

The Kenyon Collegian

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Kenyon Collegian - April 7, 2022

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Emet Marwell delivers keynote for Trans Day of Visibility

AMELIA CARNELL
NEWS EDITOR

CALEB NEWMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

On March 31, Kenyon observed Transgender Day of Visibility (TDOV), featuring a keynote address on trans inclusion in athletics from Athlete Ally Policy and Programs Manager Emet Marwell. Over 150 people registered for the lecture, according to the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, which co-sponsored the event with Unity House and Athletes for Equality.

During the presentation, Marwell, an activist and graduate of Mount Holyoke College, shared his personal experience as a trans athlete, outlined the current landscape of anti-trans bills around the country, spoke about the activist work he and others are doing at Athlete Ally and presented the history of trans inclusion in athletics. The presentation was interactive, as Marwell took pauses to poll the audience about their experiences.

Marwell's lecture comes amid new challenges for trans people locally and nationwide. Since the start of the year, there have been more than 100 anti-trans bills introduced in state legislatures across the country, including the "Don't Say Gay" Bill the Florida legislature passed last month, and a similar bill introduced by the Ohio state legislature this month.

Associate Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Dorian Rhea Debussy made national headlines earlier this year when they resigned from their volunteer position with the NCAA Division III LGBTQ+ One-Team Program in response to an NCAA policy change about the eligibility of transgender athletes. While President Sean Decatur issued a statement two-and-a-half weeks later on Feb. 16 in support of Debussy, LGBTQ+ students on campus felt he should have done more given the thousands of transphobic comments directed at Debussy. In solidarity with Debussy, several trans students led an event on March 2 demanding that the College make a public statement in support of Debussy and condemning transmisogyny and take concrete steps to support trans students at Kenyon.

On the eve of TDOV, President Sean Decatur published a statement condemning



Marwell discussed trans inclusion following an NCAA policy change. | COURTESY OF EMET MARWELL

transphobia. "Trans and non-binary people are a vital part of the Kenyon community; they are our students, our alumni, our employees and our loved ones," he wrote. "Let us move closer to our aspiration of being a community in which every person has a sense of full belonging — where we all are not only visible as our true selves but have the tools to reach our full potential."

The statement also attempted to address the delayed response, as Decatur called on people to recognize past oversights. "Let us also recognize the ways in which we have fallen short of being strong allies," he said.

Micah Smith '22, Student Council president and a former manager of Unity House, wrote an op-ed for *The Buckeye Flame*, an LGBTQ+ online magazine, criticizing Decatur's statement. "A statement that asks for grace for 'falling short of being strong allies' is unacceptable," they wrote.

Smith went on to describe other limitations of the statement. "There is also no recognition of the harm that this has caused to trans and non-binary students — especially

since Rhea is a mentor to so many of us — and the following loss of trust that many of us feel in Kenyon, embodied in the demands that trans students delivered to Ransom Hall in early March," they added.

Despite the back and forth between the College and LGBTQ+ organizations, the TDOV lecture provided an outlet for Kenyon students to speak openly with Marwell about his experiences as a varsity college field hockey athlete. Marwell explained how after publicly coming out during his first year of college, he was no longer allowed to play on the team. "It wasn't a choice not to transition or be trans, as much as it was a choice to save my own life," Marwell shared. He went on to say the support of his coaches, teammates, and college was essential for him. "They kept me around, they let me be team manager for the field hockey team, so I didn't actually lose that athletics family that I was so terrified I would," he said.

In addition to describing his own experience, Marwell directly addressed the NCAA policy change. "The full impacts of this new

NCAA policy aren't clear yet — it's a whole mess," he said. "A lot of people, organizations and experts are trying to understand, 'What does this mean for trans athletes?' and we really don't know."

Marwell also expressed his frustration with the relentlessness of anti-trans legislation. "I'm getting tired — I said the same thing when I was presenting last year, that it was the worst year on record, but it's just getting worse and worse," he said. To lighten otherwise heavy sections, Marwell interspersed memes throughout the presentation. "If I'm not trying to both be honest but also a little snarky about stuff, it's just gonna tear me apart," Marwell said.

Following the lecture, on April 1, Unity House held a day of action, where students wrote postcards to elected officials from around the country expressing support for trans athletes. Postcards are still available in Unity House.

Gund Gallery receives \$200,000 community outreach grant

GRANT HOLT
STAFF WRITER

On March 31, the Gund Gallery announced that it had received a \$200,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's Art Museum Futures Fund, a program committed to distributing \$24 million to mid-sized art museums nationwide. According to the Gallery's announcement, the funding will go towards developing more community engagement programs, such as partnering with local organizations, artists and Ohio residents.

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation established the fund in September 2020 as a part of its emergency grantmaking response to COVID-19 in order to sup-

port arts and cultural institutions left financially vulnerable as a result of the pandemic.

"Cultural organizations like these small and midsized art museums are essential to the vibrancy of their communities and they are experiencing unprecedented financial vulnerability as a result of the pandemic," Mellon Foundation President Elizabeth Alexander said in a press release. "We are determined to safeguard these institutions at this time of national crisis, and we believe firmly in their mission to protect and preserve the visionary voices and transformative histories of their communities."

Previously, the Gallery received sup-

port from the Mellon Foundation in 2014 for an artist residencies grant, which funded a three-year project that brought artists like Cheryl Pope, Rafael Lozano-Hemmer, Rania Matar and Ori Gersht to Kenyon.

Gund Gallery Associate Jenny Jantzen '23 expressed her gratitude for the grant, saying she looks forward to expanding the Gallery's outreach with the community.

"The Gallery is at a really transformative place right now and it's exciting to think about how it could expand its reach beyond campus," Jantzen wrote in an email to the *Collegian*. "It feels very fitting that the Gallery expands its outreach in a year where it has been

considering (through the tenth anniversary show) the stories we still haven't told."

In a press release, Director and Chief Curator of the Gund Gallery Daisy Desrosiers spoke to the importance of art museums that connect with their local communities.

"We will continue to work with artists, students, faculty and our neighbors to promote diversity, inclusion and excellence within the arts both on campus and off," Desrosiers said. "This support from the Mellon Foundation will be transformative as we embark on this adventure and develop a new framework for the future."

Campus community suffers from large influenza outbreak

JOSHUA HERTZ
NEWS ASSISTANT

Over the past week, the number of influenza cases on Kenyon's campus has risen rapidly. Professors have reported decreased class attendance while many students recover from illness. Because of the sudden increase of flu cases on campus, the Cox Health and Counseling Center has reached full capacity and has had to put some students on waitlists for appointments.

Several contributing factors exacerbated the outbreak, most notably the low effectiveness of this year's

influenza vaccine. "This [low efficacy] suggests that there was a mismatch between the strains of virus in the vaccine and what's circulating," said Former Chief Scientist at the Food and Drug Administration Dr. Jesse L. Goodman. According to a study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of more than 3,600 Americans in seven states, the 2021-22 vaccine was only about 16% effective, a figure deemed insignificant. "Influenza vaccination did not reduce the risk for outpatient medically attended illness with influenza," the report said.

Since the CDC has recorded flu vaccine effectiveness, rates have reached as high as 60% for the 2010-11 season and as low as 10% in the 2004-5 season. The CDC has found that flu vaccines have an average efficacy rate of about 40% since 2004. Although ineffective at preventing infection, the CDC continues to recommend individuals receive the vaccine and says that it may help limit the severity of cases.

In the same report, the CDC noted low rates of influenza for the period between December of 2021 and January of 2022 during the omi-

cron variant's peak. However, rates rose this February and remained high into March. This follows earlier trends documented by the CDC that showed the 2020-21 flu season as unusually benign and attributed this to COVID-19 mitigation efforts.

"Our current rise in cases is similar in comparison to pre-COVID spring increases in upper respiratory illness," Senior Director of Wellness Christopher Smith noted in an email to the *Collegian*.

Smith also conveyed his concern for sick students and recommended that those feeling sick should pick up a rap-

id COVID-19 test from the Mailroom, avoid gatherings, notify appropriate faculty and schedule an appointment with Health Services or Knox County Health, which can conduct strep and flu rapid tests. He also suggested that students who aren't feeling well wear a mask in order to prevent further viral spread.

For remaining healthy, Smith recommends staying up to date on vaccinations, following proper hygiene guidance, eating healthy, exercising regularly and getting at least seven hours of sleep every night.

