Men’s swimming takes second place at NCAC meet. See page 11

The Collegian

Council questions Safe Rides

HENRI GENDREAU
NEWS EDITOR

Safe Rides, the transportation service provided by Greek organizations to help Kenyon students get home without injury, may not be safe from the tide of change.

Eleanor Ritchie ’14 reported that her co-chair of the Business and Finance Committee (BFC) Michael Marting ’14 had suggested making Safe rides a paid position, an idea she told council was “something long term to talk about in the future.”

Marting estimated that making Safe Rides a paid position would cost roughly $3,000 a year.

“I don’t think many Greeks as a body like it. It’s not exactly the best community service thing,” Marting said. “I think it’s overwhelmingly [thought of as] a drunk taxi service that’s abused [by students],” he continued. “If you really can’t get back home you probably need to contact Safety, if you’re that far gone.”

Marting said at the Council meeting on Sunday page 2.

FAFSA applications increase nearly 400%

MADELEINE THOMPSON
NEWS EDITOR

Kenyon’s Office of Financial Aid has seen significant increases in applications for both institutional and federal financial aid this year. CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE applications, which request funding directly from Kenyon, have grown up 55 percent, and Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) filings, which go through the federal government, have increased 389 percent.

“We’re up significantly in both, but the FAFSA especially is through the roof,” Director of Financial Aid Craig Daugherty said.

Last year, 1,752 students submitted PROFILE applications and 651 filled out FAFSA applications. This year, those numbers were up to 2,682 and 2,326, respectively. The increase in PROFILE applications is proportional to the 64 percent rise in applications.

As for explanations for the huge jump, it is too early to know exactly what to attribute the inflated numbers.

“I don’t know why this is happening ... because if we look at the PROFILE at this time last year, it seems like same number of kids is interested,” Jennifer Delahunty, vice president for enrollment and dean of admissions and financial aid, said.

“But something’s happening — more and more people are applying [for aid] than originally indicated they would be.”

Daugherty cited earlier filings and efforts by the Office of Admissions to get the word out about the importance of the Feb. 15 deadline.

“I think we have really tried ... to reinforce the deadlines,” Daugherty said. “We’ve done a

Newly-approved club perseveres, despite challenges

A new club seeks campus engagement on Israel-Palestine issues, in the wake of eventual Council approval and amid poster vandalism.

HENRI GENDREAU
NEWS EDITOR

On Sunday, Student Council approved the club Kenyon Students for Justice in Palestine (KSJP), a group committed to “highlighting human rights violations that are taking place in Palestine and Israel and the diaspora of Palestinian people outside of that region,” according to Andrew Firestone ’14, a member of the group’s organizing body.

The College’s withdrawal of the club is an impetus for the group’s formation. While KSJP was not founded out of the decision, it prompted further discussion on the subject of Israel, Palestine and academics.

“Many members of KSJP felt that Kenyon’s withdrawal from the ASA was a political decision made under the veil of the protection of academic freedom for all people,” Firestone said in an email, though he added not everyone in the group holds this view in the organization.

“We actually want to do something, bring about a certain change which is not just simply sitting down and talking about things, though that is extremely important,” said Secretary Jae June Lee ‘17. In discussing the club with the Collegian, Lee and Firestone consulted with other group members of KSJP, whose titleholders also include President Wazufi Teshome ‘16 and Treasurer Qassay Alssattari ‘16.

Firestone mentioned that about 10 students were working toward the group’s fruition, and that a steady rate of 20 or so students attended weekly meetings.

Student Council’s approval of the club, which was unanimous, came with trepidation from some of the council members. Some members were concerned that approving KSJP would put it in conflict with existing clubs on campus, such as the Middle East Student Association (MESA) or J Street U, whose national website describes parent organization J Street as “the political home for pro-Israel, pro-peace Americans.”

“I would hate to create two rival groups,” Sophomore Class President Trev Kirby said at the meeting.

“With this kind of issue there are always people who get very, very emotional about it, and right fully so from their perspective,” Communications Director Alexandra Brit ‘15 said, “but it won’t be one club versus another.”

When a motion to approve the club was first raised, Kirby asked, “Is everybody comfortable with this?”

“I don’t think it’s a process to decide whether they’re a conflict” page 3.
NEWS

Student Council heard updates from class committees focusing on event planning. According to Dayna Loucks ’15, who chairs the event planning committee for the student body, the committee focuses on coordinating the logistics of events. Loucks said that she was unable to find a suitable location for the annual spring concert, and that she had been in contact with the corporate offices of the venues and hoteliers to coordinate a site visit. Loucks also said that she was in contact with the corporate offices of the venues and hoteliers to coordinate a site visit.

Church bells, handicap button malfunctioning

The frequent rings of the Church of the Holy Spirit bells often remind students in the adjacent Olin Library just how little work they’ve accomplished in the fifteen minutes since the last chime. Lately, however, the Church’s bells have been running a little less like clockwork, ringing the chime specific to 15 minutes at half past the hour, the 30 minute chime at 45 minutes and so on.

But the bells aren’t the only piece of Kenyon history with technical issues. In addition to the Church’s incorrect chiming, the front door of Peirce Hall has also been malfunctioning — the automatic function of the front door to Peirce hasn’t been opening. Despite the fact that the Peirce door hasn’t been working all year, the issue is not due to any major mechanical failure. “So far, we have not had any major problems with the retrofit, or the recent repair,” said Director of Facility Operations Greg Widener. Rather, the problem arises from overuse.

According to Widener, the door opener is “designed to accommodate the people who need to use it, which should be very infrequent users” — when the operator receives too many requests, it enters a failsafe state, and stops sending requests to the motor, as to not overstress the mechanical components.

Widener also acknowledged that battery problems in the transmitter could have caused the recent problems with the door, and said, “Of course it’s cold, that could have been the case.” The system entering such a failsafe state is avoidable if students simply do not push the button to open the door when they do not need to. “It’s a people problem,” Widener said.

Widener is confident the bells, which are serviced annually, will require only a quick readjustment. Since the chimes and the clock are quite prominent on campus, they are important to the maintenance department. “We pride ourselves on trying to keep the time current,” Widener said.

Drivers might be subsidized

This week Student Council approved three new student groups: International Students at Kenyon (ISAK), Special Dogs and Kenyon Students for Justice in Palestine.

