
The Kenyon Collegian

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Kenyon Collegian - February 24, 2022

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The Kenyon Collegian

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Moniker Subcommittee calls on community for suggestions

HANNAH DOURGARIAN
NEWS ASSISTANT

On Monday, President Sean Decatur announced in a news bulletin that the College will begin the official process to update Kenyon's athletic monikers, the Lords and Ladies. The email included a "Moniker Suggestion & Feedback" form that provides students, faculty, staff, alumni and parents the opportunity to offer feedback on the current monikers and to suggest new ideas for a change in representation.

The Moniker Subcommittee and the Campus Senate as a whole have spent the past several months deliberating and researching the best way to conduct this process. The survey they created was originally scheduled to be shared with the community in October 2021,

although the process was delayed several times. The Moniker Subcommittee itself was created in November 2021, and consists of students, coaches, administrators, staff from the Office of Alumni and Parent Engagement, and faculty from the the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ODEI), the Office of the President, the Office of Student Engagement as well as the Office of Communications.

The College has been working to change the monikers since it updated its mission statement and values last year. Following these updates, students approached Decatur with concerns that the current monikers failed to reflect these commitments, specifically that they do not represent trans and nonbinary students, the news bulletin reported.

"As the world starts changing and we become these more inclusive people and these more inclusive cultures, we need to move forward," said Alyssa Gomez-Lawrence '10, assistant director of community engaged learning and internships, who also serves on Campus Senate. "If we want to be the community that is our ideal community, which is something we always think about, then we need to include everyone."

The moniker suggestion & feedback form represents the next step in the College's efforts to change the monikers, allowing the entirety of the Kenyon community an opportunity to contribute to the conversation. As of 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 22, the moniker suggestion and feedback form has received 850 submissions, of which 706 were

a new moniker suggestion or a positive response without a specific suggestion.

According to the updated timeline, the form will be available until April 11. The Moniker Subcommittee will then work to review and narrow down the suggestions it has received until April 22, when a ranked-choice voting system will become available. This voting will close on May 2, with the final decision being announced in mid-May.

Decatur noted that the open-ended format of the form allows community members to submit responses reflecting opposition towards a new moniker, though many people closely involved in the process thus far believe that it is likely that the monikers will change.

"I don't think there's any kind of going back," Gomez-

Lawrence said. "I know that some people will probably be likely to suggest Lords and Ladies in the survey, but it's not conducive to who we are as a community."

Delaney Gallagher '23, co-chair of the Moniker Subcommittee, believes that a new moniker will not only align more appropriately with the College's new commitments, but with its athletic values as well. "The phrase we put on our athletic department t-shirts this year says 'One team,' and the goal of this process is to be emblematic of that and be One team with One name," she wrote in an email to the *Collegian*.

Continued on page 3.

Kenyon mourns passing of student-athlete Mike Devine '21

LINNEA MUMMA
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Michael Joseph Devine '21, beloved friend, son and brother, passed away suddenly on Feb. 6, 2022. He was 23 years old.

Devine, known as "Mike" to friends and family, graduated from Kenyon last spring with a degree in history. He was particularly passionate about his Irish heritage and studied abroad in Dublin during his junior year as part of the Arcadia Abroad program.

Following his graduation, Devine dedicated himself to the field of law, working as a paralegal at John P. Brennan Jr. Law. He had recently been accepted to multiple law schools, earning scholarships from all of them.

"He called me the day he got his decisions back, and he was so excited," Devine's friend Andris Balodis '20 said. "It was a big relief off his shoulders."

A student-athlete and member of Kenyon's chapter of Delta Tau Delta, Devine surrounded himself with friends throughout his undergraduate career. Niall Regan '21 and Adam Pollock '21 spoke passionately about Devine's commitment to his friendships, recalling their late-night Jeopardy arguments, spontaneous trips to the Village Inn and frequent sports banter.

"Mike was a breath of fresh air," Regan said. "He was such a great friend. For better or for worse, he prioritized friendships and having a good time before all else. There are such great people at Kenyon, but it's very hard to come by the amount of loyalty that Mike had for his friends and that we had for him."

Devine played football throughout his time on the hill, earning the nickname "The Fridge" from his team-

mates for his tenacity and formidable presence on the field.

"We helped Mike move in, and there's this iconic photo of him carrying a fridge down the steps... He was really an immovable object, that's how I can describe him on the football field," said Trevor Brown '20, one of Devine's close friends and teammates.

Devine was equally successful in the classroom, according to his professors and friends. Professor of History Nurten Kilic-Schubel and Professor of History Hilary Buxton fondly remembered working closely with Devine on his senior capstone project for history, where he looked into Bobby Sands and the 1981 Republican prisoners' hunger strike, exploring how Northern Irish Republicans incorporated themselves into a larger history of martyrdom in Ireland. Buxton called it "fascinating work."

"It was a great joy and rewarding experience working with Michael on his project," Kilic-Schubel wrote in an email to the *Collegian*. "His passion for Irish history was contagious. I was especially moved by the way in which he connected with the poetry he used in his thesis, which showed his gentle soul and empathetic nature."

His friends, too, spoke to the ways in which Devine extended his soul to others. "He was like a big teddy bear, always giving hugs," Regan said. "If you half-assed him with one arm, he'd be like, 'no no no no, bring it in, come here.' He was very loving of those around him."

Devine's funeral took place on Saturday, Feb. 12 and Sunday, Feb. 13 at the John E. Day Funeral Home in N.J. According to his friends and family, hundreds of people showed up to the ceremony, demonstrating just how



Michael Joseph Devine '21 | COURTESY OF ASBURY PARK PRESS

much Devine meant to a large number of people.

In reflecting on his time with Devine, Brown expressed how deep their bond was after just four years. "The time at Kenyon is so precious," he said. "Although it is such a short period of time, do not underestimate the extent of the bonds you create there. It feels like I've known Mike my entire life."

In celebration of Devine's life and legacy at Kenyon, Kenyon's Department of History is holding a ceremony on Thursday, March 3, during common hour (11:10 a.m.-12 p.m.) in Samuel Mather 201. The department will

remember Devine through readings and reminiscences, and invite the entire Kenyon community to join in remembrance.

Michael is survived by his parents, Kathleen of Lakewood, N.J. and Donald J. of Red Bank, N.J.; his sister Mary Rose of Willington, Conn. and his brother Robert of Austin, Texas; his maternal grandfather, Robert Beyer of Nutley, N.J.; his paternal grandmother, Joan Devine of Red Bank, N.J.; his godparents, Chuck and Ellen McFadden; his aunts, uncles, cousins and countless friends made in New Jersey, at Kenyon College and all of the other places he spent his years.

Kenyon farmers host forum to discuss program's future

JORDY FEE-PLATT
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Kenyon farmers hosted an open forum on Wednesday to discuss next steps for the Farm's residential program following January's announcement that the College would terminate the program next semester.

The forum comes just over two weeks after the Kenyon farmers announced their unanimous decision to authorize an Unfair Labor Practice strike, amid an ongoing battle for union recognition. The farmers announced the strike at a Kenyon Student Worker Organizing Committee (K-SWOC) rally on Feb. 7.

In the week prior, the six residential farmers met with Provost Jeffrey Bowman and President Sean Decatur to discuss their desires and expectations going forward for the program. Bowman had indirectly told members of the Student Council that the College spoke with the farmers before announcing the decision, which the farmers denied. The College then published a series of frequently asked questions, in which they continued to attest that students were consulted in the decision-making process, despite the farmers claiming otherwise.

At the forum, the farmers were quick to express their frustration at the absence of administrators. "We're disappointed — we invited members of the senior staff to join us as well, and I don't think any of them are here," said Jack Cheston '22. "That disappoints us because our basic request is Kenyon live up to its values and its standard of shared governance." The farmers pointed out that their absence meant the forum could not be used to structure a future for the program.

Earlier this week, Director of Green Initiatives David Heithaus informed the farmers that the College would extend the residential program through the summer. At the forum, the farmers expressed their immense sat-



The Farm will sponsor a Horn Gallery mutual aid concert on Saturday evening. | COURTESY OF MOLLY ORR

isfaction with this decision, as it demonstrated the power of collective action.

Most importantly for the group, the extension of the program will allow for proper care of an exciting animal addition to the farm: baby goats. According to Molly Orr '24, having farmers living on the property will allow the goats to receive the attention they need. "A large part of our concern immediately for this summer was that we have goats that are going to be born in April, and then a month later, we would have had to vacate the house and leave those goats to grow up," she said.