Village Council discusses plans for first-ever 43022 day

HANNAH DOURGARIAN
NEWS ASSISTANT

On Monday, April 5, the Gambier Village Council met to discuss the upcoming 43022 Day, details regarding charges for parking electric vehicles, potential infrastructural changes to Gaskin Avenue and the Council's requests that citizens refrain from mowing their lawns in May.

The upcoming 43022 Day will take place on April 30 and will celebrate the numerical alignment of the date with Gambier's zip code, 43022. Council members reached a consensus that Kim Wallace, associate director of alumni and parent engagement, will lead planning and organizing efforts for the event.

Kenyon has already developed a brand for the event and has been working with the Office of Alumni and Parent Engagement and Annual Giving as well as the Office of Student Engagement to plan the celebration. Alumni regional associations will host events on April 30 in various cities across the country and the Office of Alumni and Par-



COURTESY OF KENYON COLLEGE

ent Engagement is planning a number of virtual events as well.

The Council also discussed the electric vehicle charging station installed across from the Campus Auto and Tire gas station, specifically focusing on whether or not the station is considered a utility, and how much using the station should cost. Although there is not currently a service charge, the Council de-

bated if it would be beneficial to implement fees in case the station ever needs repairs. However, one council member noted that insurance may cover these expenses. The Council decided to research the situation before returning to the issue at next month's meeting.

The layout of Gaskin Avenue was another topic of conversation, as Village residents have previously voiced a need

for bike lanes and more parking. The discussion centered around which directions to add bike lanes on the road, as well as what kind of parking to add and where. Some council members suggested adding parallel parking spaces on the side of the road closer to Middle Path as opposed to more pull-in parking spaces.

The Council decided that more research should be done on what the safest and most practical layout would be. However, some council members raised concerns that any changes made to Gaskin Avenue may add to the confusion with regard to where people can park, which direction to drive after they leave their parking spaces and in which directions bikers can go.

The Council also has plans to make improvements to other parks and playgrounds on Village property. Council members suggested bringing in Jason Elliott, a local architect, to provide quotes for other park and playground improvements on Village property.

Lastly, the Council also discussed the Village's plans to participate in No Mow May

— a nationwide campaign to refrain from mowing lawns — this year. "Residents requested that the village participate in this nationwide campaign to help promote sustainable yard management by making more pollinator-friendly spaces and reducing emissions from lawnmowers," Mayor of Gambier Leeman Kessler wrote in an email to the *Collegian*.

The Council plans to waive their grass length requirements during the campaign to encourage residents to refrain from mowing their lawns, and discussed ways the College could also participate in the campaign. Council members suggested that the College could participate partially in the campaign by refraining from mowing the grass on the hill down to the Lowry Center, or in other peripheral areas such as that behind Bexley. However, the College will continue to maintain the central green spaces on campus for upcoming events such as graduation.

The Kenyon Collegian

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Office: 209 Chase Ave.

Mailing address: *The Kenyon Collegian*, Student Activities Center, Gambier, OH 43022

Business address: P.O. Box 832, Gambier, OH, 43022

E-mail address: collegian@kenyon.edu, kenyoncollegian@gmail.com

Housing selection process will run from April 18 to May 2

ADAM MARGOLIS
NEWS EDITOR

On March 30, Associate Director of Housing and Operations Josh Kusch held a virtual information session to provide students with an overview of the housing selection process for the 2022-23 academic year.

The housing selection process for next year will begin on April 18 and will end on May 6. Seniors will go first in the lottery system, with juniors and sophomores following respectively in the weeks after. As is typical, students who requested housing accommodations, as well as those who are living in theme or division housing or in substance-free residences, will not participate in the selection process.

All other students will be able to choose from a variety of existing housing options, including apartments and residence halls, as well as three new temporary modular housing units — called “Meadow Lane” residences — that are scheduled to be completed by the start of the school year.

The Gambier Village Council approved the Meadow Lane residences in February, which will be located across from the Lowry Center and McBride Field. They have a maximum capacity of 130 beds and will feature a suite-style layout composed entirely of single rooms. According to Kusch’s presentation, these rooms will

be approximately 75 square feet, comparable to the smallest single rooms in Mather and McBride residence halls.

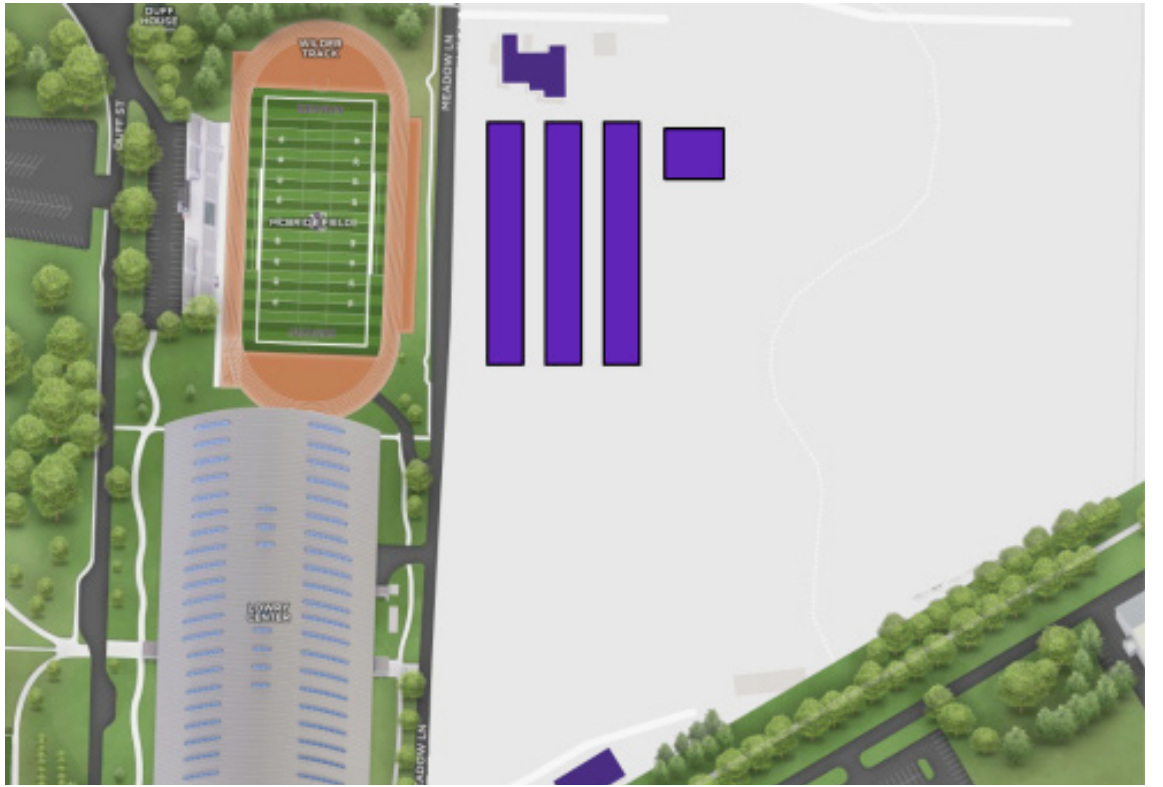
Due to the temporary nature of the Meadow Lane residences, students living in these singles will receive a discounted housing rate. Instead of being charged for a single room, students choosing to live in the modular units will be charged the normal rate for a standard double room — \$2,800 each semester — in a permanent residence hall. The buildings will also be air conditioned, have their own free laundry facilities and contain their own lounges.

During the presentation, Kusch also announced that the College will no longer house students at the McIlvaine Apartments or the Kenyon Inn, which were temporarily serving as student residences due to a lack of available housing. The Pines at Apple Valley, condominium apartments currently occupied by approximately 36 Kenyon students that have served as the College’s first-ever off-campus living space, will also no longer be used to house students.

However, Housing and Dining Chairperson Ever Croffoot-Suede ’23 confirmed that double rooms on the top floors of the North Campus Apartments will continue to be used as triples.



The McIlvaine Apartments will not be an option. | COURTESY OF MOUNT VERNON NEWS



The Meadow Lane units will be next to McBride Field. | COURTESY OF KENYON COLLEGE

Professor Emeritus of English William Klein dies at 85

AUDREY BAKER
NEWS ASSISTANT

William Klein, professor emeritus of English, died on March 31 at the age of 85. He taught at Kenyon for nearly 50 years, arriving as an instructor of English in 1968 and retiring in 2016.

