Spray Paint Vandal Strikes New Art Building

During the night of Saturday, September 18th, an unknown perpetrator crossed the fence surrounding the construction area of the new art history building and spray painted parts of the wall closest to Olin Library.

A library employee reported the vandalism the next day at 12:54 p.m. and Officer Michael Reardon answered the call. A red spray-painted smiley face coupled with a heart and an indiscernible phrase covered the front wall (see board below window on right of front door). See page 2 for full story.

Kenyon students from Circle K were eating lunch at Fiesta Mexicana in Mount Vernon on Saturday when a driver crashed into the building, knocking down a portion of the front wall (see board below window on right of front door). See page 2 for full story.

Students of Installation Art Class Showcase Interactive Works

Panel Hosted by Allied Sexual Orientations (AlSO) Works to Disband Myths Surrounding Bisexuality

Meet Jim Steen’s Successor: Jessen Book ’01 Takes the Reins of Ladies Swimming
When John Kerry spoke, the JCC had nothing to discuss beyond removing students from campus. "I think it's safe to say that when "We have been talking about something that we are having problems with," Thruston said. "I have been talking about that for a long time."

The senior class will announce the speaker at the next meeting. "I think that's the spirit of democracy," Nugent said. "That's what democracy is about."
Student Panel Works to Dispel Misconceptions of Bisexuality

MARlKA GARLAND

“Bisexuals just need to pick a side; bisexual people can’t be monogamous; bisexuals are just looking for attention.” Posters with these kinds of stereotypes inspired students of a variety of sexual orientations to celebrate Bisexuality Day by attending the Unity House’s and Allied Sexual Orientations’ (ASO) co-sponsored Bisexuality Forum on Thursday, Sept. 23.

Kayleigh Truman ’11, Brendan Dieffenbach ’10 and Linda Mullin ’12 led the discussion. They began by sharing how they came out as bisexual. “I initially came out to my parents as bisexual, but very soon switched to identifying as gay,” Dieffenbach said. “I didn’t think that people would take me seriously.” He said he was worried that “people would say, ‘you’re just affecting your queerness because it makes you edgy, or you’re affecting straightness because you want to pass.’” As a result, he said, he did not fully come out as bisexual until his sophomore year at Kenyon.

Truman said she came out as bisexual twice: once in high school and again at Kenyon. After the first time, “I kept saying, ‘No, I’m not bi. I’m not bi. I’m gay,’” she said. She identified herself as gay for a year before coming out as bisexual for the second time.

For Mullin, the hardest part of coming out as bisexual was telling her high school friends. “There wasn’t any out queer people in my high school,” she said. “Coming out as bi at Kenyon was different because I feel like there’s not as much of a compulsory heterosexuality here.”

Dieffenbach said he prefers the term “pansexual” to “bisexual.” “It’s like being bisexual but acknowledging openness to people outside the gender binary, like transfolk.”

“I don’t like the term ‘bi-sexual,’ Truman said. “It makes it seem like guys and girls are your only choices.” She said she prefers “pansexual” as well, but rarely uses the term because many people are unfamiliar with it. “I just say that I like girls and girls, she said.

One student asked the panel members how they responded when asked if they prefer men or women. “It bugs me,” Truman said. “It’s completely about the personal connection you meet for relationships.”

Dieffenbach, on the other hand, said he tends to “have more of a connection with women.” Mullin said she does not prefer one gender but goes through phases between men and women.

The members of the panel also said that gender often plays a role in stereotypes about bisexuals. While both male and female bisexuals face the stereotypical view that bisexuality is merely a phase, “female bisexuals are seen as being ultimately straight, but bisexuals are seen as the reverse of that; guys who want to pass as straight sometimes,” Dieffenbach said.

“People don’t understand what it means to be bisexual,” Mullin said. “People assume that to be attracted to both genders means that you’re attracted to everyone.” However, just as heterosexuals are not attracted to every member of the opposite gender, bisexuals are not attracted to all people they see. Mullin said: “If a [male] were to [ask me about this idea], I think I would respond by saying, ‘Are you straight? Would you have sex with any woman in your path?’”

Mullin said that even people with whom she has had relationships have not fully understood her bisexuality. When she tells boyfriends about her sexual orientation, she said they respond in one of three ways: “They want a threesome, [they say], ‘Tell me about it,’ or [they say], ‘I don’t want to hear about it ever again.”

Both Truman and Dieffenbach said they often feel that their sexuality places them outside of the gay community. “Before Truman came out as bisexual at Kenyon, ‘several of [her] gay friends had mentioned in passing that they would never date a [girl],” she said. “I just shut down, I wanted to belong.” The Unity House helped her to eventually gain this sense of belonging, she said. “Just knowing there was a place like that helped.”

The panel also addressed the misconception that bisexuals are more likely to be unfaithful in relationships. “I’ve been rejected by straight women and gay men because I’m seen as not being really trustworthy,” Dieffenbach said. “It’s not that I’m constantly craving to have sex with a guy or a girl.”

“If I’m looking at a relationship, and I’ve established it as bisexual, I think ‘it’s because they’re in a straight community,’” Mullin said. Students at the forum discussed the idea of “compulsory heterosexuality” as “a force in society that can often deter homosexual from coming out as gay. If they come out as bisexual, people will see them as still partially following the norm because there is a possibility that they will marry people of the opposite gender and maintain the idea of a traditional family.”

On the other hand, bisexuals also sometimes come out as bisexual for the idea of “being seen as part of a community.” Mullin said. “There’s a straight community; there’s a gay community, there really isn’t an bisexual community.”

All of the members of the panel said that they do not resent people who use bisexuality as a transition between heterosexuality and homosexuality. “I used to feel that it was sort of contributed to the fact that people don’t take bisexuality seriously, but then when I thought about it more I said, ‘If that someone’s way of feeling around… that that doesn’t bother me,’” Dieffenbach said. “If that’s what they need to do, that’s terrific.”