Special Dogs is a group of students interested in hip-hop who hold discussions as well as freestyle rap sessions and performances. The group had been inactive since some of its members were abroad last semester.

ISAK regained their official status after they lost their standing when the Kenyon Fund Executive Committee (KFEC) recommended the group expand their leadership structure to an executive board.

The group is working closely with the Alumni Council where in the past KFEC focused a lot, almost solely, on the financial aspect of it and Alumni Council solely on the alumni and regulations aspect. Our purposes are getting mixed together as we adapt what we call “the engagement.”

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Drivers might be subsidized
Social Justice Week raises various issues of humanity

ROSALYN AGUILA AND PHOEBE CARTER COLLEGIAN STAFF

The Center for the Study of American Democracy hosted a panel and discussion last night on immigration and citizenship in the U.S. from various perspectives.

Monday, Feb. 17 and will conclude with a community art show and silent auction on Friday, Feb. 21.

The different events, which range from discussions on the role of the Internet within social justice to a panel of former Peace Corps volunteers, were sponsored by several organizations on campus, including the Center for Global Engagement (CGE), Crozier Center for Women, Indigenous Nations at Kenyon, Sisterhood, Not for Sale, Peer Counselors, Center for the Study of American Democracy, J Street U and Asia Society.

Social Justice Week itself, however, was organized by BE: Justice, Kenyon's Christian student organization. Ty Smith '14 and Susie Gurzenda '14 headed the planning.

“Every student at Kenyon College should be of an interest to every Kenyon student because that means they are active in caring about that issue that they feel passionate about.”

Tonight, scheduled events include a One Billion Rising Community Art Show and Silent Auction opening at Wiggins Street Coffee at 6 p.m. and moving to the Grand Gallery Community Theater at 7 p.m. of an episode of popular sitcom How I Met Your Mother that features its characters in yellowface, with a subsequent discussion led by Assistant Professor of Sociology Celso Villegas. Tomorrow, the art show and auction will close at 7:30 p.m.

KSJ seeks engagement

Continued from Page 1

or not. That will be decided by the fact that people join or not. The business and Finance Co-Chair Michael Marting '14 countered.

The usually reticent Dean of Students Hank Tounton noted that the club has put the matter to the vote for Council to consider the club's approval regardless of agenda or conflict.

"What you need to be most careful of, frankly, is that you're treating this application just like you're treating any other application," he said.

After being approved as a club, KSJP launched a poster campaign to address the issue of Palestinian education. Some posters have been torn down and vandalized, Firestone and Lee said.

On one of them, a student wrote, "Why do [Palestinians] always launch the first rockets then sit behind and pretend they are innocent? Aren't you cerent Israel retaliate?" Firestone noted that the writer had misspelled "Palestinians.

"We post it because they don't have a conception of a Palestinian people to the point of being able to know how to write it down on a piece of paper," he said.

The group is planning on a number of programs, including possible film screenings and guest speakers. Talking about the possibility of the group's bringing speakers from the national organization Jewish Voices for Peace to campus, Firestone said of KSJP, "It's hard to find a better example of what this has to do with nationality or religion, that this has to do with per- spective and ethics."

And part of that ap- proach focuses on group dis- cussion and engagement on campus, Firestone and Lee stressed.

"We don't intend to be an exclusive organization where you can't show up if you think that your point of view doesn't line up with ours. The idea is to expand the conversation, to include as many people as would like to be involved," Firestone said.

"I think our point is we will not apologize for our point of view. We will not apolo- gize for our interest in this matter. We will not apologize for the posters, and we will not apologize for our presence on this campus.""
Campus, and Unity House hopes '14, co-leader of Unity House. Lives,” said Annette Covrigaru. Many Kenyon alum have taken terms of jobs, and what experiences Kenyon. Advising students about life after their experiences at Kenyon and what influences the tension he felt as the only worker, “These images maybe have something to do with the U.S., or they have more to do with Europe, than they actually do with the place that they’re showing,” McGavran said. She acknowledged in her talk that that talk was “not going to escape Orientalism,” and that understanding these Orientalist themes can be important in understanding modern representations of these places. “A lot of the images that we see in the media have been around for a long time,” McGavran said. “I think when you can see that something is sort of a stereotype, and of course you have a visual of it, it’s a better way to help you be critical of what you see in mass media.”

Mixed reviews of Ball

A tradition that began in 1996 but was discontinued in 2011, Philander’s Ball, organized by the Senior Class Association, featured many students to “take a step back and just look at the history,” rather than being preoccupied with current politics in the nation. Similarly, McGavran hopes that aspects of her work can prove relevant to similar issues in a variety of professions and stereotypes. Her investigation of Klee’s work on Egyptian themes brings out a tradition of Orientalism in art. This art is marked by the idea that there are several faculty members who don’t identify within the quintessential Arab family structure, “I think if anyone goes to take it on for next year... it takes thinking through these issues,” Smith said. “I think if any group wants to take it on for next year... it takes thinking through these issues.”

Students who attended the Ball gave mixed reviews. Luke Kresslein ‘15 thought it was “good until it started sledding because the first band stopped playing,” but Frederick Ellis ‘17 thought it was “really great.” “I liked the music,” Ellis said. “I liked the set up. I liked the candy. I ate a lot of candy. And I liked that you could talk to people and dance.” The final cost for the event has not yet been calculated, but Smith thinks they stuck fairly close to their $3,600 budget, which covered everything from coat racks to maintenance staff. Reflecting on the event planning, Phillips would “realize that it takes a lot of time and effort” earlier in the process. Overall, though, she would suggest bringing it back next year, however, there are no current plans to do so. Phoebe Carter contributed reporting.
Doumani ’77, McGowan ’03 talk Middle East, history, art

GRAHAM REID 
STAFF WRITER

Last week, campus was abuzz with talk of John Green '00, photos and autographs. While Green may be at the top of every admissions officer’s alumni list, other Kenyon students have found success in a wide range of fields. Alums Barbara Doumani ’77 and Sarah McGowan ’03 also returned to the Hill to lecture on their respective fields of study.

