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SIGNS ON THE SQUARE



JACK ZELLWEGER

GibbsWatch, an organization that follows the political activity of Congressman Bob Gibbs, organizes protests in Mount Vernon on various issues every Saturday. This past Saturday, Feb. 4, the organization — which is comprised of faculty, students and community members — gathered in Mount Vernon Square to protest President Donald Trump's recent immigration ban, which bars people from seven predominantly Muslim countries from entering the United States for 90 days.

College alters UCC program

GRACE RICHARDS | STAFF WRITER

New students will soon be “UC-Clings” no more. When the class of 2021 arrives in August, they will be greeted by Orientation Leaders (OLs) rather than Upperclass Counselors (UCCs).

The name adjustment is due in part to Title IX considerations.

“This is in line with best practices with our peer institutions and clearly delineates that OLs do not have confidentiality when it comes to Title IX reports,” Associate Director of New Student Programs Lacey Filkins wrote in an email to 2016 UCCs. “The word ‘counselor’ can be very misleading for new students.”

This shift signals major changes to the position, including significantly longer training sessions, larger groups of first years with two OLs attached to each group and daily meetings between OL groups and OLs.

The Office of Housing and Residential Life decided to revamp the UCC program based on recommendations from the First-Year Experience Committee, which included faculty, staff and students and met for the majority of the 2015-16 academic year.

Changes were also prompted by the results of the 2016 Quality [page 4](#)

State Rep. hosts meeting on ACA, climate

Professor Slonczewski coordinates talk with Rep. Bob Gibbs (R).

BILL GARDNER
NEWS EDITOR

LOUDONVILLE — The constituents of Representative Bob Gibbs (R) gathered in a crowded room in the basement of the Loudonville Public Library on Saturday for a meeting organized by Robert A. Oden Jr. Professor of Biology Joan Slonczewski to voice their concerns to the congressman. Gibbs represents Ohio's Seventh District, which includes Knox County.

Greta Monter, a Holmes County resident, told Gibbs that she was worried about congress moving to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Her husband and two daughters rely on the ACA for

coverage. Emma Monter and her father were diagnosed with a genetic disorder that causes tumors to grow in various parts of their bodies — Emma has one in her brain. Katy, Greta's other daughter, was diagnosed with lupus at the age of six.

Provisions in the ACA prohibit insurance companies from denying coverage to patients with pre-existing conditions, protecting Emma and Mike Monter. Katy is guaranteed coverage because she can remain on her parents' plan until she is 26 years old. But if the ACA is repealed by the new Congress, the MonTERS' health insurance could be put at risk.

“I came here today as your constitu-

ent,” Greta Monter told the congressman, fighting back tears. “But mostly I came as a mother and a representative of a million other mothers who have holding our breaths since Nov. 9, in fear that our sons and daughters will be losing their health care.”

About 50 members of “GibbsWatch” — a Facebook group of residents from Gambier, Mount Vernon and surrounding areas who follow Rep. Gibbs' political activity — attended the constituent meeting on Saturday, which covered issues ranging from healthcare to the environment. The often-contentious and emotional nature of the exchanges illustrated just how uncertain people are with this Congress's brash [page 4](#)



JACK ZELLWEGER

Susan Watson questions Representative Bob Gibbs (R) on his environmental voting record at a meeting on Saturday.

VILLAGE RECORD

Feb. 3 — Feb. 7

Feb. 3 — No entries.
Feb. 4, 12:45 a.m. — Underage, intoxicated students found on South Campus.
Feb. 5, 1:23 a.m. — Underage, intoxicated student found in restroom on North Campus.
Feb. 5, 1:24 a.m. — Underage, intoxicatd student found in restroom on North Campus.
Feb. 7, 8:44 p.m. — Paraphernalia found on South Campus. Tested positive for marijuana. Turned over to Knox County Sheriff's Office.

CORRECTIONS

In the Feb. 2 issue, the *Collegian* incorrectly labeled MESA as the Middle Eastern Students Alliance. It is actually the Middle East Students Association. The *Collegian* regrets this error.

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2017 GREEK ORG BID NUMBERS

244

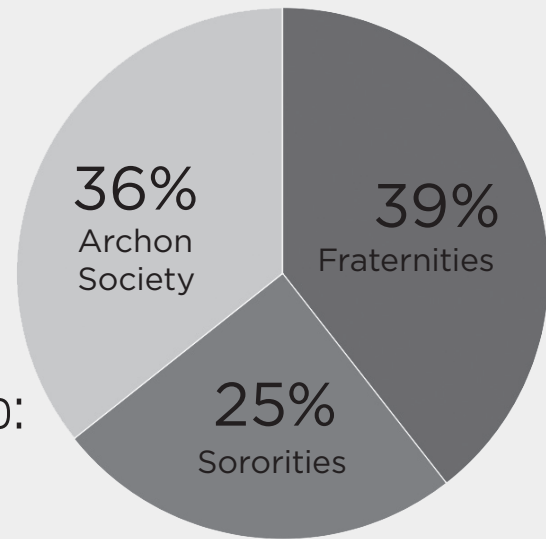
students registered
for recruitment

199

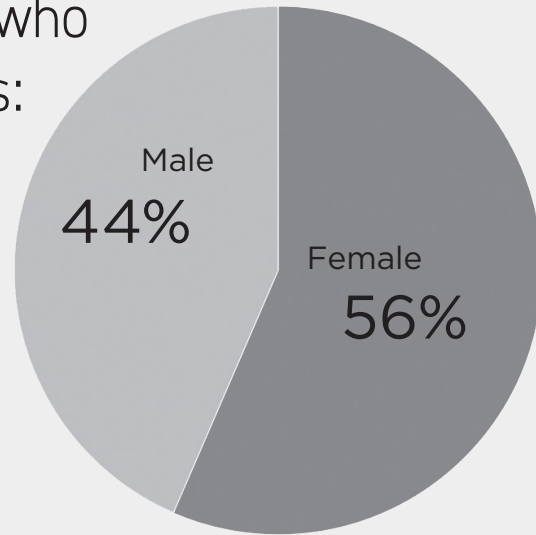
students submitted
an interest form

[177 students
accepted their bids]

Students who
accepted bids to:



Students who
identify as:



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

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

Administrative changes

KEVIN CRAWFORD AND
JACKSON FURBEE
COLLEGIAN STAFF

Janet Lape Marsden

The Office of Communications will welcome Janet Lape Marsden as the new Associate Vice President for Communications on April 3. Her predecessor, Mark Ellis, retired in July of last year; Director of New Media Patty Burns served as interim director for communications during the search.

Marsden, who was Vice President for Communications at Bennington College, will oversee all of the College's communication initiatives, including the *Alumni Bulletin*, website, social media and video production.

"I am inspired by President Decatur's vision for evolving, extending and amplifying the liberal arts tradition for today's students," Marsden said in a Feb. 3 News Bulletin emailed to students and employees.

Jillian Watts

After two years in the position, Assistant Director of the Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (ODEI) Jillian Watts will leave Kenyon at the end of this semester.

"I'm getting married, and my partner lives in Fort Wayne," Watts said. "We want to be closer, and her mother's sick."

Post-Kenyon, Watts plans to focus on a new organization she founded: a non-profit LGBTQ+ Youth Center in Fort Wayne, Ind., where there "is no LGBTQ+ oriented space currently," Watts said.

Board votes to increase tuition, financial aid

NATHANIEL SHAHAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kenyon tuition and fees are set to increase by 3.95 percent for the 2017-18 academic year, as decided by the Board of Trustees at their winter meeting in Washington D.C. this past weekend.

This increase will bring the annual cost of Kenyon to \$65,840, according to a report on the meeting prepared by the Office of Communications and released on Tuesday.

The tuition increase will help support an operating budget of \$145,065,000, also approved by the Board over the weekend. This is a 5.56 percent increase over the current operating budget of approximately \$137 million. The budget reflects an increased commitment to student financial aid, with an 11.8 percent increase in the financial aid budget to \$34.9 million, up from \$31,293,000 in the current fiscal year.

The focus of the Board's winter meeting is to hear presentations and take a vote on Kenyon's budget for the upcoming fiscal year, which will begin on July 1 of this year. The winter meeting is typically held off campus.

In light of the recent *New York Times* article featuring Kenyon as a school with more students from the top one percent of earners than the bottom 60 percent, the Board also discussed the College's dependence on student tuition. President Sean Decatur said in an interview with the *Collegian* after the meeting that the data revealed in the *NYT* report was not surprising, but highlighted the issue.

Because the College is so dependent on tuition, "making progress on the tuition dependence of the institution is something that has to happen relatively slowly and incrementally," Decatur said. "It takes

“It's ... nearly impossible to do a significant increase in financial aid without increasing tuition in some way.

President Sean Decatur

more resources to help to counterbalance tuition and partially because those are changes that are very difficult to make in a quick pivot of the institution."

