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Recommended Citation

"Kenyon Collegian - September 14, 2017" (2017). *The Kenyon Collegian*. 2437.
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BILL GARDNER | SENIOR NEWS EDITOR

Last spring, the Peer Counselor (PC) Hotline began receiving calls from a man with an Australian accent pretending to be a Kenyon student, prompting them to change the Hotline number this year.

The PCs are a student-led resource for emotional support on campus. When the man called, he talked about generic problems that any student might have. When the PCs on call asked him about specifics — like where particular incidents happened on campus — he would struggle to answer. If the PC on call was a man, he hung up.

“We kind of knew something was up,” Hannah Wendlandt ’19, co-leader of the PCs, said. “And the content of his calls would vary, but he would talk for a while. And that’s just not what we’re around to do.”

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PCs change hotline after strange calls

NIKKI ANDERSON

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Students feel Harvey and Irma’s impact

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Balancing class, work and holy holidays

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College will support those impacted by DACA repeal

TOMMY JOHNSON
NEWS ASSISTANT

The Trump administration’s decision to rescind Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) earlier this month is unlikely to threaten Kenyon students, according to Kenyon administrators. DACA granted deferred action for deportation and eligibility for work permits to some individuals who had entered the country without documents prior to their 16th birthday and prior to June 2007. This means that while they remained undocumented, these “Dreamers” could live and work in the United States without threat of deportation for a renewable two-year period. The Obama administration established the program in June of 2012.

Although Kenyon is not officially designated as a sanctuary campus, it functions as such, and its policies and practices that protect undocumented students remain the same. Vice President for Student Affairs Meredith Bonham ’92 emphasized the threat of Kenyon students being directly targeted by this decision is “highly unlikely.”

This is because Kenyon’s status as a college gives it the tools to protect student privacy in most cases. President Decatur and Center for

Global Engagement (CGE) Director Marne Ausec both highlighted that Kenyon follows the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) guidelines for all students. On top of that, Ausec emphasized that “when you work with immigration, there are just things you say and things you don’t say and that has not changed.”

Following Attorney General Jeff Session’s announcement on Sept. 5 about DACA being rescinded, Bonham sent an email to the student body that underscored the College’s commitment to diversity and told members of the community to refer anyone who questions them about a student, faculty or staff member’s immigration status to Ausec. The College has also reached out to those directly impacted.

Jacky Neri Arias ’13, assistant director of the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (ODEI), pointed out that the United States Department of Homeland Security lacks the resources to come to Kenyon’s campus.

As President Decatur highlighted, it is not just about Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE) or the federal government.

“There are also folks from the media, folks who may put information out on social media which might put a member of the ▶ page 3

Students float, climb and hang at BFEC celebration

JENNY TIE | STAFF WRITER

Kenyon students and Gambier residents enjoyed tubing down the Kokosing River and climbing one of the oldest trees in the Brown Family Environmental Center (BFEC) this past weekend during an event hosted by the Center.

BFEC workers and volunteers staffed the area and assisted the tree climbers.

While the event started as a celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the BFEC in 2015, it has become a tradition in the last three years. “It’s a fun back-to-school event,” BFEC manager Noelle Jordan said. “People can connect to nature.”



NIKKI ANDERSON

VILLAGE RECORD

Sept. 5- Sept. 12

Sept. 7, 12:04 a.m. — Biased words and symbols were found carved into a men's bathroom in a residential building.

Sept. 7, 8:00 a.m. — A student reported their longboard to be missing.

Sept. 9, 11:25 p.m. — A student engaged in a physical altercation with a non student. Both parties were arrested by Knox County Sheriff's office.

PCs change hotline number in response to harassment, spam

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The PCs began to suspect that this man was calling from an off-campus location, according to Wendlandt and Sean Deryck '18, who is also a co-leader of the PCs. Their advisor, Lindsay Miller, a College counselor, eventually called the man and told him to stop using the hotline. For several months, they didn't hear from him.

Then, at the beginning of this semester, Wendlandt received a call from the same man. After this call, the PCs changed their hotline number and took the previous number off the internet.

"We think that a lot of how this started to happen was that the hotline number was up online in a few places," Deryck said. "And we're working to not do that with the revised number."

Wendlandt and Deryck said the PC on call would often receive calls from spam accounts promising student debt relief.

Miller said that this wasn't the first time a stranger called on the PC hotline. She said that another man called into both the PC and Sexual Misconduct Advisor hotlines a few years ago, and behaved in the same way that this recent caller acted, telling the same story over and over.

"So I think in the same way people get satisfaction from stealing a bicycle or vandalizing, maybe it's satisfaction from knowing you're doing something wrong and getting away with it," Miller said.

When the man with the Australian accent called before, he would usually talk about his relationship issues, but only if the PC on call was a woman. The man often called using different phone numbers, which led Deryck and Wendlandt to suspect that he was us-

ing some kind of online software that would alter his phone number.

On top of this, the man often took up valuable time — time the PCs could be using to help Kenyon students.

"It's not a resource we're extending to the outside community," Deryck said. "It hindered our ability to work with the Kenyon community."

Deryck and Wendlandt said they hope the number change will prevent any unwanted callers from contacting them. Wendlandt said being on call is already stressful for PCs, and the added possibility that the call might not be from a Kenyon student made her feel like the hotline was being exploited.

"For me personally, having heard stories about him and being aware when he picked up and it was a dude with an Australian accent that it might not be a Kenyon student — I felt a little bit violated," Wendlandt said. "Like the service that I was here to extend to the campus was being abused."

Miller said the man with the Australian accent called her a few days ago after the PC hotline changed their number. Miller told him the service was deactivated so that he would stop calling, and they haven't heard from him since.

The PC hotline number will still be available on the posters around campus, as well as the emails they send to students. They hope this will ensure that people outside of Kenyon will not abuse the service.

"Being on call for anything is kind of hard, but we put in place measures to make it easier for people," Wendlandt said. "I think just knowing that nobody but Kenyon students and nobody but people on campus have that number, is a security [measure]. You just feel better knowing for sure that this is someone from the Kenyon community."

CSAD to host conference on free speech, civil discourse

BETUL AYDIN & RONAN ELLIOTT
STAFF WRITERS

The Center for the Study of American Democracy (CSAD) will feature prominent thought leaders such as former chair of the Democratic National Committee Howard Dean, author of *The War On Cops* Heather Mac Donald and Brookings Institution fellow Shadi Hamid, at its upcoming Sept. 27-28 conference about free speech in the modern world. The conference, titled "Free Speech, Civil Discourse," will be held at the Community Foundation Theater. Jeffrey Rosen, the president of the National Constitution Center — a non-profit, nonpartisan institution devoted to the study of the U.S. Constitution — will give the keynote address, which is about the Constitution's position on free speech, in Rosse Hall on Sept. 27 at 7:30 p.m.

Freedom of speech became especially prominent on college campuses nationwide in 2017, when hundreds of students at Middlebury College banded together to protest a talk by Charles Murray, a controversial author whose works have been used to justify genetic differences between black and white people. The protesters ultimately shut down the speech. Critics used the Middlebury incident, as well as protests at the University of California Berkeley, to argue that free speech was being threatened.

Locally, Kenyon students became invested in this debate when two students created HisCampus, a conservative-leaning website founded in response to a perception that "the voice of the majority around college campuses ... [is] telling people what they can and cannot say," according to the HisCampus website.

This conference is an opportunity for those on all sides of the debate over freedom of speech versus political correctness to air their concerns.

The conference will feature fifteen speakers from conservative, liberal and nonpartisan backgrounds. Thomas Karako, director of CSAD, is optimistic that the speakers will bring a variety of views to the table. "I think you are going to see a good diversity of backgrounds, of opinions, of walks of life in this line up," Karako said.

The speakers will go head-to-head in panels about hate speech and the limits of free expression, political correctness and microaggressions in the academy and the definitions of a free society.

"Come out, talk to them, engage them with challenging questions in that Kenyon way," Karako said. He said the conference will focus

on "a topic that is important and exciting and also controversial, but we are not afraid of that because we need to have candid and probing discussions of controversial issues like this."

The conference features a contest in which students are invited to submit essays regarding issues of free speech and democracy. Prizes include \$500 and a chance to eat dinner with the guest speakers. The deadline is Sept. 20.

