Banned Blood Protest Energizes Kenyon Students

LILI MARTINEZ
Staff Writer

Whether you have type O, A or B blood, the Red Cross wants and needs it. After all, a pint of blood can save three lives.

Why, then, were 11 people — 33 saved lives — turned away from Kenyon’s perennial spring blood drive, on Friday Feb. 25 in Gund Commons? Ali Thieman ’13 presided over a protest in the entryway of Gund Ballroom to raise awareness of this very issue.

It all goes back to the Food and Drug Administration, which, since 1983, has enforced a ban that prohibits men who have had sex with men (MSM) from ever donating blood.

It also prevents women who have had sex with MSMs and other high-risk groups from donating for a year after sexual contact. The FDA’s reasoning behind this policy, according to its website, is: “Men who have had sex with men since 1977 have an HIV prevalence (the total number of cases of a disease that are present in a population at a specific point in time) 60 times higher than the general population, 800 times higher than first time blood donors and 3000 times higher than repeat blood donors.”

Thieman hosted the protest because “it’s a little ridiculous to ban [MSMs] because there is a blood shortage going on, and they clearly need it. The blood undergoes … 13 tests before it’s given to someone. It’s true that men who have had sex with men are at 50 times the risk of a heterosexual man, or of women in general, but [the rates] is still really low. Between five and nine out of 100 queer men have HIV.”

Thieman said the protest was successful. “It went incredibly well — I’m still excited with how it went,” she said. “Everyone there really impressed me, there was a lot of energy coming from the first years and especially from [members of] Unity House.”

“The American Red Cross has appealed for a lift on the ban … but was denied by the FDA.”

They were all ready to go and hit the ground running and were really outgoing and energetic about it, so that was really cool.”

The protest also received support from many fronts, including the fraternity brothers of Delta Tau Delta, who helped host the blood drive.

“At the beginning of the protest, the person who was running the blood drive introduced himself as the president of Delta Tau Delta and he said he supported the protest,” Thiemann said. “It was a friendly exchange. He said the members of Delta Tau Delta support it. I’d call it a collaborative protest, which is awesome. It exceeded my expectations.”

During the banned blood protest, the Red Cross and other supporters distributed bracelets of red cloth that read “BANNED” and fact sheets about banned blood.

“The American Red Cross has appealed for a lift on the ban in 2006, but was denied by the FDA,” stated one fact. Another said that the current blood shortage in the U.S. is 30,000 units.

Students passing the protest were surprised to hear about the ban, and many expressed their support.

The Right to Choose Starts with the Walk for Choice

MONICA KRIETE
Staff Writer

Kenyon students participate in a wide variety of activities, including those that are typical of “the college experience” — attending fraternity parties and lectures by guest speakers — as well as those that are somewhat less common. (Raccoon dinner, anyone?)

While the 60s embedded activism firmly in the heart of “the college experience,” it isn’t often that students in sleepy Gambier have the opportunity to participate in large-scale political protests. One such opportunity, however, presented itself last Saturday, Feb. 26: the Crozier Center for Women organized a trip to participate in a Walk for Choice in Columbus, and I was one of 14 Kenyon students to attend the event as part of that delegation. (We ran into five other Kenyon students while we were there, and for all I know, there might have been more.)

The Walk For Choice was a protest event comprised of a march from the campus of The Ohio State University to the Ohio Statehouse at the corner of High St. and Broad St. in Columbus, where a rally was held. The event was one of more than 40 similar events organized primarily via the Internet in response to the Title X funding cuts amended to the continuing budget resolution in the U.S. House of Representatives. These cuts would prevent Planned Parenthood and affiliated organizations from receiving federal funding. Planned Parenthood uses this funding to provide essential non-abortion-related healthcare services, such as STI testing, cancer screening and infertility screening to both men and women at reduced cost.

As we walked to Wexner Plaza on Ohio State’s campus, where the march began, carrying poster board signs a handful of us had made in Crozier the night before, cars began honking at us as drivers gave us the thumbs-up.

That positive energy carried into the plaza, where a crowd of more than 100 women and men of all ages carrying signs and mostly wearing pink were milling around. Shortly after noon, things got rolling.

The event’s organizers spoke to us through a megaphone. They encouraged us to chant loudly as we walked, urged us to stay on the sidewalks and not block them for other people, and advised us not to engage with any anti-choice individuals we met.

And then the march began. We poured out from the plaza onto the sidewalk, with the Kenyon group close to the front of the crowd. A woman with a megaphone began leading us in chants, though many were classics from bygone years, directly referencing abortion (“1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6…”)...

