After a seven-month-long search process, Kenyon’s Presidential Search Committee and Board of Trustees announced, on Monday, March 18, the unanimous appointment of

Sean M. Decatur
Kenyon’s 19th President

Drug testing process improves

“…We try to duplicate as best [as] possible what the student athlete is going to be exposed to when they go to a championship situation.”

Peter Smith, Director of Athletics, Fitness and Recreation

In the spring of 2008 the Collegian published an opinion article that criticized the Kenyon athletic program’s drug testing policies. Writer and athlete Liz Hancock ’10 complained that the tests were demeaning, unnecessarily public and targeted athletes, making it seem as though the school was “out to get them.” Five years have passed since the article was published, and with time has come change. Before, drug testing was often characterized as attempting to catch athletes in the act of using. The process itself was more public and unprofessional, and feelings like Hancock’s were widely felt across the student-athlete community.

Peter Smith, Kenyon’s athletic director, said Kenyon’s current drug testing policy mirrors the policy set forth by the NCAA.

“We try to duplicate as best [as] possible what the student athlete is going to be exposed to when they go to a championship situation.”

The Mount Vernon City Schools are set to make some of their most severe cuts to date if voters again reject a proposal for a new emergency operating levy, which will be on the ballot in May 7’s special election. If passed, the levy would inject $3 million of new funding into the district annually, beginning in 2014. Superintendent Steve Short said the cuts would include all extra- and co-curricular activities, from athletic teams to debate club, six teaching positions and three other staff positions. These proposed cuts come on the heels of increases in participation fees for sports and other activities. Lack of funding has also

Special election to include school levy

PHOEBE ROE
STAFF WRITER

~3.28.2013~
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16 pages

Serving Kenyon College and Gambier, Ohio Since 1856
Students aim to reformulate role of safe spaces on campus

Village Record

March 1 – March 27

March 1, 4:30 p.m. — Student(s) found using illegal substance in Mather Residence Hall.

March 2, 9:19 a.m. — Fire exit light torn off wall in Hanna Residence Hall.

March 2, 5:56 p.m. — Popcorn and beer bottle strewn about in Lannan Residence Hall.

March 6, 9:34 p.m. — Student found taking items from Bexley Hall without permission or reason.

March 12, 7:14 p.m. — Student reported loss of personal items from recreational locker room at the Kenyon Athletic Center.

March 13, 10:58 a.m. — Staff witnessed student(s) damaging sod at a practice field by driving recklessly on it.

March 15, 3:27 p.m. — Suspended vehicle found at Peirce Hall.

March 15, 10:58 a.m. — Student(s) found using illegal substance in Bushnell Residence Hall.

March 16, 12:11 a.m. — Student(s) found using illegal substance in Buhrn Hall Residence Hall.

March 17, 2:28 p.m. — Unregistered gathering found during noise complaint at Gambiree Grill.

March 17, 12:01 p.m. — Suspended vehicle found at Peirce Hall.

March 18, 10:38 a.m. — Unknown person(s) vandalized hand dryer in restroom in Farr Hall.

March 20, 12:44 a.m. — Unregistered gathering found following noise complaint at Old Kenyon Residence Hall.

March 21, 11:32 p.m. — Student(s) found on roof of Hill Theater without consent.

March 23, 11:39 p.m. — Intoxicated student in McBride Residence Hall became incoherent and was transported by squad to the Knox Community Hospital (KCH).

March 23, 11:44 p.m. — Knox County Sheriff’s Office (KCSO) cited student for open container on public property.

March 24, 12:03 a.m. — Intoxicated student in Mather Residence Hall was unresponsive and was transported by squad to KCH.

March 24, 1:05 a.m. — KCSO cited student for open container on public property.

March 24, 5:52 p.m. — Student complained of severe abdominal pain, dizziness and nausea and was transported to KCH for examination and treatment.

March 25, 10:18 p.m. — Smokes were discovered in dormitory by student(s) in Taft Corrages. Student smoking in residence and illegal substance found.

THE KENYON COLLEGIAN | THURSDAY, MARCH 28 | KENYONCOLLEGIAN.COM

Nugent on her future plans

President S. Georgia Nugent will be a senior fellow at the Council for Independent Colleges (CIC), a membership organization of about 600 small liberal arts colleges. She will lead an initiative to broaden understanding of the value of a liberal arts education.

“Unfortunately, my belief is those of us higher ed — have kind of been too complacent. We’ve assumed that people understood the value of a liberal arts education, and there are a lot of voices now that are saying, ‘oh there isn’t any value.’ And we have to get out there and challenge those voices and we really haven’t done that successfully.”

Students Council

Sunday, March 24

• Academic Affairs will hold a hearing for an academic infraction this week, which will not be the first hearing of the semester.

• The Student Life Committee will keep Student Council elections open until Friday.

• No student agreed to run for the positions of: the junior representative to Student Senate; junior representative to Student Council; chair of Buildings and Grounds; and communications director. The new Student Council will appoint people to these positions.

• The Housing and Dining Committee has reviewed 14 themed housing applications but has not determined how many spots they can assign. The committee will meet together to discuss the applications and then the committee chair will meet with Assistant Dean of Students for Housing and Residential Life Alicia Dugas. The committee will inform the groups involved by Friday.

• Housing and Dining has talked with AVI about the broken ice machine in Peirce.

• The Business and Finance Committee (BFC) received and allocated five budget requests, totaling around $2,000. Groups receiving funding include: the students at the BFEC, ADELANTE, Greek Council, J-Street U, and the Kenyon College Cooking Club.

• The BFC expressed concerns with the posters for the Tuskegee Airman that state the talk is “In conjunction with Lydia Winkler’s Senior Exercise” because the BFC did not know this and does not want to set a precedent of funding senior exercises. Student Council discussed this and possible solutions.

• Buildings and Grounds reportedly found funding for emergency lights in bathrooms, something Student Council requested in response to the recent power outage.

• First Year Council is also developing a recycling initiative for first-year areas, which they hope future classes will continue.

• Student Council will extend an invitation to the new president to join them at a Student Council meeting.

• Student Council is preparing questions for the trustees, who will visit soon.

- Grace Hitzeman

The Crozier Center for Women, located centrally on campus, is a public safe space that can be used by students.
Decatur to bring new talents, fresh perspective

continued from page 1

general as an interest, especially the connection between race and science.

To begin the process of select- ing a new president, a Presidential Search Committee consisting of 15 members— including faculty members, students, admin- istrators and alumni — was estab- lished soon after Nugent expressed her intent to leave, and search firm Stoelzle/Pennington was hired to select a preliminary list of candidates.

The Search Begins

As the school year began, the committee began its formal and am- bulatory job of deciding who would be Kenyon's 19th president. Should he be a scholar or a businessman? An academic or an expert in fund- raising? Stoelzle/Pennington helped collect resumes and suggest can- didates, lending their knowledge of the Board of Trustees. The committee published a prospectus on Nov. 5, 2012, outlining their ideal characteristics in an applicant: effective and visionary leadership, ability to mobilize the College’s fi- nancial operations and creative- ly set priorities and capacity to strengthen Kenyon’s reputation. “I think the key [thing] we say is that they wanted someone who understands the holistic na-ture of the experience,” said Dean of Students Hank Toutain about the work that went into finding an ac- ademic president. “Yes, part of it is in the classroom.”

Committee chair Brackett Denniston ’99 and the Board of Trustees saw the winningest qual- ities in Decatur. “He’s an excellent leader [and] he has a great student orientation, students have loved him, he has managed extremely well with the Board of Trustees and academically, and at the places he’s worked,” Denniston said.

A Man with a Plan

In addition to the committe- es and Board’s hopes for the new president, Decatur himself has big plans. Priority one on his agenda is “to get to know the institution and what makes the faculty, staff, alumni, parents.” Next up: a strategic planning process. “I would like to see, as a communi- ty, articulate clear priorities for the future of Kenyon, keeping in mind that initiatives should contribute holistically to advancing academic excellence and student learning ... and strengthening our financial sustainability,” Decatur said.