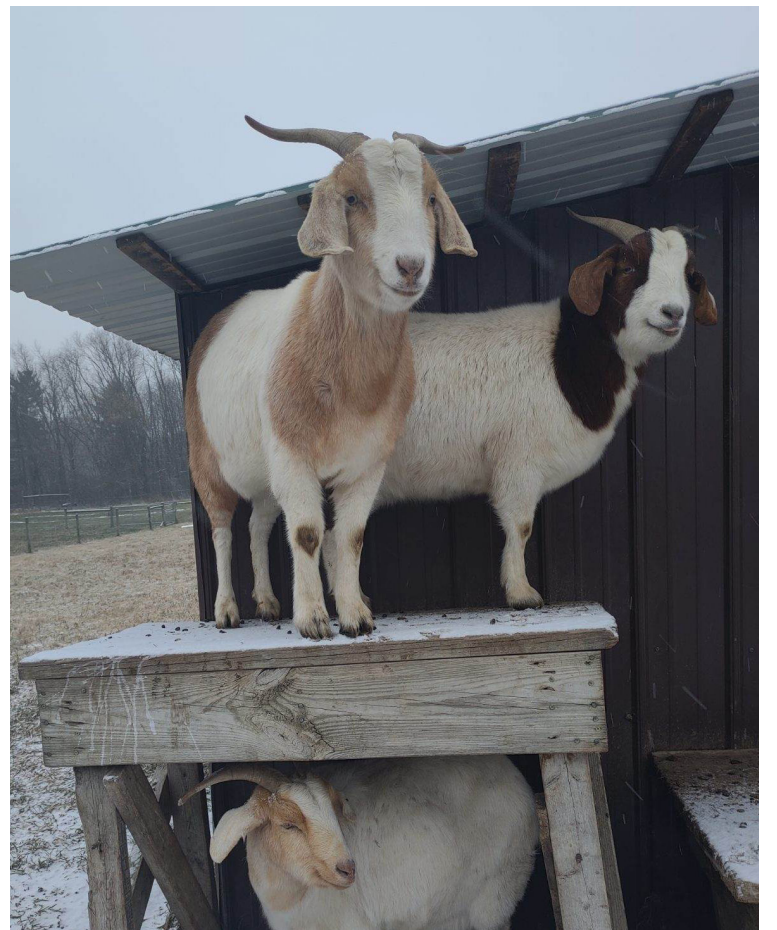
Beyond the summer, there is no update on the state of the program for the next academic year. According to Decatur, long-term Farm decision-making won't occur until the College hires a new farm manager, which Decatur cited as the reason for declining an invitation to the forum. "We look forward to opening conversa-

tions with students, with alumni, with others, but engaging the new farm manager as a central person to be involved in that effort moving forward," he said. "This is premature for that conversation to happen."

At the open forum, farmers expressed concern about this strategy. Rose Cobb '22, a residential farmer, explained that unless students continue to live on the Farm while the new manager adjusts to the position, they will be adjusting to a Farm that is "non-operational."

Meanwhile, the farmers continue to advocate for a retraction of the program's termination. They will host a mutual aid concert event at the Horn Gallery on Saturday night from 6-10 p.m., featuring music from student bands and merchandise for sale in order to gather further funding and support for their strike.

News Editor Amelia Carnell contributed to reporting.



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Decatur announces timeline for new moniker reveal

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Though much of the discussion among the Campus Senate and Moniker Subcommittee has revolved around questions of inclusivity and diversity, the value of tradition is another important aspect of the debate that has concerned several members of the Kenyon community. Many past and present athletes in particular identify strongly with the current monikers and cherish the pride that they have representing the Lords and Ladies as competitors in their athletic pursuits.

As an athlete on Kenyon's swimming and diving team, Drew Grier '23 does not support the moniker change because he believes that the Lords and Ladies serve as meaningful identities for him and his teammates in their roles as competitors and representatives of the College.

"I feel like a lot of the request change is stemming from non-ath-

letic students, and the Lords and Ladies monikers are not signifiers of the student body — they're more signifiers of the athletic teams here that we have here on campus," he said. "It's the athletic teams, when they go to compete in a competition, who are affected the most."

Grier referenced the team's victorious history — the Lords' 34 national championship victories and the Ladies' 23 — to explain that because the swimming and diving team consists of two separate groups of competitors based on gender, the current monikers distinguish the successes of the male competitors from those of the female competitors. He also emphasized the sense of pride that he and his teammates have in identifying with these respective monikers. "You have a passion to be a Lord or you have a passion to be a Lady," he said.

"It's not an inclusive moniker — it's a gender binary," he continued. "But, in my current sport, we only

have two binaries — we have male and female competitions. At the current state I don't see a reason for my team to specifically change it."

Kenyon has dedicated a website page to the history of the College's monikers, featuring a quote from Associate Vice President for Alumni & Parent Engagement and Annual Giving Shawn Dailey P '24. He acknowledges the opposing perspectives and extends an invitation to celebrate the values that the current monikers represent and the importance that they hold to many members of the Kenyon community. "Regardless of the outcome of this process, those who identify strongly with the Lords and Ladies monikers are welcome to continue to use them with pride, as they will always belong to your time here as a student," he said.

In the next few months as the process continues, alumni and parents will have the opportunity to attend an open forum on March 22, where

they will be able to discuss the ongoing process with Decatur and members of the Campus Senate. There are not yet plans to hold a similar event for students. Either way, there has not yet been a definitive decision regarding whether or not Kenyon will adopt a new moniker, and the entire Kenyon community is encouraged to join and participate in the discussion.

"There isn't anything inherently wrong with Lords and Ladies as they have historically been presented. The moniker simply doesn't represent all students on campus today," Dailey wrote in an email to the *Collegian*. "We aren't considering canceling Lords and Ladies or rewriting our history, we're following President Decatur's call to respond to students who have asked for a more inclusive future."

COVID-19 cases on the decline following outbreak

AMELIA CARNELL
NEWS EDITOR

COVID-19 cases spiked on campus last week, with 192 positive results between Feb. 14 and 21, according to Kenyon's COVID-19 Dashboard. There are currently 28 active cases on campus, bringing the semester total to 297.

Last week's surge came shortly after Kenyon's brief transition to Activity Level 1, the lowest level of precautions. The College returned to Activity Level 2, or "moderate precaution," last Wednesday, following a rapid jump to 88 active cases.

According to Chair of the COVID-19 Steering Committee Drew Kerkhoff and Senior Director of Wellness Chris Smith, there is insufficient data to assess whether the change in activity level caused the outbreak. However, Kerkhoff and Smith wrote in an email to the *Collegian* that they will consider this most recent outbreak before changing activity levels again. "We are reflecting on this experience as we consider what living with COVID-19 as an endemic infectious disease means for Kenyon College," they wrote.

Despite the number of positive cases on Kenyon's campus, cases in Knox County have fallen, with a 68% decrease in new positive tests over the past 14 days.

Similar to the surge last fall, the recent outbreak has strained the College's isolation housing capacity, requiring that the majority of sick students complete isolation in their own rooms.

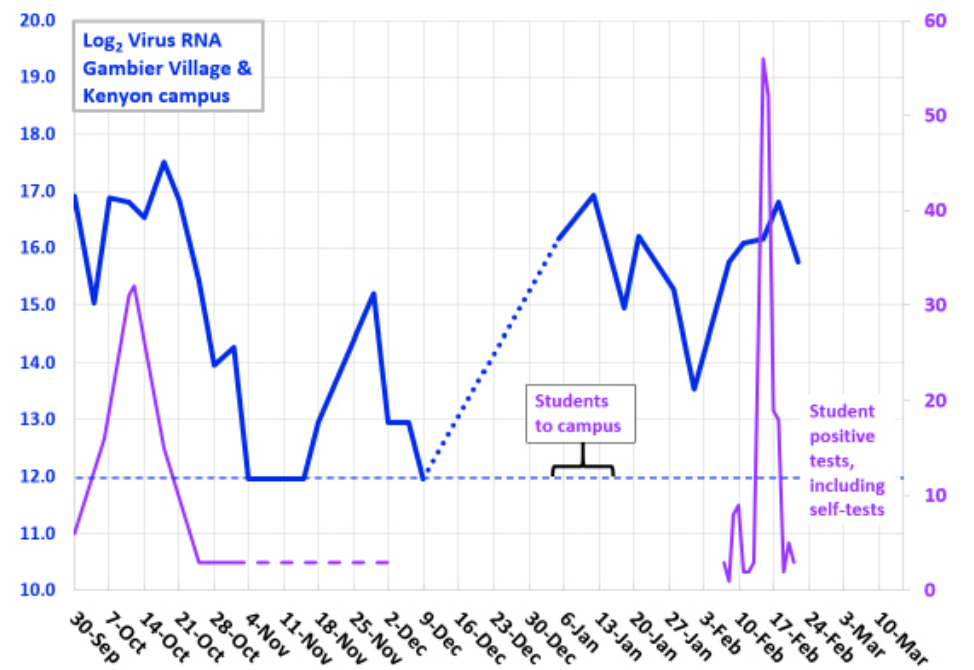
Additionally, students in isolation on campus had to enter the servery in Peirce Dining Hall to get their meals to-go, unlike last fall when they were instead directed to pick up to-go meals from Peirce Pub.