Doumani, an Ottoman historian whose work defines the cultural and political scene of modern-day Syria, spoke in Highy Auditorium on Tuesday while McGowan lectured on the German artist Paul Klee, who worked at the Bauhaus: McGowan focused on Klee’s images inspired by his travels to Egypt. For Doumani, a change to the College’s overall attitude was apparent.

“It was a different kind of place [in the ’70s], and there were no co-eds,” the history department on the Middle East at Kooyman left the Hill. “I’m especially excited about the new Gund Gallery and the new resources in the art history department,” she said.

According to Assistant Professor of History Nurten Kille-Schubel, Doumani’s work addresses the “experience of ordinary people” in the Ottoman Empire in order to “expand our understanding of the Ottoman experience.”

“He’s really passionate about the ordinary people, the peasants, the women, the workers,” said Qossay Alsattari ’16, a Middle East Students Association (MESA) student leader.

Doumani’s talk focused on an analysis of family history from two cities: Tripoli, Libya and Nablus in the West Bank.

Doumani looked at court records from these two cities in order to gain insight into how people chose to distribute their property to their kin. The idea behind the approach is to “identify the kin that count,” and thus gain a deeper understanding of family structure.

Doumani discussed differences between the two cities, where women were given far more treatment in Tripoli than in Nablus and the stereotypical idea of the Arab family.

Doumani’s research runs against the notion that there exists a quintessential Arab family focused around wider family groups than the immediate conjugal family. According to Doumani, ideas of family in the Arab world are more diverse than many natives tell. MESA leader Max Dugan ’14 hopes that Doumani’s work will “challenge[s] the narratives and the paradigms that we have for viewing the Middle East.”

Alsattari echoed Dugan. “Once you focus the lens of the family life, the lives of the ordinary people, people here in the U.S., we could relate them with that story. We could all relate to those humains,” Alsattari said.

Phoebe Roe 
NEWS EDITOR

Tonight at 7:30 in Rosse Hall, seven Kenyon alums with graduation years spanning five decades will return to their alma mater to participate in “Queret Life After Kenyon,” a discussion panel sponsored by Unity House.

Members of Unity House came up with the idea for the panel last spring and decided to meet with Scott Baker, Kenyon’s alumni coordinator, to begin recruiting alumni.

“It took us a little while to get it on a calendar, but we’re thrilled it’s finally happening,” Baker said.

The alumni who will be on the panel all identify as members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (LGBTQ+) community. They will be discussing their experiences at Kenyon and advising students about life after Kenyon.

“I’m hoping that current Kenyon students who are interested can see what there is after Kenyon in terms of jobs, and what experiences Kenyon alum have taken from the Hill and then used in their personal and adult lives,” said Annette Covigaru ’14, co-leader of Unity House.

The panel is open to all of campus, and Unity House hopes that a diverse group of students and professors will attend the event.

“I’d like to think that people who don’t identify within the LGBTQ+ community will come because they’re going to be interacting and working with queer people wherever they go, and understanding how those people experience situations and help them in the future,” said Aaron Dripps ’14, co-leader of Unity House.

While planning for the panel, Baker worked with members of the Career Development Office, and he feels that panels like this are necessary for preparing Kenyon students for their futures.

“In some ways, life after Kenyon is the great unknown, so it’s...
Before class: the nine lives of Kenyon professors

Below is the second installment of a three-part series on the lives of professors before they arrived at Kenyon, debunking the traditional myth that, yes, parents and professors had lives before we arrived on the scene.

A popular Bookstore t-shirt reads “Kenyon is not near Uganda.” But Professor of Biology Wade Powell traversed the distance in the late 1980s when he traveled to a small community in the western part of Kenya, near Uganda, to teach at a rural high school. This adventure followed his undergraduate years at Davidson College, where he had heard about the shortage of teachers in Kenya through the alumni network. Although he was guaranteed a job if he went, he still “took a certain kind of leap of faith.” Powell taught at Ibeleri Secondary School in the Maragoli tribal community. The school was struggling with low funding and decrepit buildings, and the socio-economic situation of the country did not allow for a focus on education.

“At that time in Kenya, the government paid for students to go to school up through the eighth grade. And [for] secondary school, you paid … full tuition,” Powell said.

On the first day of classes, the minimal space attracted only two students. To help make the school affordable, Powell and his fellow volunteers bartered with villagers for tuition.

“We did tuition for firewood, tuition for beans, that sort of thing,” Powell laughed.

When Powell departed 18 months later, the school had grown to 125 students over three grades.

Powell said the experience “influenced [his] view of the world and [his] place in it,” advising students as a whole to “take a more global view to who you are and what you do.” As an accomplished professor and researcher, Powell is yet another example to graduating seniors of the importance of the adventure of education.

Adventure takes many different forms. Professor Ric Sheffield protested that he wasn’t exciting enough to be featured in this article, but anyone who has worked with the wryly humorous professor of sociology and legal studies would surely disagree.

Sheffield pursued his undergraduate, masters and law degrees at Case Western Reserve University, where he studied to be a civil servant.

“[I grew up] in the good old days of saving the world,” Sheffield said. “I wanted to make a difference — and making a difference at the time for me very naively meant, ‘Oh, I’ll go be a social worker in the inner city and work with delinquents and drug addicts.'”

After graduation, Sheffield’s first job was as a civil rights lawyer. Over the next few years, he worked his way through the ranks and found himself as Ohio assistant attorney general.

“I got a chance to write legislation, I testified in the senate, I did television talk shows — I was on the nightly news a lot. It was a pretty cool gig,” Sheffield recalled.

But in the midst of all this achievement, Sheffield suddenly felt a jolting void in his personal life.

“I woke up one day, and my son was three years old and my daughter was born, and I didn’t remember those first three years,” Sheffield said.

Determined to refocus on his family, Sheffield left the legal practice and took a job at Kenyon.

An abundant currency of experience is a common theme throughout the past of Kenyon professors, as it is with anyone who has ever embarked on any sort of great adventure. Over the course of 11 years, Professor of Philosophy Joel Richeimer did exactly that.

After his undergraduate years, Sheffield lived and worked in Israel, Jerusalem, and Tokyo, Paris and London. He began working as an industrial volunteer in a hydraulics factory in Israel during the Yom Kippur War in 1973, and then made his way around the world. During his journey, Richeimer held only a travel visa and worked illegally.

