Psi Upsilon on Five-Year Probation

BY LILI MARTINEZ Staff Writer

The Psi Upsilon fraternity has been the center of much controversy over the past few years, and its members had hoped to change that this year. The fraternity entered the 2009-2010 school year on probation, but members resolved to work with the administration to find a way to make things more positive for their organization in the future, but redemption is not in the cards for the Psi Us. Although they appealed their suspension at the beginning of the year to Dean of Students Hank Toutain, a recent decision extends their suspension to five years, a period which seems to make certain that the fraternity will disappear from campus life. According to Toutain, Psi Us plan to “engage in a process” and acknowledge their problems in the past had “significant achievements, but some chunks,” and he decided the “plan was not working.”

Psi U James Comish ’12 said that this decision was prompted by a few incidents that were perhaps punished too severely. “They caught us with kegs and they thought we were using the kegs for a rush event, which wasn’t true,” he said. “But there were a lot of different things that led to the decision. For my grade in particular, we came into this already on probation and we worked as hard as we could. We did our best and didn’t work, so at this point we’re resigned to what’s happening.”

The length of probation is flexible, according to Meagan Webb, interim director of student activities. “It depends upon the Psi Us themselves,” she said. “This was a probation, meaning that the option to return as a recognized fraternity still exists. If the decision had been made to revoke the charter, then they would not have been allowed to return to campus.”

Members of Psi U expressed their disappointment in the decision, particularly because the five-year suspension prevents them from recruiting pledges. Comish said, “At this point, basically, by the time we’re allowed back on campus, everyone is already gone, so there’s no longer any reason to recruit.”

Justin Sheehan ’13, who rushed Psi U, said of the situation, “I’m disappointed that the administration chose Psi U as a scapegoat to set an unnecessary example for the rest of Greek life on campus.” He added that “the potential pledges were kept in the dark about the decision until very recently.” In an e-mail sent to potential pledges, the upperclassmen in the fraternity informed first year that Psi Upsilon would not be accepting pledges this year. “They didn’t really say much about the decision,” just that they were sorting it out with the school,” Sheehan said.

Nate Webb ’11 was similarly dissatisfied about the decision and the way Student Activities handled informing pledges. The first year’s bids were never even given to the fraternity, according to Nate Webb. “To me, it seemed to have been poorly handled in respect to the complete lack of information or notice as to why our bids were never given to the Psi Upsilon fraternity by the deadline,” he said. “No explanation or warning was given to us and when we asked our friends who are already brothers they seemed equally at a loss. When we did receive an e-mail, over a month later, about the subject, it informed us they were suspended and that we were not able to pledge.”

Nate Webb said the e-mail did not say anything about why they were not allowed to pledge or how long the suspension would last. “I was, needless to say, severely disappointed and am still uncertain about the future of the first and if I or my friends will ever complete the bid process we started,” he said.

The students who had indicated that they were interested in pledging Psi U were given the option to pledge other organizations this year, according to Meagan Webb. “If they are still interested in Greek life, I do hope that they will consider joining one of the other organizations,” she said.

Many upperclassmen Psi Us declined to comment on the issue. Those who did comment did not express opinions about their future prospects. “At this point, it’s over and done with and we’re not coming back anytime … If we do come back it would be on the alumni’s terms,” Comish said. “They would have to come back and five years later say, hey, there used to be a fraternity here and we want to start it up again,” said Comish.

Justin Sheehan ’13, who rushed Psi U, said of the situation, “It has been more than a month since a 7.0 earthquake rocked the capital of Haiti and surrounding areas, causing a level of destruction unprecedented in modern times. To many, especially in isolated Gambr, it may seem as though this event is now largely past. It was the goal of a recent poetry reading benefit held in the Church of the Holy Spirit last Sunday, Feb. 21, however, to reinvigorate awareness of the situation in Haiti. The benefit, organized in large part by Harcourt Parish member Sally Rogan, successfully raised $1,093 for relief efforts in Haiti. Ten student poets read their poetry, including Donald Donald L. Rogan Professor of Religious Studies Royal Rhodes, Associate Professor of Spanish Victor Rodriguez-Nunez (with translation by Associate Professor of Spanish Kate Hedeen) and three members of the wider Gambr community. In addition to poetry, the evening featured two musical pieces. Colla Voce, a new Keon all-female a cappella group, sang several songs and Associate Professor of Drama Jonathan Tazewell sang an a cappella adaptation of a Haitian prayer.

The benefit itself was the product of joint efforts between the Harcourt Parish, the Canterbury Club and an informal student outreach committee chaired by Affiliated Scholar for Classics Abigail Serfas. All donations collected at the event will be donated to Doctors Without Borders, a humanitarian aid organization that sends medical professionals from around the world to crisis zones.

“I think it was very necessary because people are forgetting about Haiti,” said Bakary Diaby ’10, who wrote two of his own poems at the event. “Even if we can’t go down there, we should be thinking about this event that’s happened in the world.” Sally Rogan said, “It affects us whether we know it or not … Our response says a lot about who we are and who we want to be.”

Professor Emeritus of Religious Studies Don Rogan served as the master of ceremonies and emphasized the continued need and suffering of those in Haiti. Between groups of poems, Mr. Rogan led moments of silence and told the audience why their donations were still so desperately needed.

“It was as good as we dreamed it could be. We were certainly inspired by the student poets.”