Smith and Kerkhoff said that the fewer restrictions during this surge were possible due to the less virulent nature of the omicron variant. "Despite last week's high case count, no students required acute care, and we had no reports of employee cases," they said.

According to President Sean Decatur, Kenyon is moving towards an endemic approach to COVID-19, and that the college is moving towards living with the virus. This outlook comes amidst a national shift in the pandemic strategy, with many governors shifting towards an endemic approach. States including New York, New Jersey and California have announced they will lift some restrictions, including mask mandates.

Decatur noted that he does not anticipate any increase in activity restrictions. "I don't think we're in a position now where it's, 'How do we restrict campus more?' but I think we're at the stage of beginning to think about, 'What does the future look like?' and 'How do we balance risk?' How do we put this risk in a new context, and what does that mean moving forward?" he said.

One way Kenyon will be moving forward is with food trucks. On Feb. 18, Kerkhoff announced in a news bulletin that, to celebrate the community's resilience throughout the pandemic, there will be food trucks on cam-



COURTESY OF JOAN SLONCZEWSKI

pus twice a week for the rest of the semester. Kerkhoff and Smith emphasized that the food trucks, in addition to celebrating the community, will create opportunities for students to gather outdoors. "It is becoming increasingly important that we continue to offer safe ways to gather as a community, even in the face of COVID," they said.

Looking forward, Kenyon will not conduct

reentry testing following spring break. According to Kerkhoff and Smith, this is because of the sort of tests Kenyon has at its disposal. "Rapid tests are necessarily self-reported, so doing compulsory testing is not really possible," they said. They said that Kenyon will encourage students to get tested before they return to campus, and rapid tests will continue to be available throughout the semester.

Downtown Mount Vernon mental health crisis center opens

AUDREY BAKER
NEWS ASSISTANT

On Feb. 19, Behavioral Healthcare Partners (BHP) of Central Ohio celebrated the opening of the Care Now clinic, an urgent care center in Mount Vernon dedicated to mental health support for those in crisis. The clinic will be open weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Appointments are not required.

The opening of the clinic comes at a time when mental health is the subject of elevated focus amid concerns of increasing rates of anxiety and de-

pression brought on by the pandemic. According to the American Psychological Association, 62% of adults reported being more anxious in 2020 than the previous year, and 41% reported the same in 2021.

In 2020, the College began to offer free telehealth counseling services via a mobile app called Talkspace after students reported experiencing a decline in the state of their mental health due to COVID-19-related stressors. A number of counseling services are also available in Knox County, including an online counseling center in Mount Vernon and crisis hotlines.

The Care Now clinic, located at 206 S Mulberry St, has counselors, care coordinators, nurse practitioners who are able to provide medication, as well as a certified medical assistant as a receptionist. Facilities include counseling rooms, office spaces and a telehealth monitor in each room. The clinic hopes to provide weekend hours soon, as well as support to family members of the person experiencing mental health crises.

Kathryn St. James, president and CEO of BHP, views the clinic as an intermediate step that can provide short-term assistance before connecting patients with longer-term behav-

ioral health services.

"We can't solve all of the problems," St. James told Knox Pages. "We really do see ourselves as a bridge to get people the help they need."

BHP celebrated the clinic's opening as a major step in helping people experiencing mental health crises during a time of heightened difficulty.

"This is very urgent, this measure that we are taking today," Mount Vernon Mayor Matthew Starr told Knox Pages. "This is another part of the continuum of care we can offer in the community."

A look into Professor Dave Suggs' research on college drinking

MADELEINE MAGILL
STAFF WRITER

On a fateful autumn day in 1986, a bulletin board in Philadelphia caught the attention of Dave Suggs, who would soon become Kenyon's beloved anthropology professor. A flyer posted at the employment center of the American Anthropological Association informed Suggs that Kenyon College was looking to hire an individual trained in medical anthropology with an area focus in Sub-Saharan Africa. The College sought someone who had a master's in sociology and a Ph.D. in anthropology, and who hopefully had an interest in gender studies. Suggs, who matched the description on the board perfectly, said, "I looked at this and I remember thinking, 'That is just bizarre, right?'" It appeared that Kenyon and Suggs had unknowingly been searching for each other.

Since his hiring in 1987, Suggs has created a particularly powerful legacy at Kenyon, as felt through his iconic storytelling lecture style, his unwavering devotion to students and the two Baccalaureate addresses he delivered at the College.

But aside from his impact on the community through his teaching, he has made an equally important impact through his own ethnographic research into the lives of Kenyon's students. Ten years into his Kenyon career, Suggs embarked on a decade-long research project that aimed to explore the alcohol consumption of college students. "I realized there was no ethnographic literature on college student drinking," he said.

Through on-campus ethnographic fieldwork, Suggs observed the behavior of Kenyon students, who were extremely welcoming to him throughout the intimate and lengthy research process. During these years, Suggs took part in a vibrant campus tradition called the Friday Afternoon

Drinking Club. On these occasions, he attended Kenyon students' pre-games, parties and after-parties, observing the influence alcohol had on students' behavior.

Often, underage drinking in America is deeply misunderstood, making Suggs's research all the more important. He finds that even with its potentially reductive consequences, drinking can still be a productive experience as it can facilitate all types of interactions. In particular, Suggs found that alcohol can be a utility for forming bonds and strengthening relationships. The depth of friendships that students were able to build in the presence of alcohol, which almost always involved a careful looking out for one another, was particularly astonishing to him. "I came to see the students were doing a lot of different things productively with alcohol, even if they were also creating problems for themselves with it," Suggs said.

The fundamental nature of social drinking changed when the U.S. Congress passed the National Minimum Drinking Age Act in 1984. With these laws forbidding individuals under the age of 21 from consuming alcohol, drinking became a privatized ritual for youth. Without social controls built into the context of situations involving alcohol, drinking comportment — which Suggs described as a "culturally learned thing" — can be severely affected. It is important to have mechanisms in place that keep people in check as they drink, and without these mechanisms, problems are much more likely to arise.

As drinking games and other similar behaviors became increasingly popular during the early 2000s, Kenyon's administration considered how to best handle the College's drinking culture. According to Suggs, the College's decisions aimed to prohibit the activity of on-campus drinking, such as banning beer pong, were really



David Suggs has worked at Kenyon since 1987. | COURTESY OF KENYON COLLEGE
just encouragement for students to leave campus to drink — a potentially more hazardous decision as driving becomes involved.

Time and time again, Kenyon's administration has expressed anxiety about how alcohol affects the behavior and safety of students, and perhaps rightfully so. On April 3, 2005, Colin Boyarski '08 lost his life to hypothermia after being outside on a very cold night without a coat. Boyarski's death, which was felt deeply by the entire community, led to immense feelings of guilt by many, as alcohol may have contributed to his passing. "Boy, a bunch of us cried really hard for a very long time," Suggs said. "I knew some of his friends and they felt responsible."

Since the beginning of the 21st century, Kenyon's drinking culture

has changed a lot. In many ways, drinking may be better understood by students than it used to be. The pandemic has forced a great deal of responsibility onto students, who can now better see the immediate consequences of drinking, like the unintended spread of COVID-19 that inevitably occurs as inhibitions are lowered and people gather, perhaps forgetfully, in larger groups.

Despite a better understanding of alcohol among students, Suggs thinks that student drinking is less understood by the College's administration. As Kenyon moves forward, he suggested that the administration should consider how students can be safer on campus. Suggs noted that Minimum Legal Drinking Age laws restrict student activity in a way that forces them to find unsafe alternatives, and

urged the College to lobby Congress to reconsider these counterproductive laws. "It's important for institutions of higher education to stand up to that governmental mentality and say to them, 'You haven't actually really saved lives. You've just shifted the age of the people who died,'" he said.

With his sabbatical on the horizon next spring, Suggs plans to conduct research on tourism and alcohol consumption in Ireland. He looks forward to the birth of his first grandchild in August of 2022, and to his retirement after returning from Ireland. According to Suggs, although he is no longer Kenyon's "alcohol man," he is eager for someone to take on the role of advancing the College's efforts to create a safer drinking environment for its students.

Kenyon students weigh in on potential new moniker change



COURTESY OF THE KENYON THRILL

RONIN BERZINS
FEATURES EDITOR

Every idea needs a symbol, every movement needs a name and every team needs a moniker. History has provided some great examples: the New York Yankees, the Navy Midshipmen, the Nebraska Cornhuskers and the Coastal Carolina Chanticleers. A close look at any of these reveal several compo-

nents of a good nickname. All have originality, the ability to represent a holistic group of people, the capacity to strike terror into the hearts of opponents and, perhaps most importantly, highlight some shared feature of the people they represent. And yet famous examples of terrible nicknames also abound, such as the Montreal Canadiens, the Cleve-

land Browns or the Boston Red Sox. With the debate over Kenyon's new moniker heating up, three seniors chipped in with their ideas for the best and worst nicknames Kenyon could hypothetically adopt. And though few people liked my suggestion that we be renamed the Kenyon KN95s, Kenyon students offered good insights for where the school should go.

