College investigates Rugby Team Injuries

By Marika Garland
New Assistant

The College has been looking into the availability of trainers for club athletes in response to the high volume of rugby injuries in the past month. According to Assistant Building Coordinator for Intramural and Club Sports Adam Exline, the College currently employs four full-time athletic trainers, which is fewer than the five trainers the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) recommends for a school of Kenyon’s size.

Exline said that the trainers the College employs “do a pretty outstanding job,” however, and that they are more available to club athletes than many other colleges’ trainers. “Many schools don’t have club sports at all,” he said. “We’re one of the few schools that has an open clinic.” All students can see trainers from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. every weekday.

Though trainers have open hours in the mornings, Exline said many rugby players have expressed concerns because they are absent at rugby games. “I think a trainer would definitely benefit the team,” said President of the Women’s Rugby Club Frankie Lazarus ’10. “As great as the Health Center and Varsity trainers are, we often have trouble getting players to see them right away, when injuries are most in need of examination.”

According to Exline, the College ordered enough H1N1 vaccine to immunize the entire College student population. The focus of the first immunization, however, was on specific students who were at higher risk for 2009 H1N1 because of chronic health disorders or compromised immune systems.

According to Exline, there is always a trainer on campus, but that trainer is required to be present at Varsity games and thus cannot be present at club sports games. As stated in the College’s General Response Protocol for Club Sports, club athletes should call 911 and contact Campus Safety in cases of serious injuries. According to the College’s Club Sports Liability Form, club athletes “assume all liability for injuries and damages occurring as a result of participation in (club sports).”

According to Exline, there is “nothing that we can do to cut back on injuries.”

-Margo Smith

According to Snoddy, thetrustees said they wanted to see more responsibility from club athletes before hiring an additional trainer. This responsibility would include scheduling matches with teams that are more equally matched with their skill level to reduce the number of injuries.

Snoddy said the College would have to go through the trustees to hire another trainer because the trustees must approve the hiring of any additional trainers. They said that hiring another coach would be the first step in addressing the problem.

Snoddy said that before any changes occur, she would be sure to speak with the rugby players themselves. “I don’t want to impose anything on them,” she said. “What we want is a compromise.”

—Additional reporting by August Steigmeyer

Kenyon Sees Increase in Confirmed H1N1 Cases

By Luis Rodriguez-Rincon
Staff Writer

The Health Center reported 70 new cases of H1N1 last week in an e-mail to students. Estimates from the Center for Disease Control predict that up to 50 percent of the U.S. population will contract the “swine flu,” according to the President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, and Kenyon is bracing itself for further spread of the disease.

After the first confirmed case of H1N1 in August, Kenyon has seen relatively few cases of H1N1 until last week. In a letter sent to parents on Oct. 30, President S. Georgia Nugent said her “sense is that this flu will not last long.”

According to Nugent, it is hard to tell how many cases are actually H1N1, rather than other illnesses or false alarms. She said, “at least one student has been overheard saying they used the self-isolation protocol to skip class.”

The online self-isolation form reiterates that faking the flu is against the College’s honesty policy. “I think that we just have to rely on the ethical standards of the students,” Nugent said.

So far, the disease has been fairly mild, with most students recovering in two to three days, Cullers said. “Isolate, only take fever reducers such as Tylenol, which the Health Center provided. Cook said her symptoms were basically augmented versions of a cold including a headache, chills and muscle aches. “One positive thing about it was that the illness didn’t last very long,” she said. “There were roughly two days that I felt really sick.”

According to Cullers, the College ordered enough H1N1 vaccine to immunize the entire student population. The focus of the first immunization, however, was on specific students who were at higher risk for 2009 H1N1 because of chronic health disorders or compromised immune systems.

The Knox County Health Department delivered 100 doses of the vaccine to the Health Center, and thus cannot be present at club sport games. As stated in the College’s General Response Protocol for Club Sports, club athletes should call 911 and contact Campus Safety in cases of serious injuries. According to the College’s Club Sports Liability Form, club athletes “assume all liability for injuries and damages occurring as a result of participation in (club sports).”

Interim Director of Student Activities Meagan Webb said the College has been concerned about the safety of rugby athletes due to a high number of injuries over a two-week period earlier this semester. According to Webb, seven students were injured in one weekend about a month ago, although most of them were not Kenyon students. Dean of Students Hank Toutain said that rugby “hasn’t seen that volume of injuries since then.”

Exline said he believes that the number of rugby injuries is not increasing. Rather, the number of students reporting injuries is increasing because the College has been encouraging them to do so.

Exline said that having a coach for rugby teams may decrease the number of injuries. Because the rugby teams do not have coaches, their training consists of “beginners teaching novices.”

Many players express the idea of getting coaches, however. “I don’t really think we need a coach,” said women’s rugby player Margo Smith ’12. “The captains do an excellent job of teaching us how to protect ourselves.” Rugby is a rough sport by nature, and I don’t know if there is anything that we can do to cut back on injuries.”

Exline said many players have also said that they value the independence they gain from not having coaches. If the rugby teams were officially coached, the players would have increased responsibility as well. Depending on the coach, the team would possibly have to begin abiding by Varsity athletic guidelines, which would include creating practice and game schedules and submitting to drug testing.

