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Kenyon Collegian - April 6, 2017

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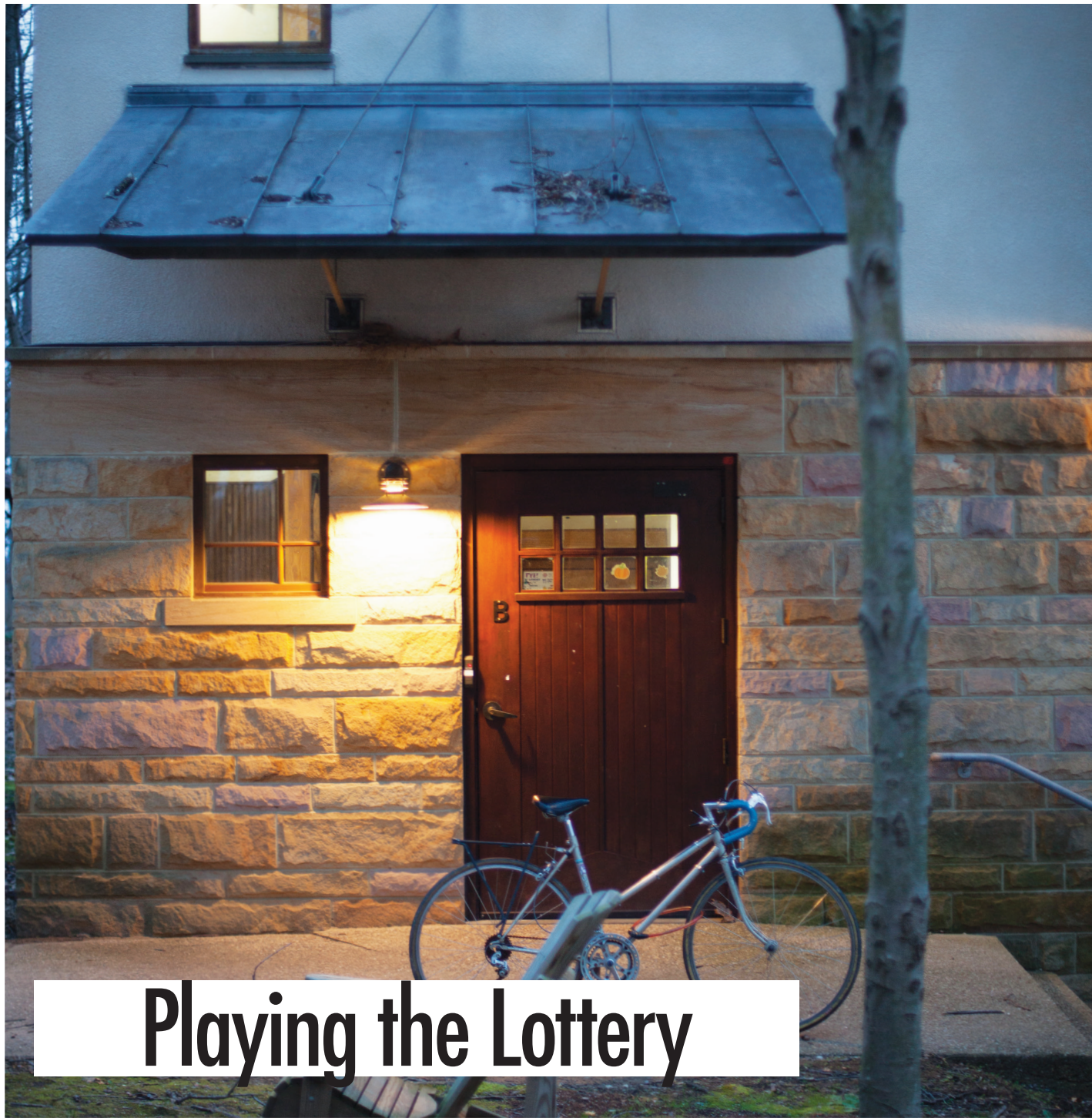


The Kenyon Collegian

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Playing the Lottery

JACK ZELLWEGER

Students dissatisfied with their housing lottery numbers may turn to buying lower numbers or switching rooms with others.

KEVIN CRAWFORD | NEWS ASSISTANT

Most student housing at Kenyon is left to fate: Every year, students wait for an email containing the housing lottery number that determines where they will live the next year. This year, some students attempted to take matters into their own hands by buying better lottery numbers.

One rising senior, who requested anonymity, hoped to live in a North Campus Apartment (NCA) next year. She and her future housemates all received bad lottery numbers, ruining their chances for an NCA. But then they heard about a potential loophole: a group of students selling their enviable lottery numbers to others who were less lucky. In exchange for a low lottery number, the rising senior and her housemates offered one individual \$100 and several cases of beer.

"We heard through the grapevine that some guys ... all had numbers in the top 30 and were selling their numbers," the senior said in an interview with the *Collegian*. "I texted one of them asking if they would want to do a switch, and he told me they already had 13 offers, and one person was offering \$2,000 for his number."

Colin Cowperthwaite '18, a rising senior, also heard rumors about students buying and selling lottery numbers.

"The lottery process at Kenyon is such a drama-inducing process that most often it leads to mass hysteria where students feel like they have to compete against high numbers with their own elaborate configurations made by switching rooms and buying numbers," Cowperthwaite wrote in an email to the *Collegian*.

The housing lottery, which took place during the last week of March and first week of April this year, operates under a seniority system, with numbers assigned randomly within class years. This year, students allegedly sold their numbers off to other students. The most popular housing options are often the first to go, but this year they became **page 4**

DAs host annual 'Speak Out Week'

EMILY BIRNBAUM
NEWS EDITOR

Intersectionality was the focus of The Discrimination Advisors' (DAs) annual Speak Out Week events, held from March 28-April 1 this year. The week's events highlighted the experiences of transgender immigrants, international students and black citizens in the criminal justice system, all under the overarching theme of "Borders and Boundaries."

"Typically, from what I remember, the DAs will sometimes choose a specific area of diversity — like one year, [Speak Out Week] was all focused on disability — but I think every topic you choose has to be intersectional because there are people who deal with multiple areas of diversity," DA Lin Miao '17 said.

The week kicked off with a panel on

March 28 in the Gund Gallery Community Foundation Theater about immigration. The panel comprised of Visiting Instructor of American and Women's and Gender Studies Gilda Rodriguez, Associate Provost Ivonne García and Assistant Professor of Political Science Nancy Powers, all of whom focus on immigration in their research.

Sewar Quran '17, a DA, guided the professors through a series of questions about the Trump administration's impact on immigration policy. All three quickly warned against romanticizing President Barack Obama's presidency.

"To Latinos, Obama was the deporter-in-chief," García said. "Even though Latinos supported him in droves, he deported more people under his administration than had been deported before."

The professors explored the history of anti-immigrant sentiment in the U.S., emphasizing that this is not a new

phenomenon.

The next event of the week was a common hour presentation by Karari Orozco-Olvera, a trans activist and writer, on March 30 in Gund Gallery Community Foundation Theater. Orozco-Olvera is the production manager of *America in Transition* (AIT), a documentary web series and community engagement campaign that highlights "non-white, non-urban trans experiences," according to the AIT website.

For the event, Orozco-Olvera premiered the third episode of AIT, which follows the story of a trans woman named Zuri from Puebla, Mexico. The episode documents her decision to immigrate to the U.S. After the 12-minute clip, Orozco-Olvera asked for feedback from the audience.

Orozco-Olvera gave this presentation as part of an AIT speaking tour called #GettingOurRoses. **page 4**



COURTESY OF ALEX KIRSHY

Three Days of Rain successfully breaks theater conventions. **page 8**

VILLAGE RECORD

March 29 - April 2

March 29, 9:45 a.m. — Marijuana use near South Campus. Student admitted to use.

March 31, 11:21 p.m. — Drug/paraphernalia confiscated near South Campus. Item tested positive for marijuana.

April 1, 9:40 a.m. — Student wallet found with false state identification near North Campus.

April 1, 11:11 p.m. — Students witnessed urinating on building exterior near South Campus.

April 1, 11:26 p.m. — Underage student in possession of alcohol near South Campus.

April 2, 12:51 a.m. — Underage student in possession of alcohol near South Campus.

April 2, 1:36 p.m. — Underage student in possession of alcohol near North Campus.

April 2, 1:50 a.m. — Underage student alcohol consumption near South Campus.

April 2, 4:33 a.m. — Underage student in possession of alcohol near South Campus.

Lohmann to step down as dean at the end of the year

TOMMY JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

Exactly 10 months after being named dean of students at Kenyon, a News Bulletin emailed to the student body on April 3 announced Janet Lohmann will return to Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine to serve as the dean of students. Prior to coming to Kenyon, Lohmann was the associate dean of student affairs and dean of first-year students at Bowdoin, where she had worked in various roles for 14 years.

In the coming weeks, Vice President of Student Affairs Meredith Bonham '92 is expected to appoint a search committee to find a replacement.

"I did not plan on leaving," Lohmann said. She explained that she cut her stay short only because this role opened up at Bowdoin and she could not refuse it.

While at Kenyon, Lohmann oversaw the Health and Counseling Center and the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Whereas the Student Affairs division of the College deals with student life as a whole, the dean of students pays particular attention to the needs of individual students and ensures they have access to the resources they need.

"I'm proud of the fact that Protocol is an initiative that happened while I was here," Lohmann said, referring to an on-call mental health service that the Cox Health and Counseling Center began offering this past semester.

Generally, turnover within college administrations occurs regularly at the more rank-and-file positions. As Bonham pointed out, this short stint by Dean Lohmann is atypical.

