County itself. While on a walk along the Kokosing Gap Trail, Wilson, along

with Colton Flick '16 and Kyle Fisher '16, stumbled upon "a place where it looked like there used to be a bridge, and [there] wasn't [a bridge] anywhere, and we wondered what happened," Flick, a film and religious studies double major, said.

Adrift in his imagination, Wilson, a drama major and classics minor, immediately improvised a story. "Off the top of my head, I just made up something about, 'Oh yes, this is where two giants were fighting in years past, and one of them got knocked down, and that's why the geography is the way it is,'" he said.

By the time they had returned to their dorm, they "somehow had a weekly narrative show planned," Flick said. The show centers on a character named Mordecai Dogwood, voiced by Dylan Gregory '16, a radio host who has taken over the station. Mordecai is accompanied on his sub-

sequent adventures by a radio technician named Ned, voiced by Cora Cull '16. In an early episode, Mordecai "is going out to find this guy to interview, but along the way he gets lost, and because he works for the radio station, the people who he stops have stories to tell him," Wilson said. This style of narrative harks back to the inspiration of "This American Life" and, as Wilson went on to explain, "[Mordecai] mentions that he's looking for this scientist who knows about the Kokosing, so they all have stories about the Kokosing, and all of their stories have something weird happen to it."

At the end of the episode, Mordecai finds the scientist, who takes him down to the Kokosing, only for a kraken to appear. This twist of magical realism gives the show the kind of intrigue that originally attracted almost 30 students to audition for



EMMA WELSH-HUGGINS | COLLEGIAN

From left: Colton Flick '16, Chris Wilson '16 and Kyle Fisher '16 discuss ideas for their weekly radio show.

the opportunity to voice the small roles, with actors alternating each week according to the vocal needs of the new or recurring characters. The majority of the weekly narrative is based on the same kind of folk fairy tales that inspired the show in the first place.

In addition to Wilson, Fisher and Flick, Alex Greenwald '16 contributes as a writer, along with Emma Lasky '16 and James Currie '16. As a weekly show, the group

runs on a tight schedule writing their episodes, which last around 20-25 minutes each, over the weekend. Then, "We edit it, get it all ready. We normally record on Wednesday," Flick said. "That alternates between either the WKCO studio or my room in Caples, depending on how well the week's going for us." The editing process can take as few as two hours and as many as six for a more complicated script, which, as Wilson explained, means that

"Thursday and Friday are then a mad dash to get it all together."

With episodes available via WKCO's livestream, which pulled an estimated 20 listeners for the show's debut, or the show's Tumblr (magicalhistoryofknoxcounty.tumblr.com), which attracted 302 listeners during its first episode, the show serves as a way for both its creators and any number of listeners to immerse themselves in an imaginative world.

## Blue house explained: Ohio5 headquarters at Kenyon

**EMILY BIRNBAUM**  
STAFF WRITER

Sticking out among the white North Campus Apartments is a mysterious blue house that is seemingly empty. Some students even joke that the house might be haunted.

However, the house is neither empty nor haunted. A residence converted into an office space, it now serves as the headquarters of the Five Colleges of Ohio consortium (Ohio5). The Ohio5 is an association comprised of the College of Wooster, Denison University, Oberlin College, Ohio Wesleyan University and Kenyon. The consortium provides a forum for faculty and students of the five colleges to discuss issues of mutual concern.

"The Ohio5 was founded in 1995 primarily to coordinate both administrative and academic programs," Brenda Howard, who serves as the Ohio5's account and budget assistant and manages its website, said. "We are supposed to look at resource-sharing and find ways of enhancing quality while reducing cost. Any time there's interest in working with other colleges, we're interested in helping with that."

The Ohio5 also works to unite the colleges academically. It is responsible for bringing OhioLINK to the colleges,



KRISTEN HUFFMAN | COLLEGIAN

Once home to professors, a house close to the NCA's has taken on a new use.

which is an interlibrary loan system for students at any of the five schools to borrow books from the participating colleges' libraries. This past February, the consortium united 60 students and faculty members at Oberlin College for the first Ohio5 Dance Conference, where performers were able to share their ideas and styles. The second dance conference will be held at Kenyon this spring, with such performances at the other colleges in subsequent seasons.

Howard, Procurement Specialist Christine Kimball and Executive Director Susan Palmer are all in charge of scheduling and mediating the meetings between members of the five colleges.

Though the Ohio5 has al-

ways had its main office in various Kenyon buildings, it moved to the Allen House in 2003.

Before 2003, the "blue house" was officially titled "Allen House." It was used as a residential space that housed faculty members and their families. In 2003, Kenyon transformed the house into an office space and painted it blue. Since then, the house's first floor has been dedicated to Ohio5 work while the second floor is office space.

While Howard, Kimball and Palmer are the only employees who are dedicated full-time to Ohio5 operations at Kenyon, many faculty and staff members on campus have been involved in Ohio5 procedures. The consortium's board of trustees is made up of the presidents of all the colleges, so Kenyon Presi-

**"We are supposed to look at resource-sharing and find ways of enhancing quality while reducing cost. Any time there's interest in working with other colleges, we're interested in helping with that."**

Brenda Howard of Ohio5

dent Sean Decatur's input has a bearing on Ohio5 policy. Additionally, Todd Burson, Kenyon's associate vice president for finance, and Mark Kohlman, Kenyon's chief business officer, are both involved in Ohio5 work.