Vice President for Student Life Laura Snoddy ’91 said she spoke to the Board of Trustees at the meeting on Thursday, Oct. 22, about hiring another trainer to better cover club and Varsity athletes. She said she merely discussed the background of the situation and that there is not yet a proposal to address the issue.

“I don’t know if there is anything that we can do to cut back on injuries.”

-Margo Smith

According to Snoddy, the trustees said they wanted to see more responsibility from club athletes before hiring an additional trainer. This responsibility would include scheduling matches with teams that are more equally matched with their skill level to reduce the number of injuries.

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—Additional reporting by August Steigmeyer

The Health Center requires all visitors to wear masks in the waiting room.

The Quarry Chapel
Dan Deacon Plays at the Horn

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Volume CXXXVII, Number 10
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8 Pages

Gambier, Ohio

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Gambier, Ohio
Flu: High Risk Students Vaccinated

From page 1

With vaccination, we may be able to spare a large portion of the student population from getting the disease.”

As illnesses continue to rise early in the flu season, Kenyon is preparing for the worst. “We are concerned about when people are returning from off-campus,” Nugent said. “One thing we might use to stop it is asking people who are off campus to let us know if they are ill so we have a sense of what’s out there.” The option of telling students not to return to campus if they are sick is being considered as Thanksgiving and winter breaks approach. “It’s hard to know how we can even think about closing the College because we’re not local,” Nugent said. “Everyone would have to make arrangements to return home, nationwide. That’s one of the reasons we were thinking about the winter break because suppose we were able to learn that many students are ill over the winter break then I could imagine saying, ‘Well, we’re not going to open until a week later.”

According to Nugent, as the virus continues to spread, the College is looking for more space to put sick students. The first move was turning Weaver Cottage into an infirmary. “One other thing we’ve thought about, this would be a really radical move, if we had a very large number [of sick students] that might mean something like turning the track part of the KAC into kind of an infirmary space. There, you would be able to have more local delivery of foods and medicines. My guess is we’re not going to have these rolling small numbers [of sick students], that it’s just going to continue through the community for months,” Nugent said. “High-risk” students who have not yet identified themselves as such should e-mail Lori Ramery (ramerly@kenyon.edu).

The Knox County Health Department will be holding an open vaccination clinic Saturday, Nov. 7, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for healthy and high-risk individuals 6 months to 24 years old. These free vaccinations are open to students. Questions can be directed to the Health Department at (740) 392-2200.

Village Council

Nov. 2, 2009

• Council approved Oct. 5 meeting minutes and corrections.
• Council approved bills paid.
• Mayor Kirk Emmert presented the Mayor’s Report, which included a reminder to vote in the Nov. 3 elections and a discussion of the library funding levy. The mayor also thanked all who helped with the Village Halloween party, including the Kenyon students who volunteered.
• Village Administrator Suzanne Hopkins presented the Administrator’s Report. Planned concrete work in the Village was completed, including a drainage curb and connected sidewalks on Ackland St.
• Council reminded residents that Dumpster Day is Saturday, Nov. 9, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. No paint will be allowed unless it is dry, and fluorescent bulbs will not be accepted.
• Tree Committee presented its report. The committee plans to begin preparing a tree inventory in the Village. The committee will be looking at different technologies for gathering tree data about location, genus, species and health. It plans to eventually make this information available to the community. In order to fund the project, the committee is looking into applying for a government grant that would provide $4,500 for the project. The Department of Natural Resources and the Tree Committee in Mount Vernon have both expressed interest in helping with this program.
• Emmert provided the Zoning Committee report, which included a new plan for more baseball fields. Obtaining grants for building paths around the Village parks was also discussed. A proposed cost will be presented soon.
• The floor was opened for a debate on the College’s Meadow Lane property rezoning request, which would allow Kenyon to use the property for non-residential purposes in the future. The ordinance was put to a vote and failed to pass.
• Council discussed the request for a rezoning of the Morgan Apartments. This ordinance was put to a vote and passed.
• Council voted on approval of expenditures of $5,400 to Agri-Sludge for sludge hauling. Council approved the funds.

Paid Advertisement

I’d like to congratulate Mr. Bowden and Mr. Ingerham on re-election, and wish them both the very best. I would also like to take this opportunity to extend a HUGE thank you to all my supporters. This has been a wonderful experience, and I feel truly blessed. It was a great pleasure to meet so many of my neighbors, and I look forward to getting acquainted with those that I have yet to meet. If I wasn’t already proud to be a resident of this community I certainly am now.

Thanks so much,
Angie Small
Features

The Quarry Chapel: Same Structure, New Support

BY SUSANNAH GRUDER
Features Editor

Deep in the field of Gambier, a little church is experiencing a renaissance, but not for the first time in its existence. Church at the quarry, located just outside a made of Kenyon’s campus, has been around since the late 1850s and since then has been renovated, reclaimed and repurposed under many different circumstances. At its celebratory open house in early October, the Chapel was brought back to life after decades of disuse and disrepair under the supervision of the Quarry Chapel Restoration Society.