"[Dean Lohmann] was committed to Ken-



COURTESY OF OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

yon," Bonham said. "If not for this particular opportunity at Bowdoin she would have remained at Kenyon for many years to come."

Despite this unexpected and unusual change, Bonham stressed that students should not expect a disruption in the services they expect from Student Affairs. "I will commit to making sure that the care of individual students will not in any way suffer if we do not have a dean of students in place," Bonham said.

"I will do everything in my power to ensure that any transition will go as smoothly as possible," Lohmann said. She emphasized that her commitment to Kenyon will continue until she assumes her new role at Bowdoin. "I cannot thank Kenyon enough," she said, expressing her gratitude for an opportunity cut short.

Dean Lohmann will continue in her current role through June and assume her new position in July. The College hopes to complete its search process by the start of the 2017-18 academic year.

CORRECTIONS

In the March 30 issue, the *Collegian* misstated a fact about Winnie Thaw '17. Thaw is not an ethnic minority in her home country of Myanmar, but has lived under an oppressive regime of a military dictatorship. The *Collegian* regrets this error.

Campus Auto to reopen soon

BILL GARDNER
NEWS EDITOR

Three months after Campus Auto & Tire's sudden closure in late December, the College has found a new mechanic to operate Gambier's only auto repair shop.

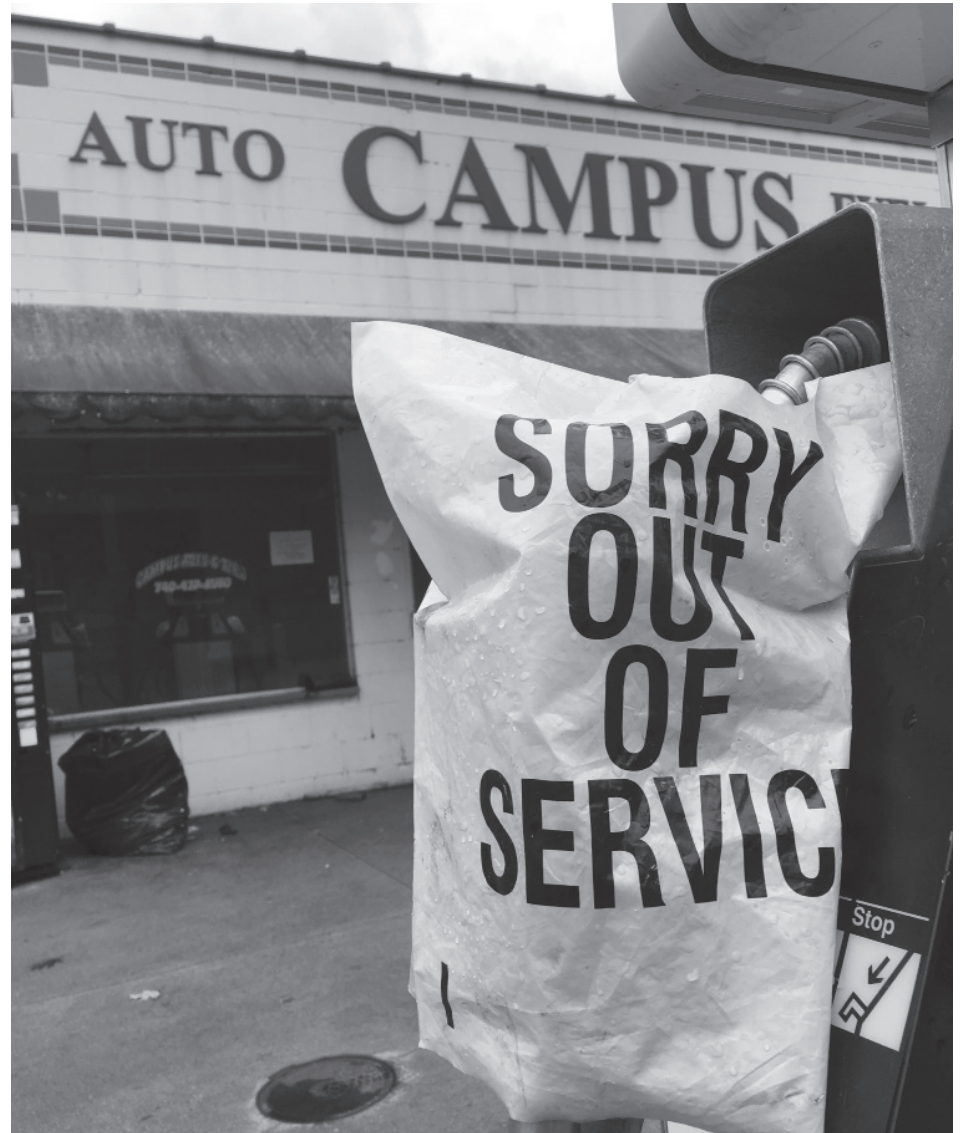
Rahn Wilson, a Mount Vernon resident with 15 years' experience repairing cars in the auto industry, will begin operations at Campus Auto on April 10. Wilson owns Details Auto Care on Coshocton Ave. in Mount Vernon.

Campus Auto will be open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday,

and also during some busy weekends on campus. Wilson will be working with mechanics Christine Clapham and Ken Stacey, according to a Kenyon News Bulletin sent via a Student-Info email on April 1.

Wilson did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

The reason former owner Jim Lee, who operated out of the space for 10 years, shut down Campus Auto in December remains unclear. Mark Kohlman, chief business officer of Kenyon, said Campus Auto violated the terms of their lease with the College, but would not provide specifics.



ELLIOT JAFFE

Rahn Wilson will begin operations at Campus Auto & Tire on Monday, April 10.

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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.

New ceremony will honor members of LGBTQ community

Kenyon will host its first 'Lavender Graduation' commemorating LGBTQ seniors and allies.

GRACE RICHARDS
STAFF WRITER

Graduating LGBTQ seniors and allies who choose to be recognized will receive special rainbow-trimmed stoles at a Lavender Graduation ceremony on April 19 in Peirce Pub. The ceremony will recognize these students' achievements and contributions to the LGBTQ community at Kenyon and the larger campus community.

Jillian Watts, former LGBTQ resource coordinator and assistant director of the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, spearheaded the effort to bring Lavender Graduation to Kenyon. Watts, who departed March 31 for a new position at Manchester University in Indiana, hopes the Lavender Graduation ceremony will demonstrate the Kenyon community's commitment to supporting LGBTQ students.

"For the people that are out, or confident in their ability to be allies as well, it is a way to show them that we are thankful for their courage," Watts said. "Just being able to say that we as a community have their back."

The first Lavender Graduation ceremony occurred in 1995 at the University of Michigan, according to Human Rights Watch, and the ceremony has since spread to other colleges and universities across the U.S. The ceremony was the brainchild of Dr. Ronni Sanlo, a Jewish lesbian who was not permitted to attend the graduations of her children due to her sexual



ANNA LIBERTIN

orientation.

Watts said the ceremony celebrates the out members of the LGBTQ community and those who are unable to come out at this point in time by demonstrating that the campus is "making strides" to foster a diverse community.

As of March 31, seven students have registered to participate in the Lavender Graduation ceremony, and 21 faculty, staff and community members have RSVP'd as attendees.

The campus community has been very supportive of the Lavender Graduation effort, ac-

“For the people that are out, or confident in their ability to be allies as well, it is a way to show them that we are thankful for their courage.”

Jillian Watts, former LGBTQ resource coordinator

ording to Watts. After raising the idea with the LGBTQ advisory committee — comprised of students, faculty and staff — Watts reached out to several college departments and centers for funding. The Lavender Graduation ceremony received funding from the Center for the Study of American Democracy, the Office of Housing and Residential Life, the Counseling Center and Library & Information Services, among others. AVI Foodsystems agreed to donate free catering to the event and committed to donating catering to this event in the future.

AVI Foodsystems Resident Director Chris Wisbey said donating the food was a way for AVI to build their partnership with Kenyon and help the community. Wisbey said he hopes the appetizers, desserts and drinks donated by AVI will enhance the event and ensure its success.

During the ceremony, several awards recognizing contributions to Kenyon's LGBTQ community will be awarded based on nominations made by students, faculty and staff through an online form attached to a March 27 email from Watts. Awards will recognize an outstanding student ally, an out-

standing faculty or staff ally, a "rising star" first year who has worked to support the LGBTQ community and a trailblazer alumnus or past faculty or staff member who has promoted LGBTQ equality.

For Watts, working on LGBTQ issues at Kenyon has been bittersweet. Watts said she often felt frustrated by the lack of student engagement with LGBTQ programming, especially since providing such programming required late nights and longtime commitments.

"Since [students] said that they wanted more LGBTQ+ programming, they wanted more of a salient presence of LGBTQ services, when that happens, then you have to show up and actually be there for it," Watts said, "or it will not be taken serious[ly] a lot, from not just students, but from faculty and staff. It will not be invested in enough, so it really requires student participation and engagement."

Still, Watts said she was excited about the event and hopes to return to campus for the ceremony.

Lavender Graduation will be held in the Pub on April 19 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Students who wish to participate or attend can RSVP over email.

Large-scale building changes coming to Kenyon next year

Construction will affect almost all areas of campus, from South Quad to the Village Center

BILL GARDNER
NEWS EDITOR

Starting this summer, the College will begin a series of major renovations around campus that will give the Village and multiple academic spaces a new, updated look. Created by GUND Partnerships, the architecture firm of Graham Gund, these renovations will begin with the opening of the new Village Market in the summer, and end with the demolition of Farr Hall next November. Here is a full list of some changes students can expect within the next year.

