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The Kenyon Collegian

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JACK ZELLWEGER

A Kenyon swimmer approaches the wall for a turn in a backstroke event while NCAC officials take down the time splits.

The Ladies and Lords Swim and Dive teams concluded their four-day tournament on Saturday, with both teams finishing in second place behind Denison University. Sophomore Marysol Arce won two individual titles for the Ladies.

Bio lab awarded \$450,000 for research

Grant will allow for the creation of a new fellowship.

KEVIN CRAWFORD
NEWS ASSISTANT

About half a million years ago, when North America was submerged beneath a shallow sea and life was still largely confined to the oceans, a change occurred: Tiny, moss-like plants began to colonize the land, clinging to rocky shores across the planet and sparking the rise of modern terrestrial plants. It is the descendants of these ancient plants that Associate Professor of Biology Karen Hicks and her research team, backed by a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF), will use to investigate the evolution of seasonal regulation of reproduction in mosses.

The three-year, \$450,000 grant — awarded to Hicks by the NSF's Research in Integrative Organismal Systems program — will enable Hicks to perform more expensive tests and procedures, hire more students in her lab during the academic year and supplement the Summer Science Scholars

fund. Additionally, the grant will allow for the creation of a new postdoctoral fellowship in the Hicks Lab, which would be the first non-professor, post-doctoral position in the biology department since 2007.

Hicks was awarded the grant after her research pre-proposal was approved by a three-member panel of peers and her full proposal was approved by a secondary, five-member panel. About 10 percent of all proposals make it through this two-stage review process.

"I'm hoping students will be excited to work on this project. It will involve taking a whole genome approach to try to figure out how seasonal regulation works in moss," Hicks said. "So, sequencing genomes from a large number of isolates from this species of moss that have been collected from around Europe and then looking at differential gene expression to determine which genes do what."

When Maria Sorkin '16, who

► page 4

Students testify in support of disability rights

FRANCES SAUX | FEATURES EDITOR

Two months ago, when Justin Martin '19 heard about a new rule proposed by Ohio's Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) that would ban his care workers from working more than 40 hours a week, he began to worry he would have to leave Kenyon.

Martin, who has cerebral palsy, relies on four full-time independent care providers, who are funded through Medicaid to help him with daily tasks and whose overtime hours the DODD is currently trying to cut. Last Thursday, Martin brought 22 other Kenyon students and Gambier residents to a hearing at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus to testify against the rule. The Kenyon contingent in particular, about half of whom testified, left a lasting impact on the local government. On Tuesday, according to Director of Student Accessibility and Support Services Erin Salva, Ohio Governor John Kasich's office offered to meet with Martin in response to the testimonies to discuss the rule before a final decision is made on March 21.

The DODD's proposed rule comes in response to a new federal law that raises the minimum overtime pay for healthcare workers. Instead of increasing the providers' overtime pay, the rule would comply with federal law by keeping providers from working any overtime hours.

But because two of Martin's providers work overtime, the rule would also create, by Martin's estimates, a 14-hour gap in Martin's week during which he would have no provider. This means that, for 14 hours a week, he would be unable to perform basic tasks. ► page 4

THE KNOX COUNTY SYMPHONY



SHANE CANFIELD

Students, faculty and Knox County residents perform in Rosse Hall for their Winter Concert. ► page 8

VILLAGE RECORD

Feb. 9 — Feb. 15

Feb. 9, 4:51 p.m. — Paraphernalia found near South Campus. Tested positive for marijuana.

Feb. 9, 5:27 p.m. — Student admitted to illegal substance use near North Campus.

Feb. 11, 12:56 a.m. — Illegal substance found and confiscated near North Campus; tested positive for marijuana.

Feb. 14, 12:26 a.m. — Drug/paraphernalia confiscated near South Campus. Items tested positive for marijuana.

Feb. 14, 12:30 p.m. — Alcohol found in underage residence near North Campus. Discarded.

BRIEF

Delahunty leaves Kenyon after 13 years

Jennifer Delahunty is retiring after spending 13 years introducing prospective students to Kenyon as part of the College's admissions team.

Delahunty began working at Kenyon in 2003 as the dean of admissions and the vice president of financial aid. She served under two presidents at Kenyon, and in 2015, left her positions on campus to become the associate dean of admissions for the West Coast. Delahunty launched the College's first international recruiting program, which helped recruit students worldwide, according to a News Bulletin emailed to students and employees last Friday.

"It was the perfect match of community, rigorous liberal arts and a leadership team that really wanted to the College to thrive," Delahunty said of her experience at Kenyon. "I often said that, at Kenyon, I got this College and the students in a deep way. And the people, the trustees, the senior staff — we all kind of understood each other. There was a wonderful alignment of value and ambition."

Delahunty will not be involved in the search for her replacement.

- Bill Gardner

StuCo highlights Pub issues

GRACE RICHARDS
STAFF WRITER

If students don't heed the last call for alcohol at Peirce Pub, it might mean closing time for good.

Students sneaking drinks into the Pub and not disposing of drinks before 1 a.m. could cause AVI to lose their liquor license for all the events they cater on campus, including Senior Week.

Discussion at the Student Council meeting on Feb. 12 highlighted issues with Peirce Pub, including understaffing and rude behavior from students. Manager of Business Services Fred Linger said AVI workers staffing the Pub have told him of students attempting to sneak in outside drinks, being "real sassy" with the bouncer when he attempted to check their ID or items, and arguing against drinks being cleared at 1 a.m. The Pub remained open until 2 a.m. the weekends of Feb. 3-4 and Feb. 10-11 as part of a trial run by AVI, but the establishment's liquor license only extends until 1 a.m. This weekend, Linger said, the situation improved significantly, and he hopes this trend will continue as the weeks go on.

"It's a serious issue, with the liquor license — if they send an uncover in, we'll lose it," Linger said. "Then we won't have anything."

Understaffing has made it difficult for the bouncer to remain at the door to check IDs at all times, according to discussions at the Student Council meeting. Linger said he had not heard about staffing issues at the Pub, but said he would bring up the issue with Chris Wisbey, the AVI resident director.

Suggestions from the Student Council meeting to address the Pub's issues included giving students advanced warning that drinks would need to be discarded at 1 a.m. and not permitting consistently rude students into the Pub.

Despite these issues, students have reacted positively to the Pub. Jordan Glassman '17 described the environment in Peirce Pub as quieter than the now-shuttered Gambier Grill (known as the Cove), with more space to spread out. Glassman said having a reasonably priced late-night food option is especially important after the Gambier Grill closed in spring 2016. He estimates that about 70 students were inside the Pub on each of the four or five occasions he has gone this semester.

"It's definitely nice to have some option that's neutral ground," Glassman said. "It doesn't belong to one group of people, which is always a good thing, and definitely is important, so it's good that the school found a way to do that quickly, even if it's not exactly what the students want."

Mandatory pledge event Greek Life 101 shifts focus this year

VICTORIA UNGVARSKY
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Last Sunday, more than 200 students pledging Greek organizations filed into Higley Hall Auditorium for the newly revamped Greek Life 101 program.

Greek Life 101 has been mandatory for pledges for years, but this year the program received an overhaul. The mandatory event was divided into four sessions that students cycled through. Three of these focused specifically on alcohol and wellness, Title IX, and hazing. The fourth session served as a snack break and reflection. Assistant Director of Student Engagement Ally Hays said at least 80 percent of Greek organization pledges attended, which she considers a good turnout; those who could not attend were asked to contact Hays or Director of Risk Management for Greek Council Paul Murphy '18 ahead of time.

In prior years, a lecturer unaffiliated with Kenyon spoke to all pledges at once; hiring the lecturer cost several thousand dollars, according to Murphy. Last year, Greek Council and the Budget and Finance Committee began discussing whether or not the money allotted to Greek Life 101 was being used effectively. The conversa-

tion prompted questions about how to make the event as useful as possible.

This year, all the panelists were members of the Kenyon community. "Why outsource this when we have all these folks on campus who can really speak to Kenyon as well as to these topics?" Hays said. This year's Greek Life 101 featured presentations from Civil Rights/Title IX Coordinator Samantha Hughes, Interim Co-Director of Counseling Services Mike Durham, Director of Student Rights & Responsibilities James Jackson and Assistant Director of Student Rights & Responsibilities Melissa Swartz.

"The new format allowed more intimate conversations with members of the Kenyon community," Murphy said. "Greeks at Kenyon feel that the system is unique ... and also just the fact that it's very likely that you would have seen or have met the presenters before makes you a lot more likely to listen."

For Sunday's presentation, the group of new Greek members was split into halves, with one half remaining in Higley for presentations on Title IX with Hughes and a discussion on alcohol and wellness with Durham, according to Hays. Many students indicated that the Title IX information they received was similar to information presented in the past, but still worthwhile.

Hannah Lee Leidy '18, a Zeta Alpha Pi (Zeta) pledge, said she appreciated the information provided, but had one concern. "One thing that did surprise me is that they talked a lot about Title IX, and they didn't give any type of trigger warning ahead of time," Leidy said. "I just walked in, and they just started talking about it in a lot of detail."