The full list of panels and speakers is below:

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

4 p.m. Welcome from CSAD Director Tom Karako

4:05 p.m. Panel: Candor, Criticism and the Foundations of a Free Society
Eugene Volokh from the UCLA School of Law, Teresa Bejan from Oxford University, Nancy Powers of Kenyon College

5 p.m. Public Reception in the Gund Gallery Atrium

7:30 p.m. Keynote Address by Jeffrey Rosen: Free Speech and the Constitution
Sean Decatur, president of Kenyon, will welcome attendees and Jeffrey Rosen from the National Constitution Center will give the address in Rosse Hall.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

9:30 a.m. Panel: Open Discourse and Liberal Education

Stanley Fish from Yeshiva University, Allison Stanger from Middlebury College and Greg Lukianoff from the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education

11:10 a.m. Remarks: Is Free Speech the Enemy of Civil Society?

Nadine Strossen, former head of the American Civil Liberties Union

1:30 p.m. Panel: Hate Speech and the Limits of Free Expression

Ulrich Baer of New York University, Stephanie Fryberg '94 from the University of Washington and Shadi Hamid of the Brookings Institution

3 p.m. Panel: Political Correctness, Microaggressions and the Academy

Laura Kipnis from Northwestern University, Derald Wing Sue from Columbia University, Abbie Erler of Kenyon College

4:45 p.m. Public Reception in the Gund Gallery Atrium

7:15 p.m. Panel: Civil Discourse and America
Joe Klesner, provost of Kenyon College, will welcome conference attendees prior to Howard Dean, former governor of Vermont, Steven Pinker from Harvard University and Heather Mac Donald from the Manhattan Institute participating in a panel discussion, which will take place in Rosse Hall.

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Yearly subscriptions to *The Kenyon Collegian* are available for \$50. Checks should be made payable to *The Kenyon Collegian* and directed to the Editors-in-Chief.

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Ohio politicians call for bipartisan response to DACA repeal

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community in a vulnerable position,” Decatur said, “and so I think it is always just better to respect the privacy of members of the community.”

Bonham’s email to the student body on Sept. 5 stated, “As a general practice, Kenyon does not share information about the immigration status of our students and employees unless required by law.” Bonham explained that the only instance in which the College would be mandated to share information regarding a student’s immigration status would be if the College were subpoenaed.

Jeff Stewart, a coordinator of the Immigrant Worker Project in Canton, Ohio, said a subpoena would require proof of an imminent danger or an underlying criminal act. The Immigrant Worker Project supports migrant laborers that come to work in Ohio and Stewart describes DACA’s impact on the state as “a harsh blow.”

“For the students attending schools this isn’t going to be an issue,” he said. ICE and Border Patrol said in separate memorandums in 2011 and 2013, respectively, that educational institutions, hospitals and churches would be considered sensitive locations. These policies have not been affected by the decision to rescind DACA. ICE will act contrary to the sensitive location designation only in exigent circumstances or when prior approval is obtained from a designated supervisory official, which Stewart indicated is a difficult term to

define.

Sensitive locations, defined in a 2011 ICE memo, are locations where arrests, interviews, searches and surveillance should not be enforced. This designation is distinct from that of a sanctuary campus, in which a college makes a decision to enact policies to ensure that the sensitive location memorandum is actually enforced. Neri Arias said that though Kenyon is not officially designated as a sanctuary campus, it functions as such.

Ausec described what this means by saying, “You can tell who you are talking to because we’ll never mention a name,” she said. “Is that a policy? No. Is that good practice? Yes.”

Further Implications

Since the sensitive location memorandum represents agency policy and not a statute or regulation, it could legally be withdrawn or modified at any time.

Another concern is DACA recipient privacy. “If they have lodged an application with DACA, the U.S. government knows where they live,” explained Eric Thornton ’18, who worked with some DACA cases as an intern with the Immigrant Worker Project this past summer. In exchange for the security of deferred action, DACA recipients had to give up a lot of their information to the government.

As Neri Arias pointed out, even before DACA’s repeal, the College had these protections in place.

“I really want to stress that, that these are issues that any immigrant has always been fac-

ing,” she said. “So suddenly people that did not face these issues are now really worried about it, so I would encourage students to use that concern, to channel that energy into something that they can do.”

And there are broader implications of DACA beyond the Hill.

Stewart referenced the DACA recipients he knew, some working in the military or Fortune 500 companies, who had built their lives in Ohio.

“And just to rip that away,” Stewart said. “I think that is going to be a blow in many communities across Ohio, to both the social fabric of those communities and also the economic well-being.”

Moreover, Stewart referenced how many of these DACA recipients are married to permanent legal residents or US citizens.

“Now these families that felt secure are going to be facing the possibility of becoming fragmented and fractured through the process of people who may be put into the process of deportation or removal proceedings,” he said.

Thornton echoed that the way in which DACA was rescinded just makes people vulnerable and scared again.

Reinstating DACA protections

For Ohio and the country, any hope of reinstating these protections lies in Congress’ hands. Trump has given them a six-month window of time before DACA expires, during which certain DACA recipients may reapply to maintain their status. Both Thornton and

Stewart emphasized that there is certainly no guarantee of legislation, which would have to be bipartisan in a polarized political climate.

Ohio senators Rob Portman (R) and Sherrod Brown (D) emphasized their support for congressional action now that DACA had been repealed.

In a press release, Portman voiced his support for “bipartisan efforts for a permanent solution that will allow those in the DACA program to stay here and contribute to our society.”

Brown endorsed the DREAM Act, essentially a congressional version of DACA, but also condemned the repeal as “targeting young people who are ... contributing to this country.”

Ohio governor John Kasich (R), a critic of the president, said on “CBS This Morning” that it should take “reasonable” members of Congress “six hours” to compose legislation to handle DACA, and that DACA recipients should come to Ohio if they want to go somewhere and live.

On campus, as Neri Arias and Bonham continually chose to focus, it is about ensuring all students that come to campus can achieve their goals, no matter where or under what circumstances they may be coming from.

An important aspect of that, as Decatur and Neri Arias emphasized, is to continue respecting student privacy and remaining committed to their success.

“Kenyon really, truly, has supported undocumented students over time,” Neri Arias said, “not just now.”

Number of varsity athlete SMAs doubles since 2016-17 year

SOPHIE ALEXANDER
STAFF WRITER

Nearly twice as many varsity athletes are trained Sexual Misconduct Advisors (SMAs) this year compared to previous years. Increased participation by athletes in the program is in response to a demand from players and coaches for more support with sexual misconduct and Title IX at Kenyon, according to Nicole Keller, interim co-director of counseling services and the SMA faculty liaison.

“We’ve always had a few [athletes], but this year we’ve particularly tried to recruit a few more that we knew could help provide us with some extra support,” Keller said.

SMAs are a group of students and staff who are trained in Title IX, a federal policy that addresses sexual and gender-based discrimination, harassment and violence, according to the College’s website. SMAs provide confidential support to anyone at Kenyon who has experienced a form of sexual misconduct or has been accused of sexual misconduct. This year, five of the 25 SMAs are varsity athletes. They include a swimmer, a men’s basketball

player, a field hockey player and both a men’s and women’s soccer player.

Meredith Rogers ’19, a women’s soccer player, was hired last May to become an SMA for this school year.

A returning SMA, Lauren Castelbaum ’19, reached out to Rogers directly and encouraged her to apply late last semester.

“They specifically asked me because they knew they wanted more athletes,” Rogers said. “I think athletes were being underserved. It wasn’t as well-utilized. I think it’s because there weren’t as many faces that you knew. Putting faces and names to an organization is important.”

Once Rogers was hired last spring, she met with Keller to think of other athletes who would be interested in becoming SMAs. Rogers says they reached out to someone on almost every varsity team. Sarah Speroff ’18, a women’s field hockey player, was already an SMA. Four more athletes applied, and three were accepted into the program.

This focus on including athletes is a test run to see how representation of SMAs in specific groups on campus affects their participation in



Meredith Rogers '19, a member of the Ladies soccer team, is one of several new varsity athlete SMAs.

the program. If it goes well this year with athletes, SMAs will try to recruit students from other groups on Kenyon’s campus, such as international students and the LG-BTQ+ community. There are currently several SMAs who are involved in Greek life.

“We’re going to try to hit as many populations as we can just to let them know what we are as a resource,” Keller said.

The group of athlete SMAs will also work with Athlete’s Corner, a discussion series

created last year to open a dialogue on team cultures at Kenyon. Discussion topics include alcohol and hook-up culture at Kenyon. Keller said she doesn’t know yet exactly what role SMAs will play in Athletes Corner. “We’re still trying to figure that out,” she said.