Bookstore

Beginning in mid-June, the Kenyon Bookstore will undergo major structural renovations, including a new exterior and interior look, a bathroom and an elevator. The Bookstore will temporarily occupy the current spaces of the Gambier Deli and Village Market during this time. The Bookstore will move back to its original location in November 2017 be-

fore the demolition of Farr Hall.

New Village Market

The new Village Market will be open by mid-June, according to Chief Business Officer Mark Kohlman. The College is assessing the possibility of installing solar panels on the roof to make it a more eco-friendly space, although it is already being built to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) silver standards.

Town Houses

The town houses behind Farr Hall — the former location of the Gambier Grill — ran into some delays this semester due to water plumbing issues, and the project had to be rerouted. Students can expect to move into these new spaces in the fall.

Farr Hall/Gambier Deli

Farr Hall will be demolished in November, according to Kohlman. The Deli will take a year-long hiatus until construction is over. Kohlman could not say whether or not the College would be

compensating the owner for any potential business lost during that time. Farr construction is expected to be completed by the summer of 2018.

Library

The target date for construction on the new library is the summer of 2018, but the Board of Trustees may vote to extend that date, according to Kohlman. The proposed underground parking garage is still included in the plans, but is liable to change. The new library will house the Career Development Office, the Registrar's Office and the Office of Academic Advising.

Sunset Cottage

The College hopes to renovate Sunset Cottage after the completion of the two new English Buildings on the West Quad, but no official decision regarding the future of Sunset has been made.

Athletic Field Master Plan

A three-year Master Plan to improve the varsity and practice athletic fields will

begin this summer with major renovations to Mavec Field. The College will replace the field completely to help improve drainage. The College is also planning on potentially increasing the number of turf fields in the next few years, and improving accessibility by increasing the number of bleachers and other seating arrangements.

Other Summer Projects

Leonard Hall will receive renovations over the Summer. The improvements include installing tile flooring in all of the rooms, replacing the furniture and repainting all dorm rooms. The fourth-floor lounges will remain untouched. Two to three more labs in Higley Hall will receive updates this summer, as phase two of a three-part renovation project to Higley. The College's Repair and Replace Fund will pay for these renovations. The Village Inn will receive solar panels over the summer to help power the VI student apartments. The solar panels are part of a wider push for more green initiatives around campus.

Greek Council considers restructuring after survey results

Changes would theoretically include splitting Greek Council into three separate entities.



AMY SCHATZ | COLLEGIAN

NATALIE TWITCHELL
NEWS ASSISTANT

Greek Council is considering adjustments to its structure after members of Greek organizations and societies questioned its role on campus last month.

In early March, Greek Council offered delegates and chapter presidents a chance to evaluate the Council in an online survey disseminated over email.

"The results overall were that we could be way more productive and efficient, that we could be using our delegates better," Greek Council President and Zeta Alpha Pi member Liz Eder '17 said.

Greek Council is a body that seeks to facilitate conversations between Greek organizations, societies and the Kenyon administration.

As of now, Greek organizations and societies send delegates to Greek Council; these delegates relay the information discussed during Council meetings to their respective organizations.

The proposed changes to Greek Council's structure would send presidents to Greek Council rather than delegates and split the council into three separate governing bodies for sororities, fraternities and societies.

"The president is the most knowledgeable person in the organization and it cuts out the middleman," Eder said. In this way, the proposed changes would streamline Greek Council's communication process.

As the Archons are the only society on campus, their executive board would make up the Society Council, according to Eder.

The proposal has received some opposition. Eder said she feels this opposition comes from reluctance to divide the Greek Community and the fact that the document "needs more clarification and work hammering out the details, so that people feel comfortable," Eder said.

Skeptics also did not like that the three Councils would not have constitutions when they were formed, according to Eder.

Eder is optimistic that, if Greek Council votes on the proposal to replace delegates with the presidents of each Greek organization, it will pass.

If the proposal passes, the document will go to Campus Senate for final approval, Assistant Director of Student Engagement Ally Hays said.

Students manipulating lottery

Continued from Page 1

unavailable faster than usual. Last year, the NCAs were available until lottery number 81. This year, all NCAs were filled by 51, which left some students confused and frustrated by how quickly the NCAs filled up compared to previous years.

"In this case the lottery for rising juniors was unusual because the NCAs filled up before the Aclands did, and fewer people with lower numbers opted to live in singles in Old Kenyon or Watson," another rising senior, granted anonymity by the *Collegian*, wrote in an email. "There was also a lot of cheating, with people trading, and in some cases, selling their [low] numbers to other groups."

The Office of Housing and Residential Life (ResLife) hears concerns and complaints about students selling low numbers every year, according to Associate Director for ResLife Lisa Train, who runs the housing lottery. Although lottery numbers cannot be transferred, students with a high number could pay a student with a low lottery number to go through the lottery and select the housing option the first student wanted. The student with the low lottery number will likely not live with students in these arrangements, as they often make plans to live in other spaces unofficially. Students will then switch rooms without ResLife's knowledge. "A junior will take a single in, say, Old Kenyon and then switch rooms with a senior in an NCA, and I have heard that people are exchanging money for this to happen," Train said.

Many students have legitimate reasons for switching rooms, including accessibility issues, medical reasons or incompatibility with roommates, and receive ResLife's permission to switch. For this reason, regulating room switches is hard, according to Train. Recently, Train's office began examining housing lottery numbers when students asked to switch.

"We do look at lottery numbers when someone wants to switch and try to see if it is a legitimate switch or if it is a situation where people are trying to circumvent the system by buying

off someone with a good number," Train said.

To some, the idea that students are paying for better lottery numbers infuriates them, especially because of how self-indulgent it appears to be.

"The thought of buying a number is ridiculous — it emphasizes an idea I have that Kenyon students are entitled and think they deserve the best place to live," the first rising senior said. "If one group was willing to throw down \$2,000 [for a lottery number], it just seems selfish to me, but at the same time, my group was also willing to pay."

This rising senior and her housemates ultimately did not pay for someone else's lottery number.

Not every student has to face the uncertainty of the housing lottery. Some students receive housing assignments before the lottery, meaning those rooms will not be available for selection in the lottery. This pre-housing is mostly for students in theme or division housing, as well as students who require accessibility accommodations. More rooms than usual were unavailable this year due to the demolition of Farr Hall this summer. The pending demolition makes 22 single rooms unavailable, most of which typically go to seniors. Rising seniors this year who did not want to live in an apartment took South Campus singles instead; this contributed to confusion over the differences between last year's lottery and this year's lottery, according to Train.

On top of this confusion, many students feel cheated by deals some students make to manipulate the lottery system. But the under-the-table nature of these transactions makes them difficult to regulate. "It's difficult to stop people from buying numbers because we don't see money change hands and it's hard to prove," Train said.

Cowperthwaite agrees, and thinks it will be hard to correct any wrongdoing. "No policy is likely to fix this — students will always find their way around," Cowperthwaite said. "This is just a fact of life that comes with the housing lottery."

DAs host talks on oppression

Continued from Page 1

She is one of three activists presenting AIT episodes at colleges across the country.

"The idea [behind the name] is that often, trans women of color get roses after we're dead," Orozco-Olvera said. "We want our roses now. Give us roses when we're alive. And not only are we asking that you give us our roses while we're alive, we're getting our roses."

During the evening on March 30, Orozco-Olvera hosted a workshop in Cheever Seminar Room in Finn House attended by two administrators and five students. During this workshop, Orozco-Olvera aimed to "deconstruct the 'model minority' myth," she said in an interview with the *Collegian*. Orozco-Olvera defined the model minority as someone who has "committed no crimes" and that "our culture has decided deserves to be here."

Orozco-Olvera led several activities that served to break down the concepts of immigration and criminality.

"Any time we talk about illegal immigration, we have to remember that illegality is specifically relevant to space and time," Orozco-Olvera said. "It says less about the people engaging in that behavior than it does about the society in which they exist."

Because trans women of color are disproportionately involved in sex work and substance abuse — both deportable offenses according to federal laws — they are at a greater risk of deportation, Orozco-Olvera said.

Orozco-Olvera told the *Collegian* she was pleased with her visit, but it was marked by the transphobia that she always experiences. "I can't say how many times I've been stared at since I've been on campus," Orozco-Olvera said. "That's part of my existence."

On March 31, Ghada Baqbouq '19, a DA, hosted a talk about her experiences as a Syrian citizen at Kenyon. She spoke about how she decided to come to the U.S. and the struggles she has faced since coming here, including language barriers, culture shock and isolation.



NIKKI ANDERSON

Karari Orozco-Olvera at "Speak Out"

"My heart is always with the people there, especially my family, my friends, and everyone, but I would like to say that I'm not expecting anyone here to understand how hard this is," Baqbouq said during the event. "People understanding means that they have gone through this. It's a blessing that most of the people did not go through this."

On April 1, to conclude the week's events, the DAs hosted a screening of *13th*, a documentary about the American criminal justice system.

DA Justin Martin '19 said the documentary sheds light on an issue that is personal to each Kenyon student. "One of the biggest points of the film is that institutionalized prison labor has, in effect, replaced slavery as an economic engine in America," Martin said. "It's something, even though we don't like to admit it, that makes our relatively affluent lives possible. Kenyon contracts with some people that have been involved in incarceration and prison labor before. It's all connected."

Martin hopes Speak Out Week answers the question, "How can I help?"

"People, especially on this campus, are aware that these things are happening," Martin said. "We can admit there's a problem. Now, how are we going to actually come together and — if not solve it — at least mitigate some of the experiences of people who might be suffering?"