Meredith Awalt '19, an Alpha Sigma Tau and Archons pledge, particularly liked Durham's speech about taking ownership of one's choices and being careful about safety. "I thought that was really helpful because a lot of times the information we get is 'don't do this, don't do something that puts you in a compromising position,'" Awalt said. "I felt like the information [in Durham's speech] was more about like, if you do make these certain decisions ... what are you doing to make sure you're taking care of yourself?"

While half of the pledges were in Higley Auditorium, the other half was split into two more groups, one of which attended a presentation on hazing with Jackson and Swartz.

Maddie Rule '20, a Zeta pledge, appreciated the lengthy discussion of hazing, but believes the discussion was somewhat limiting. She said the panel defined any behavior one would not ordi-

narily do as hazing, even if one wanted to participate. "The whole thing for me is that consent does matter," Rule said.

The last segment, which brought students together to talk and have snacks, received mixed reactions. Some enjoyed the chance to relax, while others found it unproductive.

"The 'fun room' was completely unnecessary," Phi Kappa Tau pledge Oliver VandenBerg '20, who also works for the *Collegian*, said. "Since my group did it last, [those who ran the panel] apparently already figured out by that point that it was pretty pointless, so they let us leave immediately."

Hays and Murphy said the feedback on Greek Life 101 has been positive and they hope to continue to improve. Next year's panel may include student-run panels. "[Student run panels] might be something where, instead of just having a room for icebreakers, maybe we have a panel of SMAs or DAs or PCs," Hays said, referencing Sexual Misconduct Advisors, Discrimination Advisors and Peer Counselors.

Murphy hopes changing the format of Greek Life 101 will make students feel more welcome. "Hopefully something that came out of this one specifically was just a little bit more feeling like part of the whole Greek community," he said.

The Kenyon Collegian

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Wright Center dedication looks ahead to building's future

The space hosts Kenyon's film department, the SPI program and an administrative office.

EMILY BIRNBAUM
NEWS EDITOR

The last time Mount Vernon Mayor Richard Mavis stepped foot in the Wright Center was during his childhood. The building was called the Buckeye Candy and Tobacco Building and he was there to buy a large box of M&Ms. On Thursday, Feb. 9, Mavis returned to 400 South Main Street in Mount Vernon — this time, to speak at the Wright Center dedication ceremony hosted by Kenyon and attended by hundreds of community members, students, faculty and administrators.

The first floor of the Wright Center houses the headquarters of Science and Play Intersect (SPI), a local nonprofit that introduces children to scientific concepts through games, as well as the Office for Community Partnerships, whose purpose is to coordinate collaboration between Knox County and the College. The second and third floors are largely dedicated to the Kenyon film department and include a studio control room, three editing rooms, a recording studio, a screening room, a seminar room and an office for the film studio manager. The film department's spaces overflow with new pieces of technology: TVs, iMacs, microphones and more.

The College announced plans

to purchase the building in February 2015 and the Board of Trustees approved the purchase in April. The renovation cost approximately \$6 million and was largely funded by the Ariel Foundation, which is dedicated to revitalizing downtown Mount Vernon. Karen Wright, the founder of the Foundation, and her family are the namesake of the Center. The Foundation is connected with the Ariel Corporation, a manufacturer of separable reciprocating gas compressors, in Mount Vernon.

This is the first time the five-year-old Kenyon film department has had a space of its own.

"On campus, the film department doesn't have a set of classrooms devoted just to film," film major Isabel Landers '18 said. "I've had film classes in Tomsich, the Community [Foundation] Theater ... even the film professors' offices are in the same space as the drama department." The new building has spaces for both teaching and producing films.

Associate Professor of Film Jonathan Sherman expressed his hope that this will mark a new era for the film department. "Our next goal is to make Kenyon's a top-10 film program in the country, and I feel like this facility goes a long way to us achieving that goal," Sherman said.

The ceremony speakers included

President Sean Decatur, Thomas S. Turgeon Professor of Drama Jonathan Tazewell '84, Executive Director of SPI Rachel Garcia, Sherman and Wright.

"For almost the entire history of Kenyon, it's been sort of that town and gown thing where Kenyon didn't really interact much with the Mount Vernon that felt like it was 100 miles away, even though it's four," Wright said in an interview with the *Collegian*. "I think this will give Kenyon students an opportunity to see what a nice Ohio town is like and what the people are like here and maybe have an appreciation for that."

During the ceremony, Decatur presented Wright with a miniature model of the Center to thank her for her contribution.

"This is an opportunity for us to connect with the Mount Vernon and Knox County community in different ways," Decatur said in an interview with the *Collegian*. "Certainly, we're envisioning formal and informal events that can happen at the Wright Center. Whether it's student groups or classes that have partnerships with organizations in the community — this will be the space for those to meet and gather. This will help Kenyon's efforts to be more of a presence, a civic partner, in the community."



EMILY BIRNBAUM

Visitors peruse the Wright Center Building during the grand opening. The space hosts an impressive array of new technology.

After the speeches, attendees roamed the hallways, enjoying hors-d'oeuvres and champagne. Knox County resident Michael Hawk said he is excited about the Wright Center because it will allow him to interact with the Kenyon community more closely. Though he has taken his children to Kenyon's campus before, he has not had opportunities to form connections with students off campus.

Kenyon's Wright Center joins Mount Vernon Nazarene University's Buchwald Center and Central Ohio Technical College's Ariel Hall to form an education corridor on South Main Street, according to the

Knoxpages.com article "Kenyon's Wright Center Dedicated in Downtown Mount Vernon," dated Feb. 10.

"It's pretty amazing to me that in a county with 60,000 people, and the city of Mount Vernon with 16,000 people, that we have three colleges and universities in downtown Mount Vernon," said donor and Knox County businessman Mark Ramser, who was involved in the Buchwald Center and Ariel Hall projects as well as the Wright Center. "That was my long-term goal, to get some type of physical presence from all three colleges and universities down here. There's some vibrancy that comes with college students."

ON THE RECORD

WIL HAYGOOD

JOURNALIST AND BIOGRAPHER

EMILY BIRNBAUM
NEWS EDITOR

Wil Haygood is a journalist and biographer whose 2008 Washington Post article "A Butler Well Served By This Election" served as the inspiration for Lee Daniels' *The Butler*, a 2013 film that gained widespread critical acclaim. Haygood, an author of seven books, has worked for the Boston Globe and the Washington Post. On Feb. 13, Haygood gave a talk entitled "Bringing Black History to the Screen...Untold Stories That Shape American History," which was sponsored by the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and the Office of the President as the Black History Month keynote speaker.

You have written biographies about American politician Adam Clayton Powell Jr., entertainer Sammy Davis Jr., professional boxer Sugar Ray Robinson and former Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the U.S. Thurgood Marshall — all powerful, but oft-forgotten, black historical figures. Why was it important to you to tell their stories?

I consider my biographies a

jumping-off point of telling great, unknown narrative stories. I'm a trained journalist and so I've gone all over the world in search of good stories. I have an interest in bringing people out of the shadows. Often, in America, history gets written by the "victors," and the figures I've written about have often had to come from behind in the race. They've often been abused because of their racial heritage. Their climb has been more dramatic and more — in my opinion — worthy of long-form narrative storytelling, which is what I love to do. I think that there's a big hole in American history-telling, especially when it comes to people of color, so I've gone out and I've found these stories. These stories tell the story itself of America. If you tell the story of Sammy Davis Jr, you're telling a story of black and white America; if you tell the story of Thurgood Marshall, you're telling a story of black and white America.

Your Washington Post article about Eugene Allen, the White House butler who served under eight presidents, served as the inspiration for the film *Lee Daniels' The Butler*. You have stated that "84 percent of the leading figures in movies are white men" and that *The Butler*

played a role in "emancipating Hollywood" because it was followed by other movies with black leads such as *Selma* and *Hidden Figures*. What commentary did *The Butler* make about race? Why was it a significant film?

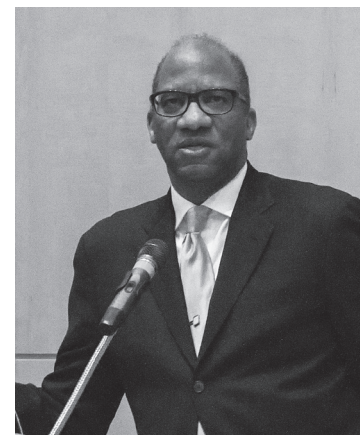
It really was the first civil rights-oriented movie that was intertwined with a very patriotic story — an African American butler and eight U.S. presidents. It wasn't just a story about white American male presidents; it was a story about a black family and their reaction to history. Usually, it's the other way around. Usually, in sweeping epic historical stories, the black person has been in the background. One of the things that many of my friends around the country and world mentioned when they walked into theaters to see this movie is that they were sitting with the most integrated audience that they had sat with inside of a movie theater. That, to me, told a very important story. If we give the public stories that are good, nuanced and important, they'll find an audience.