Klein was born in Dwight, Ill., on November 21, 1936. He received his Bachelor of Arts from Butler University in 1959 and briefly worked in the insurance industry before earning his master’s and a doctorate from the University of Chicago in 1962 and 1975, respectively.

Klein joined Kenyon’s Department of English in 1968 to teach courses in linguistics and the history of the English language. Following Klein’s tenure and promotion to associate professor in 1976, he was promoted to full professor in 2001. Throughout his tenure, Klein was heavily involved in the community, serving as the editor of the *Kenyon Review*, chair of the Campus Senate, faculty marshal and chair for a number of other committees.

Friends and colleagues describe Klein as exceptionally kind and passionate about



William Klein taught at Kenyon for nearly 50 years, from 1968 to 2016. | COURTESY OF KENYON COLLEGE

his subject matter. “His passion for the books and time period he taught was so infectious that we students became just as excited by it,” Klein’s friend Julie Miller Vick ’73 said in the College’s obituary. “Bill was a kind man who was

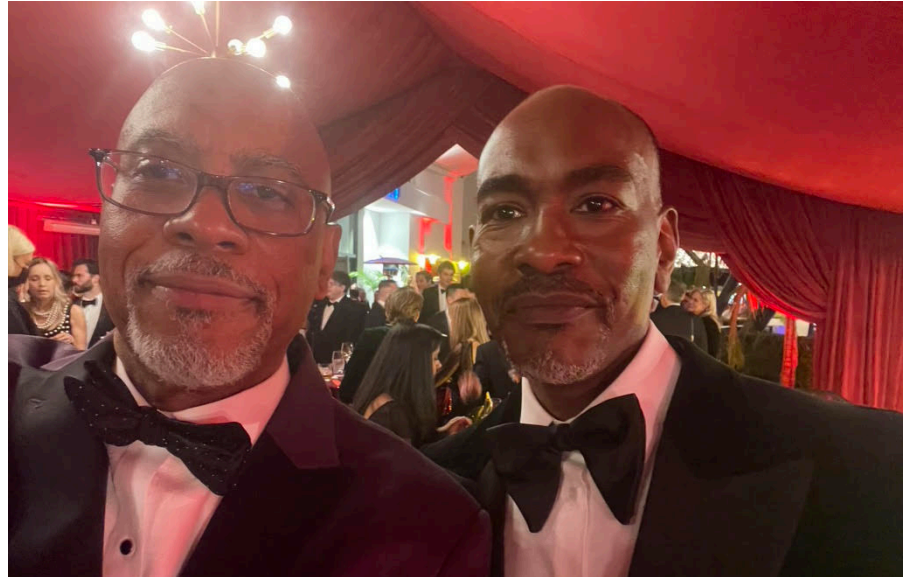
always available for discussion during office hours, after class, while walking down Middle Path or by phone to his home. He and his wife, Joyce, were friends to so many students and graduates.”

Klein retired with his wife

in Portland, Maine in 2016 and was awarded an honorary doctorate in humane letters at Kenyon’s Commencement the same year. He is survived by three children — all of whom graduated from Kenyon in the 1990s — and two

grandchildren.

The Cathedral Church of St. Luke in Portland, Maine will host a memorial service for Klein on April 30 at 11:30 a.m.



Jonathan Tazewell (left) joined his brother Paul (right), who was nominated for an Oscar, at the ceremony. | COURTESY OF JONATHAN TAZEWELL

Professor Tazewell journeys to LA for 94th annual Oscars ceremony

MIA SNOW
FEATURES EDITOR

Thomas S. Turgeon Professor of Drama and Film Jonathan Tazewell was all smiles when describing how his brother surprised him with an invitation to the 94th Academy Awards. “It was very dreamlike,” he said. “It’s like I fell through the looking glass, and now I’m back in Ohio.”

Professor Tazewell, along with other members of his family, was invited by his brother, Paul Tazewell, who received his first Oscar nomination for Best Costume Design for his work on Steven Spielberg’s “West Side Story.” “I was very excited just to be there to celebrate with him and to be part of our family representation,” he said.

Mr. Tazewell has received six Tony Award nominations for costume design, winning in 2016 for

Best Costume Design for Hamilton. He put his talent to work on Oscars night as well, according to Jonathan Tazewell, by designing the outfits for his mother and her partner.

The journey to Los Angeles wasn’t completely smooth sailing for Professor Tazewell. The academy’s dedication to having an in-person, unmasked event meant that all attendants had to be fully vaccinated and present two negative PCR tests before attending. Unfortunately, after testing in both Mount Vernon and Los Angeles, Professor Tazewell still hadn’t received his test results and spent the morning before the ceremony frantically trying to get them. Luckily, an hour before he had to leave for the Oscars, he got his results. “I was able to upload them and got a last-minute green light to go,” he said. “Otherwise, I would have been watching it on TV like

everyone else.”

After arriving, the Tazewell family waited in an area dedicated to observers, while photographers took pictures of Mr. Tazewell and other nominees on the red carpet. Upon entering the Dolby Theater, the venue of the annual Academy Awards ceremony, nominees and guests alike mingled together on the three floors of the theater. Professor Tazewell sat on a mezzanine level with his family to enjoy the ceremony. “There was a bar, food, hors d’oeuvres, all kinds of stuff. And lots of famous people were walking around, just hanging out,” he said.

When asked about the highlights of the night, Professor Tazewell certainly ascribes “the slap” as one of the more memorable moments, but he enjoyed watching winning speeches and the after parties most of all.

While speaking about his

brother, Professor Tazewell noted that, although he didn’t win, he was grateful for being nominated and is looking forward to future projects. “Of course, the moment when my brother didn’t win was memorable, but he was really cool about it. He actually told me, ‘It took me six tries to get Tony, so I’ll be back,’” Professor Tazewell said.

After the ceremony, Professor Tazewell went to the Governors Ball, a continuation of the ceremony at the Dolby Theater. The night didn’t end for him then, though, as he later went with his brother to the *Variety* party. At the party, Professor Tazewell saw Will and Jada Pinkett Smith, Trevor Noah, James Corden and others, but spent most of the night enjoying time with his brother and the cast and crew of “West Side Story.” After a whirlwind night, he flew back to Ohio the very next day.

Getting a front-row seat to the

lives of celebrities has made Professor Tazewell realize that he has no desire for that lifestyle. “I do not want the scrutiny. Everyone looks at what you do, or when you do it, or what you’re wearing, how you walk — every single thing is being watched and commented on,” he said. “I would not want to live in that kind of circumstance.”

Professor Tazewell said that the Academy Awards is undoubtedly a valuable ceremony, but he also stressed that it does not encapsulate all the work that goes into the film industry. “It doesn’t mean that the award isn’t useful and important, and it doesn’t mean that the films that win aren’t deserving — because of course they are — just that there are a lot of directors, cinematographers and people who are getting left out of the conversation that deserve recognition,” he said.

Three years ago today: Remembering Kenyon before COVID-19

RONIN BERZINS
FEATURES EDITOR

Over the last four years, Kenyon has seen tremendous change — prompted by both changing circumstances and the direction of the administration — which has left the school much different than how it looked in 2018, when most current seniors matriculated. This article is a brief look into that first year at Kenyon and the events that defined it.

It was the end of August 2018, a warm and sunny August whose bright skies beckoned new students to head outside their newly-decorated dorm rooms and kick around a soccer ball, or else toss a frisbee as they learned each other’s names and hometowns. Kenyon’s landscape was dramatically different that August than it is today — physically, emotionally and spiritually. Two years into the Trump presidency, it was a time of political indignation and stress which in the moment still felt surreal. It was a time at which the idea of a pandemic was ludicrous, where the only obstacle to a friendly “hello” was the social anxiety that comes from first landing on a college campus.

That August, the *Collegian* welcomed its new class of students with a dire warning about the current climate on campus. Debate over free

speech had come to Kenyon the previous spring, resulting in the cancellation of the play *The Good Samaritan*, and after conservative media outlets picked up the story, death threats were levied at students and administrators alike. That same *Collegian* message made reference to a host of new construction sites which had risen that summer throughout campus, a litter of nasty scabs covering the green fields and gray stone buildings that composed the body of the school and making a silent threat to the Kenyon upperclassmen had grown accustomed to.