Yet even the idea of changing Kenyon's monikers has created some dissent on campus. "I was just hearing about this during AT last night," Rebecca Turner '22 said. "It was a weird experience because they were all on a sports team and I'm not, and they all agreed to keep the name, or just to keep it the Kenyon Lords."

Despite some support, much of the student body remains disenchanted with the current name. "A good moniker is going to be one that encapsulates the spirit of the college and the student body, but in a Kenyon-specific way," Ellen Burbank '22 said. While the Lords and Ladies monikers have stood

for a while, it may no longer fit this bill. "Personally I think this would mean that we choose something a little more weird, more Kenyon-y, a little grimey, something fun," Burbank said.

What, then, might Kenyon adopt as its new mascot? Students suggested a broad range of new ideas. Searching for something uniquely Kenyon, Burbank initially suggested a cat-related nickname. "The Kenyon Feral Cats, or the Kenyon Street Cats. There are so many around campus," she said.

Jack Seasholtz '22 suggested names along similar lines. "I think it should be an animal," he said. "A bear would be cool, or a snake. Something fierce." However fierce, Seasholtz shied away from choosing a terrifying new moniker. "It should be nice," he said. Taking a pragmatic approach, he added, "They could sell plush animals, something they could make a lot of money out of. Keep tuition down."

Students also figured that Kenyon may want to adopt a moniker that is more relevant to the Ken-

yon experience today. "Maybe we should do something completely modern, like the Kenyon Coronaviruses," Turner said. Burbank made similar, topical suggestions. Asked for a moniker relevant to Kenyon today, Burbank suggested "the Kenyon Extra Long Q-tips, or the Kenyon DNA Spit Tube Tests." Other names pertinent to a modern Kenyon were also popular. "The Kenyon Administrators," was one suggestion of Burbank's. "Yay, go Administrators!" she said, illustrating how well this new name might roll off the tongue.

Regardless of what avenue Kenyon decides to take, students were clear to point out certain names the school should avoid. "No large animal could represent Kenyon," Burbank said. "So they shouldn't go the route of lions or panthers. Kenyon's not a basic place." Some Kenyon students found other names equally disagreeable. When asked what the worst moniker Kenyon might choose would be, Seasholtz answered promptly: "The Lords and Ladies would be pretty lame."

Kenyon's moniker change: a debate that has lasted over 30 years

MADELEINE MAGILL
STAFF WRITER

This week, Kenyon students and faculty received a news bulletin from President Sean Decatur announcing the official process for updating the Kenyon moniker. After the expressed concerns of students, who believe that the monikers "Lords" and "Ladies" perpetuates a gender binary that no longer contributes to a sense of full belonging in our community, Decatur agrees that change is necessary and the school should adopt a moniker more reflective of the current Kenyon community. As closure is now in sight to this longstanding dispute, it's interesting to reflect on how our community's ethical debate over Kenyon's monikers has evolved over the years.

Some of the first evidence of discussion over the issue appears in the Jan. 30, 1992 edition of the *Kenyon Collegian*, written by the *Collegian's* own editorial board. They highlighted the increased concern among students around the school's monikers — though Kenyon students of 1992 were questioning it for different reasons than today. "Many feel that "Ladies" does not denote a strong athletic presence, or that it is an offensive, gender-based term that implies inequality," they wrote.

In the *Collegian's* following edition, published on Feb. 6, 1992, former Women's Soccer Captain Erica Wolff '92 submitted an op-ed recapitulating the Board's previous piece, giving her perspective as a woman in Kenyon athletics. She argued that the term "Ladies" does not evoke her identity as an athlete. "Such a mascot doesn't provide those qualities and ideals that women athletes are striving to project," she said. After the publication of Wolff's op-ed, the conversation surrounding the moniker seemed to have died down on campus, at least in the *Collegian* publications. But the conversation was far from over.

On April 6, 1995, the debate made a resurgence: One op-ed in particular, written by Sarah Bothe '95 and Eiley Patterson '95, sparked a monthlong debate with students, faculty and coaches responding (and re-

responding) to each other through the opinions section of the *Collegian*.

Bothe and Patterson touched upon issues outside the gender binary, insisting that the monikers raises additional questions concerning inequalities in economic status and Eurocentrism. "Such a change would reflect the College's belief in diversity and equality," they wrote. They expressed that the community had moved far beyond the time when lords founded Kenyon, pointing out that students, faculty, alumni and College presidents have made changes to the community since then and that the moniker ought to reflect those contributions. Bothe and Patterson also cited Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary's many definitions of the word "lady," insisting that the word itself holds an inherent inferiority and does not fairly reflect the school's female athletes.

Responses to Bothe and Patterson's article came pouring in the following week. Former Professor of English Language and Literature Perry Lentz '64, Mark Rich '98 and Tres Waterfield '97 all took issue with Bothe and Patterson's argument. Lentz asserted the importance of honoring the school's founders. "The fact is neither this College nor this Village would exist except for the extraordinary generosity of members of the British upper class, including Lady Rosse," he wrote.

In his article, Rich argued that a school's mascot does not have to be a literal reflection of the student, but should hold a symbolic meaning. "A mascot is not meant to be an exact image of a Kenyon student, but a figure in which we take pride. Duke's students are not actually Blue Devils, Miami of Florida's students are not actually Hurricanes, and Michigan's students are not actually Wolverines," he said.

Waterfield, more so than Lentz or Rich, reacted passionately to Bothe and Patterson's plea to change the monikers, believing the idea to be "preposterous." He stated that doing so would be a "biological impossibility" because one can not erase the gender line. "Any mascot we could change to would not erase the gender line between our respective

- Solis Reacts to Ladies Mascot Issue
- Lentz Validates Lords and Ladies as College Mascot
- Noah Attacks Defenders of 'Ladies'
- Rich Responds to Bothe and Patterson
- Bothe and Patterson Question Lords and Ladies as College Mascot
- Coaches Defend Bothe, Patterson
- Rich Responds to Noah
- Waterfield Challenges Ladies Mascot Issue
- Alumna Kelley Wilder Defends the Kenyon Ladies
- Tradition Cannot Become Our Excuse to Limit Positive Change
- "Lady" Rejects "Ladies" as Appropriate Title

Previous *Collegian* headlines about the monikers | COLLEGIAN ARCHIVES

athletic teams. Unless, of course, we proposed to change our mascot to the Kenyon Hermaphrodites," he said.

Lentz, Rich and Waterfield all argued that, in their mind's eye, the term "lady" is one of honor due to the "word's implications about her innate personal rank," as Lentz put it. "When I hear the name "Lady," I do not think of a "mistress" but of a very sophisticated, elegant woman deserving of respect," Rich said.

After Lentz, Rich, and Waterfield's respective responses to the op-ed, people began submitting articles defending Bothe and Patterson. Laura Noah '95 expressed her personal distaste with the term "Ladies," claiming to have "winned" every time she heard the name. She pointed out that those who attacked Bothe and Patterson's article in the April 13 publication were all men, and therefore couldn't understand what it was like to be a woman on campus. Noah insisted that tradition is important, but not as much as repairing the "silencing and disempowering of a large segment of the population."


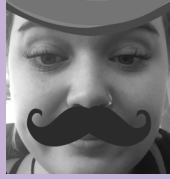
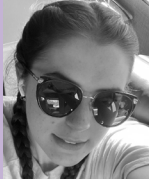
Many athletics coaches defended Bothe and Patterson's argument as well. Head Volleyball Coach Jennie Bruening, Head Field Hockey and Lacrosse Coach Susan Eicher, and Associate Athletic Director and Head Basketball Coach Ann Osborne all cooperated on an op-ed, sympathizing with female athletes at Kenyon. "They no longer want to be separated from their male fellow student-athletes by a name, as their predecessors no longer wanted to be separated by which schools they could attend," they said.

Throughout the rest of the month's publications, students, alumni and faculty continued submitting a slew of articles on the subject; everyone wanted their voice to be heard. Rich even wrote another article, responding to those who attacked his previous response.

After April of 1995, conversation surrounding the moniker debate seemed to have died down significantly. That time of debate clearly held significance, though, because the conversation hasn't stopped since, over 30 years later.

CLASS CLASH

Compiled by Ronin Berzins '22

		 Senior Class Total: 31 Jack Seasholtz '22	 Junior Class Total: 24 Sebastian Gaese '23	 Sophomore Class Total: 29 Anna Sanders '24	 First-Year Class Total: 20 Kate Ford '25
Formerly the Kenyon Athletic Center, this building was renamed after which Kenyon alumnus?	William (Bill) Lowry	Lowry	Lowry	Lowry	Lowry
Kenyon College is an anagram for: A: One keg yolk B: Long neck yodel C: Philander Chase	D	D	D	D	B
Ascension Hall is an example of what style of architecture?	Victorian Gothic	American	Gothic	Gothic	Gothic
How many active COVID-19 cases are there currently on campus?	45 (±5)	In reality it's an unknown quantity	43	20	123
Weekly Scores		3	4	3	2



Black Country, New Road, released *Ants From Up There* on Feb. 4. | COURTESY OF PAUL HUDSON VIA WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Black Country, New Road releases successful new album

CECILIA OSHINS
ARTS EDITOR

Amidst a COVID-19 spike, the arts scene on campus has been much less accessible to students. This is the perfect time for discovering new music, and 2022 has brought some brilliant new albums. Among them is a new Feb. 4 release from London-based band Black Country, New Road (BC, NR), with the album *Ants From Up There*.