Dieffenbach said that he does, however, believe that “fashionable bisexual” does devalue and discredit bisexuality. He described “fashionable bisexuality” as “trying to be edgy but still acceptably straight.”

There is a difference between being bi-curious and bisexual. Truman said. For bisexuals, attraction to both genders is a feeling — not just connections to specific people, she said. Individuals are still important, though. “For me, attraction is completely about the personal- ity,” she said.

The panel members said it is difficult for them to imagine how someone could discriminate sexually based on gender. “From my perspective, it seems almost illogical,” Dieffenbach said.

From left: Kayleigh Truman ’11; Brendan Dieffenbach ’10; Linda Mullin ’12.
When I Was Your Age: Before Pepe

WESLEY KEYESER  Photography Editor

Though Pepe may be another wonderful piece of Graham Gund’s artistic genius, when I was your age, Kenyon’s dining situation was oh-so-much better. Now, many of you may say to yourselves, “How could a small gymnasium, a library atrium and a Cold War nuclear fallout bunker be better than our brand new servers?” I will start with the discussion of the long, gone, almost forgotten traditions that have five rests on Tuesday: Tortelli-And-Taco Tuesday.

Even walking down that godforsaken hill to a study gymnasium was worth it when you walked in and saw the pasta station overflowing with those gorgeous, plump tortellini. I have almost forgotten that ec

GAVIN MCCISMPYE Guest Columnist

Last week’s Collegian included a letter from Philip Di Giacomo, the Greek Council President, regarding the Greek community’s progressiveness over the years. It was largely a response — I hoped for a comment over a script advertisement posted by the Delta Tau Delta fraternity. Although the fraternity had apologized, the Greek community wanted to be clear in stating its unified support for the promotion of gender equality. Di Giacomo wrote that the advertisement should not raise questions regarding the Greek community’s integrity, and that their commitment to integrity is commendable. Having integ

Time to Walk the Talk, Kenyon

Marcy Borg by Erin McKinney

In my age, you just might. One of the other traditions Kenyon students have lost is Grab-N-Go. I honestly believe that Phanderne Chamber would be appalled by the current state of dining. In ye olden days, while running from Bede Art Building to Sam Mather, Paul New

numbered in news articles. When names are necessarily used, we report them. We do use discretion, however. If reporting an incident could endanger students’ mental or physical health, or if it would constitute a severe breach of their privacy, we do not publicize it. This is not censorship; this is human decency. We grant all community members the right of reply, meaning that any person who is mentioned in an article is given the opportunity to speak in the story. We allow everyone to review their quotations if they request it, but we do not allow any sources prior review of our articles.

The next time you question censoring and the Collegian, please, just give me back my tortellini. I have almost forgotten that ec

Censorship and the Collegian

Here at Kenyon, there are few who would argue in favor of censorship; it is almost uni

days, while running from Bede Art Building to Sam Mather, Paul New

By Erin McKinney

I’m interested in it is that you find amazing about Kenyon. What strange spell has

integrity is important — it’s walking the talk. It’s preaching what we preach. It’s living your values.

During my age, you just might. One of the other traditions Kenyon students have lost is Grab-N-Go. I honestly believe that Phanderne Chamber would be appalled by the current state of dining. In ye olden days, while running from Bede Art Building to Sam Mather, Paul New

Integrity can be a tricky thing. We have a beautiful cam

Way to an article, we will incontrovertibly

The Collegian has, in the past, declined to print opinions or pieces or cartoons the editors deemed tasteless or needlessly vulgar or disrespectful. We do not shy away from potential contro-

We do not allow any sources prior review of our articles.

On our minds is that you find amazing about Kenyon. What strange spell has

“Community” is thrown around a lot, but there is obvi

It’s not easy to separate what means should professionals feel free to speak to the social environment, or stick to their classroom subjects? Where’s the balance point between safety and freedom?

Whose responsibility is it to say “no” or “you’ve had enough,” or do we have to look out for each other on Friday nights? Integrity about our community — really being dedicated to it, instead of rolling our eyes at the term’s omnipresence — is difficult without a picture of the talk we want to walk. Kenyon is an amazing place, and there is nowhere else I would rather be than at the west campus. It is made what it is largely by our pursuit of what we value and care about, and although there are many things we value, what I value the most here are the rela-

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Letters to the editor are available for $0. Checks should be made payable to The Kenyon Collegian and should be sent to the Business Manager, P.O. Box 832, Gambier, OH 43022. Student advertisements are available for $40. Checks should be made payable to The Kenyon Collegian and should be sent to the Business Manager.

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The students of the Collegian staff. All members of the community are welcome to express opinions through a letter to the editor. The Kenyon Collegian reserves the right to edit all letters submitted for length and clarity. The Collegian cannot accept anonymous or pseudonymous letters. Letters must be signed by individuals, not organizations, and should be typed or written in ink. The Collegian reserves the right to return any submitted letters that are not completed in a timely manner. Members of the editorial board reserve the right to reject any submission. The views expressed in the paper do not necessarily reflect the views of Kenyon College.

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A Caring Community for Cats

EMMA LEWIS

Editor Columnist

As I shut off the lights in my corry triple after stumbling back from the library at 1:50 a.m., I had the vague sense that something was missing. It wasn’t my textbooks; they were, as always, on my roommates’ desks and safely scattered underneath my clothes. It wasn’t the alarm clock I had yet to set; that too was safely underneath my bed. I got up to find that fear was not derived from a dearth of mini cereal boxes in our food stores. Thankfully, there were still a number of assorted cereals ready to be consumed. Positively, I wondered at the emptiness that seemed to be teeming at my innermost self.