For the most part, he said he found it almost laughably easy to secure jobs as an illegal worker. But during one unfortunate summer in Paris, Sheffield was hired as a gardener by a particularly wealthy woman along with several other illegal workers, most of whom were Portuguese.

“She decided,” Richeimer recollected, “I’m not going to pay any of you. If you do anything about it, I’ll call the police.”

After working a few other (paid) jobs — chopping parsley in Paris, working as a cashier in Britain during the Thatcher years and at an old folks’ home in Jerusalem — he ended up in Japan, where he began teaching English, eventually instructing Japanese engineers how to live and work in New York City.

“I also taught [them how] to dress up, because in Japan, there’s no crime — [the] crime rate is very low; people would walk around with thousands of dollars on them. But you don’t do that in New York City,” when Richeimer first came to Japan, he had no proof that he had graduated from college, although he did have a degree from UCLA.

“I ended up buying a phony diploma. I bought a fake diploma that says I have an English degree from Yale,” Richeimer said.

After many years as a well-respected and loved professor, Richeimer is currently on sabbatical.

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EMMA WELSH-HUGGINS FEATURES ASSISTANT

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After many years as a well-respected and loved professor, Richeimer is currently on sabbatical.
Got Safe Rides? Maybe not.

This Sunday during the Student Council meeting, one of the Business and Finance Committee (BFC) co-chairs suggested moving Safe Rides out of the responsibility of the Greek community and making it a student-worker — and paid — position. According to Michael Maring ’14, BFC co-chair, one of the reasons for the proposal was, “I don’t think many Greeks as a body like it. It’s not exactly the best community service thing.” Later on, he said, “I think it’s overwhelmingly a drunk taxi service that’s abused [by students].”

Safe Rides was originally conceived after a anonymous or pseudonymous letter on a bitter cold weekend night and was found dead the following day. Not three weeks ago, a similar tragedy happened at Denison University — a mere 45 minutes down the road. Safe Rides was created to prevent incidents of this nature.

Maring also suggested that if students were “that far gone,” they probably should call Campus Safety instead of Safe Rides. But such a call would result in a Good Samaritan, which might not be warranted in such a situation. And if this caveat were removed, so that Safety could drive students around campus without resulting in a Good Samaritan, then this would severely diminish Safety’s role on campus. They’re not a schlepping service to get students from the Cove to their dorms on any given night.

To call Safe Rides a “drunk taxi service” and then assert it is “abused” grossly underestimates the service’s importance to students. It might possibly be the single most important “community service thing,” and a valuable resource provided by the Greek community. If, by changing Safe Rides into a paid position, it would make it more available to students and would better serve the student body, then we advocate this change.

However, underscoring Safe Rides’ importance on campus in order to move the responsibility from the Greek community to another student organization organizes the transportation service’s role on campus. And if it is thought of as ‘abused,” then what was it originally intended to be? A glorified sober taxi service or community service thing,” and a valuable resource bestowed upon gingers:

I have provided Kenyon students with a modest list of advantages that in itself makes us pretty majestic. The Romans even believed that, after death, redheads would become vampires. “Sparkle! Sparkle!”

Redheads are often featured in famous works of art. Thus, we are Naturally Superior.

There is a day in the Netherlands dedicated to gingers called “Redhead Day.” Obviously, the Dutch know what’s up.

5. Redheads are often featured in famous works of art. Thus, we are Naturally Superior.

6. There is a day in the Netherlands dedicated to gingers called “Redhead Day.” Obviously, the Dutch know what’s up.

7. You never lose gingers in Kenyon Confessions — they’re out there.

8. We also require around 20 percent more anesthesia to be sedated.

3. Red hair is the rarest of all hair colors (we make up only two percent of the world’s population). That in itself makes us pretty majestic.

4. The Romans even believed that, after death, redheads would become vampires. “Sparkle! Sparkle!”

If you don’t believe me, just check out Kenyon Confessions — they’re out there.

12. All everyone wants to do is stand out. As a ginger, you already naturally stand out, so you can spend your energy doing more interesting things, like knitting or reading.

The true confessions of a full-time ginger

LAUREN CORN

CONTRIBUTOR

Historically and presently, gingers always seem to get the short end of the stick. In the Middle Ages, Saint Gregory of Tours recounts an instance when a redheaded man wore a shoe on his head for fear of offending a Christian bishop (bolla at Professor of History Jeff Bowman for that fact). Today, names such as “carrot top” plaguing elementary school children everywhere. However, being a ginger has unending benefits that are often overlooked.

1. Ginger men and women, on average, have a higher tolerance to mechanical pain (physical pinching or other tissue deformation) than those with any other hair type.

2. We also require around 20 percent more anesthesia to be sedated.

3. Red hair is the rarest of all hair colors (we make up only two percent of the world’s population). That in itself makes us pretty majestic.

4. The Romans even believed that, after death, redheads would become vampires. “Sparkle! Sparkle!”

5. Redheads are often featured in famous works of art. Thus, we are Naturally Superior.

6. There is a day in the Netherlands dedicated to gingers called “Redhead Day.” Obviously, the Dutch know what’s up.

7. You never lose gingers in Kenyon Confessions — they’re out there.

11. We have our own club. Like any major band or cultural movement, gingers have their own groupies. They are those individuals who identify with having a ginger fetish. If you don’t believe me, just check out Kenyon Confessions — they’re out there.

12. All everyone wants to do is stand out. As a ginger, you already naturally stand out, so you can spend your energy doing more interesting things, like knitting or reading.

Lauren Corn ’15 is a studio art major from Port Angeles, Wash. She can be contacted at corn@kenyon.edu.
Feeling under the weather: February is taking a toll

DEREK DASHIELL
CONTRIBUTOR

February is a universally acknowledged fact that sucks. My birthday is in February, and I still hate it—not especially at Kenyon. Why? Because February sucks. It's a truth universally acknowledged that February sucks. My birthday is in February, and I still hate it—especially at Kenyon."