However much they were heeded, these warnings soon faded into the background as Kenyon embarked on another year of crazy ups and downs. That fall, students were greeted by a traditional demonstration by the Kenyon PEEPS, who danced and performed rituals around the “Root of Power” and made grim and portentous readings of students’ palms. The destruction of Olin Library on Sept. 24, livestreamed to crowds of heartbroken alumni, was but an afterthought to the incoming class of Kenyon students, who had never had a chance to experience life in Olin, to study and stress, fraternize and flirt, as previous generations had. And though it would set off three years of grumbling complaints about the sorry state of the mods, and nights in Ascension packed tighter than a

can of sardines, the absence of a library would be the norm for that lot of Kenyon students. If the sight was significant, it was only for the troops of students who would excitedly dart inside to pick up “souvenirs,” or for the tremendous crane which seemed always on the verge of toppling over onto campus.

Instead, that year was characterized by creative production, dancing and performance. It saw the founding of a literary science journal and the debut of a student-run publishing press. That winter, JPEG Mafia came to the Horn stage in a performance crowded not just by Kenyon students, but by hosts of fans from Mount Vernon. “Audience members took their shirts off, and others started screaming,” one *Collegian* article notes. So drenched in sweat was JPEG Mafia by the end of his performance that “his computer stopped working.” This was no obstacle for him and the crazed crowd, which had swarmed like ants over every available surface of the Horn Gallery, and he finished his set “a capella-style with the entire crowd.”

Perhaps even more explosive was that year’s production of *Rocky Horror*, a polished and respectful take on the show which nevertheless left students exhilarated, many dressing up in drag for the first time, many old hands at it. Even more exciting perhaps was the dance off that took place during the show’s intermission,

which saw two students dancing both on stage and in the audience, gyrating their bodies to roaring cheers. The two went all out, and for a second the crowd thought the first one had won, for with a leap towards the ground he had contorted his tall frame into a split, and then out of nowhere it was over. The second man grabbed a chair — from the audience or stage right, no one could say — and as he performed acts on that chair too scandalous to be put in print, the crowd went crazy and mayhem ensued.

It was a year of political action as well, as students rallied against the election of Donald Trump in the midterm elections. Students responded with record turnout — in Gambier it was the highest midterm turnout since 2006 — with 600 students voting on Election Day and 900 registered in Ohio. That fall also saw a huge turnout against the Middle Path preachers, students dressed in clothes of every color holding up signs of protest, some in serious dialogue with the preachers, others just hanging out as they made fun of the bigoted signs. Political demonstrations were common that year: vigils and sit-ins held during Black History Month, walkouts to fight against climate change and articles shedding light on students incensed at low wages and poor working conditions, an anger which presaged the founding of K-SWOC.

There were dark periods that year,

and for a brief period that winter Kenyon was plunged into literal darkness. For almost 36 hours, Kenyon lost electricity due to extreme weather, forcing students to congregate in the Bookstore for warmth and power, and the College to plan a potential evacuation to South campus as the cold crept into the sanctuary of people’s rooms. A polar vortex later that winter further threatened the safety of Kenyon students, with wind chills of 35 degrees below zero confining people to their rooms and resulting in the cancellation of classes. On top of these crises, student frustration at the school often seemed to be at a boiling point, as students lamented over crowded study spaces and widespread construction which threatened the ethos of the school.

Yet even with an uncertain future and the tensions of a charged political climate, Kenyon chugged on, head held high and intact, much the same as it had been for decades. Neither students nor faculty could have guessed that in just 10 months, the COVID-19 outbreak would hit and Kenyon would be dealt a knockout blow, a blow so powerful that it would cause Kenyon years of drastic change and would hobble it so that when it finally returned, it would be walking with a limp. In the meantime, however, the school said goodbye to another year, and looked ahead to a new one.

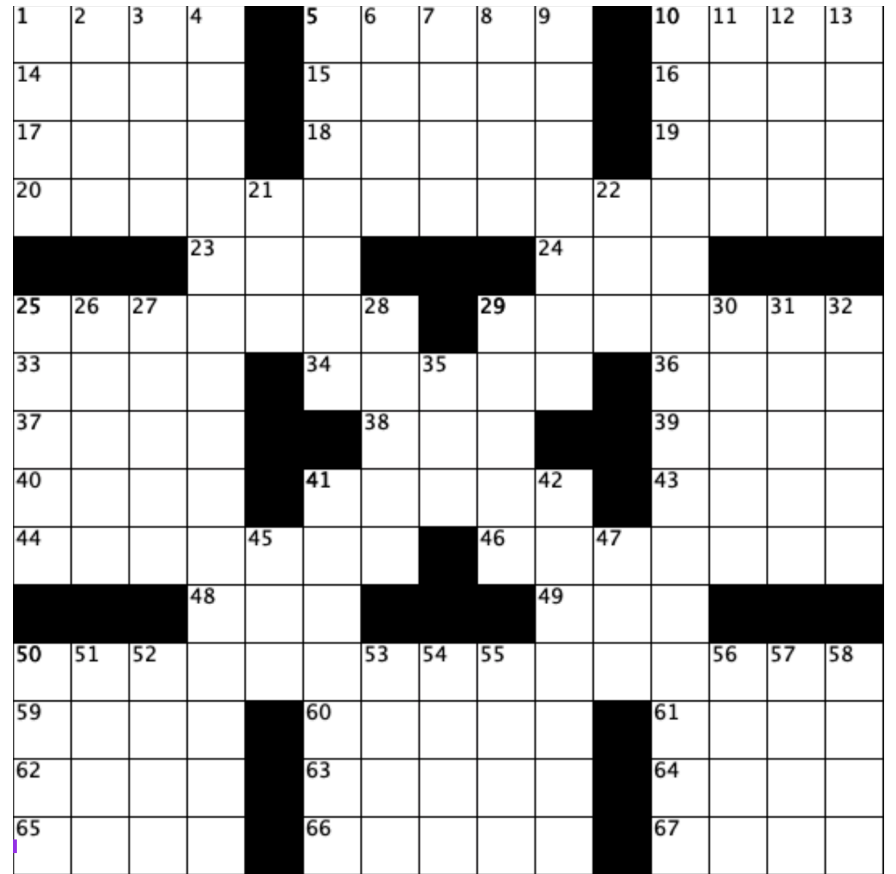
ETHAN BONNELL
CROSSWORD EDITOR

Across

- 1 Chernobyl units
- 5 Thinker with veil of ignorance
- 10 Bounty hunter with television show
- 14 Hairstyle for Billy Preston
- 15 New York city
- 16 "_____ be OK"
- 17 List of available courses
- 18 Chicago Ball?
- 19 Mother of Zeus
- 20 Made to a superior
- 23 Double header?
- 24 Some pepperoni orders, briefly
- 25 March holiday honoree, colloquially
- 29 Battlefield bravery
- 33 Obi-Wan actor
- 34 Run again
- 36 Second movement in a Glass work
- 37 "_____ up the loins of your mind" (1 Pet. 1:13)
- 38 Ham holder?
- 39 RBH, vis-a-vis Kenyon
- 40 "Working Without _____" (Jennings tune)
- 41 Put into words
- 43 Monet's "Done!"
- 44 Cinnamon candy
- 46 University board members
- 48 Foul up
- 49 Wee, to Burns
- 50 Like spy technology, or one with bad habits
- 59 Beige shade
- 60 Barrier reef material
- 61 Colonial patriot
- 62 Midgard serpent's slayer
- 63 Be there in spirit?
- 64 Career honor which Lin-Manuel Miranda has once again missed out on
- 65 Nintendo rival
- 66 *The Next Generation and Voyager*, perhaps?
- 67 Competes in a regatta, say



Down

- 1 Mr. Malek
- 2 "_____ Good Men"
- 3 First Bond film
- 4 With "The," novel about the Compson family
- 5 Churro ingredient?
- 6 Skin soother
- 7 Got out
- 8 Ergophobic
- 9 One who might not make it to their 8:10?
- 10 Flying companions, proverbially
- 11 German emperor
- 12 Vamoosed
- 13 Hawkeye portrayer
- 21 Senator Kennedy
- 22 Old Mideast inits.
- 25 Popeye creator Elzie
- 26 It's binding
- 27 Downsized
- 28 "Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world" poet
- 29 Pack animal?
- 30 Run-D.M.C.'s "You Be _____"
- 31 Go from 0 to 60, say
- 32 Road runners
- 35 Show piece
- 41 Dutch city where War of the Spanish Succession was ended
- 42 Aftermaths
- 45 Chi-Town airport
- 47 Yukon SUV maker
- 50 Subjects of Zermelo-Fraenkel axioms
- 51 Bounce back, in a way
- 52 "Battlefield Earth" cult leader Hubbard
- 53 Hit the stratosphere
- 54 Devoted
- 55 Malodorous
- 56 "Otello" baritone
- 57 Sweet _____ (sugar substitute)
- 58 Comes down with