In addition to the increase in varsity athlete representation in the program, SMAs are trying to increase their presence elsewhere on campus. This year, every hall and

Community Advisor on campus is assigned an SMA. Keller hopes increased involvement in living spaces will encourage more students to take advantage of the support their fellow students can offer.

“We know that peers will go to other peers first,” she said.

SMAs will continue their Survivors Small Group program this year and are considering starting another program for students who have experienced childhood sexual abuse.

Impact of hurricane's destruction felt miles away in Gambier

GABRIELLE HEALY & NOAH NASH
EDITOR IN CHIEF AND NEWS
EDITOR

Members of the Kenyon community braced themselves while watching hurricanes bombard the Caribbean region and southern part of the United States and its territories in recent weeks, worried about friends and family back home.

Isabella Bird-Muñoz '18 is from San Juan, Puerto Rico, which was hit by Hurricane Irma on Sept. 6. At least 61 people have died in total as a result of the storm, including at least eight in the continental United States. Due to Irma, almost 70 percent of households lost electricity and hundreds of residents lost their homes, according to *The New York Times*.

Bird-Muñoz said their family was safe, although their parents were without power and water for a time, but the electricity has since returned. They said they mostly got the news from their family members at home; American newscasters, they felt, were more focused on when the storm would hit Florida.

"I remember this one newscast where you could see the hurricane right on top of Puerto Rico, and the newscaster was like, 'It's a thousand

miles from Florida, like what are people doing in Florida to prepare,'" Bird-Muñoz said. "This is just another situation where you see non-global powers get hit first."

Bird-Muñoz also feels that the storm needs to serve as a wake-up call. "Just the fact that people still doubt that this is in any way still related to climate change is ridiculous," they said.

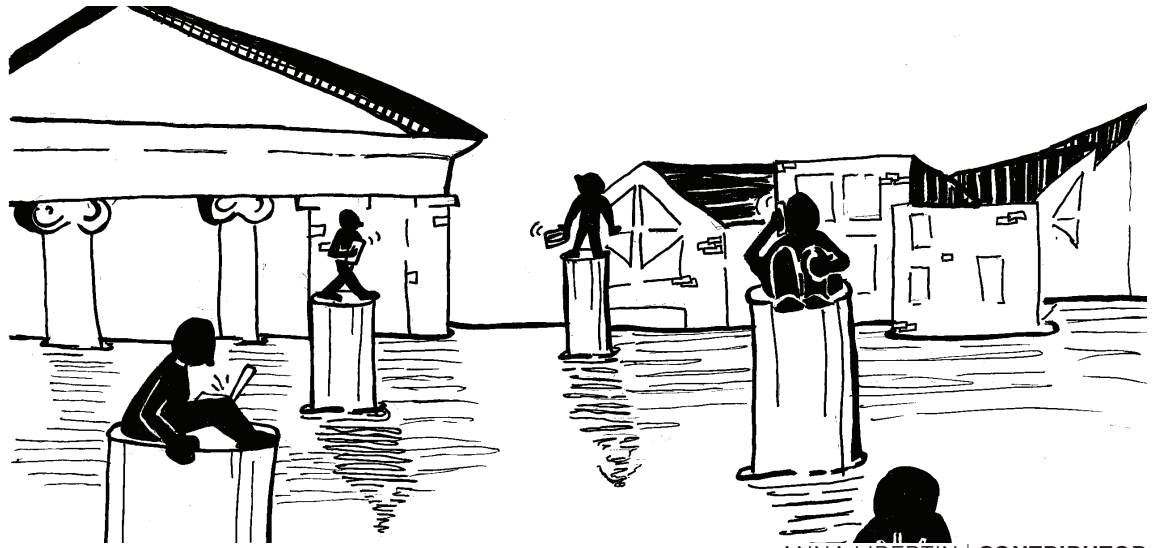
President Decatur said in an interview with the *Collegian* that College administrators were reaching out to students after Harvey on an individual basis for support, and that he anticipated doing the same for students who were affected by Irma.

"There are emergency funds available for students who may find that they need unexpected expenses or support," he said.

Decatur said two of his student advisees have family in the Houston area who had been affected. Bonham said that College administrators agreed that targeting students by geographic location may have been too narrow, and Robin Hart Ruthenbeck, dean of students, and

Bonham sent out a student-info email explaining the College resources available to the community.

Mary Angela Ricotta '20 is from Houston, Texas, which was hit by



ANNA LIBERTIN | CONTRIBUTOR

Hurricane Harvey. Harvey, which the National Hurricane Center listed as a Category 4 storm, made landfall on Aug. 25. Ricotta said that her family was lucky, and that her house had not flooded. She said Houston was used to some flooding, but the scale was unprecedented.

"A lot of people don't know this we're on the bayou, and so when the bayous overflow, typically we're okay because we've got reservoirs and levees," she said. "This time it was just so much water in such a short period of 48 hours that they just couldn't handle it, and the rivers that connected to the bayous overflowed. So it was a cycle of just continual flooding as everything tried to drain."

Juniper Cruz '19, one of the co-managers of Snowden Multicultural Center, also has family in Puerto Rico. On Aug. 31, during the after-

math of Hurricane Harvey, Cruz announced via email that the residents of Snowden would set out a bin for people to donate products to the victims of Hurricane Harvey. Specifically, Cruz asked people to donate diapers, tampons, pads and baby wipes, products that Cruz said often are overlooked during donations for the victims of natural disasters.

Cruz said that she got the idea from her mother during a phone call on Aug. 31. Her mother talked about the fundraisers that she was participating in where the focus was on the donation of food and money, but not on hygiene products that are nearly as essential. Following the conversation, Cruz ran the idea of a donation bin past other Snowden members and set it out the next day.

The bin has remained outside through the events of Hurricane Irma

as well. "Obviously, we didn't predict how many natural disasters would hit," Cruz said on Wednesday. "But it is really important for us to continue to make a push as a community to help out." Cruz originally challenged everyone on campus to donate at least one item to the bin, and while students have not yet reached that goal, Cruz reports that a number of people have donated and have been very responsive overall.

Cruz's donation effort is indicative of a larger movement across Kenyon's campus. Michael Durham, associate director of counseling services, has made a concerted effort to make the student body aware of counseling as a resource.

In an email to the *Collegian*, Durham said, "We need to support each other through these tragic events as a caring community of kindness."

Religious students juggle work, class and holiday celebration

The *Collegian* asks: What is it like to observe Eid, Easter, Yom Kippur and Rosh Hashana?

EMILY BIRNBAUM
NEWS EDITOR

Eid al-Adha, one of the holiest holidays in the Muslim faith, was early September this year. The holiday honors sacrifice, adding an element of irony to the fact that Ghada Baqbouq '19 had to sacrifice a night of sleep on Sunday in order to keep up with the work she could not do over the weekend. Baqbouq started her work mid-day Sunday and finished by 6 a.m. Monday morning.

"It was so much work," Baqbouq said. "I wish we had a way not to have this much work on that weekend."

This situation is familiar to those at Kenyon who celebrate holidays other than Christmas — holidays for which the College does not cancel class or work. These students and faculty members must navigate staying afloat academically and attending work while celebrating holy holidays.

Eva Warren '19, an observant Episcopalian, said she struggles with this balancing act during Easter. "Easter's a time of celebration and joy, and this past year, with the timing, it was around when I was having a bunch of exams and I had this immense guilt over whether to prioritize my schoolwork or prioritize this religious celebration," Warren said.

Religious observance counts as an excused absence, according to an addendum to College attendance policy that went into effect last January. As long as students warn their professors at the beginning of the semester, they are allowed to miss class. However, they must still make up the work.

All but one student interviewed for this article said they would not miss class for a religious celebration for fear of falling behind. "I'm going to be thinking about the work [if I miss class]," Yara Awwad '20 said.

Jewish Chaplain and Director of Hillel Marc Bragin, who helped write the policy, said it is meant to accommodate students of all faiths.

"It doesn't give you a free ride just to not turn in something," Bragin said. "I think you have to prioritize what's important to you. If observing or attending services takes precedent over going to class, if that belief is important to you and you feel that you should be in services and not in class, then it's a choice you make."

In past years, Professor of Mathematics Noah Aydin has canceled class on Eid so he could celebrate in Columbus. This year, he did not feel the need because, given the growing Muslim population on campus, there were enough students to host Eid prayer in the morning. (Eid typically begins with a morning community prayer.)

Aydin also pointed to the Eid dinner, a community meal hosted by the Muslim Student Association (MSA) and Middle East Student Association (MESA), as an example of what the College does right when it comes to Eid celebration.

"MSA did get support for the Eid dinner from Kenyon and we really appreciate it," Aydin said.