- Sally Rogan

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- Sally Rogan

By Sarah Friedman

Forum Addresses Free Speech, Nick Griffin

On Thursday, Feb. 18, faculty and students congregated in Pitzer Pub to participate in a forum about free speech at Kenyon, triggered by debut around Britain National Party Chair Nick Griffin’s planned and later canceled visit to Kenyon. It was perhaps the biggest turnout a campus forum has seen in years, and President S. Georgia Nugent said the Pub was “full to overflowing.” Provost Nayef Sanbar moderated and Students of Hank Toutain offered guided DEH Distinguished Teaching Professor of Religious Studies Vernon Schulub, Janace Peters ’10, Professor of Political Science Pam Jensen and Jonathan Meyers ’10. The panel represented only one viewpoint, however, with the exception of Peters, who by her own admission asked more questions than she answered. The panelists all said they opposed Griffin speaking at Kenyon. Toutain said that the Tai Society, the student organization that invited Griffin, was invited to participate but declined to do so. Meyers spoke first, appropriately, as he instigated the all-stu debate about Griffin’s visit on Sunday, Feb. 14, by sending an all-student e-mail entitled “RACIST HOMOPHOBIC COMING TO KENYON.” At the forum, he defended free speech but delineated the differences between free and inflammatory speech. “I’m gay, Jewish and also Republican,” he said. “In terms of keeping free speech … my speech is usually the one being stifled.” But, he said, “there is a distinction between being controversial and being harmful, and for sure, this speaker was严重ly on the harmful side.” Kenyon is “supposed to be a welcoming community,” he said, and having Griffin speak would only have promoted an adverse view of Kenyon, which, as he mentioned, was recently ranked #14 on former KU Klax Klan leader David Duke’s list of “The Best Colleges for Whites.” Meyers closed by saying that he is proud of Kenyon for its response to Griffin’s then-imminent visit. He said, “For years, the one thing I felt Kenyon was not doing, was apathetic,” but this incident changed his mind.

Justin said that inviting Griffin was a mistake for the same reasons Kenyon would not invite David Duke or President of Iran Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. “The right of free speech absolutely extends to controversial speech,” he said, but added that Kenyon is a learning community, which is “fragile and something that has to be continually cultivated.” Some people wanted to destroy the conditions necessary for learning, such as freedom of speech, and those are the people that would “go after these very college students that I consider to be our failures,” he said.

Peters said that she is not sure of her own views on free speech, but that they must include awareness, critical thought, respect and civility. “Tolerance can turn into a form of oppression, something like censorship,” she said. As if we should still criticise thought of the minority. “As a community, do we only invite positive speakers, those who offend no one?” she asked. The questions she asked were
The Kenyon Collegian
News

number of people who will withdraw can be accepted into the program. The cap to the number of students who according to Ausec, there has been a trend of the Center for Global Engagement Marne because of high applicant numbers. Ausec said students would not be rejected intelligently, "he said. Now, "Kenyon players … but just weren’t thinking very less safe than it was before, Schubel disinvited Griffin, our community is sure that we are not being played by them." Another panelist directly: "How do you combat we should not fear being contaminated community is self-critical enough that Another agreed, saying that the Kenyon most of [his own] nation" and those views. we learn about ultra-nationalist movement is smarter and nationalist movement is over the original 30 percent cap. said that 254 people applied this year, which is over the original 30 percent cap. went down this year. According to Ausec, the cap “was intended to be 30 percent and the formula for re-computing "not wildly over," and while 12 additional spaces have been added, students are not being rejected because of the number of applicants. "We will be saying no to some people, but because of their applications, not because we went over the cap," Ausec said. The biggest OCS related issue that may arise this year has to do with students’ attitudes towards the program, Ausec said. "Students may become afraid of being denied" when they hear that a cap is being raised and then decide not to apply, she said. Ausec said the remains positive about the OCS program, which is continuing to expand. "A lot of places have to struggle to get people to study outside of the bubble and places, but at Kenyon, that hasn’t been a problem," Ausec said. Nugent said increased interest in the OCS program is “very much part of a national trend.”}

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for temperatures to rise before they pour. Lepley said workers are waiting for temperatures to rise before they pour the concrete, because temperatures will need to be above freezing for three to four days in a row for the concrete to cure properly. Lepley said workers are now erecting steel, which will make the progress of the construction more visible. Lepley said his goal is to have the evaluated the Psi U progress, according to Meagan Webb. “The decision to suspend the Psi U was not easy or enjoyable for anyone involved,” Meagan Webb said. “A lesson that all of the students of the Kenyon community Global Engagement, 80% of those applying for summer internships were Kenyon students.”}
Ascent of an Architect

BY BEN MCMILLAN
Staff Writer

Imposing and stoic, Ascension Hall stands as one of Kenyon’s most recognizable buildings. Arguably, only Old Kenyon rivals Ascension’s stature as an anchor of Kenyon’s campus. Despite this, the general public seems to know little about Ascension.

Born in Ireland, the architect William Tinsley was hired by Kenyon in 1857 to design Ascension Hall, the College’s second building and the first of its permanent buildings. Old Kenyon and Rosse Hall are both two permanent buildings: Old Kenyon and Rosse Hall. The population was growing, and his design style was considered to be perfect for Kenyon. “He was one of the foremost architects who were working in the Victorian Gothic style,” said Tom Stamp, the College’s historian.

One of Tinsley’s most intriguing projects is the building that he designed for the city of Bango, Ohio, a rural community located about ten miles west of Gambier. The building has served many purposes. Although it is rumored to have once been an orphanage, a story that adds to the mysterious aura surrounding the building, the building was actually first used as a county home. “It was sort of like a government-run retirement home,” Stamp said. Also known as “poor farms” or “paupers’ homes,” county homes were a place where the elderly and infirm could go to live if they could not afford their own accommodations. It was also once a part of Mount Vernon Bible College, but after being abandoned, it was used as a haunted house by the Kiwanis Club. An eerie cousin of Ascension Hall, the county home was perfectly suited to being portrayed as a haunted building.

As Tinsley’s main architectural focus was the Victorian Gothic style, the Bangs County Home and Ascension are so conducive to each other. Both feature a tripartite construction and the use of large stones. A strong symbol of Kenyon’s campus, Ascension has an enigmatic personality that is also present in the Bangs County Home. Perhaps it was this haunting presence that made the building in Bangs so conducive to serving as a haunted house.

Although he was incredibly successful later in life, Tinsley’s initial venture into architecture in the Bangs County Home was a disaster. In his essay, Stamp notes that Tinsley “considered becoming a farmer or even a mining speculator. It was not immediately apparent that he had made the right decision; in fact, the firm he founded with his son Charles came near to failing.” Luckily, he was soon commissioned to design for Wabash College, the first of his major U.S. commissions.

A testament to Tinsley’s signature style, Ascension Hall and its not-so-distant cousin the Bangs County Home stand as memorials to him. Although they were not designed by him, Leonard, Hanna and Samuel Mather Halls, erected after Ascension, echo aspects of Tinsley’s original building. Without Tinsley, Kenyon’s landscape would not be the same. In a very direct way, much of Kenyon’s beauty is indebted to Tinsley.