"[Decatur, Burson and Kohlman] serve on one of our main committees, the Operating Committee," Palmer said. "They are charged with creating consortial projects on the business and administrative side."

The Kenyon Ohio5 office is currently focusing on a procurement project, according to Howard.

"The procurement project will make it so that an administrative assistant can go to a website online that has access to a lot of vendors with whom we have contracts," Howard said. "If we have contracts with these vendors, then we can get the products for cheaper when we make orders."

According to Palmer, the largest expenses come from the maintenance and equipment used to run college life, such as cleaning supplies, paper towels, fertilizer and paint. The Ohio5

is collaborating with faculty and staff members from all five colleges on this project.

"The staff members in charge of purchasing at each college are working with accounting people to make sure the payments are handled properly," Palmer said.

According to the Ohio 5 website, the goal of the project is to acquire a web-based procurement system to allow for shared purchasing practices across the colleges. All purchasing will be done through the same online system.

Both Palmer and Howard say the relationship between the Allen House office space and the surrounding student residential life is peaceful. Neither side impedes on the other. In fact, the relationship is so minimal that Kenyon students are not even aware there is a relationship.

"We saw someone was in the window one night when we were passing by and we got freaked out because we'd never seen a person there before," Audrey Davis '15 said. "We had no idea that anyone was in that house for any purpose until recently."



	Answer	Robert Lazo '15	Aislinn McKeown '16	Marc Ferraro '17	Anika Massmann '18
Name one team in the World Series.	<i>Kansas City Royals or San Francisco Giants</i>	Giants	Giants	Yankees	Chicago Cubs
What brand of ice cream is now offered at the KAC?	<i>Jeni's</i>	Ben and Jerry's	Jeni's	Jeni's	Jeni's
What new David Fincher movie has grossed over \$35 million at the box office?	Gone Girl	<i>Alexander and the Terrible, No Good, Very Bad Day</i>	<i>Gone Girl</i>	<i>Gone Girl</i>	<i>Gone Girl</i>
What country was declared Ebola-free by the World Health Organization on Oct. 20 after 42 days of no cases?	<i>Nigeria</i>	Nigeria	Nigeria	Nigeria	Canada
Weekly Scores		2	4	3	2



A+E

EDITOR: ANNA DUNLAVEY

## UPCOMING EVENTS

OCT. 23 | 7 P.M.  
VISITING ARTIST  
SARI GUNDERSON  
OLIN AUDITORIUMOCT. 24 | 4:10 P.M.  
READING  
EJ LEVY AND  
NATALIE SHAPERO  
CHEEVER ROOM, FINN HOUSEOCT. 24 | 7:30 P.M.  
PERFORMANCE  
FALL BLUES  
CONCERT  
PEIRCE PUBOCT. 29 | 4:30 P.M.  
READING  
READING OF SPOOKY  
TEXTS  
CHEEVER ROOM, FINN HOUSERaunchy and ridiculous, *Prince Chucky* wows the crowdREBECCA FRANK  
STAFF WRITER

The Kenyon College Dance and Dramatic Club (KCDC) kept its audiences thoroughly amused throughout Family Weekend with its first mainstage production of the year, *The Ballad of Bonnie Prince Chucky*. The show, written and directed by Playwright-in-Residence and Professor of Drama Wendy MacLeod, is a comedic tale of students at a Scottish boarding school. When the newly crowned captain of the rugby team, Charlie 1 (Max Pescherine '17), decrees that he is king and that no one else may have the name Charlie, Charlie 2 (Henry Nash '17) becomes determined to get his name back and overthrow the regime, causing hilarious chaos and shenanigans.

Each actor embodied his character with poise and a commitment to the ridiculous. Pescherine conveyed his character's full-of-it attitude soundly and his attention to the details of his

**“The entire cast should be admired for their strong commitment to their ridiculous characters and their nonstop energy in their roles.”**

character's little quirks was commendable, especially his character's devotion to constantly sanitizing his hands. Serena Glynn '16 (Fiona, Charlie 2's girlfriend) and Nash played well off of each other and made their characters' awkward high school relationship believable by way of their gawky physicality toward one another.

Another noteworthy performance was that of Alex Kirshy '17 as Angus. His portrayal of the over-the-top sidekick to King Charlie was hysterical. His acting and facial expressions were spot on for his daft character, and his energy was endless. His comedic timing was also commendable, especially in the scene in which he tries to get Charlie 2 to sing drunken rugby songs with him.

The dialogue between Julia Greer '15 as Mavis and

Sarah White '16 as Libby flowed seamlessly. White portrayed the “fierce” lady-in-waiting to Queen Mavis, and her fearless attitude and dedication to the role earned her many laughs. Greer's Mavis was also humorous, and she portrayed the spoiled girlfriend of King Charlie with nuance that clearly showed her character's power. For example, in the scene where Fiona is sent to ask Mavis a favor, Greer's slight change in vocal tone when she asked Fiona to give up her earrings illustrated just how manipulative her character could be.