Decatur said the Board is committed to increasing financial aid, but the College's tuition dependence presents a challenge. "It's basically nearly impossible to do a significant increase in financial aid without increasing tuition in some way, because those two things are coupled," Decatur said.

Decatur clarified that money funding projects like the restoration of the Village is not money that would otherwise go toward financial aid. Money for those projects, Decatur said, was donated by people who would otherwise not be giving money to the College; part of the reason work on the new library has not moved forward is because the College is still in the process of securing funds.

The meeting report specified that in the 2016 fiscal year (July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016) Kenyon's endowment lost money, returning -0.1 percent, according to data in the report from the 2015-2016 National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) CommonFund Study of Endowments. This is significantly better than the average of 805 schools surveyed

by the NACUBO, which was -1.9 percent.

In addition to tuition and financial aid increases, monies available for salary and wage raises for administrative staff were increased by two percent, according to the official report. Money was also earmarked for salaries currently not in line with market rates. Monies set aside for faculty raises were also increased by two percent. Increases in health insurance premiums were also factored into the budget, according to the report.

Decatur updated the Board on recent projects like the Wright Center; the Mount Vernon building's grand opening is today. Decatur also discussed how the College plans to implement recommendations in the recently completed Title IX audit.

Afterwards, the Board spoke at length about best practices for board governance. This included discussions on how the Board can best spend their time on campus, such as prioritizing meetings with community members. The Board hosted Cathy Trower, president of Trower & Trower Inc., which specializes in board governance consulting, to participate in these discussion.

Decatur said one of the Board's priorities is to enhance communication with the Kenyon community regarding what the actual role of the Board is; the Board is more focused on long term strategic issues, rather than policies that affect day-to-day operations.

"Hearing student voices and concerns is very important and that informs the larger thinking of the Board, but actually very few Board actions actually impact the types of decisions I think students and others on campus are most concerned about," Decatur said.

The Board's spring meeting will be held in Gambier, from April 20-21.

ON THE RECORD

BRET STEPHENS

WALL STREET JOURNAL COLUMNIST

EMILY BIRNBAUM
NEWS EDITOR

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Bret Stephens visited Kenyon on Feb. 8 to deliver a lecture called "The Future of U.S. Foreign Policy," an event co-sponsored by The Center for the Study of American Democracy and the Kenyon Israel Club. Stephens writes the *Wall Street Journal's* foreign-affairs column and serves as the *Journal's* deputy editorial page editor. He is also a regular panelist on the *Journal Editorial Report*, a weekly political talk show broadcast on Fox News Channel. He previously served as Editor-in-Chief of the *Jerusalem Post*.

In recent weeks, President Donald Trump has accused major news outlets of being "fake news," Chief Strategist Steve Bannon has advised the media to "keep its mouth shut" and Kellyanne Conway has asserted that verifiable facts may be countered with "alternative facts." What do you think is the role of journalism in an increasingly turbulent media landscape?

It should be what it always has been, or what it always has been at its best, which is holding people in positions of authority and power to account. What's so disturbing about the comments by Bannon is that they sound like the words that might be uttered by despots, not senior advisors. Conway's comment about alternative facts, while it's probably something that was just blurted out, was revealing in its own way because I think it squares with the Trump campaign and the Trump administration's assault on some foundational concepts of truth and facts. Belief is not a substitute for data, is not a substitute for fact; it's not a substitute for truth.

You have been an outspoken critic of Trump and voted for former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in the latest election, despite being, in your own words, "right-of-center." What would your ideal Republican Party look like and what is it about the current Republican party that you reject?

I think the future of a viable conservative movement in the U.S. has to rest around the party that believes

in aspiration, opportunity and inclusion. The Republican Party is a party of people who want to better their lives and do so by getting government bureaucracy and red tape out of the way. It should be a party of immigrants and a party of refugees. That message of aspiration, of making it in America, ought to be the core message. What you have with Trump is essentially a message of nationalism and exclusivity. It's not a message I think will carry the Republican Party very far.

Critics have accused you of engaging in hate speech that essentializes and demonizes the Arab world. For instance, you have been quoted as saying that "the Arab world's problems are the problems of the 'Arab mindset,'" that several Arab countries are "backwards" and that Muslims in America are less of a threat than Muslims in Europe because, in America, many of them are "not Arab." What is your response to these criticisms?

Last year, I wrote a column arguing that anti-Semitism has harmed the Arab world more than it has ac-

tually harmed Israel. That mindset of conspiracy theorizing, of turning Israel and the Jews into a national obsession, has done material damage to the prospects of the Arab world and Arab society. People who evade the reality of pervasive anti-Semitism are whitewashing hate. I doubt you'd whitewash hate on this campus or in this country so why should you do it in the rest of the world?

In a recent article, you wrote that the U.S. should intervene in foreign affairs by "reassuring the good, deterring the tempted and punishing the wicked." Why should America assume this responsibility? Are there some countries in which the U.S. has overplayed its policing roles?

Yes, I suppose you could make that argument. America's not a nation of saints; we're not a perfect country. But we're also a country that has helped maintain a stable liberal international world order for close to 70 years, and that's a really good thing. If you're Taiwanese, if you're Israeli, if you're Estonian, you look to the U.S. as the guarantor of your government, of



Bret Stephens writes for the *Wall Street Journal*. | Jack Zellweger

your freedom against neighbors like China or Syria or Russia, who want to conquer your country and oppress your people. I think that's been a heroic role that the U.S. has played. It turns out that the only kind of world system which guarantees the greatest good for the greatest number of people is an American-led world system.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Local waste and recycling center closes down over break

The College is in search of a new place to send its recycled glass due to the plant closure.

NATALIE TWITCHELL
STAFF WRITER

Since the Mount Vernon branch of Rumpke Waste and Recycling, a Cincinnati-based recycling center, shut down, the College will have to make alternative plans for glass recycling.

Most of Kenyon's recycling is sent to Cleveland and sold to Gateway Recycling. However, Gateway does not take Kenyon's glass because it is heavy and has a low price, making the transportation not cost effective, according to Custodian Gary Banbury, who is working to facilitate the transition to a new system. Because of this, the College's glass went to the now-defunct Mount Vernon branch of

Rumpke, which also took all of Gambier's recyclables. The *Mount Vernon News* article "Rumpke shuts recycling center," dated June 18, 2016, reports that Rumpke chose not to renew its contract.

Amanda Pratt, director of corporate communications for Rumpke Waste and Recycling, declined to comment on the specific reasons for closure, but in a *Knoxpages.com* article "Rumpke to close Columbus Road recycling center" dated June 10, 2016, she emphasized the importance of a recycling plant's economic viability and ability to provide efficient services to the community, according to the *Knoxpages.com* article "Rumpke to close Columbus Road recycling center" dated June 10, 2016.

While the College looks for a permanent fix, the glass is being processed with Gambier's non-separated recyclables.

"[It's] still being recycled, it's still being put in the system — it's just a matter of someone different taking it," Banbury said.

The College and the Village have always used different recycling systems because Gambier does not separate its recyclables, while Kenyon does. Kenyon gets a higher price for pre-separated recyclables and does not have the ability to separate the Village's recycling. Gambier's recycling was sent to the Rumpke center in Mount Vernon. It is now brought to a Rumpke center in Columbus.

No student jobs at the College's recycling center will be affected.



EMMA GARSCHAGEN

The Rumpke Waste and Recycling center shut down on Dec. 1.

Turbulent exchanges highlight frustrations with Congress

Continued from Page 1

new outlook on the role of government in domestic policy, and further revealed the deep divide that separates the Republican and Democratic parties.

Monter and other members were mainly concerned about whether or not Congress would throw out the individual mandate in the ACA, which requires citizens without health insurance to pay a tax penalty. Monter believes this policy plays a crucial role in making sure insurance companies don't deny patients with pre-existing conditions. Gibbs told the attendees that he did not support insurance companies that denied these people coverage, but did not agree with the individual mandate because taxpayers would have to subsidize it.

"Well, the individual mandate is going to go away; we're not going to do the individual mandate," Gibbs said. The congressman double-downed on his belief that the ACA was a "mess," citing a spike in premiums and a lack of competition in the market.

"I don't want my family to be thrown high risk polls and be cast aside," Monter shot back. "And that's what's going to happen!"

After about 30 minutes of back-and-forth arguments on the ACA, Slonczewski and Kenyon students Marie Baldassarre '17 and Schuyler Stupica '19 steered the conversation toward the environment. Baldassarre questioned the congressman on his support for oil companies and companies that use hydraulic fracturing (fracking) to mine for natural gas, while Stupica asked if he would act to protect the environment against the effects of climate change.