Dog Sees God Has Plenty of “Good,” Some “Grief”

First Year Advises Kenyon’s Prospective Students

Ladies Tennis Beats Back Baldwin-Wallace
Professor Ahmet T. Karamustafa On Sufism

Professor Ahmet T. Karamustafa came to campus last Thursday, Feb. 24 to speak on “Mystics of the Soul: Mevlana Rumi and the Mevlevi Order” as the first in a series of lectures about Sufi mysticism. His talk was funded by the Title VI USIFL Grant for Islamicate Civilizations, which provides money to host lectures, seminars, and other events in order to educate students about the Islamic world. Karamustafa spoke at 7:00 p.m. in Highley Auditorium to a large and enthusiastic crowd. His talk covered the basic practices of the Mevlevi order, an order that offers spiritual training on the path of Sufism. It is based on Mevlana Jalaluddin Rumi’s thoughts and poetry. Rumi is considered one of the greatest mystics and poets in the world, and his teachings are followed by the United States as well. Karamustafa discussed how Rumi’s life and poetry informs the Mevlevi order and its rituals. The Mevlevi tradition encourages a religion of love and enlightenment for those seeking to develop their humanity to the fullest potential. Followers of the Mevlevi order are also known as “whirling dervishes.” Rumi believed that music, poetry, and dance were the best ways to reach God, and the “whirling” dance could destroy and resurrect the soul at the same time.

Karamustafa is a professor of history and religious studies at Washington University in St. Louis and an expert on the social and intellectual history of modern Islam. Professor Karamustafa has written several books, including God Unwired Friends, about ascetic movements in medi eval Islam, and Sufism and Fassistive Prad, a comprehensive overview of early Islamic asceticism. He has also contributed to the journal Cartography in the Traditional Islamic and South Asian Societies as a writer and editor. Karamustafa is the vice president of the American Research Institute in Turkey and Chair of the Committee of the Study of Islam at the American Academy of Religion.

—Ed Martinez

Blood: Protest Widely Supported

From page 1

support for Thieman and the 11 students who were turned away.

The mood was cheery and optimistic — first years sitting at the table explained that they were there in solidarity, and one remained because he had been turned away from the drive. David Vance ’14 sported a red “BANNED” bracelet and chatted cheerfully with the other protesters.

All 11 students who were turned away had the opportunity to write their names or initials on cards with a picture of a pint of blood on them, representing the blood they could have donated.

The representation of the 11 pints of banned blood can be found hanging in the Peirce Attirum.

Students are encouraged to read the poster outlining facts about the blood ban, for more information, they can visit the FDA website at www.fda.gov.

Village Record

Feb. 23 — Feb. 28

Feb. 23, 4:40 p.m. — Theft of student property. Report completed.
Feb. 25, 10:42 p.m. — Illness: Intoxicated student in Old Kenyon Residence Hall. Squad contacted and student transported to Knox Community Hospital.
Feb. 26, 12:57 a.m. — Vandalism: Car property in Old Kenyon Residence Hall.
Feb. 26, 2:51 p.m. — Drug paraphernalia in Manning Residence Hall. Items confiscated and report completed.
Feb. 28 — Vandalism: Graffiti on wall in Peirce Dining Hall.

Want to write for The Kenyon Collegian?

Have an idea for an article?

For more information email
kenyoncollegian@gmail.com

Lecture on Swedish Health Care Emphasizes Need for Change in America

While the debates over health care policy rage on in Washington, D.C., some of the issues posed by legislators were brought to Kenyon on Monday night, Feb. 28. The Center for American Democracy and the Department of Sociology joined forces to sponsor guest lecturer Dr. Bo Jordin, M.D., who brought his wealth of worldly experience to Peirce Lounge to deliver a speech entitled “Excellence in Health Care — America and Sweden” in sharing his experiences involving both the Swedish and American health care systems, Jordin successfully brought another perspective on the American health care crisis to campus.

Jordin set the stage by elaborating on basic facts about Sweden. He said that while Sweden is roughly the size of the west coast of the United States, it only has a population of nine million people, which is slightly more than the population of New York City. He then explained the Swedish system of government, which differs greatly from the system in place here. Sweden’s Parliament breaks down into two governmental cabinets, which is then further divided into ministries. These ministries are subdivided into government agencies, such as the National Board of Health and Welfare, for which Jordin served as director of primary care from 1992 to 2004.

The lecture featured a series of intriguing comparisons between the U.S. and Sweden. Facts that were particularly striking in light of the rising temperature of the debates bouncing around the floor of the Capitol. Some of the information was reminiscent of an expose on the faults of the American health care system and further emphasized the fact that we are the only wealthy, industrial nation that does not insure all of its citizens.