CLASS CLASH

Compiled by Ronin Berzins '22 and Mia Snow '24

		 Senior Class Total: 37 Logan Reimbold-Thomas '22	 Junior Class Total: 28 Brian Coburn '23	 Sophomore Class Total: 33 Juliet Hartz '24	 First-Year Class Total: 24 Juliette Lowe '25
The unicorn is the national animal of which country?	Scotland	Scotland	New Zealand	Scotland	The Netherlands
Which movie won Best Picture at this year's Oscars?	"CODA"	"CODA"	"CODA"	"Nightmare Alley"	"CODA"
What is the world's most populated city?	Tokyo	New Delhi	Tokyo	New Delhi	Shanghai
How many teeth do dogs have?	42	42	32	42	42
Which of Kenyon's buildings contains a now-abandoned astronomy tower?	Ascension Hall	Peirce	Peirce	Caples	Samuel Mather
Weekly Scores		3	2	3	2

Ransom Notes bring energy to Rosse for spring concert



The Ransom Notes performed a number of covers, including "Leave the Door Open" by Bruno Mars and Anderson .Paak (above). | CECILIA OSHINS

CECILIA OSHINS
ARTS EDITOR

On Saturday night, the Ransom Notes performed their spring concert in Rosse Hall. The show was successful with an entertaining program and a big turnout from the audience. The songs ranged in genre from pop to new wave music, but every piece they sang maintained their high level of enthusiasm, as they smiled and danced the entire time.

The Ransom Notes are known for being amusing and slightly unconventional, which was apparent from the start of the show. The "newbies" kicked things off by performing a reading of some spicy fanfiction featuring some famous Kenyon

alumni, while two of them sang the Wii theme song. While an initiation tradition is something that most Kenyon a cappella singers experience, this particular tradition was definitely telling of the Ransom Notes' bold reputation. The rest of the group then joined the newbies onstage, for a cover of "It's Not All About You" by Lawrence.

Next, the group sang "Leave the Door Open" by Bruno Mars and Anderson .Paak, setting the tone of the night: a mix of well-known, upbeat songs that pushed the limits of a cappella with impressive vocals and stylistic choices, such as tempo and volume changes to alter the energy of a piece. Following the song, Lauren Redman '22 introduced the group,

then impressed the audience with her smooth, sopranic voice as the first of several soloists of the night.

A highlight of the show was a cover of "Jackrabbit" by Sam Fermin. Sylvan Maney '23 sang the solo part beautifully, showing off their high range. The whole group harmonized while Ari Bluffstone '22 beatboxed, which was exceptional on its own, but Maney's performance was unlike anything else that night — their style of singing had a hint of a warble that blended well with the rest of the piece and they had an extravagant stage presence, moving their arms in time with the rhythm.

Another unforgettable song was the group's cover of "Your Man" by Josh Turner. Keiran Lorentzen '22,

a bassist who stunned the audience with his ability to sing a song famous for its low chorus, was the featured soloist. This was another piece that the audience delighted in, with audible cheers and laughs at the iconic song choice and Lorentzen's style, in which he would pause and look at the audience before repeating his refrain for dramatic effect.

The concert ended with a group rendition of "Love Shack" by the B-52's. This piece was entertaining because almost everyone had a solo, and it was clear how much fun they were having together.

Near the end of the show, most of the group left the stage for the seniors to perform "We'll Meet Again" by Vera Lynn. Aside from being a beau-

tiful cover, it was a heartfelt moment for the upperclassmen, who were joined in a heartfelt embrace from the rest of the group at the piece's conclusion.

The group is clearly very close, which came through not just in this particular moment, but in their casual yet delightful presence on stage. The song choice was bittersweet, in light of the nearing graduation for a few of their dearest members. Part of what made the evening so wonderful was the way in which the Ransom Notes supported and cheered for each other, creating such a positive environment, on top of their stunning vocals.

Kennedy Frazier '22 presents senior drama thesis *Devil's Den*

CECILIA OSHINS
ARTS EDITOR

Over the weekend, the Kenyon College Dance, Drama & Cinema Club (KCDC) put on a staged reading of an original play titled *Devil's Den* written by Kennedy Frazier '22 for her senior thesis performance. The production, held in the Hill Theater, went well, showcasing Frazier's beautifully written script with a small but enthusiastic cast.

The cast was composed of five actors plus a narrator who read aloud the stage directions. Nairi Harumi '24 played the main character, Nel, a little girl who carries around a voice recorder to document her "science experiments." The play follows her as she tries to discover what happened to her mother Faye (played by Grace Jolliffe '23), after being sent to live with her grandmother for reasons that were never directly explained. The script deals with difficult topics, primarily her mother's addiction, but because the story itself is from the perspective of a child, there is a level of uncertainty and innocence that the audience can empathize with.

Frazier wrote, in her message to the student body advertising the reading, "*Devil's Den* explores the stories we don't know how to tell our children."

Harumi portrayed Nel as a loud and confident character, who often faced problems with constant stubbornness. She brought the character to life, giving Nel a boisterous personality, grinning and grimacing at the audience. She was constantly in a state of excitement, which heightened the energy of the production.

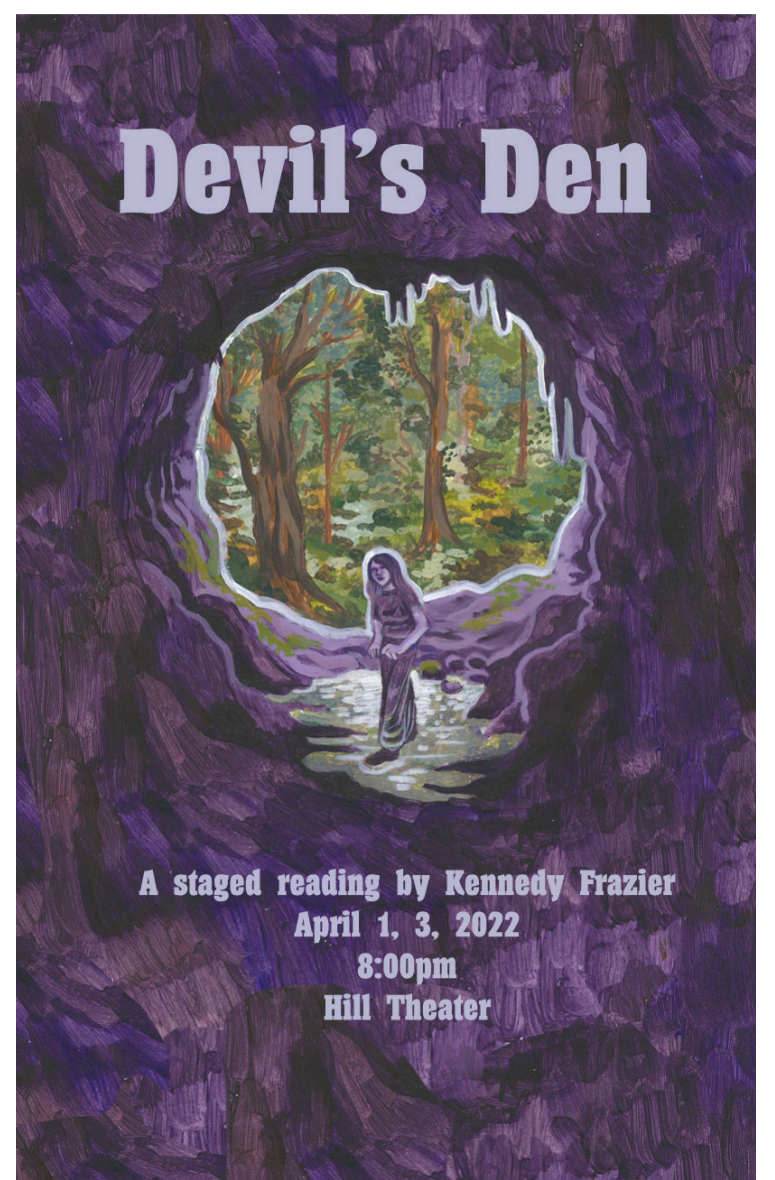
With so many young characters in the show, part of what made the story so believable were the actors' abilities to portray children. While the script dealt with more difficult themes such as Faye's disappearance, Harumi and the others gave it a light-hearted and funny twist with their youthful mannerisms. Drew Sutherland '25 was particularly amusing as he portrayed a little kid with an altered voice and an utter lack of understanding of his environment.

