

The Kenyon Collegian

Spring 4-1-2016

Kenyon Collegian - April 1, 2016

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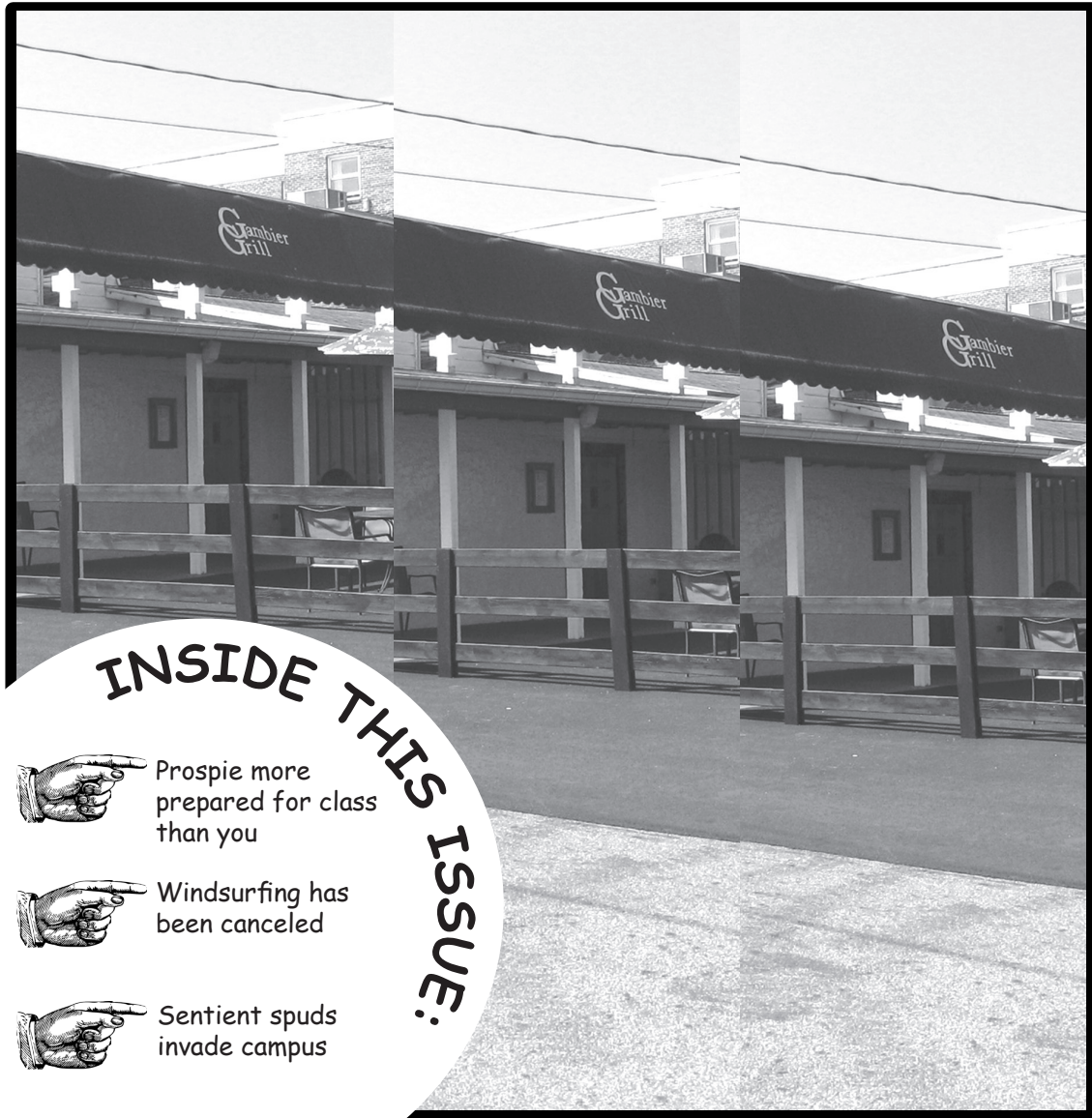
Hold
the
whole
body
together

The Kenyon Collagen

ESTABLISHED '69

APRIL 1, 2016

SPECIAL EDITION



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:



Prospie more prepared for class than you



Windsurfing has been canceled



Sentient spuds invade campus

VP Bonham found living off-campus

MO VERNON

This past Tuesday, two students happened to spy Meredith Harper Bonham '92, vice president for student affairs, reading quietly in a house in Mount Vernon.