Suddenly, I heard a plaintive “meow” from outside my third floor window, and I understood what had been missing—

Don’t Judge a Kid by His Comps

COLE DACHENHAUS
Guest Columnist

While we all anticipate our various senior exercises to be exciting, yet inevitably stressful, the senior projects are quite unique to Kenyon; they are unlike what many similar colleges require. Personally, I gave only a bit of thought to what my senior comps project would be like, but now that my class and I arrived at that point in the year where things are getting serious, we now understand the variety of projects and difficulties that they bring. We can only hope that we picked the right majors for ourselves because now it is too late.

It is wonderful that we can choose what we want to learn, but this can create a certain hierarchy of majors and disciplines. Why is it that some people who have never taken a music class or a studio art class think that those majors are so much easier than economics or mathematics? Each has its own difficulties and each, certainly, has a very different senior exercise.

Music major Ananda Plunkett ’10 thinks that “it’s tough to say how fair the different comps projects are in relation to one another. Some clearly have more grunt work than others.” As a student majoring in a department that is often unfairly judged by other Kenyon students, she manages to maintain a clear head about the diversity of senior exercises. “As frustrating as it is sometimes to learn that my Kenyon students understand that certain majors require one exam to take or one paper to write while I’m trying to compose, write a paper, prepare a public presentation and study for a six-hour exam, I find it hard to judge what they’re doing because I know that Kenyon is hard in general.” Plunkett said. “We are all held to high standards, and we’re all expected to work hard and succeed.”

Kenyon alums Chase Kreuter ’10 was an American studies major and art history minor who, for her senior exercise, won a grant with a group of American Studies majors to travel to Paris over winter break. Upon hearing this, one might not quite see the connection between American Studies and Paris, France, but Kreuter can very articulately defend how this travel grant assisted her in her senior research. For her thesis and presentation, she researched the Parisian influence on 20th-century American art — a logical American studies thesis topic that was only bettered by her grant.

As a German major doing honors myself, I have had my own frustrations with how other people perceive MLL. On the other hand, when people ask me about my comps and I tell them that the honors exercise in my department is between 35 and 60 pages, more often than not in the language of instruction, they tend to look at it in a different regard. In any case, it should not matter what other Kenyon students think of other people’s majors or comps. We all have our own academic challenges at Kenyon and bring them to the end of my time at Kenyon, it is sad to say that I know too many people who picked their majors because of how “marketable” it seemed at the time.

My advice to underclassmen is to use the first two years to investigate a plethora of subjects interesting to you and to learn about department’s requirements before you make your decision. Everyone has a difficult set (or two) of comps, so who is to say that economics is harder than drama, political science is harder than English or studio art is harder than dance? When you major in all of these disciplines, then you can put them in your own ranking.

Quick Complaints

SENIOR EDITION

1. All school computers should be automatically set for double-scaled printing. So much paper is being wasted. And I really dislike the automatic flush toilets, which routinely flush while I’m sitting on them. I can flush my own toilet, thank you very much. Don’t tell when I’m done.”

- Richard Wylde

2. “We’re in college, so I don’t understand why lice is prevalent on this campus. All you kids wash your hair.”

- J.T. Knight

3. “I can’t find the droids I’m looking for.”

- Nick Severyn

4. “Taco Tuesday must happen every Tuesday.”

- Gabrielle Koenig

5. “AVI needs to learn how to boil a ‘*s*ing egg.”

- Peter Nolan

6. “Bring back karaoke! And milk! And fun for senior folk.”

- Laura Miller

7. “In Gund, there are two doors for the girls' bathroom and only one for the guys' bathroom.”

- Alice Hull

8. “I'm pretty sure that the Cove is what Sodom used to look like, except with more glittery freshmen.”

- Christa Mincemi

9. “Comps.”

- Meredith Ganz

10. “I'm here to complain about the stairs that were put in by Milkis. There is no Milkis like a Milkis with no stairs where people are falling down.”

- Meredith Tyma

11. “There are no hot towels in the library.”

- Grant Johnson

12. “I need a boy’s wig for Deb Ball.”

- Lucy Gardner

13. “Bring Milkis back!”

- Chauncey Harrison

14. “Please return the Bentley 108 flamingos. The missing flamingo ruins the aesthetic symmetry.”

- Bentley 113 residents

15. “I can’t buy beer on the K-Card!”

- Harrison Scott

16. “South fort should be seniors-only parking.”

- James Ainslie

17. “Lice kids – go back to Pre-K when that was cool!”

- Carrie Broody

18. “Hire more people who know something about Africa. And bring Milkis back.”

- Margaret Wardrop

19. “We can’t use the K-Card at Chipotle?”

- Nick Loud
Interactive Inspiration

Opinion: Vandalism Uncovers Challenges of Public Art

GRANT JOHNSON

Last week, students from Professor Claudia Esslinger’s Installation Art class showcased their projects across campus with the hope that they would provoke a response, and indeed, they did. Surprisingly violent and infantile reactions to the works seem only to validate the artworks’ contemplations, proof that this interaction isn’t as simple as it sounds.

Installed across campus for a week and approved by the Campus Design Committee, the assignment challenged students to seduce viewers into engagement, according to Esslinger.

“My main goal in this project was to get us out of the art ghetto and into interacting with the community,” Esslinger said. “It’s called ‘Interaction/Intervention’ so that in some way people will have to interact with it.”

And “interact” we did. Immediately following their installation, anonymous obstacles removed several of the pink and blue bathroom signs designed and posted by Kathleen Williams ’11. The signs questioned the binary construction of gender through visual appropriation and pun. A similarly crude audience tore down the black mesh gates put up by Jonathan Fasano ’11 late Friday evening. Installed on Middle Path in the center of town, the gates slimmer the width of Middle Path down into a single file line. Such reactions only seem to validate the contemplations of the installations — violence, confrontation, destruction — and sadly cast a shameful light on those members of the community who cannot practice a basic level of respect, let alone open-mindedness, when receiving student work.