The attention to detail in the set pieces, designed by Associate Professor of Drama Andrew Reinert, was meticulous, from Mavis's bright pink bed to reflect her over-the-top and girly character to Charlie 1's throne — a decked-out laundry cart —



ANNA DUNLAVEY | COLLEGIAN

King Charlie (Max Pescherine '17) introduces his Queen Consort, Mavis (Julia Greer '15).

that illustrated how ludicrous his ruling of the school was. The props and costumes were well detailed, such as Mavis's comical Burger King crown and the Scottish sashes all of Charlie's followers wore.

The entire cast should be admired for their strong commitment to their ridiculous characters and their

nonstop energy in their roles. Each scene was well executed with actors making use of not just the entire stage but also the area in front of it; they often jumped on a small trampoline built into the stage. From the drunken rugby songs to the bagpipe-playing to the impressive fencing choreography — designed by

professional fight choreographer Tyler Rich, who came to teach the actors for a weekend in September — to the dance party that concluded the show, the cast of *The Ballad of Bonnie Prince Chucky* invited its audience to embrace the ridiculous and simply enjoy an evening of comic theater.

## Student duo draws up plans for new art history journal

ELANA SPIVACK  
ARTS ASSISTANT

Few students are more excited about art history and criticism than Scy Krogh '15 and Amy Young '16, two art history majors who have joined forces to bring an art journal to campus. These young women unabashedly profess their love not just for art, but for the criticism and historical analysis of it.

Professor of Art History Sarah Blick is their faculty advisor, but the group's future is in the students' quite capable hands. While Blick offers support and advice, Krogh and Young have a plethora of their own ideas for this innovative publication. “They came to me to be their faculty adviser ... because I've edited and published a scholarly art history journal for the past 10 years,” Blick wrote in an email to the *Collegian*. “They have marvelous ideas, so mostly I've just helped them in terms of suggesting reasonable deadlines, structures, etc.”

While this group is not yet officially approved, Krogh and Young are currently in the process of establishing this new journal, which would be presented as an online publication featuring a new post every one or two weeks, with a cu-



ELANA SPIVACK | COLLEGIAN

Amy Young '16 (left) and Scy Krogh '15 (right) founded *The Glass Lantern*.

mulative hard-copy journal at the end of the year. The founders aim to combine art history and art criticism, making this publication the first of its kind at Kenyon. Krogh and Young plan to call the journal *The Glass Lantern*, referencing an old-fashioned slide-projector in order to convey a sense of elucidation as well as history.

Krogh and Young feel the journal will fill a void at Kenyon. “There was a dearth of conversation about art on campus,” Krogh said. “There's so much talk ... about drama and music and people engage with those art forms all the time, but even though

we have a huge studio art department, ... we don't hear people talking about it,” Krogh said.

Young asserted that art history can be a daunting thing to talk about because of the topic's breadth. “I felt like [art history] can be a really intimidating thing to jump into,” she said. “To help the conversation but also if people are interested in art and are intimidated and need someplace to start looking, just reading someone's opinion about it on campus might be a good place to start.”

Sheer love of the topic also drives these students. “Writing about art, at least for me, is one of the most

**“There's so much talk ... about drama and music and people engage with those art forms all the time, but even though we have a huge studio art department...we don't hear people talking about it.”**

Scy Krogh '15, *The Glass Lantern* Co-Founder

fun kinds of writing, and I wanted to bring that to more people,” Krogh said.

With that passion comes a wealth of new ideas. While the journal is still in early planning stages, the founders have a skeletal idea for it. Each art critique will include an art history essay to give background on specific pieces. Pieces reviewed or critiqued could range from student work on campus to an installation in Columbus or Cleveland. Other potential sections, such as a monthly review of a graphic novel, are also on the table. Young encourages a wide variety of perspectives on art, not just those of art history majors: “Look through whatever lens your major is,” she said. “Political repercussions of street art,” for example.

Some of the greatest challenges the budding group faces are encouraging participation and submissions. They hope to rely on student content for the journal as well as student journalists to act as copy editors, graphic designers, and more.

The Department of Art History has greatly influenced both founder. They spoke highly of all their professors, especially Blick. “She just really has redefined what it means to be excited about something and how that can affect your knowledge,” said Krogh, who is pursuing an Asian studies minor in addition to her art history major because of Blick's class on Asian Art History. Krogh and Young also cite various blogs, particularly Hyperallergic, a Brooklyn-based web forum for perspectives on art, as inspirations for their own forthcoming journal.

This journal will also provide a niche for interested writers and art lovers. “I've always wanted a forum to talk about art on campus and this art history journal offers the perfect opportunity for me,” Rose Bishop '17, a design editor for the *Collegian*, said. “There's a completely different language that you use when you're talking about art, and you really just need to figure how to articulate that to really make something great.”



# Horn Gallery announces recipients of \$250 grants

Sarah Gold '15, Tim Jurney '15, Gus Riley '16 and Alice Stites '17 received grants this year.

LAUREN KATZ  
STAFF WRITER

Kenyon students want to showcase many forms of art on campus, but it can be difficult to find a space — and the money — to do so. Luckily for these students, the Horn Gallery has a solution. Once a year, the Horn Gallery Board gives four students a grant of \$250 each to showcase their work in the Horn Gallery.