The weather is part of it. Sudden Affection Disorder, unfortunately acronymed “SAD,” is common among those more seriously as scientists agree that the sun is a very important source of vitamin D and that sunlight can make people happy. Alaska, a place much more devoid of sunlight than the continental United States, has the highest suicide rate in the country. February is the darkest month of the year. In the Northern Hemisphere, the earth is tilted so that the sunlight is at its lowest point. And some of the highest depression rates. When Kenyon's sky turns ash-gray, the ground turns dirty white, the air is biting, and there are now no NCAs and New Apts, and Rush—changes things. In February, the shortest month of the year, the sun's journey through the sky is the shortest of the year. And let’s not forget the temperature. February is a stressful, unprepared time. Rush: There are events like Philander's Ball and Horn Shows, but the lack of proper winter clothing means that few people show up to these events. February is a time of pared-down expectations. Fewer and fewer employable job opportunities, recoil at the suggestion that they're betraying the college community or losing sight of our college community or losing sight of our goals. Faculty is tenured, nearby and available to join students in their activities. You'll have a blast. It is a fact that good teaching and the fact that fewer and fewer employees arrive with their own personal support systems. Some professors do what they do because academia is the only environment in which they've had the opportunity to do these things. They're not that different from you and me. And last but certainly not least, and I can only speak of it, in fact, because I'm a visitor. Professors who live off-campus, to give their loved ones better schools and job opportunities, recoil at the suggestion that they're betraying the college community or losing sight of the concept of the public. It's coercive for an institution to ask employees to sacrifice their marriages and kids' futures for the sake of a tenure-track academic job. And I'm sure John Stuart Mill hopes that education will grow our feelings of unity, help us to see that our fates are bound up with those of our fellow creatures and encourage us to aim for the general happiness over that of our college students. Our parents and survivors must have all the categories. I can only speak of it, in fact, because I'm a visitor. Professors who live off-campus, to give their loved ones better schools and job opportunities, recoil at the suggestion that they're betraying the college community or losing sight of the concept of the public. It's coercive for an institution to ask employees to sacrifice their marriages and kids' futures for the sake of a tenure-track academic job. And I'm sure John Stuart Mill hopes that education will grow our feelings of unity, help us to see that our fates are bound up with those of our fellow creatures and encourage us to aim for the general happiness over that of our own families. But even Mill qualifies that, in most cases, "private utility, the interest or happiness of some few persons, is all [anyone] has to attend to."
StageFemmes gets potential new hit with Boy Gets Girl

Everyone knows the “awkward first date” trope: two mismatched characters meet for an uncomfortable dinner of forced pleasantries and uneasy social engagement. All the while, the audience cringes and laughs as the awkward scene unfolds. But in Boy Gets Girl, the newest show in the StageFemmes season, the first date trope takes a new direction, and the erstwhile source of jokes adopts an original role in an exciting new play that analyzes relationship dynamics, gender and sexism in the 21st century.

Set in New York in 2000, Boy Gets Girl focuses on the life of Theresa, a writer in her thirties, played by Phoebe Lewis ’16. She has the misfortune of going on a bad few dates with Tony (Mike Jest ’15). The play then follows Theresa’s life after she first meets Tony while exploring the ways women are viewed in society.

“It is a thriller. I don’t know anything of this tone that’s gone up lately,” Director Allie Lembo ’14 said.

This season, StageFemmes is highlighting the work of noted female playwright Rebecca Gilman, who will be visiting campus later in the semester for the Kenyon College Dramatic Club’s Tommy Awards. Her work is noted for its focus on female characters and the complex circumstances in their lives. Gilman’s Boy Gets Girl was, in many ways, the perfect play for StageFemmes to tackle: a different piece that would confront major issues.

The rehearsal process for Boy Gets Girl has been short, but intense. The small cast of seven includes Lewis and Jest, along with Robbie Sellers ’14, Ben Fisher ’17, Elisa Jones ’17, Asha McAllister ’15 and Jenny Raymann ’15.

“It’s a seven-character play, but the most on stage at any time might be four,” Lembo said. “So it’s been fun finding dynamics between two or three people.”

In addition, the small cast has given the actors the opportunity to really focus on their characters and their dynamics, which is so critical to the plot of the show.

One of the most unusual but potent dynamics in Boy Gets Girl is its setting. The show takes place in 2000, and though that was just 14 years ago, obtaining props and costumes for the show proved to be a challenge; the cast even discussed moving the show to the present day, but ultimately decided against it.

This decision stemmed from the role of technology, and how integral it has become in our lives today, much more so than in 2000.

“If it was in the present,” Lembo said, “the huge elephant they’re not playing is, ‘Why haven’t they checked on Facebook yet? Why haven’t they looked online?’ That would be a huge element in the play missing.”

In choosing to keep the show in its original era, Boy Gets Girl shows us how far we have come — and how far we have still to go.

As tech week draws to a close, the small cast and crew are eager to finally have an audience for this dark and gripping drama. The Black Box Theater will be alive with this exciting new show, which premieres Friday, Feb. 21 at 7 p.m.

Poet Fuller to speak today

David Hoyt
Chief Copy Editor

“Don’t be alarmed if … it doesn’t present itself clearly upon first reading. Or second reading, or third reading. Lose yourself in the mystery.”

That’s what the poet William Fuller said when asked about how best to approach his work. Those up for the challenge of tackling poetry that has been variously called dense, elusive and “grammatically rest gruous day job. He is the chief fiduciary officer of the University of Virginia’s $1.2 billion endowment, the largest in the country. He feels inspired to examine the link between art and the financial world.

“I liked that aspect of experimentalism and exploration, and I sort of continued that in my work,” Soltanoff said. He is now an experimental theater director. “I was drawn to sort of creating alternative environments and alternative realities, and I think that [interest] is … what propelled me into theater and art-making in the first place.”

As a student at the Hartman Theater Conservatory, Phil Soltanoff ’75 entered class one day to find students seated in chairs positioned on top of desks in order to “reexamine the form of the classroom.” Drawn to the room’s unconventional layout, Soltanoff felt inspired to examine the link between art and position.

“I kind of throw [these elements] into a stew, stir them up and recombine them,” Soltanoff said. “And maybe that’s the best way to think of my work … as a reinvention of elements, rather than kind of taking one particular form and exploring it.”

Soltanoff, who said that his time at Kenyon “was a chance … to investigate dramatic sources and dramatic theory,” questions the concept of space in his work.

“My work comes from … thinking about how we relate to a space, how a space is defined for an audience … and a performer, what is physical space, what’s public space and what is the space occupied by people and technology,” he said.

Soltanoff urges those interested in his line of work to find a subject of interest and the drive to complete an enterprise.