Three hundred people attended the meal this year. Funding came from the MSA and MESA budgets, as well as the Kenyon Interfaith Partnership (KIP). "At the beginning, it didn't feel like Eid at all, but when we did the dinner and

everyone was there for us, that felt really good," Awwad said. "I felt that we have a community — not just a Muslim community, but we have a Kenyon community, which is really nice."

Rosh Hashana, one of the Jewish High Holidays (a series of holidays that the Jewish faith celebrates throughout September and October), begins Wednesday, Sept. 20 at sundown and ends sundown Friday, Sept. 22. A Sept. 13 email from Associate Provost Jeffrey Bowman sent to the faculty, obtained by the *Collegian*, read: "Please be aware that Jewish holidays are upcoming and some of your students may contact you about class conflicts with religious celebrations." The email includes the dates and times of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur.

There was no equivalent email sent about Eid this year.

"We never get a notice like this from administration about Muslim holidays," Aydin said in an email to the *Collegian*. "[I] Hope there will be more recognition of major holidays of other faith traditions, including Muslims."

Provost Bowman said this email was not intended to imply holidays of other faith communities were any less important.

"I am sorry if it was taken this way," Bowman wrote in an email to the *Collegian*. "The provost's office encourages faculty to accommodate students observing similarly important holidays in other faiths." He cited the attendance policy on religious observance as an example of this.

"I will work to ensure that future communications on this subject might better reflect the vibrant and diverse spiritual lives of our students and the College's commitment to equity and in-

clusion," Bowman wrote.

Aydin believes there is a disparity between support for Jewish and Muslim holidays on campus because, while Jewish students are supported by the existence of Hillel House and Bragin, a full-time staff member dedicated to the Jewish community, Muslim students do not have an equivalent.

"We don't have [a] space, we don't have a person dedicated to organize these things," Aydin said. "It is students trying to organize events for Muslim holidays. We definitely don't have many resources to organize or support Muslim life on campus. That is the main difference."

Bragin believes it the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life can play a central role in addressing these concerns. "If there are ways that we can better support our Muslim students, I'm happy to figure out how to do that," Bragin said.

Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar during which Muslims fast from sun-up to sun-down, will land during the spring for the next few years. It has been over the summer for the past seven years, but it changes annually. It will start May 15 and end June 14.

"For the next years when Ramadan comes, it will be during finals week and also during senior week and graduation, so I would hope that there are also accommodations for families that are coming," Baqbouq said. "It would be great if there was some food before sunrise, but maybe this is something where it's our responsibility, because I understand how hard it would be to ask people to come at 3 a.m. I understand how we will have to share the responsibility on this one."

Packrat’s Stash adds thrifting opportunity to Mount Vernon

KATIE PERRIN
STAFF WRITER

Kathy Hawk didn’t have to think hard about a name to give Packrat’s Stash Ltd., for which she is general manager. “I’m a packrat — always been called a packrat. I came up with the name about 20 years ago,” she said.

Hawk and her son, Jamie McDonald, run the store, which opened three weeks ago and is situated on Wooster Road near a residential area. The first thing you see before you walk through the door of the cluttered treasure trove is the sign that reads, “All unattended children will receive Mountain Dew and a free puppy.” Next you see racks of colorful clothing and toys that beckon passersby to browse. The store-sells unique items and collectibles sourced from auctions, estate sales and bought from people in the local community.

Inside, brightly-colored trains, sculptures, knickknacks, electronics and antique jewelry are exhibited next to a diverse array of framed posters. Decorations celebrating central Ohio culture — such as Ohio State license plates and maps of Ohio — are displayed beside pop culture decor such as a Lamborghini poster. Painted mugs rest alongside glass lamps and neon signs. Some of Hawk’s favorite things in the store are the cast-iron items and a replica of a covered bridge.

Amanda Glazer ’21 visited the store last weekend and purchased a mason jar mug decorated with the words “Witch’s Brew from Salem Massachusetts.”

She agreed that the new store is an exciting addition to Mount Vernon. “It’s a cute store — you can find a whole bunch of interesting things here that would be awesome in a dorm,” she said. “I would recommend it to friends.”

Hawk previously trained horses, so running Packrat’s Stash is “a new adventure” for her. She and McDonald, who are Ohio natives, have strived to make Packrat’s Stash a customer-based business. They are always on the hunt for more unique finds, and open to expanding their selection of merchandise.

“When people tell us that there is something they like or collect, we look into the possibility of finding and selling it in the store,” Hawk said. She added that Packrat’s started selling vinyl records due to customer demand in the last few weeks.

“We have something in here for everyone — from an infant to a 90-year-old,” Hawk said.

The store is located at 330 Wooster Road, Mount Vernon and is open on Monday and Tuesday from 10 a.m.- 8 p.m., 12- 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, 12- 9 p.m. on Thursday, 10 a.m.- 9 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and 12- 6 p.m. on Sunday.



Above: Racks of used clothing outside Packrat’s Stash catch the eye of drivers on Wooster Road. Below: Managers of the store offer customers free tapes, from Barry Manilow to musical soundtracks. The store sells furniture, room decorations, and vintage bicycles among other items.

CLASS CLASH

COMPILED BY OLIVER VANDENBERG



Senior Class Total:
5

Ben Douglas '18



Junior Class Total:
5

Tobias Baumann'19



Sophomore Class Total:
3

Mary Angela Ricotta '20



First-Year Class Total:
3

Jackie O'Malley '21

	Answer	Ben Douglas '18	Tobias Baumann'19	Mary Angela Ricotta '20	Jackie O'Malley '21
What category was Hurricane Irma when it made landfall in the Florida Keys?	4	4	4	4	4
What government official did Trump's lawyers suggest he dismiss due to their connection to Russia?	Jared Kushner	One of the sleazy people	Bannon	Jeff Sessions	No idea
In what decade was the Old Kenyon fire?	1940s	Right before the fire department showed up	1900-1910	1930s	1980s
Which Republican senator has been recently criticized for allegedly liking a pornographic post on Twitter?	Ted Cruz	Don't know	Ted Cruz	Ted Cruz	Bob
Weekly Scores		1	2	2	1



COURTESY OF KENYON MEMES FOR PHILANDERING TEENS

The Facebook page “Kenyon Memes for Philandering Teens,” founded last spring, provides a space for Kenyon students to share and appreciate memes about the college.

JUSTIN SUN
FEATURES EDITOR

What is the foundation of a college’s culture? There are its histories and traditions, its sites and demographics. There is its vocabulary — made up of words like “Bulls-eye” and “the Krud” that are meaningless to outsiders.

And then there are its memes. In the past year, Facebook groups dedicated to the sharing of humorous online content, otherwise known as memes, related to a certain college have taken the country by storm.

These groups, whose names typically follow the formula of “[college name] Memes for [college-related adjective] Teens,” are now hubs of college-specific punchlines. Some, like University of California Berkeley’s “UC Berkeley Memes for Edgy Teens,” even have more members than the total enrollment of their respective colleges. Kenyon’s version of this trend was founded last spring and has since seen a meteoric rise. With over 1,100 followers, the Facebook page “Kenyon Memes for Philandering Teens” occupies an important role in the digital world of Kenyon: It centralizes its memes.

“Memes about Kenyon are nothing new, but they would often live a brief life in a GroupMe chat or an email chain and then disappear forever,” the administrators of the page, who insisted on remaining anonymous, said in a Facebook message to the

Collegian. “With a page like this, it’s all concentrated in one easily accessible place,” they said.

Content posted to the page tends to combine familiar images with Kenyon inside jokes. For instance, there is an image of someone selecting the “Price: High to Low” search feature on a shopping website with the caption “What made you choose Kenyon College?” There is a picture of a glass decanter with President Sean Decatur’s face on it. Above, text reads “Sean Decanter.”

An important aspect of a college’s memes is their specificity. Often the memes are so esoteric that they make little to no sense to anyone not affiliated with the college. On Kenyon’s page, there are memes poking fun at the College’s stereotypes, Mather Residence Hall and the 2020 Plan; and, of course, there are the occasional nods toward the ever-present Graham Gund ’63 H’81.

For some, the idiosyncrasy of these memes makes them an integral part of Kenyon’s culture. With all their references and jargon, they not only represent Kenyon’s conscience and agenda but also represent its humor. In the past, students have used memes to protest changes in the K-Card policy and the lack of convenient parking spaces.

“Memes, weirdly enough, have become an important medium for people in our age cluster to express deep seated feelings in a sometimes whimsical, sometimes nihilistic

way,” the page administrators said. And for those who are new to this community, the snapshot of life at the college that the page provides can be an important tool.