The majority of the show consisted of the actors reading directly from the page, facing the audience, but there were a few moments in which

the group broke free of this and instead turned to one another to convey the intimacy of a scene. Despite her few lines, Jolliffe was one of the best parts of the show because she would physically act out pivotal moments in the play to give her monologues emotional weight.

The reading ran for around 40 minutes, but it felt even quicker given how swiftly the story progressed from start to finish. At times, it was difficult to follow each scene transition, since they were in quick succession. The format of the performance contributed to this, as a downside of presenting a play as a reading rather than being blocked out. The actors, however, did a good job of changing tone and mood to signify time passing.

The reading was beautifully done; it was definitely a successful thesis production. The emotion of the script came through strongly— delicately balancing darkness and playfulness, which the actors embodied perfectly.



A staged reading by Kennedy Frazier
April 1, 3, 2022
8:00pm
Hill Theater

COURTESY OF KCDC

STAFF EDITORIAL

We need to reform outlets for student voices

With Student Council elections approaching, we've started to think about ways in which students can contribute to real, substantive change on this campus. And to be honest, the outlets through which students can do so are limited — and waning. As another election year comes around the corner, we call on both the Council and the administration to figure out the best strategies for student-driven change.

This means that the current outlets for student input need to allow for direct legislation and immediate change, rather than considerations simply being forwarded to higher members of the administration for review. We are not trying to undermine the work that the students on the Council and Campus Senate are doing — rather, we are calling on a reformation of the current system.

For instance, last spring, Campus Senate compiled a list of recommendations for the state of student employment at Kenyon. One of these recommendations included a review of the tier system of student-pay. Last March, President Sean Decatur announced in a news bulletin that, per the Senate's recommendations, an update on the pay tier system would come "later in the semester." That update never came, indicating that the Senate has little influence past their initial deliberation process.

And when students have pushed for more say in democratic decision-making, they have been shut down. Student workers have continually asked for a union election, only to be met with unrelenting resistance and silence.

We are hopeful that the Student Council and Campus Senate can regain the influence they once had. In the past, the Senate has had tremendous input in important decision-making. For example, when planning began for renovations of Peirce Hall in the 1990s, a group of female students reached out to the Senate about the placement of round tables in New Side. The goal was to promote inclusivity by increasing the number of students at each table and their accessibility to one another. The Senate acted on this request, and these tables are still used in Peirce today. In the 2000s, the Senate was involved in other important legislation, such as the rewriting of Title IX policies and the introduction of the Good Samaritan policy, which is an important safety measure in instances of alcohol overconsumption today.

With all this in mind, we argue that students at Kenyon be given greater agency and influence over effecting change in the College's legislative policies. Potential outlets do not only exist in student government — that is only one instance of waning student influence. These outlets can also exist in student organizations. Even from our own perspective, over the course of the last few years we have seen a dramatic reduction in transparency from the administration. For instance, we used to have weekly meetings with the administration to discuss student concerns. Now, select administrative members have refused to schedule these meetings almost entirely, hindering our ability to serve as an important line of communication between students and administrators.

Especially due to the College's ongoing cultural changes, allowing for more outputs for student-led decision making would critically emphasize Kenyon's commitment to its bottom-up, liberal arts model for higher education. The time is now: We can look at the upcoming Student Council election as a way to call attention to the systems we currently have in place and recognize that a significant upheaval is needed. This College is run by us, and it's time for administrators to realize that.

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.

We must strengthen student-faculty relationships in the age of COVID-19

MILO LEVINE
CONTRIBUTOR

A few weeks ago in my political science seminar, the class discussion was sidetracked when a student asked the professor if they had any recommendations for things to do in Germany. The professor (rightly) quipped that schmoozing about Western Europe was not a good use of class time, and promptly refocused the conversation. But before moving on, they noted that students are more eager than ever to socialize with their professors during class, because COVID-19 has taken away many of the traditional opportunities for doing so. Gone are the days of professors inviting their students over for dinner, or participating in a chili cook-off or other campus-wide festivities.

One may reasonably ask: "Who cares? How is it a detriment to my Kenyon education that I can't have a beer and play cornhole on Peirce Lawn with my professors?" I would argue that the detriment is severe, and that we must once again prioritize fostering relationships between students and faculty.

Education is more than a curriculum and a series of assignments and exams. The value of the liberal arts is the opportunity to learn through mentorship and collaboration, and navigating interpersonal relationships is an integral part of this experience. This is also precisely what makes Kenyon graduates employable: our ability to communicate effectively and work with others to solve problems. These skills simply cannot be learned passively.

In what I believe to be a related trend, another professor of mine recently lamented that students have been less engaged in the classroom, are less likely to attend office hours and overall display a weaker commitment to their academics. This is unsurprising given what education has looked like over the past couple of years; Zoom classes are not exactly conducive to active participation. In essence, the pandemic has made learning less about people and relationships and more transactional, which is particularly concerning for an institution like Kenyon. Read any Kenyon brochure and it will surely boast about its student-to-faculty ratio, ample selection of discussion-based courses and abundance of hands-on learning opportunities. But the pandemic eroded these foundations of the liberal arts education. It became the norm for students to complete their courses without ever interacting with their professors in person, not to mention that attending office hours via Zoom or Google Meet is a lot less appealing after you have spent the entire day on your laptop instead of in a classroom.

Getting the most for our money can take many forms. Students should routinely attend office hours even if there is nothing pressing to discuss, as professors can provide great life and career advice, even beyond their areas of expertise. Additionally, you are much more likely to receive a compelling letter of recommendation for a future job or graduate school if you do more than just show up on time to class. However, professors can meet students half way. It can be intimidating to approach a professor outside of the class setting — a professor once advised me not to show up to their office hours without an "answerable question relevant to the midterm examination." Moreover, professors can make an effort to be involved in happenings around campus, such as attending Fandango, going to student performances and doing whatever else was the pre-2020 norm.

Now that the pandemic is — hopefully — coming to an end, Kenyon students must reclaim agency in their education. If not, we squander an egregious amount of time and money. To quote Matt Damon in "Good Will Hunting," "You wasted \$150,000 on an education you could've got from \$1.50 in late fees at the public library." Ultimately, you get out of your education what you put into it. Let's make the most of our time at Kenyon and ensure our tuition dollars do not go to waste.

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 needs to make senior capstone exercises more uniform

MARY HESTER
OPINIONS EDITOR

Second semester is drawing to a close, and subsequently many seniors' response to "How's it going?" has turned into something along the lines of, "Comps are killing me." While finishing up the test, project or essay that constitutes a senior capstone exercise — more commonly known as "comps" — can be a bonding experience for the senior class nearing graduation, there are some serious flaws to Kenyon's system of examination. The way that students are evaluated varies greatly across majors. Senior exercises need to become more standardized across departments, because as it is now, many students suffer through the experience more than others do.

For one, most senior exercises take place at different times during the year. Philosophy majors had to be prepared to take their comps as early as September of their senior year. Economics ma-

jors had to be prepared to take their comps one week after arriving back to campus from winter break, on Jan. 23. Other majors, like psychology, do not turn in their senior exercise until the end of April or the beginning of May. While there are pros and cons to getting your examination over with or having more time to work on it, the end result is that it is not an entirely fair experience for every senior.

Moreover, the material covered by comparative exams varies from major to major. Some departments, like political science, base their exam on courses that every major is required to take. With different professors teaching these classes and students taking them at different points within their Kenyon career, there can be a major lack of uniformity across students' experience learning the material and their mastery of such subjects. Especially in light of COVID-19 with many students taking a semester or year off, some may have taken

classes at other institutions where expectations or course outlines varied. Transfer students who use credits from their old schools towards these requirements might run into a similar predicament.

As a *Collegian* staff editorial pointed out in 2018, comps also come at a time in one's Kenyon career where many students are trying to plan for life after they leave the Hill. That process looks different for everyone. Application cycles for graduate school vary across programs, and many jobs have deadlines at different points throughout the year. Students for whom these deadlines may fall in the midst of the comps grind are at a disadvantage trying to spread their time across important post-grad applications as well as their senior exercises.

Mostly though, the biggest issue with comps is the difference in requirements across various majors. According to the Department of Sociology's website, senior sociology majors are required to write

a four-page project proposal followed up by a 15-minute research presentation on a topic of their choosing. Because of COVID-19, this year's and last year's sociology senior exercise was changed to a five- to seven-page reflection on their experience within the sociology major.