In early October, the Horn Gallery sent an email offering students the opportunity to apply for one of four available grants: two for fine arts and two for theater.

The decision were released last week, and this year's recipients are Gus Riley '16 and Alice Stites '17 for theater and Tim Jurney '15 and Sarah Gold '15 for art.

Riley will produce a series of Harold Pinter plays, while Stites will put on playwright Sarah Ruhl's *Dead Man's Cell Phone*.

"[*Dead Man's Cell Phone* is] a dark comedy about what happens when a dead man's cell phone ends up in the possession of a young woman who then takes it upon herself to tie up the loose ends of this man's life," Stites said. "What happens is a fascinating play that ques-

tions the meaning that people invest in cell phones and other objects."

The Horn Grant art exhibitions have proved to be just as varied. Gold plans to create an art exhibition using work by children from the West Bank, while Jurney will expand upon an art project he began last year.

"I made three labor-intensive, finely detailed dioramas last year, each of which enacts — in its own strange way — a tweet that gets history somehow 'wrong,'" Jurney said. "This semester, I'm photographing, finalizing and displaying the three dioramas and then putting them up in a show."

The Horn stresses that one does not have to be an art or drama major to apply. The grants were created to provide an opportunity to those with a passion for art they wish to share with the Kenyon community.

"I think it really speaks a lot to what the Horn is about, the idea that it's just a communal space," Lewis Turley '17, one of the Horn Gallery managers, said. "It's the same way that we have ECO [Kenyon's student environmental organization] meetings in there, or auditions for plays. It's the idea that it's a space there for everyone, and it's a really great way we get to give



CORA MARKOWITZ | COLLEGIAN

Sarah Gold '15 and Tim Jurney '15 are recipients of two Horn Gallery Grants for their art projects.

**"It's the idea that it's a space there for everyone, and it's a really great way we get to give back to the community and give opportunities."**

Lewis Turley '17, Horn Gallery Co-Manager

back to the community and give opportunities."

The application requires the students to detail how they plan to use the grant, be it for art supplies or some of the major expenses of a theatrical production.

While the play descriptions were a little more straightforward than art descriptions, the Horn Gallery staff wanted to ensure that those voting gave

each art description the time it deserved.

"The theater grants we voted for in the actual [Horn members] meeting," Horn Gallery Manager Rebecca Saltzman '15 said. "We just, really middle school-like, had everyone put their heads down and vote. But because the art grants were more descriptive, we wanted to give everyone a chance to read them through."

For the art project applications, the managers created a Google Doc and allowed each student to submit his or her vote anonymously. Even though there were only four grants, the staff wanted to afford an equal opportunity to each application. "Even if you don't get the money, you can still put art on in our gallery space," Turley said.

"There are so many students interested in art but who aren't majors or even minors and really need an outlet to put their work up or get materials," Saltzman said. "We just love supporting the arts. We get a large budget and wanted to see what we could do. I mean, why not?"

## Fact, fiction and family: David Laskin tells his story

ANNA DUNLAVEY  
ARTS EDITOR

Author David Laskin told the receptive audience that packed the Cheever Room in Finn House yesterday afternoon about his early thoughts on becoming a writer. The first person he ever told about his newfound aspirations was his aunt, who responded by asking him what he knew that was worth writing about. Many years and many books later, it turned out that an answer to that question could have been "us."

Laskin's latest book, *The Family*, which just came out in paperback, details the history of how his family became split into three parts: the part that migrated to the U.S., the part that migrated to Palestine and the part that stayed in Poland and perished in the Holocaust. During his talk, Laskin described *The Family* as "a book about how the three branches of my family became two."

In fact, it was family that brought Laskin to Kenyon. David's brother, Dan Laskin, works as a writer and editor for the Office of Public Affairs and has written for The



ANNA DUNLAVEY | COLLEGIAN

David Laskin answers questions after his reading in the Cheever Room of Finn House yesterday.

*Kenyon Review*. Laskin was scheduled to give a reading in on Oct. 21 for the Columbus Jewish Bookfair, and Dan convinced him to come to Gambier the day after.

Associate Editor for *The Kenyon Review* Natalie Shapero was glad to have a different sort of writer come to campus. "I think it's really exciting to have a writer of nonfiction," she said. "So far, we've mostly had poets and fiction writers, so [Laskin's reading] will be a nice addi-

tion to the mix."

This is the first of David's books to focus on his own family, though his other books have also focused on immigrant life. *The Long Way Home* details the lives of immigrants who fought for the U.S. in World War I, and *The Children's Blizzard* is about children of immigrant families in the upper Midwest who were killed in a sudden blizzard that hit just as prairie school houses were letting out for the day. *The Children's*

*Blizzard* therefore also incorporates weather, a topic that David likes to explore. He also wrote a book about the history of American weather titled *Braving the Elements*.

Although *The Family* is about the Laskin family, Dan does not see the story as only applicable to them. "[*The Family*] could be about any number of American families," he said. "One of the underlying premises of the story is that every American family has a story like this. It's thrill-

**"[*The Family*] could be about any number of American families. ... One of the underlying premises of the story is that every American family has a story like this."**

Dan Laskin, brother of David Laskin

ing to think that people will connect with our story."