Gibbs defended his position on fracking by saying that there has not been one instance where oil and fracking have directly contaminated ground aquifers, although he



JACK ZELLWEGER

Representative Bob Gibbs (R) chats with constituents at the end of the meeting.

acknowledged that the drilling runoffs have contaminated water supplies in the past. As for climate change, Gibbs told the group that he did not believe there is a scientific consensus on whether or not humans affect the climate, which caused an uproar among the attendees. There is a 97 percent consensus among scientists that climate change is likely caused by human activity, according to NASA and the American Meteorological Society.

At the end of the meeting, tensions were still high, but the attendees thanked Gibbs for talking to them. Not all were satisfied — before the meeting began, Susan Watson of Killbuck, Ohio, voiced her fear of the current administration, and many members, grumbling amongst themselves as they left the crowded basement, seemed to be feeling the same way.

"It's a nightmare," Watson said. "I just want to wake up from this nightmare."

In an email to the attendees after the meeting, Slonczewski urged the group to write to Gibbs and emphasize their concerns.

OLs to replace UCC program

Application process will be more selective.

Continued from Page 1

of Life survey conducted by the Kenyon Office of Institutional Research, in which 34 percent of respondents said UCCs were "not at all important" or "unimportant" in assisting their transition to Kenyon. The average rating for the importance of UCCs in facilitating the adjustment to Kenyon was 3 out of 5, lower than the rating for advisors (3.5), and older Kenyon students other than a UCC (4.2).

Filkins said the restructured OL position aims to give students better training and clearer responsibilities.

"As opposed to just being there to make sure students get from one place to the other, or just being part of the advising meetings, we're giving them much more in-depth training, but also things that they're going to be doing, conversations they're going to be having with their group," Filkins said.

Previously, each UCC worked with a group of three to four first years or transfer students. Under the restructured system, groups of 16 to 22 new students will be paired with two OLs in one group. OLs will meet daily with their groups during orientation and track attendance of their first years at orientation events.

Filkins expressed her hope that assigning two OLs to each group will give first years a better chance of finding common interests with one of their OLs and forming a strong personal connection.

Bella Blofeld '19, a UCC during 2016 Orientation, expressed skepticism that larger groups of new students paired with two OLs will allow OLs to build close personal relationships with their first year.

"I think it can be nice, as an incoming student, to feel that you have this one-on-one, or four-on-one, fairly intimate relationship with someone who knows what they're doing on campus," Blofeld said.

“ We're giving them much more in-depth training [on] things that they're going to be doing, conversations they're going to be having with their group.

Associate Director of New Student Programs Lacey Filkins

OLs will no longer be responsible to one faculty advisor, but will have students in their group from 2-3 advisors, Filkins wrote in the email to this year's UCCs.

UCCs previously arrived on the Wednesday before orientation, and received 8-10 hours of training before orientation began on Saturday. OLs will now receive about three times as many training hours, including eight hours in the spring semester. They will arrive on the Tuesday before orientation to complete 16 more hours of training before new student arrival begins on Saturday.

Community Advisors, Beer & Sex Advisors, Sexual Misconduct Advisors, Discrimination Advisors, Peer Counselors and students who arrive early for fall pre-season athletics will not be allowed to become Orientation Leaders to ensure OLs can focus on their assigned new students, according to Filkins.

The Office of Housing and Residential Life will hire 50 to 60 OLs, roughly half of the 130 UCCs hired in previous years. The new application process will be more selective, according to Filkins. The selection process will include a written application, a GPA/conduct check and an in-person interview.

Applications will be accepted until midnight on Sunday, Feb. 19.

Robert Frost’s last public appearance was at Kenyon’s library

The poet dedicated the brand-new Chalmers library in 1962, three months before his death.

AMY SCHATZ
CHIEF COPY EDITOR

During the fall semester of 1962, a legend stopped by Gambier on an October morning.

Acclaimed American poet Robert Frost paid several visits to Kenyon, but one of his most notable appearances occurred on Oct. 28, 1962, when he dedicated the then-new Chalmers Library. The event was Frost’s last public address before his death, and his speech struck a chord with Kenyon that reverberated for weeks.

Frost described the library “as a ‘sanctuary of the humanities, a stronghold of the humanities,’” Former Dean and Provost Bruce Haywood says in his book *The Essential College*, “and a place of resort for students — young people, older people, but young people particularly, who are having it out with themselves about God and man and sociology and poetry.”

Frost was close with Gordon Keith Chalmers, who served as Kenyon president from 1937-56, and his wife Roberta Teale Swartz Chalmers. Frost first met Roberta, a published poet and professor, when she was a student at Mount Holyoke College, according to College Historian and Keeper of Kenyoniana Tom Stamp ’73.

“Chalmers was a vision guy,” Stamp said, referring to Chalmers’s ability to look beyond



PHOTO COURTESY OF TOM STAMP
From left to right: President Franze Edward Lund, Robert Frost and Roberta Teale Swartz Chalmers on Chalmers Library’s opening day.

financial costs when planning the College’s future. “In a way, the trustees were looking for someone who wasn’t a vision guy after Chalmers, someone who would take care of the books.” Chalmers might not have managed the College’s money as well as the trustees would have liked, but

he was undoubtedly a great aid in propelling the College into academic and literary renown. It was at this time when prominent literary icons like John Crowe Ransom and Frost frequented the Hill, delivering lectures and paying visits to the president, that Chalmers died suddenly in 1956.

The 1962 opening of Chalmers Library, named in honor of the beloved president, was a momentous occasion according to several sources. “The happiest achievement of the [President Franze Edward] Lund years was the building of a new library,” Haywood said. Chalmers had previously developed plans for a bigger, better library, but the blueprints were consumed by the 1949 Old Kenyon fire.

Students responded to Frost’s visit in the Nov. 2, 1962 issue of the *Collegian*. They paid special attention to Frost’s appearance, noting he “rose from his well-upholstered chair like a tired old man that he is” and the sight of his “ash white hair drooping over a corner of his wrinkled forehead.”

In an article from the same issue, headlined “Frost Dedicates ‘Sanctuary’ to Audience of Foreigners,” the writer describes a significant crowd of “largely outsiders” that occupied most of the Rosse Hall auditorium and left little room for Kenyon students. “Approximately 200 leftover students were shown into the Rosse cellar, where they heard the lecture via loud speaker,” the article says.

Being swept aside to accommodate trustees and other donors angered students; according to the *Collegian* issue, two students from an unnamed fraternity sent


a telegram to Frost (who was then staying at Cromwell Cottage) reading, “We wish you to know of our regret at not being permitted to hear your address this afternoon.” Other anonymous students spoke out, including one who claimed that “by cutting the student body off from a great man like Frost, [the College] has done Kenyon’s reputation irreparable damage in the eyes of the students.” Later, President Lund claimed there simply had not been enough room for students, and Frost hinted at a return trip to the College so students could meet him.

Graham Gund ’63 H’81 was a student at the time of Frost’s dedication and took matters into his own hands to meet the famous poet. In a Nov. 14, 2014 *Collegian* article by Henri Gendreau ’16, Gund’s roommate recalled their visit to Cromwell: “[Gund] said, ‘Let’s go and visit them.’ So he took me with him and we knocked on the door to the president’s and we said, ‘Hi, we would like to meet Robert Frost.’ ‘OK,’ said the president. ‘Come in.’ And then we had a tremendous time.”


Frost died on Jan. 29, 1963, three months after he strolled down Middle Path for the last time. But for some students and devoted fans, Frost’s homage to a past president and his celebration of the College’s literary future made all the difference.

CLASS CLASH


COMPILED BY OLIVER VANDENBERG




Senior Class Total:
35



Junior Class Total:
35



Sophomore Class Total:
32



First-Year Class Total:
28

	Answer	Tom Cox '17	Clara Yetter '18	Armaan Maharaj '19	Ethan Starr '20
Which celebrity recently declared they were pregnant with twins?	Beyoncé	Beyoncé	Beyoncé	I don't know	Beyoncé
Who was confirmed as the new education secretary?	Betsy DeVos	Betsy DeVos	DeVos	DeVos	Betsy DeVos
Who celebrated their 65th anniversary as monarch on Monday?	Queen Elizabeth II of England	Elizabeth II	Queen Elizabeth II of England	Queen Elizabeth	Queen Elizabeth II of England
Kenyon alum Olof Palme was prime minister of which country when he was assassinated?	Sweden	Sweden	Russia	Sweden	Sweden
Weekly Scores		4	3	3	4

Meet Quizbowl, Kenyon’s lesser-known team of champions

The Division I Quizbowl team won a championship and qualifies for a national tournament.

JUSTIN SUN
STAFF WRITER

Members of the Kenyon Quizbowl team like to accumulate knowledge, and they’re very good at it.

At a tournament last Saturday in Youngstown, Ohio, Kenyon’s Division I Quizbowl team — made up of four students representing three different class years — took first place among the undergraduate competitors. Their victory qualifies them for the National Academic Quiz Tournaments’

national tournament in Chicago later this year.