This vandalism was hardly the reaction the artists desired. Such responses cultivate a troubled relationship between audience and artist, engendering a flawed dynamic between members of the campus community, Fasano said. “I feel like I’m just walking around campus—not that I can’t trust anyone—but like I don’t know who it was, so I feel like every person I see who I think it could have been, I pass judgment on, and I don’t want that,” he said.

Following the attack and perhaps more so because of it, Fasano’s piece brilliantly uses sparse planes to force confrontation, as if anticipating the lack of empathy that must lead to such anonymous recklessness. Direct and straightforward, it achieves its goal with apparent ease. (Let us recall: minimalism is hardly ever as simple as it looks.) The gates look to replace anonymity and fear with empathy and connection, Fasano said.

“I’ve always had a problem — and I feel like a lot of people, everybody, has a problem — how we don’t say hi to one another,” he said. “I made it for those people who haven’t realized yet that it’s okay to say hi to anybody. There’s really no reason not to say hi.”

Similarly thoughtful, the piñatas of Ellie Jabbour ’11, sculpted to resemble ammunition and covered in newspaper coverage of war and conflict, astutely question the link between domesticated practices, like the use and destruction of piñatas, and epic violence. They highlight the kind of societal excuse that allows such postures of indifference to become global tragedies, and suggest that indifference toward violence might be woven into the unconscious fabric of the everyday, even infecting celebratory rituals.

“I just wanted to make people look at the fact that we do have violence or violent actions built into our society,” Jabbour said. “The whole idea of a piñata is a mob mentality: destroying something in order to celebrate and then have a quick candy fix.”

The piñatas also inventively subvert egocentric conventions, bursting with adorable smart packets of birdseed rather than candy, asking the viewer to give rather than take. The violence only becomes apparent once one is seduced into the interaction. Jabbour said, “You can see it as a piñata, you can break it down and not really realize the violent act that you’re doing, or you can take a closer look and see that the whole thing is covered in violence,” she said.

Of course, art does not exist in a vacuum; without the recognition of an audience, it hardly functions at all. The installations depend upon a viewing public, but should not have to anticipate a hostile one. Soon, we’ll be lucky enough to see our Kenyon lawns grace the life-sized cow sculptures of Professor Gunderson’s “Art with Four Legs” class. Two years ago, I made a cow only to have it destroyed, ripped down by anonymous vandals along with my classmates’ work. As a community that values intellectual growth and social responsibility, we should embrace foreign, new experiences and agree that recognition should never signify destruction. When given the opportunity to experience something challenging, whether labeled “art” or not, we should receive it with enthusiasm, tolerance and respect, otherwise we may be denied the chance entirely.

THE ARTWORK

Kathleen Williams ’11 posted signs on campus bathrooms that combined both the familiar male and female symbols in a sort of synthesis of gender symbols. In the center of town, Jonathan Fasano ’11 created black wooden gates on Middle Path that slowly rose in height and cut the gravel pathway down so that community members couldn’t help but move through at a time.

David Marnato ’11 created a project that invited students to take books from white pedestals outside campus buildings and follow a series of instructions contained within them. Marnato’s project took the audience participation to a new level with many different steps in the instruction process. The books were taken quickly, according to Marnato.

The piñatas of Ellie Jabbour ’11 hung from trees throughout campus. Jabbour sculpted them to suggest ammunition and covered them in headlines of violence and war. Silhouettes.

Outside Olin Library, Danya French ’11 set up a three-month-long red birdhouse on long poles with a surprise inside each tiny household scene. The open-fronted insect viewers to approach the birdhouses and discover their inside, and many passerby did, peering into the tiny opening to discover the rooms inside.
The World’s Most Beautiful Campus...

...And Its Hidden Eyesores

JEANIE RIESS  Staff Writer

As we approach Ohio’s most dramatic season of natural beauty, it is necessary to point out the best and worst places for witnessing the bold colors of our yearly fall. Forbes named our small school the most beautiful college in the world, but failed to mention how much that beauty fluctuates between Ascension and Gund Commons. More important, perhaps, is how we perceive the places around us on a newly-acquired international scale.

Is beauty the ancient gothic architecture of Old Kenyon, or is it the pristine tile floors of Peirce’s basement bathroom? In seeking out the best and the worst of Kenyon’s locations, it became clear to me that our conception of beauty is a tough thing to nail down. The way we feel about these places plays too big a role in deciding what is ugly and what is beautiful. A bad day on Middle Path can be very bad indeed: gravel getting caught in your shoes, slippery ice causing you to take a spill. Yet Middle Path is hailed as the central artery of our school’s charm. They say experience is everything, and this is most true in the way that we view the tiny world we make for ourselves here.

For Roxanne Smith ’11, Kenyon’s most charming place is intimately tied with the specific time she spends there. The prettiest place on campus is the Gund bathroom, with its familiar hum of students and cabin-like architecture. It is a 24-hour venue, and something about it feels as exhausted as the students working there.

In this vein, the dorm Peirce Pub might be considered one of the worst representations of Kenyon beauty. It is an eyesore, with its squiggly neon ceiling lights and odd furniture. More importantly, it is a face of failure. Its hours were fickle, its food mediocre and it eventually closed down due to its lack of popularity. It is unlikely that anything will open there again thanks to the bad vibes that surround it. In both looks and personality, it is not at all an example of world-class beauty.

Timing is another important factor to consider when measuring physical beauty. Old Kenyon, in all its glory, is an overwhelming sight to bear on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Parties that lead to post-party scene can be impressive. The exterior of the building is resilient to the revelry.

Leave our central campus for a moment and recognize what Rachael Greenberg ’11 hails as the most exquisite place in Gambier. “When I wake up really early and bike down to the KAC, I go down Duff Sr. with Peirce on my right and the KAC fields on my left, and the wind is on my face,” she said. “I feel like I get a sense of what Gambier is really like, with no one around.” This transitory place is best described by Greenberg’s experience, but it is impossible to ignore the way the hills look in the distance as you zoom from academic to athletic life. “It is simply divine,” Greenberg said.