"The response [from the Laskin family] has been overwhelmingly positive," David said, admitting he did receive some corrections from family members. "They seemed very proud and very pleased. I didn't pull any punches, I told everything that I found, and I think everyone learned a lot." Dan believes that any reader will be able to relate to his family's story. "He brings these characters to life in a way that many people say reads like fiction."

The tendency for fiction to become interwoven into nonfiction is something that David works to balance, and something that he brought up at his reading. At the reading, he handed out an excerpt of *The Family* describing the arrival of his cousin Shimon at the Klooga concentration camp in Estonia. David took liberties in his writing,

describing the air Shimon breathed as he got off the train and the process of the guards stripping him down and giving him a prisoner's outfit. However, he backed up his writing with interviews from Klooga survivors, who gave David their own experiences for him to draw from.

"I feel like every writer can make their own ground rules," David said. "I could have written the same exact book and called it fiction ... but for me, my imagination works better to have that backboard of history. David defines his own writing style as "suspense-driven narrative nonfiction about people caught up in forces beyond their control." During the talk, David told the audience that nonfiction writing is about "finding the sweet spot where ordinary people embody big history ... You're relating to the person, but you're feeling history."



# Symphonic Wind Ensemble blows the audience away

The group performed music that ranged from balanced to bombastic.

BAILEY BLAKER  
STAFF WRITER

The Kenyon College Symphonic Wind Ensemble's first performance of the year this past Saturday began in a rather unusual way. Once the customary tuning had finished on stage, Professor of Music Dane Heuchemer did not take to the conductor's podium; instead he calmly made his way toward the trumpet section. Instrument in hand, he made a quick comment to the crowd spread around Rosse Hall. "We're a little short-handed today," he said, and then proceeded to lead the wind ensemble in their opening number, "Pavane Battaille," from *The Danserye*. Even without a conductor at the helm, the ensemble soon filled Rosse with lively and rich sound.

Once their first piece had concluded, Heuchemer made his way back to the podium. The ensemble's second piece, "Elements" by Brian Balmages, brought life to the audience. Each movement embodied each of the four elements: air, water, earth and fire.

The ensemble's rich bass sound rounded out the piece beautifully, while the upper woodwinds took each movement to another level.

The ensemble's third piece, "Four Dances" from *West Side Story* by Leonard Bernstein, was "nominated by the ensemble," according to Heuchemer. At the suggestion of one of its members, the ensemble played three of the four songs in Bernstein's composition. Even without the choreography associated with Bernstein's composition, the three songs were bold and captivating.

After a brief intermission, the second half of the program commenced. Select movements from Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* were performed with flair. The ninth movement, "When We are in the Tavern," featured some rather unusual percussion instruments in the form of two large metal mugs.

The last piece in the program, Eric Whitacre's "Godzilla Eats Las Vegas!" was by far the most eccentric. "The whole time I had goosebumps," attendee Meera White '18 said. The song started with the members of the en-



EMILY STEGNER | COLLEGIAN

Professor of Music Dane Heuchemer directs the Symphonic Wind Ensemble in Rosse Hall on Saturday.

semble donning brightly colored party hats and tiaras, and it only escalated from there. From the Las Vegas show music to the various bouts of screaming, "Godzilla Eats Las Vegas!" drew the audience in and completed the program with flair.

"Most of our programs are kind of eclectic," Heuchemer said. "It was time to play Godzilla. ... It's always a good popular piece with the family." This proved to

be true, if the delighted laughs and gasps from the audience were anything to go by. The ensemble's success at their first performance is due to their hard work over the last five weeks. The band suffered the loss of 16 seniors last year, so a steep learning curve existed for this year's members. "I had a good group of freshman come in this year," Heuchemer said. "Many of the freshman are quality players."

"It's been a long five weeks of

rehearsals," clarinetist Karen Salas '18 said. This was Salas's first performance as a member of the Wind Ensemble. The hard work she and the other members of the group have put into the music showed. As the program progressed, the group became more confident and more alive and this was reflected in the audience. The Wind Ensemble will perform their next concert on Sunday, Dec. 7 at 3 p.m. in Rosse Hall.

## QUESE IMC, HIP-HOP ARTIST AND CULTURAL ACTIVIST, VISITS KENYON FOR GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT WEEK



COURTESY OF ERIKA CUEVAS

JULIE FRANCE | MANAGING EDITOR

This past Saturday, Quese Imc, a hip-hop artist and member of the Pawnee and Seminole Nations, performed in front of students and family at Taste of Kenyon. The event celebrated Kenyon's cultural diversity through music, food and fashion in the ballroom in Gund Commons. Quese Imc performed between student bands and poem readings. He first sang a traditional prayer song followed by a second song that

started off as traditional, transitioning into hip-hop with lyrics advocating the unity of cultures. Quese Imc's hand drum reverberated in his songs, adding a profound rhythm to his music as the audience munched on pulao rice, a fragrant South Asian dish with cashews and coconut flakes, and more tasty treats. Later Saturday evening, Quese Imc also performed hip-hop at the Horn Gallery.