Team leader Graham Reid ’17 knew there would be some tough competition but was confident going into the event. “We felt like we had a good shot at it,” he said.

Quizbowl is a form of competitive trivia, played at both the high school and collegiate levels. Somewhat similar to *Jeopardy!*, the game pits two teams against each other as players compete to answer questions on a wide range of topics. The scoring system involves two types of questions: toss-up (available for both teams to answer) and bonus (available to a team that successfully answered a toss-up). More points are awarded for

a quicker answer. While Kenyon’s football team may not stand a chance against The Ohio State University’s team, the College’s Quizbowl team reigns supreme. Some of the schools present at this past tournament were much larger universities, such as OSU, University of Michigan and Carnegie Mellon University. Kenyon was the only school with an undergraduate population of fewer than 5,000 students. But unlike football, Quizbowl doesn’t require a large student population.

“Having a good Quizbowl team is something that really only requires four people,” Reid said.

One of those four people is Lauren Onel ’20. Onel began playing Quizbowl in high school, when she placed eighth in a national tournament, and has continued playing at Kenyon. “It gave me a reason to explore these things that I was already really interested in,” she said of the game. Onel’s high school did not offer classes in religion or philosophy, but she was able to pursue her interest in these subjects through Quizbowl.

The preparation of Kenyon’s Quizbowl players varies. Onel and Reid study for Quizbowl by reviewing

past questions from tournaments, and they sometimes read entire books on topics that frequently appear. Onel also keeps a log of all the questions that she has gotten right and wrong. In the past, she missed a question about Greece — she thought it was asking about the island of Crete specifically — but also answered a question about Excalibur before the moderator even finished the sentence.

Not everyone is as dedicated as Onel and Reid. Beyond the successful Division I team, Kenyon also sports a Division II team of players who like to participate more casually. For them, Quizbowl represents a fun way to test their knowledge without much outside effort.

The team hosts practices on Monday and Friday nights. The practices are laidback: Attendance is not mandatory, and a handful of members come infrequently.

During a recent Monday practice, participants joked around, chatted about their days and occasionally buzzed in to answer a question about a lesser-known Greek philosopher. The small group sat in a circle and used a system of red buttons all connected by one wire to record the buzzes.

“It’s very relaxed — people are coming in and out, no one is too worried about it,” Oliver Vandenberg ’20, a club member who attends some practices, said.



COURTESY OF GRAHAM REID
Members of the Kenyon Quizbowl team pose together after their competition in Youngstown, Ohio, on Saturday, Feb. 4.

The practice questions are pulled from previous competitions and read like paragraphs. With each new sentence, more information is revealed, but the question can be answered at any time.

“It’s an endless competition,” Onel said. “There’s always more you could know and more you could find out.”

Onel admits that many of the topics she is familiar with because of Quizbowl are obscure. “Being able to recite the summary of six works by Eudora Welty is never going to be applicable elsewhere,” she said.

Reid, on the other hand, finds more use for his knowledge. “The things that I have in my mind from Quizbowl are always relevant to

something else,” he said. An avid reader and documentary watcher, Reid believes it is his love of learning that drove him to join Quizbowl.

Whatever their reasons for collecting an enormous mass of knowledge, Kenyon students have found a great place to use all that information in Quizbowl. They answer questions ranging from literature to physics to politics, and they do it better than most other schools in the Midwest.

After their victory last Saturday over the University of Pittsburgh, Kenyon’s Quizbowl team enjoyed a dinner at Panera Bread together. Then they headed back to campus — and back to their books.

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Uncle Vanya highlights students' acting skills, stuns crowds

KCDC brought the complexities of Russian playwright Anton Chekhov on stage last week.

DEVON MUSGRAVE-JOHNSON
ARTS EDITOR

After last Thursday night's curtain call, the audience at the Kenyon College Dance and Dramatic Club's (KCDC) production of *Uncle Vanya* seemed quieter than one would expect for a crowd cleaving a performance.

Though the general consensus from audience members seems to be that the production, directed by Associate Professor of Drama and Film Ben Viccellio '98, was well done, it initially left people stunned and pensive.

"I think that this one is such a slow burn of a play — and such a quiet play — that it took people a bit of time to wrap their mind around their response," Clara Mooney '17, an assistant director for the play, said.

Uncle Vanya tells the story of a Russian family in the late 1800s that risks falling apart when an extrava-

gant professor and his young wife come to stay at the family home for the summer.

To bring this three-hour play to the stage, the cast and crew began working for three hours a day, five days a week since the cast was announced in late October.

"Even with the long hours, it has been an absolutely wonderful process," Mollie Greenberg '19, who played the professors daughter and Vanya's niece Sonya, said. "A lot of the cast are seniors who have worked together before, so it's very special to be able to work with them and get to know them this way."

The length of the play was not the only challenge that the cast had to face — who also had to contend with difficult source material. *Uncle Vanya* was written in 1897 by Russian playwright Anton Chekhov, who, according to assistant director Natalie Kane '18, is known for his complex and deep characters.

Though the play is incredibly

"I think that it is such a slow burn of a play — and such a quiet play — that it took people a bit of time to wrap their mind around their response.

Clara Mooney '17

long, it is not exactly plot-driven. *Uncle Vanya* shines the spotlight on the characters rather than the events — there is barely any action until late in Act III — which allowed the performances to shine.

"It's both a very complicated play and a very simple play," Kane said. "It's Chekhov, so it's complicated, but it's really just a play about people who feel trapped."

The group managed to get the story across succinctly and skillfully. The actors really understood their characters and managed to bring them to stage as believable and three-dimensional people. This is especially true for the titular role of Vanya, played by Alex Kirshy '17.

Even those in the back rows of the Bolton Theater could feel the tremors of Kirshy's performance as a man desperate for love and bitter about life. When Vanya laments this inability shoot someone, the pain and humor of the situation finds a harmonious balance in Kirshy's acting.

A downside of this long and complicated play came any time there was an act break and the sets had to be moved. *Uncle Vanya* is split into four acts, but was only given one intermission in between acts two and three.

Having only one intermission was not a decision made by KCDC, according to Mooney, but by the company from which they procured

the rights to the play. This meant that between acts one and two, as well as acts three and four, the audience was forced to sit and watch long set changes. The set itself was gorgeous: A large moon lit up the backdrop sky, and walls and windows hung from the ceiling, giving the set a very artistic feel. But in between the act breaks, the tech crew spent a long time fumbling with rearranging the set pieces.

With actors this good and a story interpretation that is this strong, elaborate set changes can take the audience out of the story. It would have been clear that the location had changed even if the back walls did not move. Guitarist Tim Gruber '17, who performed during the scene changes, was skilled and entertaining, but couldn't make up for the long wait in between acts.

This *Uncle Vanya* performance was beautiful, from the cast to the costumes to the set, but elements of the play could have been simplified.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF EMMA BROWN

The intricate sets of *Uncle Vanya* dazzled audiences and complemented the impressive performances, but proved difficult for the tech crew during set transitions.

Kenyon Jazz Ensemble takes over Peirce Pub in upbeat show

The group performed their first Winter Dance for a crowd of students last Saturday night.

CHRIS PELLETIER
STAFF WRITER

The students of the Kenyon Jazz Ensemble performed their first ever Winter Dance concert last Saturday at Peirce Pub.

The Ensemble performed 10 pieces in total throughout two sets — one swing set and a funk/Latin/contemporary set. Unlike the more traditional format of most concerts at Kenyon, there was not any introduction for most pieces, and there was a natural flow to the performance that encouraged the dancing promised on the program. Professor of Music Ted Buehrer, who directs the ensemble, introduced the group briefly by thanking the audience for coming and reminding them to dance along.

The show's energy increased exponentially throughout the performance. The first few pieces were met with polite claps and the dance floor remained empty, but by the start of the second set, the floor was full and the audience was enthusiastically whooping after the impressive solos.

"If you listen to jazz, it's very interac-

tive," alto saxophone soloist Max Lazarus '20 said. "As an improviser, when I hear someone in the audience go 'Oh!', it encourages me as a performer."

Many Kenyon jazz performances take place in Rosse Hall, and the atmosphere at a seated concert in an auditorium is very different from one at a lively pub filled with quite a few experienced dancers. Many of the people maneuvering the dance floor with grace were members of Kenyon's ballroom dancing club. They were among the first to take to the floor, but as people's initial apprehension eased, less experienced dancers joined in. Eventually, there was barely any room left to dance.

The Kenyon Jazz Ensemble's performance was incredible to listen to. The Pub acoustics worked well, and the sound quality and timbre of the ensemble's music did not noticeably differ from their performances in Rosse.

This may have been the ensemble's first event of this nature, but it did not show. The performance went without a hitch, and hopefully will not be the last of its kind.



SHANE CANFIELD

The Kenyon Jazz Ensemble fills Peirce Pub with energetic swing and funk music.