The places where we spend most of our time are impermanent. This, to me, is the most fundamental aspect of their beauty: the fact that they can be anything, to anyone, depending on the day and the personalities that inhabit them. Our dorm rooms are a perfect example. Mather 201 won’t look the same next year, but for some reason, it will never exist the way it does now, ever again.

Does the magnificence of Middle Path fluctuate with the seasons?

PHOTOS BY MARIEKA GARLAND

The World’s Most Beautiful Campus...
Blues Rockers: The Tin Hearts Electrify the V.I.

Lauren Toole
Staff Writer

The electric blues tunes of Columbus-based band The Tin Hearts filled the Village Inn on Saturday, Sept. 25 with lead singer and Kenyon alum Matt Sullivan ’99 fronting the band, crossing songs reminiscent of a new-age Bob Dylan. The music ranged from long, slow ballads to extremely upbeat, high-sounding rock.

With guitar riffs and solos, this band possesses a unique ability to draw in an audience with their traditionally charismatic image and alluring sound. One of the opening songs, “Desert King,” was known by Sullivan’s gravelly tones, which immediately transported the scene to a Memphis bar.

The Tin Hearts’ performance at the Village Inn is one of a number of shows to promote their most recent album, No Good Dead. They will be traveling to Cincinnati, Cleveland and Kentucky later in the year to complete the tour.

The Tin Hearts released their latest album, A Kind of Alaska, in 2008, singing all original music in an electric blues sound that is by no means the band’s only voice. He soon added long-time friend and skilled pianist Angela Sutton as keyboardist. Andy Freder ick and Ryan Combs, on guitar and bass, respectively, soon joined, along with drummer Mark Sims, to complete the band’s lineup.

Versatility seems to be the name of the game with The Tin Hearts, both in their sound and composition. In addition to vocals, Sullivan also plays the guitar and harmonica. Sims, drummer, is also an exceptional guitar player and keyboardist. He has a well-rounded playlist of modern Americana… It is time to add another to the list: The Tin Hearts.

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No Good Dead. They will be traveling to Cincinnati, Cleveland and Kentucky later in the year to complete the tour.

The Tin Hearts released the twin premiere of the album, it has already gained recognition. A review by the After Hours Music blog, a blog reviewing each new song that is released into the music world, said, “[with] … Blitzen Trapper, Band of Horses, Hayes Carll and some Ryan Adams … you have a well-rounded playlist of modern Americana… It is time to add another to the list: The Tin Hearts.

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Owen Pallett, Composer for the Masses, Makes Solo Magic at the Horn

DULCE MONToya
Staff Writer

Polaris Award-winner Owen Pallett played to a packed and eager Horn Gal- lery audience last Wednesday, Sept. 23. Students stood on their tip-toes and on fur- niture to get a better view of the indie-experimental violinist, who incorporates various forms of technology into his performances. His style is mostly composed of looped violin tracks, vocals and an accompanying guitar.

His music is notable not only for his use of a looped violin — a technique in which he electronically repeats phrases played once on his violin — but also for his incorporation of music technology that he en- counters and incorporates into his performances and albums. He claims he approaches songwriting similarly to James Stewart, whose music Pallett said felt like he was pushing it almost like a comedy act, like he would first just come up with what other songwriters might call lyrical hooks, [but] Jamie would come up with a joke, and the joke would sort of be the centerpiece of the song and the thing that sets it apart. Because Pallett has grown accustomed to larger shows, he has to part his act down considerably to play at the Horn. He chose to “favor some quieter songs” including a song in which he only played into the microphone and sang. Pallett and his team have been touring since January of 2010 and will be finishing up the tour in January of 2011. He has been “more on-tour than off-tour since 2005,” due mostly to touring with other bands. In 2005, he released his first record as Final Fantasy (Pallett’s former pen name.)

Pallett said that venues like the Horn Gallery are “to-tally my jam, I’ve been having to play a lot of larger venues as well.” Larger venues he has played includes space like Madison Square Garden in New York City, and concert openings for Arcade Fire and Spoon, as well as the Wilbur Theatre in Boston and the Carnegie Music Hall of Home- stead in Pittsburgh. Pallett will also tour in Japan soon, going there solo for the first time.

Pallett’s current and third album, Heartland (released Jan. 12, 2010), is a new ex- periment for him. The album is conceptual, the story of a young farmer named Lew that is controlled by an ubiquitous narrator named Owen. While Pallett knows the direction in which he will be taking his next album, he chose to keep mum on both the concept for the next album, as well as the date.

“Wow I felt if a large chunk of the pie is that releasing a re- cord is dealing with the press and doing the press and most of the press, what they are in- formed about is read in the press release,” he said. “I don’t like talking about my own re- cords until the press release is out because there’s all sorts of speculation and assumptions.”

If any group can raise the roof with their music, it is Ken- nyon’s own Motown band, De- mor Groove. And so it was last Sunday evening, when students of all ages con- versed in Wain Rehearsal Hall, wedged between Rose Hall and the Kenyon College gymnasium, to audition for Kennyon’s official Motown tribute band. The band is known as the “Sugarcane band.”

For the unfaithful, Motown Records is a record label founded in Detroit in 1959. Its roster was comprised of music groups and individual artists that were signed to Motown Records. The company was founded by Berry Gordy, but it also for its incorporation into its production of some of the decade’s most successful soul artists, RB& pop artists. Some of the most famous artists produced under the Motown label and its subsidiaries are The Jackson 5, Stevie Wonder, The Temptations and The Supremes.