While talk of tearing down the Bangs County Home has recently arisen, Ascension’s place as a cornerstone of Kenyon’s campus remains strong. Thanks to Tinsley, Kenyon’s campus will continue to be one of the most beautiful in the nation for years to come.

When I Was Your Age...

BY LAURA GOEHRKE
Staff Writer

If you haven’t had Dave Suggs as a professor in the Anthropology Department, you’ve probably at least tried to get on a waiting list for his introduction to Cultural Anthropology or Human Sexuality classes. It is obvious to many that Suggs is invested in his students and his work, something that has evolved out of his love for learning that could be seen as early as his college years.

Suggs graduated from Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. TCU was a clear choice for him, as his father taught there and he could attend for free. It was also close to where Yvonne, his future wife, went to school. Suggs met Yvonne in college. The two were engaged at 18 and married a year later.

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From Kingman to TCU

What you can do instead: SPRING BREAK 2010 BABY!!!!!
Before I get into any specifics of where I am or what I’m doing, I just wanted to point out something that I’ve suspected for a long time, but never had any evidence to back it up with: Gambier is not nearly as small as we think it is. I don’t mean in physical terms, because our 1,000 square feet of property, roughly 1,600-student population and 2,000-ish year-round residents are quaint numbers by most standards. I mean in a more “sphere of influence” way.

When I came to Kenyon, I thought the “Kenyon is not near Uganda” shirt at the Bookstore was a warning of things to come, and I looked forward to telling people where it actually was and why they should have heard of it (i.e. because of our hero Paul Newman ’49). After three years, I have rarely gotten the chance. Yet somehow, people know people that go to Kenyon. How does that happen? It’s 1,600 students. That’s nothing. I don’t want to name drop people in the paper that I barely know, but I’ve had so many instances of “Hey, do you know this kid?” and then I actually do know who that kid is, perhaps tangentially, but I do know him or her. It makes a certain amount of sense, because there are only so many colleges that people can go to, and overlap is bound to happen. And in terms of big cities in the world that people have heard of, Copenhagen is up there, so somebody is bound to run into somebody else.

There have been a few times here, though, when the Kenyon connection has gotten eerie, making me almost think there is some divine orchestration going on. I live with host parents, Flemming and Sidsel, as well as another boy who goes to Macalester. Turns out, back home he is next-door neighbors with Reena de Lanerolle ’11, who was my next-door neighbor last semester. Wednesday know. That seems reasonable enough on paper, but really, that’s kind of weird. I’ve come to accept that people have heard of Kenyon, even if I do like to cherish it like an undiscovered treasure chest.

Outside of students, there was one instance here that had me thinking for a long time about the strong ties Kenyon makes. While I was waiting for a train to take me back to my house, there was a man who was selling Keenaya sunglasses. He invited me out for a beer, a gesture most head coaches of foreign sports leagues wouldn’t do, especially ones who had only worked for one season on a team that wasn’t too good at the time. I remembered from prior Kenyon research that the head coach had resigned in 2003 after a 79-0 loss, so that gave me a point of reference. To top it all off, the Towers’ colors are purple and white.

Coming to the end of this ‘Note,’ I realize I haven’t actually talked too much about myself and what I’m up to. I could have gone on for a while about all the fun letters Danish keyboards have, e.g. å, æ and ø, or how the fashion standards here make everyone at Kenyon look like a hobo, but I wanted to shine a light on the global connectedness of Kenyon, which isn’t something I ever thought about before. Somebody please put that last sentence on the College web site. While I’m definitely enjoying my time away from Kenyon, it’s simultaneously making me realize how special it is, and that the kind of connection Kenyon alumni build seems of a different breed than at other schools. Put that one on for a while too. I know I’m going to love coming back next fall, but for now I’m enjoying the hygge, or coziness, of Denmark.

**Notes from Abroad**

BY RICHARD WYLDE
Features Editor Emeritus

I’m in Copenhagen, Denmark right now, or as they spell it here, København, pronounced sort of like ‘Co-buh-hown-in,’ but with a really thick Germanic accent. The program has about 600 students in it, mostly from other private colleges, East Coast especially, so it isn’t a total surprise that many of the people I meet know somebody that goes there. But it’s still a little surprising. There are students here from other small liberal arts schools that get lumped in with Kenyon sometimes, like Bowdoin or Middlebury, and I know I know people that go to their schools, but I can’t remember any of their names. Yet somehow, people know people that go to Kenyon. How does that happen? It’s 1,600 students. That’s nothing. I don’t want to name drop people in the paper that I barely know, but I’ve had so many instances of “Hey, do you know this kid?” and then I actually do know who that kid is, perhaps tangentially, but I do know him or her. It makes a certain amount of sense, because there are only so many colleges that people can go to, and overlap is bound to happen. And in terms of big cities in the world that people have heard of, Copenhagen is up there, so somebody is bound to run into somebody else.

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**Features**

The Kenyon Collegian
Thursday, February 25, 2010

**Students**

Cyo Nystrom ’12 and Andy Scott ’11
Jessica Marroquin ’12 and Sophia Yablohn ’12

Fred Baumann
Professor of Political Science
Karen Greever
Collection Development Librarian

**FAC/STAFF**

Gambier Grillin’

**What is the most expensive movie production in history?**

Avatar

The Simpsons

Taft

Black Lab

French Guiana

Two

**What is the longest running American sitcom of all time?**

Avatar

The Simpsons

Carter

Golden Retriever

Chile

Three

**What U.S. President ran with the campaign slogan, “Not just peanuts”?**

Avatar

The Simpsons

Carter

Golden Retriever

Chile

Two

**What is currently the most popular dog breed in the U.S.?**

Avatar

The Simpsons

Carter

Golden Retriever

Ecuador

Two

**Easter Island is part of which Latin American country?**

Avatar

The Simpsons

Carter

Golden Retriever

Chile

Two

**Total Correct**

Two

Three

Two

Two

- J.T. Taff
- Professor of Political Science

**By Richard Wylde**

**Features Editor Emeritus**

Richard Wylde ’11 on a trip to Sweden. COURTESY OF RICHARD WYLDE
The Spy Who Phlung Me: Phling 2010

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ELIZABETH BRAND, ATHENE COOK, ADRIENNE O’ROURKE, TOVE POUSETTE AND ALLIE WIGLEY
By W. Spencer Carlsson
Guest Columnist

As winter winds its way down and spring hearkens around the corner, we are still left with one of Mother Nature’s most elusive and enigmatic creatures: snow. With its shimmering beauty and mesmerizing sparkling in the sunlight, snow can be quite mysterious. Everett Brodbeck ’12 says this about snow: “It’s like Mother Earth wants you to stay inside, but I say, No, Mother Earth. I want you to frolic in your powder goodness.”