Your journalistic work often draws parallels between historical moments and current events. Why is it important that we understand

our present by looking to our past? What can history tell us about the modern-day Black Lives Matter movement? What can history tell us about racial inequality on college campuses?

American history, when it comes to race and the improvements that we've made in race relations and civil rights laws, is a fairly current history. We cannot afford to ignore what happened in our history. We've made great strides as a nation when it comes to the treatment of racial matters, but we are too often reminded that there is work to do. One of the great missions of Thurgood Marshall was to attack the racially uneven U.S. justice system, where blacks were arrested oftentimes without due cause, and we've had many police departments having to settle huge monetary lawsuits to the families of victims, often black, who have been shot in the back by police officers. This is an ongoing crisis in law enforcement and society: the unfair treatment of minorities. Those officers who do wrong are causing great damage, coast to coast, in America.

You ended your talk by encouraging students to dream big. What is your advice to Kenyon students



Wil Haygood | Photo courtesy of Michael Reilly

who are building their futures?

I would tell them that it is, without a doubt, a great time to be coming out of college. There are challenges that need to be met. There are opportunities everywhere. No matter how high a wall may seem to anyone, a dream and energy is often enough to knock that wall down, to [the point] where you can step right over it. I want the students getting ready to come out of Kenyon College to approach the world as if they can change it for the better, because they can and they must.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Rule threatens to ban care providers from working overtime

Continued from Page 1

"We're talking dressing," he said. "We're talking showering, we're talking going to the bathroom, getting in and out of bed."

Although Martin could hire another state-funded provider to fill the gap created by the rule, there are too few providers to meet the existing demands, especially in rural areas like Knox County; it took Martin two years prior to arriving on campus to find four providers who lived nearby, and even then, he has experienced a high turnover rate. Martin also has the option of using providers from an agency, as opposed to the independent providers he finds and hires himself. Unfortunately, Martin said, agency providers are tied to alarmingly high rates of sexual abuse and general neglect. On top of this, Martin would have no power to hire or fire the providers he finds through the agency. For these reasons, he does not consider them a viable option.

The DODD's hearing at the Statehouse in Columbus on Thursday allowed affected parties to voice their concerns before the department makes its final decision mid-March. Martin originally planned to testify alone, until sources close to the DODD, whom Martin would not name, informed him the rule would likely be enacted regardless of the testimonies at the hearing.

"What you need is a big media

circus and a bus full of people," his source reportedly told him.

Martin posted on Facebook asking the Kenyon community to join him in Columbus. With the help of Adam Aluzri '19, he approached Salva for Student Accessibility and Support Services funds to rent three College vans for the group.

This is the second time in two years Martin has defended the independent providers program in front of the DODD, continuing a battle he said began before he was born. In 2015, as a high school student, he testified before the department to oppose legislation that would have eliminated the independent provider program entirely. Martin believed he made the decision-makers change their minds. He said he heard them say, "You've really opened our eyes; we're not touching the independent provider system."

"And yet," Martin said, "here we are, two years later."

Parts of Martin's testimony described that previous experience with the Kasich administration. It also addressed the support he had received from others at Kenyon. "The 22 people behind me took a journey that I'm not sure anyone in the Kasich administration has bothered to take," he said.

Most of those 22 people were fellow students and friends. Former Director of Counseling Services Patrick Gilligan and one of Martin's provid-



ERYN POWELL

Justin Martin '19 testifies against the proposed mandate that would limit provider working hours.

ers, Sara Young, also testified. Many of their statements emphasized the bonds they had formed with Martin and the impact the rule would have on their lives by association.

Speaking in front of the DODD, Aluzri said, was physically and emotionally exhausting. The group alternated between listening to the testimonies and taking breaks, during which they ate pizza Martin's mother had ordered for them.

Jess(i)e Marino '18 was struck by how close they were able to stand to members of the DODD.

"I could see the two people who were taking notes and emotionally responding," Marino said. "At the very end of my testimony, one of them smiled."

Several testimonies made Martin cry, and he said the experience emphasized for him the value of his community at Kenyon.

"This is not something that I want to be doing," Martin said. "I want to be, like, doing papers on James Joyce and watching Quentin Tarantino movies with my friends and worrying about attractive people. I don't

want to be the kid constantly fighting the government."

In the weeks until the DODD announces their decision concerning the rule, Martin is urging the Kenyon community to call the Kasich administration daily. He wants the government to see that, if the rule passes, it will have a substantial impact on Kenyon.

"Even after the 22 testimonies they heard, if they don't understand that," he said, "then we're facing people that are a lot more narrow-minded than we realized."

Hicks Lab nabs research grant

Continued from Page 1

is pursuing a Ph.D. in Plant and Microbial Biological Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis, worked with Hicks at Kenyon, she investigated the genetic mechanism responsible for triggering reproduction.

"I was looking at a specific candidate gene from data [Hicks] had collected during her sabbatical at New York University," Sorkin said. "I tried to determine which genes were telling the moss when it was time to reproduce."

Besides its importance in tracing the evolutionary history of genes responsible for cuing reproduction, Hicks's research also has horticultural applications. "Reproduction is critical if you want to think about fruiting, which is the ultimate goal of agriculture," Sorkin said. "The timing of reproduction has to do with how much time it takes to produce an apple, or corn or soybeans, and understanding the developmental processes of making fruit is one of the biggest questions in plant science."

The postdoctoral fellow hired with funding from the grant will work on research in the Hicks Lab, mentor students and co-lead and teach classes. "A postdoc is something most Kenyon students are unfamiliar with, unless you have a parent in academia," Hicks said. "After finishing a Ph.D., almost everyone who wants to stay in academia does a postdoc, and they almost all want the opportunity to delve more deeply into an area of expertise or try something

new."

"It's a really critical transition period for a young scientist," Hicks added. "This position is really intended for someone who would like a job like mine, where they would teach and work closely with mentoring undergraduate students."

Elizabeth Abrash '17, Jonathan Pang '17 and Keith Adler '17 are working in the Hicks Lab on projects related to the work outlined by the NSF grant proposal, examining seasonal regulation and reproductive development in mosses using a moss called *Physcomitrella patens*.

"My experience with Professor Hicks has been really great because she makes sure we focus more on understanding why we're doing what we're doing than just the technical aspects," Abrash said. "She could just hand us a gene to do the research on, but she doesn't think that's helpful in the long run because it doesn't give us experience building an experiment, and it's also not as fun for us because we aren't necessarily working with a gene that we're interested in."

Research projects aided by large grants provide liberal arts students with funding that is usually not afforded to them until they enter graduate programs in their field.

"After having a taste of different research projects [at Washington University], I can still say that the research I did with Professor Hicks was really interesting, really relevant and really exciting," Sorkin said. "I was lucky to work on it as an undergraduate student."

StuCo votes to approve by-laws for new constitution

KEVIN CRAWFORD
NEWS ASSISTANT

Student Council voted to approve new bylaws for their constitution at their Jan. 29 meeting. These bylaws were first drafted by former Student Council President Phoebe Roe '16, and re-drafted and finalized by the 2016-2017 Student Council, led by President Phillip Gray Clark '17.

"The old bylaws were a burden, had not been updated for a long time and did not reflect the state of Student Council or the constituents," Clark wrote in an email to the *Collegian*. "These new bylaws aim to provide equity to all students while making the goals, responsibilities and charges of each Student Council officer much clearer."

Changes include increased specificity in the outlines of certain Student Council officer roles and the ability for any officer to raise a motion during meetings. Only voting members will have any say in whether or not motions are approved, although non-voting special interests officers can suggest changes or amendments.

The vote to pass the new constitutional bylaws to the Campus Senate was unanimous; Senate has not yet voted to approve the bylaws.

The Campus Senate was revived last year after a multiyear hiatus. It

“The old bylaws were a burden ... and did not reflect the state of Student Council.

Phillip Gray Clark '17

is comprised of representatives from each of the four classes, faculty, professors and administrators.

"Senate is a venue where students, professors, faculty and administrators can all come together and discuss the best route for the college," Clark wrote. "With the issues of transparency [regarding the way they operated] from spring of last year, the re-emergence of a cleaner and more effective Campus Senate is crucial."

The updated bylaws will also affect Student Council sub-committees — like the Business and Finance Committee (BFC) responsible for distributing supplemental funding to student activity groups — by reframing and updating their responsibilities.

"These new bylaws reflect the goals during my tenure as Student Council President: transparency and equity for all students," Clark wrote. "They reflect the Kenyon of today and I hope that their approval brings a positive change to Kenyon College long after I leave the Hill."

New Ichiban Sushi and Hibachi rolls into Mount Vernon

The venue features a welcoming staff, lively atmosphere and variety of Asian fusion dishes.

AMY SCHATZ
CHIEF COPY EDITOR

The Hallmark store might be out, but a new staple is in: Ichiban Sushi and Hibachi has been drawing the curiosity of students and locals since it first opened on Jan. 24.