Local Roosevelt Institute chapter brainstorms policy ideas

Kenyon’s branch of a national think tank expands its reach by collaborating on campus.

JUSTIN SUN
STAFF WRITER

The Roosevelt Institute at Kenyon seeks to make progress and advance policy proposals. Since the local chapter opened three years ago, members have analyzed Kenyon’s finances, discussed mental health on campus with the Peer Counselors, led lobbying trainings for Kenyon Students for Gun Sense (KSGS) and gathered Kenyon students from Knox County to identify ways to improve post-high school preparation in the community. This year, the two permanent members of the club, Alyssa Williams ’17 and Devon Chodzin ’19, have put the organization’s think tank practices to the test by addressing a new issue: how to cement the organization in the Kenyon community.

“We’re getting our stable footing down, trying to establish name recognition,” said Williams, the club’s former president and now the organization’s chapter coordinator for the Midwest region.

The Roosevelt Institute is a New York City-based think tank that focuses on incorporating young people into public policy discussions. Its website boasts more than 10,000 college students and recent graduates in its programs. Kenyon’s chapter was founded in 2014 by Phoebe Roe ’16 and Sam Whipple ’16. While the national organization tackles larger issues like international trade, college chapters typically focus on local issues in their communities. They receive

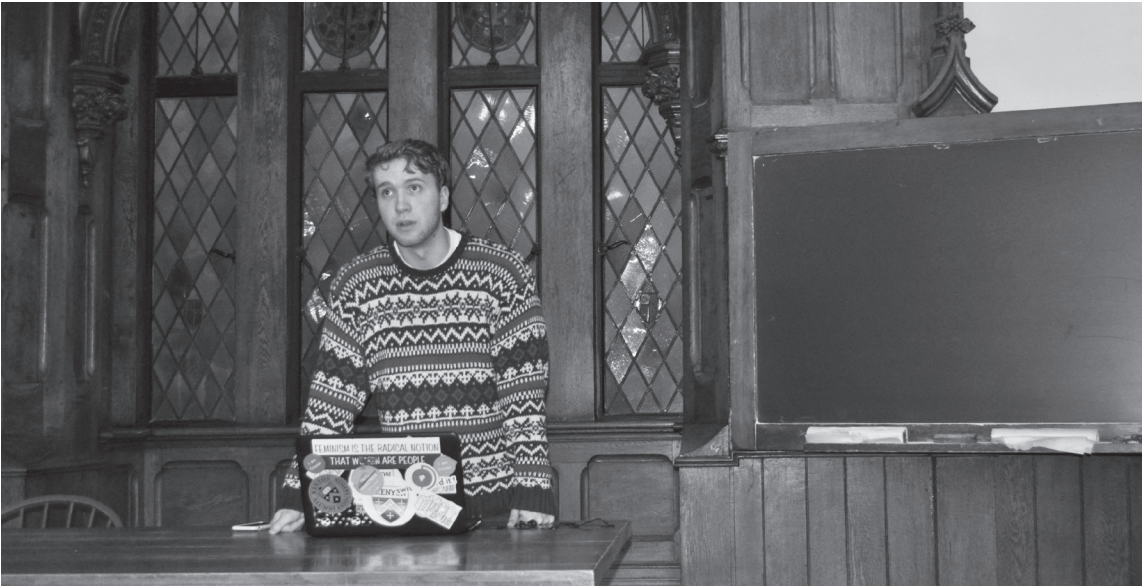
guidelines and tips from the national organization but, for the most part, have free reign.

Kenyon’s chapter takes a flexible approach to programming. Unlike chapters at other schools that host weekly meetings, Roosevelt at Kenyon members look for ways to use their policy knowledge to assist other organizations on campus. Earlier this year, Williams hosted a training session for KSGS on lobbying local representatives on gun control issues. She heard about the organization’s plans for a lobby day and reached out to the president of the club to see if there was interest in working together.

“At the moment, we are primarily planning programming to get the name out there to remind people of what we are,” Chodzin, Roosevelt at Kenyon’s current president, said.

The Roosevelt Institute doesn’t just give students guidelines for devising their own policy. It also gives students a platform to publish their policy proposals on the organization’s blog and in *Ten Ideas Journal*, a print publication that the organization releases every year featuring the 10 best proposals from chapters around the country. After the members flesh out their policies, they are then expected to implement them in their communities.

At other chapters, the process from publication to implementation has been a success. A student Williams knows at Connecticut College recently published a policy proposal in the *Ten Ideas Journal* about providing free tampons on campus. This



NORA MITTLEMAN

Devon Chodzin '19 is the president of the Roosevelt Institute at Kenyon, a public policy group.

past year, she used the proposal as a stepping stone to implement the plan at her college. With the help of her school’s maintenance staff, she has installed tampon dispensers in several of the school’s building.

Because of the Kenyon chapter’s current focus on connecting with other organizations on campus, Roosevelt at Kenyon has not yet implemented any of its own policies. But the organization has done work to generate local policy ideas: On Feb 21, they hosted a Dessert and Discussion in the Horn Gallery to discuss making the College more eco-friendly.

David Heithaus ’99, the director of the Office of Green Initiatives, was one of those present. He was impressed with the publishing aspect of the organization. “It creates a positive, competitive environment where

campus chapters are more likely to identify and execute focused projects,” Heithaus wrote in an email to the *Collegian*.

Director of Community Partnerships Jen Odenweller also attended the event. “You have to admit that if you want a great impact, policy is typically the way you’re going to have to go,” she said.

Roosevelt at Kenyon followed up their meeting at the Horn with an event demonstrating the practice of coalition mapping, a process in which one determines which groups to target to implement policy. Williams chose a policy they had outlined at the Horn: the implementation of an eco-friendly curriculum in new student orientation. In a scene that was fitting of Roosevelt Institute’s think-tank nature, Williams and


Odenweller exchanged ideas until the potential policy evolved into a county-wide green initiatives program that might better incentivize the College’s participation.

Williams enjoys the club’s ability to incorporate non-students into its discussions. “Every time there’s a community member and a student in the same room having a conversation together, that’s something we want,” she said.


The club is in search of leadership right now — Williams is graduating in May and Chodzin is going abroad — but Chodzin is confident in the club’s ability to maintain students’ interest. “A lot of students, when they do get involved, they’re pleasantly surprised,” he said. “There is a lot more opportunity for their own leadership to come through.”

CLASS CLASH


COMPILED BY OLIVER VANDENBERG




Senior Class Total:
44



Junior Class Total:
42



Sophomore Class Total:
42



First-Year Class Total:
35

	Answer	Scott Treiman '17	John Wilhelm '18	Rad Savage '19	Amelia Yeager '20
What does Kenyon CHIPS stand for?	<i>Celebration of High-Impact Practices</i>	Celebration of High-Impact Practices	Something sciences partnership	Crash high impact something	Celebration of High-Impact Practices
Who won the NCAA basketball championship?	<i>University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill (UNC)</i>	North Carolina	The Vikings	UNC	Michigan
Which popular <i>Fox News</i> anchor is currently involved in a harassment scandal?	<i>Bill O'Reilly</i>	Bill O'Reilly	None	Bill O'Reilly	Megyn Kelly
To which organization is President Donald Trump donating his salary thus far?	<i>The National Parks Service</i>	The National Parks	Donald Trump Foundation	National Parks Service	The Trump Organization
Weekly Scores		4	0	3	1

Independent nonprofit strives to unite Ohio activist groups

United Citizens Action Network is a “neutral agent” to address environmental, social issues.

GRANT MINER
FEATURES EDITOR

The founding members of the United Citizens Action Network (UCAN), a local nonprofit, met through a mutual friend before a trip to Standing Rock Indian Reservation in North Dakota last November to participate in protests against a proposed oil pipeline. Zak Young '17, Emma Schurink '17 and Matt Meyers '17 had all traveled to Standing Rock the month before. Upon their return, they were approached by Mount Vernon and Gambier residents Jacob Clark and Zachary Parker, who were looking for advice on what they would find when they arrived at Standing Rock. As it turns out, traveling was an experience worth using as a model for future activism.

The UCAN members had seen a variety of approaches to activism at Standing Rock, and wanted to apply similar practices in Ohio, where they perceived a lack of unity among environmental and social activist groups. Their goal, according to Parker, was to act as a “neutral agent” that would facilitate contact between indirect and direct action groups. Indirect action groups, such as the Sierra Club, work inside the law and try to effect legislation and sue companies. Direct action activists typically engage in protest, sometimes by, for example, chaining themselves to trees and organizing sit-ins.

“There were all these people from

around the world,” Parker said. “Some of them had different approaches, but they were still working together, and we wanted to mimic that here in Ohio.”

In January, they came together to form UCAN and filed for 501(c)(3) non-profit status in February. It was at that point that Schuyler Stupica '19, another director, also joined the group. As such a small group, they were unsure how to begin until Clark — who frequently hikes in the Wayne National Forest in southeastern Ohio — told them that some of the forest’s land was up for auction to hydraulic fracturing (fracking) companies.

“We couldn’t win a fight with oil companies, or fracking companies,” Parker said. “But when we heard about the Wayne, we said, ‘Hey, this is crazy. This is a fight we can actually win.’”

To that end, UCAN is hosting a camp-out conference from April 21-23 at a farm in Marietta, Ohio. They are inviting a wide range of activist groups to pool resources and brainstorm ways to oppose the auction and the fracking already occurring in the area. or example, the Ohio Environmental Council, which is part of a group heading a lawsuit against the U.S. Forest Service, will be sending a speaker. On the opposite end of the spectrum, Appalachia Resist, a direct action group, will also be sending members.