“You have to conceptualize your own project, find ways and resources to make that project and then find people who will present that project,” Soltanoff said. “And that takes a lot of initiative … but I think the rewards are incredible, and [that] it’s totally worth doing.”
Horn theater grant funds This Is Our Youth production

**DEREK DASHIELL**

**STAFF WRITER**

Watching This Is Our Youth, a play by Kenneth Lonergan, at the Horn Gallery this past weekend was rather like being in the live studio audience for a sitcom — if everyone in the sitcom could act well and the show talked about dead sisters, one-night stands and the economic viability of cocaine.

The play follows the misadventures of two cunning young men and their beads — one noticeably absent, one intensely present.

They attempt to navigate the perils of stolen money, dependence on inadequate families, drug use and their own individual value, the characters strangely enough came to resemble a friend or a classmate.

And in this lies the play’s central power: relatability.

Ethan Raduns-Silverstein ’16 immediately commanded the stage as Dennis — a portrayal that worked like a charm. An lovelorn Nicholas Cage and Kramer from Seinfeld would have been if he grew up to be an affably bumbling classmate. Raduns-Silverstein carried himself with the practical clarity of someone who’s been a dealer for five years but still exhibited a threat that bordered on vulnerable.

Though Dennis’s reputation is based on intimidation, his threatening nature is just a symptom of his mother’s treatment of him.

For all of Dennis’s theories on social psychology, he needs his best friend’s respect, and Radus-Silverstein balanced this weight through Dennis’s fury and fear.

Joseph Randles ’16 played Dennis’s best friend Warren, and though Warren acted in response to Dennis’s actions for the duration of the play, he was anything but in the background.

Warren immediately reennialized one of George from Of Mice And Men. While George wasn’t as impulsive as Warren, the two share a kind heart and a scheming mind.

Many actors react too quickly to situations they’ve experienced, but Randles’s timing, always a step behind Raduns-Silverstein’s deencies, was so precise as to appear natural.

In his romantic scenes, Randles was fluttered and eager, and the barely contained hopefulness in his interactions with his would-be girl made you root for him from the get-go.

Lucy Adams ’16 as Jessica — Warren’s love interest — instantly seemed like someone to impress. She approached the dialogue like she was always dialogue, and she carried herself with laid-back dissatisfaction.

Underneath her calm, though, was a constant vulnerability and willingness to cut-and-run, and in many ways the frightened loneliness that held so much power over Jessica made Adams’s acting the most affecting.

Jessica is always either advancing or retreating, unable to achieve status and it was written all over Adams’s face.

Director Marie Baldassarre ’16 worked alongside Assistant Director Gus Riley ’16 through the Horn’s fall theater grant, and to call their touch nuanced would be an understatement.

The play had realistic and efficient pacing with their contributions as characters traveled the stage many times without their motion ever seeming forced.

There were little bits of dialogue that got interrupted or ignored, never to be pursued, much like real conversation, and their timing made them just intimidating enough to be noticed, but not distracting enough to be dwelled on.

And there were all the scene-specific details.

For example, the intimate moments between Warren and Jessica illustrated their experience, and the scuffles between Dennis and Warren perfectly walked the line between violent and vaudevillian.

The play felt incredibly realistic, and stage manager Lucy Coplin ’17 contributed to that in a major way: the set effectively blended an ‘80s NYC flat and a first-floor New Apt.

Then there’s the music, which was a playlist of ‘80s synth-schlock that one might have thought sounded bad at first, but this initial reaction was forgotten because it was somehow fitting for these characters. It was definitely satisfying.

While Dennis, Warren and Jessica might not have been your friends, the play felt as though it had been watched at Dennis’s house on an exciting, if not strange, day in their collective lives, and that locality was a great success of the play.

To achieve a setting that feels that natural, every aspect of its production has to achieve the same effect, with the same effectiveness — This Is Our Youth did just that.

Faculty friendship brings Little, Brown publisher to campus

**INDIA AMOS**

**STAFF WRITER**

Cheever Room was filled with laughter Wednesday afternoon when Reagan Arthur, vice president and editorial director of Reagan Arthur Books, an imprint of Little, Brown, packed Finn House with inspirational tales fresh from her own experience in publishing.

Arthur, who has been in the business for more than twenty years, offered the Kenyon community bits of advice concerning the world of publishing.

“I hope to encourage anyone interested in writing to join the field,” Arthur said. “I hope to express my excitement about the state of publishing and the world of books, and to talk about writing in general.”

Arthur more than delivered. Her love for her work truly shone through when she affectionately talked about her work as a publisher, and her sweet disposition brightened the room.

While it is no secret that the Kenyon College faculty is full of individuals who have flourished in their respective fields prior to becoming professors, it can be easy to forget just how successful these individuals have been — and currently are — when many students only see them as instructors.

Katherine Weber, visiting professor of creative writing, made known just how much influence she holds in the literary community by bringing her colleague, Arthur, to campus yesterday.

When asked about the woman who had once acquired the rights to her novel, Weber had nothing but kind words to say about the immensely successful publisher. “She is funny, she is brilliant and she is just one of the most humane, nice people in publishing.”

Weber has known Arthur for 20 years, and “never heard anyone say one mean thing about her,” she said, adding, “which in publishing is a neat trick.” The pair met when the rising publisher, who was working as an editor for Picador, spotted Weber’s work and they have kept in contact ever since.

While Weber speaks to the character of the successful publisher, Arthur’s credentials prove she truly has a knack for her work. Arthur has worked with literary juggernauts including James Patterson, Tina Fey and Kate Akinison.

She continues to make headlines by publishing bestselling books such as The Luminaries by Eleanor Catton and Elizabeth Kostova’s The Historian. Additionally, the novels Arthur chooses to support span across a wide variety of genres.

Weber, herself a published fiction writer, has complete faith in the seemingly random novels Arthur chooses to support.

“I do think that Reagan Arthur’s success really lies in her incredible eye. She has a particular sort of taste, and she spots winners,” Weber said.

But that is not to say that Arthur is only concerned with publishing the next epic novel.

“She knows how to pick literary blockbusters, but she has gone out of her way to publish the more obscure kind of literary books that are not necessarily going to sell very well. But there is a place for them, and they have always been on her list, as well,” Weber said.