I believe that Mr. Brodbeck represents one side of the fence when it comes to snow. It seems that (at least for this reporter) there are people who enjoy the snow for its sledding opportunities, ski ability, pure aesthetic bliss, etc., and there are people who despise the snow for the serious problems that it creates regarding traveling, opening the door and pondering the age-old question, “Is it good for me to eat snow?”

Here in the town of Gambier, people are often misled by the white, powdery substance because, let’s face it — what do we really have to complain about?

What Meteorologists Should Say About Snow

By W. Spencer Carlsson

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Tickle Me Jell-o by Bob Dorff

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Opinions

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J Street U: the New Address for Campus Debate

Keny on needs to start discussing the Israeli-Palestinian conflict

By Brigitte Kemp

The Palestinian-Israeli conflict kills conversations on this campus. Despite the good intentions of many knowledgeable and concerned students, there seems to be no better way to end a civil discourse or alienate people who do not want to touch such a tough subject than to bring up your stance on this issue. Unfortunately, this apathy toward such a major global issue (that also happens to be a major issue in our country’s foreign policy) makes Kenyon disturbingly unique among college campuses.

We feel that this void in intellectual debate and global understanding must be filled, which is why we are in the process of creating a new campus organization. J Street U, a chapter of the national student-driven activist network that advocates a two-state solution with the United States playing a critical role in influencing policy. The name J Street references the missing street in the alphabetically organized network that advocates a two-state solution in the region and eventually run campaigns aimed at promoting a peaceful and just solution to the conflict and the future state of Palestine. What makes this organization so appealing is its grassroots mission of peace and discourse in contrast to all the polarizing anger that often surrounds the issue.

In a way, we at Kenyon are lucky. On campuses across the country, there is little room for critically thinking students who do not subscribe to any of the blindly one-sided polemics that can make their partners look ridiculous, not righteous. The truth is, it is impossible to be either pro-Israel or pro-Palestine without engaging in a dialogue with the other side. The two are interdependent and always will be.

What does J Street U stand for?

The most important part of J Street U’s platform is support for a two-state solution because we deeply care about the future of both the Israelis and the Palestinians. J Street U is pro-peace, and as J Street founder Jeremy Ben-Ami says, “This pro doesn’t have an anti.” We are pro-peace because we are pro-Israel and pro-Palestine. Both of those are horribly contested terms. Is being pro-Israel the same thing as being Zionist? Does it mean that you agree with everything the Israeli government does?

To us, being pro-Israel can encompass a wide variety of perspectives. You could believe that the Jewish people deserve a homeland to escape the persecution that has pursued them for millennia and to rebuild a centralized religious and cultural community. Or you could object to the tactics early Zionists used to settle Palestine but believe that their descendants nevertheless deserve a right to live in peace; you could think that the nation’s identity is valid but disagree strongly with the government. To many people, this latter point of view is the very definition of patriotism: love of one’s country but freedom to dissent from its government. In fact, we happen to disagree with each other on the details of the definition, but the important thing is that the best way out of this conflict is through tolerance and creativity, not destruction and willful ignorance. Wherever you fall politically, this is at heart an issue of humanity.

What will we do?

We hope that J Street U will eventually become a place for student activists who care about peace in Israel and Palestine. In the future, we hope to put on more political activities. For now, however, we seek to fill the void left by the lack of relevant college campaigns aimed at promoting a peaceful two-state solution for Israel and the future state of Palestine. What will we do?

We happen to be a major issue in our country’s foreign policy, and we hope to show to spark interest and discussion. We hope that once Kenyon students feel more informed and emboldened by the issues, some will want to become activists. But we will be running both independently and as part of J Street U national. An example of a past J Street U political initiative is the “Invest, Don’t Divest” campaign. The Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement against Israel is completely counterproductive both to promoting a peaceful two-state solution for Palestine (the ostensible goal of BDS supporters). In reality, as mentioned above, Israel and Palestine will make peace in many ways, and their respective economies are no exception. The BDS movement aims to equate Israel with apartheid-era South Africa and therefore delegitimize it politically and destabilize it economically, but if it succeeds it will also damage the future economic and therefore political prospects of the future state of Palestine. J Street U’s “Invest, Don’t Divest” campaign asked students to invest $2 for two states, and the money raised went to LendforPeace.org, a student-run Palestinian microfinance organization, and The Center for Jewish-Arab Economic Development. This is the kind of political campaigns that J Street U at Kenyon will run in the future — one with a clear objective and a simple but effective way of accomplishing it, paired as always with continued education about the issue the campaign addresses.

J Street U is fundamentally a grassroots peace movement supporting two states for two peoples. Our chapter is dedicated to the combination of education, awareness and activism for an issue that we see as disturbingly underrepresented at Kenyon. In the coming months, we hope to both build a base of interested students and change the campus discourse toward a more informed, tolerant and inclusive activism. After all, how hard is it, really, to be pro-peace?

Come learn what J Street U is all about at our first information session, Tuesday, March 10, at 7:00 p.m. in Peirce Lounge. A representative from the national J Street U will be there to discuss the organization’s goals and tactics, and we will speak about future events and how to get involved.

By Helen Zuckerman and Sarah Friedman Guest Columnists and Editor-in-Chief

Thursday, February 25, 2010

The Kenyon Collegian

Opinions

Phling Feedback

Sewell Robinson ’12: “Who has two thumbs and loves Motown? This girl.”

Mac Carroll ’11: “This was the best Phling ever.”

Grace Rosenthal ’10: “I mean, Phling was okay.”

Edward Coady ’13: “Great opportunity for frat laps and DFMOs.”

Ben Fritsch ’13: “I didn’t make it to Phling but it was a great night nonetheless.”

Katie Warther ’11: “I had a great time and the bands were great and I really like having everyone I love in one place.”