While organizing with other



From left: Zak Young '17, Schuyler Stupica '19, Emma Schurink '17, Matt Meyers '17 and Zachary Parker, the five directors of the UCAN nonprofit

groups is central to UCAN’s mission, the organization has also been focusing on talking to community members. Local veterans already put on a fundraiser for the group, which was organized in part by Clark who is also a veteran. UCAN is not affiliated with Kenyon, and is entirely funded by members and fundraisers, something the members see as an advantage.

For UCAN, the fact that Ohio has one of the largest numbers of colleges per capita in the United States is evidence that students are an underutilized force in Ohio activism. UCAN members emphasized that colleges

are still an important part of the activism network, and that colleges are often centers of activism. Their main goal is to promote cooperation between student and local populations.

But UCAN does not just tackle environmental issues — they plan to work on social issues as well. While their current project is the Wayne, they have plans to help address drug problems in Knox County. They are exploring the possibility of instating a needle exchange box the in area, possibly in the Knox Community Hospital.

The UCAN founders ultimately sees themselves as facilitators — peo-

ple who help secure funding and government assistance.

Because three of the four student members of UCAN are seniors, it is not yet certain what form the nonprofit will take in the future. Meyers plans to stay in the area and address the group’s targeted local issues, and Schurink is moving to Columbus and plans to get involved with an unofficial activist group called Keep Wayne Wild. Young, who is moving to Maine, still sees himself playing an active role in the group as a writer and editor of the group’s media.

“We’re adapting to the environment,” Schurink said.

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Allen Cruz and the Galaxy returns for a show in Peirce Pub

The pop-rock band finds inspiration in show tunes, superheros, politics and personal life.

SAM ACHTERMANN
STAFF WRITER

Canton, Ohio-based pop-rock band Allen Cruz and the Galaxy played at Kenyon for the second time Saturday night at Peirce Pub. The band discovered Kenyon through their friendship with AVI Resident Director, Chris Wisbey and first played in Peirce Dining Hall.

They returned with a mix of covers, such as “Uptown Funk” by Bruno Mars, “Semi Charmed Life” by Third Eye Blind and “The Middle” by Jimmy Eat World, as well as originals from the group’s newest album, *Talk About the Moon*.

The band formed in 2011 when Cruz met guitarists Josh Huddleston and Ben Stover at a Fourth of July show, but they had all been musicians since as early as junior high.

“I always wanted to be an artist,” Bassist Andrew Cernava said. “For my 16th birthday, my family gave me money to take driving school lessons but, instead of [that], taking driving school, I bought a bass guitar. And then every time my family gave me money, like when I graduated, I would buy another bass. They stopped giving me money after a while.”

The group has played at marathons, bars, birthday parties and even some larger venues with thousands of people present, but Allen Cruz — the band’s frontman — describes the group as primarily a wedding band.

Allen Cruz and the Galaxy draws from various musical influences, blending everything from Latin and country music to singer-songwriter John Mayer. The band describes their genre as “less mainstream pop.”

“The awesome thing is that we come from super different backgrounds,” Cruz said. “I’m the dude who’s really really into pop.”

Huddleston chimed in to mention his devotion to soul music, while bassist Cernava and Stover add rock and blues flavors. Most of the band’s originals are infectiously happy songs, which Cruz attributed to his background in show tunes. As the band moved away from their first album and wrote new material, Cruz said, their sound became a bit darker and more mature. “[*Talk About the Moon*] was at an easy time,” Huddleston said. “I think the art reflects what’s going on in your life.”

Cruz attributed the recent shift to more intense collaboration and the current political situation, saying the group has been writing more sad and angry songs since the election in November.

Cruz, as the main lyricist, draws inspiration from the people in his life and media. Though you would not know it from hearing his lyrics, Cruz even finds material in superhero movies. In fact, the band’s name comes from popular superhero franchise *Guardians of the Galaxy*.

The group’s new material will be released as frequent singles instead of albums, another



ELLIOT JAFFE

Allen Cruz and the Galaxy performs a mix of covers and original songs in Peirce Pub.

example of John Mayer’s influence. “The music industry has changed,” Cruz said. “Especially for local musicians, it’s hard to get an album out there, to have people care.” Huddleston added that it is difficult to keep people’s attention for 10 to 12 songs.

With a studio space of their own, the group spends anywhere from three to 12 hours practicing nearly every day. As full-time musicians, long hours are doable but, now that their lives are beginning to settle down, such a commitment is not as easy as it once was.

Cruz said he became an artist because he

“couldn’t imagine doing anything else.” The group hopes to take this project as far as they can. Their dream is simply to invest their lives in making music. “We’re blessed right now because we’re still young and able to do it,” Cruz said. “But you know, you never know what life puts ahead of you. We hope nothing gets in our way.”

Cruz says that he thoroughly enjoys playing at Kenyon and encourages readers to check out their Facebook page, YouTube channel and Bandcamp site. Allen Cruz and the Galaxy will return to Kenyon on April 18 for another show.

Margulies discusses his screenplay

The End of the Tour screenwriter hosts film showing.

DAN NOLAN
STAFF WRITER

Last Thursday night, Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Donald Margulies hosted a screening of *The End of the Tour*, his most recent screenplay, in the Gund Gallery Community Foundation Theater. Margulies delivered a lecture on playwriting the day before.

Released in 2015, the film follows author David Foster Wallace, played by Jason Segel, and *Rolling Stone* reporter David Lipsky, played by Jesse Eisenberg, as they travel together to the last stop on Wallace’s book tour for his novel *Infinite Jest*. A movie about Wallace is especially appropriate to show at Kenyon, where he gave his famous 2005 commencement speech “This is Water.”

Although he originally conceived of it as a play, Margulies felt that, given Wallace’s literary focus on the theme of American lifestyle, he had to write the story as a road trip movie that takes place across America. “We need to see David Foster Wallace on the American landscape,” he said at the screening.

Margulies based the screenplay on real conversations between the two writers, which he found in Lipsky’s memoir, *Although of Course You End Up Becoming Yourself*. Margulies felt he had to curate their

conversations in a way that would not only be true to what the writers actually said, but would also be interesting to those unfamiliar with Wallace’s work.

“I dealt more with themes: celebrity, mortality, loneliness,” he said in the Q&A following the screening. “I decided to tell the universal aspects of this story.”

Most of the movie focuses on the dynamic between the two remarkably intellectual writers. “Really when you look at it it’s just these two smart guys showing off,” Margulies said.

Because Margulies interviewed Lipsky for the screenplay, this movie offers much to fans of Wallace as well. Its greatest strength is that it provides an accessible way to learn about some of Wallace’s most important themes. For example, watching the slow reveal of Wallace’s television addiction itself inspires viewers to both question the role of technology in their lives and seek out Wallace’s writing on the issue.

In the Q&A after the film showing, Margulies spoke about how his meetings with Lipsky affected how he wrote the two characters. For example, it led him to create the third act of the movie, in which Wallace jealously accuses Lipsky of flirting with his ex-girlfriend. The scene



A poster for *The End of the Tour*

reveals a lot about Wallace as he interacts with other people. It is only in this movie that one can see this side of Wallace, who comes off as a private person in his writing and in interviews.

In Margulies’ words, the movie revealed much more about Wallace. “What moved me about Lipsky’s book was getting a glimpse into this man’s imagination and mind and soul, and realizing now, only after he’s gone, that he’s genius,” he said at the end of the Q&A.

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You Got Older brings an unflinching narrative to the stage



DEVON MUSGRAVE-JOHNSON
ARTS EDITOR

While the man sitting behind me in the Hill Theater was still wheezing with laughter, I could hear sobs coming from just a few rows forward.

Clare Barron's *You Got Older*, directed by Ben Fisher '17 and starring Julia Weinberg '17 for their senior thesis production, led the audience through a whirlwind of emotions. By the time the play ended, it felt as though the audience was still trying to catch up with it all.

Weinberg starred as Mae, a woman moving back in with her father (Spencer Huffman '17) to help see him through the final stages of his cancer treatments. Mae has just lost her job, her boyfriend and her apartment. She spends her days meandering through the house dreaming about a fantasy cowboy (played by Chris Stevens '17 who also acted in *Three Days of Rain*) and occasionally sneaking out to drink at a bar.

It is a depressing premise — and the play was certainly heart-wrenching at times — but moments of hilarity were also

present despite the heavy content because of Weinberg's honest performance.

In one scene, Mae tells an old friend of her sister whom she has just met — Mac, played by Tristan Biber '17 — that she is not okay and thinks her life is falling apart. She then begins an equally depressing, but somehow hilarious, rant about a mysterious rash on her back.

"Clare Barron is a really cool new writer," Weinberg said. "She writes about women being gross, and men being gross and boils and beard hairs, and I just got to have a lot of fun playing this role."

Although Weinberg performed her monologues extremely well, her moments with the larger cast were the strongest. When Mae's siblings Hannah, Jenny and Matthew — played by Cassidy Lu Jones '17, Lily Schneider '18 and Ned Thomas '17, respectively — get together to see their father come out of surgery, a brilliantly chaotic and humorous scene takes

place.

"It was hard — we had to dedicate full days to just doing that scene," Fisher said. "We had to sort of choreograph where everyone was going to be at any given moment and create a stage picture for every part. Then, once everything fit together, the actors could imbue it with familiarity, jokes and sibling chemistry."

Under the direction of Fisher, the cast found a great rhythm that made each scene feel realistic and made the characters feel like a family. They talked over each other, tried to embarrass one another

and got in each other's faces, but the scene played smoothly and nothing felt like a throwaway line.

The careful direction and acting choices came together with beautifully minimalist sets designed

by Abby Armato '17 with Sarah Gaglione '19 and seamless transitions under the direction of Stage Manager Laurel Waller '19. The final result was a brutally honest, painfully funny and wonderfully tragic play.