The Quarry Chapel, as it is commonly called, was built as a mission of the Hanover Episcopal parish to Gambier when students and faculty from Kenyon and the seminary at Beasley Hall began ministering to the families living near a new stone quarry in the area, according to the Restoration Society. The families came from England to work as stonemasons on the building of Ascension Hall and, finding themselves in need of a place of worship and with an abundance of stones, made plans to build the chapel. William Firth, builder of Ascension Hall and operator of the quarry, agreed that if the church was paid for, he would donate and build the stone. Work soon began with the help of stonemasons, community members and Irish architect and designer of Ascension Hall William Timothy. The Church at the Quarry was dedicated in 1863.

The Chapel became a staple of the greater Gambier community, holding a wide range of church services and acting as a landmark in the small town. Gradually, however, many members joined other churches, moved away or died, and in 1990 the church stopped offering services and was subsequently deconsecrated. The Episcopal Church signed the Chapel over to the College Chapel in 1996. "For about 20 years it lay empty and closed up," Professor of History and member of the Chapel Restoration Society William Scott said. In 1975, however, the Quarry Chapel Restoration Committee was formed in conjunction with the Knox County Historical Society, to raise funds to restore the Chapel. The group replaced the roof, repainted all the stonework on the outside, and "got the Chapel nominated to the National Register of Historic Places, to which it was accepted in 1975."

Renovations were left unfinished, however. "In early 2000, we started thinking about it, ran out of money before they could get to the outside," Scott said. "They also just got tired." The Chapel was sealed up to prevent further damage, "but after about 25 years, nature came back..." [Township Trustee and member of the Restoration Society Jim Angell] decided it was either renovate it now, or we’d lose it," Scott said.

The second phase of renovations began in April 2002, only to be met with further problems. Church at the quarry, during a thunderstorm, a large oak tree fell onto the Chapel, causing significant damage to the slate roof and stone walls. "In a way it was good when the tree went in," Restoration Committee member Susan Ramsey said. "That was sort of a wake-up call."

Though the Township owned the church, it did not have the means to restore it or the authority to raise money, according to Scott. Ingham organized the volunteer-based Restoration Society, and "we raised about $200,000, but at least 200,000 hours were given, probably..." No one was asking for money. They would come to me and say, "I would do it," Scott said.

Ten years later, the process is finally complete. According to Scott, "it was truly a community effort. "A lot of people who had family were involved, and they pretty much restored it to the condition it was when it was built," he said. Some improvements were made to the Chapel without fundamentally changing anything. The volunteers did not replaster the walls because of a fondness for the aesthetic of the bare stone, and the ceiling was left untouched to leave the architecture exposed. When a string quartet played at a wedding held at the Chapel, the Society heard the beautify of its choice.

"We found out that the acoustics are perfect... because the walls have hundreds of thousands of facets that break up the sound," Scott said. "You don’t get an echo off the ceiling." For Restoration Society member Betsy Zeyen, the biggest issue is that the chapel is used. Zeyen, whose main role was designing and commissioning the Tiffany-inspired stained glass window above the chapel alter, is part of a new group, the Friends of the Quarry Chapel. "We’re really trying to be proactive about protecting the Chapel!" she said. "I don’t see why there can’t be little musical performances here by music students."

Now entering a new stage, the chapel will be open to students as a meeting place for $50 per day for anything from weddings to funerals, "depending on what part of your life you’re in," Scott said. With the help of the community, in formats both physical and fiscal, the Quarry Chapel is now again.

The Kenyon Collegian
Thursday, November 5, 2009

A Hard Day’s Night with AVI and Security

BY ALEXANDRA ZOTT
Staff Writer

After a brutal day at work, AVI sous chef Jacob Owen, who works from 7:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. or even until midnight, faces a 50-minute commute to Valley, where he gets there he noticed people poking their heads in, “That was an interesting piece that has come from that," he said. "There are some interesting pieces that come from that." In its first year, the Empty Bowls Dinner in Gambier attracted 90 people and raised $900, but since then, those numbers have risen dramatically. Weaving, knitting and woodworking projects made at the Craft Center will be auctioned off at the end of the dinner. Other bowls and assorted pottery will also be for sale. Many members of the Kenyon community have donated assorted soups, and Associate Professor of Drama Andrew Reinert and several other families have donated homemade bread. AVI Food Services will provide cider and apples.

Many of these works of art are a product of artists from the surrounding area, including Audrey Bebensee, a resident of the town. "Despite the relentless tasks and demands of working at night, "W ork at night is mind-boggling," Owen said.

"As the sous chef, it’s hard to find your family as much as it is working at night. "Working the night shift makes it difficult for him to see his family as much as it is working at night. "By Alexandra Zott

The Quarry Chapel. 

The Quarry Chapel: Same Structure, New Support

RICHARD WYLDE

The Quarry Chapel, as it is commonly called, was built as a mission of the Hanover Episcopal parish to Gambier when students and faculty from Kenyon and the seminary at Beasley Hall began ministering to the families living near a new stone quarry in the area, according to the Restoration Society. The families came from England to work as stonemasons on the building of Ascension Hall and, finding themselves in need of a place of worship and with an abundance of stones, made plans to build the chapel. William Firth, builder of Ascension Hall and operator of the quarry, agreed that if the church was paid for, he would donate and build the stone. Work soon began with the help of stonemasons, community members and Irish architect and designer of Ascension Hall William Timothy. The Church at the Quarry was dedicated in 1863.