Formed in 2018, BC, NR is still relatively underground particularly in the United States, with fewer than one million monthly listeners on Spotify. The group can be classi-

fied as a mixed-genre band, primarily indie rock but with chamber-pop and subtle jazz influences. *Ants From Up There* is the band's second studio album, following *For The First Time* and a few singles.

For such a new band, however, BC, NR's *Ants From Up There* has been met with nothing but acclaim; many critics are calling it the best album of 2022 so far. Each song is full of emotion, and most move quite slowly while featuring string and saxophone solos. Six of 10 of their songs are over five minutes long, and the last song on the album, "Basketball Shoes," is a 12-minute-long melanchol-

ic track that slowly builds in intensity, both instrumentally and lyrically.

BC, NR's most popular song on Spotify is called "Concorde," which is slightly more upbeat with a happier melody than some of the others on the album. It is followed in popularity by "Good Will Hunting," the album's fifth track. This song is praised in part for the stunning instrumentals, but also for its seemingly desperate vocals which grow more and more unstable as the song progresses.

Throughout the album, there is a recurring theme of airplanes, which the album cover — a toy plane in a plastic bag

— references. The album's song "Concorde" is a call to the Concorde jet, the subject of a national tragedy, in which over a hundred people were killed in a crash and the jet was taken out of service. "Basketball Shoes" returns to this idea again at the end of the album with the lines "Concorde flies in my room / Tears the house to shreds." The title of the album ties into this story as well, which describes how people look from out the window of a plane; small enough to look like ants.

Isaac Wood, BC, NR's lead vocalist on the album, left the band after the album's release, which has fans wondering what

direction their music will take in the future. Wood's deep, melodic singing was a key part of their sound, and gave the album a distinct feel.

Ants From Up There has gained the band a lot of attention from music critics, so whatever comes next from the group of (now) six should be exciting. They have already confirmed that they are carrying on as Black Country, New Road in spite of losing Wood, and have new music on the way.

Ants From Up There can be found on any major music streaming platform.

Despite COVID-19 challenges, Lorentzen '22 puts on senior recital

LINNEA MUMMA
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

While COVID-19 cases continued to skyrocket this past weekend and many on campus were receiving phone calls about potential exposure to the virus, Keiran Lorentzen '22 had another stressor on his mind: how he would manage to put on his senior capstone project in music during a period of such uncertainty.

Somehow, though, he prevailed. Despite his worries that some of his performers might not be able to participate due to COVID-19, Lorentzen presented his composition recital on Saturday, Feb. 19 to a hybrid audience of eager attendees, with all of his quartet members present: Skyler Lesser-Roy '22 was the violinist, Piper Diers '22 was on piano, Becca Elbert '22 was on flute and Ethan Parks '24 was the percussionist.

"I know that this recent outbreak of COVID has been tiresome and stressful, which is why I wanted to thank everybody who made it out here today," Lorentzen said before the recital began.

Because the senior capstone proj-

ect in music demands a performance component, possible COVID-19 exposure becomes all the more challenging to navigate for these musicians. Katie Kress '22, another music major, was also supposed to have her recital this past weekend, but had to reschedule to this Saturday, Feb. 26 because of the recent outbreak.

Lorentzen's recital consisted of two original minimalist compositions — titled "Albatross" and "The Doldrums" — that featured a violin, piano, flute and percussion. Lorentzen had been working on these compositions over the course of the academic year, meeting with music faculty throughout the process.

After thanking both the in-person and virtual attendees, Lorentzen gave an address that provided context about his recital pieces. In his introductory comments, he explained why he settled on minimalism as a genre.

"The extended use of minimal harmonic and melodic materials is intriguing as it allows for an in-depth study of certain facets of music which can otherwise be overlooked in different styles, such as dynamics, articula-

tion, timbre and intonation," he said. "My intention in using minimalism was to highlight these aspects and bring them to the forefront."

Much of Lorentzen's compositional choices were clear in his two pieces. "Albatross" utilizes different motifs for each instrument, with the pulsing beat of the drum consistent throughout. The piece begins with several sporadic moments from these instruments, as they enter at different times.

Slowly, though, the composition begins to unravel into something bigger. Each instrument takes on a repetitive motif through different variations: The piano alternates between three notes, two of which the violin borrows in its own motif, while the flute oscillates between sixteenth notes and longer phrases. As the piece progresses, Lorentzen includes a bass ostinato in the piano, which contributes to its ominous feeling.

"The Doldrums," by comparison, provided a much more calming atmosphere. Lesser-Roy and Elbert worked in tandem, often building the dynamics of the piece, and backing away from the forte simultaneously.



COURTESY OF KEIRAN LORENTZEN

The duo shared notes and rhythmic structures, offering a duet-like feel against the piano's consistent chordal structure and the repetition of the percussion.

All in all, Lorentzen was happy with the way the recital worked out, and is glad that it all was able to come together despite the circumstances.

"The process of turning some ideas into notes, and then some notes on a piece of paper into audible music was really cool to experience, especially with such a great group of musicians to help me out," he said.

STAFF EDITORIAL

We've waited too long: A new moniker is necessary

Earlier this week, President Decatur invited the Kenyon community to submit suggestions for a new moniker. This invitation follows a year-long review process, which has involved a deep dive into the history of the “Lords” and “Ladies” monikers and their connotations. We support this change, and are looking forward to seeing a new moniker develop into a symbol that represents all members of the Kenyon community.

There are many reasons why it was time to change Kenyon’s monikers. For one, “Lords” and “Ladies” reinforce a gender binary that excludes nonbinary and agender students. In forcing students to choose within this binary, the monikers also ask students to prioritize their gender above their connection to their school or team.

Not only are the monikers perpetuating a rigid gender binary, but they are also prone to mockery by other colleges and universities on the athletic field due to its elitist undertones. In recent years, Kenyon athletes have reported being teased about the monikers, and subsequently their “snobbish” connotations.

Some argue that the monikers represent a preservation of the College’s history, as “Lords” refers to the role of Lords Kenyon and Gambier in the College’s founding. But if that is the case, then we are preserving a time in which Kenyon’s student body consisted exclusively of wealthy, white men. Is this the perception of the College really one that we want to be conveying to the NCAC community and beyond?

A few applicable moniker alternatives come to mind, for which many Kenyon students have advocated. One is the Crows, honoring Kenyon’s literary history by giving a nod to John Crowe Ransom — a former professor of English and a co-founder of the *Kenyon Review* — and complementing the crow statues atop Ransom Hall. Crows are also known for their high intelligence and live in close-knit, social communities, similar to students here on the Hill. Not to mention, wherever you go around campus, there’s bound to be a crow in sight.

Owls are another type of bird that are important to the Kenyon community. The Delaware language word “Kokosing” translates to “place of owls” in English. With the Kokosing River running through the south end of Kenyon’s campus, the Owls would be a fitting name for Kenyon’s teams that all those affiliated with the College could rally around.

It is important to note that while the choice of a new moniker is crucial in promoting Kenyon’s inclusiveness, the change should not affect the preservation of the school’s history and reputation. These claims, often cited in arguments against a moniker change, seem to assert that an abandonment of the current monikers would lead to some abandonment of the Kenyon spirit and experience. Such arguments fail to take into account the most crucial values of our community: the importance of progressiveness, diversity of thought and inclusion of our entire student body. While changing the monikers does push us into a new era of Kenyon’s history, it does not remove us from tradition but instead moves us closer to what we as an institution value most.

The staff editorial is written weekly by editors-in-chief Jordy Fee-Platt '22 and Linnea Mumma '22, managing editor Amanda Pyne '22 and executive director Joe Wint '22. You can contact them at feeplatt1@kenyon.edu, mumma1@kenyon.edu, pyne1@kenyon.edu and wint1@kenyon.edu, respectively.

WEEKLY COLUMN: “This Kenyon Life”

Our new normal must include COVID-19 mitigation

HANNAH SUSSMAN
COLUMNIST

College is full of learning opportunities. For example, in the last five days of quarantine, I learned that food trucks do not make everything better. I also learned that three people can only peacefully quarantine in a single room for four days and 38 minutes. Above all else, I learned that even after two years of dealing with COVID-19, we are still repeating the same mistakes.

On Feb. 9, Kenyon announced a shift to Level 1 procedures. This shift came after positive cases on campus had dropped to 30. Although this shift made relatively few material changes, it eased student anxieties and presented the risk of infection as “relatively low.” Within a week of the level change, the College reported over 180 new cases.