When Sweden joined the European Union in 1995, the country was forced to remodel their system and make unofficial agreements into official laws, resulting in new legislation and guidelines for the monitoring and supervision of health care. Everyone in Sweden is enrolled in the health care system, while it is estimated that around 15 percent of the American population is uninsured.

In Sweden, 25 percent of the health care system is financed by the national government, and on the regional and local levels, income taxes help offer the cost of more generalized health services. Americans pay nearly twice as much for our lower-quality health coverage than Swedes do. This is also true when comparing the U.S. with the rest of Western Europe, including France, the United Kingdom and Italy. While Americans visit the doctor an average of six times per year, Swedes go half as often, partially due to the fact that their regular doctor visits last far longer than ours do. This means more illness prevention, resulting in the need for fewer visits. Sweden also has more doctors and more medical students per capita than the U.S.

Our health follies turned into inspiration for the Swedes. The rising rate of obesity in America caused Sweden to become much more proactive about the issue, leading to the creation of widespread information campaigns in schools, among other things. The result speaks for itself. While 30 percent of the U.S. population is obese, the figure is only 10 percent in Sweden.

Jordin also emphatically pointed out that it is impossible for people in this country to avoid paying for their health care. Despite the fact that many Americans believe they do not pay for their health insurance because it appears that their employer covers the costs, in fact, whatever money the employer uses to pay for medical expenses comes directly from the employee’s paycheck. We do pay for health care, whether we realize it or not.

As the lecture continued, it became clear that the issue of health care is one about which Kenyon students care deeply. Nearly every student in Peirce Lounge was filled by an avidly-listening student, and when it came time for questions there were many, including ones covering the topics of the challenges health care poses for countries and the impact of pharmaceutical lobbyists on the system as a whole.

The lecture’s relevance to the Kenyon community was further reinforced by the fact that some members of the Knox County community face the kind of dire health care situation that the Obama administration is trying very hard to correct. Though Jordin explicitly said that the situations in the U.S. and Sweden are incredibly different, the answer to the question posed by the lecture, “Are there lessons for the U.S. from Sweden?” is clearly a resounding yes.

The bottom line is that the health care system in our country is utterly disastrous and needs to be rectified before our standards of living get even worse. Americans need to be educated, not only in how to better take care of ourselves but also on how our own health care system works and how we can improve it to make the quality of our health care system match that of our global, or more specifically European, competitors.
Learn From My Mistakes: Procrastination

WESLEY KEYESER  Photograph Editor

People of Kenyon, the rea- son I have written this column time and time again is because I have made many mistakes from which you can learn. For this week’s installment, I’d like to start with a flashback to high school, when I first became a procrastinator master.

It all began when 24-Ameri- can Idol and J2 Can a Prostitute were all having TV marathons one weekend. Before I knew it, it was Sunday; my books were still uncracked and my papers were still unwritten. So I stayed up all night doing double-shout espresso drinks, reading, writing and doing arithmetic. When the sun’s rays finally hit my bleary eyes, I had finished all 20 pages. Sure, I fell asleep in the middle of doing push-ups in track practice the next day, but who cares? I learned that I could have my cake (or 24 marathon) and eat it too.

The problem only intensi- fied at Kenyon. Now it wasn’t just me sitting by myself in a dark room in my house; I was surrounded by other like-minded individuals. In fact, some of those Ganderworld all-red es — the ones when you start chugging wine at 4:00 a.m. to keep yourself going — are some of my most memorable nights. My worst all-nighter was pulled last semester for a 25-page paper I had to write (I hope this doesn’t get me into trouble). Of course I hadn’t done nearly enough re- search, and I had to find ten new sources, incorporate them into my paper and write 20 more pages. Thank God it was 24 hours. In the infinite wisdom we seniors possess, my fellow procrastinat- ories and I decided the only way to stay motivated all night was to take hourly break snack breaks, an activity that was probably inspired by watching too much Mud Men. Plus, alcohol was sort of relevant to the paper topic, so it seemed completely acceptable. Around 500 a.m., though, we realized that this strategy might not have been the best, by the time we finished, our papers were not as much Don Draper as they were Donald Duck. After turning the paper in, the procrastination hangover wasn’t just as bad as the after-effects of the Scotch. That stupid self-control application that blocks out all websites can only help so much; it can control your Internet, but not your life.