On the other hand, physics students have to take four exams that correspond with the physics introductory sequence, as well as present a 25-minute public presentation followed by an interview by faculty members. While these are two differences between departments, requirements also vary within departments, like music and studio art, with majors within the same discipline having to complete vastly different exercises to receive the same degree.

I don't use any of these examples to target any one major — only to say that when the means by which we are tested are not uniform, students do not get to have an

equal and fair senior year experience.

One easy way to make the experience of comps more uniform might be to have them all be due at the same time. Another might be to get rid of timed exams, which, for many students, are not effective ways of testing one's knowledge. Sure, the old adage is true that life is not always fair, but a Kenyon experience is supposed to be a shared one — by which we complete similar tasks to receive a similarly meaningful degree. As things currently stand, with senior capstone expectations varying so greatly, I'm not sure we can say this is the case.

Mary Hester is a political science major from Bloomington, Ill. She can be reached at hester2@kenyon.edu.

SARAH TOMASI
CARTOONIST



KSAAC celebrates D-III Week, raises money for charities

CALEB NEWMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

This week, the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (KSAAC) is hosting events to participate in D-III Week, where member institutions are celebrating the accomplishments of the NCAA's third division and its student-athletes.

Earlier this week, KSAAC Co-President Jake Davidson '22 took over the group's Instagram page in order to emphasize how he and his peers are more than just athletes — they are students, musicians, tutors and volunteers in the community. "One thing that's an awesome part about being a DIII student-athlete at Kenyon is you have the smaller class sizes, the smaller school feel and liberal arts education," he said. "You can really

immerse yourself in the community, which I think is something that's really special here and that's something we want to highlight."

In addition to hearing from Kenyon athletes, KSAAC will contribute to fundraising for the Knox County Special Olympics throughout D-III Week as they look forward to meeting in-person for the first time since March 2020. "We want to raise as much awareness as we can for [the] Special Olympics because it's such an awesome program that we're very thankful to work with."

Kenyon will also be part of the larger donation efforts among D-III schools. The NCAC is competing against the Presidents Athletic Conference. Nationally, if the D-III Instagram reaches 30,000 followers, they will donate \$10,000 to their partners

at the Special Olympics.

In the fall, KSAAC was able to raise over \$1,000 for One Love — a non profit organization focusing on promoting healthy relationships among young adults — the Kenyon community. They plan to do their spring fundraiser for The Hidden Opponent, a non profit organization focusing on raising awareness for athletes' mental health.

While KSAAC has their own philanthropic efforts, the Lords lacrosse team participated in fundraising of their own. The Hope Street Foundation is doing their annual "Lacrosse for Life Head Shaving Event." The foundation will donate \$1,000 to the Dana Farber Center Cancer Institute in Boston for every lacrosse player who shaves their head.

Ian Gobron '22 helped to organize

the fundraiser for the Lords this year. He hopes that Hope Street Foundation will be able to raise more than last year's total of 2.1 million dollars. Gibrion was one of 18 members of the team who participated to raise \$18,000 for cancer research. "I felt like shaving my head was a pretty easy way to raise \$1,000 for such a great cause," Gobron wrote in an email to the *Collegian*. "It's just hair, it will grow back."

Throughout this week, KSAAC will be in attendance at all games and will also table at Peirce Dining Hall to collect money. The group prefers cash, but will also take Venmo.

Ladies tennis splits matches on the road, now 6-8

KATIE SPARVERO
SPORTS ASSISTANT

On Friday and Saturday, the Kenyon women's tennis team traveled to Madison, Wis. to compete in the Midwest Invitational. Though the Ladies were shorthanded throughout the weekend due to illness, they came away with a split, falling to the No. 21 Washington University in St. Louis (Mo.) Bears 6-3 and beating the No. 27 North Central College (Ill.) Cardinals 5-4.

Daria Beshentseva '22 led the way for the Ladies throughout the weekend. Against the Bears, she and Eleni Dakos '24 took the No. 1 doubles match 8-5. But the No. 2 doubles match was not as successful, with Catriona Macintosh '23 and Erika Pontillo '23 falling 8-5. The teams did not play the No. 3 doubles match, and officials ruled it a walkover win for Washington University, as Kenyon forfeited the match. After Dakos leveled the overall score at two with her singles win, Beshentseva gave the Ladies the lead with her 6-1, 6-0 win in the No. 1 singles match. The Bears then took control of the match, winning the No. 3, 4 and 5 singles matches before taking the

No. 6 singles match in another walkover.

Looking to rebound from the prior day's defeat, the Ladies began their match against the Cardinals with a sweep in the first five singles matches. Beshentseva, who was later named NCAC Women's Tennis Athlete of the Week for her success during the weekend, took the No. 1 singles match by a score of 6-3, 6-0. Dakos followed suit, winning the No. 2 singles match 6-2, 6-4. In the next three singles matches, the Ladies dropped the first set before coming back to win the next two, securing a win in the match before doubles play even began. The No. 6 singles match was ruled a walkover for North Central. The Ladies dropped the No. 1 doubles match 8-6 and the No. 2 doubles match 8-4, with the No. 3 doubles match being ruled a walkover for the Cardinals.

With their record standing at 6-8, the typically dominant Ladies will look to get back on track with an NCAC victory when they travel to face Oberlin College on Saturday.



Daria Beshentseva '22. | COURTESY OF KENYON ATHLETICS



Irina Beshentseva '24. | COURTESY OF KENYON ATHLETICS

Lords fall 8-1 against No. 1 Case Western

HENRY BUCHAN
STAFF WRITER

On Sunday, the Lords faced off against Case Western Reserve University — the top team in Division III. The Spartans defeated the Lords by a score of 8-1, demonstrating they had rightly earned their lofty ranking.

Case Western defeated Eric Zhang '25 and Luis Andres Platas '23 by a score of 8-1 in the No. 2 doubles match. The top doubles match was closer, but the Spartans managed to pull away and defeat Christian Picot '25 and Christophe Leblanc '25 8-3. In the third doubles match, Thomas Kallarakal '23 and Rishil Kondapaneni '25 lost a series of tightly contested games, and fell 8-4.

Luis Andreas Platas '23 won the first set of the No. 1 singles match 6-4, before falling in the next two, 6-0, 6-2. In the No. 3 singles match, the Spartans defeated Kondapaneni in a tightly contested two sets, 6-4, 6-4. In the No. 5 singles match, Casey Hishinuma defeated Rakkam Audeh '25 6-1, 6-0. The No. 2 and No. 4 singles matches both went to three sets, as Zhang and Kallarakal fell in close matches. In the No. 6 singles match, Henry Wessell '22 was able to prevent Kenyon from being shut out on the day as he won 6-2, 6-3.

The Lords will next compete on Friday against Asbury University (Ky.) at the Jasper Tennis Center.



Luis Andres Platas '23. | SEJIN KIM/SID/NCAA

Nicole Bishay '22 returns to the circle to record one-hit shutout

KATIE SPARVERO
SPORTS ASSISTANT

Over the weekend, the Ladies softball team opened NCAC play against Denison University and also had their home opener against Capital University. The Big Red's potent offense proved too much to handle on Saturday. The Ladies split the two games on Sunday against Capital after they were dominated by each team's aces.

On Saturday, the Ladies made the 35-minute trip south to Granville, Ohio to play Denison in a doubleheader. Despite jumping out to a 2-0 lead in game one, the Big Red were able to push four runs across the plate in the third inning, followed by three runs in the fourth and fifth innings to win 10-2 on the mercy rule. Game two looked more promising at first, as the Ladies were able to score 10 runs early on. However, they could not keep the Big Red off the bases, with Denison scoring 15 runs on 20 hits to win 15-10.

A day later, Kenyon softball headed back to Gambier to host Capital. The Ladies' excellent offensive output continued, scoring nine runs in five innings, winning via the mercy rule against the Comets in game one. Nicole Bishay '22 was back



Nicole Bishay '22 helped the Ladies earn their 16th win of the season. | COURTESY OF KENYON ATHLETICS

in the circle after not pitching on Saturday to dominate against Capital. The Comets could only muster a single off of her, as she pitched a one-hit shutout while striking out four batters and is-

suing zero walks.

In game two, the Ladies' bats were silenced by the Comets' pitcher Brianna Shearer. Of the five hits she allowed, only one was an extra base hit. Shearer

also did not give up any walks and recorded four strikeouts. Capital earned the split in the doubleheader after a 4-0 win in game two.