Arthur’s success is well-deserved. While she has a strong career, she has also managed to keep the kind editor Weber met two decades ago.

Arthur is clearly passionate about publishing quality novels, according to Weber.

“I think authors love being edited and published by someone who thinks people love working for her and working on her books,” Weber said.

Additionally, Arthur showed yesterday afternoon her eagerness to spread her insight in the world of publishing to the Kenyon community by “talking about publishing past, present and future,” Weber said.
PRAGUE

ELLIO T CROMER

CONTRIBUTOR

What does someone talk about after only two weeks in a brand new foreign country? We’re about to find out. Thanks for joining us here on “Notes from Abroad” today, folks. Today, we talk Prague.

I’ve had a week of intensive Czech language instruction. Now I can say “Dam si pivo” — that means, “I would like a beer.” Here in the Czech Republic, it is a welcome fact that beer is cheaper than water.

I’ve had a great Czech dish that consisted of potato dumplings, beef, gravy, cranberry sauce and a touch of whipped cream. It was savory and sweet, and man alive, if I haven’t been pick-pocketed, but on arrival we were briefed on some tips to avoid their art. Form. And what they do is very coordinated, very professional and they deserve credit for their cleverness. I don’t actually know Jack, because they’re debatably fraudulent, the pickpockets here are very much real. They haven’t been pick-pocketed, but on arrival I believe him that it’s real: On a tram, a group of these hustlers will pick out an unsuspecting tourist, follow them onto the tram and then two hustlers get on after. The two pretend they get on the wrong tram, and as they leave, the rest of the hustlers board quickly. In this flurry of bodies and jostling, the individual victim caught in the middle will not realize his or her wallet has been stolen until the actual pickpockets are off the tram and it is speeding away. Fascinating stuff here.

Despite the pickpocket issue, Prague is actually a safe city. I love it here, and I have only just grazed the surface of its beautiful architecture, cuisine and people.

If you come here, please stand in front of St. Vitus’s Cathedral, eat goulash, ask someone “Jak se mas?” or “How are you?” (pronounced “Yawk-shuh-mosh” — Borat says this all the time).

A note here: my classmates and I have been told not to try learning the Czech language beyond the survival phrases in our four months. Two different Czech professors have told us this now. It is a ridiculously hard language — very enjoyable but difficult in its intricate details like I imagine every language is.

I’m living with fellow Kenyonite Josh Wolfson ’15, and grand old Dylan “Tuba” Jones-Tuba ’15 is here as well. We’re having a blast.

The Czech education is the best. I can honestly say that I have a lot more free time this semester, more than any since I’ve started since attending Kenyon.

Things will pick up as the time goes on, but with this extra time and no classes on Friday, more energy can be spent traveling — Berlin Film Festival, be jealous, wa-wa-wee-wa.

I want to take a second to say I don’t like travel blogs when I’m back home, because they usually just make me jealous and sad not to have their authors there with me.

Sorry if this entry makes you long for a sexy Euro trip of your own, but hey, life is a long time, and it took me 20 years to get here. I believe you will too. You’ve got to, mate.

COURTESY OF ELLIOT CROMER
Lords lacrosse opens season with win

Brian Andrews '16 caused two turnovers while defending in the Lord's win over Albion.

continued his record-break- ing season by winning the 100-yard backstroke in a time of 49.14 and the 200 back- stroke in a time of 1:46.38, which set an NCAC record. For his season-long domin- ance, he earned the NCAC Swimmer of the Year award.

Kenyon claimed another conference award thanks to the work of Alex Seaver '17. Seaver, the champion of the 500-yard freestyle and the 1,600-yard freestyle, was named the NCAC Newcomer of the Year.

Alex Beckwith '14 also contributed a record-break- ing victory in the 200-yard breaststroke with a time of 2:01.01.

In the same event, Trevor Manz '17 finished a close sec- ond, with Ian Reardon '17 and Mark Newell '16 taking third and fourth.

Lords second at Denison at NCACs

Alex Pijanowski

Staff Writer

Denison University hosted the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) swimming and diving champion- ships from Feb. 12 to Feb. 15. When the final scores were tallied, Kenyon had 1,851 team points to Deni- son's 1,899.5. Kenyon de- feated Denison in swimming events done by 222.5 points, but Denison had a larger corps of divers — splitting the difference between victory and defeat.

“We did well do,” Head Coach Jess Book '01 said. “There were certainly swims that were very exciting, and some of our times that we have over again, but in the fin- al analysis, I think there was a lot to be pleased with.”

Records fell at this meet faster than real estate values in 2007. Harrison Curley '15

Indoor Track

Jenna Willett '14 and Sam Lagasse '16 each placed second in the women's and men's 5,000-meter at the All-Ohio Championship at Oberlin College on Feb. 15. Overall, the men placed 14th out of 19 teams, and the women placed 17th out of 18 teams.

Willett's time of 17:56 broke the Kenyon women's indoor 5,000-meter record of 18:23.

“I kind of surprised myself,” Willett said. “I didn’t think I was in that good of shape.”

Willett said Head Coach Duane Gomez pushed her to break 18 minutes. To do so, she had to run the 25 laps at 43 seconds each.

“I wasn’t exactly sure if I could do it or not, but I figured I’d go after it,” she said. “It was a rough race. I was feeling it for a couple days before.”

Men's Tennis

This past Saturday, Feb. 15, the Lords tennis team played both the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and Case Western Reserve. Kenyon's only win came against Case Western and is not going to just give us matches.”

“Men's Tennis

This past Saturday, Feb. 15, the Lords tennis team played both the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and Case Western Reserve. Kenyon's only win came against Case Western Reserve, and Case Western is not going to just give us matches.”

The Lords had their third match of the season this past Sunday, Feb. 16, playing against No. 4 Case Western Reserve University, who beat the Ladies 7-2.

Taylor Diffley '16 and Jenna Murray '17 won a difficult doubles match by a score of 9-7. They rallied from a score of 7-5, coming back and tying the match at seven each before going on to a hard-won victory. In singles, Jenna's only win was the No. 1 singles match, with Diffley beating Case Western's nationally ranked Sara Zargham by a score of 6-4, 6-1.