“By the time the play ended, it felt as though the audience was still trying to catch up with it all.”

Spencer Huffman '17 and Julia Weinberg '17 work well together on stage as father and daughter.

BEN FISHER

Subtle, complex performances shine in *Three Days of Rain*

Actors took on multiple roles in the two-act thesis production about family and inheritance.

DEVON MUSGRAVE-JOHNSON
ARTS EDITOR

Richard Greenberg's *Three Days of Rain* has two acts, three actors and six characters that span two generations.

This play is complex. Each actor plays two different roles, the events are not in chronological order and each character is dealing with an important impasse in their life. Nevertheless, Clara Mooney '17 and Alex Kirshy '17 decided to take on the challenge for their senior thesis.

"I just remember picking it up and just not being able to put it down," Mooney said, "and being able to see and hear it in my brain."

In the first act, Kirshy stars as Walker Janeway, a loud and unstable man who has just returned from a year in Italy following his father's death and becomes obsessed with his late father's journal. The play begins after Walker has returned to New York to attend the reading of his father's will. Kirshy works well alongside Emma Daily '18, who plays Walker's sister Nan, and Chris Stevens '17, as Walker's old friend Pip Wexler. Stevens also acted in *You Got Older*, which went up the same weekend.

Under Mooney's direction, the cast remained in sync even when the characters had to be in completely different headspaces. At certain points, Mooney chose to have characters upstage themselves by talking out a window on the back wall of the stage or by speaking to a character upstage of them. While this is normally the number one "don't" of directing, the risk paid off. Mooney's direction used the full space of the stage



COURTESY OF ALEX KIRSHY

Chris Stevens '17 and Alex Kirshy '17 perform in *Three Days of Rain*, the thesis show of Kirshy and Clara Mooney '17.

and illustrated the shifts in power dynamics as the play moved forward.

"The script called for these two separate spaces — the apartment and the street below," Mooney said, "and I needed to find a way to use the space as economically as possible."

In the first act, Kirshy played his character well. He hit all of his marks and seemed to play the character with ease. It was in the second act, however, when he plays a young version of Walker's father Ned, that he really broke through and delivered a stunning performance.

The second act takes the play back 45 years and tells the story of a mysterious entry Walker discovered in his father's journal: "1960, April 3-5. Three days of rain."

Ned's character required a subtlety that wasn't needed in Kirshy's previous performance. Ned is unassuming and speaks with a stutter, but Kirshy remained at the center of every scene because of the endearing qualities — such as a sweet demeanor and soft tone of voice — that he brought out in his character.

Where the stuttering could have become a nuisance, it didn't. Where Ned could have slipped into a secondary role, he didn't. And where Kirshy could have downplayed the complexity of such a quiet character, he refused.

The amount of work that Kirshy put into this character and the risks that Mooney took in her directing paid off tenfold. The second act of *Three Days of Rain* took the play from a good, but typical, senior thesis to an outstanding production of an extremely complicated and potentially cumbersome production.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Missing the 'student' in student government

Of the eight student government positions open for election this spring, half are uncontested, and the others have no more than two candidates. Every year it seems like the *Collegian* runs an op-ed bemoaning the lack of participation in student government elections. Most of the ire is placed on the student body, less than a quarter of which usually votes in these elections. But perhaps we should be looking at another culprit: student government itself. If so few people run and so few votes are cast, maybe students just aren't really sure what these positions entail and how important they can be in creating school policy. These elected officials need to better communicate the importance of their jobs to potential candidates.

The fact that there is a communication problem on this campus is no secret, but our elected representatives should work harder to keep us informed about who they are and what they do. It often seems like the students who enter government their first year are the ones who stay throughout, perhaps because they are the only ones who know how student government works and what its purpose is. As much as we can lambast students for not going to the weekly, open student council meetings or voting in the elections, it seems like this is not merely laziness. It may signal a lack of connection with Student Council, one that cannot be solved by a few extra student-info emails. Student government officials have to signify more to the students than a name signed to yet another email or the stern faces at BFC hearings grilling them about why they deserve to use their own money. It is essential that our elected representatives do not feel as far away and uncommunicative as the notoriously silent higher echelons of Kenyon's professional administration.

Back in February, we published a staff editorial about how Student Council could increase transparency by livestreaming meetings. But this is about more than transparency — it is about understanding what our representatives actually do and the powers they have. Livestreaming meetings would allow students to see their representatives in action through an easily accessible medium (which would also benefit off-campus students). Students would learn much more about the discussions than what is listed in the highly edited meeting minutes emailed out after each meeting, which few students even read.

Yes, students must also do more to engage with Student Council. But when so few are willing to run for a position, we must ask ourselves if this is occurring because students are complacent or uninterested, or if they simply do not know what their representatives do. Student Council should be more open about their proceedings. This will not only encourage student involvement, but ensure that we have a responsive council. Lack of opposition easily leads to complacency. Students need a voice — not just an annually elected social club.



D-CAT SLOWLY REALIZED THAT HE SHOULD PROBABLY STOP WALKING HIS DOGS ON BIG PARTY NIGHTS.

ANNA ZINANTI | COLLEGIAN

Instead of Relay, choose a worthier cause

The American Cancer Society is surrounded by controversy.

CLAIRE PRESTON
CONTRIBUTOR

On Saturday, April 8, Kenyon College will host Relay For Life, an annual event intended to raise awareness for cancer prevention. Relay For Life is affiliated with The American Cancer Society (ACS), the largest nonprofit foundation for the fight against cancer. While the widespread support for Relay for Life and the ACS give the impression that this organization is helping fight cancer and is well deserving of monetary donations, controversies surrounding ACS organization prove otherwise.

As someone directly affected by cancer, I am not putting down those using Relay to assist in the fight against cancer. I am, however, urging donations and time go instead to organizations that are doing significantly more to help this cause. Since its founding, the ACS has been focused on cancer prevention. Two of its biggest platforms for prevention are receiving yearly mammograms starting at age 45 and decreasing smoking habits. Encouraging mammograms is deeply troubling because it has been proven that mammographies in non-high risk women, especially those under the age of 50, do not lead to an increased breast cancer survival rate and, due to radiation, may even cause cancer. ACS's outdated encouragement of mammograms has been addressed only by pushing back the suggested age to start re-

“When considering Relay For Life at Kenyon this year, try to avoid perpetuating myths that can be harmful to the fight against cancer.

ceiving yearly mammograms from 40 to 45.

The ACS encourages people to stop smoking as cancer prevention, which is less damaging than the support of mammograms. But it does further perpetuate myths related to lung cancer. About 60 to 65 percent of all new lung cancer diagnoses are among people who have never smoked or are former smokers and 10 to 15 percent of lung cancers are found in those who have never smoked. With the rise of genetic mutation-based lung cancer in young women according to the LUNgevity Foundation, the myth that lung cancer is directly correlated to cancer is not acceptable. It is not harmful to encourage people to stop smoking, but victim blaming has led to lung cancer receiving only six percent of federal funding even though it is the cancer with the highest mortality rate by a large margin. In 2009, 17 percent of the ACS's \$1 billion budget was allotted to prevention, predominantly smoking cessation; however, lung cancer deaths have been rising steadily in the last 20 plus years.

The ACS also ignores the scientific findings on the effect of food and toxins on cancer. In reports from 2005-2010 the ACS does not note the 11 carcinogens identi-

fied in the 2004 National Toxicology Program (NTP) Report, besides nine of the same also identified in the 2010 President's Cancer Panel (PCP) Report as potentially causing cancer.

Unfortunately, there is also vast controversy surrounding how the ACS spends donated money. The ACS is widely considered to be one of the wealthiest non-profit organizations in the world. Former CEO John R. Seffrin received a \$2.4 million salary/compensation from the charity for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. There are a number of related financial controversies involving ACS, more than can reasonably be listed in this piece according to Charity Watch.

When considering Relay For Life at Kenyon this year, try to stay aware of the scientific findings the ACS does not acknowledge and avoid perpetuating myths that can be harmful to the fight against cancer. In the future, or instead of participating in Relay, donate to charities that have higher cure rates, more financial transparency and superior scientifically backed preventative statements.

Claire Preston '20 is currently undeclared from Butler, Pennsylvania. Contact her at preston1@kenyon.edu.

Kenyon faculty and staff praise environmental studies major

Excitement for the future of ENVS

ROBERT ALEXANDER
CONTRIBUTOR

This is a great time for Kenyon to have started a new environmental studies (ENVS) major. President Decatur just signed the American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment, we have developed an Office of Green Initiatives, the Brown Family Environmental Center just celebrated its 20th anniversary last year, the Philander Chase Conservancy recently opened the Kokosing Nature Preserve with a green cemetery and a prairie restoration project, the Kenyon Farm now has a full-time manager and we are starting to install solar panels on select College buildings. Kenyon has environmental resources that most colleges would envy. The momentum is high; both existing and prospective students are anxious for an environmental studies major at Kenyon.

That is why a group of faculty spent last year designing a curriculum that will prepare students to be leaders in this important field, while leveraging the unique strengths and personality of Kenyon. We want our students to understand the interplay between humans — together with their social and cultural institutions — and the physical, chemical and bio-

logical processes of the natural world. We want them to approach complex problems from an analytical perspective and apply logic, scientific principles and quantitative tools to their solutions. We want them to understand the social, historical, philosophical, spiritual and literary traditions that define the relationships between humans and their environment. And we want them to persuasively communicate ideas and logical arguments both orally and in writing as active participants in the environmental problem-solving process. We will challenge our students in the classroom to help them meet their potential as environmentalists and leaders.