“I heard first years talking about [the page],” Maggie Perkins ’20 said. “It’s a really great way for them to get acclimated to Kenyon culture.”

Most college meme-sharing platforms are Facebook groups, but the administrators of Kenyon Memes for Philandering Teens chose to make it a page. This move was, in part, an effort to preserve the anonymity of its contributors. “On some level, given the size of the school, we all crave anonymity,” they said.

As to their own identity, they told the *Collegian* they are a group of sophomore, junior and senior students that takes turns running the page in teams of two to three. “We’re friends, Romans, countrymen, etc,” they added.

“Kenyon Memes for Philandering Teens” rose to popularity this past summer. The combination of a few widely liked posts and a “meme war” with nearby Oberlin College’s own Facebook meme group, “Oberlin Consortium of Memes for Discourse-ready Teens,” garnered it a lot of publicity. The war saw Kenyon and Oberlin trading insults in

the form of memes and ended in “something along the lines of an uneasy truce,” according to Oberlin group founder and current sophomore Theo McGuire. It peaked in late May, when several Oberlin students traveled to Kenyon and spray-painted a large rock outside Leonard Hall — colloquially known as the Beta Rock — with Oberlin’s school colors and the words “OC Teens” in a heart.

“They’re still making memes about us to this day,” said the Kenyon page’s administrators. “For a school that pretends not to care about us, I’d say we got inside their heads.”

McGuire, who referred to the war as “a notable blip in the [Oberlin] meme page archive,” had some insight into the draw of college meme pages. “That niche quality is a big part of the appeal,” he said. “There’s a weird sense of camaraderie in being able to have a living collection of memes that are so specific to aspects of life at a given college.”

Josh Walmer ’18, a fan of the page, reflected on its importance. “It might be the closest replacement that the digital age gives us to the unifying aspect of old Kenyon traditions,” he said, before adding, “Also, so much better than the Oberlin page.”

“It might be the closest replacement that the digital age gives us to the unifying aspect of old Kenyon traditions.”

Josh Walmer ’18

i hate when i keep losing these things



What made you choose Kenyon College?

Featured Items
Price: Low to High
Price: High to Low
Customer's Top Rated
Best Sellers
New Arrivals

Memes, loosely defined as humorous content that is spread online, are used to crack jokes about life at Kenyon. The page posts submissions from anonymous contributors.

Interns use crafts and stories to engage kids at Gund Gallery

KATHERINE FRANCO
STAFF WRITER

"I like that one," said Molly, age six, pointing at one of the rugs featured in *Warp: War Rugs of Afghanistan* at the Gund Gallery. Molly told me she liked it because of the houses stitched on it. "That's my house," she said, gesturing at an image in the top right corner.

Molly was one of five young children present at the Gallery's "Children's Story Time: Weaving the Rainbow" on Saturday, Sept. 9. Jonah Edwards '18 said the purpose of "Story Time" is to "connect [children] with what's happening in the gallery space." The event is open to the public and occurs about five to six times a year.

Yet an exhibition like *Warp* complicates the story time's mission. Molly's favorite rug does not depict houses, but rather tanks that might ap-

pear to be houses if you were not familiar with the different shapes. How does the Gallery expose students six years old and younger to art centered around drone warfare and the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan?

The Gallery did so by focusing on the craft of weaving, rather than the subject

matter of the exhibition. The morning began with a reading of two picture books titled *Wild Rose's Weaving*, authored by Ginger

Churchill and illustrated by Nicole Wong, and *Weaving the Rainbow*, authored by George Ella Lyon and illustrated by Stephanie Anderson.

The tales were connected to *Warp* through the rugs' medium, rather than the complex and highly political stories they tell.

Wild Rose's Weaving, a favorite among a few of the participants, follows the relationship between a grandmother and her granddaughter, Rose.



NIKKI ANDERSON

A local child reaches for a copy of *Wild Rose's Weaving* at the Gund Gallery's "Children's Story Time."

"A rug is not just a rug, Rose," the grandmother tells her toward the end of the story. "It's a picture of life."

Weaving the Rainbow traces wool's journey from sheep to loom. The realism of Anderson's watercolor illustrations is particularly distinctive.

After reading the two

books aloud, student associate Hannah Anain '19, with the help of Edwards, introduced the next portion of the event: a hands-on art project. For the remainder of the hour, the participants, with the help of their parents and the associates, eagerly took part in the activity. The Gallery provided each child with ribbon, yarn

and a small wooden loom.

"I want to make a big one like that," one participant exclaimed, as she sat down beside a rug and began her weaving work. Although she did not manage to create a rug of that caliber in the allotted 15 minutes, she still went home with a work of her own creation.

If Ernest Tubb Could Sing shakes rafters at Quarry Chapel



SHANE CANFIELD

Above: Professor of Anthropology David Suggs plays a guitar on Sunday, Sept. 10 in the Quarry Chapel. Below: *If Ernest Tubb Could Sing* jams together on stage.

DYLAN MANNING
AND ULYSSES YARBER
STAFF WRITERS

If Ernest Tubb Could Sing was born from decades of casual musical collaboration. The band, composed of former and present Kenyon faculty, decided on its name after a night of jamming. "I think we were sitting and playing in our kitchen," Professor Emeritus of Sociology Howard Sacks said.

"I think we were playing 'Waltz Across Texas,'" Professor of Anthropology David Suggs interjected.

"Yeah, we were probably playing that. And Ernest Tubb's got kind of a gravelly distinctive, country voice," Sacks continued. "And somebody said, 'Wow, if Ernest Tubb could sing,' and we thought that would be a good name for a band."

This past Sunday, *If Ernest Tubb Could Sing* performed at the local Quarry Chapel. The group is composed of Affiliated Scholar of American Studies Judy Sacks, retired Professor Emeritus of Sociology Howard Sacks and Professor of Anthropology David Suggs.

If Ernest Tubb Could Sing left its kitchen counter behind, transitioning first to campus stages nationwide and now to the Quarry Chapel, a beautifully restored building nestled next to a cornfield. The performance stage was a raised platform facing the pews,

and a stunning stained glass window served as the backdrop. Mary Frazee, the administrative assistant for Kenyon Donor Relations, was drawn to the event because of her love of music and the distinct imagery of the band's lyrics.

"The location of where they were playing, the church, is so historic and so beautiful ... The building itself is a piece of art," she said.

The trio transformed almost seamlessly from academics to performers as they complemented their musical performance with small histories and personal anecdotes. Two guitars and a mandolin, brief cameos from a ukulele, a pair of sandpaper blocks and a kazoo were all they needed to fill the church with tremendous emotion, taking us through a wide range of styles.

What *If Ernest Tubb Could Sing* does so well is grab at what it means to be American: the amal-

gamation of folklore, pop culture, counterculture and city and country living. Cat Von Holt '19 was struck by the sense of belonging she felt at the concert.

"I loved that it was such community music and made me feel at home in the rural environment that Kenyon sits in," Von Holt said.

Anyone who loves good music and vivid storytelling should keep an eye out for the band's next performance. If it's anything like this one, you're in for some authentic American entertainment.

"The location of where they were playing, the church, is so historic and so beautiful...The building itself is a piece of art."

Administrative Assistant for Donor Relations Mary Frazee



BEN NEAL

Students and faculty learned a choreographed sequence in the Bolton Dance Studio on Sunday, Sept. 10, during Stacy Letrice's traveling Afro-dancehall fusion workshop.

Alumna brings Afro-dancehall dance workshop to Bolton

Stacy Letrice '09 developed her workshop after nearly a decade of global travel and study.

BRYN SELTZER
MADI CANTALAMESSA
STAFF WRITERS

"This is not an audition," Stacy Letrice '09 said to the 70 students, professors and children gathered in the Bolton Dance Studio. She was welcoming them to her Afro-dancehall fusion workshop held on Sunday, Sept. 10.

Letrice spent the majority of the class teaching us movements from various styles of dance, including reggae, dancehall and Afrobeat styles. Letrice created an inclusive and energetic environment in which she encouraged partici-

pants to let go of any inhibitions and have fun. The workshop was about an hour and a half long. The class culminated in a choreographed combination.

What was most striking about the class was how it brought together people of all ages and levels of dance experience.

However, it seemed that everyone who participated enjoyed themselves and felt welcome though their motivations for attending the class varied.

"I went into the class just wanting to have some fun, learn a few dance moves, improve for parties and just have

a good time," Yodit Hermann '19 said. "But what I got out of it was just incredible. It was a really fun experience and I think we should do a lot more of these and have her come back."