In the interest of full dis- courage, I gave this article to my editor approximately five hours after the usual deadline. It might be too late for me to break the cycle of procrastination, but you could still be saved, Kenyon, learn from my mistakes.

Letter to the Editor: Regarding Rebelution

We understand that many members of the student body feel left in the dark about the process of choosing a band for Sendoff. Social Board would like to address this despite the misinformation provided by a source that was “not au- thorized to speak publicly on the matter.” The Collegian of- fered a portrayal of a lazy or- ganization that twiddled their thumbs for a month and thus forced the popular band, TV on the Radio, to book another engagement “Reggae Rebelu- tion: Social Board Chooses Band in Last-Minute Vote.” Feb. 24, 2011. The article also suggested that we “surted” on Rebelution at the last minute devoid of any confidence or enthusiasm after they were sug- gested by a booking agent. Al- though many may be quick to believe an unconfirmed source, there is more to the story.

Social Board’s discussions begin early in the academic year, after which we sent out a survey regarding the preferred genre or a list of theoretical bands to choose from. We include a dis- claimer stating that none of the bands are guaranteed and the survey functions to gain a feel for the campus’ interests. The process moves forward based on these results, students’ sug- gestions, bands availability and the price range. It appears that the student body may have a skewed view of our budget. In terms of funding, our organi- zation is limited by how much we can put towards the bands versus how much is allotted towards other Sendoff activities and toward the weekly activi- ties provided throughout the school year.

Kenyon’s Sendoff takes place on the most popular weekend for similarly-themed college events nationwide, and TV on the Radio had a conflict with the date because of spring touring. Therefore, their inabil- ity to come was not due to a lack of communication.

After hearing of the deci- sion, we considered and voted on 20 bands consisting of genres across the board. Rebelution was brought to our attention by one of our members. It is in- credibly difficult to please a stu- dent body with diverse musical interests. Social Board consists of members from all different class years, academic majors and facets of the College. Our diversification translates to a student body with diverse musical interests. We decided that Rebelution could provide the atmosphere that would best appeal to a wide range of students.

We find it upsetting that the student body initially found our news about Rebelution through a newspaper article with a nega- tive spin. It is important that students understand that they have a voice in this decision. We were disappointed in the fact that so many felt it necessary to angrily attack via all-student emails, while we only received one direct email to our account requesting an explanation for why Rebelution was chosen. Although our initial bids could not be accepted, Social Board does not look at Rebelution as a consolation prize. They rep- resent a different sub-genre of reggae than Toots and the May- tals, who received such a posi- tive response from students that they were asked to play twice at Sendoff. We know Rebelution will deliver a great show and we ask you to approach Sendoff with an open mind even if you are not familiar with the band.

—Social Board

Quick Complaints

“I hate having to hear about Justin Bieber’s birthday.” —Ellen Gaglione ’13

“Dear Football Team: may we suggest some lighter weights? Perhaps a 7.5?” —KCWL

“18-year-old bar tenders at the Cove.” —Cody Shankman ’14

“Why can’t the frisbee boys and soc- cer boys just have man love together?” —Margaret Wardrop ’11

“The lack of sun has got everyone buggy.” —Jake Wayer ’13

“Kenyon is located in Ohio. Sad face.” —Claire Dutton ’14

“I’m scared to talk to people sometimes be- cause I might call them by the wrong name.” —Mike Bullister ’14

“Cookie pizza is too good.” —Russell Wallace ’11

A few weeks ago this paper complained about the complete apathy that seems to be present on this campus. But in light of the recent demonstrations of stu- dent voice that emerged in Gambier and in Co- lumbus as a part of a nationwide protest, it seems that a new level of action is in order.

As students eagerly pur- chased 20 poster boards and enough 3D glitter glue paint to make a gaggle of kindergarten leap with ecstasy, and spent days envisioning the perfect choice they would use to cover the post- ers at the Walk for Choice, it became abundantly clear that the apathy which so long plagued our campus as a problem we thought. Maybe the problem is not the presence of apathy but the lack of a true call to action.

History shows us that when Kenyon students want to take action, they do so with successful results. Just look at the 2004 presiden- tial election, when the Col- lege made national waves as students waited in line until nearly 4 a.m. to cast some of the last votes in the country.

Or last Saturday, when a car of students drove over an hour to Columbus to show solidarity with a woman’s right to choose what happens to her body, just as protestors all across the nation gathered togeth- er in cities such as New York City, Boston and Chicago.

Kenyon showed a con- siderable lack of apathy the day before as well, protest- ing the fact that the Food and Drug Administration has banned men who have sex with men (MSM) and women who have sex with men who have sex with men (WWSMM) from donating blood since 1983. Their presence and their passion were unmistakable at the blood drive on Gamb Com- munity.