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A Virtual Dilemma: Professors Take On the Google Book Settlement

BY KATE VON CULIN
Staff Writer

The ongoing Google Books settlement is big news in the digital media world. The final outcome of this judicial process could determine how millions of digital books are searched, read and sold for decades to come. Google has been scanning printed books since 2004 and hopes to sell subscriptions to libraries for access to the works both on screen and as printouts, but many oppose this proposition. One voice in the debate over whether rights should be granted to Google or to the authors of the digital books is Kenyon’s own Professor of Creative Writing Lewis Hyde.

Hyde, who has just completed a book defending the public domain and who spends half of the year as a fellow at Harvard’s Berkman Center for Internet and Society, has been asking questions about ownership, the Internet and the public good for many years. He has also taught a course called “Framing Intellectual Property” in the American Studies Department. “I have an interest in the economy of knowledge,” Hyde said. “How do we come to have free access to things, and when is it appropriate to have people own things? This lawsuit is an important example of public policy being made around issues of ownership.”

In 2004, Google began partnering with many large libraries, from The New York Public Library to Oxford University’s library to the Bavarian State library, to scan their collections and make them searchable with the Google Books search engine. Among the works Google has digitized are books in the public domain, many of which are still under copyright. Some search results show whole pages of text, while many provide only snippets of text surrounding the search terms.

Professor of Humanities Timothy Shutt said he sees the Google Books settlement as the latest in a long history of conflicts over the use of copyrighted works. “Xerographic and the rest of [of technologies like this] are part of a longstanding set of competition between two goods, and the existing compromises of the class action lawsuit.”

The settlement describes how authors will be paid when their books are sold, how and when they can opt out of Google Books if they want to, how revenue from books without known copyright holders will be handled (a new institution called the Book Rights Registry will be created) and how Google will avoid copyright infringement lawsuits if a copyright holder does surface. The first version was not approved, so it is being rewritten in hopes that this time the judge will agree that all members of the class — in this case all American authors and publishers — are given fair treatment and given the settlement legal approval.

“I am an author, so I am automatically a member of the class,” Hyde said. “If the judge approves the settlement, I will be bound by its terms, so I can write to the judge and object to the settlement. [As a member of the class you can] raise your hand and say, ‘I don’t feel well represented.’”

Hyde has numerous objections to the settlement as it stands. First, he worries that the settlement is structured so that Google will gain a monopoly on the digital book trade. Monopolies mean that companies do not have any competition, which could put the public at risk. “I hate the idea,” he said. “It’s a danger to the public. Google will not allow it.”

It seems to me that Google has a lot to gain financially and not a lot of accountability to the public,” said Professor of English Adde Davison. “I don’t mind people searching my book with Google. … I am less sanguine about copies being sold on Google, as it’s hard to know how that would be regulated and enforced.”

Libraries also have a stake in how this litigation turns out. Each library will be given one free Google Book terminal, but for those libraries that cannot afford extra terminals, lines could become problematic. “For much of the content on that terminal you can’t cut and paste it and you can’t print it, so the [system] begins to operate differently from a traditional library,” Hyde said. “The fact is that Kenyon will pay a subscription fee, but that begins to divide the world up into people who are going to school and those who are not.”

“Until the settlement is finalized and the pricing announced, we can’t do a useful analysis of the Google Books institutional subscription,” Joe Murphy, director of information resources at LBIS, said. “Kenyon already has access to over 55,000 electronic books through OhioLINK’s Electronic Book Center. … They supplement our collection of print books very well. They add depth to our collection but allow us to be more focused in the print books we do bring to Gambier.”

Hyde said he sees many good things coming from the Google Books project, but he also worries that “we should all be concerned about how the power is distributed in the online knowledge economy.” The next version of the settlement will be presented for approval on Nov. 9.
Dan Deacon Turns Up the Volume and the Crazy in Equal Amounts

BY JAMES DENNIN Staff Writer

If attending Dan Deacon’s concert at the intimate (albeit under-equipped) Horn Gallery taught me anything, it’s that when Dan Deacon tells you to place your hands on the hair of the person in front of you and remember the worst thing you’ve ever done, you had better do it. It is not that his presence is particularly intimidating. On the contrary, his pasty, loveably overweight and balding appearance is not an image that demands subordination. It is that Deacon performs in ways unlike any other artist or DJ I have ever seen, making himself the ringleader of his own fluorescent, technicolor circus. The effect is so exhilarating that you are left with no choice but to lose yourself in the sea of neon chaos he creates. First of all, it is important to establish that, as an artist, Deacon is not particularly outstanding. His songs are okay. He composes like any other DJ, writing loops that build upon each other gracefully, turning notes into melodies into electronic symphonies. All in all, it is not notably different from any of the indie house music you have heard before. Deacon’s presentation, however, elevates his art form and establishes him as a performer who is at once profoundly theatrical and unique. Deacon does this quite simply, by adapting the space to suit his needs. Whereas the opening band, Nuclear Power Pants, was limited by a lack of stage and the painfully obvious rushed sound check (the set was fraught with feedback and incomprehensible singing), Deacon made the venue work. In doing so, he demonstrated that some strobe lights, gallons of neon paint and a gargantuan, pyramid-alike configuration of speakers can go a long way. He also overcame the obstacles of the space by conducting set like a dance rather than a concert — which appeared to the 90-odd percent of audience members who had no way of seeing him. The act was perfected as Deacon projected himself into the crowd of not much more than a hundred with a series of tasks that accentuated the music. The most memorable of these involved volunteers and the rearranging of his audience into large, exalted circles. “We will now stand in a circle and Greg will lead us in an interpretive dance,” Deacon said.