Black Box theater grand opening event brings lots of laughs

Eight student-run performance groups drew a standing-room-only crowd to the venue.

DORA SEGALL
ARTS EDITOR

On Wednesday, Feb. 1 at 10 p.m., Ethan Fuirst '17 addressed a standing-room-only crowd to announce the formal opening of the new Black Box Theater.

Fuirst, who was recently appointed entertainment manager for both Peirce Pub and the new Black Box, wanted to host an event that would give a variety of groups the chance to inaugurate the space. He invited groups that performed frequently in the old Black Box, located next to the post office, and a cappella groups that would contribute to an “upbeat, fun feel,” Fuirst said.

The show opened with Brave Potato Productions’s rendition of “End of the Road” from the musical *[title of show]*; singers Henry Quillian '17, Chandler Davis '17, James Wojtal '18 and Mariah Palumbo '19 were accompanied by Andrew Perricone '17 on piano. Improv group Fools on the Hill followed, making the au-

dience laugh without pause. In a particularly memorable moment, members Dounia Sawaya '19 and Ally Merkel '20 used suggestions from the audience to perform an improvised scene involving a robot and a woman who lived in the Renaissance.

Broadway a cappella group The Broken Legs’s rendition of “You’ll Be Back,” a sassy and comedic song from the hit Broadway musical *Hamilton*, was another highlight on the program. Garrick Schultz’s '20 expressive solo and sensual dance moves made the song one that was hard to forget.

Other performers included Shakespeare theater group Billy Shakes, comedy group Beyond Therapy and a cappella groups the Ransom Notes and the Stairwells. Dance troupe The Company performed to “Stick to the Status Quo” from *High School Musical*.

Between acts, a member from each group that performed stated their favorite character played by distinguished actress Allison Janney '82. “I’m trying to unoffi-



SHANE CANFIELD

Beyond Therapy performs a comedic sketch at the opening of the new Black Box.

cially name the Black Box the Allison Janney Black Box after [her] majestic persona,” Fuirst said.

The process of completing the technological set-up for the Black Box is still un-

derway, according to Fuirst, with a sound system being installed at the moment. “I think it’ll be a really good space,” Fuirst said. “I think we can use it to its full advantage.”

Tonstartssbandht performs at Horn

The band gave the venue’s first concert this semester.

DORA SEGALL
ARTS EDITOR

Psychedelic music pulsed throughout the Horn Gallery on Saturday at 11 p.m. The rock band Tonstartssbandht, comprised of brothers Andy and Edwin Mathis White, used a rainbow-trimmed guitar and drum set to captivate a full house.

The show opened with a performance by Katie Mach '17, a mellow Indie singer and guitar player. Mach was one of many Kenyon students who publicized their music by opening for the Horn’s shows. She drew a small, intimate crowd and created a laid-back atmosphere that served as a stark contrast to the main act: Tonstartssbandht’s performance at the Horn was high-energy and prompted jumping, swaying and even snapping from the audience.

Guitarist and lead vocalist Andy White, a lean man with shaggy blonde hair and a thick moustache, overtly fed off of this energy, mimicking some of the students’ dance moves and praising the general air of excitement throughout the show. His eccentric performance featured an expressive handle on the guitar and full use of the Horn’s space, complete with kicking barefoot in the air. His persona was matched by the cool handle his brother, Edwin, a soft figure with large eyes and light brown hair, had on the drums. The brothers left a cardboard box filled with records at the



PHOTO COURTESY OF TONSTARTSSBANDHT

Tonstartssbandht members Andy and Edwin Mathis White

foot of the kick drum to serve as a stabilizing weight, adding to the set’s unusual aesthetic.

The duo’s music and performance style was as unconventional as their name, which not even the White brothers agree on how to pronounce — although their Bandcamp site lists the pronunciation as “TAHN-starts-bandht.”

“We liked how the word looked and decided if we ever made a duo it would be called Tonstartssbandht.”

Andy White, guitarist and lead vocalist of Tonstartssbandht

“We were making album artwork for earlier bands we used to play in,” Andy said. “We liked how the word looked and decided if we ever made a duo it would be called Tonstartssbandht.”

The two brothers hail from Or-

lando, Fla. and officially formed the band in 2007. They have always loved playing together and tend to “kind of inform each other,” according to Andy, who also does keyboard, guitar and backup vocals for popular Canadian artist Mac DeMarco. The band’s music could be classified as rock or experimental, but draws from a wide variety of music styles, resulting in a unique sound that evokes elements of the Grateful Dead as well as more recent electronic groups. Andy also explained that he was never classically trained, so the band’s music lacks distinct technique, resulting in something that is “kind of jammy.”

The Horn Gallery will next host Indiana rapper FLACO — joined by musical artists Ganglia X Kuest DJ, Gabe Monro and Cramés and Adama — tomorrow at 9:30 p.m. Hopefully they will reach the bar Tonstartssbandht set.

UCB touring company takes improv to the Hill

DANIEL OLIVIERI
STAFF WRITER

On Friday, Feb. 3, a touring company from renowned New York City-based comedy group Upright Citizens Brigade (UCB), performed improv comedy at Rosse Hall.

The four performers — Lily Du, Caitlin Erin Puckett, Rekha Shankar and Lui Vega — began the show with crowdwork, asking the audience about Kenyon and its various quirks. They selected one audience member to interview on stage, questioning Samantha Leder '17 about a ghost in her dorm room and other aspects of her life at Kenyon. Using the Kenyon-specific references they had gathered, the group performed long-form improv. Topics included the Archon Society, Kenyon hauntings, Allison Janney '82 and marijuana. The group especially made fun of Peirce Pub and its supposed inferiority to the recently razed Gambier Grill — commonly called the Cove.

This Kenyon-specific feeling was one of UCB’s primary goals for the performance, which was sponsored by Social Board.

“We want [the audience] to see us be able to use parts of their school and see that incorporated into a show,” Lily Du said in an interview with the *Collegian*. “We want it to feel personalized to them.”

Shows at Upright Citizens Brigade’s comedy club in New York City are very different. “The majority of crowds we have in New York are probably other improvisers and improv students so there is a huge difference,” Puckett said.

The Upright Citizens Brigade comedy troupe began in 1990 in Chicago and later relocated to New York City; the group has also expanded to Los Angeles. Original members in-

clude comedians Amy Poehler and Matt Walsh.

The performers who came to Kenyon seemed excited to be touring together. “I think there’s something to going out to perform the thing you love in places you’ve never been. It’s really exciting and not something I ever anticipated being able to do in my life,” Shankar said.

Kenyon students also seemed to enjoy UCB’s visit, though attendance was not high with only about half of Rosse’s seats filled. “Honestly I expected more people to be in the troupe,” Jessie Griffith '19 said. “I was a little bit surprised that they were able to do so much with only four people.”

Vega led a small improv workshop a few hours before their main show. The workshop included members of Kenyon’s two improv comedy groups, Fools on the Hill and the Ballpit Whalers. It began with simple exercises to help the improvisers pay attention to one another, then Lui had the Kenyon students perform full scenes. In one scene, Jeffrey Searls '19 and Kathleen Duffy '20 — members of Fools on the Hill — played children chopping vegetables while arguing about their parents. Other subjects covered included tiny elephants and enormous ostriches.

This was the first time the Ballpit Whalers and Fools on the Hill practiced together. Justin Martin '19, one of the founders of the Ballpit Whalers, appreciated the chance to work with a professional. “Improv scenes have this tendency to become this long train of weird stuff,” Martin said. “Like it’s not enough for there to be vampires. There have to be, like, French vampires in space on a canoe owned by Frederick Douglass. So being able to condense scenes and focus on the one thing that is tense-filled or unusual or strange or odd about them is great.”

STAFF EDITORIAL

The OL program is a mistake

Kenyon officially has yet another acronym: Upper Class Counselors (UCCs) are now Orientation Leaders (OLs), as announced by Associate Director of New Student Programs Lacey Filkins in an email to 2016 UCCs. Supposed purposes for this change, according to the email, were to ensure a “high impact experience” and greatly expand the required training.

Most significantly, UCC groups of three to five new students will be replaced by OL groups that pair two OLs with groups of about 20 new students assigned to several different faculty advisors, rather than just one. The goal of this is “to strengthen the mentoring relationship,” although it is unclear how this is possible when the OL groups “will function as a single unit,” as stated in Filkins’s email. This method of organization feels shockingly impersonal for a place like Kenyon, which prides itself on its community. For many new students, it is easy to get lost in the crowd. The small size of UCC groups allowed new students to get to know their UCC and advisor, feel comfortable asking all types of questions and obtain personalized advice on academics and life on the Hill.