The moral of the story? Simple. When Kenyon stu- dents care enough about a cause, they will use every tool at their disposal to make their voices heard. We are active partici- pants in the national and global dialogue, and we can make a difference when we choose to.
Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead: Great Acting, Poor Script

MILES PURINTON

Staff Writer

Renegade Theatre, the entirely first-year acting group on campus, has become a force to be reckoned with. Rather than just another group putting on amateur productions for fun, the group has grown into one that can sell out the Black Box Theater, where people are willing to sit on the floor and in aisles to see their productions. This was evident in the first show they put on this year: last semester’s Brighton Beach Memoirs. Written by great American playwright Neil Simon, the play is an edgy, in-your-face take on a group of teenagers and their parents. The idea does not really work. These are important issues, but Royal never actually says anything about them other than, perhaps, “They’re bad.” The audience doesn’t really care, and you know something has gone wrong when you feel no emotional response after hearing it.

The Kenyon Filmmakers put on an Annual Musical Video Festival in Gund

In addition to the annual film festival, Royal also sponsors the annual musical video festival. This year’s festival was called “The KFM Film Fest” and was hosted in Gund Commons while popular music videos played in the Kenyon women’s basketball gym. The idea of the festival was to create music videos that align perfectly with the lyrics of songs to help form the plot. Without the lyrics, Jacob said, “I wanted [my film] to communicate what it’s like to be a busy student at Kenyon. Lyrics are overrated.”

Other students used the lyrics of songs to help form the images in their films. One music video featured a song by the indie band Frightened Rabbit called “The Irony.” This video focused on a girl dancing in her room and then dancing at a party with a great contrast of light and color. Martha Gavischi ’14, a new member of the Kenyon Filmmakers, said that “it was beautifully shot and had some unique stylistic elements.” Another very popular video was featured by the band The Faint and used edited clips of Charlie Chaplin dancing in his films set to the song “Teach Me How to Doogie” by the hip-hop group Cali Swag District. Loud, co-president of KFM, remarked on the process of creating this film. “I started out wanting to create a music video out of stock footage, like old clips of Charlie Chaplin dancing,” he said. “Then, after mentioning this to Asimes, a fellow KFM member, he offered the song ‘Teach Me How to Doogie’ and the rest is history.” This unique blending of the past and present created an entirely different video from the others that Kenyon Filmmakers showcased at the festival.

The Kenyon Filmmakers have had a variety of events in the past, including the Ghost Story Film Festival last semester. There will also be another film festival later this year. At this weekend’s film festival, members of KFM showcased their creativity as filmmakers and provided hope for what to expect from the very talented members of Kenyon Filmmakers in the future.
For anyone who thought that the Harvard Sailing Team was too serious, think again. They grace us with their presence, they were proven wrong on Saturday, Feb. 26 at 9:00 p.m. in Rose Hall. Glad in jeans, Chuck Taylors and cardigans layered over collared shirts, Chris, Jen, Katie, Rebecca, Billy and Faryn stepped out on stage to get their back on to “Shut Up” by the Black Eyed Peas.

Mary Allen ‘13 predicted before the show that this group would outshine Kenyon’s and Faryn stepped out on stage. in their skit, “girls of Harvard Sailing Team are — men, in this case, being the women, some women who digest gusts of wind and suck on ice cubes. Rebecca asserts that she just wants to laugh. “Whoa, whoa, I would never punch a guy,”After they learn that she just wants to imagine a guy bleeding “in her head,” they relax, but only until there is a scuffle between two women in the group. Naturally, the only thing to distract from such an epic battle is a great pass in the basketball game on TV.

To complement this, after singing a song about how great the world is, because of course, who doesn’t love the world and everything it has in it, the girls of Harvard Sailing Team are left on stage. in their skit, “Will Be Boys,” they watch TV and talk about how ridiculous men are — men, in this case, being the women, some women who digest gusts of wind and suck on ice cubes. Rebecca asserts that she just wants to laugh.

The Kenyon performance is just one stop on a tour; Chua is currently traveling around the country presenting the same program in many venues. The program’s focus is to present music of interest to a wide audience of students, professors and community members alike. The composers represented were all women and all except one are still living. Chua’s selections covered a variety of styles, ranging from a relatively melodious and tonal composition by a composer who claimed, as Chua recounted, that “modern music should move you, not move you out of the room,” to pieces by Jennifer Higdon, a well-known composer who is considered to be one of today’s leading American composers and whose pieces are somewhat more modern-sounding, i.e., strange and abstract.