—Irene Wilburn
I'll start with classical. I've currently been listening to Bach cello suites. I'm listening to a whole bunch of them together, but maybe a favorite is No. 1 in G. I guess I just find them both evocative and soothing at the same time. They're just so beautiful. I've always listened to Bach, though I don't feel like I know a lot about Bach. A long time ago I asked [Associate Professor of Music Reginald] Sanders to clue me in on what to listen to because I listened without any sort of background. I used to listen to [Bach's] organ music a lot but the cello suites are really my favorites right now.

Joanna Newsom, "Emily" on Yo Ma.

I saw her in concert and I really love her poetry and her harp accompaniment. She is just amazing onstage. She is a very energetic singer. A very small woman with a huge harp, and she just belts her songs out. I love [her album] The Milk-Eyed Mender but I'll choose the song "Emily" on Yo. The reason I like "Emily" is because she actually based it on a conversation with her sister Emily, who is an astrophysicist. She takes a part of a lecture, her sister trying to explain astrophysics to her, and puts it to music. It's just fantastic poetry, and the music is gorgeous. I guess I am fascinated by her poetry. She chooses very interesting personal themes. I really enjoy Yo Ma because she uses a lot of orchestral accompaniment.

Anthony and the Johnsons, "Hope There's Someone" on Am a Bird Now.

The CD I have on my iPad is Am a Bird Now, which is really hard to describe. Just beautiful. He has a voice like Nina Simone, it's very deep, it resonates. It's really hard for me to pick a song (on the album), because I really like all of them. And this is one that our son introduced us to, and I'd really like to see him in concert.

Nina Simone, "In the Morning" on Here Comes the Sun. I love everything. She's just amazing, she sang a lot of very influential things on their own. This meant that the group had to supply the other necessary elements on their own. This included choreography by Emma Dean-Otting.

By BOB DORFF
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Bacchae 2.1 Takes Greek Tragedy Sexy

Lippincott '10 and original music by Jenny Posnak '12. Over 30 people were involved in the production as a whole, and the group included members of every class. "You probably know someone in it," Jordan said.

As performances go, The Bacchae 2.1 is different because of its especially sexual subject matter. "People could get the wrong idea just looking at the poster and thinking this was just going to be a hypersexual show, which it is, at times, but at the same time, sexuality isn't objectified," Lertzer said. While the play's content was initially a bit imposing, the actors have found a way to embrace the play's more controversial elements. "We got past the point of performance to some extent, and now it's really raw and impulsive, and I think that gives it a life and excitement," said Melody Travers '12, who plays one of the Bacchae. That is not to say that the play's sexual tones might not make some people uncomfortable. "I think it is going to unsettle some people, but I think that the spectacle we create will be something that everyone can enjoy," said Lewis Barnes '12, who plays Tiresias.

The play deals with material that doesn't often get attention in Kenyon theater, but The Bacchae 2.1 can feel that they are doing something truly special. "If you are on the fence about seeing this, you should see it because in your four years here you will probably never see anything else like it," said Barnes.

By BOB DORFF
Arts & Entertainment Editor

When The Bacchae 2.1 is performed in Gund Ballroom this Thursday and Friday at 8:00 p.m., it is sure to cause a stir. The play, directed by Jamal Jordan '12, is an incredibly ambitious mixture of drama, dance and music with a cast of 17 people. The Bacchae 2.1 is an update of the Greek tragedy The Bacchae by Euripides. The contemporary play was written by Charles Mee, and like the ancient original, it tells the story of Dionysus, the Greek god of wine, and his followers, the Bacchae, women who have been freed from the constriction of their daily lives. To update the play, Mee set it in a new unidentified time period and incorporated dance and music. Taking on such a complex production might seem ill-advised, but for Jordan it was a logical choice. "I really love Greek theater, it's so theatrical and grand, but to a modern theater audience it's really boring. And I like the idea of having that grandness, but bringing so much other stuff into it," he said.

"For me, the show doesn't make sense unless you see it. If you read it it's very obscure," said Robbie Letzler '12, who plays Dionysus. This is undoubtedly a product of the sparse script. "It was just 46 pages of text and some stage directions," Jordan said. This meant that the group had to supply the other necessary elements on their own. This included choreography by Emma Dean-Otting.

Spotlight on Artists Week

Friday, Feb. 26 — Ed Wood

Who's the worst film director you can think of? Uwe Boll? Michael Bay? M. Night Shyamalan (post-Sixth Sense, of course)? Well, none of these guys would have careers if not for Ed Wood, arguably the first film director to make a career out of being bad. Wood's films, such as the notoriously terrible Plan 9 From Outer Space, have gone on to receive great cult acclaim. This film, directed by Tim Burton and starring Johnny Depp in the title role, sheds light on the man behind the movies, painting him as an artist with a perhaps misunderstood vision. The movie won two Academy Awards, including Best Supporting Actor for the fantastic Martin Landau as Wood's inspiration — the actor Bela Lugosi. Landau won the same award at the first-ever Screen Actor's Guild Awards.

Saturday, Feb. 27 — La Vie En Rose

This 2007 film illuminates the tragic life of French singer Edith Piaf, presenting her life in a series of snapshots, ranging from her childhood to her untimely death. While the film itself has received very positive reviews, its greatest asset is the performance of Marion Cotillard in the main role. Portraying Piaf throughout her entire adult life, Cotillard highlights Piaf at both her highest and lowest points, and won both the Golden Globe and the Academy Award for her performance, establishing herself as one of the most promising young actresses today. The film is also important given its significance for French cinema. It was the first French film to win two Academy Awards (it also won for best makeup) and Cotillard was the first actor to win an Academy Award for a French-speaking role. The film is tragic and affecting, and it provides a fascinating look into the life of one of the more recognizable singers of her time.

So, come join us at the KAC Theater at 7:30 this Friday and Saturday to view these wonderful films. Screenings are open to anyone and are completely free!
The Creditors Examines a Dangerous Marriage

BY BOB DORFF
Art & Entertainment Editor

This weekend, the Hill Theater will show August Strindberg’s play The Creditors. The senior thesis of Will Dagger ’10, Drew Lewis ’10 and Rose Proctor ’10, the three-character play offers 90 minutes of high-intensity emotion centered around a marriage. The impetus to perform this particular play came early for Dagger and Lewis. “Will and I were both doing senior theses; we happened to see the premier of the play,” Lewis said. “We thought it was great.” While the two did not consider it for their senior thesis at the time, they realized their desire to attempt the show later on.