Get Your Tickets to the Gund Show

BY BOB DORFF Arts & Entertainment Editor

This week, Gund Ballroom will host “The Gund Show,” a celebration of dance, fine art and music wrapped up with a great pun. This is the third annual Gund Show, continuing a program started by Colleen McLellan ’99. Although McLellan graduated last year, the Dance and Drama Department approached current majors and asked if they wanted to continue the tradition. “Some of us took on the journey,” said Paulina Gutierrez ’11, the show’s producer and one of its choreographers. That “journey” involved three dance majors and various other artists. The show consists of five dance pieces, choreographed by Gutierrez, Emily Polizotto ’11 and Costa Minardi ’11. The dances will be interspersed with music from student band The Dads, and Gund Ballroom will serve as an art gallery showcasing the work of various student artists. The project aims to give dance a greater presence on the Kenyon campus. “There is an overwhelming amount of drama performances, but there are only two [dance] performances a year… and we are just very enthusiastic about bringing more of these performances to the school,” Gutierrez said. There is no unifying theme that binds the dance pieces together, but that is part of the show’s appeal. Both Polizotto and Minardi talked about leaving their audience to take away from it what they will. “In the end, you decide,” Polizotto said. “We want people to come with open minds and take away something new to them.”

Get Your Tickets to the Gund Show

KFS Preview –

GIVE OUR REGARDS TO BROADWAY WEEK

Friday, Nov. 6 — Billy Elliot

This film had no connections to Broadway until it inspired last year’s Tony-winning musical, which was scored by Elton John. Although the movie may not have a catchy rock and roll score, it is still a sure crowd pleaser, and the British people voted it one of the 50 greatest British films of all time. In the film, 11-year-old Billy Elliot (Jamie Bell) finds his passion for ballet dancing under the nose of his lower-class miner father who thinks he’s attending boxing lessons. His teacher endangers his secret by encouraging him to audition for the Royal Ballet School. The premise is, admittedly, sappy, but the film compensates with its charm and Julie Walters’ Oscar-nominated performance as Mrs. Wilkinson, Billy’s tough-love ballet teacher.

Saturday, Nov. 7 — Chicago

Mudder, intrigue, lust and a tap-dancing Richard Gere: what more could one ask for? Inspired by the long-running Broadway musical, Chicago reinvented the genre of the movie musical — and became the second movie musical in history to win the Oscar for Best Picture. It won five other awards, including Best Supporting Actress for Catherine Zeta-Jones. Director Rob Marshall brings a unique style to the film, at once ferociously cinematic and loyal to the theatrical Broadway roots. The musical numbers in particular do not disappoint, especially the “Cell Block Tango” and a surprisingly poignant rendition of “Mr. Cellophane” sung by John C. Reilly.

So come join us at the KAC Theater at 7:30 p.m. this Friday and Saturday to view these wonderful films. Screenings are open to anyone and — as always — are completely free.

Miles Purinton

A&E News Brief

Extremes, directed by Jason Jordan ’12, was slated to open this week. Unfortunately, due to Weaver Cottage being quarantined for H1N1 isolation housing, the production has been rescheduled to Dec. 3-6.
Opinions

Vandalism is Really Awesome

BY ALEX OSTRUM
Guest Columnist

I know there have recently been e-mails from the administration here at Kenyon College about the removal of CAs (read: socials) about how terrible vandalism is and how mean and inconceivable it is, but come on, everyone knows it's a lot of fun. Obviously it's not something you want to do all the time, but when the opportunity is there, and the mess is going to be big enough, why, the hell not? The rush you get after trashing somebody else's property is incredible. It's better than sex.

When I get drunk with my friends and go to somebody else's dorm or lounge for a party and get rejected by the girls there, why not go upstairs and tear signs off the walls. You have to admit, it sounds like fun. It's too bad there aren't any parking meters on campus or I'd be the next Cool Hand Luke. At least we have lamp posts all the way down Middle Path. I'm thinking of tweaking the freshman policy so that when you leave the Cove the next morning, you'll find a note signed by the Cove, saying "few signs on the seal at Peirce, frown at graffiti. Now that's an art project. Those 'anarchy' signs on Caples! Classic! So full of irony too, since Caples is full of hipsters and they're all about the counterculture. "F*** Freedom" is a favorite at the same time — oh, man, that's pure genius. You know, because anarchy is all about absolute freedom and then saying "F*** Freedom" is what they like. They don't get it, but you know they really do. That's more ironic than most Caples residents' wardrobes.

Kenyon, Get Rid of First Years

BY LINDSAY MEANS
Opinions Editor

Kenyon students love tradition. We hate when students walk on the seal at Peirce, frown at people using cell phones on Middle Path and refer to the Gabriell as "the Cove," despite the fact that the Cove hasn't existed since 2002. So the College's attempt to replace the term "freshman" with "first year" baffles me.

In the fall of 2007, the Freshman Sing was my favorite part of Orientation, but when I returned for this fall as an Upperclass Counselor, I was disappointed to find that Freshman Sing had disappeared, and in its place was an optional "First-Year Sing." And on the campus map in the back of the Freshman Quad orientation packet, the Freshman Quad had become the "First-Year Quad."