Denniston is also enthusias- tic about the attention Decatur’s field of specialization will bring to the sciences. “While I’m confident [that] as president he’ll continue to strengthen and promote humani- ties and the rest of the Kenyon cur- riculum, I think the science part is a nice plus for Kenyon’s profile,” Denniston said.

Decatur called science an “over- looked” part of the Kenyon cur- riculum, saying that the scientific education offered by liberal arts colleges “regularly outperforms” that provided by big research uni- versities. “If nationally we do not pay attention to the diversity of the scientific workforce, we will even-

Decatur and Samhat converse backstage after Decatur’s official welcoming event in Rosse Hall on March 18.

fully fall behind in producing the engineers and researchers we need to stay economically competitive,” Decatur said.

A Traditional President

Considering his background in Science, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields, Decatur has more experience as a teacher than as a fundraiser, and is classified in the world of higher edu- cation as a “traditional” president. But his charisma and ability to con- nec t with people gave the commit- tee confidence that Decatur would be fully able to continue Nugent’s preceding attracting donations. “All that we’ve heard from his [employ- ers] ... are that his ability to speak in front of people ... is outstanding,” committee member Amy Schlee- man ’13 said. “He hasn’t had as much experience with fundraising but we saw in him a lot of potential for making public presentations ... and to be a positive presence.”

Provost Nayel Samhat is famil- iar with the skills a president must have when accumulating funds for an institution. “There is that concern about institutions becoming more business-oriented, and a lot of insti- tutions are hiring who we would call ’nontraditional presidents’ ... be- cause they feel that they need a more business-oriented person,” Samhat said.

“Have you enjoy meeting people and talking to people and developing relationships with them and fostering a sense of shared un- derstanding and purpose.”

Nugent also offered advice that she hopes Decatur will heed, saying that though Decatur will be faced with financial challenges, solutions do exist. “[F]undraising is really not as difficult as people may think it is, because it’s all about bringing to someone an opportunity that they’re really going to feel good about,” Nugent said. “It’s something that makes them proud.”

Decatur is concerned about the increasing cost of higher education, which he thinks may “limit growth in tuition revenue” and “increase pressures on endowment.” Even so, Deca- tur hopes to be able to make Kenyon’s future a lucrative one.

Promoting the Liberal Arts

Decatur has often expressed his deep-seated faith in liberal arts in- stitutions. In a debate between aca- demics in the New York Times on whether or not colleges make smarter one, Decatur, said: “[Policymak- ers] should not lose sight of the cen- tral value of the traditional liberal arts and sciences ... in the develop- ment of the student mind.”

Toutain referenced Decatur’s ar- ticles for various publications as an attractive quality. “I think it’s criti- cally important that people have a better, more accurate understanding of what these kinds of institutions are and what they’re truly criti- cal is to the life of the country,” she said.

High hopes ride upon Decatur’s passions for liberal arts education. “It’s a challenge for liberal arts colleges in general to at- tract the attention and interest more broadly in other parts of the country and fearful there are institutions drawing to talented students from all backgrounds,” Decatur said. “We need to make sure that we are stay- ing in front of that.”

The Reign of Decatur

“Authority without noise,” “mul- tifaceted,” “trend,” “a gem” — these words have all been used to describe Decatur. Expectations from com- mittee members abound: Decatur must increase financial accessibility, change the market perception of the greatest president Kenyon has ever seen. In Nugent’s words, “He’ll have plenty on his plate.”

Decatur plans to settle into Crowell Collage in July, and his wife Renee Romano, his daughter Sabine and his son Owen will likely join him in stages, in his daugh- ter’s high school and his son’s high school. “We’re very excited about moving to Crowell — in fact, Owen has already claimed the third floor as a playroom,” Decatur said.

Toutain is excited about taking on this responsibility,” he said. “And when I reflect upon that idea, I want to modify my earlier description of what I think about Kenyon this after- noon. It’s no longer just awesome, but to- tally awesome.”

Lili Martinez contributed reporting.
Notes from Abroad: Details of a day in Denmark

8:00 a.m. I get on the train for a short ride into downtown Copenhagen. Although I’m glad to be living in a city for a change, I miss being within walking distance of Peirce and class.

8:20 a.m. The train was running late, so now I have to hurry to make it to my first class. The trains here aren’t always on time, and are often covered in colorful graffiti.

10:30 a.m. As usual, my Danish professor is chatting aimlessly instead of drilling us in the language. Since January, I’ve been introduced to the letters Æ, Å, and Ø, and have learned that the word for “food” is spelled “mad” but pronounced “meel.” Thankfully, my Hans Christian Andersen class gets to study the fairy tales of Denmark’s favorite son in English and not in the original Danish.

11:30 a.m. Finished with my morning classes, it’s time for lunch. Copenhagen is one of the most expensive cities in the world, so this means a lot of sandwiches made at home, or maybe Chinese takeout once in a while — from the little food stand just down the street from Soren Kierkegaard’s birthplace.

1:15 p.m. My last class of the day is Danish Politics and Society, in which we learn about Denmark’s famously generous welfare state and the famously high taxes that go with it. A $20/hour minimum wage and all-encompassing social services may seem alluring, but this comes at a steep price: I can’t even buy a latte for less than $8, partly thanks to the 25% value-added tax on every purchase.

2:45 p.m. After class I go to the library and work on homework, but this usually doesn’t take too long. Although the Danish Institute for Study Abroad has a reputation for good academic standards compared to other programs, it’s still less work than Kenyon.

4:00 p.m. I do some planning for a trip to Norway during an upcoming week off. The semester is structured to allow plenty of time for travel, both individually and on study tours.

5:00 p.m. I ride the bus home, and on the way pass through Nørrebro, a neighborhood that’s become known as the “Norrebros” due to its rising (but still low by American standards) levels of gun violence and gang crime.

5:30 p.m. When I enter the apartment, my three Danish roommates are not there, having gone to protest cuts to the student stipend system. This program effectively pays students to go to college (which is already free, of course). Considering how expensive Kenyon is, it’s hard for me to sympathize with their complaints about relatively minor cuts to what seem like generous benefits.

8:00 p.m. After dinner, I remember that tomorrow I have a field study at the Danish parliament, the Folketinget. In a country of only 5.5 million citizens, the politicians are a lot more accessible, and the Folketinget security is pretty laid back. In addition to the field studies, our program spent a week in Brussels visiting European Union headquarters, and at the end of the semester we’ll partake in a model European Council simulation. Fellow Kenyonite Leland Holcomb ’14 and I will be representing Poland, while Nikhil Idnani ’14 mans the Czech Republic and Ally Brusch ’14 runs the show as Germany. The high number of Lords and Ladies on my program is a reminder that, even on another continent, you can never truly leave Kenyon behind.

**CONTRIBUTOR**

**DAVID HOYT**

David Hoyt ’14 is spending the semester abroad in Denmark.
continued from page 1

We still have kids … that maybe don’t know their letters or know how to write their name and so we had somebody that was able to work with those kids, and now we don’t have that person,” said Nita Thielle, who teaches first grade at Wigginton Street.

It appears unlikely that the district will rehire any fired employees. One sign of the federal and state fiscal cuts is the layoff of the Literacy Specialist, whose primary job was to work with underperforming students. Former Literacy Specialist Mary Farnsworth said that the Board of Education will discuss replacing the pay-to-participate fee with something more fair, given the 2008 suspension of middle school science teacher John Freshwater, who has since been reinstated.

Both Murphy and Kent Woodward-Ginther ’93, who is the College’s philanthropic advisor and has two children currently enrolled in the district, have expressed anger over the district’s 2008 suspension of middle school science teacher John Freshwater, who has since been reinstated.

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If the school district is handicapped to the point where they’re only offering basic, state-mandated services, that is a problem in terms of attracting new talent to the area.”