Not ones to be left out of the loop, the *Collegian* Features team and I decided to check out the restaurant Monday evening.

Ichiban ushers visitors from a bamboo-lined foyer into a brightly lit central room.

Red-and-pink

Valentine's Day

decorations spi-

raled from the

ceilings and har-

monica music

floated toward

us, occasionally

interrupted by

the hot sizzle of roaring fires from the private hibachi rooms.

Ichiban's extensive menu offers a patchwork blend of Japanese, Chinese and Thai dishes. Grant Miner '19 chose the tofu teriyaki and the rest of us settled for sushi: Frances Saux '18 selected the cucumber and avocado rolls, Justin Sun '20 chose the Dancing Eel roll and Lelia Joe Dusthimer '19 ordered the Crazy Roll. Surprised to see a "Mt. Vernon Roll" on the menu, I decided to learn what happens when you slice Gambier's closest neighbor into bite-sized pieces.

After we ordered, I headed to the bar to speak with Joe Jiang, Ichiban's

owner, and Bobby, a sushi chef who provided Chinese and English translations. Jiang has been in the restaurant business for 13 years, and Ichiban is not his first rodeo — he owns Osaka Asian Restaurant in Wooster.

Jiang is originally from China and now lives in Wooster. He said he moved to America to start his business and be closer to family; he chose Ohio because it seemed like a good place to own a restaurant.

"I like it here," he said about the restaurant's Mount Vernon location.

"It's outside the big city."

Jiang

said the staff

comes from

a diverse ar-

ray of back-

grounds, like

Japanese,

Indonesian,

Thai, Mexican and American. This

diversity is reflected in the menu.

The food arrived quickly and our chopsticks knew no bounds; we sampled each other's dishes strategically and mercilessly. Sun's Dancing Eel Roll held shrimp tempura, cream cheese, eel and avocado, a slimy but nevertheless appetizing mixture. Dusthimer's Crazy Roll, with tuna, yellowtail and avocado, was topped with an orange sauce that added a spicy tang.

The Mt. Vernon Roll turned out to be a loaded combination of shrimp tempura, spicy tuna, avocado and caviar wrapped in soybean paper. It was delicious, though diffi-

cult to maneuver.

"You can definitely tell that they keep it a lot softer," Miner said of the tofu teriyaki.

Sun found favorites on other plates. "I think it was the food that I didn't order that I liked the best," he said. "My roll had a lot of cream cheese. And I think I underestimated how much cream cheese I was gonna get."

Halfway through the meal, Jiang sent us a round of rocking shrimp appetizers on the house — two martini glasses packed with the delicious fried crustacean.

For dessert, the waitress delivered another complementary course: this time, two slices of chocolate-drizzled, fried pineapple cheesecake. Fried pineapple was an unexpected innovation, but combined with the cheesecake it offered a sweet, refreshing reprieve from the salty meal.

Ichiban was lively for a Monday night. Intrigued by the noises emulating from one of the hibachi rooms, I stepped over just in time to witness a panic-stricken child, spatula in hand, ignite a three-foot-tall flame the length of the grill. "Watch him, he's good," Jiang said, coming over to where I stood. The hibachi chef continued with a series of antics, flipping raw meat into mesmerizing twists and turns and spraying sake jets into the adults' mouths.

When I asked what distinguishes his restaurant from other local venues, Jiang smiled as he answered. "Because it's a different style," he said. "And the chefs put on a good



AMY SCHATZ

Ichiban invites patrons to a flavorful and entertaining experience.

show. It's very fun."

We weren't the only ones to venture off the Hill for some authentic Asian cuisine. Last Saturday, another *Collegian* staffer spotted President Sean Decatur at Ichiban. "A nice addition to the local food scene, with a laid back/comfortable setting," Decatur responded after I emailed him for more details. "We will be back to sample more choices from the menu." Decatur and his wife, Renee Romano, ordered the Bento box and Thai basil with chicken and recommend both dishes.

The five of us enjoyed a delicious meal we were surprised to find just a few minutes outside of Gambier.

The waitstaff was attentive and the dishes appealing. Ichiban prices can be steep for the average student budget — several of the special rolls and entrées range from \$12 to \$15 — and the restaurant does not deliver, but those who decide to trek down Coshocton will be greeted with excellent service and high-quality food.

"I would come back here," Miner said, to general agreement. "I would eat more of this food."

Ichiban Sushi and Hibachi is located across the street from Walmart at 1558 Coshocton Ave. They're open Sunday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

CLASS CLASH					
COMPILED BY OLIVER VANDENBERG					
Answer		Senior Class Total:	Junior Class Total:	Sophomore Class Total:	First-Year Class Total:
		36	36	35	30
		Joia Felton '17	Christian Solorio '18	Keegan James '19	Sarah Hudson '20
In Roman mythology who is the mother of cupid?	Venus	Aphrodite	Athena	Venus	Venus
Who was the national security advisor for Trump who resigned Monday?	Michael Flynn	No idea	Sean Spicer	Michael Flynn	Cunningham
How many North Campus Apartments are there on campus?	22	18	23	20	35
Who won the most Grammy Awards on Sunday?	Adele	Adele	Kanye West	Adele	Adele
Weekly Scores		1	0	3	2

With theme housing, Sisterhood cements place on campus

What was first a sorority has grown into a popular, active organization for women of color.

GRANT MINER
FEATURES EDITOR

Sisterhood, an organization that provides support for women of color on campus, received theme housing in Caples Residence Hall this year, giving them a more prominent place on the Kenyon landscape. While Sisterhood is (officially) a new organization, its origins date back two decades.

Unfortunately, much of Sisterhood's past remains unknown. Despite members' efforts to uncover the group's early years, not much exists before the group became official in 2012. Tina Smith '00, who became the first president of Sisterhood in 2000, could not be reached for comment.

"Before she became president in 2000, it was run by the ODEI [Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion]," Sisterhood President Jasmine Wilson '19 said. "But they didn't exactly have a historian, so we've just decided to use 2000 as our founding year."

Before that, a group of Kenyon students decide to form Nu Iota Alpha (NIA), a sorority that would support women of color at Kenyon. Members of Sisterhood see it as a predecessor to the existing organization.

"When going through the necessary channels of getting approved by the school, a question was posed to us," Colette Battle '97 wrote in a 1995 *Collegian* op-ed defending the new sorority. "Why do you need a sorority when you have the BSU [Black Student Union]?"

Her answer to the question was simple: "What needs to be recognized is that the more diverse the population gets, the more diverse support organizations will become."

NIA, which is the Swahili word for "purpose" and is one of the days of Kwanzaa, was

founded to unite women of color (although all were welcome) on a Kenyon campus that was, at that point, the most diverse it had ever been. While no sources could give a definitive date on when NIA disbanded, the last mention of the organization appears in a 2006 issue of the *Collegian*.

But to ask the question that the Campus Senate asked Battle, why Sisterhood?

"I actually get that a lot, because people often think it's the same as BSU, but it's not," Wilson said. Sisterhood welcomes women of all backgrounds of color. While Sisterhood holds political discussions, Wilson added, it focuses more on creating a network of social support.

Michaela Jenkins '19 said one of the most important aspects of Sisterhood is being able to relax among peers that understand you.

"I think people don't even know where we meet," she said, "so people that come to Sisterhood really enjoy coming to Sisterhood and are familiar with the way it works."

While Jenkins attended a primarily white boarding school for two years prior to Kenyon, she said living in a predominantly white environment can still be hard for a student of color.

"Especially as a freshman, it was frustrating, because there was never a moment where I wasn't surrounded by people learning from me all the time," Jenkins said. "There's no negative intention behind it, but it's hard to be 'off.'"

Jenkins described a specific episode in which she and her friends were taking the braids out of her hair after a Sisterhood meeting, and people came into the bathroom and watched. While these attendees were only curious, she said it was a "very self-conscious moment."

Wilson agrees, adding that she feels it is important to have an organization that represents her and is specifically intersectional. "Crozier



SHANE CANFIELD

Members of Sisterhood, a campus organization that seeks to unite women of color

[Center for Women]'s nice, but it doesn't always focus on the issues that surround the lives of women of color," Wilson said.

The decision to pursue theme housing followed a decision last year by Men of Color to do the same. Wilson said pursuing theme housing has increased both the support Sisterhood can provide and its visibility on campus. Now that the organization is required to hold all-campus events, a stipulation of theme housing, Sisterhood has increased their outreach by organizing movie screenings and meeting with groups like Kenyon Working Women of Color.

Today, despite quickly expanding their on-campus presence over recent years, Sisterhood is still, Wilson said, "testing the waters." Wilson said Sisterhood has less funding compared to

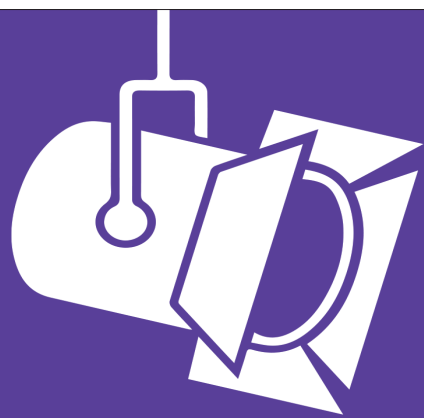
older cultural organizations like BSU. Their advisor, Manager of Summer Programs Barbara Kakiris '97, said their level of alumni engagement was also lower than that of Men of Color.