Chua played the entire hour-long concert from memory and presented interesting background on the pieces and composers during breaks. Each piece was performed with a great deal of lyricism as well as intense technical skill—many of the pieces included a lot of loud, jarring repeated chords, and Chua hit the keys with such intensity that she could be seen massaging her fingers between pieces. One piece also included a special effect that involved Chua standing and reaching into the piano to mute the strings with her left hand while she continued to play with her right.

The Kenyon performance is just one stop on a tour. Chua is currently traveling around the country presenting the same program in many venues. The program’s focus on contemporary women composers corresponds to Chua’s interest in women in music, which is one of the subjects she teaches in her position as an associate professor of music at Randolph College in Lynchburg, Va.
Southside Diner Offers a Glimpse of Americana

Catherine Weitzel
Staff Writer

Prospective students are often seen sauntering about campus, their brightly colored shirts contrasting with the quieter, often the colder, side of the Southside Diner. The Office of Admissions works hard to make the official visit activities and the unofficial time with his host a memorable immersion into the Kenyon community. Kenyon students are not strangers to the cold, that's for sure. Pablo also mentioned that Kenyon food is more American. Good job hooking us onto fries! It is also delicious. As he thought over his visit, Pablo picked out his favorite part. "The only thing that could make it more American to follow up with some pie, which, of course, the Southside Diner has in spades. And it's pretty good, too."

First Year Gives Prospie Insight on Kenyon Social Scene

David McCabe
Staff Writer

The expansive menu, not the décor, is the hallmark of the Southside Diner. Appetizers, served in gizmograph hampers for sharing, are a great start to a meal of comfort food. There is nothing upscale about the breaded filet which are covered in cheese sauce, bacon and onions and served with sour cream on the side. Or you could start with the so-called "macaroni bits" - macaroni and cheese fried into triangles. Sadly, the filling tasted a little too much like Easy Mac for me to really enjoy them.

The delectably heart-stopping appetizers are followed by classic diner main dishes. You can get the basics, like burgers and hot dogs, but to get the best of Southside, go for one of their more distinct offerings. Try one of the daily specials like cabbage relish or tuna salad. Sadly, the Cincinnati Style Chili wasn't particularly notable. My dining companion one night remarked that it "wasn't any better than the stuff they serve in Prince."

The most interesting item on the menu is the Ghesquiere burger, which is a patty, lettuce, tomato, onions, gyro meat and what the menu intriguingly calls "Greek sauce." It's unconventional, sure, but it's also delicious. And it evokes, in a uniquely Midwestern way, the diners I grew up with on the East Coast. Coffee shops and diners in New York often feature Greek items, because they were, at least at some point, owned by immigrants from Greece. It's a strange paradox that is, like the Southside Diner, something that could only exist in America.

The only thing that could make it more American is to follow up with some pie, which, of course, the Southside Diner has in spades. And it's pretty good, too.

Totals so far:

Students: 71
Faculty: 77
Allie Lawyer ‘11 with her guest family in Senegal, where she frequently received marriage proposals from local men via text message.

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4. Turn off your phone before you go to sleep. Young people there stay up ridiculously late (early?) and often assume you do as well. If this is not the case, it’s best to unplug. If you forget, however, you will probably receive some of the greatest text messages of your life.

Hello, Allie. I’m a friend of your host brother and I saw you the other day. I dream of you. I think I could be your ideal man. My name is Ndagia. I roughly translated. It sounds even better in French.

Now, my ideal man knows that I am usually asleep at 4:00 a.m. on Tuesdays. Clearly, ours was an ill-fated love.

5. Honesty and openness are highly valued. This is great in theory, but can be a bit shocking at times. Best example: some of the students on my program had found a restaurant that served pancakes. After several months of haggling, mutton, fish and rice, those delectable breakfast favorites sounded mighty good. Naturally, we ate far too much. In an attempt to walk off our ridiculous meal, we took a tour of the neighboring market. Not long after entering a little boutique, I was poked in the stomach.

“There’s a baby in there!”

A bit taken aback, I intelligently responded, “Huah! No, there are pancakes in there.”

He was having none of it. He poked me again, and said insistently, “There’s a baby in there!”

I conceded defeat, “If you say so, it must be true.” He nodded sagely. “What do you want, a boy or a girl?”

In a for a penny, in for a pound: “Why not one of each!”

He grinned, “I will pray for you.” Thank you ever so much.

From page 1

4. open up the clinic door; 5, 6, 7, 8, you can’t make us procreate!

6. open up the clinic door.