Murphy said that a further decline in the quality of Mount Vernon schools would deter future families from moving here, and live here, for those reasons,” she said.

Woodward-Ginther echoed Murphy’s sentiments. “If the levy doesn’t pass, they will move out of the district. If the past is any indication, turnout for May’s election will be lower than it was for November’s, since only local issues are up for consideration.

“Jameyanne Fuller, President of the KWC-CWT, was quoted as being “trying to create an atmosphere that is sort of a safe way for people to write and get critiqued.”

“Fuller described her group as “trying to create an atmosphere that is sort of a safe way for people to write and get critiqued.”

We’re encouraging people to write by giving them a space to share their work,” she said. Several goals of KWC-CWT, according to Fuller’s latest all-student email, are to “maintain writing habits,” “gain expertise in our work aloud” and “form relationships with other writers.”

Griggs is correct: the group provides a safe haven for writers, who know that other writing outlets don’t, adding to the “informal” ways to bring awareness to the community of writers at Kenyon.

“Everybody at Kenyon writes,” Griggs said.

KWC-CWT has held two workshops this semester, on “making languages” and “world-building,” and members plan to have more, covering everything from humor in writing to scriptwriting.

They have also spoken to Professor of English Sergei Loban-Rostovsky about teaching the basics of mystery writing, and they intend to branch out into “creative production aspects” of writing, according to Fuller.

By being recognized as an official student group, Fuller hopes to receive funding for trips to writing conventions and their National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) network, which provided pizza parties for the writing group.

The once-invasive drug testing process has been refined and made to be more respect- ful. The number of students who test and often do talk amongst themselves, the results of the drug tests are not made avail- able to the public. The drug testing process is not a part of a bigger terminology.

“That’s the change we’re making,” the kind of shift. “We’re still doing this but we’re showing you how it fits into a bigger picture,” said Smith.
President’s office, among others, to move locations

In the next three months, Kenyon’s senior staff will finalize a plan to relocate the offices of key personnel so that incoming College president Sean M. Decatur can move into Ransom Hall. Provost Nayef Samhat told the Collegian that the moves, while not yet formally decided, were designed to ensure that the new president is down here in the center of campus.” President S. Georgia Nugent said the move would require “some renovations” to the second floor of Ransom Hall.

Samhat and his staff currently occupy the second floor of Ransom Hall, with the Admissions office on the first floor. Because of its proximity to academic buildings and to Middle Path, makes it an ideal spot for Decatur “I think he recognizes that being down here in the middle of campus is most important,” Samhat said, referring to his office. “From his perspective, Ransom Hall [and this office are] a logical choice.”

Samhat’s current office is a suite with one room with a couch and two tables, as well as windows facing Middle Path. Samhat said that his primary goal was ensuring the comfort and accessibility of President Decatur. “I know President Nugent moved up to the north end of campus in order to accommodate the Admissions folks here, but I think we’ll be able to develop a layout here that will serve the new president,” Samhat said.

President Nugent and her staff have resided and worked in Eaton Center, which is at the very north end of campus, for three years.

The staff moves that are set to be completed by June have been focused on south campus because, Samhat said, “We have limited options down at [the north end of campus]. Ransom Hall and Bailey House are the options that we have to look at for offices.” Bailey House is still in the design stages. The college has hired Malcolm Kutner to draft a plan for the redesign and renovation of the building, which was last overhaul in 1976. The building has already been emptied of its academic furnishings, but Kutner is still finalizing the details of his plan.

The Collegian reached out to Kutner for an interview, but he said that he wanted to wait until “the finer points of the renovation” were confirmed, which he said would happen in the beginning of April.

Fred Langer, Kenyon’s manager of business services, told the Collegian that he was waiting for a phone call from Kutner with information about the furnishings needed for Bailey House. Langer, who handles large-scale furniture acquisitions, said he would probably know more about Bailey House, including its layout, in a month. He also said that he did not yet have a budget for the furnishings. “I assume it’ll be some sort of discretionary funds,” he said.

In order to accommodate President Decatur and his staff moving to Ransom Hall, Provost Samhat and his staff will move to Bailey House. The associate provosts and their assistants will also move to Bailey House. The internal offices of the provost and the associate provosts will stay, but the open offices that are currently occupied by members of the provost’s office, will move to Edelstein. “My sense is that we’d like to see the provost’s office and staff all together over there,” Samhat said. “One of the interesting things about our campus is we have many buildings and yet the structure of available offices sometimes isn’t conducive to naturally placing administra tors or staff where they might logically be.”

Linger, who has been at Kenyon for 27 years, said that such a move would mark the first time that the provost and the associate provosts worked under the same roof.

He said the provost’s office has always been in Ransom Hall, while the associate provost’s office has been on the opposite end of campus, for three years.

The June deadline for implementing these moves reflects the need to weigh the options carefully and address the needs of various senior staff and administrators, Samhat said.

Eaton Center currently houses only a few staff members who work with the College president. If President Decatur moved to Ransom Hall and those individuals accompanied him, Eaton Center would have several open offices. Samhat speculated that employees of Business Services could move there from Eb ley Hall.

“It’s not as though we’re creating large new spaces,” Samhat said. “We’re basically moving folks into what would be similar volumes of space.”

Committee will study athletics

Made up of alumni, students, professors and administrators, the Committee to Study Athletics was formed last summer with the goal of breaking down the different facets of the Kenyon athletic program and deciding which areas need the most help. “We’ve taken this big question of what areas need the most help,” said Tacci Smith, associate dean of students.

The committee met once a week for eight weeks, in order to focus on a different issue related to the Kenyon Athletic Center (KAC). In light of recent crimes at the KAC, the committee is more crucial now than ever before. “It was kind of interesting that we were already meeting and then things started coming up,” said Smith.

Smith and her fellow committee members are expected to give their recommendations to Kenyon’s president next spring after months of review and a survey that will be distributed next fall. The survey will collect information on what parts of the KAC are used the most, asking questions such as, “Why do you go to the KAC?” and “What do you like most about the KAC?”

The hope is to make recommendations for positive changes without affecting the budget, such as reconfiguring the weight room rather than buying all new equipment.

Smith said the committee would only meet through next year unless the president or other College administrators think more needs to be done.

Some committee members have already received the results of the survey. “The results of the survey were interesting,” said Smith.

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DKEs and EDMs host ALS benefit

Last Friday, March 22, the brothers of Delta Kappa Epsilon (DKE) and sisters of Epsilon Delta Mu (EDM) co-hosted their fourth annual ALS Benefit at the Village Inn (VI). Packed to capacity and designed to raise money for Lou Gehrig’s Disease Association (ALS) — commonly known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease. Nate Gray ’16, a DKE alum, conceived of the benefit in 2010 after his stepmother was diagnosed with ALS. He said the provost’s office has always been in Ransom Hall, while the associate provost’s office has been on the opposite end of campus, for three years.

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Advice for Kenyon’s next president

This week, Sean M. Decatur — a career academic — was named Kenyon’s 19th president. Decatur boasts a strong background in the liberal arts. He is a former associate dean, department chair, and professor of chemistry at Mount Holyoke College, and currently serves as the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Oberlin College. He will be held to high standards when he sets foot on Middle Path, and the Collegian has a few recommendations for him.

At Oberlin, Decatur teaches chemistry and biochemistry. He is heavily involved in the community where he lives full-time with his family. Decatur has indicated that he will move into Cromwell Cottage, an iconic part of Kenyon’s campus. We hope that Decatur will reinvigorate the office of president, whether by teaching classes, holding regular office hours, or hosting open events at Cromwell, as former presidents have done.

But Decatur’s challenges are not limited to visibility on campus. Now more than ever, Kenyon needs a president who can tailor his fundraising efforts to increase the financial aid budget — for both need- and merit-based aid — a marked failure of the We Are Kenyon campaign. But new scholarships and increased aid will not be enough. Decatur needs to tamp the soaring rate of Kenyon’s tuition.