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# SPORTS

EDITORS: REBECCA DANN  
AND ALEX PIJANOWSKI

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**VOLLEYBALL**  
OCT. 24  
AT OBERLIN COLLEGE  
OBERLIN, OHIO  
7 P.M.

**FIELD HOCKEY**  
OCT. 25  
AT DENISON UNIVERSITY  
GRANVILLE, OHIO  
11 A.M.

**WOMEN'S SOCCER**  
OCT. 25  
VS HIRAM COLLEGE  
GAMBIER, OHIO  
1 P.M.

**MEN'S SOCCER**  
OCT. 25  
VS HIRAM COLLEGE  
GAMBIER, OHIO  
3 P.M.

# Football bested by ranked opponent

NOAH GURZENSKI  
STAFF WRITER

Nationally 10th-ranked Wabash College (6-0, 5-0 NCAC) dealt Kenyon (0-6, 0-5) their fifth loss of the season, topping the Lords 52-10. Before the game, Robert Harward, a retired U.S. Navy Seal and motivational speaker, addressed the team. ABCNews reporter Martha Raddatz, who will speak at 2015 Commencement and whose son is Lords receiver Jake Genachowski '15, helped to arrange Harward's visit to campus.

Harward said he hoped to "provoke something that's going to help the team or help them, as young people, focus their energy better, not just in football, but in life." He also suggested that his military experience is applicable when speaking to an athletic team.

"I just didn't want to fail my teammates," Harward said.

Wabash's typically run-heavy offense wreaked havoc on the Kenyon defense through the air as well as on the ground, amassing 283 passing yards and 142 rushing yards. Struggling to find success against the hulking Wa-



EMILY STEGNER | COLLEGIAN

Kenyon's passing and ground games were unable to find an opening in the Wabash defense.

bash defense, the Lords were held to less than 200 yards of total offense.

After their first possession ended in a punt, Wabash's offense went on a tear, scoring on their next three drives to take a 21-0 lead before the end of the first quarter.

Kenyon's offense faltered in the meantime, unable to crack the Wabash defense.

"We have got to be better on first down," Head Coach Chris Monfletto said. "If we can be better on first down, then we can continue to move the football up and down the field."

Following a Marquis John-

son '16 fumble recovery at midfield in the second quarter, Szabi Simo '17 capped off a 42-yard drive with a 24-yard field goal. While perfect in the red zone, the Lords only managed two trips to within the Wabash 20-yard line.

"A lot of the stuff that we did worked, but it just didn't work consistently," Nick Gasbarro '15 said. "We'd be one block away or we'd be one person away, and then we'd be one play away from really breaking it open, and that's really been the theme of a lot of what we've been doing."

After being kept out of the end zone the whole game, Ke-

nyon's offense scored a touchdown in the final two minutes of the fourth quarter, courtesy of a Brandon January '15 one-yard rush, which brought the score to 52-10.

"This week of practice was one of our best weeks of practice that we've had yet," Cullen said. "We knew what was coming; we saw what was coming; but what it all came down to was discipline, and we just didn't have it [on Saturday]."

Things will not get any easier for the Lords next week when they travel to Springfield, Ohio to take on nationally 14th-ranked Wittenberg University.

# Cross-country perseveres in bad weather

ALEX PIJANOWSKI  
SPORTS EDITOR

Heading into this weekend's Inter-Regional Rumble in Oberlin, Ohio, spirits were high for Kenyon cross-country. Oberlin is known for its fast course, and the team was ready to put the bizarre weather of the past weekend behind it.

Unfortunately for the Lords and Ladies, conditions were anything but ideal. Head Coach Duane Gomez described the meet as "a mudfest." Facing obstacles such as rain, ankle-deep mud, and scattered mulch, the Lords placed 23rd out of 34 teams, and the Ladies also landed in 23rd in a field of 40.

Before the meet, Gomez forwarded an encouraging email to the team that he had received from cross-country alumna Kelly Wilder '93, a six-time All-American who is the namesake of Kenyon's outdoor track.

For the second week in a row, Nat Fox '16 set the pace for the Lords; his time of 26:15.5 was good for 31st. His classmate Sam Lagasse '16 crossed the finish line not long after at the 26:33.5 mark, a 59th-place finish. This was Lagasse's first race back since being sidelined due to illness.

"I was excited to get back into it," Lagasse said. "I think the illness coincided with a bit of over-training, and I'm still kind of feeling out how to fully come back from that." Lagasse has been the Lords' top runner for nearly the entirety of this year,



COURTESY OF KENYON ATHLETICS

Molly Hunt '18 led the Ladies' runners for the third time this season.

so his return to form would be a major help for the team.

Molly Hunt '18 was again the Ladies' top runner, earning 112th place. Claire Naughton '17 was the team's second-place runner for the first time this season, earning 135th place. Susannah Davies '18, who led the team the previous week, faltered a bit finishing in 147th. Davies said she believes the improvements she can make in practice in the near future will be crucial.

"I think I can work on getting out faster at the start of the race," Davies said. "Men-

tally training myself is the most important at this point."

On a somewhat tragicomic note, a miscommunication led to some athletes being caught off guard at the start of the race.