7. open up the clinic door.

8. open up the clinic door.

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From page 1

For the Kenyon Collegian
Snow Shower -

Two Ladies took second and third places in the North Coast Athletic Conference pentathlon championships this past Saturday, Feb. 26. The rest of the conference championships are scheduled for this weekend.

**NINA ZIMMERMANN**

Sports Editor

With the North Coast Athletic Conference Championships looming at the end of this week, few members of the Lords and Ladies indoor track teams sharpened their skills at the non-scoring Last Chance meet, hosted by Denison University on Feb. 25. According to coach Duane Gomez, the meet had a relaxed atmosphere.

“It’s like a ‘toupee’ game,” Gomez said. “It’s a non-scoring meet because a lot of teams aren’t bringing everyone. A lot of teams are resting people for the conference championships.”

While most of the team rested, the Lords who did compete performed well. Conor Hennessey ‘11 sprinted into first place in the 200-meter dash with a time of 22.89 seconds, his best time in the event this season. His performance earned him NCAC Spritzer of the Week as well. Gomez was particularly pleased with the effort he saw from Hennessey.

“He had an outstanding meet, pretty impressive,” Gomez said. “He was ranked, ninth in the 200 in the conference, but after his performance Friday he jumped up to third. He just ran really well in that event!”

For the limited number of Ladies present, Ramble Boon ’13 earned the top performance of the day. She successfully cleared 9’11¾” in the pole vault competition, tying with a vault from Ohio Wesleyan University for second place. Other Ladies enjoyed strong performances at the backup of competitive conference competition. Yfah Marannyu ‘12 placed sixth in the 55-meter hurdles with a time of 10.04 seconds, and Christine Bullock ‘11 also placed sixth in the 200-meter dash with a time of 29.68 seconds.

The Lords and Ladies then hosted the NCAC Multi-Event Championships at the Athletic Center’s Toan Track on Saturday, Feb. 26. The meet was a part of the conference championships with athletes competing in the pentathlon a week early to allow them to compete in other single events at the championships later this week. Ryan Talk ’12 was the lone Lord to participate in the event, and placed tenth. The meet was Talk’s first time competing in the men’s pentathlon, consisting of the 55-meter hurdles, the long jump, the shot put, the high jump and the 1000-meter run. Gomez was surprised and pleased with Talk’s finish because Talk had to learn several new events in order to participate.

“He did a nice job,” Gomez said. “He’s been working really hard at it. Ryan had to learn a lot of new stuff that he didn’t do because last year he was our shot putter and discus thrower. So all of a sudden he has to run the 1000 meters and learn how to high jump and do all those things.”

Talk’s best finish came in the shot put, which is an event he is event of choice. He placed third with a season-high throw of 10.00 meters.

By contrast, the Ladies finished much stronger in her first pentathlon competition, Leah Jacobs ’13 placed third, while teammate Carly Winters ’12 earned her second straight third-place finish in the event. Their finishes earned both Ladies All-Conference designation, according to a very pleased Gomez.

“Second and third is pretty impressive,” Gomez said. “You have to really have good performance in all your events if you were ready to go. They did a really nice job.”

The women’s pentathlon consists of the 55-meter hurdles, the long jump, the shot put, the high jump and the 800-meter run. Winters earned her best finishes of the afternoon in the 800-meter (2:33.73), the long jump (5’4”), and in the high jump, where her clearance of 5’7” also landed her in third place. Jacobs’ best event was the long jump, in which her jump of 15’7” earned her a tie for first place with Ohio Wesleyan’s Latney Keik, who finished second.

Next up, the Lords and Ladies will head to Oberlin College for the NCAC Indoor Track and Field Championships, which are scheduled for this Friday, March 4 and Saturday, March 5. Gomez likes the improvement he has seen from both teams over the course of the season.

“Everyone is improving quite a bit, getting a lot stronger and a lot faster,” Gomez said. “Things are coming along pretty well.”

**Collegian Weekend Sports Picks**

**LADIES LACROSSE**

Saturday, March 5, at 2:00 p.m.

Michele Field

Kenyon hosts Seniors: The University Ladies host Washington and Jefferson College.

**LADIES BASKETBALL**

Saturday, March 5, at 1:00 p.m.

Sam Colt

Denison Downs Ladies Basketball

MELISSA HART

Staff Writer

The Kenyon women’s basketball season came to an end on Friday after a heart-breaking loss in the conference semi-final game.

The Lords traveled to Denison University with hopes of continuing their season. The team had played the nationally-ranked, undefeated Big Red twice before, and though they had lost, the Ladies were still confident in their ability to play against the team as both prior games were close and in one game the Ladies only lost by three.