As a scientist himself, Decatur should give Kenyon a reputation in the sciences to match its reputation in the humanities. The state-of-the-art science quad has extended that physical showing. Kenyon is renowned for its resources to the sciences, and Decatur can do more to extend that physical showing. Most of the work in the sciences is based aid — a marked failure of the We Are Kenyon campaign. New scholarships and increased aid will not be enough. Decatur needs to tamp the soaring rate of Kenyon’s tuition.

Campus vandalism getting out of hand

Money that could have gone towards the general flourishing of the campus and student life is squandered on the very kinds of actions that directly impede that flourishing.

Just after winter break, the residents of McBride received an email from Housing and Residential Life informing us that our kitchen — which, on especially rowdy nights, bears an eerie resemblance to the diner in Balm in Gilead — had been ransacked, and that it would have to be closed down temporarily. But that wasn’t all. If someone didn’t open up to the vandalism soon, they warned, then the cost of the damages would be equally distributed among all the residents.

It doesn’t take a miser to recognize the inherent unfairness of the situation. And if a passing act of debauchery from an outsider, a non-resident, then all the more unreasonable. Of course, no one could reasonably blame Housing and Residential Life for the damages. No one had to. Someone had to have. And ultimately, those threats prove effective: the culprit stepped forward and took responsibility, the superior dictates of Fairness and Reason won out, and the natural order of the universe was re-established — with the major caveat that McBride was kitchen-less for a week or so.

The identity of the culprit is, at this point, inconsequential. I bring the episode up because it fits perfectly into a larger, campus-wide trend of an unprecedented scale. This campus has taken a beating, one akin to sporadic and swift punches to the gut that leave you reeling from time to time. We are tentatively exhale before the next capricious-yet-inevitable blow. And this isn’t the exclusive province of the Village Record. The evidence of the destruction is empirical, and it is keenly and acutely felt by all members of the community. If blame were a kind of currency, our cycle of vandalism would be self-sufficient and therefore largely innocuous, a mere nuisance instead of an urgent issue. But the fact of the matter is we’re a small campus working with finite resources, with plenty of damage being tossed around. To say, theories abound as to whether these are isolated and spontaneous incidents of a few individuals or whether the blame lies largely on a crop of destructive first-years and restless seniors and whether alcohol and sheer stupidity is the driving force behind these acts. What we know for certain is that every little thing seems to be the reason of any to reason to any of. It’s hard to imagine any conceivable consensual application of thought when someone empties the contents of a fire extinguisher in the Gund Commons basement, orrips a door clean off its hinges (because frankly, “I couldn’t find it in my room”, “I just didn’t cut it”). Both of these, by the way, are real examples.

The question of who’s responsible is productive, to be sure — especially if it does turn out to be the work of a few less-than-moral-minded individuals. But we can’t be certain. If the costs to replace the emptied fire extinguisher. Consider the profound unfairness of a group of employees called back to work, likely after the heft of the week—a reminder that they could clean up an unnecessary mess that was probably made by a very privileged class of people, who continue to destroy lack an appropriate sense of scale; it’s far too small to deal with the vandalism at the Gund Commons. I assume responsibility for diverting our recently-constructed edi- tory work for an average year’s tuition, or $62,000. But the truth is, vandalism persists in spite of the collective efforts of the community and the lack of any conceivable remedy — and in its absence, a mere nuisance instead of an urgent issue. But the fact of the matter is we’re a small campus working with finite resources, with plenty of damage being tossed around. To say, theories abound as to whether these are isolated and spontaneous incidents of a few individuals or whether the blame lies largely on a crop of destructive first-years and restless seniors and whether alcohol and sheer stupidity is the driving force behind these acts. What we know for certain is that every little thing seems to be the reason of any to reason to any of. It’s hard to imagine any conceivable consensual application of thought when someone empties the contents of a fire extinguisher in the Gund Commons basement, orrips a door clean off its hinges (because frankly, “I couldn’t find it in my room”, “I just didn’t cut it”). Both of these, by the way, are real examples.

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For aspiring actors, Kenyon theater is just too good

All I want here at Kenyon is one terrible production of Oklahoma!...

Making do without makeup

DEREK DASHIELL CONTRIBUTOR

A while ago, I saw a magazine cover advertising pictures of a girl who “wears no makeup” and a few days ago, someone linked me to an article on buzzfeed.com that promised pictures of over 30 porn stars with and without makeup. Stories like these have been around forever, but they appear to be becoming trendy again. I was skimming the comments of the article when I saw someone had said, “Hey guys, we should just start hooking up with the make-up cut out the middleman.”

A reply said something to the effect of, “Way ahead of you. I’ve been banned from Sephora stores statewide.”

These gentlemen seem to have stumbled on something in their musings, and so I now must make a modest proposal to the men of this college: Why don’t we, as a group of intelligent men, do just that? Why don’t we pursue what really matters?

The convenience of this idea is multi-faceted. For one, how much you spend buying girls drinks, paying for whatever you need to get them happy with you is a commitment to buying new clothes for them. Then, think about how much time is spent acquiring their favor; after all, some say girls are time and money. You’re waiting for hours, sometimes working for days. Doesn’t it often seem that your lady will be interested enough to pursue you in return? In this scenario, you can just put clear bottles of makeup on a thin table and pump out house bass under which it so the bottle’s contents begin to juggle. You can even muff around them to select a preferred one, while pretending that you are competing with other men for the favor of the one they are eyeing.

For more classy affairs, you could take out a nice pair of high heels; for more grungy tattoo, stillettos. Modeling and its more perpetuated subclasses could be done quite tastefully with a one-hundred-dollar push up bra, and perhaps some high end jeans. For burlesque enthusiasts, a pair of high heels; for more...
The dark dreams of an elderly matador, quilled paper designs in the swoosh of schools of fish, and minimalist sculptures of a beloved grandparent’s house are represented in some of the pieces in the 2013 Annual Senior Student Exhibition in Good Gallery. From March 25 until April 14, the works of the ten senior Studio Art majors will be on display during regular gallery hours. The students whose works are on display include seniors Alexia-Renee Derkasch, Ferrell Garramone, Ville Matias Lampi, Lindsay Lynch, Nicholas Nams, Tostan Norteka, Dayra Tzendehlyak, William Uddel, Matthew Vertichino and Edith Willey.

(1) Alexia-Renee Derkasch: Derkasch’s series White Barrels, Barred Barrels and Corl Barrels reflects, according to her artist statement, “human obsession and repetition.” The pieces are influenced by her Caribbean heritage, reflecting coral reef and schools of fish.

“I quilled thousands of pieces of paper. I wanted to create something that was really, particularly in the white one, organic on the top and more pattern-oriented [on the bottom]. As I developed the series I enjoyed the patterns, while still having elements that were influenced by organic material under the sea. I continued patterns as they were schools of fish remaining, especially in the last one,” she said. 1,000 pieces of paper were quilled, or coiled and shaped, instead.

(2) Dayra Tzendehlyak: Tzendehlyak’s painting series emboldens the principle of the artist statement that “the body is a portrait of our inner realities.” Her paintings, which depict the human body bent and bent into various poses, are surreal, in order from left to right: Iquique, Viagro, Pica Pica, Hiqui, Jorge, Iquique, and Jorge Jr.

“I had [the models] pose for me alone in a room when I was not there with a time lapse camera taking a shot of every second of their movements. I just invited friends to express themselves through gesture. After winter I came back and painted,” she said.

(3) Ville Matias Lampi: Lampi’s piece Here is an Empty Sky combines media that one wouldn’t expect: an HD digital video loops on a television and a spotlighted oval of sand, over which a second HD digital cartoon video loop is played, all overlaid with quoted text from The Little Book of Unoccupied Subjacency by Edmund Juhász, a famed Jewish poet.