Bonham has apparently been living off-campus for the past semester in direct violation of College policy, which states that Kenyon administrators are required to live in College housing.

"We knew something was up right away," Lily Duncan '18,

one of the students who discovered Bonham, said. "Because I was pretty sure Meredith lived in a triple on my friend's hall in Mather. Her name's on the door and everything."w

"We could have discussed the situation if she had come to talk to us about it," Duncan said. "But instead she's renting a place in Mount Vernon, in addition to paying for Kenyon housing. That just seems antithetical to a residential college philosophy, and I'm concerned about her safety and ▶page 3

Is Radnor seeing Green?

MULTIPLE KATIES

This past May, famed novelist, vlogger and Kenyon alum John Green '00 returned to his alma mater as Commencement speaker for the class of 2015. Midway through his speech, Green paused, open-mouthed, staring at something in the crowd.

"Everyone turned at the same time to see where he was looking," Betty Reading, a parent of a member of the graduating class, said. "And,

bam! Turns out, just three rows behind us and hiding behind a two-disc set of the 2012 comedy-drama film *Liberal Arts* was American actor, director, producer and screenwriter Josh Radnor '96!"

"Of course I didn't expect it," Radnor later said of their first meeting. "But I swear, in that moment, we were infinite."

This was not a reference to the 1996 novel *Infinite Jest* by David Foster Wallace, who spoke at Green and ▶page 3

'LOL! Gotcha,' Gund says, replaces Farr with three Coves

BRUCE

Last Sunday, President Sean Decatur announced plans to tear down Farr Hall and replace it with three new Gambier Grills, to be known colloquially as "the Coves."

"LOL! Gotcha," Graham Gund '63, author of the plan, was quoted as saying in the document.

On the same day, the Village's Buildings and Grounds Committee released full blueprints for the future façade along Gaskin Avenue. The Village Market, Gambier Deli and Kenyon Bookstore will be torn down to make room for the three identical Coves.

"It'll be just like the old one, but with two more," Gund wrote in an email to the *Collegian*.

Students had mixed reactions to the newly announced plans. "Don't get me wrong, I always loved partying at the Cove and would love to have

it back again," Dennis Landon '17 said. "I'm just not sure we need the other two."

Alicia Geller '19, on the other hand, was excited to hear of the addition of the two extra Coves. "It's perfect! This way, we'll be able to have a Wednesday Cove, a Friday Cove, a Saturday Cove," she said. Asked if she had been paid to say this, Geller took off at a sprint.

After sending out a survey requesting student input on the plans for the three new Coves, the Buildings and Grounds Committee received a flood of responses that simply said, "Please put an elevator in Ascension."

Gund agreed to an interview with the *Collegian* this past Wednesday, and brought this reporter to the empty space behind the market where the original Cove once stood. Spreading his arms wide, he said, "Look at this. Enough room for one Cove, ▶page 4

Housing lottery, SYM collide

Two high-stress events. One very steamy ballroom.

SWEAT STAINS

In a terrifying mistake of monumental proportions, a small blip in the Office of Housing and Residential Life's scheduling algorithm resulted in the sophomore housing lottery being scheduled for the same night as Shock Your Mom. In past years, both events have caused significant levels of stress for all students and College employees involved. The mishap has triggered a flood of concerns.

"Mainly, I'm worried about damages to the Gund Ballroom," Ryan Taylor '19 said. "It's such a beautiful room with such an illustrious history." No one agreed, and Taylor was asked politely to leave.

Kelsey Jai, a sophomore, is content with the new schedule. "I mean, I was planning on pre-gaming the housing lottery anyway, so I'm sure the whole thing will just blend into one very crowded, confusing and uncomfortable night — instead of two separate crowded, confusing and uncomfortable nights."

Director of Housing and Residential Life Liza Locomotive outlined details for



Your mom is shocked you're going for a New Apt. Are U Kidding????!!!

the night.

"I'm thinking Shock Your Mom will take place on the dance floor, in front of the DJ and everything," she said. "And everywhere else we'll have CAs with snacks, building plans hanging on the walls and sophomores lined up in roommate groups."