The Ladies are now 16-8 over-

all, but 0-2 in conference play. Kenyon will look to improve their NCAC record on Thursday when they play a doubleheader against Oberlin College in Gambier.

Lords extend winning streak to eight, sweep doubleheader

JORDY FEE-PLATT
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Kenyon Lords baseball team continued their stellar play over the weekend, dominating in both games of a road doubleheader against NCAC foe Hiram College, winning 17-0 and 5-0. The two victories extended their win streak to eight, as they now sit at 13-6.

The visitors were immediately off to the races on Saturday against the Terriers in game one, putting six runs on the board in the top of the first. Kenyon proceeded to score in every inning except the final frame. Nate Rosen '25 and Luke Meister '24 were the stars at the plate, leading the team with 4 RBIs each in the game. Rosen had a double in the third and another in the fourth, scoring two teammates on both occasions. Meister went deep in the sixth for the second time in a week, continuing to show off his power. Drew Robinson '24 also added three hits and three RBIs. All in all, the Lords brought home 17 runs in a seven-inning game.

While Kenyon certainly flexed their offensive prowess, the most impressive perfor-

mance of the day came on the mound. After allowing his first runs of the season in his previous start against Bluffton University, Alex Gow '22 returned to his dominant self on Saturday. The Lords' ace went 6.1 innings, allowing just four hits and striking out 14 batters. His ERA for the season now sits at an outstanding 0.69. Gow was in sync with his pitching coach Jared Farenchak and catcher Alex Hoskins '22. "They trusted me to be able to throw any of my pitches in pretty much any count, and you can feel that vote of confidence coming from your coach and catcher," he said. "Just being able to throw all four of my pitches for strikes while consistently getting ahead is always going to be a recipe for success." Noah Rosenberg '24 came in to get the final two outs, securing the shutout.

The purple and black did not miss a beat in the second leg of the doubleheader. Kenyon pitching shut out the Terriers again. Frank Lynch '25 pitched an excellent game, going 6.1 innings with seven strikeouts, earning him NCAC Pitcher of the Week honors. In the second, Kenyon got on the board first after Andrew Rabinowitz '22 scored on a fielder's



Lynch was named NCAC Pitcher of the Week. | COURTESY OF KENYON ATHLETICS

choice. During the ensuing at-bat, as Robinson attempted to steal second, Meister sprinted home from third to give his team a 2-0 advantage.

In the fourth, Meister continued his outstanding day. The Illinois native launched his second home run of the doubleheader, his third in a week. Meister credited his recent power surge to extra work in practice. "My approach

was to look for hittable fastballs early in the count and to swing to do damage. I have been working a lot with Coach [Matt] Burdette on my pitch selection and maximizing the quality of my at-bats. I always look to hit the ball hard and on a line because I know if I do that, good things will happen," he said. The first baseman has quickly become a key contributor in the Lords lineup. Ke-

nyon added two more runs in the late innings, and Joel Biery '22 closed out the game for his third save of the season, securing a 5-0 victory.

The Lords will look to extend their winning streak to nine when they travel to Delaware, Ohio on Thursday to face Ohio Wesleyan University in a doubleheader matchup.



Caroline O'Neil '23 (left) scored six goals. She leads the team with 36 goals overall this season. | COURTESY OF KENYON ATHLETICS

Ladies dominate Wittenberg, Lords struggle against Denison

KATIE SPARVERO
SPORTS ASSISTANT

On April 2, the Lords lacrosse team traveled to Granville, Ohio, while the Ladies stayed at home. The Ladies secured a blow-out win over Wittenberg University to bring their record to 8-1, and the Lords fell to No. 20 Denison University, their first conference loss of the season, giving them a 6-3 record.

Ladies

The Ladies began their offensive onslaught quickly, as Ella Murphy '23 opened the scoring less than 90 seconds into the first quarter, beginning a 7-0 run. Kenyon was dominant through the first quarter, leading 10-2 after 15 minutes. From there, the Ladies continued to show off their outstanding offensive attack for the rest of the game, winning 22-5. Caroline O'Neil '23 paced the Ladies with six

goals, bringing her team-leading total to 36 goals. Julia Losey '23, who had two goals in the game, attributed the team's dominance to having a solid process in place. "I think what contributed to the team's success was everyone working together on the field and focusing on the things that we needed to work on," she wrote in an email to the *Collegian*.

The Ladies will now turn their attention to another NCAC team, No. 21 Denison University. Losey believes that playing against a nationally ranked rival, particularly on Alumni Day, will serve as extra motivation for the team. "This is a great opportunity to showcase everything that we have been working on since the fall, especially with parents and many lacrosse alumni coming back to watch," she said. "We're really hoping that our successes after playing them will give us a national ranking or

show the IWLCA that we are worthy of a ranking as well."

Lords

In Granville, the Lords found themselves on the wrong side of a 4-0 deficit as the first quarter ended, thanks to a few quick goals by the Big Red to start the game. Denison carried their early momentum into the second, again scoring two goals in under a minute and forcing Kenyon to call a time-out. The teams traded goals and left the score at 7-3 at halftime.

Momentum seemed to swing the Lords' way when Cameron Longway '25 scored his second goal of the game to bring the score to 7-4, but the Big Red answered back eight seconds later with the first of six unanswered goals. Longway secured his hat trick with just under 12 minutes left in the game, but Denison responded with three more

goals to cruise to a 16-7 victory. Mayo Amorello '22, who made 15 saves in the loss, credited Denison for their ability to attack Kenyon's weaknesses on defense. "They were constantly getting our defense to move and when we didn't move cohesively they exposed us," he wrote in an email to the *Collegian*.

The Lords will have a chance to get back in the win column when they play DePauw University on the road Saturday. Amorello believes that the Lords can learn from their loss to Denison, and work to find success against the Tigers. "If we go down there and do our job we can start regaining that momentum and we can get back on the right track," he said.

Track and field teams take fifth at Wooster Invitational

FINN ANDERS
STAFF WRITER

This past weekend, Kenyon's track and field teams competed in their first outdoor meet of the 2022 season — the Wooster Invitational — after a month without any official events. Both the Lords and Ladies finished in fifth place.

Lords

Despite a low overall score, the Lords certainly had many noteworthy moments. Both Riley Orth '24 and Tapiwa Gono Phiri '25 secured first-place finishes in their respective events: shot put and the 200-meter dash. Orth's shot put throw came in at 14.16 meters, a full half-meter more than the second-place finisher. Gono Phiri, meanwhile, finished the 200-meter dash in 22.59 seconds.

Gono Phiri felt particularly accomplished given his hard training sessions. "It's really motivating to see," he said. "I know how painful [training] has been, but it's really satisfying to see the results." The Lords also had strong performances in the 100-meter dash, where Gono Phiri placed third with a time of 11.21 seconds, and the long jump, where Emmanuel Makelele

'25 finished in fifth (5.97 meters). Despite finding some individual success in the meet, the Lords finished fifth with a total of 54 points, as Case Western Reserve University and Mount Union College tied for first with 174 points.

Ladies

The Ladies tallied a total of 33 points at this meet, 18 of which came from impressive finishes by Paula Sorić '25 in the triple jump and long jump. In the triple jump event, she logged a distance of 11.15 meters, earning a first-place finish. In the long jump, Sorić recorded a distance of 5.01 meters, which earned her a second-place finish.

Sorić felt happy to have the support of her teammates after putting in so much hard work into training for the season. "A lot of times it takes a while for the results of hard work to show, and it's easy for frustration to build up. Everyone is really supportive of each other and wants to see their teammates succeed," she wrote in an email to the *Collegian*.

Maya Virdell '24 joined Sorić with a notable finish in the long jump, recording a distance of 4.60 meters and earning her a seventh-place finish. The Ladies boasted five other top-10 fin-



Riley Orth '24 winds up for a throw. | COURTESY OF KENYON ATHLETICS

ishes at this meet, two of which came in the 5,000-meter run from Alice Riley '23 (fifth place) and Ella Wilson '23 (eighth place). The shot put event was another success for the Ladies, with Eras Yager '23 and Cat Madden '24 finishing sixth and eighth, respectively. Finally, Virdell placed fifth in the 400-meter hurdles event. Though the

Ladies were able to find individual success in various events, they struggled to find team success, earning points in only five of 20 events.

The team looks to bounce back at the Marv Frye Invitational at Ohio Wesleyan University, which will take place this weekend on April 9.