“I started doing this work sort of as a personal exploration into my own memories. I studied abroad in Amsterdam the first semester of my junior year, more than a year ago. I feel like a lot of my friends were here and a lot were at home at the time and I was connecting with all of those people that were not actually in Amsterdam and I realized that it was through technology. And I was thinking about how I could read back those smalls and check back the chat histories. This piece is about how we remember through that it was through technology. And I was thinking about how I could read back those smalls and check back the chat histories. This piece is about how we remember through that it was through technology. And I was thinking about how I could read back those smalls and check back the chat histories. This piece is about how we remember through that it was through technology. And I was thinking about how I could read back those smalls and check back the chat histories. This piece is about how we remember through technology as memories these days, and what we lose when we view them as memories,” Lampi said.

(4) William Uddel: Uddel’s pieces in his Understanding of the Habitual series are mechanical, crude, and repetitious. “I think that they’re all supposed to be a consideration of gestures that I encounter on a very habitual level, something that I’ve done over and over. I’m trying to step back from that experience and try to consider more than an unconscious gesture and something that has a more meaningful context. That’s why I like setting a machine out to make motions for me. It gives me a chance to consider what is actually happening,” he said.

(5) Ferrell Garramone: Garramone’s paintings are about painting. “They’re about history painting, and the gaze, and they’re about the identity of both, things that are tangible, things that operate outside of gender, and they’re also about being in a studio,” she said. Her series includes five paintings, Ferrell II-VI, Tresias I, and Ferrell III-VI, Tresias is the only self-portrait.

(6) Edith Willey: Willey’s I A Room of One’s Own is the ultimate self-portrait — with not an image of the artist herself. “A Room of One’s Own is a summation of things that I made and things that I found. Some of the things that I made were made with found objects. It’s just all this stuff that I collected over the course of the year, and some of it I’ve been gathering for a long time— that’s one of the fun things about it, you get to look around and see a lot of different things. The piece is about collecting and seeing the beauty in ordinary objects and unexpected places. It’s also definitely a self-portrait; it illustrates the way my brain works and the way I think. I think it says more about me than a painting of myself would,” she said. Willey’s 12 x 31 x 14 feet white walls are covered with found objects, graphite drawings, cut paper and gelatin silver prints.

(7) Tostan Norteka: Norteka’s fire mounted sculptures, Rock Pile, Attic Space, Wall of Plaques, Garage and Cedar Closet, are comprised of materials as variable as jewelry boxes, a reef rug, and a sable scarf. According to his artist statement, Norteka considers himself a “three-dimensional portraitist.”

“I was trying to find a way to make sculptures about my grandparents’ house, but the problem was that houses are architectural and really boring. They are just blank boxes. I had to find a way to express that, and so I chose to follow the path of minimalism and really focus on distinct angles and abstracting the actual space,” he said of his pieces.

(8) Matthew Vertichino: Vertichino’s mixed media piece Robinson is both terrifying and entertaining in scope: the towering structure, composed of wooden plastic, tape and concrete, is able to be removed and replaced by patron’s 18 and older. Robinson took more than 100 hours to construct. As for how Vertichino was able to construct the staggeringly high top of his tower, the answer is simple: “I climbed,” he said.

(9) Nicholas Nams: Nams’s The Matador’s Nightmares was not originally meant to end up on a screen at all. “The story was an idea for a short film last semester that I wanted to make but it takes an incredibly long time to make an animated movie… It’s about a matador who’s pretty old and a woman in the field and he’s taking a man ride home after he defeats one of the strongest bulls in the country. He falls asleep and has this very vivid nightmare [in which] he’s chased by all of the bulls he’s killed in the past, around the city, into the subway,” he said.

The series, set on animation, is tricked, left to right, “The Binding of the Bulls, The Matador Victorious, Mother and Child and Running of the Bulls.”
Boom dramatizes a zany post-apocalyptic world

From the French aristocracy in "Marie Antoinette" to the post-apocalyptic world of "Thom Pain," the current season of the Kenyon College Dramatic Club has delivered many diverse and exciti

From the French aristocracy in "Marie Antoinette" to the post-apocalyptic world of "Thom Pain," the current season of the Kenyon College Dramatic Club has delivered many diverse and exciting productions. However, "Boom," directed by Professor of Drama Nachtreib and starring in repopulating the Earth, and Jo's constant attempts to escape her un

The set, designed by Gregory Cumley '14 and Molly McCleary '14, added to the play's tone. The production takes place in a small science lab, and the decision to cram a large number of shelves and pieces of furniture into such a confined space emphasized the unfortunate and extreme situation the characters are in. The placement of Jules' fish tank at center stage was also an excellent choice. The location attracted the audience's attention and increased the character's fame. "The placement also helped emphasize the play's concluding big reveal."

While the placement of Barbara's control station creatively added to the set in some ways, it also distracted. Barbara was elevated from the stage, which helped emphasize her sense of control. However, because the station was placed far on stage right, I found that I had trouble focusing on both the story unfolding on stage and Green's reactions to Jules and Jo. While the set was beautifully made, it also hurt Green's staging. The set included a couch that faced the audience, and Green would often have one character sit down while the other spoke with his back to the audience. For example, when Jules shared his speech on how he needed a companion to join him in repopulating the Earth, Jobb

Green appropriately reacted to the emotional story of Jules and Jo, and Jules and Jo's constant attempts to escape her unfortunate situation keep the audience on the edge of their seats.

The audience soon realizes that the story between Jules and Jo is occurring in the past, and the play is actually a museum exhibit that Barbara (Julia Green '15), the third character of the play, controls from the future. Barbara's control and treatment of the characters as puppets was hilarious and far surpassed my original expectations.

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**Rabbit Hole effectively explores grief, family dynamics**

Sponsored by the Crozier Center for Women, *SPEAK: Voices from the Hill* will feature monologues written and performed by Kenyon students.

**3 SARAH LEHR / STAFF WRITER**

The coordinators of *SPEAK: Voices from the Hill* want to know: if your junk had an anthem, what would it be? Crozier Center for Women sent out emails asking such questions to pique interest in their upcoming production. *SPEAK*’s coordinators — McKinley Sherrod ’14, Colleen Damrell ’13, Madeline Jobrack ’13 and Jane Jongeward ’14 — plan to play some of the songs which pay tribute to respondents’ genitala while audience members file into Peirce Pub before the performances on this Friday and Saturday night. *SPEAK* features monologues written and performed by Kenyon students about issues including gender, sexuality and body image.

*SPEAK*’s coordinators changed their query from “what would your vagina’s anthem be?” to “what would your junk’s anthem be?” in an effort to make

Mike Jest ’15, the teenager who was behind the wheel of the car that killed their son. Woven into the fabric of the story are the in ter and mother, (Faith Ser van ’13 and Rachel Cuningham ’14, respectively), who act as both a support system and an impetus for Becca’s and Howie’s recov ery.

“Taking place within the suffocating confines of a house that the couple simultaneously rejects and embraces, the play can, at times, feel stifling. Char acters bicker, fight, and argue persistently, trapped as much in their grief as they are within the confines of the staged home. Culley and his production stage manager Molly Mc Coy ’14 chose to have the proceedings take place entirely within this monume nt to the once-idyllic family. The bedroom of the deceased son is in the back ground of the set throughout the dur ation of the production, an effective touch that ontrols how the characters bicker, fight, and argue persistently, trapped as much in their grief as they are within the confines of the staged home.

Hill and performed by Kenyon students. Last year was Crozier’s first produc tion of *SPEAK*. In years prior, Crozier put on Eve Ensler’s *Vagina Mono logues*. But, because Ensler doesn’t want her work to be misrepresented, she has strict stipulations about how the *Monologues* must be performed.

Sherrod said of the *Vagina Monologues*, “It winds up being the exact same thing and it doesn’t allow for *SPEAK*-specific, local dialogue. We just have to assume that the things that Eve thinks are important are important to us.”

Critics sometimes refer to the narrowness of the *Vagina Monologues* as Ensler’s “monopoly on vagina.”

Damrell said, “Some people find that some of the monologues can be a little bit problematic in that they may not repre sent the experiences of women of color or queer women or people who maybe don’t fit into a binary.”