We also know that environmental students are generally active in their communities, so we are working with the Kenyon green centers to provide a wide variety of hands-on experiences for our students. They are as enthused as we are about increasing their interaction with our students. We couldn't be more excited to move from planning to implementing the major and we can't wait for students to be able to formally declare ENVS as their major in the fall. That's when the real fun begins!

Robert Alexander is a visiting Professor of Economics and Environmental Studies. Contact him at alexanderr@kenyon.edu.

Twenty years in the making, ENVS major just in time

DAVID HEITHAUS
CONTRIBUTOR

Earlier this year, the faculty voted to approve an environmental studies major. This marked the end of a road whose length, while frustrating to some, has arguably facilitated the major's defining asset: the opportunity for hands-on independent projects integrated with the goals of Kenyon's increasingly vital green initiatives.

I recall about 20 years ago leaving an Intro to Environmental Studies class in Higley. Another student was asking the professor whether she thought Kenyon would ever have an environmental studies (ENVS) major. I did not catch the answer, but I do remember thinking, "Fat chance." At that time, a major just didn't seem to be in the cards. Resources were tight, as they always are. Environmental Studies as a concentration, much less a major, was tolerated and scuttled along the curricular periphery of a Kenyon not overly interested in proliferating majors.

The College was strong in the traditional fields of a liberal arts institution. It was focused on the fundamentals and had a solid reputation for that fact. There simply wasn't a clear place for a broad interdisciplinary field like ENVS without unacceptable sacrifices or those ever-elusive "additional resources." I wasn't privy to department or faculty meetings, but I imagine plenty of people wondered what we could offer to compete with peer institutions' environmental studies

programs. Others likely wondered why we'd want to.

These were reasonable questions then and, to be honest, they are still reasonable today. The difference is what time has done to the answer.

In the 1990s when the debate about a major was initiated (if quietly), the Brown Family Environmental Center was in its infancy, had a different name and one part-time manager. The Farm was an open field adjacent to a faculty residence, the Kokosing Nature Preserve was an 18-hole golf course, the Philander Chase Conservancy was just a concept, and the ideas of institutional sustainability and climate planning were not. If Kenyon had gone ahead with an ENVS major at that time, we'd have likely wound up with a resource-addled version of what Oberlin College and Middlebury College were already doing quite handily.

Over the last 20 years, however, the College has steadily built the centers and programs that will allow our environmental studies major to stand out amongst our peers. Today Kenyon has a fully staffed, 500-plus acre biological preserve with virtually every type of habitat one could reasonably expect to find in central Ohio. We have perhaps the nation's only college or university-associated land trust — one that has been wildly successful in preserving the natural and agricultural landscape of Knox County. We also have the Kokosing Nature Preserve, a natural burial ground. The Farm program recently gained pro-

fessional staff and funding, and the College has embarked on the path of carbon neutrality. Other institutions certainly have some of these things. But all of them? Supported and functioning and ready to engage with students and the curriculum? Requiring students to participate in at least one experiential learning project, in addition to the specific requirements of the ENVS major, means the opportunities at Kenyon are intriguing and numerous. This major is not going to be constrained by the walls of a classroom.

The development of the ENVS major offers exciting ways for students to directly engage with the work of the green centers and programs through the lens of their chosen focus within the major. The Office of Green Initiatives is working to identify programmatic needs that environmental studies majors can use to accomplish both their curricular goals and those of the individual green centers and programs. By nurturing an environment in which students learn by contribution as well as reflection, it is my hope that Kenyon's environmental studies major will offer a unique experience that will translate into progress for the College and meaningful, practical growth for our prospective majors.

Twenty years is a long time to debate what a Kenyon environmental studies major might look like. I, for one, am glad it took so long.

David Heithaus '99 is the Director of Green Initiatives. Contact him at heithausd@kenyon.edu.

Kenyon lacks experiential learning classes

Diversify College's teaching methods for a more effective curriculum.

LELIA JO DUSTHIMER
OPINIONS EDITOR

As I delve into my fourth semester of Kenyon and gear up for an entire year abroad, I'd like to be candid as to how and what I have truly gained from my experience here so far.

One experience stands out from the rest. A few weeks ago, 10 other students, myself and our sociology professor departed to the U.S.-Mexico border. The travel seminar, which took place during spring break, was a requirement for the course Sociology 237: Borders and Border Crossings.

Our voyage was classified using many labels. Some in the group called it "the trip," others said "the travel seminar" and the course catalog dubs it "the off-campus experiential component." Whatever the name, the purpose of the voyage was clear. It was not an attempt for us to fully capture or "live" the immigrant experience. Rather, it was an opportunity to interact with and learn from those directly involved. But while some students may be amazed that I'd be willing to sacrifice more than half of my vacation time, I maintain that it was one of the best — if not the best — learning experiences I've had at Kenyon. Perhaps it has something to do with learning by doing, as opposed to discussing countless books and over-rehearsed lectures.

During our time in Arizona and Mexico, we spent hours each day immersing ourselves in every way possible. We went to Border Pa-

trol, traveled to Operation Streamline and volunteered with humanitarian aid groups. We traveled from Tucson, Arizona to Agua Prieta and Nogales, Mexico, crossing the border four times.

After just a week, I was in no way an expert on the situation at the border. The situation is complex, but from this experience I understand that the ideas of the border zone affect us all. The issues immigrants face near the U.S.-Mexico border are happening across the country, yet on a lesser-known scale. There is much to be done, even at Kenyon.

According to the U.S. Department of Education's website, experiential learning, or hands-on learning, is one of four key parts of the learning process. It requires students to take a more active role in their own education. The University of Chicago and the University of Colorado both boast their own experiential learning centers and are focused on providing valuable hands-on internships and hands-on classes to their students. Some universities even require an internship to graduate, explaining that students need to obtain real-work experience to be of value to employers in the competitive post-graduation job market.

This is why I am surprised to see that so few courses include experiential components here at Kenyon — seven or eight courses out of hundreds offered. As we near graduation, many of my senior friends have told me they wonder how profitable their education has

been. How do their skills translate into the real world if, in fact, life on the Hill is anything but the real world? Do writing papers and discussing books translate directly to real-life jobs? I do not mean to knock Kenyon's education system. Kenyon is an excellent institution of higher learning. But if Kenyon wants to continue to be a unique, elite institution — the College needs to do more than require students to take classes in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences and the arts.

Since coming back from the trip, the class is often the highlight of my day. Perhaps because I, like many of the other students, am more actively involved in the discussions. Every book that we read, every film that we watch — it's all real now. And when I think of immigrants crossing the border, I don't see a faceless shape anymore. Instead, I think of Angélo or Rodriguez or one of the countless other people that I met. I think of their stories, one man seeking asylum for homosexuality. Another being kept in a detention center for seven years, just waiting for his voice to be heard. I've never felt more connected to a subject, or more aware of my own role in it, than after this experience.

Kenyon needs to diversify its methods of teaching, as well as its classes, by expanding the availability of its experiential learning classes.

Lelia Jo Dusthimer '19 is an international studies major and Arabic minor from Danville, Ohio. Contact her at dusthimerl@kenyon.edu.

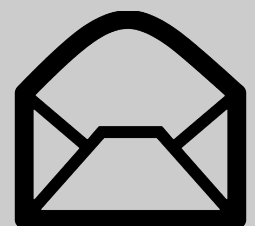
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Sam Clougher awarded with postgrad grant for soccer play

After outstanding collegiate career, goalie recognized for athletic and academic prowess.

NOAH NASH
SPORTS EDITOR

Two weeks ago, Sam Clougher '17, the former starting goalkeeper for Lords soccer, was awarded a National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Postgraduate Scholarship for his success both on the soccer field and in the classroom. The scholarship, which is a \$7,500 grant to fund graduate school education, is awarded to the most deserving and accomplished student athletes, who are nominated by a representative at their schools.

Clougher's collegiate athletic career is marked by numerous team and individual accomplishments.

Clougher, in his four years on the team, led the Lords to an overall record of 73-12-6, which includes three North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) tournament titles and two NCAC regular

season titles. The Lords also made it to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Division III tournament in each of the last two years.

Clougher, a history and economics

double major, established himself as one of the greatest goalies in Kenyon history with his overall body of work in the box. Clougher's 45 career shut-outs are the most in Lords history, and he also holds single-records with 15 shutouts and 0.31 goals against average — both set during the 2014 season. Clougher received plenty of recognition for his play this season as well. He made the 2016 All-Ohio Men's Scholar All American team, the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) third team and the NSCAA Division III All Great Lakes Region second team.

Despite his numerous individual athletic accomplishments, Clougher was quick to praise his teammates

“I thought about the game constantly and tried to figure out how to improve.

Sam Clougher '17

when he discussed what he misses most about playing for the Lords. “I’ve never been the most athletic nor the most talented, but I thought about the game constantly and tried to figure out how we could improve,” Clougher said. “I miss knowing I was surrounded by talented players who wanted to win as much as me and who I could trust to improve every day.”



COURTESY OF KENYON ATHLETICS

Sam Clougher '17 celebrates with fans after a victory over Trinity College on Nov. 19.

Clougher said he does not have any plans for graduate school at this time, but knows that he needs a year off before returning to school so he does not “burn out and waste [his] opportunity.”

He has not closed the door on his athletic career — Clougher continues to train in the hope of playing soccer full-time after college.