"Those guys jump at a chance to come back to Kenyon, and jump at a chance to mentor a young man," Kakiris said. "The pass of the baton has happened for them, but with Sisterhood it really hasn't happened."

Kakiris, who was at Kenyon when NIA was active, is hopeful that she'll be able to get in contact with some of the members of NIA at her 20th reunion this year. For now, though, she's proud of all that Sisterhood has done.

"As an alumna, it touches my heart," Kakiris said. "I'm very proud that this is what Kenyon looks like now."

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202522

The Neutral Corner merges physical and artistic expression

Former artist-in-residence Cheryl Pope curated the KAC performance with Gund Gallery.

DANIEL OLIVIERI
STAFF WRITER

Instead of performing at the Black Box or Bolton Theater, dancers, poets and patrons ventured to the Kenyon Athletic Center (KAC) last Saturday night for an event called “The Neutral Corner.” In the middle of the Multi-Activity Court (MAC) stood a boxing ring, which became the stage not for boxing, but for contact improv and hard-hitting poetry.

This one-time event was intended to provide a place for members of the Kenyon community to confront issues of race, class and identity. Cheryl Pope, a artist-in-residence at Kenyon last semester, partnered with the Gund Gallery to produce the event. She had previously collaborated with the Gund Gallery during her residency to install banners in the MAC that had statements about themes like vulnerability written on them.

During the night’s proceedings, Pope wore a referee’s jersey under a leather jacket and circled the perimeter of the event. Pope, a championship-winning boxer, knows about the ring. “We know when we step into that, that it’s about respect,” she said. “We’re not going to hit below the belt but we’re gonna to get into it. I’m gonna get hit and you’re gonna get hit and we have that agreement getting into this space. So from the participation level I’m interested in that.”

The location, the popcorn served and the energetic announcing by Jacob Adams ’19 promised this



Kenyon students enter the temporary ring in the Multi-Activity Court of the KAC to perform spoken word poetry and contact improv.



CAMERON PETERS

would be not just a performance, but a spectacle. The performance occurred in twelve rounds. The rounds happened in four cycles that each started with dance then went to poetry then to discussion. During the contact improv rounds, pairs of dancers from Assistant Professor of Dance Kora Radella Feller’s Contact Improvisation class took turns improvising face-offs. Each duo circled one another with their eyes locked, then they began to crash into each other, shoulders smashing shoulders and thighs smashing thighs. “A lot of the pieces we put together were combative, I would say,” Claire Hil-

debrandt ’17 said. This aggression would then escalate into wrestling.

Daniel De Andrade ’19 also participated in the performance. “Circling around somebody while making intense eye contact with them isn’t something you need to learn how to do but it is something you need to get comfortable with,” Andrade said about preparing for the performance.

The three spoken-word poets came from a poetry collective known as Kenyon Magnetic Voices. The featured poets were Benjamin Adekunle-Raji ’17 (under the stage name VISION), Lanise Beavers ’18

and Marc Delucchi ’20. The poetry, written by the performers themselves, dealt with issues of identity, race, body politics and intersectionality. Beavers performed a poem about the detrimental effects of white-centric feminism and Delucchi performed a poem about race and sexuality.

The roundtable discussions drew on the poetry performances as a starting point from which to discuss how social issues relate to Kenyon. Participants in the discussions sat around a table in the ring conversing about the topics including the politics of working out at the KAC, self-

ensorship and understanding one’s role in promoting social change. There were some moments of disagreement between panelists, specifically over the question of whether everyone is free to be themselves at Kenyon.

Pope was especially interested in how Kenyon students took so much of the lead on making the event what it was. Adekunle-Raji, who performed spoken word poetry, was happy with the straightforward conversation on difficult subjects, saying, “If we need to get into a damn boxing ring — a physical boxing ring — to do that, then let’s do that.”

In Rosse, soloists steal the show

A Kenyon senior is among the five winners of county-wide competition.

DAN NOLAN
STAFF WRITER

On Saturday night in Rosse Hall, Conductor and Professor of Music Benjamin Locke advanced to the podium without an introduction and dove right into a performance of Modest Mussorgsky’s *Pictures at an Exhibition*. The piece was the first of three stand-alone works performed at the Winter Concert by the Knox County Symphony, an orchestra composed of Kenyon students, professors and Knox County residents. In addition to the orchestra’s three works, the program included five compositions for soloists accompanied by the full orchestra.

The orchestra performed the opening piece precisely and fluidly, with each short section referencing images like hatching chicks and catacombs. It concluded with the famous section “The Great Gate of Kiev,” complete with its epic, soaring melody in the brass section. After this impressive opening, the orchestra performed two more pieces and featured five vocal, piano and violin soloists.

The featured soloists were the first- and second-place winners of both the high school and college divisions of Knox County’s Young Musicians Competition, held annually in October and co-sponsored by Psi Iota Xi the philanthropic organization. The soloists were Aubrey Bailey and Nicholas DeWalt from Mount

“Playing as a soloist is very different from playing as a part of an orchestra — it feels very exposed.”

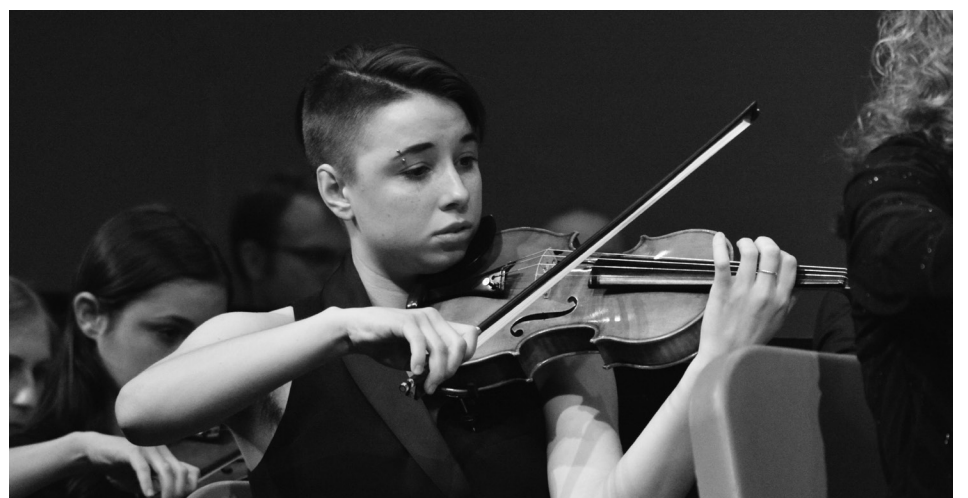
Alayne Wegner ’17

Vernon Nazarene University, Mark Fongheiser from Mount Vernon High School, Kenyon student Alayne Wegner ’17 and Rachel E. Lee, who is homeschooled.

The high-point of the night came from Wegner, whose nearly 20-minute solo violin performance in Jean Sibelius’ *Violin Concerto in D Minor* prompted a standing ovation. Her intense performance of this complex piece earned her first place in the college division.

Wegner has been perfecting the piece since she first started playing it sophomore year, but still stated that there was a lot to learn for this performance. “It has a lot of extended technique that I wasn’t used to,” she said, “It’s like learning to work with new muscles.” Standing in front of the orchestra without sheet music, Wegner claimed that memorizing her extremely complex and lengthy part was no challenge. “While memorizing for classes is difficult for me, music comes easily,” she said.

At one point during the performance,



SHANE CANFIELD

Alayne Wegner ’17 is a winner of Knox County’s Young Musicians Competition.

Locke stopped the orchestra after a wind player missed an entrance. Though a little unsettled by the event, Wegner noticed the error immediately and was relieved the orchestra was able to bounce back so quickly.

Standing alone center stage, Wegner said one of her biggest obstacles was nerves. “Playing as a soloist is very different from playing as a part of an orchestra — it feels very exposed,” she said. After her lengthy and trying performance, Wegner said she felt “relief, just complete relief” when her performance was met with a standing ovation. “It was really, really powerful.”

Graduating this spring with a double major in music and sociology, Wegner is applying to summer music festivals to pursue a career in violin performance. One of her long-term goals is to become part of a traveling small chamber ensemble. She calls chamber music an “intimate form of art” that will allow her to combine a soloist performance with the group aspect of performing in an orchestra.

The Knox County Symphony’s Spring Concert will take place on Sunday, April 30, 2017 in Rosse Hall featuring Mozart’s *Requiem in D Minor*.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Wright Center is a chance to engage

The debut of the Wright Center marks Kenyon's first physical foray into downtown Mount Vernon. While Kenyon has long engaged in various projects and community-building endeavors in Mount Vernon, there has never been a College-affiliated building in the city.