Sherrod echoed this sense of the *Vagina Monologues*’ limitations. “I think it’s an incredibly powerful production that has af fected a lot of women’s feminism and lives. It’s also kind of hetero cen tric. It’s a little reductive. It’s women as their vagina,” she said.

So, students came up with the idea for *SPEAK* while they were chatting in Crozier.

Sherrod remembered how ambitious this new idea seemed: “We said, ‘Let’s write our own. Let’s see if we can even do this.’”

They set a date and decided that if they didn’t get enough submissions by then, they would scrap the project entirely. There would be no *SPEAK* and no *Vagina Monologues*. Thankfully, submissions came rolling in. As *SPEAK* enters its sec ond year, its coordinators hope that it will become a tradition and that it will metaphorically rest in peace.

*Rabbit Hole* is a produ ction that succeeds by by oversweeping of omnipres ent grief and a sense of humor. It never relies on either element too heav ily. Treating its characters with sensitivity and verac ity, the play’s unpretensi ous and genuine dynam ics ultimately coalesce to form a potent portrait of a family struggling with a grief equally crushing and necessary.

It’s not all about vaginas. It’s not even all about genitalia in general. It’s not just a bunch of feminists ranting about the patriarchy. It’s people’s lives. It’s people’s stories.

McKinley Sherrod ’14, coordinator of *SPEAK*

In a scene from *Rabbit Hole*, Izzy (Faith Servant ’13) and her sister Becca (Beth Hyland ’13) talk about Izzy’s potential pregnancy. The play explores a couple’s grieving process after their young son’s sudden death.

“Rabbit Hole effectively explores grief, family dynamics. *Rabbit Hole* winds its way through a family struggling with arief and loss and held together by hope. The play tells the sto ry of Becca and Howie, a couple navigating a radically altered suburban landscape after losing their young son to a car accident. The loss of their child creates a distance between the two; the couple takes divergent paths to find solace. With the deceased son Danny’s death, Howie (Josh Henderson-Cox ’13) finds solace in a support group described by his wife as a bunch of “Jesus freaks.” Becca (Beth Hy land ’13) rejects Howie’s understanding of their loss and forms personal connections with Jason, clumsily played by

Gender and sexuality on the hill: *SPEAK* to give voice

Whatever the content, it is a challenge to find something more effective, if not transcenden tial style. *Rabbit Hole* is a play that, at times, feels stifling. Characters bicker, fight, and argue persistently, trapped as much in their grief as they are within the confines of the staged home.

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Notes from Abroad: Details of a day in Denmark

DAVID HOYT
CONTRIBUTOR

8:00 a.m. I get on the train for a short ride into downtown Copenhagen. Although I’m glad to be living in a city for a change, I miss being within walking distance of Peirce and class.

8:20 a.m. The train was running late, so now I have to hurry to make it to my first class. The trains here aren’t always on time, and are often covered in colorful graffiti.

10:30 a.m. As usual, my Danish professor is charting aimlessly instead of drilling us in the language. Since January, I’ve been introduced to the letters å, æ and ø, and have learned that the word for “food” is spelled “mad” but pronounced “mei.” Thankfully, my Hans Christian Andersen class gets to study the fairy tales of Denmark’s famously generous welfare state and the famously high taxes that go with it. A $20/20-hour minimum wage and all-encompassing social services may seem alluring, but this comes at a steep price: I can’t even buy a latte for less than $8, partly thanks to the 25% value-added tax on every purchase.

2:45 p.m. After class I go to the library and work on homework, but this usually doesn’t take too long. Although the Danish Institute for Study Abroad has a reputation for good academic standards compared to other programs, it’s still less work than Kenyon.

4:00 p.m. I do some planning for a trip to Norway during an upcoming week off. The semester is structured to allow plenty of time for travel, both individually and on study tours.

5:30 p.m. I ride the bus home, and on the way pass through Nørrebro, a neighborhood that’s become known as the “Nørrebronx” due to its rising crime rates. I’m glad to be living in a city for a change, I miss being within walking distance of Peirce and class.

12:30 a.m. Finished with my morning classes, it’s time for lunch. Copenhagen is one of the most expensive cities in the world, so this means a lot of sandwiches made at home, or maybe Chinese takeout once in a while — from the little food stand just down the street from Søren Kierkegaard’s birthplace.

1:15 p.m. My last class of the day is Danish Politics and Society, in which we learn about Denmark’s famously generous welfare state and the famously high taxes that go with it. A $20/20-hour minimum wage and all-encompassing social services may seem alluring, but this comes at a steep price: I can’t even buy a latte for less than $8, partly thanks to the 25% value-added tax on every purchase.

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5:30 p.m. When I enter the apartment, my three Danish roommates are not there, having gone to protest cuts to the student stipend system. This program effectively pays students to go to college (which is already free, of course). Considering how expensive Kenyon is, it’s hard for me to sympathize with their complaints about relatively minor cuts to what seem like generous benefits.

8:00 p.m. After dinner, I remember that tomorrow I have a final study at the Danish parliament, the Folketinget. In a country of only 5.5 million citizens, the politicians are a lot more accessible, and the Folketinget security is pretty laid back. In addition to the field studies, our program spent a week in Brussels visiting European Union headquarters, and at the end of the semester we’ll partake in a model European Council simulation. Fellow Kenyonite Leland Holcomb ’14 and I will be representing Poland, while Nikhil Idnani ’14 mans the Czech Republic and Alby Brusch ’14 runs the show as Germany. The high number of Lords and Ladies on my program is a reminder that, even on another continent, you can never truly leave Kenyon behind.
“Rural by Design” is the final element of the three-year Food for Thought project. The event will run from April 1–6, 2013.

In a world that constantly moves urbanizing, going to school in Knox County puts Kenyon students in a unique position — we have the opportunity to experience rural life. “Rural by Design,” the three-year Food for Thought project that will culminate in a series of events next week, aims to help the community understand its rural surroundings and how to sustain them.

For sociology professor Howard Sacks, director of the Rural Life Center, “Rural by Design” was a logical step to follow previous initiatives. From 1994 to 1997 he worked on the Family Farm Project to explore how family farming affected community life.

“Knox County began getting very concerned about its future, about the erosion of rural character,” Sacks said. “The Family Farm Project sort of morphed into the effort to sustain the rural character of Knox County. Because family farming was seen as so important to that, the question of how you preserve family farming and make that sustainable suddenly became the key question in preserving the rural community.”

Food for Thought, a subsequent three-year project, succeeded in making family farming more sustainable by emphasizing the importance of local food. “Rural by Design” expands on this idea, going beyond agriculture into other aspects of rural life. With funds provided by the McGregor Farm, students have been able to participate in classes, internships, public projects and international exchanges to learn about sustainability.

One student who has become particularly involved is Rebecca Katzman ’14.

“At least my personal situation to happiness and fulfillment is a simpler lifestyle, which I find in rural life and in kind of going back to the basics, which I find in agriculture,” Katzman said.

As the student manager of the Rural Life Center, Katzman has been deeply involved in the planning process for next week’s events. She’s particularly excited for the keynote address, “An Amish Perspective on Rural Sustainability,” which will be given by David Kline, an Old Order Amish bishop, farmer, author and editor of Farming Magazine. Kline is known nationally for his contributions to rural sustainability.

“The whole character of the worldview of modernity doesn’t really connect with sustainability,” Sacks said. “That’s not the case in an Amish worldview, so I think the value of his talk is to provide a very different kind of reality construction about sustainability and rural life and community and that means.”

Sacks emphasizes that one of the important aspects of rural sustainability is being able to connect with the community through public spaces. With the assistance of two students, dance professor Balinda Craig-Quijada has choreographed a site-specific performance that makes use of a nonworking barn from the 1830s.