This trend of loosening health guidelines and giving way to exponential growth in COVID-19 cases is in no way unexpected. Arguably, this one step forward, two steps back pattern has been one of the most consistent dances of COVID-19. It has become increasingly clear that the normal we are rushing back to does not exist. Every step we take “back to normal” drags us further away from the inevitable new normal.

What might this “new normal” look like? The biggest difference is that it would involve a commitment to consistency and education.

Although all campus activity levels include indoor masking requirements, we still lack consistent proactive measures against the spread of COVID-19. Testing only when our numbers are rising does nothing to ensure that they will not spike again.

Above all else, a “new normal” depends on students having a clear understanding of how COVID-19 testing and transmission works. Despite being a writer’s college, Kenyon has been slow to correct key misconceptions about COVID-19.

One of the most prevalent misconceptions is that after five days of quarantine students can safely interact with other students without spreading COVID-19. Although the CDC states that after testing positive for COVID-19, you should quarantine for five days, they also state that, following this quarantine, an infected individual should not interact with anyone unmasked for an additional five days. At Kenyon, this means that after a five-day quarantine, students should continue taking their food to go and not attend unmasked social gatherings for five more days.

The other large misconception is on immunity after being infected with COVID-19. As case numbers rose last week, you might have found yourself wondering, “If enough of us get COVID-19, then we’ll all be immune to it, right?” Not quite...

At this point in the pandemic, “herd immunity” is a myth. Claims on immunity after testing positive are inconsistent, with some showing repeat infections in months, and others hypothesizing years of immunity. The concept of “immunity” is further disrupted by the variety of COVID-19 strains. Immunity from omicron does not guarantee immunity for the delta variant, or any future variants. There have even been cases in which a person has been infected with two distinct COVID-19 variants at the same time.

COVID fatigue is real. However, we must apply what little energy we have to finding and protecting our new normal. The fastest way to normal is to move towards where it is now rather than back to where it used to be.

Hannah Sussman '25 is a columnist at the Collegian. She is a sociology major from Glencoe, Ill. She can be reached at sussman3@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 writers. 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.

Kenyon administration must follow in Dartmouth's footsteps

PATRICIA A. URBAN
CONTRIBUTOR

In October of 2021, Kenyon student workers filed a request to have a stipulated election, which would be overseen by the the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). So far, that election has not been held.

In contrast to what's happened at Kenyon, approximately 120 student dining hall workers at Dartmouth College have in the last few weeks reached an agreement with their administration to hold exactly the same NLRB-sanctioned and -overseen election.

In negotiations with their student workers, Dartmouth's administrators did not say that their student employees were unimportant to running the college. They did not claim that student workers were anything but workers receiving wages (in fact,

they raised their hourly pay to \$21/hour), and they did find a way to deal with issues around the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). These are some of the objections raised in Kenyon's name by the College's lawyers, intended not only to thwart an election at Kenyon, but to deny the rights of undergraduate workers anywhere in the United States to form a union.

During negotiations with their administrators, Dartmouth's student workers urged them not to "be like Kenyon." Those workers were aware of the scorched-earth fight being waged against a student worker union election on our campus. Dartmouth's leaders were also aware of that fight and the tactics Kenyon is using against student workers here, and they had no desire to replicate

that model.

Dartmouth has excellent legal counsel and its leaders have a clear sense of the relations — and distinctions — between student education and work. Dartmouth's administrators know the law, their students and the work those students do. Given this understanding, it's hard to escape the impression that Kenyon's trustees are not motivated by concern for student workers. Instead, it looks like trustees are using an anti-union ideology in their efforts to crush our student workers' call for a union election.

Like Dartmouth, some of our peer colleges, such as Grinnell and Hamilton, have negotiated with their student workers to set up union elections. There are also universities that have done the same, such as workers seeking a higher minimum wage at

OSU who are citing Kenyon's student workers as inspirational.

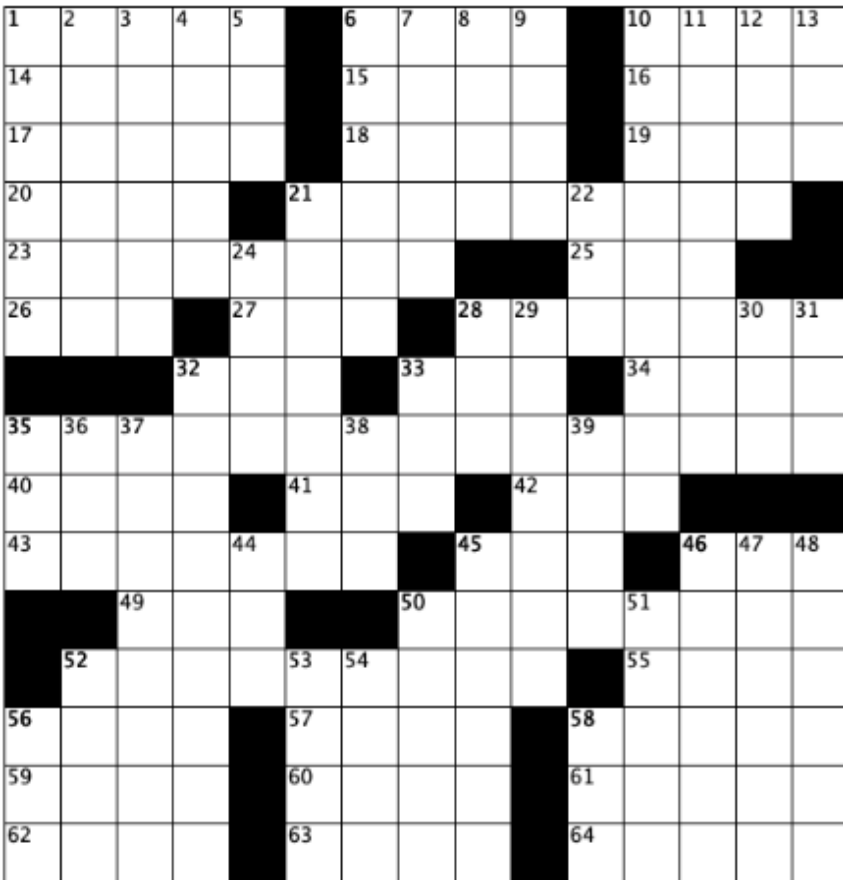
In the midst of these developments at other institutions, Kenyon is getting a national reputation for doing anything in its power to deny our students' fight for a say in the conditions of their employment. If there are principled reasons for Kenyon's stance, reasons that are part of the College's mission and are unique to it, they have not yet been articulated clearly and consistently by the trustees or their lawyers.

Kenyon has many accomplishments to be proud of — for example, the high quality of our education, the *Kenyon Review* and student and staff commitment to voting, as demonstrated in the 2004 presidential election, among others. We also have — or perhaps had — a sense of com-

munity and a commitment to common goals. Our trustees' unrelenting fight against a union election is making us stand out for other reasons: Kenyon is getting a reputation for harboring a deep disregard for the rights of its student workers and for denying them the vote.

Here I am speaking to the trustees: Please end the division and just let the student workers vote.

Most sincerely yours,
Patricia A. Urban



Across

- 1 Sculptor or actor George
- 6 Bourbon order
- 10 Transliteration of Cyrillic for an Eastern Bloc
- 14 The end
- 15 First name in cubism?
- 16 Neck piece?
- 17 Brand of wafers
- 18 Does a sum
- 19 Writing on the wall
- 20 First word of a fairy tale
- 21 Section containing an angry remark?
- 23 Section with facial characteristics?
- 25 Draft pick?
- 26 One can go to 11 in "Spinal Tap"
- 27 "I've Grown Accustomed to ___ Face"
- 28 Nonbasic property
- 32 Common airport news channel
- 33 Startling announcement?
- 34 Father of Ahab
- 35 What's right before your eyes?
- 40 Academy newbie
- 41 Eureka!
- 42 Bark source
- 45 Capuchin
- 46 Singer Lipa
- 49 Doctor of music?
- 50 Section that might be light on facts?
- 52 "Get _____ COVID": CDC
- 55 Mardi follower
- 56 Bright fish
- 57 "Nothing will come of nothing" speaker
- 58 "Work That" singer
- 59 Stick, in Sevilla
- 60 Partner to Ernie
- 61 Choral composition
- 62 Half-oz. measure
- 63 Section that satisfies a diversification requirement?
- 64 Some golf clubs, or their user