The express intention of the building, and the Office of Community Partnerships within it, is to encourage Kenyon students to engage with the wider community — in the words of Karen Wright, the city that “feels 100 miles away but is actually only four.”

As students begin to carve out a more obvious space for themselves in Mount Vernon and Knox County, they should remind themselves to be thoughtful. It is not a new phenomenon for colleges and universities to wish to become more involved in their local communities.

But all too often, this engagement results in a relationship of all taking and no giving. Ongoing efforts by the University of Pennsylvania and Temple University to extend into surrounding neighborhoods of Philadelphia ended in a brutal wave of gentrification.

The areas surrounding these campuses now prioritize students over the few residents that have not been forced to move away.

We do not want to gentrify Mount Vernon. We do not want to become an imposing presence. It is easy to imagine a scenario in which Kenyon students become nothing but loud, crass and disconnected strangers that refuse to form true connections with local residents. After all, much of the money for the renovation came out of the Ariel Foundation, a Knox County institution not affiliated with the College but rather with a local company.

The Mayor of Mount Vernon, Richard Mavis, envisions the goals of the Wright Center as a two-way street. He does not envision film students that presume they have the right to take up space wherever they please, or raucous groups invading coffee shops and leaving five-percent tips. He does not envision Kenyon students and Mount Vernon residents living lives that are closer only in geographical terms.

The new Office for Community Partnerships, which is housed in the Wright Center and aims to foster new relationships between the College and the surrounding community, is a promising beginning to bridging the divide between Kenyon and Knox County.

While this office could represent just another example of recent administrative bloat, we will choose to be more optimistic and hope it performs valuable work in ensuring Kenyon does not come across as the gentrifier of Mount Vernon.

As more Kenyon students begin to take the shuttle to the front steps of the Wright Center, they should consider the ramifications of their presence there.

What does it mean to engage with the Mount Vernon community in a way that is honest, mutual and respectful? We should keep this question in mind as we move into what will likely be an important moment in Kenyon's history.



“IT'S A GOOD THING WE HAVE NO TOWN NOW... WE HAD SO LITTLE TOWN TO BEGIN WITH!”

ANNA ZINANTI

Boycotting brands won't remedy injustice

In our capitalist economy, ethical consumption is not possible.

TOBIAS BAUMANN
OPINIONS EDITOR

Recently, you might have noticed Kenyon Solidarity Boycott's posters around campus advising you to not to buy products like Kenyon staples such as Keystone Light, Starbucks and Sabra hummus. The posters list what these companies have done to make them worthy of boycotts, including raising money for Trump, supporting climate change denial and using child or prison labor to make products. These are compelling issues, and the message the posters are sending is clear: If you don't buy these products, you can make a difference.

Unfortunately, bringing change isn't that easy. The global capitalist economy rewards companies that sacrifice good ethics for profits, and practices like circumventing workers' rights or using prison labor are the norm, not the exception. I understand the feeling of not wanting your money to go to companies who do bad things. But like it or not, we live in an unjust world and we all need stuff to survive. But if you base your consumer decisions on this poster, odds are whatever alternative product you purchase will also be made by a company that perpetuates injustice.

Let's say instead of going to Wendy's for dinner, you decide to go to McDonald's. Unfortunately, McDon-

ald's has arguably done just as much to merit inclusion on the poster as Wendy's. In 2014, the National Labor Relations Board,

the federal agency that regulates labor law, issued 13 complaints against McDonald's, finding them guilty of illegally firing workers who were fighting for the right to better working conditions and higher wages. And McDonald's is just one example; most fast-food restaurants pay workers extremely low wages, and source their food from companies that employ unethical labor practices. Wendy's rejection of the Fair Food Program—a workplace-monitoring program that ensures farms provide fair wages and good working conditions—is despicable, but it is utterly standard and unsurprising in the food service industry.

Even if you try to avoid fast food altogether, you probably still need a computer. And choosing to support a competitor like Apple or Dell over Hewlett Packard (HP) isn't really a meaningful ethical choice. HP doesn't develop technology for the Israeli military because they hate Palestinians — they do it because the Israeli government pays them to do it, and they make a profit. Even if a boycott made HP stop doing this,

it would only be because the company was losing more money due to the boycott than they were making off military contracts. Even then, the Israeli government wouldn't stop using technology — they would find another company to do what HP

“ Practices like circumventing worker's rights or using prison labor are the norm, not the exception.

does for them now. That is the reality of capitalism: As long as the primary motivation for corporations is profit, “ethical consumerism” will have negligible impact.

If we want to stop companies from using unethical practices, we need to do more than arbitrarily pick some companies and stop buying their products. Instead, we need to think “big picture” with our activism. If you want to support labor rights, support movements like Fight For 15 that pressure the government to mandate a living wage for workers and allow workers to unionize. If you don't want companies using prison labor, then fight against laws that promote mass incarceration. It's okay to let ethics influence what you buy — just don't think you're changing anything by not drinking Keystone Light.

Tobias Baumann '19 is a religious studies major from Mount Vernon, Ohio. Contact him at baumannt@kenyon.edu.

Categorizing Bret Stephens as extremist is an unfair claim

Op-ed in last week's *Collegian* leaves out context behind recent speaker's past statements.

MATTHEW GERSON
CONTRIBUTOR

An op-ed in last week's *Collegian* ("Bret Stephens' visit to campus normalizes hateful rhetoric," 2/9) by Megan Carr '18 argues that Bret Stephens, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and recent visitor to campus, is guilty of denying Palestinians basic status as humans. Her article suggests that Stephens purposefully omits details of Palestinian suffering, even going so far as to label his words as "hate speech." Stephens tells a one-sided story of the Arab-Israeli conflict, Carr writes, "[stripping] Palestinians of their history" in the process.

I should immediately make clear that I did not attend Stephens' talk on campus last week; I am 6,000 miles away from Gambier, spending my semester in Jerusalem. Thankfully the *Collegian* uploaded a video of the talk to Facebook, which I was able to watch.

Not that this matters much, because the basis of Carr's op-ed does not appear to be what Stephens said on campus. Rather, her piece is a sort of rejoinder to an article that appeared long ago and in a different publication, raising the question of why the editors felt the need to publish her piece in the first place. Her article's opening premise is equally confusing. Do

we now occupy a campus where advocating for Israel in a Wall Street Journal article two years ago invalidates one's denunciation of travel bans and border walls?

As evidence of Stephens' offenses, her column cites a 2015 *Wall Street Journal* column ("Palestine: The Psychotic Stage") in which he critiques American media coverage of a wave of Palestinian terror attacks carried out against Jews in Israel and the West Bank. These attacks, the vast majority of which are perpetrated by so-called "lone wolves," have claimed hundreds of casualties. While today the pace of attacks has slowed dramatically, some months in 2015 saw more than 600 stabbing attempts.

These attacks are praised by, among others, Palestinian National Authority President Mahmoud Abbas — who not only personally calls for and glorifies the attacks, but whose government actually pays for them. According to cnsnews.com, a whopping 10 percent (\$172.5 million) of the Palestinian Authority's (PA) annual budget is spent compensating the families of jailed and "martyred" individuals who have participated in attacks on Israelis. This compensation policy is what initially inspired Israel to bulldoze homes of attackers, as the government hoped to lessen the financial incentive offered by the PA for murdering Jewish Israelis. In his

op-ed, Stephens takes particular issue with the media's failure to tell the story of Palestinian incitement — a charge of one-sidedness practically identical to the one Carr's op-ed levies against Stephens himself.

I do not agree with Carr's assessment of Stephens' piece; I believe that Stephens seeks to correct media bias rather than inspire it. But this is not my reason for writing, because mere disagreement is nothing out of the ordinary. Instead, I am writing out of extreme frustration that in her op-ed Carr seems not to follow her own advice. She does a fair bit of selective history and political commentary herself.

Carr's op-ed chastises Stephens for not mentioning al-Nakba ("the catastrophe"), when some 700,000 Palestinians were expelled or chose to flee from the new State of Israel after U.N. partition in 1948. But there is no mention in her piece (or, as she fails to note, in Stephens') of the 850,000 Jews living in Arab and Muslim countries who met the same fate post-1948. Does she not know these Jews were expelled too, or does it not matter?

“It is by now obvious to me that no speaker sticking up for Israel will ever be acceptable to many members of the campus community.

Similarly, Carr's piece admonishes Stephens for mentioning Jerusalem's al-Aqsa Mosque without informing readers of its immense importance to Muslims. But Stephens does not mention the incalculable importance of that site to Jews either. For those who do not know, the al-Aqsa Mosque is constructed on the Temple Mount, the holiest site in Judaism. And while the significance of the location is shared by adherents of the two faiths, access to it is not. Muslims are free to pray there, while Jews have been forbidden from doing so by the Israeli government. Instead, Jews pray at the Western Wall, a remnant of the Second Temple—the closest they can get to it.