“The hope is that we’ll get to bring the audience into the barn, they’ll get to interact, contemplate, take into the natural environment as well as look at the natural construction,” she said. “There’s a history of barn dancing that is a way to bring community together and we’re wanting to tap into that tradition and carry it forward in a different context.” Site-specific dances, then, give the audience permission to interact with the environment and notice things that they might not otherwise. Other types of performances serve different functions.

Mountain Music, Southeast by Southwest will feature two performing groups that are representative of different cultures within the community.

“One of the things that is important to rural sustainability is incorporating new forms of diversity in a rural community,” Sacks said. “Appalachia and the Hispanic Southwest represent two significant groups that comprise Knox County.”

The New Ballard’s Branch Bogtrotters from Galax, Va., carry on the tradition of old-time fiddle music that’s so characteristic of Appalachian culture. Lorenzo Martinez, who has been designated a National Heritage Fellow, and his band perform Spanish Countryside.

“These are both rural musical groups and they both represent cultures that are significant to the community,” Sacks said. In addition to these events, two students and two alumni will be sharing some of the work they’ve done regarding sustainability. David DanIELS, Chairman of the Ohio Department of Agriculture, and Dewey Thornbeck, who started the Center for Rural Design at the University of Minnesota, will also deliver lectures. Throughout the week, there will be an exhibit at Gund Commons that explores where Kenyon’s food comes from. Katzman believes that all of the events are of value to everyone.

“The way that rural society functions serves as a more simplistic microcosm for the way an urban society functions,” Katzman said. “So understanding rural society — what makes it tick, what’s necessary in the preservation of rural society — can say something about the development and preservation of any society as a whole.”

For more information, visit www.rurallife.kenyon.edu. Van will leave from outside the bookstore at 4:00 pm on Friday to drive to the barn dance.

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**Weekly Scores**

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<tr>
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<td>Rebecca Spradlin ’13</td>
<td>Rehan Bhatti ’14</td>
<td>Elizabeth Trout ’15</td>
<td>Kale Barber ’16</td>
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**Compiled by Willa Sachs**

What screaming animal has been edited into Taylor Swift’s “Trouble”? A goat

Where did Obama recently travel? Israel-Palestine

What is the Pope’s full name? Jorge Mario Bergoglio

What subjects does new president Sean Decatur teach at Oberlin? Chemistry and biochemistry

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**The New Ballard’s Branch Bogtrotters**

The New Ballard’s Branch Bogtrotters will provide music for the event. To represent Appalachian culture, the group will play fiddle music.

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**Knox County began getting very concerned about its future, about the erosion of rural character,” Sacks said.**

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**The whole character of the worldview of modernity doesn’t really connect with sustainability,” Sacks said.**

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**For more information, visit www.rurallife.kenyon.edu.**
**SPORTS**

**INDOOR TRACK**

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**BASEBALL**

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**GOLF**

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**LADIES OBLITERATE OTTERBEIN; LORDS WIN FOUR STRAIGHT**

**ESTEBAN BACHELET**

Staff Writer

After two straight victories — one at Berry College and the other over the University of Mount Union — the Lords lacrosse team traveled to Springfield, Ohio, to face the Wittenberg University Tigers. For the second time this year, they extended their win streak to three games, taking their first North Coast Athletic Conference win in the process.

“It’s really important to start off with a [conference] win and get out in front,” Head Coach Doug Misarti said. “It’s a confidence player system this year. To guarantee a conference playoff spot, I think you need to be 5-2 [in the conference].”

The Lords did not get off to a good start this season, losing four of the five games they played before spring break. “We have talked a lot about turning things around,” Misarti said. “We started off down in Georgia at Berry College. Got that win, a win that we absolutely had to have. We came home and beat Mount Union on the tail end of spring break, again, a win that we had to have. Starting conference play, we really put an emphasis on how important this game was.”

The Lords responded accordingly. Will Lowe ’14 propelled the Lords to a 7-6 victory, scoring two of his three goals for the game-winner.

**NEED DICKERSON**

Staff Writer

This past weekend the Kenyon softball team split a doubleheader with the the Mount Vernon Nazarene University Cougars. The games were the Kenyon softball team’s first at home since their season started, coming off an 11-4 record in Florida over spring break.

“We were basically just carrying the momentum into these games. We had a lot of confidence in Florida, and we were pretty excited for our first home opener,” Macky Stark ’15 said. “I think that really pumped us up and we were ready for it.”

In the first game, the Ladies won solely 5-1. In the bottom of the first, Chelsea Delaney ’15 hit a double that sent Hayley Howard ’15 home from second to score Kenyon’s first run of the game. Later in the bottom of the third, Kenyon scored three more runs, with Jamie Samuel ’13 hitting an RBI single and scoring herself off a passed ball later in the inning. Kenyon managed to coax another run out of the inning though, with Emily Preboda ’13 hitting a single into left field. On the defensive side, pitcher Stark gave up only five hits and one run over the three innings.

In the second game, Kenyon lost to the Nazarene Cougars 8-0 in a shortened five-inning game. The Cougars’ pitcher, Ashley Ruffell, struck out four Ladies and held the Ladies to a four-hit shutdown.

“Offensively, we weren’t attacking the ball like we were in the first game. That was key,” Stark said.

Meredith Williams ’16 broke up Ruffell’s no-hitter with a single out to left field in the fifth inning. Williams tried to stretch her hit out into a double but was tagged out at second base. Her attempt showed good aggression on the part of the Ladies, according to Stark.

“In the second they wanted to get back. We just beat them, so they were definitely trying to be on the offensive,” Stark said. “And our defense was really key in the first game, and I think that some plays in the second game could have been made ... but they were just hitting in the second game.”

These games leave Kenyon with an overall record of 12-5 and the Nazarene Cougars at 4-8. Stark said the games were a lesson in readiness for the Ladies.

“We can’t take any team for granted. We have to play our best all the time. It doesn’t matter if we beat them in the first game 15 to nothing or one to nothing,” Stark said. “We have to have the same mentality in every game.”

The Ladies will begin conference competition this coming weekend. Their next game will be a doubleheader against Oberlin College this Saturday, March 30, in Oberlin, Ohio.
Golf starts spring season winning in Myrtle Beach

Staff Writer

While many students returned home to enjoy their spring breaks with family and friends, the Kenyon College golf team traveled to sunny Myrtle Beach, S.C. to compete in their first two matches of the 2013 spring season.

The team’s first match was a foursome with Allegheny College, Elms College, and rival Denison University. Jack Tomashot ‘16 hit a match-low 76, leading the team to a second-place finish. The Lords scored a combined 320 as a team, which left them seven strokes over Denison’s winning mark of 313.

The Lords’ second match featured a head-to-head showdown with North Central College, which the Lords won 4.5 to 2.5. Alex Blickle ‘15, Zander Nethercutt ‘16, Jordan Harlacher ‘16, and Paul Burgin ‘13 all won in their individual matches. Jacob Fair ‘16 halved his match while Jason Cinisi ‘16 and Chris Majkowski ‘16 lost to their UMW opponents. Paul Burgin ‘13 and Chris Majkowski ‘16 lost to their UMW opponents. Jack Tomashot ‘16 hit a match-low 76, leading the team to a second-place finish. The Lords scored a combined 320 as a team, which left them seven strokes over Denison’s winning mark of 313.

Jordan Harlacher ‘16 is a part of the revived Kenyon golf team, and has contributed to its success this season. Last year, in the second round of the end-of-the-season NCAA tournament, Kenyon drew and defeated Capital University in Bexley, Ohio. The Invitational was a foursome with Al Schlessman, Elms College, and White Invite hosted by Case Western Reserve University, which Razumovsky predicted would be the Lords’ “toughest test before the NCAA tournament,” which begins on April 26. The Case Western Spartans are currently ranked 12th in the country, the Lords will face them in Gambier on April 6. Shortly thereafter, they will face No. 18-ranked Carnegie Mellon University, a team which Burgin said has “top-10 talent.” Burgin said that “those two matches, along with a couple others, will help [the team] get ready for the NCAC tournament and then the NCAA tournament.”