Down

- 1 "Why you little..."
- 2 Candy rapper?
- 3 Not-so-hard pill to swallow
- 4 End of a lace
- 5 Anaheim nine, on the scoreboards
- 6 "_____, My God, to Thee"
- 7 Mathematician Paul who published prolifically
- 8 &&&&
- 9 The Bengals won it this year
- 10 Rastafarian rapper
- 11 Director of upcoming Doctor Strange film
- 12 Went in haste
- 13 Stimp's sidekick
- 21 Trautman's portrayer in "Rambo" and kin
- 22 Nintendo's ___ Sports
- 24 "Hmm... I don't think so"
- 28 "You've got mail!" co.
- 29 Window unit's output
- 30 La la lead-in
- 31 Yang's counterpart
- 32 Internet vendor
- 33 Ophidian
- 35 Metric speed abbr.
- 36 Chess ranking system
- 37 Do-overs, at a card table
- 38 Warhol portrait subject
- 39 Irish author Colfer
- 44 Court call?
- 45 Section that contains Lions, Tigers and Bears?
- 46 Triangular chip
- 47 Unlike fine wine, perhaps
- 48 Things that econ majors care about
- 50 Met's ending
- 51 White house?
- 52 Kendrick masterpiece, shortly
- 53 Future James Bond, if Twitter had their way
- 54 Do(e), a ____
- 56 Scry 1, draw a card
- 58 German auto



Brintwood breaks weight throw record, Conant finishes 10th



Dylan Brintwood '25 set a new Kenyon record in the weight throw that traveled 13.72 meters. | SEJIN KIM/SID/NCAA

KATIE SPAVERO
SPORTS ASSISTANT

On Feb. 18, the Lords competed in an unscored dual meet against the College of Wooster. The Ladies were scheduled to compete against the Fighting Scots as well, but their meet was cancelled due to illness. On Feb. 20, Erika Conant '23 was the only member of the Ladies to compete in the NCAC Combined Events Championship, taking 10th place.

The Lords bested two Kenyon records during their meet against the Fighting Scots on Friday. On the track, Tapiwa Gono Phiri '25 won the 60-meter dash with a time of 7.04 seconds, breaking the 2013 Kenyon record of 7.10 seconds. His teammate Emmanuel Makelele '25 finished third in the race (7.45 seconds). Gono Phiri also took home first in the 200-meter dash, where his time of 22.75 seconds was just 0.04

seconds shy of another Kenyon record also set in 2013. Gono Phiri took home his second NCAC Men's Track Athlete of the Week honor this season for his performance in the meet.

In the 400-meter dash, Collin Witt '24 took second (53:48) and Will Dean '23 (58:79) took third. Angus Soderberg '22 was the runner-up in the 800-meter run, finishing the race in 2:03.02. In the one-mile race, Jack Burczak '23 (4:39.09) and Jeremy Baier '22 (4:39.57) finished second and third, respectively, with less than half a second separating their finishes.

Peter Bernhardt '25 gave the Lords their other win on the track, finishing the 3000-meter run with a time of 9:03.78. Keegan Minahan '24 (9:22.32) and Sam Rabieh '25 (9:30.51) came in second and third, respectively. A team of Hans Schwarz '22, Jonathan Turner '24, James Colwell '25 and

Charlie Atkins '25 finished the 4x200-meter in 1:38.54, taking second place. In the 4x400-meter, Dean, Jack Caine '24, Michael Deal '23 and Burczak finished the race in 3:58.61, earning a second place finish.

The Lords' other new record came on the field. Dylan Brintwood '25 took first in the weight throw, where his throw of 45 feet, ¼ inch (13.72 meters) eclipsed the record set by his teammate Riley Orth '24 earlier this season. Brintwood, who started out in weight throw after a hiatus from track after high school, said that his record serves as both a testament to his hard work and motivation to achieve more.

"My goal is to set a personal best at conference," he said. "Weight is an indoor-only event, and I want to end the indoor season on a high before transitioning to javelin for the outdoor season." In addition to

Brintwood's win, Orth won the shot put event with a throw of 45 feet, 7 ¾ inches (13.91 meters), and Colwell came in second in long jump with a jump of 16 feet, 8 ¾ inches (5.10 meters).

Though the Ladies' meet was cancelled, Conant tallied 2311 points in the pentathlon in the NCAC Combined Events Championship. DePauw's Erica Pasch took first with 3578 points. Conant began the day with a ninth-place finish in the 60-meter hurdles (10.54 seconds). She then placed 10th in the high jump with a jump of 4 feet, 6 inches (1.38 meters). Conant's best event of the day was shot put, where she placed fourth with a throw of 24 feet, 5 ½ inches (7.45 meters). Her jump of 15 feet (4.57 meters) earned her seventh place in the long jump. She rounded out the competition with a 10th-place finish in the 800-meter run

(2:55.71).

For Conant, the pentathlon was a chance to test her skills across a range of events. "Because the events are so diverse (you have to run, jump, and throw), they heavily rely on playing to your advantages and weaknesses in order to score points," she wrote to the *Collegian*.

Heading into the NCAC Championships, Conant hopes to draw on her experience in the Combined Events to find further success, specifically in the hurdles and personal-best distance in the long jump. "I have had a breakthrough recently in practice, which I hope will carry through to the meet," she said.

The Lords and Ladies will be back in competition on Feb. 25, when they will compete in the NCAC Championships at Wittenberg University.

Swimming and diving prepares for NCAA championships

CALEB NEWMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

On Saturday, the Kenyon swimming and diving teams competed in the Fast Chance Invitational at home in Steen Aquatics Center. The Lords and Ladies focused on qualifying for the NCAA Championship meet that will occur from March 16 to March 19. On Wednesday, the NCAA released its psych sheet — the outline of the meet which shows swimmers' lane assignments. Kenyon swimmers will be well represented at the competition.

NCAC Women's Swimmer of the Year Crile Hart '22 is competing in three events in which she is the top seed: the 200-yard backstroke, 200-yard

individual medley and 100-yard butterfly. Hart is looking forward to competing again at the meet. "[I] can't wait to get back in the pool with the best in the country with my teammates and race our hearts out," she said.

This time, though, Hart will be competing with a whole new team. In addition to Hart, David Fitch '22 will be another senior that the team can lean on. Fitch, like Hart, will be extra motivated, after missing his past two chances to compete in the NCAA Championships due to COVID-19-related cancellations. Fitch is swimming in the 100-yard backstroke, 50-yard freestyle and 100-yard butterfly. He will look to defend his title in the 100-yard butterfly as well as improve on the NCAA record in

that event, which he currently holds (46.46).

"As I said since the beginning of the year, the [COVID-19] year last year would cause chaos to the league and essentially cause a structural restart to the league with everyone starting near ground zero with very little nationals experience," he wrote in an email to the *Collegian*. "It's been up to us to make sure that we come out of that chaos prepared and ready to fight for our title."

According to Fitch, practices have been less intense, as Kenyon has been tapering in preparation of the meet. The teams have also been focusing on getting enough sleep and eating well for proper nutrition. As a leader, Hart is also focusing on

sharing her experience of the 2019 meet to excite the rest of the team, who have never competed at nationals.

Reflecting on the upcoming championship, Hart had a message for her teammates. "The meet is super exciting and the energy is contagious so just remember that you are there for a reason, stay focused, relaxed, have fun and do your part as best you can," she said. "And remember to be the loudest, proudest team on deck!"

The messages that Hart and Fitch are sending seem to be seeping into the minds of underclass swimmers. Daniel Brooks '24 is swimming in three events (the 50-yard freestyle, 100-yard backstroke and 100-yard freestyle). "I've also

heard that a lot of swimmers don't have their best swims at nationals and to not put so much pressure on each swim," he said.

Many members of the swim team took gap years to be able to compete at one last championship meet. "Ever since we had the meet cancelled back at the end of the 2019-20 season, there has been an increased desire to go and do something special this year," Brooks said. He is looking forward to competing with the best talent in Division III.

The fastest swimmers in Division III will all be competing in Indianapolis as they pursue a national title, both individually and for their respective schools.

Lords dominate Washington and Jefferson in season opener

CALEB NEWMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

The Lords began their season on a cloudy, frigid Wednesday afternoon in Gambier. They jogged out to the Benson Bowl field, a crowd of 50 people gathered, eagerly awaiting the start of Kenyon's regular-season campaign. Last year, the Lords fell to rival Denison University 12-10 in the NCAC title game.

This year, the Lords were ranked third in the preseason poll behind Denison and the College of Wooster. Of the 10 first-place votes, seven went to the Big Red and the remaining three went to the second-place Fighting Scots. It is the Lords' goal to prove that they deserved the top spot, and defenseman Graham O'Brien '23 has embraced the underdog mentality.

"We haven't earned anything yet," said O'Brien. "The players and our coaches know the potential we have coming into this season, but at the same time we need to be able to capitalize and execute on both a large and small scale in order to have the season we all expect to have."

Hungry to return to the NCAC championship game, the Lords opened their season in a dominant fashion against Washington and Jefferson College. By the end of the first period, the score was 6-0 in Kenyon's favor. The Lords continued to control the game until the final whistle against the Presidents, winning 16-4.

It was an all-around great team performance. Thirteen players scored for the Lords, while the defense held the Presidents in check all afternoon.