If one cannot mention a place without giving its full historical and religious background, articles about sites in Jerusalem would span dozens, if not hundreds, of pages. Maybe that is why Stephens left out a full explanation of al-Aqsa's importance to Muslims, and the Temple Mount's to Jews. If Carr wants to bring up the significance of the site to Muslims,

so be it. Why, though, does her article ignore its equally-valid significance to Jews? If she believes a knowledge of the historical record is essential for understanding the motivations of some Palestinians, why is she unwilling to extend this same courtesy to Israeli Jews?

I was struck by Carr's comment that most liberal college students will never openly attack people of Middle Eastern origin. In fact, this has not been my experience, and even a cursory reading of the news would make it clear that many liberal college students are all too willing to attack people of Middle Eastern origin, as long as those Middle Easterners are Israelis.

It is by now obvious to me that no speaker sticking up for Israel will ever be acceptable to many members of the campus community. These speakers are bullied and disrespected on stage by audience members (as was the case with the avowedly liberal Dr. Einat Wilf last semester), or have their credibility assassinated in the *Collegian* (as is the case with Stephens). But there is something particularly frustrating about watching Stephens be slammed with accusations of bias, and much worse, in a *Collegian* op-ed that is itself so manifestly unfair to Israel.

Matthew Gerson '18 is a political science major from Washington D.C. Contact him at gersonm@kenyon.edu.

Israeli-Arab conversations need more centrism

Bret Stephens attempted to connect with the entire political spectrum.



EVAN CREE GEE
COLUMNIST

When I opened up the *Collegian* last week, I anticipated a discussion on the visit of Bret Stephens, the Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist whom the Center for the Study of American Democracy and Kenyon Israel Club brought to campus. (Full disclosure, I am a member of the Kenyon Israel Club.) I expected to read praise of him for being a centrist in a time when moderates are an endangered species. I also fully expected a critique from the left about his somewhat neoconservative leanings. I saw neither.

I was able to watch the entirety of Bret Stephens' talk via Facebook Live and was thoroughly impressed. He seemed able to connect with the entire political spectrum and was not inflammatory. I was most impressed with his analysis of the crisis in Syria. Stephens offered numerous op-

tions that the Obama administration could have pursued — solutions that could have largely satisfied a Democratic party base that is, on one hand, tired of military intervention, and on the other hand, sympathetic towards all those affected by the Assad regime and refugee crisis.

Listening to Stephens allowed me to reflect on how the Israeli-

Arab conflict is discussed on this campus. So often the rhetoric around the issue devolves into a battle of who can name more

instances in which one side has murdered people on the other side. This is not a constructive way to engage, because the fact of the matter is that neither side of the actual conflict can be completely absolved. Israelis probably shouldn't be building settlements, but Palestinians probably shouldn't be building terror tunnels. Our goal, as thoughtful students, should be to try to dig through the misinformation and irresponsible ad hominem argu-

ments made on this issue.

It is for this reason that I took issue with Megan Carr's '18 assessment of Stephens in her submission ("Bret Stephens' visit to campus normalizes hateful rhetoric," 2/9) to the *Collegian* last week. Carr called Bret Stephens someone who espouses hate speech and compared the language he uses in a *Wall Street Journal* column to discuss Palestinians to Trump's vilification of Muslims, saying it "echoes the rhetoric of fascist regimes." Labeling him as such is nonsense. Painting moderates like Stephens in this way devalues terms like "hate speech" and "fascist" in times when we actually face them.

Among Carr's allegations against Stephens is that he has a history of "degrading" Arabs. She says that Stephens has done so when he claims that the "Arab mindset" has halted intellectual development in the region. But she leaves out an important fact: His diagnosis of the "Arab mindset" is that it is one of rampant anti-Semitism. Stephens argues that this anti-Semitism has led to a development-halting brain drain. The facts here, one would think, are beyond question, given the

expulsion of about 900,000 Jews from Arab nations in the past 70 years.

Was Stephens calling all Arabs anti-Semitic? Absolutely not. However, anti-Semitism is still a problem that seems to persist in much of the leadership in the Arab world, and I'm not sure how constructive dialogue on this issue is possible if it is "degrading" to label anti-Semitism as such.

Stephens was one of the most moderate, nuanced speakers that any group on any side of the Israeli-Arab debate has brought to speak at Kenyon. As well-intentioned Kenyon students, we need to combat right-wing populism, not concoct a new brand of left-wing populism. In a word, what we need is moderation.

While it may be oxymoronic to say so, I encourage everyone to become passionate about moderation. It's hard. It takes commitment to listening, negotiating ideas with an open mind, and rejecting appeals to passion. Because contrary to what Carr believes, facts are not just for liberals — they're for reasonable humans.

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HAVE OPINIONS?

The *Collegian* wants to hear from you!

Submit op-eds and letters to the editor to collegian@kenyon.edu by Tuesday at 4 p.m. the week of publication.

Op-eds should be 500-600 words in length. Letters to the editor should respond to a *Collegian* article from the previous issue and must be 300 words or fewer.

The *Collegian* is also accepting applications for new columnists. Please contact collegian@kenyon.edu for more information.



Ladies secure two-seed in tournament with weekend victory

Bailey Dominguez '17 comes up clutch in Senior Day basketball victory against DePauw.

NOAH NASH
SPORTS EDITOR

KENYON WOOSTER	61 43
KENYON DEPAUW	70 64

Ladies basketball cruised their way to a 61-43 victory against the College of Wooster last night, dominating the glass to extend their record to 18-6. In the victory, Lane Davis '19 had 16 points and eight rebounds to lead the attack.

After their seven-game win streak ended at the hands of Oberlin College on Feb. 8, Ladies basketball came back with a 70-64 win against DePauw University on Saturday. The game against DePauw was also part of the Ladies' Senior Day, as the team honored its five seniors prior to the game. With the victory, the Ladies snapped DePauw's 19 game-winning streak and clinched the number two seed in the postseason North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) tournament.

While the team's seniors were honored for their four years of contributions to the College, they proved that, while their collegiate careers are coming to an end, they are not finished yet. Sidney Cera '17 contributed 11 points, and Charlotte Bussema '17 scored nine points of her own while dishing out three assists. Bailey Dominguez '17 earned

“We know we have to be playing our best basketball in order to win the championship.”

Bailey Dominguez '17



Left: Charlotte Bussema '17 attempts a hook shot in the paint over a DePauw defender. Bussema scored nine points in the victory on her Senior Day. Right: The team celebrates at half court after the buzzer sounds to end their victory over DePauw and clinch playoff seeding.



CAMERON PETERS

a game-high 16 points, including four three-pointers.

The most meaningful of Dominguez's made baskets came late in the fourth quarter, with the Ladies clinging to a slim single-point lead at 63-62, following a made basket for the DePauw Tigers. Dominguez, mov-

ing off of the ball, swung around the baseline to the right corner and received the pass from Paige Matijasich '20. Dominguez rose up over a DePauw defender and buried the three-pointer, igniting the crowd of students and faculty and essentially securing the victory for the Ladies with 29 seconds remaining.

Dominguez claims that, in hindsight, she probably should not have taken the shot. In the timeout right before the play, Head Coach Suzanne Helfant had called a spe-

cific offensive set and had told the team that she planned to take another timeout if the team did not have a clean open shot with 10 seconds left on the shot clock. Despite Helfant trying to call a timeout over the roar of the crowd, Dominguez took the opportunity to drain the shot from a distance.

Although the team came away with the impressive win over DePauw, Dominguez wants to keep things in perspective. “We hit a great point on Senior Day, but we

want it to be a step, not a peak,” Dominguez said on Wednesday. “With the conference tournament next week, we know we have to be playing our best basketball in order to win the championship.”

The Ladies will play their final game of the regular season on Saturday at 1 p.m., when they will take on Hiram College in Hiram, Ohio. Following that game, the Ladies will know which team they will play on Feb. 21 in the opening round of the NCAC tournament.

Lords basketball's playoff hopes rest on Saturday's outcome

After losses to Wooster and DePauw, Lords need to win against Hiram to keep season alive.

NOAH NASH
SPORTS EDITOR

The playoff hopes of the Lords basketball team took a hit on Wednesday night when the team lost 87-62 to the College of Wooster. In the loss, Alexander Powell '18 scored 15 points and was the only Lord to score in double digits. With just one game remaining on their regular season schedule, the Lords have really begun to watch the league scoreboards, as their playoff hopes are no longer completely in their own hands.

The men's basketball team also suffered a tough defeat on Saturday afternoon, dropping their game against DePauw University 73-68. Prior to the

game, the team's two seniors were honored by the athletic program for their years of athletic accomplishments and thousands of hours dedicated to the team. Ethan Shapiro '17 grabbed seven rebounds and scored seven points in front of his family on his Senior Day, while fellow senior Chris Link, who has been forced to sit out most of the season due to injuries, made his first start of the season.

After remaining tied or slightly behind for most of the game, DePauw managed to win the game in the final minutes by knocking down their free throws. A free throw by the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) leading scorer Luke Lattner put the Tigers up

“I keep telling the guys how important these last two games are, and we just got to keep pushing, go 100 percent and leave nothing out on the floor.”