It is difficult to imagine new students feeling comfortable asking their burning questions in front of 20 other students. And it is difficult to imagine OLs being able to get to know all their advisees — that would mean getting to know the background and interests of at least 10 advisees, if the two OLs split their work evenly. Will OLs remember all those names and faces, so they can wave hello when they pass one of their 20 “OL-ings” on Middle Path?

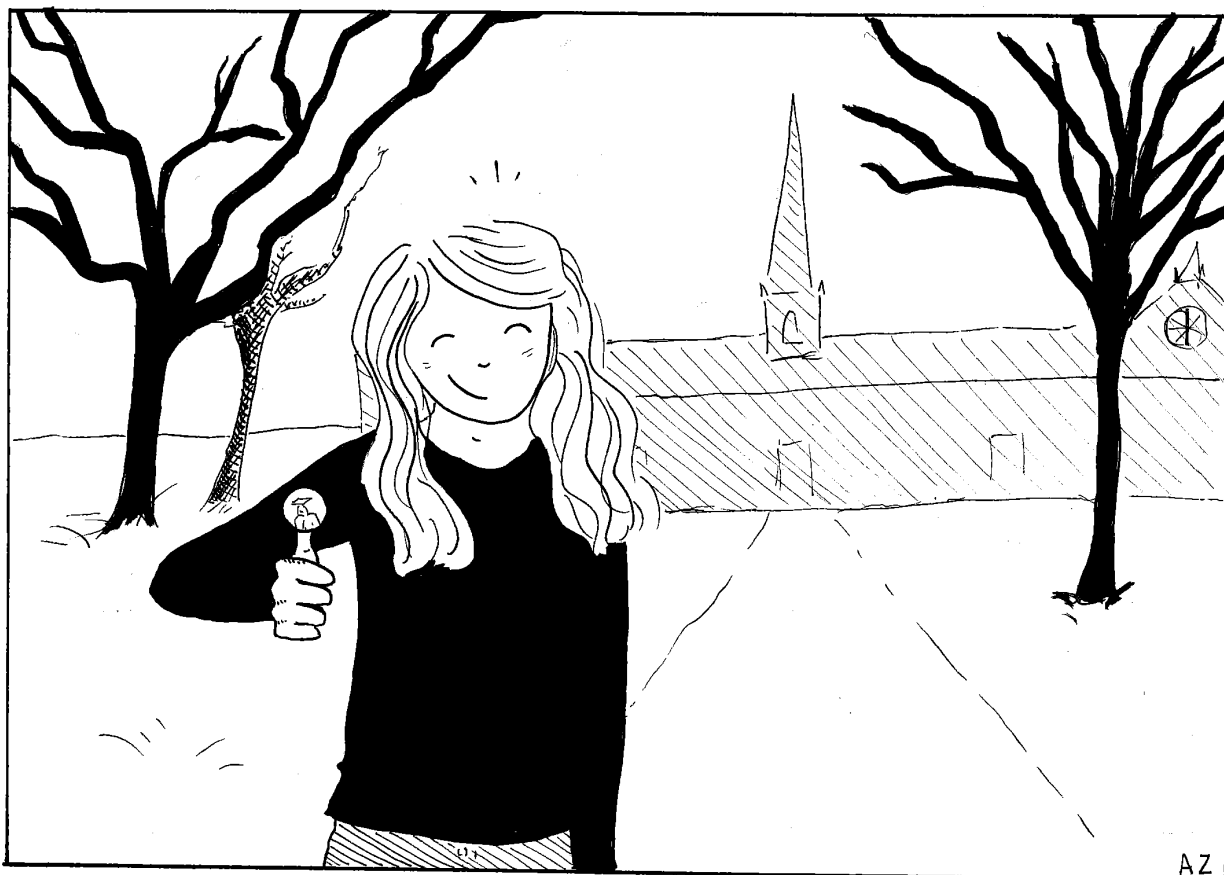
To make matters more complicated, OL applicants are not permitted to be Sexual Misconduct Advisors, Discrimination Advisors, Peer Counselors, Community Advisors, Beer & Sex Advisors, Fall pre-season athletes or Pre-Orientation leaders — unless Filkins has given prior permission. We think this is a huge mistake, as the students who are often best qualified to be an OL are those who are extremely involved in these programs. These students have gained experience assisting others and dealing with sensitive situations.

OLs will also be required to undergo increased training: eight hours of training in the spring, “some over the summer online,” and three days of training (16 hours) before Orientation begins. It is difficult to imagine why OLs need 24 hours worth of training; it is unclear what has changed so drastically that would call for such extensive training.

The UCC program was valuable because UCCs came from diverse spheres of campus to form tight-knit groups with a few students and one faculty advisor; this enabled UCCs to offer candid opinions and advice to curious, confused new students and develop a quality relationship with their assigned faculty advisor. The drastically increased oversight and structure of the new OL program makes us wonder if this is what administrators wanted all along: more control over how UCCs interact with students and what exactly they tell them.

HAVE OPINIONS?

Have opinions on AVI or the Orientation Leader program? The *Collegian* is looking for new writers! For more information on contributing, please contact the Opinions Editor, Tobias Baumann at baumannt@kenyon.edu.



“I DECLARED MY MAJOR!”

OR

“I STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT JOB I'LL HAVE TO GET TO PAY OFF THIS CRIPPLING STUDENT DEBT!”

ANNA ZINANTI

AVI still fails to meet needs of students with allergies despite continued efforts

DEIRDRE SHERIDAN
CONTRIBUTOR

I feel like you’re all probably sick of hearing about AVI. Even I’ll admit that dining services on our tiny campus are small potatoes compared to the national and global events of the past few weeks. But the reality for students with accessibility needs is that AVI is still treating them like burdens to their operation. How can Kenyon call itself an inclusive community when so many of its students cannot eat here safely?

AVI administrators insist they have plans for improving their accessibility and allergy accommodations, but action has been slow. When food is still mislabeled and students are still getting sick, it becomes obvious that if Kenyon continues their contract with AVI Foodsystems, the College will continue putting disabled students and students with dietary restrictions in danger. With AVI’s contract up this summer, we are obligated as a community to replace it with a more accommodating service. We deserve a food service that keeps students safe. We deserve a dining hall that is fully accessible. We deserve a food service that treats its workers with respect. We deserve better than AVI.

I first sat down with AVI to discuss allergy accommodations when I was a prospective student — and I feel accommodations have only gotten worse. Had the management been this bad when I was a first year, I likely would have transferred to a school that could have accommodated me.

On Jan. 24 during Common Hour, I attended an open forum with concerned students and a variety of Kenyon and AVI administrators. Every student present expressed valid concerns about AVI’s operation, speaking both to accessibility and allergy concerns. Despite AVI’s insistence, I never got the sense that the company is genuinely concerned about students’ welfare. For much of the meeting, students were told that the “real” issue is that allergy awareness among the student body is low. AVI administrators complained that Kenyon students have “more” allergies than they are used to and thus present more difficulties. No clear answers

were given as to why AVI cannot provide students with in-depth ingredient information for all dishes.

Encouraging the stereotype that Kenyon is full of “coastal elites” who fake allergies for attention is dangerously misguided, and simply untrue — according to Food Allergy Research and Education, one in 13 Americans has some form of food allergy or intolerance. Each and every one deserves to be taken seriously. When so much of our Kenyon community is tied to Peirce, we need a food service that works for everyone — not one that “hopes” to have accurate allergen

labels after Spring Break, as I was told in an additional meeting with AVI administrators and concerned students on February 6th. Universal accessibility must always be the goal, and excuses that AVI employees are not “educated enough” to understand allergies help no one.

AVI employees work hard and deserve nothing but praise from our student body, but AVI’s administration must be held accountable for their inaction. Peirce

“With AVI’s contract up this summer, we are obligated as a community to replace it with a more accommodating service.

displays banners and signs promoting allergy awareness, but the awareness is clearly not extending to the kitchen, and many items still go entirely unlabeled.

If speaking out about AVI’s faults becomes my Kenyon

legacy, that’s fine by me. But I want to walk across that graduation stage in May feeling I’ve done something productive to improve students’ lives here. Kenyon must either hold AVI to a higher standard of accessibility, or look for a new food service that provides students with the accommodations they need.

When a meal can mean life or death for some students, we need a food service that considers students’ needs, not just their meal plan payments.

Deirdre Sheridan ’17 is an English major from Fanwood, N.J. Contact her at sheridand@kenyon.edu.

Bret Stephens' visit to campus normalizes hateful rhetoric

Wednesday's CSAD-sponsored speaker has a long paper trail of racist, anti-Arab sentiment.

MEGAN CARR
CONTRIBUTOR

Over the past two weeks, the Kenyon community has been disturbed by the blatant discrimination toward Muslims by the Trump administration. Constitutionally, the Muslim ban could not be presented as such, and is thinly veiled by targeting nationality rather than faith. Using anti-nationalism as a stand-in for Islamophobia or blatant racism is not a new phenomenon, and one of the most pertinent examples is that of Palestine. While most liberal college students will not openly attack Muslims or people of Middle Eastern origin, many still attack Palestinians specifically, and call it political realism rather than racism. We hear these sentiments from U.S. politicians, military leaders and even lauded journalists, one of whom spoke at Kenyon about "The Future of U.S. Foreign Policy."