“It’s by August Strindberg, a Swedish playwright, and basically there are a lot of really bad English translations … but this is among one of two new translations,” Dagger said. “A couple things have changed from the original but it’s mostly a translation.” While the show is a translation from a different language and Strindberg is a playwright from the late 19th century, The Creditors is incredibly pertinent today. “It’s a study of marital relations,” Lewis said, “and I think that is so relevant now in society.”

While the production features modern issues, some of its elements may be controversially old-fashioned. The actors seem to feel that these aspects serve as a point of interest for viewers. “I think it has interesting things to say about love and men and women,” Proctor said. “Strindberg is thought to be a mysogynistic playwright, and I think that in the play I think it is interesting to decide how you feel for yourself.”

Despite the setbacks, the actors are confident in their source material. “It’s clear that there are intense objectives for the characters in this play, but it is absolutely unclear what they are,” Lewis said. The group has had time to work through the characters, however, and for Proctor that was one of the best elements of working on the show. “Getting to put so much time into it, getting to really delve into the character makes it awesome for me,” she said. Although it has been a long journey, the end product is something that anyone can enjoy. Dagger sums it up: “It’s intelligent dialogue with an outrageous payoff.”

The Creditors will be performed at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 27 and Sunday, Feb. 28 in the Hill Theater. Tickets are available through the box office.

Tim Miller Brings Anger to the Stage in “Lay of the Land”

BY JAMES DENNIN
Staff Writer

For someone so gregarious, Timothy Miller makes a rather long list of enemies. That is perhaps what’s so surprising about him. For Miller, the phenomenal performance artist who performed in the Belton Friday, Feb. 19, everything is personal. Much of Miller’s fame is credited to his status as one of the NEA’s four artists who, after being awarded grants by the National Endowment of the Arts, had their grants revoked due to the subversive nature of their work. After an extended legal battle, which eventually ended up going all the way to the United States Supreme Court, his grant was reimbursed — however, the court also ruled that art considered for grants must still meet certain ambiguous standards of decency. For Miller, at least, there is still a lot of work to be done.

With his new piece, “Lay of the Land,” Miller takes on an issue that is even more close to home — that is, his own country’s continued and persistent attempts to limit his right to marry. It’s a personal investment in the issue that allows Miller to come across as so angry while retaining the wit and pathos that has always made his work so accessible.

He recalls childhood experiences with his father, such as his persistent refusal to be taken to Dodger Stadium, which he refers to as “a gender reassignment facility.” Such reasoning could only be the product of Miller’s unique blend of humor and anger. And while he does bill himself as a “self-proclaimed drama queen,” there is a startling amount of credibility to his arguments.

Yes, he might seem as if he’s being overdramatic as he explains the character fears about being tormented by SUV-wielding homophobic hatemongers in off-shore detention facilities because of his homosexuality. We also have to realize, however, that in the country where his rights to expression and marriage have been limited — as has his continued residence. I speak of the most personal, and hence most affecting, aspect of Miller’s story. With the passage of Proposition 8, Miller’s right to marry his partner, a legal resident of the U.S. but a citizen of Australia, was taken from him. All of a sudden, the desire to marry is compellingly linked to the desire to remain an American.

This is why Miller’s artistic message is all the more important, even for long-time supporters of gay marriage. Through his personal account we see that this isn’t an issue that can be supported passively, and that we can’t wait for the S.U.V.-driving homophobes to accept homosexual love as legitimate because for some, being able to marry means being able to stay here. It’s precisely that frightening leap of logic that so many supporters of his cause fail to make at once — that as a nation we condone deporting someone for his sexual orientation. At the end of his performance, Miller invited his audience to sign petitions and ask questions. The brand of his performance art is at once a manic memoir and a call to action, and as the crowd around the stage showed, those who share in the thrill of his live performance also share in his anger.
**Ladies Basketball Advances to Semi-Finals**

**BY NATE OLDACH**  
**Sports Editor**

The Ladies entered their Tuesday, Feb. 23, matchup against the College of Wooster Fighting Scots hoping to advance in the North Coast Athletic Conference tournament. Coming into this game, the Ladies knew what the Scots plan to do in order to win a task they ultimately succeeded at. “It’s going to be a dog fight,” Head Women’s Basketball Coach Susan Helfant said. “We have to be able to contain [Wooster’s] Kym Wenzlau. She’s the leading scorer in the NCAC this year and she can go off at any moment.

Wooster has won four of their past five games and is coming in really hot, so we are going to have our work cut out for us, but I think that the team that executes under pressure will come out on top.”

As the game began, it seemed as though the Ladies had taken the game plan to heart, playing strong aggressive defense and containing Wenzlau as much as possible. At the end of the first half, the Ladies held a 29-25 lead over the Scots.

Coming out of the locker room, the Ladies continued their dominance on the defensive front, countering every attempt by the Scots and scoring on several fast-break opportunities. With just under ten minutes left, the Ladies built their lead to 11 and the game seemed all but over. Following a timeout, the Scots began to chip away at the Ladies’ lead and tightened their defensive pressure. Suddenly, an 11-point lead was reduced to just one point with less than a minute remaining.

Morgan Korniek ’12 looked to increase the Ladies’ cushion, but her attempt was blocked, leaving seven seconds left on the clock. The Scots brought the ball up and missed a three-point attempt, but were able to corral the offensive rebound. The Wooster forward went up for a last second lay-in, but Korniek was there to reject the attempt and push the Ladies to the semi-finals of the NCAC tournament. Standout performances for the Ladies came from co-captain Laurel Stokes ’10, who led the team with 13 points and seven rebounds, and Kat Powers ’11, who added 12 points.

“I thought we played great team defense,” Helfant said. “We took them out of their rhythm and the only baskets they scored were on off-balance shots. I thought that we played with confidence and high energy. Even the girls that were on the bench contributed to the atmosphere. We lost a few tough games earlier in the season in the last minute of the game. It’s great that we could finally win one in such a do-or-die situation. I hope that when we are in that situation later on we feel a lot more comfortable and can execute.”

The Ladies’ defense will be critical going forward in the NCAC tournament. The key is going to be keeping up the defensive intensity and having our wing scorers and post scorers working all on the same level. The team is excited about the opportunity and feels that they’ve worked hard and deserve the opportunity to compete for the conference championship.