Ethan Shapiro '17

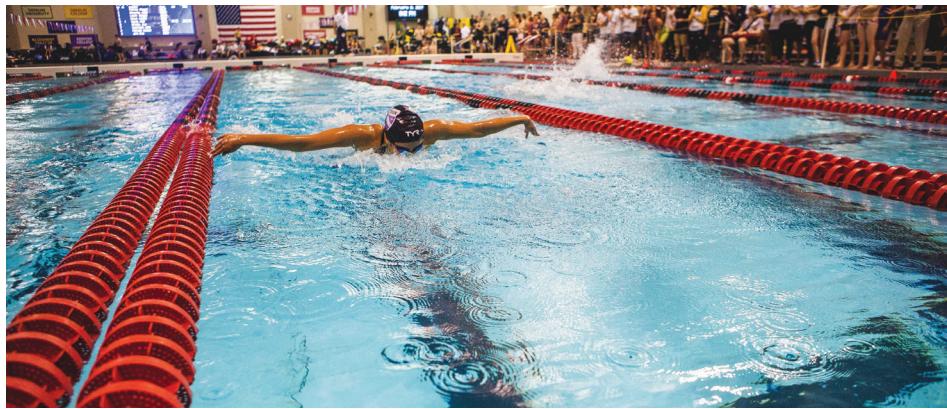
69-68 with about 30 seconds to go. The Lords were unable to capitalize on the opportunity to take the lead, traveling on the ensuing possession. Lattner was fouled again and made both free throws to extend DePauw's lead to three points. On the following possession, the Lords were able to get three shots to tie the game due to offensive rebounds, but missed the first two opportunities before the third attempt

was blocked. In spite of the loss, Bennett Grigull '18 had a game-high 22 points and Phillip Crampton '18 hit four three-pointers on his way to 16 points.

The reality of his ending collegiate career is starting to sink in for Shapiro. “The last home game in Tomsich [Arena] will be really special for me, and I can't imagine what I will be feeling when the game ends,” Shapiro said

prior to Wednesday night's game against the College of Wooster. “The goal right now is to make the playoffs, and everyone on the team knows what we have to do in order to make the postseason. I keep telling the guys how important these last two games are, and we just got to keep pushing, go 100 percent and leave nothing out on the floor.”

With just one game left after Wednesday's loss against Wooster, the Lords will need a win against Hiram College on Saturday to extend their season and the collegiate careers of their seniors. The team will also need Allegheny College to lose both of their remaining games for Kenyon to make the playoff tournament.



JACK ZELLWEGER

Top left: A member of the Ladies team takes a stroke in her butterfly event. Top right: Members of both swim and dive teams cheer on their teammates from the Denison crowd. Bottom left: Alex Seaver '17 pumps up his team in a back room. Bottom right: A member of the Ladies team prepares to race prior to the beginning of their event.

Lords swim and dive suffers close loss in NCAC tournament

After four days long days of events, Lords have eyes on winning NCAA nationals in March.

TOMMY JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

The Men's swimming and diving teams took second at the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) Swimming and Diving Championship at Denison University in Granville, Ohio, which occurred from Feb. 8-11. The Lords scored 1,750 points to Denison's 1,953, a slim margin for such an extensive meet.

Over four grueling days, Kenyon chased Denison for essentially the entire competition and showed off a lot of the Lords' talent as the team gears up for the final portion of the season.

"It's so emotionally taxing and physically taxing," Team Manager and Volunteer Coach Ryan Carson '17 said, "but we do a really good job of staying extremely positive and cheering on our team." He said the Lords bring a lot of energy to

the pool.

Kenyon kicked off the meet with a runner-up finish by the team of Robert Williams '19, Am-bert Sawaya '17, Conor Rumpit '20 and Gabriel Bellott-McGrath '18 in the 800-yard freestyle relay with a time of 6:38.68, earning 62 points for the team and B-cut standards, meaning the time would be competi-

tive for Nationals. This form of measurement is used to gauge the level of swimmers across the country; the highest standard is A-cut, which means the time automatically qualifies the person or relay team for Nationals in mid-March. While a NCAC championship victory would have been nice, the team ul-

timately has its eyes on Nationals, the NCAA Division III Championship.

On the second day of competition, Rumpit secured a victory and a B-cut in the 500-yard freestyle. On the diving side, Derek Hoare '17 secured a fifth-place finish from the one-meter board. Several of the divers qualified for Zone Diving Qualifiers, which gives divers a final opportunity to qualify for the National Championship. This achievement is no small feat.

The Lords kept the competition close going from the third day to the fourth: They secured four runner-up finishes and only trailed

“Conferences is a very good opportunity for people to step up and race.

Team Manager Ryan Carson '17

Denison 1,145 points to 1,299.

David Perez '18 and Rumpit scored Kenyon's final two victories on the last day. Perez won the 1,650-yard freestyle with a time of 15:38.01, his personal record for the season. Rumpit won the 200-yard butterfly with a time of 1:50.24 and took home the NCAC Men's New-comer of the Year honors. Perez finished second in the same event.

Along with these two victories, Kenyon snagged three additional second-place finishes to keep the competition close all the way to the end. Bellott-McGrath took second in the 100-yard individual medley with the team's season-best time of 51.84, and Coire Gavin-Hanner '18 earned second in the 200-yard breaststroke with a time of 2:03.23. The Lords also took a second-place finish in the 400-meter freestyle relay.

"Conferences is a very good opportunity for people to step up

and race," Carson said. "As a team, that's exactly what we did."

Many of Kenyon's swimmers did not compete in this meet. Usually, the conference meet is a chance for swimmers without an assured shot of making Nationals compete for a spot.

As for now, the team has its sights set on Nationals, which will take place March 15-18 in Shennandoah, Texas. With Nationals in a little over a month, this means another brief period of ramping the training back up, according to Carson, before the team can finally rest in the days leading up to the meet.

Between now and then, the College will host the Kenyon College Invitational, which takes place this Saturday. The Invitational provides teams and individuals one last chance to make the cuts needed for Nationals and the NCAA Diving Regional meet, in Grand Rapids, Mich. from Feb. 24-25.

Ladies swim and dive takes second place in championships

Julia Wilson '18 and Hannah Orbach-Mandel '19 set individual NCAC records over weekend.

NOAH NASH
SPORTS EDITOR

The Ladies Swim and Dive team concluded their four-day North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) tournament on Saturday, finishing in second place overall behind Denison University in the nine-team tournament. Denison led the way with a total of 1,988 points, outscoring Kenyon (1,769 points), DePauw University (1,108 points), the College of Wooster (1,064) and Oberlin College (824 points), which were among the top-five teams in the meet. It was host Denison's eighth NCAC title in the last nine years, broken up only by the Ladies' title last year.

With the exception of Fri-

day, when the Ladies managed to sneak ahead of Denison for a couple of events, the team consistently held onto the runner-up spot in the standings. The team earned a number of individual top finishes, but ultimately not enough to usurp Denison. While an NCAC title would have been a nice prize, the Ladies have their eyes on their national meet in mid-March, which was the main reason they sat out a few of their top swimmers.

On Wednesday, the opening day of the event, the Ladies got off to a hot start with a top finish in the 800-yard freestyle relay event. Comprised of Sophia Kuvan '18, Marysol Arce '19, Julia Green '20 and Kendall Vanderhoof '20, the

relay team turned in a combined time of 7:27:95, which was more than three seconds faster than Denison's relay team. Arce gave another banner performance on Thursday, winning the 500-yard freestyle event in 4:51:47, and outswimming DePauw University's Angelo Newlon, the reigning NCAC champion in the event. Arce's time was the fastest in that event in Division III swimming this season.

Friday was perhaps the team's most successful day of the tournament. Kuvan won the 200-yard freestyle earlier in the day, an event win that allowed the Ladies to temporarily wrestle the lead away from Denison. Kuvan finished with a time of 1:51:17, a

season best. Zoe Toscos '20, Vanderhoof and Green also placed in the top-six finishes of the event. The lead would not last long, as Denison would storm back and not relinquish it for the rest of the tournament.

Arce captured her third overall and second individual event victory of the tournament on Saturday night, the last day of the event, with a time of 16:45:37 in the 1,650-meter freestyle. It was also Arce's third career individual crown, including a title in 2016.

Several swimmers broke NCAC records during the course of the event, although this was unrelated to the outcome of the championship tournament. Julia Wilson '18 broke the record in the

100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:02:06, topping the record she set last season. Hannah Orbach-Mandel '19 also set an individual record in the 200-yard freestyle; her time of 1:48:71 topped the previous mark set in 2010 by a Denison swimmer.

While Wilson was proud to break her own record, she wanted to keep the focus on the team. "In terms of the season ending, this has always been my favorite time of year," Wilson said. "It's amazing to see what people can do at NCACs and NAACs, and it seems like everything starts to move really quickly."

The Ladies will next swim on Saturday at noon when they host the Kenyon College Invitational.