The Ladies started strong with an early lead of 6-4, but Denison quickly took control of the game. Despite the Ladies’ struggle to finish shots, a 33.3 percent shooting percentage, the game was still close at halftime, with Denison up 37-29. In the second half, Denison increased their lead. The Ladies improved their shooting percentage to 43.8 percent, but could only force the Ladies to come back to win the game. The Big Red rose to victory and went on to win the conference championship.

While the game appeared to be a likely double-digit blowout, the Ladies fought hard and brought the game to within eight points for a 72-80 loss. Kenyon ended the season 15-12 overall and 8-6 for the conference.

Morgan Korinek ’12 said that while the team fought hard, the Ladies need to be able to win tough games. “It was disappointing [to lose] and it is always tough to end the season,” Korinek said. “But we did battle hard. I am just tired of it being [considered] a team that can’t win tough games.”

With conference play done and the tournament over, the NCAC announced the all-tournament team. Kenyon had four players honored for their outstanding performances.Error was Kenyon’s only first team all-conference player for women’s basketball. Korinek was named second team all-conference, her third all-conference award in three seasons at Kenyon.

Maureen Hirt ’14 and Powers were both given honorable mentions for the league.

With this season coming to a close, the team is already beginning to plan for the next season. The Ladies lose three graduating seniors and will be returning four of their five starters from the end of the season as well as other key players.

Korinek said she is looking forward to her senior basketball season. “I am really excited for next year,” Korinek said. “We learned a lot this year that will help us next year so we can hopefully put it all together and get more consistent.”

-Morgan Korinek ’12

LADIES TENNIS

**SAM COTT**

Staff Writer

The Women’s Tennis Team scored a 7-2 win over Baldwin-Wallace College on Feb. 27. While the Yellow Jackets came in on a roll, the Ladies remained cool and collected, winning the match in a dominating 7-2 fashion. This win moves the Ladies to a 3-1 record overall with the North Coast Athletic Conference matches scheduled after spring break.

Contributing to this win was Priti Kidder ’11, who took the number one singles and teamed up with Amy Schlessman ’13 to take the number two doubles. Schlessman then won in the number two doubles competition.

The Ladies beat Baldwin-Wallace College 7-2 on Feb. 27. Just a day after a 9-0 loss to Carnegie Mellon University, the Ladies team returned to court the past this weekend, Feb. 27 to take on the Baldwin-Wallace College Yellow Jackets. While the Yellow Jackets came in on a roll, the Ladies remained cool and collected, winning the match in a commanding 7-2 fashion. This win moves the Ladies to a 3-1 record overall with the North Coast Athletic Conference matches scheduled after spring break.

Contributing to this win was Priti Kidder ’11, who took the number one singles and teamed up with Amy Schlessman ’13 to take the number two doubles. Schlessman then won in the number two doubles competition.

Amanda Potter ’13 took the number three singles and Lydia Winkler ’13 took the number two doubles title. Overall, Head Women’s Tennis Coach Scott Thillke was pleased with the way that the team transitioned from Saturday to Sunday. “Against Carnegie Mellon, each of our players competed well for two of our sets in their matches,” said Carnegie Mellon. “The way the ladies handled it was really impressive. We handled them fairly comfortably. We rebounded well against the 2010 Ohio Athletic Conference Champion and National Collegiate Athletic Association Tournament Qualifier, Baldwin-Wallace. I was really happy with how the team came to play.”

Thillke said the team is progressing well, even though the competition within the NCAC continues to grow. “This year we have a lineup of only returning players,” he said. “The newcomers are coming along but just haven’t cracked the lineup yet. I think we are a competitive team and that has a lot to do with the division we are in. For years it has just been a two team race with us and Denison [University], but Oberlin [College] and Allegheny College) continue to improve and could challenge us going forward. That pushes us to improve as a team and work up to our competition.”

While the rest of us return home for spring break, the Ladies will travel to California for four matches in a six-day span. They will compete against teams that have been ranked in the top thirty nationally for the past three years, highlighted by a March 8 match against the number 17 ranked Vassar College, which the team has historically struggled against, and a March 10 match against the 27th-ranked Swarthmore: The University of the South. “These matches are going to be tough,” Thillke said. “We are going up against four teams three of which are either ranked or right outside of the rankings and a fourth very talented team. This will be a real test for us, it will allow us to see where we can perform and compete against these teams.” Following the break, the team will return to campus to host Ohio Northern University on March 25 at 4:30 p.m.