“T, here will be an opportunity for fans to attend the game using a complimentary fan bus. The bus will leave from the Kenyon Athletic Center on Friday at 5:45 p.m. and return to campus after the game is over. Sign-ups for the bus will be in the Student Activities Office from now until Friday at the time of departure. The trip is open to the entire campus.”

**Lords and Ladies Swimming Host Classic**

Swimming looks to continue unblemished three-decade streak of consecutive Division III NCAA championships

**BY NATE OLDACH**  
**Sports Editor**

The Lords and Ladies were back in the pool this past Saturday, Feb. 20, as they hosted the Kenyon College Invitational. Though this meet meant little from a conference standpoint, the team was fighting to respectability third and fifth place overall.

Individually, the Lords had multiple standouts, including Curtis Ramsey ’13, who won the 50-yard freestyle and the 100-yard freestyle, and in doing so qualified for the NCAA Championships. James Martin ’11 went third in the 50-yard freestyle and in doing so qualified for the NCAA Championships. Jeff Zablotny ’11, who placed sixth in the 100-yard freestyle, and Kork Kumbier ’11, who placed fourth in the 200-yard breaststroke.

The Ladies also had spectacular days from multiple individuals, though they only entered nine of the 16 events. Bertina Hahn-Lawson ’12 won the 500-yard freestyle in a time of 5:02.94, thus surpassing the NCAA meet qualification standards. Becky Wentiun ’10 placed third in the same 500-yard freestyle race and, in doing so, punched her ticket to the NCAA meet. The Ladies’ final NCAA qualification of the day came from Victoria Lederer ’11, who placed second in the 200-yard breaststroke.

“The Kenyon Invite went well,” David Lazarus ’10 said. “We had some swimmers make their cuts, and we rounded out our team. That was the goal for that meet, and we achieved it. We’re still working hard in the water and making sure we’re doing what we need to do to be at our best at NCAAs. But what’s important is that we’re really closing ranks and making this team of 18 into one unit.”

The team now looks ahead to the NCAA Championships starting on March 17 in Minneapolis, Minn., and will try to erase the memory of the loss at the NCAC meet just two weeks ago. “Our second-place finish at NCACs left a bitter aftertaste, just like last year, but that’s about it,” Lazarus said. “NCAC is a great meet, but it’s not ‘our’ meet. As soon as it is over, the next phase started — and no one’s looking back. Right now we’ve got four weeks until NCAAs, and that’s all that matters. In Florida, when it was 27 degrees Fahrenheit and raining and snowing, and we were swimming outside, nothing took us away from doing the workouts and having great practices. No one got out, or slacked off. I think that says it all. ... The swimmers I see on deck every day are my family. There is no doubt in any of our minds; we will be present and we will perform [at the NCAAs].”

The Lords and Ladies can remember these meaning-ful words, there is no reason to expect anything less than an extraterrestrial performance. We feel a winning swimming tradition here at Kenyon.
Lords Tennis Falls Early

Last weekend, the sixth-ranked Lords tennis team traveled to Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Paul, Minn., to compete in the 2010 Division III Intercollegiate Tennis Association Indoor Tennis Championship. In an eight-team field loaded with talent, the fourth-seeded Lords fell in four matches against the University of California, Santa Cruz (UC-Santa Cruz) Banana Slugs. Last year, the Lords claimed one of their greatest victories in program history on the second doubles team of Tomas Piskacek ’10 and Jeremy Polster ’11. The tournament resembled last year’s national champion and the College of Wooster. Although the meet included only three teams and was unseeded, the competition was fierce.

The Lords began the meet with a bang as Alexia Deskach ’13 and Leah Jacobs ’13 took first and third and were simply outplayed in the 200-meter dash. Deskich’s time of 27.32 was just two-hundredths of a second away. W e were hanging in there with the best in the country and feel we are far from hitting our potential.

Team USA showed grit and determination as it dismantled the highly favored Canadian men’s hockey team this past Sunday night. Americans across the country rejoiced, brimming with national pride after another exciting edition of what many consider to be the greatest sporting event on the planet. A few fans and writers were quick to nominate the game as the greatest Olympic hockey upset since 1980, and one of the best upsets of recent memory. The victory solidified both of these claims.

The greatest upsets have come with much more on the line than just placing second in the sport of hockey. They have exciting finishes with monumental outcomes, and while the recent USA versus Canada hockey match proved exciting, the outcome did little to alter the current standings in the sport. While the USA game was entertaining and the best of the recent Olympics, the greatest upsets come from the most unexpected underdog, and had supporter of the winning underdog assuredly remember where they were when the final whistle blew or the final out was recorded.

Team USA men’s hockey til 1980 is a perfect example of both national pride and a great underdog story bringing fans from all walks to support a team. Everyone loves a David versus Goliath, or in more modern terms, a Little Men versus a Big Men. Everyone loves a David versus Goliath, or in more modern terms, a Little Men versus a Big Men.

Ratting the Unimaginable: The Greatest Upsets in Recent Sports History

In the field events, the ladies continued to impress. In the 100-meter hurdles, Lauren Mengre ’11 took first place in the pole vault, clearing a height of 2.80 meters, a personal best. In the 200-meter dash, Sean Edmund ’12, Peter Collins ’11 and Bob Wolf ’12 placed second through fourth in the 400-meter run. One event later, Ken Noguchi ’10 took the mile run with a time of 4:49.66. Finally, in the pole vault, Nate Spangola ’11 cleared a height of 2.66 meters to claim the top spot in the event.

On the men’s side, there were several standouts as well. Brendon Coyne ’11 had two impressive performances, first taking second place in the 55-meter dash and then taking first place in the 200-meter dash. Sean Edmund ’12, Peter Collins ’11 and Bob Wolf ’12 placed second through fourth in the 400-meter run. One event later, Ken Noguchi ’10 took the mile run with a time of 4:49.66. Finally, in the pole vault, Nate Spangola ’11 cleared a height of 2.66 meters to claim the top spot in the event.

Overall, we were pleased with the meet,” Head Cross Country and Track Field Coach Duane Gomez said. “We had a lot of great performances and a lot of personal bests at this meet. We put a lot of people in different events just to find our teams going into the [North Coast Athletic Conference] meet in a few weeks.” While there still is one meet before the NCAC championships — the meet held by Denison University this Friday, Feb. 26, at 6:00 p.m. — Gomez is looking past this event and is focusing on the NCAC meet. “We will only be some middle-distance runners, our sprinters and some of our throwers this weekend,” Gomez said. “We’re going to go light because we need the rest for the NCAC meet.”