Not only do participants in the workshop benefit from Letrice's work, but she said she also gains a lot through teaching what she's passionate about.

"This is just an opportunity to share what I love with new faces," she said.

Letrice began traveling to different countries to learn about different styles of dance after graduating from Kenyon

“It's not a style that's really taught here, so it's really refreshing to dance at this level of community and vivacity.

Luca Agunos '18

eight years ago. She credits her experiences during college for giving her her first opportunity to go abroad and grow as a dancer and artist. For her, teaching the class is just as rewarding as it is for those taking it.

"The outpouring of love and the way the Kenyon community has received me was

just very rewarding and makes me want to continue the work I'm doing," she said.

Letrice's years of experience showed. "It's been a while since I've danced this vigorously," said dance major Luca Agunos '18. "It's not a style that's really taught here, so it's really refreshing to dance at this level of community and vivacity."

"Dinner and a Movie" features *Empress Wu*

SYDNEY MLADINEO | STAFF WRITER

Empress Wu, directed by Li Han-hsiang, explores a fictionalized narrative of China's first and only female empress. Her rise to power involved the death of two husbands, briefly serving as a royal consort and raising three of her successors to the throne.

On Sept. 14, Gund Gallery will feature *Empress Wu* at their recurring "Dinner and a Movie" event. The program engineers an engaging environment in which themes or motifs from current exhibitions are explored. On Thursday, the event is inspired by *David Diao: America Beckoning*, a collection of abstract, personal paintings that capture Diao's memories of fleeing China in the 1950s. Attendees will have the option to enjoy Indonesian street food from the Aromaku food truck outside the gallery and watch the 1960 film.

With opulent set designs and extravagant costumes, the film documents the titular empress's accession to the throne and the allegations of scandal that haunted her throughout her reign. Empress Wu's character is played by actress Li Li-hua, a seminal figure in several of the pieces featured in *America Beckoning*. The actress was Diao's downstairs neighbor in Hong Kong, which unifies the movie selection and the curatorial thought behind the exhibition.

Even though David Diao's work lends itself to discussions of displacement, memory and self-identity, Director and Chief Curator of Gund Gallery Natalie Marsh felt that screening a production starring Li-hua was the most natural approach for this event because Li-hua's celebrity lifestyle juxtaposes Diao's own humble circumstances. Li-hua is a prominent figure in Diao's autobiographical exhibition, which emphasizes the personal and individualistic nature of Diao's artwork.

"While we might be able to make some larger statements about class or immigration based on [David Diao] and his story, there is something very special about this one person's story," Marsh said. "I think we need to remember that."

The Aromaku food truck will be at the lawn in front of Gund Gallery at 5 p.m., and *Empress Wu* will screen at 7 p.m.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Trump's policies perforate the Kenyon bubble, and we must pay attention

While the “swamp” may seem hundreds of miles away, the Trump administration again took aim at college campuses across the nation with the decision to rescind Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) on Sept. 5.

In this divisive political climate, college campuses (and college students) hold more responsibility than ever to remain cognizant of current events. Whether it's through reading *The New York Times* over breakfast in Peirce or by consuming media online, it's important for us to stay informed.

Tuning into the various available media outlets can be a double-edged sword. Although there are numerous reliable sources that detail the nuances of Trump's policy changes, it's not the most popular representation of events.

Viewers of *The Daily Show* and CNN tune in for tales of Trump's antics. Trump can be funny and weirdly magnetic. It's hard to look away and it's easy to toss off jokes about his childish proclivities.

Yet it's important to understand that his policies, and the actions the departments under his jurisdiction, like the Departments of Justice and Education, affect life on this hill. When he threatens the identities of our students, the implications are far more cutting than the latest development in #Russia-gate — the scandal surrounding the Trump campaign's ties to alleged efforts by the Russian government to influence the outcome of the 2016 election — or whether Trump spends too much time at his own golf course.

Engaging in criticism of Trump that is specific and informed is equally important. Sometimes we are prone to general complaints about this administration — ourselves included at the *Collegian* — while we let the nitty gritty of their various political maneuvers pass us by.

The bombast and showmanship that have characterized the first nine months of Trump's presidency must not distract us from the reality of his policies. We should always employ a critical eye when reading or consuming information about these policies and hold those politicians responsible for these policies accountable.

By rolling back DACA, the Trump administration threatens students on this campus. Federal policy governs a surprising amount of what occurs at colleges across the nation. Even though Kenyon is a private institution, our students are still directly impacted by these decisions.

It's our responsibility to pay attention, and it's our responsibility to support these students as best we can.

The staff editorial is written weekly by the executive editors of the Collegian, co-editors-in-chief Bailey Blaker '18 and Gabrielle Healy '18 and managing editor Lauren Eller '18. You can contact them at blakerb@kenyon.edu, healyg@kenyon.edu and ellerrl@kenyon.edu, respectively.



SO what are you doing this weekend?

JESSECA KUSHER | COLLEGIAN

Does the stress of high school ever end?

CAMERON AUSTIN
OPINIONS EDITOR

I have thought about the above question for as long as I have been at Kenyon, and even as a sophomore, I am still not sure if I can answer it.

The preoccupation of getting into a “good” college consumed my life beginning in the ninth grade. Even though admissions officers encourage potential applicants to pursue what they love in high school, I thought I knew better.

I was convinced I had to enroll in every Advanced Placement course offered, to participate in every extracurricular activity available and to win every possible award. From then on I structured my life around my college application without a second thought.

My flippant disregard for my more immediate needs — namely, sleep and leisure — seems in retrospect ill-advised, but that's not to say that I have now evolved beyond my high school mentality. Rather, my high school approach to responsibilities bred in me an unhealthy approach to stress, such that I still find it hard to move past my high school tendencies.

As a first year at Kenyon, I did not

immediately fall in love with any extracurricular activities. I found myself with an unprecedentedly unstructured life, unlike in high school, where I virtually had no free time. Aside from studying and attending class, I passed my time enjoying life in Gambier — hanging out with friends, going on hikes and reading books on the lawn outside my dorm.

But even in the midst of all this relaxation, a cycle of pernicious thoughts looped in the back of my head. *I'm not doing enough ... Why am I not as busy as everybody else? What do I do when someone asks about my extracurricular involvement? Where are those leadership roles that would look so good on job applications?*

In short, my apparent lack of stress was stressing me out. No matter what I did, my impulse to overcommit myself remained. I knew that if I became as involved at Kenyon as I was at my high school, my stress levels would shoot up, but if I decided to remain relatively uncommitted, my own masochistic need for stress would produce comparable amounts of anxiety.

By the time second semester had rolled around, I decided to become more involved than I had been before.

Though I do enjoy all the individual things I now do, I have mixed feelings about my overall level of involvement. On the one hand, I appreciate the opportunity to leave my mark on this campus. On the other hand, I wonder if my newfound obligations are only sustaining the high school mentality long after it would have naturally died.

I don't know what the eventual repercussions of my decision will be. Will I ever be able to let go of my stress? Will I ever become more than a high schooler in a Kenyon sweatshirt? Perhaps by talking about issues like this I can move past my shortcomings; at least, I hope that is the case.

And where does writing a piece for the *Collegian* fit into this resolution? Maybe it is naïve of me, but I earnestly believe that community dialogue is a good way to start dealing with our personal issues. I want these pages to be a space where we can all come to a greater understanding of ourselves and each other. So — let's discuss together.

Cameron Austin '20 is a mathematics major from Chattanooga, Tenn. You can contact him at austin1@kenyon.edu.

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.

LETTER TO THE EDITORS

I wanted to alert the Kenyon community to the new shared lane markings, also known as “sharrows,” that are appearing on Gambier’s streets. The sharrow design is of a chevron above and a bicycle image below. During the spring, I encouraged Village Council to utilize sharrows as a way of encouraging good cycling behavior and fostering awareness on the part of motorists. Sharrows reinforce the legitimacy of law-abiding cyclists on our streets. By encouraging proper placement within the lane, the sharrows improve upon the safety aspects of cycling within the Village.

Bicycles are considered vehicles, and cyclists are expected to obey traffic laws in Ohio. This includes traveling with traffic in the right-hand lane. While the sharrows do not equate to bike lanes, the placement of the design on the streets is meant to properly position cyclists within that lane. As can be seen in the picture, this sharrow is positioned away from the likely impact zone that would happen when a potentially oblivious driver opens a vehicle door. Sharrows also encourage safe passing behaviors by motorists. Readers will also note sharrow placement for cyclists so that they can better navigate the many descent/ascent zones within Gambier.