Lords tennis play well on Sunday

NOAH NASH
SPORTS EDITOR

Lords tennis recovered from a narrow Saturday loss to the Carnegie Mellon University Tartans by defeating the Allegheny College Gators and the Ohio Wesleyan University Battling Bishops on Sunday afternoon. With the 2-1 weekend, the Lords improved their overall record to 8-10. Their two victories on Sunday also marked the opening of the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) portion of their season, meaning the Lords have started 2-0 in conference play.

Sunday was a dominant performance overall for the men's team, as they bulldozed Allegheny 9-0 before cruising to a 7-2 victory against OWU. As evidenced by their clean sweep, the win over Allegheny was a team effort. In the victory, Austin Diehl '20 picked up his 13th singles victory of the season at No. 3 singles, winning 6-0 twice in a demonstration of his athletic talent. Diehl also won at No. 2 doubles while paired with Ben Gelfand '18. Jacob Zalenski '20 clinched the match for the Lords when his victory at No. 2 singles put the Lords up 5-0. The match was the second time the Lords have shut out their opponents this season — they defeated the Colby-Sawyer College Chargers 9-0 on March 17 during their spring break trip to Florida.

Hours later, the Lords cruised



CAMERON PETERS

Alex Rieger '18 serves against Allegheny college on Sunday.

against OWU on their way to a victory. As they did against Allegheny, Kenyon jumped out to an early 7-0 lead, winning all three doubles matches and the first four singles matches. Unfortunately, they were unable to complete the clean sweep, as the Battling Bishops battled their way to narrow victories in both No. 1 and No. 2 singles to prevent the Lords shutting them out. While two matches by no means provide an accurate prediction for how they will play in the NCAC, the Lords have had no trouble so far with their conference opponents.

Prior to their rout of the two aforementioned teams on Sunday, the Lords narrowly lost 5-4 to No. 7 ranked Carnegie Mellon despite nearly pulling off the upset. Mi-

chael Liu '18 gave the Lords a 4-3 lead with a victory at No. 4 singles, but the Lords were unable to hold onto their narrow lead. The Tartans won the final two matches to avoid the upset and send the Lords home with a bittersweet taste in their mouth.

“We were so close to winning the Carnegie [Mellon] match,” Liu said on Wednesday. “We are a young team and we have improved over the course of the season, but we need to be more clutch on those big points.”

The Lords will next play on Tuesday, when they host The College of Wooster at 4:30 p.m. on the Vanderberg Courts in their third NCAC match of the season.

Ladies track places ninth, Lords place 10th

JOSH WALMER
STAFF WRITER

The Lords and Ladies track teams competed in the Wooster Invitational on March 31 and April 1, with the Ladies placing ninth of 11 teams and the Lords placing 10th of 12 teams. Kenyon competed against a mixed field of in-and-out-of-conference opponents in what was their second meet of the season.

Of the 11 women's teams at the invitational, the Kenyon Ladies placed ninth with a score of 25 points. Six of these points came from Grace Moses '20, who took third in the 1500m dash with an impressive time of 4:57.73. Moses' finish was followed by scoring times by Claire Naughton '17 and Chloe Hall '20, who placed fourth and sixth respectively in the 3000m steeplechase with times of 12:04.19 and 13:09.19. The Ladies also found success in field events, with Devron Martin '18 taking fifth in triple jump (9.89m) and Mary Lauletta '17 placing sixth in the long jump (4.56m).

While the Kenyon Lords may have placed 10th of the 12 men's teams at the meet,

their collective 15 points were enough to surpass Denison University, who placed 12th. These points came entirely from field events, the best placement of which came from Tanner Orr '19 who took third in the long jump with a distance of 6.29 meters. Colton Orr '18 also scored by earning seventh in the pole vault (3.11 m). The rest of Lords' points came from the javelin throw, in which Jackson Pine '18 and Kevin Towle '19 placed fourth and 10th respectively with distances of 40.87 and 35.54 meters.

With this meet in the rear-view mirror, the Kenyon teams are looking forward to a successful season. “We’re really excited for All-Ohio coming up — we have a lot of runners who qualified and we are looking strong going into that and conference at the end of the season,” distance runner Nikki Scheman '18 said. “We had some setbacks with sickness and the cold weather at the Wooster meet, but we’ve been training hard and are ready to perform well coming up.”

The Lords and Ladies will be back in action this weekend at OWU's Marv Frye Invitational in Delaware, Ohio.



NIKKI ANDERSON

Left: Lauren Graf '20 takes her stride and times up her swing against the incoming pitch. Right: Austen Whibley '19 winds up during her start against Denison University.

Despite strong pitching performances, Ladies swept again

Austen Whibley '19 and Keely Sweet '20 suffer losses despite allowing just two earned runs.

NOAH NASH
SPORTS EDITOR

DENISON	9
KENYON	1
DENISON	3
KENYON	2

After a promising start to their week and North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) portion of their schedule with two wins over Oberlin College on Saturday, Ladies softballs performance fell back to earth. The Ladies have lost four straight games, including a sweep at the hands of the Denison University Big Red last night. With six games left on the Ladies' season schedule before the NCAC postseason tournament, every game is critical from

this point on. Last night, the Ladies were swept in their afternoon double-header at home against the Big Red by scores of 9-1 and 3-2. In the first game, the Ladies sent left hander Austen Whibley '19 to the mound for her 17th start on the hill of the season. Despite an Earned Run Average in the high sixes entering Wednesday's start, Whibley has been the model of consistency when it comes to working deep into games and taking the mound on such a consistent basis. This is a quality that Whibley is happy to have. "Being able to pitch as much as I do is something I am very proud of," Whibley said on Wednesday prior to her start.

"One thing that Coach and I work on a lot is to be efficient and make sure that I can go as deep as possible without getting tired. Although it is a lot of work and sometimes mentally draining, if it gives us a win I am always happy with that." Despite the inflated final score, Whibley delivered on the rubber. Although she allowed nine runs, only one of those runs was earned because of four errors made behind her. Whibley ended up throwing her 12th complete game of the season, and extended her in-

nings pitched total to 92 on the season. Whibley, however, did not have enough support behind her defensively and offensively. In addition to the four errors committed that led to eight unearned runs, the Ladies were only able to muster up one run offensively: an RBI double by shortstop Amanda Coyle '18 in the fifth inning that scored catcher Nicole Horita '18. The Ladies benefited from another strong pitching performance in the second game of the doubleheader, this time from

Keely Sweet '20. Sweet also threw a complete game while allowing just one earned run, but the defense made two costly errors that led to two unearned runs. These unearned runs ultimately cost the Ladies the game. The Ladies had jumped out early in the first inning on an RBI single from first baseman Grace Pilz '19. But then the Big Red battled back, scoring two runs on the top of the fifth and another in the top of the sixth to secure their second straight victory. The Ladies will next play on Saturday afternoon, when they will travel to Wooster, Ohio to take on the the College of Wooster in another doubleheader. The first game will begin at 1 p.m.

“Being able to pitch as much as I do is something I am very proud of.

Austen Whibley '19

Lords golf competes in weekend tournament with Marines

Ryan Muthiora '18 ties for third overall among 63 golfers by shooting 73 on a par 72 course.

ADAM SCHWAGER
STAFF WRITER

This past weekend the Lords golf team took second place in the consolation bracket at the 46th Annual Marine Federal Credit Union Intercollegiate Golf Championship. After finishing the first two rounds in 17th place — one spot shy of making the final round — the Lords finished the final round with a +16, making them +51 for the three-day tournament. The Marine Federal Credit Union Intercollegiate Golf Championship has taken place every year since 1972, with the purpose of fostering a relationship between collegiate golfers and active and retired Marines. Held every year at Paradise Point Golf Course on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, N.C., the event consists of 31 teams, one of which includes former and active Marines. Designed by former Marine and Golf course architect

“The Marines made it clear that ‘if it aint rainin,’ we ain’t trainin.’

Pat Kawakami '20

George Cobb, the base actually has two 18 hole courses, the Scarlet Course (Par 70) that the Lords played Friday and Sunday, and the Gold Course they played on Saturday (Par 72). This was Kenyon's first time in the tournament, which included schools like Duke University and North Coast Athletic Conference division rival DePauw University. Ryan Muthiora '18 led the way for the Lords, tying for third among the 63 golfers in the consolation bracket and shooting +5

for the tournament. He completed the more challenging Gold course on Saturday with the lowest score, shooting a 73 on a par 72 course. Other Lords also had good weekends. Mason McCool '17, shot +11 and finished tied for 12th, Robert Williams '19 finished with +12 and tied for 15th and Chase Frederick '20 (+24) and Pat Kawakami '20 (+26) rounded out the Lords' individual performances. After coming up short of qualifying for the Championship Bracket in the first two days, Muthiora regrets the mindset his team had going into the match. "We knew that the Scarlet Course was going to yield some low numbers, but we didn't do a good enough job of approaching it like any other tournament," Muthiora said. "That put us in a position where we were on the Gold Course trying to make up ground." The weather also impacted the team's Friday score. "We were stuck in a powerful rainstorm for 25 minutes on the first day,"

Kawakami said. "The Marines made it clear that 'if it ain't rainin,' we ain't trainin.'" One of the reasons this tournament is so prestigious is that the student athletes get to fraternize with the Marines they are competing against. Kawakami looks back fondly on the two dinners the teams were able to have with the Marines. "We were able to pick their brains about their experiences in serving our country," Kawakami said. While reflecting on his "great experience" of playing 36 holes with the Marines, Muthiora came to some meaningful conclusions. "It's easy, and unfair, to associate the men and women who serve in our armed forces with the sometimes unpopular political figures who seem to disingenuously promote the military in a propaganda-ish way," Muthiora said on Wednesday. "[But when playing golf with them] you realize that they are normal people who just want a break from their responsibilities to relax and play some golf."