“They're very good. Our expectations were that we wanted to make sure we could compete with them,” Head Coach Scott Thielke said. “We knew that we could win a few out of the nine matches. Overall, I think we had our moments to win, but we just didn’t take advantage of them and Case Western is not going to just give us matches.”

The match dropped the Ladies to a season record of 4-1. They will play again on March 1 at Sewanee: The University of the South in Tennessee.
Women's swimming finishes second at conference meet

ALEX PUJANOWSKI
STAFF WRITER

At the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) meet, held from Feb. 12 to Feb. 15, the Ladies swimming and diving team succeeded in qualifying to Denison University's streak of five consecutive wins. They were even in the lead for a significant portion of the second event, but in the end, the Big Red came on strong at the end and won. Denison earned 1,839 team points to Kenyon's 1,805.

Despite a second-place finish, the results of the conference meet were not disappointing. Several team members earned first place in individual races, and many Kenyon relay teams won their events.

In addition, more than 20 athletes earned "B" cuts to compete in the NCAA Championship meet at the end of March.

"A" and "B" cuts are time standards set by the NCAA, and those who meet these times are eligible to compete on their team's roster at the national meet.

Celia Oberholzer '15 claimed first place in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 55.35. Oberholzer already owned the Kenyon record and the national Division III record in that event, and now also the conference record-holder.

"I was very happy," Oberholzer said. "Last year, I won, but I was not as happy with my time … but this year this was a lot more where I wanted to be."

Katie Kaehtner '16 was among those with individual conference championships, winning the 100-yard breaststroke.

Kaehtner also teamed up with Oberholzer, Natalie Parker '16 and Maureen Hirt '14 to bring Kenyon within ten yards of the NCAA record.

"I knew that we really loved this relay, and we wanted to win it, so pulling ahead of Denison and DePauw would be very important for our last legs of the relay," Yarosh said.

In diving, Maria Zarka '16 turned in an exceptional performance. Zarka, who already owns Kenyon's records for both one-meter and three-meter diving, added the Denison pool records for both events to her resume with scores of 450.00 and 456.65, respectively.

"I averaged 6.5 points on the one-meter and 6.5 on the three-meter, I'd score in the 450s, so that was my goal for this meet, and I was fortunate enough to earn pool records on both boards, but I also missed both NCAC records by about 10 points," Zarka wrote in an email. "Hopefully, I'll peak again this year like last year at the NCAs, and then come back next year to take the NCAC records."

Head Coach Jess Book '01 emerged as a different sort of victor for the program, earning the NCAC Women's Coach of the Year award. Book has coached the Ladies for four seasons, and this year guided them to a 6-2 record in the regular season.

The Kenyon College Invitational on Saturday, Feb. 22 is the next meet up on the schedule. For some, this will be the last chance to earn NCAA "B" cuts, and for others, an opportunity to experiment with their races or rest.

STAFF WRITER
ALEX PIJANOWSKI

Lords upset DePauw 75-67

Ben Payner
STAFF WRITER

The Lords' second road trip to Indiana ended on a better note than its seven-hour trek through the snow to Wabash College earlier this year. Kenyon upset conference rival DePauw University 75-67 on Saturday, Feb. 15. Last night, the Lords lost 71-80 versus Wittenberg University, dropping their record to 11-13 and 8-9 in conference.

The Lords' success was two-fold — they out-rebounded the Tigers 44-28 and their efficient 51.8 percent team shooting against a DePauw team that boasted the nation's No. 25 stingiest defense led them to the win.

The three captains, Julian Parlin '14, Imenna Nwadiuba '14 and Brian Lebowitz '14, set the tone for the Lords in this contest, combining for 51 points on 20-37 shooting (54 percent), 13 of 30 rebounds. Lebowitz and Nwadiuba both had double-doubles, while Parlin's 19 points and seven successful free throw attempts were both season highs.

Usually, Parlin plays the role of facilitator for the offense, feeding the ball to Nwadiuba and Lebowitz, so when his offensive game is on, the Lords have three viable scoring threats, making them much more dynamic and difficult to stop. Parlin's scoring output will be key for the Lords if they hope to make any noise in the conference tournament.

Coming off the bench, Cooper Handelsman '15, John Bray '15 and Tim Connelly '16 also chipped in an efficient 9-14 combined from the field. Notably missing from the Lords' attack this game was the three-point shot. The seven attempts from behind the arc tied a season low, as were the zero points.

"But this isn't necessarily a bad thing. An emphasis on the two-point shot meant the team was more aggressive at getting to the basket, leading to higher-efficiency attempts With 27 attempts, the Lords had one of their highest free throw attempts games of the year. If they had made more than 17, the game would have resulted in an easy double-digit victory for the Lords.

"It's always tough to win in a hostile environment, but we played together and were able to get it done," Bray said. "We've played well at DePauw the past two years and may end up there again for the conference tournament. We want to play our best basketball, get two more wins and ride that momentum into the conference tournament."

"That win meant a lot; beating a ranked team on the road in a rematch of last season's NCAC women's basketball championship, No. 1 DePauw University defeated Kenyon 90-47 this past Saturday, Feb. 15. Except for a pair of free throws, DePauw held Kenyon scoreless through the first five and one-half minutes of play until Meredith Williams '16 and Lauren Kriete '15 sunk consecutive three-pointers to bring Kenyon within two points of the score, 18-8. That was as close as the Ladies would get for the rest of the game, however, as DePauw's stout defense held Kenyon to their second poorest shooting percentage of the season.

"They were able to really pressure us and get in the passing lane and make it really uncomfortable for us, and really get us frustrated and out of our rhythm," Assistant Coach Morgan Korinek '12 said.

Korinek attributed the depth of DePauw's team as a big component of their success against Kenyon.

"They have so many different weapons that if one person's off, someone else is going to step up," Korinek said.

Despite the large deficit, Kenyon focused on playing the rest of the game with sharp intensity and leaving everything on the court.

"Especially in the second half, the emphasis was placed on effort," Co-Captain Maggie Becker '14 said. "At the end of the day, as long as we walked off the court that we'd put everything that we had out there, then it was okay."

Last night, the Ladies cruised to a 74-59 win over Wittenberg University. Kenyon will travel to Wooster, OH this Saturday to take on the College of Wooster.

Ladies fall to No. 1 DePauw

Noah Gurzenksi
STAFF WRITER

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