Kenyon and the Gambier community are linked to the cycling community at large. As a cyclist, I encourage Kenyon students to explore the area on bikes. The Kokosing Gap Trail (KGT) as well as the Heart of Ohio and Mohican Valley trails offer a good first step in discovering Knox County. These trails combine to form part of the ever-improving Ohio-to-Erie bicycle Route 1 that runs from Cincinnati to Cleveland. From the KGT, it is possible to travel to neighboring counties and cities, including Millersburg to the northeast and Columbus to the southwest.

Jim Dunham
Wiggin Street, Gambier



COURTESY OF JIM DUNHAM

The Village of Gambier has placed “sharrows” on busy roads to encourage good behavior from both cyclists and drivers.

Reconciling the curricular contradictions across disciplines

Some courses assume a foundation of cultural relativism. Others oppose relativism entirely.

DANI DE ANDRADE
COLUMNIST

I feel I’m on the border between two countries I am faithful to, and by venturing into one, I betray the other. In my Spanish course, Cultural Productions of the Borderlands, we are studying a culture which emerged from the violence at the U.S.-Mexico border and predicating our learning on the understanding that all cultures are, in principle, equal.

My political science course, Classical Quest for Justice, however, explores ancient political philosophy in order to discover the best kind of life for a human being. The professor began the course by establishing that cultural relativism assumes that one has evaluated every kind of human life and found them all equal. The

class instead explores the possibility that there is a superior way of life and, therefore, superior cultures.

How can I be a U.S. Latino interested in ultimate moral truths when this idea was used to perpetrate violence on my ancestors? My Spanish class might tell me to remember the history of my ancestors and the traps of colonial ideology, but my political science course would tell me I’m engaged in philosophical thought.

“Agreeing that all cultures are equal implies that humans are sole products of their environment.

I am only trying to figure out who I am and what idea of justice which I am willing to fight for.

Agreeing that all cultures are equal implies that humans are sole products of their environment. I instead believe human beings share an essential nature that certain absolute truths can fulfill. On

the other hand, by agreeing that certain ways of life are better than others, I forget that this belief allowed violent empires to equate their military superiority with cultural superiority.

If I believe that there are higher human truths and remember that empires have used this idea to forcibly create hegemonic identities, then I can conclude that moral values have to be flexible. Normative standards of sexuality and religion should be fluid in an ideal culture. Coercing people who challenge the status quo to adopt traditional values reveals the fragility of the community’s beliefs. It also reveals that community’s antagonism toward individuality.

The best kind of community would nourish the happiness of its citizens, and would not create norms that hinder the organic evolution of identities. The United States and the western world failed to accomplish this

“Our historical position is a privilege. We can look back and know that there is a distinction between what is essential to human nature and what is only traditional understanding.

because their rigid definition of human nature crashed against the shores of race, sexuality, religion and language. Cultural relativism allows us to denounce the West’s false superiority, but that doesn’t mean that objective truths only offer tradition, imperialism and violence.

Just because objective truth was once used to oppress doesn’t mean it has to be used in such a way in the future. What if the higher truths we help create for future communities stand alongside change and growth?

Our historical position is a privilege. We can look back and know that there is a distinction between what is essential to human nature and what is only traditional understand-

ing. The possibility of a truth behind that distinction is a task that cultural relativism hides from us.

Now and in the future we will all be forced to construct our own ideal way of existing. Let us have the courage and curiosity to wonder at how different people, and history itself, complicate our ideal way of living our lives. If we make a collective effort to do so, the moral values of the future won’t clash against our fluid nature. They can instead guide and unite us toward a common goal.

Daniel De Andrade ’19 is a political science major from Norwalk, Conn. You can contact him at dean-draded@kenyon.edu.

Men's, women's tennis start strong in opening to fall season

Lords start ranked 25th in Division III, Ladies hold their own against Division I opponents.

PETER DOLA
SPORTS EDITOR

Men's Tennis

Kenyon men's tennis opened their fall season with a solid showing at the Kenyon College Invitational. Ranked 25th in Division III tennis, the Lords faced opponents from Denison University, Ohio Wesleyan University, Oberlin College, John Carroll University, Case Western Reserve University and Carnegie Mellon University.

Austin Diehl '20 was one of the key performers, winning the top singles flight against John Carroll's Gustavo Garcia in two sets 6-1, 6-1 and Ohio Wesleyan University's Shouta Fukamachi 7-6, 6-1 in the first two matches. Finally, Diehl topped fellow Lord Jacob Zalenski '20 in a closely contested three-set match, 3-6, 6-1, 10-4.

In the third singles flight, Weston Noall '18 finished in third place, topping his opponent from Oberlin in two sets 6-4, 6-3 before falling to Denison's Mitchell Thai 6-1, 6-3. Noall found himself fending off Carnegie Mellon's Kallas Shekar for third place.

In the fifth flight, Max Smith '18 placed second while teammate Anatol Doroskevic '19 placed third. Ben Gelfand '18 defeated opponents from John Carroll and Oberlin before falling to Denison's Jacob Dennen and settling for second in the eighth flight.

In doubles, two Kenyon pairs took

home first place. Diehl paired with Zalenski to win the doubles top flight, defeating teams from Oberlin, Case Western and Carnegie Mellon. Smith and Caleb Couvertier '18 defeated pairs from John Carroll, Case Western and Carnegie Mellon to take home first place in the doubles fourth flight.

Kenyon's Doroskevic and Darius Loghman-Adham '19 placed third in the doubles fourth flight.

The Lords look to surpass expectations in both the fall and spring seasons. "For us, being ranked 25th isn't as high as we are used to, so I think outside of the conference, other teams don't have a lot of expectations for us," Diehl said. "We don't mind, however. I think we can surprise a lot of teams."

The Lords travel to Oberlin College next weekend to take part in the Oberlin College Invitational.

Women's Tennis

Kenyon women's tennis started their 2017 fall season with a difficult task as they headed to Bowling Green State University (BGSU) to face both Division III and Division I opponents.

In singles, Mara Kaspers '20 managed to beat Shawnee State's Jessica Willard in three sets and Bowling Green's Theresa Wassman. Kaspers fell, however, in the semifinals against Division II opponent



KIM DAVIDSON

Peter Hazlett '18 and his partner Henry Wessel '21 celebrate after winning a point.

Juliett Sargent. Ceylan Can '21 beat Jackie McDermott (Oberlin) in three sets, 6-3, 3-6, 10-6, but fell in two sets to Division I opponent Marta Bettinelli (BGSU). Ilana Blackwood '21, Erika Oku '21 and Kayla Pukys '21 followed a similar pattern as their first-year counterpart Can, falling in the second round to Division I opponents.

Diana Aboubakare '18, who defeated Jessica Willard (Shawnee) and fell to Paula Comella (BGSU), was happy with the team's performance, saying, "I think we

held our own, and I couldn't have asked for a better weekend." She added, "The [first years] played really well this weekend and I believe they took advantage of the opportunity to play opponents that weren't their own teammates."

In doubles, the Ladies' pairs of Oku-Aboubakare and Grace Winslow '18-Kaspers are the only teams that managed a win in the first round.

The Ladies' next challenge will be a home match this weekend when they host the Kenyon College Invitational.

Ladies' field hockey loses nail biter

NOAH NASH
NEWS EDITOR

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KENYON	1
CHRISTOPHER	2
NEWPORT	

The Ladies field hockey team lost for the first time, falling 2-1 to Christopher Newport University (CNU) after starting their season 4-0. CNU scored the go-ahead goal with a little more than three minutes left, deciding a game that Kenyon led for nearly 26 minutes.

While the Ladies ultimately only allowed two goals, there was a noticeable difference in the play of their usually dominant defense. Through the first four games of the season, Kenyon allowed just nine shots total, an average of a little more than two shots per game. However, the Ladies allowed CNU to take 18 total shots, tripling their season total. Fifteen of those shots came in the second half, and nine of them were on goal.

The Ladies, despite the loss, took the lead first in the game when Weezie Foster '18 recovered the ball off a blocked shot and fired it into the goal, giving Kenyon a 1-0 lead. That lead held for the rest of the first half, but CNU tied the game at the 37-minute mark to deadlock the score at one. With three minutes and 19 seconds left in the game, Ladies keeper Sarah Speroff '18 blocked her seventh shot

of the game, but the ball ricocheted to CNU's Rachael Allshouse, who found the back of the goal. Three minutes later, the Ladies' bid at an undefeated season came to an end.