It's no conspiracy theory, but I find it baffling that phasing-out of "freshmen" has gone mostly unnoticed. It's hard to believe that this is a random, unanimous decision by the graphic and Web designers employed by the College, but I haven't seen any e-mails about the new terminology either. Nearly every College publication — The Kenyon Collegian, the Collegian, the quad newspaper that I pay for, the Caples residents' wardrobes. The only people who have noticed are the students, because they have to call themselves freshmen.

When I arrived at Kenyon, I'd like to recognize our volunteers for their hard work and dedication to making the college a better place. They've been the key to our success, and I'd like to express my gratitude to them on this second anniversary of Kenyon Volunteers.

Kenyon Volunteers was created in 2007 with the goal of increasing the diversity of volunteers and providing them with a greater sense of ownership. Since then, we have grown from a small group of dedicated students to a large and diverse group of volunteers who are passionate about their work.

On a personal note, I'd like to thank our board members for their support and guidance. Without their help, Kenyon Volunteers would not be able to operate as efficiently as it does today.

I'd also like to extend a special thanks to our volunteers, who make this program possible. Your hard work and dedication have made a significant impact on the lives of the people we serve.

Finally, I'd like to express my gratitude to the Kenyon College administration for their support and encouragement. Without their backing, Kenyon Volunteers would not exist.

Thank you all for your hard work and dedication. Together, we have made a positive impact on the Kenyon community.

Sasha Pauline Fanny-Holston, Matt Riley and Gina Hirsch, in appreciation of their time and talent: Jamie Caples residents' wardrobes. The only people who have noticed are the students, because they have to call themselves freshmen.

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Moonchildren Brings 1960s College Life Down to Earth

BY MAIT CROWLEY
Staff Writer

Kenyon is packed with theater, and of all the college’s production companies, the entirely first-year-run Renegade is generally considered to be at the bottom of the dramatic totem pole. With little funding, inexperienced directors and designers and a necessarily limited talent pool, Renegade, its detractors maintain, is cheap and amateurish — not something to be taken seriously. But although Renegade does not have the glitz and glamour of, say, a KCDC production, it is perhaps the most passionate, most inventive and most fun of any production company on campus.

This characteristic commitment was on display last weekend with Renegade’s first show of the year, Moonchildren by Michael Weller. The play, co-directed by Evan Evans ‘13 and James Dennin ‘13, takes place during the senior year of nine college friends living together in an apartment in the 1960s. Throughout the year, these individuals fight, have sex, smoke pot and try to determine what direction their lives are taking until their inevitable dissolution at graduation.

Faced with a large cast that largely remains onstage throughout the production, Evans and Dennin did a solid job of keeping the characters active and contributing positively even to those scenes in which they were silent. This play, which could easily have devolved into stagnant discussions, was instead brimming with exuberance. Much of the dialogue in the show was also filled with this exuberance. Cootie, played by Nick Nathaniel ‘13, and Mike, played by Sam Barickman ‘13, are two goofballs who find nothing more amusing than aggravating those around them. Though occasionally their fanciful stories and zany jibes felt a little clunky, when they hit the mark, they were hilarious. Particularly noteworthy were their continual torments of the super-serious Norman (Nick Foster ‘13), whose reactions, delivered in a deadpan monotone, led to some of the most enjoyable moments of the show.

The production was less successful, however, in expressing the motivation and development of the major players. Though starting out animatedly — the first few minutes are totally dark and consist of a whispered conversation — Bob’s flustered and delicate aunt Marie was sensational. The actors brought energy and adventure to their roles and deserve success in their future dramatic careers at Kenyon.

Towards the Mainstream

BY BOB DORREY
Arts & Entertainment Editor

People looking for financially successful careers do not join metal bands. For instance, according to Billboard charts, Blue Record, the second album from Atlanta-based metal outfit Baroness, sold only 4,500 copies during its first week on sale. For a bit of scale, Lil Wayne’s Tha Carter III sold 1,005,545 units during its first week. Now, Tha Carter III deserves every sale that it got; it was, after all, one of the best albums of 2008. What you might not expect is that Blue Record is, despite its puny sales number, one of the best albums of the year.

For a sense of why Blue Record is so good, it helps to turn back to an older “blue record.” Weezer’s self-titled 1994 debut that album wrapped bubblegum-pop around a metallic guitar core. The guitarists were as distorted as anything on a heavy metal record, but nobody has ever called Weezer “metal”; their melodies are too pretty. Baroness pulls the opposite trick. While Weezer was pop-punk with metal pretensions, Baroness is a metal band that seems to stumble onto some of the poppiest melodies imaginable. The first Baroness album (fittingly titled Red Album) was a surprising amalgamation of Explosions in the Sky-style post-rock dynamics and Mastodon-style guitar brutality. What makes Blue Record so shocking is that it maintains the first album’s basic sound while expanding in all sorts of intriguing directions.

Suddenly, the churning guitar thrash cuts away and is replaced by the sort of soaring lead line that would be at home on the other “blue albums” mentioned above. Before you can classify this shift, the song devolves into a beautiful finger-picked guitar part, which, unlike the acoustic guitar interludes on most metal albums, is comfortable being simply beautiful rather than menacing.