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Nayef Samhat Looks Back on Jobs in Architecture and the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee

CHARLOTTE HORSEY
Staff Writer

Being the provost of a college is not a job that lends itself to intense interactions with students, something Kenyon’s Provost Nayef Samhat knows and is attempting to rectify. A professor and administrator for the better part of his professional career, Samhat came to Kenyon in 2009 from Centre College in Danville, Ky., where he was the associate professor of government and international studies, as well as the associate dean.

Samhat entered Massachusetts’ tiny, now-defunct Bradford College in 1979, where he was a Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) athlete who played soccer and basketball, though he said he was not particularly good at either. Samhat did find a talent, though. “I had some success at badminton, he said. “Competitive badminton. In the gym, not the backyard.”

Samhat went to the Massachusetts Small College State Championshipship after just one year in the sport. “I must have been a natural badminton player,” he said.

After two years at Bradford, Samhat transferred to The George Washington University in Washington, D.C. There, he lived in an apartment with friends and devoted himself to an internship with the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) that would later provide him with a job. The ADC is the largest grassroots Arab-American organization in the country, and its principal objectives are the defense of civil and Arab-American rights. As Samhat describes it, “I was in the national office, and lots of social movements and peace movements were located in Washington, so there was a regular networking process. For someone interested in politics, it was a great opportunity.” This original internship sparked a passion for politics, economics and Middle Eastern affairs that would stay with him. Before Samhat ended up in the world of academia, however, he garnered a residue of varied work experiences.

In college, Samhat became interested in architecture and urban design and found that he was talented at it. He spent five weeks at a prestigious community in Arizona designed by famed Italian architect Paolo Soleri, working in construction and discussing architectural philosophy. “We would do construction work and have workshops with Paolo Soleri built on discussions of principles of urban design and architectural design,” he said.

Another of Samhat’s summers was spent in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, where he worked for a bank and taught English to the son of the Persian Gulf. After college and two years at Columbia’s School of International and Public Affairs, Samhat returned to the Midwest where he worked for his father. The future provost’s new job entailed more manual labor than he was used to, “I felt like a delivered dry ice,” he said. “The big trick was figuring out how to roll two 50-pound [carbon-dioxide-filled] cylinders at a time.”

In addition to his duties at Kenyon, Samhat is father to three daughters, one of whom will soon graduate from college. Samhat said he recently advised her on her future plans: “Get life under control so that you have to be your professional life. Don't start your career now; just start your experience.”

More than any other piece of advice, though, Samhat will tell you which football team reigns eternally supreme: the Detroit Lions.

Pupil to Provost: From Badminton to Administration

NAYEF SAMHAT

In the words of writer, performer and activist Jaclyn Friedman— Jaclyn Friedman

Imagine a full glass of water in front of you, motionless, non object. Now think of it as, in the words of writer, performer and activist Jaclyn Friedman, “lady sex.” What do you want to do with it? Under the current circumstances that we like to call a healthy and progressive culture, everything depends on your gender. More than that, it depends on what this culture labels as appropriate for sexual activity. In Peirce Pub on Friday, Sept. 24, Friedman held her now highly-emotive glass of “lady sex” in the air and asked Kenyon students what they thought of it. First, she asked us to think of it from the perspective of a modern “lady.” A true lady must protect her lady sex. On the other hand, a “dude” can do whatever he wants with it, or as a more common male student phrased it, “Chug it!”

And chug we can, all of us, if we want. But consider the consequences of unhealthy and cloistered communication about sex, put frankly. Last Friday was a lesson on assuming com

“Would you like to have sex with someone who is not enthusiastic?” — Jaclyn Friedman

Friedman’s presentation was entitled “Sexual Consent: A New Model for Better — and Safer — Sexuality.” The talk was sponsored by Crouzier Center for Gender and Sexualities, Social Psychology and Women’s and Gender Studies Departments, Unity House, the Sexual Misconduct Advisors and the Queer Women’s Collective. Friedman is an activist and author of the book “Yes Means Yes: Visions of Female Sexual Power and a World Without Rape,” which made the 2009 Publishers week top 100 Books. She admitted that her “lady sex” example was heteronormative, sex-positive, and focused on enthusiastic sex. “We are all part of a system that often does not consider what a woman wants or needs.” Friedman then talked about the ways in which a culture of reporting should be used to foster a culture of reporting. “You would not have to even open your mouth to be raped,” she said. The culture we’ve constructed persistsently finds ways to defend rape.

With facing the stigma, however, comes an even deeper fear — that of physical repercussions. Friedman noted that some can be quick to frame sexual assault as “rapeable.” “They say it’s the [woman’s] fault. They that you’ve consented to everything [...] then you start to think that you’re not worthy of love, that you don’t love yourself enough,” she said. The culture we’ve constructed persistently finds ways to defend rape. Will this updated and reclaimed “darthood” as she phrases it, really lead to sexual violence? The metaphor of a frog in boiling water helped explain the risk: If a frog is in a pot of water that suddenly begins to boil, it will jump out. If the water temperature rises at a slower rate and builds to a boil, however, the frog will stay in the water until it is too late. Sure, it’s dramatic, but we can certainly understand it. The subtle, unrecognized pressures are what may eventually culminate in an act of sexual violence.

Initially, Friedman was impressed by Kenyon’s Sexual Misconduct Policy. The Policy states that verbal consent is “given when a student clearly indicates by spoken words his or her willingness to engage in a particular form of sexual interaction.” Instead of focusing on the lack of a “no” in a sexual encounter, it is an active “yes” that constitutes consent. “Progressive” was her impression of Kenyon College. “The code is really extraordinary,” she said. The tone flipped when a student mentioned mediation, a form of counseling in which both the victim and the accused agree to sit down with a mediating College counselor “to help bring resolution to a conflict,” as stated in the Policy. The purpose of this act is to talk it out instead of going straight to a formal complaint.