On Feb. 8, the Kenyon Israel Club and the Center for the Study of American Democracy (CSAD) co-sponsored a talk by Bret Stephens.

Stephens writes for the *Wall Street Journal's* foreign-affairs column, and has contributed to many other print publications. My intent is not to question the journalistic credentials of Stephens, but rather to reflect on our current state: where one's voice is empowered by major news networks (and small liberal arts colleges) despite frequent hate speech against Palestinians and their supporters.

An incessant critic of the Obama administration, Stephens also reprimands Trump's rhetoric and policies, including the aforementioned travel ban. During the talk, he showed sympathy for potential immigrants from Mexico and those blocked by the ban, condemning the way in which Trump has degraded them both. For anyone who previously researched Stephens, the irony was unbearable considering his long paper trail of degrading Arabs, while diagnosing the "Arab mindset" that he believes has prevented the intellectual development of an entire region.

In October of 2015, Stephens wrote an ar-

ticle for his *WSJ* column entitled "Palestine: The Psychotic Stage," in which he claimed to unfold "the truth about why Palestinians have been seized by their present blood lust." Stephens goes on to list violence perpetrated by Palestinians against Israelis, which he sees as part of a "communal psychosis." He goes as far as to say that performing this violence is a "moral fulfillment" for Palestinians, and that to call them anything less than evil is to be "an apologist, and an accomplice." Stephens performs a few rhetorical tricks here in an effort to disguise prejudice as valid political analysis. In a state of omission but not ignorance, he strips Palestinians of their history. There is no mention of al-Nakba — the violent of expulsion of Palestinians in 1948 — or refugees, home demolition or the imprisonment and torture of Palestinian children. When he mentions Al-Aqsa Mosque, it is not as one of the holiest sites in Islam but as a breeding ground for hate and violence.

Stephens makes the same point that Trump and his surrogates have made about "the Mus-

lims" that they vilify: They are not human and therefore cannot be understood or treated as such. As disturbing as it is, the language Stephens uses is sadly familiar; it echoes the rhetoric of fascist regimes, the justifications made by colonizers and segregators. I am not saying that Stephens should have been disqualified from speaking. Rather, as a student I find it disappointing that during this traumatic time in our nation and for many in our community, CSAD and the Kenyon Israel Club chose to sponsor someone who espouses hate speech, without any transparency about the radicalism he subscribes to. After listening to the jokes and jabs that Stephens made, perhaps audience members felt they were witnessing a reaction to our current political climate, one in which prejudice is mainstream and facts are for liberals. However, Stephens' work is not a reaction to the problem, but instead one of the many causes.

Megan Carr '18 is a history and Asian studies major from Cocoa Beach, Fla. Contact her at carrm@kenyon.edu.

TALES FROM THE BURROUGH

The administration is not effectively preventing hazing



GRIFFIN BURROUGHS
COLUMNIST

As a brother of Phi Kappa Tau, Rush is one of my favorite events at Kenyon. Potential new members get to be courted by Greek organizations while they have an excuse to go bowling and eat wings, among other things. However, there's a not-so-subtle undertone to Rush that only rears its head once the new members commit. I'm talking about everyone's favorite Greek pastime: hazing.

I'm not here to preach from my ivory tower about how hazing is wrong — that's the administration's job. But in reality, the administration does just enough to be able to say they don't condone hazing without actually putting their foot down and stopping it. This pledging season I want to see the College walk the walk and actually attempt to stop the hazing that goes on right in front of us.

Shortly after Rush Week, Assistant Director of Student Engagement Ally Hays sent an email to all Greeks reminding them about Kenyon's oh-so-strict anti-hazing policy. Here are some of the things that the College will not allow that I'll address in this column:

- New members cannot be restricted from communicating with others (taking away cell phones, changing Facebook/social media passwords, no face-to-face communication with those other than members, etc.).
- New members should not have to wear anything specific (besides approved exceptions, like business casual attire for meetings or ceremonies).
- New members should not be expected to sleep anywhere other than their own assigned residential space.

Organizations can also not expect the new members to remain in a space (lounge, etc.) for any reason other than new member education and/or other pre-approved events.

• New member programs should not interfere with the academic life of any student.

Under Kenyon guidelines, new members can't be required by the active members of their organization to wear anything specific or carry anything on their person. New members also can't be required to sleep anywhere that isn't their own residence hall. So, when late March and early April roll around, why are numerous new members locked into sitting at their respective tables on Old Side and sleeping on the floor of their organization's division housing? I lived near one fraternity at the end of last year, my friends have rushed sororities; I and the rest of campus knows these things happen, and there's no way the administration doesn't.

It's not a gargantuan task to find anything that would be called hazing according to the policy. If the administration is really against hazing then I want to see them stop it. Start with Peirce, if you see new members wearing something that looks out of place, ask them about it. You'll get stonewalled, but it'd be comforting to know that the administration is practicing what they preach. If you see people who are obviously first-years lined up in the freezing February night, send them inside. Their master will come soon enough and you'll have the culprit walk right up to you.

I doubt hazing will ever go away but I'd like to see more action from the administration in stopping what happens in front of all of us.

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On fake news and journalistic neutrality

In Trump's America, the media has a duty to resist.

TOBIAS BAUMANN
OPINIONS EDITOR

In the brave new world of our president Donald Trump, all news he does not like is Fake News. The term was originally used to describe fraudulent websites that baited Trump supporters into clicking on and sharing sensational and utterly false stories like "Obama Signs Executive Order Banning Pledge of Allegiance in Schools." But in a cruel bit of irony, Trump has successfully reappropriated the term to discredit any publication that challenges the Trumpian narrative or tarnishes his personal image. According to our president, some of our most read and trusted news sources are actually just peddling lies; *The New York Times*, CNN, ABC, NBC — all Fake News.

We can no longer even agree on the basic, objective information with which we construct our worldview. Fittingly, we now have Alternative Facts: things that are true in the parallel reality inhabited by Trump supporters and false in the real world. In Trump-land, his inauguration was the most well-attended in history and the Bowling Green massacre was something that happened. A lot of post-election talk at Kenyon has been about how we need to "have dialogue with the other side." Unfortunately, this idea ignores the fact that this is, quite frankly, impossible when both sides have different constructions of reality.

The phenomenon of Fake News isn't something that came about just because of Trump — it's a symptom of capitalism's effect on journalism. The advertising-based models that many

publications depend on, especially online, mean that news organizations' primary concern is how many people they can get to click on an article. And as social media allows us to insulate ourselves in personal information bubbles, we are only likely to click articles that reinforce our existing beliefs. The concept of Fake News is a natural extension of these ideological bubbles; the term becomes a convenient

way to explain away anything that contradicts one's beliefs.

So in this world where journalism can no longer claim universal objectivity, what role does it have? In my view, publications that stubbornly cling to claims of neutrality are being irresponsible. Both nationwide and at the *Collegian*, it's time we started being more mindful of the real impact journalism has. The most productive thing we can do is use journalism as a tool to resist injustice, especially right now.

When you organize people against power structures, there is an automatic imbalance. The goal of resistance is not to convince those in power they are wrong — the goal is to take back power to remedy injustice. Institutions like newspapers can either stand for or against hierarchies; trying to appear neutral is merely just an acceptance of the status quo.

The *Collegian* might not have much leverage to directly take on Trump, but in the past we've put pressure on the administra-

tion regarding AVI, Title IX, tampons and other injustices caused by a hierarchy that has little direct accountability to us. This idea that journalism exists not just for its own sake always needs to be at the forefront of what we do. The things we publish can have real effects on

“In my view, publications that stubbornly cling to claims of neutrality are being irresponsible.

our community and we should strive for those effects to be positive.

And like it or not, Trump and his ilk now control the

biggest power structure in our lives: the government. Trump's favorite label is telling — Fake News is really just any news that challenges his absolute authority. Being afraid of the label is an act of deference to his power.

We need to resist with any and every way we can. Get your news from reputable sources, even (or especially) if Trump calls them fake. Support good publications, especially ones not dependent on ads to make money. And go beyond just sharing articles on Facebook, posting angry tweets or even writing opinions articles.

Stopping Trump from destroying our country will require action in the real world: Organize and attend protests, call your senators and representatives and bring other people into your activist network. Journalism is important, but journalism alone is not going to save the world.

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Lords basketball continues to struggle on the defensive end

Bennett Grigull '18 scores career-high 24 points in loss against Ohio Wesleyan University.