Locomotive downplayed concerns that the events would become too hectic. "Shock Your Mom might get

kind of loud, but we'll have a microphone, and the CAs will be calling out rooms and apartments as they're selected." Specifically, Locomotive hopes she can get some volunteers to "sweep and vacuum" during the event so there isn't too much of a mess.

Jake Greenberg '16, a swimmer, seemed equally confident in the plan. "Liza's been really great, and, you know, we both have a lot of ▶page 3

The Kamp Kenyon BUGLE

Creditors
Bison Calf
Henry Gendreau

Dad
Dad

Actual Newspapers
That Swedish Guy,
Nate The Great

Two People
Elmo,
Unaccompanied Miner

Minnesota Editor
Land of 10,000 Blakes

Minions
Get Yer Heelys

Recreation Editors
Kush,
Cam'ron

**Please Add Us On
Snapchat**
Aaron Cartter
Schotz Schotz Schotz
Schotz Schotz Schotz

K-Mart Manager
Where's Waldow?

Bless Up
Danny Brown, Makes-
Me-Tremble

**Did You Fix The
Photocopier?**
Drew Me Like One
of Your French Girls,
Sonia One Less Prabhu
Without You

Views Assistant
Bill Gardener

Arts Sisters
Muskegee,
Oxford Comma

Oppa Gangnam Style
High 'n' Lowenstein

SPORTS The Band

**The Photocopier is
Jammed Again**
Linneas and Pherb

Bill Watterson
Yoo Can't Stop the Beat

Ctrl+Alt+Del
Kristen Wiig

Designated Drivers
Mary Had A Little Lamb,
Julia Roberts, Old Yeller

**Circle The Correct
Answer**
Rubik's Cube

Office Max
Isadora Duncan

Professional Model
Silly Cuddy

Digital Dash
Engelman

The Social Network
Twist It Pull It Bop It

Faculty Restaurateur
P.F. Chang

Students go postal with new Sendoff playpen

YEEZY SEASON THREE

Following a recent letter detailing changes to Sendoff, one of which was the elimination of "the playpen," a fenced-in drinking area in front of Old Kenyon Residence Hall, several hundred students decided to establish a permanent playpen in the Gambier Post Office. This will remain in place until "you let us rage in front of Old K again," according to a large spray-painted sheet hanging from the front of the building.

Outrage over the decision to excise this core activity from Sendoff stems mainly from a student-wide desire to consume alcohol in a private setting during the day, uninhibited by concerts, food vendors or anybody who is not drinking. Since Monday, hundreds of students wearing bright tank tops and sunglasses have moved into the post office.

"It's actually pretty chill," James Leed '17 said of the atmosphere in the post office. "But the thing is, I haven't stood up in six hours. You move three feet in this place and someone steals your adirondack."

Mary Dinkle, a Gambier resi-



Fluorescent lights illuminate the hazy smiles of day-drunk students.

dent who has a box at the post office and checks her mail daily, is fed up. "I just wish I could get my mail one time without hearing someone shout, 'Yo, watch the disk!' and then getting hit in the head by a frisbee," she said, ducking instinctively.

Braden Martin '16, who helped spark the movement and encouraged his peers to colonize the post office, highlighted the space's benefits. "We settled on the post office because it's a center, y'know? People come here. They want to read

their mail, send their mail. Really, we're all just here to 'send off.'"

Martin then caught an incoming frisbee and flung it casually over his shoulder. "Plus," he said, not missing a beat, "they're open 24 hours."

Post Office Manager Bianca Guerrero is overwhelmed by the rage-in, though not altogether against it. "I don't mind all the people, no," she said, scooping 16 empty cans of Miller Lite off the counter and into a recycling bin. "They're good kids. I just wish they didn't play so much Drake."

The front of the building, which faces Chase Avenue, usually bears the Gambier postal code, 43022. Since the movement began, the numbers have been rearranged to 420.

"Yeah, we did that," Martin said upon being asked. "But the thing is, our goal isn't destruction of property. We've already repurposed the other '3' and '2' for use on our corn-hole boards."

The College has not responded formally to the rage-in, though President Sean Decatur has reportedly been seen pacing outside the post office, nervously putting on and taking off a pair of Ray-Bans.