Greenberg is high potential for his two teams going forward.” I think that the women should end up somewhere around the fourth best team in the conference, while the men should end up somewhere around seventh or eighth in the conference,” he said. “It all starts this Saturday, with the NCAC hosting its first-ever pentathlon. Kenyon leaves with three (individual) participating in the pentathlon, Andrew Borroto ’10, Hannah Snyder ’12 and Cary Watts ’12. Out of these three, [Watts] has the best chance of scoring but not many people have competed in the pentathlon before so we should be relatively competitive.” Following the Last Chance meet the teams look to the NCAC meet on Mar. 5 and at 2:00 p.m. held at Denison University.
Danilo Lobis ’12, in black, makes a shot against an opponent.

BY NATE OLDACH

Sports Editor

Don’t look now, but Kenyon may have a new national dynasty in its infant stages. The Lords Squash team competed at the National Championship hosted by Yale University this past Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 20 and 21. After being promoted to the Class E division, one division above last year’s F division, the Lords knew that their championship would be just that much more difficult to attain. “We played in a higher division this year, but we were still the top-ranked team in our division, so we expected to make it to the finals,” said co-captain Michael Shea ’10. “We hadn’t played many of these teams going into the weekend, but we were confident that we could match up well.”

First on the docket were the Boston College Eagles, a team that currently enjoys the 40th national ranking. The Lords began the day without Matthew Sargent ’10, who had to finish his comprehensive exams and would join the team later in the day. This forced most members of the team to move up a spot, and brought Robert Mussler ’12 into the competition. But even without the steady raquet of Sargent, the team dispatched the Eagles by a final score of seven games to none.

“We all had some early jitters against BC,” Shea said. “They were physically fit, but after the first few games, everyone settled in well and we won.” Following their berth to the semi-finals, there was no time to celebrate as the Lords went back to work. They watched the match between the University of Washington and Drexel University, knowing that the team who emerged victorious from that match would be the Lords’ next opponent.

In the end it was the 36th-ranked University of Washington Huskies who triumphed, setting up the Lords’ next match. “We got to see [the Huskies] play, so we saw their strengths and weaknesses,” Shea said. “I think that acted as a real confidence booster for the team and helped us play really well.” As the game began, the Lords found themselves in much more of a dogfight than they expected. The Huskies brought most of the games to five matches and almost upset the top-seeded Lords. But all members of the team kept their composure, and in the end, the Lords rode into the final on the tail of a seven game to two victory.

“That was actually a lot more confidence than the score made it seem,” said team advisor John Knepper. “We fought for that win and were fortunate enough to come away with it.” The win against the Huskies set up a final in which Kenyon would play the University of California Berkeley Golden Bears. “We haven’t played many East Coast teams in the past, but we knew that they were improving so this was going to be a true test for us,” Knepper said.

The match began with the return of Sargent to the lineup in the number two spot, allowing everyone to move down a notch and compete in their regular positions. “I was happy with Matt’s return, as it allowed us to move everyone back one spot,” Knepper said. “I knew that Cal was pretty strong and thought that it would be a really competitive match. I thought, though, that our depth on the lower half of our lineup would help us to win.” With this in mind, the championship match started with Spencer Carlson ’12, Brandon Bolinger ’11 and Christopher Wett ’12 playing the first three games. Each game was intense, and only Wett was able to come away with a victory. “I left the Lords at a two-games-to-one deficit with six games to play. Next up for Kenyon were Sargent, Eric Milbourn ’13 and Danilo Lobis ’12. Unfortunately, these three produced similar results as the first trio, garnering one victory, leaving the match at two games to four with only three games left to play. For Kenyon to win the match and be crowned E division national champions, the last trio of Lords, consisting of Peter Nolan ’11, Justin Talwar ’10 and Shea would all have to win their respective games.

Nolan was the first to finish his game with a three sets to one victory over the Golden Bears, making the score three games to four in favor of the Golden Bears. Following, Nolan’s lead was Talwar, who played an exhausting game but finally finished his opponent in five sets. This left the Lords tied with only one game to play. The Lords hope of repeating as national champions rested on Shea’s shoulders, though he did not know it yet. All looked lost as Shea went down two sets to one against the Golden Bear. That was until Shea came out for an intermission to see the ever-growing crowd surrounding the central arena. “I realized that the match and the championship had come down to me,” Shea said. “I don’t usually perform that well under those circumstances, but this being the last match of my Kenyon career, I wanted to make it count. I tried to keep my composure and block out the crowd and focus on the task at hand.” Coming back after the break, it was Shea who looked to be in the more dominant position as he polished off a quick set, 11-3. With everything tied and going into the final set of the E division championship, the entire building seemed alive. “I knew that Mike’s opponent was getting tired and I just told him to dig deep down,” Knepper said. “I was really proud of the way he performed under those circumstances.

Meet Dave Knapke, Kenyon Basketball’s Benevolent Leader

BY NATE OLDACH

Sports Editor

For the past four years, Dave Knapke ’10 has been a fixture on Kenyon’s basketball court and on the campus. His accomplishments range from being named the North Coast Athletic Conference Newcomer of the Year to being a member of Kenyon’s athletic history and his 779 career points rank him 18th among all Kenyon basketball players with 1,241 points. His 779 career rebounds place him fourth all-time in the program’s history. Knapke’s four years at Kenyon were anything but easy. “I have missed a game and continue to support me. I also want to thank all of my coaches for helping me improve to the point where I am now. Finally, I want to thank all of my friends for supporting me both on and off the court.”

Knapke took the court one final time, this past Tuesday, Feb. 23, in the NCAC tournament, leading the team with 15 points and 11 rebounds. Unfortunately, the Lords fell to Otterbein.

On Tuesday, an illustrious Kenyon basketball career came to an end. He ranks 18th among all Kenyon basketball players with 1,241 points. His 779 career rebounds place him fourth all-time in the program’s history. Knapke’s four years at Kenyon were anything but easy. “I have missed a game and continue to support me. I also want to thank all of my coaches for helping me improve to the point where I am now. Finally, I want to thank all of my friends for supporting me both on and off the court.”

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