NOAH NASH
SPORTS EDITOR

OBERLIN	80
KENYON	60
OWU	92
KENYON	71

Lords basketball fell to Oberlin College 80-60 last night, their sixth loss in the last seven games. In the defeat, the Lords shot just 36.5 percent while allowing the Yeoman to score at a clip of 56.1 percent. The Lords were outplayed overall by Oberlin, but the Lords did dominate the offensive

glass with 16 offensive rebound as a team. Will Sigl '18 grabbed five offensive boards and eight rebounds overall in just 10 minutes.

Prior to their loss at Oberlin last night, the Lords lost to Ohio Wesleyan University at home on Saturday afternoon. The Lords jumped out to an early lead thanks to their hot shooting and led 21-9 after seven minutes. The OWU Battling Bishops fought back and were winning 43-41 at halftime. Although the Lords had relinquished their lead, they only trailed by two points, despite the extraordinary shooting of Ohio Wesleyan junior Will Orr, who

scored 20 points in the first half on six made three-pointers. Orr, who is a 39.7 percent shooter from three this season, hit six of his eight attempts.

The Lords contained Orr for the rest of the game, as the junior wing only attempted one shot in the second half, but could not hold down the rest of the Ohio Wesleyan team. In what is becoming a familiar script, the Lords allowed the Battling Bishops to get on a 22-2 run early in the second half, and were outscored 49-30 overall in the period. At the time, the Lords fell to 5-16 overall and 4-10 in the NCAC with the loss, while Ohio Wesleyan tied Wooster for the top spot in the

North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) with a record of 12-2.

"We have had a hard time absorbing other teams' runs in the second half, some due in part to our youth and depth, and some due to the quality of teams we have been playing," Head Coach Dan Priest said.

Despite the disappointing loss at home, there were some individual bright spots for Kenyon. Bennett Grigull '18 scored a career high 24 points against Ohio Wesleyan, surpassing his previous high of 21 points. Grigull also led the Lords with seven rebounds.

The Lords have also been

playing without one of their biggest contributors the last two games. Guard Matt Shifrin '19, who has averaged 9.8PPG and 4.1APG this season, fractured his ankle last week against Wittenberg and may miss the rest of the season. While Priest understands better than anyone the significance of losing Shifrin, he acknowledged that his team remains in a decent position with the strong play of first-year guard Ryan O'Neil.

The Lords will play on Saturday afternoon at home in their senior game against DePauw University at 3 p.m. Ethan Shapiro '17 will play his final regular season home game.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KENYON ATHLETICS

Left: Phil Crampton '18 shoots a fadeaway jumper over an Ohio Wesleyan defender. Right: Bennett Grigull '18 drives into the teeth of the defense on his way to 24 points.

Lords and Ladies indoor track finishes 7th and 4th in meet

In their largest meet of the season, track prepares for All-Ohio Championship next week.

JOSH WALMER
STAFF WRITER

The Lords and Ladies indoor track and field teams competed on Saturday at the Bob Shannon Invitational at Denison University. In the nine-school competition, the Ladies finished in fourth place and the Lords placed seventh. The invitational was the largest competition of the season for both teams.

The Ladies recorded several second-place finishes, but ultimately did not win any event. Harlee Mollenkopf '17 finished second in the 5,000-meter event with a time

of 18:56:76. Mollenkopf's teammates Quinn Harrigan '19 and Andrea Ludwig '19 clocked in right behind her, finishing in third and fifth place, respectively. Claire Naughton '17 took second place in the 3,000-meter race with a time of 11:12:33. Grace Moses '20 had the final individual second-place finish for the Ladies, with a time of 2:25:03 in the 800-meter race.

Moses also contributed to another second-place finish, running a leg of the distance medley event in which the Ladies finished in 13:14:79. Moses was joined by Tate

“This was our first pretty big meet of the season and everyone performed really well. We were coming off a week of hard training, so I think we were feeling a little tired but determined.

Mollie O'Leary '17

Serletti '20, Molly Hunt '18 and Rosa Rumora '19 in the medley, during which the Ladies ran a season-best time.

The Ladies had not had a meet in a couple of weeks but showed very little rust. "This was our first pretty big meet of the season and everyone performed

really well," Mollie O'Leary '17 said. "We were coming off a week of hard training, so I think we were feeling a little tired but determined. We had a few people qualify for All-Ohio, which is always exciting and a big accomplishment."

The distance medley event

also went successfully for the Lords. The combination of Isak Davis '19, Ben Weinberg '18, Andrew Lesak '19 and Mark Lewis '20 claimed the top spot in the medley with a time of 10:57:13. It marked the third straight week that Davis has won at least one event. Kyle Rose '19 had the best individual performance for the Lords, running the 5,000-meter race in 16:22:72 for a fifth-place finish.

Qualifying members of the Lords and Ladies will compete in the All-Ohio Championship on Saturday afternoon at Otterbein University in Westerville, Ohio.



CAMERON PETERS

Left: Jessica Gerber '19 dribbles up the court on a fast break chance. Top right: Griffin Tullis '18 shoots a free throw. Bottom right: The team huddles up following a time-out.

Women's basketball win streak comes to an end at Oberlin

After seven straight wins, offensive struggles doom Ladies in tough loss to the Yeowomen.

NOAH NASH
SPORTS EDITOR

OBERLIN	52
KENYON	41
KENYON	71
OWU	67

The Ladies basketball team's winning streak came to an end Wednesday night with a 52-41 loss to the Oberlin Yeowomen at Oberlin. With the loss, the Ladies fell to 16-6 overall and 10-3 in the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC). None of the Ladies scored in double digits in the loss, with guard Paige Matijasich '20 leading the team with nine points.

On Saturday, Ladies basketball

had extended their winning streak to a season-best seven games with a 71-67 victory over the Ohio Wesleyan University Battling Bishops. While the team was aided by its usual cast of contributors, the key to victory was the superior play of their bench. The Ladies' backups outscored their Ohio Wesleyan counterparts 38-3, making up for the strong performance by the starters of the Battling Bishops.

Matijasich has brought playmaking and energy off of the bench all

“She has been a solid contributor for us all year long.

Head Coach Suzanne Helfant

season, but she brought that and more on Saturday, scoring a career-high 16 points on 50 percent shooting from the field. Matijasich hit three of her six shots from long range, while also contributing on the defensive end with seven rebounds and a block. Bailey Dominguez '17, who leads the team in scoring overall this season, chipped in 10 points, while forward Griffin Tullis '18 and guard Jessica Gerber '19 each had 13 points.

Head Coach Suzanne Helfant had nothing but praise for her first-year guard. “[Matijasich] has been a sol-

id contributor for us all year long,” Helfant said on Wednesday. “She has been able to execute the game plan without having to think through things as much.”

Matijasich is the only first year on the team this season, and has “added a level of energy and enthusiasm that far exceeds what we [have] become accustomed to from new players,” Helfant said.

The Ladies will next play Depauw University on Saturday afternoon against at 1 p.m. It will be the final regular season home game for the team's seniors — Sidney Cera, Emma Schurink, Miranda Diesz, Charlotte Bussema and Dominguez — who will be honored prior to the game for their years of playing for the Ladies.

Lords tennis claims first victory of season against Wabash

Weston Noall '18 and Austin Diehl '20 secure wins in both singles and doubles matches.

NOAH NASH
SPORTS EDITOR

KENYON	7
WABASH	2

Lords tennis redeemed themselves on Sunday with a 7-2 victory over their guests, the Wabash College Little Giants. After the team began the season two weeks ago with a loss at home, the Lords got over the hump and won their first match of the season. Led by the team's strong group of

juniors, the Lords dominated the Little Giants from the onset of the match and improved to 17-0 all time against Wabash.

Weston Noall '18 secured points for the Lords in both his singles and his doubles match. Noall teamed up with fellow junior Peter Hazlett to win their doubles match for the second consecutive weekend; the duo of Noall and Hazlett won their match last Saturday against the University of Northern Ohio to open their season. Noall would secure

the match victory for the Lords by defeating his Wabash opponent in No. 6 singles.

Austin Diehl '20 joined Noall in claiming two points for the Lords. After winning his doubles match with senior Tristan Kaye, Diehl went on to win at No. 4 singles. After winning both of his

“I've been inspired by my teammates' work ethics and attitudes in practice.

Austin Diehl '20

matches last weekend as well, Diehl is now 4-0 in the first spring season of his collegiate career.

Michael Liu '18 also won his singles match for the second consecutive week.

Diehl attributes his strong start to the season to the positive influence his teammates have had on him.

“I've been inspired by my teammates work ethics and attitudes in practice,” Diehl said on Wednesday. “I know that if we keep up that quality, we are going to have a very successful season.”

The team will head to Holland, Mich. on Saturday to play their third match of the season against Hope College (Holland, Mich.). The Ladies team will also join them on the trip. It will be the first time Kenyon has played Hope College in tennis since 2004.