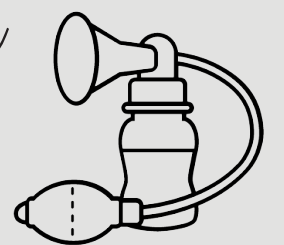
LETTER TO THE EDITORS

To the editors,

At 3 a.m. this morning, Maintenance staff dynamited a roughly 3' x 4' patch of browned grass outside the Gund Gallery, forever removing the offending vegetation from the pure majestic green-scape of Kenyon College's campus. The 12-square-foot area had been slowly losing its verdancy since the fall of 2011, when Gambier's feral hamster population began subjecting the grassy berm to unrelenting attacks of urination. We tried keeping the cute, but devilishly destructive rodents at bay by directing intense thermal radiation at the affected area for 24 hours a day; while this strategy did not succeed for us, and indeed rendered the grass even more dead-looking, we highly recommend it for any hamster-hating gardeners in our community. The radiation sends a powerful warning signal to the hamsters, who realize, "I do not belong here." Reverse psychology, if you will. The destroyed grass was a favorite of students, many of whom referred to it as "Mossman" and enthusiastically slapped it as they walked to class, film screenings, or other events in the Gallery. While we are sad to see the beloved grass go the way of all flesh, we are proud to announce the impending installation of a slab of synthetic turf at a nearby spot outside the Gallery. The turf, called "Colored Strands of Natural Flute", was hand-crafted by Jean Catsup. After graduating from University State College of Design in 1987, Catsup earned an MFA from Art School in 1999. "Colored Strands of Natural Flute" exemplifies many outstanding characteristics of Catsup's oeuvre, which calls to mind the artistic traditions on which he builds his practice: The unique polymer-and-straw construction consists of expressively carved biomorphic forms that conjure primitivist aesthetics and mythical imagery of early-20th-century avant-garde turf. The illusion of consumption in Catsup's work furnishes a provisional lens for the analysis of the invention of the image. Indeed, the culture of the grass — whose life, it should be noted, we took no joy in ending — was a symbol, in parodic form, of the invention of media; the deflection of its original gaze invests itself in the construction of the public sphere. The turf's reification of praxis functions as the conceptual frame for the authentication of power, while the (re)formation of the natural gestures toward the systemization of agency. Based in Wichita, Catsup continues to produce and widely exhibit his mixed media three-dimensional turfs.

Sincerely,
Annalee Swamp
Vice President for Trouble Removal, Gund Gallery

Dear Mom



Dear Mom,

I hooked up with this guy at Space Bass and I don't remember his name, but I think he might sit behind me in econ. What should I do?

Sincerely,
Dazed and Confused

Dear Sweetie-Bun,

You know, I didn't marry your father until I was 32. Are you doing your laundry? I knew I didn't send you off with enough Tide Pods. How can you even trust something so small to clean all your clothes? Where does it even go? I'd give you one of my real detergents, but I don't want you breaking your back carrying that thing down to the laundry room. Lord knows your posture's bad enough. Better start straightening up before you end up like me, you know. Last week I was bent over 90 degrees in the parking lot of the Stop & Shop yelling at some boy to put the groceries in the car for me. He was such a schmuck. Didn't think to protect the eggs in between the bread and the cabbage. Your Aunt Jamie called me yesterday to talk about Billy. He's getting Bar Mitzvah'd in June, but he still hasn't decided on a party theme! The kid's nuts for baseball! Just make it baseball, I say! But Jamie wants to do something "more creative," like Broadway shows or Disney movies or something. Anyway, I've got the brisket cooking in the oven and I don't want it to burn. Don't forget to write your great-aunt Lucy a thank-you note. And CLEAN YOUR ROOM, for the love of God.

XOXOXOXO,
Mom

Stars cross at Commencement

Celebs Green, Radnor have gushy romance at alma mater

Continued from Page 1

Radnor's beloved home institution in 2005, but an honest summary of his and Green's emotional states during the event.

Following the ceremony, Green was strolling down Middle Path with his hands in his pockets, thoughtfully kicking a pebble on the newly redone campus thoroughfare, when he spotted Radnor approaching from the opposite direction, arm-in-arm with a woman who had slightly graying hair but was nonetheless charming. "So that's how I met his mother," Green said, smiling at the memory.

The two timidly got to know each other over the course of the day, according to field reports.

Green and Radnor were witnessed climbing the Upside-Down Tree together, though apparently Green had to pull Radnor onto several branches while cautioning the accomplished thespian, "Don't look down — we're not even that high up!"