It was an all-around team effort for the Lords as 13 players scored in the win. | ISOO O'BRIEN

All three of Kenyon's goalies saw playing time, with Amorello saving five shots and letting in two goals in 30 minutes of action. Jack McClellan '24 came in at the start of the second half and made four saves with one goal allowed, before handing off the keeper duties to Ryan Matarese '25 for the last bit of the fourth quarter.

The Lords have serious depth, with 55 student-athletes on the roster. "We have a great group of guys this year that can make [winning the NCAC]

a reality," said Joe Boesel '23. James Buckley '22 added that this is the most talented roster that he has played with while at Kenyon. "We have the potential to be one of the best teams in the nation," he said. The Lords will have ample opportunity to prove that when they play away at No. 8 Franklin and Marshall College and No. 16 Centre College over spring break. The Lords will also play No. 17 Denison on April 7 in Granville, Ohio. Before the Lords play those teams, they will be in Co-

lumbus, Ohio this Saturday to face Capital University. "We're gonna turn some heads this year, watch out for it!" said Amorello. "We are ready for a successful season and see ourselves in the finals again this year," Boesel concluded.

Murphy shines, Ladies prevail on the road over Otterbein

CALEB NEWMAN
SPORTS EDITOR



Ella Murphy '23 scored four goals in the Ladies' opener against Otterbein University | COURTESY OF MIKE MUNDEN

The Ladies traveled to Westerville, Ohio on Tuesday to open up their season against Otterbein University. After some early struggles, Kenyon found its game and won 16-8.

The Cardinals gave the Ladies a rude awakening, scoring on their first three shots of the game. But the Ladies did not falter: They soon responded with three goals of their own, before the Cardinals scored to retake the lead. With 39 seconds left in the quarter, Tatum Ecclleston '23 scored her first of three goals to tie the game at four.

The Cardinals quickly retook the lead less than a minute into the second quarter. After five minutes of back-and-forth play, the Ladies scored three quick goals to regain the lead. The remaining seven-plus minutes in the half went by without a goal.

At the start of the third quarter, the Cardinals struck to get within one of Kenyon. The Ladies responded a minute and half later with two goals of their own on back-to-back possessions. However, minutes later, Otterbein flipped the script, cutting the Ladies lead back to one. Three goals over the last six minutes gave Kenyon a 12-8 lead going into the fourth.

Unlike in previous quarters, it was the Ladies who struck first in the final period. Ella Murphy '23 scored her third and, later, her fourth goal of the game. From there, Kenyon played lockdown

defense, not letting the Cardinals mount a comeback. Nola Garand '25 saved three shots in a winning effort, and Delaney Gallagher '23 also pitched in with three saves in about 29 minutes of play.

The Ladies will have to get used to competing on the road, as only four of their 15 games this year will be at home. Brett Bearrows '22 believes this will be beneficial as this gives the Ladies a chance to face new opponents — many of whom they will face over spring break. "Playing quite a few road games will definitely push us to come out strong even when we don't have the home turf advantage and be especially grateful for the games we do play at home," she said.

One of those home games will be against preseason NCAC favorite Denison University on April 9. Days later, the Ladies will be in Delaware, Ohio to face off against Ohio Wesleyan University, which was picked to finish second in the conference. Kenyon was picked third, so those two games towards the end of the season could go a long way in determining who will finish the regular season as NCAC champion. But the Ladies believe they can come out on top. "We're taking the NCAC and never giving it back," Gallagher said.

The Ladies will look to build a winning streak Saturday at John Carroll University in University Heights, Ohio.

Kenyon tennis splits matches at Mary Washington University

CALEB NEWMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

The Lords traveled to Fredericksburg, Va. to compete in the University of Mary Washington Invitational this past weekend. Kenyon won 6-3 against Stevens Institute of Technology (N.J.) before losing to host Mary Washington 5-4.

The Lords got off to a strong start on Saturday by winning two of the three doubles matches. In the No. 1 pairing, Thomas Kallarakal '23 and Luis Andres Platas '23 defeated Stevens 8-3. The Ducks won the No. 2 match 8-6, before the Lords flipped the score (8-6) to take a 2-1 match lead going into the singles matches.

Despite dropping the top two singles matches, the Lords were able to win the four other pairings thanks to their depth. Kallarakal started the Lords off with a win in the No. 3 matchup 6-2, 6-4. Eric Zhang '25 grabbed the No. 4 match for Kenyon 6-4, 6-3. After a close first-set victory of 7-6, Rakkan Audeh '25 almost blanked Stevens in the second set with a 6-1 win. Jacob Smith '23 eas-



Kallarakal and Andres Platas led the way for the Lords in a victory against Stevens Institute. | SEJIN KIM/SID/NCAA

ily claimed the No. 6 match for the Lords with a score of 6-1 in both sets.

The next day, Kenyon had a sluggish start against the Mary Washington Eagles, dropping all three of their doubles sets. The Lords' top two doubles pairings remained the same, but Rishil Kondapaneni '25

and Zhang teamed up, unfortunately losing in close fashion 8-6 to Stevens on the No. 3 court.

Needing to take five out of the six singles matches, the Lords easily could have quit. However, Kallarakal was motivated to keep going. "It's easy to just give in after being 0-3

down, but we fought hard and brought the score to 4-4," he said. However, the Lords could not win that decisive fifth match in singles play and lost the match 5-4.

The only change from the prior day's singles lineup against Stevens occurred when Kallarakal was moved up from

the No. 3 to the No. 2 position. He won his match 6-4, 7-6.

The Lords will be back on the court Sunday in Gambier, facing Kalamazoo College at the Jasper Tennis Center. Kenyon men's tennis has a record of 2-2 on the year.

Lords fall to Wabash, Ladies lose in heartbreaking fashion

FINN ANDERS
STAFF WRITER

Unfortunately, the Kenyon men's and women's basketball teams both concluded their 2022 season on a disappointing note this week. The Ladies, after a narrow loss to Hiram College 72-71, suffered a heartbreaking loss to Oberlin College 61-59 in the NCAC postseason tournament. The Lords, on the other hand, fell to No. 20 Wabash College 98-75 in their final game of the regular season.

Coming off an NCAC victory against Hiram, the Lords hoped to end their season on a high note and secure another win, but Wabash, with a daunting 21-3 record, was too formidable an opponent.

In the first half of the contest, the match stayed quite even due to Kenyon's impressive shooting: They sank more than half of their 3-point attempts (56%) and overall field goal attempts (53%). Despite their strong start, Wabash pulled ahead by 10 points following the halftime break, due to a series of unfortunate Kenyon turnovers, helping Wabash build a big lead on their way to victory. The Lords ended the 2022 season with a 3-22 record, going 1-17 in conference play.

The Ladies' Senior Day matchup proved to be a thrilling one, but ultimately did not land in Kenyon's favor. Both the Terriers and Ladies needed a quarter to get the ball rolling offensively, but after that, both teams played very well on that side of the ball. Despite not



Katie Orefice '23 was the top scorer in the NCAC this season, putting up 16.4 points a game. | SEJIN KIM/SID/NCAA

having made any triples in the first quarter, the Ladies shot 66% from distance in the second quarter, accounting for more than half of their 22 points during that period. After a halftime break and another quarter of play, the game was tied 50-50 going into the fourth.

Following a small run by the Terriers to open the period, Katie Orefice '23 drove to the basket and finished quickly in the paint, starting a back-and-forth offensive run between the two teams. The clock wound down rapidly, with each team trading buckets and neither taking a significant lead. With Hiram up by six, the largest lead of

the fourth quarter by either team, a 3-pointer from Grace Connery '22 and a layup from Orefice got the Ladies to within one. A pair of clutch free throws put Hiram up three with only a few seconds left, but Madelyn Anderson '22 sank a three to tie it up in the waning seconds. In response, following a timeout, the Terriers earned a controversial foul on the Ladies, earning the visitors two free throws. Hiram missed the first free throw, but the second went through, sealing Kenyon's fate.

Only a few days later, Kenyon went on to play in the first round of the NCAC postseason tourna-

ment as the No. 7 seed against No. 2 Oberlin. The Yeowomen have been particularly impressive this season, boasting a 13-3 record in the NCAC. The Ladies struggled early in the contest against their NCAC rivals, scoring only 24 points in the half, with a 25% field-goal percentage and 25% free-throw percentage.

Even after both teams returned to the court for the second half, the Yeowomen were able to stretch their lead to 17 points, but the game was far from over. Forward Claudia Cooke '24 went on a solo six-point run to bring the game close, and Connery con-

tributed important buckets as well, putting Kenyon on Oberlin's heels. The Ladies were also buoyed by two 16-point performances from Connery and Orefice, along with Cooke's impressive 14 rebounds. Ultimately for the Ladies, the miraculous comeback was for naught: In the final seconds, the Yeowomen were able to collect an and-one bucket and a free-throw bucket to put them up by two and emerge victorious 61-59. At the end of the 2022 season, the Ladies' record stood at 6-20, with a record of 4-12 in conference play.