The Lords are ranked first in the country and, although they are expected to fall to second next week, Burgin said that this year’s team has far surpassed the achievements of teams in recent years. Their current ranking is higher at this point in the season than during any other year in his career. Nevertheless, he does not want the team to rest on its laurels. “I am satisfied with our performance in Myrtle Beach as well as the Purple/White Invitational, but I know we can do better,” Wallace said.

The Lords’ roster consists of strong “ball strikers,” as Wallace calls them, but like most golfers, they must continue to work on their short game — chipping and putting — in order to maintain and build on their striking early season play. Perhaps the most impressive aspect of the team’s early success is the players’ youth. At the Purple and White Invitational, four out of the five scoring golfers were first years, leaving Blickle as the lone scoring golfer who has a full collegiate season’s worth of experience. Wallace does not think that inexperience will become an issue later on during the season.

“With the guys’ histories of playing in big-time tournaments, this kind of pressure will help the guys in the long run,” he added. “Freshmen nerves will happen, but keeping a clear mind and taking the round one shot at a time will pay off in having a successful season.”

Wallace is optimistic about the team’s chances in upcoming competition because of their work ethic. “I know that we will get better as we get deeper into the season,” he said. “All of the team members work extremely hard, whether on the course or in the weight room. I believe it is this hard work that has contributed to our success this season.”

The Lords will be back in action next April 5-6 at the Muskingum University Invitational.

Lords win, Ladies lose against Mary Washington

Staff Writer

In the first week back after spring break, Kenyon men’s tennis wasted no time regaining their championship form. Playing on Sunday in Pittsburgh, Penn., the team defeated the University of Mary Washington Eagles by a score of 9-1.

Kenyon’s only loss occurred in the No. 1 doubles match where Michael Razumovsky ‘15 and Sam Geier ‘16 lost to their UMW opponent. Paul Burgin ‘13 explained that the team likes to try as many combinations as possible with its doubles teams at this point in the season, in order “to find those combinations that are going to bring us the most success.”

Razumovsky stressed that, in matches where Kenyon is able to build up a substantial lead before the conclusion of the match, the team members can still learn something from the match. In an email, he said that it is important to “make sure everyone has the same level of focus and is intent on taking care of business,” even when the score is no longer close. Wade Heebeth ‘15 said he is thankful that the team does not compete for another two weeks so that “everyone can work hard in practice and perfect their game.”

Last year, in the second round of the end-of-the-season NCAA tournament, Kenyon drew and defeated Mary Washington, 5-0. Speaking about the possibility of seeing the Eagles in the postseason once again this year, Burgin said that the eventuality is “very possible.” In the next two weeks, the men’s team will have some tough matches to prepare for. Kenyon will play next weekend against Case Western Reserve University, which Razumovsky predicted will be the Lords’ “toughest test before the NCAA tournament,” which begins on April 26. The Case Western Spartans are currently ranked 12th in the country, the Lords will face them in Gambier on April 6. Shortly thereafter, they will face No. 18-ranked Carnegie Mellon University, a team which Burgin said has “top-10 talent.” Burgin said that “those two matches, along with a couple others, will help [the team] get ready for the NCAC tournament and then the NCAA tournament.”

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Lords dominate Denison for 32nd national title

Swimming with nothing to lose and everything to gain, the Lords Swimming and Diving team brought Denison University’s two-year win streak to a halt last Saturday night when they won their 32nd National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III championship title.

To top off the impressive win, Head Coach Jessen Book ’01, who won four national titles as a swimmer for the Lords under former head coach Jim Steen, earned the NCAA Coach of the Year award in just his first year at the Lord’s helm.

The Lords led the standings for all four days of the meet at the Conroe Natatorium in Shenandoah, Texas, and finished with 4993 points, ahead of Denison University’s 428 points and third-place Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s 334 points.

The Lords ended the first day leading Denison 110-89. The next day, Kenyon dominated in the 200-yard freestyle relay and the 400-yard medley relay in a race that Book called “one of the brightest of all the highlights.”

But winning was never guaranteed for the Lords heading into the fourth and final day of competition. “There were lots of points that Denison could score on the final day, and we knew that all along,” Book said. “In 2011 the Kenyon men were seeded, by my calculations, based on entering times, to lose to Denison by 70 points, 485-415,” Shutt said in an email. “The actual result was a Kenyon win, 499.5-428, a 71.5 victory.”

Curts Ramsey ’13 said momentum was key. “I think it was on day two and all of a sudden guys were like ‘Wow, maybe we have a chance of winning this,’” he said. “And we just kept on feeding off of the momentum that we had.”

Ramsey also saw the toll the Lords’ continuing lead took on the title-defending Denison team. “Every time someone got on the blocks, I think we knew it was going to be a special swim, and I think that’s what made this year more special than anything I’ve ever experienced as a Kenyon swimmer,” Ramsey said. “After every great swim we had, it looked like it took the wind out of [Denison’s] sails.”

Both Ian Richardson ’14 and Ramsey said the pressure to win in 2012 was enormous and, at times, overwhelming. But this year, at the Kenyon men hit the water in the meet, we used a Kenyon Lady hit the water in the meet, we had a varsity record,” Book said. “That set the stage for everything that happened afterwards.”

In the 200-medley relay, the team of Rachel Flinn ’14, Katie Kaestner ’16, Saiz and Zarka ‘16 scored 514.25 points, taking first place. Not only did she break a longstanding Kenyon record, but she was only three points shy of breaking the NCAA record.

After Zarka’s win, Mariah Williamson ’16 and Kersten Bell ’13 took fourth and fifth respectively in the 500-yard freestyle. Bell had broken the Kenyon record in the preliminaries that morning with a time of 4:53.76, but Williamson broke it again in the finals with her finishing time of 4:53.36. “The first time a Kenyon Lady hit the water in the meet, we had a varsity record,” Book said. “That set the stage for everything that happened afterwards.”

The meet started on Wednesday, March 20, with the 3-meter dives, in which Maria Zarka ’16 scored 514.25 points, taking first place. Not only did she break a longstanding Kenyon record, but she was only three points shy of breaking the NCAA record.

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In the 200-medley relay, the team of Rachel Flinn ’14, Katie Kaestner ’16, Saiz and Hillary Yarosh ’14 finished first with a time of 1:41.60, the first NCAA win for the Ladies since 2008. It was also the first NCAA title for each of the four Ladies.

The next day the Ladies continued their success, starting with the 200-freestyle relay team. By coming in at 1:33.02, they snapped a Kenyon record that had stood since 2007. Saiz then continued her strong performance in the 100-butterfly. She placed second with a time of 57.20, shattering her Kenyon record on final time. At the end of the night, Saiz got back in the pool along with Celia Oehlholzer ’15, Kaestner and Haley Townsend ’16 for the 400-yard medley relay. The team earned another first-place finish for the Ladies, shattering not only the Kenyon record but the NCAA record as well.

On Friday, Saiz earned her first-ever individual-event title by taking first in the 200-yard butterfly. Her winning time of 1:57.42 was the only finishing time in the race under two minutes. Oehlholzer earned her own first individual event title in the next event, the 400-yard backstroke. Her time of 53.46 was an NCAA record time. The night ended with a tight 800-free relay, swum by Townsend, Yarosh, Williamson and Bell. The Ladies finished second in a Kenyon-record time of 7:20.84, beating out the Emory University team by .01 second.

After Head Coach Jessen Book ’01’s Coach of the Year award win for both teams, “everybody erupted, guys and girls combined,” Bell said. Although the Ladies will lose some talented seniors this year, those seniors will not lose the Ladies. “I have 28 sisters. … They’re my teammates, my biggest supporters, my biggest competitors in the best way possible,” Bell said.

“We all move on, eventually, but there will forever be a part of my heart that bleeds purple,” Saiz said. “I fully expect to spend four days out of every year screaming myself hoarse wherever I am, cheering for the Kenyon Lords and Ladies as they do their best, against the best, at the best of all possible times.”