The Ladies will next play on Sept. 16, when they will travel to Greencastle, Ind., to play DePauw University in an NCAC game. The Tigers will enter the game 2-2, but are 1-0 against North Coast Athletic Conference opponents.



KIM DAVIDSON

Hannah Paterakis '19 attempts to beat her defender down the right side of the field in field hockey's 3-1 win over Washington and Lee.

Lords football struggles again, falls to Oberlin

ADAM SCHWAGER
SPORTS ASSISTANT

OBERLIN	31
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The Kenyon Lords football team dropped to 0-2 this weekend with their loss against the Oberlin College Yeomen. This is their second loss this season to teams they beat in 2016 — when they won three games total — and they now face a difficult stretch in their schedule.

The Lords came out strong in their game against Oberlin. Despite falling behind 3-0 early, they found themselves ahead 7-3 with seven minutes left in the first half, and only down 10-7 at half-time. Unfortunately, after that the Lords could not sustain an offensive drive, with only one drive in the second half lasting more than two-and-a-half minutes.

"It really comes out to us going down and executing," quarterback Thomas Merkle '20 said.

Another problem for the Lords was their lack of effi-

ciency in short-yardage 3rd and 4th down situations. On 3rd and short the Lords were 1-2 and 4th and short with the Lords were 0-3. "We haven't been good in third and short and fourth and short this year," said Merkle.

On the defensive side of the ball, the Lords started and finished slowly but were solid for the majority of the game. "It was a tough performance," starting defensive tackle Trevor Brown '20 said. "There were times when we were really good, and there were also times where we just let things happen."

In individual performances, Ian Bell '18 had another fantastic game as he continues to be on pace to set or tie the Kenyon record for most receiving yards and receptions in a season. Both records were set last year by Brian Hunca '17.

The Lords will have their biggest challenge yet next week against a Wabash College team that finished the season 8-2 last year, including a 24-3 win against the Lords.



Kenyon defender Caroline McNeer '21 tries to intercept a pass as the Ladies earned their first win this season against Washington and Lee.

This week in
Kenyon sports
history:

In 1983, Lords soccer opened up their season with a 3-1 win over Case Western Reserve. Then head coach Jeff Vennell noted that he was surprised by the team's performance. "I'm pleased that we played so well and surprised that we played as well as we did."

Men's soccer forces three shutouts, women get their first win

PETER DOLA
SPORTS EDITOR

Men's Soccer

SPALDING KENYON	0 1
CENTRE KENYON	0 2
MARIETTA KENYON	0 0

Since John Carroll University handed the men's soccer team their first defeat of the season, the Lords have rattled off two wins and one tie, outscoring their opponents three to zero. Ian McInturf '21 earned his first three clean sheets of his Kenyon career. The most recent wins have been against Spalding University (Ky.) and Centre College at the Centre College Classic held in Danville, Ky. and ended the week with a tie against Marietta College.

The Lords dominated against Spalding, allowing only four shots, none of which were on target. On the other end of the field, Kenyon unleashed 24 shots, six on target and one that

found the back of the net. The only goal of the match came in the 29th minute of the first half when Oliver Wynn '18 found Henry Myers '18 on a through ball, which Myers tucked into the back of the net.

Against Centre College, a team which has not defeated the Lords since 2013, the Lords' defense carried the day again. The Lords' defense was a wall, allowing just three shots, one on goal and two corners throughout the game. The offense also outperformed Centre's, firing 13 shots, five of which were on frame, and forcing six corners.

The Lords scored in the 67th minute when Myers finished a cross from Collyn Carpenter '21 to put the Lords up 1-0. Kenyon doubled up on their lead 10 minutes later when Woo Jeon '18 drove the ball into the lower-left-hand side of the goal and put the match out of reach for Centre.

Kenyon outshot Marietta 25 to five with 12 shots on target, but none of their shots found the back of the net as the Marietta goalkeeper tallied up 12 saves in a game that went into

double overtime.

Jeon is happy with the recent results so far but is confident that the team will continue to improve. "We can't get complacent or change the level of play according to each team we play," he said. "No matter who the opponent, we have to go out and perform to the best of our abilities, which showed in our game against Centre. And now, it's just making sure we play like that every game."

The Lords look to improve on their record with two home games upcoming against Thomas More College (Ky.) on Sept. 16 and Heidelberg University (Ohio) on Sept. 21.

Women's Soccer

KENYON WASHINGTON AND LEE	2 0
KENYON DOMINICAN	3 4
KENYON WASHINGTON AND JEFFERSON	0 2

After starting their season 0-2, the Ladies found their first

win of the season against Washington and Lee University (Va.) before a tough overtime loss to Dominican University (Ohio) and Washington and Jefferson College (Pa.).

Kenyon played patiently against Washington and Lee. In the first half, the Generals fired off six shots compared to just two for the Ladies. Despite the pressure, Kenyon defense did not break, with Jillian Countey '20 making three saves. The game opened up in the second half as Kenyon found more chances, firing off seven shots. Still, Washington and Lee outdid them with 11 shots. The Ladies who struck first in the 62nd minute, and again three minutes later, as Samantha Hayes '21 scored her first two goals of her Kenyon career as well as the first goal for the Ladies this season.

Hayes continued her scoring streak against Dominican as she netted a hat trick, scoring in the 19th, 29th and 77th minute of the match. Entering the 78th minute of play, the Ladies found themselves leading 3-1. Dominican was not finished,

netting a goal just two minutes after Hayes had scored. Two minutes later Dominican's Alexis Hoskins knotted the game at three and pushed the match into overtime.

Three minutes into the first half of overtime Dominican won a corner kick and played the ball into the box where Joseline Williams put her body on the ball and slid it into the left side of the goal.

"It's not a problem of effort or skill," Countey said about the second overtime loss of the Ladies' season. "We just have to work to stay mentally in the game."

Kenyon struggled against Washington and Jefferson as they allowed 14 shots, four of which were on target, and a goal in each half as the ladies suffered a disappointing 2-0 loss.

Kenyon will attempt to string together some wins as their season continues this week with an away game at Thomas More College (Ky.) and a home match against John Carroll University (Ohio).

Ladies cross country thrives, Lords finish 12th place at OWU

ADAM SCHWAGER
SPORTS ASSISTANT

The Kenyon Ladies and Lords cross country teams finished third and 12th, respectively, in the Ohio Wesleyan Invitational this weekend. It was their first of four regular season meets before heading to the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) and NCAA Championships.

The Ladies had strong runners throughout the race, with three of the Ladies' seven runners finishing top 20 in a field of 237, and none finishing outside the top 50. Leading

the pack for the Ladies was Gracie Moses '20, who completed the 6,000-meter course at Liberty Park with a time of 22:50.4 and finished seventh in the meet. Other impressive Ladies included newcomer Eleanor Tetreault '21 (22:57.6) and Tate Serletti '20 (23:06.9), who finished 14th and 15th respectively.

With an influx of young runners, the Kenyon Ladies cross country team could be a major force in the NCAC this season and could possibly win the entire conference. By finishing third against stiff competition, the Ladies showed that they could be a force in the conference throughout

this season. They finished first out of the six NCAC teams represented and defeated an Oberlin team that was ranked 15th in the most recent NCAA Division-III United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) poll.

The Lords had a slightly weaker showing at the invitational, finishing 12th overall in the 8,000-meter races. They finished fourth out of the six NCAC teams competing while finishing just 20 points shy of the 23rd-USTFCCCA-ranked Mount Union Raiders.

"We were really focused on beat-

ing teams from our conference in the meet," Vince Lewis '20 said. "We beat two teams in the conference at that meet so we were very pleased with our outcome."

Lewis finished third among the Lords and 93rd overall in the meet, crossing the finish line in 28:03.1. "It was an okay start," Lewis said. "The team is looking to run as a pack more the next race, which will hopefully shave off more seconds."

As for his teammates, the top Lords runner was 33rd-placed Kyle Rose '19, completing the course with a 26:52.5, and the second placed Lords' runner was 68th-placed Tom-

my Johnson '20 with a 27:30.4.

The Lords and Ladies will both be competing in the Otterbein Invitational, the second of their four meets on the road to the NCAC tournament where they will be going up against division rivals Oberlin, Otterbein, Ohio Wesleyan, Wittenberg and Wooster. "We're looking to annihilate Wooster," Lewis said about Saturday's meet.

While the Lords look to defeat new opponents, the Ladies will try to defend their title of best team in the NCAC as they attempt to hold off an Oberlin team that only fell short to them by two points last weekend.