Having established a willingness to play with metal conventions, Baroness spends the rest of the album exploring how far they can push their genre’s boundaries. Then’s the Queen-meets-Ratatat guitar heroics of “Oogeechee Hymnals,” the folk guitar breakdown of “Blackpowder Orchard” and the Fleet Foxes-style harmonies of “Steel That Sleeps the Eyes.” Heck, “Ore Hell and Hype” has a beat that could only be described as “danceable.” Even the more standard “metal” songs on this release pack surprising twists and turns, jarring metallic vocals and strangely triumphant guitar lines.

What does all of this mean? It means that the new Baroness record is not just one of the best metal albums of the year, but it is also one of the best indie albums of the year. You owe it to yourself to give it a chance.

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CALL ABOUT OUR MANY OTHER NIGHTLY SPECIALS!!!
By Charlie Schneider
Staff Writer

On Saturday, Nov. 7, the climax of the Kenyon Review Literary Festival, author Louise Erdrich brought many uninsured to campus. Professors and their spouses showed up at Rose Hall to hear the writer speak, along with many Knox County residents. The audience in Rose seemed like a sea of middle-aged fans of literature, with Kenyon students scattered throughout.

Given the turnout, it is hard to believe that this year’s Kenyon Review Literary Festival was only the third ever. The Festival was the culmination of the Big Read in Knox County, a month-and-a-half-long initiative sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts meant to promote reading as a central activity in American lives and communities. According to Professor of English and Editor of the Kenyon Review David Lynn, until 2006 the Review hosted an annual dinner in New York City to give their Award for Literary Achievement, just as they do now in Gambier. Previously recognized authors include Joyce Carol Oates, Kenyon graduate E.L. Doctorow and Umberto Eco. Three years ago, it was decided that such a ceremony should take place closer to the Kenyon Review’s home institution.

“It always bothered me that [the dinner] had no connection to the college, but we just didn’t have the money to bring the person back here,” Lynn said. “So three years ago, we decided we finally did have the money…to create a weekend where it would just be a great surplus of literary events and excitement leading up to the major address…It’s been wonderfully successful.”

It was in this context that Louise Erdrich spoke this past Saturday. Introducing Erdrich before her lecture, David Lynn praised the “universality of her ambition” in exploring the “voiced, inevitable interpenetration” between Native American communities and the communities that surround them today. In an outside interview, Lynn talked about why he felt Erdrich deserved the Award for Literary Achievement this year.

“It’s a lifetime achievement to mark a courageous vision that’s been at the very highest level,” Lynn said. “I’d known about Louise Erdrich for 20 years or more, and I do think of her as one of the great living American authors. People think only about her stories, about how moving and powerful they are, and it’s true. But more than that, her subject is not just the Native American world, but it’s how that world interpenetrates the surrounding world…so that all the old lines and demarcations break down.”

Those who attended Erdrich’s talk would surely agree, though the author herself is modest. She started her talk by saying she was glad to be here, and herself was modest. She started her talk by saying she was glad to be here, and I was asked about finding her own voice, she said that it was “a mysterious process.” Other voices found me, and I began to write down what I heard…In that capacity, I feel Erdrich deserves the Award for Literary Achievement this year.

Erdrich handled interruptions very well without breaking the rhythm of her storytelling. At one point, a bird flew from the top of the stage and set the crowd laughing, especially given that the story being read regarded a plague of birds. None of this bothered the author, who chuckled. Near the end of her second excerpt, this one from Love Medicine, she spoke a line that perhaps drives to the heart of all the writing she does: “They could be wandering under the stars…so that all the old lines and demarcations break down.”

Those who attended Erdrich’s talk would surely agree, though the author she’d just heard was modest. She started her talk by saying she was glad to be here, and glad that everyone could make it when they “could be wandering under the stars with [their] sweeties” instead. She read excerpts from her novels A Plague of Doves and Love Medicine, the headlining book for The Big Read. She read in her soft voice effectively, and while reading sounded as if she were speaking in the voice of each character. Her prose was wonderfully styled with lively descriptions, like one about a character’s grandfather and “the murky struggle of his teeth.”

During the Q&A session after reading, Erdrich’s answers revealed her wisdom about writing, drawn from long experience. When she was asked about finding her own voice, she said that it was “a mysterious process.” Other voices found me, and I began to write down what I heard…In that capacity, I feel Erdrich deserves the Award for Literary Achievement this year.

On Monday, Nov. 9, the smell of dough and apples wafted through the windows of the Hoen-Sacris House, where the Russian Club was raising money for an orphanage in Ukraine. The smell came from pirozhki, a traditional Russian dish, which the club is selling this week. “My family friend had adopted a child from the Ukraine, and so we’re working with their orphanage,” Russian Club co-president Andrea Fullerton ’10 said.

Russian Club co-president Leah Missik ’10 spent her spring semester in St. Petersburg last year, where she visited an orphanage and began thinking about the idea of the club raising money for the children living there. “We’re doing a lot of activities right now during International Week to do fundraising so we can send them stuff, for example, for Christmas,” she said. “It’s donation-based, so people just give whatever they feel like and then they can have some pirozhki.” The dish is made from filling dough with either sweet or savory fillings and baking them. “It would be nice if we could make at least 200 dollars, but of course, as much as we can is even better,” Missik said. “It’s expensive to send packages to the Ukraine.”