"The gun went off, and I was still taking off my sweats," Hunt said. "I saw the race take off without me. I tried to catch up as fast as I could, and got a big adrenaline rush."

Cross-country is full of disparities, as every school's home course is different. This is a drastic departure from football or basketball, where the game takes place within a standardized area.

Denison University, which hosts the NCAC Championship on Nov. 1, is notorious for its abnormally hilly home course, which adds an extra dimension of difficulty to racing there. Coupled with the caprices of Ohio weather, the Kenyon squads could be in for a difficult race.

However, the severe conditions the team has endured the past two weekends may be highly effective preparation for adverse conditions, should they arise at the NCAC meet. In the meantime, Gomez will do his best to make sure his athletes are prepared mentally and physically, primarily by scheduling uphill runs and reducing the team's overall workload in practice.

"[Training] is kind of a self-fulfilling thing," Naughton said. "If you think you can do it in practices, you can do it in meets. You just need to wrap your head around it mentally."

## THIS WEEK IN KC ATHLETICS

### Men's Soccer

The Lords soccer team's 12-game winning streak came to an end as they lost to 16th-ranked Wabash College 1-0 and tied Ohio Wesleyan University (OWU) 0-0 to move to 12-1-1 on the season.

The Lords took on Wabash on Saturday. After two attempts on goal within the first 12 minutes, the Lords struggled to find their usual offensive rhythm. Wabash played a high-pressure system that the Lords had trouble breaking down.

In the 70th minute, Wabash broke the deadlock when first year Stojan Krsteski met a corner at the near post and headed it in. It would prove to be the game-winning goal.

Cameron Scott '15 said, "Credit to them for challenging us and beating us in almost every category. It wasn't our day, but hopefully we'll get to play them again soon."

The Lords hosted rivals OWU this past Tuesday. The teams combined for a total of 25 fouls and five yellow cards as they played to a scoreless draw.

Neither team made the most of its chances, and only managed five shots on goal between them. The Lords held a 9-1 advantage on corner kicks, but were unable to capitalize.

For the second straight game, the Lords found themselves in an unfamiliar situation, as they were held scoreless again.

"We've been bruised up a bit during this difficult stretch in our schedule," Co-Captain Grant Carney '15 said. "Now it's important to really work hard and focus over these next three games as we prepare for the postseason."

The Lords return to the field at home on Saturday, and invite all to celebrate Senior Day with them by wearing a Halloween costume down to the field.

— Oliver DeBarros

### Women's Soccer

The Ladies lost their first NCAC game last night against Wittenberg University. The final score was 1-0.

Although Wittenberg was ultimately able to bury a shot in Kenyon's net, the Ladies played effective defense over the course of the game. Alissa Poolpol '16 had six saves.

Maggie Smith '18 made three shots on goal for Kenyon, none of which came to fruition.

— Rebecca Dann

### Volleyball

After posing comeback threats in both of their matches last week, Ladies volleyball ultimately lost both games 3-0.

The College of Wooster traveled to Gambier to face the Ladies on Wednesday. The first set saw momentum swing back and forth, but Wooster grabbed the lead, winning 25-23. Wooster maintained control during the second set, winning 25-19. The third set was also precarious until Wooster went on a late run, taking the match 25-17. Though it was not enough for a victory, last week's NCAC Player of the Week, Tierney McClure '18, continued her strong play, ending with eight kills, one block, and one ace.

On Saturday the Ladies traveled in gloomy weather to Meadville, Penn. to take on Allegheny College. The Ladies got off to a slow start and the Gators took the first set, 25-9. In the second set, the Gators won 25-16. Another slow start plagued the Ladies during the third set, and the Gators won 25-16. Lauren Kerr '18 and Hannah Shank '15 were a nice one-two punch; Kerr ended with 10 kills, while Shank connected for 22 assists.

"We are a young team," Shank said. "A lot of freshmen have made huge impacts. We are still learning how best we play as a team and this weekend showed us areas that we need to continue working on."

The team may be young, but the careers of the team's three seniors — Shank, Kaitlyn Power '15, and Amber Kraus '15 — are coming to an end. Senior Day is this Saturday against rival Denison University, where the Ladies' fans can show their thanks for the trio's contributions to the team.

Bridget Murdoch '17 provided an enthusiastic endorsement for the game: "All three of them are awesome players, and you get to cheer against Denison," she said. "The crazier, the better."

— John Bray



# The Collegian SPORTS

Thursday, Oct. 23, 2014



COURTESY OF KENYON ATHLETICS

## Field hockey wins ninth NCAC game, now stands 10-1

REBECCA DANN  
SPORTS EDITOR

Ladies field hockey won their third consecutive North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) game this past Saturday against Wittenberg University. The win confirmed their top ranking in the conference, giving them an overall conference record of 10-1.

Twenty minutes into the game, the Ladies scored first, with a goal by Weezie Foster '18, assisted by Shannon Hart '18. Wittenberg followed suit and scored 12 minutes later to even the score 1-1. A couple minutes into the second

half, Wittenberg scored again to take a 2-1 lead. Kenyon wasted no time in the second half, tying the game back up just five minutes later: Hart scored, assisted by Cecilia Depman '15. Kenyon then regained the lead a minute later with a goal by Maddie Breschi '16 assisted by Julie Freedman '15.