“That’s horrible,” Friedman responded. “Mediation is a part of the problem. It says that we need to intervene and it was just a misundestanding [...] I encourage you to abandon it as soon as possible,” she said. As a victim of sexual violence in college, Friedman experienced mediation. The session was close to being harmful rather than helpful. “My rapist was there crying about his alcohol problem. My whole vic

Friedman’s lecture served not only as a reminder that consent should be nothing short of enthusiastic, but also that we can share our sexual violence without shame. It was a perfect combination of open humor and serious discussion. In such a small village, a sense of community can definitely encourage such upstanding discourse. “Instead of a commod

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Kenyon Enthusiastically Consents to Hosting Sexuality Speaker

Jaclyn Friedman Impressed by Kenyon’s Sexual Misconduct Policy but Opposes Mediation

MEREDITH TYMA

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Ladies Soccer Rolls to Three-Game Streak, Prepares for the NCAC Schedule

Jessen Book to Write Next Chapter in Ladies Swimming

NATE OLDACH
Sports Editor

For the first time in 35 years, the Kenyon Ladies swimming team will not be coached by the legendary coach Jim Steen. Instead, a young and eager Kenyon alumna will fill those shoes: Jessie Hackbarth, a former Buckeye who spent more than a decade as a professional swimmer, will bring her leadership to Kenyon as a member of the Lords swimming team, winning All-American distinction during his 1999-2000 campaign. His final year, he was elected captain, and following another successful defending of the national championship, was named to the College Swimming Coaches Association of America’s All-Academic Team.

What makes Book’s story so interesting is the fact that he never intended to become a coach. “The year I graduated, I went into teaching,” said Book. “It was lacking in the connections that I made when I was a swimmer. That year I went down to the [National Collegiate Athletic Association] championships and realized just how much I missed swimming, so I called up Coach [Steen] and he called me back a few months later and offered me a job.” Book was hired as an assistant coach and helped coach the teams to four championships.

Following his tenure as an assistant coach at Kenyon, Book was offered a spot as an assistant coach at Ohio State University, a position he held for four years. During his tenure at Ohio State, Book helped transform the Buckeyes from a middle-of-the-pack team to eventual Big Ten Champions just last year. “The ability for the Buckeyes to improve had a lot to do with the leadership we had both in and out of the pool,” Book said. “They knew we had a chance to do something that had not been done in 54 years and achieved it.”

Book feels he has a lot he can teach the Ladies over the course of the year, and he sees great potential for improvement. “The experience at OSU taught me two things; the first is a training regimen that I will share with the Ladies,” he said. “[The] second is the effect that great leaders can have on a team. I believe we are in a place that they can do something special. They have the ability to become great leaders just like the Buckeyes did. They have a willingness to learn, grow and become what they can, but we need to start that process.”

As far as Book’s expectations on how the team will perform overall, he believes that this season is more about understanding who the team is and what role each of them will have in Kenyon’s history. “We are not looking at this season with the sole goal of winning an NCAA championship,” he said. “I believe, as Coach Steen taught me, to strive for success. Success is not a trophy — it is striving to achieve and get better. Once you have the right amount of people in the right place at the right time, you achieve what he refers to as ‘critical mass’ and [you] can do something special.”

While Book looks to guide the Ladies this season, he still believes that the onus of their success rests on them. “One of the things that makes Kenyon successful is that the success of one student is on that student’s shoulders,” he said. “I believe that the ownership is the athletes, and it extends from the classroom down to the pool. You earn it and learn it in the classroom, and you earn it and learn it in the pool.”

With full practices only just beginning, the Ladies are on a journey with an insightful new coach, eager to write a new chapter in the history of the Kenyon swimming tradition.

NINA ZIMMERMAN
Staff Writer

After a tough start to the season, the Ladies soccer team won three games in a row and is picking up momentum as October conference play approaches.

On Saturday, Sept. 25, the Ladies faced the Kalamazoo College Hornets and got on the board 16 minutes in when aggressive Caddie Durrett ’12 scored a goal on a penalty kick to open the scoring, her first goal of the season. The Hornets fought back, scoring two minutes before halftime to tie the game at 1-1. That did not stop Hannah Lodi ’11 from scoring the winning goal on a penalty kick with 2:16 left in the game. Goodie Kate Powers ’11 also tied her season high with eight saves, providing good defensive support. Head Coach Kelly Bryan acknowledged that while the game was a tough one, the Ladies stayed tough and persevered.

“We were able to use a good portion of our team throughout the game,” Bryan said. “That’s always another plus, to do that for experience, but also it’s good to see people get opportunities in games.”

Two key traits of the Ladies this year have been their resiliency and perseverance in the face of challenging teams. Bryan sees it as building up the skill and character of the team, especially in the face of October conference play in the skilled North Coast Athletic Conference.

“There was a lot of character-building in the first couple of weeks, and to see the girls be able to stick together and learn about each other and keep working in practice, I think that just says a lot about what they’re made of,” Bryan said. “And so now we enter essentially what we call the second part of our season, and it’s all conference games from here on out. This is where it gets exciting and fun and high- ly competitive.”

Right now it’s just good to feel that we have positive momentum rolling into the conference.”

The Ladies are scheduled to play their first conference game of the season against Denison at Mavec Field on Saturday at 1:00 p.m. Bryan expects it to be a great game, not only because of the rivalry but also because of the momentum of the Ladies’ recent success and the passion she has seen from the players both on and off the field. She also knows that the Ladies are capable of presenting a real challenge to Denison.

“I want us to play well, play hard and play well and do what we’re capable of,” Bryan said. “I think that records go out the window when it comes to playing against [Denison]. It really just becomes a battle.”