—Susannah Green
Volleyball Finishes Season 4-29

BY NATE OLDACH
Staff Writer

The Ladies began Hallowe’en looking for a final win to finish a productive rebuilding year. The Ladies’ first test was against conference foe Oberlin College, a team that the Ladies lost to earlier this year. Unfortunately, the game was another flat as the Yeomen took the first set 25-16. Not wanting to give in, the Ladies began the next set with greater energy, but their efforts were not enough, as they fell 25-21 and 25-23.

With little time left before the annual match against Ursuline College, the Ladies locked their disappointments away and came back on the court eager to win their final match of the season. Their determination paid off in the first set as the Ladies dominated, 25-19. The Ladies, however, succumbed to exhaustion in the second set as they lost the next three sets 25-21, 25-16 and 25-11. They exited the floor and committed their season record at 4-29.

“This season was a great experience for our team. ... We've seen a lot of growth from the team as a whole.”

-Katie Charles

Football Loses Clash Against Quakers

BY MARK MOTHERAL
Sports Editor

Between the horrendous field conditions and the grueling execution of plays, the Lords football team did not receive many treats on Hallowe’en, Saturday, Oct. 31, against the Earhams Quakers defense.

As the Quakers offense struggled to move the ball in the first quarter, Kenyon’s defense made extraordinary progress by stripping the ball away and forcing a fumble. However, the Quakers offense capitalized on the turnover and scored a touchdown, putting the Lords down 14-0.

The Kenyon defense kept the Quakers scoreless until the second quarter, when Kyle Toot ’10 finished a ten-play, 60-yard drive with a one-yard touchdown run. Even after a further extra-point attempt, the Lords were still in contention with a score of 14-9. Earhams, however, shut the door on Kenyon after scoring a touchdown on the ensuing drive, and the offense simply could not respond to the Quakers’ last touchdown.

“We did not play our best,” Head Coach Ted Stanley said. “When you do not do your best, you get beat.” Stanley went on to explain the source of the offense’s trouble, saying, “[Earhams’ defense] took advantage of our mistakes.”

The season ends this Saturday, when the Lords host their main rival, the Denison University Big Red, or, as Stanley calls them, “the little red.” The Big Reds are the “little reds” game, so there’s extra motivation. There’s no better way to end a season than to beat Denison.

Stanley encourages all members of the Kenyon community to come to the game this Saturday, Nov. 7, at 1:00 at McBride Field. “We want the most loud, raucous crowd we could ever have here this Saturday,” Stanley said.

Club Sports: Legitimate Alternatives to Varsity Athletics

BY JAMES ASIMES
Sports Columnist

As a member of the North Coast Athletic Conference, a conference that prides itself on offering a wide range of athletics to both men and women, Kenyon offers many students the opportunity to compete on the varsity level. Nearly 35 percent of the student body takes advantage of this, but more and more students are participating in club sports each year. Although there are many reasons to participate in club sports at Kenyon and each student seems to have a different one, it is clear that there is strong appeal in joining a club sports team.

With new club sports being approved each year, it appears that the trend of students becoming more involved in club sports will continue, at least for the time being.

Club sports at Kenyon are not professionally coached and there is no pressure on club teams to be competitive. Because of this, they often compete against club teams from much larger schools. With students acting as player-coaches, playing time appears to be more democratically spread out among many members of the club. At Kenyon, club sports tend to be popular among former Kenyon Varsity athletes, who still have the itch for competition. “[Playing club sports] takes me back to how it was playing in high school,” said former Varsity lacrosse player and current players coach Sarah Felts ’12. “It’s all fun of the sport without the intensity of playing [Varsity] in college.”

Some former Lords and Ladies choose to join club sports because they are looking for more action as they recover from a Varsity team; others are looking for a lesser time commitment or less competitive pressure. The commitment required for participation in Varsity athletics at Kenyon fluctuates between the competitive season and the off-season, but Varsity athletics do not require anywhere from 15-20 hours per week in the off-season, depending on the sport. That does not include travel time; teams have nearly five-hour trips to play conference opponents.

For students who are multiple sport athletes on the Varsity level, athletics becomes one of the only extracurricular activities students are able to participate in, whereas club athletes are able to participate in multiple club sports, even within the same season. The NCAA allows these students to play more than one day of off-season competition; if, however, many club sports compete in both fall and spring seasons.

Ultimate Frisbee player Alex Ottrom ’11 said, “I play club sports because I get to compete year-round, and I’m not forced to play just one sport.” Although club sports offer less competitive pressure, they do not lack competitiveness. The Kenyon Lords rugby program has been strong in the past few years, especially in competing with club teams from schools many times larger than Kenyon. Players from the Kenyon Seif Ultimate Frisbee program have even been recruited for the United States national team.

The rise in participation in club sports could be tied to the opening of the Kenyon Athletic Center just five years ago, as more students are able to use the facilities for club sport practices and training. “The Varsity team was the favorite during the winter months, there is still available time for club teams to practice in the field house, the weight room and even the pool. Although the numbers are not as high this year, the popularity of playing club sports has grown, it seems that, at Kenyon, at least, Varsity and club athletics can coexist and we could have enough to continually support more and more athletics on the Hill.”

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