In the early afternoon, Jesse Penderton '19 claims she saw Radnor and Green scrambling onto the roof of Gund Residence Hall, shushing each other. "When I first saw them up there I thought, no, that can't possibly be the founder of the Nerdfighters and Ted



John Green '00, left, blushes after making direct eye contact with a grinning Josh Radnor '96, right.

Mosby giggling on the roof of Gund together," Penderton said. "But then my favorite young adult writer John Green flung out his arms and shouted, 'I'm flying, Josh! I'm flying!' while new PBS miniseries star Josh Radnor clasped his waist. And I knew it had to be true."

Later that evening, Green and Radnor were spotted swaying gently on the swing outside of Leonard Residence

Hall.

Director of Campus Safety Rob Cooper said he heard the two whispering quietly while he was doing rounds in Leonard around 10 p.m. "At first I thought it was a couple of Betas up to their old tricks," Cooper said. "But then I remembered one of the VlogBrothers and the son of Carol and Alan Radnor were on campus, and I tip-toed closer to listen."

Cooper said Radnor was in

the process of sadly reminding Green he had to go back to New York City, and that Green was simultaneously mumbling about some obligations in Indianapolis. "I just got this feeling of star-crossed lovers," Cooper said, scratching his chin absently. "Like they were two guys who had this really strong connection, and had had a really cool day on campus, but they were just totally different people, you know?"

"I thought it was a couple of Betas up to their old tricks, but then I remembered one of the VlogBrothers and the son of Carol and Alan Radnor were on campus.

Rob Cooper,
director of campus safety

Green and Radnor parted ways the morning after graduation, following three hours spent together in Wiggin Street Coffee trying to console each other through their tears while 397 people waited patiently by their table for autographs. After that, the *New York Times* Bestselling Author and the *Law & Order* Guest Star boarded their separate planes home.

Both celebrities declined to comment for this article, though Radnor did send us a small package.

Within it was an untitled slow-motion video clip of him running down Middle Path and leaping into Green's arms. Then, the screen went black, American new wave band WALK THE MOON's hit single "Work This Body" started playing and eight words appeared: *Liberal Arts 2: The Fault in Our Love*.

Students vow to enforce on-campus admin housing

Continued from Page 1

accountability.

In fact, students suspect Bonham is one of many College employees currently living off-campus, following a new trend known as "having agency."

College employees register for a double or triple room in a dormitory, then rent an off-campus space; generally, this approach results in an overall lower housing cost than living in a single or double room in a campus apartment, which, though providing nearly the same amenities, but often in worse condition, are more expensive.

Students are concerned about the impact these violations will have on the Village community.

Students plan to enforce on-campus housing because they believe the communal environment of residential living

is central to the Kenyon experience, Duncan said.

"If you're not living in a slowly decaying building named after a rich but detached alum, or an overpriced apartment, sterile apartment, then are you really part of the community?" Akeelah Brown '17 said.

She also referenced concerns Mount Vernon and Gambier residents have voiced about College employees living off-campus.

"There's noise, drinking, garbage everywhere," she said.

According to Brown, the noise levels, drinking habits and littering of

College employees who reside in dorms and apartments do not affect Gambier residents.

"You see, living on campus solves all those issues," she said.

Duncan said she could not see why College employees would want to give up the benefits of access to Peirce Dining



Meredith Harper Bonham '92 enjoys the view from her charming, yet unapproved off-campus home.

Hall, either.

"I think the unlimited meal plan is an under-appreciated aspect of campus life," she said.

"Any type of food you want, any time of day. Plus, we put kitchens in some of the apart-

ments for extra cooking, in addition to the required meal plan."

"Why do I need a full kitchen if I have to pay for a full meal plan?" Bonham protested.

The student body has not

disclosed what type of action it will take against College employees found living off-campus, but Brown said, "If Meredith is supposed to be living in a Mather triple, we'll make damn sure she's in that room every hour of every day."



Gilead Jones '19 strides toward his favorite elliptical machine after a ghosting training session, in which he learned how to pretend his hook-up from Deb Ball never existed.

Athletic department introduces IM ghosting league

Decatur in support, says it's important students learn how to ignore last night's hook-ups

SQUASH GEAR

The Athletic Department on Tuesday announced plans to sponsor the College's first-ever intramural ghosting league. Teams will be judged on the number of unreturned texts and Peirce greetings their members receive from past hook-ups over the course of a week, with bonus points awarded to those who enlist their friends to join in the shunning.