"Wittenberg was a wake-up call to remind us that we have to play like the number-one team in the conference," Sam Johnston '15 said. "The first half, we all played individually, where there was little communication and a lack of effort to work together when we were on the defensive.

However, as soon as the second half started, we started playing our usual and effective passing game [and] we were able to fight as a cohesive unit and put up more favorable points on the board."

The Ladies dominated the second half of the game and scored twice more. Freedman scored Kenyon's fourth goal of the game, while Rachel Hall '15 scored the final goal a minute before the end of the game to bring the score to 5-2. This goal allowed Hall to break Kenyon's 15-year-old record for the most career goals and points with a total of 42 goals and 101 points.

"They played us pretty tough; it was a good game for them," Head Coach Jacque DeMarco said. "It was nice to see us change some things after half-time and really go after them hard and come out on top."

The team continues conference play this coming weekend against Denison University on Saturday and Oberlin College on Sunday. Denison is the only conference team that Kenyon has lost to this season.

"As far as the upcoming Denison game goes, the whole team wants revenge," Johnston said. "We are more than ready this time

around to attack the ball with ferocity and defend our goal with every last ounce of energy we've got." Kenyon is up to the challenge.

"I think they're a really tough team and they play really, really hard," DeMarco said. "I think that in order for us to come out on top, we just have to start strong and keep going and play strong against them. And I think we can really do it. It should be a good game."

The team must win these next two conference games to maintain their top conference ranking.

"I think we'll rise to the challenge and stick to going forward," DeMarco said.

## Relay Meet brings speed and fun to Steen Aquatic Center

Men's and women's swimming claimed first place, giving the competition a peek at what they're up against.

ALEX PIJANOWSKI  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Kenyon College Relay Meet began like any other. As they often do during home meets, the Lords and Ladies ended up squarely defeating their competition: the women earned 128 team points; the men earned 124.

Up-tempo music played over the loudspeakers as the athletes swam warm-up laps. Next, each team gathered to let loose an obligatory cheer. The Lords and Ladies calmly entered the pool from their locker rooms, walking alongside the eastern edge of the pool. The national anthem played, and it was time to begin.

A swimming aficionado who left after the first event, which was the 200 medley relay, might very well have expected a routine meet. However, shortly afterward, the Relay Meet began to quietly but assuredly distinguish itself from the norm.

Its characteristic events are

the 3x500 relay, in which three swimmers each complete 500 yards; and the mixed relay, in which each team consists of two Lords and two Ladies. In addition, the meet features a 200-yard relay of each stroke — freestyle, backstroke, butterfly and breaststroke.

Head Coach Jess Book '01 said he was pleased with the team's intensity.

"We want to be the most exciting team on the pool deck, and it takes energy and planning to do that," he said.

Many team members, especially first years, were impressed by the team's deck presence.

"It [was] a great way to see the team dynamic right off the bat," Sam Palicz '18 said.

"[The Relay Meet] is a good way to bond with your teammates, since everything is a team event," Cecina Babiich Morrow '18 said. "It takes a little bit of pressure off, knowing that you have other people on your team who are in the same event as you, and [are] working with you, rather

than against you."

For Julie Dierker '18, this weekend's meet put the training up to this point into focus.

"I had been practicing with the team from the beginning of school," Dierker said. "I'd been hearing all their stories about past seasons, and it was really a great experience, for the entire freshman class — for us to all come together in our first meet."

For their efforts, Austin Caldwell '15 and Katie Kaestner '16 were named NCAC Athletes of the Week.

"I feel kind of ambivalent about it," Kaestner said. She explained that, although she feels honored, success at the Relay Meet is not always "indicative of anything else."

Another positive factor is the addition of two new assistant coaches, Doug Lennox and Fernando Rodriguez '04. Lennox swam at Princeton University, competing for Puerto Rico in the 2008 Olympic Games and owns three Puerto Rican national swimming records.



COURTESY OF MIKE MUNDE

Ryan Funk '16 was in the second-place 200 breaststroke relay and a record-setting medley relay.

Rodriguez swam at Kenyon, where he was a team captain, and has extensive collegiate coaching experience, most recently at the University of Richmond.

"Fernando and Doug are both passionate people," Book said. "They care about the [student-athletes] they get to work with."

Gabe Bellott-McGrath '18 likened the weekend's events to "a really tough practice."

"You're seeing the people you're going to be racing all year," he added. "It's just a re-

ally cool preview of the [season], but presented in a laid-back [way]."

Despite his positive assessment, Book cautioned against premature predictions about one of the longest seasons in college sports — with the Division-III NCAA Championships ending on Mar. 21, 2015, the swim season runs over five months long.

"In the swimming community, early-season times don't predict late-season times," he said. "I'm proud of the work that we're doing, and

I was pleased with the way we competed, but we still have a long way to go."

Despite changes to the coaching staff, Book said he does not expect the training this season to be a revolutionary break from the past.

"The most important things we do right now are practice the habits we're going to use in championship meets," he said.

Book's outlook is summed up nicely in one sentence: "Where we are now is just that — where we are now."