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― Coach Kelly Bryan

Ladies’ midfielder Virginia Rushton ’12 wins the ball from a defender and prepares to shoot. Rushton scored her second goal of the season this past weekend against Marietta College.
The #22-ranked Lords soccer team took on the Marietta College Pioneers on Tuesday, Sept. 28 with both teams still jettisoning the memory of their first loss of the season, suffered just three days before, to the #1 Ohio Wesleyan University Battling Bishops. “It was just a rough game,” Jared Kunze ’12 said. “We played right with them the entire game; they just finished and we didn’t.” Though the Lords lost 1-4, they shot the Bishops 18 to 12. This game was different, however, as the Lords defeated the Pioneers 2-0. The game began as a tough defensive struggle, with both the Lords and the Pioneers failing to score time and time again. Though the Lords out-shot the Pioneers 12-1, the score remained 0-0 at the half.

“Each game counts so we really need to bear down.” — Jason Katz ’13

Coming out for the second half, the Lords looked to continue their offensive barrage. Finally, just over 12 minutes into the second half, Miguel Barrera ’11 placed a brilliant ball off of a corner kick that Peter Nolan ’11, then fired into the back of the net, giving the Lords a 1-0 lead. That score remained until the 80th minute, when Dan Toulson ’12 won the ball in the offensive zone, and passed it off to Lewis Williams-Gray ’14, who fired in the ball to give the Lords a 2-0 lead. This was junior goalkeeper Tyler Schatz’s sixth shutout of the season. “We came out and played well,” Jason Katz ’13 said. “We needed to bounce back and we did with a victory. The OWU game really opened our eyes, and with the upcoming schedule, we need to take each game one at a time. We are in conference and really need to focus.”

Several members of the team said the team’s recent success and its ability to continue competing are products of the camaraderie of the team, both on and off the field. “There is a lot of camaraderie (on) the team,” Kass said. “We are really close, especially between grades. No one distances themselves from anyone else. Though we may be different ages, everyone who steps on the field is considered equal and is expected to do their job. People are really stepping up [this season], especially within the [first-year] class because of the injuries. All the seniors on the team are leading us. They are very vocal and we are really led by the example they give.”

The Lords are now beginning the majority of their conference schedule, and as such, the team will be without conference schedule, as seven of their next eight adversaries are conference opponents. According to the team, there is no room for error. “The next few games are conference matches,” said Kass. “Out of 1-0 in conference and we look to bounce back and even up our record on Saturday. Each game counts so we really need to bear down.”

Lords’ forward J.J. Jemison ’13 fights for position against two Ohio Wesleyan University defenders. Jemison scored the Lords’ lone goal in their 1-0 loss.

The Kenyon Collegian

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The kettle field hockey team started this past weekend, Sept. 25 and 26, on the road, taking on both the Earlham College Quakers and Bellarmine University Knights in a weekend of intense play. Over the two games, the Ladies scored eight goals and yet failed to earn a win.

The Quakers were the first to test the Ladies’ skills in Richmond, Ind. Undaunted by this conference rival and Earlham’s home field advantage, Liz McBean ’11 broke through the Quakers’ defense for a quick shot on goal, which was blocked by Senior goalie and Captain Mary Jo Scott ’14. The second half brought the same result, but with the loss of McBean, who was forced to play Goalie in the final minutes of the game due to an injury. The Ladies’ failure to score against the Quakers was just one of the few highlights on the field for the Ladies, as they failed to put many shots on goal throughout the entire game. The final score of 0-5 proved to both Earlham and other conference rivals that the Ladies will be a force with which to contend this season.

Another day of travel may have been tiring for this young team, but it certainly shows that the Ladies mean business. Their reputation in the conference, as a strong competitor, grows with each game. They enter their conference game against Denison, with a 4-1 record, on Saturday, Oct. 2 at Denison at 10:00 a.m.

School Staff

Field Hockey Falls to Division II Foe Bellarmine

The Ladies volleyball team started off conference play with a solid 3-1 record at their first North Coast Athletic Conference weekend, one of two to be played throughout the season, on Saturday and Sunday at Hiram College, placing the Ladies second in the conference currently.

The Ladies played Hi- ram College first on Saturday, Sept. 25, and while they fell, the Ladies fought hard in their second match of the day against the College of Wooster. Though the Fighting Scots won the first game, the Ladies rallied to a 3-2 victory overall. Head Volleyball Coach Katie Carless ’09 led the team to victory, winning the following two games for an overall three games to one game victory. Mary Jo Scott ’14 said the team played well this weekend. “We had a lot of sports where we seemed put-together,” Scott said. “It was nice to see that and know what we are capable of.”

In the final game of the weekend against Allegheny College, the Ladies had a strong finish, winning the first three games of the match for a 3-0 victory. The team had a total of 51 kills for the match, with Scott, Ana Macius ’14 and Sierra DeLeon ’14 all in double figures for kills. The team also had 62 digs for the match, with Ciara Sanchez ’12 and Crystal Piras ’12 leading the way.

Charles said she was happy to be happy with the way the team has been working hard and playing. “We’re finding ways to win, which is what I am most impressed with,” Charles said.

The Ladies are now 9-8 overall and 3-1 in the NCAC. This season already marks the most wins the team has had in a single season since 2005. This is also the first time Charles has had a winning record for a season as a coach at Kenyon.

After the team folded due to a roster shortage in 2007, Charles took over for the 2008 season, 13 out of her 15 players were first-years. The Ladies worked throughout the season but failed to see success. In the following 2008 season, the Ladies saw improvement in one play. With more experience, the Ladies managed to win a few games and continued to work on their errors. This season shows the payoff from the juniors’ hard work, Charles said.

“Our success is a testament to how hard the girls are willing to work,” Charles said. “They have been willing to put in the hours and now we are starting on everything we have been doing the past three years.”

The Ladies next play Wilmington College today, Sept. 27, 7 p.m., a game that both Charles and Scott are excited for. “It’s going to be a tough game,” Scott said. “I think everyone is really excited to play [Wilmington] and show people what we can do.”

School Staff

Lords Soccer Rebounds After Loss to Top-25 Rival OWU

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