"We think this is a great opportunity for students to learn important life skills, such as how to ignore that seemingly normal guy in your econ class who asked you out but then wouldn't stop talking about how 9/11 was an inside job," Joanna Mellot, associate ath-

letic director, said. "If I hadn't joined my college's club ghosting team I'd still be kindly responding, 'I already did, Steven' every time he texts me to Google 'WTC7.'"

The introduction of the ghosting league marks a departure from Kenyon's traditional slate of intramural sports, which includes soccer, basketball and floor hockey. Students have responded positively to the more practical focus of the new program, signing up in droves and causing the Athletic Department to regret initiating contact and pretend to go to the bathroom, but then just leave.

Gilead Jones '19 said he has struggled to pick up the art of ghosting since arriving at Kenyon last fall. "Avoiding eye con-

“If I hadn't joined my college's club ghosting team I'd still be responding, 'I already did, Steven' every time he texts me to Google 'WTC7.'”

Joanna Mellot, associate athletic director

tact with the girl who blew you last weekend can be hard, but I know I have to get better at it if I want to make it anywhere in life," he said. "Reading Milton and Shakespeare is great, but I wish Kenyon would teach more relevant skills like this."

In an interview, President Sean Decatur praised the Athletic Department's initiative and vowed to follow it up with a curricular offering next year.

up, won't even try to meet your eye; when they say 'Hey!' to you in Peirce, look directly at their forehead for three seconds then walk briskly in the opposite direction; and when they text you asking what you're up to tonight, wait at least 72 hours, then respond, 'Nice tryyy.'"

The new ghosting league will wrap up its first season during the final week of April, and Mellot is already looking forward to recognizing the winners with a custom-made Golden Ghost trophy.

Asked what she will do if the winning team's members refuse to accept the trophy and act as if they never participated in the league in the first place, she said with a smile, "New phone, who dis?"

Coves to take over Gaskin strip

Continued from Page 1

sure, but three? It could never happen." Gund's demonstration was apparently an attempt to justify tearing down a valued grocery, eatery, bookstore and number of student living spaces to build three new, identical restaurants.

Gund expanded on his plans for the new Coves, saying each would have the same bar, restaurant area and game room. "Remember that weird, neon-colored jukebox in the corner?" Gund asked, then held up three fingers. "Three of those."

There is a chance future additions to the Gaskin business district will not be limited to the three new Coves, however. Seemingly in response to concerns over the addition of three identical buildings, Gund has released blueprints for more

student housing, which would be built atop the restaurants. "I'm calling it the '2030 Plan,'" Gund said. "We're looking to create more elegant, apartment-style housing options for students instead of traditional dormitories."

"Yeah, I took a look at the plans," Jason

Wasser '17 said. "Basically, he wants to put an NCA on top of every building on campus, including the NCAs."

According to Gund, these particular residences would be "doubly elegant, apartment-style housing options for stu-

dents instead of traditional dormitories." Asked if there would be a cost difference for these apartments compared to other upperclass housing options, Gund said, "Whoa, there! It's not even 2020 yet."

While many students, faculty and community members remain unsure about the new plans, some have expressed excitement at the addition of

the three Coves. "We may not be able to live in town, or buy textbooks, groceries or lunch," Wasser said. "But we will have a few more places to get drunk and run into our exes."

"Three of 'em," Gund butted in.

“Basically he wants to put an NCA on top of every building on campus, including the NCAs.”

Jason Wasser '17

This is fine, ResLife says

Continued from Page 1

ideas for the night. I think it's going to be fun."

One of these ideas, Greenberg said, was to have a line of party-goers dressed as various residential options parade through the room before the selection process begins.

"I've got my buddy on the basketball team, he's really tall — he can be Caples," he said. "And I've got some other friends who can be the NCAs because, well, there are a lot of them, and they're all pretty white."

Locomotive was also happy to share her insight. "I was thinking that we could take a shot every time a building is full or every time a group for a triple has to split up.

You know, as a way to boost morale."

The dual event will take place April 29. When she first learned of the date, Locomotive looked

at Greenberg, shrugged, and said, "It could be worse. They may be happening in the same room on the same day, but at least there's no other large, all-campus event scheduled for April 29."

“They may be happening in the same room on the same day, but at least there's no other large, all-campus event scheduled for April 29.”

Liza Locomotive, director of housing and residential life